**Africa 2 - Geography of Africa**

* **The Continent of Africa**
* Five Geographic Regions of Africa
* **North Africa**
	+ Mountain Ranges (Atlas Mountains)
	+ Sahara desert (world’s largest)
* **West Africa**
	+ Grasslands
	+ Most populated
* **East Africa**
	+ Mountainous
	+ Plateaus
	+ Grasslands
	+ Hills
* **South Africa**
	+ Namib & Kalahari Deserts
	+ Drakensberg Mountain Range
* **Central Africa**
	+ Equator
	+ Rain forests
* **Desertification** – The spreading of a desert region
	+ The region of Sahel is most affected by the spreading desert.
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** – 4,000 mile giant fault, or break in the earth’s crust. From Red Sea to Zambezi River.
	+ Evidence has found that the earliest Africans first lived in this area.
* **Major Rivers**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** – **world’s longest (4,000 + miles)**

**Sources: White Nile (Uganda) & Blue Nile (Ethiopian highlands) flows into the Mediterranean**

* **Congo River** – **Central Africa – through rain forests, 2,720 miles long**
* **Niger River** – **Africa’s third longest- 2,600 miles long. Begins in West Africa (Guinea)**
* **Zambezi River** – **Fourth longest 2,200 miles – Southern Africa; contains Victoria Falls; flows into the Indian Ocean**
* **Climate and Diversity**
	+ The equator runs nearly through the center of Africa
	+ \_\_\_\_% of the nation is tropical
	+ Further from equator = colder and Higher Elevation = colder
* Early Civilizations of Africa
* **Where Civilization Began**
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – located on the edge of the Great Rift Valley in Tanzania
	+ Archaeologists – Mary and Louis Leakey discovered bone over 2 million years old
	+ This has led some scientists to believe that the first people were from Africa
* **Bantu Migration**
	+ Today, close to 100 million people across the southern half of Africa speak related languages, collectively known as Bantu languages.
	+ Linguistic evidence shows that the root Bantu language emerged in what is now Nigeria and Cameroon by 2000 BC.
* **The Gold – Salt Trade**
	+ Traveling caravans crossed the vast Sahara desert to the Middle East
	+ Travelers looked to profit from the desert crossing with large trades
	+ The savanna lands of West Africa lacked salt, which is essential to survival
	+ In West Africa, salt was more valuable than gold
* **The Empire of Mali is Born**
	+ Influence of Islam
	+ Muslim traders carried religion across West Africa
	+ Mansa Musa adopted a new faith and Mandingos or farmers under Ghana’s rule also converted
	+ He built many mosques in Mali
* **The Forest Kingdom of Benin**
	+ Arose in a thickly forested area near the equator
	+ Developed in the delta region of the Niger River
	+ Ruler – set up a centralized government
	+ Had intersecting streets, workers produced brass, wood, ivory, and woven goods
	+ Best known for their Bronze art
* Early African Culture
* **Family Ties**
	+ Farming and herding societies consisted of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Kinships created strong bonds and a sense of community
* **Structure of African Society**
* **Inheritance and Descent**
* **Status of Women**
* **Economic Organization**
	+ Most villagers were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – They produced only enough food for their own needs with little or no surplus
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – allowing the land to regenerate important minerals needed to grow crops
	+ Land was community property
* **African Religions**
	+ Supreme being had created everything
	+ Supreme being was a distant figure
	+ Many are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Oral traditions and myths
	+ Ancestors could help or harm them
	+ Every object on earth was filled with a living spirit (**Animism**)
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** - The term animism is derived from the Latin word *anima* meaning *breath* or *soul*. The belief of animism is probably one of man's oldest beliefs, with its origin most likely dating to the Paleolithic age. From its earliest beginnings it was a belief that a soul or spirit existed in every object, even if it was inanimate. In a future state this soul or spirit would exist as part of an immaterial soul. The spirit, therefore, was thought to be universal.
* **Diviners and Healers**
	+ Rooted in Tradition
	+ Their purpose was to explain the cause of misfortune
	+ Experts in herbal medicine
	+ Today, doctors study the roots and herbs used in traditional African healing
* **The Slave Trade**
* How Does The Slave Trade Begin?
* **Triangular Slave Trade**
	+ The Middle Passage
* **The Atlantic Slave Trade**
* Why was there a slave trade?
* Ending the Slave Trade
* Why did the slave trade end?
* **African Diaspora**
	+ The slave trade sent millions of Africans overseas this created a scattering of individuals
	+ Survivors struggled to hold on to their culture
	+ African people and their culture of food, music, dance, and tradition was spread across a wide area.
	+ 1787 – British set up a colony in West Africa for freed slaves (Sierra Leone)
	+ Later, free blacks from the US formed Liberia, it became independent in 1847
* Age of Imperialism
* Tribalism in Africa
	+ Tribalism – Pride and loyalty to ones people within Africa being based on tribal boundaries

Historical Significance

* Europeans did not understand or respect Tribalism.
* This has resulted in additional conflict being created in Africa which has continued to last to present day
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - (Colonialism) (Colonization)
	+ *“WHEN A MORE POWERFUL NATION TAKES OVER A WEAKER NATION FOR* ECONOMIC, STRATEGIC, OR POLITICAL REASONS.”

Economic Motives

* European factories need raw materials to run.
* (Coal / Iron Ore / Oil / Cotton / Rubber)
* These raw materials are found in Africa.

Strategic Motives

* Offers port city’s between Europe and Asia
* Causes of African Imperialism

Political Motives

* Prestige – The more land you control the more powerful you are

Religious (Spiritual) Motives

* Christians believed that it was their duty to spread the ideals of Christianity
* White Man’s Burden – Duty of the white race to bring the superior white culture to non-whites

African Independence

* **Apartheid in South Africa**
* **Origins of Apartheid**
	+ 1910 Britain granted S. Africa self-rule
	+ Whites make up 13% of Africa’s pop.
	+ 77% are black
	+ Supported by white farmers (Boers)
	+ They set up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – rigid separation of races
* **The Republic of South Africa**
	+ S. Africans were classified as black, white, and “colored” (mixed)
	+ Pass laws were created
	+ White only busses, beaches, bathrooms, restaurants, and schools
	+ Opposition groups were banned from speaking out (ANC)
	+ Nelson Mandela is imprisoned for 27 years for opposing racial segregation
* **Apartheid Ends**
	+ F.W. De Klerk lifts ban on opposition groups
	+ 1990 – Nelson Mandela is released from prison
	+ His release symbolized hope for the people of South Africa
	+ 1991 – Africans were no longer classified by race
	+ 1992 – citizenship is given to blacks
	+ 1994 – Mandela is elected President