

Chapter 19 Human Geography of Africa

From Human Beginnings to New Nations

Bellwork:

Video: Olduvai Gorge - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_E9ykt2SRBQ

****What is the importance of the Olduvai Gorge in human history?**

****Where is it located?**

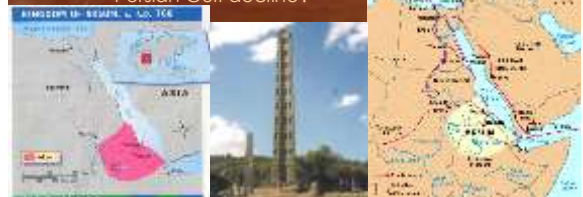
Section 1- East Africa

- East Africa- Where the worlds first humans are believed to have lived



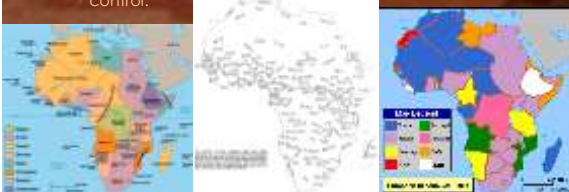
Section 1- East Africa

- Early Civilizations-
 - Aksum- powerful trading civilization from circa. 100-1100's A.D.
 - Crossroads of major trading routes & civilization
 - Persian Gulf decline?



Section 1- East Africa

- Colonization-
 - Berlin Conference- 1884-85
 - Europeans did not want to fight each other
 - 14 nations
 - Rules for dividing Africa
 - No African rulers were invited
 - By 1914 only Liberia & Ethiopia were free from European control.



Section 1- East Africa

- Berlin Conference cont.-
 - Nations just had to show that they could control the area to have ownership
 - No regard to where ethnic or linguistic groups lived.
 - Caused major problems
 - Civil Wars, Genocides
 - By 1970's most countries were independent
 - Ethiopia remained free by buying modern weapons from France & Russia



Section 1- East Africa

- East Africa- relies heavily on farming
 - Cash Crops- crops grown for direct sale
 - Coffee, tea, & sugar.
 - Reduces amount of land available for farmland
 - Can be risky?



Section 1- East Africa

- Tourism-
 - Game Reserves bring in millions of dollars from tourism.
 - Today farmers want the land to make a living



Section 1- East Africa

- Cultures of East Africa-
 - Masai- farmers & herders of East Africa
 - Live on the grasslands of the Great Rift Valleys



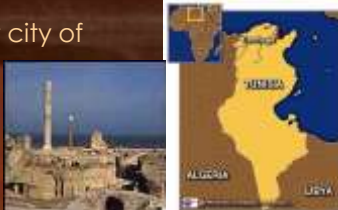
Section 1- East Africa

- Health Concerns-
 - AIDS has become a **pandemic** in East Africa
 - Uncontrollable outbreak of a disease, affecting a large population over a wide geographic area.
 - Some governments try to hide the AIDS problem.



Section 2- North Africa

- Carthage- great city of ancient Africa



Section 2- North Africa

- Ancient Egypt-
 - Expanded around the Nile River
 - Lasted over 2600 years
 - Egyptian medicine was famous throughout the ancient world



Section 2- North Africa

- **Islam-**
 - Major cultural and religious influence in North Africa
 - Mostly spread through conquest & trade.



Section 2- North Africa

- **Black Gold-**
 - Most North African countries economies are based on oil first, then farming & mining second.



Section 2- North Africa

- North Africa is a combination of Arabic influences & traditional African ethnic groups.



Section 2- North Africa

- **Souks-** North African market-place
 - Usually located in the medina of a North African city or old section
 - Bargaining, bartering, & haggling for goods



Section 2- North Africa

- **Rai-** Algerian music developed by 1920's poor urban children.
 - Rebellious music



Section 2- North Africa

- Life is generally centered around the males.
 - Few women work after marriage
 - Generally eat & pray separately



Section 3- West Africa

- Many great societies & trading routes came through West Africa



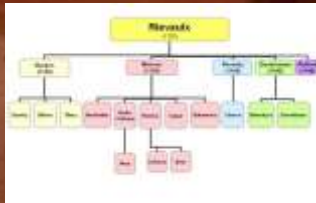
Section 3- West Africa

- Trading Empires-
 - Empires of Ghana (meaning war chief), Mali, & Songhai, were great trading empires
 - Mainly based on gold & salt trade



Section 3- West Africa

- Stateless Society- society in which people rely on family lineages to govern themselves instead of elected officials
 - Before colonialism



Section 3- West Africa

- Ashanti- people of Ghana
 - Famous for their colorful weavings that are known as Kente cloth.



Section 4- Central Africa

- Bantu- central African peoples who migrated from central to southern Africa.
 - Known as the Bantu Migrations
 - Many Africans speak some form of Bantu



Section 4- Central Africa

- Slave Trade- European rulers wanted slaves for their plantation farms
 - African rulers would trade potential slaves for guns & other goods.
 - Millions were shipped off
 - 20% died en route



Section 4- Central Africa

- Colonialism- started with King Leopold III of Belgium in early 1880's
 - Wanted to exploit the region for economic gain.



Section 4- Central Africa

- Effects of Colonialism-
 - Centralized governments with lots of corruption
 - No regard for tribal boundaries
 - Loss of resources
 - Cultural & ethnic oppression
 - Little or no infrastructure
 - Little or no education



Section 4- Central Africa

- Democratic Republic of the Congo-
 - 1st leader- Mobutu Sese Seko 1967-97
 - Took kickbacks from economy
 - Used army to maintain power
 - Rich in natural resources (diamonds, gold, copper...) yet still poor



Section 4- Central Africa

- African Art- Fang sculpture-
 - The Fang peoples live in Central Africa
 - Wooden carvings
 - Usually masks painted white & facial features outlined in black.



Section 4- Central Africa

- Education challenges-
 - Lack of teachers, & schools
 - High dropout rate
 - 700+ languages spoken in Central Africa



Section 5- Southern Africa

- Many countries of South Africa are growing economically
 - Yet there is a tremendous division of wealth between blacks & whites.



Johannesburg

