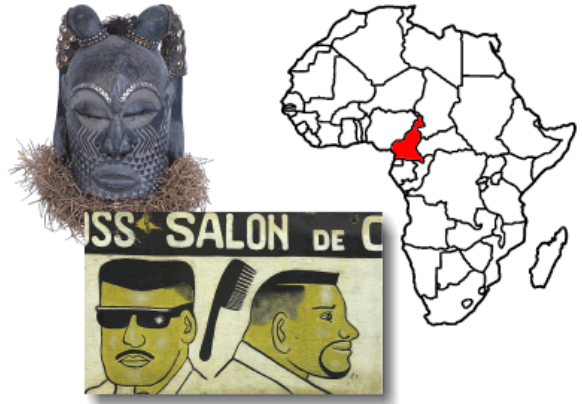


Countries of Africa: Cameroon

The Republic of Cameroon covers a wide variety of habitat areas in west-central Africa, including beaches, mountains, desert, rainforest, and savannah. While many Cameroonians are subsistence farmers, the country also has modern agriculture, timber, and petroleum industries to employ its laborers.



Democratic Republic of the Congo

Once known simply as Zaire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo is the third largest country in Africa, after Sudan and Algeria.

This nation is geographically significant for other reasons as well: it contains the second largest rainforest in the world, is transected by the equator, and is the stage for more thunderstorms than anywhere else on the planet.



Countries of Africa: Egypt

Due to its extensive history and its famous pyramids, Egypt is perhaps the best-known nation in Africa. Just as in ancient times, the famous Nile River still supports Egypt's inhabitants. Ninety-nine percent of the population live in less than six percent of the land area, either in the Nile Valley or in the Nile Delta.



Countries of Africa: Gabon

The earliest inhabitants of Gabon were the African Pygmy and Bantu tribes. The French later controlled the area, and the official language of Gabon is still French today. There are only about one and a half million Gabonese, as the majority of the nation is rainforest along the equator - a difficult place to clear and settle.



Countries of Africa: Kenya

The Republic of Kenya is named after the second highest mountain peak in Africa, Mount Kenya.

This nation is famous for its national parks and its abundance of

African wildlife such as lions, giraffes, and zebras. The Nairobi National Park features all of these animals and more, along with a view of the capital city, Nairobi, only a few miles away.



Countries of Africa: Mali

The Mali Empire once stretched from the Atlantic Ocean across its present territory. Today the Republic of Mali is a landlocked nation in West Africa and one of the poorest countries in the world. However, Mali's ancient and famous city of Timbuktu was once a great center for trade and scholarship and features one of the oldest universities in the world.



Countries of Africa: Nigeria

The Federal Republic of Nigeria lies on the Gulf of Guinea in West Africa. The area is thought to be the original homeland of the Bantu peoples who eventually spread across

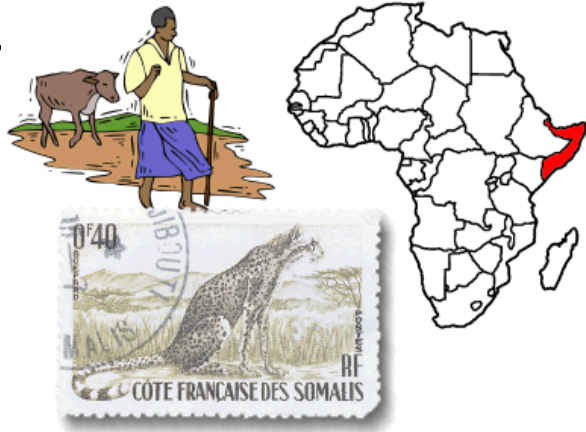
most of central and southern Africa. Nigeria has the largest population of any nation on the continent and has one of the fastest growing economies in the entire world.



Countries of Africa: Somalia

The Republic of Somalia is found in the Horn of Africa, also known as the Somali Peninsula.

The Somali people, spread across sixteen different countries in Africa, Asia, and Europe, still make up the vast majority of the population today. Somalia gained its independence from Italy in 1960 but today has several governing authorities.



Countries of Africa: South Africa

The Republic of South Africa is located at the very bottom of the continent. It completely surrounds the Kingdom of Lesotho and nearly surrounds the even smaller Kingdom of Swaziland. English is one of the most commonly spoken languages in South Africa, and this nation has the highest populations of Caucasian, Indian, and mixed race peoples in Africa.



Countries of Africa: Uganda

The Republic of Uganda is a landlocked nation in east central Africa, sitting on the north shore of Lake Victoria. The Victoria Nile River transects the country, joining Lake Albert on the western Congolese border. Several other lakes make up Ugandan territory, and the nation enjoys fertile soils and fairly regular rainfall, although the climate does get drier as you travel north.

