

THE HISTORY OF KENYA AFRICA

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S S 112 INTERPERSONAL CROSS CULTURAL COMMUNICATION

Cultural Resume

Kenya Africa

I choose Africa because I have visit there and I love this country.

A country is defined by its people, and the Kenyans are a friendly and proud nation despite the fact that there is a number of different ethnic groups, languages, and religions. Their big smiles, especially on children's faces, and the friendly jambos (greetings) around every corner, goes a long way in making Kenya a welcoming destination to all who visit!.

The people that I interviewed was born and raised in Kenya Africa ,they know the way of life there in this country. Maggie Melon she went to school their, she attend Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (J.K.U.A.T.). She is a Education program assistant, Patrick Kamau is a economic development officer, Kate Muiruri just retired from 410 bridge that work with the mission team that would be coming each year and David Muchai worked for 410 bridge also for the mission team. These people know the history and thing about kenya. Come to Kenya and experience life change not only in the people you serve, but your own life as well!.Experience the life of a rural kenyan family through home visits.

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The British had several reasons to colonize Kenya in 1895. These reasons were similar to the reasons why Great Britain colonized other places.

One reason was economic. By colonizing Kenya, the British would have a place where they could trade the products made by British industries. This would help the British industries.

Kenya also could provide Great Britain with needed resources. Kenya had good areas of land for farming, and the British hoped to take advantage of this. However, there were issues that limited the benefit of the good farming regions.Most of the land in the colony was highly valued for farming, drawing in immigrants who would create vast coffee plantations using native labor.

The British saw Kenya as a potential source of wealth. It had raw materials like ivory. It also had areas that seemed to have the right sort of climate and soil for European settlement and farming. These sorts of economic factors made it attractive.

The British also saw colonizing Kenya as a way to get more power. They felt it would give them more prestige in their competition with other European powers. They also thought it might

provide more security for their hold on the Nile (which was important because it dominated Egypt).

Country Profile

Where is this country located?

The republic of Kenya is a country in East Africa lying along the Indian ocean, at the Equator, Kenya is bordered by Ethiopia (north) Somalia(north east), Tanzania (South), Uganda. Lake Victoria(west) and Sudan (north west). The capital city is Nairobi, with an area of 580,000 km ,the country is more than twice the size of the state of Nevada.

What continent is it on?

Kenya is on East Africa, Kenya is one of the 17 countries of east Africa officially known as the Republic of Kenya, Kenya is a nation in the African continent (the World Atlas.)

Some of the Customs of Kenya?

1.For special occasions it is customary to kill and roast a goat. Other meats including sheep and cow are also served at the celebration. The special dish is called Nyama choma which translates is called burnt meat.

2.Marriage , The institution of marriage was highly valued by all the traditional cultures in Kenya. To a large extent, especially in the rural areas, it is highly valued even today. The reason for this is that marriage is the foundation on which families are built. On its part, the family constitutes the basic social group that operates most widely and most intensely in the activities of everyday life

3. When a man chooses a potential wife he negotiates a bride price of money or cattle with the father. The price is generally higher. The wedding ceremony and feast is at the husband home.

4. Inheritance are passes from father to son, this is still the case today.

5. In traditional society, the family includes children, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers and sisters who may have their own children, and other immediate relatives. If a man has two or more wives, which is common, he has as many households since each wife would usually have her own house erected within the same compound where other wives and their households live. Polygamy is still a traditional, the practice is become less typical today

6. Exiquette, Kenyans are generally friendly and hospitable,Kenyans have a reputation of being hospitable. This runs to the core of the social structure. It is customary to offer guests [tea](#) or food depending on the time of the day. Elders are highly respected and play an important decision-making role within their communities.

7. Kenyans love to party, and the music style, known as "benga," is the contemporary dance music that rules. It originated among the Luo people of western Kenya and became popular in the area in the 1950s. Music and dance play an integral role in social and religious life. Rhythm - the most important - is largely provided by drums accompanied by wind and stringed instruments.

8. Kenya life styles

Languages

Kenya's population is made up of over 40 different ethnic groups each with their own individual language, luckily English and Swahili is spoken by many.

Kenyan Tribes & People

Kenya is built on traditional tribal cultures and each tribe contributes to the unique lifestyle and way of life so many are intrigued by. There are 42 tribes across Kenya, each possessing their unique culture, fascinating history, lifestyle, cuisine and language.

There is a mix of tribes in Africa, indigenous and modern. The indigenous tribes in Kenya fit into three different ethnic groups, the Bantus, the Cushites and the Nilotes.

Due to modern influences and law many Kenyan's have moved away from their traditional roots opting for a more modern urban lifestyle in cities and towns.

Kenyan Art & Crafts

Many visitors to Kenya are drawn to the fascinating arts and crafts the traditional tribes produce. The beautifully hand crafted artifacts are formed, created or carved out of local natural materials and sold to tourists to generate an income.

Popular artifacts include colourful beaded Maasai jewellery, tribal masks, hand woven baskets, paintings, prints and figurines.

Kenyan Dance & Music

Music plays a huge part in the culture and lifestyle of Kenya. Traditional music and dance plays a big part in social entertainment, religious ceremonies and celebrations. A popular style of music you will find in Kenya is Benga, a type of up beat folk music featuring drums, guitars and singing.

Kenyan Theatre

As Kenya is a country of historical traditions, there are many stories to tell. The Kenya National Theatre is a great place to visit if you want to learn more about Kenyan history through plays, dance and music.

Name

Mount Kenya is the reason that the state came to be given the name. The name Kenya is not a word in any of the local communities around Mount Kenya such as Kikuyu.

Geography and Climate

Kenya has varying geography and consequently, climate. The terrain varies from the low plains of the coastal region close to the Indian Ocean all the way to the highlands in central Kenya. The Great Rift Valley divides the highland region with the east being more fertile for agriculture. The coast has tropical climates. Further inland, temperate climate dominates with the northern arid regions being extremely hot. Typically, the season for “long rains” is between March and June while “short rains” are received between October and December. February and March are the hottest while the cold season lasts from July to August.

Politics

Kenya is a democratic country with a president who heads the government and the state. Aside from having a multiparty system, the government is divided into three parts; the executive, the judiciary, and the legislature. Elections are conducted after every five years with people above the age of 18 being eligible to vote.

Administratively, Kenya is divided into 47 independent counties with a governor at the head of each county as per the new constitution. Within the counties are constituencies while locations are the lowest division below electoral wards.

Economy

Kenya has the biggest and most progressive economy in the east and central Africa. Despite the strong economy, it has a very low Human Development Index of 0.519 which places it position 145 of 186 on the planet. The most important sector in Kenya is the agricultural sector employing approximately 75% of the working population. Despite its importance, agriculture is the least developed sector. Tourism is the strongest sector and contributes 61% towards the national gross domestic product because of the high number of tourist attractions such as wildlife. The industry and manufacturing is the most advanced in the east and central Africa but contributes only 14% to Kenya's GDP. Despite its classification as a developing or frontier market, Kenya is not on the list of least developed countries.

The climate of this country average temperatures throughout the year.

Kenya is an African country, bisected by the Equator, yet it has **three types of climate**: hot and humid along the coast (zone 1 on the map), temperate in the west and south-west, where there are mountains and plateaus (zone 2 on the map), and finally, hot and dry in the north and east. In general, the warmest period in Kenya is from February to March, while the coolest is from July

to August, although the seasonal variations in temperature are small. Both temperature and rainfall vary according to the prevailing winds, which produce **two seasons**: from October to March, the hot and originally dry winds coming from Arabia (called *kaskazi*) prevail, while from April to September, the prevailing winds (called *Kuzi*) are cooler and wetter and blow from the Indian Ocean. At the beginning of the two periods, and in correspondence with the two zenith passages of the sun, there are the **two rainy seasons**: the "long rains" from March to May, and the less intense "short rains" from October to December, while in the western highlands, it rains a lot even between June and September. **Rainfall** is more abundant along the coast and in the south-west (zones 1 and 2), where it typically ranges from 800 to 2,000 millimeters (31 to 79 inches) per year, while in the arid zone (3 on the map), it drops below 500 mm (20 in). The rains mainly occur in the form of downpours or thunderstorms in the afternoon or evening, and are pretty irregular: on the one hand, with global warming, the rainfall in some areas is declining; on the other hand, during *El Niño* years, the probability of heavy rains incre

What is the Population of Kenya?

- the current population of **Kenya** is **51,867,609** as of Tuesday, March 26, 2019, based on the latest United Nations estimates.
- Kenya population is equivalent to **0.68%** of the total world population.
- Kenya ranks number **27** in the list of countries (and dependencies) by population.
- The population density in Kenya is 92 per Km² (238 people per mi²).
- The total **land** area is 569,140 Km² (219,746 sq. miles)
- **27.1 %** of the population is **urban** (14,149,974 people in 2019)
- The **median age** in Kenya is **19.2 years**.

Population of Kenya (2019 and historical): Worldometers

Ethnic Groups of Kenya

There are over 70 different **Ethnic Groups of Kenya**.^[1] These groups can be classified into three different linguistic groups: Bantu, Nilotic, and Cushitic. The largest are the Kikuyu, with about 7 million people, making up 20% of the nation's citizens. Together, the five largest groups

- the Kikuyu, Luhya, Luo, Kamba, and Kalenjin - make up 70% of Kenya's population.^[1]
 Additionally, 97.58% of Kenya's citizens are affiliated with its 32 major indigenous groups.
 (Major non-indigenous groups are Arabs and Indians, referred to in Kenya as "Asians.")

"The Kikuyu, who were most actively involved in the independence and Mau Mau movements, are disproportionately represented in public life, government, business and the professions. The Luo people are mainly traders and artisans. The Kamba are well represented in defense and law enforcement. The Kalenjin are mainly farmers. While a recognized asset, Kenya's ethnic diversity has also led to disputes. Interethnic rivalries and resentment over Kikuyu dominance in politics and commerce have hindered national integration."^[1]

What are the main holiday in this country?

Kenya public holiday and national day observed throughout the country

Holiday	Day Observed	Observance
New Year's Day	1st January	Beginning of a new year
Good Friday		Easter holiday celebrations
Easter Monday		Easter holiday celebrations
Labor Day	1st May	International workers day
Madaraka Day	1st June	Commemorates the day Kenya attained internal self rule from British colonial rule that ended in the year 1963 following a long freedom struggle
Idd - ul - Fitr		A holiday for Muslims to mark the end of Ramadan, commemorated depending on the sighting of the new moon
Mashujaa (Heroes) Day	20th October	Prior to promulgation of the new constitution in 2010, the holiday was known as Kenyatta day celebrated in honor of Kenya's founding president, Jomo Kenyatta. It has since been renamed Mashujaa (heroes) to celebrate all the statesmen and women who participated in Kenya's struggle for freedom.

Jamhuri (Republic/Independence) Day	12th December	Jamhuri is a Swahili word for republic. This day observes a double event - the day Kenya became a republic in the year 1964 as well as the day Kenya gained its independence from the British rule in 1963.
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Madaraka Day is a national holiday in Kenya.

The first day of June is a red letter day for Kenya. This day is known as Madaraka Day in Kenya and is declared as a public holiday in the country. It is no ordinary day in Kenya. The same day in 1963 was a significant landmark in the struggle that led to the independence of Kenya.

History of Madaraka Day in Kenya

On July 1, 1895, Britain gained direct control of Kenya through the East African Protectorate. The beginning of the Uganda Railway allowed British settlers quick access to the fertile highlands of the region.

What are the main points of interest in this country specific lake, monuments, historical landmarks. The ten greatest landmark on Kenya map.

- 1.The Indian Ocean, one distinct feature that will be observed from the kenya map is the indian ocean. The country happens to lie next to the beautiful ocean which is famed for its rich marine ecosystem. The water body stretches along the coast of kenya starting from Lamu all the way to shimoni and beyond.
- 2.Mount Kenya. When kenya is mentioned, one name come to mind, MT. Kenya. This huge mountain is located in the central province of kenya. The height of 5,199 metres which makes it the second largest mountain in Africa.
3. Coastal region. Kenya prides itself in having one of the most beautiful and pristine coastlines not only in Africa, but also in the world.
- 4.Lake Victoria. Stand out as one of the most dominant features on kenyan as well as Africa map. The lake is shared between three east african countries, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

What are some popular food in this country.

common Ethnic Foods in Kenya

Kenya is a country in East Africa. It is known for its wildlife safaris, beautiful landscapes, and of course, delicious food. The foods in Kenya are diverse and are a mix of ethnicity and tradition. I

plan to visit Kenya soon, and these are the dishes I want to try or have already tried. I have many Kenyan friends, and because of them, I was able to try some of the dishes.



1. Chapait

Chapati is Kenyans' favourite bread for most meals. Chapati is very easy to make. It is made with white flour, salt and oil. Kenyans eat Chapati for breakfast with tasty stew or kachumbari. A truly delicious meal! I have had chapait on each time we have visit kenya we have tried to make some at the house.

Mukimo is a popular food in Kenya. This traditional delicacy is made with potatoes, peas, corn and onions. It is served at all major Kenyan events. Incredibly delectable!

what languages are spoken in this country?

Offical Languages of Kenya

English was inherited from Kenya's British colonial past. English is the language of choice in business, academics and social set-ups in Kenya. Swahili (also called Kiswahili) is the national

language of Kenya. It is a unifying African language spoken by nearly 100 percent of the Kenyan population. Even illiterate Kenyans know some basic Swahili. The purest form of Kiswahili is spoken along the coast where native Swahili people live. Swahili is one of the most common African languages and it is spoken in many countries other than Kenya, such as Tanzania, Burundi, Uganda and Zaire.

Indigenous Languages in Kenya

- Kenya's ethnic languages are spoken mostly in rural settings and in homes where all members belong to the same ethnic group. The most dominant of the indigenous languages are Kikuyu, Dholuo and Luhya.
- Kikuyu is the language of the Kikuyu people, Kenya's largest ethnic group. It is closely related to the Embu, Mbeere, and Meru languages spoken by neighboring communities in the Mount Kenya region.
- The Kikuyu language is widely spoken in Kenyan towns, even by members of other ethnic groups. This is particularly true in business situations. Since Kikuyu people run the majority of Kenya's businesses, it is common to find people conducting business in the Kikuyu language. As a result, other business people have had to adapt and learn Kikuyu as a matter of necessity.
- The Luhya language is not a single language but rather, it is a collection of mutually understood dialects spoken by the Luhya people of Western Kenya. The Luhya are the second largest ethnic group following the Kikuyu. The two biggest Luhya sub-tribes are the Maragoli and the Bukusu.

Dholuo is the language of the Luo people, the third most populous ethnic group. The language is so melodious that other Kenyans find it fascinating to listen to.

What are some customs and courtesies of this particular country of Kenya Greeting?

Etiquette and Customs in Kenya

Meeting and Greeting

The most common greeting is the handshake.

- When greeting someone with whom you have a personal relationship, the handshake is more prolonged than the one given to a casual acquaintance.
- Close female friends may hug and kiss once on each cheek instead of shaking hands.
- When greeting an elder or someone of higher status, grasp the right wrist with the left hand while shaking hands to demonstrate respect.
- Muslim men/women do not always shake hands with women/men.
- The most common greeting is "Jambo?" ("How are you?"), which is generally said immediately prior to the handshake.
- After the handshake it is the norm to ask questions about the health, their family, business and anything else you know about the person.
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Gift Giving

- In general, Kenyans give gifts for events of significance in a person's life or days of religious significance. If invited to dinner at a Kenyan's home, bring pastries, flowers, or sweets for the hostess. In rural areas, gifts of sugar or tea are quite common. Gifts should be nicely wrapped, although there are no prohibitions concerning the colour of paper. Do not bring alcohol unless you know that your host drinks.
- Gifts should be given using the right hand only or both hands. Never use the left hand.
- To skip or rush this element in the greeting process is the height of poor manners. People are generally addressed by their academic, professional or honorific title followed by their surname.
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- Once a personal relationship has developed, you may be able to address a person by their title and first name, first name alone, or nickname. Wait for the Kenyan to determine that your friendship has reached this level of intimacy.
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- Women over the age of 21 are often addressed as "Mama" and men over the age of 35 are often addressed as "Mzee". Children generally refer to adults as Aunt or Uncle, even if there is not a familial relationship.

Dining Etiquette

- Kenyans table manners are relatively formal.
- Dining patterns vary tremendously according to ethnicity, location and socio-economic position of the host.
- The best course of action is to behave formally. When in doubt, watch what others are doing and follow their lead.
- Except for formal functions, there is generally not a seating plan. However, there may be a special place for the most honoured guest.
- Guests are expected to wash their hands before and after the meal. In some homes, a washing basin will be brought to the table. If so, hold your hands over the basin while water is poured over them.
- The honoured guest is usually served first, followed by the men, children, and women.
- Do not begin eating until the eldest male has been served and started eating.