

# Africa (1945–Present)

## SECTION 1

# ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE

### TEXT SUMMARY

At the end of World War II, most of Africa was under European rule. Only Ethiopia, Liberia, Egypt, and South Africa were independent. A call for freedom swept Africa after 1945.

### THE BIG IDEA

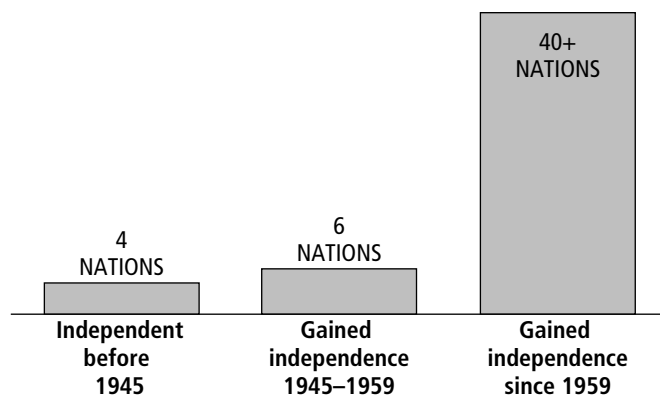
**After World War II, a tide of nationalism swept through Africa resulting in independence for many nations.**

Colonial rule left its mark on Africa. Colonial borders forced many ethnic groups into one nation. New leaders had to build unity among people of different backgrounds and customs. Yet, Africa lacked experienced, educated leaders. New nations relied on Europe as a source of goods and a market for exports. At the same time, Europeans still owned farms and mines that influenced the economy.

Colonies gained self-rule by both

peaceful and violent means. Kwame Nkrumah led the Gold Coast (Ghana) to freedom from Britain. Like many African leaders, Nkrumah had gone to school in the West and had become a skilled speaker. The political party he created called for peaceful strikes and boycotts. In Kenya, Jomo Kenyatta led a nonviolent effort for independence from Britain. However, a group known as the Mau Mau used guerilla warfare. The British jailed Kenyatta and crushed the Mau Mau rebels. Still, the struggle went on. In 1963, Kenyatta became head of free Kenya. It took a bloody war to free Algeria from France. Muslim nationalists began the fight in 1954. Thousands died before Algeria was freed in 1962.

### GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *The Great Liberation in Africa*



The great liberation in Africa started slowly, then picked up speed in the 1960s.

### REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1.** Describe the role one nationalist leader or group played in winning freedom for their African nation.

**2. Graph Skills** When did most of the African nations gain independence?

# PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPMENT

## TEXT SUMMARY

The free nations of Africa set goals. Leaders aimed to unite their people and create stable governments. They hoped strong economies would improve the standard of living.

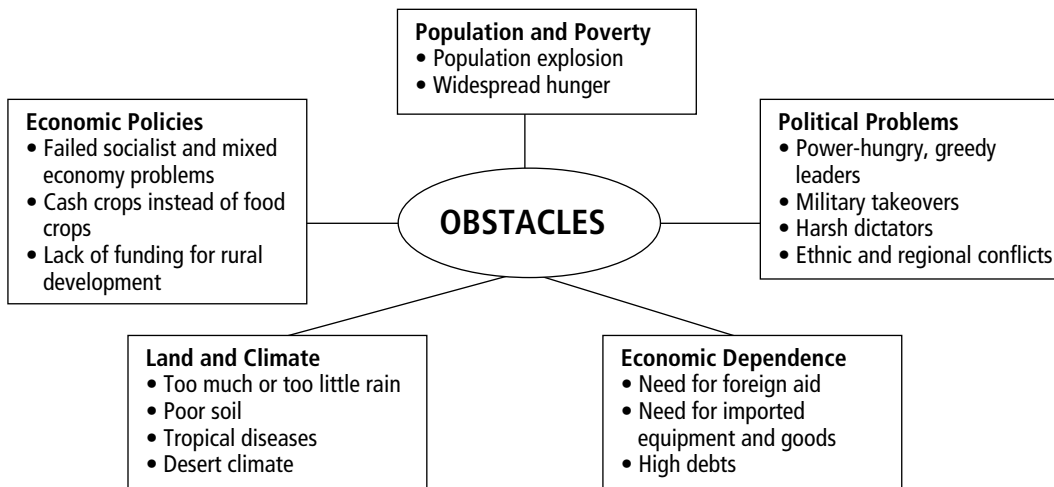
In most African lands, similar obstacles blocked progress. The barriers occurred in five areas: geography, population and poverty, economic dependence, economic policies, and political difficulties. Drought along with **deforestation**, or loss of vegetation, caused widespread hunger. Rapid population growth made the famine worse. Problems also arose where many ethnic groups lived in one nation. Leaders tried to replace loyalty to a culture with loyalty to a nation. When faced with trouble, many nations turned to a one-party system. Some of these one-party countries became dictatorships.

All new nations made political and economic choices to overcome the obstacles. Some nations rejected military leadership and dictators and chose to build on traditional African ways. For economic growth, nations either set up socialist state-run industries, allowed capitalist enterprise, or had **mixed economies**, economic systems with both private and state-run industries. Some states chose to grow cash crops rather than food crops. As a result, some of these countries had to import food. Many leaders helped urban industries rather than rural farms. By the 1980s, they saw food output drop and began to aid their farmers. By learning from mistakes, most states were moving forward in the 1990s.

## THE BIG IDEA

**New African nations sought unity and stability as they set up political and economic systems.**

## GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *Obstacles to Progress in Africa*



In spite of obstacles, the new nations of Africa made progress.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What were two goals of the new African nations?

2. **Diagram Skills** What are two obstacles to progress caused by the land and climate?

# THREE NATIONS: A CLOSER LOOK

## TEXT SUMMARY

Oil-rich Nigeria won its freedom in 1960. As in other new African nations, ethnic and regional quarrels led to civil war.

### THE BIG IDEA

**After independence, each African nation faced its own unique set of challenges.**

People in the Southeast broke away in 1967. They formed a new country called Biafra. The war brought hunger and disease to Biafra. Nearly one million people died. In 1970, Biafra gave up and the war ended. The oil boom in the 1970s helped

Nigeria recover from the war. Later, when oil prices fell, the country had a huge debt burden.

Until 1960, Belgium ruled the Congo. Until 1965, the land had no clear leader. Then, Mobutu Sese Seko, a harsh military dictator, took power. He called the nation Zaire. Mobutu ran the economy into the ground and stole billions of dollars of the

country's wealth. Conflicts among ethnic and regional groups sparked a war. In the late 1990s, rebels forced Mobutu from power. They renamed the country Congo.

Julius Nyerere, the first leader of Tanzania, hoped to improve rural life and do away with social classes. He wanted the country to meet all its own needs. He nationalized all banks and foreign-owned businesses. His program of African socialism set up communal farms and state-run industries. The program eventually failed. To save the economy, the next leader cut spending and allowed private business to operate. Unlike other African countries, Tanzania's food output did not decline. With foreign aid, it was also able to provide education and health care to many villages.

## GRAPHIC SUMMARY: A Look at Four African Nations

Nigeria Independence: 1960	Congo (Zaire) Independence: 1960	Tanzania Independence: 1961
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich in oil</li> <li>Ethnic and regional conflicts led to civil war</li> <li>Military rule</li> <li>Developed cities rather than farms</li> <li>Important leader: General Ibrahim Babangida</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich in minerals</li> <li>Ethnic and regional conflicts led to civil war</li> <li>Military rule</li> <li>Economic decline</li> <li>Military dictator: General Mobutu Sese Seko</li> <li>Rebels forced Mobutu from power in 1997</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aimed to unite people</li> <li>Socialism</li> <li>Emphasized agriculture</li> <li>One-party rule</li> <li>First president: Julius Nyerere</li> </ul>

New nations faced years of struggle.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What did Tanzania try to do that Nigeria and Zaire did not?

2. **Chart Skills** What event occurred in Nigeria and Zaire, but did not occur in Tanzania?

# STRUGGLES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

## TEXT SUMMARY

For 342 years, Europeans ran South Africa. Whites set up a system of **apartheid**, or separation of the races, in 1948. Laws said certain races must live in certain zones. They banned mixed marriages and forced nonwhites to carry passbooks. They called for separate trains, beaches, and schools. Low wages and poor schools doomed blacks to poverty.

The African National Congress (ANC) had fought white domination since 1912. (See diagram below.) Their marches and strikes sparked violence. At a 1960 rally, police gunned down protesters. Laws then banned the ANC. The United States and others hoped **sanctions**, or actions against a nation by other nations, would force an end to apartheid. In 1990, F.W. de Klerk, president of South Africa, lifted the ANC ban. He freed its leader, Nelson

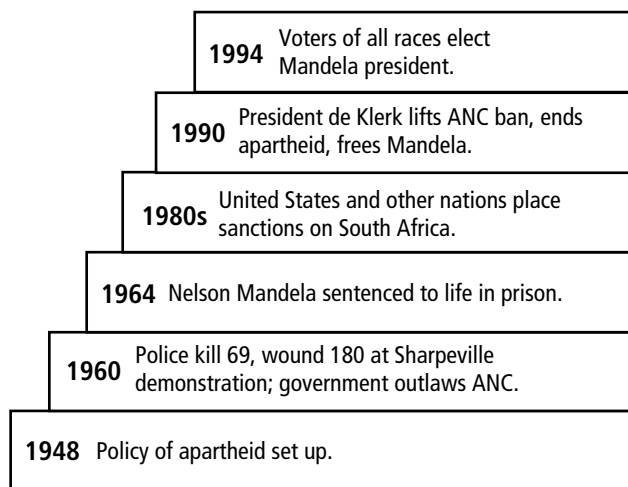
Mandela, from jail. Mandela and de Klerk planned elections for 1994. Together, all races elected Mandela president of a new democratic South Africa.

Other lands in Southern Africa also struggled for independence. For 15 years, Angola and Mozambique fought wars of independence against Portugal. After gaining independence, both countries were plagued by civil wars. From 1975 to 1992, the Cold War played a role in their struggles. Americans did not trust the socialist leaders and sided with rebels in both countries. South African troops also aided the rebels. Soviets sent Cuban troops to help Angolan leaders. In 1992, foreign troops pulled out, leaving the war-torn nations to rebuild.

### THE BIG IDEA

The successful struggle against apartheid in South Africa serves as a beacon of hope to other African nations.

## GRAPHIC SUMMARY: Steps to the End of Apartheid



As apartheid ended, South Africa began to grant rights to all its people.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What were two effects of apartheid laws?
2. **Diagram Skills** How long was Nelson Mandela in prison?