

Johnson Michael Kallidukil

We need to situate the topic

How /what is Africa?



- Africa as a continent is a victim of many misconceptions.
- Fears about Africa
- Prejudices
- Wrong images
- Psychological distance

Africa was considered to be a dark continent...



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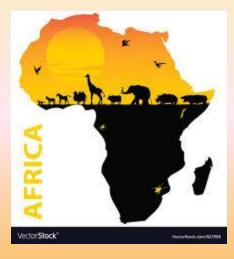
Estonia 45,226 Sqm Tanzania 945,087 Sqm Africa: 30,370,000 Sqm

Population

1.3 M

48 M

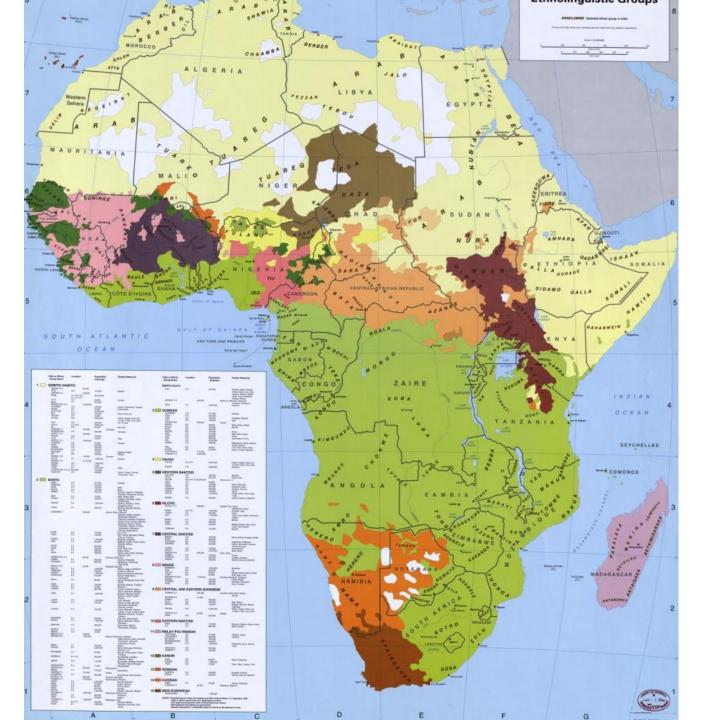
1.2. B



Africa has

3000 distinct ethnic groups,2000 languages.

Home to the most genetically diverse people on Earth.



We need to keep in mind

TWO Major Historical Facts (real facts!)



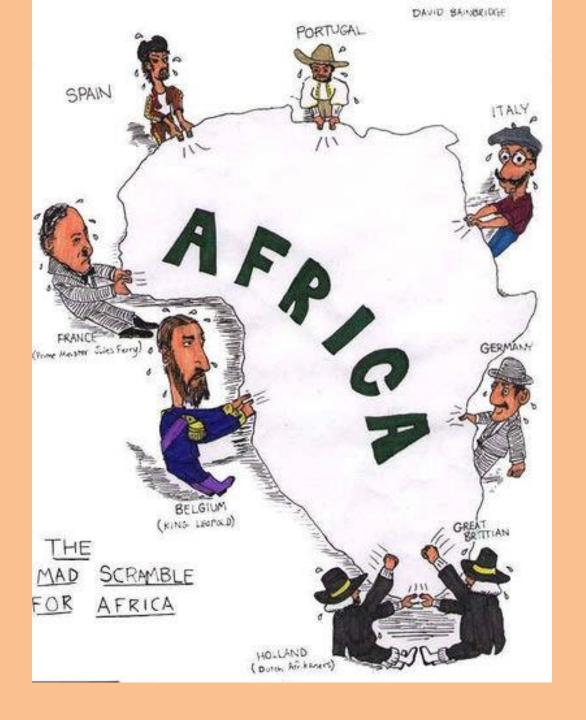




Real photo....!

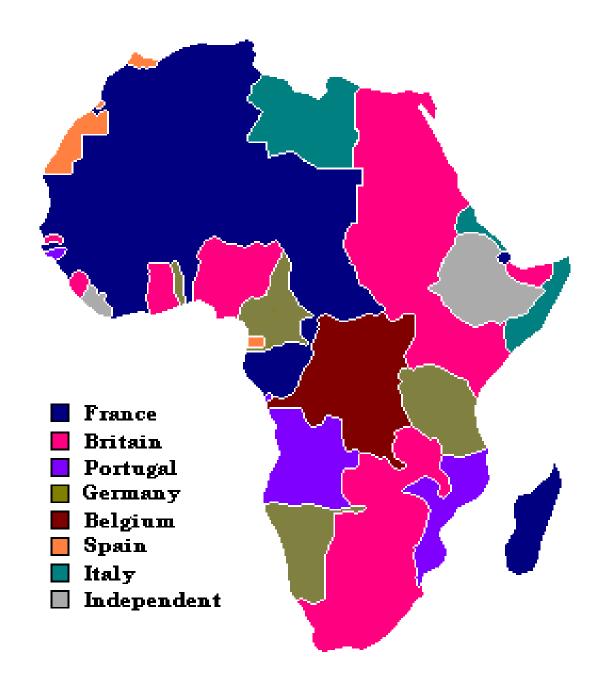


Colonization



By 1900 much of Africa had been colonized by seven European powers:

- 1. Britain,
- 2. France,
- 3. Germany,
- 4. Belgium,
- 5. Spain,
- 6. Portugal,
- 7. and Italy.



Unstable political and economic system in many African nations

Man & GoD-ivine

From the very beginning of the existence of the humanity, there was a belief system affiliating oneself to a power of the absolute – perceived in diverse forms – linked to a power beyond the ordinary human power.

As humanity developed itself in different parts of the world in the course of time, such beliefs were "organised" under the leadership of certain people who were considered to be the messengers from that Power Beyond. Such organized forms were called "religions".

Chronologically.....

- 1. Witchcraft,
- 2. Christianity,
- 3. Modernity

Witchcraft:

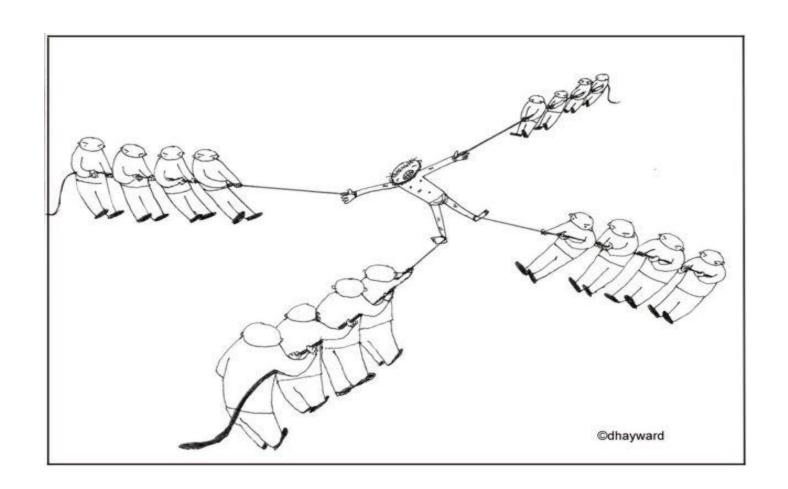
- > All the traditional beliefs
- > Superstitions
- > Traditions based on these
- > Certain cultural and social practices
- > ATR African Traditional Religions

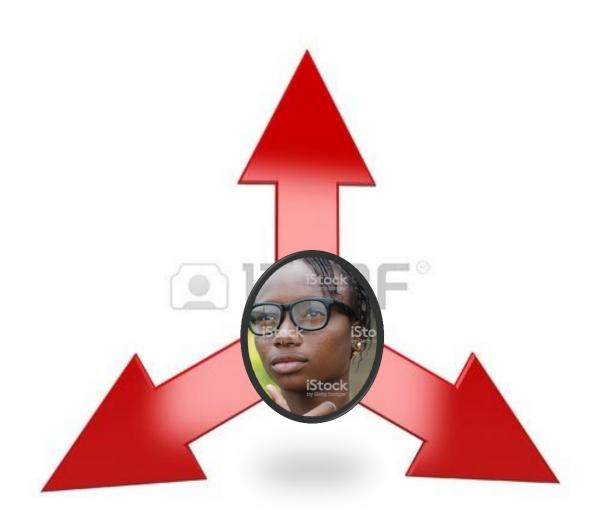
Christianity

- > All the Christian denominations
- ➤ All missionary works
- > Sects
- > Islam
- > Any Organized form of worship
- Church laws and teaching

Modernity

- Industrialization
- Globalization
- Mass Media
- Secularism
- Non- traditional education







Different Orientations
Different value Systems
Different Offers
Different experiences



The Contrast we see in city life and village life





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2 Positive Philosophical and cultural elements that affect the thinking and attitude



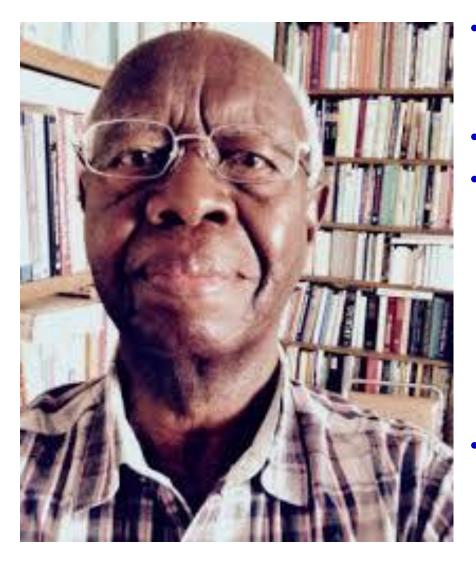
UBUNTU

An anthropologist proposed a game to African tribe kids. He put a basket full of fruit near a tree and told them that whoever got there first won the sweet fruits. When he told them to run they all took each others hands and ran together, then sat together enjoying their treats. When he asked them why they had run like that as one could have had all the fruits for himself they said: UBUNTU, how can one of us be happy if all the other ones are sad?

UBUNTU in the Xhosa culture means:

"I am because we are"





Born in <u>Kenya</u>, Mbiti studied in <u>Uganda</u> and the <u>United States</u>, taking his doctorate in 1963 at the <u>University of Cambridge</u>, UK.

Religions and Philosophy (1969), was the first work to challenge Christian assumption that traditional African religious ideas were "demonic and anti-Christian".

His sympathetic treatment of traditional religions was based on massive field work. Mbiti is clear that his interpretation of these religions is from a firmly Christian perspective, and this aspect of his work has sometimes been severely criticized.

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UJAMAA

Ujamaa was the concept that formed the basis of

Mwl. Julius Nyerere's social and economic development policies in Tanzania after it gained independence from Britain in 1961



False Conviction

- Europe / USA is a paradise
- Whites are valued more than the black

Gruesome stories of human trafficking!!

Christianity:

Dos and Don'ts

Accept suffering and your reward will be in heaven.

Your traditions

Modernity

are

from evil one.

Appease the powers or they Make life easy and happy will be angry with you. There are immediate solutions

Your neighbour could be a threat!

Individual freedom is important. Your traditions and Religions do bring you restrictions

Witchcraft and traditional practices in the ordinary life of an African

DR. SHEIKH ISMAEL

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What to do now:

- Understand the ATR and its values
- Not all traditions are bad or against the values of Christ or any religion
- Present religion as an invitation to love and serve
- Healing from the wounds of slavery and colonization

Ahsanteni sana!!!

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