

# Chapter 25 Africa and the Era of Expansion



1340-1591	Songhay Empire
1498–1698	Portuguese domination of East African Swahili states
1650–1870	Height of Atlantic slave trade
1652	Dutch East India Company founds Cape Colony, South Africa
c. 1770–1840	Extensive migrations in South and East Africa
1832	Sayyid Sa'id, Sultan of Oman, founds sultanate of Zanzibar
1830s	French begin to assert control over North Africa
1840s	Christian missionaries and explorers begin to move into
	interior
1850s-1860s	French begin extending their control up the Senegal River
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### West African States, Old and New

- Songhay
  - Sonni Ali (1464-1492)
    - Cavalry, armored warriors, navy canoes used to extend conquests
    - Most powerful Sudanic state of West Africa
  - Askia Muhammad the Great (1493-128)
    - Support of Islam
      - Ulama in key positions
      - Enforced orthodox practices
      - Built mosques
      - Subsidized book production, scholarship in Gao, Timbuktu, Jenne
  - Attacks from Mossi people from the south, Tuareg Berbers from the north
  - Moroccans conquer in 1591

### West African States, Old and New

- Other Sudanic states
  - Creations of Fulani and Tukolor peoples
    - Futa Toro, Futa Jallon, Bornu
  - Bornu
    - Controlled central Saharan trade routes to Libya, Egypt
  - Hausa City States
    - Present-day Nigeria
    - Traditionally farmers, then traders in leather, textiles
    - Centers: Kano, Katsina, Zaria, Daura, Gobir
  - Ngloa Kingdom- use of iron technology
  - Kongo largest West-central kingdom

# The Lakes Kingdoms

- Nilotes nomads migrate into Bantu lands ca.
   1500
  - Near Lakes Kivu, Victoria, Tanganyika
  - Mixture of Nilote herders and Bantu farmers led to new states
- States included
  - Bunyoro-Kitara
  - Karagwe
  - Burundi
  - Buganda

# The Swahili, the Portuguese, and Oman

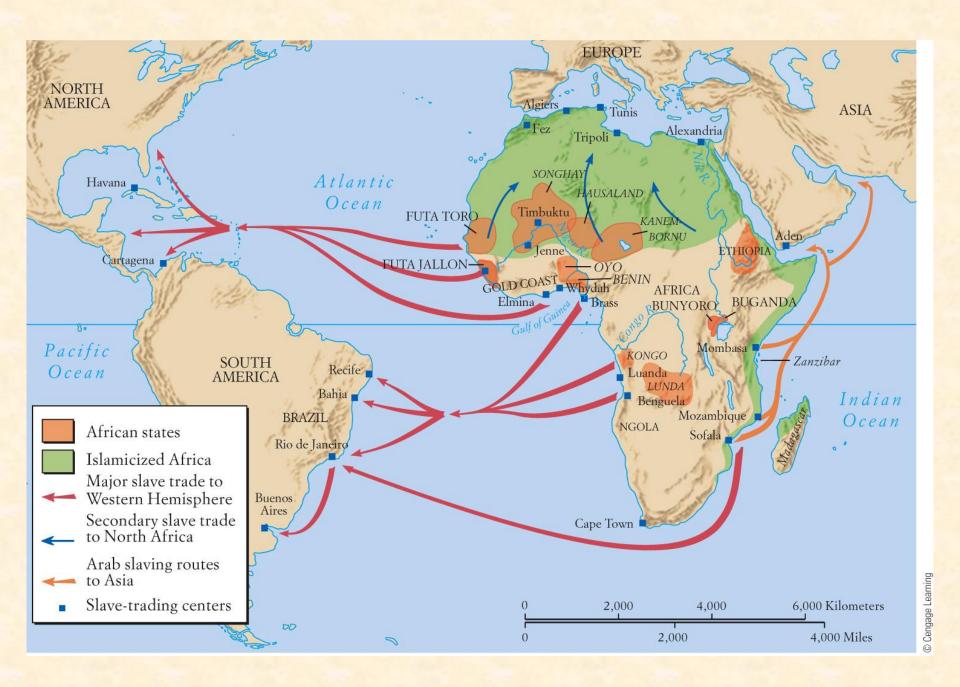
- Swahili towns of Paté, Mombasa, Zanzibar, Kilwa
  - Major entrepôts in Indian Ocean trade
  - Cosmopolitan culture
  - Muslim
- Vasco da Gama arrives in Indian Ocean, 1498
- Portuguese tried to control gold, ivory trade of East Africa
  - Failed, but built fortresses at Mozambique, Mombasa
  - Also controlled Paté, Lamu, Malindi, Pemba, Zanzibar, Kilwa
- Swahili resistance to foreign invasion
  - Cast in Christian v. Muslim terms
  - Alliance with Oman
- By 1698, Omani replaced Portuguese in East Africa, western Indian Ocean
  - First traded ivory, animal products
  - 18<sup>th</sup> century slave trade

# **European Impressions**

- Explorer/traders saw kingdoms as subservient and backward
  - Reinforced by relative military, technological limitations
  - Willingness of African rulers to enslave, sell slaves of competing states
  - Jews, Christians prohibited from enslaving one another
  - Perceived as "not quite human"
- High rate of mortality among Europeans in Africa (25%)
- Early attempts to Christianize quickly gave way before profitability
  - Dutch, English, French never attempted it
- Europeans rationalized slavery on biblical basis
  - Became basis of European and American racial prejudice

## The Era of Informal Empire

- Europeans had not penetrated into continent, no permanent settlement
- Trade often conducted on the beach
- Occupied trading stations (factories)
- African leaders dealt with Europeans on equal basis
- Depended on Africans to obtain goods inland
- Slave replace gold as main object of trade
- Europeans did not have military advantage
- Devastating diseases also limited settlement
- Hot climate, unknown difficult terrain limited European penetration and settlement
- Travel extremely difficult



#### The Slave Trade and Its Results

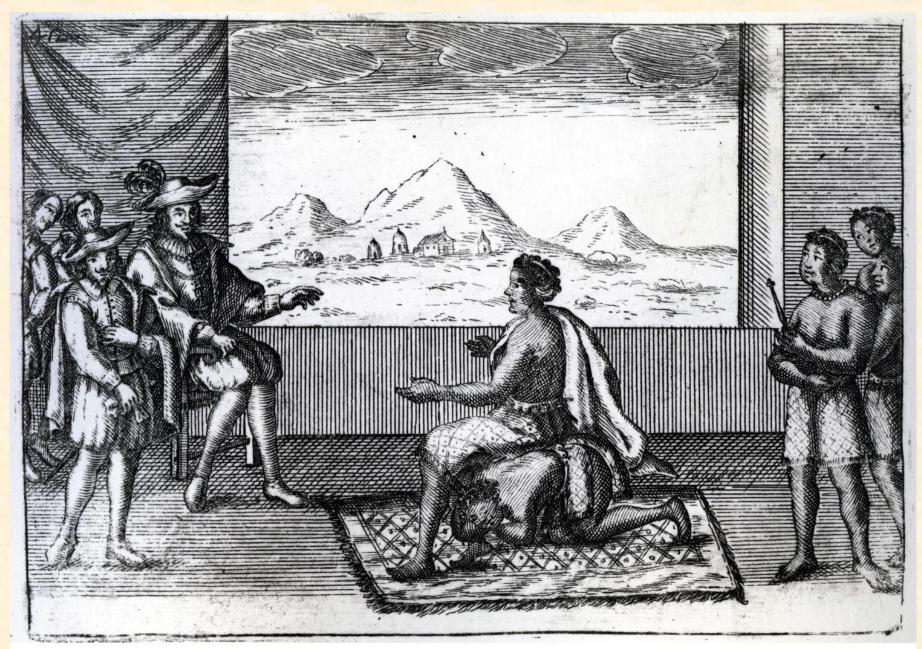
- Slavery was ancient institution taking many forms, fueled by war, poverty
- Berber, Arab Muslim traders, ran slave trade before Europeans arrived
- European settlement of Western Hemisphere and use of plantation system created demand for cheap labor
  - Used native Americans at first, but most died
  - Africans able to better resist disease
- European involvement
  - Portuguese were first, replaced by Dutch
    - Dutch East India Company, then West India Company
  - English, French, Danes also involved
  - English dominated slave trade after 1672
    - Royal Africa Company

#### The Slave Trade and Its Results

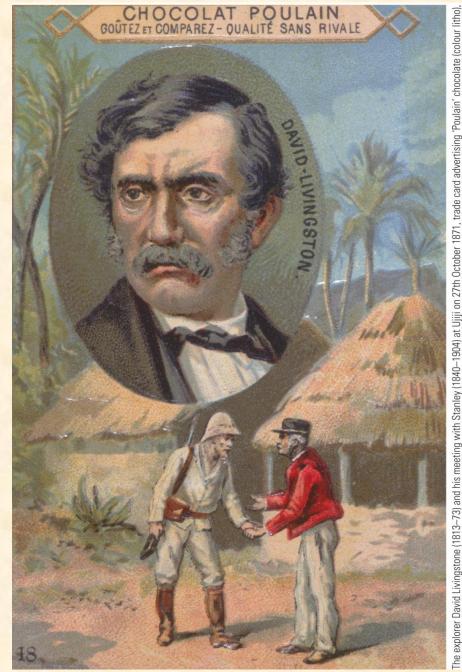
- Statistics
  - Lack of adequate reliable data
  - Trans-Atlantic slave trade estimates range 8 million to 40 million slaves exported (1650-1870)
  - Trans-Saharan slave trade exported an additional 3 ½ million
- Impact on African populations
  - Varied regionally
    - West Central Africa (from Senegal to Nigeria)
    - Muslim East Africa (Mozambique, Tanzania, Madagascar, Malawi)
  - Limited population growth
  - Some African leaders became partners
    - Added to their power as slaves traded for firearms
    - Major cause of bloodshed
  - Results catastrophic in Kongo and Ngola
    - Conversion of King Affonso I and Queen Anna de Souza Nzinga could not save these countries

# Intensification of European Contacts

- Until 19<sup>th</sup> century European interest in Africa largely limited to trade
  - Exceptions:
    - French in North Africa
    - Portuguese in Angola
    - Boers in South Africa
  - By 1800, Europeans new little more about Africa than their ancestors in the 5<sup>th</sup> c.
- Indifference, ignorance changed gradually
  - Humanitarian reasons
    - Anti-Slavery Movement
    - Slave trade ended in 1807
    - Enforced by British navy and colonies established for freed slaves
    - Christian missionaries sent to convert
  - Curiosity, desire to explore, especially search for source of Nile River
  - Profit motive and rising nationalism
    - need for sources of raw materials and markets for finished goods



The meeting of Queen Nzinga of Ndongo and Joao Correia de Sousa the Portugese govenor of Luanda in 1622 (engraving), Dutch School, (17th century)/Private Collection/The Bridgeman Art Library



The explorer David Livingstone (1813—73) and his meeting with Stanley (1840–1904) at Ujiji on 27th October 1871, trade card advertising 'Poulain' chocolate (colour litho), French School, (19th century)/Private Collection/Archives Charmet/The Bridgeman Art Library

#### North Africa

- Using piracy as an excuse, France invaded Morocco, Algeria after 1830
  - Nationalistic feelings by overseas conquests
  - Morocco theoretically independent supervised by 'resident general'
  - Less populated, less stable Algeria seized from decaying Turkey, colony after 1847
    - Eventually, a million French migrated
    - First European settlement colony in Africa
- Europeans treated Arabs, Berbers as unwelcome "foreigners"
- Similar developments in Tunisia, NW Africa by end of 1800s
- Egypt still part of dying Ottoman Empire
  - 1798, Napoleon invaded Egypt
    - Turks and British expelled
  - Ottomans appointed Albanian Muhammad Ali as viceroy of Egypt
    - Ali and successors maintained semi-autonomous regime
    - Extended control into Sudan in 1821
    - During reign of Khedive Ismail (heir of Ali, Suez Canal completed (1869)
    - British occupy 1882
- Italians invade Libya
- European arrival stimulated Muslim African resistance
  - Fueled by Islamic revival movements
  - Abd al-Qadir, a marabout, in Algeria





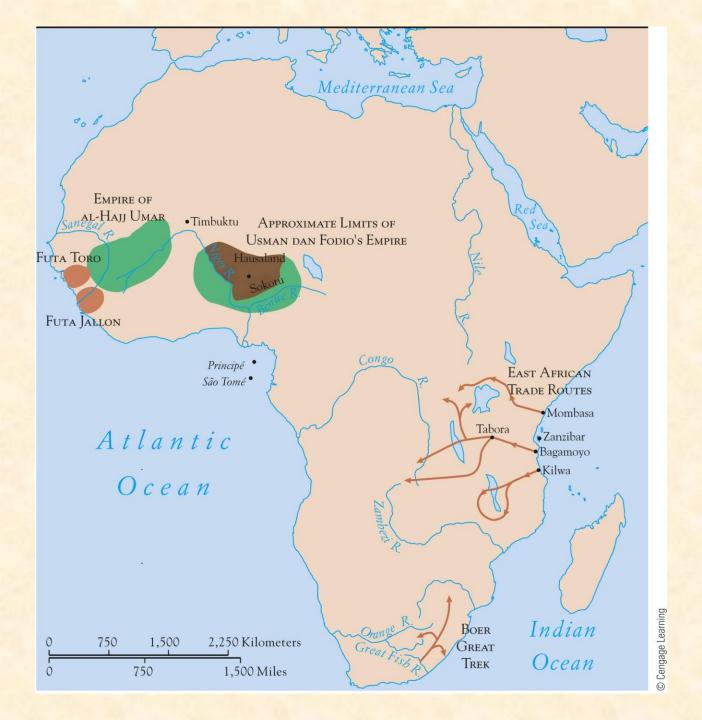
- After British banned slave trade, trade moved south to Portuguese Angola
  - flourished there until end of American Civil War, Brazil's abolition in 1888
- "Legitimate" trade replaced slavery
- European powers establish monopolistic control of trade
- French control Senegal River
- British Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Gambia
- Interior still largely unaffected

#### West Africa

- Islam in the interior
  - Holy wars began in the 17<sup>th</sup> c. against non-Islamic practices
  - Usman dan Fodio in the 19th c.
  - Destruction of Hausa City States
  - Establishment of Sokoto Caliphate
  - Success of dan Fodio inspired others between Niger and Senegal Rivers
    - Al-Hajj Umar Tal conquering upper Niger by 1860s
    - French react by seizing control of most of West Africa



Werner Forman/ Art Resource, NY



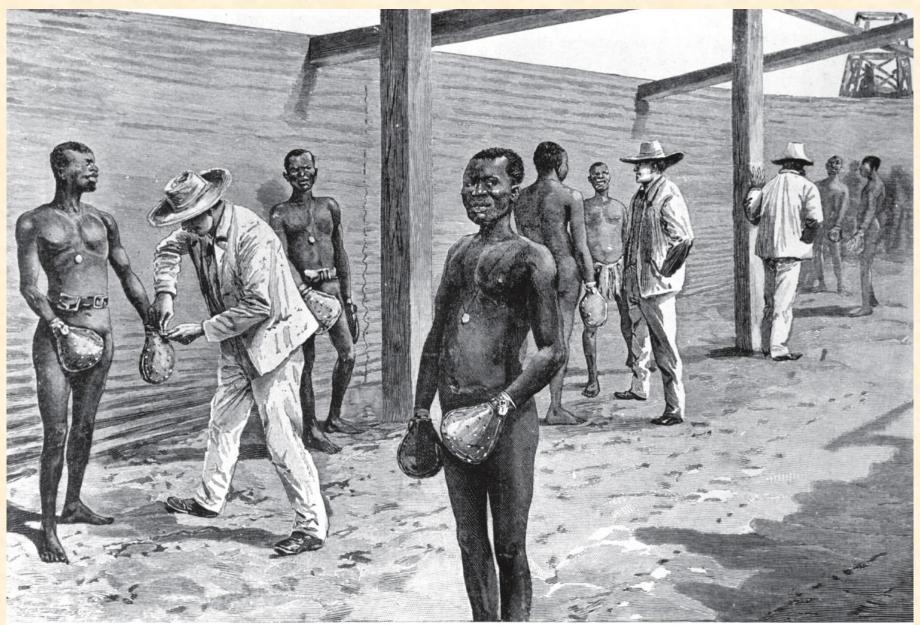
#### South Africa

- Cape Town founded by Dutch East India Company, 1652
  - Dutch farmers (Boers) settled, displaced cattle herding Khoikhoi
  - As they moved inland (Trekboers) pushed aside other indigenous peoples
  - Slave imported from other parts of Africa, Indonesia, India, Madagascar
  - Some racial mixing occurred (coloureds)
- · Bantu, Khoisan, Khoikhoi
  - Village dwellers
  - Residents of Eastern Cape
- Zulu and Xhosa moved south against Boers

#### South Africa

- British occupied Cape as part of post-Napoleonic Vienna settlement in 1815
  - Boers resented British attempts to manage Boer-African relations
  - Started migration north (Great Trek)
    - Drove out the Sotho peoples, defeated the Zulu
    - Founded independent Boer republics (The Orange Free State, Transvaal)
- Led to formation of powerful African states
  - Shaka of the Zulu
  - Zulu War of 1879
- Gold, diamonds discovered in the 1880s





Shackling of Black Miners hands during a break, in a diamond mine in Cape Town (engraving) (b/w photo), French School, (19th century)/Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, France/Archives Charmet/The Bridgeman Art Library

#### East Africa

- A century after the Omani Arabs drove out the Portuguese, the French settled Mauritus and Reunion Islands
  - Plantation economy, demand for slaves
  - Obtained from Kilwa, Zanzibar
- 1832, Sultan of Oman, Sayyid Sa'id bin Sultan al Busaidi moved to Zanzibar
  - Zanzibar Sultanate
  - Trade in ivory, slaves until 1873 when British persuaded Sa'id's son to end it
  - Clove plantations

