

Chapter 20: The Transition Zone

Unit 6

Section 1: Physical Geography

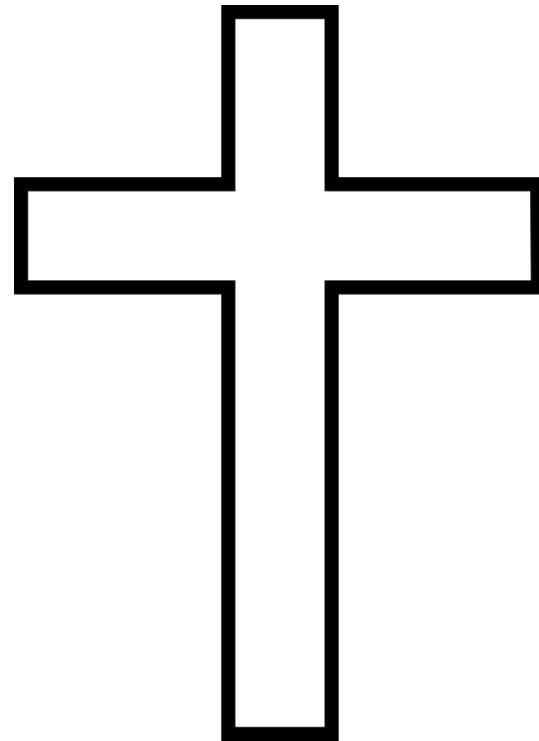
Landforms

- South of the Sahara is considered a transition area between the desert climate and savanna
- Transition zone- physical area in which land undergoes a radical change.



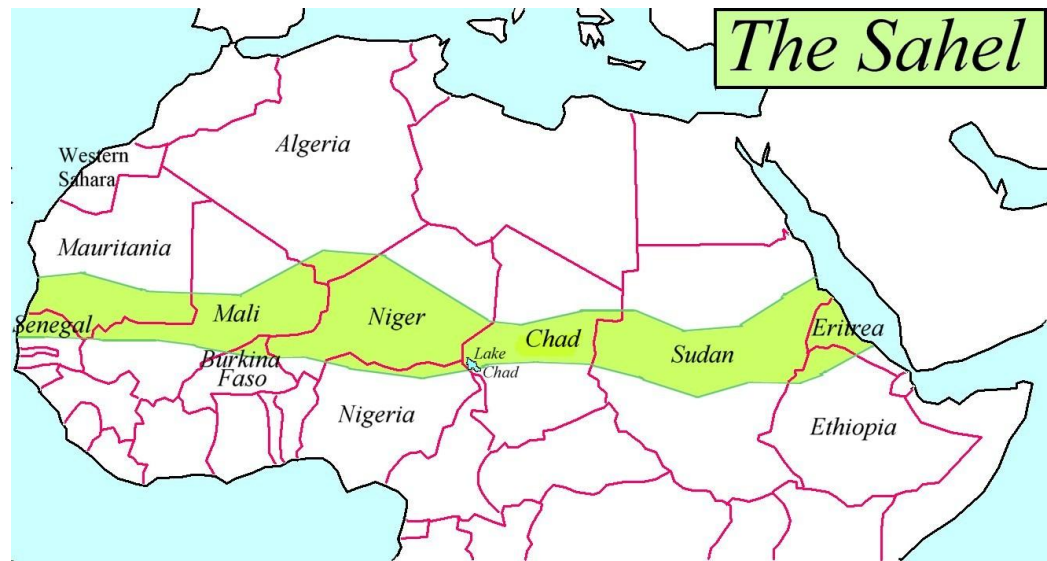
Landforms

- Not only is the transition zone a physical divider in Africa, it is also a cultural divider
 - North Africa=Muslim
 - South of Sahara=Christian and local religions



Landforms

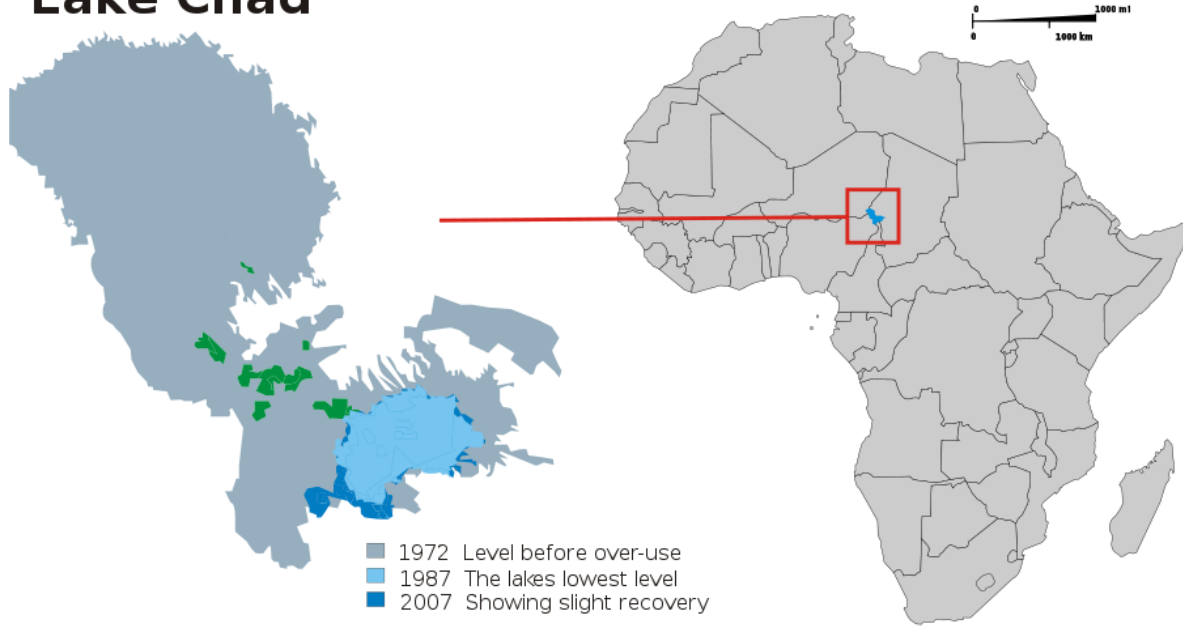
- Sahel
 - Mainly flat with some plateaus
 - Steppe region: 3,000 miles wide
 - East of this area: the Horn of Africa
 - Little rainfall in this region
 - Good for herding livestock



Water Systems

- Due to the dryness of this area, droughts are common.
- Lake Chad
 - Once the second=largest wetland in Africa
 - 3 rivers feed into it:
 - Chari, Logone, Yobe
 - Today: due to droughts, much of the rivers and lake is drying up

Lake Chad



Water Systems

- Lake Volta
 - Ghana
 - One of the largest human-made lakes
 - Multiple countries share the river systems that lead into this lake
 - Good for irrigation and fisheries
 - Negative consequences??



Water Systems

- Niger River
 - One of the major rivers in western Africa
 - Means of transportation
- Delta-triangular-shaped section of land formed as waters of a river slow down and split into many channels as they deposit sand and silt



Water Systems



- Senegal River
 - Many people live along the banks
 - Dams were built to help people better use the resources
- Blue and White Nile Rivers
 - Feed into the Nile River of Egypt



Climate, Biomes, and Resources

- 2 hot seasons
 - First: February-April
 - Second: May-August
 - Rainy season only impacts the southern part of the region
- Harmattan-hot, dry wind that blows from the NE or E in western part of Sahara

Section 2: Human Geography

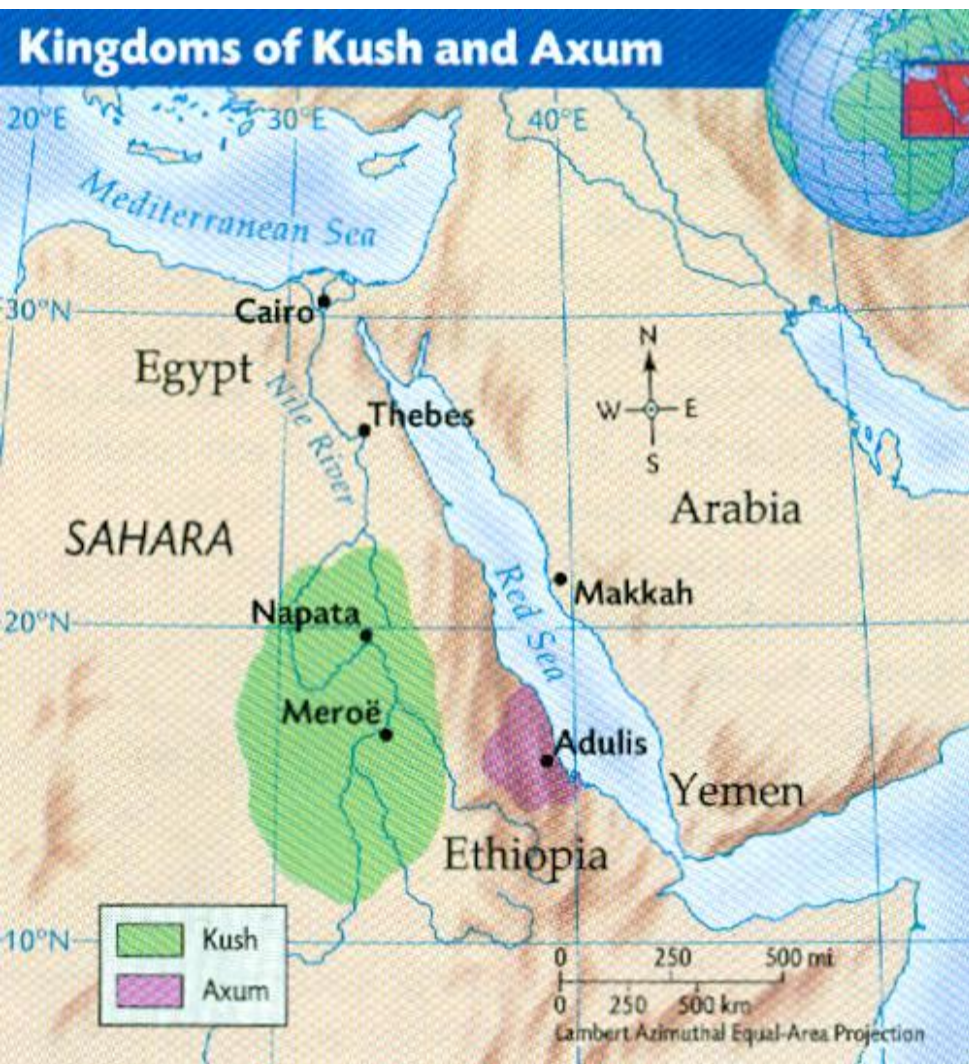
History and Government

- 9000-4000 BC, Sahara was actually filled with water...not like the desert region it is today
- Many people settled here and thrived by domesticating plants and animals
- But when the climate shift happened, most people moved south to set up new homes



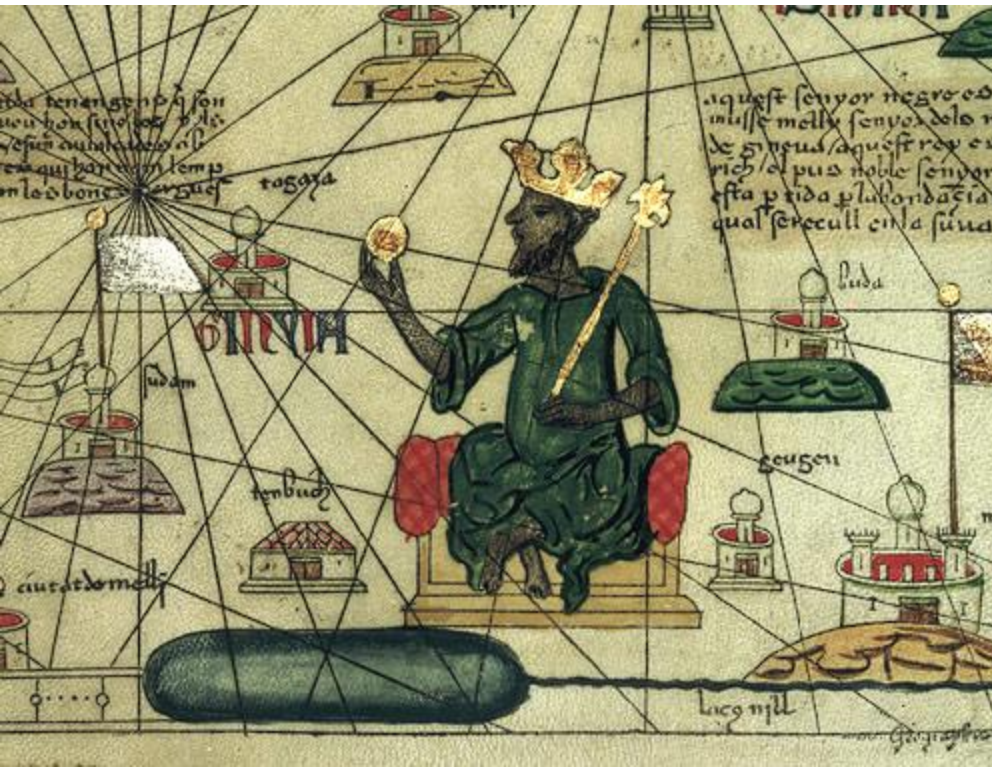
History and Government

- Egyptian civilization ruled over much of the area from 2000-1000 BC
- Kush civilization was growing in present-day Sudan
 - Took over the Egyptian civilization from 2000 to 1500 BC
 - Moved south and controlled that area until about 300 AD
- Axum was a trading empire in Ethiopia and ruled from 100-700 AD
 - Attacked Kush civilization



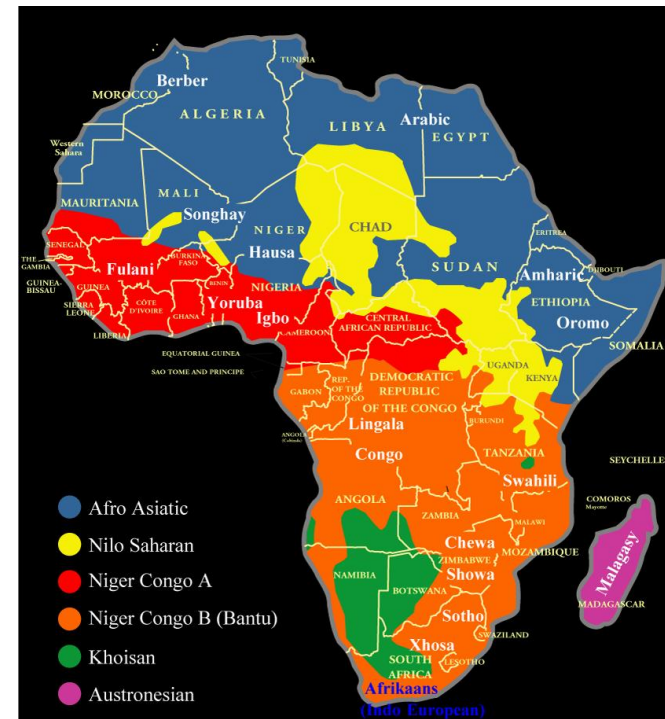
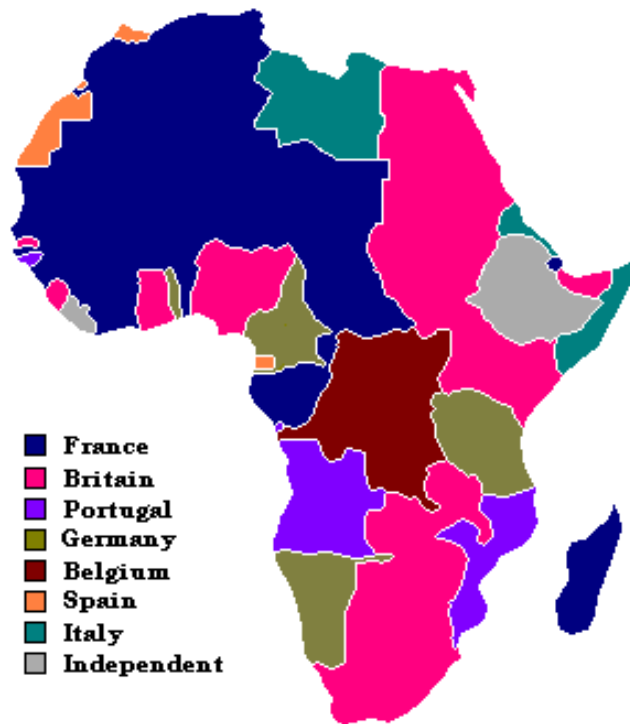
Empires of the Transition Zone

- Mali Empire
 - Became wealthy by establishing trade routes for gold and salt
 - Mansa Musa
 - Muslim empire and helped spread the religion to territories it conquered
 - Lasted until around 1600 AD, were taken over by the Moroccans



Colonization and Independence

- European countries take over...

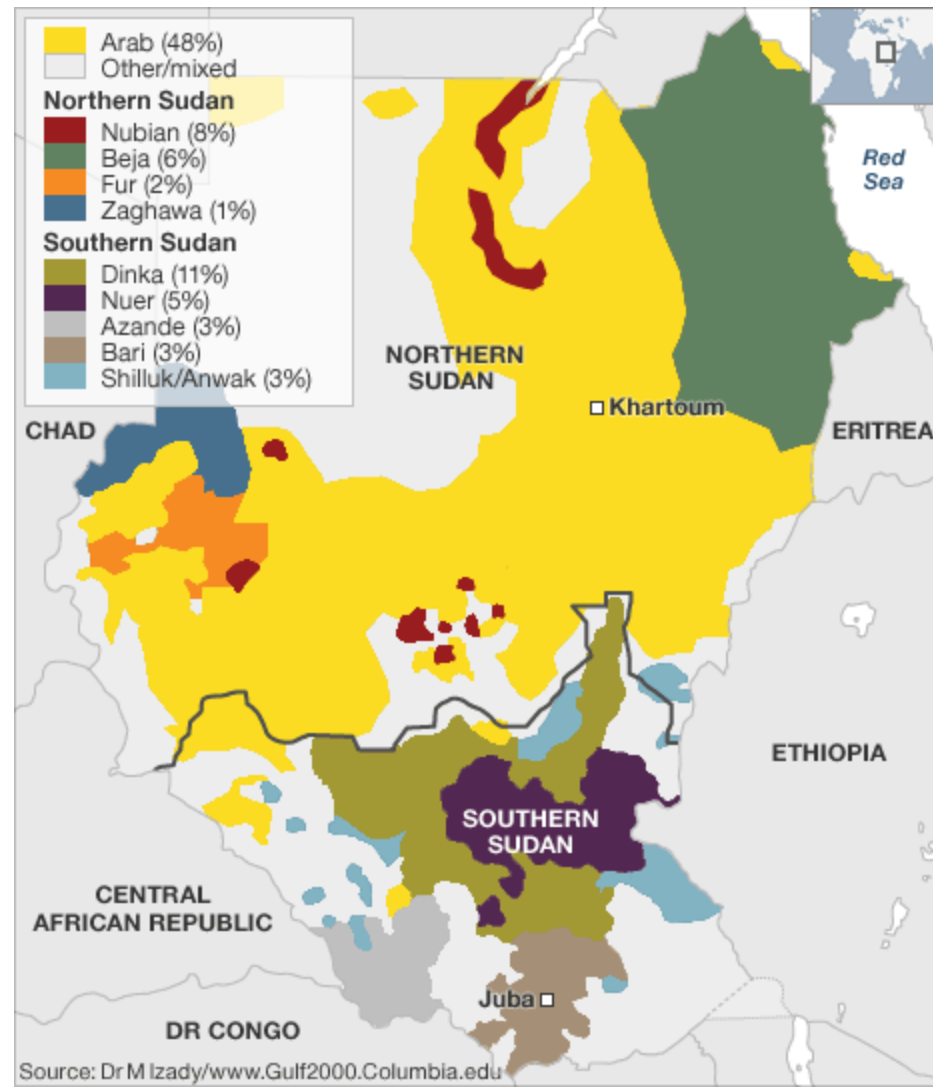


Colonization and Independence

- Independence:
 - Poor economies...why?
 - Corrupt or poor governments...why?

Conflict

- Ethnic conflicts
 - Sudan



Population Patterns

- Rapid population growth
- Where are people living?
 - Cities?
 - Rural areas?

Society and Culture Today

- Religion?
- Issues with education, health, and urbanization
- Poverty and sanitation

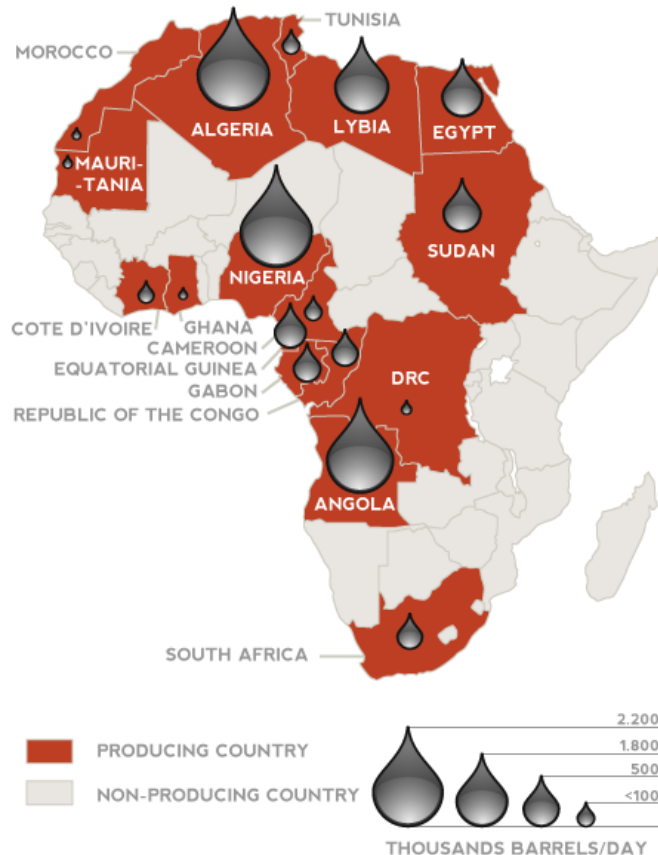
Family and Women

- Large families, families live close together
- Patriarchal
- Clans
- Shift towards nuclear family

Economic Activities

- Primary
 - Agricultural: Subsistence farming
- Primary/Secondary:
 - Oil and gas
 - Phosphates, iron, copper, tin, uranium

DAILY CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION 2008



Section 3: People and Their Environment

Managing Resources and Human Impact

- Agriculture
- Desertification
- Water supplies

Addressing the Issues

- Water management
- Conservation technologies
- Connecting with outside countries/UN to help fund and plan
- Local changes in farming techniques
- GMOs

