



History of Eritrea



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NanoPower Africa

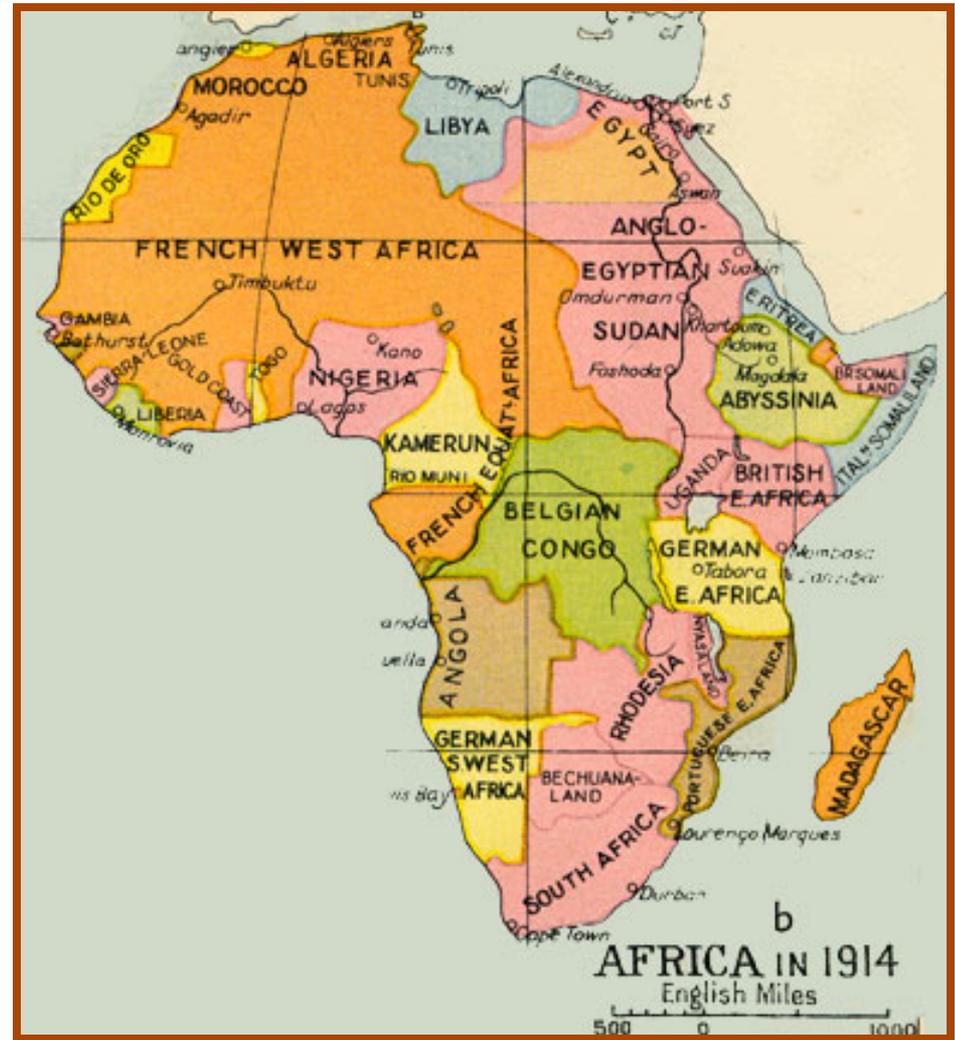
The Scramble for Africa

- **One of the major reasons for bad relations amongst the nations of Europe in the years before 1914 was that they were engaged in a struggle to obtain overseas colonies.**
- **Although this happened in several areas of the world, the most dramatic changes took place in Africa. Many nations took part in what became known as the “Scramble for Africa”.**
- **The following pages will show the territory gained by each nation, and will explain why the race to gain colonies played a part in the build-up of international tensions which eventually resulted in World War One.**

This map shows Africa in 1914 and shows how much land the major nations had taken over.

There is so much detail that it is a little difficult to see exactly what has happened.

To get a better idea of how much of Africa was controlled by each European power, click on any of the links below.



BRITAIN



FRANCE



GERMANY



ITALY



BELGIUM



NEXT PAGE

British Colonies

Britain had managed to get some of the most valuable land in Africa.

The most important gain was Egypt because of the Suez Canal.

This provided a much quicker and safer route to India – the “Jewel in the Crown” of the British Empire.



French Colonies

France had also built up a large colonial empire, mostly in the north west of Africa.

This had caused problems and there had been serious arguments over colonies such as Morocco and Tunis.

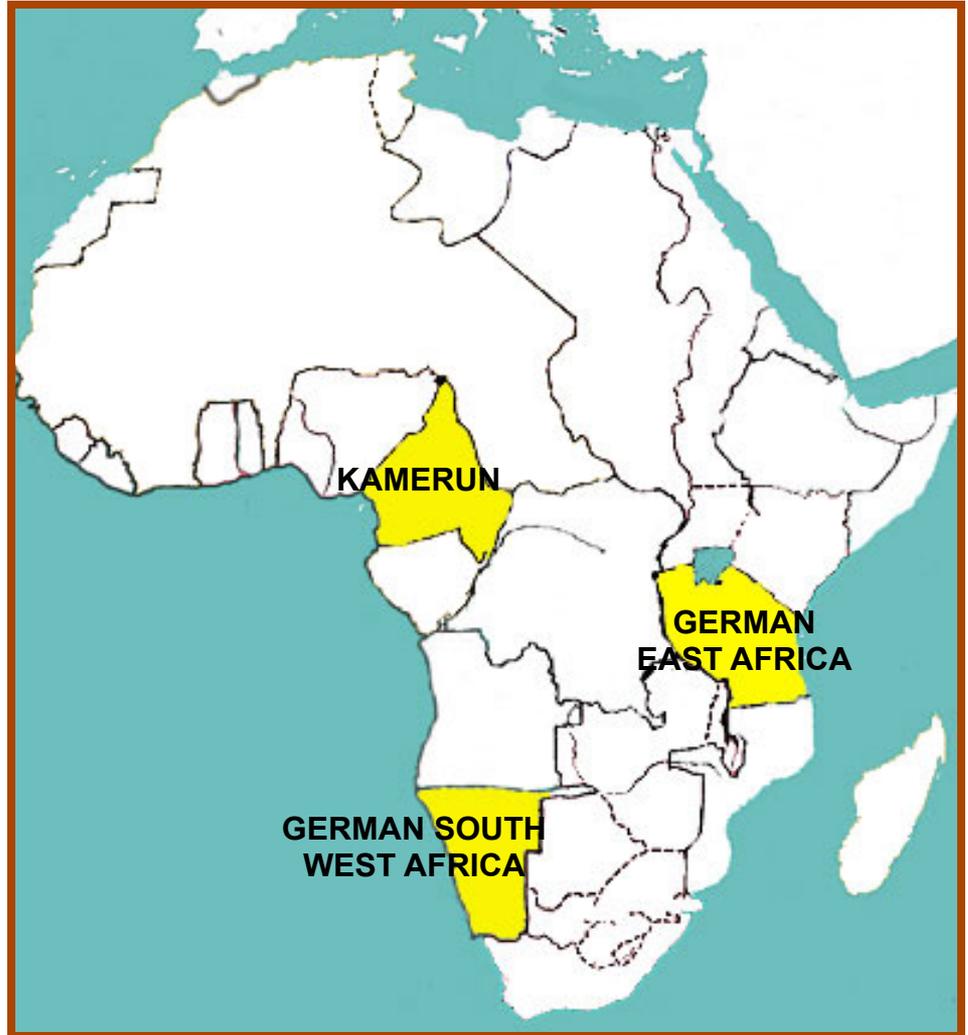
Arguments over colonies caused bad feeling between Britain and France.



German Colonies

Germany did not enter the race for colonies until very late and, as a result, much of the land gained was not very valuable.

Despite this, Kaiser William II was determined that Germany should have a major empire.

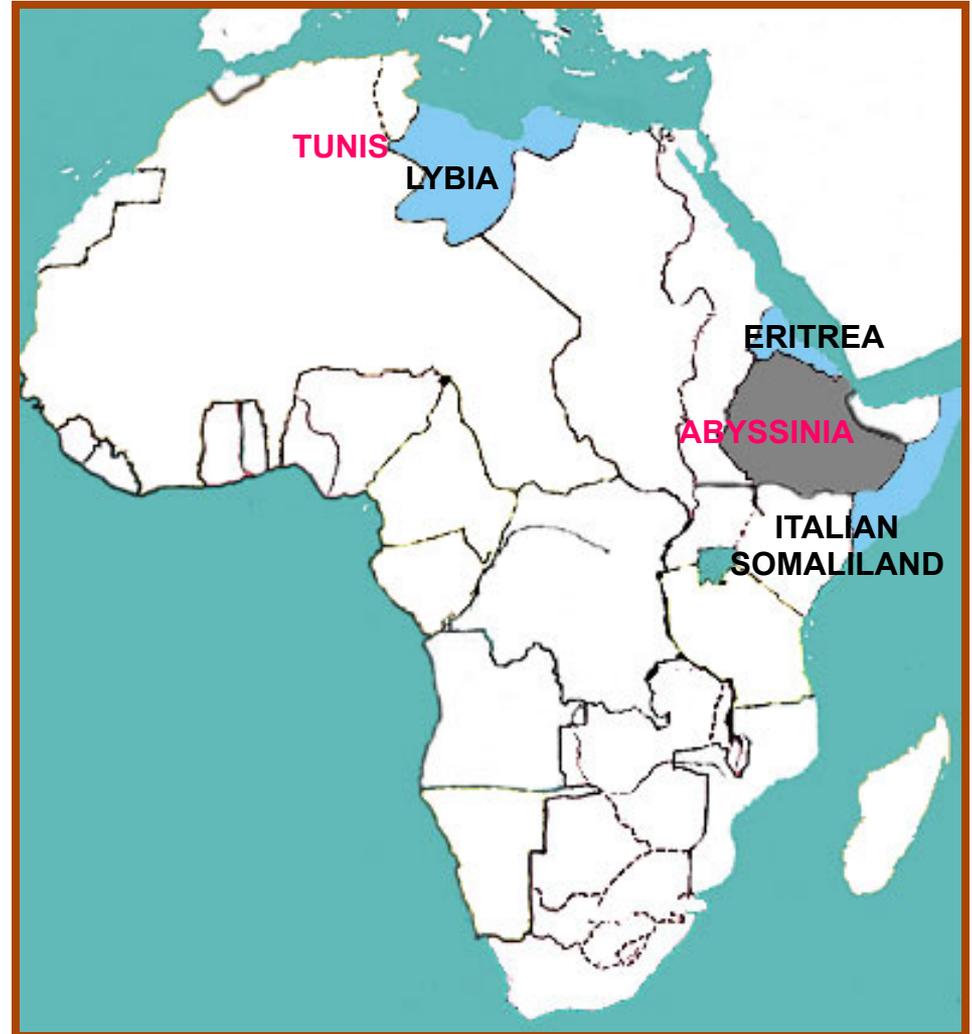


Italian Colonies

Italy did gain a few colonies but also had its failures.

It tried to take over Tunis but was beaten to it by France.

It tried to take over Abyssinia but failed.



Belgian Colonies

Even tiny Belgium had an African colony – the Belgian Congo.

This was one of the reasons that Kaiser William II of Germany decided that his country must also have colonies.



ITALIANS IN AFRICA

- 1882-1896
 - Eritrea (along the Red Sea)
 - Somaliland (along the Indian Ocean, part of today's Somalia)
- 1896
 - Defeated in attempt to conquer Abyssinia (Ethiopia)
- 1912
 - Won Tripoli from Ottoman Turks

1. Eritrea: regional geography & population



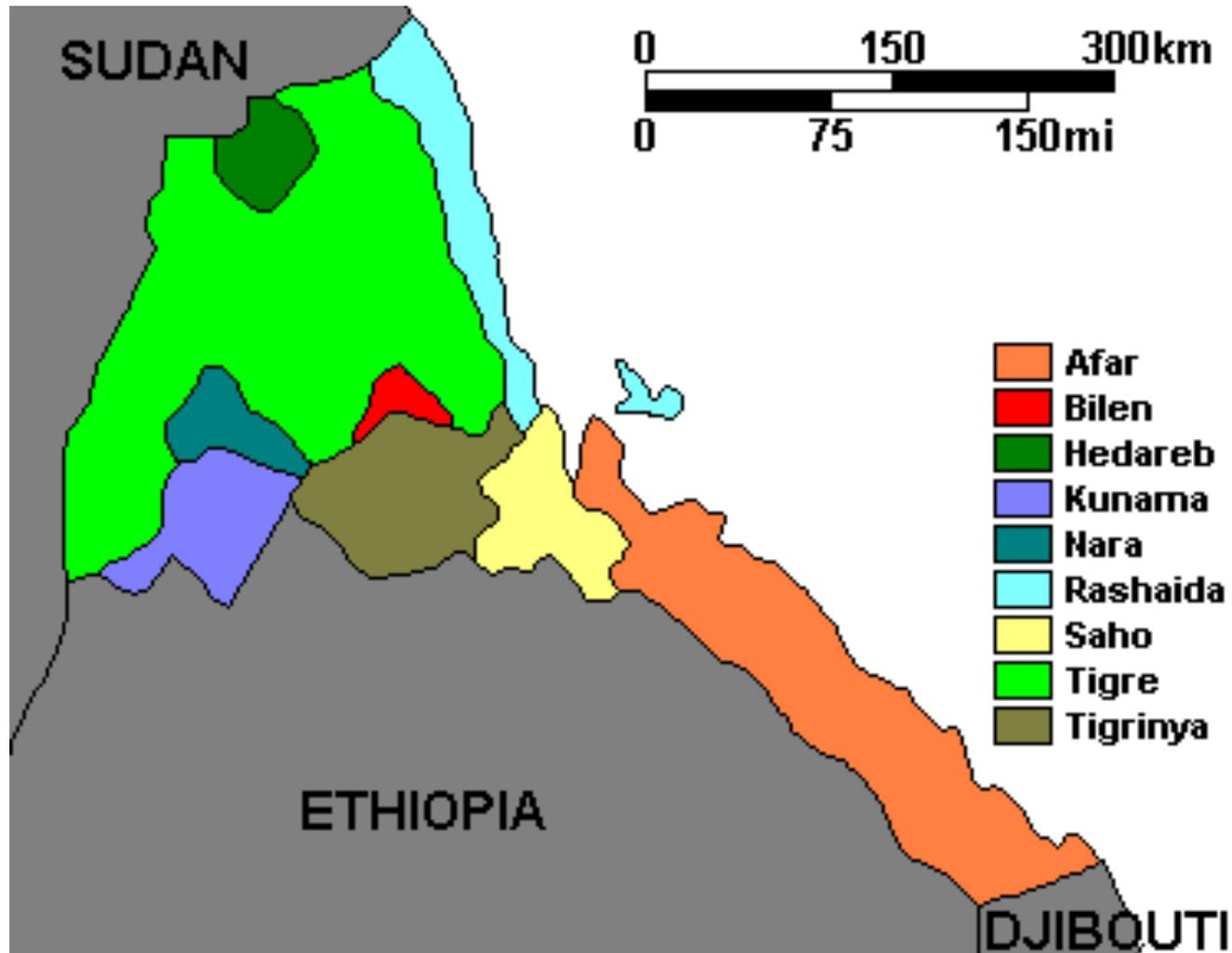
Population: 5,291,370 (2008 Census)

Main Languages: Tigrinya, Arabic, English, Italian

Ethnic groups: 9, inc. Tigrinya, Tigre, Saho, Afar, Kunama.

GDP per capita: \$397

Ethnic groups in Eritrea



2. Eritrea: history & politics



Ancient history:

C.25th BC: Land of *Punt*;

C. 8th – 5th BC: Kingdom of *D'mt*;

C. 1st BC – 940 AD: Aksumite Empire

Middle history:

C. 10th – C.18th: Trading links with and partial colonisation by Egypt; Yemen; Portuguese Goa; Ottoman Empire; British Empire

Modern history:

1890 – 1941: Italian colony (following Italian invasion in 1870s)

1941 – 1951: British administration

1951: Federated with Ethiopia, under US-led UN resolution

1961 – 1991: Insurgency against Ethiopian Government

1993: UN recognition of Eritrean independence

1998: Eritrean-Ethiopian War

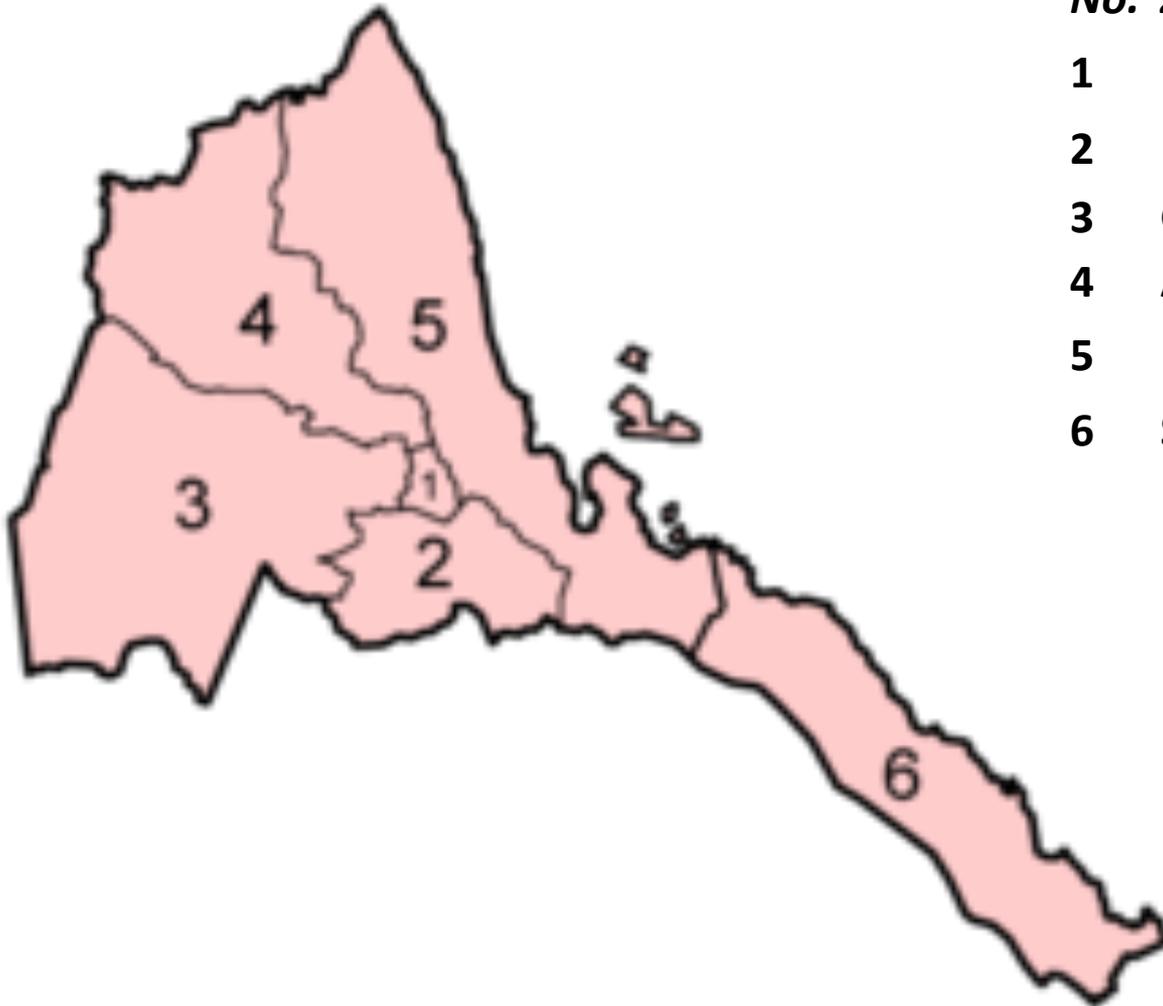
Present:

On-going border dispute with Ethiopia;

A one-party state governed by People's Front for Democracy & Justice;

President: Isaias Aferwerki

3. Eritrea: national geography & population



<i>No.</i>	<i>Zoba</i>	<i>Pop.</i>
1	Ma'akel	538,749
2	Debub	755,379
3	Gash-Barka	564,574
4	Anseba	457,078
5	Northern Red Sea	459,056
6	Southern Red Sea	203,618

Food and Economy

Food in Daily Life.

Eritrean cuisine is a reflection of the country's history.

- *injerra* is commonly eaten in the rural areas. It is a pancake-like bread that is eaten together with a sauce called *tsebhi* or *wat* . The sauce may be of a hot and spicy meat variety, or vegetable based.
- In the urban centers one finds the strong influence of Italian cuisine, and pasta is served in all restaurants.



Basic Economy

- The Eritrean economy is totally dependent upon agricultural production. Over 75% of the population lives in the rural areas and conducts subsistence agricultural production.

Major Industries

- The marginal industrial base in Eritrea provides the domestic market with textiles, shoes, food products, beverages, and building materials. If stable and peaceful development occurs, Eritrea might be able to create a considerable tourism industry based on the Dahlak islands in the Red Sea.

4. Eritrea: basic education system

Primary Education (Grades 1 – 5)

- Enrolments: 286,111 (approx. 52% of primary-age population)
- Completion Rate: 51%
- School Teachers: 7,507 (83% qualified Cert level)
- Pupil > Teacher Ratio: 45:1

Middle and Secondary Education (Grades 6 – 12)

- Enrolments: 247,431 (approx. 23% of middle/secondary-age population)
- Completion Rate: 51%
- School Teachers: 6,326 (92% qualified Dip. level)
- Pupil > Teacher Ratio: 52:1

6. Eritrea: tertiary and teacher education

University of Asmara:

- College of Marine Biology (Masawa)
- College of Agriculture (Debub)
- College of Arts and Social Sciences (Keren)
- College of Business and Economics (Mendefara)
- College of Nursing and Health Technology (Asmara)

The Eritrean Institute of Technology (EIT), Asmara

- College of Education: MA, BA and Diploma of Education
(for middle + secondary teachers)

Asmara Teacher Education Institute (ATEI), Asmara

- Certificate of Education (for primary teachers)

Ministry of Education: HRD dept & Zoba Education Offices

- In-service training of teachers

7. The Eritrean Education Sector Development Programme 2007 - 2011

- EU-funded: Eu52million
- Operated alongside projects from World Bank and UNICEF

Main strands of activity:

- Capacity building to implement ODL for teacher education;
- Policies and strategies for TVET;
- Revise national curriculum;
- Design of materials for English;
- Develop educational monitoring and QA system;
- Develop comprehensive accreditation and evaluation system;
- In addition: a significant school-building programme.

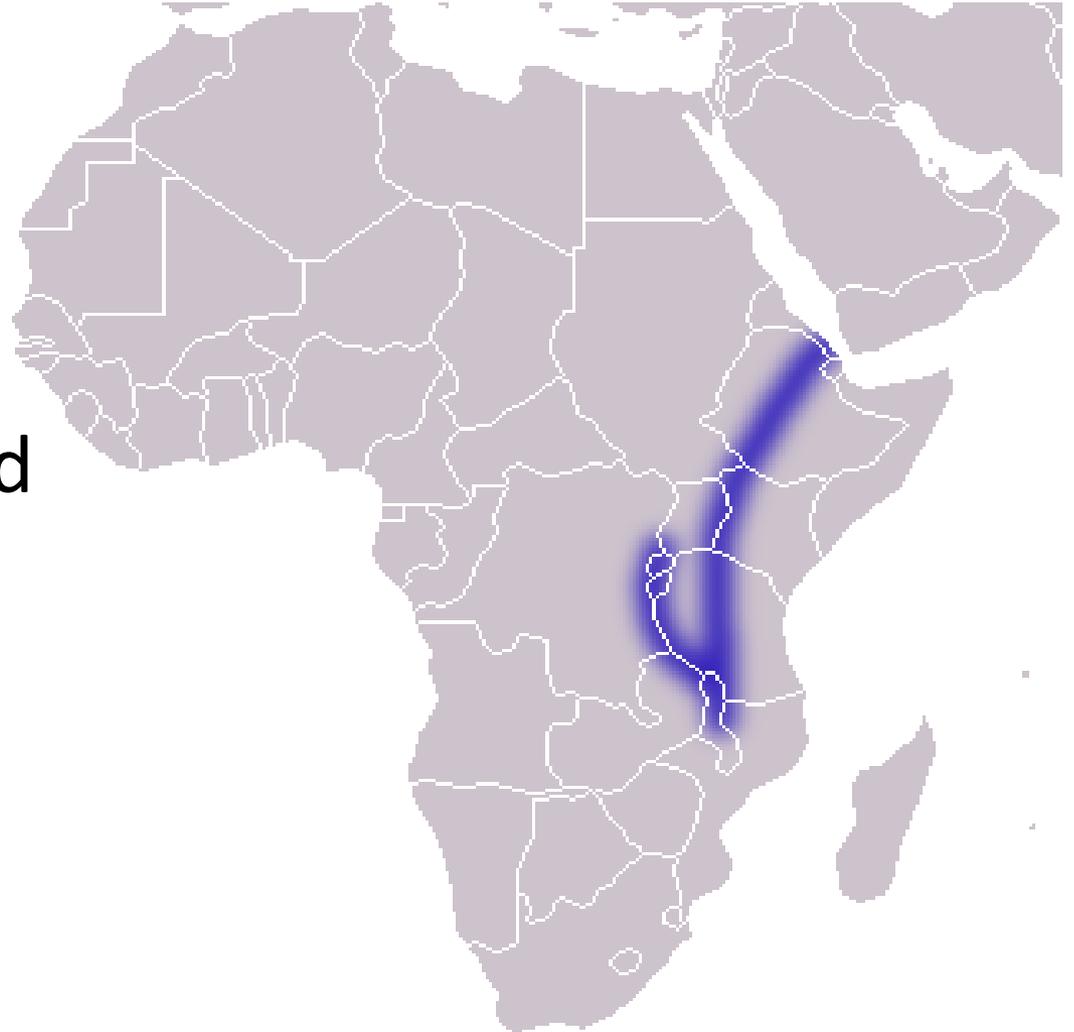
Great Rift Valley

- which is a crack in the surface of the earth and runs north and south for about 4000 miles .

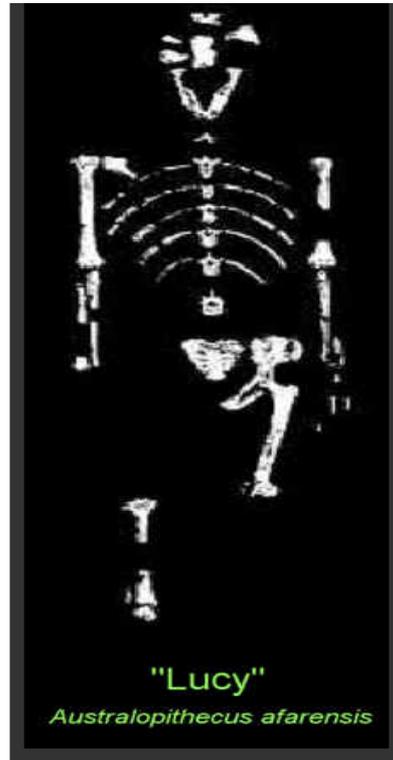
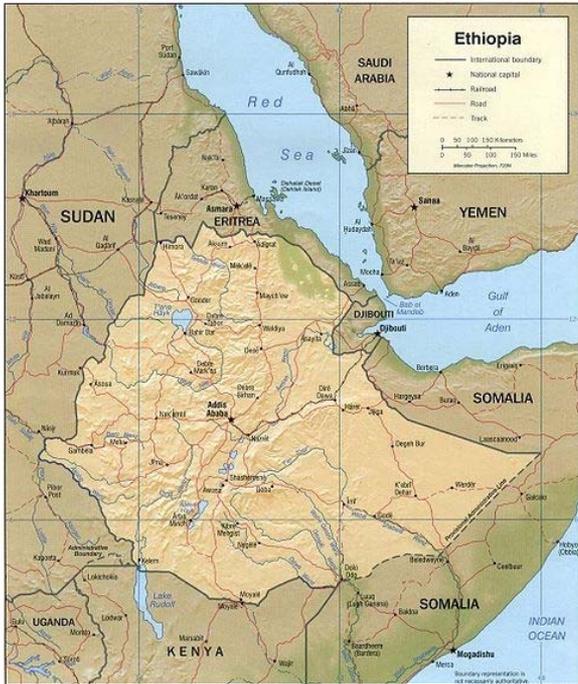


Great Rift Valley

The Great Rift Valley is a 4,000 mile giant fault, or break in the earth's crust. It extends from the Red Sea to the Zambezi River.



"Australopithecus afarensis"



- Archaeologists have discovered remains of early hominids in

Energy

- About 98% of the rural population and 20% of the urban residents do not have access to electricity.
- Traditional biomass energy accounts for 95% of the rural energy requirements. In addition, over 80% of the rural enterprises energy needs is met by biomass or animate/human labour. The current reliance on biomass energy is not sustainable.

