

African Cultures SS7G4

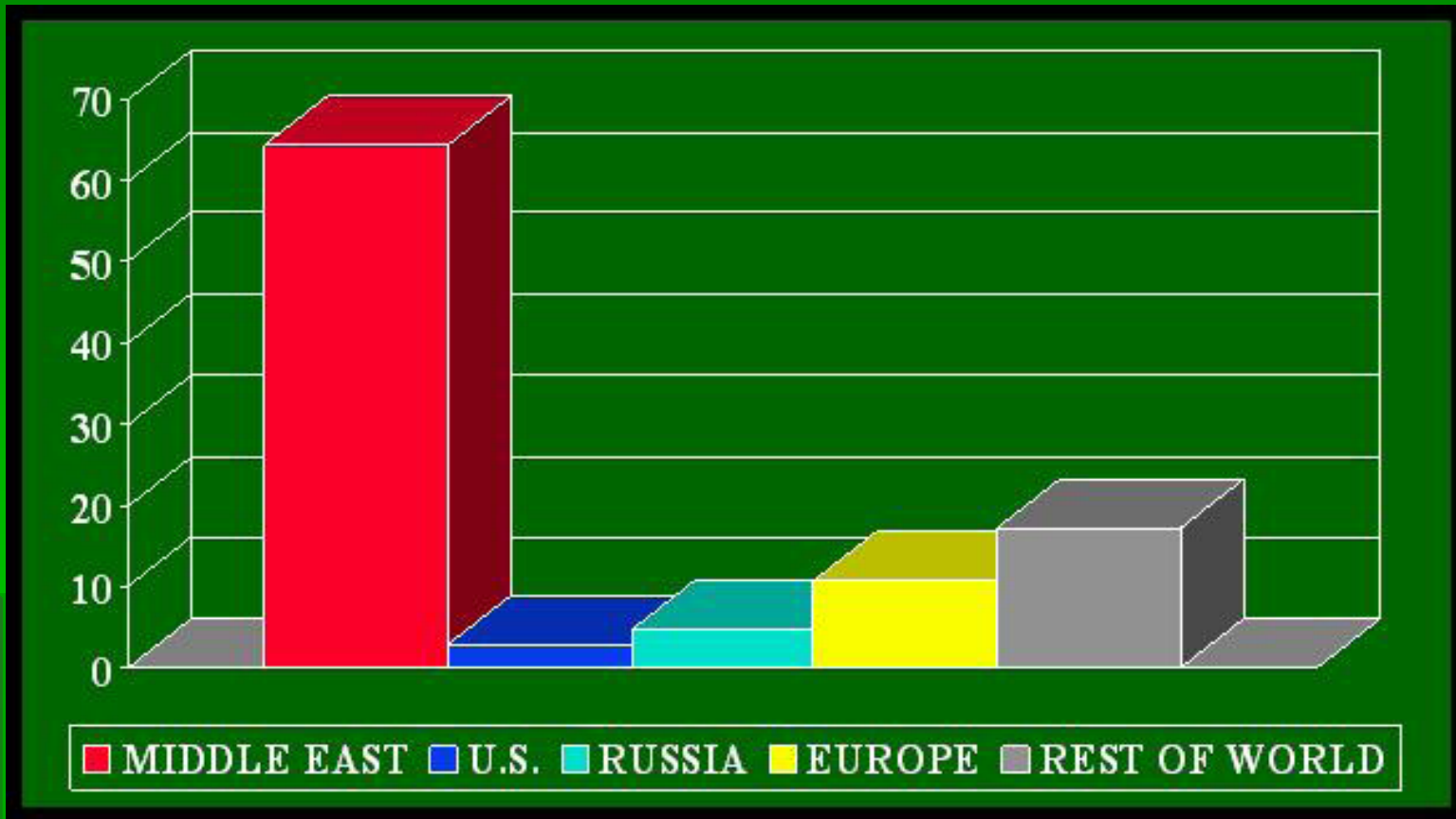
- The student will describe the diverse cultures of the people who live in Africa
- B. Explain the diversity of religions within the Arab, Ashanti, Bantu, and Swahili



الوطن العربي

The Arab World

Where do Arabs Live in the World?

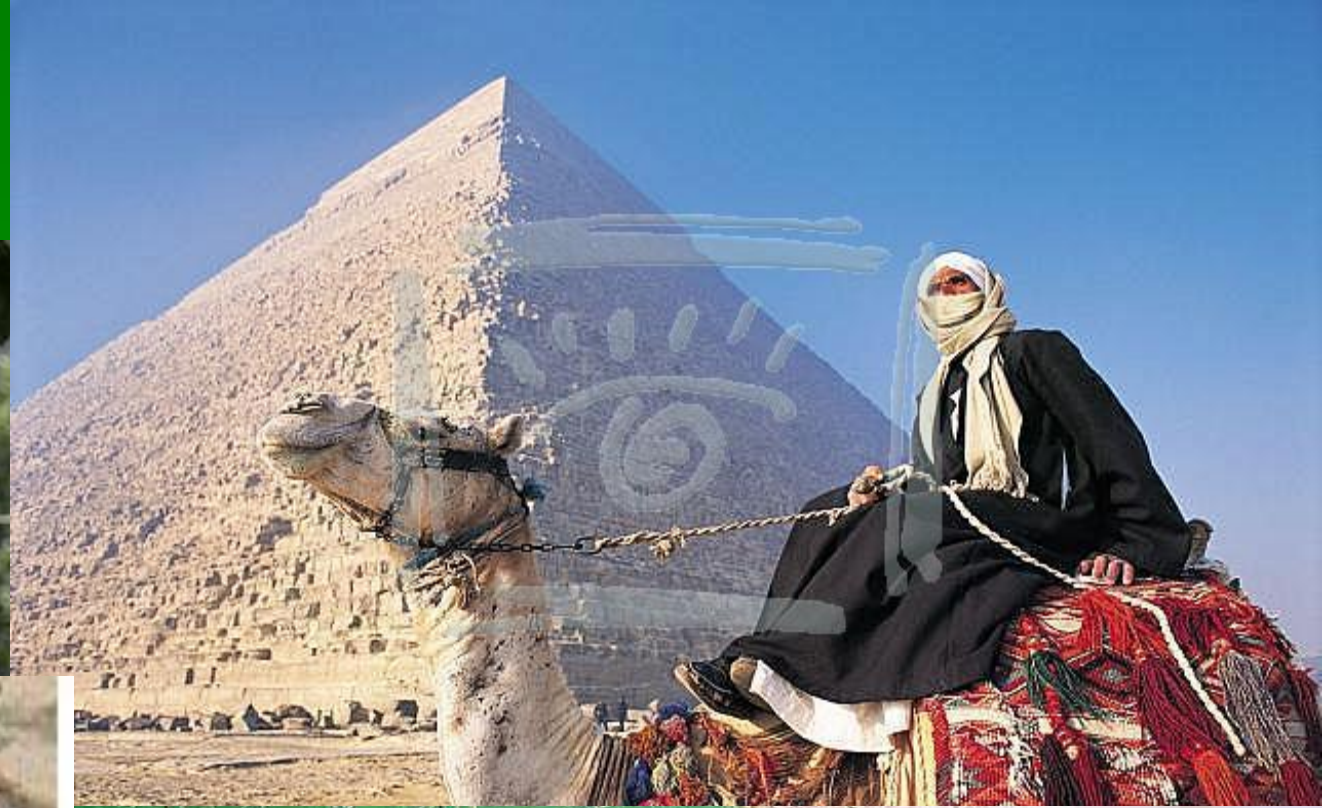


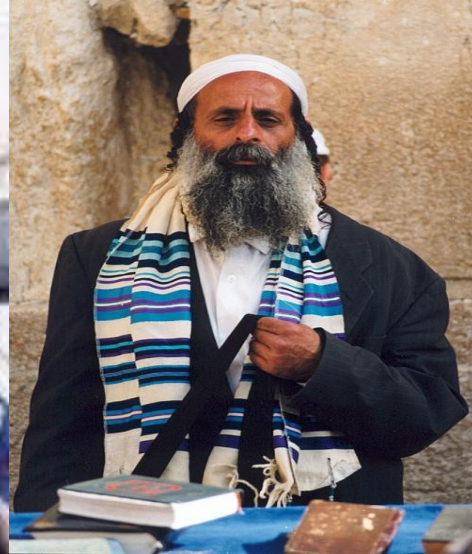
* Middle East Includes North Africa

What is an Arab?

- Over 200 million Arabs worldwide.
- To be an Arab, is not to come from a particular race or lineage.
- To be an Arab, like an American, is a cultural trait rather than racial.
- **The Arab world includes Muslims, Christians and Jews.**
- Any person who adopts the Arabic language is typically called an Arab.
- **Arabic is the official and the original language of the Qur'an, the Islamic holy book.**

Arab





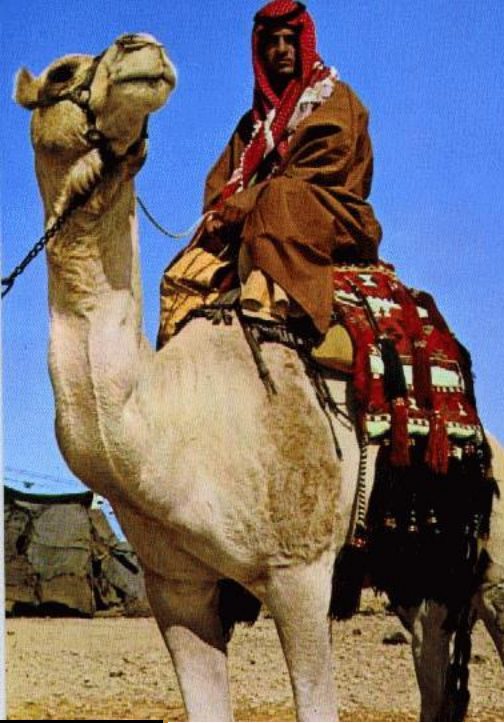
Arab Houses



Bedouins

- The Bedouin are a part of the desert-dwelling Nomadic Arab speaking ethnic group.
- Bedouins mainly live in the Arabian and Syrian deserts, the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt and the Sahara Desert of North Africa.
- The Bedouin live today as they have for thousands of years, traveling from one oasis to another. They use the resources in one area while the others are replenished naturally.
- The Bedouin travel in small bands and live in tents.

Bedouin





Ashanti

- The Ashanti live in central Ghana in western Africa.
- The Ashanti religion is a mixture of spiritual and supernatural powers called Shanti. They believe that plants, animals, and trees have souls. They also believe in fairies, witches, and forest monsters. There are a variety of religious beliefs involving ancestors, higher gods, or abosom, and 'Nyame', the Supreme Being of Ashanti . Today many Ashanti are Muslim and Christian too.
- The golden stool is sacred to the Ashanti and symbolizes power. There is an elaborate legend surrounding it that is told by the old men of Ashanti. The golden stool is very carefully protected. No one has ever sat on it and since its arrival, it has not touched the ground. As an Ashanti symbol, the golden stool represents the worship of ancestors, well-being, and the nation of Ashanti.

Golden Stool

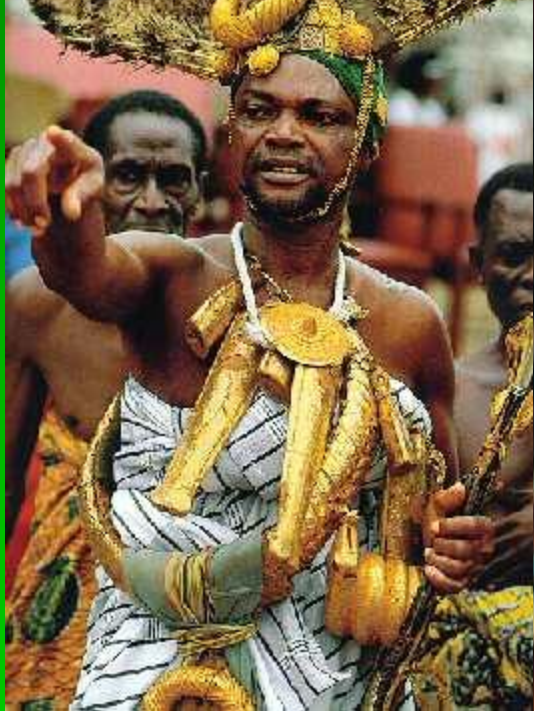


Kente Cloth

- Cloths come in various colors, sizes and designs and are worn during very important social and religious occasions. In a total cultural context, kente is more important than just a cloth. It is a visual representation of history, philosophy, ethics, oral literature, moral values, social code of conduct, religious beliefs, political thought and aesthetic principles.



Ashanti

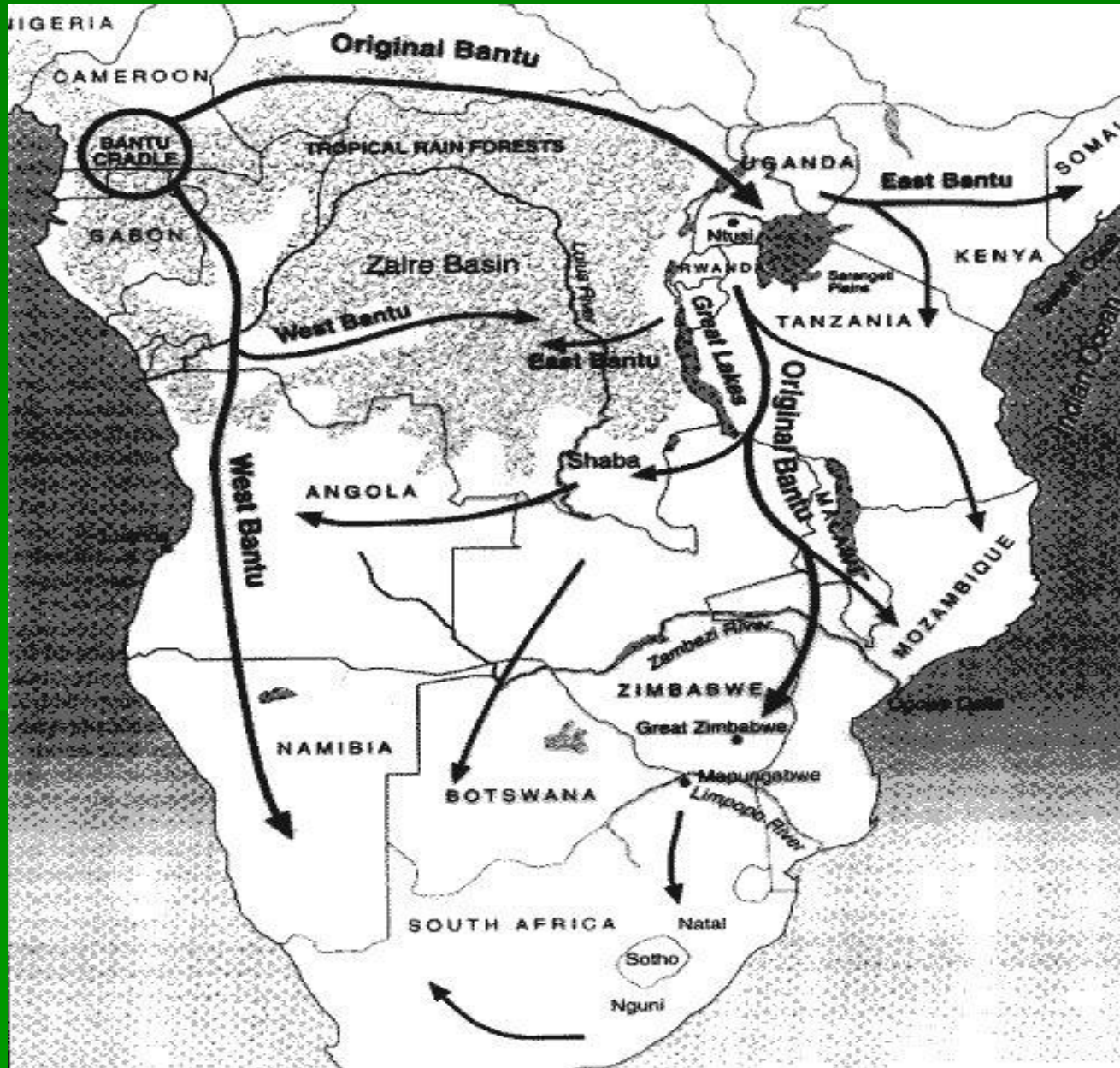




Bantu

- Bantu describes many different people who share a related language and some culture.
- The **Bantu Migration** is when Bantu migrated from Congo or Niger Delta Basin their migration throughout Africa is one of the largest migrations in human history.
- The Bantu people make up more than 60 million people and about 2/3 of Africa's population, and inhabit the southern and eastern part of the continent
- Bantu's Practice many different religions including Christianity, Islam and Animism.
- The Bantu introduced many things into the areas they migrated to. They were an agricultural people and introduced crops such as millet and sorghum. They may also have introduced iron smelting and iron tools.

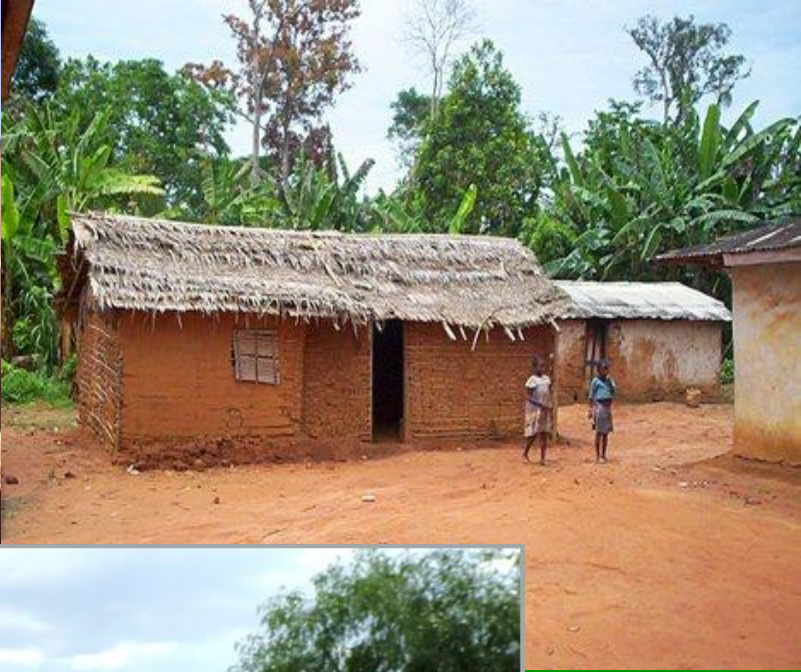
Bantu Migration



Bantu



Bantu



Zulu

Are a type of Bantu who are famous for their warrior skills



Swahili

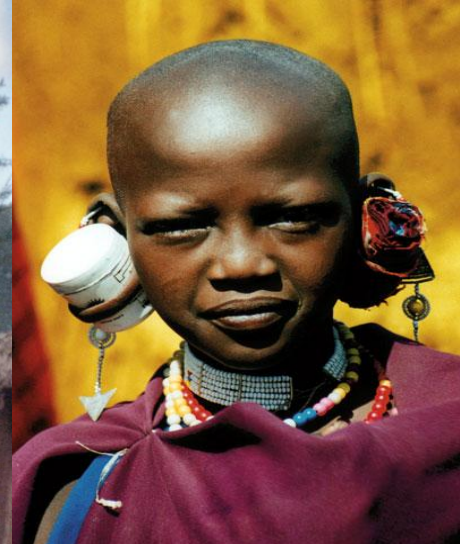
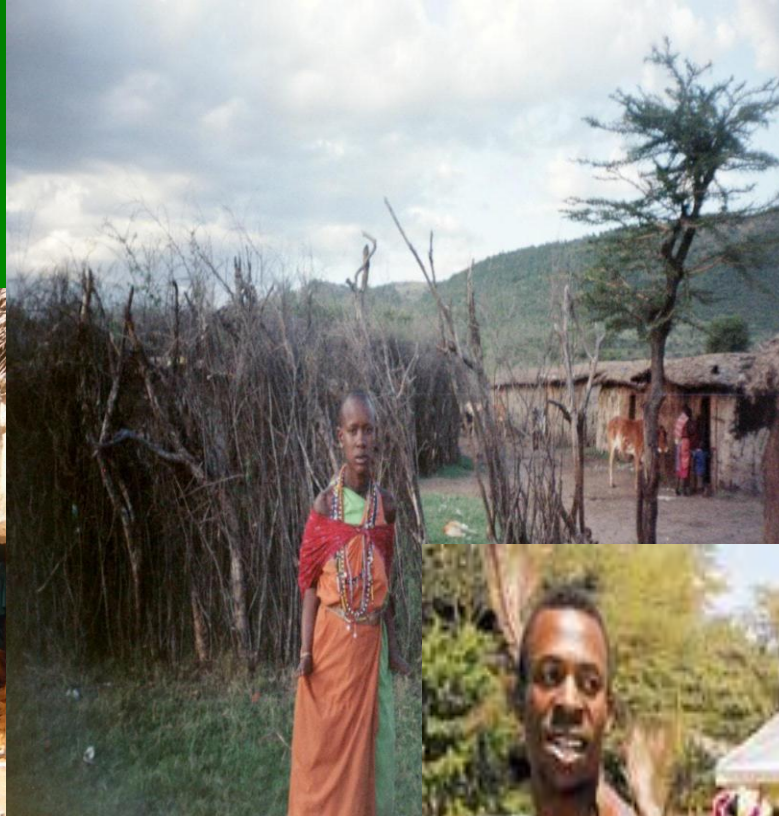
- The Swahili are a mixed group of people who live in Eastern Africa, who speak a mixture of Bantu and Arabic languages.

- The Swahili community developed as groups of Arab and Persian traders establishing business contacts and marrying local women on the East African coast. In fact Swahili means, “one who lives on the coast,” in Arabic.
- The resulting people were Islamic Bantu-speaking fishermen, traders and woodwork artisans, living in city-states varying from governorships to republics.
- Most Swahili have practiced Islam for over 1000 years, but any also believe in some traditional beliefs, like “mila” which are sprits that posses a person.
- The Swahili people have physical features which vary from light-skinned Arab to Bantu

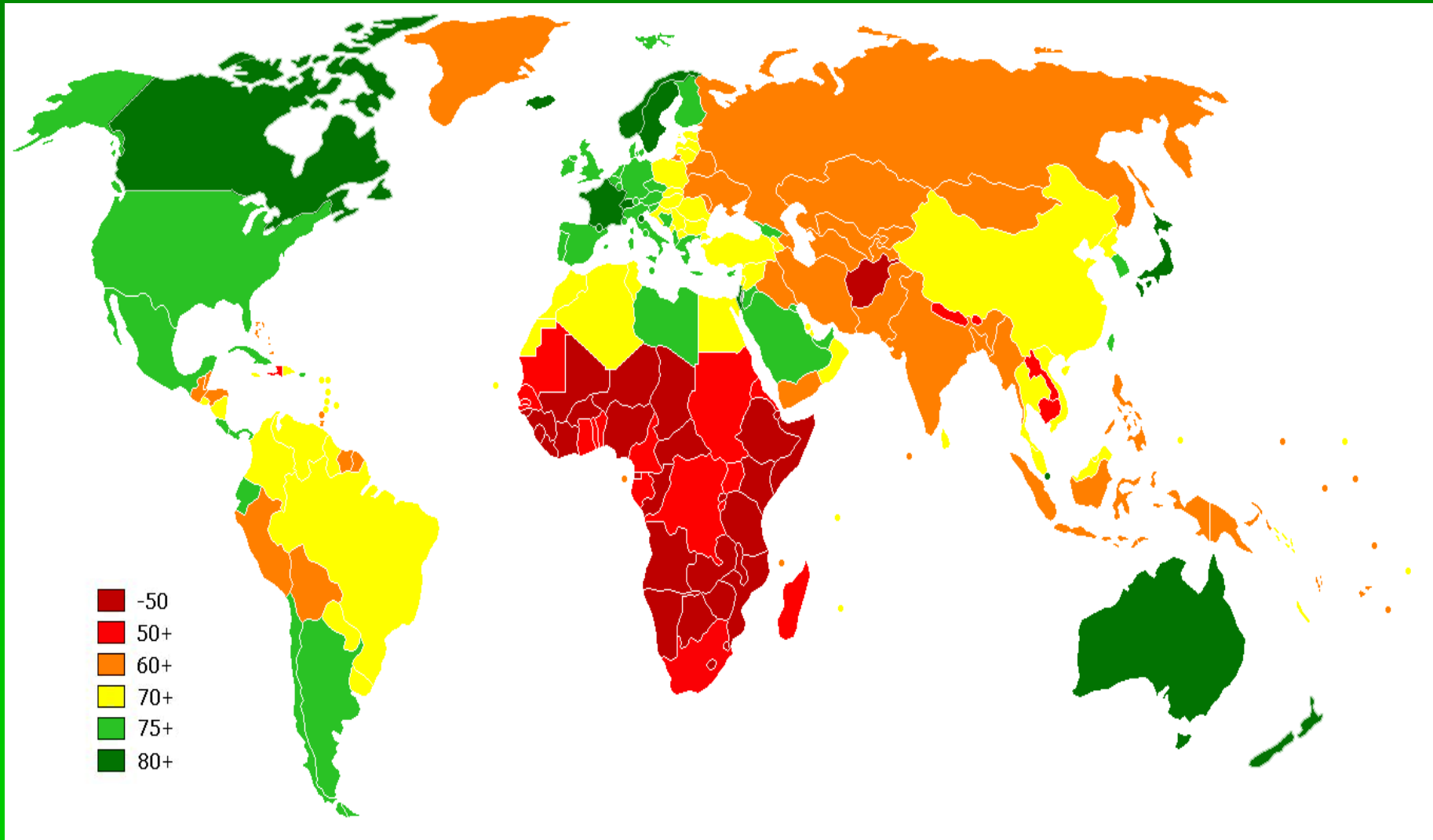
Swahili



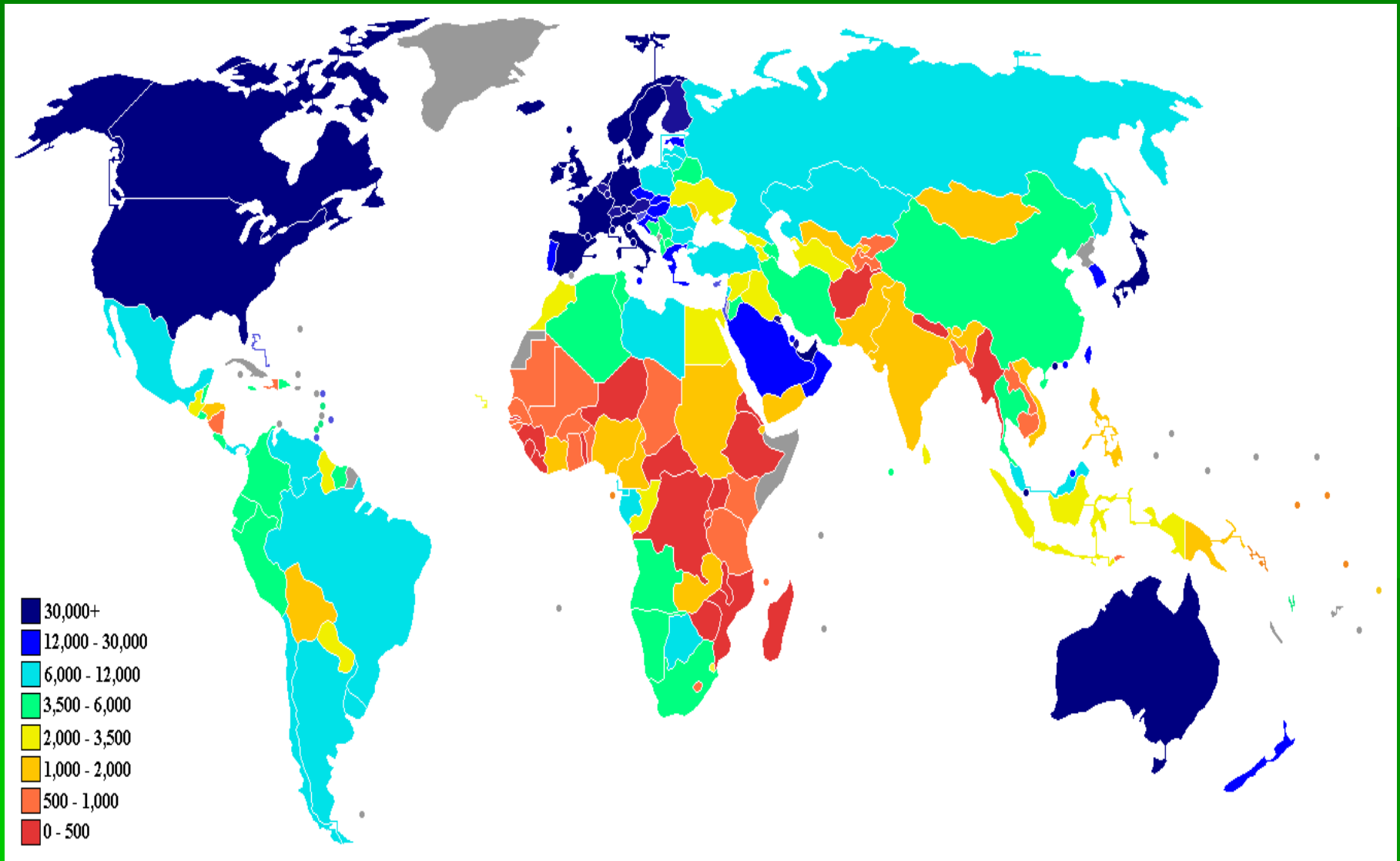
Swahili



Life Expectancy in Africa compared to the rest of the World.



GDP in Africa compared to the rest of the world



Africa's Literacy rate

