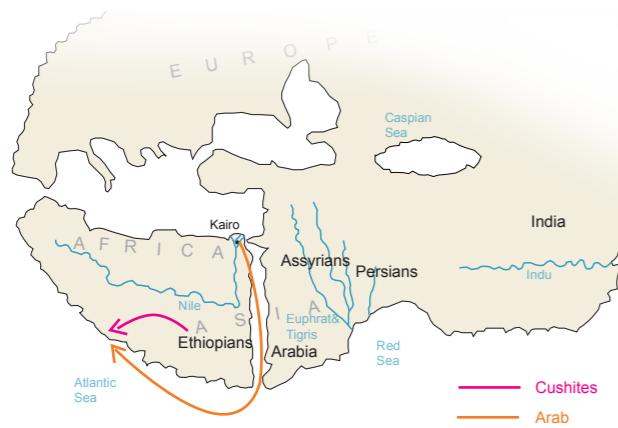


# HISTORY OF KENYA

## migrations



pre-1492 configuration as a Eurasian landmass  
<http://faculty1.coloradocollege.edu/~ahyde/web104/mapqui2104.htm>

### Tribal Migration

The Kenyan interior was marked by early and frequent tribal migrations.

#### ca. 2000 BC

The highlands and Rift Valley regions were especially rich in this early history of human evolution. The first migrants to arrive were pastoral nomads from Ethiopia (Cushites) who moved south to Kenya.

#### ca. 1000 BC

The Eastern Cushites settled in the central region of Kenya. This second wave of nomads marked the beginning of an ongoing influx of different tribal groups drawn to the region's fertile land.

### Arabic Supremacy

#### ca. 600 AD

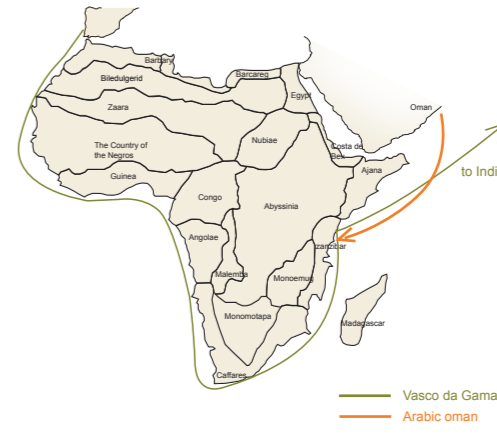
Arabs began settling in coastal areas. They established trading stations which facilitated contact with the Arab world, Persia and India.



Slave trade 1500-1800  
 MacMillan Encyclopedia of World Slavery: Volume II

### Arrival of the Portuguese and the beginning of Slavery 1498

Vasco da Gama stopped at Mombasa on his way to India. Despite resistance from the Arabs, the Portuguese could claim power and establish a trading stronghold by subduing the Arabs. The Portuguese remained on the East African coast for 200 years with well established trading posts. They spent their time trading gold from the interior and exporting slaves to work on the plantations in North America and East Indies.



Africa 1680  
 Cartographer: Berry, William  
<http://fedora.library.northwestern.edu/fedora/get/inu:inu-afmap-3991863/inu:NWUCollection8Def/getDefaultView>

### Reconquering by Arabic Oman 1698

Arabic Oman reconquered the coastal territory. The 18th century brought an emphasis on rebuilding the cities and reestablishing the once thriving trade routes. Under the leadership of the Sultan of Oman, the Arabs worked to regain economic and political supremacy over the region. The island of Zanzibar quickly became the center of a very lucrative trade in slaves and ivory.

## borders

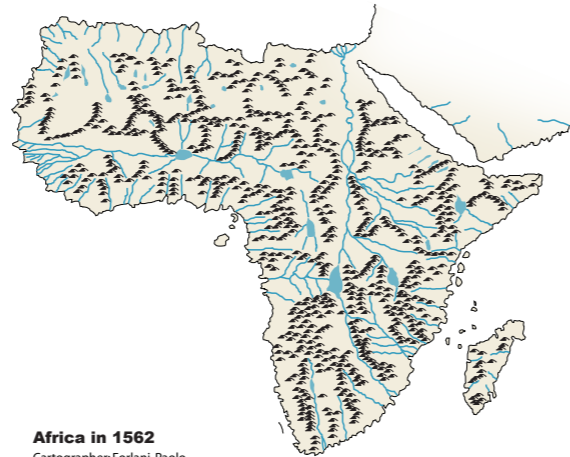
### Physical Borders

"When the history of Negroland comes to be written in detail, it may be found that the kingdoms lying toward the eastern end of the Sudan were the home of races who inspired, rather than of races who received, the traditions of civilization associated for us with the name of ancient Egypt."

"Those races were separated by natural borders such as the Nile and the Congo river.

It is important to remember that throughout the early history of Europe and up to the close of the fifteenth century the approach to the home of the Negro was by land. The Sudan was thought to be the edge of the then known world.

The Portuguese were the first Europeans to explore Kenya. The Portuguese colonial presence in East Africa officially begins after 1505."



Africa in 1562  
 Cartographer: Forlani, Paolo  
<http://www.library.northwestern.edu/govinfo/collections/mapsof africa/>

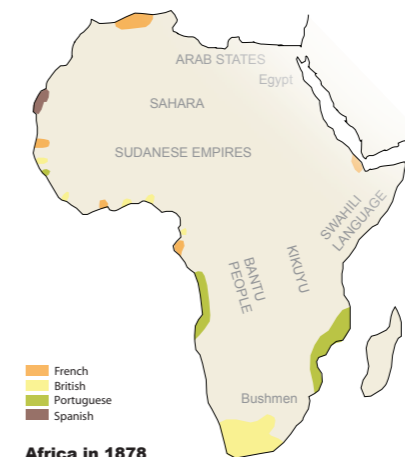
### Colonial 'Scramble for Africa'

By the mid-19th century, European interest in Kenya focused primarily on abolishing the slave trade and discovering the source of the Nile River.

The Fashoda-Incident was the climactic event caused by years of territorial disputes in Africa between France and Great Britain, which ended in the partition of the entire continent.

The French and the British governments agreed that the watershed of the Nile and the Congo should mark the boundaries between their spheres of influence. The French sphere became the region to the west of this watershed, while the British confirmed their position in Egypt.

In Kenya, the history as a colony starts with a German protectorate over the sultan of Zanzibar.

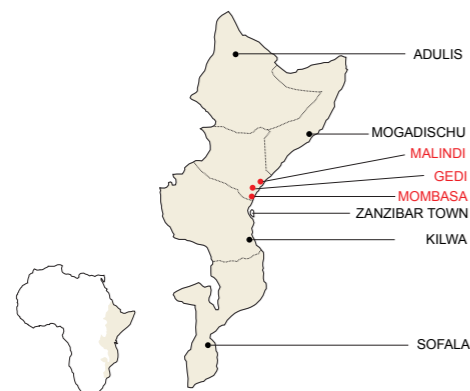


Africa in 1878  
[http://www.africaninstitute.com/map\\_colonization.html](http://www.africaninstitute.com/map_colonization.html)



[http://www.africaninstitute.com/map\\_colonization.html](http://www.africaninstitute.com/map_colonization.html)

## urbanisation



Major medieval cities in East Africa (within context of modern africa)  
 Richard W. Hull, African cities and towns before the European conquest, W.W. Norton & Company

### Swahili Coastal Towns & Inland Towns: A Unique Islamic Heritage 800-1500

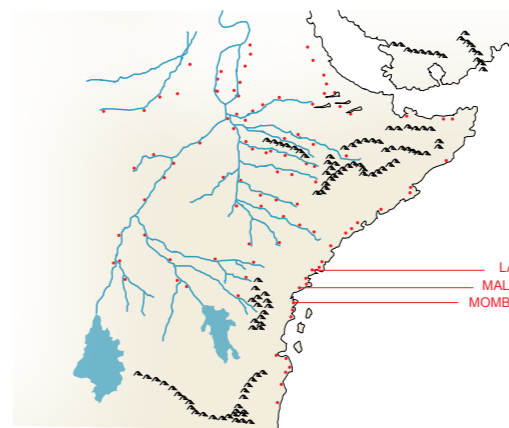
For centuries, Swahili were merchants in the ancient commerce between the interior of Africa and the countries of the Indian Ocean, dealing mainly in ivory, gold, and slaves from Africa.

#### Coastal towns:

Trading coastal towns such as Mombasa and Malindi became urban polyglots of diverse ethnic elements due to the arrival of the Arabs.

#### Inland towns:

A walled Swahili city founded in the fourteenth century, Gedi may have been a residential settlement for absentee landowners from the nearby trading port of Malindi. Some 2,500 people may have lived in Gedi at the height of its prosperity. Its fortunes rose and fell according to the political climate along the coast.



Eastern Africa 1630  
 Cartographer: Mercator, Gerard 1512-1594  
<http://fedora.library.northwestern.edu/fedora/get/inu:inu-afmap-3805126/inu:NWUCollection8Def/getDefaultView>

### Coastal City States

A constellation of urban centers developed on the Kenyan coast. These were city states that were administratively autonomous. Cities like Mombasa, Malindi and the Lamu archipelago were Swahili in origin.

Whether built for defensive, administrative or commercial purposes, pre-colonial towns in Kenya were utilitarian.

Omani Arabs played a major role in the history of the East African coast. Omani forces ended Portugal's brutal 200-year occupation of the coast in 1698, only to set themselves up as colonizers in Portugal's stead. By conquest and treaty they united independent city-states, including Lamu and Mombasa, into a single, if fairly loose, political and economic entity for the only time in their history.

EASTERN CUSHITES

ARABS

PORTUGUESE

ARABIC OMAN

0 BC

500

600

ANCIENT AGE

1000

1498

1500

1600

1698

1700

ANCIENT AGE

1800

1885

# HISTORY OF KENYA

## Different Migration Patterns

**rural-urban**  
While white settlers moved into fertile highlands, the area was already home to over a million members of the Kikuyu tribe. This pattern, while noted during the colonial era, was to become more noticeable during the post-independence period.

## rural-rural

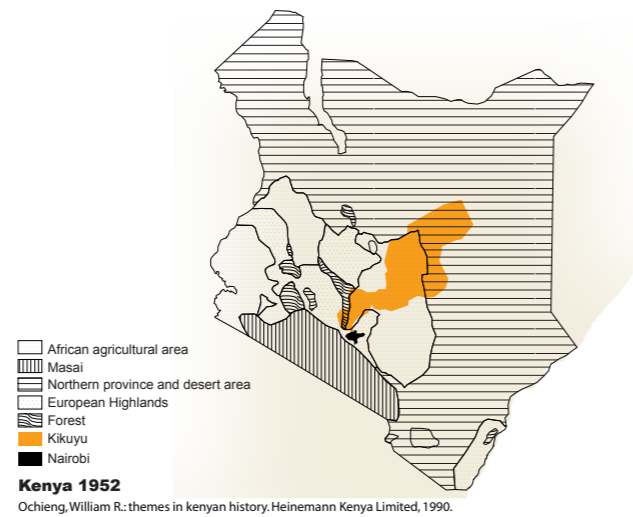
This was common especially in regions that had depressed economies, poor soil, natural disasters, land shortage and overpopulation.

## urban-rural

Though not common in the early years of post-independence Kenya, one can now observe a return of former town dwellers to their rural homes of origin.

## urban-urban

In Kenya, this pattern was especially notable in the years between 1972-1978: some urban migrants migrated from the larger urban areas to the secondary ones. <sup>10</sup>

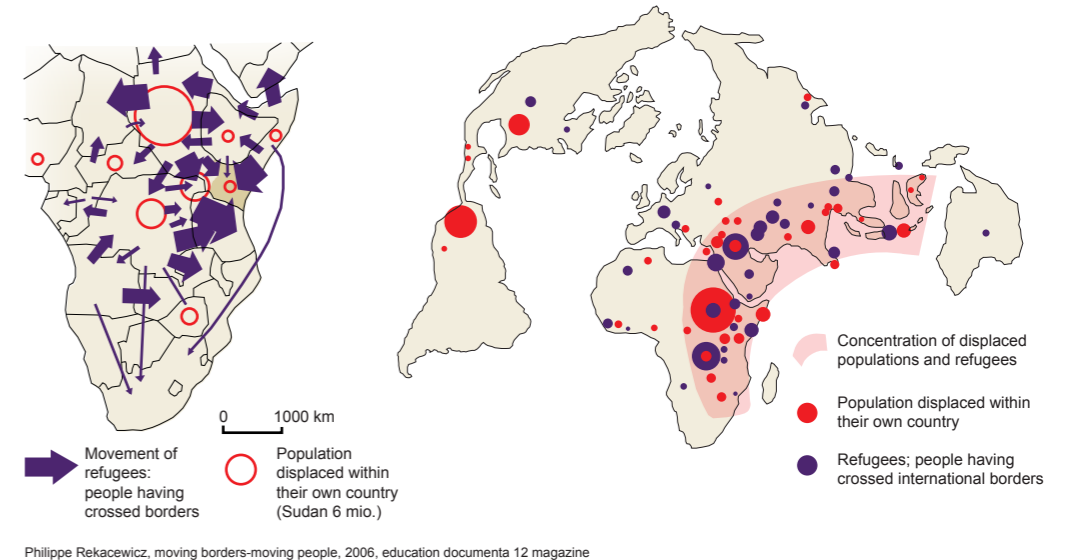


## Refugees in a Continental Context

Kenya has been host to over 200,000 Somali refugees over the last fifteen years of Somalia's unrest. Further on it is host to 150,000 refugees from other east African countries, mainly Sudan.

The Government has forcibly expelled about 400 refugees on 3rd January 2007 to Somalia, and closed the Kenya-Somalia border. Closing the border and refusing access to the asylum seekers is likely to escalate the humanitarian situation in Somalia which will spill over into Kenya.

Eastern Africa is globally seen as the region with the highest rate of movement of people fleeing wars nowadays. <sup>2, 7</sup>

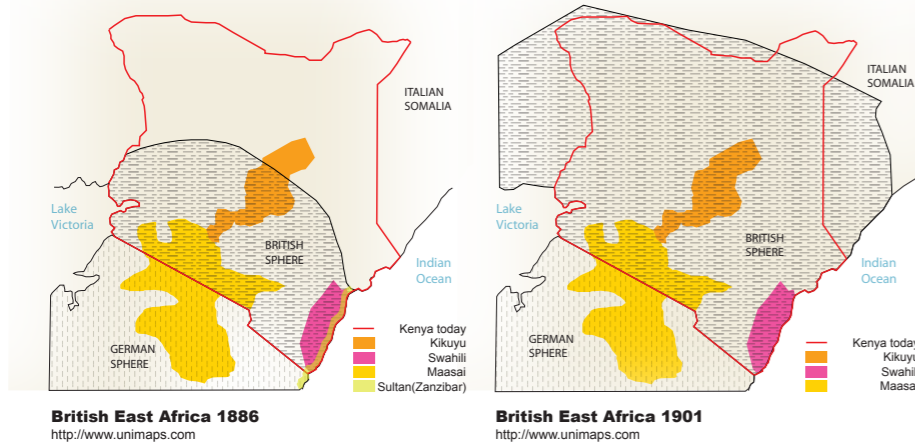


migrations

## Protectorate to Crown Colony 1885-1920

**1885**  
The German protectorate was succeeded by the arrival of the Imperial British East Africa Company in 1888. Ten years later, Germany handed over the coastal zone to the British and in 1901, Uganda was annexed in the British protectorate.

**1920**  
Kenya became officially a crown colony of the UK. The name Kenya arose out of the inability of the British to pronounce Kirinyaga (Kikuyu name for Mt. Kenya) correctly. <sup>5</sup>



## Independence

Land alienation by Europeans had been an issue that occupied the center stage of the decolonization process. Resettlement and establishment of provinces were therefore KANU's foremost objective.

The objectives were to be realized through the establishment of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial arms of the Central Government, the establishment of an efficient and honest Civil Service, an effective Provincial Administration, and a strong Local Authorities network. <sup>5</sup>



## Eastern African Community

The community aims to improve and strengthen co-operation on the basis of historical ties and understanding between the people of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Burundi.

The EAC's bid is to create a single East African market with ultimately a single currency, a common East African passport, a common flag and a double taxation accord. This will be achieved through the establishment of a Customs Union as the entry point of the Community, a Common Market, subsequently a Monetary Union and ultimately a Political Federation of the East African States. <sup>11</sup>



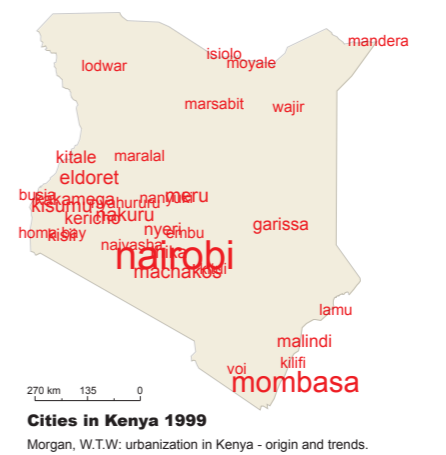
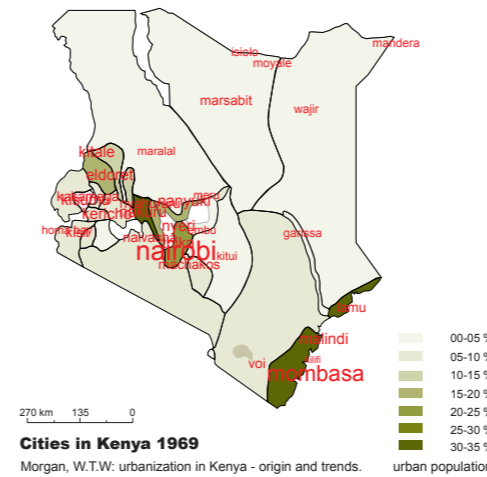
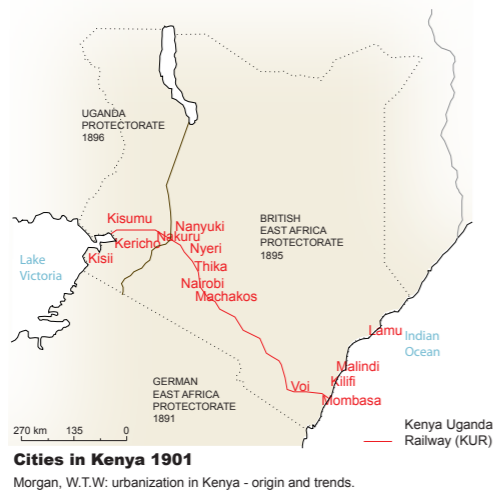
borders

## From the Coast to the Interior 1895-1902

The story of the railway line was also the story of colonial urbanization in Kenya. All the major urban centers in Kenya are located along the railway line. Therefore, major economic attraction moved from the coast to the interior, caused by the colonisation. Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu and Nakuru became melting pots of rural migrants and white settlers.

The growth of Nairobi became an integral part of the general re-orientation of the urban system from primarily a string of towns along the coast in 1885 to a system that covers most of present day Kenya by 1912.

The rapid growth of Nairobi and Mombasa during the colonial period was predicated upon their functional roles in the colonial political and economic set up. <sup>1</sup>



## Nairobi-Mombasa

The patterns of growth in the post-colonial urbanisation have remained more or less the same: There is a continuing dominance of Nairobi and Mombasa as the major urban centers. Due to an uncontrollable rural-urban influx, crime and stress became part of daily experience of towns. Traffic congestion and air pollution all had their genesis in this era. Nairobi today cannot divorce its historical origin from imperial capitalism and the railroad, whereas Mombasa historically was a trading port center over hundreds of years with a constant population. <sup>1</sup>

urbanisation

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

COLONY OF KENYA

JOMO KENYATTA

DANIEL ARAB MOI

MWAI KIBAKI

COLONIAL PERIOD

INDEPENDENCE

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

1963

1970

1980

1990

2000

2005

2010