

as Tanzania, Zambia, and Namibia made it their national anthem. In 1994, South Africa, too, adopted this anthem as its own. The words differ from nation to nation, but each version echoes a deep love for Africa.

CHAPTER PERSPECTIVE

In the 1950s, African nations began to cast off colonial rule and take charge of their own destinies. Like emerging nations everywhere, they have faced many challenges.

As you read, look for these chapter themes:

- ▶ Since winning independence, African nations have taken different routes toward modernization.
- ▶ Patterns of colonial rule and the diversity of people on the continent have shaped developments there.
- ▶ Natural forces such as drought as well as rapid population growth pose problems for the developing nations of Africa.
- ▶ Urbanization and modern technology are changing African societies.

Literature Connections

In this chapter, you will encounter passages from the following works.

- “God Bless Africa,” Mankayi Sontanga
- “Black Woman,” Léopold Sédar Senghor
- “My People,” Christy Essien-Igbokwe
- “Take Up Arms and Liberate Yourselves,” Zimbabwean folk song

For other selections, see Connections With Literature, pages 804–808.

1

WINNING INDEPENDENCE

FIND OUT

- How did nationalism help shape modern Africa?
- How did African nations win independence?
- How does the colonial past affect modern African nations?

Vocabulary *buy into, unorthodox*

“Freedom for the Gold Coast will be the fountain of inspiration from which other African colonial territories can draw when the time comes for them to strike for their freedom.”

Kwame Nkrumah’s prediction came true. In 1957, Nkrumah (en KROO muh) led the Gold Coast to independence. The nation then changed its name to Ghana. With Nkrumah as prime minister, Ghana served as a model for many other African nations that wanted to shake off colonial rule.

African Nationalism

By the early 1900s, nationalism had taken root in Africa. Nationalism, as you will recall, is a sense of pride in and devotion to one’s country. Gradually, it became a powerful force.

Nationalism grew out of European rule. Colonial powers had drawn boundaries that included diverse ethnic groups. In the Gold Coast (present-day Ghana), the British created a colony that put longtime rivals such as the Ashanti and Fante under the same government. The colony also included other groups, such as the Ewe, Dagomba, and Tallensi. African nationalists realized that they

had to create a sense of unity among diverse groups if they were to win independence.

Pan-Africanism. Many nationalists embraced the idea of Pan-Africanism, which called for unifying all of Africa. Pan-Africanism began in the early 1900s with the slogan "Africa for the Africans."

Prominent African Americans supported the movement. Leaders such as W.E.B. Du Bois and Marcus Garvey called for a sense of unity among all people of African descent.

Léopold Sédar Senghor. During the 1930s, a Senegalese poet, Léopold Sédar Senghor, took the lead in the *négritude* movement. The movement encouraged Africans to value their heritage, and it strengthened Pan-Africanism. Senghor rejected the negative view that colonial powers held about African cultures. Instead, he urged both Africans and Europeans to take a new look at African traditions. In poems such as "Black Woman," he praised the beauty and vitality of African culture:

66 . . . black woman,
Clothed in your color which is life,
your form which is beauty!
I grew in your shadow, the sweetness
of your hands bandaged my eyes,
And here in the heart of summer and
of noon, I discover you, promised
land from the height of a burnt
mountain,
And your beauty strikes my heart, like
the lightning of an eagle. 99

Like many nationalists, Senghor had completed his education in Europe. There he saw European strengths and weaknesses. He was horrified by the racism of German dictator Adolf Hitler, who attacked Jews and other minorities. Returning to Africa, Senghor became politically active. He served as Senegal's representative to the French National Assembly. After Senegal became independent in 1960, he served for 20 years as its president. Today Senghor ranks among the greatest leaders of Pan-Africanism.

New Nations Emerge

As World War II ended, independence movements gained strength in both Africa and Asia. The war weakened colonial powers such as Britain and France. The Cold War also helped nationalists. The Soviet Union condemned imperialism and aided some nationalist movements. At the same time, the United States spoke out against colonialism. Slowly, some European nations saw that they must give up their colonial empires.

In 1950, Africa contained only four independent nations—Liberia, Ethiopia, Egypt, and South Africa. (In South Africa, a small white minority ruled over the black majority, who were denied the right to vote.) During the 1950s and 1960s, African demands for freedom led to the birth of many new nations.

Ghana. Most African nations won independence through largely peaceful means. In the Gold Coast, for example, Kwame Nkrumah organized strikes and boycotts to protest British rule. A boycott is a refusal to buy certain goods or services. Although the British jailed him for his actions, he achieved his goal. In 1957, Ghana became the first black African nation to win independence. Over the next decade, many former British and French colonies gained freedom. (See the map on page 110.)

North Africa. During the 1950s, the nations of Libya, Tunisia, and Morocco also won independence in a generally peaceful manner. By contrast, in 1954 a bitter war broke out in Algeria. Many French people had settled in Algeria. They considered Algeria to be a part of France. Algerian nationalists rejected this idea and fought hard for freedom. More than 100,000 Algerians and 10,000 French died in the eight-year struggle. In 1962, Algerians forced the French to withdraw.

Kenya. Fighting also broke out in other areas where large numbers of whites had settled. In Kenya, Jomo Kenyatta demanded political and economic reforms from the British. White settlers, however, wanted to protect their own rights. They opposed giving rights to blacks. Slowly, some Africans moved toward armed resistance, known as Mau Mau.



A Presidential Visit As the first president of Senegal, Léopold Sédar Senghor was one of the strongest supporters of African nationalism and independence. Here, citizens in Abidjan, the capital of Côte d'Ivoire, are welcoming President Senghor on a state visit. **Interdependence** Why are international relations important in Africa today?

The British accused Kenyatta of leading secret Mau Mau groups that attacked white settlers. Kenyatta was imprisoned, but bloody fighting continued. Both sides committed acts of brutal violence. Most of the 1,300 people killed were Kikuyu, whose ancestors had migrated to the region in the 1400s. In 1964, the British finally agreed to withdraw. Kenyatta became the first president of Kenya.

Southern Africa. In Southern Africa, Portugal refused to give up its colonies of Angola and Mozambique. Nationalist groups in both colonies waged guerrilla wars against the Portuguese. In guerrilla warfare, small bands of fighters stage hit-and-run attacks against a

larger power. Angola and Mozambique finally won independence in 1975. In Chapter 6, you will read how blacks struggled for freedom in white-ruled South Africa.

The Colonial Legacy

The effects of colonial rule lasted long after African nations won independence. Europeans left behind a legacy of anti-colonialism. They had ruled their colonies in the belief that European cultures were superior. Colonial rule also created in Africans the desire for modern technology and the same standard of living that Europeans enjoyed.

While creating high expectations, colonial rulers did little to prepare Africans for independence. They had replaced or weakened local leaders and disrupted the traditional economy. Although colonial rulers helped Africans set up the outward forms of democratic government, most new African nations had few experienced leaders.

As you have read, the new national boundaries were artificial creations of colonial powers. They included many rival ethnic groups. Sometimes borders divided people belonging to the same ethnic group. The Ewe people, for example, were split between Ghana and Togo. In addition, many new nations were small, with fewer than 10 million people. These nations would have difficulty meeting the economic needs of their people.

Colonial rulers had made some positive changes. As you have read, they built roads, bridges, and railroads, and they dredged harbors for seagoing ships. They set up schools and introduced new crops and farming methods. Although these changes were made for the benefit of the colonial powers, they did give the new nations a framework on which to build.

SECTION 1 REVIEW

1. **Locate:** (a) Ghana, (b) Algeria, (c) Kenya, (d) Angola, (e) Mozambique.
2. **Identify:** (a) Pan-Africanism, (b) Léopold Sédar Senghor, (c) négritude movement, (d) Kwame Nkrumah, (e) Jomo Kenyatta.
3. **Define:** (a) boycott, (b) guerrilla warfare.
4. What were the goals of African nationalist leaders?
5. Why were many African nations able to win independence after World War II?
6. Describe three effects of colonial rule on African nations.
7. **Understanding Causes and Effects** How did the négritude movement encourage African independence?
3. **Writing Across Cultures** Imagine that you are W.E.B. Du Bois, an African American fighting for civil rights. Write an editorial explaining your support for Pan-Africanism.

2

STEPS TOWARD DEVELOPMENT

HANDOUT

What political challenges do African nations face?

How have African nations tried to solve their economic problems?

How has the population explosion strained Africa's resources?

Vocabulary secede, democratization, socialism, multinational corporation

“While the United States is trying to reach the moon, Tanzania is trying to reach its villages,” observed Julius Nyerere (nyuh RAY ay) in the 1960s. Nyerere was Tanzania's first president. Like other African leaders, he wanted to unite the people of his nation, provide basic services, and end foreign influence.

At independence, Africans looked forward to a bright future. In cities, workers expected wages to rise. They wanted to be able to buy the goods that westerners enjoyed. In farming villages, people hoped that freedom would mean lower taxes and the chance to improve their lives. In the next decades, however, a number of forces created major stumbling blocks to progress. Yet, African nations remained determined to make good on the promises made at independence.

Building Governments

After independence, African governments faced the challenge of building national unity. By tradition, Africans valued ties to families, villages, and ethnic groups. They felt little loyalty to distant national governments. Economic differences created further divisions. Some Africans lived in areas rich in resources. Others struggled to survive in poor farming or