

# SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY PATHFINDER



## REFUGEE VOICES: AFRICA



Africa is the second largest continent in area and in population. It covers about a fifth of the world's land area and has a population of about 898 million, about one-seventh of the world's population. Divided into 53 independent countries and several political units, included within the continent are hundreds of ethnic groups. Most African ethnic groups have their own language or dialect and way of life.

In the latter half of the 19th century, the European "informal" imperialism of control through military influence and economic dominance transitioned to that of direct rule. By the mid-1920s European countries controlled most of Africa. Not until the latter half of the 20th century did independent countries in Africa begin to emerge.

The process of decolonization brought new and powerful political forces into play and released new conflicts which created mass displacement. Many nations in Africa have suffered civil wars and ethnic strife, thus generating a massive number of refugees of many different nationalities and ethnic groups.

The following Pathfinder was developed in partnership with the Media Arts Center San Diego as part of the Refugees Voices Program to aid researchers for the subject of Africa or for individual countries and ethnic groups and for the plight of African refugees.

Funding for the project comes from the California State Library's California Cultural Crossroads Initiative. California Cultural Crossroads is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

### The Catalog

To locate specific books and other materials about Africa or its individual countries, search the SDPL catalog at computer terminals located throughout Central Library or within any of 34 branches.

Search by SUBJECT or KEYWORD. SUBJECT search results are subdivided into more specific subjects such as history or a geographical area. KEYWORD searching will yield a continuous list of materials without subdivisions.

### Fiction

From the Research Databases page, utilize the [Novelist](#) online database for relevant titles. While viewing a specific title within Novelist you may then click on the *Check SDPL for holdings* link in order to see if a particular title is owned by SDPL. At the Central Library, be sure to utilize the Fiction Subject Card Catalog in the Literature & Languages Section. Search under subject headings, e.g. "Africa," "Africa, East," "Somalia," "Sudan," etc.

### Online Databases

Consult the databases listed below available from all SDPL locations or remotely.

**History Study Center:** Access to primary and secondary sources for the study of history, with 40,000+ documents and articles, 50+ reference works, 3,000 images, and links to 2,000 Web sites.

**MasterFILE Premier:** In-depth multidisciplinary database, with full-text for over 2,050 general reference publications with full text information dating as far back as 1975. Includes some book, document, and image content. Updated daily.

**Newspapers - National and Regional:** newspapers -- including SD Union-Tribune, LA Times, NY Times, and Wall Street Journal.

**United Nations Common Database (UNCDB):** This database includes more than 450 statistical time series for countries from around the world covering a wide range of economic and socio-demographic topics. Descriptions of the international sources and definitions used in compiling the data are included.

**World History: The Modern Era:** This database includes essays, biographies, timelines, images, maps, and primary and secondary sources; covering the history of the world since 1500, and aligned to curriculum guidelines.

### Internet Sites

Go to these sites from home or at an Internet terminal in the Central Library's Computer Lab or any Branch library:

**allAfrica.com**

<http://allafrica.com>

Republishes current news stories and topical features from some 100 African newspapers and agencies.



# RESOURCES

A sampling of the materials available at the Central Library about Africa

## Country Studies (Library of Congress)

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html>

The Country Studies Series presents a description and analysis of the historical setting and the social, economic, political, and national security systems and institutions of countries throughout the world.

## Country Profiles (Library of Congress)

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/profiles.html>

The profiles offer brief, summarized information on a country's historical background, geography, society, economy, transportation and telecommunications, government and politics, and national security.

## East African Studies Center (University of Pennsylvania)

<http://www.africa.upenn.edu/NEH/neh.html>

## Sub-Saharan African History Sources

(University of Washington)

<http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/History/tm/africa.html>

## Search the Africa Pages (Stanford University)

<http://www.sul.stanford.edu/africa/search.html>

Searches the Africa internet directory and Stanford University library's Africa pages using Stanford's local Google search engine.

## Books and Videos

### History & World Affairs

[Africa](#). (The World Today Series, Annually updated)

R 960/AFRICA

960/AFRICA

[Africa : a modern history](#). 2005.

960.32/ARNOLD

[Blue Nile : Ethiopia's river of magic and mystery](#). 2001.

962.64/MORELL

[Culture and customs of Somalia](#). 2001.

967.73/ABDULLAHI

[East Africa : an introductory history](#). 1994.

967.6/MAXON

[The Ethiopians : a history](#). 2001.

963/PANKHURST

[The great lakes of Africa : two thousand years of history](#).

2003.

967.6/CHRETIEN

[A history of East Africa](#). 2002.

967.6/OKELLO

[A history of the Sudan : from the coming of Islam to the present day](#). 2000.

962.4/HOLT

[Kenya : from colonization to independence, 1888-1970](#).

2005.

967.62/GATHERU

[Layers of time : a history of Ethiopia](#). 2000.

963/HENZE

[New news out of Africa : uncovering Africa's Renaissance](#). 2006.

968.0009/HUNTER

[Notes from the Hyena's belly : an Ethiopian boyhood](#).

2001.

B/MEZLEKIA

[Of beetles and angels : a true story of the American dream](#). 2001.

B/MAWI

[They poured fire on us from the sky : the true story of three lost boys from Sudan](#). 2005.

962.4043/DENG

### Social Sciences

[Born in the big rains : a memoir of Somalia and survival](#). 2006.

392.10967/KORN

[The turbulent decade : confronting the refugee crises of the 1990s](#). 2005.

362.8709/OGATA

### Art & Music

[Africa](#). 2001

DVD 960/AFRICA

[East Africa, Tanzania and Zanzibar](#). 2002.

VC 916.78/EAST

[Lost boys of Sudan](#). 2003.

DVD 305.89276/LOST

VC 305.89276/LOST

### Literature & Languages

[Abyssinian chronicles](#). 2000.

FIC/ISEGAWA

[The God who begat a Jackal](#). 2002.

FIC/MEZLEKIA

[In the shadow of Kirinyaga](#). 2002.

FIC/MUSTAFA