

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.

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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 35 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

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, utilize the Fiction Subject Card Catalog in the Literature & Languages Section. Search under subject headings, e.g. "Africa," "Africa, East," "Somalia," "Sudan," etc.

Selected Online Databases

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

General OneFile (Gale) Contains academic journal articles, magazine articles, and reference texts on a wide range of general and special topics, covering generally 1980 to the present. Formerly called InfoTrac.

Historical Newspapers - Graphical (ProQuest) A graphical version of two historical newspapers: The New York Times, from Sep 18, 1851 to Dec 31, 2003; and, The Los Angeles Times, from Dec. 4, 1881 - Dec. 31, 1986.

History Reference Center (EBSCOhost) Features full-text for 2,300+ reference books, encyclopedias, and non-fiction books from leading history publishers. 61,100+ historical documents, 66,000+ biographies of historical figures, 110,200+ historical photos and maps, and, 80+ hours of historical videos.

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.

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

Internet Websites

allAfrica.com

<http://allafrica.com>

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

Country Studies (Library of Congress)

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

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.



RESOURCES

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

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>

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.

Sub-Saharan African History Sources

(University of Washington)

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

Books and Videos

History & World Affairs

Africa. (The World Today Series, Updated annually)
960/AFRICA

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

[Africans : the history of a continent.](#) 2007.
960/ILIFFE

[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

[The history of Africa : the quest for harmony.](#) 2007.
960/ASANTE

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

[A history of modern Africa : 1800 to the present.](#) 2009.
960.3/REID

[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

[Me against my brother : at war in Somalia, Sudan, and Rwanda : a journalist reports from the battlefields of Africa.](#) 2000.
960.329/PETERSON

[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