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ASPECTS OF AFRICA

EAST AFRICA

BY REMI ELUDINNI: ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia is in East Africa, west of Somalia and east of Sudan. Ethiopia was independent of fighting back the Europeans. When the Europeans try to take people from Africa, Ethiopia fought back. Liberia and Ethiopia were the two countries left standing. The whole continent was under European control.

Ethiopia the biggest country in east Africa. It's mostly grassland and urban city. People in Ethiopia are good at track and field. In jogging races like 800 m. and 1500 m. Kenya and Ethiopia are good at these races.

Ethiopia fought England and the British. Addis Ababa is the capital. They wear the African clothes. Our people come from Africa.

BY DAISY DIAZ: ETHIOPIAN INJERA BREAD

We learned about Ethiopian Injera. We learned how to make it. It's made from teff flour instead of wheat flour. Injera looks like a big pancake thirteen inches in diameter. When the Ethiopian people eat, they tear off a piece of Injera and scoop up meat and vegetable stews. I tasted some Injera and it was very different from regular bread or tortillas.

BY JASMINE TRIPP: "LUCY"

When and where was Lucy found? On the 24th of November, 1974, at the site of Hader in Ethiopia.

How old is Lucy? She is 3.18 million years old.

How did Lucy get her name? She got her name from a Beatles' song, "Lucy in the sky with diamonds."

How do we know she was a hominid? Because she originated after the human/African ape ancestral split.

How do we know Lucy walked upright? The entire structure has been adapted to accommodate an upright stance and the need to balance the trunk on only one limb with each stride.

How do we know she was a female? Because she is smaller.

How did she die? No cause has been determined for Lucy's death.

How old was she when she died? Young, but fully matured.

Where is the “real” Lucy? The real Lucy is stored in a specially constructed safe in the Paleo-anthropology Laboratories of the National Museum of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

How do we know that her skeleton is from a single individual? Because there was no duplication of bones.

BY SHONESHA JONES: MAASAI PEOPLE (KENYA)

Maasai people usually have their hair in braids. Their friends usually do it. Maasai people are very colorful. They live in the southern part of Kenya. The Maasai people speak a Nilotic language called Maa. The Maasai people originally came from Northwestern Africa. They worshiped one god Enkai. They build their homes where the grass is. When there is no grass they abandon their homes, take their families and possessions, and move on to find new food for their animals. There are lions in Africa that find shade under trees. The moms feed their baby ghee. Ghee is fat of cow's milk.

BY GUSTAVO VALENCIA: CELLPHONES IN AFRICA

The article I read was about how cellphones are helping African people. It gave examples about different ways cellphones help certain people.

BY SAM MURPHY: CATS IN KENYA

Leopards are cats found in Kenya. When they are disturbed they glide away. They are solitary animals. They sleep on trees and big rocks. They take left over animals in the tree and keep them for themselves. Leopards are beautiful cats.

Cheetas are one of the fastest animals in the world. Just like the leopards, they are solitary cats. The reason they are fast is because of there long legs and flexible, or bendy, spine. There favorite prey is the gazelle, which is an antelope. It has a low purr.

My conclusion is leopards and cheetas are alike by both being solitary cats, and they live in Kenya, and they are beautiful cats.

BY ASHTON BROWN: TWO KENYAN ANIMALS

The green mamba is a snake that has venom in it. It likes to hide in tree branches. It hides in tree branches because it blends in with the other trees.

The terrapin is a tortoise who lives in fresh water not in salt water. It eats molluscs, snails, small fish, frogs, insects, or carrion. It has a hinged shell.

WEST AFRICA

BY ANTOINE CONLEY: THE CITY OF TIMBUKTU

The city of Timbuktu is in Africa. Timbuktu was a meeting place. People traded goods and exchanged ideas there.

BY OSVALDO ESTRADA: SIERRA LEONE AND DIAMONDS

After the war in Sierra Leone many homes had been destroyed. Many of the people whose homes were destroyed are looking for diamonds. The diamonds are left on the land from when the war ended. John, a man from Sierra Leone, said he doesn't care of being rich if he finds the diamond. He said he will go back to farming and buy the tools he needs. Today they are still making houses. The people are still looking for diamonds.

BY JORGE TERCERO: KOFI ANNAN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Kofi Annan is the son of a Fante chief, and was born on April 8, 1938. He spent most of his childhood near Kumase. He went to a college in Minnesota where he received an undergraduate degree in economics. He got his master's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Right now Kofi works at the UN. He is Secretary-General. He began 1st January, 1999. On 29th June, 2001 he got a second term of office. He works in the areas of development and the maintenance of international peace and security.

BY SALVADOR PRADO AND HIS TUTOR: “How Stories Came to Earth” (GHANA)

In the Ashanti legend of “How Stores Came to Earth,” a little spider named Anansi travels a long journey to capture four animals: a python, a leopard, a hornet, and a fairy that can’t be seen. If the spider can bring these fearsome creatures to the sky-god, he will be able to have all the stories collected in a box. By using extreme intelligence and the help of his wife, spider captures all creatures.

BY VERONICA ESTRADA: “Anansi the Spider”

One time Anansi went away a long time from home. He fell into trouble. Back at home his son Trouble said father is in danger, he cried. Off he went making round they went fast those six brothers gone to help. Those six brothers gone to help Anansi. Fish has swallowed him. Anansi is inside fish. River Drinker took a big drink and then his friend he’s going to help Anansi and then he keeps it there it will always be there it will always be there. It is there tonight.

BY JASMINE TRIPP: “Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People’s Ears, a West African Tale”

It was the mosquito who annoyed the iguana because the mosquito told him a lie. The iguana frightened the python, who scared the rabbit, who startled the crow, who alarmed the monkey, who killed the owl, and that’s why the owl would not wake the sun so the day con come. So the mosquito has a guilty conscience. To this day she goes about whining in people’s ears. “Zee, is everyone still angry at me?” When she does that, she gets an honest answer, KPAO!

BY BETZABE ACEVEDO: WEST AFRICAN HOMES

West African homes are built in many different ways. For example, circular wall of clay and cone shaped, thatched roofs. Most of the people do their activities outside. They only go to their houses to sleep. By the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries the houses started developing a lot better.

BY JASMINE TRIPP: SUPER SPORTS IN NIGERIA

In Africa, soccer is known as football. In 1996, in the summer Olympics, they won a gold medal. In 1991, the girls soccer team won the women's world cup. Ruth Obeifo won a silver medal for Nigeria in 2000 summer. Nigeria won two other silver medals in track. The members were Sunday Bada, Clement Chuku, Jade Monye and Entiok Udo-Obony.

BY FABRICIO SALAZAR: THE AFRICAN BUTTERFLY FISH

The butterfly fish is a fish. He's a jumper. He likes to eat food. He'll eat anything that will fit in his mouth. They could be 8 cm. long. He's carnivorous. They don't eat eggs. Floating plants sometimes prevent the fish from jumping out of the tank.

BY ALEX SOTO: ISLAM IN CAMEROON

In A.D. 610 the prophet Muhammad founded Islam in Saudi Arabia. The major Muslim area in Cameroon is located on the north as well as the area around Fouban in western Cameroon and Cameroon's large cities.

Muslims pray during the Eid al-Fitr on the end of the holy month of Ramadan. They believed on one God, called Allah, with Muhammad as his prophet. Secondly, they pray five times a day, at sunrise, midmorning, mid-afternoon, sunset, and night. They do a journey once in a life time called Hadj, to Mecca in Saudi Arabia. On Friday is the Islamic Sabbath. From 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 on Friday afternoon Muslims gather at their mosques to pray. They lead people in prayers at the Mosque in villages, towns, and cities with Muslim populations and have mosques. Most of the Cameroon's major cities have a large mosque, called the Grande Mosque. The Festival of the Lamb, or Tabaski, remembers how Abraham followed God and God told Abraham to spare his son and kill a lamb instead.

BY MARIBEL SANCHEZ: EATING IN CAMEROON

Usually in Africa men eat first, then women, and finally children eat. Most of the food is dipped from a common bowl. Most Cameroonians who can afford it have three meals a day. Some plantains are similar to bananas but are roasted, and boiled, or fried before eating it. Some drinks that they have are tea, coffee,

and cocoa. Some instant drinks as Nescafé and Ovaltine are popular. Palm wine and beer also are well liked among adults. Palm wine comes from palm trees and is very sweet and strong.

BY JASMINE TRIPP: AFRICAN CLOTHING

African clothing is known for its colorful fabrics and distinctive designs. The development of trade with the world established a ruling class in Africa.

Types of Cloth: Africans sometimes use European manufactured thread to weave cloth. For the Yoruba, cloth made completely of silk is rare. Kente is probably the best known cloth. An example of tie-dye is indigo cloth.

Color: Colors in the cloths of African people possess important meaning. To the people of Ghana, who are also Akan, gold represents status and serenity.

Types of Clothing: At some point, fabric always becomes clothing. Styles of clothing are very simple, from traditional to modern dress. Traditional use of the cloths for clothing differs with each group. Men wear kente. The celebrations were long.

Cross Cultural Influences: Raffia designs were inspiring to Matisse, who hung a large part of his collection on the wall of his studio. Different styles of African fashion have evolved from the mixture of African and Western cultures.

CENTRAL AFRICA

BY LATRICE TRIPP: RWANDA

Rwanda is located near the center of Africa and is surrounded by the countries Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda, and Democratic Republic of the Congo. Rwanda is the smallest country in Africa and is 10,000 square miles. Rwanda has eight million people living there and their population is growing by 163,000 people each year.

People in Rwanda are mostly farmers and are trying to grow food for their people, but sometimes this is hard for them to do because the weather keeps changing. Rwandans have two dry, and two rainy seasons. This causes problems for them to produce enough food for them to survive.

In 1990 more than 300 people died of starvation. In the 1920's Rwanda's worse famine killed up to 50,000 people in just 1 year.

Another reason for many people dying was because of a war between the Hutus and the Tutsis. In 1994 there were more than 500,000 people dying during this conflict. The reason this war started was because the Tutsis exiles came back to Rwanda to have equal rights with the Hutus. The Hutus had a problem with this situation. They both fought over who was to maintain control.

BY AMBAR ARVIDEZ: RWANDA ORPHANS

Rwanda is a country in Africa. There are many orphans in the country of Rwanda. Orphans are children that have no parents. There was a civil war in Rwanda in the 1990's. The Hutus and Tutsi are two ethnic groups in Rwanda. These two groups of people had problems with each other. Their problems got so bad that they were killing each other. Hundreds of thousands of people were killed. This left many orphans.

There are many orphanages in Rwanda. An orphanage is a place where children with no parents live. These orphanages have been very helpful in making life in Rwanda better since the war. Children can receive free medical and dental care. All children that live in an orphanage are assigned chores. Having chores makes the children feel good about themselves and teaches them responsibility. It also teaches them how to work. NGO's (Non Governmental Organizations) and aid agencies are helping by reuniting families or finding orphans a permanent home.

BY FERMIN ESTRADA: AID WORKERS IN RWANDA

The aid workers are doing a good thing by volunteering their time to help the people of Rwanda. They risk their lives to help other people. It was really hard for doctors to help their patients when their supplies are limited to makeshift material. The Rwandan people deserve proper care considering the circumstances they are under. It is not fair that they are being hurt by their government. Over all the volunteers are great people for giving up their time to better another country. They're a great people.

BY JORGE TERCERO: A MAN FROM RWANDA

Jean Claude Bizimungu grew up in Kigali, Rwanda, and he was close to his family. His family owned an auto business.

Jean wanted to go to school in Massachusetts. It had been his dream to go to the USA.

Jean went to America, but he didn't know English. He wanted to become a pharmacist. He got support from his father. His father would tell him to just do it.

Jean dropped from school because of the civil war in Rwanda. Then he found out that a bomb had killed his parents. Jean's brothers and sisters had escaped from the bomb. Jean got in contact with his brother, Paul. Paul was going to rebuild his father's business and buy back their home.

Jean went back to school and studied pharmacology in Massachusetts. His dream still keeps him working hard.

BY ANDRE TRIPP: GORILLAS IN AFRICA (RWANDA)

The story is telling about the gorillas' habitat in Africa. They sell gorillas to zoos. The people buy dead gorillas and use them for meat. Dian Fossey likes to research gorillas to protect gorillas. It talked about the government liked to save gorillas and people could visit them. The park service were killed because it was war and a lot of gorillas were in the way. They told about how many gorillas were killed after the war. This is about people who lost their homes. And they moved at the edge of Virunoa Mountains. They were cutting through the gorilla's territory. And then the gorillas did not have anywhere to live. The government help gorillas survive.

BY ADAN HERNANDEZ: KILIMANJARO (TANZANIA)

On Day One of this story some people are going to try to climb Kilimanjaro mountain. The climbers are not experienced so it will be difficult for them to climb mountain Kilimanjaro.

On their first day, they took a bus from Arusna to Moshi where a shuttle waited for them to take them to Marangu Gate. Then they walked three hours with three people, a guide and two carriers. They walked through a lush rain forest and arrived at Mandara hut.

On their second day, they had to wake up early and set out

on foot at dawn. They knew it was going to be exhausting. Then they had to walk eight hours up a steep path where during the trip the vegetation gradually thinned out.

Then they finally arrived at Horombo Hut where they spent the night. They started to get sick, because the higher they went the cooler it would get and there would be less oxygen.

On their third day, after a day of being in the cold weather they got used to it. Then they walked three or four hours, finally reaching an altitude of 4320 m. at the foot of the Mavenzl Peak. Then they got tired faster because there wasn't enough oxygen. Then their sickness for the altitude problem was over.

Then they went lower on the mountain and their sickness was less troublesome.

SOUTH AFRICA

BY ANAYELI AGUILAR: NELSON MANDELA, SOUTH AFRICA

Nelson Mandela was born in Qunu on July 18, 1918. When his father died he became the chief's ward and was groomed for the chieftainship. He was accepted at Healdtown Methodist Boarding School and then started a BA degree at Fort Hare. He participated in a student strike and was expelled along with the late Oliver Tambo, in 1940. When the ANC was banned of the Sharpeville Massacre in 1960, he was detained until 1961 when he went underground to lead a campaign, a decade before being sent to jail. He had spoken out against the introduction of Bantu Education and said that a home should be a place to learn. He rejected the offer of freedom if he renounced violence. After he was released from prison he was voted as state president of South Africa on May 10, 1994.

BY ILSE DOMINGUEZ: Summary of the Story "The Day Gogo Went to Vote," by Elinor Batezat Sisulu (South Africa)

Gogo is very old and she has a granddaughter Thembi. Thembi carries her blue cloth bag and Thembi likes to carry her grandmother's blue bag. Gogo thinks it is important to vote. Gogo wants to go to vote because she wants to go because she's hundred years old and she doesn't want to die and not going to vote. I like this book because it was about going to vote.

BY JOHNESHA JONES: DESMOND TUTU, ARCHBISHOP OF SOUTH AFRICA

Archbishop Desmond Tutu was one of the greatest leaders in South Africa. He won a Nobel Peace Prize for his campaign against apartheid, the white minority rule of South Africa. Desmond Tutu really cares about his country passionately and that should really make a difference. Desmond Tutu is a very intelligent man. He wrote a book called *No Future Without Forgiveness*. He is saying if you do not forgive you will not have a good future.

In 1994 South Africans voted for a black majority government, which meant that once Nelson Mandela got out of prison he was voted for president. Desmond Tutu said that there are lots of things being changed, just not fast enough. He also says that South Africa doesn't forget about Human Rights. They do things about it. In South Africa you only feel better about yourself if you admit it or acknowledge it. Desmond Tutu is a true hero and people should acknowledge him.

BY URIEL DOMINGUEZ: ZUZU HOMES (SOUTH AFRICA)

They are called the Zulu people. They make their houses with twigs and branches. There is cattle dung to make the floor. They polish the floor to make it smooth like glass. They put a pole in the center for support. They make a fireplace near the pole. The smoke makes bugs and other insects to stay out.

BY MARIA ESTRADA: "Mufaro's Beautiful Daughter, an African Tale," by John Steptoe (ZIMBABWE)

This story is about a king that has to decide who he will marry. And the names of the two ladies are Manyara and Nyasha. Manyara is always angry and she wanted to be married with the king. And Nyasha she always happy and she is a nice person. And one day her sister Manyara when she was in her house she told Nyasha that she saw a monster. And one day a boy ask to Manyara to give him some food and Manyara told the boy that she doesn't have food. Nyasha one day she gave some food to the little boy who was asking for food. And the little boy

disappeared. And the snake became a human man and in the end Nyasha married with the king.

BY LUIS LOPEZ: BAOBAB TREES

The baobab likes to grow a lot. Something special about the tree. The tree looks like the roots were above the ground. The tree has fruit that people like to eat. They also have leaves for medicine. The bark is used for a rope.

BY DANIEL ARVIDEZ: THE KALAHARI DESERT

Many animals live there in the Kalahari. Some of the animals are dangerous like cheetahs and lions. The desert is located in Botswana, South Africa, and Namibia. It is twice as big as Arizona. It could get 25 inches of rain which is more than other deserts. The water fills up areas called pans and animals can drink it. Zebras, wildebeest, gazelles, and lions like to drink it. When the water dries up it forms salt and animals lick the salt. Beans grow in the desert. The Bushmen used to live there. They were the first people who lived in Southern Africa. My tutor Tom likes the Kalahari Desert. He said that he is interested.

BY MARCO SUAREZ: NAMIBIA, “Sand and Fog, Adventures in Southern Africa”

The book is about this photographer that goes to Africa and takes pictures of the animals and the land and the people. The man is trying to take a picture of an antelope from close. It says that his horns are twelve inches long. They put a picture of a city or state in Africa with houses and they compared it to this man's house which was made of sticks and grass.