

Early European Expansion in Africa



Objectives

- Describe how the Portuguese established footholds on Africa's coasts.
- Analyze how European actions affected the slave trade and the rise of African states.
- Explain how the European presence in Africa expanded.

Terms and People

- **Mombasa** – a city in southeastern Kenya, located on a small coastal island; became a trading hub for the Portuguese in Africa
- **Malindi** – a coastal town in southeastern Kenya; became a trading hub for the Portuguese in Africa
- **plantation** – large estate or farm, run by an owner or his overseer, where slaves were brought to work
- **Afonso I** – ruler of Kongo who wanted to establish a modern Christian state and end the slave trade

Terms and People (continued)

- **missionary** – a person sent to do religious work in a territory or foreign country
- **Asante kingdom** – kingdom in present-day Ghana, united by Osei Tutu in the 1600s
- **Osei Tutu** – military leader who unified the Asanti of Ghana, creating an efficient, powerful kingdom
- **monopoly** – the exclusive control of a business or industry, such as the gold or slave trade

Terms and People (continued)

- **Oyo empire** – late 1600s kingdom of Yoruba in present-day Nigeria
- **Cape Town** – Dutch settlement on the southern tip of Africa that sold supplies to ships in the East Indies trade
- **Boers** – Dutch farmers who settled in South Africa around Cape Town



What effects did European exploration have on the people of Africa?

European encounters with Africa had occurred for hundreds of years.

The European explorers who arrived in the 1400s brought great and unforeseen changes to Africa's peoples and cultures.

During the 1400s, Portugal wanted to bypass Arab middlemen and trade directly with Asia.

As they moved down the West African coast, they set up small trading posts.

They traded muskets and tools for gold, ivory, hides, and slaves.




Rounding the Cape of Good Hope, they sailed up the East Coast.



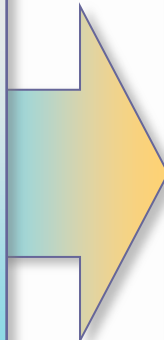
- The Portuguese attacked and took Arab trading centers at **Malindi** and **Mombasa**.
- The Portuguese also traded in present-day Zimbabwe and Zambia in East Africa.

In the 1500s, Europeans began trading for slaves on a large scale.

Europeans relied on African rulers and traders to seize captives in the interior.



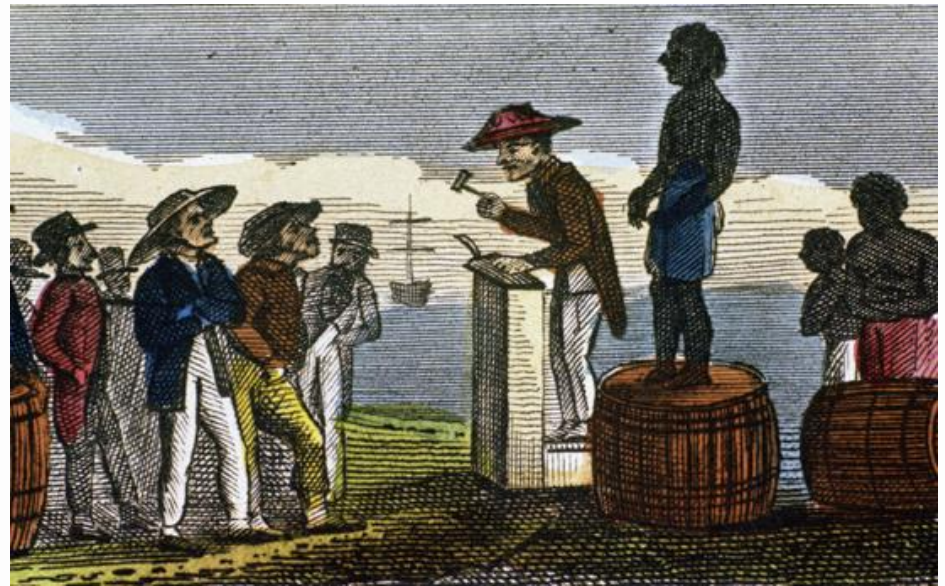
African slave traders brought captives to trading posts and forts on the coast of West Africa.



There, the captives were exchanged for guns, rum, tobacco, and other goods.

Over the next 300 years, the Atlantic slave trade grew into a huge and profitable business.

Each year, tens of thousands of enslaved Africans were sold to work on large **plantations** in North America, South America, and the Caribbean.



A slave auction in the 1700s

Some African leaders unsuccessfully tried to stop the slave trade.

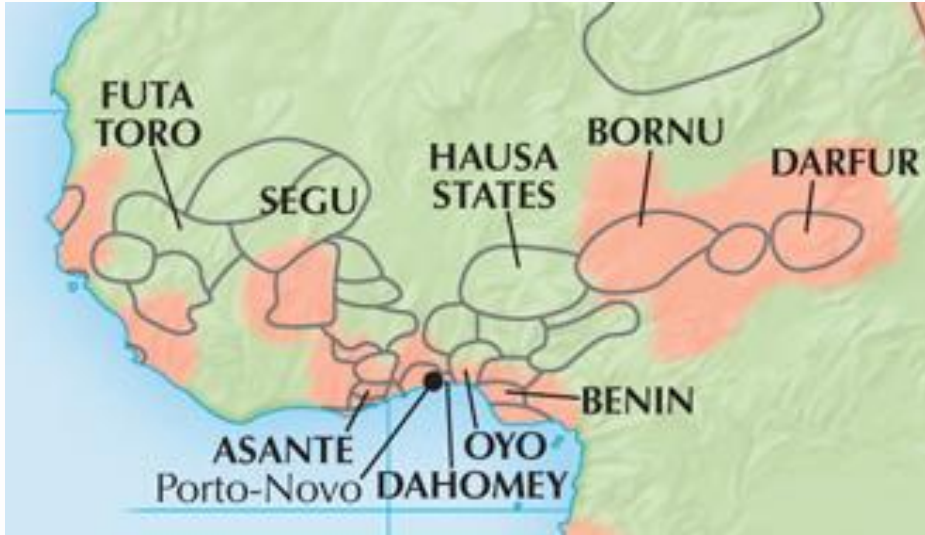
Afonso I of Kongo had been converted to Christianity by Portuguese **missionaries**. In the 1500s, he tried to persuade Portugal to end the slave trade, but he was ignored.

In 1788, Futa Toro of Senegal forbade the slave trade, but the French simply bypassed him.

The transatlantic slave trade would last for 300 years.

The slave trade caused some small African states to disappear and powerful new slave-trading kingdoms to arise.

- In the late 1600s, **Osei Tutu** unified the powerful **Asante kingdom** in present-day Ghana.
- By conquering neighboring people and creating an efficient government, **he gained monopolies over the gold and slave trades.**



- The Yoruba created the **Oyo empire**, conquering neighbors in present-day Nigeria.
- In the 1600s, the Oyo grew wealthy trading captured slaves at Porto-Novo.

As Portugal's power declined, other European nations established footholds in Africa.

- By the mid-1600s, Britain and France reached Senegal in West Africa.
- By the 1700s, British explorers were looking for the source of the Nile in East Africa.
- In 1788, Britain established the African Association, which sponsored exploration.

European exploration of Africa would explode in the next century.

In 1652, Dutch settlers founded **Cape Town, the first permanent European colony in sub-Saharan Africa.**

- Cape Town was settled by the Dutch farmers called **Boers**, who were strict Calvinists.
- They believed they were elected, or chosen, by God and looked on Africans as inferior.
- Over time, they ousted, killed, or enslaved local Africans.
- Boer herders and ivory hunters moved inland, setting off a series of wars.