

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



1) HISTORY OF TANZANIA

a. General History

Tanzania is one of the most historically rich countries on the African continent with ancient towns and ruins bearing testimony to this rich historical heritage . Her history has its flow from the stone age period to European control and independence . Tanzania's most known history before the 19th century concerns the coastal areas although the interior has a number of important prehistoric sites. The most significant is the **Olduvai Gorge** , found in the North Western corner of Tanzania near the **Ngorongoro crater** . In 1959 , following years of excavations in the Gorge with her husband , **Louis Leakey** , **Mary Leaky** discovered the near-perfect skull of the “ Eastern Man” (**Zinjanthropus boisei** , now regarded as **Paranthropus boisei** , a type of australopith), who inhabited the area between **2.3** and **1.2 million years ago** .

By the 1st century AD , the outside world had reached the coast of East Africa , known as **Rhapta** to ancient mariners . Merchant vessels from Southern Arabia and the Red Sea were loaded with ivory and slaves . With the traders came Islam , established along the coast between the 8th and 10th centuries AD. The first Europeans to set foot in Tanzania was Portuguese sailor **Vasco de Gama** , who fumbled his way along the coast in 1498 in search of the Orient .Portuguese kept to the coast , and were driven out two centuries later by Omani

Arabs who took control of Kilwa and Zanzibar setting up governors for coastal towns on the mainland .

From the middle of the 19th century explorers and missionaries began to transverse East Africa and World powers took interest in Africa in order to expand their empires , hence the known **Scramble for Africa**. Under the rule of German East Africa many local inhabitants found life unbearable and uprisings against the German authorities were staged – the most famous of which was the **Maji Maji rebellion** where almost **75000 Africans** lost their lives in a vain attempt at fighting the German rule.

b.Last 50 years

During the 1950s a likely future leader of Tanganyika emerges in the person of **Julius Nyerere** . Then an undergraduate for three years in **Edinburgh university** , Nyerere returns to Tanzania in 1953 and immediately founds the **Tanganyika African National Union** .In 1961 Julius becomes the new nation's Prime Minister after independence and after Tanzania adopting a Republican constitution , Nyerere was elected President .

In 1964, Nyerere reaches an agreement with **Abeid Karume** , President of the offshore island of Zanzibar which has been so closely linked in its history to the mainland territory of Tanganyika. The two Presidents sign an act of union , bringing their nations together as the **United Republic of Tanzania** . Nyerere becomes President as Karume became the Vice President. Nyerere then declares his political creed in a document of 1967 known as the **Arusha Declaration** , announcing the introduction of a socialist state accompanied by the nationalization of key elements in the economy. When Nyerere relinquishes executive power voluntarily in 1985 , a rare act in modern African history , he admits that his economic policies have failed . **Ali Hassan Mwinyi** steps in as the new President promulgating a new democratic constitution in 1992. Elections are held in 1995 and the CCM candidate **Benjamin Mkapa** is elected President of Union. Following the anti-corruption campaign launched by President Mkapa in 1977 , more than 1500 civil servants were dismissed.

2)DEFENSE

a.Military Structure and Dependency on the other nations

The **Tanzania People's Defence Force (TPDF)** also known as **Jeshi la Wananchi wa Tanzania (JWTZ)** in Kiswahili is the armed forces of Tanzania founded on **1st September 1964** after a mutiny by the former colonial military force , **Tanganyika Rifles** . The headquarters are at **Upanga (Ngome) , Dar es Salaam**. The service branches include ; the Army , Naval Command and Air Force . The Commander - in- Chief is **John Magufuli** working with **Hussein Mwinyi** as Minister of Defense and National Service and **Venance Salvatory Mabeyo** as the Chief of Defense Forces .

Tanzanian citizens are able to volunteer for military service from 15 years of age , and 18years of age for compulsory military service upon graduation from secondary school .

Conscript service obligation was 2 years as of 2004. As of 30th June 2013, the TDPF is involved in United Nations peacekeeping missions. Unlike some of its neighbors, Tanzania has never suffered a **coup d'état or civil war**.

Tanzania is one of the exceptional African countries that have so far been able to avoid successful military interventions. Tanzania's ruling party learned a lesson from the unexpected army mutiny of 1964, and has done everything to cement civilian control by integrating the military into the country's elite bargain. The elite bargain is a strategy that has relied on three pillars; inclusive recruitment policies, political control through the ruling party and the provision of generous access to state patronage.

b. Membership of alliances

After achieving independence, Tanzania's leadership emphasized supporting the efforts of other African nations to gain independence. It supported the struggle against the apartheid government of South Africa, championed some form of political union of African states and promoted a non-aligned stance toward the Cold War antagonists. In Africa, Tanzania favored the creation and preservation of internal political unity and independence from foreign influence. A number of liberation movements were headquartered in Dar es Salaam. Tanzania was a strong supporter of the Organization of African Unity and helped to establish the East African Community and East African Common Market with Uganda and Kenya.

From 1965 through 1975, Tanzania's stand resulted into disruptions in relations with Britain and United States, primary donors, over Tanzanian Liberation Policy. Most aid programs to Tanzania had been curtailed by 1985 and there was a refusal to negotiate further assistance. Tanzania's participation in UN peacekeeping missions included deployments to Lebanon and Sudan. The People's Republic of China has been the largest single provider of assistance to Tanzania.

3) CULTURAL FACTORS

a. Ethnic groups

More than 120 ethnic groups are represented in Tanzania varying from each other in terms of culture, social organization and language. The largest ethnic group, the Sukuma, represents nearly 13% of the total population and the remaining large groups represent under 5% each. The two largest ethnic groups in Tanzania are linguistically and culturally closely related i.e the Sukuma and Nyamwezi found in Western Tanzania, south of Lake Victoria. The third largest ethnic group is the Chagga who live on the southern slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro. Not forgetting the Swahili with archeological evidence that suggests that they have inhabited the East African Coast since the 1st century AD. The Shiraz are also a group of people who live on the coast, mainly on the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba. The Zaramo are a Bantu group that inhabit the area

around Dar es Salaam and number around 200,000. The Makonde are one of the five largest ethnic groups in Tanzania, and they live in southern Tanzania and in Mozambique . Interethnic conflict has not been a significant political problem in Tanzania as it has been elsewhere in Africa.

b.Religions

Tanzania has two major religious groups , **Christianity** and **Islam**. Christianity is the predominant religion with more than half of the Tanzanian population identifying as Christians.Minority groups such as **Traditional Africanists , Buddhist and Hindus** are also present in the country. Roman Catholics take up 31% of the population. The first Catholic evangelists in Tanzania were Portuguese missionaries who arrived along with Vasco de Gama .Tanzanian Protestants are estimated to comprise 27% of the population. Islam on the other hand has 99% of residents of Zanzibar Island identifying themselves as Muslims . While indigenous spirituality followers are a minority group with only 1.8% of the population. The Tanzanian constitution provides for the freedom of religion enabling different religious groups coexist peacefully.In the country there are also people who do not identify with any religion constituting 1.7% of the total population in the country.

c.Cultural History

The Tanzanian culture is Swahili. The word **Swahili** means **Coast** . The Swahili culture is a mix of African Bantu and Arabic cultures. The culture is Islamic due to the fact that there were intermarriages with the Muslim Arabs . The Swahili culture was also based on the Sharia law and thus affecting the social and economic structures of Tanzania as well.Zanzibar is predominantly Muslim so attention to dressing is paramount and women should always keep knees and shoulders covered .

A slew of festivals go on throughout the year in Tanzania featuring Traditional dressing and dances , such as the **Wanyambo festival** in Dar es Salaam and the **Mwaka Kogwa festival** in Zanzibar.

4) POLITICAL STRUCTURE

a. Origin of political structure

Beginning in 1919 Tanzania was placed under British administrative rule , during which time and indigenous African administration was encouraged through local councils and courts . Julius Nyerere was Prime Minister in 1961 and after the unification of Tanzania and Zanzibar the following year , he was elected the President of the union with Abeid being the Vice President. Nyerere adopted the Arusha declaration in 1967 a policy calling for self reliance .

One of the policy's pillars was **Ujamaa** -meaning **Familyhood** . Nyerere resigned in 1985 and was succeeded by Ali Mwinyi .

b. Constitution and Government

Tanzania's government consists of the President and the National Assembly . The President is elected every five years and is eligible to run for another term . He is the Head of State and Commander In Chief of the armed forces . He forms his cabinet from the National Assembly which is a unicameral body made up of 393 members. At present the **Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) , or Party Of Revolution** holds the vast majority of seats in the Assembly.

c. Stability and policy of present government

The National Assembly comprises 264 representatives of constituencies , 113 special seats for women , 5 elected by the Zanzibar House of representatives , Attorney General and 10 members of cabinet .The legal system combines the jurisdictions of British , Islamic and tribal laws. Adopted 1977 prior to the current constitution, Tanzania had three constitutions. This current constitution confirms the main principles : strong presidentialism , double government structure and single-party state . The government type of Tanzania currently is the **Presidential Republic**

5) Natural Resources

a. Basic commodities produced

The basic commodities of Tanzania comprise of minerals and agricultural products . The main agricultural products are mainly cash crops ; coffee , sisal , cashew nuts, tea , cotton and tobacco. At one point in its agricultural history, Tanzania was the largest producer of sisal in the world. Most commonly produced food crops in Tanzania are maize, sorghum , millet, rice , wheat, beans , cassava , potatoes and bananas . The top mineral exports include gold, raw copper and others .

b. Trade Agreements

Tanzania is currently the 126th largest goods trading partner of the United States. Tanzania is now eligible for **African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) benefits** this year and has also qualified for textile and apparel benefits. The US signed Trade and Investment Framework Agreements (TIFA) with the East African Community (EAC) and with the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) of which Tanzania is a member of both groupings . Tanzania has also been a member of World Trade Organization(WTO) since 1st January 1995.

c. Degree of self sufficiency.

In Tanzania the major source of food supply is from local production . On average Tanzania produces about 95percent of its food requirements . In some years the country's food self

sufficiency measured the Self Sufficiency Ratio (SSR) is over 100. Although there are pockets of food storage in some regions and districts even when the SSR is over 100. In such years , the problem is mainly distribution within the country .

6) ECONOMY

a. Monetary system

The currency of Tanzania is known as the **Tanzanian Shilling** also called **Shilingi** in Kiswahili. It replaced the **East African Shilling** on 14th June 1966. The code is **TZS** . The denominations include Banknotes (500 , 1000 , 2000 , 5000 and 10000) and coins (50 , 100 , 200 and 500) . The Tanzanian Shilling is issued by the Central bank , **Bank of Tanzania** . Cash has been the dominant payment instrument with little usage of cheques and telegraphic transfers as main debt and credit instruments respectively . Tanzania launched a payment system's modernisation project in August 1996 with its primary objective being modernisation of a country's payment , clearing and settlement systems in order to attain internationally acceptable best practices by decreasing risks and increasing convenience , affordability and timelines of the systems. The low levels of confidence in cheques , particularly in private in private transactions , is due to several reasons . Key amongst these are the problem of issuing cheques without sufficient funds in the account and delays in the clearing system .

b. Dependency and debt

Tanzania has a low income economy as it is largely dependent on agriculture for employment , accounting for about half of the employed workforce. In 2018 Tanzania's public debt was 17,945 Million Euros , 21,193 Million dollars has increased 1,696 Million since 2017. Tanzania recorded a government debt equivalent to 37.80 percent of the country's Gross Domestic product in 2019. Government Debt in Tanzania increased to 6432.90 USD Million in March from 6396.50 USD Million in February 2020.

c. Membership of economic and trade organisations

Tanzania is a member of several regional economic blocs , regional economic and trade groupings . Trade organisations include , African Union (AU) , African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) , East African Community (EAC) , The Southern African Development Community (SADC) and World Trade Organization (WTO).

7) VIEWS ON WORLD PROBLEMS

a. Role and Influence In The World

Tanzania's first president , Julius Nyerere also was one of the founding members of the **Non-Aligned Movement** and during the Cold War era , Tanzania played an important role in regional and international organisations like Organisation of African Unity (OAU) , the G-77

and the Non-Aligned Movement . Historically , Tanzania in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees played an active role in hosting refugees for neighbouring countries like Burundi , Rwanda , Mozambique and Democratic Republic of Congo .

b. Membership of blocs and geo political groupings

Tanzania has been a **Common Wealth republic** since 1964 , when the Republic of Tanganyika and the People's Republic of Zanzibar and Pemba united after the Zanzibar Revolution .

8) GEOGRAPHY

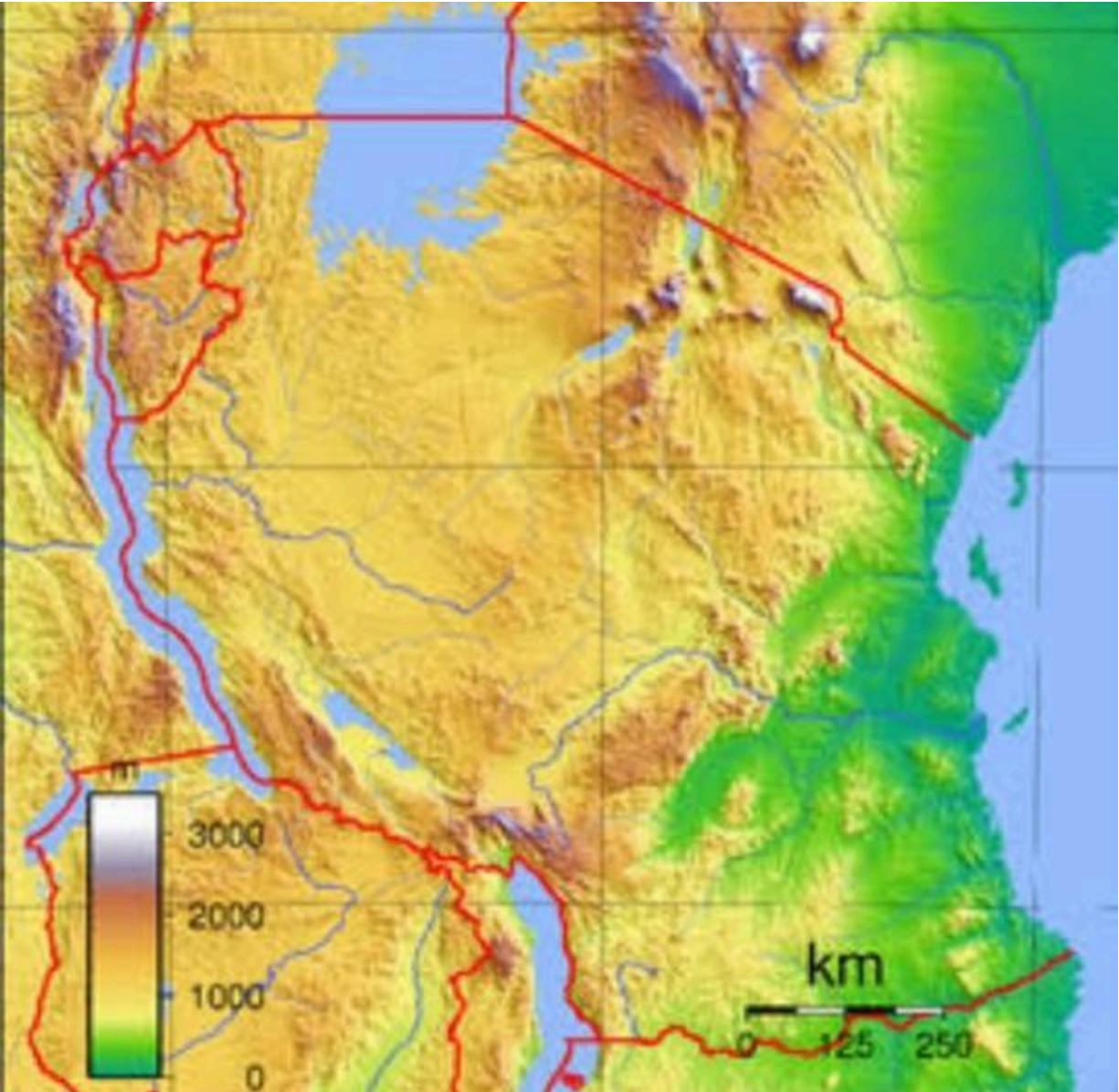
a. Bordering Countries

Tanzania is a country in East Africa with a coastline at the Indian Ocean . It borders Uganda and Kenya on the North , Rwanda , Burundi , Democratic Republic of Congo on the West and Zambia , Malawi , Mozambique on the South .

b. Topography

Tanzania includes islands Mafia , Pemba and Unguja with land measurements ; total : 947, 300 square kilometres having land take up 885,800 square kilometres and water taking up 61,500 square kilometres.

Except for the islands and a coastal strip varying in width from 16 to 64km , Tanzania lies at altitude of over 200m . A plateau averaging 900-1800m in height makes up the greater part of the country.



The highest mountain is Mount Kilimanjaro in the North . Other mountains include the Pare range in the North East and Kipengere range is in the Southwest .Lakes in Tanzania include Lake Eyasi , Natron , Manyara , Rukwa and large lakes on the borders include Lake Victoria , Tanganyika and Lake Malawi. The centre of Tanzania is a large plateau which is part of the East African Plateau . The southern half of this plateau is grassland within the Eastern Miombo woodlands ecoregion Eastern and Central Tanzania are drained by rivers such as Pangani , Wami , Ravi Ruvuma , Rufigi **etc...**

Tanzania has an equatorial climate but has regional variations due to topography . Seasonal rainfall is driven mainly by the migration of the **Intertropical Convergence Zone** .

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3. Youtube:<https://youtu.be/deCH17tJlpc> : FrogCast (History of Tanzania) December 12 2017.