

II (1939–1945) in anticipation of Kenyan independence. Today, approximately 3 million people consider themselves Kalenjin. Groups that compose the Kalenjin include the KIPSIGI, the NANDI, the TUGEN, the KEYO, the POKOT, the Marakwet, the Sabaot, and the Terik.

The origins of the Kalenjin remain uncertain, but some scholars believe that ancestors of the Kalenjin migrated from Ethiopia, arriving in the Mount Elgon area around the sixteenth century. The territorial expansion of the MAASAI in the eighteenth century pushed the Kalenjin into the area where they now predominate, between the Rift Valley and LAKE VICTORIA. Kalenjin myth names Misri, or EGYPT, as their place of origin; customary Kalenjin religious beliefs, based on sun worship, refer to the ancient Egyptian god Asii.

Kalenjin peoples have traditionally practiced nomadic PASTORALISM, but many today, especially among the highland-dwelling Kipsigis and Nandi, are farmers. It is not uncommon for members of the same family to live in close proximity to one another yet practice different livelihoods. Staple food crops include millet, maize, beans, peas, and cassava; in the highlands, tea is an important cash crop. Nomadic pastoral Kalenjin peoples include the Tugen, Keyo, Marakwet, and Pokot, but even sedentary farming Kalenjin often keep cattle.

Kalenjin society is divided into patrilineal clans (ortinuel) as well as into male and female age groupings. Circumcision for both sexes has traditionally signified the passage to adulthood. Politically decentralized, in pre-colonial times both nomadic and sedentary Kalenjin peoples vested decision-making responsibility in local councils of elders.

The Kalenjin unified in order to more effectively represent their interests to the British colonial government. Today they account for a smaller percentage of the Kenyan population than either the KIKUYU or the LUO. Nevertheless, they hold considerable political influence, largely because KENYA's president, DANIEL ARAP MOI—himself a Kalenjin—has promoted their interests at the expense of larger groups, especially the Kikuyu.

See also FEMALE CIRCUMCISION IN AFRICA; and RITES OF PASSAGE AND TRANSITION.

ROBERT FAY

Kamba

Ethnic group in Kenya.

The Kamba are a central BANTU-speaking people closely related to the neighboring KIKUYU. Before they migrated to their present location in the Ukamba Highlands, according to tradition, the Kamba resided around Mount KILIMANJARO in TANZANIA. Although the majority of

the Kamba practice Christianity, approximately 40 percent still practice the traditional Kamba religion, which is similar to that of the Kikuyu. Traditional Kamba believed in a supreme god, Ngai, and in *aimu*, or ancestral spirits.

The Kamba traditionally live in extended families on separate homesteads, each with its own agricultural plot. Several such homesteads make up an *utui*, which roughly translates to "village" and includes a common grazing area. The Kamba hold and inherit land patrilineally. The main political division in traditional Kamba society is the *mbai*, or "clan." The society historically has been organized by age grades, although this practice lost importance during the colonial period.

Although they mainly grow maize, millet, and sorghum today, many Kamba maintain a pastoral tradition and keep livestock. Trade has historically been an important element to the Kamba economy. Long-distance trade with SWAHILI traders along KENYA's coast was fruitful, especially because of the Kamba access to IVORY. Today, Kamba craft products such as woodcarvings, calabashes, and woven baskets remain in demand both locally and internationally. In recent years, because of overpopulation and soil erosion, large numbers of Kamba have migrated to NAIROBI and other urban areas to find work. As many as 4 million people consider themselves

Kamba.
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 SONRA GELEN DOKÜMAN
 04 Ekim 2015

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Kamberi

Ethnic group of Nigeria; also known as the Kambari.

The Kamberi primarily inhabit western and northwestern NIGERIA. They speak a Niger-Congo language. Approximately 100,000 people consider themselves Kamberi.

See also LANGUAGES, AFRICAN: AN OVERVIEW.

(110296) Kampala, Uganda

Capital and largest city of Uganda.

Originally a settlement scattered across seven hills on the northern shore of LAKE VICTORIA, Kampala has grown into a city that spans nearly fifty hills and houses more than 1.2 million people (as of 2002). The original settlement was known as Mengo, and during the nineteenth century it served as the royal seat for the BUGANDA kabaka, or king. English explorers such as Sir Richard Francis BURTON came to the Buganda court at Mengo in 1862 and entered into diplomatic relations with Kabaka MUTESA I shortly thereafter. In 1890, seeking to establish British control over the source of the NILE RIVER, Captain FREDERICK LUGARD built a fort for the Imperial British East African Company on a hill near

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