

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

RELIGIONS

- monastery - place where monks live a religious life
- Geez - one of world's oldest languages used to preserve history - monks copied books by hand
- Christianity from Egypt - Coptic Christianity
- Mountains isolated them
- AD 600's Muslim Arabs arrived
- Underground churches
- Christians - Muslims co-existed peacefully except war in 1500's

ETHNIC GROUPS

- Oromo 40%
- Amhara 25%
- Somali 6%
- Sidamo 9%
- other 20%
- cultures centered in the highlands
- groups tend to live near each other

GEOGRAPHY

- lots of mountains down center of country
- Lake Tana
- Lake Abaya

TODAY

- most live in rural areas - 16% in cities
- electricity and running water rare in rural areas
- cities are modern
- only 3% of population over 65 years of age