

WEST AFRICA

NIGERIA

HISTORY

- Muslim and Christian conflicts
- Portugal, Britain, and Netherlands had trading posts
- 1914 - Britain controlled
- 1960 - gained independence
- 1991 - gov't moved capital from Lagos (south) to Abuja (middle) in order to unify the country

ETHNIC GROUPS

- 200 languages spoken
- multi-ethnic (250 groups)
- English official language
- Hausa-Fulani largest group live in (NW)
 - countryside
 - herd cattle, farm
 - produce crafts
 - trade
- Yoruba - live in (SW)
 - most urban
 - some farmers, traders, craft people
 - live in compounds
- Igbo - live in (SE)
 - rural
 - small farming villages
 - recently living in cities
 - ruled democratically

DEMOCRACY

- many groups to unify
- 1966 - military group took control
- 1967 - Civil War broke out (Igbo tried to separate)
- 1970 - Igbo surrendered
- military control continued
- Muslim-Christian conflict
- Oil: only gov't and oil companies benefit from oil exports
- May 29, 1999 - a president was elected
Olusegun Obasanjo

RELIGION

- A Key source of tension among people
- Hausa-Fulani are Muslim
- Igbo - Christian
- Many others - traditional beliefs