

# Bantu Migrations

## Causes of Migrations

Causes of Migrations	Generic Examples of Causes of Migrations	Generic Global Effects of Migrations
<b>Environmental Changes</b>	Shift in climate, depletion of natural resources, drought, earthquake	Redistribution of world's population, blending of cultures
<b>Economic Pressures</b>	Increasing population, famine, loss of employment	Shifts in population
<b>Political &amp; Religious Persecution</b>	Slave trade, war, ethnic cleansing (genocide), repression	Dislocation & oppression of peoples, spread of ideas and religions
<b>Technological Development</b>	Tools, agriculture, iron smelting, communications & transportation networks	Development of civilizations and empires

Early humans moved across the Earth's landscapes in response to the challenges and opportunities posed by the environment. Global migration continues today. Look at the above chart and discuss the reasons for changes and continuities in human migrations over time.

According to the maps on the other side, what directions did Bantu speakers move? What might have been the environmental and social reasons for the migrations? Do the migrations seem to fit the same patterns as the original "out of Africa" movements?

As Bantu speakers moved into new regions, they learned important skills and new words from the peoples they encountered. They adopted words from Nilotic- and Cushtic-speaking peoples, including those words related to livestock herding, irrigation, and dry grain agriculture. Today, ninety million people speak one or more of the hundreds of distinct Bantu languages. Does linguistic analysis seem more reliable than creation myths?

There are some common cultural elements in the many types of music and religious expressions of Bantu speaking people. How do cultural similarities add additional proof to the explanation of the Bantu migrations?

Other side: Maps of Migrations 4000 BCE to 1000 CE

