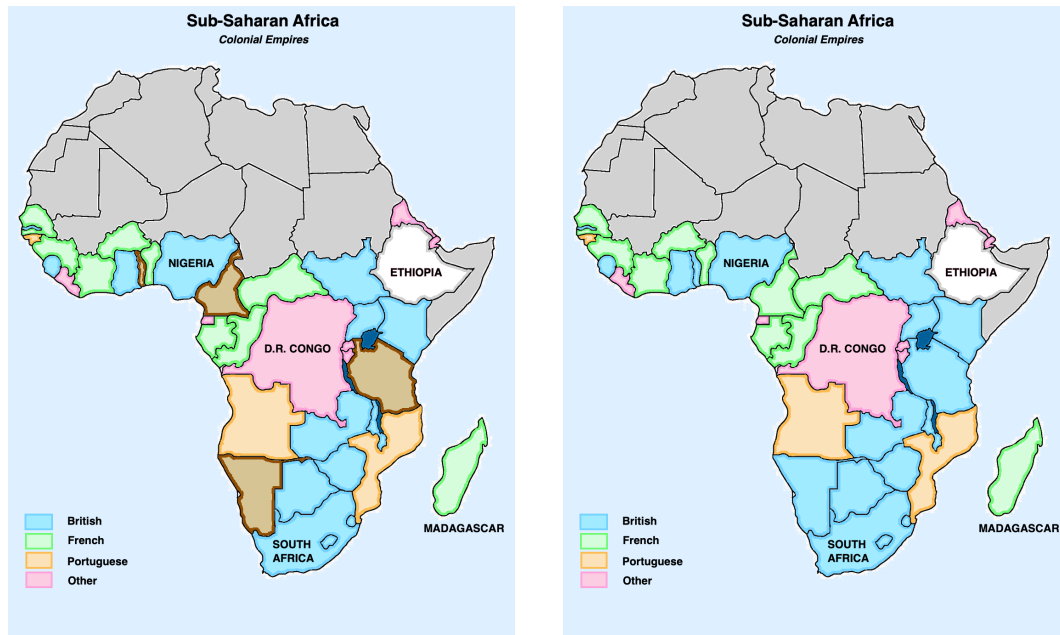


## D. Africa During the World Wars

1. Although there was some fighting in Africa during both world wars, the most important thing for Africa was that Germany lost WWI, and was forced to abandon its overseas empire, including four major territories in Africa.
2. These were taken over by France and Britain.



Colonial empires in Africa before (left) and after (right) World War I. Germany's territories were split between the victorious European powers, France and Britain.

3. All parts of Africa were gradually changing under European control. The main way life was changing is called "detrribalization." It means simply that being part of a tribe was slowly becoming less and less important. Tribal life was being replaced by European government. Also the language used by those in power was a European language, which "detrribalized" Africans started to use as well.

## E. French and British Imperialism and Decolonization

1. When France and Britain took over, people had to start using *their* languages, and to live according to a different approach.
2. The British model was tutelary imperialism, like in India. This benevolent despotism was based on the idea that British culture was the best, and that British colonial rulers had a moral obligation to pass on these values to the people they ruled.
3. Sometimes it worked, but sometimes not, especially because it didn't last as long as in India.

4. In Ghana, which became the first independent African country in 1957, the tutelary approach was quite successful. Detribalized Ghanans, educated in America and Europe, were able to take control of government for themselves.
5. In Kenya, it didn't work. Some detribalized Africans created a new kind of violent anti-European identity called "Mau Mau". The British responded to the terrorism of the Mau Mau rebels by extreme brutality of their own. It was a shameful episode that led the British to become demoralized about the prospects for tutelary imperialism.
6. The French attempted a process of "Francization," which means trying to make Africans French!
7. It failed because in Islamic northern Africa, the Muslims rejected it, and the Sub-Saharan Africans copied them.
8. The peak of the process of "decolonization" (the abandonment of colonial empires) was reached in 1960, which is often called the "Year of Africa." Seventeen countries in Africa became independent that year alone.

#### F. The Struggle for Identity (1960-)

1. The theme of modern history in partially detribalized modern Africa is the struggle for identity.
2. This means that the tribal way of life that preceded the European arrival is obviously not suited to modern reality with technology and global trade, but that Africans have had difficulty defining a new identity within the countries that were formed through decolonization.
3. Anti-colonialism, i.e. opposition to European rules, was a kind of identity that unified people for a time, but once the European rulers left, there was no one left to oppose! The harsh reality of independence set in. Any problems Africans would have would now have to be dealt with exclusively by them, and the longer they were independent, the less national leaders could resort to blaming Europeans for their problems.
4. The most successful model of a culture that Africans feel drawn to isn't Europe (because of the history of imperialism) or America (because of the history of African-American slavery) nor Russia (previously communist) or the Islamic world (because of Islamic triumphalism that produces terrorism against Sub-Saharan cultures).
5. The only cardinal culture that seems to offer a way forward for Africa is Post-Maoist China, which also had problems with Europe in modern times (such the First Opium War) but which is now successful.
6. China is helping to develop Africa by building railroads and other industries, which helps Africa with new technology, and gives China access to the resources it needs. For now the African-Chinese partnership seems to be working.