

The ASEA Daily News & Resources Africa Southeast Area Monday 29 February 2016

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Church Articles of Interest to Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



[US vice president meets with LDS Church leaders](#)

United States Vice President Joe Biden met with leaders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints during a brief visit to Temple Square in Salt Lake City Friday, February 26, 2016. Elder D. Todd Christofferson and Elder Ronald A. Rasband, both of the Church's governing Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, and former U.S. Senator Gordon H.



Smith of the Seventy greeted the vice president at the Family History Library. He was presented with his family history during the meeting.

[Groundbreaking Announced for Durban South Africa Temple](#)



The First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has announced that the groundbreaking for the Durban South Africa Temple on Saturday, April 9, 2016.

[Elder Holland, Sister Stephens and Elder Hallstrom to participate in first Face to Face event for young single adults](#) 8 March 2016

On March 8, the LDS Church will host the first Face to Face event geared toward young single adults. Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles will be joined by Sister Carole M. Stephens, first counselor in the Relief Society general presidency, and Elder Donald L. Hallstrom of the Seventy as they answer questions submitted by young single adults throughout the world.

[Mormon Tabernacle Choir announces virtual sing-along opportunity](#)

All who have dreamed of singing with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir now have a chance. The Mormon Tabernacle Choir is inviting people throughout the world to join in a virtual sing-along of George Frideric Handel's "Hallelujah" chorus.

"Handel's 'Messiah' is an extremely powerful oratorio, especially the 'Hallelujah' chorus," said Ryan Murphy, associate music director for the choir. "It is well-known and well-loved. It's an honor for us to perform it, and we are delighted to extend the invitation to join us to singers all over the world."

Those interested in participating can download sheet music for the soprano, alto, tenor and bass parts. They can also learn their parts with the help of videos featuring YouTube star Peter Hollens and his wife, Erynne. Submissions should then be uploaded to YouTube and submitted through the form on mormon.org, using #Hallelujah.

[#Hallelujah Virtual Choir Instructions - Mormon Tabernacle Choir](#)

Church-Important Africa Dates



Upcoming Church related Historical Events in the Africa Southeast Area.

(taken from the resource section at the end of this **Daily News**)

Swaziland	21 February 1990: President Neal A. Maxwell dedicates Swaziland.
Lesotho	22 February 1990: President Neal A. Maxwell dedicates Lesotho.

If anyone has any additional historical events for the ASEA Area historical calendar ...please email them to aseapublicaffairs@ldschurch.org

Interesting Stuff about Africa & ASEA area



Found in the news stream.

Medical News Found in the news stream.



[Yellow fever death toll rises to 125 in Angola](#)

An ongoing yellow fever epidemic in Angola has killed 125 people out of 664 suspected cases since December 30, government statistics show, despite attempts to quell the outbreak.

The centre of the health crisis remains the capital Luanda, where 92 people have died, the health ministry said on Friday.

Social Media/Internet/Tech



Misc. Found in the news stream.



[Why is this rare giraffe almost extinct?](#)

Only 38 Kordofan giraffes remain alive today.



Originally ranging through Cameroon, the Central African Republic, and Sudan, the remaining Kordofans are now sequestered in the Democratic Republic of Congo's Garamba National Park. Approximately 350 Kordofans roamed the DRC only 20 years ago, but the numbers plunged to 86 by 2003 and then decreased to only 38 in 2016.

Local poachers are said to be responsible for depleting the once prolific populations.

Terms that you may find in the news

AGOA-The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) is a United States Trade Act, enacted on 18 May 2000 as Public Law 106 of the 200th Congress. AGOA has since been renewed to 2025. The legislation significantly enhances market access to the US for qualifying Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries. Qualification for AGOA preferences is based on a set of conditions contained in the AGOA legislation. In order to qualify and remain eligible for AGOA, each country must be working to improve its rule of law, human rights, and respect for core labor standards.

Al Shabaab-Al Shabaab is al Qaeda's affiliate in Somalia and operates primarily out of the country's southern and central regions. The group is fighting an insurgency against the internationally recognized Somali Federal Government, which is based in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu.

ANC-African National Congress. The African National Congress (ANC) is the Republic of South Africa's governing social democratic political party. It has been the ruling party of post-apartheid South Africa on the national level since 1994, including the election of Nelson Mandela as president from 1994-1999.

Boko Haram-Boko Haram, is an Islamic extremist group based in northeastern Nigeria, also active in Chad, Niger and northern Cameroon. The name "Boko Haram" is usually translated as "Western education is forbidden"

BPC-Botswana Power Corporation

CAR-Central African Republic

DA-Democratic Alliance (South Africa). The Democratic Alliance (DA) is a South African political party and the official opposition to the governing African National Congress (ANC).

ESKOM-South African Electricity Public Utility

FAO- Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)

ICC-International Criminal Court

ICGLR-international Conference on the Great Lakes Region.

IDP-Internally Displaced Persons

IMF-International Monetary Fund

SADA-the Southern African Development Community

Seleka-An alliance of rebel militia factions that overthrew the Central African Republic on March 24, 2013.

UN-United Nations

UNHCR-United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

USAID-United States Agency for International Development.

Zanu-PF-The Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front. The ruling party in in Zimbabwe since independence in 1980.

Multiple African Countries (noted in article) or other African Countries

[New air ambulance to cover Djibouti, S.Sudan, Somalia](#)

The East African Aviation (EAA), the first aviation company in East Africa, on Thursday introduced the first air ambulance service in Ethiopia, which enables it to fly patients including from Ethiopia, Djibouti, South Sudan and Somaliland to Dubai and South Africa, among others.

[Germany promises over \\$3m in humanitarian support to Ethiopia](#)

[Kenya, Israel Reportedly Agreed on Security Cooperation During President's Visit](#)

Israel and Kenya agreed to cooperate in the war against terror during the visit of Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta to Jerusalem last week, the Nairobi-based journal The East African reported on Saturday.

Al-Shabaab has been responsible for several massive terrorist attacks in Kenya, including the Westgate Mall attack in 2013 that left 63 people dead and the 2015 attack on a university in the north-east of the country in which 157 people were killed.

[Kenya-Tanzania border post to boost trade between states](#)

Kenya and Tanzania have opened the ultra-modern Holili/Taveta border post to facilitate regional trade.

<h2>Angola</h2> <p>R</p>	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	64% / 26%	Population: 22,490,548
	Penetration of population w/ internet	26%	Labor Force: 9,298,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	8,100	Life Expectancy: 52
	Unemployment / year est.	26% / 2014	Church Members: 1,436
	Population below poverty line:	40.5%	Congregations: 8

[Angola hopes to turn steel into gold as oil hammers economy](#)

Angola is about to provide a test case of whether diversification can help boost an economy that relies heavily on oil production


The brutal global bear market in crude has forced a number of commodity-linked emerging markets to retrench economically, particularly in oil-rich Persian Gulf countries. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates for example, are weighing the imposition of new taxes to help plug exploding budget deficits —a solution backed by the International Monetary Fund just last week.

[Angola says proposes U.N. arms embargo on South Sudan](#)

Angola said on Friday it has proposed that the United Nations Security Council impose an arms embargo on South Sudan, where more than 10,000 people have been killed in a two year civil war sparked by a political dispute between the country's leaders.

Angola is an elected member of the Security Council.

British U.N. Ambassador Matthew Rycroft on Friday backed the proposed arms embargo.

Botswana <u>R</u> 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	164% / 26%	Population: 2,134,458
	Penetration of population w/ internet	18.5%	Labor Force: 1,017,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	16,000/2014	Life Expectancy: 47
	Unemployment / year est.	17.8% / 2009	Church Members: 3,104
	Population below poverty line:	30.3%	Congregations: 12

Burundi <u>R</u>	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	25% / 2%	Population: 11,209,812
	Penetration of population w/ internet	4.9%	Labor Force: 4,806,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	900	Life Expectancy: 54
	Unemployment / year est.	35% / 2009	Church Members: 526
	Population below poverty line:	68%	Congregations: 3

Cameroon <u>R</u>	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	71% / -%	Population: 23,516,740
	Penetration of population w/ internet	11%	Labor Force: 9,105,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	3,000	Life Expectancy: 55
	Unemployment / year est.	30% / 2001	Church Members: 1,498
	Population below poverty line:	48% / 2000	Congregations: 7

[Hundreds of Boko Haram hostages freed; 100 militants killed](#)
 meroonian and Nigerian forces have freed several hundred hostages in a border town held by Boko Haram including young girls who were being trained as suicide bombers, the commander of Cameroonian forces said Saturday.

[Cameroon: The government concerned with the increasing indebtedness of the State companies](#)
 The Cameroonian government is more and more concerned with the indebtedness of the companies in its portfolio. Indeed, called to expand on "the performance in the management" of State companies during a cabinet meeting held on 25 February 2016

the Deputy Minister of Finance proposed some solutions to prevent a catastrophe in the State budget. These are, we learned, "the respect of the budgetary discipline, the control of the operational charges, the implementation of various monitoring tools as well as improving the governance and the use of modern tools to appraise performance such as financial ratings".
 Moreover, he advised, "to have a better efficiency, the companies should gradually reduce their dependency on subsidies from the State budget and broaden their financing tools by turning to new solutions such as non sovereign loans from development partners private banks". ...

Central African Republic (CAR) <u>R</u>	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	33% / 1%	Population: 4,908,506
	Penetration of population w/ internet	4%	Labor Force: 2,217,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	600	Life Expectancy: 50
	Unemployment / year est.	8% / 2001	Church Members: 216
	Population below poverty line:	na	Congregations: 1

[Thousands displaced by LRA attacks in Haute-Kotto, Central Africa](#)
 The United Nations says more than 3,000 people have fled from attacks by the Ugandan Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in Haute-Kotto of Central African Republic, which is a province near the border with Sudan and South Sudan.



According to the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), LRA fighters have abducted civilians and looted villages, though the aid group did not name the affected villages specifically.

Congo Rep. (Brazzaville) <u>R</u>	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	100% / 7%	Population: 4,825,168
	Penetration of population w/ internet	7.1%	Labor Force: 2,890,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	6,600	Life Expectancy: 59
	Unemployment / year est.	53% / 2012	Church Members: 6,053
	Population below poverty line:	46.5% / 2011	Congregations: 17

Presidential election 20 March 2016

[Congo Republic Refuses Entry, Sends Back Amnesty International Expert](#)
 The Republic of Congo's refusal of entry and return of an Amnesty International research manager on mission is another worrying sign of the government's attempt to muzzle criticism ahead of Presidential elections, Amnesty International said today.




Late on Friday 26 February, Amnesty International's Deputy Regional Director for West and Central Africa, Stephen Cockburn, was refused entry at the border and sent back to Dakar, despite having a valid visa, invitation letter and confirmations of meetings with authorities including the Minister of Defense and officials from the Ministry of Justice.

Congo DR (Kinshasa) <u>R</u>  	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	59% / 8%	Population: 72,511,886
	Penetration of population w/ internet	3.0%	Labor Force: 27,590,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	700 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 50
	Unemployment / year est.	46% / 2009	Church Members: 42,689
	Population below poverty line:	63%	Congregations: 145

[Will the Democratic Republic of Congo be Egypt's newest ally in dam disputes?](#)
 Political and technical negotiations between Cairo and Addis Ababa on Nile River water management remain at a standstill in light of Ethiopia's insistence on going forward with construction of the Renaissance Dam, which threatens Egyptian Nile water interests. This once again pushed the Egyptian political administration to renew its policy based on mending and strengthening its relationship with other Nile upstream countries in the equatorial lakes region, especially the Democratic Republic of Congo, which has been one of Egypt's political and strategic allies since the beginning of the Nile water dispute.

Ethiopia <u>R</u>	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	26% / 49%	Population: 103,392,064
	Penetration of population w/ internet	2.9%	Labor Force: 47,320,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	1,500	Life Expectancy: 64
	Unemployment / year est.	17.5% / 2012	Church Members: 1,854
	Population below poverty line:	39% / 2012	Congregations: 4




Gabon <u>R</u>	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	175% / -%	Population: 1,761,297
	Penetration of population w/ internet	39.3%	Labor Force: 636,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	21,600	Life Expectancy: 63
	Unemployment / year est.	21% / 2006	Church Members:
	Population below poverty line:	na	Congregations:




<h1>Kenya</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	83% / 67%	Population: 47,384,458
		Penetration of population w/ internet	63.6%	Labor Force: 17,700,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	3,100	Life Expectancy: 62
		Unemployment / year est.	40% / 2008	Church Members: 12,471
		Population below poverty line:	43,4 / 2012	Congregations: 62




[Survey shows Kenyans spend majority savings on funerals](#)

Kenyans are said to spend a big chunk of their savings on funerals according to a new report. The Fin Access report 2016 states that 46.8 per cent of Kenyans living in urban centres were forced to dig into their savings in the last two years to facilitate the funeral of a family or relative.

Some 32.2 per cent sort help from social networks, 4.2 per cent sold assets, while two per cent had to borrow from a bank or Sacco. ...

<h1>Lesotho</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	95% / 24%	Population: 2,078,067
		Penetration of population w/ internet	11%	Labor Force: 894,400
		GDP per capita USD\$	2,900 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 49
		Unemployment / year est.	25% / 2008	Church Members: 867
		Population below poverty line:	49 / 1999	Congregations: 2




<h1>Madagascar</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	40% / ?	Population: 24,927,036
		Penetration of population w/ internet	3.7%	Labor Force: 12,150,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,400 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 65
		Unemployment / year est.	3.6% / 2013	Church Members: 10,322
		Population below poverty line:	50%	Congregations: 38




<h1>Malawi</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	37% / 10%	Population: 17,650,264
		Penetration of population w/ internet	6.1%	Labor Force: 5,747,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	800 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 55
		Unemployment / year est.	6.6% / 2013	Church Members: 1,931
		Population below poverty line:	53% / 2004	Congregations: 8




[Malawi officials to lose perks as aid freeze hits budget](#)

Malawi will cut the benefits enjoyed by cabinet ministers and top civil servants as the government works to rein in spending due to a foreign aid freeze and weak tax revenue, the finance minister said on Saturday.

International donors, led by Malawi's former colonial ruler, Britain, halted direct aid to the southern African nation in 2013 over the so-called "cashgate" scandal in which senior government officials siphoned millions of dollars from state coffers.

<h1>Mauritius</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	128% / 40%	Population: 1,328,229
		Penetration of population w/ internet	60.0%	Labor Force: 600,200
		GDP per capita USD\$	17,900 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 74
		Unemployment / year est.	8.3% / 2013	Church Members: 458
		Population below poverty line:	8% / 2006	Congregations: 2

<h1>Mozambique</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	58% / 22%	Population: 27,641,379
		Penetration of population w/ internet	5.9%	Labor Force: 12,250,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,100	Life Expectancy: 50
		Unemployment / year est.	17% / 2007	Church Members: 7,943
		Population below poverty line:	52% / 2009	Congregations: 26

<h1>Namibia</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	137% / 32%	Population: 2,336,522
		Penetration of population w/ internet	15.7%	Labor Force: 1,168,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	10,800 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 6
		Unemployment / year est.	27.4% / 2012	Church Members: 793
		Population below poverty line:	28.7% / 2010	Congregations: 2

[Geingob promises 1 480km bitumen standard roads](#)




President Hage Geingob cuts the ribbon to officially open a 98 kilometre bitumen standard main road between Omafo in the Ohangwena region and Outapi in the Omusati region.




Geingob indicated that the renovation, upgrading, maintenance and expansion of critical sections of the transport network were done with a view to ensure safe and convenient travelling, stimulate economic activities and facilitating the movement of goods and services within Namibia and across borders.




[De Beers Enters Into \\$650,000 Partnership with UNAM](#)

De Beers Namibia Holdings announced that it has pledged N\$10 million (\$650,000) over the next five years to support an academic program in the country.

The program is run through the University of Namibia's (UNAM) southern campus at Keetmanshoop, and aims to complement government efforts to support Namibian children in marginalized communities to fulfill their academic potential.

<h1>Reunion Island</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	105% / 48%	Population: 876,835
		Penetration of population w/ internet	34.6	Labor Force:
		GDP per capita USD\$		Life Expectancy:
		Unemployment / year est.	40% / ?	Church Members:
		Population below poverty line:		Congregations:

<h1>Rwanda</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	61% / 28%	Population: 12,540,798
		Penetration of population w/ internet	25.4%	Labor Force: 6,061,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,700 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 64
		Unemployment / year est.	3.4% / 2012	Church Members: 281
		Population below poverty line:	44.9 / 2011	Congregations: 3




<h1>Somalia</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	50% / 2%	Population: 10,742,489
		Penetration of population w/ internet	1.5%	Labor Force: 3,011,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	600 / 2010	Life Expectancy: 55
		Unemployment / year est.	25.4% / 2012	Church Members:
		Population below poverty line:	na	Congregations:

[Two blasts kill 40 in Somalia](#)

Two bombings in south-central Somalia have killed at least 40 people and injured 70 others.




The bombings happened in the town of Baidoa, a key location in the African Union's fight against Al-Shabaab.

A female suicide bomber detonated her explosives at a restaurant in Baidoa, and a car bomb exploded near a crowded pharmacy, a source with knowledge of the attacks told CNN. ...

<h1>South Africa</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	154% / 35%	Population: 51,621,506
		Penetration of population w/ internet	49%	Labor Force: 20,230,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	12,700	Life Expectancy: 57
		Unemployment / year est.	24.9% / 2013	Church Members: 61,221
		Population below poverty line:	31.3%	Congregations: 159

[Over 805 000 support Zuma no confidence motion](#)

Over 805 000 e-mails have been sent to the Democratic Alliance's newly launched online platform lobbying the African National Congress National Assembly caucus to support next week's motion of no confidence debate in President Jacob Zuma, the DA said on Sunday.




<h1>South Sudan</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	28% / 12%	Population: 11,749,434
		Penetration of population w/ internet	15.9	Labor Force:
		GDP per capita USD\$	2,000 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 62
		Unemployment / year est.	12% / 2008	Church Members:
		Population below poverty line:	50.6% / 2009	Congregations:




[Sudan's ruling party and DUP to review troubled political partnership](#)

Last week, Sudan's presidential aide and the de facto chairman of the DUP, Mohamed al-Hassan al-Merghani, threatened to withdraw from the government, saying no real job has been assigned to him since assuming office last year.

Al-Hassan further distributed a questionnaire among his party leaders and sectors seeking their ruling on whether to continue to join or pull out from the government.




Well-informed sources told Sudan Tribune that a joint committee including four members from each party has been formed to discuss the DUP's reservations.

<h1>Swaziland</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	70% / 11%	Population: 1,280,595
		Penetration of population w/ internet	27.1%	Labor Force: 435,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	7,800 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 49
		Unemployment / year est.	28.5% / 2010	Church Members: 1,768
		Population below poverty line:	69%	Congregations: 4

<h1>Tanzania</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	62% / 24%	Population: 50,998,619
		Penetration of population w/ internet	15%	Labor Force: 25,000,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,900 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 61
		Unemployment / year est.	10.7% / 2011	Church Members: 1,336
		Population below poverty line:	36% / 2002	Congregations: 6

[Tanzanian ministers face sack \(removal\) if they fail to sign anti-graft pledge](#)

Tanzanian President John Magufuli has threatened to sack (remove) cabinet ministers who do not declare their assets or fail to sign an integrity pledge on Saturday, part of his anti-corruption drive.

<h1>Uganda</h1> 	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	64% / 11%	Population: 40,777,196
		Penetration of population w/ internet	23%	Labor Force: 18,000,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,800	Life Expectancy: 59
		Unemployment / year est.	4.2% / 2010	Church Members: 13,248
		Population below poverty line:	25.5%	Congregations: 26

[Is it Possible to Have 100 Percent Voter Turn Out?](#)

The Electoral Commission finally uploaded results from all polling stations around Uganda for the Presidential Elections. On face value, everything seems okay until one begins to find out about Polling Stations with 100 Percent Voter Turn Out. ...

[Uganda's 'dictator in a suit' holds power, but at what cost?](#)

...Museveni swept to his fifth election victory this month with 61 percent of the vote. Observers said the cards were heavily stacked against his opponents, as the 71-year-old's grip on his party and country — and his access to state resources — meant the result was never in any doubt.

"In the past there was rule by decree, abolishing courts and parliament. Now you keep them, you have elections once in five years but you arrange the system to make sure that you always get your way," said Busingye.

The cost of getting his may prove higher this time than in similarly disputed elections against the same main opponent, Kizza Besigye, in the past. Foreign donors are dismayed and, more importantly, a large chunk of the electorate feels disenfranchised and angry. In the days since the vote, armed police and soldiers have maintained an aggressive, highly visible presence on the capital's streets to keep a lid on things, while Besigye has been prevented from leaving his home by a succession of mob-handed arrests.

[Uganda's post election crisis : Opposition supporters to swear in Besigye as their President](#)


Uganda's opposition leader Kizza Besigye's supporters are planning to swear in the opposition leader as their President tomorrow outside his home in Kasangati in the outskirts of the capital, Kampala.



The planned ceremony is likely to be met with heavy police response and further arrests polarizing the country even further after the February 18th general election which President Yoweri Museveni won.

[Uganda Electoral Commission Ready for Opposition Legal Challenge](#)

The electoral commission of Uganda is prepared to meet the legal challenges opposition presidential and parliamentary candidates plan to launch this week following the outcome of the February 18 general election, says Jotham Taremwa, spokesman for the electoral commission.

Main opposition leader of the Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) Kizza Besigye and independent candidate Patrick Amama Mbabazi dispute the results of the poll. They have signaled they would be going to court, citing voter irregularities and rigging they said led to incumbent President Yoweri Museveni's victory. ...



Zambia R		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	73% / 10%	Population: 15,549,296
		Penetration of population w/ internet	18%	Labor Force: 6,338,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	4,100	Life Expectancy: 58
		Unemployment / year est.	15% / 2008	Church Members: 3,359
		Population below poverty line:	60.5%	Congregations:

Zimbabwe R	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	102% / 98%	Population: 15,762,551
		Penetration of population w/ internet	47%	Labor Force: 5,063,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	2,000 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 60
		Unemployment / year est.	95% / 2009	Church Members: 26,156
		Population below poverty line:	68% / 2004	Congregations: 64

[Zimbabwe warned against relying on commodity exports](#)

An economist has warned the government against relying on the export of raw materials and called for a shift to manufacturing to counter falling global prices.

Bongani Ngwenya, a senior lecturer at Solusi University's Postgraduate School of Business, said the slowdown of China's economic growth has affected demand for commodities to the detriment of Zimbabwe and the rest of Africa.

United States R <small>Data Provided for comparison</small>	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	102% / 85%	Population: 324,343,287
		Penetration of population w/ internet	90%	Labor Force: 156,000,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	54,800 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 79
		Unemployment / year est.	5.5% / 2015	Church Members: 6,466,267
		Population below poverty line:	15.1% / 2010	14,018 Congregations

Travel Advisories/Warnings **R**

[Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Potential Security Threat](#) January 8, 2016

The U.S. Embassy has received information regarding a potential security threat in Luanda, Angola. As a precautionary measure, the U.S. Embassy advises U.S. Citizens to avoid the following three locations:

- 1) Belas Shopping (located in the Talatona area of Luanda)
- 2) Ulengo Commercial Center (located in the Viana area of Luanda)
- 3) Hotel Baía (located along the Nova Marginal in Luanda)

This security advisory is effective immediately and will remain in place until February 8, 2016 unless an additional notice is provided by the U.S. Embassy.

[State Department warns that Cameroon is a high-risk travel destination for U.S. citizens](#) 4 January 2016

The U.S. State Department is warning Americans about the high risk of traveling to Cameroon. In particular, the department said, U.S. citizens should avoid all travel to the north regions because of the general threat of violent crime, terrorism and the targeting of Westerners for kidnappings and murder.

The terrorist group Boko Haram continues to be a presence in the region. Since July 2015, the group has carried out at least 14 suicide bombings in the north, the State Department reported. The northeastern Nigerian Islamist group has been even more deadly than Islamic State this year.

[State Dept. issues worldwide travel alert for U.S. citizens due to increased terrorist threats](#) 20 December 2015

(MyFoxBoston.com) -- The State Department issued a worldwide travel alert for U.S. citizens Monday due to increased terrorist threats.

According to the State Dept., their latest information says that ISIL, al-Qa'ida, Boko Haram, and other terrorist groups are planning attacks in several regions. The department says the attacks may involve a variety of tactics, including conventional and non-conventional weapons and "targeting both official and private interests."

The department also believes there is a continuing threat from "unaffiliated persons" that may plan attacks inspired by other terrorist organizations.

U.S. citizens should take extreme caution when traveling, the department says, and always be aware of your surroundings. This alert says Americans could be at risk anywhere throughout the world.

Homeland Security Expert Anthony Amore said, "There wouldn't be an alert if there wasn't some intelligence telling the government that Americans have to be on the lookout."

[Democratic Republic of the Congo Travel Warning](#) Saturday, December 05, 2015 :: Staff infoZine

The Department of State warns U.S. citizens of the risks of travel to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (a.k.a. DRC or Congo-Kinshasa).

Washington DC - infoZine - U.S. citizens should avoid all but essential travel to the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, the provinces of Bas-Uele, Haut-Uele and Ituriz (northeastern part of the former Oriental Province) and particularly the new provinces of Tanganyika and Haut-Lomami (northeastern and central parts of the former province of Katanga), where instability and sporadic violence continues. Very poor transportation infrastructure throughout the country and poor security conditions in eastern DRC make it difficult for the U.S. Embassy to provide consular services anywhere outside of Kinshasa.

Resource Section **R**

[ASEA Mormon Newsroom and Mormon Newsroom Facebook pages](#)
[YouTube and other Resource sites](#)

Official Church pages: [37 Official General Authority Facebook Pages & 27 Official Church Organizations Pages](#)

YouTube Channels **R**

[ASEA \(Africa Southeast Area\) Public Affairs](#)

[Mormon Newsroom](#)

[Mormon Channel](#)

[Mormon Tabernacle Choir](#)

Africa Southeast Area Newsroom & Facebook sites

Countries



Mormon Newsroom Sites
Link from these sites to Facebook!



Mormon Newsroom Facebook sites.

Church HQ	Mormon Newsroom	Mormon Newsroom Facebook page (English)
Angola	Angola Mormon Newsroom	Angola Mormon Newsroom Facebook (Portuguese)
Botswana	none	Botswana Mormon Newsroom Facebook (English)
Congo DR	DR Congo Mormon Newsroom	DR Congo Mormon Newsroom Facebook (French)
Congo Rep	none	Republic of Congo Mormon Newsroom Facebook (French)
Indian Ocean	Indian Ocean Newsroom	Indian Ocean Mormon Newsroom Facebook (French)
Kenya	Kenya Mormon Newsroom	Kenya Mormon Newsroom Facebook (English)
Madagascar	Indian Ocean Newsroom	Madagascar Mormon Newsroom Facebook (French)
Malawi	None	Malawi Mormon Newsroom Facebook (English)
Mozambique	None	Mozambique Mormon Newsroom Facebook (Portuguese)
Namibia	None	Namibia Mormon Newsroom Facebook (English)
South Africa	South Africa Mormon Newsroom	South Africa Mormon Newsroom Facebook (English)
Uganda	Uganda Mormon Newsroom	Uganda Mormon Newsroom Facebook page (English)
Zambia	none	Zambia Mormon Newsroom Facebook (English)
Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Mormon Newsroom	Zimbabwe Mormon Newsroom Facebook (English)
Totals for ASEA	7 Country-Mormon Newsrooms	14 Country Newsroom Facebook pages!
Helping Hands	Mormon Helping Hands - Africa Southeast Facebook page	
Public Affairs	All Public Affairs individuals are able to access the Public Affairs Network (Secure Site) at this link: Public Affairs Network	
AFRICASE	Africa Southeast Page	Africa Southeast Area Facebook page
	Liahona Issues (downloadable)	Liahona Local Inserts
Online Resources	Use of Online Resources in Church Callings Church Guidelines for setting up 'Unofficial Pages' R	
CREATE.Ids.org	Create and Share your media Talents !!!!	
Church Resources	LDS.org	Mormon.org
	Deseret News	LDS Media Library
Law and Religion Symposium	General Conference	
	Life of Christ Bible Videos	
Emergency Preparedness:	BYU Law International Center for Law and Religion Studies	
	Emergency Preparedness and Response	

Historical Events in Church History for Countries in the ASEA Area

(and related events)

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Country	Year	Date	Historical Event
Zimbabwe	1999	January 1 *	1999: Zimbabwe's first stake is organized in Harare. The first full edition of the Book of Mormon is published in Shona, a native language of Zimbabwe.
Zimbabwe	1980	February 1	Rhodesia becomes Zimbabwe
Swaziland	1990	February 21	In what has been termed a continuation of events in the "dawning of a new day in Africa," Elder Neal A. Maxwell of the Council of the Twelve dedicated two African kingdoms to the work of the Lord and for the preaching of the gospel. Swaziland, an independent mountain kingdom bordered on three sides by South Africa and by Mozambique on its eastern side, was dedicated Feb. 21. Lesotho, a kingdom surrounded by South Africa, was dedicated Feb. 22.
Lesotho	1990	February 22	In what has been termed a continuation of events in the "dawning of a new day in Africa," Elder Neal A. Maxwell of the Council of the Twelve dedicated two African kingdoms to the work of the Lord and for the preaching of the gospel. Swaziland, an independent mountain kingdom bordered on three sides by South Africa and by Mozambique on its eastern side, was dedicated Feb. 21. Lesotho, a kingdom surrounded by South Africa, was dedicated Feb. 22.
Zimbabwe	2013	APRIL 1	2013: Edward Dube is called to the First Quorum of the Seventy, making him the first General Authority from Zimbabwe.
South Africa	1853	April 19	When the first LDS missionaries arrived in Cape Town in 1853, they climbed Lion's Head (which they called Mount Brigham Heber Willard, in honor of the Church's First Presidency) and dedicated the land to the growth of the gospel.
Zimbabwe	2009	July 1	2009: Edward Dube becomes the first native mission president to serve in Zimbabwe.
Nigeria	2005	August 7	Aba Nigeria temple dedicated August, 2005
Zambia	1992	August 20	Zambia-On Aug. 20, at a secluded spot on a hill near a lake on university grounds in the capital city of Lusaka, Elder Nelson dedicated the nation of Zambia to the preaching of the gospel. "It was a touching scene," commented Pres. Vern Marble of the neighboring Zimbabwe Harare Mission who was present for the prayer of dedication.
Botswana	1992	August 21	The prayer of dedication on the nation of Botswana was offered by Elder Scott on Aug. 21, in a small clearing in the Gaborone Game Reserve. Nearly 100 people were present, including members and missionaries.
Cameroon	2009	August 21	Elder Holland dedicated the country of Cameroon on August 21, 2009, on a green hillside overlooking Cameroon's capital city of Yaounde in the company of local church leaders. Later in the day, approximately 600 people gathered to hear Elder Holland speak at Yaounde's City Center. http://www.mormonwiki.com/Missionary_Work
Namibia	1992	August 22	In Namibia, on Aug. 22, a small group of members gathered on Tower Hill in Windhoek to witness the dedication of the land by Elder Nelson. Namibia is part of the South Africa Cape Town Mission. Its

			president, Blaine Hudson, described the gathering as "the Lord's people who in the past years have been faithful in the desert and in the wilderness, and have made it blossom as a rose."
Congo Rep (Brazzaville)	1992	August 24	The nation of Congo was dedicated Aug. 24 by Elder Scott. Elder Nelson briefly addressed the small gathering of members and leaders who gathered in a peaceful setting in a shaded area located on a hillside overlooking treetops about 10 miles down the Congo River from the capital city of Brazzaville. A picturesque Congolese village was visible in the distance beyond the river's rapids. About 65 members and leaders of three branches in Congo attended the dedication.
South Africa	1985	August 24	1985: On August 24–25 the Johannesburg South Africa Temple is dedicated. https://www.lds.org/ensign/1993/02/south-africa-land-of-good-hope?lang=eng
Rwanda	2009	August 27	Elder Holland dedicated Rwanda on Aug. 27 during a sacred moment on the top of a mountain overlooking the capital city, Kigali. http://www.mormonwiki.com/Missionary_Work
Ethiopia	1993	September 16	The Church was officially recognized in Ethiopia on 16 September 1993.
Burundi	2010	October 19	The chosen dedication spot for the country of Burundi was located on a hill overlooking Bujumbura, the capital city, with Lake Tanganyika shining in the distance beyond. Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of the Twelve pronounced a blessing upon the country of Burundi in the Great Lakes region of Eastern Africa. Elder Holland offered a blessing on the people and the nation, dedicating the country of Burundi for missionary work on Oct. 19.
Angola	2010	October 20	On Wednesday, Oct. 20, a small group of Church leaders and members gathered at the base of a large, several-hundred-year-old baobab tree on a quiet hill overlooking the Atlantic Ocean to the west and the capital city of Luanda, Angola, to the north, where Elder Christofferson pronounced a blessing upon the country and formally opened Angola to missionary work.
Uganda	1991	October 23	In late October 1991, Elder James E. Faust of the Quorum of the Twelve dedicated Uganda, Kenya, and Zimbabwe for the preaching of the gospel and the establishment of the Church. On October 23, Elder Faust, accompanied by Elder Richard P. Lindsay of the Seventy, who serves as president of the Africa Area, dedicated Uganda from the capital city, Kampala. Earlier this year, Uganda granted the Church official status. https://www.lds.org/ensign/1992/02/news-of-the-church/uganda-kenya-zimbabwe-dedicated?lang=eng
Kenya	1991	October 24	The next day, October 24, Elder Faust, Elder Lindsay, and President Larry Brown of the Kenya Nairobi Mission traveled to Nairobi, Kenya, where more than one hundred Church members gathered for the outdoor service. https://www.lds.org/ensign/1992/02/news-of-the-church/uganda-kenya-zimbabwe-dedicated?lang=eng In the dedicatory prayer, Elder Faust said, "We acknowledge this as a blessed land." The prayer contained references to Kenya's beauty, grandeur, and abundant plant and animal life. Elder Faust asked that "the beasts of the earth, which have historically been native to this land, may continue to find a home."
Zambia	1964	October 24	1964: Northern Rhodesia becomes Zambia, and Southern Rhodesia becomes Rhodesia.
Zimbabwe	1991	October 25	1991: On October 25 Elder James E. Faust (1920–2007) of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles dedicates Zimbabwe for the preaching of the gospel.
Malawi	2011	October 25	While the first branch of the Church in Malawi was organized in 1999 and there are now about 1,000 members in four branches, the land had not been formally dedicated. Elder Nelson and others met as a small group for that purpose on Oct. 25. (2011)
Zimbabwe	1991	October 25	On October 25, Elder Faust and Elder Lindsay met Zimbabwe Harare Mission President Vern Marble for the dedication of Zimbabwe. "Before the meeting, the Saints of Zimbabwe had been fasting and praying for rain," Elder Lindsay said. "As the dedicatory prayer by Elder Faust concluded, a gentle rain began to fall, and rainfall increased for days afterward." In the prayer, Elder Faust asked for a blessing upon the earth of Zimbabwe and prayed that the land would "continue to provide the abundance which it has in the past. ... May the rain fall and the streams flow, and the sun kiss the land to provide for thy people." https://www.lds.org/ensign/1992/02/news-of-the-church/uganda-kenya-zimbabwe-dedicated?lang=eng
Central Africa Republic	2012	October 29	On a heavily forested hillside overlooking the capital city of Bangui, Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of the Twelve offered a prayer of dedication and blessing upon the country and people of the Central African Republic. The prayer was offered Monday, October 29, on Gbazabangui hillside overlooking the Ubangi River—a major tributary of the Congo River—a few degrees north of the equator that is the original site of the Bangui people. https://www.lds.org/church/news/elder-holland-dedicates-central-african-republic?lang=eng
Gabon	2013	November 5	On November 5, 2013, eleven days after the Church received full legal status in the Central African country of Gabon, Elder David A. Bednar of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles performed a powerful and significant country dedicatory prayer in a forest clearing at the base of a tall tree. He was accompanied by his wife, Susan K. Bednar, and local leaders: Elder Carl B. Cook of the Africa Southeast Area Presidency and his wife, Sister Lynette H. Cook; President W. Bryce Cook, president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo Kinshasa Mission, and his wife, Sister Karol Cook; and President Armand Mpandou, president of the Libreville Gabon Branch.
Tanzania	2003	November 18	The East African nation of Tanzania was blessed and dedicated Nov. 18 by Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Elder Nelson, who was accompanied by his wife, Sister Dantzel Nelson, gathered for the occasion on a sunny afternoon with some 15 members and Church leaders on a promontory overlooking Oyster Bay on the Indian Ocean, near the capital city of Dar es Salaam. http://www.ldschurchnewsarchive.com/articles/44749/Gospel-takes-root-in-Tanzania.html
Mauritius	1988	November 22	The islands of Mauritius and Réunion, in the Mascarene Islands Mission, were dedicated late in 1988 for the preaching of the gospel. https://www.lds.org/ensign/1989/03/news-of-the-church/mauritius-reunion-dedicated-for-missionary-work?lang=eng Elder Marvin J. Ashton of the Council of the Twelve dedicated the two islands, located off the southeast coast of Africa. He visited Mauritius, an independent nation of 1.1 million, on November 22, and Réunion, an

			overseas department of France with a population of 500,000, on November 23.
Reunion	1988	November 23	The islands of Mauritius and Réunion, in the Mascarene Islands Mission, were dedicated late in 1988 for the preaching of the gospel. Elder Marvin J. Ashton of the Council of the Twelve dedicated the two islands, located off the southeast coast of Africa. He visited Mauritius, an independent nation of 1.1 million, on November 22, and Réunion, an overseas department of France with a population of 500,000, on November 23. https://www.lds.org/ensign/1989/03/news-of-the-church/mauritius-reunion-dedicated-for-missionary-work?lang=eng
South Africa	1973	December 1	In 1973, President Spencer W. Kimball rededicated South Africa “to the preaching of the gospel ... to the transformation of lives.” Among the many blessings pronounced by this prophet of God, none was more thrilling than his request that “processes might converge to bring a temple to this land” and that “no hungry or thirsty soul may ever miss the privilege of hearing and accepting the truth.” https://www.lds.org/ensign/1993/02/south-africa-land-of-good-hope?lang=eng

Books of Interest about Africa

R

‘I Dreamed of Africa’

ISBN 0140287442 (ISBN13: 9780140287448)

This is a beautifully written book about a woman who moves to Africa from Italy, learns to love the country, learns to love the animals and especially learns to love its people. A tender story of survival through hard times. Very tender. (Review by Sister Ford serving in Kenya.)

‘Left to Tell’ by Immaculee Ilibagiza

(2014) ISBN 978-1-4019-4432-2

‘Left to Tell’ tells Immaculée Ilibagiza’s experience during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. She survived hidden for 91 days with seven other women in a small bathroom, no larger than 3 feet (0.91 m) long and 4 feet (1.2 m) wide with an area of 12 feet. The bathroom was concealed in a room behind a wardrobe in the home of a Hutu pastor. During the genocide, most of Ilibagiza’s family was killed by Hutu Interahamwe soldiers: her mother, her father, and her two brothers Damascene and Vianney. Besides herself, the only other survivor in her family was her brother Aimable, who was studying out of the country in Senegal and did not know the war was going on. In Left to Tell, Ilibagiza shares how her Roman Catholic faith guided her through her terrible ordeal, and describes her eventual forgiveness and compassion toward her family's killers.

‘Unbowed: A Memoir’ by Wangari Maathai

(2007) ISBN 978-0-307-27520-2

In Unbowed, Nobel Prize winner Wangari Maathai recounts her extraordinary journey from her childhood in rural Kenya to the world stage. When Maathai founded the Green Belt Movement in 1977, she began a vital poor people’s environmental movement, focused on the empowerment of women that soon spread across Africa. Persevering through run-ins with the Kenyan government and personal losses, and jailed and beaten on numerous occasions, Maathai continued to fight tirelessly to save Kenya’s forests and to restore democracy to her beloved country. Infused with her unique luminosity of spirit, Wangari Maathai’s remarkable story of courage, faith, and the power of persistence is destined to inspire generations to come.

‘The Shackled Continent’ by Robert Guest

(2004) ISBN-13: 978-0-330-41972 ISBN-10: 0-330-41972-2

The Shackled Continent provides a persuasive look into the persistent problems of modern Africa and offers some possible solutions.

‘Long Walk to Freedom’ by Nelson Mandela

(2010) ISBN 9780230013858

‘Long Walk to Freedom’ is an autobiographical work written by South African President Nelson Mandela, and published in 1995 by Little Brown & Co. The book profiles his early life, coming of age, education and 27 years in prison. Under the apartheid government, Mandela was regarded as a terrorist and jailed on the infamous Robben Island for his role as a leader of the then-outlawed ANC. He has since achieved international recognition for his leadership as president in rebuilding the country's once segregated society. The last chapters of the book describe his political ascension, and his belief that the struggle continues against apartheid in South Africa.

‘Dark Star Safari’ by Paul Theroux

(2004) ISBN-10 0618446877 ISBN-13: 978-8446872

‘Dark Star Safari’ (2002) is a written account of a trip taken by author Paul Theroux 'overland from Cairo to Cape Town' via trains, buses, cars, and armed convoy. Theroux had lived in Africa as a young and idealistic early member of the Peace Corps and part of the reason for this trip was to assess the impact on Africa of the many years of "helping" from Western countries. **His assessment is generally critical of the long-term impact of aid programs.**

If you have any books that you have read that you would like to include in this section, Please, email me the information.

Movies of Interest about Africa

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Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom 2013	Zulu (1964)
Hotel Rwanda (2004)	Out of Africa (1985)
Invictus (2009)	The Last King of Scotland (2006)
Mandela and de Klerk (1997)	

If you have any movies that you have watched that you would like to include in this section, Please, email me the information.

Sources of information for country banners:

All **church membership** information is provided by [Mormon Newsroom](#) by clicking on the ‘Africa’ continent on the map (at the right) and then finding the desired country on the list. The information is reviewed from the list and updated as necessary.

All **keywords** and **country** information is collected from an Internet scan of about 60 specific keywords that is supplied to me at 0300 each morning via [Google alerts](#). This keyword list is reviewed and updated as needed.

All **Population data** are from [Country Meters](#) and is updated as needed.

All **Cellphone** and **smartphone** data are from [GMSA Intelligence](#) and is updated as needed.

All **Internet users by country** data are from [Internet Live Stats](#) and [Internet World Stats](#) is reviewed as needed.

GNI (Gross National Income per capita) and **Life Expectancy** data is from [The World Bank](#)

Unemployment and other data are from [Photius](#), [IECONOMICS](#), [Quandl](#), [Wikipedia](#), [Theodora](#) & [The World Factbook](#).

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7 ASEA Newsrooms pages

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[Zimbabwe Mormon Newsroom](#)

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