

STRAND 1.0: THEMES IN KENYAN HISTORY AND CITIZENSHIP

Sub Strand 1.1: Linguistic Groups in Kenya

Kenya's population is incredibly diverse, with numerous ethnic groups, each with its own distinct language and culture. These groups are broadly categorized into three major linguistic families:

1. Bantu:

- ✓ The Bantu are the largest linguistic group in Kenya.
- ✓ They are believed to have migrated from West Africa over centuries.
- ✓ Examples include the Kikuyu, Luhya, Kisii, Meru, and Mijikenda.
- ✓ Image of Bantu people.



2. Nilotic:

- ✓ The Nilotic groups are believed to have originated in the Nile Valley.
- ✓ They are known for their pastoralist traditions.
- ✓ Examples include the Luo, Maasai, Kalenjin, and Turkana.
- ✓ Image of Nilotic people.



3. Cushitic:

- ✓ The Cushitic groups are believed to have migrated from the Horn of Africa.
- ✓ They are also primarily pastoralists.
- ✓ Examples include the Somali, Rendille, and Borana.
- ✓ Image of Cushitic people.



Causes and Effects of Migration, Settlement, and Expansion:

• Causes:

- ✓ Search for fertile land and grazing areas.
- ✓ Population pressure.
- ✓ Climate change and drought.
- ✓ Conflicts and wars.
- ✓ Trade and economic opportunities.

• Effects:

- ✓ Distribution of linguistic groups across Kenya.
- ✓ Cultural exchange and interaction.
- ✓ Conflicts over resources.
- ✓ Formation of diverse communities.
- ✓ Changes in social structures.