

# AFRICA



are vital for exports from Africa the 'landlocked' countries.

## WHERE DO NAMES COME FROM

**CHAD** Named from Lake Chad  
**GAMBIA, NIGER, NIGERIA** From big rivers  
**GHANA, BENIN, MALI** Names of great empires in West Africa a long time ago  
**IVORY COAST** Ivory, from the tusks of elephants, was traded along this coast  
**NAMIBIA** From the Namib Desert  
**SIERRA LEONE** 'Lion Mountain' (Portuguese)  
**TANZANIA** From Tanganyika (the mainland) and the island of Zanzibar



▲ The pyramids of Egypt are tombs built by slaves over 4500 years ago. The picture shows the largest, which are at Giza, near Cairo. They are still the largest buildings in the whole of Africa. They are near the River Nile, in the Sahara Desert.



## COINS OF AFRICA



All the 56 countries of Africa have their own banknotes and stamps. Most countries have coins as well. Pictures on the coins usually show something about the country. The 5 Bututs coin from the Gambia (above) shows a fine sailing ship. There is Arabic writing because many people are Muslims. The 10 Kobo coin from Nigeria (right) shows palm trees.



## AFRICAN FACTS

- AREA** 30,319,000 sq km
- HIGHEST POINT** Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania), 5895 metres
- LOWEST POINT** Shores of Lake Assal (Djibouti), 155 metres below sea level
- LONGEST RIVER** Nile, 6695 km (also a world record)
- LARGEST LAKE** Lake Victoria (East Africa), 69,484 sq km
- BIGGEST COUNTRY** Algeria, 2,381,741 sq km
- SMALLEST COUNTRIES**  
Mainland: Gambia, 11,295 sq km;  
Islands: Seychelles, 455 sq km (see page 9)