

Early African History Resources for Secondary Teachers

Secondary Print:

- Asante, Dr. Molefi Kete. *Classical Africa*. New York: People's Publishing Group, 1994. Drawing on oral as well as written histories, this important text describes the many diverse cultures, languages, and societies of an Africa never before explored from an African-centered perspective.
- Bennett, Lerone, Jr. *Before the Mayflower*. Chicago: Johnson Publishing, 1963. A vivid, passionate history of Black Americans—from their roots in Africa to their lives in contemporary America. In this newly revised edition of an established classic, Bennett relates with clarity and vision the experiences of "the other Americans."
- Celenko, Theodore, ed. *Egypt in Africa*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1996. This book accompanied an exhibit of the same name and offers art work with accompanying text.
- Davidson, Basil. *Africa in History: Themes and Outlines*. New York: Scribner, 1995. This landmark work presents the inner growth of Africa and its worldwide significance, the internal dynamic of its old civilizations and their links with Asia, Europe and America, as well as the development of specific areas, tribes and cultures.
- Diop, Cheik Anta and Mercer Cook, ed. *The African Origin of Civilization: Myth or Reality*. New York: Lawrence Hill & Co., 1983. This volume explores ideas about the beginnings of civilization in Africa.
- Snowden, Frank. *Before Color Prejudice: The Ancient View of Blacks*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1991. Snowden's thesis that racism was not an inherited trait of whites but something that evolved over time is explored.
- Van Sertima, Ivan, ed. *Egypt Revisited: Journal of African Civilization*. New York: Transaction Publishing, 1990. The text examines Egyptian civilization in the context of its place in Africa.
- _____. *They Came Before Columbus: The African Presence in Ancient America*. New York: Random House, 1976. The ideas in this book have been debated and discussed since its first publication in 1976. Sertima theorizes that Africans had been to the New World centuries before Columbus arrived there in 1492.
- Williams, Chancellor. *The Destruction of Black Civilization: Great Issues of a Race from 1500 BC to 2000 AD*. Chicago: Third World Press, 1995. The author identifies issues of significance to African Americans in this possibly controversial book.

Secondary Media:

- *Africa: A History Denied*. 48 minute video. Richmond, VA: Time Life, 1995. The video by Joel Westbrook presents a view of the ruins of the southern African Kingdom of Great Zimbabwe, explaining its past civilizations.
- *Roots of African Civilization*. 25 minute video. New York: Knowledge Unlimited, 1996. The video examines the cultures of the African continent in pre-colonial times and its effect on today's culture.
- *Trading in Africans*. 60 minute video. Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities, 1990. The video depicts the Portuguese and Dutch intrusion into West Africa and consequently the slave trade during the 15th century.