

ZIMBABWE AND THE ZAMBEZI RIVER

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The River Basin^[1]
 -Approximately 1,390,000 Km²
 -Runs for 3540 Km and has an average discharge of 3400m³/s
The Upper Zamezi^[2]
 -Begins in a system of wetlands in Zambia and Angola named the "Miobo Woodland"
 -Joins the Middle Zambezi at

The Middle Zambezi
 -An alluvial stream above the falls, the river becomes a bedrock stream immediately below
 -The stream becomes alluvial once more in the middle Zambezi, where consistent flooding has made rich soil and permanent lagoons

The Kariba Dam^[3]
 -Begun in 1955, completed in 1957
 -128m high, 579m across
 -1266MWe
 -Roughly 30,000 Tonga tribes-people displaced by the dam and resettled on "infertile" soil
 -The majority of Zimbabweans are without access to this electricity

History^{[4][5]}
 -Around 1000AD the agricultural kingdom of Mapungubwe establishes its capitol, the Great Zimbabwe, the Mapungubwe use the river for agriculture as well as a trade route to the Indian Ocean
 -The Mapungubwe and their descendents war with the colonial forces of Portugal and later Britain over the land along the Zambezi
 -1888, British colony of Southern Rhodesia founded by Cecil Rhodes
 -1965, the Rhodesian government declares independence from Britain (their system of government is formally racist)
 -1980, the Zimbabwe African National Union overthrows the Rhodesian government to establish the nation of Zimbabwe, with ZANU leader Robert Mugabe as head of state
 -Robert Mugabe immediately redistributes agricultural land, favoring ZANU leaders and personal friends
 -As crops fail, workers pour into cities, where there are few jobs for them
 -The ZANU government does not work to provide water to the nations cities, so they rely on drinking out of lagoons and small lakes, wastewater is dumped, untreated, into these

same lakes
 -In the early 2000s the cholera virus
 mes an epidemic, by 2008 more than
 people were confirmed dead,
 ere have been over 100,000
 ections

^[1] Florence Lansana Margai, "Africa", in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill, <http://www.accessscience.com>, DOI 10.1036/1097-8542.013900
^[2] Africa." Encyclopædia Britannica. Encyclopædia Britannica Online. Encyclopædia Britannica, 2009. Web. 18 Nov. 2009 <<http://search.eb.com/eb/article-37145->>
^[3] Richard Beilfuss & David dos Santos: Patterns of Hydrological Change in the Zambezi Delta, Mozambique. Working Paper No 2 Program for the Sustainable Management of Cahora Bassa Dam and The Lower Zambezi Valley (2001)
^[4] "Pipe Dreams: Can the Zambezi River supply the region's water needs?". Cultural Survival Quarterly. <http://209.200.101.189/publications/csq/csq-article.cfm?id=971>. Retrieved 2009-11-18.
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^[5] "Zimbabwe's Man-Made Disaster." Harvard International Review (2008). Harvard International Review. Web. 18 Nov. 2009.

Images:
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<http://images.google.com/hosted/ife/?imgurl=118677d3916def1b&q=kariba%20dam&prev=/images%3Fq%3Dkariba%2Bdam%26ndsp%3D18%26hl%3Den%26safe%3Doff%26sa%3DN%26st%3D18%26um%3D1>
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