



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



GREAT PYRAMIDS OF EGYPT

25 MAY
AFRICA
IN AN AFRICAN CENTURY
DAY

TIMBUKTU MANUSCRIPTS II - MATHEMATICS, ASTRONOMY

GOLDEN RHINO FROM THE KINGDOM
OF MAPUNGUBWE (SOUTH AFRICA)

TIMBUKTU MANUSCRIPTS III - ASTRONOMY TABLES

AUSTRALAPITHECUS SEDIBA
(SOUTH AFRICA)

AFRICA - THE HOST OF 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP

PARLIAMENT CELEBRATES AFRICA DAY

AFRICA DAY

- Africa celebrates Africa Day every year on 25 May
- The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) was formed on 25 May 1963 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Africa Day has been observed 46 times
- The OAU was the precursor to the African Union launched in Durban, South Africa on 9 July, 2002.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF AFRICA DAY

- Africa Day is a celebration of Africa, its people and African unity
- It is an acknowledgement of the progress that Africans have made and a reflection on our common challenges.

THE ROLE OF THE AFRICAN UNION (AU) IN THE CONTINENT

- The AU is Africa's premier institution and principal organization for the promotion of accelerated socio-economic integration of the continent, which will lead to greater unity and solidarity between African countries and peoples
- The AU is based on a common vision of a united and strong Africa and the need to build a partnership between governments and all sectors of civil society, in particular women, youth and the private sector, in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion amongst the peoples of Africa
- As a continental organization it focuses on the promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent as a prerequisite for the implementation of the development and integration agenda of the AU
- The AU is at the heart of the continent's regeneration, aimed at escaping a past characterised by political instability, poverty and underdevelopment
- The AU aims to secure democratic rights, human rights and sustainable economies in Africa, especially by ending conflict in Africa and creating an effective common market.

COLLECTIVE ACTIONS OF THE AFRICAN UNION

- Africans have initiated collective actions through the AU to
- protect the environment
- fight international terrorism
- combat the scourge of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, malaria and tuberculosis
- deal with humanitarian issues such as the plight of refugees and displaced persons
- promote peace, security and stability, and facilitate cooperation and development in Africa

- strengthen solidarity throughout the continent and build a common destiny among the peoples of Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA AND AFRICA DAY

- The commemoration of Africa Day highlights South Africa's contributory role and participation in the continent's agenda.
- Africa Day serves as a day to celebrate our African heritage, and to showcase the continent's history and culture through art.
- It instills a sense of responsibility in all, especially the youth, to improve the quality of life of all people affected in critical areas of social existence, including:
health ,safety and security
moral regeneration
social cohesion, culture and education.

It provides a moment to renew our commitment to ourselves, the African continent and our shared heritage and destiny.

THE ROLE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA IN AFRICA

- The Parliament of South Africa participates in several African organisations, including the Pan African Parliament (PAP) and the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF).
- In line with the Republic's foreign policy, the Parliament of South Africa gives special attention to Africa in its overall international relations policy framework. This includes engaging proactively with legislative assemblies of countries where the South African government has been involved in peace-building efforts.

AFRICA AND 2010

- South Africa is the host for the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup.
- This represents a milestone for the African continent, as this is the first Soccer World Cup to be played in Africa.
- Eighteen African nations will be celebrating 50 years of independence from colonial rule in 2010.
- Three of these nations, Cameroon, Nigeria and the Ivory Coast, will be competing in the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES FOR AFRICA

- 16 June International Day of the African Child: the theme for 2010 is Planning and budgeting for children: Our collective responsibility
- 9 July, formation of African Union
- 25 September, Pan-African Women's Day.



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www.parliament.gov.za
P.O. Box 15, Cape Town 8000
Tel: (021) 403 3341
Fax: (021) 403 3303