

AfLIA

Interrogating the Authority control and Library templates: knowledge equity behind the frontlines
by African Libraries



Connecting Africa's Libraries
and Information communities

Nkem Osuigwe PhD

Human Capacity Development & Training (Director), African
Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AfLIA)

website: www.aflia.net

Front of the house



<https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/car/card/PEw423vgkl/>



Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities



Welcome to **Wikipedia**,
the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit.
6,571,280 articles in English

From today's featured article



Reproduction of the most complete known skull of *Homo antecessor*

Homo antecessor (pioneer man) is an archaic human species from 1.2 to 0.8 million years ago during the Early Pleistocene. Fossils have been found in the Sierra de Atapuerca in Spain, the first in 1994. The species was one of the first humans to colonise Western Europe. They followed savanna habitats prevalent in the area when frigid glacial periods were transitioning to warmer interglacials, and vacated at other times. Despite being so ancient, they had a face unexpectedly similar to that of a modern human. Brain volume could have been 1,000 cm³ (61 cu in) or more, compared with present-day human averages of 1,270 cm³ (78 cu in) for males and 1,130 cm³ (69 cu in) for females. Stature estimates range from 162.3 to 186.8 cm (5 ft 4 in to 6 ft 2 in). *H. antecessor* manufactured simple pebble and flake stone tools out of quartz and chert, although they used a variety of materials. Many of the specimens found were cannibalised, perhaps as a cultural practice. There is no evidence of fire usage. **(Full article...)**

Recently featured: Discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun · Laika · Corinna

Archive · By email · More featured articles · About

Did you know ...

- ... that holocaust survivor **Edward Mosberg** (pictured in his concentration camp uniform) was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland for his efforts recognizing the Polish war-time rescue of Jews?
- ... that **"Look at the world"** is a 1996 choral harvest anthem with text and music by John Rutter, written for CPRE "on the theme of the environment and our responsibility towards it"?
- ... that although Austrian model **Greta Hofer** was only discovered in 2020, she was chosen to work exclusively for Prada that year?
- ... that a "frustration walk" connected Chicago Union Station with the rapid transit **Canal station**?
- ... that during the **Avar Wars**, disease killed 90 per cent of Charlemagne's horses?
- ... that in 1919 **Ethel Hampson Brewster** compared dropping ancient history from school curricula to "knock[ing] out the first two stories of a skyscraper"?
- ... that the United States severed diplomatic ties with Finland in 1944 because of a **personal letter sent to Hitler**?



Edward Mosberg

In the news

- One person is killed and nine others are injured in a **failed assassination attempt** targeting former Pakistani prime minister Imran Khan (pictured).
- **Tropical Storm Nalgae** leaves more than 150 people dead in the Philippines.
- In the **Brazilian general election**, two-term former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva defeats incumbent Jair Bolsonaro.
- In India, a **football bridge collapse** in Morbi, Gujarat, results in the deaths of at least 135 people.
- In baseball, the Orix Buffaloes defeat the Tokyo Yakult Swallows to win **the Japan Series**.



Imran Khan

Ongoing: Mahsa Amini protests · Russian invasion of Ukraine

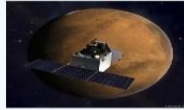
Recent deaths: Ray Guy · Andrey Titenko · Martine Djiibo · Mauro Forghieri · Takeoff · Julie Powell

Nominate an article

On this day

November 5: Guy Fawkes Night in Great Britain and some Commonwealth countries (1605)

- 1605 – The arrest of **Guy Fawkes**, found during a search of the Palace of Westminster, foiled the **Gunpowder Plot**, which planned to blow up the House of Lords.
- 1757 – Seven Years' War: Prussian forces led by Frederick the Great defeated the allied French and Habsburg armies at the **Battle of Rossbach**.
- 1950 – Korean War: The 27th British Commonwealth Brigade succeeded in preventing a Chinese breakthrough at the **Battle of Pakchon**.
- 2009 – U.S. Army major **Nidal Hasan** went on a **shooting rampage** at Fort Hood, Texas, the worst shooting ever to take place on an American military base, killing 13.
- 2013 – The Indian Space Research Organisation launched the **Mars Orbiter Mission** (depicted), the nation's first interplanetary probe.



Mars Orbiter

Ida Tarbell (b. 1857) · **James Clerk Maxwell** (d. 1879) · **Vivien Leigh** (b. 1913)

More anniversaries: November 4 · November 5 · November 6

Archive · By email · List of days of the year



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

- Main page
- Contents
- Current events
- Random article
- About Wikipedia
- Contact us
- Donate

- Contribute
- Help
- Learn to edit
- Community portal
- Recent changes
- Upload file

- Tools
- What links here
- Related changes
- Special pages
- Permanent link
- Page information
- Cite this page
- Wikidata item

- Print/export
- Download as PDF
- Printable version

- In other projects
- Wikimedia Commons
- Wikinews
- Wikiquote
- Wikivoyage

Languages 🌐

- Akan
- Deutsch
- Español
- Français
- हिन्दी
- Ikinyarwanda
- Suomi
- العربية
- 中文
- 🔍 242 more

Edit links

Article Talk

Read Edit View history Search Wikipedia 🔍

Ghana

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 7°49′N 1°03′W﻿ / ﻿7.49°N 1.03°W﻿ / 7.49; -1.03

*This article is about the country. For other uses, see **Ghana (disambiguation)**.*
*Not to be confused with **Gana**.*

Ghana (/ˈɡɑːnə/ (ⓘ· ⓘ· ⓘ)), officially the **Republic of Ghana**, is a country in West Africa.^[9] It abuts the Gulf of Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean to the south, sharing border borders with Ivory Coast in the west, Burkina Faso in the north, and Togo in the east.^[10]

Ghana covers an area of 238,535 km² (92,099 sq mi), spanning diverse biomes that range from coastal savannas to tropical rainforests. With nearly 31 million inhabitants (according to 2021 census), Ghana is the **second-most populous country** in West Africa, after Nigeria.^[11] The capital and largest city is Accra; other major cities are Kumasi, Tamale, and Sekondi-Takoradi.

The first permanent state in present-day Ghana was the **Bono state** of the 11th century.^[12] Numerous kingdoms and empires emerged over the centuries, of which the most powerful were the **Kingdom of Dagbon** in the north^[13] and the **Ashanti Empire** in the south.^[14] Beginning in the 15th century, the Portuguese Empire, followed by

Republic of Ghana <i>Gaana Aدهyɛman</i> (Akan)	
 <div>Flag</div>	 <div>Coat of arms</div>
Motto: "Freedom and Justice"	
Anthem: "God Bless Our Homeland Ghana"	 0:58
	
Capital and largest city	Accra 5°33′N 0°12′W﻿ / ﻿5.55°N 0.2°W﻿ / 5.55; -0.2
Official language	English ^[15]
Recognised national languages	Dagaare Dagbani Dangme Ewe Frafra Ga Gonja Nzema Twi Fante Ghanasian Sign Language
Ethnic groups (2021 census ^[16])	45.7% Akans 18.5% Mole-Dagbon 12.8% Ewe 7.1% Ga-Adangbe 6.4% Gurma 3.2% Guan 2.7% Gurunsi 2.0% Mande 1.6% Other / Unspecified
Religion (2021 census ^[16])	71.3% Christianity —49.0% Protestantism —22.3% Other Christian 19.9% Islam 3.2% Traditional faiths 1.1% No religion 4.5% Other / Unspecified
Demonym(s)	Ghanasian
Government	Unitary presidential republic
 • President	Nana Akufo-Addo
 • Vice-President	Mahamudu Bawumia
 • Speaker of Parliament	Alban Bagbin
 • Chief Justice	Kwasi Anin-Yeboah
Legislature	Parliament
Independence from the United Kingdom <div> • Dominion</div> • Republic	



en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page



32



Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities



Back of the house:

Where the cooking is going on for this exploratory presentation.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bDjEAXSgps>



Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities



Keep an eye on the circle

External links [edit]

Government [edit]

- Ghana^{en} official website
- The Parliament of Ghana^{en} official site
- National Commission on Culture^{en} official site

General information [edit]

- Country Profile^{en} from BBC News
- Ghana^{en} from *Encyclopædia Britannica*.
- Ghana^{en} from UCB Libraries GovPubs
- Ghana^{en}. *The World Factbook*. Central Intelligence Agency.
- Ghana^{en} profile from Africa.com
- Ghana^{en} at Curlie
- Wikimedia Atlas of Ghana
- The African Activist Archive Project^{en} website has photographs of the All Africa People's Conference held in Accra, Ghana, 5–13 December 1958 including Kwame Nkrumah, Prime Minister of Ghana^{en}, addressing the conference, the American Committee on Africa delegation^{en} meeting with Nkrumah, and of Patrick Duncan and Alfred Hutchinson^{en} of South Africa at the conference.
- Key Development Forecasts for Ghana^{en} from International Futures

Trade [edit]

- Ghana 2012 Summary Trade Statistics^{en}

	Ghana articles	[show]
	Articles relating to Ghana	[show]
	Authority control	[show]

Categories: Ghana | Republics in the Commonwealth of Nations | Member states of the Economic Community of West African States

English-speaking countries and territories | Member states of the African Union

Member states of the Commonwealth of Nations | Member states of the United Nations

States and territories established in 1957 | West African countries | 1957 establishments in Ghana | Countries in Africa

This page was last edited on 3 November 2022, at 12:17 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License 3.0; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.

Privacy policy About Wikipedia Disclaimers Contact Wikipedia Mobile view

Developers Statistics Cookie statement

Ghana
at Wikipedia's sister projects

- Definitions from Wiktionary
- Media from Commons
- News from Wikinews
- Quotations from Wikiquote
- Texts from Wikisource
- Textbooks from Wikibooks
- Travel information from Wikivoyage
- Resources from Wikiversity



Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities



Authority Control

1. Establishment & maintenance of consistent forms for names, subjects, titles and terms for use as index terms used as headings in description of information resources or metadata *similar to the Dewey Decimal Classification scheme.*
2. This helps in organization of knowledge as the chosen words or heading (unique identifiers) are distinctly & consistently used
3. Used for associating a unique identifier to articles on Wikipedia where authority control data links can be found near the bottom of Wikipedia pages, linking to bibliographical records on worldwide library catalogues.



5–13 December 1958 including Kwame Nkrumah, Prime Minister of Ghana, addressing the conference, the American Committee on Africa delegation with Nkrumah, and of Patrick Duncan and Alfred Hutchinson of South Africa at the conference.
Key Development Forecasts for Ghana from International Futures

ade [edit | edit source]

Ghana 2012 Summary Trade Statistics

V · T · E

Ghana articles

Articles relating to Ghana

Authority control

General	ISNI (1) · VIAF (1) · WorldCat
National libraries	Spain · France (data) (2) (data) · Germany · Israel · United States · Japan · Czech Republic
Other	Faceted Application of Subject Terminology · Historical Dictionary of Switzerland · MusicBrainz area · National Archives (US) · RERO (Switzerland) · SUDOC (France) (1)

Categories: Ghana | Republics in the Commonwealth of Nations | Economic Community of West African States | English-speaking countries and territories | Member states of the African Union | Member states of the Commonwealth of Nations | Member states of the United Nations | States and territories established in 1957 | West African countries | 1957 establishments in Ghana | Countries in Africa

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows

=NLX10&find_code=UID&request=987007548185405171



Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities





Record View

[Full Record View](#) [Short Record View](#) [Catalog Card](#) [Name Tags](#) [MARC Tags](#)

[Add to M](#)

Record 1 out of 1

Sys. no. 000979542

Geo. Name [Ghana](#)

S.F. Geo. Name [Chia-na](#)
[Gana](#)
[Republic of Ghana](#)
[Ganah](#)
[Government of Ghana](#)

S.A. Geo. Name [Togoland \(British\)](#)
[Gold Coast](#)
[Ashanti](#)
[Northern Territories of the Gold Coast](#)





Source Data Found Jopp, K. Ghana, 1957.
Statistical year book (Accra, Ghana). Statistical year book [MI] 7th issue (1969-70): cover (Republic of Ghana)
Bertonoff, D. Riḡud ele adamah, c1985: t.p. (Ganah)
The child cannot wait, 1992: t.p. (Government of Ghana)

Alternate form -- Ghana

Alma MMS ID **987007548185405171**



AUT - Zobrazení záznamu [1 / 1]

Control no.	ge129188
Heading	 Ghana
Geogr. area code	f-gh---
Seen from	Republika Ghana Ghanská republika Gana
Related term	<u>ašantská říše</u>
UDC	(667)
English	Ghana
GPS	7°56'47.5"N, 1°1'23.5"W <input type="button" value="Display map"/>
Source	Jména států a jejich územních částí www(Getty)
More info	 Wikipedie (Ghana)  Wikidata  ISNI
Status	správní celek





Ghana

URI(s)

<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/names/n80061117>

Instance Of

[MADS/RDF Geographic](#)
[MADS/RDF Authority](#)
[SKOS Concept](#)

Scheme Membership(s)

- [Library of Congress Name Authority File](#)

Collection Membership(s)

- [Names Collection - Authorized Headings](#)
- [LC Names Collection - General Collection](#)

Variants

- Chia-na
- Dēmokratia tēs Gkanas
- Gána
- Gana
- Gana ka Fasojamana
- Gana Konghwaguk
- Gana Respublikañy
- Ganæ
- Ganah
- Ganao
- Ganmudin Orn
- Ghana Vabariik
- Ghanako Errepublika
- Ghaney
- Ghanská republika
- Gkana
- Government of Ghana
- Gweriniaeth Ghana
- Ghana (Ghana)



A closer look...

Authority control is usually set up by librarians who catalogue information resources. They create index terms separately which relates to and which are used to govern the headings used in the cataloguing of information resources. This separate index is often referred to as an "authority file."

These authority files may be created nationally and then linked up to form a single virtual authority file such as the **Virtual International Authority File (VIAF)** where identical records from the different data sets from libraries all are linked together. A VIAF record has a standard data number, the primary "see" and "see also" (access points) as well as records from the original national file



We are still cooking



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JH3Yt8rcUQU>

The only African libraries connected to VIAF presently are Alexandrina Bibliotheca and the National Library of South Africa.

But...

Let's go to the back of the house again.



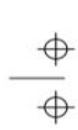
Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities



The systems and structures of cataloguing and classification of information materials in libraries which feeds into **VIAF** can be said to be culturally inadequate and not inclusive in describing African knowledge as they reflect biases of the period and locations of those who created them.



Two examples



Summaries

200

200 Religion	250 Christian orders & local church
201 Religious mythology & social theology	251 Preaching
202 Doctrines	252 Texts of sermons
203 Public worship & other practices	253 Pastoral office & work
204 Religious experience, life & practice	254 Parish administration
205 Religious ethics	255 Religious congregations & orders
206 Leaders & organization	256 [Unassigned]
207 Missions & religious education	257 [Unassigned]
208 Sources	258 [Unassigned]
209 Sects & reform movements	259 Pastoral care of families & kinds of persons
210 Philosophy & theory of religion	260 Social & ecclesiastical theology
211 Concepts of God	261 Social theology
212 Existence, knowability & attributes of God	262 Ecclesiology
213 Creation	263 Days, times & places of observance
214 Theodicy	264 Public worship
215 Science & religion	265 Sacraments, other rites & acts
216 [Unassigned]	266 Missions
217 [Unassigned]	267 Associations for religious work
218 Humankind	268 Religious education
219 [Unassigned]	269 Spiritual renewal
220 Bible	270 History of Christianity & Christian church
221 Old Testament (Tanakh)	271 Religious orders in church history
222 Historical books of Old Testament	272 Persecutions in church history
223 Poetic books of Old Testament	273 Doctrinal controversies & heresies
224 Prophetic books of Old Testament	274 History of Christianity in Europe
225 New Testament	275 History of Christianity in Asia
226 Gospels & Acts	276 History of Christianity in Africa
227 Epistles	277 History of Christianity in North America
228 Revelation (Apocalypse)	278 History of Christianity in South America
229 Apocrypha & pseudepigrapha	279 History of Christianity in other areas
230 Christianity & Christian theology	280 Christian denominations & sects
231 God	281 Early church & Eastern churches
232 Jesus Christ & his family	282 Roman Catholic Church
233 Humankind	283 Anglican churches
234 Salvation & grace	284 Protestants of Continental origin
235 Spiritual beings	285 Presbyterian, Reformed & Congregational
236 Eschatology	286 Baptist, Disciples of Christ & Adventist
237 [Unassigned]	287 Methodist & related churches
238 Creeds & catechisms	288 [Unassigned]
239 Apologetics & polemics	289 Other denominations & sects
240 Christian moral & devotional theology	290 Other religions
241 Christian ethics	291 [Unassigned]
242 Devotional literature	292 Greek & Roman religion
243 Evangelistic writings for individuals	293 Germanic religion
244 [Unassigned]	294 Religions of Indic origin
245 [Unassigned]	295 Zoroastrianism
246 Use of art in Christianity	296 Judaism
247 Church furnishings & articles	297 Islam, Babism & Bahai Faith
248 Christian experience, practice & life	298 (Optional number)
249 Christian observances in family life	299 Religions not provided for elsewhere

Consult schedules for complete and exact headings

<https://www.oclc.org/content/dam/oclc/dewey/resources/summaries/deweysummaries.pdf>



Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities



400

400	Language	450	Italian, Romanian & related languages
401	Philosophy & theory	451	Italian writing systems & phonology
402	Miscellany	452	Italian etymology
403	Dictionaries & encyclopedias	453	Italian dictionaries
404	Special topics	454	[Unassigned]
405	Serial publications	455	Italian grammar
406	Organizations & management	456	[Unassigned]
407	Education, research & related topics	457	Italian language variations
408	Kinds of persons treatment	458	Standard Italian usage
409	Geographic & persons treatment	459	Romanian & related languages
410	Linguistics	460	Spanish & Portuguese languages
411	Writing systems	461	Spanish writing systems & phonology
412	Etymology	462	Spanish etymology
413	Dictionaries	463	Spanish dictionaries
414	Phonology & phonetics	464	[Unassigned]
415	Grammar	465	Spanish grammar
416	[Unassigned]	466	[Unassigned]
417	Dialectology & historical linguistics	467	Spanish language variations
418	Standard usage & applied linguistics	468	Standard Spanish usage
419	Sign languages	469	Portuguese
420	English & Old English	470	Italic languages; Latin
421	English writing system & phonology	471	Classical Latin writing & phonology
422	English etymology	472	Classical Latin etymology
423	English dictionaries	473	Classical Latin dictionaries
424	[Unassigned]	474	[Unassigned]
425	English grammar	475	Classical Latin grammar
426	[Unassigned]	476	[Unassigned]
427	English language variations	477	Old, postclassical & Vulgar Latin
428	Standard English usage	478	Classical Latin usage
429	Old English (Anglo-Saxon)	479	Other Italic languages
430	Germanic languages; German	480	Hellenic languages; classical Greek
431	German writing systems & phonology	481	Classical Greek writing & phonology
432	German etymology	482	Classical Greek etymology
433	German dictionaries	483	Classical Greek dictionaries
434	[Unassigned]	484	[Unassigned]
435	German grammar	485	Classical Greek grammar
436	[Unassigned]	486	[Unassigned]
437	German language variations	487	Preclassical & postclassical Greek
438	Standard German usage	488	Classical Greek usage
439	Other Germanic languages	489	Other Hellenic languages
440	Romance languages; French	490	Other languages
441	French writing systems & phonology	491	East Indo-European & Celtic languages
442	French etymology	492	Afro-Asiatic languages; Semitic languages
443	French dictionaries	493	Non-Semitic Afro-Asiatic languages
444	[Unassigned]	494	Altaic, Uralic, Hyperborean & Dravidian
445	French grammar	495	Languages of East & Southeast Asia
446	[Unassigned]	496	African languages
447	French language variations	497	North American native languages
448	Standard French usage	498	South American native languages
449	Occitan & Catalan	499	Austronesian & other languages

Consult schedules for complete and exact headings



Nobody is at fault

No one is to be blamed for these lapses because a lot has changed since these systems and structures of organising and classifying knowledge were created.

Nonetheless, as we aim to have the sum total of all human knowledge freely available, we also need to take another look and possibly a closer look at macro-level changes that need to be instituted in describing and linking up knowledge in order to ensure equity.



So many questions



<https://incafrica.com/jim-haudan/20-questions-to-make-meaningful-connections.html>



But first...



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

<https://stock.adobe.com/za/images/handwriting-text-writing-continuous-improvement-conceptual-photo-ongoing-effort-to-improve-products-or-processes-randomly-scattered-blue-hexagons-seamless-sexangles-matching>

Authority control is not about creating immutable headings but should be considered ‘an ongoing effort’ to keep up with changing times in bringing "structure and order" while organising information and assisting people have easy access.

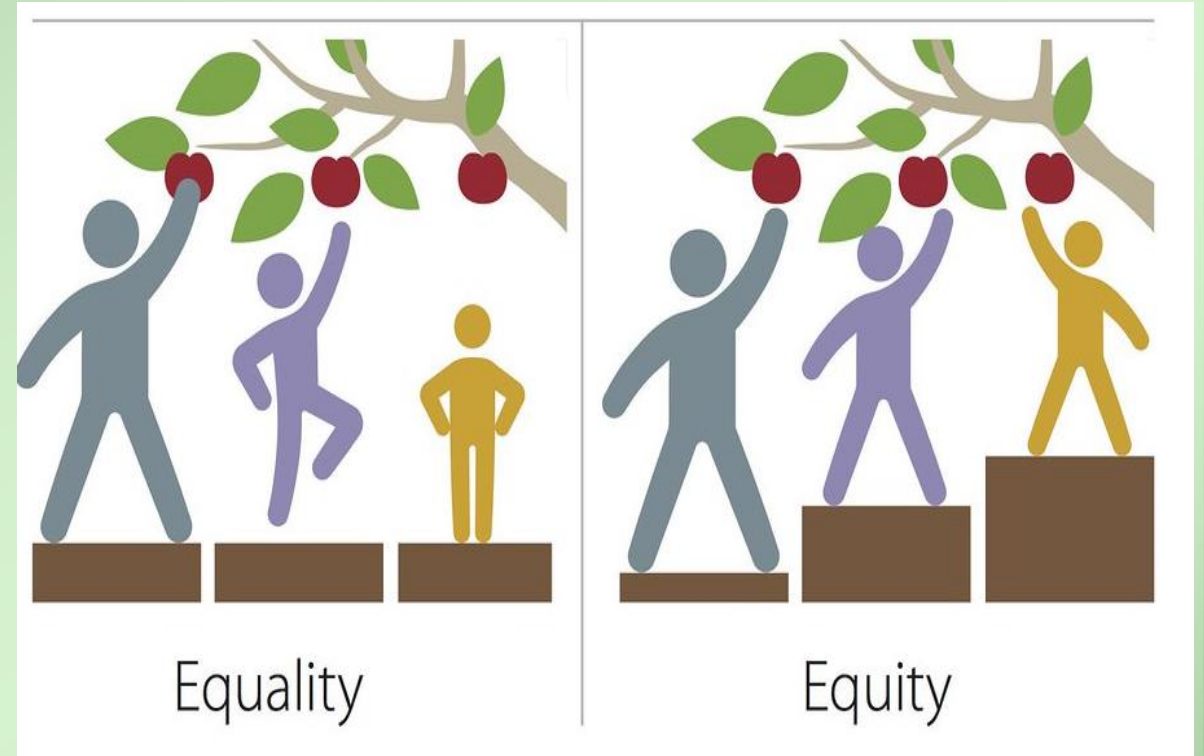


Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities



Question 1

Using the construct of **knowledge equity**, we need to interrogate; how can we link content on Wikipedia and sister projects about Africa to African libraries as a means of advancing Africa's agenda in the implementation of the 2030 Movement Strategy?



<https://www.jamestharpe.com/equity/>



Question 2

How can Wikipedia in Africa languages have the backing of 'Authority control' using library resources in local languages?



<https://face2faceafrica.com/article/5-popular-african-languages-must-learn>



Question 3

Where do we start from?
How do we tackle this, a
step at a time or all at a
go?



https://kissindicator.com/articles/single_post/where-do-we-go-from-here



Connecting Africa's Libraries and Information communities



lastly

That's why I am here.

To get answers and/or where not possible, to get directions on the possible pathway(s) to follow in order to get the rich & varied resources in African libraries of all types into Wikimedia projects.

