

KHOIKHOI

Qn. Who were the khoikhoi?

They were part of the earliest inhabitants of South Africa (second).

They were very much related to the San in that they had similar origin, yellowish skin and a clicking sound as they talked as the San.

The Europeans called them Hottentots to mean primitive people.

The khoikhoi were also known as herders.

They were mainly herdsman but they did other economic activities including hunting and trading.

Their origin is said to have been central and east Africa.

By 1000AD, they had already settled in South Africa.

They were forced southwards by the stronger organised groups of Bantu.

By the time the Portuguese came, the khoikhoi were living at a place called Saldanha.

By the middle of the (17th, the khoikhoi were living around the cape along the banks of Orange river in Natal.

THE MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT OF KHOIKHOI.

The khoikhoi were the second inhabitants of South Africa.

They arrived in South Africa after the San.

They had a similar origin and a clicking sound as they talked as the San.

Their migration started from the 6th to the 13th century.

They migrated from the central and East Africa.

The Rock paintings in East and central Africa are evidence of their Rock paintings.

On reaching South Africa, the khoikhoi separated into three groups namely, Nama, Gona, and koronna.

The Nama moved west wards along the Orange River and reached the coast and settled in Namibia (Western khoikhoi).

The Gona known as Eastern khoikhoi moved East wards into the fish river valley, and settled in the areas of the cape.

Later the koronna separated from the rest and went to Grigualand.

The Portuguese found them living around Saldanha bay and by the 17th century, they were living around orange river in Natal, Cape and Namibia.

Today, they live in khalahari desert in Namibia.

NB. The reasons for their migration were similar to the migration of the San.