

MOTHERLANDSTUFF

# Amazing AfricAIDS

*REAL LESSONS AREN'T ONLY FOUND IN SCHOOL*

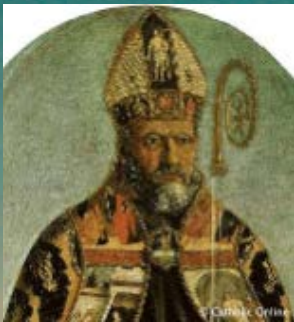


## Cleopatra (70BC – 30BC)

She was the queen of Egypt and defended her country against Rome by forming an alliance with Marc Anthony and Julius Caesar.



## St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430)



As long as 1600 years ago, there were influential African priests like this dude (354-430) who was born in Algeria. For the catholic church to declare you a saint you must have been a very important christian!

## Mansa Musa (c. 1280 – c. 1337)

This guy's story reads a lot like the one of Solomon from the Bible. He would be worth \$400 billion if he was alive today, which makes him the richest man EVER! Who ever lived....The richest man who ever lived was an African. Africa has always provided the world with a lot of riches and still does. At the time, his country (Mali) produced 50% of the world's gold and salt.





## Olaudah Equiano (1745 – 1797 )



Slaves were not looked upon as people. They were property. They couldn't own anything so imagine how clever and courageous this man had to be. After all, he was The first black African slave to write about his experience as a slave. His book 'The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano' helped to make people hate slavery

## Haile Selassie (1892 – 1975)

This emperor of Ethiopia was the only one who was able to fight and win the colonizers so that Ethiopia wasn't colonized. He is considered the head of the Rastafari religion. This religion is based in Jamaica and the Caribbean. He himself didn't acknowledge that he was their God, but when he visited Kingston in 1961 it rained after a long drought.

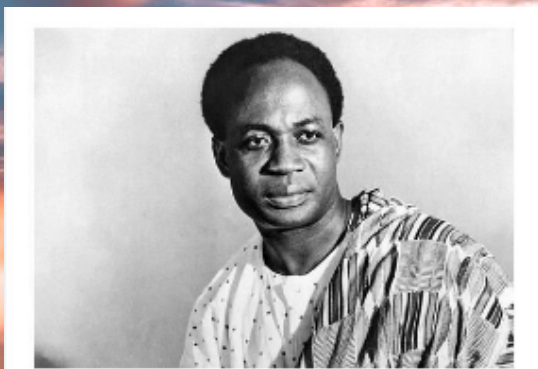
In 1963, he initiated the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which was later the same idea behind the European union.

When he visited Europe he gave colorful and exotic gifts, like lions!

He is claimed to be a descendant of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba



## Kwame Nkrumah (1909 – 1972)



This guy led the Gold Coast to independence from colonial rule and became President of the new country – Ghana. Ghana had a lot of gold, that's why it was called the Gold Coast. Slave traders kidnapped the strongest Ghanaians and sold them to America.

## Nelson Mandela (1918 – 2013)



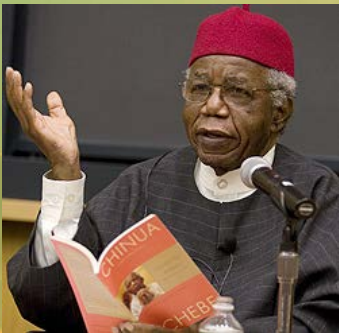
Can you imagine going to jail for 27 years? Well, that's what happened to Mandela. He fought apartheid and went to jail for what he believed. Apartheid was segregation that gave white colonizers good things and separated the black native people from the whites. It's the same as the segregation that was in America. He was finally released in 1990 and became the first democratically elected President of South Africa in 1994. He was so forgiving that he helped to heal the rift between the white and black populations. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993.

## Dr. Chris Barnard (1922 – 2001)

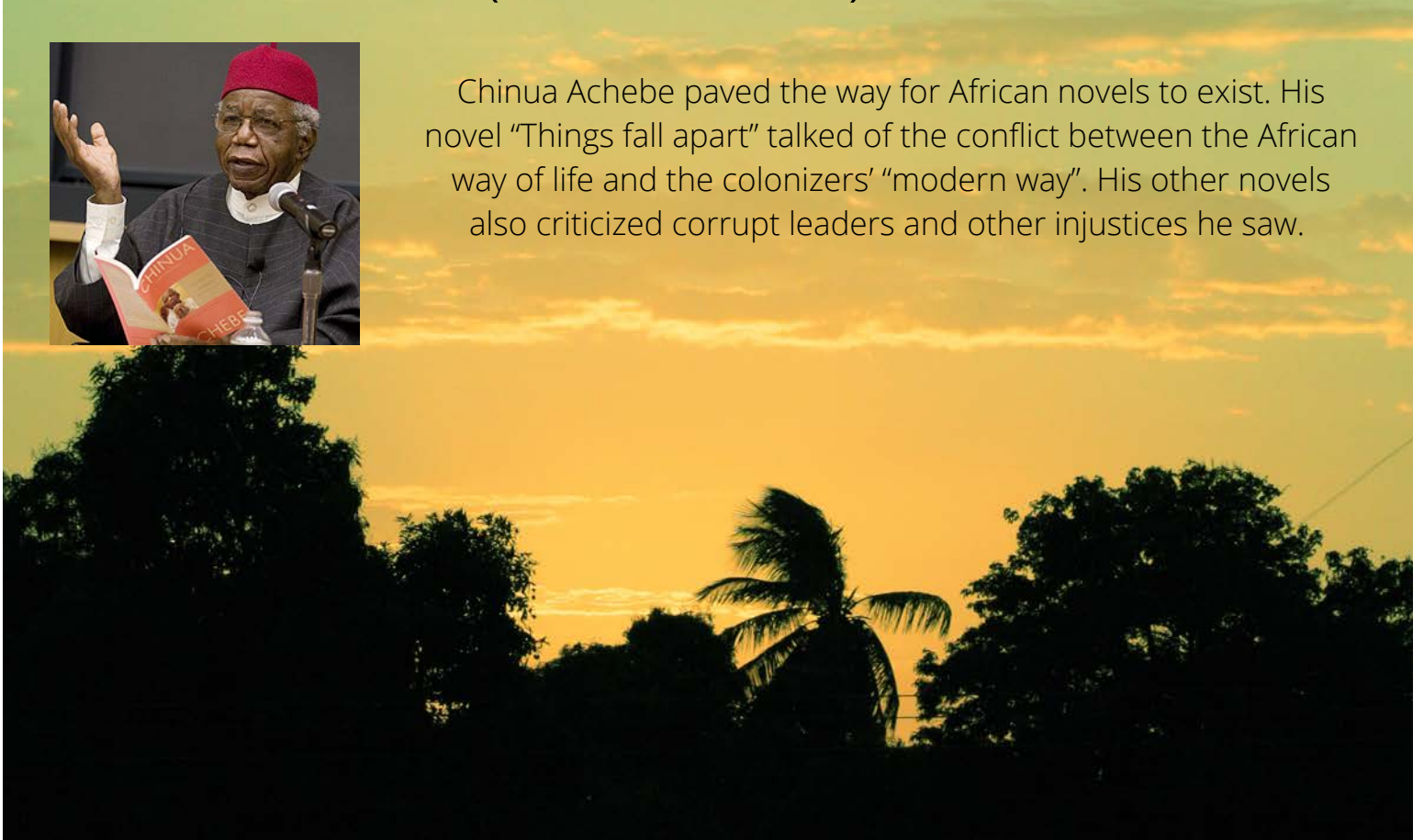
Do you know that the first heart transplant was done in 1967, in Cape Town, South Africa? Yes! And this is the dude who made that happen.



## Chinua Achebe (1930 – 2013)



Chinua Achebe paved the way for African novels to exist. His novel "Things fall apart" talked of the conflict between the African way of life and the colonizers' "modern way". His other novels also criticized corrupt leaders and other injustices he saw.





## Dr. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (1938-)

Founded in the 19th century by freed slaves from the United States, Liberia is the oldest republic in Africa. Dr. Sirleaf was their president and the first elected woman president in the whole world! And she is a graduate of Harvard University too! She was arrested several times for opposing corrupt presidents, and even forced to flee Liberia. She finally became president in 2006 and healed the country big time!



## Kofi Annan (1938-2018)



Born in Ghana, Kofi Annan became Secretary-General of The United Nations from 1997-2006. He served two terms and was widely admired for his calm and diplomatic skills.

## Wangari Maathai (1940 – 2011)

Born in Kenya at a time when women didn't really have equality with men in the workplace, Wangari became an environmental and political activist. She led initiatives to plant trees and support the green belt movement. She was even awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004.

