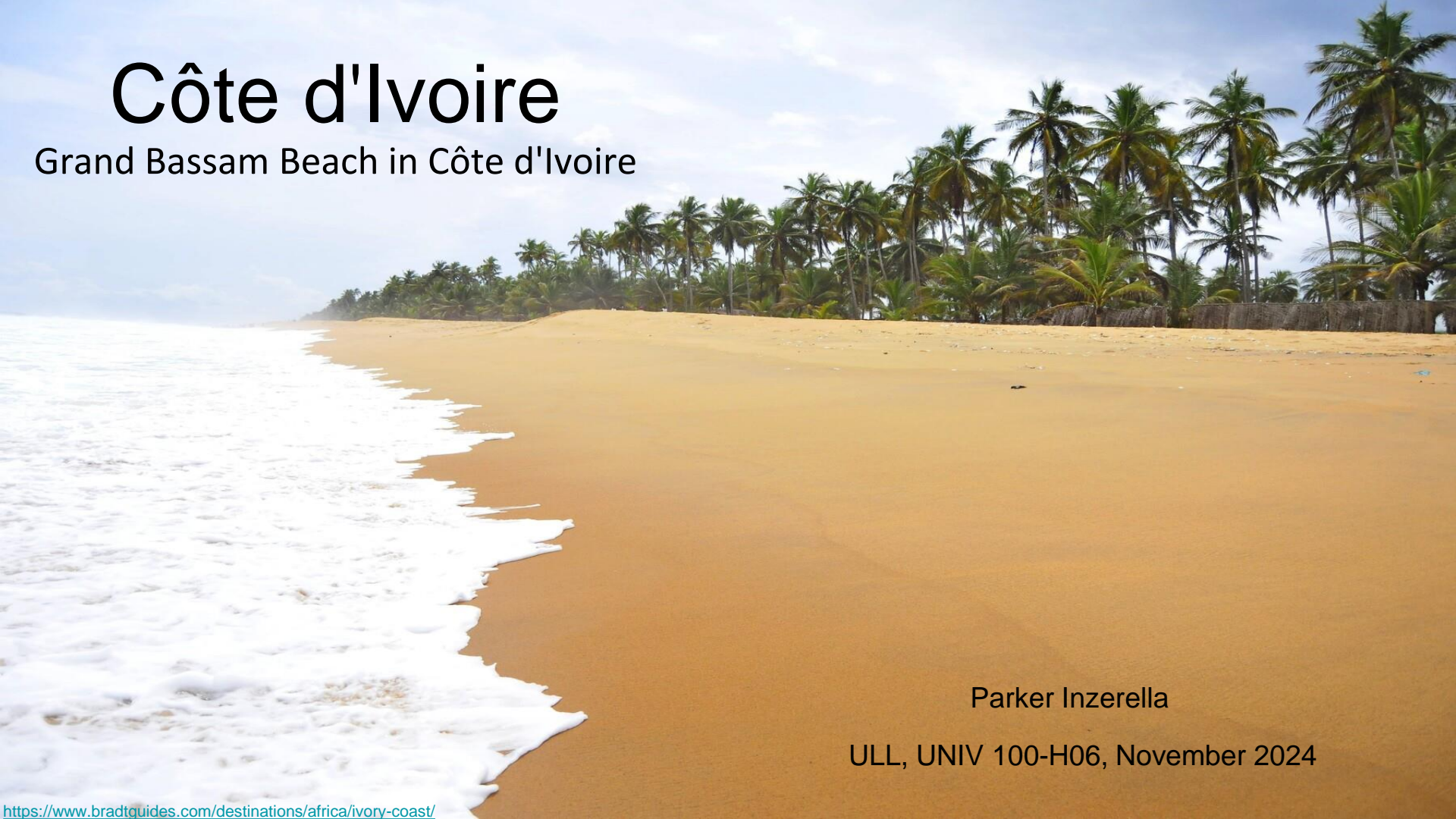


Côte d'Ivoire

Grand Bassam Beach in Côte d'Ivoire



Parker Inzerella

ULL, UNIV 100-H06, November 2024

Personal Interest

- Largest cocoa production in the world
- Teacher in high school came from Côte d'Ivoire
- Used to have a huge population of elephant
 - The country sold elephant tusks (Ivory)



Explanatory Case Study of Syria

- This study attempts to explain the attire of the people in Côte d'Ivoire.
- The aim of this case study is to provide background on Côte d'Ivoire's culture, which correlates to the clothing worn in the country.
- This investigates the components of culture and the resulting clothing worn.
- This study will answer questions of why people wear specific clothes, what they wear, and how culture impacts the clothing worn.
- This research study has no control over the occurrence of events and focuses on real-life situations.

Location

- 123,000 sq. mi. (~New Mexico)
- Population: 30 million
- Capitals
 - Economic: Abidjan
 - Political: Yamoussoukro



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ivory_Coast

Background

- Climate varies
 - Tropical along the Coast
 - Semiarid more inland
- Natural Resources (petroleum and cocoa)
 - Largest cocoa production in the world
- Ethnicity- Akan 38% / Voltaique 22%
 - Akan (people from Sahara desert)
 - Voltaique (people from Ghana)
- The official language is French
- Religion- Muslim 43% / Catholic 17%



<https://discover-ivorycoast.com/climate-and-geography/>



<https://www.shutterstock.com/search/cocoa-fruit>

History of Côte d'Ivoire

- Côte d'Ivoire: established on August 7, 1960
 - Original part of France
- First president: Félix Houphouët-Boigny
 - Was responsible for promoting cocoa farming
 - Formed agricultural trade union
- Most recent Civil War (2010 – 2011)
 - Election Dispute between United Nations and African Union



Alassane Ouattara
President of Côte d'Ivoire
Presidential Republic

Cuisine

Peanut Butter Stew

peanuts, garlic, cabbage with assorted leaves or vegetables



Foutou

boiled and pounded plantains or yam



<https://dinesurf.com/10-most-popular-ivorian-traditional-dishes-to-try-at-a-con/>

Garba

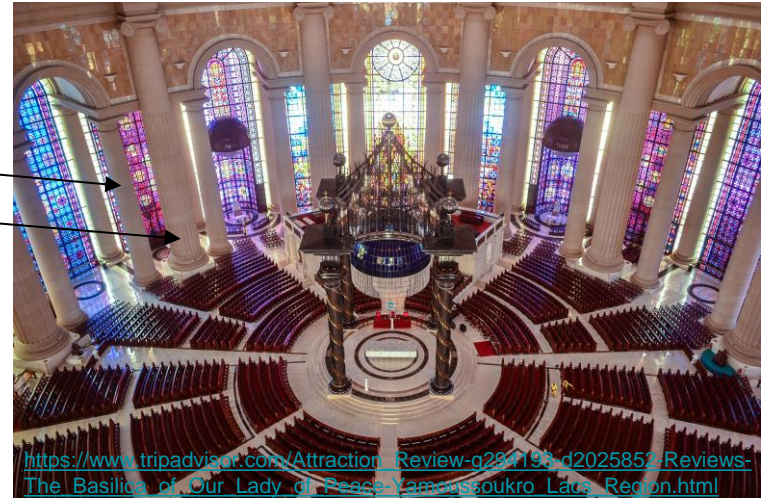
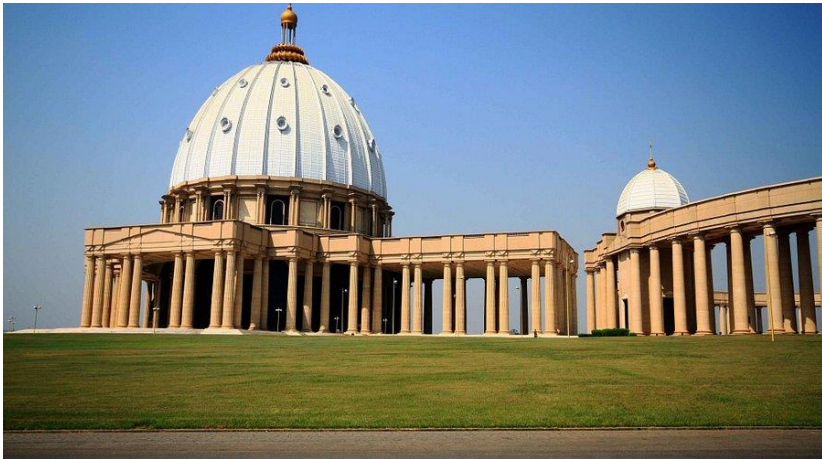
deep-fried pieces of tuna with attiéké (rice-like)



Tourist Attractions

The Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

- Built (1985-1989) Consecrated (1990)
- Largest Basilica in the world
- Location: Yamoussoukro (capital)
- Columns are uniform
 - The small ones are structural
 - The large ones are decoration



https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g294195-d2025852-Reviews-The_Basilica_of_Our_Lady_of_Peace-Yamoussoukro_Laos_Region.html

Banco National Park

- Location: Abidjan
- Size: 13 sq mi (~CT)
- Very diverse animal population
 - Chimpanzees, antelope, hogs, etc
- Created in 1951



<https://www.npr.org/2023/12/26/1221543486/chimps-bonding-recognize-friends-family-decades-apart>



St. Paul's Cathedral

- Cost: \$12 million
- 7 large cables hold the cross
- Hold 5,000
- Notable Stain glass
 - Represents St. Paul's journey through Damascus



People and Society of Côte d'Ivoire

- Drinking water: 90%
- Median Age: 21 (212th in world)
- Life Expectancy: 63
- Fertility Rate: ~3 per mother
- School Life Expectancy: 11
- Literacy Rate: 90%



Spirit Dancing (The Ngoro Dance)

- Translates to the dance of Virgins
- Accompanied by a xylophone-like instrument
 - The balafon
- Dancers often wear:
 - Feathers with yellow and red colors
 - Straw hats
- This dance guides young girls to the secrets of the Senufo social and religious secrets



The Baule

- From the ethnic line of the Akan people - farmers that live in the center of Côte d'Ivoire
- First president was Baule
- They wear masks and have dances

Baule mask



<https://www.mixfurniture.com/print-furniture/baule-mask-ivory-coast-8133>



Economy

- Exports and Imports (~97th)
 - Exports (\$17 bil.): petroleum, gas, cocoa
 - Imports (\$20 bil.): crude petroleum, cars
- GDP: \$7,000
- Below Poverty Line Percent: 38%



The Effects of Fairtrade on farms in Côte d'Ivoire

- Fairtrade is a label for farmers that allows them to sell their produce for a much fairer and better price
- The only downside is farmers must abide by certain restrictions
 - Bans on child labor
 - Passively increases education
- Fairtrade increases exports of produce
 - 14% for poor farmers
 - 9% average for all farmers
- Significantly helps the cocoa industry
 - The largest producer in the world
 - Increases by 41%
- Certification leads to other benefits
 - Household living (35%)
 - Community development
- Female household head
 - Doubles with Fairtrade



<https://africanarguments.org/2017/12/cote-divoire-africas-fastest-growing-economys-bittersweet-year/>

JOURNAL: Knöblsdorfer, I., Sellare, J., & Qaim, M. (2021). Effects of Fairtrade on farm household food security and living standards: Insights from Côte d'Ivoire. *Global Food Security*, (29) 1-8. <https://doi-org.ezproxyprod.ucs.louisiana.edu/10.1016/j.gfs.2021.100535>

Gold in Côte d'Ivoire

- Gold was recently found in Kani and Dianra
- Helps boost economic revenue
 - boosting the life of its citizens
- Gives jobs
- Increases the gold production by 20%



NEWS: Moody, J. (2024, June 23). Côte d'Ivoire strikes gold again in timely boost for Ouattara. African Business (Al Bawaba (Middle East) Ltd.).

Protecting the Environment and Right to Healthcare

- Cargo ship dumps toxic waste into the port of Abidjan
 - ~140,000 gallons (~7 pools)
 - 17 people died and ~100,000 injured
- Cote d'Ivoire was sued
 - Violating the right to life
 - Ordered to pay for all repercussions



<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2024/08/cote-divoire-protecting-the-environment-and-peoples-right-to-health-against-actions-by-corporates/>

Health of Women and Children

- Progression in healthcare has advanced
 - But families still struggle
- Underlying issues such as:
 - Lack of medical equipment
 - Not enough Midwives
 - Affordable care
- Families have to pay over 40% of the cost
 - Most families are poor and unable to afford this



<https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/health/driving-action-for-the-health-of-women--children-and-adolescents>

Muslims in Côte d'Ivoire

- Most are Sunni Muslims
 - Distinct dress
- Many are from Mali
 - A neighboring country
- Many wear a special headpiece
 - Called the Keffiyeh



<https://www.businessinsider.com/differences-between-shia-sunni-muslims-2015-3>

Catholics in Côte d'Ivoire

- Began with French settlers
- Around 2.8 million members
 - 2,000 priest
- The main order is the Capuchins (like monks)
 - 1,200 members



<https://international.la-croix.com/religion/catholic-bishops-of-ivory-coast-call-for-peace-amid-rising-political-tensions>

Clothing

Urban/casual

- The most common clothing for women and men on special occasion: Boubou
 - Loose-fitting garment
 - Usually colored with reds, yellows, greens and blues
- Usually men just wear t-shirts and jeans

Boubou



<https://www.alamy.com/daily-life-people-on-the-streets-in-ivory-coast-cote-divoire-capital-and-largest-city-abidjan-photo-by-dppasipa-usa-image47349930.html>



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/8476131045567750/>

Rural



Business



College



Holiday Dress: Fêtes des Masques

- One of the largest traditions
- These masks protect against vengeance
- The dances tell the story of Dogon
 - Dogon: ethnic culture from Mali
- Lute instruments play during the dance



Common Wedding

- The fabric for both outfits is Kita
 - This is a traditional silk fabric from the Akan people
- The colors resemble generosity, life, and wisdom
 - Yellow, blue, and green
- A piece of cloth is draped across one shoulder



<https://danddclothing.com/blogs/african-fashion-blog/traditional-wedding-styles-in-ivory-coast?srltid=AfmBOoqVPqTmi4fhBAjFsLwaLKNwmtvjJBp2cgE3-md9ijlONqKquWqt>



<https://danddclothing.com/blogs/african-fashion-blog/traditional-wedding-styles-in-ivory-coast?srltid=AfmBOoqVPqTmi4fhBAjFsLwaLKNwmtvjJBp2cgE3-md9ijlONqKquWqt>

Wealthy Wedding



Special Adornments

- Doek:
 - Means “cloth”
 - Like a hair tie
 - Usually worn by elderly women
 - Color changes depending on the occasion (ex. White =wedding)



<https://www.heraldlive.co.za/lifestyle/leisure/2016-02-02-doeks-mark-of-a-good-woman-or-a-bad-lady/>



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/AZvWqFnK-KrWopzXMDgTjORJ6PIYp21vQZteikmzjV4tPQfCsBLng4U/>

Issues

- Stateless persons
 - ~1 million
 - People lack documentation
 - Disputes over citizenship
 - These disputes led to the civil war in 2002
- Illicit drugs
 - Production of cannabis
 - Mainly for local use



Conclusions

- Côte d'Ivoire has country income through its cocoa and gold production
- Big problem is corruption and environmental damage
 - Even through environmental damage agriculture remains strong
 - Providing revenue for the country and its people
- Culture still remains strong
 - Customs are kept throughout generations
 - Traditional clothes are worn