

Africans and African-Americans in Germany

Journey with medieval princes from Africa to Germany.

Read of African-Americans coming to Germany with Hessian mercenaries at the end of the US Revolutionary War.

Learn how the 1884 Congress of Berlin unleashed the "Scramble for Africa" and led Africans (who often only came to consider themselves Togolese, Cameroonians, or, indeed, Africans) to Germany.

Consider the role of African/African-American French/U.S. soldiers in the shaping of Germans' images of Blackness (spurred by press campaigns) and in the shaping of African independence and the US civil rights movement.

Chronicle the rise of Black German consciousness coming together in the years before German unification.

Follow these Black German voices into the present day.

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Hans-Jürgen Massaquoi's
parents in Hamburg



Jesse Owens in Berlin, 1936



May Ayim
Writer, Educator, Activist

