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Burkina Faso (UK: Help:IPA/English /b?:?ki:.n? 'faes.??/, US: /b?r?ki:.n? 'f?:.so?/) is a country in West Africa. It used to be called Upper Volta and the name was changed to Burkina Faso in 1984. The country was once ruled by France, but it has been independent since 1960. The capital is Ouagadougou.

In 2005, about 13,228,000 people lived in the country. It is next to Mali, Niger, Benin, Togo, Ghana and C?te d"Ivoire. It does not have any coast with an ocean or sea. People from Burkina Faso are called Burkinab? (pronounced burr-KEE-na-bay).

People have lived in the area of Burkina Faso for thousands of years. At first, they were hunter-gatherers, hunting animals and collecting fruits and vegetables.[8] Later they became farmers. People called the Mossi arrived between the 11th and 13th centuries.[8] They ruled the area until the end of the 19th century. In 1896 France beat the Mossi kingdom and became the colonial rulers of Burkina Faso. After World War I, the country was called Upper Volta.

In December 1985, Burkina Faso went to war for five days with near-by country Mali. In 1987, there was another military coup and Sankara was assassinated (murdered). Blaise Compaor? became the president.

On 28 October 2014 protesters began to march and demonstrate in Ouagadougou. Compaor? was ready to change the constitution and extend his 27-year rule. On 30 October 2014, some protesters set fire to the parliament.[10] They also took over the national television headquarters.[11] On 31 October 2014, President Compaor?, resigned after 27 years in office.[12]

In 2015 the country held their first election. Roch Marc Christian Kabor?, a former Prime Minister, was elected as president. In 2022, Kabor? was removed from power during a military coup d"?tat led by Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba.

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