Stone Age is used to describe a period of human evolution where stone was used as the hardest material for making tools. Christian J. Thomsen came up with term.

- **Early stone age/ Paleolithic**
  - Oldowan Tools: Describe it & uses
  - Sangoan Tools: Describe it & uses

Major Development- 1st record of artistic life: like personal ornaments, cave paintings

- **Middle Stone Age/ Mesolithic**
  - Achuelian Tools: named after St. Acheul: Describe it & uses

Major Development- Last Ice Age: 20,000-10,000BC: Population increased; climate got dryer. Pressure on the available food. Increased pressure to manufacture specialised fishing equipment.

- **Late Stone Age/ Neolithic**
  - Microlith Tools: Describe it & uses

Major Development- Asian Camel was introduced: broke the barrier between North and South of Africa

Two technological breakthroughs: #1 Cultivation of food crops and the raising of herds of animals #2 Production and use of metal tools and weapons (GOLD and IRON ORE)

Process of making stone tools:

1. The process started with a large piece of rock
2. The humans shaped the rock with a stone hammer
3. Using a hammer made of wood, stone, or antler they sharpened the edge.
4. They trimmed the edge by prying off tiny flakes with a pointed stick.
Iron Age: The stage in the development of any people in which tools and weapons whose main ingredient was iron were prominent.

The Nok civilization- “Iron way of life”, existed as early as 1000 B.C., in what is now identified as Nigeria

The Bantu People: first to develop the use of metal in West Africa and kept it as a secret at 1st

Bantu – able to expand and colonize much of West, Central, East and South Africa between 2000BC – 100BC

superior agriculture and military tools – axes, hoes and cutlasses + spears and arrows

- Advantages of Iron:
  - better weapons for war
  - better tools for food production