

# Burkina Faso

January 26, 2022

**In news-** Recently, the Burkina Faso military overthrew democratically elected President Roch Marc Christian Kabore and seized control of the country.

## **Key updates –**

- Soldiers on state media declared that the country is being run by their new organization, the **Patriotic Movement for Safeguarding and Restoration**.
- Kunta, which refers to a committee or administrative council, particularly one that rules a country after a coup d'état and before a legal government has been established.

## **About Burkina Faso-**

- Burkina Faso, which means **“land of honest men”**, is a **landlocked country in West Africa**.
- A **former French colony**, it gained independence as Upper Volta in 1960.
- Previously called the Republic of Upper Volta (1958–1984), it was renamed “Burkina Faso” in August 1984.
- It is **bordered by Mali to the northwest, Niger to the northeast, Benin to the southeast, Togo and Ghana to the south, and the Ivory Coast to the southwest**.



- Its capital and largest city is Ouagadougou.
- The largest ethnic group in present-day Burkina Faso is

that of the Mossi people.

- The larger part of the country is covered by a peneplain, which forms a gently undulating landscape with, in some areas, a few isolated hills, the last vestiges of a Precambrian massif.
- The southwest of the country, on the other hand, forms a sandstone massif, where the **highest peak, Ténakourou**, is found.
- The country owes its former name of Upper Volta to **three rivers which cross it: the Black Volta (or Mouhoun), the White Volta (Nakambé) and the Red Volta (Nazinon)**.
- The Black Volta is one of the country's only two rivers which flow year-round, the other being the **Komoe**, which flows to the southwest.
- The **basin of the Niger River also drains 27% of the country's surface**.
- This country lies within two **terrestrial ecoregions: Sahelian Acacia savanna and West Sudanian savanna**.