SYNOPSIS OF KING SOLOMON’S MINES

*King Solomon’s* is one of the first African adventure stories, written by Sir Henry Rider Haggard. This novel tells about the cruelty of Twala, the king Kukuanaland, who has killed his twin brother in reaching his ambition to become the king of Kukuanaland. In ruling the country, he Act as an ambition, cruel, and greedy leader. Many people doesn’t like the King, but no one dares to take over his position, because he always get rid of anyone who tries to take over his position with the help from Gagool, his loyal advisor.

Then, the country gets some visitors who intend to find the King Solomon’s mines. At first they are welcome by Twala, the King of Kukuanaland. The king gives a chain shirt to each of the Englishmen as a present for their coming. The Englishmen also invited to the witch-hunts and the girls dance ceremony. At the girls dance ceremony, the Englishmen save a girl name Foulata from being a victim of human sacrifice, but Sir Henry accidentally kills Scragga, Twala’s son. A battle finally breaks out between Twala and his regime, and Ignosi together with the Englishmen and with some help from Infadoos and his loyal chiefs. In the battle, Twala dies under Sir Henry’s hand.
After the battle ends, the Englishmen finally find King Solomon’s mines with Gagool’s guidance. When the Englishmen being amazed at the diamonds, Gagool tries to trap them in the Solomon’s chamber. However, her plan does not work well; in fact she is the one who is killed at the Solomon’s chamber of death.
Biography of Sir Henry Rider Haggard

Henry Rider Haggard was born on 22 June 1856, at Wood Farm on Bradenham Hall Estate, Norfolk as the sixth son of William Haggard. Haggard was not sent to a good public school like his brothers. He was educated privately at London Day School and Ipswitch Grammar School. In 1875, he was given a post of the staff of Sir Henry Bulwer, the newly appointed governor of Natal. In 1887, he joined the staff of special Commissioner, and the following year he became master and Registrar of the high court in Transvaal.

He returned to England in 1880 and married Louisa, the daughter of Major Margitson of Ditchingham house, Norfolk, which later became his residence. They had one son who died at age of ten and three daughters.

Haggard published his first books, *Dawn and Witches Head*, in 1884. In 1885, he was called to the bar for a while and practiced in the Probate and divorce Courts. His first great success as an author came with the publication of *King Solomon’s Mines* in 1885, the first of the long list of his romances, each of which was eagerly awaited by countless thousands of readers. Haggard repeated his success with three other novels set in Africa, *She*, *Jess*, and *Allan Quatermain*, all published in 1887. One subject that he wrote about extensively was the state of British agriculture. *A Farmer Year* (1899) and *Rural England* (1902) were written as a result of two years’ investigation into state of agriculture in England.
He was Knighted in 1912 and appointed a Dominion Royal Commission, which was to tour the Empire and examine the Colonial trade. In 1919 he was made knight Commander of the British Empire. Haggard died on 14 May, 1925.