

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
ADVANCED CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION**

**112/1**

**HISTORY 1**

**ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN AFRICAN STATES**

(For Both School and Private Candidates)

***Time : 3 Hours***

**ANSWERS**

**Friday 10 May 2002 p.m**

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**Instructions**

1. This paper consists of **fifteen (15)** questions.
2. Answer a total of **five (5)** questions.
3. All questions carry equal marks.
4. All writing should be in **blue** or **black** ink.
5. Communication devices and any unauthorised materials are **not** allowed in the examination room.
6. Write your **Examination Number** on every page of your answer booklet(s).

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1. According to Eurocentric historians African Societies had no history of its own, political organisation of any kind and technological advancement of their own. According to them, modes of production never existed until colonialism came to formalise everything in the second half of the 19th century. Discuss this contention with concrete examples.

This Eurocentric claim is inaccurate and biased because African societies before colonialism had well-developed political, economic, and technological systems. The Kingdom of Mali, for example, had a sophisticated administrative system and a flourishing economy based on gold and trans-Saharan trade.

Technologically, African societies advanced in iron-smelting and agriculture. The Nok culture in Nigeria and Great Zimbabwe both demonstrate indigenous technological innovation, with iron tools and impressive stone architecture.

Modes of production existed in forms such as communalism, pastoralism, and feudal-like systems. For instance, the Asante Empire and Buganda Kingdom had organized labor and taxation systems.

Therefore, colonialism did not bring history or organization to Africa; rather, it interrupted well-established systems that already existed.

2. Discuss how basic political organisations in the pre-colonial social organisations in Africa were related to the environment where they evolved.

In forested regions such as the Congo Basin, political organization tended to be decentralized because dense vegetation made large states difficult to maintain. Communities were organized into small chiefdoms and clans.

In savannah and grassland regions, centralized kingdoms developed because open land allowed for expansion and easier communication. Examples include the Oyo Empire and Buganda Kingdom.

In desert regions like the Sahara, political systems were influenced by trade. States like Mali and Songhai organized around control of trans-Saharan trade routes.

Thus, geography and environment shaped whether African political organizations were centralized empires or decentralized communities.

3. How did the achievement of the Berlin conference affect the African social, political and economic systems?

Socially, the Berlin Conference of 1884–85 divided ethnic groups and communities across arbitrary colonial borders, leading to cultural disintegration and later ethnic conflicts.

Politically, it undermined African sovereignty by allowing European powers to impose direct and indirect colonial rule. Traditional rulers lost authority, and foreign systems of governance replaced indigenous ones.

Economically, the conference opened the way for systematic exploitation of Africa's resources. African economies were redirected toward producing raw materials for Europe, creating dependency and underdevelopment.

Thus, the Berlin Conference disrupted Africa's social unity, destroyed political independence, and restructured economies to serve European interests.

4. The establishment of colonial political and economic control was a peaceful process all over the African continent. Discuss.

This claim is false because in many regions colonial control was achieved through violent conquest. The Zulu resisted the British, the Herero and Nama revolted in German South West Africa, and the Maji Maji uprising occurred in Tanganyika.

Even where treaties were signed, such as in Buganda, these were often deceptive and imposed under pressure. Africans resisted through wars, migration, and strikes, showing that colonialism was far from peaceful.

While some communities collaborated for strategic reasons, overall the establishment of colonial rule involved widespread conflict and bloodshed.

5. With concrete examples, analyse the role played by the colonial state towards the establishment of the colonial economy in East Africa.

The colonial state alienated African land for settlers, especially in Kenya, creating the “White Highlands” for European farming. This ensured cash crop production for export.

It introduced taxation systems such as hut and poll taxes, which forced Africans into the wage labor market to work on settler farms, plantations, and infrastructure projects.

The colonial state built railways, roads, and ports to facilitate export of cash crops like coffee and tea. For example, the Uganda Railway became central to the East African colonial economy.

It also restricted African economic participation by prohibiting Africans from growing lucrative cash crops such as coffee, reserving them for settlers.

Thus, the colonial state created and enforced structures that ensured East Africa’s economy was shaped to serve European interests.

6. Analyse the significance and roles of indirect and direct rule in the colonial domination of Africa.

Indirect rule, practiced by the British, used existing chiefs and traditional structures to administer colonies. It was significant because it reduced administrative costs and minimized European manpower needs. However, it often distorted traditional systems and created new forms of authoritarianism.

Direct rule, used by the French, imposed European officials and centralized administration. Its role was to assimilate Africans into French culture, but it denied Africans autonomy and undermined indigenous institutions.

Both systems were significant in maintaining European dominance, extracting resources, and ensuring control over African populations, though they varied in method.

7. It is contended that “in some Africa colonies, the colonialists preferred using peasant agriculture rather than the other forms of agriculture”. Discuss this contention with relevant examples.

In West Africa, colonialists preferred peasant agriculture because African farmers already produced cocoa, palm oil, and groundnuts on a large scale. Encouraging peasant production was cheaper and less risky than establishing plantations.

Peasant farmers in Ghana and Nigeria became major suppliers of cocoa and palm oil, which dominated the export economy without massive European settlement.

In contrast, in Kenya and Southern Africa, settler plantations were preferred due to fertile land and favorable climates. This shows that colonialists adapted strategies depending on the region.

8. The Afrocentric view that imperialism was the main source of total destruction of the African social, political and economic set up is unjustified. Discuss.

This statement can be challenged because imperialism indeed destroyed many African institutions, but not all aspects were totally eradicated. Traditional authority, for example, persisted in some areas even under indirect rule.

Culturally, African religions, languages, and customs survived despite attempts at European cultural domination. Economically, Africans adapted by integrating colonial cash crops into their systems while retaining subsistence farming.

Therefore, while imperialism had destructive effects, it did not completely wipe out African systems, as resilience and adaptation allowed many aspects of African society to continue.

9. The characteristics of colonial economy in Kenya and Zanzibar were quite different. Justify.

Kenya's colonial economy was dominated by settler agriculture, with large farms producing coffee and tea for export. Africans were displaced into reserves and forced to work on European farms.

Zanzibar's economy, on the other hand, was based on plantation agriculture dominated by cloves, which had been established even before colonialism. Here, Arab elites rather than European settlers played a central role.

Thus, while both economies were export-oriented, Kenya relied on European settler control while Zanzibar relied on Arab plantation elites.

10. Analyse the means by which colonialism destroyed itself.

Colonialism destroyed itself by creating the very educated African elite that led independence movements. Missionary schools and limited colonial education produced leaders like Nkrumah and Kenyatta.

Economic exploitation created widespread poverty and resentment, leading to uprisings and nationalist movements. Africans resisted exploitation through strikes, protests, and rebellions.

The contradictions of racism and exclusion also delegitimized colonial rule. While colonial powers preached democracy in Europe, they denied it in Africa, fueling African demands for equality.

Finally, global forces such as the Second World War, the rise of the UN, and the Cold War weakened colonial powers and empowered African nationalism, hastening colonialism's collapse.

11. Evaluate the contribution of the Pan Africanism, the Bandung conference and the Independence of India to the development of African nationalism.

Pan-Africanism contributed by uniting Africans across the continent and in the diaspora under the idea of shared identity and struggle. Leaders like W.E.B. Du Bois and George Padmore promoted solidarity against racism and colonialism, which inspired African leaders such as Kwame Nkrumah and Jomo Kenyatta. Pan-African congresses provided platforms where African issues were debated, laying the foundation for political mobilization.

The Bandung Conference of 1955, which brought together Asian and African countries, highlighted the global struggle against colonialism. African leaders attending this conference found encouragement and international support for their independence movements. It also promoted cooperation among nations facing similar challenges under imperialism.

The Independence of India in 1947 had a major psychological impact on Africa. It proved that colonial powers could be defeated and that independence was achievable. It also set a precedent for non-violent resistance and self-determination, influencing leaders in East and West Africa.

Together, these three factors energized African nationalism by providing ideology, international support, and practical examples of liberation.

12. Give a comparative analysis of liberation movements for independence in Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika after 1945.

In Kenya, the liberation movement was marked by violent struggle, especially the Mau Mau uprising (1952–1960). Africans resisted land alienation and settler dominance, and though the rebellion was suppressed, it weakened colonial authority and forced constitutional reforms.

In Uganda, nationalism was less violent and more influenced by religious and ethnic divisions. Political parties such as the Democratic Party (DP) and Uganda People's Congress (UPC) mobilized support along religious and regional lines. Independence in 1962 came through negotiations rather than armed struggle.

In Tanganyika, the struggle was led by the Tanganyika African National Union (TANU) under Julius Nyerere. It was largely peaceful, focusing on mass mobilization, petitions, and political negotiations. Independence was achieved in 1961 without large-scale violence.

Thus, while Kenya's movement was violent, Uganda's was shaped by internal divisions, and Tanganyika's was peaceful and united, showing the diversity of liberation struggles in East Africa.

13. Despite the effort made by African States to promote political and economic co-operation among themselves, regional co-operation has been facing serious crises. Discuss.

One crisis has been political instability in member states, such as coups and civil wars, which weaken regional commitments. For instance, conflicts in the Great Lakes region have undermined cooperation in East Africa.

Another challenge is economic inequality among states. Wealthier countries often dominate decision-making, while poorer states feel marginalized, leading to mistrust.

Differences in national interests also create crises. Countries prioritize their sovereignty and domestic needs over regional commitments, which weakens cooperation.

Corruption and poor governance reduce the effectiveness of regional organizations like ECOWAS, the AU, or the EAC. Promises of integration are often undermined by lack of political will.

Therefore, while the vision of regional unity exists, practical challenges such as instability, inequality, and lack of commitment continue to hinder true cooperation.

14. “Zanzibar Revolution was a logical culmination of the African grievances in the Isles”. Comment on the validity of this statement.

The statement is valid because African grievances in Zanzibar were rooted in land ownership, racial inequalities, and political exclusion under the Arab-dominated sultanate. Africans were marginalized in employment, politics, and social services.

The build-up of grievances was reflected in the rise of parties such as the Afro-Shirazi Party (ASP), which demanded equality and majority representation. When these demands were ignored, frustrations grew stronger.

The revolution of 1964 was the climax of decades of resentment. Africans overthrew the sultanate, redistributing land and seeking to end centuries of racial hierarchy.

Therefore, the revolution was not accidental but a logical outcome of deep-seated grievances against social, political, and economic injustices.

15. “Political instability in Africa is inevitable.” Identify the causes and discuss solutions to this problem.

One cause of political instability is the colonial legacy of artificial boundaries, which grouped diverse ethnic groups together, fueling tensions and conflicts.

Another cause is poor governance and corruption, where leaders misuse resources and undermine democracy, leading to unrest and coups.

Economic inequality and poverty also contribute, as marginalized populations often rebel against governments that fail to provide basic services.

External interference, through neo-colonial influence, arms trade, and exploitation of resources, further fuels instability.

Solutions include strengthening democratic institutions to ensure accountability, promoting inclusive governance to address ethnic and regional divisions, and encouraging economic development that benefits all citizens. Regional cooperation and conflict resolution mechanisms should also be strengthened to prevent and manage instability.