

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

112/2

HISTORY 2

AFRICA IN WORLD HISTORY UP TO 1945
(For Both School and Private Candidates)

Time : 3 Hours

ANSWERS

Wednesday, March 16, 2005 p.m

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. Compare and contrast the African and West European feudal relations of production by the end of the 15th century.

In Europe, feudalism was characterized by landownership, where lords controlled large estates and peasants worked as serfs bound to the land. Production was largely for subsistence, though trade was gradually increasing.

In Africa, some regions also had feudal-like systems, such as in Ethiopia and the Sahelian kingdoms, where kings and chiefs controlled land and peasants paid tribute in crops or labor. However, in many areas, African production remained more communal, with land held collectively by clans.

While European feudalism was already declining by the 15th century due to the rise of towns and trade, African systems remained more flexible, with strong elements of communalism alongside tribute relations.

Thus, both continents had hierarchical systems, but Europe's was more rigid and declining, while Africa's combined feudal and communal practices.

2. Describe the European feudal political structure and show how it was similarly reflected in Africa during the second half of the 19th century.

The European feudal political structure was decentralized, with kings granting land to nobles who in turn had vassals and serfs working the land. Authority was divided among different levels of lords and clergy.

In Africa during the second half of the 19th century, similar systems could be seen in kingdoms like Buganda or Asante, where chiefs held land and collected tribute, and peasants provided labor and crops.

Both systems relied on hierarchical loyalty and land-based power, though Africa's systems often maintained stronger communal ties than European feudalism.

3. Critically analyse the contribution of the expansion of guilds and towns in Europe to the rise of capitalist relations of production in the 15th century.

Guilds organized craftsmen and merchants, regulating production, prices, and quality. This professional organization laid the foundation for capitalist competition and specialization.

The growth of towns created new centers of commerce where markets expanded, allowing surplus production to be sold for profit. Towns also weakened feudal structures by offering alternatives to serfdom.

The accumulation of wealth in towns financed new ventures, trade, and early banking, which were crucial for capitalism. Thus, towns and guilds transformed Europe from feudal subsistence toward capitalist exchange relations.

4. Analyse the historical relationships between monopoly capitalism and colonialism.

Monopoly capitalism emerged when industries concentrated into large corporations that dominated markets. These corporations sought raw materials and markets abroad, which drove colonial expansion.

Colonialism provided monopolies with secure access to cheap raw materials like cotton, copper, and rubber, as well as guaranteed markets where competition was restricted.

Colonial governments supported monopolies by granting concessions, protecting investments, and suppressing African economic initiatives.

Thus, monopoly capitalism and colonialism were closely linked, as colonial territories became extensions of European monopolistic interests.

5. Discuss the assertion that “slave trade and competitive capitalism were mutually incompatible historical phenomena”.

Slave trade depended on forced labor and restricted consumption, while competitive capitalism thrived on free labor markets and growing consumer demand.

As Europe industrialized, it needed wage earners who could buy manufactured goods, something slavery prevented since slaves had no purchasing power.

Thus, while slave trade had been essential for early capital accumulation, it became incompatible with industrial capitalism, leading to its abolition in favor of systems that expanded free labor and markets.

6. “Chancellor Otto Von Bismarck of Germany was an architect of the colonization of Africa”. Comment.

Bismarck initially showed little interest in colonies but later played a leading role by hosting the Berlin Conference of 1884–85, which formalized the partition of Africa.

He supported German expansion into territories like South West Africa and Cameroon, signaling Germany's late but determined entry into colonialism.

By convening the Berlin Conference, he ensured European powers avoided conflict over Africa, effectively designing the framework for colonization. Thus, Bismarck can rightly be considered a major architect of Africa's partition.

7. Discuss the circumstances which led to the demise of British capitalism and emergence of the United States of America's (USA's) capitalist hegemony during the 20th century. How did this change affect colonial policies in Africa?

British capitalism declined due to the heavy costs of two world wars, loss of colonies, and inability to compete with more industrialized economies like the USA and USSR.

The USA rose as a global power with strong industrial capacity, financial systems, and military dominance. It promoted policies of liberal trade and opposed colonial monopolies.

In Africa, this shift encouraged decolonization, as the USA pressured European powers to grant independence while maintaining influence through aid, trade, and Cold War alliances.

8. Discuss the inevitability of the French Revolution and its direct and indirect spill-overs to Africa.

The French Revolution was inevitable due to deep social inequalities, absolute monarchy, economic crises, and Enlightenment ideas.

Directly, it weakened France's colonial hold in places like Haiti, leading to the Haitian Revolution. Indirectly, it spread revolutionary ideas of liberty and equality that later influenced African nationalists.

It also encouraged the growth of capitalist economies in Europe, which later drove colonization of Africa. Thus, the French Revolution reshaped both Europe and Africa.

9. Trace the historical background underlying the indispensable rise of the crises in capitalism in the world since the 20th century.

Capitalism faced recurring crises due to overproduction, market saturation, and unequal distribution of wealth. The Great Depression of 1929 highlighted these contradictions.

World War II temporarily revived capitalism, but post-war expansion led to inflation, oil crises in the 1970s, and debt crises in developing countries, including Africa.

Globalization intensified inequalities, and financial crises such as 2008 further demonstrated capitalism's instability. These crises have been indispensable features of capitalism since the 20th century.

10. Assess the impact of the collapse of the League of Nations on the African continent.

The League failed to prevent aggression by colonial powers and did not address African aspirations for independence. Its collapse after World War II left Africa under continued colonial domination.

However, its failure paved the way for the United Nations, which became a stronger platform for African nationalists to demand independence.

Thus, the League's collapse highlighted the weakness of international institutions in protecting colonized peoples but indirectly contributed to Africa's later liberation.

11. "Contradictions within the capitalist system had far reaching effects without". Explain this contention with relevant examples from Africa.

Capitalist contradictions such as overproduction and need for markets pushed Europe into colonizing Africa. This reshaped African economies into raw material suppliers and consumer markets.

The Great Depression worsened poverty in Africa due to falling commodity prices. Similarly, post-World War II capitalist crises accelerated decolonization as Europe sought to stabilize through reforms.

Thus, contradictions within capitalism had far-reaching external effects, particularly in Africa, where economies and politics were deeply altered.

12. On the face, the development of socialist thought assumed different forms in Africa. Justify.

In some countries like Tanzania, socialism took the form of Ujamaa, emphasizing communal living and collective farming.

In others, like Ethiopia, it assumed a Marxist-Leninist form under the Derg regime, focusing on state control and central planning.

In countries like Ghana, Nkrumah promoted Pan-African socialism, blending African unity with socialist ideals.

Thus, socialism in Africa was not uniform but adapted to local histories, cultures, and leadership visions.

13. Socialism like communism is invariably against capitalism. Substantiate.

Socialism and communism both advocate collective ownership and elimination of exploitation, opposing capitalist principles of private ownership and profit maximization.

They criticize capitalism for creating inequality and crises, promoting instead systems based on equality, welfare, and planning.

Though they differ in methods and stages, both are fundamentally against capitalism as an exploitative system.

14. To what extent did the civil rights movements in the USA achieve their objectives.

The civil rights movements achieved significant legal victories, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965, which ended segregation and secured voting rights.

They also promoted racial pride, cultural identity, and expanded opportunities for African Americans in education, employment, and politics.

However, economic inequalities and systemic racism persisted, showing that while major objectives were achieved legally, full equality remains a continuing struggle.

15. Discuss the contention that “People of the African origin in the New World had a great impact in the political enlightenment of the Africans in Africa”.

African diaspora leaders such as Marcus Garvey, W.E.B. Du Bois, and George Padmore inspired Pan-Africanism and influenced African nationalist leaders like Nkrumah.

Movements like the Harlem Renaissance spread ideas of racial pride and resistance that resonated with Africans under colonialism.

The success of civil rights struggles in the USA and independence movements in the Caribbean provided models for African liberation.

Thus, people of African origin in the New World had a profound impact on the political awakening and decolonization of Africa.