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**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITY**

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY AND HERITAHE MANAGENENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND HERITAGE MANAGEMENT**

**Course Title**: History of Ethiopia and the Horn

**Course code** HIHM, 102

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**General Instructions**

* Do not copy from module and write in your own English
* follow English grammatical rules (capitalization and coherence)
* write not more than 10 pages and less than 5 page
* The assignment must have introduction, main body, conclusion and reference.

**Submission Date December 18/12/2023.**

**Topics to be discussed (5, points each)**

* Discuss the deeds of the patriots for the independent of Ethiopia. ? **(5 point)**
* Explain the contribution of different provincial lords together with their army for the victory of Ethiopia at the Battle of Adawa in 1896. ? **( 5 points)**
* List and explain major factors that had paved the way for downfall of the Monarchical Regime.? **(5 points)**
* Discuss major socio-economic and political developments in post-1974 Ethiopia. **(5 points)**

1. Discuss the deeds of the patriots for the independent of Ethiopia. ?

The quest for independence in Ethiopia involved the efforts and sacrifices of numerous patriots who dedicated themselves to liberating the country from foreign occupation and achieving self-determination.

Here are some notable patriots and their contributions to Ethiopia's independence:

1. **Emperor Menelik II**

Emperor Menelik II, the Emperor of Ethiopia from 1889 to 1913, played a pivotal role in preserving Ethiopia's independence during the Scramble for Africa. He successfully led Ethiopian forces in the Battle of Adwa in 1896, defeating the Italian colonial army and ensuring that Ethiopia remained the only African nation to resist colonization.

1. **Empress Taytu Betul**

Empress Taytu Betul, the wife of Emperor Menelik II, was a prominent figure in Ethiopia's struggle for independence. She actively participated in political affairs, providing counsel and support to her husband. Empress Taytu played a crucial role in the negotiations with foreign powers, ensuring Ethiopia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

1. Ras Makonnen: Ras Makonnen, a prominent military leader and statesman, made significant contributions to Ethiopia's independence. He served as a general in Emperor Menelik II's army and played a crucial role in the Battle of Adwa. Ras Makonnen also served as the governor of Harar and was involved in diplomatic efforts to secure Ethiopia's independence.
2. Emperor Haile Selassie I: Haile Selassie I, Ethiopia's last emperor, played a vital role in the country's fight against Italian occupation during World War II. He was instrumental in rallying Ethiopians and inspiring resistance against the invading forces. After Ethiopia's liberation, Emperor Haile Selassie worked towards modernizing the country and promoting its independence on the global stage.
3. Patriots of the Ethiopian Resistance: During the Italian occupation of Ethiopia from 1936 to 1941, numerous patriots and freedom fighters engaged in guerrilla warfare and organized resistance movements. Figures such as Gideon Force, Arbegnoch, and Patriots of Tigray fought against the Italian forces, disrupting their control and contributing to Ethiopia's eventual liberation.
4. Women Patriots: Ethiopian women played an essential role in the struggle for independence.

Notable figures like **Woizero Abebech Gobena**, **Woizero Woinitu Kifle**, and **Empress Menen Asfaw** actively participated in humanitarian efforts, organized resistance, and provided support to Ethiopian soldiers during times of conflict.

These patriots and many others demonstrated immense courage, resilience, and determination in their fight for Ethiopia's independence.

1. Explain the contribution of different provincial lords together with their army for the victory of Ethiopia at the Battle of Adawa in 1896. ?

The Battle of Adwa in 1896 was a significant event in Ethiopian history, where Ethiopian forces under Emperor Menelik II achieved a decisive victory over the Italian colonial army.

The victory was not solely attributed to one individual or army but was a result of the collective efforts of various provincial lords and their armies.

Here are some notable contributions:

* Shewan Forces (Emperor Menelik II's Army): Emperor Menelik II, the ruler of the Shewa region, played a central role in organizing and leading the Ethiopian forces. He commanded a substantial army consisting of soldiers from the Shewa region, which formed the backbone of the Ethiopian military. Menelik II's strategic planning, leadership, and coordination skills were crucial to the success of the Ethiopian forces.
* Tigrayan Forces (Ras Alula's Army): Ras Alula Engida, a prominent Tigrayan noble and military leader, commanded a significant contingent of troops from the Tigray region. He was known for his military prowess and played a vital role in coordinating the Tigrayan forces with Emperor Menelik II's army. Ras Alula's troops effectively engaged the Italian forces on the battlefield, contributing to the overall victory.
* Gojjam Forces (Ras Mikael's Army): Ras Mikael of Gojjam, another influential regional lord, led a sizable force from the Gojjam region. His army played a crucial role in the battle, providing essential support and engaging the Italian forces. Ras Mikael's strategic maneuvers and leadership skills were instrumental in the success of the Ethiopian forces.
* Harari Forces (Ras Makonnen's Army): Ras Makonnen, the governor of Harar, contributed troops from the Harari region to the Ethiopian army. His forces played a significant role in the battle, engaging the Italian forces and disrupting their advances. Ras Makonnen's military expertise and leadership were vital in coordinating his forces with the larger Ethiopian army.
* Oromo Forces (Various Regional Lords): Various Oromo regional lords and their armies also made significant contributions to the Ethiopian victory. Notable figures such as Fitawrari Habte Giyorgis Dinagde led Oromo troops, effectively engaging the Italian forces and contributing to the overall success of the Ethiopian army.

These provincial lords and their armies united under the leadership of Emperor Menelik II, demonstrating a remarkable display of unity and coordination.

Their combined efforts, determination, and strategic military tactics played a pivotal role in the victory at the Battle of Adwa. The Battle of Adwa stands as a symbol of Ethiopian resistance against colonialism and remains a source of national pride for Ethiopians to this day.

1. List and explain major factors that had paved the way for downfall of the Monarchical Regime.?

The downfall of the Monarchical Regime in Ethiopia was influenced by various factors. Here are some major factors that contributed to its decline:

* **Modernization and Socioeconomic Challenges**: The Monarchical Regime faced difficulties in adapting to modernization and addressing socioeconomic challenges. As the world underwent significant transformations, Ethiopia struggled to keep pace with social, political, and economic changes. The lack of effective reforms and development initiatives led to growing discontent among the population.
* **Centralization of Power**: The Monarchical Regime was characterized by a centralized system of governance, with power concentrated in the hands of the emperor. This centralization limited political participation and hindered the emergence of a more inclusive and representative government. The concentration of power led to frustrations and demands for greater political freedom and democratic reforms.
* **Opposition Movements and Nationalism**: Opposition movements and nationalist sentiments played a crucial role in undermining the Monarchical Regime. Various groups, such as the Ethiopian Student Movement, political parties, and liberation fronts, emerged to challenge the regime's authority. These movements advocated for democratic reforms, social justice, and regional autonomy, gaining popular support and weakening the monarchy.
* **Regional and Ethnic Discontent**: Ethiopia is a diverse nation comprising various ethnic groups with distinct cultural identities and regional aspirations. The Monarchical Regime struggled to address the grievances and aspirations of different regions and ethnic communities adequately. This led to growing discontent and demands for greater autonomy and self-determination.
* **Economic Inequality and Land Distribution**: Land distribution and economic inequality were significant issues that contributed to the downfall of the monarchy. The concentration of land and wealth in the hands of a few elites, including the monarchy and nobility, created socioeconomic disparities and widespread discontent among the rural population. Calls for land reform and equitable distribution of resources grew stronger over time.
* **Drought, Famine, and Economic Crises**: Ethiopia experienced severe droughts, famines, and economic crises during the later years of the Monarchical Regime. These natural disasters and economic downturns exacerbated the existing socio-economic challenges, leading to widespread suffering and discontent among the population. The regime's inability to effectively respond to these crises further eroded its legitimacy.
* **Military Coups and Internal Power Struggles**: Internal power struggles and military coups significantly weakened the Monarchical Regime. The military, dissatisfied with the regime's leadership and policies, staged several coups and attempted coups, leading to further instability and erosion of the monarchy's authority.
* **Influence of Global and Regional Factors**: Global and regional factors also influenced the downfall of the Monarchical Regime. The wave of decolonization, the spread of democratic ideals, and the end of the Cold War had an impact on Ethiopia's political landscape. External pressures, such as international criticism of human rights abuses, also contributed to the regime's decline.

These factors, among others, gradually eroded the Monarchical Regime's authority and paved the way for its downfall. In 1974, the monarchy was overthrown, and Ethiopia underwent a significant political transformation, leading to the establishment of a communist regime and subsequent changes in the country's governance structure.

1. Discuss major socio-economic and political developments in post-1974 Ethiopia.