

## **THE BERLIN CONFERENCE 1884 – 1885**

It was called by Otto Von Bismarck to guide European rivalries on how to partition Africa without going to war and also set an agenda for the abolition of slave trade. It was attended by Britain German, France, Austria among others.

The conference came up with the following guidelines.

No country/power was to make territorial claims without effective occupation.

If any country made efforts to govern an unclaimed area no other power would claim such an area.

If country wanted to extend its influence it was important to tell other European countries.

All powers were to eliminate slave trade.

The Niger and Congo rivers were to be free zones i.e. open for Navigation to all European powers.

The conference confirmed the claims of Leopold II over Congo which was accorded international recognition as Congo Free State.

No European was to ally with any African country against another European power.

## **THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BERLIN CONFERENCE IN THE PARTITION OF EAST AFRICA**

It speeded up the acquisition of colonies in East Africa as Carl Peters signed many treaties with African chiefs.

It legalized the partition with guidelines on how to divide Africa without going to war.

It formally partitioned East Africa amongst German and Britain.

It came up with the doctrine of effective occupation where European states were to establish administrations in their respective countries.

It forbade alliances with African States that should have made Africans acquire guns and resist European occupation.

It neglected Africans who were not given a chance at Berlin to have a say in the partition.

### **THE FIRST ANGLO – GERMAN AGREEMENT OF 1886**

The agreement was signed between German and Britain to address the disputes between the two powers.

The southern part was to belong to German and the Northern part to Britain.

The Sultans domination was limited to a 10 mile coastal strip running from cape Delgado in the south to the mouth of R. Tana.

The sultans acquired the Islands of Zanzibar, Pemba, Mafia and Northern towns of Brava and Mogadishu.

The Wit area at the border of Kenya and Tanzania was to be a German territory.

The Conflict over the control of Kilimanjaro district was to be settled diplomatically.

Both Britain and German agreed to maintain the integrity of the Sultan's territory without interference.

Although both powers agreed not to interfere in each other's territory in Africa, they did not define the western boundary which led to uncertainty and rivalry.

### **THE HELGOLAND TREATY/ANGLO – GERMAN AGREEMENT OF 1890**

The weakness of the 1<sup>st</sup> Anglo – German agreement led to the signing of the second Anglo – German agreement.

Earlier Carl Peters had signed a treaty of protection with Munia of Wanga and a treaty of friendship with Mwanga which led to rivalry between Germany and Britain and so discussions begun between the two hence leading to the 1890 agreement.

Germany recognized Uganda as a British sphere of influence.

German recognized Zanzibar and Pemba as a British Protectorate. Hence, German gave up the areas to Britain.

German gave up the Kingdom of Wanga and Buganda to Britain.

In return Britain transferred the Island of Helgoland in the North Sea to German.

German brought the Coast of Tanganyika from the Sultan of Zanzibar.

Britain's sphere of influence included Uganda, Kenya and the Sultan of Zanzibar's dominions.

### **RESULTS OF THE HELGOLAND TREATY**

It led to the declaration of a protectorate over Uganda in 1894, Zanzibar 1890 and Kenya as a colony in 1895.

German rule was established in Tanganyika with its capital at Dar es-Salaam.

It completed the partition of East Africa between German and Britain i.e. Kenya and Uganda for Britain and Tanganyika for German.

It ended political struggles between the Germans and the British traders.

Colonial rule and economic policies were introduced in East Africa e.g. taxation, infrastructural development and the cash crops economy.

It ended the political and commercial importance of Zanzibar since it became part of the British protectorate.

### **HOW BRITISH RULE WAS EXTENDED TO UGANDA UP TO 1920**

In July, the Helgoland treaty granted Britain Uganda and Kenya.

It provided protection and defined the boundaries of East Africa as we have them today.

In March 1893, IBEACO was withdrawn and in June 1894 Uganda was declared a British protectorate though this was in Buganda.

In December 1895, Busoga signed an agreement with the British which brought her under the British.

In March 1900 Buganda agreement was signed between Johnson and Chwa's regents which confirmed British rule and made Buganda a basis for the spread of colonial rule to other parts of Uganda.

In June 1900 a similar agreement was signed by Kasagama in which Toro accepted to be part of Uganda protectorate.

In August 1901 the Ankole agreement was signed between Johnson and Nuwa Mbaguta and it made Ankole part of the British protectorate too.

Bunyoro was handled militarily and after being defeated, Baganda agents like Miti were sent to administer the area on behalf of the British.

Semie Kakungulu was used to extend British influence in Eastern Uganda and by 1901 he had annexed Bugishu, Bukedi, Teso, and Busoga.

The British who had initially neglected the North started opening up administrative centers in Lango in 1910, Gulu 1910 and Kitgum 1912.

By 1911, almost the whole of Lango was under British rule. In Acholi British rule was established after suppressing the Lamogi rebellion.

By 1913 Military rule was established in Karamoja and by 1914 west Nile was annexed to the British protectorate from Sudan.

By 1920 almost the whole of Uganda was under the British rule with the exception of Karamoja.

## **METHODS USED BY THE COLONIALISTS TO ESTABLISH BRITISH RULE IN EAST AFRICA**

The British used different methods to establish colonial which were both peaceful and violent, they included the following;

They signed treaties or agreements where Africans unknowingly signed off their independence and accepted colonial rule e.g. 1900 Buganda agreement, Masai agreement of 1904.

Where peaceful means failed and Africans refused to accept colonial rule, force was used to bring resisting groups under their rule e.g. Bunyoro.

They used collaborators to bring some areas under their rule e.g. Semei Kakungulu was used to extend British rule in the eastern Uganda.

Christian missionaries were also used through their preaching which softened the Africans into signing treaties e.g. CMS.

Trading companies were used to administer on their behalf and were used to suppress rebellions e.g. the IBEACO.

The explorers like John Speke, Stanley provided information about East Africa and even drew maps which guided the colonialist.

They used threats and intimidation of the would be resistors which prevented societies from resisting e.g. exiting of Mwanga and Kabalega.

They also used gifts like clothes, mirrors which they gave to African chiefs and these enticed them into accepting colonial rule.

The British used the divide and rule policy as they used one society against another e.g. Buganda and Bunyoro were kept apart to disunite themselves against the British.

They used strong and efficient personalities like Lugard, Carl Peters, Sir Gerald Portal and Sir Harry Johnston who used force and diplomacy to take over East Africa.

They built administrative counties and infrastructures like roads and railways which was in line with the doctrine of effective occupation as demanded by the Berlin and this consolidated their rule.

They built military stations and Forts where they kept troops which could fight any resistance e.g. Fort Lugard, Fort Portal.

Indirect rule was used where African chiefs were used to rule on behalf of the British and also extend colonial rule.

They signed agreements with other powers e.g. Anglo German agreement which partitioned East Africa e.g. the west Nile district was exchanged with Belgian and it became part of Uganda.

### **EFFECT OF THE SCRAMBLE PARTITION OF EAST AFRICA**

There were many effects which were both negative and positive.

It led to the loss of African independence to the foreign powers of Britain and German.

African traditional leaders lost their powers and authority to the Europeans e.g. Kabalega and Mwanga who were exiled.

Many Africans lost their land to the colonialist and settlers e.g. in Kenya Highlands and crown land in Buganda.

The process led to the introduction of taxes e.g. hut and gun taxes which were so exploitative.

It led to the disunity and division of some tribes as people who previously belonged to one ethnic group were divided by colonial boundaries.

It led to the economic exploitation of African resources e.g. minerals, forests to the benefit of Whites.

It retarded the growth of African technology e.g. black smith, pottery etc....

It led to loss of African culture and adoption of western culture e.g. religion, formal education, marriage etc.

Due to wars of resistance many Africans lost their lives and property e.g. in Bunyoro during the regime of Kabalega.

However, scramble and partition accelerated missionary activities which led to the spread of Christianity.

Slave trade and slavery was abolished and legitimate trade emphasized which stopped human suffering and misery.

Many hospitals and health centers were built to control disease e.g. Nsambya, Lubaga, Mengo etc.

Many schools were built which enabled the spread of western education and western civilization.

New languages such as German and English were introduced which united and facilitated communication up to date.

Roads and railways lines were built which improved transport and communication and this increased the exploitation of African resources e.g. cotton and copper.

New crops were introduced such as cotton, tea but they neglected the growth of food crops which led to famine.

There was development of urban centers e.g. Kampala, Nairobi.

There was increase in trade between European and African countries which led to the influx of new goods e.g. clothes, guns etc...

## **BRITISH COLONIAL SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION**

### **INDIRECT RULE**

This was a system where local administration was left in the hands of the local rulers but under the supervision of the British officials.

In this case the British would pass on orders to the local leaders who in turn would pass them over to their subjects.

The system preserved the African traditional institutions like traditional courts of laws and roles of chiefs.

It was introduced and popularized by Captain Fredrick Lugard in his book the “Dual mandate in tropical Africa” in which he believed that both the British and Africans benefited.

The system was mainly applied in areas with centralized administration where a ruler with traditional authority existed e.g. Buganda, Ankole etc...

## **REASONS WHY THE BRITISH APPLIED INDIRECT RULE**

It was cheap to use African chiefs instead of fellow Europeans who asked for big salaries, yet Africans could be paid little salaries, gifts, praises and meaningless titles.

There was lack of sufficient manpower as they had few administrators to effectively administer their colonies and so they used Africans.

Language barrier made it necessary to rule through traditional chiefs who knew little English to interpret the British policies to the locals.

They also used indirect rule because they wanted to develop leadership skills of Africans rulers who worked under the British and to eventually prepare them for self-government.

The success of indirect rule in other British colonies like Canada, India, Nigeria, influenced the British to advocate for it in Uganda.

The British wanted the chiefs to be blamed for the unfair colonial policies e.g. taxation thus they would act as shock absorbers to these policies.

They wanted to preserve the African institutions, cultures and customs which the British knew Africans treasured.

There were already established systems that were centralized and creating new power centers would be problematic and this made the system to work effectively e.g. Buganda.

African chiefs enjoyed a lot of respect and obedience so would easily be accepted by the local people as they were used to them and knew their needs and problems more than the Whites.

They wanted to be unique from the Germans who used direct rule and the French who used the assimilation policy.

Tropical climate and diseases like sleeping sickness that would endanger the lives of Europeans forced the British to use the Africans.



There was lack of developed transport system especially in the remote areas which discouraged many Whites to work in the interior and so the Africans had to be used.

The British admired the Kiganda mode of administration and therefore tried to export it in other parts of the country as a way of creating a uniform system of administration.

The British felt that it was difficult to turn Africans into Europeans and make them understand the operation of British institutions.

### **APPLICATION OF INDIRECT RULE IN UGANDA**

It was headed by the British colonial secretary in charge of colonial affairs who was based in London and was answerable to the British parliament.

Below him was the governor at the head of the colony and was answerable to the colonial secretary and had their headquarters in Entebbe.

Below him were the provincial commissioners who were in charge of the provinces.

Below them were the District commissioners in charge of the various districts and they took orders from the provincial commissioners. These top positions were held by British officials.

For easy administration the districts were further divided into counties under county chiefs who were answerable to the District commissioners.

Counties were sub divided into sub-counties under sub-county chiefs who were answerable to county chiefs.

Sub-counties were divided into parishes each under parish chiefs who were answerable to sub-county chiefs.

The parishes were divided into sub-parishes and they took orders from parish chiefs.

Below the sub-parish chiefs were the village headmen who got orders from sub parish chiefs and would pass them to the subjects.

Top positions were reserved for British who also acted as advisors and supervisors while low positions were left for Africans.

The system was mainly applied in centralized societies like Buganda, Ankole where they had reorganized traditional authority.

In decentralized societies like Northern, the British created their own chiefs.

In eastern Uganda Semei Kakungulu was used to administer the areas as he created the Kiganda mode of administration with Baganda agents.

In Bunyoro the British appointed Baganda agents like James Miti to replace local chiefs who had become rebellious however there were harsh to the people leading to Nyangire rebellion hence the withdrawal of Baganda agents.

In Toro indirect rule failed because the British did not give them mile land and some of them refused to recognize the rule of Kasagama.

In Ankole the Bairu were used to rule the Bahima.

The local chiefs were charged with the responsibility of maintaining law and order, collection of taxes, mobilization of people for public works and to preside over local courts.

Cases involving the white were handled by the colonial government.

The chiefs were to be paid salaries and wages by the colonial government.

The British government made laws for the administration of the colony but customary laws were also respected.

The colonial government established administrative posts and built roads and railway to perfect indirect rule.

From the 1930s the power of local chiefs were reduced as British officials become many and assumed more powers.

## **EFFECTS OF INDIRECT RULE**

The effects were positive and negative but also social, political and economic in nature.

It enabled the British administration to rule a very large area although they were few as they used the traditional leaders.

It enabled the British to effectively exploit Uganda's resources through growing of cash crops and payment of taxes e.g. hut tax, gun tax among others.

The system made Africans chiefs appear enemies of their own local people as they implemented British policies e.g. collection of taxes, maintenance of roads etc...

The position of the traditional rulers declined which led to the collapse of their authority.

The policy promoted the native authority and laws of Buganda which became a model in Uganda.

Africans were given elementary education and employed as clerks, interpreters so as to be used in colonial administration.

The system created a class of ambitious Africans who co-operated with the British to extend and implement indirect rule e.g. Semei Kakungulu.

The policy favored Buganda against other areas which created enmity between Buganda and other tribes e.g. Bunyoro which led to instability.

Some chiefs /agents misused their power e.g. they were very harsh, over taxed the people which led to resistances.

The system discouraged national unity as each society was administered at a tribal level which led to tribalism which is a challenge up to date.

It brought religion into politics of Buganda and Uganda as Protestants were favored as agents at the expense of Catholics and Muslims.

Later the policy became a problem during the independence strategy as it was very difficult to convince the chiefs to fight a system they had facilitated.

## **PROBLEMS FACED BY THE BRITISH IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF UGANDA**

Inadequate man power which made administration difficult e.g. only forty trained officials were used to supervise the whole protectorate of Uganda.

High costs of administration were incurred as they had to pay salaries to the chiefs and collaborators.

Language barrier as very few people who could understand English and yet there were a number of languages which made communication difficult.

The Kiganda system of administration which the British wanted to use in all areas failed especially in decentralized societies.

They faced rebellion and resistance e.g. the Nyangire rebellion 1907, Lamogi rebellion 1911-1912 which were very costly.

The chiefs/ agents who were imposed on the people who were sometimes were rejected because they were cruel, harsh and arrogant.

Poor transport and communication made movement and co-ordination within the protectorate difficult.

Religious wars created confusion and instability that created difficulty in administration.

With time, the Baganda who had initially Co-operated with the British started demanding for independence.

Some Baganda agents were more interested in power and wealth than implementing indirect rule e.g. sometimes the taxes were never handed over to the British.

The tropical climate and tropical diseases especially sleeping sickness on the shores of Lake Victoria affected their activities.

The Buganda agreement disunited the people as it marginalized the Catholics and Muslims which caused resentment.

Introduction of a uniform profitable economic activity was impossible because of differences e.g. cash crops could not be grown by cattle keeping Bahima

*QN:*

*Describe the British System of administration in Uganda.*

*What problems did the British face in their administration?*

*Why did the British apply indirect rule in Uganda?*

*What were the effects of indirect rule on the people of Uganda?*

## **GERMAN SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION IN TANGANYIKA**

### **DIRECT RULE**

Direct Rule was the colonial system of administration which was used by the Germans and it involved the use of German officials in direct administration of their colony.

However, agents were used and these were mainly Arabs and Swahili people and the traditional leaders lost their powers. It was started and popularized by Carl Peters.

### **REASONS WHY THE GERMANS APPLIED DIRECT RULE**

The German looked at Africans as incapable of public administration and not to be trusted with leadership.

They believed that it was the only system through which they could effectively administer their colony.

They believed the system would enable them effectively exploit and benefit from African resources without interference.

The Germans had used force to take over many parts of Tanganyika and therefore soldiers had to be used to consolidate their stay.

Many societies were decentralized and did have powerful leaders who would administer on behalf of the Germans.

The Germans had suffered African resistance and therefore had to rule directly to tame Africans and prevent revolts.

They thought that they had enough manpower to carry out administration without the help of the agents and saw no need to recruit Africans.

They wanted to promote superiority over the Africans and impose their culture and customs through forced legal systems.

They wanted to be unique from the British who had used indirect rule.

It was costly to train local manpower to carry out administration which would strain their budget and so decided to use their officials and agents.

They were inexperienced in colonial administration because they had just started acquiring colonies so they used direct rule.

## **HOW DIRECT RULE WAS APPLIED IN TANGANYIKA**

The system was popularized by Carl Peters.

At the top of the administration was the governor stationed at Dar-es-Salaam, who in most cases was a soldier and had a lot powers and authority.

The governor was directly responsible to the colonial minister in Berlin German.

In 1904 the governors' council was set up to advise the governor and it was made up of three German government servants.

For efficient administration, the Germans divided Tanganyika into 22 districts each under a district officer with a police force and army to maintain law and order.

The district officers were charged with the responsibility of tax collection, appointing and dismissing junior officers, maintain law and order.

They also acted as the highest court of appeal, as judges and presided over cases and administered punishments.

The districts of Rwanda and Burundi were left under traditional authority but supervised by German residents.

In Nyamwezi and Unyanyembe local leaders were left with traditional roles but under the supervision of Akidas and Jumbes.

The rebellious districts of Mahenge and Iringa were put under military control.

In other areas chiefs were created to promote German interests e.g. in Usambara.

The districts were divided into counties further divided into sub counties which were also divided into villages of 20,000 and 30,000 people.

Below the district heads were the Akidas and below the Akidas were the Jumbes in Charge of village and these were mainly Arabs.

The Akidas and Jumbes were responsible for the village administration and these ensured through engagement in profitable activities e.g. the growing of cotton and tax collection.

A German resident was posted to each area as a supervisor and advisor. However, they were very harsh and disrespectful of African cultures; they applied forced labour and cotton growing which led to the unpopularity of their rule as many Africans rose up in revolts e.g. Maji-Maji, Abushiri, and Hehe etc.

After World War I, German rule ended in Tanganyika and Britain took over control.

## **EFFECTS OF DIRECT RULE ON THE PEOPLE OF TANGANYIKA**

The effects were many and these were both positive and negative.

The brutality and ruthlessness of the Akidas led to the wide spread of rebellions e.g. Maji-Maji, Hehe, and Abushiri etc.

The Local leaders lost their powers to the Akidas and Jumbes.

Africans were subjected to forced labour on plantations and public works where they were exposed to poor working conditions and low wages.

Heavy and forced taxation of a hut tax was imposed which increased poverty, suffering and misery of the Africans.

African states and chiefdoms lost their independence to the Germans as everything was interfered with.

There was forced growing of cash crops e.g. cotton supervised by the ruthless Akidas and Jumbes.



Famine broke out due to forced cash crops growing and the scorched earth policy used by the Germans.

Africans lost their lives and property in the process of resisting German rule in Tanganyika.

Africans lost a lot of their fertile land to the German settlers for plantations agriculture e.g. in the Kitombero valley.

African cultures, customs and tribal institution were destroyed as the Germans imposed on them their cultures such as the language.

It led to the rise of nationalism as the people demanded for their independence and freedom from the Germans.

African traders like the Nyamwezi were pushed out of trade which was monopolized by the German companies.

After 1904 the Germans sacked some Akidas and replaced them with local chiefs.

Roads and railway were built to ease transportation of goods.

They also spread western civilization through building of schools, churches and the spread of Christianity.

### **BRITISH ADMINISTRATION IN TANGANYIKA AFTER 1919**

After World War I, German surrendered all colonies including Tanganyika to the League of Nations which mandated to Britain to administer the area and carried out a number of reforms.

A new British governor Horace Byatt was appointed and was to be assisted by four members of the executive.

Byatt retained the Akidas, Jumbes and was accused of failing to put Tanganyika on a serious track and was replaced by Donald Cameron in 1925.

Cameron embarked on developing Tanganyika and introduced indirect rule and decreased the gap between government and people.

He also established the Native Authority Ordinance in 1925 and set up legislative council on which Africans were also represented.

African leaders were empowered to collect taxes, administer justice and carry out some administrative duties.

In 1926 the Tanganyika legislative council was established by Cameroon comprising of thirteen officials and seven non official members.

Taxation was introduced in Tanganyika as the hut and poll taxes were introduced in 1923 there by forcing Africans to grow cash crops in order to raise money.

Cameroon gave the Africans land that previously belonged to the settlers and the Europeans were denied a chance of buying land for estates.

The Africans were encouraged to grow cash crops on their own so as to improve their standards of living. The Chagga grew Arabica coffee on the slopes of Mt Kilimanjaro while Bukoba grew Robusta coffee.

Roads and railway network were built and others extended to productive areas e.g. Tabora-Mwanza line and the Dar-Kagoma line that had been destroyed by the Germans was repaired.

As a result of the developed transport network trade developed.

The mining industry too developed at Geita in 1922, in Musomo and Mwanza districts. Gold was exploited which increased the earning of the country annually

In response to the Phelps Stokes Commission government started building more schools and increased its expenditure on education and by 1925 a department of education was established.

Government earnings increased and this improved government provision of social services and thus improved the standards of living.

The ex-service men were resettled and many were given land that previously belonged to the white settlers.

Slave trade that had persisted in Tanganyika was brought to an end in 1922.

Political parties were formed by the elite e.g. the Tanganyika African association which later changed to TANU in 1954.

## AFRICAN REACTIONS TO THE COLONIAL RULE

African reaction to colonial rule varied from one society to another as some Africans collaborated while others resisted. The resisters objected to the establishment of colonial rule. The active resisters were those societies that got guns and fought the colonialist e.g. the Nandi and Bunyoro while the passive resisters did not fight but were not co-operative.

## REASONS FOR RESISTING COLONIAL RULE

They resisted preserving and defending their independence and territorial integrity against the colonial.

Some resisted because their traditional enemies collaborated e.g. Bunyoro resisted because Buganda had collaborated.

They resisted because they were sure of their military strength and ability to fight the Europeans e.g. the Banyoro, Nandi.

Religious propaganda and superstitions also caused resistance as they misled the African into resisting e.g. the Nandi, Maji-Maji.

Some resisters wanted to defend their religion like the Arabs and Swahili at the coast e.g. entering dogs in the mosque.

The oppressive and exploitive economic policies like land grabbing, forced labour, heavy taxation contributed to the resistance.

The methods used to acquire a given territory dictated the response of the African e.g. Bunyoro resisted because the British used force.

They resisted because they wanted defend their economic interests which were being threatened by European trading course e.g. abolition of slave trade led to Abushiri resistance.

They resisted because their culture and customs were being undermined by the Whites who were imposing their cultures e.g. the raping of women.

The rise and the roles played by able leaders like Kinjikitile, Mkwawa who mobilized the masses and criticized colonial administration.

Direct rule under mined traditional set up and provoked resistance e.g. in German colonies where local leaders were substituted by the foreigners.

Misfortunes in some societies that were attached to White led to rebellion e.g. diseases and other natural calamities.

### **THE ABUSHIRI REBELLION /COASTAL REBELION/ ARAB REVOLT /1888**

The Abushiri rebellion took place at the coast against the German rule. It took place between 1888 and 1890 and involved the Swahilis and blacks.

It was named after their leader Abushiri Ibin Salim who was a prominent Swahili trader near Pangani. The other leader was Bwanihari who controlled the Southern part of Dar-es-Salaam, Kilwa and Uzigua.

### **CAUSES OF THE ABUSHIRI REBELLION**

The people at the coast rebelled because they wanted to defend their independence against foreign rule.

They wanted to protect their economic interests which were being threatened by the Germans. This was because the GEACO threatened to end slave trade.

The coastal people resented the heavy taxes imposed on them by the Germans and yet the methods of tax collection were brutal and harsh.

The German forced the coastal people to work on their plantations without pay yet the working conditions were bad which forced them to rebel.

The German grabbed land from the coastal people which left many Africans landless and so they fought to regain their lost land.

The Germans had deprived the African chiefs of their rights to collect taxes which affected their economic independence hence leading to the rebellion.

The coastal people resented the oppressive rule of the German and their agents who were harsh and cruel and this forced them to resist.

The coastal people wanted to protect their religion and this was because mosques were turned into posh by the German, entered with shoes and dogs and the fact many were Moslems they were offended and resisted therefore.

The coastal people rebelled because they wanted to protect their culture and customs from being degraded by German culture and Christianity.

The GEACO'S coming up with economic restriction of ownership of property and land denied Arab houses for German residences led to the rebellion.

The Germans were also taking over the Long Distance Trade from the Arabs and Swahili which they resisted leading to the rebellion.

The Germans had removed authority from the traditional leaders which contributed to the rebellion since they were mistreated and publicly embarrassed.

### **COURSE/ORGANIZATION OF THE ABUSHIRI REBELLIONS**

The rebellion was led by Abushiri Ibin Salim started on 8<sup>th</sup> Aug 1888 in Pangani and spread to other towns like Kilwa, Bagamoyo etc.

The Germans were taken by surprise and so in the initial stages were defeated.

Within a short time, the whole of the coast was in revolt and some interior tribes joined e.g. Usambara Usangara. A few GEACO officials were killed and others expelled from the coastal towns except Bagamoyo and Dar-es-Salaam,.

Bwanihari a Swahili trader in Uzigua and other coastal traders also joined the revolt as well as the coastal Bantu communities at Kilwa and the Yao too joined the rebellion.

However, some Africans supported the Germans against Abushiri and the rebelling coastal people e.g. Nyamwezi collaborated with the Germans.

In May 1889 the Germans led by Major Wiseman were forced to send their troops Nubians, Sudanese, Turkish police and Zulu within two months they had captured the Northern towns of Dar-es-Salaam, Pangani and forced Abushiri to retreat in the interior.

Abushiri hired 50,000 fighters but lost the support of the interior communities because of their looting practices.

In Dec 1889 Abushiri was betrayed by a Jumbe called Magaya who reported him to the Germans. He was captured and hanged in Pangani and at the time of his death he had been deserted by most of his followers.

In 1890 Wiseman attacked the Southern coastal towns forcing Bwanihari in the interior.

In April 1890, he submitted to the Germans and the Southern coast was occupied soon afterwards, the Arabs who collaborated with Germans became agent of the coastal towns which marked the end of uprising.

On 1<sup>st</sup> January 1891 the Germany government replaced the GEACO as controllers of German East Africa.

### **PROBLEMS FACED BY ABUSHIRI /WHY THE REBELLION FAILED**

The resistance being dominated by Arabs at first did not attract the indigenous people who supported the Germans which led to their defeat.

Abushiri's defeat at the coast pushed him in the interior where they lacked the support of the Arabs hence their defeat.

He resorted to using the fighters who fought as mercenaries however; they did not fight with high moral as they did not know why they were fighting.

The German's determination to crush the rebellion at whatever cost led to the defeat of Abushiri.

The landscape at the coast did not have defensive barriers so they could easily be spotted which contributed to their defeat.

The Germans used crucial methods to suppress the rebellion e.g. scorch earth policy, shooting on sight, hanging which instilled fear on the fighters and forced them to surrender.

His army was not big enough to overpower the Germans' army and Abushiri himself lacked adequate military training.

The Germans got reinforcement when they recruited Nubians, Somalis, Sudanese and Zulu to fight on their side which strengthened their army.

They lacked a united command and were not well coordinated e.g. much as Bwana and Abushiri were fighting a common cause, they were not in contact hence defeat.

Famine weakened Abushiri rebels making them lose the war e.g. Bwana's soldiers surrendered due to starvation.

Poor organization and poor methods of fighting e.g. the use of open warfare put his soldiers at risk leading to defeat.

The German army was well trained compared to the Arabs who did not have a strong army to fight a long war hence the defeat.

Abushiri's disastrous defeat at Bagamoyo affected the fighting morale of his army and many surrendered.

Abushiri's weapons were outdated guns could not match what the Germans had hence the defeat.

Some societies collaborated with the Germans e.g. the Nyamwezi which led to defeat of Abushiri's army.

Abushiri was betrayed by a Jumbe and when he was captured and hung and without his leadership the rebellion came to an end.

## EFFECTS



## **THE MAJI – MAJI REBELLION (1905 and 1907)**

The Maji – maji, rebellion got its name from a Swahili word meaning water.

It was an African rebellion against German colonial rule that took place in southern Tanganyika between 1905 and 1907.

The rebellion was organized by Prophet Kinjikitile Ngwale who believed that by using magic water on ones body they would not die of German bullets.

It was started among the people around R.Rufigi and spread south wards and the tribes involved included the Natumbi, Ngoni, Mbuga, and Wangindo.

### **CAUSES OF THE REBELLION**

The Africans wanted to regain their fertile lands which had been taken by the Germans e.g. in the Kilombero valley where they had put large farms.

They wanted to regain their independence from the Germans and this was spearheaded by the leaders who had lost their power.

They resented forced labour imposed on them by the Germans on plantations without pay and this led to rebellion.

They resented the raping of their women by Germans agents which was against their culture and so this led to the rebellion.

The Germans imposed heavy taxes on African which was followed by the brutal ways of its collection and this was resisted leading to the rebellion.

The Akidas and the Jumbes who were the German agents were harsh and cruel which forced the African to rebel against them.

They wanted to preserve their cultures and customs which were not respected by the Germans e.g. the missionaries burnt African shrines.

They also rebelled because the Germans did not respect their religion e.g. they allowed their dogs to enter mosques which annoyed Muslims.

The traditional leaders who had been replaced by the Akidas and Junbes were subjected to degrading acts like corporal punishment which forced them to rebel in protest.

They also rebelled because the Germans were forcing them out of trade which threatened their economic interest.

The Ngoni had personal grievances against the Germans who had murdered their tribe mate during the Boma massacre of 1897 and so the desire to ravage led to the rebellion.

The Africans were forced to grow cotton which was unprofitable to them as they were given little money and could not grow food crops which led to famine.

The effective leadership and organization ability of Kinjikitile Ngwale inspired them to rebel.

The belief in magic water that if one smeared ones self would not die of German bullets motivated many African to join the rebellion.

## **THE COURSE OF THE REBELLION**

In 1904, a traditional priest by the name of Kinjikitile Ngwale emerged in Ngarambe in Rufigi valley. He claimed to be possessed by a spirit that resided in a pond in the tributary of River Rufigi.

It was from this pond that the magic water was got and then mixed with millet, sorghum and herbs to give “immunity” against the German bullets.

From Ngarambe, Kinjikitile’s preaching that the magic water would give complete protection against the German bullets spread to all corners.

By January 1905 a secret movement called “Jujila” was formed among the Wamatumbi and Wangido.

It spread secretly encouraging people to go to Kinjikitile for the “Magic water”, Pilgrims from all corners started flocking to Ngarambe hills for the wonder medicine.

However, Kinjikitile did not instruct people to go and start fighting. They were supposed to wait for a communication from him as they continued working for the Germans.

The Germans on hearing that there was a medicine man in Ngarambe giving people magic water decided to send a messenger to find out what was exactly going on. On return the messenger confirmed what they had heard, but they did not take him seriously.

People waited patiently for Kinjikitile's orders to start fighting, but by 1905 no such orders had come. The Matumbi grew impatient and decided to provoke the Germans into war by uprooting cotton shoots at Nandetta on 12<sup>th</sup> July 1905.

This was enough to provoke the Germans into war and on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1905, the Matumbi engaged the German agents who had been sent to investigate the matter. They drove them out of their hills. This marked the beginning of the rebellion. But this did not alarm the Germans.

From Rufigi area, within a few weeks the rebellion had quickly spread to other cotton producing areas like Uruguru, Mahenge and Kilombero valleys.

Through night messengers tribes like the Bena, Mbuga, Pogoro, Ngindo, Ngoni and Zaramo were all brought together by the spirit of the Maji – Maji water built on Kalero cult a traditional religion.

However, societies that had tasted the German bullets like the Hehe, were reluctant to join the rising.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1905, the coastal town of Samanga near Kilwa was attacked and burnt down by the Maji – Maji fighters, missionaries, government officials, Akida and Jumbes were all murdered. The Germans this time began to think seriously about the rebellion.

Using surprise attacks, the Maji – Maji fighters targeted German plantations, missions, Swahili shops and administration bomas like a Mahenge, Kilose, Iringa and Songea.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> August 1905, the Maji Maji fighters attacked Mahenge and Lukuledi valleys. The rebellion in these areas was a success because the Germans were caught unprepared.

In September 1905 the Bena and Ngoni joined the rebellion but they were surrounded and killed by the Germans.

Africans used guerrilla tactics of warfare and were armed with water, spears and stones and the Germans used the earth scorched policy as a way of subduing and destroying the strength of the Africans.

The Germans ordered for reinforcements and by November 1905, it had arrived under Von Wissman and the Germans started suppressing the rebellion systematically. More reinforcement as got from the Zulu, Sudanese and Swahili.

They started hunting for the ring leaders. Forty seven chiefs and sub chiefs were hunged. Abdullah Mpanda one of the leaders was killed and this upset the Africans. The magic water could not help them.

From 1906, the German plan was to round up those who were still opposed to them; more leaders of the rebellion were killed, captured and hunged.

Others surrendered while others decided to go into exile in Mozambique. Kinjikitile did not survive these killings.

By August 1907, the rebellion was over and the Germans had emerged victorious. This was the last revolt against the German rule in Tanganyika.

## **WHY THE AFRICANS LOST THE WAR**

Just like any other resistance against European rule in East Africa and Africa in general, the Maji – Maji rebellion was defeated because of the folloing reasons;

Kinjikitile's false propaganda of the "*magic water*" did not provide immunity against German bullets as he had claimed.

Africans did not make enough preparation before the war. People just joined the rebellion basing on Kinjikitile's propaganda.

There was no military training carried out to prepare the fighters for war.

Lack of unity among the various tribes as sometimes there would be clashes and fighting among themselves.

Still on unity, Africans fought in groups with no unified command for they had more than one leader hence their defeat.

The Hehe, Chagga and Nyamezi did not join the rebellion which reduced the power and ability of those who were fighting and some even collaborated with Germans.

## **EFFECTS**

## **THE NANDI RESITENCE (1895-1906)**

The Nandi belong to the Kalenjini people occupying a section of western Kenya who resisted British occupation. It took place between 1895 and 1906.

### **CAUSES OF THE NANDI RESISTANCE**

In 1895 the Nandi killed a British trader Peter West for attempting to cross their land when the British sent a military expedition against the Nandi, the war started.

The Nandi fought the British to defend and preserve their political independence.

They believed that they were superior culturally over all people especially Europeans which pushed them to fight.

To the Nandi, the White color of the Europeans and their ways of dressing resembled those of the Nandi female devils which led to resistance.

The Nandi feared massive loss of land to the British who were building the railway without compensation leading to the resistance.

They also wanted to protect and preserve their culture which the British considered backward.

The Nandi were generally a warrior society who took fighting as part of their life and believed they were superior so when the British threatened their pride they resisted.

The influence of the Orkoiyotship united the Nandi under his leadership he could predict the outcome of the war which motivated them to fight.

The influence of Kimanyole prophecy a Nandi leader who prophesized that foreign people would come to rule the Nandi and that a large metallic snake, spitting fire and smoke which was proved by the construction of the railway line contributed to the resistance.

They resisted because their traditional enemies the Masai and Luyia had collaborated.

The Nandi were also inspired by other rebellion like the Abushiri, Hehe etc..

The British were also interesting in the ivory and slave trade which were the source of livelihood of the Nandi so they fought to defend their economic independence.

The Nandi resisted because of forced labour. They resented carrying White man's goods which they saw as slavery and so rebelled.

### **THE COURSE OF THE NANDI RESISTANCE 1895-1906**

The resistance began in 1895 when Peter West was killed by the Nandi when he attempted to cross Nandi land.

Immediately the British reacted by sending a military expedition against the Nandi. It was comprised of the British, Sudanese and Swahili mercenaries but this force was defeated with over 50 of their men killed by the Nandi.

In 1897 the Nandi again attacked and defeated the British.

The British added more mercenaries including the Masai to their forces however, they were also defeated as they could not match the Nandi.

In 1899 the Nandi made fresh attacks on the British up to 1900 this was when the Uganda railway reached their areas. They killed the Indian coolies who worked on the lines and looted telegraph wires for making ornaments and weapons.

They also attacked the British protected communities among the Luo and Luyia who were believed to be collaborators; they also raided the caravans to Uganda.

The British reacted by mobilizing a large force of Masai and Ganda mercenaries to reinforce the Swahili and Indian troops against the Nandi but with little success.

The British initiated peace and negotiations with the Nandi; They wanted railway construction to continue even the Nandi were tired of fighting although the British never controlled the Nandi they opened up function centre in Kipture, Kiptume and Kapkolei.

However soon after this peace agreement the Nandi resumed resistance as they attacked the railway works and looted equipments

In 1905 the British organized large force of 1500 soldiers and police, Swahili mercenaries, armed Masai porters.

The British also killed the Nandi leader Koitale in the home of prophet Orkoiyot, his death demoralized the Nandi.

Between October and November 1905 the Nandi tried another attack but were defeated with heavy losses.

In December 1905 the Nandi leader eventually accepted peace terms with the British. The clans of Kamelio and Kapchepkendi were to move to the reserves in the north but when they refused to move the British applied force and drove them out.

In 1906 the British force built many forts in the Nandi area and effectively ruled the Nandi although there was continued passive resistance.

### **REASONS WHY THE NANDI RESISTED FOR LONG**

The Nandi resistance took eleven years due to political, social and economic factors.

The geography of Nandiland which was mountainous, hilly with steep heavily wooded valleys was ideal for guerilla warfare and unsuitable for the British use of the gun.

The wet and cool climate of Nandi area negatively affected the health of the British and slowed down the advances of their forces.

The Nandi were united in their resistance by the rule of Orkoiyot who was both a religious and political leader and thus motivated them to fight.

The British were ignorant of the country they were fighting and sometimes were misguided. Hence, the prolonged struggle.

The British underestimated the Nandi's ability to resist and initially only sent small forces against them.

The traditional Nandi tactics involving night fights and ambushes took the British by surprise and easily weakened their advances.



The Nandis' pride as a superior tribe in military warfare gave them determination to fight the British for a longtime.

The army was divided into units based on clans and places of residences. In case one group was defeated the other would carry on the struggle.

The presence of blacksmiths among the Nandi enabled them to make their own weapons like spears and arrows which were supplemented the few guns they had. This enabled them to fight for long.

They practiced mixed farming so they were initially not faced with lack of food as the effect of burning crops by the British made them rely on livestock.

The British forces were not mobile enough as they were slowed by the large numbers of porters who had to carry food so they were easily caught up by the Nandi attacks.

The Nandi had a well organized experienced army which had been fighting their neighbours so they easily defeated the British.

The strong and determined leadership of Orkoiyot united the Nandi and gave them morale to keep fighting the British.

The acquisition of guns from the coastal traders by the Nandi strengthened them more.

The role of district agents in mobilizing the masses and their loyalty to Orkoiyot prolonged the resistance.

## **REASONS WHY THE NANDI RESISTANCE WAS FINALLY DEFEATED**

Even after eleven years of fighting the Nandi were eventually defeated because of political, social and economic factors;

The military superiority of the British who were better armed with maxim guns contributed to the defeat of the Nandi.

On the other hand, the Nandi had arrows, spears, clubs, stones, sticks and outdated guns.

The death of the Nandi leader prophet Koitale demoralized the Nandi fighters with out whom the resistance was weakened and destroyed.

The Nandi lacked support from their neighbours who instead collaborated with the British e.g the Masai, Luyia etc...

Natural calamities like long periods of drought, rinderpest, diseases and famine weakend the fighters.

The Nandi lacked a united command they fought according to their clans and the resistance was broken down based on clan by clan and by 1906 they were no more.

The British got reinforcement from the Swahil masai, Baganda Sudanese among others who strengthened their forces.

The British were determined and not prepared to be defeated by an African tribe which contributed to the defeat of the Nandi.

The belief in superstition contributed to their defeat as they belived that their gods and ancestors would help them during the war.

The poor economy of the Nandi could not sustain a prolonged war of resistance against the British.

The wide spread use of violence, scorched earth policy i.e burning of gardens, food stores threatened the Nandi.

The British used both forceful and diplomatic means which involved negotiation that finally forced the Nandi to surrender.

There was lack of consistant supply of arms and ammunition on the side of the Nandi which led to their defeat

Exhanstion or fatigue due to the long period of resistance also made Nandi to be defeated.

The Murder of Orkoiyot demoralized and weakened the spirit of resistance among the Nandi.

## **EFFECTS OF THE NANDI RESISTANCE**

The effects were political, social and economic in nature.

The Nandi were defeated and lost their independence to the British who imposed their rule on them.

There was heavy loss of lives as both the Nandi and British forces were killed which led to depopulation.

There was massive destruction of property as villages were burnt and cattle looted.

The Nandi lost some of their better land to the British which was used for both settlement and construction of the railway.

The British won the war with heavy costs financially as it took them a fortune to suppress the Nandi.

The defeat of the Nandi scared off her neighbors from resisting the British e.g. the Luyia, Masai who collaborated having realized the superiority of the British.

The Uganda railway was finally built across Nandi land to Kisumu and Uganda without difficulty.

There was displacement of the Nandi who were pushed to reserves which were infertile and overcrowded.

There was widespread poverty, misery and famine due to economic destruction through the scorch earth policy.

With the defeat of the Nandi who were the most hostile by the British, many White settlers moved into Kenya especially the highlands.

Forts were built throughout the Nandi area like Kipture, Kaptuma and Kapkolai to prevent further resistances.

Many people converted to Christianity because the teaching of the Orkoyot had failed to guide them into defeating the British.

Some of the Nandi who lost their land were forced to migrate to towns to find a way of survival.

The Nandi's superiority complex and arrogance was crushed as a result of their defeat.

### *Questions*

*(a) Describe the response of the Nandi to the establishment of colonial rule in their area.*

*b) Why were African societies unsuccessful in their attempts to prevent European domination?*

*(c) Why did the Nandi rise against the British in 1895?*

*(d) Why were they able to resist the British for long?*

*(e) Why did the Nandi resistance fail?*

*(f) What were the consequences of this resistance?*

## **HERE RESISTANCE UNDER CHIEF MKWAWA**

The Hehe rebellion was a rebellion against the Germans which was led by chief Mkwawa who came to power in 1678.

### **CAUSES OF THE REBELLIONS**

Mkwawa wanted to maintain and preserve the independence of Hehe which the Germans wanted to erode.

He levied a heavy homage tax on the caravans passing through his area and when the Germans told him to stop he resisted.

He had built a powerful strong army and thought that it would defeat and humiliate the Germans.

He was also resisting the cultural imperialism of the Germans who were encouraging Christianity, western education and condemning African ways as satanic.

He was a great expansionist leader as the Germans attempted to stop his dreams it led to conflicts leading to war.

The resistance was also to protect Hehe fertile lands from the Germans who wanted to grab it.

Forced labour on Government farms, public works like roads, forced Mkwawa to mobilize his people to rebel

The German traders and other Arabs refused to pay tributes and taxes so he reacted by closing trade routes which led to war.

His character contributed to the war. He was arrogant, big headed who refused to respond to the German calls to release the traders he had imprisoned leading to the war.

Mkwawa was annoyed by the Germans disrespect for him. They called him backward, barbaric, and uncivilized yet to him he was the sovereign ruler of the Hehe leading to the war.

Mkwawa's diplomatic envoys were on several occasions gunned down by the Germans forcing him to retaliate by engaging them in a war.

He expelled the German agents i.e. Akidas and Jumbes which annoyed the Germans hence leading to war.

The struggle to control the profitable trade route between Tabora and Bagamoyo for economic interests through tax collection led to conflicts hence the war.

He also expected to get support from the neighbors of the Ngoni and chief of Tabora.

## **COURSE OF THE HEHE REBELLION**

In 1891 the German force confronted Mkwawa however; he learnt of this plot, ambushed and humiliated this force at Lungala killing many Germans.

The Germans temporally accepted defeat gave up on him and shifted their attention to chief Isik who was willing to work with them.

However, Mkwawa realized the need to a peaceful end to the problem and dispatched messengers with gifts to the Germans. The Germans responded by killing the messengers which annoyed Mkwawa forcing him to close the trade route from Bagamoyo to Tabora and so the Germans started organizing expeditions against him.

He sent other messengers with gifts but were also killed. This greatly demoralized him forcing him to start a full scale war at Kilosa where he managed to kill the Germans and their allies of about two hundred ninety.

In October 1892 he destroyed a caravan at Kondowa which greatly increased his influence and was able to complete the construction of his fort at Kalenga for defensive purposes.

In 1894 the Germans stormed and destroyed his capital at Kalanga killing many of his soldiers.

With a handful of his men he escaped to Ingonge where he unsuccessfully attempted to ambush the Germans on their way to the coast. There after the Germans thinking he had been weakened relaxed their forces.

Using guerilla war tactics, Mkwawa launched another round of attacks on German controlled areas.

The Germans responded using the scorch earth policy as they poisoned water destroyed, food reservoirs which caused starvation. During this time he suffered as his warriors were killed and others surrendered to the Germans.

After being defeated he refused to be captured alive and instead shot himself in 1898. A few of his trusted soldiers also surrendered to the Germans.

When the Germans found his body they cut off his head and sent it to German where it was kept until 1954 when the Hehe demanded for it.

With his death in June 1898, the period of the Hehe resistance ended and the Germans built forts at strategic points throughout the country. He remained a hero who did all that he could to protect the independence of his people.

### **REASONS FOR MKWAWA'S DEFEAT**

The military superiority of the Germans with their superior weapons compared to Mkwawa's out dated guns and spears enabled them to defeat Mkwawa.

Lack of support from their neighbors as some African chiefs supported the Germans e.g. the Sangu chief who gave forces to German also contributed to the defeat Mkwawa.

Poor planning also contributed to his defeat it concentrated on protecting Kalenga leaving the outlying areas unprotected.

The Germans received a lot of support from their home Government which enabled them to defeat Mkwawa.

The Hehe also had a poor economy that could not sustain the war for long against a rich powerful German.

The scorch earth policy employed by the Germans left the Hehe with no hiding place and there was famine which weakened Mkwawa's forces.

The German's brutality forced some of Mkwawa's solders to surrender thus the defeat.

The German's determination to take over Mkwawa's territory which was a mother of life and death contributed to his defeat.

Mkwawa also suffered from poor health that could not allow him fight Germans. By the time he killed himself he was sickly and tired so he gave up fighting.

The long periods of drought and diseases also left Mkwawa's forces weakened and demotivated.

With his death, many of his soldiers were left stranded and many after wards surrendered to the Germans.

There was lack of effective mobilization and coordination among the Hehe which led to their defeat.

Lack of a standing Army also contributed to the defeat of the Hehe. This was because there was less back up in case of attack.

Outbreak of diseases like cholera, typhoid weakened the fighters which led to their defeat.

## **EFFECTS OF THE HEHE RESISTANCE**

The Hehe were defeated and they lost their independence to the Germans.

Many people were killed e.g. 290 Germans and their allies were killed and others migrated which led to depopulation.

There was destruction of property, villages, food stores and plantations.

There was famine since people abandoned agriculture because of insecurity.

Trade was disrupted especially along the central trade route from Bagamoyo to Tabora because of insecurity.

The German became brutal and cruel which increased the suffering and misery of the Africans.

The Africans and Swahili who collaborated with the Germans gained political posts in the local administrations.



The Hehe learnt a lesson not to engage in a war against the Germans which explains why they did not engage in the Maji-Maji rebellion.

The Hehe rebellion inspired other African in Tanganyika to rise against the Germans e.g. Maji-Maji.

Diseases broke out e.g. dysentery and sleeping sickness as the result of the poor living conditions during and after the war.

With the defeat and death of Mkwawa the Germans disbanded his council of advisors.

The Hehe were heavily fined for having participated in the resistance and this was through imprisonment and paying of very heavy taxes.

The Germans occupied Hehe land fertile lands and it became part of German East Africa.

After the war, the Germans built forts in the country to protect themselves from future revolts.