

## Acknowledgement and Preface

Any accomplishment requires the effort of many people to achieve excellence together and this work is not different. We would like to express our gratitude to many people who saw us through this booklet, to all those who provided support, talked things over, read, wrote, offered comments, allowed us to quote their remarks and assisted in editing, proofreading and design. Also we beg for forgiveness of all those who have been with us over the course of preparation and we failed to mention their names.

***Summarized and Simplified History for form Three;*** has been prepared to meet the needs of form Three students. Students will use this booklet for references and clarification on different aspects, since language used is simplified so as to enhance profound understanding.

This booklet is resourceful and consists of many illustrations and examples as prescribed in the current syllabus. Hence it is expected that students and teachers will find the booklet interesting and educative in the course of teaching and learning.

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## **TOPIC NO 1: ESTABLISHMENT OF COLONIALISM AND AFRICAN REACTION**

### **Introduction**

Colonization of the African continent by European capitalist powers is a stage in the development of capitalism. That is the stage of modern imperialism whose survival largely depended on intensive exploitation of non-capitalist societies abroad. The rise of modern imperialism was double process.

- a) It was the development of capitalism in Europe, transforming from commercial through industrial capitalism to monopoly or financial capitalism.
- b) It was the process of underdevelopment for the non-capitalist world, Africa in particular.

At the stage of modern imperialism colonization was made possible because of the widening gap in economic and technological development between the European capitalists and Africa.

### **STAGES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CAPITALISM.**

#### **A. Mercantilism or Commercial Capitalism.**

Mercantilism was an economic policy of European international (foreign trade) based on the collection of bullions (gold and silver) as a measure of nations wealth. This was the first stage of Capitalism which developed between 1400 to 1750.

#### **Characteristics of Mercantilism Capitalism.**

- 1) **Bullionism:** Throughout the mercantile era much emphasizes was devoted to the collection of Gold and Silver (Bullions). The collection of bullions was the best way to guarantee the security, power and prestige of the mercantile nations.
- 2) **Colonial expansionism:** Colonies existed primarily for the strengthening and enrichment of their mother countries. They supplied them with raw materials which they could not produce.
- 3) **National Unification:** National unification was a product of the demise of feudalism and the rise of the centralized states. National unification was a necessary step towards internationalization of trade.
- 4) **Protectionism:** This was erected mainly to give monopoly rights to the merchants over commerce. The English navigation acts of the 17th century and the Corn Laws of 1556 were set up to protect the English merchants from foreign interference.
- 5) **Militarism:** Mercantilism was associated with the establishment of large standing armies such as the navy. These armies were useful in safeguarding mercantile nations, piracing on high seas and escorting merchant ship.
- 6) **Populationism:** Mercantilism favoured the growth of population because they wanted labour force. With high population labour would be abundant and so production could be cheap.

#### **B. Competitive Capitalism (Free trade Capitalism)**

This was the stage in the development of capitalism after mercantilism. This stage was featured by free competition among the industrial capitalists with much concentration on industrial production. This period started from 1740's and ended in 1870 when new stage of capitalism (Monopoly Capitalism) came in existence. It known as competitive capitalism because it was governed with free competition in production of raw materials, wealth and discoveries of different productive forces which facilitated and quickened industrial production.

#### **Characteristics of Competitive Capitalism.**

1. The phase was characterized by the rise of large-scale industries, which brought about industrial revolution.
2. It was a free trade system with minimal government tariff policies.
3. Massive introduction of machines which easened production.
4. State played minimal role in production as this this was left to individuals.
5. Raw materials were necessary, therefore there was important of raw materials.
6. There was no monopoly of internal and foreign markets by few capitalists because none of the competitors was strong enough to eliminate the others from the competition.
7. There was a sensational speeding up of transportation and communication in Europe than ever before.

In free trade imperialism, palm oil, coconut and other oil products were highly needed as Lubricants of the machines and for soap manufacturing. Free trade system continued up to 1870. By this time due to contradiction in the capitalist's system free trade go to monopoly capitalism.

#### **C. Monopoly Capitalism (Imperialism)**

Imperialism is the highest stage of capitalism. Generally, Imperialism is the foreign policy of big capitalists countries which based on crossing of one's boundary to another backward country for extending power, maximization profit and exercise of political influence through military force or by acquiring colonies. Monopoly capitalism began when free capitalist enterprises reached their climax in 1860's and 1870's.

#### **Characteristics of Monopoly Capitalism.**

1. Concentration and centralization of capital in few hands because of the economic slump of 1873. The few capitalists who survived combined their capital to form big monopolies.
2. The merging of monopoly and industrial capital to form financial capital. In a situation of competition only these enterprises which combined money and production survived.
3. Export of Capital. It was the result of concentration, centralization and combination of industrial capital and banking capital to form financial (oligarchy). They need to export capital arose. Therefore expansionism became an important and crucial to monopoly capitalists.
4. Formation of international capitalist monopolies which divided the world among themselves. These monopolies first of all divided the market between themselves. When their profit outgrew, monopolies started close its border to different countries for control of foreign markets, sources of raw materials and spheres of capital investments.

5. Territorial division and re-division of the world among the imperialist nations. The division of the world among capitalist powers was completed by 1870's and every part of the world was already been taken.

## **THE COLONIZATION PROCESS.**

Colonization of Africa involved three stage or process.

- A. **Penetration of European imperialist powers into Africa.** This started with the coming of colonial agents such as explorers from 1840's, Missionaries in the 1860's and traders in 1860's. These imperialist agents were financed by European powers and individual capitalists to came in Africa and to pave the way ready for colonization.
- B. **The Scramble for and Partition of the continent.** The activities of the colonialist's agents caused intensive scramble for sphere of influence among the imperialist powers. The scramble for Africa caused serious conflicts which could lead to war among the imperialist powers. Thus to avoid this, the imperialist powers had to convene the Berlin conference in 1884-1885 so as to divide African among imperialist powers peacefully.
- C. **Imposition of Colonial Rule.** This was done after the partition of African continent through treaties, military violence and collaboration.

### **A. THE COMING OF COLONIAL AGENTS**

Before colonialism the colonial agents came to Africa to prepare her for colonization. Agents of colonialism was the individual groups of people including explorers, missionaries and traders through which their activities aided colonialists in the process of colonizing Africa.

#### **1. Explorers**

This was the first group of European to come in Africa, its major interest being geographical discoveries. Some of explorers were sent by societies like Royal Geographical Society for instance in 1856 sent two officers i.e. Richard Burton and John Hanning Speke. Another was London Missionary Society that sent Dr. David Livingstone and later Henry Morton Stanley.

#### **2. Missionaries**

This was the second group of colonial agents which had several organized societies which operated in East Africa between 1840 to 1914. The first arrivals were German Missionaries working for the Church Missionary Society, they were Johan Krapf (1884), Johan Rebman (1886) and Johan Erhad (1849). In 1863 a group of Holy Ghost Father (French) arrived from Re-Union and established a station at Bagamoyo. What to note here is that, it is from those early centres that Christian missionaries started expanding their influence throughout East Africa and in so doing they ended up acting as agents/forerunners of colonialism.

#### **3. Traders and Chartered Companies.**

The third agent of colonization was the traders and trading companies. European traders came in large numbers to operate in Africa following the successful missions of both Explorers and Christian

missionaries. The most active traders including British and German. Some traders formed small trading companies and associations to operate in Africa such as the Livingstone Central African Trading Company founded by James Stevenson in 1878.

Also William Macknon, another Scottish formed British Indian Steam Navigation Company and in 1888, Macknon secured a charter for his company. Under the royal Charter the name of the company changed to Imperial British East African Company (IBEACO).

### **Roles played by colonial Agents in colonizing Africa.**

- 1) Missionaries often invited their home governments to occupy areas they worked. In case they faced resistance or hostility from Africa they would be assured of security. In society like Buganda Christian Missionaries helped to overthrow Kabaka Mwannga who was then replaced by his son Daudi Chwa because Mwannga hindered in promotion of British colonial interest.
- 2) The colonial agents facilitated the spread of Christianity. Missionaries for example soften the hearts and minds of Christian African converts to the extent not resisting colonization.
- 3) In some societies they contributed to internal division and weakening the state. Example in Buganda they divided people along religious lines. This caused conflicts and war between Catholic and Protestants.
- 4) They were in the forefront in promoting legitimate trade in order to protect the economic interest of their home colonial powers as they increased desire for cheaper sources of raw materials and markets.
- 5) The explorers mapped the interior of East Africa, example the publication of Jacob Erhadits in 1856 also in 1872, David Livingstone sent several maps to London giving the location of Caravan routes, lakes and major rivers of Tanganyika.
- 6) They provided important geographical information, for example Rebman discovered Mount Kilimanjaro in 1848, Krapf became the first European to see Mount Kenya in 1849 and John Speke discovered the sources of river Nile in 1862.
- 7) Explorers established good working relations with African as they came across with which eased the work of Christian Missionaries, Traders and Chartered Companies. For example through Henry Morton Stanley, the Kabaka of Buganda requested for Christian Missionaries to come and operate on his Kingdom. Krapf write the first Swahili Dictionary and grammar also translated the New Testament into Swahili, making it easy for the later Christians Missionaries groups.
- 8) Missionaries provided education to the people who later became instruments in the colonization process of Africa.
- 9) They signed many treaties with African leaders. The agents acted as propagandists and interpreters. For example, Moffat a missionary who stayed in Ndebele land for more than 30 years was a useful interpreter to British South Africa Company (BSAC).
- 10) They fought for abolition of slavery and slave trade and established legitimate trade which replaced slave trade.

### **Roles played by Chartered Companies in colonization of Africa.**

- 1) The companies provided initial manpower for administration of British and Germany areas of influence. For instance in West Africa there were Royal Niger Company under George Goldie

who preserve the entire Niger area for British and soon formed the National African Company which was amalgamation of several trading firms.

- 2) They financed the administration in colonies on behalf of their respective home government which saved the government from unnecessary spending.
- 3) They assisted their home government in the development of infrastructure like roads, railways, construction of administrative posts etc.
- 4) They created security organs, which improved security and defense against African resistance.
- 5) They provided relevant information about the economic potentiality of Africans which attracted European white settlers.
- 6) They signed treaties with African chiefs on behalf of the colonial government like in Baganda, Ankole, Toro, Nandi and these treaties were used during the Berlin conference to claim those areas.
- 7) They suppressed African opposition, enforced administrative law and order and recruited policies which were used to maintain internal order, peace and stability. Example GEAC employed Arabs, Swahili, Sudanese and Baganda soldiers to counteract the coastal Arabs resistance of 1888-1889.

## **B. SCRAMBLE AND PARTITION OF AFRICA**

### **Scramble**

Literally the word scramble means a fight, scuffle or struggle for something. It has been applied in the context of Africa to refer to a sudden rush of European nations towards Africa with the aim of economic exploitation, in the later half of 19<sup>th</sup> century, which witnessed various imperialist nations trying to tear up the African continent which included Britain, France as the pioneers later joined by Germany in 1880s, Portugal, Italy, Belgium and other European Nations.

### **Partition.**

This means to slice, to divide or to break some thing into pieces. In the contest of African continent it definitely refers to the process where by African continent was divided into pieces among the European imperialist countries into colonial possession in the last quarter of 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Why Africa became the target in that particular period not before?**

- The Monroe doctrine, it was advanced by Monroe the president of USA by then after the American civil war of 1861-1865 it was all about warning Europeans nations not to involve in American issues, thus turned to Africa as an alternative.
- Africa was the only part in the world that had not been occupied, Britain had occupied Canada Australia New Zealand India, and thus Africa became a target to many European Nations.
- Reports delivered by the agents of colonialism played also a big role for Africa to become a target they penetrated the interior and fed the imperialists the economic potentiality that is found in Africa
- The availability of vast land with fertile soils in Africa also made Africa to become a target of imperialist to make abnormal profit through the exploitation of African cheap labor
- Another factor that made Africa to become the target in that particular period was the new idea about colonies, had changed from mere settlement of European population to an idea of protecting industrial market by seizing colonies abroad.

## **Causes for the scramble for and partition of Africa in the last quarter of 19<sup>th</sup> century by European powers.**

The scramble of Africa reached her zenith towards the last quarter of 19<sup>th</sup> century and a result to solve the problem Africa was partitioned into colonial possession among the imperialist nations the forces behind the scramble for Africa is still appoint of contention among various Historians.

- The Euro-centric historian argues that the cause for the colonization of Africa was due to humanitarian reasons i.e. to spread “civilization” in Africa, abolition of slave trade etc.
- While the Afro- centric/Marxist historians refute the above argument and argue that the causes of the scramble were development of imperialism especially during the stage of industrial revolution in Europe in 1750.

### **A. Industrial Revolution/economic factor**

Industrial revolution in Europe was the major cause of colonization of Africa; it brought contradictions within the capitalist economies whereby, Africa became a solution to solve those contradictions. The rise of monopoly capitalism in Europe changed the industrial environment of Europe. Up to 18770’s Britain dominated the world market and it was popularly known as the worker shop of the world, because of her industrial hegemony. Her industrial supremacy was being increasingly challenged by France, USA and Germany, the world market was becoming smaller and smaller as the industrialized countries were competing for the same market, such contradiction prompted the colonization of Africa that was a potential markets for European finished industrial goods. Industrial capitalism led to;

- It led to the rise of surplus population in Europe whereby there was unemployment, high crime rate, prostitution, insane, and idlers, that failed to fit in the new industrialized Europe thus a search for area of settlement and employment hence colonization of Africa which aimed at forestalling violent social upheavals in the capitalist countries.
- Industrial revolution led to the rise of workers movement and proletarianization in Europe or trade unions like Chartism, Luddism and new model trade unions who demanded high payment, good working condition, and the reduction of working hours. This made production in Europe very expensive and fall in profits of the bourgeoisie.
- Application of hostile tariffs or trade barriers within Europe, led to the abolition of free trade in 1870s as capitalism changed from competitive to monopoly stage. At this stage of capitalism it was characterized with centralization and concentration of capital that gave birth to monopolistic companies, and rise protectionism, This narrowed European markets and the solution was to come to African where super normal profits could be accumulated because raw materials could be obtained cheaply, labor was lowly paid and in most cases land was simply grabbed.
- Overproduction and under consumption, in European market. Whereby the purchasing power of many European consumers was very low as compared to the level of production. In 1870s western European factories were producing so many cheap goods that were running out of people to sell them to; their home market was no longer enough to consume all the produce. The imperialists turned more and more to Africa. Thus the scramble and eventual Colonization of Africa in the last quarter of 19th century.

- Scientific gains in Europe especially in the field of medicine, the discovery of quinine and chloroquine reduced the threat of malaria in Africa by imperialists hence they came and colonize Africa.
- Development of state monopoly, the marriage of interest between the state and the bourgeois in the metro pole influenced the export of capital and the bourgeois state used its militarism or state power to defend investment abroad by subduing any resistance in the colony
- Tendency of profit to fall in Europe. It became unprofitable to invest in the metro pole due to cut throat competition, protectionism and an Economic slump of 1873- 1893 that led to the fall of commodity prices drastically thus the cause to come in Africa where raw materials were obtained very cheaply labor was almost for free and land was in most cases simply alienated from the indigenous people.
- Role of colonial agents [men on the spot] these were the colonial agents who provided the information feedback and reported the economic potentiality of Africa that persuaded their home government to come and take over African counties. These included missionaries traders and explorers, who are known as forerunners of colonialism. They were essential ingredients of the increasingly assertive European presence of imperial control in most cases Christian missionaries' played a significant role in promoting and shaping the advent of European colonialism, especially in the last quarter of 19th. In other words they paved way for the colonization of Africa.

## **B. Other Factors**

### **1. Strategic reasons**

The colonization of Africa was also motivated due to strategic reasons some areas were considered more attractive economically thus led the scramble and partition of Africa. Such areas included those that possessed minerals like gold, diamond, copper e.g. Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. These areas were strongly scrambled for by the imperialist included areas with;

- *Accessibility to the interior*: the existence of internal rivers like Congo River Lake Tanganyika Lake Victoria and river Nile in Uganda and Sudan up to Egypt were the epicenter of the scramble of Africa and the numerical number of the population, which would act as the potential market for Europeans goods e.g. Nigeria Senegal and Uganda were also some of the factors that accelerated intensive scramble and partition of Africa.
- *Fertility of the soil*, that favored cash crops, areas such as Kenyan highlands, Botswana, Zimbabwe etc. and Presence of colonial agents especially missionaries who invited their home government to come to take over the colonies e.g. Mozambique the missionaries in Buganda, Where also some of the strategic factors for colonization.
- *Numerical numbers of the population* was also another strategic factor considered when struggling for colonies in Africa. Densely populated areas would work as steady market for European finished goods.

### **2. Prestigious reasons**

The more colonies one country had the more powerful were considered, this made many European countries to scramble to get as more colonies as possible. Even less industrialized nations joined in the



rush to stake a claim to part of Africa. The possession of colonies became national prestige within Europe. This was due to fanatical nationalism in which each nation insisted on superiority over the other especially on the realm of military power, national prestige and wealth, thus intensive scramble of Africa.

### **3. European balance of power**

The issue of balance of power was considered among the major movers of the scramble and partition of Africa. Central in this issue was the unification of Germany and Italy in 1870s. The unification of Germany was a direct threat to British and French industrial domination both of which set up vigorous search for market in Africa that later alone were followed by the Germany, thus the scramble and partition of Africa.

Balance of power in Europe can be traced in 1815 during the Vienna congress that followed the fall of the French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte in 1814 in the battle of Waterloo. In this meeting they agreed that all European countries were supposed to equalize militarily strength economic and political. No expansion was to be done within Europe. Therefore Africa became the area of expansion for European powers hence the colonization.

### **4. Development of European Nationalism.**

Every European Country saw necessary to have colonies in Africa as a symbol of Nationalism. This nationalism in Europe grew to the climax especially after the Germany unification of 1871 after defeating France in the Franco-Prussian war hence the nationalism was accelerated much by the colonial agents that were in Africa such a state of affair made the scramble of Africa inevitable.

### **5. Darwinism theory and Monroe.**

The strongest take over the weakest [survival of the fittest] Africa was weak and Europe was strong hence the colonization.

### **6. The Franco Prussian war of 1871.**

The war between German and France, where France was defeated very badly and lost her resourceful regions for industrial advancement Alsace and Lorain to German. France decided to compensate such losses by acquiring colonies in Africa to act as source of industrial raw materials for her industries. This forced other European countries to follow, thus scramble and partition.

## **AREAS WHICH EXPERIENCED INTENSIVE SCRAMBLE**

### **1. EGYPT AND NILE VALLEY.**

Originated with British Imperialist with the ambition to control Egypt because of the Suez Canal and the river Nile. The Suez Canal was built by French engineers and it was opened in 1869 with that Britain became increasingly involved in Egyptian affairs. Any European power tempering with the Nile was regarded as a big enemy of Britain French expansionism towards the Nile.

## **2. THE CONGO BASIN.**

The power involved were France, Belgium, Portugal and Britain; French claims over Congo Basin the claims were supported by the treaties signed between the local rulers and the French agents called DE BRAZZA Belgium had claims over the Congo Basin the claims were support by the treaties signed between France, Stanley and the local rulers. Portugal had claims over the Congo basin That Congo was very close to the Portuguese colonies of Angola and Mozambique Britain has vested imperialist interest in the Congo Basin rich agricultural land and -mineral potentialities and also existence of internal rivers and lakes for easy navigation. Such diversity interest led to intensive scramble among the imperialist nations which led to the calling of Berlin conference as to divert military confrontation.

## **3. NIGER DELTA BASIN.**

The power involved was Britain, France and German. The source of the conflict originated in the British imperialist ambitions to control the Niger delta any power tempering with the region was regarded as a big enemy of Britain. Expansionism from Cameroon to the region alarmed the British disputes occurred among the three powers.

## **4. EAST AFRICA.**

The power involved was Britain and Germany as British wanted to control the source of river Nile. The controversy originates in Britain imperialist interest to control the river Nile from its source to its mouth-end. The establishment of Germany influence in East Africa claimed the British fearing of intervening with the Nile disputes occurred between the two powers. The reason for scramble was fertile soil and good climate, e.g. the Lake Region and Kilimanjaro. The 1886 and 1890 Anglo German agreement was the product of this scramble.

## **5. CENTRAL AFRICA.**

These included countries from central and southern African nations like: Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi. Powers involved were Portuguese and British thy compromised by forming a joint company the British South African Company under-Cecil Rhodes. Why scrambled Presence of fertile soils e.g. the Shire highlands of Malawi and the Matebele and Shona region of Zimbabwe and mineral potentialities.

## **6. SOUTH AFRICA.**

Powers involved were France, German, Portugal, Belgium Italy and Britain Source of conflict was the controversy in the British ambition to establish a continental corridor from Cape Town to Cairo. Each area passed by the railway has to be put under British control .The white elephant project claimed the root competition, which other European countries were not prepared to except this led to the European nation into a situation of going to war thus led to another stage to the-colonization of Africa i.e. the calling of the Berlin conference of 1 884/5.

**Generally:** Intensification of European scrambles in the so-called strategic region, broaden disputes and rivalries among the European contending powers. The disputes and rivalries created the war situation; the war was inevitable among the European powers. In order to solve the disputes which could occur, diplomatic initiatives were taken by chancellor Otto von Bismarck of Germany by convening Berlin conference. The conference resolved to partition Africa into colonial possession in order to avoid war among European powers which had become inevitable.

The conference laid for the principle of dividing and occupying Africa which culminated into the establishment of the evil of colonialism in Africa.