# 241/2HISTORY (WEST AFRICA)

#### **MARKING GUIDE**

- 1(a) Describe the role of the Barbers and the Africans in the organisation of The Transaharan Trade.
  - It was the trade between North Africa and West Africa across the Sahara trade.
  - The trade involved the Arabs, Tuaregs, Jews from North Africa and the Africans from West Africa.
  - The trade developed in the 4th Millennium.

#### **ROLE OF THE BARBERS.**

- They were the financiers of the trade.
- They were the major organisers of the caravans in the trade.
- They acted as middlemen in the trade who connected the North Africans to those of West Africa.
- They employed the Taureges to clean and clear the Oasis.
- They made exploration and discovery of trade items.
- In West Africa, they employed honest African agents to avail food, shelter and commodities for the visitors.

#### **ROLE OF AFRICANS**

- Africans also acted as middlemen and supplied West African goods.
- They provided accommodation to the traders.
- They provided security to the African traders.
- They acted as agents to the Barbers.
- They provided food to the Caravan traders.
- They also provided market to the foreign goods that were brought from West Africa.
- They ensured constant supply of goods to the Traders to North Africa.

 $(Any 12 \times 1 = 12 \text{ marks})$ 

- (b) How did the trade affect the people of West Africa?
  - The effects were many.
  - They were economic, social and political.
  - They were both positive and negative.
  - It created links between West Africa and North Africa.
  - It led to the flow of commodities like salt, glass, beads, spices from North Africa.
  - It led to the accumulation of wealth especially by the middlemen and chiefs.
  - It led to better living standards like shelter, diet.
  - There was a great boost in Agric due to high demand for food to feed the traders.
  - There was also increasing development of local industry especially gold and iron mining.
  - It led to the emergence of market centres which developed into important cities e.g Goa, Jenne.
  - Some of the towns became the seats of administration of great empires.
  - Islam was spread through force e.g the Almorarid Jihadist movement.
  - It led to the rise of two trade classes i.e the resident foreign traders (Dyula Wangara) and local professional traders (Mande).
  - It led to the intermarriages between Africans and the Barbers leading to the rise of new races e.g the Kanuri, the Fulani.
  - Some trade routes became important highways especially the Central and Southern routes.
  - The trade gradually led to the exhaustion of West African resources like Ivory.

 $(Any 13 \times 1 = 13 \text{ marks})$ 

- 2(a) What were the achievements of Askia Muhammed Toure in the growth and development of Songhai Empire?
  - He was a chief army general of Sunni ALi known as Muhammed Toure Ibn Abubaker.
  - As a strict Moslem, he seized power from Sunni Ali's son, Abubaker Dao and established himself as a head of a new dynasty.

"Askia"

- He took on the name Askia Muhammad thereby ending the Za dynasty.
- He ruled from 1493 to 1528 as the greatest "Askia" leader.

- During his regime Songhai reached it's peak.
- He was a devoted Moslem and undertook a pilgrimage to mecca (1495-97) where he was crowned "Caliph".
- He bought a hostel for Songhai Pilgrims in Cairo.
- On his return, he purified Islam and enforced the Sharia law.
- He appointed Moslem judges called Kadis to interpret the law and to ensure Justice.
- He revived Moslem cultural practices like dressing in turban, the veils, prayers.
- He promoted education by building schools and built libraries in the key towns.
- He developed Sankole University as a learning centre.
- He set up a strong government that governed Songhai.
- He restored law and order as well as keeping peace in the empire.
- He was assisted by a number of ministers like Finance, Agriculture in the administration.
- He established a strong army to defend and expand the empire.
- He conquered the Mandingo, Diara, Ghalam, Fulani, Housa states.
- He also controlled the Air and Agades salt centres, the Takedda Copper fields.
- He developed the economy of Songhai e.g he sank well and dug canals for irrigation.
- He promoted native industry e.g dyeing, weaving, smithing, mining.
- He boosted commerce by tightening security along trade routes. etc.

 $(Any 13 \times 1 = 13 marks)$ 

### (b) Why did the empire finally collapse?

- The collapse was due to internal and external factors.
- It was sparked off by Askia's over throw by his son Musa.
- This was followed by dynamic conflicts e.g Musa was himself assassinated in 1533.
- Constant civil wars weakened the empire.
- Conflicts between Moslems and non moslems.
- The government had become too weak to control the empire.
- The long term peace enjoyed made the army weak.
- The decline in agriculture, trade and industry in the empire led to it's collapse.
- The successors of Askia Muhammad I were too weak and inefficient.
- The empire had grown too large to be controlled by the weak leaders.
- Constant rebellions from vassal states like Hansa states, Kebbi.
- Some of the governors become brutal e.g they oppressed and over taxed their subjects.
- The external attacks on Songhai by the Tuaregs, the Mossi.
- The Moroccan Invasion especially became more worse.
- The empire lacked a unifying factor.
- The decline of the Trans-Sharan Trade led to it's decline.

 $(Any 12 \times 1 = 12 \text{ marks})$ 

#### 3(a) Describe the organisation of Asante Empire.

- Asante empire was one of the Akan States.
- The Asante people originally inhabited the area around L. Bosomtwi and called this country "Amansa" meaning "The beginning of nations".
- The empire was organised politically, economically and socially.
- It was centralised state.
- At the top of this administration was the Asante hene.
- It was a powerful monarch deriving this influence from the traditional respect.
- Below him were the head chiefs holding their stools at his pleasure.
- The lesser chiefs / village chiefs holding part of the division at the pleasure of Head Chiefs.
- The Asante hene exercised central control over the Chiefs.
- The army among the Asante was organised on Feudal basis with each state contributing a contigent in time of war.
- The conquered states were admitted to membership of the Union on basis of equality and without any discrimination.
- Their Chiefs became members of the Council of Asante Chiefs (Abrempon) on which the Asante hene was the president.

### **Economic Organisation**

- The Asante hene controlled the trade of the empire.
- He imposed taxes on the traders that passed through the empire.
- They practised farming and grew many kola nuts.
- They practised some animal rearing.
- Practised fishing.
- Social organisation.
- The people of Asante celebrated the Odwira festivals which symbolized the beginning of the harvest period.
- They attached supreme religious powers of the empire on the Asante hene.
- The Asante hene was considered a semi divine.
- Initiation ceremonies were conducted by the people of Asante.

 $(Any 12 \times 1 = 12 marks)$ 

- (b) What were the factors that led to the rise and expansion of Asante Empire?
  - The factors were many.
  - The factors were political, social and economic.
  - The able leaders like Obiri Yeboa, Osei Tuli and Opoku Ware.
  - The rise of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade.
  - The oppressive and unpopular rule of Denkyira forced the Akan people to form Asante.
  - Centralised system of administration.
  - It was bordered by the weak neighbours to the Fante.
  - Situated in a suitable climatic areas.
  - Fertile soils.
  - It's strategic location near the coast.
  - The unity enjoyed by the Asante state due to the Golden stool.
  - The acquisition of guns from the coast strengthened the army.
  - The strategic position of Kumasi for Agriculture, trade, mining etc.
  - The European activities at the Coast weakened many states giving a chance to Asante to prosper.

 $(Any 13 \times 1 = 13 \text{ marks})$ 

- 4(a) Why was Sierraleone founded as a colony between 1789-1807?
  - It was founded in 1781 as an ex-slave colony from Britain.
  - It was established as a home for settling freed slave in West Africa.
  - The factors for the formation was political, social, economic and humanity.
  - It's formation had been inspired by humantarian opposition to slave trade.
  - Humanitarians like Granville sharp, Thomas Clarksson, William Wilberforce.
  - It was founded as a determination by the British to end slave trade in West Africa.
  - It was chosen because it was well known as a centre from British slave trade before its abolition.
  - It had a good natural harbour and fresh waters for Salina ships.
  - It was founded by three groups of settlers from England, Nova Scotia and Jamaica.
  - It was founded because the white population became unwilling to grant blocks entry into English society.
  - The whites had also refused to recognise in practice the freedom and equality granted to them by the British law.
  - The Humanitarians were ammons to get rid of black slaves and prostitutes in Europe.
  - To provide employment to feed slaves who were suffering of poverty and idleness.
  - To reduce the Crime rates in some British cities and other colonies.
  - The need to extent the British influence in West Africa.
  - The need by British to control trade in West Africa.

 $(Any 12 \times 1 = 12 \text{ marks})$ 

- (b) What role did the Creoles play in the development of Sierraleone?
  - The Creoles came as a result of the intermarriage between the settlers and the freed slaves.
  - They emerged as a result of the founding of Sierraleone and a home of freed slaves.

- By 1850, they had emerged as a distended group as an amalgamation of Western and numerous African cultures.
- They developed a unique language called Krio.
- Their contributions were many and were political, social and economic.
- They became influenced in Sierra Leone and the whole of English speaking West Africa.
- They promoted the economy forinstance they formed their own companies and set up shops and promoted trade.
- They built schools, churches, mosques etc.
- They published books.
- They founded the Forah Bay College as an institution of higher education which attained a University college status in 1876.
- They translated religious literature into local languages e.g Ayayi Crowther translated the New Testament into Yoruba and wrote a Yoruba gyammar.
- The Creoles also published Newspapers which influenced political though in British West Africa and helped to develop a spirit of nationalism.
- The Creole missionaries and teachers were sent out to Abeokuta where they assisted the receptive to settle.
- They improved transport by constructing roads and railways.
- They provided social services.
- They spread Christianity.
- They owned trading ships and marine companies.
- 5. Explain the contributions of the following in the spread of Islam in West Africa.

### (a) Alhajji Umar.

- Alhajji Umar was born in 1794 in Futa Tovo, to a Tukolar scolar.
- He was a former disciple of Uthman Dar Foidio.
- He led the third 19th Century Islamic Movement in Western Sudan.
- He set out on a pilgrimage to Mecca about 1825, where he improved the Tijani authorities, who appointed him Khalifa.
- He was charged with the duty of reviving of Islam in Western Sudan.
- He was impressed by the reformist ideas while away and witnessed the Wahabbi revolt against the Turks in Arabia.
- When he returned in 1838, he had great inspiration and determination to purify and spread the faith.
- He settled at Futa Jallon, from where he made extensive towns teaching, preaching and converting people to Islam.
- In his book "Rimah" he attacked evil and illegal practices and condemned "mixed Islam".
- It also appealed to the masses, assuring them of favoured treatment on the Day of Judgement as members of Jijaniyya.
- His growing fame scared the Quadiriyya scholars and the Futa Jallon political authorities.
- In 185..., he was forced to fly to Dinquiray.
- In Dinguiray, he established an armed camp and raised army made up of disciples as well as students from West Africa.
- In 1852, he declared a Jihad on all the infidels in the Sudan.
- In 1854, he conquered the Wangara stales and spread Islam.
- His Jihad was also directed against the infidels French imperialists.
- By 1863, his Tokolar Empire extended from Futa Jallon to Timbukutu.
- He promoted Islamic literacy and set up new centers of Islamic education in the Western Sudan.
- He established Islamic administration.
- He was killed in Feburary 1863 in a Massina rebellion spearheaded by the Qadiri leaders who were against his Tijinyya principles.

### (b) **Uthman Danfoddio.**

- He was born in 1754 at Maratta in Gobir.
- He was brought up as a strict Moslem of the Maliki school.
- He received further education at Agades and he became a learned Moslem scholar.

- He was introduced into the Qadiriyya brotherhood by Alfq Nuhu.
- As an orator, he managed to get a large following.
- His growing attracted the attention of the Gobir aristocracy.
- He reached an agreement with Sultan Bawa on issues affecting Moslems e.g freedom of worship, un-Islamic taxation, dress, release of Moslem prisoners from jail.
- He was employed as a royal tutor at the Court of Bawa.
- However due to threats from Bawa's successors, who wanted to reduce his influcence, he left the Court of Degel.
- From Degel, he reinforced his verbal attacks on the oppressive Hansa rule in general.
- He advocated for Orthodox Islam and governance.
- He also preached the respect for the veil and turbans i.e Moslem dress.
- He advocated for education of the women and condemned corruption. illegal taxes and conscription of moslems into pagan armies.
- The threat to be killed by Yunfa, forced him to flee to Gudu.
- This was the famous Hegiras on 21st February 1804, similar to that of prophet Muhammad.
- It signified the declaration of a holy war or Jihad thus revival of Orthox Islam.
- As Gudu he rallied massive support and he was declared Sarkin Muslim, meaning the commander of faithful.
- He saw elite leadership as the most effective way of promoting the Islamic faith.
- He realised that education was an effective way in spreading the religion as well as Moslem practices.
- He built schools and libraries in key towns.
- Together with Bello, they produced 20 literacy works, mostly in Islam and Moslem governance.
- 6(a) Why was the Fante Contederation formed in 1868?
  - A contederation is a loose union of states or parties for a common cause.
  - Fante Confederation consisted of the Fante states together with Denkyira, Twifu, Wassa and Asin.
  - The causes for the formation were remote and immediate.
  - The remote date back to the days of Macleanera.
  - After gaining independence from Asante, the Fante were resent ful of any other external influence, especially from British Company rule.
  - The resentment stiffened with the increase of the British judical powers in 1850s and 1860s.
  - The chiefs of the cape coast claimed they had no say in the collection of poll tax nor how the proceeds were to be utilised.
  - Thus they upheld the principle of "no tax" without representation.
  - The imposition of an annual license of 2 pounds on wine and spirit traders met with protests.
  - John Aggrey the king of cape coast, openly clashed with the British on many issue.
  - This led to his arrest and subsequent deportation to Sierraleone.
  - These events, however just strengthened anti-British feelings.
  - There was increase in demand for self rule.
  - The immediate factor was the proposed Anglo-Dutch exchange of forts, drawn in March 1867.
  - The Fante regarded the Dutch stridulation allies of the Asante, their arch rivals.
  - Moreover, the Fante had not been consulted in deal.
  - So the Mankessin meeting was held in January 1868, comprising of the Fante Chiefs and the educated leaders.
  - The Fante began to prepare themselves for two events i.e the defense against possible future Asante's attacks and take over administration from British after withdrew.
  - Thus the Mankessin meeting / conference gave rise to the Fante Confederation.
  - (b) What were the achievements of the Confederation by 1873?
    - The Confederation was short lived i.e from 1868 to 1873.
    - Its achievements were political, social and economic.
    - It took positive steps to realise self government, by seting up its own government machinery.
    - This government comprised of a King-President, an army, a civil service and supreme court.
    - This machinery operated from 1868 and became writter constitution in 1871.
    - The confederation also imposed and collected a poll tax and improved social services like schools, roads, health etc.

- Its army was able to resist Dutch take over of Elmina Castle and it assisted the Komenda against Elmina in 1868.
- It set up the Mankessin Supreme Court, which was instrumental in trying cases that had been referred to it by some of the Chief's Courts.
- By 1873, the confederation-had achieved some unity and helped to check on Asante's ambitions and imperialism.

### 7(a) Describe the French administrative system in West Africa.

- French Administrative System is distinguished by its theory and policy know as Assimilation.
- The word Assimilation is the noun derived from the French Verb assimiller which means, to cause, to resemble a policy that aimed at turning the people of French colonies into French citizens.
- This was through substituting their indigenous culture with French culture, language law, civilisation and religion.
- In Senegal the people would enjoy the rights of French citizenship.
- The French believed that their civilisation was the best in the world and that it was the duty of France to extend this civilisation to colonial subjects.
- French colonies were regarded as areas not only for imperial exploitation but over seas provinces or extension of France.
- Senegal was the only French colony, in West Africa where the policy was fully applied in the 19th Century.
- It required Africans to become citizens and the rest as subjects.
- The long contact of French settlers in the towns made the policy to be successful.
- Rights of citizenship were granted to citizens in town in 1883 by French government but on conditions.
- In 1848, Senegal had a right to elect and send a Deputy or member of French Parliament of the four Senegalese communes i.e Govee, Dakar, St Lours and Rufisque.
- The colony was represented in the French National Assembly.
- Between 1920-1940, the policy of Aspiration failed and French resorted to Association (Indirect rule)

#### (b) Why did their administrative system fail?

- Failure of the colonial education system based on Christian Missionaries.
- Resistance from African Societies in French, West Africa.
- The policy was strongly opposed by a section of French scholars and politicians.
- The policy failed to operate successful in highly politically organised societies in the interior like the Mandika and Tukolor Empires.
- The African traditionalists, their customs and cultures were well developed and were surrendered overnight.
- The French educational system was left in the hands of missionaries who were mainly spreading Christianity.
- This was to be a failure with Muslims.
- Poor administrative policies.
- French economic considerations particularly among the French settlers, industrialists and merchants.
- Strong opposition from other imperialists.
- Africans condemned the concept of racial and cultural inferiority and demanded for equal rights.
- Opposition from French Parliament in Paris.
- Many Africans failed to become French citizens.
- 8. What role did the following political parties play in the independence struggles of West Africa countries?

# (a) RDA

The Re-assemblement Democratique African (RDA) aka the African Democratic Rally.

- Was the first major political party founded after World War II.
- It was formed at a conference attended by delegates from all French territories at Bamako (October 1946).
- Under the leadership of Felix Houphouet Boigny of Ivory Coast / Cote d'Ivoire.

- RDA was an international party embracing various groups i.e Elite associations, Labour Unions, Tribal Unions, Co-operative Associations, Women's Organisations among others.
- Its headquarters were in Ivory Coast.
- It's arm was equality of political and social rights with the French men rather than full autonomy.
- The Party allied with the French Communist Party because of its anti-colonial policy.
- Through its structure and mass organisation in cities and rural areas, its membership rapidly grew that by 1950 it had about 700,000 members.
- The RDA was the major party in Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Upper Volta and Niger and had branches in all the other French territories except Mauritania.
- In 1946 it won 6 seats in the French National Assembly, 5 seats in the senate and 7 seats in the Territorial Assemblies.
- The French colonial administration became hostile to it because of its affiliation to the French Communist Party, its popularity, success and its uncompromising anti-colonial policy.
- It therefore adopted ruthless measures to suppress it e.g arresting party leaders, shooting at its supported, persecuting its sympathisers, closing party Newspapers and banning its meetings.
- By 1951 RDA had been weakened and so it was forced to adopt a compromising policy with the colonial administration by breaking alliance with the Communist Party and becoming conservative.
- By 1956, the party had gained enough ground to win most of the seats for French West Africa in the new National Assembly in Paris.
- Its leader Houphouet Boigny was appointed minister of Assembly.
- His policies marked the beginning of the development of separate states in French West Africa.
- Under this system, African Ministers had more powers and were responsible to the Territorial Assemblies which were now elected with a wider Franchise.

# (b) NCNC

The National Council for Nigerian Citizens (NCNC)

- It was formerly called the National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons.
- NCNC was formed in 1944, by Nnamdi Azikiwe and other youths at Lagos.
- It was the first modern political party to emerge in the whole of West Africa.
- Its supporters came from trade unions, social clubs and tribal groups found throughout Nigeria.
- It was a non-violence political party that used peaceful means to develop nationalism in Nigeria.
- It made use of newspapers like "The West African Pibt" to spread national ideas.
- The party toured the whole country to raise funds for a delegation that was meant to go to London to demand for the abolition of the Richard Burns Constitution.
- This tour raised the political awareness of the Nigerians.
- NCNC formed a government with the NPC (Northern People's Congress) after the 1954 elections.
- This helped to provide a united action for independence.
- Between 1957 and 1958 they party took part in the Constitutional Conference in London that fixed 1<sup>st</sup> October as the date for the independence of Nigeria.
- In the 1959 elections NCNC won in the East where if had abase and they again formed a 2<sup>nd</sup> government at National Unity with NPX.
- On 27<sup>th</sup> July 1960 the newly elected Nigerian representative met and passed a resolution demanding for independence of Nigeria.
- On the 1<sup>st</sup> October, Nigeria became independent with Sir Abubaker Tafawa Balemw as Prime Minister and Obatemi Awolowo as leader of opposition.