GEDS 134 ASSIGNMENT

**KALEJAIYE OLUWADARA OLADELE 22/1397**

COMPUTER SCIENCE GROUP C

Question 1.

**Who introduced slavery to Africa?**

Slavery in Africa existed before the transatlantic slave trade, but the transatlantic slave trade introduced large-scale and organized enslavement of Africans. European powers, such as Portugal, Spain, England, France, and the Netherlands, were primarily responsible for initiating and perpetuating the transatlantic slave trade. They set up forts and trading posts along the African coast, obtaining enslaved individuals through warfare, kidnapping, and trade with African kingdoms and tribes. African intermediaries, including local traders and kingdoms, were involved in capturing and selling slaves to European traders. However, their actions were influenced by the complex dynamics created by European presence. While slavery in Africa predated the transatlantic slave trade, the arrival of Europeans significantly increased the scale and nature of enslavement.

**Describe how slavery was practiced before the trans-Atlantic trade stopped.**

Slavery in Africa before the transatlantic slave trade took various forms and was shaped by the cultural, social, and economic structures of different African societies.

In some societies, slaves were integrated into the households of their owners and performed domestic tasks, agricultural work, or provided skilled labor. They might have had certain rights, opportunities for advancement, or the possibility of gaining freedom. In other cases, slaves could be used as commodities and traded between communities or kingdoms. They might have been employed in large-scale agricultural plantations or engaged in mining, construction, or other labor-intensive activities.

In many African societies, slavery existed prior to external contact, and individuals could become enslaved through different means, such as capture in warfare, debt bondage, criminal punishment, or being born into a slave family. Slavery often served as a social and economic system that encompassed various roles and responsibilities for enslaved individuals.

**How was transatlantic slave trade stopped?**

The transatlantic slave trade was not stopped by a single event or action but rather through a combination of factors over several decades. Here are some key factors that contributed to the eventual end of the transatlantic slave trade:

Abolitionist movements worked to raise awareness and generate public support for the abolition of slavery. Figures like William Wilberforce and organizations like the Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade played a crucial role.

Slave rebellions, such as the Haitian Revolution and the Nat Turner rebellion, showcased resistance against slavery and contributed to the opposition to the slave trade.

Economic changes, including the growth of industrialization and technological advancements, made slave labor less economically viable compared to other forms of labor.

International treaties like the Treaty of Paris and the Congress of Vienna condemned the slave trade and committed countries to work towards its abolition.

Naval forces, deployed by nations like Britain and the United States, patrolled the Atlantic Ocean, intercepted slave ships, and captured those involved in the slave trade. This led to a decline in the number of slave ships and the volume of slaves transported.

**Explain how the British explorers conquered the areas that later became Nigeria.**

British explorers and colonial administrators gradually conquered the areas that later became Nigeria through a combination of military force, diplomacy, and treaties. The British initially established coastal trading posts, and over time, expanded their control through military expeditions and alliances with local leaders. They exploited existing rivalries between ethnic groups, used superior weaponry, and employed divide-and-rule tactics to assert their dominance, eventually establishing colonial rule over the region by the late 19th century.

**What were the reasons for colonialism?**

Colonialism was driven by economic motives, political and strategic interests, ideological and cultural factors, technological superiority, and competition among European powers. It aimed to exploit resources, establish trade routes, extend political influence, spread cultural values, and assert technological dominance. However, colonialism had severe consequences, including resource exploitation, displacement, and cultural and political subjugation of colonized societies.

**Why did the British colonial administration adopt the indirect rule system?**

The British colonial administration adopted the indirect rule system as it offered a cost-effective and efficient means of governing their vast colonial territories. By delegating authority to local traditional leaders, the British could maintain control with minimal resources while exploiting existing power structures. Indirect rule also helped mitigate resistance from local populations by preserving elements of their traditional governance, thereby providing a semblance of continuity while serving British interests.