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MATRIC NUMBER :19/LAW01/045

COURSE CODE : GST 203

DATE : 27 NOVEMBER 2020

**Historical analysis of the evolution of the Nigeria state**

The historical background of the Nigerian state involves the pre-colonial and colonial period in Nigeria. The pre-colonial is the period before the coming of the colonialist while the colonial period is the era that colonial administration was established in Nigeria state is a product of European adventure with its culmination in colonizing Africa. Before colonialization we had the Borno empire, Hausa states, Oyo empire, Sokoto caliphate etc. they all have their make-up cultural, social, and historical. On the west of Nigeria is bordered by Benin on the north Niger, on the east Cameroon.

**Early man in Nigeria**

Man settled in Nigeria around the palaeothic period 5000,000- 9000bc. It was also confirmed by artifacts found by archeologist that Nigeria took part in stone age colonization. Man, then worked hard to cope with his environment. He hunted for food and made different tools from stone called oldowan-type tools. Soon he began making axes which where oval and pointed in shape. This tools where made during the early stone age but where later refined during the middle sone age. There is evidence of more advanced technology in various parts during the bronze and metal age (500BC- 200AD). During the time people made sculptures, many where of human heads and figures. They varied in size and many more. Information on major land marks in early Nigerian history was made possible through excavation done on places where man lived in the past e.g. Nok Igbo, Ukwu etc. the history of these centers of ancient colonization present us with the scientific and technological developments of early Nigerian societies.

**NOK CULTURE**

The discovery of the terracotta head of a monkey in NOK 1936 prompted more discoveries in other places. Such as wamba, kastinal ala and jenna.

**Benin**

It was important for its artwork. The craftsmen carved wood and ivory and cast objects in bronze and brass.

**IFE**

It was important because its terracotta and bronze heads stools, figures were carved in quartz. Art historians believe that Ife art originated from Nok culture because of their similarities in the two.

**Igbo ukwu civilization**

Such bronze objects were accidentally discovered while digging a toilet pit at Igbo ukwu in 1939. This led to excavation of three sites in the area.

Traditional political institutions in pre-colonial Nigeria.

**Yoruba land**

One of the largest ethnic groups in Nigeria and their origin is traced back to Oduduwa the founder of the Yoruba kingdom Ile-Ife is regarded as the ancestral home. They originally came from the north- eastern Oduduwa is beloved to be the first leader that led Yoruba to Ile -Ife

**The Oyo empire**

It consists of the head of the empire the Alaafin who was also resident in the capital. He was assisted by priest, officials, and eunuchs. He had autocratic tendency but in practice his powers were often limited and regulated. Oyomesi were the king makers as well. The ogoni cult are members of the oyomesi cult and they are powerful. It was a kind of counter power to the government in traditional Yoruba. Its head was the are-ona-kankafo. The army’s job is to include stability of the empire, expansion etc.

**Igbo land pre-colonial**

They are best known for their segmentary or acephalous way of life this is because they never had any centralized states. Igboland is the original homeland and as their population increased some groups migrated to other parts of Igboland to establish their own settlements. Each family was headed by an “Ofo” here households see themselves belonging to one family and having a common father. Age grade was organized in a village for work, war, and government. They also guard public morality etc. Ohanaeze was a form of general assembly in traditional Igbo society. They met to perform legislative functions. The elders formed the core of the village administration and were highly respected. There were secret societies like “ubinuknabi”, “Amadisha” of OZZU and they all have their parts.

**Hausa land (pre-colonial times)**

Hausa land is in northern Nigeria and it made up of 14 states and two other groups. The first seven are called “Hausa Bakwai” states and the remaining “Hausa Banza: Its history originates from Bayajidda who killed a snake and married the queen Daura. He had six sons plus one legitimate child with her. Islam was not introduced until later in the eleventh century. The “Sarkis” was known as the head of any typical Hausa state. Sarki karsar which means “ruler of the land” is the title given to any effective head of the Hausa state.

Islam was introduced in Hausa land in the fourteenth century. The former Hausa ruler was replaced by a Fulani emir. This sultan suspended the administration of the emirate system. He acted in advisory capacity and appointed emirs over the emirates.

Colonial administration and indirect rule in Nigeria.

The Portuguese were the first Europeans the arrive Africa through the Bini kingdom. This is when the selling if the slaves started here and there was a continuous struggle for land.