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## PHARMACY

## GST 203

## REVIEW OF CHAPTER 2

## AN HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF THE EVOLUTION OF THE NIGERIA STATE

This involves the pre colonial period ;which is the period before the coming of the colonialists to Nigeria and the colonial period in Nigeria ; which refers to the era that colonial administration was established in the country Nigeria.

Pre colonial Nigeria comprises of different independent chiefdoms , state kingdoms and the empires. These among others include the Bo6rno empire, the Hausa state, and the Sokoto caliphate in the north; the Igbo commentary societies in the east, Benin kingdom and the oyo empire in the west. These ethnic groupings significantly differ in their historical, social and cultural make ups.

The country is bordered to the south by the bights of Benin and Biafra which are on the gulf of guinea in the Atlantic ocean. On the west, Nigeria is bordered by Benin, on the north by Niger, and on the east by Cameroon. In its extreme northeastern corner , lake chad separates Nigeria from the country of Chad.Nigeria stretches roughly 700 miles from west to east and 650 miles from south to north, covering an area between 30 and 150 E longitude and between 40 and 140 N latitude.

Early Man in Nigeria

The exact time when man began to live in Nigeria is unknown but there are archaeological evidences from different parts of Nigeria which pointed to the fact that man had settled in the

region now known as Nigeria. The artifacts, mostly stone tools, found by archaeologist confirm that Nigerians also took part in the stone age civilization.

The achievement of the early man include coping with his environment to get food, invention of certain tools, sculpture making.

Excavation has also revealed where people first settled in Nigeria. Some of the places where man lived in Nigeria in their very remote past include:Nok, Igbo ukwu, Ife and Benin among others.These places are referred to as CENTRES OF ANCIENT CIVILIZATION.

Traditional Political Institutions in Pre-Colonial Nigeria

The Yorubas trace their origin to Ododuwa

Ile ife is regarded as the ancestral home of the Yorubas

Stories about origin of the yoruba people are diverse: there is the Oke oramfe version which is the earth was full of water and God sent some of his messengers to the world and they were given five pieces of iron, a lump of earth tied to a white cloth and a cockerel. And there is also the story of their migration from the east.This is the belief that the Yoruba people migrated from the North-East that is from Mecca, through Egypt leading to a final settlement in Ile ife.

The political structures of the Yoruba kingdoms were similar in nature. Each consisted of a capital town , subordinate towns, villages and farmlands. Each town has a king known as OBA who resides in the palace called Aafin.His paraphernalia of office included a beaded crown, a slippers, horse tail and sceptre.The Oba is both the spiritual and political head of the kingdom. The Oba enjoyed many privileges but certain limitations known as ‘’eewo’’ were placed on his powers ,these were designed to curb the despotism and tyranny on the part of the king.If a king violates any “eewo’’ it could lead to his death.

Pre colonial Political System in Igbo land

The Igbo people are best known for their acephalous way of life

The Igbo have no centralized state

They are grouped into five sub cultures which are the Igbo of the eastern Nigeria, Igbo of south eastern Nigeria , Igbo of the north eastern Nigeria, the western Igbo and northern Igbo.

Origin of the Igbo

One of the most popular versions of the migratory stories of origin of the Igbo people is the one that points to Israel.This assumption is based on the so called similarities between the cultures of the Igbo and ancient Hebrew. Some Igbo scholars consider themselves as off shoots of the lost tribes of the Hebrews who migrated southward.

Nri version as the only authentic version of origin in existence in the oral tradition of the Igbo.According to Nri version , the ancestor of the igbo ,Eri descended from the sky and sailed down the River Anambra.When he arrived at Aguleri, he met some autochthonous group people who had no living memory of their own and settled with them.

In the igbo traditional society, there was no highly centralized authority

but instead they had what could be called a diffusion of authority into different groups.Although there was no highly centralized authority ,some socio political institutions existed in each village to perform legislative,executive ,administrative,military and judicial functions.

The Hausa People

Hausa land is located in northern Nigeria.Hausa land before 1804 was made up of 14 states and they were of two distinct groups.The first group consist of 7 states called Hausa bakwaii and the remaining 7 states called hausa banza.

The origin of hausa states to a men named Bayajidda, an Arab prince who travelled to the Sahel from Baghdad.He killed a monstrous snake that oppressed the people of Duara and he married the queen.

Political Structure

The sarki was known as the head of any typical hausa state .He worked with a retinue of officials in a well organized court . Sarkin Kasar which means ruler of the land was the full title given to any effective and efficient head of Hausa state.The sarkin kasar combined both political and religious/spiritual functions.He was also the chief executive and judge of the state but he was aided by a council of state. At the district level,the government was modeled after that at national level.

Colonial Administration of Nigeria

The British who often have often been credited with the creation of Nigeria were not the first Europeans to land in Nigeria.The Portuguese were the first Europeans to arrive Nigeria through Bini kingdom. The struggle among the European powers for colonies led to the partitioning of Africa among them in the 19th century .Each of the European powers was given the opportunity to establish colonies where it had vested interest.

Before the year 1900,all the different parts of Nigeria conquered by the British were still under their original administration.But by 1900, the whole Nigeria was under the responsibility of the British colonial office.The may 1906 amalgamation is known as the first ever amalgamation of the British in Nigeria.British government amalgamated Lagos colony and protectorate with the protectorate of southern Nigeria to form the new colony and protectorate of southern Nigeria.

The second amalgamation was that of 1914.In January 1914,the British government amalgamated northern and southern Nigeria.