**EFURHO ANGEL AGHOGHO**

**19/SMS02/018**

**ACCOUNTING**

**SMS**

**ASSIGNMENT**

**CHAPTER 2**

The exact time when man began to live in Nigeria is unknown but there are archaeological evidence from different parts of Nigeria which pointed to the fact that man had settled in the region now known as Nigeria, since the Paleolithic period 500,000- 9000BC.the stone age can be divided in to several periods. These are: early stone age 3,000,000-35,000BC, middle Stone Age, 35,000-15,000BC and late Stone Age 15,000 – 500BC.the first tool was identified by the archaeologists in the Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania. Early men in Nigeria advanced from the early Stone Age, he began to make axes. These were tools which were oval and pointed in shape. Similar tool has been found earlier by archeologist who worked outside Nigeria at a site in st acheul in northern Nigeria. After that early men advance to make another type of tool which is the heavy chopper. It was more efficient in cutting than existing tools. This tool was first seen at Sango bay on the west shores of Lake Victoria in Uganda, east Africa. This is why it is called the sagoan.

MAJOR LANDMARK IN EARLY NIGERIAN HISTORY  
some of the places where man lived in Nigeria in the very remote past included: nok, Igbo, ukwu, Ife and Benin among others.

**NOK CULTURE**

The discovery of a terracotta(burnt clay) head of a monkey by tin miners in nok in 1936 prompted more discoveries in other places such as wamba, katisina-ala and jema.the area where it was found is called the nok culture or civilization area.nok culture is the stone age and iron age.

**BENIN CIVILISATION**

The craftsmen of Benin carved in wood and ivory and cast objects in bronze and brass. The cast wooden door and ivory masks, one of which was t6he ivory masked used as FESTAC symbol in 1977.

**TRADITIONAL POLTICIAL INSTITUTION IN PRE COLONIAL NIGERIA**

There are different versions of the traditions of origin. In the book history of the Yoruba (1950), Johnson traced the origin of the Yoruba to the east, according to him; the Yoruba originally came from the north eastern area of Africa. They were from Egypt after several years of journey that the Yoruba finally settled in lLe- Ife in Nigeria. Oduduwa was believed to be there first leader, that he led the Yoruba lLe-ife and sent his sons and grandson to find other Yoruba kingdom.

The Yoruba political structures were similar in nature. Each town has a king named ‘’oba’’ who resides in the palace ‘’Aafin’’. His paraphernalia of office included a beaded crown (Ade), slippers (Bata), horsed tail (irukere) and a scepter (ASE).the oba is the spiritual and political head of the kingdom.

THE OYO EMPIRE

The first organ of government in Oyo Empire was the king known as Alaafin of Oyo

**THE ALAAFIN ADMINISTRATION**

The Alaafin was the head of empire and was resident in the capital, he was regarded as the ‘’lord of many lands’’. The Alaafin was assisted in his administration by a retinue of officials made up of priests, officials and eunuchs. The members of oyomesi were king makers, they are also the one to select his successor; they also have the power to remove any Alaafin especially when he appeared dictatorial the laws of the land.

**THE OGBONI CULT’S ADMINISTRATION**

There was another form of government aside the Alaafin cabinet; members of the oyomesi cult brought another arm of government. They were a very powerful cult in the Yoruba land.

**POLITICAL SYSTEM IN IGBO**

The Igbo society had no high centralized authority but instead they had a diffusion of authority into different groups. The family was the smallest political unit in Igbo traditional society. Each family was headed by an ‘’ofo’’ title holder. Among the ‘’ofo’’ title holder, one of them was recognized as the most senior to others. He was the ‘’okpara’’ who held the ‘’ozo’’ title and presided over the council of elders meetings where issues affecting the lives of the people were discussed. The secret societies consisted of the diviners masquerades, ‘’Ubinuknabi’’ at arochukwu, the ‘’Amadisha’’ of ozuzzu, and so on. They played significant roles in the Igbo traditional society; they acted as intermediary between the living and the ancestors. The Igbo people believed in re-incarnation, the religious lives of the Igbo were surrounded by mysticisms and superstitions.

**EMIRATE SYSTEM**

Islam was introduced to Hausa land in the fourteenth century, and by the fifteenth century it was accepted as the religious of the ruling class. The jihad of uthman Dan fodio of 1804 further strengthened and consolidated the religious in the area. In every state conquered, the former Hausa ruler was replace with a Fulani emir. The emir was an absolute monarch in his emirate; he was the political, administrative and spiritual leader. Uthman Dan fodio form important title holders in the emir cabinet included: waziri(the prime minister) maadawaki(head of emirate army) etc .the chief justice of the sharia court was called Grand khadi, village heads settled minor dispute in their villages but more serious and criminal case were referred to the emir for final and adequate settlement.

**THE BIRTH OF NIGERIA AS A GEO-POLITICAL ENTITY**

Before 1900, all the different parts of Nigeria conquered by the British was still under original administration .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 in 1914 .in January 1914; the British government amalgamated northern and southern Nigeria.