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ANSWER:

The emergence of the Nigerian state, pre- colonial Nigeria comprises of different independent chiefdoms, state, kingdoms and empires. It was confirmed by the archeologist that Nigeria also took part in the stone- age civilization. The were known as hardworking, like people who made sculpture, terracotta and those who discovered working tools like heavy chopper, cutting tools and so on. In the development of age into a scientific and technological age discovery of terracotta head of a monkey by tin miners in NOK in 1936 promoted more discoveries. Casting of woods and ivory are cast into bronze.

In examining the political institution of pre-colonial Nigeria, the Yoruba political system, trace their origin from Oduduwa who was the founder of the Yoruba kingdom. Yoruba political structure consisted of a capital town, subordinate towns, village s and farmlands, each town has its own king as Oba. They had a hierarchical pattern of administration. The first organ of government is Oyo empire who was a king also known as Alaafin of Oyo. In the administration the Alaafin was head f the empire and was resident in the capital, he is also regarded as the “Lord of the lands” Oyomesi is a council of seven members, they regulate the powers of the Alaafin, the Oyomesi is headed by Bashorun who acted as the prime minister. In the Ogboni cult administration, it consist of the Oyomesi and Alaafin, it is a powerful cult as they say. In the army, the Are-ona-kankanfo is the head, they were modeled after the central government.

The political system of government in the pre-colonial Igbo society are known foe segmentary or acephalous way of life, this is so because it has a centralized state. Igbo’s are grouped into five sub-cultures namely; the Igbo of eastern Nigerian, south-eastern Nigeria, north-eastern Nigeria, western Igbo and northern Igbo. They practice a direct democracy also known as a decentralized system of government and socio-political institution such as the family which is the smallest political unit in the Igbo society, each family is headed by an ofo. Age graders are associations of age group common to commemorate an event. Oha-na-eze was a form of general assembly,that all male adult are usually in this group, they form a core village administration. Secret society consisted of diviners, masquerades, ubinuknabi at the Arochukwu the Amadisha of Ozuzzu etc. they played significant role in the society, they acted as intermediary between the living and the ancestors.

The political structure of the pre-colonial Hausa land. The Sarki was known as the of any typical Hausa state. The Sarkin Kaser which means ruler of the land is combined with bothe political and religious/ spiritual functions. The Islamisation of the Hausa had effect on their judicial system and it was based on the Sharia court. The member of the council appointed by Uthman Dan Fodio are; sarkin fada(the spokesman of the emir), waziri(the prime minister of the emirate), galadima(the administrator of the capital city), madawaki(commander and head of the emirate army), magaji( government treasurer), sarkin dan doka(inspector general of the police force), sarki ruwa(minister in charge of water resources or river fishing official), sarkin pawa(head of chairman of butchers at the abattoir), yari(chief superintendent of prisons in theemirate).

Historical background of Colonial administration and indirect rule system in Nigeria. The British who have often been credited with creation of Nigeria were not the first European to land in Nigeria. The Portuguese were the first Europeans to land in Nigeria through the Bini kingdom. The trans-atlantic slave trade was the unfortunate channel that first out the British in contact with Nigeria. The struggle among the Europeans powers for colonies led to the partitioning of Africa among them in 19th century. The scramble for Africa after the Berlin conference of 1884-1885.

The birth of Nigeria as a geo-political entity, before 1900 all the different part of Nigeria conquered by the British were still under their original administration. May 1906 is kown as the first ever amalgamation of the British in Nigeria, the second amalgamation was in 1914 in January, the British government amalgamated the northern and southern protectorate. The British therefore, governed Nigeria by means of indirect rule: which is a system of Britain ruling her colonies through local traditional rulers.