NAME: OKEREKE OGECHI ANTHONIA

DEPARTMENT: PHARMACY

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 **REVIEW OF CHAPTER 2: AN HISTORY ANALYSIS OF THE EVOLUTION OF THE NIGERIAN STATE**

The history of the Nigerian government is grouped into the pre colonial and the colonial era. The pre colonial era is the period before the colonialists (Europeans) came. They consist of different kingdoms and empires among which are the borno empire,the hausa states, the Igbo segmentary societies in the East, Benin kingdom.These ethnic groups have their own traditions peculiar to them. The colonial era which is the current era now, is a product of the historical arrangement gotten from the colonialists adventure. The country covers a large surface area.

 is not known for how long the country has been in existence but a stone age skeleton which was found in Akure, Ondo state has proven that the country has been in existence for a long time as the skeleton dated about 12000 years.

Coping with the environment was not easy so man had to work hard to survive;he began hunting animals and gathering fruits.They also invented tools for cutting and stones which were used in hunting. They went further to make crafts which could be in the shape of human heads or any other thing. These tools are now modified to become more sophisticated by modern technology.

Some works done then in the early times of Nigeria brought about the scientific and technological development of early Nigerian societies.The discovery of a terracotta (burnt clay) head of a monkey by tin miners in Nok brought about the discoveries in other places like wamba and jema and hence the name the Nok civilisation area. Benin was known for its art work made out of bronze and ivory one of which was the ivory masks used as FESTAC symbol in 1977.Ife is also important for terracotta and bronze heads.Digging of a toilet pit led to the excavation of three sites in Igbo ukwu including a burial chamber, a pit and a compound wall. Many bronze objects were found including the remains of decayed skeleton which have been suggested to be those of a king and five slaves who were buried with him.

Nigeria is made up of three ethnic groups: the Yoruba, the Igbo and the hausa-fulani. The yorubas are one of the largest ethnic groups in Nigeria. The common version of the Yoruba history says that the Almighty God sent his servants to the world and they were given five pieces of iron, a lump of Earth tied to a white piece of cloth and a Cockerel. Somewhere on their way to the world, their leader Obatala got drunk with palmwine, Oduduwa then seized the symbol of authority from him and eventually led the party to the world. The site where they landed is Oke orange in Ile Ife.

The Yoruba town consists of capital town, subordinate towns,villages and farmlands. Each town has a king known as Oba who resides in palace called *Aafin.* His symbols of office included a crown,slippers,horsetail and Sceptre.We also have the baale and the oloja which are the third rank and fourth rank respectively. The first organ of government in Oyo empire was the king known as Alaafin of Oyo. Then the ogboni cult's administration and then the army.

 Igbo people are grouped into five sub-cultures:the Igbo of eastern Nigeria, the Igbo of North-Eastern Nigeria,the Western Igbo land and the Northern Igbo. Some Igbo scholars consider themselves ass off-shoots of the lost tribes of the Hebrews who migrated southward while others believe that the Igbo people have been in their present abode since the beginning. Therefore the Igbo land is the original Homeland.In the Igbo traditional society had no centralised authority like the Yoruba people.

Although they had the legislative, executive, administrative, military bodies who also perform judicial functions and they are the family, council of elders, age grades and secret societies. Each family was headed by an 'ofo' title holder. Age grade was organized on a village base. They constitute of people within the same age bracket. They collect fines from offenders, enforce discipline among themselves and guard public morality. They help members in recovering lost money or runaway wives. The secret societies consisted of the masquerades, ubi nakabi. They act as a bridge between the living and the ancestors. They performed rituals and sacrifices.The Igbo believe in re-incarnation.

Hausa land is located in Northern Nigeria. Hausa state originated from an Arab prince called Bayagidda who killed a monstrous snake that oppressed the people of Daura and married the queen who already had six sons. She later had a son for Bayagidda and together with her six sons, ruled each of the seven states in hausa land becoming the first Kings. The combination of all hausa lands were sometimes called Daura as it was where they originated from.

The *sarki* is known as the head of any typical hausa state. *Sarki Kasar* is the full name given to any effective and efficient ead of the hausa state meaning *ruler of the land.* After sometime, the Islam was adopted andma ny other offices like Galadima, Madawaki arose. It influenced the judicial system. The Sharia law started taking shape. Some new titles such as Alkali and Qadi's(judges) became a common place in the administration of Justice.

Colonial Nigeria was the era in the History of Nigeria when the region of West Africa was ruled by the United Kingdom in from the mid-nineteenth century until 1960 when Nigeria achieved independence. British influence in the region began with the prohibition of slave trade to British subjects in 1807. Britain annexed Lagos in 1861 and established the Oil River Protectorate in 1884. British influence in the Niger area increased gradually over the 19th century, but Britain did not effectively occupy the area until 1885. Other European powers acknowledged Britain's dominance over the area in the 1885 Berlin Conference.

In 1900, the Southern Nigeria Protectorate and Northern Nigeria Protectorate passed from company hands to the Crown. At the urging of Governor Frederick Lugard, the two territories were amalgamated as the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria, while maintaining considerable regional autonomy among the three major regions. Progressive constitutions after World War II provided for increasing representation and electoral government by Nigerians. The colonial period proper in Nigeria lasted from 1900 to 1960, after which Nigeria gained its independence.