**Ayodele grace oluwaseyitan**

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**CHAPTER 2**

Summary of Chapter two- An historical Analysis of the Evolution of the Nigeria state

The Nigerian government and politics has the pre-colonial period and the colonial history.

The pre-colonial involves before the coming of the colonialists to Nigeria, while the colonial

period is about the time their administration was established in Nigeria. The pre colonial period

comprises of different independence chiefstances, kingdoms, empires, Borno empire, Hausa

states, etc. These ethnic groupings have their histories, cultural makeups and backgrounds.

According to archaeological evidences from different parts of Nigeria, man had settled in the

region now know as 'Nigeria' since the Paleolithic period (500,000-9000BC). Artefacts confirms

that Nigerians took part in the stone civilization which can be divided into early stone age

(300000-35000BC); Middle stone age (35000-15000 BC) and late stone age (15,000- 500BC).

The man who lived in this early years needed food, hunting and gathering fruits he also began to

invent tools consisting of pebbles which archealogists called the oldowan type tools. Hand axes

were also made. Found now in Jos. Some places where man lived were Nok, igbo ukwu, Ife and

Benin. This age is referred to as one of the most technological efforts (around 500BC-200AD)

Nok culture: the discovery of a burnt clay head of a monkey by tin miners in Nok 1936

prompted more discoveries such as in Wanna, Kastina-ala and Jema. Nok culture is believed to

be between stone and iron age. Between 5th and 2nd century BC.

Benin Civilization: Benin men are well known for Art wood and Ivory were cast. Objects were

also casted in bronze and brass. Ife is known for terracotta and bronze heads. An example is

Opa Oranmiyan in Ile ife. It was believed that it was from Ife, Benin learnt sculpture.

The three major ethnic groups in Nigeria are: Yoruba, Igbo, and Hausa-fulani. The Yoruba are

one of the largest ethnic group in Nigeria traced to Ile Ife . The Oke Oramfe's version of the

origin of Yoruba is that oke Oramfe is located in Ile Ife. There was a period the world was covered

with water. The Almighty God decided to send Obatala, and sixteen Oye. They were given 5

pieces of iron, a lump tied tied to a white cloth and cockrel. Oduduwa seized all these from

Obatala when he was drunk. He came to Oke Oramfe in Ile ife, it was here he extended his

authorities. Each town has a king called 'oba' living in 'Aafin' under him are Baale, Oloja, Ijoye. In

the sixteenth Century, Oyo was one of the rare empires that had in -built checks. The king's

policies are regulated by the 'Oyo mesi' and the Alaafin. The army head is the Aare ona kankanfo

which is another arm of the Yoruba Government.

Igbo are grouped into 5 sub-groups, namely; The Igbo of Eastern Nigeria, The South Eastern

Nigeria, North Eastern Nigeria, Western ignore and Northern Ignore. Nri version is regarded to as

the only authentic version of the Igbo's story of origin. It revealed that Eri descended from the

sky and sailed down the river Anambra, he arrived at Aguleri settled with some people and

established their own settlements. Each family in Igbo land is headed by 'Ofo'. There are also

some secret societies which consist of the Diverners, Masquerades, and so on.

Hausa is located in Northern Nigeria. Oral tradition says that Hausa originated from man

called 'Bayajida'. He killed a monsterous snake in Daura and married the queen who gave him a

son. The Sarki is the head of any typical Hausa State. Islam was introduced to Hausa land in the

14th century and became the leading religion in 15th century. The whole Hausa region was

divided into 2 confederations. The 'Emir' is regarded to as the King. Sarki in Fada, Waziri,

Galadima, Madawaki, Magaji, Sarkin Dan Doka, Sarkin Ruwa, Sarkin Pawa, and Yari are

important title holders in Emir's cabinet.

The Portuguese were the first Europeans to arrive Nigeria through Benin kingdom. In the 15th

century, the demand for slaves. By 1460, about 700 to 800 slaves were exported annually to Portugal from west Africa for introduction of plantation system of agriculture in places like

Brazil Jamaica and Haiti among others who stop the struggle among the European powers for

colonies led to positioning of Africa among the 19th century.

British government amalgamated Lagos colony. The second amalgamation was done in

1914 January; where the Northern and southern governments were amalgamated. Sir Frederick

Lord lugard was known for the 1914 January amagamation. The British officers defined the

framework of the policies to be adopted and left the implementation to the local personnel or

the rulers.