



**HISTORY OF WEST AFRICA PAPER 241/2**

**MARKING GUIDE**

**2016**

**1. How were the Trans – Saharan trade organized?**

**H**

**Introduction**

- a) This trade was the trade between the North African Berbers and the West African Negroes across the Sahara desert.
- b) It linked two geographical regions of North Africa and West Africa including people of North Africa, the Savanna and the forest regions of West Africa.
- c) The trade was organized in many ways which were political, social and economic,

01 mark

**Body/organization**

- d) The most prominent traders in this trade were the Berbers, Arabs, Negroes (Africans), Europeans and Jews.
- e) It was organized and controlled by the Berber merchants of North Africa who provided capital and organized trade caravans across the desert from North Africa.
- f) Berbers also employed the Tuaregs as guides to the wells and pastures and they were also to guard the caravans of the Berbers.
- g) West African Negroes played the searcher man's role i.e. to provide the trade items to the Berbers also offered hospitality, gave food and water as well.
- h) Tuaregs also acted as guides because they lived in the Sahara desert and knew it very well.
- i) Tuaregs also cleaned oases and guarded oases in return for payments from the Berbers.
- j) The North African Berbers met at specific places and then left to the South in large groups (caravans) of about 1000 at the end of the rainy season.
- k) Caravan traders from North Africa brought highly demanded items of trade e.g salt, the most valuable import to West Africa.
- l) Salt was mined from Taghaza, Taoden and Bilma.
- m) Berbers from the North also brought in essential items to west Africa e.g Dates, Oliveoil, guns, swords and horses.

- n) West African Negroes supplied the North traders with gold as a basic item mined from the regions of Upper Volta, upper Senegal and Wangara.
- o) Others included the Arabs, Europeans, Jews etc.
- p) Africans was sold other items like **slaves highly demanded** in South West Asia for household, kola nuts, Ostrich feathers, ivory and food stuffs.
- q) At first Barter trade was used as a medium of exchange.
- r) **Later cowrie shells, gold coins** and copper bars were introduced a medium of exchange besides the iron coin age.
- s) The trade was based on the **mutual trust/ understanding** basis as the Berbers entrusted their loans and goods to the West African Negroes for business.
- t) At first head porter age, oxen and horses were used as means of transport.
- u) Later by the 4<sup>th</sup> Century, donkeys and camels were used because they adapted the desert conditions.
- v) **Silent / dumb trade** existed because of language barrier.
- w) As time went, Arabic language was used as a medium of communication.
- x) The transaharan traders used 6-7 caravan routes running from North Africa to West Africa ie Western route, Central route, Eastern route, trans-continental route etc.
- y) **Tanghaza-Timbuktu**/ western route-this began from **Sijilmasa in Morocco** via Taghaza, Taodeni and Walata and went to old **Ghana, Jenne and Timbuktu** with gold and salt.
- z) The Ghadames-central route-from Tunis and passed through Ghadames, Ghat and Agades to Katsina&kano in Hausaland.
- aa) The Fezzan-kawzar/Eastern route began from Tripoli and Egypt and passed through Fezzan Tibest, Kavar and Bilma to L.Chad area (Bomu), for salt & slaves.
- bb) The Trans-continental route ran from Egypt via Kufra Oasis south wards to Kano.

**Conclude:**

**13 marks**

**(b) Why did this trade decline? (12 Marks)**

**D**

### **Introduction**

- a) The factors for the decline of the Trans-Saharan trade were political social and economic in nature as below: also internal and external
- b) It gradually started in about the 16<sup>th</sup> century and 17<sup>th</sup> century and accomplished in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (1912) / The decline was gradual.
- c) The Moroccan invasion of Songhai that led to the decline of the empire hence reducing the trade on the western route
- d) Instability made gold export to North Africa falling from 24000kg to 1400kg.
- e) Moroccan invasion of Songhai also forced the commercial activities to shift to the central and eastern routes.
- f) Rivalry to control the remnants of trade by the morrocans, Songhai and Fulani

- g) The discovery of Trans-Atlantic trade
- h) The Trans-Atlantic trade increased European commercial activities at the coast of West Africa in the 15<sup>th</sup> century hence decline of TS.T
- i) The discovery of the sea route via the Mediterranean Sea meant cheap goods carried to northern markets by sea than cross the Sahara desert.
- j) The same route also brought in cheap goods like Salt, cloth, food stuffs and weapons
- k) The coming of the Christian missionaries with the end of slave trade the major trade item
- l) Abolition of slave trade & end of slave labor that was used to guard the desert oases
- m) Discovery of Gold deposits in Latin America and South Africa reduced for gold in West Africa.
- n) The outbreak of the Turko-Italian wars in 1912 created instability reducing the volume of trade in West Africa.
- o) The European colonization of West Africa de-campaigned the TST for legitimate trade.
- p) In conclusion, the trade ended in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century / any other conclusions.

## **2. Explain the importance of Sunni Ali in the growth of Songay Empire (13 Marks)**

### **Introduction**

**I**

- a) Suuni Ali came to power in Songhay in 1464 and ruled the empire up to 1492 and he contributed a lot to the growth of Songay.

### **Body**

- b) Suuni Ali was the founder of Songay Empire and as a good leader he came to power when the political situation was favourable for conquests.
- c) He expanded the small state of Gao into a large empire through conquests e.g captured Timbuktu (1469) & Azawad (1470)
- d) He conquered Jenne-a prosperous commercial and Education centre within 7yrs 7 months and 7 days
- e) He also attacked Mali and annexed Kata province.
- f) In 1483, he succeeded in driving out the Mossi out of Walata – Baghana areas.
- g) In the East, he conquered Yatenga region and the powerful Mossi kingdom, Fulani in the Homborri Mountains.
- h) Suuni built a strong army by forcing/conspiring his subjects into an irregular army.
- i) His army consisted of the Cavalry force, infantry wings and powerful fleet of ships.
- j) He appointed the commander – in – chief of the forces called Hi-Koyi for his own fleet.
- k) He established an effective system of government for Songhay.
- l) He divided the empire into provinces each under a Governor.
- m) The provinces were sub-divided into districts but led by their own rulers as long as they submitted and paid annual tributes.

- n) He created a special governor for the administration of the Homborri regions called Tondifari (Governor of the Mountains)
- o) He protected the frontiers of Songay through expeditions against external enemies (foes) e.g the Bariba(south)
- p) However he was an indifferent moslem who did not promote islam and was tolerant to pagans.
- q) He was hostile to the moslems scholars of Sankore University in Timbuktu hence referred to as “Tyrant”, “Evil and oppressive ruler”
- r) He was ruthless to those who defied his authority e.g. murdered the clerics and scholars who never submitted to him.
- s) Suuni Ali’s greatness however came to an end in 1492 when he drowned into a river from his war of conquest.
- t) He was replaced by his Army General Mohammed Abubaker Toure who just seized power from Suuni Ali’s Abubaker Dao in 1493.

**Conclude:**

**2(b) What led to the collapse of his empire during the 16<sup>th</sup> Century? (13 marks)**

**I**

Introduction

- a) The factors for the decline were many & were political, social & economic in nature:
- b) They were also internal and external.
- c) Decline was gradual and final collapse was in the 16<sup>th</sup> century after the death of Askia Mohammed Toure.
- d) Internal conflicts in the empire
- e) In 1529, the old and blind emperor/king Askia Mohammed was overthrown by his eldest son Musa.
- f) Succession disputes / power struggle led to its decline where there were 20 years of succession disputes and civil strife.
- g) Askia Mohammed’s successors were weak and could not defend Songay’s borders.
- h) The division of the empire into moslem west & non moslem east (Songay proper)
- i) The civil wars of April 1588 led to the fall of Songayie between Sadiq (Kurmina-fari) & (Askia Daudi).
- j) Weakness of Songay’s army due to frequent wars of expansion
- k) Economy and trade weakened due to wars ie Agriculture & local industry.
- l) Rebellions from vassal states e.g Kebbi, Tekrur and Diara v/s Songhay.
- m) The empire was too big to effectively be administered by 1528.
- n) External attacks from the Tuaregs, Mossi, Huasa and Fulani
- o) The Moroccan Invasion of Songay in the 1550s
- p) The invasion caused a lot of insecurity.
- q) Sultan El – Mansur of Morocco used his army of about 4000 men under Judas Pasha invaded Songay & defeated Askia Ishak II’s army at the battle of Tondibi in 1591.

- r) The Moroccan's had superior weapons e.g. Muskets &Arquebars
- s) The Moorish soldiers took control of the western part of the empire with Timbuktu as capital.
- t) Finally Songhay became a province of Morocco under the Pashatic administration.
- u) The economic decline
- v) Decline in agriculture
- w) Decline in local in industry.

**Conclude;**

**12 marks**

### **3. What were the origins of Oyo Empire?**

**O**

#### **Introduction**

- a) The origins of Oyo were quite under and were based on myths/legends of the Yoruba.
- b) The origins were political, social and economic in nature.
- c) Oyo was one of the Yoruba and forest states.
- d) It was the earliest and largest of states in the whole region.
- e) It was one of the four forest empires alongside Benin, Dahomey and Asante.

#### **Body**

- f) The empire is believed to have emerged during the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries.
- g) By 1431, the empire was already in existence.
- h) The original founders and inhabitants were the Yoruba speaking people (Negroes)
- i) The Yoruba legends show that the Oduduwa was the greatest Ancestor and settled at Ile – Ife as a king.
- j) Oduduwa is highly believed to have descended either from heaven or the North-East and settled at Ile-Ife.
- k) His eldest son and successor Okanbi died at Ile-Ife and left seven (7) children but the 7<sup>th</sup> /seventh Oran Miyan became the founder and first Alafin of Oyo.
- l) It should be noted that the seven children left behind at Ile – Ife are the ones who founded the Forest states.
- m) Oran Miyan conquered the tribes to the North of Ile-Ife and set up his capital at old Oyo (Ajaka).
- n) The empire of Oyo also grew prosperous on trade both with the north (TOT) and the south (TAT) agriculture in the region.
- o) The empire was also said to have been blessed with strong kings and army that was used to conquer most Yoruba and Hausa states.
- p) By the 18<sup>th</sup> century therefore, the Oyo Empire had grown larger up to the peak covering a large area.
- q) In the North it extended to Niger, to the gulf of Guinea, Benin in the east and Togoland in the west.
- r) Agriculture in the region due to favourable climate.

**Conclude;**

**10 marks**

## **b) How was the empire organized? (15Mks)**

### **Introduction**

### **H**

- a) The empire was organized in many ways that were political, social and economic.
- b) Oyo had a monarchical type of government with patrilineal system of inheritance initially.
- c) Later the Alafin became elected by the Oyo Messi.
- d) It was headed by a king with a title of an Alafin who had semi divine powers
- e) The Alafin was elected by a council of 7 notables called Oyo Messi from the Royal family.
- f) In administration the king was assisted by the Oyo-Messi – the supreme council of the state and the king’s makers.
- g) The Oyo Messi was headed by the Prime Minister called Bashorun with both political and cultural duties.
- h) The Oyo Messi shared judicial powers controlled the army and acted as Mediator between the provincial states and the Alafin/King.
- i) The Alafin never enjoyed autocratic power e.g. the council of 7 (seven) notables could depose him with orders from heaven and ancestors by sending him parrot eggs in a calabash, it meant the gods reject the king, people reject him “Alafin& earth rejects him”.
- j) The deposed king was to commit suicide with the Eldest of his sons (Aremo) and best of his friends.
- k) Activities of the Oyo Messi and Alafin were checked by a secret society of the Earth cult called Ogboni.
- l) The Ogboni cult was made up of elderly and experienced men to settle conflicts between the Oyo Messi and Alafin.
- m) The Eso/war Lords were appointed by the Oyo Messi and were responsible for war..
- n) The commander- in – chief of the army was the kankafo who came from a humble origin and was to commit suicide if he failed to win war.
- o) For easy administration, Oyo was divided into two parts i.e. Metropolitan Oyo ruled by the Alafin and Oyo Messi.
- p) Provincial Oyo was ruled with the Alafin using officials called Ilaris.
- q) The Ilaris collected taxes and settled political quarrels.
- r) Had a strong army for defense& expansion purposes

### **ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION**

- s) The people of Oyo participated in trade with Sudan and later with Europeans.
- t) Carried out agriculture for survival and provided bulk royal revenues.
- u) Taxes and tributes came from provincial states who provided bulk royal revenues
- v) Social organisation
- w) Believed ancestral spirits
- x) Believed in gods such as Sango Oloruns etc.

#### **4. Explain the causes of the Anglo-Asante wars during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.**

##### **Introduction**

- a) These were the wars between the British and Asante of the interior of Ghana.
- b) The Asante first conflicted with the Fante during 1806 – 1824 and economic in nature.

##### **Body/causes**

- c) The British resented the Asante Imperialism at the coast.
- d) The British fought to protect their trade from being endangered e.g. to avoid the increasing prices of palm oil and gold.
- e) The Asante had wanted the British to control the coastal states from the Fante and allow them free access but the British were not ready to do so.
- f) The British wanted to break the power of the Asante to access the interior for trade
- g) The Anglo-Dutch exchange of ports like Elmina annoyed the Asante hence the wars
- h) The Asante could not accept the British take over Elmina town which was given to them by Osie Tutu and the source of their pride.
- i) The Asante wanted regular supply of guns and gun powder imported from the Europeans
- j) The British missionaries also pressurized their government to destroy the Asante for refusing their work in the interior.
- k) The need to eradicate slave trade by humanitarians in the Asante Empire hence the conflicts.
- l) The British wanted to destroy the Asante practices of human sacrifices by the kings.
- m) The British demand for the Asante Golden stool their symbol of unity annoyed the Asante.
- n) The British always undermined the Asante Hene by protecting the Asante criminals instead of handing over to the AsanteHene (KwakaDua I & Kwasi Gyana) hence the war/ conflict.
- o) The British demanded that the Asante pay for the 1826 war v/s the British and costs of administration.
- p) The British refused the powerful Asante to establish firm control over their vassal states & instead allied with the Fante to fight them.
- q) The collaboration of Fante with the British annoyed the Asante.
- r) The British had encouraged the Asante Vassal States to rebel against Asante. e.g. Assin, Denkyina, Akyem etc.

Conclude;

**13 marks**

**(b) How did these wars affect the peoples of West Africa? (12Mks)**

**Introduction**

- a) The effects of the Anglo-Asante were many and were political, social and economic;
- b) Both positive and negative

**Body**

- c) At first the Asante defeated Fante and British alliance in 1824 and 1863.
- d) Later the Asante were disastrously defeated by the British
- e) The Asante HenePremphel and other leaders were arrested and deported to Sierra Leone and Seychelles
- f) Asante military power was broken leading to disintegration of the Asante Empire.
- g) Northern vassal states of Gonja, Dagomba, Krakye and Gyaaman also reasserted their independence permanently.
- h) It led to loss of lives including the British governor Sir Charles MacCarthy.
- i) The wars led to the signing of Fomena treaty between the British and the Asante hence loss of independence to the British
- j) Asante southern vassal states were incorporated into the new British colony of Gold coast.
- k) The wars forced the Fante to unite against the Asante through the Fante confederation of 1868.
- l) Depopulation due to heavy loss of lives.
- m) Human suffering and misery.
- n) Displacement of persons.
- o) Decline in the economy due to the war e.g. trade, agriculture, industry etc.
- p) Destruction of property.

Conclude;

12 marks



## **5. (a) Why were Christian missionaries interested in West Africa during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century?**

### **Introduction;**

### **I**

- a) The missionaries were soldiers of Jesus Christ who came from Europe to Africa to spread Christianity and stop slave trade.
- b) The missionary groups included the Protestant missionaries (CMS) from Britain (1805), Weslyans (Methodists), the Roman Catholics (1869), the Baptists of Scotland (1841)
- c) Reasons were many, were political, social, religious, economic, humanitarian etc

### **Body**

- d) The revival of Evangelical movements in Europe led to the need to spread Christianity in West Africa.
- e) Need to convert the liberated Negroe states in West Africa.
- f) Need to spread western values and civilization to African cultures.
- g) The connotations of racial arrogance/superiority made missionaries to come to West Africa.
- h) The humanitarian interest of introducing western education in Africa since she is regarded to be dark, primitive, backward continent
- i) The desire to wipe out undesirable practices like witchcraft, sorcery, human sacrifice, ancestral worship, throwing away twins out of West Africa.
- j) Desire to eradicate slave trade & replace it with legitimate trade
- k) Hope/need to create a peaceful atmosphere for economic development.
- l) The above would encourage cash crop growing such as cotton, rubber, hemp, palm oil, indigo, ground nuts, etc
- m) There was also need to exploit/tap the forest products as a substitute for slave trade.
- n) Need for raw materials like Minerals, Ivory, Kola nuts, honey as put by Fowell Buxton's belief of the famous "Bilbert plough theory".
- o) The above is summed up in the 3C's of commerce, Christianity and conquest.
- p) Missionaries were indirect products of the industrial revolution which made them look for consumer market for their manufactured goods.
- q) These also came to find potential areas for investments in West Africa.
- r) The rapid spread Islam also alarmed them to come to West Africa because the Jihadists had revived it hence needs to check Jihads.
- s) The discovery of Quinine & other drugs to combat tropical diseases like Malaria gave missionaries confidence to come West Africa.
- t) The spirit of adventure, exploration/discovery drove missionaries to West Africa.
- u) Came as representatives of their respective countries with imperial and political interests in Africa
- v) They were fore runners of colonialism because they had cooperated with home governments to extend colonial rule.

- w) It fulfills the slogan, “the flag followed the cross” hence they used the pretext of seeking for protection v/s hostile African tribes/chiefs. E.g. the British intervention in Lagos in 1852 and annexation in 1861 justifies that.

**Conclude; 1mk**

**(b) What changes were brought by their work of the Christian missionaries in West Africa?**

- a) The changes were political, social and economic including humanitarian nature.
- b) Positive and negative.
- c) Christianity was spread in West Africa and many people convert.
- d) Churches and mission centres were built.
- e) Introduced formal education.
- f) Schools were built.
- g) Literacy was promoted.
- h) Vocational skills were promoted e.g. carpentry, tailoring, brick laying etc.
- i) Built health centres; hospitals, dispensaries which improved the welfare of the people.
- j) Introduced and promoted foreign languages: Latin, English French etc.
- k) Western culture / values were promoted e.g. worship, dance, dressing etc.
- l) Preached and undermined African ways of marriage i.e. monogamy versus polygamy.
- m) Eradicated African customs like human sacrifice, throwing away of twins etc.
- n) Undermined African legal systems in favour of European judiciary.
- o) Developed infrastructure e.g. roads, railways, mission centres etc.
- p) Decampained slave trade and slavery.
- q) Promoted agriculture through cash crop growing e.g. rubber, cotton, cocoa etc,
- r) Introduced and promoted new methods of farming e.g. use of manure, crop rotation, plantation etc.
- s) Paved way for European Imperialism.

13 marks

**6. How was assimilation policy adopted in Senegal?**

**H**

**Introduction;**

- a) Assimilation policy was the French system of administration in her West African colonies like Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Senegal, Guinea-Conakry, etc.
- b) It meant making the colonized Africans similar to the French in language, laws, religion and civilization.
- c) It was meant to destroy everything African and replace it with French.
- d) It was successfully applied in Senegal’s four communes of Goree, Dakar, St. Louis and Rafisque.
- e) The policy thus aimed at transforming the Black man into French man.
- f) Assimilation was adopted from the French verb.
- g) Assimilia meaning cause to resemble.

## Body

- h) The whole administrative system was headed by the minister of colonies in Paris and Senegal used the laws for administration.
- i) Under the minister of colonies was the governor general who was stationed at Dakar & his duty was to control the whole of French West Africa.
- j) The headquarters of the policy was at Dakar for all the colonies in West Africa.
- k) Each colony was headed by a lieutenant general whose duty was to implement the policies given by the governor general at Dakar.
- l) The lieutenant general was assisted by the provincial and district officers of French soldiers.
- m) Africans were to become French citizens with rights equal to those of the French men.
- n) French literature, history and etiquette was to be studied by the Africans in Senegal and other colonies.
- o) An African was elected as a representative to the French National Assembly in Paris.
- p) For easy administration, villages were grouped into cantons under/led by a canton chief & chiefs at the bottom level.
- q) Cantons were also/further grouped into circle led by a French officer called commandant with judicial and executive powers.
- r) Africans were to abandon their religion for Catholicism, get French education and use French language as their National language.
- s) Africans chiefs were to collect taxes but with no rights to retain the revenues, they had no native treasury.
- t) All colonies were to trade with France and not with any other European country.
- u) Colonized Africans were to pay services on the French colonial projects and adopt monogamy as a marriage system.
- v) The major features/characteristics of the policy were thus to adopt French culture, enjoy French citizenship rights, French centralized government and African representation in the French National assembly.

## Conclude; 1Mk

**13 marks**

## 6(b) Why was this policy unsuccessful? 12 Marks

**W**

### Introduction;

- a) There were a number of problems/reasons that led to the fall/unsuccessfulness of the policy which were political, social and economic in nature.
- b) They were also internal and external factors or reasons for the failure.

## Body

- c) It was based on wrong assumptions hence a failure.
- d) It was seen as a contradiction by the French scholars that it was unwise and unrealistic to change people of different races whose cultures were respected.

- e) To the French, equality meant destruction of the French empire hence a failure.
- f) Education which would be the best vehicle of assimilation was left in the hands of the missionaries who aimed at Christianity.
- g) Africans were deep rooted in their traditional cultures found it difficult to convert to Catholicism hence a problem to Muslims.
- h) The French faced opposition from the Africans who would become rivals to them after assimilation.
- i) High/tight pressure was put on the Africans/ natives to become assimilators hence failure. E.g. at 18yrs one was to give up native laws and provide labor service to colonial government
- j) For 18yrs and above, Africans were to be educated in the French language and French employment for 10yrs.
- k) Africans were to possess good means of livelihood as well as showing evidence of good character to qualify for French citizenship.
- l) Colonial representation in the chamber of deputies was a minority and assembly showed little interest in the colonial affairs.
- m) France lacked enough personnel to implement the policy in a colony that was big.
- n) Education used to assimilate the natives was only in Senegal (4 colonies) & not in other areas of West Africa.
- o) Difference between the French and African concepts regarding land tenure system, marriage, property ownership & inheritance
- p) It was costly hence compared with indirect rule & it later was dropped.
- q) Difference in religion e.g. French were catholic vs. Muslims and paganism.

### **Conclusion;**

In conclusion thus, due to the challenges above, the policy was finally dropped in favor of Association that was in resemblance with the British indirect rule policy.

12 marks

## **7. Describe the changes that took place in Nigeria before independence in:**

### **A) Education**

**E**

Introduction: 1mk

- a) In Nigeria, educational developments were championed by the missionaries.
- b) They opened up primary schools and secondary schools which included those of the church missionary societies.
- c) Missionaries also opened up colleges and the colonial government gave grants to mission schools and opened up schools of its own.
- d) By 1914, the number of primary school children in Nigeria was 42,000 and by 1951, there were one million.
- e) By 1951, there were 1 million children in primary schools.
- f) Secondary schools were also developed & the first was opened up in 1859.
- g) In 1909, the colonial government entered the field of secondary education.
- h) By 1951, the number of secondary schools had increased to 110.
- i) In 1948, Ibadan University College was opened.
- j) In Nigeria the 1<sup>st</sup> grammar school was opened up by the CMS in 1859 in Lagos.
- k) In 1868, the 1<sup>st</sup> secondary school for girls was opened up also in Ghana.
- l) In 1876, the Methodist boy's school opened and St. Gregory's college was opened in 1881.
- m) In 1895, the British opened up the Hope Waddell Institute at Kalabar.

13 marks

### **B) HEALTH**

**H**

- n) Hospitals services/health services in Nigeria were improved and pioneered by Christian missionaries.
- o) Each mission had health agents who treated the missionaries and their converts.
- p) They set up dispensaries in parts of Nigeria i.e. in towns and remote villages.
- q) For example Samuel Crowther established a dispensary at Abeokuta in 1852.
- r) Vaccination was also introduced to control epidemic diseases such as small pox.
- s) Health inspectors were trained and a school for research in tropical medicine was established at Liverpool and London in 1899.
- t) The colonial government built many more health centers to simplify the work of the missions.
- u) By the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> world war, the number of government owned hospitals had risen to 4, 240.
- v) Towns grew by 1911, there were 13 urban centers in Western Nigeria, 5 in eastern & 10 in the North due to development of health centers. E.g. Lagos, Ibadan, Kaduna, Benin, Port Harcourt, Kano & Abeokuta.

Conclude;

12 marks

**8. Explain the role played by the following in the struggle for independence of their countries.**

**a) Leopold Sedar Senghor (Senegal) (12Mks)**

**L**

- a) He was born of a rich family at Joël outside the communes in October, 1906.
- b) Senghor was born in a family which remained strongly catholic in a predominantly Muslim community.
- c) He received his primary education in a catholic school and later he attended the lycee in Dakar and then in Paris where he won such a distinction as a scholar that he became the first African professor in Lycee.
- d) Senghor taught in several lycees in France until the outbreak of World War II.
- e) His career as a nationalist leader in French West Africa began in 1945 when together with Laminegueye, another Senegalese, were elected deputies for Senegal in the first and second constituent assemblies, which formed the constitution of the forth republic.
- f) Under the capacity, he influenced greatly the constitutional reforms which were realized. For instance, born outside the communes in a place where people suffered from disabilities of “subjects” status, he fought very hard for the extension of French citizenship to all people.
- g) Senghor also was very vocal against forced labor and advocated for its abolishment. These objectives were achieved in 1946.
- h) In October 1948, he formed his own territorial party, the “Bloc Democratique Senegalais” (B.D.S). this was after declining to team up with the communist allied (R.D.A)
- i) Rejecting affiliation to any metropolitan party, he with most of the non RDA deputies in Paris formed the “independents d’outre-mer (I.O.M) which was a move towards independence”
- j) Senghor with I.O.M leaders opposed the Loi Cadre which tended to Balkanise the region by granting limited self-government on territorial basis.
- k) When the R.D.A (led by Houphouët - Boigny) refused to compromise its stand on self rule on territorial basis, Senghor in May 1958 formed the Parti de Regroupement Africain. (PRA) as an alliance of all parties supporting an independent federation of states
- l) When he realized that France was inclined to territorial rather than federal self government, he modified his former stand-by leading Senegal to vote “yes” in De Gaulle’s referendum of 1958.
- m) With such strategy, he believed that the new dispensation could eventually result in independence for a unified federation. But when his hope appeared to be frustrated, he with the leaders of Sudan launched the Mali federation of Senegal and Sudan in March 1959.
- n) In 1960, the Mali federation demanded full independence in June 1960, the federation achieved independence.

12 marks

**b) Kwame Nkrumah**

a) He was born about 1909 and was named Francis Nwia Kofi Ngonloma. He later changed to Kwame Nkrumah.

b) He was one of the Africans' greatest leaders before he fell from power (21<sup>st</sup> Feb 1966)

c) He was educated in Ghana and further in U.S.A

d) He lectured at Lincoln University.

e) He drew inspiration from the Marcus Garvey movement and from Mahatma Gandhi. Soon he became involved in active politics.

f) On his arrival in England (1945), he became vice president of the West African student Union (WASU)

g) He was one of the organizers of the Pan-African Congress (PAC) in 1945.

h) It was at this point that the plan for mass political organization was conceived aimed at achieving the independence of African states.

i) His nationalist links with Ghana began in 1947, when he was recalled to become the general secretary of the united Gold Coast Convention Party (UGCCP)

j) At this stage, Nkrumah revealed his radical leadership and approach, for this he was alienated by the moderate UGCC intellectuals.

k) In September 1948, he founded the Accra Evening Post which became the official mouth piece of the nationalist movement.

l) He also formed the committee of youth organization. He split from UGCC and founded the Convention People's Party (CPP). Top on this programme was "self-government now". To achieve this, "Positive Action Plan" or riots or strikes was launched.

m) The Jan 1950 riots landed Nkrumah and some other CPP leaders in prison (at James Fort Prison)

n) The 1951 elections gave victory to CPP Nkrumah won the Accra central constituency.

o) He was subsequently released from prison and formed a government. He became leader of government business, this marked Nkrumah's speedy rise to power.

p) He put persistent pressure on the colonial administration to grant Ghana independence despite demand for federal governance by the National Liberation Movement (NLM)

q) Ultimately, it was Nkrumah's CPP which led Ghana to independence on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1957.

r) The newly independent state changed its name from the Gold coast to Ghana in honor of the ancient empire of Ghana.

s) Nkrumah became the first president of Ghana. He mobilized the masses for independence and his contributions were many.

**END**