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State and Society in Africa

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By: Kshyama Sagar Mehier



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**Sample Preview
of the
Solved
Sample Question
Papers**

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QUESTION PAPER

June – 2023

(Solved)

STATE AND SOCIETY IN AFRICA

M.P.S.E.-5

Time: 2 Hours]

[Maximum Marks: 50

Note: Attempt five questions in all, selecting at least two questions from each section. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION-A

Q. 1. Trace the political evolution of Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 2, 'Evolution of Africa' and Page No. 4, 'Early African Kingdoms'.

Q. 2. Write an essay on slave trade in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 6, 'European Influence and Slave Trade'.

Q. 3. Elaborate upon the rise of Nationalism in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 23, 'Rise of Nationalism in Africa'.

Q. 4. Describe the nature of the state in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-4, Page No. 32, 'Nature of the State in Africa'.

Q. 5. Delineate the history of development in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-5, Page No. 45, 'History of Development in Africa' and Page No. 49, Q. No. 1.

SECTION-B

Q. 6. Discuss UN peacekeeping in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 95, Q. No. 3 and Q. No. 4.

Q. 7. Write a note on the Great African Crisis.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-5, Page No. 46, 'The Great African Crisis'.

Also Add: Independent African states also faced the crisis of legitimacy. The gap between the expectations of the people and the performance of the governments increased the crisis of legitimacy and governance. It also weakened the relation between the state and the society further eroding the government's legitimacy.

Most African countries since 1975 started undergoing slow economic downslide. As the ruling elites continued to embezzle the state's scarce resources, development received further setback and states became vulnerable to economic stagnation, decay and fragmentation. The 1973 oil crisis made worse the economic degradation. The crisis of indebtedness further weakened the economies of African countries.

Q. 8. Elaborate upon Authoritarian Regimes in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-6, Page No. 59, 'Authoritarian Regime'.

Q. 9. Discuss the role of military in politics in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 63, 'Military in Politics'.

Q. 10. Write a note on Structured Adjustment Programme (SAP) in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-5, Page No. 46, 'Structural Adjustment Programme and Development'.



QUESTION PAPER

December – 2022

(Solved)

STATE AND SOCIETY IN AFRICA

M.P.S.E.-5

Time: 2 Hours]

[Maximum Marks: 50

Note: Attempt five questions in all, selecting at least two questions from each section. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION-I

Q. 1. Write a note on Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-11, Page No. 104, Q. No. 1 and Page No. 101, 'Organization of African Unity (OAU)'.

Q. 2. Examine the issue of human security in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-12, Page No. 111, 'Human Security in Sub-Saharan Africa'.

Q. 3. Discuss the issue of ethnicity and nationalism in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-13, Page No. 118, 'Ethnicity and Nationalism'.

Q. 4. Write a note on direct violence in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-14, Page No. 128, 'Direct Violence'.

Q. 5. Elaborate upon regional economic integration in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-15, Page No. 137, 'Regional Initiatives: EAC, ECOWAS, SADCC and COMESA'.

SECTION-II

Q. 6. Write a note on Indians in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-16, Page No. 146, 'Indians in Africa' and Page No. 150, Q. No. 2 and Q. No. 3.

Q. 7. Discuss the role of Military in African politics.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 63, 'Military in Politics'.

Q. 8. Examine the colonial legacies in Africa.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 15, 'Colonial Legacies (Political)', Page No. 16, 'Colonial Legacies (Social)' and Page No. 17, 'Colonial Legacies (Economic)'.

Q. 9. Discuss African resistance against colonial intruders.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 24, 'Resistance Against Colonial Intruders' and 'The End of the Colonial Empire'.

Q. 10. Elaborate upon the evolving African state.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 2, 'Evolution of Africa'.

■ ■

Sample Preview of The Chapter

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STATE AND SOCIETY IN AFRICA



Introducing Africa

INTRODUCTION

Africa is a vast continent comprising 54 countries. Accounting for about one-fourth of the world's land area, it is second largest continent after Asia. About 800 million people or 13 per cent of the world's population live in Africa. It has a variety of world culture, tribes, contrasts and contradictions. Africa was under Colonial Rule for a long time. In 1947, it had only four independent states. In 1963 when the Organisation of African Unity was formed, the number of independent country increased to 32. Today all the 54 countries are independent. However, in the recent years, Africa has witnessed to unprecedented political revolution, which has been termed as a second African independence, a second liberation or a new wind of change.

Even as Africa is projected as a dark continent, it has vast natural resources as well as manpower. It became the target of European countries because of its rich resources. Its manpower was also exploited by the western countries. To fulfil their interests, the western nations colonized the continent and fragmented into different spheres at continental levels such as Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone. They also divided Africa into thousands of ethnic and tribal groupings at local levels.

The countries in Africa have now formed different groups such as Organization of African Unity (OAU), Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern African Development Community (SADC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC). Through these organization, countries in the continent

interact with each other as well as maintain contacts with outside world. Structural Adjustment Programme and the New Partnership for African Development (NAPED) have provided the continent new and improved pace of growth and development.

CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

HOW AFRICA CAME INTO BEING?

African has a history of thousands years. The historians however are far from providing a complete picture of the African past and the slave trade. Historians have written the history of Africa on the basis of information derived from the reports of traders, invaders and visitors. Modern scholars have used ancient records of anthropology, archaeology and linguistics to fill in the gaps in the historical records of the continent.

(a) Geographical and Sociological Aspects: Africans had domesticated cattle before the development of farming. They had practice of herding by about 7500 BC in the western desert of Egypt. It spread into central Sahara desert in the next 2,000 years. From there, it spread to the Atlantic coast, the highlands of present day Ethiopia and to the border of Africa's tropical forests in the south. During that period, most of Sahara region had vegetation and forest and it was well watered. The weather started changing in about 6000 BC and Sahara started drying and became a desert in about 4,500 years. In the Central and Southern Sahara, a surprising variety of settlements developed during the long period of change. To survive in the difficult environment conditions, the members of different communities gathered together at certain times of the year to share their resources and skills. These interactions emboldened them to grow grains. After about 2500 BC,

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many pastoral groups spread to central, eastern and southern Africa. Africans who domesticated cattle occupied the highlands of Ethiopia over a thousand years before the development of farming there.

Pastoralists made their way into the Rift Valley in present day Kenya by about 1,000 BC. They reached the border of present day Tanzania by 400 BC. Pastoralists spread to central Africa by 400 BC. Pastoralists made their way into southern Africa by 200 AD. Bantu speaking people migrated to the eastern part of present day Cameroon by 1500 BC. Later on they reached the east and south across central and southern Africa. The Bantu started farming grains and were among the first to produce iron in sub-Saharan Africa.

(b) Importance of Metal in Social Development:

The use of metal revolutionized the social development in Africa. It led to more specialization and the evolution of a more hierarchical society. The new ideas about authority also emerged. It led to development of trade and cities in Africa.

By 2000 BC people in ancient Egypt and Nubians were smelting bronze. Sometime after 1000 BC, the Greeks and Carthaginians brought iron and copper technology to North Africa. From there it reached southward down the Nile Valley. The earliest evidence of iron working in sub-Saharan Africa is found in present-day Niger at about 700 BC. About a hundred years later copper smelting began in the region of present day Mauritania. The metal had a great impact on African civilization. For example, in west Africa, the iron tools were used to clear and settle land in the valleys along the Senegal and Niger River. In western Africa, where the Bantu had settled, the iron working technology was well established by about 300 BC. Then it made its way into the central, eastern and southeastern Africa. Evidence of iron use dating from about 100 AD to 400 AD have been found at Lake Victoria, in southern Tanzania and southeastern Africa. Urban settlements featuring large scale production of goods, long-distance trade, specialized labour, hierarchical society were appearing across Africa by 600 AD. Long-distance trade along the Middle Niger River promoted early urban areas in Western Africa. Large urban areas with hierarchical social structure had appeared by the late 18th century in many other areas of Africa.

EVOLUTION OF AFRICA

Northern Africa: Algeria, Egypt, the northern half of Sudan, Libya, Tunisia and Morocco came under Northern Africa. All over Northern Africa from Red Sea to the Atlantic Ocean and from the Mediterranean coast southward, evidence of early Stone Age axes have been found by late 18th century. During the Middle Ages in the Sahara and the Maghreb (northwest Africa), people killed giraffes, horses and rhinoceroses. There are also evidences of stones found in some area that show that people used to grind wild plant food to make them more palatable. Fish bones have been discovered in the Nile valley showing the evidence of fishing. About 20,000 and 13,000 years ago, Mediterranean shore was perhaps the main centres of population. Evidences show that people lived along the Nile river, which was much smaller than it is today. The people were perhaps competing for resources as skeletons found show evidence of violence. Around 11,000 years ago, the flow of Nile river increased due to changes in rainfall patterns. Sahara also got moistened and became habitable during the monsoons. About 8,000 years ago people started living throughout the years. They dug well and built round houses to live. For astronomical or religious reasons, they also set up large stones arranged in lines or circles. Several thousand years later, Sahara became too dry for human to live in due to the climate change.

In Egypt a nation state ruled by the kings known as pharaohs emerged in about 3200 BC. The largest Kushite pyramid discovered at Nuri in Sudan is about 95 feet or 30 metres a side. Greco-Roman ruins have also been found along the Northern African coast. For instance, the Tunisian site of Leptiminus was a Mediterranean port which was under Roman rule in the first century AD. Archaeologists in the 20th century discovered a distinctive type of pottery during an excavation in three cemeteries in the Tunisian site.

Western Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Gambia, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo came under Western Africa. The region's coastal area mainly consists of tropical rain forests. In the north it stretches into the Sahara desert. In the forest and savannah region of the southern part of western Africa, agricultural production increased and settled communities developed in about 2000 BC. At

more than two dozen sites in Ghana and Ivory Coast, various stone tools, remains of goats and sheep, pottery and figurines have been found. Evidences of iron and copper use in the area have also been found. Discoveries show in Niger people used copper in 2000 BC and worked in iron in 1000 BC. After a few centuries, Chad, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal also produced iron. As a result of contacts with the Arabs from North Africa from 7th century, large urban centres and complex social structures emerged in western Africa. Although the towns were built about 250 BC, they had rapid growth about 500 years later. In western Africa, evidences of human sacrifices and various objects buried with the dead have been found in large earthen mounds in burial chambers.

The history of western African states after 1000 AD is found in oral tradition and a few written records including accounts by Arab travellers. According to Arabic sources, Ancient Ghana was a flourishing state and it had extended over much of present day Mali, Senegal and Mauritania. A description about royal burial shed on the ritual purpose of burial mounds at Koumbi Saleh, thought to have been the capital of Ghana. Arabic and European sources also describes the kingdom of Benin in Nigeria as powerful. It reached its peak between the 13th and 17th centuries. In the 19th century, African towns had a population of 15,000 to 20,000 inhabitants. Evidences found in excavation like European pottery, glass and beads, and fine ceramics from China and goods from India and Far East show the region's far flung trade with outside world.

Eastern Africa: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda come under Eastern Africa. The fossil discoveries in 1960s cast new light on the earliest human origins in Africa. According to various theories, Homo sapiens in Africa have focused attention on the Middle Stone Age sites like Gadammotta near lake Zwai in Ethiopia. Obsidian – a glassy volcanic rock – was used by the inhabitants of Gadammotta to manufacture tools about 200,000 years ago. There are also evidences of use of stone tools in Tanzania about 100,000 years ago.

About 4,000 to 5,000 years ago, livestock were domesticated in eastern Africa. Cattle, sheep and goats were the most common domesticated animals. The earliest indications of farming in the region come from

Lalibela cave in the highlands of Ethiopia. There are traces of beans, barley and chickpeas. Evidences of wheat, grapes and lentils have been discovered in other Ethiopian sites. Communities from the shores of Lake Victoria were the first to use iron in eastern Africa between 2,500 and 1,700 years ago. About 500 AD, farmers using iron tools believed to have occupied areas of eastern Africa with wooded and wet environments, specifically the coastal hills and plain areas.

The coast of eastern Africa was area of origin of complex African societies. Evidences showed urban communities based on Indian Ocean Trading networks had developed in 800 AD. These communities used timber, coral and limestone. They also minted their own coins. There is also evidence of Islam in eastern Africa. The ancestors of the Swahili coastal traders were the inhabitants of the urban centres at Zanzibar and elsewhere along the coast.

Time Line:

7000 BC	Livestock is raised in Sahara
2000 BC	Farming replaces most hunting and gathering societies
1000 BC	Evidence of Iron-Working in Niger
500 AD	Ethiopians start trade with Arabs across Red Sea
1400 AD	Europeans establish trade connections in Africa

Central and Southern Africa: Angola, Burundi, Botswana, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, Sao, Tome and Principe, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe come under central and southern Africa. Evidences of *homo sapiens*, including skeletons, have been found at Border Cave in Swaziland and Klasies River Mouth in Southern Africa. There are also evidences of some modern behaviours like the development of family groups, food sharing and the planned use of resources. The people in southern and central Africa were nomadic during the late Stone Age. They used to move between mountainous areas and low-lying lands. They hunted animals, gathered a variety of plant foods and used marine resources such as shellfish. They also carefully buried the dead and sometimes

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placed various objects in the grave. In some parts of southern and central Africa, people adopted a mixed agriculture – farming of grains with livestock raising. The villages were connected with the exchanges of goods including food products, pottery, iron and salt. In some village sites stone tools are found which indicate that they had interacted with the hunter-gatherers who followed the Stone Age way of life.

Livestock raising, especially cattle, was very important in southern and central Africa. Farming had also spread to the highlands and the stone-built ruins indicate a thriving population in the region. Complex states had emerged in 12th century. Mapungabwe and other hill top towns along the Limpopo River in Zimbabwe were the centres of such states. These states had also different economic and social classes. Each state had a ruler who controlled the local economy and links with outside world. They had links with the traders from Arabia on the coast of the Indian Ocean. They exchanged African goods like gold, ivory and animal skins for foreign goods like glass beads and cotton cloth. In the early 1950s, European colonists, beginning with Portuguese, ventured into the interiors in central and southern Africa.

EARLY AFRICAN KINGDOMS

In several African regions, kingdoms emerged during the first millennium A.D. The kingdoms were little more than enlarged chiefdoms. The rulers were like senior lineage leaders and persons charged with ritual powers. Under the impact of economic and political development, the importance of rulers gradually increased. In the 13th century, the west Asian mercenaries of Ayyubid Egypt were able to build the dynasty of Mamluk and ruled Egypt until the early 16th century.

The empire of Ghana formed by Soninke chiefs long before the 8th century was one of the large mediaeval empires. In the 11th century, it reached the height of power.

The empire of Mali was dominant over the southern terminals of the trading network of the west. It rose to power in the western and central Sudan after Ghana, but it was short-lived. In 11th century, its Mandinka kings believe to have accepted Islam and several of them went on pilgrimages. Under the rule of Mansa Kankan Musa (1312-1337), the triumph of Islam in Mali came.

Musa brought most of the western Sudan, the westerly portion of the central Sudan and much of the southern Sahara under his control. In 1324, Musa went on a pilgrimage and upon returning he introduced Muslim patterns of administration into his court and government structure.

Prior to about 1400 AD, a large number of kingdoms emerged. The early kingdoms of the Yoruba (western Nigeria), of the Edo (mid-western Nigeria), of the Akan (central Ghana) and of the Wolof (Senegal) are notable among them. The Yoruba kingdoms evolved from a cultural synthesis – between the existing indigenous peoples and intrusive migrants from the central Sudan at around 1000 AD. They had developed complex political systems, a rich cultural life, skills in handicraft production and a pattern of large urban development. Many of the Yoruba kingdoms were later on drawn together in the Oyo Empire (1650-1810).

In eastern, central and southern Africa, some other types of kingship similar to that in west Africa developed from the needs of ritual and then of political and military leadership. Some of them were influenced by long-distance trade such as Shona and their neighbours of the central southern plateau. Luba and Lunda and their neighbours of the southern Congolese-Angolan grasslands are such kingships after 16th century. Some others were concerned primarily with the command, defence and distribution of cattle pasture and farming land. They included the states of the southern Bantu which are now the Transvaal, Natal, eastern Cape provinces of South Africa and neighbouring areas among others the states of the Swazi, Venda, Xhosa and Nguni.

There were also stratified conquest kingdoms in which cattle owners ruled over cultivators on the basis of ethnic differences. There was no private ownership of land in these kingdoms so none of these kingdoms evolved the hierarchical rigidities of Europe or Asia.

THE SPREAD OF ISLAM

Islam originated in Mecca in Saudi Arabia in 610 AD with the teachings of Prophet Muhammad. The teachings of Islam were carried into Africa by Arab traders, settlers and soldiers in the 7th and 8th centuries. Islam spread by conversion and conquest across North Africa, into the eastern parts of Africa and over the Sahara desert in West Africa. Islam influenced the political and social development of the regions. Islam today has been as important force in Africa.