

Subject: History

Class: Year 9

Topic: Abolition of Slave Trade in Trans- Atlantic Trade.

The trans-Atlantic trade was a significant part of global trade in the 16th to 19th century. It involved the buying and selling of goods and human beings between Africa, Europe, and later the Americas. This trade brought immense wealth to European countries, but at what cost? African people were captured and sold as slaves to work on plantations, mines, and homes in different parts of the world. This practice was inhumane and barbaric, leading to the loss of millions of lives.

However, the tide began to turn in the late 18th century, with the rise of the abolitionist movement. This movement was made up of people who believed that slavery was morally wrong and should be abolished. One of the notable figures in this movement was Olaudah Equiano, a Nigerian writer and abolitionist who published his autobiography, "The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano." His writings shed light on the harsh reality of slavery and played a significant role in educating people and changing their perspective on the practice.

Fast forward to 1807, the British Parliament passed the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, making it illegal to transport slaves across the Atlantic. This marked a significant milestone in the fight against slavery and set an example for other countries to follow. However, slavery still continued in other parts of the world until August 1st, 1833, when the Slavery Abolition Act was passed, officially ending slavery in the British Empire.

In conclusion, the abolition of the slave trade is a crucial part of Nigerian history that should not be forgotten. This milestone in the fight against slavery has shaped the country's present and will continue to be relevant in the future. As we celebrate Nigerian National Day, let us remember the sacrifices of those who fought for the freedom of others and continue to advocate for justice and equality for all.

Topic: The Legitimate Trade.

The Legitimate Trade is the economic system where Europeans exchanged goods, such as guns, cloth, and beads, for raw materials like ivory, cloth, rubber, and palm oil from Africa. This trade system began in the 16th century and continued until the 19th century. The main purpose of this trade was to develop European economies and also provide resources for the Industrial



Revolution in Europe.

### 1. How the Europeans Trade with Africans.

The Europeans established coastal trading stations in Africa to carry out trade deals. These stations served as ports to ship goods from Africa to Europe. The African traders would bring goods such as ivory, gold, and slaves to these stations and exchange them for European goods. The Europeans, in turn, used the goods to produce manufactured goods in Europe.

### 2. Impact of The Legitimate Trade on Africa

The Legitimate Trade had both positive and negative impacts on Africa. On the positive side, it brought new products to Africa, such as guns and clothing, which were previously unavailable. This improved the standard of living for Africans. However, the negative effects were more significant. The trade resulted in an increase in slavery, as more slaves were needed to work on plantations in the Americas. This led to the decline of some African cultures, as many were taken away from their families and homes. The trade also caused the depletion of important natural resources in Africa. The Legitimate Trade is also known as Atlantic Trade, Triangle Trade, or Transatlantic Trade.

The trade of palm oil in the legitimate trade

Palm oil has a long history in West Africa, with archaeological evidence suggesting that it has been produced since at least the Bronze Age. Local communities extracted the oil from wild oil palms, and it was used in cooking, as a lubricant, and for medicinal purposes.

However, with the arrival of European traders in the 15th century, the trade of palm oil took on a new dimension. European demand for palm oil was fueled by the industrial revolution, as palm oil was used in the production of soap, candles, and lubricants. The demand was so great that the British established a lucrative trade in West Africa, with palm oil being one of the most important commodities exported from the region.

This trade was known as the "legitimate trade" because it was conducted through legal channels and was not associated with the exploitation of people. The British maintained control of palm oil production, with African producers being paid low prices for their product.



The trade of palm oil played a significant role in the transatlantic slave trade, as palm oil was used to preserve the slaves during the long journey across the Atlantic. It also had a significant impact on the development of West African societies, as it brought about changes in traditional production methods and social structures.

Today, palm oil continues to be a valuable commodity in global trade, with Nigeria being one of the leading producers. The trade of palm oil has a rich history in West Africa and has shaped the region in many ways. It is an important part of our heritage and should be celebrated and remembered.

Topic: British contacts with Nigeria.

## Introduction

British contacts with Nigeria refer to the historical interactions and relationships between Britain and Nigeria. This includes colonization, trade, and cultural exchanges.

## Colonization

One of the most significant aspects of British contacts with Nigeria is colonization. In the late 19th century, Britain colonized Nigeria, making it a part of the British Empire. This had a massive impact on the social, economic, and political landscape of Nigeria at the time.

## Trade

Apart from colonization, trade is another crucial aspect of British contacts with Nigeria. Britain saw Nigeria as a valuable source of raw materials, such as palm oil and groundnuts, and used the country to expand its trade network. This led to significant economic growth in Nigeria but also had negative impacts on local industries and agriculture.

## Cultural Exchanges

It's important to note that British contacts with Nigeria also had significant cultural impacts. Once colonized, Nigerians were exposed to British culture, and this led to a blending of cultures. Today, Nigerian culture is an amalgamation of indigenous traditions and British



influences. British contacts with Nigeria had a lasting impact on the country. Colonization, trade, and cultural exchanges all played a role in shaping modern-day Nigeria. It's crucial to study and understand these historical events to gain a better understanding of Nigerian history and its significance in the world today.

The British were interested in the trade of gold, spices, ivory, slaves and other resources from the West African coast? This made them send expeditions and traders into the Nigerian region. Their trade led to interactions between the Nigerians and the British, which eventually formed the basis of their colonial rule in Nigeria.

Topic: How the British Conquered Nigeria Territories.

### The British Conquering of Nigerian Territories

The British Empire is one of the greatest empires in history, and it had a significant impact on many countries, including Nigeria.

### Nigeria's Diversity

Before the British arrived, Nigeria was a diverse country made up of different kingdoms and ethnic groups. There was a lack of unity and no central government, which made it easier for the British to conquer and rule.

### The Beginning of British Rule

The British first arrived in Nigeria in the 19th century and set up their main base in Lagos. They used military force to conquer and control the different kingdoms and regions in Nigeria.

### The Role of the Royal Niger Company

The Royal Niger Company played a crucial role in the British conquest of Nigeria. The company had been granted a charter by the British government in 1886 to explore and colonize the territories along the Niger River. Through trade and military force, the company was able to gain control of many areas in Nigeria.

The Taking of Lagos In 1861, the British annexed Lagos, which was a major slave port. They



used this as a base to expand their control over other parts of Nigeria.

### The Role of Indigenous Leaders

Some indigenous leaders, such as King Kosoko of Lagos, initially resisted the British invasion. However, they were eventually defeated, and their territories were taken over.

### The Use of Indirect Rule

The British used a system called indirect rule to control Nigeria. They appointed traditional leaders and allowed them to continue ruling their people, as long as they remained loyal to the British. This helped the British maintain control over the country with less effort.

### Resistance and Revolts

Despite British efforts to maintain control, there were several revolts and uprisings against their rule. The most notable was the Bussa Uprising in 1915, led by the Egba people. However, the British were able to suppress these revolts and maintain their control over Nigeria.

The strategies used by the British to conquer the Nigeria Territories are as follow.

- Annexation: This is when territories were taken by force, often with military power and control. The British used this tactic in places like Lagos and the Niger Delta region.- Diplomacy: Diplomacy was used to form alliances with local rulers and chiefs. This helped them gain control of territories without much bloodshed. This method was used in areas like Sokoto and Kano.

- Divide and Rule: The British often used this strategy to separate ethnic groups and create divisions among them. This made it easier for them to gain control and conquer territories, as there was no unified resistance against them.

- Missionary Work: The British also used missionary work to convert the local population to Christianity, which helped them gain influence in certain territories.



## IMPACT OF THE CONQUEST

The British conquest of Nigeria led to major changes in the social, political and economic landscape of the country. Some of these changes include:

- Loss of culture and traditions: As the British gained control, many traditional practices and beliefs were suppressed and replaced with Western ways.
- Introduction of Western education: The British also introduced their education system, which had a major impact on the future development of Nigeria.
- Exploitation of resources: The British exploited Nigeria's natural resources, such as palm oil, rubber, and minerals, for their own benefit, which contributed to the country's underdevelopment.

The strategies used by the British to conquer Nigeria may have left a lasting impact on the country, but it also sparked the movement for independence, leading to the creation of an independent Nigeria in 1960.

Topic: British system of colonization in Nigeria..

What is Colonization?

Colonization is the process in which a powerful country takes control over a weaker country or territory for the purpose of economic, political, and social gain. This process often involves the exploitation of resources and labor from the colonized people.

The British Colonization

The British were one of the largest and most powerful colonizing nations during the 19th and



20th centuries, and their impact still affects many nations today. The British empire expanded and controlled territories in Asia, Africa, and the Americas through the use of force and colonization strategies.

During their colonization, the British established schools and universities in their colonies, but their aim was to educate the natives as workers and laborers, not as leaders or thinkers. This led to a lack of emphasis on critical and independent thinking, which is essential for the UBE. Additionally, the British education system focused on Western values and history, neglecting the rich culture and history of their colonies. Today, the impact of British colonization can still be seen in the education system of many former colonies. However, efforts are being made to decolonize the education system and provide a more inclusive and diverse curriculum for students.

Before colonization, Nigeria was made up of many ethnic groups and kingdoms, each with their own unique cultures and traditions. In 1861, Lagos became a British colony, followed by the Niger coast and oil rivers in 1885. The Royal Niger Company, a private British corporation, ruled over the Niger River area for economic gain. As the British expanded their control, they imposed their legal and administrative systems on Nigeria, leading to cultural and political disruptions. The British also introduced Christianity and Western education to Nigeria, but with the intention of converting the Nigerian population to their beliefs and increasing their control. During World War II, many Nigerians fought alongside the British, hoping for political independence in return.

The British colonization of Nigeria resulted in the merging of many ethnic groups, causing tensions and conflicts that continue to this day. The British established indirect rule, where local rulers were appointed to govern on their behalf, further disrupting traditional political systems. Nigeria's economy was greatly impacted, shifting from local production to a reliance on imports and exportation. The exploitation of Nigeria's natural resources, such as palm oil and groundnuts, greatly benefitted Britain while leaving Nigeria with little economic growth. Education, religion, and culture were heavily influenced by the British, leading to Western ideals being introduced and practiced in Nigeria. British colonization - The period of British control and influence in Nigeria, lasting from the late 19th century to 1960.

Topic: The Effects of Direct and Indirect rules to Nigeria Territory.



The British government ruled Nigeria through a method called "indirect rule" before and during the colonization of the country. Direct rule is when the colonizing country has complete control over the territory and its people, while indirect rule allows for local customs and rulers to remain in place, but under the influence of the colonizers.

### Benefits of Direct Rule in Nigeria

**Unity:** Direct rule helped unite the diverse Nigerian territories under one unified government.

**Legal System:** Direct rule introduced a more organized legal system, replacing the traditional systems of dispute resolution.

**Infrastructure Development:** Under direct rule, the British government funded the development of infrastructure such as roads, railways, and schools, which improved the standard of living in Nigeria.

**Economic Development:** The British government introduced a cash economy to Nigeria, bringing in economic benefits and modernizing the economy.

### Challenges of Direct Rule in Nigeria

**Undermining of Local Customs:** The imposition of British laws and customs often clashed with the traditional customs and values of the Nigerian people, causing tensions and conflicts.

**Exploitation of Resources:** The direct rule system allowed the British government to exploit the natural resources of Nigeria for their own benefit, without much regards for the locals.

**Rise of Nationalism:** Direct rule contributed to the rise of nationalism and anti-colonial sentiments in Nigeria, leading to the push for independence.





## Benefits of Indirect Rule in Nigeria

**Preservation of Local Customs:** Indirect rule allowed for the preservation of local customs and traditions, which contributed to a more peaceful transition to self-governance.

**Efficient Administration:** The use of traditional rulers and existing political structures made it easier for the British government to administer and control Nigeria.

**Cost-effective:** Indirect rule was a cost-effective method of governing, as it did not require the British government to build a whole new administration from scratch.

## Challenges of Indirect Rule in Nigeria

**Corruption:** Indirect rule often led to corruption and abuse of power by local rulers, as they had no accountability to the British government.

**Running of Local Affairs:** Indirect rule left the responsibility of running local affairs in the hands of traditional rulers, who may not always act in the best interest of the people.

**Neglect of Development:** Indirect rule placed more focus on maintaining traditional systems and did not prioritize economic development, leading to a lack of progress and modernization.

In summary, the effects of direct and indirect rule to Nigeria territories were complex and had both benefits and challenges. The British government's use of these methods shaped Nigeria's political and socio-economic landscape, and played a significant role in its path to independence.



## Topic: The Berlin Treaty

The Berlin Conference was a meeting of European nations that took place between November 15, 1884 and February 26, 1885 in Berlin, Germany. This conference aimed to regulate European colonization and trade in Africa during the New Imperialism period.

One of the major reasons for the Berlin Treaty was to avoid conflicts between European powers over Africa. During this time, European countries were scrambling for territories and resources in Africa, leading to tensions and potential for war. The treaty aimed to peacefully divide Africa among the European powers, with the exception of Ethiopia and Liberia, which were seen as independent states.

Another key reason for the Berlin Treaty was to establish rules for trade and commerce in Africa among the European nations. This was done to prevent clashes and ensure that each country could have access to the resources and markets they wanted without infringing on other territories.

Lastly, the Berlin Treaty aimed to legitimize European control and occupation of African territories. By establishing rules and guidelines, the European nations could claim their territories in Africa and justify their presence there. This also paved the way for future colonial and imperial powers to continue their expansion into Africa.

## Topic: The Roles of the Royal Niger Company.

The Royal Niger Company played a major role in the history of Nigeria. It was a chartered company that operated in Nigeria and other parts of West Africa during the late 19th and early 20th century. In this topic, we will explore the roles of the Royal Niger Company in Nigeria territories.

### What is the Royal Niger Company?

The Royal Niger Company was formed in 1886 by British businessmen after the Berlin Conference, which partitioned Africa among European powers. The company was granted a charter by the British government to trade in the Niger area and establish political control over the region.



## The Roles of the Royal Niger Company

**Establishment of Trading Posts:** One of the main roles of the Royal Niger Company was to establish trading posts along the Niger and Benue Rivers. This allowed the company to control the trade routes in the region and monopolize the trade of valuable commodities such as palm oil, rubber, and ivory.

**Political Control:** The Royal Niger Company also played a significant role in establishing political control over the territories it operated in. It signed treaties with local rulers, giving them exclusive rights to trade in their lands and protecting them from the influence of other European powers.

**Revenue Collection and Taxation:** Another important role of the company was to collect revenue and taxes from the territories it controlled. This helped in financing its operations and expanding its influence in the region.

**Exploitation of Natural Resources:** The Royal Niger Company was involved in the exploitation of natural resources in the territories it operated in. This led to the development of industries such as palm oil processing and rubber plantations, which contributed to the economic growth of the region.

**Infrastructure Development:** The company also played a role in developing infrastructure in the territories it controlled. It built roads, railways, and port facilities, which facilitated the movement of goods and people and boosted economic activities in the region.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the Royal Niger Company played a crucial role in the history of Nigeria. It was instrumental in establishing political and economic control over the region and developing its natural resources. Its legacy can still be seen in the development of modern-day Nigeria.

Topic: Colonial Conquest and Nigeria Territories.

The Royal Niger Company was a British chartered company that was granted exclusive trade rights in Nigeria in the late 19th century. It was founded by Sir George Goldie in 1879 with the aim of gaining control of the lucrative trade in the Niger River Delta region.

One of the major roles of the Royal Niger Company was to extend the influence of the British government in Nigeria. This was achieved by signing treaties with local rulers to secure their



territories and gain control over their natural resources. These treaties often contained secret agreements that gave the company exclusive rights over the trade and administration of the territories.

The company also played a significant role in the colonization of Nigeria. It established trading posts and forts along the Niger and Benue rivers, where it traded goods such as palm oil, rubber, and ivory. These trade posts eventually turned into administrative centres and formed the basis of the British colonial rule in Nigeria.

Through their trading activities, the Royal Niger Company introduced Western education, Christianity, and modern infrastructure to Nigeria, which had a lasting impact on the country.

However, the company's role in the colonial conquest of Nigeria was not without controversy. Its activities led to conflicts with local communities, particularly in the areas where they claimed exclusive trade rights. This often resulted in violent confrontations and loss of lives.

Topic: Colonial Administration to Nigeria States.

First, let's briefly define what colonial administrations were. This refers to the rule and control of a foreign power over a colonized territory. In the case of Nigeria, it was the British government that colonized the country from the late 19th century until 1960 when Nigeria gained its independence.

One of the major impacts of British colonization was the forced amalgamation of various ethnic groups into one country, Nigeria. This was a significant change from the original autonomous and self-governing communities that existed before colonization. As a result, some Nigerian ethnic groups were merged with others, leading to conflicts and tensions that are still prevalent in the present day.

Another impact of colonization was the introduction of British laws and systems of governance. The British imposed their legal systems and administrative structures on the Nigerian colonies, replacing traditional systems of justice and leadership. This had a lasting effect on Nigerian states and their political systems.



## The Effect of Colonial Administrations to Nigeria State

The term colonialism refers to the process of a country taking control over another country or territory and occupying it with settlers. Nigeria experienced colonial rule for almost a century. As a result, the country underwent a significant shift in terms of political, social, and economic systems. Let's explore the effect of colonial administrations on Nigeria state.

### Political Effects

Colonial rule in Nigeria had a massive impact on the political landscape of the country. The British imposed indirect rule, where they allowed local chiefs and rulers to maintain their positions but subject to British authority. This reduced the powers of traditional leaders and disrupted the traditional systems of government. It also created divisions among various ethnic groups, causing conflicts and power struggles.

### Social Effects

The impact of colonialism on the social structure of Nigerian society was far-reaching. The British brought their customs and traditions, which differed vastly from the traditions of the Nigerian people. As a result, traditional customs and practices were gradually lost or replaced by British values. This led to the erosion of cultural identity and a sense of inferiority among the Nigerian people.

### Economic Effects

The British introduced the cash crop system in Nigeria, wherein agricultural produce was grown primarily for export to Britain. This led to the neglect of food crops, causing food shortages and famines. The economy became heavily dependent on the export of a few cash crops, making it vulnerable to fluctuations in world prices. This also led to the exploitation of native farmers by the British, who paid low prices for their crops.

### Independence and Aftermath

After years of struggle and resistance, Nigeria gained independence from the British in 1960. However, the effects of colonialism continued to impact the country even after independence. The British had laid the foundations for a corrupt and unequal society, making it challenging to establish a stable government. The country is still struggling to overcome these issues and



develop a strong political, social, and economic system.

Topic: Division and Rules of the Colonial Administration.

The British Empire had many colonies that often faced sectionalism. In India, for instance, British representatives tried to impose their own laws and authority, which caused significant unrest and rebellion from the locals. Similarly, in Africa, the divide between the north and the south regions often led to violent clashes.

Sectionalism had significant impacts on colonial administrations. It weakened the power and unity of the colonial rule by creating divisions among the people, which made it difficult for them to work and govern together. In addition, it also hindered the overall growth and development of the colonies as different regions had different needs and priorities, and the sectionalism prevented them from addressing these issues collectively.

In conclusion, sectionalism was a significant contributor to the downfall of colonial administrations. It weakened the ruling powers and hampered the progress of the colonies.





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