**SCHEME OF WORK ON HISTORY FOR JSS1 (THIRD TERM)**

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**JSS 1**

**WEEK I: MAJOR CENTRALIZED STATES IN PRE-COLONIAL NIGERIA**

**MEANING OF CENTRALIZED STATES**

Centralized states can be defined as states where there is centralization of power and Authority. For example, Hausa states, Kanem Borno Empire, Benin Empire, Nupe Kingdom and Songhay Empire.

**FEATURES / CHARACTERISTICS OF CENTRALIZED STATES IN PRE-COLONIAL ERA**

a. Centralization of power and authority

b. Powerful kings or monarch

c. Standing or regular army

1. **CENTRALISATION OF POWER AND AUTHORITY**

In major centralized states power and authority are centralized or handed over to a supreme king or monarch. Kings are usually very powerful and highly respected by their subjects. They are regarded as being divine and were not expected to be seen so often in public.

2. **POWERFUL KINGS OR MONARCH**

The governments of most centralized states were a monarchy system. monarchy is a govt. headed by a King or a Queen. Those Monarchs controlled all aspect of the states life – Economy, politics and religion.

Their words over these aspects were final. This means that they were not to some extent subjects to any challenge or criticism since all other persons and bodies were answerable and responsible to them.

3. **STANDING OR REGULAR ARMY**

Most centralized states recruited and maintained standing army. Apart from fighting to extend the territories of their states, the regular army also fought in order to preserve the oneness of their states or empire.

**ASSIGNMENT**

Discuss the features of non-centralized states