**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

**WEEK 2: THE FOURTEEN HAUSA STATES IN PRE-COLONIAL NIGERIA**

Hausa states were of two distinct groups. The first group consisted of seven states called the **“Hausa Bokwoi”** states. The other groups consisted of the remaining seven states, and were called the **“Seven Illegitimate or Banza States”.**

The word **“Banza”** is an Hausa word meaning Bastard. The Hausa “**Bokwoi”** states includes; Daura, Gabir, Zaria, Katsina, Kano, Rano and Bilina.

The “**Banza”** or Bastard state includes the Yoruba town of llorin, Yauri, Jakun, Kebbi, Zamfara, Nupe and Yaura.

At the Beginning of the 19th century, those fourteen states were forced to quit the political theatre of West Africa. This was as a result of the Sokoto Jihad declared and fought by a tribe called “the Fulani” against Hausa states.

The Hausas were defeated because they were weak and disunited. This defeat marked the end of what used to be the fourteen ancient Hausa states.

**ASSIGNMENT**

Discuss the weakness of the Hausa states.

**WEEK 3: GOVERNMENT IN THE HAUSA STATES**

The Hausas were originally pagans or Idol worshippers. But in the 14th century, during the reign of **Sarki Yaji Ali (1349-1385),** Muslim Missionaries from Mali came to Kano. Yaji and many of his subjects accepted Islam and a mosque were built in Kano. From Kano, Islam spread to other Hausa states.

1. Each state of the Hausa states was governed by the Sarki, or King, with the help of a council of ministers and territorial officials drawn from the hereditary aristocracy.

2. The Galadima was a high official of the Royal council. He looked after the town when the king and other chiefs went to war.

3. The Madawaki or Commander in Chief of the army, was next in importance to the king. He advised the king on the appointment or dismissal of the title holders. In some states, the Waziri or chief minister performed the same functions.

4. There were also the Magaji, or Lord of the Treasury, the Yari or head, gaoler, the Sarkin Dogarai, or Head of the king’s Bodyguard; and the Sarkin Yari Daka, or chief of the police, who took charge of prisoners charged with serious offences, inflicted corporal punishment and acted as the town crier and watchman.

5. Each state was divided into villages and districts for purposes of Local Government. Local administration was carried out through village and district heads appointed by the king, usually from the traditional rulers of the area, or sometimes from members of his own or other important families. They enforced the orders of the king in their locality and collected taxes.

**ECONOMY OF THE HAUSA STATES**

1. Agriculture was the main occupation of the peasant class in most of the Hausa states, and a high degree of agricultural skill was attained.

2. Taxation; originally, taxation was in the form of tribute in grain and other Local products. But with the adoption of Islam, the Muslim tax system was introduced. The chief taxes under this system consisted of a tax on income; a tax on livestock; a land tax; and a capitation usually paid in slaves.

3. Trade flourished between the Hausa states and other most African states as well as across the Sahara to North Africa. The main exports to North Africa were cloth, iron work, wood work and slaves, and in return such articles as arms and books works imported.

4. The introduction of the camel into Hausa land in about 1440 encouraged Trans Saharan trade.

**ASSIGNMENT**

Examine the administrative structure of the Hausa states.

**WEEK 4: THE ORIGIN AND EARLY HISTROY OF THE KANEM – BORNU EMPIRE**

Kanem – Bornu Empire was one of the oldest kingdoms in the world. It was founded in Eighth century AD and survived till the twentieth century. This empire flourished in the Lake Chad basin. The Chad basin, according to Dr. C.C. Ifemesia, “has for long been one of the great cross roads of African culture and history”. Its geographical features have for centuries made the movement of people and animals easy in the directions.

It became therefore the “**Melting Pot”** of several races. From whom the Kanuri have emerged as the most dominant group. The Kanuri who inhabit the Chad basin are descended from a mixture of Negroid, Berber and Arab stock. They founded the great Kanuri empires of Kanem & Bornu east and west of Lake Chad respectively.

**THE FIRST KANEM – BORNU EMPIRE**

The first Kanuri state, popularly known as the kingdom of Kanem, existed to the east of Lake Chad in what is now the northern section of the Chad Republic.

According to tradition, the kingdom was founded about the eight century by Saif, or Sef, who was probably of Berber origin.

The Sef dynasty of the Mais, or kings, which he founded, is believed to be one of the longest in the world (A-D 800 – 1846) and certainly the longest in Africa.

The Mais of Kanem established their capital at **Njimi.** There was considerable contact between kanem and North Africa. In the Eleventh century, about 1090, Mai Umme Jilmi (1085-97) was converted to Islam. With its acceptance of Islam, Kanem became an influential Muslim state in central Sudan.

**END OF THE FIRST KANEM – BORNU EMPIRE**

After the reign of Dunama II (13th century) the power of the first Kanuri empire was in decline.

One of the factors responsible for this decline was dynastic feuds. The system of entrusting the post of provincial governor to members of the royal family had an inherent weakness. It meant the delegation of great powers to the governors who used them to organize intrigues & revolts against the Mais.

The second factor was the menace of external enemies – the So and the Bulala. The struggle with these two peoples was the chief feature of the history of the empire from the middle of the 13th Century to the end of the 14th century. The So, a neighbouring tribe to the east of Kanem, fought for long with the Kanuri and defeated and killed four of them Kings in succession. The Bulala, another neighbouring tribe to the south east of Kanem, took advantage of the weakness of the empire and attached it. So effectively that the ruling Sef dynasty was forced to move to Bornu, west of Lake Chad, to found a new state.

**ASSIGNMENT**

Why did the Sefawa Dynasty last for so long?

**WEEK 5: THE SECOND KANEM – BORNU EMPIRE (1470-1848)**

During the reign of Mai Daud (1366-1376), the Bulala attacks ways intensified. As a result, Daud was driven from the Kanem capital, Njimi and finally killed by the Bulala.

Then, towards the end of the 14th century, Mai Umar Ibn Idris (1384-1388) was driven out of Kanem by the Bulala, and so transferred his capital to the rich pastoral country of Bornu, west of Lake Chad. Many of his people who were still semi-nomadic followed him to found the second Kanuri empire of Bornu.

But the new state of Bornu was troubled by hostile tribes and civil strife arising from quarrels among the members of the royal family. It was nearly a century before the Sef dynasty could re-establish itself in power in Bornu.

The man who restored power and stability to the dynasty was **Ali Ghaji (1472-1504)**. He was the true founder of the second Kanuri Empire of Bornu. He built a new capital at **Ngazargamu**. He reformed the government, reducing the excessive powers of the high officers of state whose struggle for power had caused the troubles of the state.

In this way, he put an end to the civil wars. He enforced the strict observance of Islamic practices such as reading the Koran and marrying only four wives.

With his efficient government, the Bornu kingdom regained the power which Kanem had lost as a result of the Bulala conquest.

During the era of the son of Ali Ghaji – Mai Idris Katakarmabi (1504-1526), Bornu defeated Bulala and recaptured the old capital of Kanem – Njimi. Kanem became a province of the Bornu empire.

**DECLINE OF THE SECOND KANEM BORNU EMPIRE**

After the era of Mai Idris Alooma, the second Kanuri Empire appears to have fallen into the hands of incompetent and weak successors. Consequently, Bornu began a long period of two centuries of slow decline.

1. Firstly, there appears to have been a deterioration of the military machine following the long period of peace which prevailed for most of the 17th century. The army fell into decline as a result of inactivity. Mai Ahmed led an expedition against the Mandara, he lost most of his army.

2. Secondly, forty years after Alooma, during the reign of Mai Ali, the state began to weaken under attacks from the Tuaregs from the North and the Kwararafa of the Jukun Kingdom in the South. These attacks upset trade and Agriculture and famines were frequent in Bornu.

By the beginning of the nineteenth century, Bornu was so weak that it fell an easy prey to the armies of Usman Danfodio’s Jihad, who drove Mai Ahmed into exile. Mohammed El-Kanemi later regained the independence of Bornu from the Fulani Jihadist.

**ASSIGNMENT**

Discuss the contributions of Mai Idris Alooma to Bornu.