

241/1  
HISTORY &  
POLITICAL  
EDUCATION  
Paper 1  
2-1 HOURS  
4



## YAAKA EXAMINATIONS BOARD

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

*This paper consists of section A and B. it has four examination items. Section A is compulsory*

*Answer **one** examination item in section B*

*Any additional item answered will **not** be scored.*

*All answers **must** be written in the answer booklet(s) provided*

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SECTION	ITEM	SCORE(S)	EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE
A	1		
	2		
B	3		
	4		
TOTAL			

## SECTION A

Answer **all** items in this section

### Item 1

In the post-independence period, many East African countries, including Uganda, experimented with different political ideologies, such as socialism, capitalism, and Pan-Africanism. Leaders like Julius Nyerere in Tanzania promoted Ujamaa (African socialism), which emphasized communal ownership and self-reliance, while Uganda saw varying political systems under different regimes.

#### Tasks:

- (a). How did different post-independence ideologies, such as African socialism in Tanzania, influence the political and economic systems in East Africa?
- (b). How do the remnants of these ideologies manifest in Uganda's current socio-economic policies, such as social services delivery and land reforms?

### Item 2

The East African Community (EAC) was originally formed in 1967 to foster regional economic and political cooperation between Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania, but it collapsed in 1977 due to political differences. However, it was revived in 2000 and has since expanded to include more member states, focusing on regional integration.

#### Tasks:

- (a). What were the key reasons behind the collapse of the original East African Community in 1977, and how does the modern-day EAC aim to overcome these challenges?
- (b). What lessons can Uganda learn from this historical experience to address current challenges in regional cooperation, especially regarding economic integration and political unity?

## SECTION B

Answer **one** items in this section

### Item 3

The role of women in East African societies has evolved significantly from the pre-colonial period, where women held important positions in certain communities, to the colonial and post-colonial periods, where their roles were often marginalized.

#### Task:

Using the knowledge acquired from East African History, write an essay presenting the role of women in pre-colonial East African societies, and how their roles in Ugandan society have changed over time. Also explain Uganda's current approach to gender equality to address historical inequalities.

### Item 4

In the pre-colonial period, kingdoms such as Buganda, Bunyoro, and Ankole in Uganda, as well as the Swahili city-states along the East African coast, were significant players in trade and politics. These societies thrived on trade routes that connected them with distant regions, including Arabia and India. However, their interaction with foreign traders also introduced new ideas, religions, and systems of governance, which significantly influenced their socio-political structures.

#### Task:

In your essay, present how the introduction of foreign trade and religions during the pre-colonial period shaped the political and social systems in East Africa, and how this historical trade connection reflects in Uganda's current international trade policies.

## ANSWERS TO THE TASKS ABOVE

### Item 1

#### **(a). Influence of Different Post-Independence Ideologies on Political and Economic Systems in East Africa:**

Post-independence ideologies such as African socialism in Tanzania and varying systems in Uganda significantly shaped political and economic landscapes in East Africa.

In Tanzania, Julius Nyerere's Ujamaa emphasized communal ownership and self-reliance, promoting rural development and agricultural cooperatives. This ideology aimed to unite citizens under a common identity, fostering a sense of community and shared responsibility. Economically, it led to the nationalization of industries and resources, which, while initially aimed at reducing inequalities, often resulted in inefficiencies and a lack of innovation.

In contrast, Uganda's political landscape fluctuated with different regimes adopting diverse ideologies—ranging from Milton Obote's socialist policies to Idi Amin's autocratic rule. This inconsistency created a tumultuous political environment, impacting economic stability and growth. The emphasis on state control under socialism led to the nationalization of key sectors, which stifled private enterprise and led to economic decline during Amin's regime.

#### **(b). Remnants of Post-Independence Ideologies in Uganda's Current Socio-Economic Policies:**

Current socio-economic policies in Uganda reflect remnants of these post-independence ideologies. For instance, the emphasis on social services delivery can be traced back to the socialist ideals of equitable access to education and healthcare. The government has implemented policies aimed at improving social welfare, particularly in rural areas, reminiscent of Ujamaa's focus on community development.

Land reforms in Uganda, aimed at addressing historical injustices and promoting equitable land distribution, also echo socialist principles. The ongoing debates around land ownership and use highlight the tensions between communal rights and individual ownership, reflecting the country's complex history with land tenure systems established during both colonial and post-colonial periods.

### Item 2

#### **(a). Reasons Behind the Collapse of the Original East African Community (EAC) in 1977 and Modern-Day Strategies:**

The original EAC collapsed in 1977 due to a combination of political differences, economic disparities, and nationalism. Disagreements over trade policies and economic integration arose as member states pursued divergent national interests. Additionally, the political instability in Uganda, exacerbated by Idi Amin's regime, strained relations and cooperation among the member states.

The modern-day EAC, revived in 2000, aims to overcome these challenges through a more structured approach to regional integration. This includes implementing policies that promote trade liberalization, harmonizing regulations, and fostering political dialogue among member states. Initiatives such as the EAC Common Market Protocol aim to ensure free movement of goods, services, and people, addressing the pitfalls of the previous community.

#### **(b). Lessons for Uganda from Historical Experiences:**

Uganda can learn several lessons from the historical experience of the EAC's collapse. First, prioritizing regional cooperation over nationalistic interests is crucial. Uganda should actively engage in dialogue with neighboring countries to address mutual concerns and foster a spirit of collaboration.

Second, transparency and accountability in regional policies can build trust among member states. Uganda should promote joint economic initiatives that benefit all EAC countries, ensuring that regional integration efforts are inclusive and equitable.

Finally, addressing underlying political tensions and fostering stable governance will be essential for sustained regional cooperation. By recognizing the importance of shared objectives and collective security, Uganda can contribute to a more unified and prosperous East African community.

## **SECTION B**

### **Item 3: The Role of Women in Pre-Colonial East African Societies and Changes in Ugandan Society**

In pre-colonial East African societies, women often held significant roles, particularly in agriculture, trade, and family structures. In societies like Buganda and Bunyoro, women were involved in subsistence farming, contributing to food security and household economy. Some women also participated in trade, exchanging goods and managing resources, which gave them a degree of economic power.

However, the colonial period marked a shift as patriarchal systems were reinforced, marginalizing women's roles. Colonial policies often prioritized male authority and land ownership, sidelining women's contributions. In post-colonial Uganda, women continued to face systemic challenges, but their roles began to change with movements advocating for gender equality and women's rights.

Today, Uganda recognizes gender equality as a fundamental principle in its socio-economic policies. The government has implemented various initiatives aimed at empowering women, including access to education, healthcare, and economic resources. Programs that promote women in leadership positions and support women's rights in land ownership are significant strides towards addressing historical inequalities.

In summary, while the role of women has evolved from significant participation in pre-colonial societies to marginalization during colonial rule, Uganda's current approach to gender equality reflects an ongoing commitment to rectifying historical injustices and promoting women's empowerment in all spheres of society.

### **Item 4: The Impact of Foreign Trade and Religions on Pre-Colonial Political and Social Systems in East Africa**

The introduction of foreign trade and religions during the pre-colonial period significantly shaped the political and social systems in East Africa, particularly in regions such as Uganda and the Swahili city-states.

#### **Impact of Foreign Trade:**

Trade routes connecting East Africa with regions such as Arabia and India facilitated not only the exchange of goods but also ideas and cultural practices. The Swahili city-states thrived on trade, becoming vibrant centers of commerce where local products like ivory and gold were exchanged for textiles, spices, and other luxury goods. This interaction fostered the growth of a merchant class that played a crucial role in the socio-political landscape, often influencing governance structures.

In Uganda, kingdoms like Buganda and Bunyoro engaged in trade with neighboring regions, enhancing their political power and economic wealth. The influx of goods and resources from foreign trade helped consolidate these kingdoms, allowing them to exert influence over

surrounding territories. However, this also introduced competition and conflicts over trade routes, impacting local governance and alliances.

### **Impact of Religions:**

The arrival of Islam and later Christianity brought significant changes to the spiritual and social fabric of East African societies. In the Swahili coast, Islam became a dominant religion, influencing social norms, legal systems, and political organization. Islamic principles were integrated into local governance, promoting trade ethics and establishing connections with broader Islamic networks.

In Uganda, Christianity played a pivotal role in shaping societal values and education. The missionaries introduced formal education and healthcare, which transformed social structures and contributed to a more literate society. However, the spread of Christianity also created tensions with traditional beliefs, leading to conflicts that influenced political dynamics, such as the resistance against colonial rule.

### **Reflection in Uganda's Current International Trade Policies:**

The historical connections established through trade and the influence of foreign religions reflect in Uganda's current international trade policies. Uganda has recognized the importance of fostering regional and global trade relationships to enhance economic growth. The country has embraced policies aimed at improving trade infrastructure and access to markets, facilitating the exchange of goods and services.

Furthermore, the emphasis on cultural exchange and diversity in Uganda's trade policies is rooted in its historical interactions with foreign traders and religions. This approach not only aims to boost economic development but also seeks to preserve and promote Uganda's rich cultural heritage in a globalized world.

In conclusion, the introduction of foreign trade and religions during the pre-colonial period significantly shaped the political and social systems in East Africa, with lasting implications that continue to influence Uganda's current international trade policies and its approach to cultural exchange.



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