

## **THE COLONIAL ECONOMY IN EAST AFRICA**

### **COMPETENCY: THE LEARNER UNDERSTANDS THE IMPACT OF ROAD NETWORK AND GENERAL COLONIAL ECONOMY IN EAST AFRICA.**

#### **Learning outcomes (learning objectives)**

#### **By the end of this chapter, the learner should be able to:**

- a) Understand the economic conditions before and after the introduction of colonial economies.
- b) Know the features of colonial economies in East Africa.
- c) Know why the colonial administration encouraged peasant and plantation agriculture.
- d) Understand why industries were established in East Africa.
- e) Know the impact of the development of transport systems in East Africa.
- f) Understand the health and social problems faced during the colonial economy.
- g) Appreciate the impact of colonial economy in East Africa.

#### **Activity**

##### **1. Define the following terms:**

- Colonial economy
- Peasant agriculture
- Plantation agriculture

##### **2. Describe the features of;**

- Pre-colonial economy.
- Colonial economy

##### **3. Compare the precolonial and colonial economy**

4. Explain the reasons why the British promoted and encouraged peasant and plantation agriculture.

## **THE NATURE OF THE PRE-COLONIAL ECONOMY OF EAST AFRICA. (THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE PRE-COLONIAL ECONOMY OF EAST AFRICA)**

The pre-colonial economy of East Africa was mainly subsistence in nature something which would as well be described as a nature economy. The main activity and pre-occupation in this economy was subsistence production to fend for the livelihood of the producers. It was therefore an economy of self-sustenance and survival. Goods produced in excess would be shared with neighbours and relatives and some could be exchanged with other goods from other people. Little commercial interest was attached to this economy.

The society in this economy abhorred/detested capitalism and primitive accumulation of wealth. People accumulated their property in a genuine and proper way. There was no corruption, no bribery and illegal accumulation of wealth. The property that people accumulated at that time included land, cattle goats and many others. This property was a sign of prestige to the owners.

The dominant economic activities at the time were pastoralism, nomadism, local crafts (iron smelting, metal works) and crop cultivation. Emphasis was put on the cultivation of food crops for local consumption. Hunting and fishing were also carried out by some societies to supplement their diet.

Some societies practiced raiding as a key economic activity. In Uganda, the economic livelihood of the Karamojong depended on raiding. Other societies like Banyoro, Buganda, Acholi also raided. Key items got through raids included cattle, goats, sheep and many others including young boys and girls. The raided animals would be used to supplement their diet or buy the loyalty of the soldiers.

Some inter and intra trade existed during this time. The societies traded among themselves and with others as well. The Banyoro for instance traded with the Acholi and the Langi. The Baganda traded with the Banyoro and the neighbours exchanging food items and cattle products with Bunyoro for

their iron implements on specific markets days organised by the local chiefs.

The mode of trade was barter, meaning that goods would be exchanged with goods. However with time items like iron and salt were regarded as currency and would therefore be used as a measure of value because of their huge demand and easy transportability. Later with the coming of the Arabs cowrie shells were used as currency replacing the local commodities.

Pre-colonial economy was communalistic and egalitarian. Labour was supplied on a communal basis. For instance, groups of people who live together would agree to supply to one another on a rotational basis, meaning that there was no hiring of labour. In some societies however, there was division of labour with men going to hunt, raid and fight while the women attended to domestic activities and agriculture.

Societies depended on their own resources rather than external assistance. Societies were self-sustaining through the use of locally available resources. Intra and inter trade made it possible for this kind sustainability.

Gender based stratification of labour was evident. There were activities which were specifically reserved for specific sexes. Among the Bakiga, women grew crops, and built huts which men hunted and traded. The same system was practiced in Buganda and many other societies. The young and juniors participated in communal related activities like sweeping, cleaning the compound and protecting trade routes, rearing animals and protecting the homesteads.

The chiefs and kings were the main controllers of the major economic activities in the centralized states like Buganda and Banyoro. In these societies or kingdoms, the Kabaka and the Omukama respectively were the chief distributors of land, war booty and the loot during and after raids and would oversee the trade transactions between the kingdoms and the outside world. They controlled the trade routes and taxed the traders as well. In decentralized societies like Kikuyu, Akamba, Iteso, Langi and Acholi, the

economy was communally owned and organised. Land was an important asset as a factor of production and was therefore guarded jealously.

Among the decentralised societies, land was communally owned and used for the benefit of every member of the society. It could however be parcelled out to individual families which in turn would distribute it to the family members. Family was not meant for sale and it could therefore not be sold.

In some societies there was class distribution of labour and particular class of people were regarded as labourers with an obligation to serve the ruling or privileged class. In Buganda for instance, the slaves (Abaddu) and the peasants provide labour to the notables (chiefs) and royal house of the princes and the princesses. They worked for the notables and even provided them with their farm produce. This was an arrangement which was not imposed on the peasants but mutually accepted by both the ruled and the rulers.

The industrial sector in its true sense of the word did not exist but efforts by the Africans to locally develop their industrial sector were evident. The African industrial initiative consisted of the black smith, iron smelting and all sorts of metal works, backcloth making and basketry. Through this sector, the Africans locally made weapons of defence like arrow heads, spears, machetes as well as other household items like plates, pots, knives and many others. This was the beginning of the industrialization process in Africa and if the Europeans had not deliberately killed it, Africa would have had a good chance to slowly but surely develop its industrial sector.

The pre-colonial economy of East Africa was without/ devoid of social-economic infrastructures like modern roads. These were either poorly developed or were completely lacking or inaccessible. What was evident were the trade routes which crisscrossed some areas. Village paths however helped the local inhabitants to reach various parts of the area. In some communities self-help undertakings were done to build and clear roads by the communities.

## **REASONS FOR (OBJECTIVES OF) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COLONIAL ECONOMY IN EAST AFRICA**

Colonial economy refers to the production and consumption patterns that were introduced and implemented by the colonialists during the colonial period.

This economy was established over a long period of time and it involved the reorganisation of the African traditional societies and their modes of production to meet their (colonial) exploitative and selfish agenda. Colonial economy was imposed on the people of East Africa because of the following reasons:-

The need for market led to the establishment of colonial economy in east Africa. This came about as a result of the surplus production arising from the industrial revolution in Europe. East Africa therefore provided an alternative market where goods produced in Europe could be bought.

The need to obtain raw materials from East Africa. The colonialists were looking for cheap raw materials to feed their hungry metropolitan industries. These raw materials included cotton, coffee and minerals like copper, zinc and many others.

Colonial economy was also established in East Africa in order to get investment areas. They had accumulated capital in Europe and there were already no investments where they could put their surplus capital in the areas of crop growing (plantation agriculture), mining and many others.

The need to obtain cheap labour led to establishment of colonial economy in East Africa. Labour in Europe had become expensive especially after the abolition of slave trade in Europe. The colonialists therefore thought of enslaving the Africans in their own country by making them grow cash crops for their industries.

**Other reasons for the introduction of the colonial economy included the following:-**

The good climatic conditions led to the establishment of colonial economy in East Africa. The vast part of East Africa received reliable rainfall making it suitable for both commercial and peasant agriculture. This became a motivating factor for the colonialists to establish colonial economy in East Africa.

Good fertile soils and availability of vast fertile lands in East Africa was yet another factor that led to the establishment of colonial economy in East Africa. In Kenya, the Kenya Highland was very productive in terms of soil fertility. In Uganda, already every part of the country was endowed with suitable soil except Karamoja area. These good fertile soils therefore encouraged the colonialists to establish colonial economy in East Africa.

### **THE MAIN FEATURES OF COLONIAL ECONOMY IN EAST AFRICA**

Colonial economy refers to the production and consumption patterns that were introduced and implemented by the colonialists during the colonial period. The colonial economy established and run by the colonialists in East Africa had any features, among which were the following: -

The production of raw materials for export to the metropolitan countries was prominent. All colonial powers encouraged and introduced the production of cash crops like coffee, cotton, sisal, pyrethrum which were to be taken to Europe to feed the European industries.

African societies were forced to grow these crops in order to raise income with which to pay the heavy taxes imposed by the European colonialists. The cash crops would also make the Africans get some income with which to buy European manufactured goods. In most cases, those who grow cash crops on their own were paid little for their work.

Colonial economies were forced to the markets of colonial masters. They were for example not free to sell their goods to markets offering better prices. France was a better example of this. By its colonial pact which implied economic assimilation, the colonial markets were exclusively reserved for the French manufactured goods and all the French colonies were forced to sell

their goods to France only. Even the British restricted other European countries from getting markets in their colonies.

It was also evident that the colonial economies maintained that colonies should locally support themselves and as such should develop on their own. The colonial masters insisted that colonies should rely on their own resources for the development of agriculture, education and other sectors. Apart from the French, other colonial masters did not see the need to burden their tax payers with the responsibility of developing Africa. Instead they contended that Africa should develop by itself using its own resources.

Additionally, colonial economies were characterised by absence of industrialisation. According to the colonial masters, if industries were set up in Africa, competition for Africa raw materials would rise which would be harmful to the industrial needs of Europe. In order to avoid these therefore, there was no need to set up manufacturing industries in Africa. Even Africa's industrial initiative had to be killed. Hence, the back cloth industry in Buganda, the salt industry in Bunyoro and Kola nut industries in Nigeria were deliberately destroyed. In some African countries like Congo, some African black smiths lost their hands for practicing black smithy. What the colonialists set up in Africa were the extractive (primary) or processing industries which were meant to reduce the bulkiness of the raw materials before they could be transported to the coast. This partly explains why up to now there is still low industrial development in Africa.

Modern means of transport and communication were also set up in some areas with abundant resources to facilitate the exploitation of those resources. Areas which had little resources to offer to Whiteman were simply left out. In Uganda for instance, Buganda was favoured while Karamoja which had nothing tangible to offer was left out. In Nigeria Enugu was connected by a railway line in 1911 when coal was discovered there. In the German, Togo even the lines were named after the products they were meant to carry for instance, the iron line, pump oil line, cotton line, coconut line. The colonialists also constructed also constructed ports and harbors for loading and offloading at the coast.

Heavy taxation also featured so prominently in all colonies. The colonial masters levied direct and indirect taxes on the Africans. Taxation played double role. In the first place it was a means of raising income to meet colonial administrative and financial needs, but more importantly the taxes would force the Africans to provide raw materials to the Europeans so as to raise money with which to pay the taxes. Part of the taxes collected would be used for setting up infrastructures like roads and railways while others would be taken to Europe.

Africans were forced to supply labour on large European plantation, roads, railways and administrative headquarters. In the Gambia, just like in East Africa, any one refusing to undertake forced labour would imprisoned for some months. In Kenya which was a settler economy, labour policy was worse with men taking compulsory labour on the Whiteman's plantations. Labourers worked under horrible conditions and in case they were paid, the payment was inadequate compared to the labour supplied. Severe labour policy, heavy taxes all combined to transform many Africans into reservoir of unstable migrant workers always in search of employment in return for low wages.

The grabbing of land from Africans was yet another feature of the colonial economy. African land was grabbed and given to European settlers and investors who wanted to set up plantation agriculture, the missionaries who wanted to establish missionary schools and stations. In most cases, Africans were sent into reserves and unproductive areas. In Kenya and Tanganyika, fertile land was taken away from Africans and given to whites. This was partly responsible for the African uprisings like the Mau Mau rebellion of 1952 – 1956, Maji Maji rebellion of 1905 – 1907.

Before whites' intrusion, Africans used barter trade to transact business, but when the Europeans came, they introduced the currency (monetary) system. This was done in a bid to make Africans buy Europeans' goods meaningfully besides making it easy for them to introduce the wage system which would compel the Africans to supply them with labour and also pay taxes meaningfully using the currency they introduced.

Another feature was the domination of the imports and export trade by the Europeans and their multilateral trade companies. It should be recalled that the emergence of the African merchant class had deliberately been suppressed when colonialism was imposed in East Africa. These multilateral companies like Mitchell Cotts brought goods from Europe and took away resources from Africa. The profits were equally repatriated.

The establishment of social services like schools and health centres was another feature. Health centres (and later hospitals) were set up to repair the damaged African labour while schools were meant to give the Africans rudimentary skills which would make them not only ready for exploitation but also willing to obey the white man. Both the health centres and schools were limited in scope.

Finally the development of the mining sector was an important feature of the economic policies. The mining sector had to be developed because Europeans needed minerals from east Africa. Minerals like iron, copper and gold were prospected and extracted and their finished products were later brought back and sold to the East Africans at higher prices.

## **AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT IN EAST AFRICA**

### **PEASANT AGRICULTURE**

#### **Reasons why peasant agriculture was introduced and encouraged in East Africa.**

Peasant agriculture during the colonial era was the kind of agriculture which involved small scale production of cash crops by individual farmers for the purpose of earning cash and providing food for the survival of the colonial rule. Peasant agriculture was promoted by the colonialists in East Africa because of the following:-

In areas where there was population density among the Africans, land alienation became difficult for the settlers and plantation agriculture could not develop therefore peasant agriculture was adopted.

In centralised states where kingdoms were strong like Buganda, the British preferred to use indirect rule, the peasant agriculture was chosen. This was done because the British feared to antagonize the already established kingdoms which could have led to a lot of friction between the colonialists and the kingdoms.

In some instances, it was the colonial governors who determined the kind of agriculture to be practiced. For example, Governor Harry Johnston of Uganda, Sir Horace Byatt of Kenya and Sir Donald Cameron of Tanganyika preferred the implementation of peasant agriculture in the countries they led.

In Tanganyika, territorial and nationality led to peasant agriculture. Up to 1919, Tanganyika was under the Germans, and after the World War I, the British took over and at that time there were numerous disagreements over issues of administration and the creation of a settler colony. The peasant agriculture was later chosen.

In areas where the colonialists projected shortages in labour supply, they favoured peasant agriculture because a plantation type of agriculture would require huge labour supply.

The nature of the crop grown also determined the type of colonial agriculture. Crops like cotton, coffee, cocoa needed a lot of care from the farmers. They couldn't therefore be mixed up with other crops anyhow. In such a scenario, peasant agriculture was preferred.

Climatic condition was instrumental in determining the type of agriculture that the colonialists encouraged. Some areas didn't favour settler settlement due to bad climatic conditions. In such areas, peasant agriculture was encouraged.

Countries which became mandated territories after World War II took up peasant agriculture. In these colonies, settlers were not encouraged because the countries were being prepared by their caretaker colonial masters for majority rule. Example of this was Tanganyika. In such a country the colonialists preferred peasant agriculture.

The nature of the soils also determined the colonial agriculture. Where the soils were poor, the colonialists preferred peasant agriculture.

The sleeping sickness outbreak on the shores of Lake Victoria in 1901 which claimed many lives also discouraged many white settlers who were advocating for plantation farming in Uganda.

The prices of land in Buganda and Uganda at large were too high for the whites to afford for example in 1912, the prices of land rose from Ugx10 to Ugx75 per hectare and so this discouraged settler farming and getting large pieces of land was difficult.

The Buganda Agreement of 1900 was a stumbling block to the would-be settlers. It had divided all the land into Crown and Mailo land and so many conditions under which land could be grabbed by non- Africans complicated.

Due to the fact of Uganda being a landlocked country with no access to the coast and had undeveloped transport system discouraged many would be white settlers who felt the transportation costs were high and affected their profits.

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF PEASANT AGRICULTURE**

Peasant agriculture in East Africa was based on very small land units sometimes with high human population.

This type of agriculture was practiced in an individually owned land.

In this type of agriculture, there was intercropping in order to maintain various cash crops that were needed by the colonialists.

The practitioners of this type of farming used elementary tools like hand hoes as instruments of labour.

There was hardly any use of scientific method of farming in this type of farming. The method of farming was therefore rudimentary.

Output in this type was low and reliable because it depended on natural phenomenon like the rain and sunshine.

## **SETTLER (PLANTATION AGRICULTURE)**

Plantation agriculture was a large scale cultivation of crops done mainly by settlers to meet the interests of the colonialists. It was the type of farming which was practiced in Kenya by the white settlers on the Kenya Highlands. Plantation agriculture involved the cultivation of cash crops like cotton, coffee, pyrethrum, cocoa and many others on large acre of land. The following were the characteristics of plantation agriculture in East Africa.

Specialized commercial crops were major items of cultivation in this plantation agriculture. These were mainly cash crops introduced by the colonialists to provide raw materials to feed the metropolitan industries back at home. The crops included cotton, coffee, pyrethrum and sisal to mention but a few.

Plantation agriculture employed large numbers of unskilled labourers in the plantations. The majority of these labourers if not all were Africans who were paid peanuts for the unskilled labour that they supplied. Some of them however became supervisors who worked to meet the interests of their white superiors.

The cultivation in big plantations sometimes involved the activities of big multi-lateral companies with their origin in Europe. They owned the plantations and conducted business in the agricultural products produced. One such multi-lateral company was Mackenzie which controlled tea production in Western Uganda.

The plantation agriculture was done in large estates or land covering over 100 acres each. It was partly because of this that this kind of agriculture was done in areas with low population density or in areas where the East African people had been forcefully evicted.

Another characteristic of this type of agriculture is that it was export oriented. The crops grown in these plantations were not meant for the local consumption but for the export market. The crops included coffee, cocoa, sisal and many others.

Plantation agriculture was labour intensive. The use of the African labour therefore became necessary. Africans were herded and forcefully made to provide labour on these plantations using the compulsory labour policies which had been put in place. Where Africans were encouraged to provide labour on their own, they were subjected to exploitation with payments which were not commensurate with the labour they supplied.

Colonial plantations were scientifically managed and this involved the use of machines and fertilizers to boost production and ensure quality production which would meet the needs of the colonial masters. Better farming methods were applied and better seeds were planted compared to what the Africans used to plant, this increased yields and boosted production.

**REASONS WHY THE COLONIAL MASTERS ENCOURAGED BOTH  
PEASANT AND PLANTATION AGRICULTURE AND WHETHER OR NOT  
THIS WAS THE BEST FOR UGANDA.**

Before the coming of the Europeans to East Africa, the system of agriculture was subsistence and production was only for self-subsistence and production of enough food for survival. However, after establishing their rule, the colonialists introduced the production of cash crops like cotton, coffee, tobacco and tea in big plantations while at the same time encouraging peasant farming as well. Peasant farming is the type of farming practiced by peasant farmers on small farm holdings while plantation agriculture refers to commercial farming where cash crops are grown on a large scale specifically for sale. Crops that are grown under plantation agriculture include; sugarcane, tea, sisal, coffee, pyrethrum, cloves, bananas and oil palm. The introduction of plantation and peasant agriculture was occasioned by the following factors:-

Colonial economic policy by design intended to make the colonized people produce raw materials like coffee and cotton to feed the British home textile industries especially in Lancashire and Yorkshire. In short, East Africa was to act as a source of raw materials for the European industries back at

home in Europe and these raw materials especially the cash crops could be produced by both the peasants and the plantation owners.

The fact that some areas were already engaged in large scale agriculture especially the Kigezi area in Uganda facilitated the introduction of plantation agriculture. The British thought that it would be easy for such people to adopt cash crop growing since their communities were also agro based.

Plantation agriculture was introduced in East Africa because it was one of the colonial economic methods of integrating Uganda into the cash or monetary economy. For that matter, colonialists like Kenneth Borup and Hesketh Bell introduced cash crops like coffee and cotton as raw materials as a way of integrating Uganda's economy into the Western capitalistic economy.

The colonialists introduced plantation agriculture in East Africa because they wanted to reduce the burden of the British tax payers in supporting the colonial economy in East Africa by making it self-sustaining so that the European tax payers didn't have to pay tax in order to support the East African economy and make it grow.

By introducing the growing of cash crops in East Africa, the colonial masters wanted to improve the standards of living of the people of East Africa because the cash crops would enable them to earn income with which to meet their daily needs and therefore improve their standards of living. Those who would get jobs in the Whiteman's plantations would also earn wages (income) through supplying their labour and this income would enable them to meet their needs hence an improvement in their standards of living.

The introduction of plantation agriculture by the colonialists was driven by the need to have additional source of income. At that time the British colonial administration in Uganda was depending on the sale of ivory which was fetching 260,000 pounds a year, the protectorate government by 1900 had no other source of revenue yet it needed money to finance the administration of protectorate. It therefore became necessary to make East African countries to start growing cash crops like tea, tobacco, cotton, coffee

and groundnuts as alternative sources of revenue to provide support to the colonial administration.

Plantation agriculture was introduced in order to stop slave trade, introduce and promote legitimate trade in East Africa. Cash crop growing was therefore introduced as an alternative to slave trade especially in areas that were deeply rooted into slavery like the West Nile region in Uganda and the southern part of Tanganyika. In Uganda, the growing of tobacco for sale was introduced as a replacement to slave trade.

Colonial administration introduced cash crop by way of decrees and force. Through the colonial administrators like Hesketh Bell, the land lords in Buganda were instructed to force the tenants to grow cash crops. Many chiefs forced prevailed over their subjects to forcefully grow coffee, cocoa and cotton as part of the tenancy agreement as a result of the decrees issued by the colonial administration.

Furthermore, ordinances were passed by the colonial administration to compel people to grow cash crops. In Uganda for instance, cotton growing ordinances of 1907 and 1911 were passed by which peasants in Uganda were to grow cotton. Colonial agents like Semei Kakungulu were given the responsibility of implementing this compulsory cotton growing in Busoga and Bukedi. Under these ordinances, the colonial administration made failure to grow cotton punishable by law hence compelling many peasants to embark on the growing of cotton.

The introduction of taxes compelled many peasants to take up cash crop growing. Payment of taxes were made compulsory for all adult males and the brutality with the taxes were collected forced many peasants to embrace cash crop growing so as to raise income with which to pay the taxes.

Plantation agriculture was introduced because the colonialists believed that there was abundant labour in some parts of the country like northern and western Uganda. To the colonialists, it was appropriate to introduce cash crop growing in these areas because they thought the population would easily embrace it.

Early colonial administrators and settlers made it easy for the introduction of cash crop growing. For instance, Governor Sir James Hayes Sadler, Hesketh Bell and Kenneth Borup encouraged the chiefs to start plantation farming as they assured them of the ready market, seeds and other farm implements. Governor Saddle Hayes even encouraged more settlers to move into Kenya and open up huge farms for cash crop cultivation.

The construction and extension of the Uganda railway to various parts of Uganda and Kenya promoted cash crop growing. The railway provided transport for labourers, seeds and other agricultural inputs. The Namasagali line for instance boosted cotton growing in Busoga region. Sir Hesketh Bell constructed the railway line between Luzira and Kampala and a port terminal at Luzira (port bell) in order to enhance the export of the agricultural output. The line to Pakwach in Northern Uganda promoted the cultivation of cotton and tobacco in West Nile region.

The agricultural reforms introduced by Governor Sir Hesketh Bell motivated the colonial government to introduce cash crop growing. By these reforms, Sir Hesketh Bell subsidized the cotton production by giving out implements like hoes, pesticides, free cotton seeds and set up demonstration farms especially at Namukekera. By 1914, he had encouraged the construction of roads in order for the Lorries to reach the agricultural output point. As a result of this, cotton exports rose from 60,000 pounds in 1909 to 330,000 pounds by 1914 and this became a big motivation to the peasants.

Those who collaborated with the colonialists encouraged plantation agriculture in east Africa. These collaborators mobilised the Africans to implement cash crop growing. For instance, Semei Kakungulu was instrumental in implementing cotton growing in Busoga and Bukedi, coffee in Bugisu and cotton in Teso. Noah Mbaguta introduced cotton farming in Ankole while James Mitti was instrumental in encouraging cotton production in Bunyoro. As a result of this, many peasants took up cash crop growing.

Cash crop cultivation was encouraged by the Asian and Indian investors. Investors of Indian origin like Mehta established both tea and sugar estates in Uganda. Another investor was Madhivani Muljiibhai who established sugar cane plantations in Uganda as early as 1928. By 1945, their net contribution to the colonial treasury was more than 900,000 pounds.

Colonial administration supported cash crop growing. In most countries, the protectorate government secured large pieces of land which they referred to as crown land after signing fictitious agreements like the 1900, the 1900 Ankole agreement and 1901 Toro agreement. These agreements gave them a leverage of land which they easily gave out to the Europeans to open up plantation agriculture. They further went ahead and set up planters association to encourage organised farming. All these became a motivating factor in the growing of cash crops in Uganda and East Africa at large.

Favourable climatic conditions in East Africa encouraged cash crop growing. Buganda, Toro, Bugisu and Kigezi were zones of high rainfall which could easily support cash crop growing. More so, these agricultural zones were endowed with fertile soils which were good for cash crop growing.

The presence of peace, stability and tranquillity encouraged cash crop growing in East Africa. The pacification process had been done by the colonial agents like Semei Kakungulu hence areas like Busoga and Bugisu didn't experience major anti-colonial uprisings. Even in Buganda apart from the religious wars, there were no major resistances. This peace and tranquillity favoured the introduction of cash crop growing in East Africa.

In conclusion, the introduction of cash crop farming in East Africa was motivated by the colonial interests to get the most of their colonies through engaging the people in the production of the cash crops that they (the colonialists) desired.

### **Advantages and disadvantages of peasant agriculture**

<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
-------------------	----------------------

Better supervision	Difficulty in using improved practices and improved inputs
more employment	Low marketable surplus
greater productivity	No optimum use of available resources
Tenacity of small farms	Transformation of agriculture is difficult due to its small size
Possibility of quick decision	Lack of division of labour leads to less profits
Labour is supplied by the farmer and his family	The commercial motive is weak
Simple farm implements are used	Farming may depend on rain and nature because its rain fed
Since output is basically for subsistence, there is no hunger in the home	Inability to irrigate the land
Farmers are not affected by fluctuations because they don't sell their outputs neither do they buy inputs	There is no room for profit making
Farmer can easily do intercropping	Not attractive to investors
Contributes positively to food security	Cannot take advantage of increased demands
Source of cultural heritage security	
Depended on rudimentary farm inputs like hand hoes	

Looking at the table above, do you think the colonialists were right to encourage peasant agriculture in Uganda?

**THE TABLE BELOW SHOWS THE ADVANTAGE AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE COLONIAL PLANTATION AGRICULTURE**

<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
It led to the development of infrastructure like roads, schools, hospitals leading to urbanization.	It encouraged rural-urban migration and its effects like unemployment, high crime rate and slum development.
The plantations employed many workers leading to improved standards of living.	It led to the displacement of people from their own land and land grabbing leaving many people landless.
Led to increase the tax base for the government hence increased the revenue used for developing roads.	It reduced the vegetation cover in East Africa leading to desertification e.g. clearing of Mabira forest by SCOUL.
Foreign exchange was obtained from the exportation of the products used for developing hospitals.	Monoculture practiced by the colonialists on plantations led to soil exhaustion and erosion hence loss of soil fertility.
Led to industrial growth through provision of raw materials especially to agro-based industries e.g. Kakira sugar works.	They require large capital (capital intensive) yet the majority of people in East Africa are poor leading to foreign ownership.
Plantation farms provide a market for the out-grower's produce hence ensuring a constant flow of income.	Emphasis on growing of cash crops leads to neglect of food crops hence famine.
Plantation farms encouraged research leading to improved and better quality crops.	Profit repatriation as most of the plantation farms was owned by foreigners leading to less local development.
Acquisition of skills by workers which helped them to ensure continuity on the job.	Posed the danger of depending on few export cash crops.

<p>The colonial entrepreneurs injected substantial capital to the moribund, under-developed economy that converts it into a vibrant, dynamic economy.</p>	<p>Turned Africans into a reservoir of unstable migrant labourers.</p>
<p>Was totally export-oriented, the net volume and value of national export increases, adding valuable foreign exchequer to the national exchequer.</p>	<p>There was increased multiplication of pests and diseases due to monoculture on these plantations.</p>
<p>It absorbed thousands of labourers reducing the growing of unemployment.</p>	<p>It was not a spontaneous occurrence, rather, it has been developed by outsiders. So, interest of the local inhabitants are not sustained in the long run.</p>
<p>Colonial plantation farming was a complex mechanism; it involves creation of not only in industrial plants but also construction of civic amenities like roads, housing projects, schools, colleges, hospitals, administrative projects, etc. eventually, urbanization rate was accelerated.</p>	<p>It produces only one product- tea, coffee, etc. which is sold in the external market. So, the local people suffered from food shortages that would have been cultivated.</p>
	<p>Exodus of money in the form of profit goes to foreign lands which in no way improved the local economy.</p>
	<p>In most cases, cheap labourers were collected from outside and technical expertise from faraway lands. This system failed to deliver any good to the local unemployment scenario</p>

	and aggravated social tension. Sons of soil clashed with outsiders.
	Planters, to expand their businesses, tried to grab the land of the farmers in several ways. This created more and more landless uprooted people.
	Due to dependence on international market for the sale of the product, any price and demand fluctuation may have catastrophic result in the farming. Local economy may badly suffer following retrenchment of labour, unemployment may increase.
	Plantation farming is not good for ecology. Over exploitation and absence of crop rotation depletes soil fertility and increases soil erosion.
	As most of the owners of plantation estates resided outside the country, particularly at the initial stage of development, they had very little interest in the development of the region.
	Product of plantation farming was totally dependent on international market. The slightest price fluctuation in the international market would jeopardize the system.

## **EFFECTS OF THE INTRODUCTION OF CASH CROPS (PLANTATION AGRICULTURE) IN EAST AFRICA.**

The major cash crops grown in the new states of Africa were cotton, coffee, groundnuts, and palm oil, to mention but a few. The majority of these crops had been introduced by the colonial masters for the purpose of exportation to Europe. However, after attaining their independence, the new states of Africa maintained them. The introduction and encouragement of the production of such crops had the following social and economic effects on the people of East Africa:-

The cash crops have created an income base to many of the economies of the new states of Africa. Much as some of these crops had been produced before, during the colonial era, their production was stepped up mainly for the purposes of exportation and when African states attained their independence, they were maintained. Even some of those crops which had served as food crops were transformed into cash crops. In some instances, food crops like groundnuts which had been grown as a food crop later became an export crop of that country during the colonial and after the colonial era.

The cash crops also laid a firm foundation upon which the economy of the new states of Africa later thrived. The crops served as income earners after independence. Apart from encouraging diversification of the economy, they also led to increased income earning upon which the modern African economy was built.

Individual Africans have gotten meaningfully engaged in cash crop production hence producing for the market. In so doing, they were able to earn income, improve on their standards of living and even put their pieces of land to better use.

The cash crops have been a major source of employment opportunities for the vast majority of the rural population in many of the new states of Africa. For instance, close to 70% of the rural population of Uganda depended on cash crop production for their livelihood.

The cash crops have the major drivers of the economies of the new states of Africa. Though the exportation of these crops, the new states of Africa have been able to earn revenue in the form of foreign exchange with which to set infrastructures which form the forward and backward linkages in an economy.

Cash crop production has promoted the construction of infrastructures in many parts of the new states of Africa. This is because the crops have to be transported from the areas where they are produced to areas where they are supposed to be converted into finished products. In this way, the producing areas get connected to better infrastructures.

Cash crops have served as raw materials for the many industries in the new states of Africa. Cotton for instance is an important raw material for the textile industries. Palm oil, sun flower and many others are a source of raw materials for the factories which gin oil. All these have led to the growth of various industries in the new states of Africa.

Cash crop production has promoted trade within and outside the country. The major items of the new states of Africa in the international trade is composed of cash crops like cotton, coffee, and pyrethrum to mention but a few. Through this trade the African states have been able to acquire foreign exchange with which to build their economies. They have also been able to build diplomatic relations with their partners in trade.

The production of cash crops however has not entirely been beneficial. There were negative consequences of the introduction of these crops. In many East African societies, there has been a lot of famine. This is because the states have emphasise d the production of cash crops at the expense of food crops. In Uganda for instance, the cultivation of sugarcane in Busoga region has been responsible for famine in that area.

Similarly, many East African countries have been forced to import rice though they could grow it locally just because some of the new states of Africa have deliberately put more emphasis on the cultivation of cash crops while at the same time discouraging the cultivation of food crops.

Cash crops cultivation has also encouraged the migration of labour mainly from those areas they had developed important crops. As a result of the bad economic conditions, many people have been forced to migrate to the cash crop growing area in order to get jobs and earn income. In Uganda, many migrated from north and western to seek jobs in the coffee growing central region of Uganda.

There has been the establishment of processing plants like cotton ginneries and coffee hullers. This has however had a negative effect because they substituted manufacturing industries. This partly explains why there are not many finishing industries in Africa to date.

Cash crop production has also encouraged the opening up of roads, schools, hospitals and other social services. The roads were made to facilitate transportation of goods from the interior to the coast or to the factories where they can be turned into final products. However, some areas which are devoid of those crops to date have no access to those roads.

To the detriment of the new states of Africa, trade in cash crops still favours the western world. The post-colonial masters acquire these raw materials namely cotton, tea, sisal, pyrethrum cheaply because they dictate their prices. The new states of Africa there gain less from the trade in the raw materials that they export.

### **Activity**

Through brainstorming, internet or available information, explain the reasons why:-

- The colonialists established industries in East Africa.
- Transport networks were established by the colonialists in East Africa.

What were the effects of those policies? Why is it important for Uganda to invest heavily in upgrading its infrastructures including building industries?

### **DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES IN EAST AFRICA**

The reasons why industries were established in the colonial East Africa.

During the colonial period, the industrial sector was the smallest of all sectors of the economy. The colonialists didn't both to improve the industrial sector in East Africa because they didn't want competition for raw materials. They therefore didn't set up finishing or manufacturing of the raw materials so that they could be easily transported to the coast and thereafter to Europe using ships.

**The following were characteristics of the colonial industrial sector;**

- The industrial sector was composed of the import substitution industries. These were meant to produce goods which were being produced in Europe. More so, these industries were supposed to produce basic goods of necessity like soap, cigarettes which the local settlers, Europeans, Indians and some few successful Africans would buy and use.
- They set up light industries and avoided establishing heavy or manufacturing industries. The reason for not setting up heavy industries in East Africa was because they don't want to create competition for raw materials between the industries in East Africa and the metropolitan industries back to home.
- The import substitution industries built by the colonialists were meant to produce consumer goods like soap, sugar, cigarette to meet the needs of the European settlers and to a smaller extent, the Africans who were becoming successful in business. The industries were in no way meant to produce goods for the benefit of the Africans.
- The industries were labour intensive and were mainly driven by African labour. The Europeans were reluctant to import advanced technology since their goal was to maximize the exploitation of the African people.
- The distribution of these industries was uneven. The industries were mainly located in urban centres where the white people lived. This was because these industries were meant to produce the goods that were to be consumed by the white people.
- The industries set up the colonialists were owned by white individuals and were meant to exploit the people of East Africa. After all the main

objective of settling up those industries was to generate abnormal profits for the Whiteman.

### **INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH ACTIVITY**

**Why were the industries established in East Africa?**

**Describe the effects of industries in East Africa.**

### **DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT SYSTEMS IN EAST AFRICA**

**The reasons for the establishment of modern transport systems in colonial in East Africa**

Modern transport systems are gadgets that provide efficient and reliable transport in other words, they provide both forward and backward linkages to an economy by facilitating the smooth transportation of goods in the country. Modern transport include road transport, air transport and water transport to mention but a few.

The pioneer groups which set up transport systems in Africa were the missionaries, Chartered (trading) Companies and some few Europeans individuals whose sole aim was to promote their trade prospects. The systems were later improved upon by the colonial administration whose intention was none other than economic exploitation. This is evidenced by the selective nature and unbalanced development of the transport system regionally. The establishment of modern transport systems in East Africa was determined by many factors among which were the following;

The need to exploit agricultural products like cotton and others like water and forest resources led to the establishment of modern transport systems. Roads and railways were meant to transport these resources from the interior of East Africa to the coast before they would be ferried to Europe by ships. In Uganda for instance the Uganda railway was connected to Pakwach in 1965 to transport tobacco which was being grown there. The line was also connected to Kasese to transport copper which had been discovered there.

Furthermore, transport systems were also constructed so that East African economies would be self-reliant instead of burdening the European taxpayers in matters pertaining to the development of East Africa. The colonial masters believed that Africa would rely on these systems for further development of their own countries.

The introduction of a modern transport system was also determined by the need to make East Africa remain a market for European goods. If better transport means were put in place, it would be easy for European goods to reach East Africa. It was partly because of this that the Uganda Railway was constructed in 1896 by the British.

Modern transport means were also set up in East Africa in order to fulfil the stipulation of the Berlin Conference of 1884–85. The conference stipulated that all colonial powers claiming over a territory should develop it economically by constructing railways, roads and ports to show evidence that could legitimize their claim over the areas of occupation.

Modern transport systems were also established in order to ease colonial administration by creating mechanisms which would allow the white man to easily supervise his enterprises established in East Africa by providing easy transport.

It was partly because of this that the Uganda Railway line was built by the British in 1896.

More significantly, modern transport systems were established in East Africa in order to facilitate transportation of colonial troops to suppress any possible East African resistance which would hamper colonial economic exploitation. This was the reason for the construction of the Uganda railway in 1896 in Uganda.

Furthermore, the systems were built to open up areas which were still inaccessible for economic exploitation. By the 1880s many economically viable areas were still inaccessible yet they had exploitable resources. Transport systems were set up in those areas to open them up for exploitation as well as European investment.

Eurocentric scholars (those who look at history from the European point of view) have argued that transport systems were set up in Africa in order to facilitate African missionary activities in Africa. While this may be true to some extent, it should however not be forgotten that missionaries were forerunner of colonialists and were therefore parties in exploitation of African resources.

The same school of thought content that modern transport system were set up in order to supply slave trade because of its horrific nature and to replace it with legitimate trade. The goal of the matter is that slave trade only became useless when better methods of exploiting the Africans had been discovered.

Finally, modern systems were set up to solve the movement of migrant labourers from far away to areas where they were needed by the Europeans. For example, when the Uganda Railway was extended to West Nile, it became easy to transport labourers from there to the central region of Uganda.

### **EFFECTS OF INTRODUCTION OF MODERN TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN EAST AFRICA**

Establishment of modern transport systems in Africa had many positive and negative effects on the people of East Africa. In the first place, it led to effective political and administrative control of East Africa by the colonialists through facilitating colonial troop movements. This in turn greatly facilitated economic exploitation by ensuring that peace prevailed in East Africa.

The construction of modern transport systems increased transport services throughout East Africa. Many people found it easy to move from one place to another because of introduction of vehicles and the railways which were built, in the same vein, they also found it easy to transact their business. In East Africa for example, the volume of trade increased by almost 60% by 1901 when the railway line reached Kisumu.

The establishment of modern transport system also led to increased urbanization as well as the development of ports. Small trading centres later

developed into big towns. Towns like Kampala, Jinja, Lira, Tororo, Gulu were all products of modern transport systems. However, it should not be forgotten that the development of these towns led to some social evils like prostitution and increased rates, etc.

Modern transport system facilitated activities of missionaries which in return brought improved social services. The missionaries eventually built schools which led to an increase in literacy rate. The missionaries too became agents of colonialism and loss of East African independence.

Modern transport systems also led to an increase in cash crop production in East Africa. The construction of the Uganda Railway for instance attracted many white settlers in Kenya leading to the establishment of huge plantations for the growing of cash crops like cotton, pyrethrum, and coffee. As a result, cash crop production increased by leaps and bounds.

Furthermore, the establishment of modern transport systems in East Africa greatly stimulated rural-urban migration. The population of Kampala in 1930 was about 20,000 by the time the railway reached Pakwach in 1965, the population was nearly 260,000. This was partly due to the easy movement of the people from the country side as a result of the construction of the Uganda Railway.

Another impact of introduction of modern transport systems was the opening up of the interior for exploitation. Forest reserves for example, were made readily available for exploitation and so were the cash crops.

Due to the construction of modern transport system there was influence of European settlers who came to set up farms, prospect and extract minerals. The plantation which they set up led to the grabbing of the African land which resulted into poverty.

More so, the lack of equal regional development which still exists in Uganda today is partly a product of the creation of modern transport system. Many areas lagged behind in development because of the selective nature in which these systems were established. While areas which offered resources were

given priority, those which had nothing to offer like Karamoja in Uganda were ignored.

Modern transport system also made East Africa to depend on Europeans. This was because more standard systems were set up. The Congolese were not allowed to import British made locomotives and their spare parts even if they were affordable simply because the locomotives were different from the one used in the British colonies.

In addition to that modern transport system movement of labour to areas in which it was most needed. The colonialist established large colonial plantation which needed labour. When the transport system, were established labour movement was facilitated from areas where labour was redundant to those areas where they were required most.

In many parts of East Africa, modern means of transport brought an end to slave trade. This was because the new means of transport provided an alternative to the head portage. More so, the modern means led to the introduction of legitimate trade which was a perfect replacement to the slave trade.

Finally, the modern means of transport created some job opportunity for the Africans. They got employed on construction works, machine operators while some later became locomotive engineers.

### **CAUSES, COURSE AND THE IMPACT OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF UGANDA RAILWAY**

The reasons why Uganda Railway was constructed by the British

The Uganda railway was the railway line constructed by the British from Mombasa to Uganda. The construction of the railway started in 1896 at Kilindini (Mombasa) in Kenya with George Whitehouse as the chief engineer.

The preliminary survey for this railway was done in 1892 by Captain JRL Macdonald of imperial British East Africa Company (IBEACo). The following were the reasons why the railway was constructed;

The Uganda railway was constructed to enable the British government to establish firm control over their spheres of influence by facilitating the transportation of British colonial administrators to all areas of Uganda.

It was built to provide transport for arms and British military personnel in order to enable them easily counter and defeat any possible African resistance to their colonial rule.

The Uganda railway was constructed to ease administration in Uganda through providing easy and quick transport to the British administrators to all corners of East Africa. This would make their administration more efficient.

The need to gain access to Uganda for the control of the Nile (strategic) led to the construction of the railway. This was considered strategic by the British because of the British interests in Egypt yet Egypt depended on the Nile water for its very survival.

The Uganda railway was built to eliminate slave trade which was still rampant in East Africa. The railway was to provide alternative means of transport which would make slave trade useless.

It was constructed to make it possible to develop the interior for agriculture and other economic activities by providing transport for the agricultural products produced in the interior.

It was also constructed to provide an alternative form of trade. The railway would encourage legitimate trade in non-human items like agricultural products, goods from Europe which in turn would make slave trade redundant and useless.

The Uganda railway was built to make transport quicker, easier and cheaper to the colonialists, the passengers as well as the goods to be transported. This would in turn spur economic development in East Africa.

The Uganda railway was constructed in order to forestall other powers like the Egyptians and Khartoumers who were also interested in colonizing

Uganda in particular and East Africa in general yet the British were not willing to let go this important colony.

The railway was also built to conform to the aims of the British conference of effective occupation which stipulated that colonial masters were to demonstrate their presence in a particular territory by setting up infrastructure to stop other colonial powers from laying claim over the same territory.

The railway was constructed to facilitate missionary activities in Uganda by providing reliable means of transport to the Christian missionaries to ease their evangelization mission throughout East Africa.

The Uganda railway was built to promote exploitation of resources like minerals by providing reliable transport for the transportation of those minerals which were located in the interior of East Africa. That was why the railway was extended to Kasere in 1965 to transport copper which had been discovered there.

It was built to link East Africa to the outside world through the coast of East Africa. It would provide a link by connecting the interior of East Africa with the coast and thereafter to Europeans using the ships in the Indian Ocean.

The railway was built to make the economy of Uganda self-sustainable by facilitating and promoting economic activities like trade. It would also generate income through the charges to be levied on both passengers and goods being transported using the railway.

The railway was constructed to facilitate trade in both exports and imports of goods by providing efficient and reliable transport to the items to be exported and imported.

In conclusion, the Uganda railway was therefore constructed for political, economic and social reasons as discussed above.

## **THE EFFECTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF UGANDA RAILWAY ON THE PEOPLE OF UGANDA**

The effects of the construction of Uganda Railway were both positive and negative

The railway made it possible for the exploitation of cash crops especially cotton by providing efficient means of transport to the bulky cash crops from the interior to the coast and thereafter to Europe using ships.

It increased the growth of cash crops and made Uganda independent of imperial grants in aid by 1915. The cash crops especially cotton became an important export earner which made Uganda to reduce its financial dependency on the British.

The extension of railway line inside the country led to a more rapid expansion of a network of roads. Many feeder roads were constructed to link up with the railway network hence making transport much easier.

The construction of the railway led to immigration of substantial numbers of Asians as businessmen, shopkeepers like Allidina Visram. The Indians eventually played a dominant role in the economic life of the country.

It led to the transfer of eastern territory of Uganda to Kenya in 1902 since this contained most of the land suitable for white settlement. Uganda therefore lost part of its land to Kenya.

It played a part in decision that Uganda's development would be through peasant agriculture because it provided reliable transport network for the transportation of agricultural products produced by the peasants.

As a result of Asian immigration, it created something in nature of a racial problem, but this was slight compared with the problem in Kenya, this racism eventually led to the issuing of the Devonshire White paper in 1923 to address the racial conflicts which had emerged there.

By facilitating the entry of Europeans like the Christian missionaries, technical experts, and many others, it speeded up the advance in educational

and health spheres which were set up by those missionaries and technical experts.

The Uganda railway also speeded up the growth of western civilization in Uganda because it greatly supported the activities of Christian missionaries like the building of schools and the inculcation of European civilization.

The construction of the Uganda railway led to the abolition of slave trade in Uganda. The railway provided an alternative form of transport hence making slaves useless as means of carrying goods from the interior.

Transport difficulties in Uganda were alleviated as a result of the construction of the railway because this railway network provided reliable and efficient mode of transport for both human beings and goods.

Uganda was linked to the coast and outside world due to the construction of the railway. Goods and people from the interior easily reached the coast while goods from Europe also easily reached the interior through the coast.

The construction of the Uganda railway created employment opportunities for the people of Uganda. Many people got recruited as railway station staff, others worked in the maintenance section while others became managers and ticket collectors.

The standard of living of the people of Uganda improved as a result of the construction of the railway. This is because the construction of the railway promoted agriculture hence enabling people to earn an income.

The railway led to the growth of urban centres like Kampala, Jinja and many others. As a result of the many economic activities like trade that sprung up, trading centres became big towns with an increasing population.

The Uganda railway made effective administration (colonialism) of Uganda possible by enabling the colonialists to easily reach all corners of Uganda to ensure effective administration.

In conclusion, the construction of the Uganda railway affected the people of Uganda politically, economically, and socially most important of which was

that it promoted economic activities leading to a steady economic growth of the country.

### **THE EXTENSION (EXPANSION), COURSE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE UGANDA RAILWAY;**

The railway system was a gradual extension of the Uganda railway from Kenya. In 1912 the railway line was extended to Port Bell. It was Sir Hesketh Bell who ensured that the connection took place. This was done in order to connect Kampala to the steamer service and facilitate transport on Lake Victoria.

In the same year 1912, the Jinja-Namasagali line was constructed. This was to link and provide reliable transport system to the Eastern part of Uganda. The Jinja-Namasagali line was also constructed to tap products like cotton, livestock etc from the region of Busoga.

In 1923, the Uganda railway was connected to Jinja. This was mainly to facilitate the transportation of cotton, coffee, foodstuff as well as people and to connect Busoga region to the rest of Uganda especially the central part of Uganda.

In 1929, the railway line was extended from Tororo up to Soroti via Mbale. This extension was mainly to encourage cotton and coffee growing in Eastern Uganda and to facilitate the transportation of cattle.

In 1931, the line was extended to Kampala across the Nile. The railway was extended to Kampala mainly to tap coffee and other products from the region.

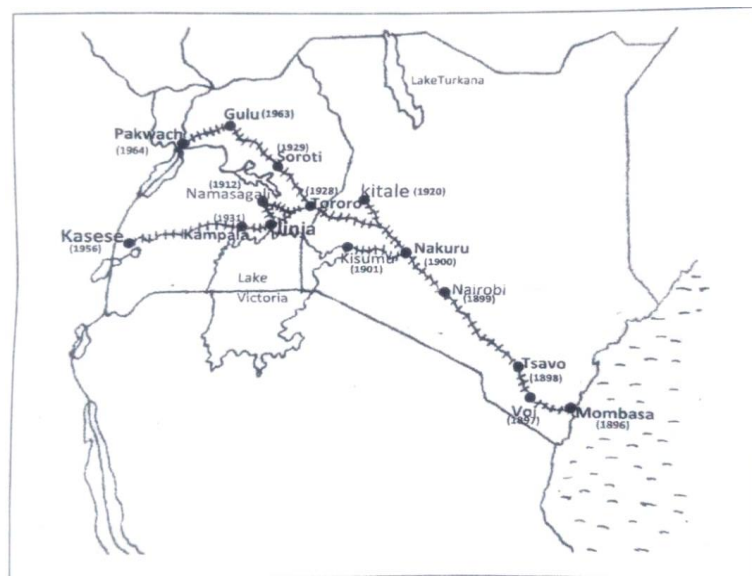
In 1956, the approximately 333 kilometer long Kampala-Kasese line was constructed. This was mainly to facilitate the transportation of copper from Kirembe to Jinja for smelting. The line was equally constructed in order to tap other products like tea, tobacco and food stuff.

In 1961, the Jinja-Bukuma line was established to tap agricultural products like cotton and coffee within the area.

In 1965 the railway line from Soroti was connected to Pakwach via Lira and Gulu. The purpose of this line was to transport tobacco, cotton and people.

In conclusion, the development and extension of Uganda railway to the various parts of Uganda was premised on political, economic and social factors and by 1965 it had covered most of the areas in Uganda.

### **A SKETCH MAP SHOWING THE EXTENSION (DEVELOPMENT) OF THE UGANDA RAILWAY IN UGANDA BETWEEN 1901 AND 1965**



### **ACTIVITY**

Using the internet and other sources of information, find out why it was important for the colonial administration to set up health facilities in East Africa. What was the scope of these health facilities and how far did it address the health needs of the East Africa?

### **THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTH CENTRES**

#### **THE REASONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HEALTH FACILITIES IN EAST AFRICA**

Health facilities refer to those facilities or services which were meant to improve on human health through the provision of medical services to the sick colonial administration constructed dispensaries and health centres in many areas in which they operated especially in the armed force stations, in

production areas and urban centres. Their efforts were supplemented by the Christian missionaries as well as the settlers who had their own interests in setting up these facilities. The facilities later developed into fully fledged hospitals like Nsambya, Rubaga and Mengo hospitals to mention but a few. The main reasons why these facilities were constructed during the colonial period were the following;

The need to treat and repair the damaged African labour led to the construction of the health facilities. The colonialists especially the settlers whose plantation investments depended so much on the African labour saw the need to keep the Africans in good health and alive by providing them with rudimentary medical facilities and treatment. If they were to meet their investment objectives because of this, they had to construct those health facilities.

Similarly, the health facilities were constructed to provide medical treatment for white settlers, Christian missionaries and colonial administrators. That was why the scope and the quality of the facilities meant for this category of people was much better than the facilities meant for the African labourers

The construction of health facilities in East Africa was occasioned by the need to fulfill the stipulations of the 1884-1885 Berlin conference. The conference held at the height of the scramble for and partition of Africa by the colonial masters sought among others to show ownership and effective occupation their colonies by pulling up infrastructures like hospitals, roads, schools to mention but a few. Once this is done other colonial masters would not lay claim over the same colony.

Health facilities were established by the colonial masters in East Africa to convince unsuspecting the East Africans about the good side of colonial rule. By providing health services to the Africans. The colonialists believed that the Africans would appreciate and therefore willingly accept them in their midst.

The Christian missionaries on their part set up these facilities to show compassion to the Blackman. To them it was an act benevolence and

humanitarianism to help the Blackman overcome the health challenges that they faced.

More importantly, health facilities were set up in East Africa to promote colonial exploitation. The facilities would make East Africa free from the diseases like malaria which would make colonial exploitation cumbersome.

The medical and health facilities established by the colonialists aimed at destroying the African medication services and drafting the efforts of the African people to carry out research and discover their own medicines so that they could depend on the medicine made by the Whiteman.

The colonialists established health facilities in East Africa as a reward for those who collaborated with them. In Uganda for instance, Buganda collaborated with the British and as a reward for this collaboration, the British were willing to establish health facilities in the area.

Colonial health facilities were established in East Africa to promote colonialism. The essence of establishing the facilities was to fulfill the objectives of the British government which saw medical colonization as a springboard for political colonization. Ann Back quotes the British medical journal of 1905 which stated that 'the lancet is more powerful than the sword'.

### **Features of colonial health services in East Africa**

The hospitals and dispensaries which were built were mainly located in the urban centres, plantation areas and where the white people were residing. Rural areas where the Africans lived were left out.

The scope of the medical services was limited to treating the obvious tropical diseases. Anything beyond that couldn't be handled.

The health services were discriminative in nature. The whites received the best medication, followed by the Asians (Indians) while the Africans received the worst available medication.

The hospitals and dispensaries only provided western medication. Anything African or traditional was regarded as barbaric and therefore not worthy using.

Highly medical personnel that served in these hospitals and dispensaries were white people. These were people who diagnosed, prescribed treatment and dispensed the drugs. African personnel in these hospitals and dispensaries served as cleaners of the wounds (dressers) sweepers of the hospitals and did other cadre jobs.

Payments and remuneration was yet another area of difference. African hospital staff were deliberately paid low salaries compared to their white counterparts. The intention was to deliberately keep the Africans perpetual poverty.

The medical services provided by the colonialists were religious based and faith founded. There were catholic hospitals and dispensaries as well as protestant hospitals and dispensaries. Sometimes people went to seek medication from those health centres basing on their religious faith.

The facilities were also urban based. The ordinary people who lived in the countryside or villages were denied access because they had no health centres in their villages. Apart from the urban areas, these facilities were set up in areas where the colonialists had opened up big plantations so that time the workers on those plantations could access rudimentary treatment each time they would fall sick.

### **THE EFFECTS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTH FACILITIES IN EAST AFRICA**

Positively, the people of East African especially those who were able to access the facilities and the services were able to experience better living and health standards because the facilities and services emphasise d primary health care.

The establishment of these services led to an increase in the lifespan (longevity of life) among the people of East Africa. Before the establishment of these

services. The average lifespan of the East Africans was around thirty years. However with the introduction of these facilities, many people were able to live up to forty years and beyond.

Many East Africans were able to access medical facilities to treat tropical diseases like malaria which had hitherto remained a big challenge. With the discovery of chloroquine and its eventual shipment to East Africa, the challenge posed by malaria eventually reduced.

Relatedly, the introduction of the health facilities led to eventual eradication of

### **THE EFFECTS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTH FACILITIES IN EAST AFRICA**

Positively, the people of East African especially those who were able to access the facilities and the services were able to experience better living and health standards because the facilities and services emphasise d primary health care.

The establishment of these services led to an increase in the lifespan (longevity of life) among the people of East Africa. Before the establishment of these services. The average lifespan of the East Africans was around thirty years. However with the introduction of these facilities, many people were able to live up to forty years and beyond.

Many East Africans were able to access medical facilities to treat tropical diseases like malaria which had hitherto remained a big challenge. With the discovery of chloroquine and its eventual shipment to East Africa, the challenge posed by malaria eventually reduced.

Relatedly, the introduction of the health facilities led to eventual eradication of some of the epidemics which had plagued the region for so long. Such epidemics included smallpox which at the time had no cure.

Nutritional status of the East Africans also improved. Part of the primary health care that the colonialists advocated for was the need for proper

nutrition and diet. Those who took heed were able to realize a change in their nutritional status.

East Africans trained as medical personnel and started to treat the sick and administer medicine. Whereas the training of the African personnel was not as intensive but rudimentary, at least a number of the East Africans were able to acquire medical skills which enabled them to serve as nurses, dressers and dispensers of drugs.

Negatively, the introduction of the colonial health facilities led to a reduction in the usage of local herbs. This negatively affected the local and indigenous attempt by the Africans to develop their own medicines by improving on the local herbs because East Africans were made to depend on European medicines.

Similarly, under colonial rule, traditional healers were outlawed and considered to be practitioners of witchcraft. African religious practices and medicine were labeled sinful by white Christian missionaries, and as such the use of traditional medicine was forbidden for followers. It was only in more recent years that traditional medicine became more accommodated, and practitioners of 'modern' medicine have increasingly acknowledged that there is much to learn from certain aspects of traditional medical practices. Indeed even the World Health Organisation (WHO) has a department that promotes traditional medicine.

It expanded the market for the western capitalistic medicine industry. Africans were made to consume various types of drugs manufactured in Europe but meant for Africa through imports. The local production of medicine was discouraged.

East African people were subjected to more taxation to meet the costs of sustaining these facilities. The colonialists didn't think that the socio-economic development of East Africa should burden the European tax payers, the East Africans themselves were to meet the costs of these developments through paying more taxes. As a result, hut and poll taxes were levied on the people of East Africa.

The health facilities introduced by the colonialists led to more exploitation of the Africans by the Europeans. This was because the facilities granted the Africans a lease of life by making them healthier and less sick. The services therefore helped to maintain the labour power for peasantry settler and the mining sector of the colonial economy by making them (the Africans) able to work for the Whiteman for a much longer period for low wages.

There was an influx of settlers into East Africa as a result of the establishment of the health facilities. East Africa was no longer regarded as a Whiteman's grave when these facilities were established because of the availability of European medicine. This encouraged more settlers to flock to Kenya and Tanganyika.

The health services also provided employment opportunities to the white people. Many of them got jobs and serve as medical doctors, pharmacists and hospital administrators. This helped to solve the unemployment problem back in Europe.

There was the emergence of a class system as a result of those services following the way the various categories of the people of East Africa were treated. The white civil servants, settlers and managers were favoured and therefore got high quality health services while the Africans received the poorest health services. This class categorization was partly responsible for the racial conflicts in Kenya which led to the issuing of the 1923 Devonshire White Paper.

In conclusion, whereas the establishment of colonial health facilities was not originally intended to make the life of the East Africans any better to keep them healthy so that they could continuously supply useful labour to the colonialists, coincidentally and inevitably many people of East Africa found themselves benefiting from them.

### **Activity**

In your various discussion groups, identify the health and social challenges faced by the people of East Africa during the colonial era. How did the British attempt to address these challenges? List down the health and social

problems currently facing the people of East Africa and show how the East African governments are trying to solve them.

### **THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS THAT WERE FACED DURING THE PERIOD OF COLONIAL ECONOMY IN EAST AFRICA.**

Health refers to a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. During the pre-colonial era the spread of diseases was limited because many Africans lived in isolation. However when the colonialists established the rule in East Africa and constructed infrastructures like roads, the interactions between Africans and the whites increased leading to more exposure of the Africans to many foreign diseases. The health and social problems faced during the period of colonial economy were the following;

Inadequate medical facilities and services for the African people was a big challenge during the colonial period. It should be remembered that even the few facilities established by the colonialists were meant to facilitate the activities of the colonial administrators, the Indians and Christian missionaries and not the Africans. The Africans therefore were not catered for by these facilities. Their dispensaries had fewer beds, unskilled medical personnel and insufficient drugs.

Numerous sicknesses/diseases some of which were incurable for example, malaria, small pox and East Coast fever among other.

Lack of medical personnel was a big challenge. By 1920 the Doctor patient ratio was 1 to 40000. Thus African labours had limited chances of being attended to whenever they got sick.

Some African social cultural practices and taboos were injurious to human health. For example FGM and use of no sterile instruments which greatly affected the wellness of many people in many parts of East Africa.

Lack of health facilities. The few existing ones were located in settler areas only.

The health sector was greatly underfunded. It was not a priority of the Europeans to attend to the health concerns of the Africans.

Poverty greatly affected many African families. Thus they hardly afforded any basic needs.

Illiteracy and ignorance. This was deliberately predetermined by the Europeans to achieve their selfish interests through a number of unfair policies like over taxation, forced labour and land grabbing among others.

Disunity among Africans. This was promoted by European colonialist through divide and rule policy.

Racial discrimination especially in Kenya which was pre designed to be a settler colony.

Religious discrimination and wars. For example, the W'angleza W,anfransa wars in Uganda between 1884-1900.

Famine.

Enslavement of people.

Collapse of family life.

## **WHITE SETTLERS IN EAST AFRICA (KENYA)**

### **REASONS FOR THE COMING OF WHITE SETTLERS**

1. From 1890, East Africa received a number of settlers who came from Britain, South Africa, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand.
2. Before 1900, settlers were arriving in East Africa especially Kenya on their own/adventure.
3. At the eve of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Charles Elliot gave the official encouragement to settle in East Africa.
4. The British foreign office drew up schemes for quickly settling its excess European population.
5. The British foreign office flew the various Whites from different countries to East Africa especially Kenya after 1900.

6. East Africa especially Kenyan highlands had cool climate that was conducive for White settlement and activities which encouraged whites to settle there.
7. Kenya was strategically located near the coast with developed transport network which motivated Whites to stay there.
8. The discovery of minerals in South Africa motivated many Whites to rush to Kenya hoping to discover the same minerals and this contributed to their settlement there.
9. After the First World War of 1914 – 1915, many British ex-servicemen were encouraged to settle in Kenya.
10. Nomadic life of most Kenyan tribes like Nandi, Masai and Turkan made it easy for settlers to get land.
11. It was very easy and possible to get land in Kenya as colonial government gave out land that was not occupied to White settlers for plantation agriculture.
12. **The governors in Kenya for example, Charles Eliot** encouraged Whites to settle there and set up farms.
13. They wanted to develop the land through which the railway passed to raise funds for administration of the area.
14. The role of Whites like Lord Delamere who were very ready to protect interest of Whites made it easy to get land.
15. Devonshire White paper gave Kenyan highlands to the White settlers which encouraged many of them to settle there.
16. Anglo-Boer wars in South Africa forced many Whites to live South Africa and settle in other parts of Africa especially Kenya.
17. The population of Kenya was relatively low; therefore, people were easily displaced to give way to the Whites.
18. Africans had refused to grow cash crops and were supposed to provide labour to the Whites.
19. Kenya lacked centralized states to resist White settlement, hence easy settlements of the whites there.
20. Reports made by earlier Europeans about fertile soils especially Kenya encouraged many of them to settle there.

21. The whites were attracted by beautiful sceneries in Kenya, hence their settlement there.

### **CHALLENGES FACED BY THE WHITES DURING THE COLONIAL ECONOMY.**

1. Poor transport was a big challenge as roads were not developed and many areas were not connected to railway lines especially in there early years of settlement.
2. Shortage of enough Land as it was not easy to get as Africans were not willing to give-up their land and so they had to grab it.
3. Some African societies like the Nandi, Masai and Turkan among others were hostile to the Whites and many times attacked and killed them.
4. Some white settlers lacked funds to by machines and pay workers which was a challenge.
5. Some areas had infertile soils and so they had to use fertilizers which were quite expensive for White settlers.
6. They faced a challenge of inadequate labour and many times had to force Africans to provide free labour.
7. Communication with the mother countries was a challenge and this affected their activities in Kenya.
8. There was constant raids form Africans who were opposing White settlement.
9. They also faced a problem of tropical climate which they were not used to and many times many to them lost their lives.
10. Some soils were not suitable for farming because they lacked mineral that affected.
11. The animals were affected by diseases for example; ticks, borne diseases and many were forced to abandon such projects.
12. Crops were affected by pests for example; wheat was affected by rust which led to crop failure and demoralized farmers.
13. Numerous sicknesses from which the Africans suffered. Some of these sicknesses were incurable. For instance, at the beginning of

colonialism there was no cure for malaria. This proved to be a menace to both the colonialists and their African subjects. There were also other epidemics like small pox, yellow fever and dysentery which could threaten to wipe out an entire group of people.

14. Lack of medical personnel was yet another problem. By 1920, the doctor (medical staff) per patient ratio stood at 1 to 40,000. This therefore meant that an ordinary African had limited chances of being attended to by medical personnel.
15. Some of the socio – cultural practices and taboos were injurious to personal health. This included female genital mutilation and the use on non sterile instruments which greatly affected the wellness of many women in many parts of East Africa.
16. The colonial health facilities were concentrated only in the areas where the settlers and their labourers lived. Better medical facilities were located in town area or in the plantations where the African labourers provided their labour. Africans who were not part of this geographical location therefore had little chances of accessing the medical services.
17. The health sector during the colonial period was constrained by resource scarcity. In terms of allocation, the colonial government allocated very little resources to the health sector because the health of the Africans was not a development priority for them.
- 18.
19. Poverty was one of the key challenges that the people of East Africa faced during the period of colonialism. Poverty refers to the inability of individuals, families, communities or nations to afford basic needs. The basic needs of people include food, shelter, and medical care. This poverty originated from the colonial policies which were not meant to uplift the African people out of poverty but to make them poor so as to make vulnerable to exploitation and also governable. So the East African people were made to pay heavy taxes, to make them poor, their productive land was grabbed in order to make them landless and therefore poor and whatever they produced,

they had no control over the prices at which to sell them. All these combined to make the African people live in abject poverty during the colonial era.

20. Illiteracy and ignorance, was yet another challenge that the people of East Africa experienced during the colonial period. Illiteracy and ignorance was a deliberate colonial policy meant to transform the East Africans into a reservoir of cheap migrant labour for the colonialists. In order to achieve this, the colonialists gave the Africans no proper education or at least a substandard form of education which could only promote underdevelopment.
21. Besides illiteracy and ignorance East Africans faced the problem of disease. Diseases like Cholera, tetanus, typhoid and measles were very instrumental in claiming thousands of the innocent lives of the poor Africans. Most of these were a consequence of the poor hygiene that characterized the region, as well as the inability of the colonial administration to set up medical facilities to cater for the medical needs of the Africans leave alone the poor nutritional standards of the East Africans which certainly below the recommended levels.
22. Disunity was another social evil that East Africans had to live with during the colonial period. Colonialism promoted disunity in East Africa through the use of the divide and rule policy adopted by the British. Kingdoms, tribes and societies were turned against each other in order to weaken them. As a result, East Africans started to look at each other as enemies. This obnoxious colonial legacy continued even during the post independent era.
23. The people o East Africa faced the problem of intense discrimination and racism during the period of colonialism. This was more prominent in Kenya which had been designated as a settler colony. Thus the European settlers had their own schools, hospitals and playgrounds where the Africans were not allowed. They lived in towns while the blacks were condemned to live in the villages. This generated a lot of racial conflict which was only temporarily addressed by issuing the Devonshire White Paper of 1923.

24. Another social problem faced by the people of East Africa during the colonial period rotated around religious bigotry and influence of cultural imperialism. The colonialists through the Christian missionaries introduced Christianity which was in direct contrast with the traditional indigenous religions of the local people. The Christian missionaries and their fellow colonialists condemned African religion and ways of life as barbaric and uncouth. They destroyed African shrines and places of worship much to the chagrin of the Africans.
25. The people of East Africa faced the problem of famine during the colonial period. This resulted from the colonial policy which encouraged and emphasised the cultivation of cash crops at the expense of food crops. In some instances, colonial agents were instructed to destroy the food crops of the people were not growing cash crops. This led to widespread famine in East Africa.
26. There was the enslavement of the people. Whereas slave trade officially ended as a result of the efforts of the Whiteman, a new form of slavery was introduced in the form of forced labour. Thus the people of East Africa were compulsorily commanded to supply labour on European farms and colonial projects. Conditions under the Africans worked were terrible and those who were to be paid received peanuts as their wages.
27. Collapse of family life was experienced by many African families during the period of colonialism. The wage system introduced by colonial administration and the burden of taxation forced many married men from their villages to move to towns or Whiteman's plantations to look for employment opportunities leaving behind their wives and children. Those who overstayed in towns and European plantations were eventually confronted with the rude shock that their wives who could no longer wait for them had remarried leaving behind broken families.

28. The economic depression of 1930 affected the settlers as their crops lost market and world prices decreased.
29. The loss of market from the cash crops that were produced leading to losses.
30. In conclusion, the problems faced by the White settlers in Kenya were political, economic and social.

### **EFFECTS OF COLONIAL ECONOMY IN EAST AFRICA**

1. White settlers introduced a cash crop economy which brought in a lot of revenue; for example, pyrethrum, coffee and cotton.
2. Modern farming methods were introduced; for example, use of fertilizers, machines which increased production.
3. Infrastructural development was greatly promoted, for example, roads and railway to transport cash crops.
4. It led to a shift from subsistence farming to commercial farming which brought a lot of revenue.
5. The settlers rearing of exotic animals was introduced and promoted for example, pigs, cattle and sheep among others.
6. The value of land in East Africa greatly increased as idle land was put to use by White settlers.
7. There was development of small-scale industries which stimulated development of East Africa.
8. Employment opportunities were created for Africans on European farms which improved standards of living.
9. It led to the establishment of social infrastructures for example, schools, and health centres on European farms.
10. There was introduction of taxes which enabled the colonial government was able to raise funds for administration of Kenya.
11. The Africans lost a lot of their land to Whites for example, Kikuyu, Nandi and the Akamba who were pushed out of the highlands and many of them became landless.

12. Africans were forced to practice forced labour on White settlers' farms which they resented.
13. Africans ignored growing of food crops which led to famine.
14. Due to the exploitative tendencies of White settlers, there was growth of nationalism that later caused the outbreak of Mau Mau rebellion.
15. There was growth of towns and urban centres where the White settlers carried out their activities in Nairobi, Eldoret and Nakuru.
16. Economy of East Africa was put in the hands of the White settlers as they controlled commercial activities at the expense of Africans.
17. Racial discrimination was introduced in various centres for example, schools, hospitals and churches among others.
18. Africans were forced to move with identity cards which reduced their movements in their own country.
19. Asian immigration into East Africa was restricted by the white settlers so as to monopolise the political economic and social aspects in Kenya. Settlement of Whites eventually led to complete organisation of Kenya.
20. White settlement led to settlement of Africans in reserves which was caused due to lost land.
21. In conclusion, the effects of the white settlers in East Africa were Political, economic and social both positive and negative as explained above.

Colonial economy affected East African countries positively and negatively. Due to its deliberate intention to make East Africa backward and a hub of colonial exploitation, the negative effects therefore appear to outweigh the positive. These effects were equally political, economic and social in nature as presented below:

Positively, colonial economy ended slave trade and slavery in East Africa because slave trade was regarded as a vice which couldn't allow colonial exploitation to take place. It therefore speeded up the development of legitimate trade in East Africa trade which enabled the participants to earn

income while the colonialists fulfilled their ambition of exploiting their colonies.

Colonial economy led to the introduction and expansion of legitimate trade in East Africa. Africans acquired European manufactured goods in exchange for the African raw materials. The materials included clothes, saucepans and utensils. They were exchanged for gold, hides and skins.

Western civilization was spread through building schools where the Africans were taught how to obey the white man. It also promoted western education, scientific knowledge, new foreign languages and literacy through the teaching of the three R's.

Similarly, western cultures were also introduced. Western cultures such as ways of dressing, dancing, eating and marriage were picked up by the people of East Africa. Many East Africans adopted the monogamous marriage of the Europeans, ate using forks like the Europeans and dressed like them.

Health facilities in East Africa were improved on through the construction of health centers leading better health of the people. It should however be noted that the health facilities were introduced so as to repair the damages African labour so that they could continue to supply labour to the Whiteman in their plantations.

The colonial economy led to the introduction of a monetary economy and the use of currency in East Africa which facilitated and other economic activities. By monetizing the African economy, transaction became easy leading to the economic development.

Through the colonial economic policies, the colonialists built roads, railways and communication network to provide easy transport for the exploitation resources. Accidentally these became important gadgets for economic development in East Africa.

Agriculture was developed through the introduction of new crops and better methods of farming. These were cash crops which were export oriented. They included cotton, coffee, pyrethrum and rubber to mention but a few. The crops

were introduced to provide the raw materials to feed the hungry industries back at home in Europe.

Consequently, extractive (primary) and processing industries were established in East Africa. They were meant to process the cash crops, reduce their bulkiness, put them in bales (like the case of cotton) so that they could be easily transported by road and railways to the coast and thereafter, shipped to Europe. It should be noted that no finishing or manufacturing industries were set up by the colonialists.

East Africans were able to access new items manufactured in Europe. Glassware, plates and clothes manufactured in Europe were exported to East Africa and sold to them. Some of these clothes were made out of the cotton grown by the East Africans, exported to Europe and later brought back as a finished product to be brought by the Africans at an inflated price.

There was the emergency and growth of towns and urban centers in East Africa during the colonial period. Such towns started as administrative centers for colonial governments which were developed into modern towns today. Examples of these are Kampala, Nairobi and Bagamoyo.

Colonization opened up parts of African continent especially East Africa to the outside world. This led to the creation of links between African countries and the rest of the outside world. East Africa therefore became better known to the outside world. The most important impact of this was the increased trade between East Africa and the outside world.

Negatively, the local and indigenous people of East Africa were thrown out of business. Large multilateral companies like Mackenzie which operated in Uganda took over both internal and export trades, dealing in volumes and tones of both agricultural and non-agricultural items, controlling tea estates and repatriating the huge profits arising from this trade to the metropolitan countries of Europe.

Perhaps the biggest impact of colonialism is that it led to economic exploitation of the African resources like land, minerals and non-land resources which made the Africans poor. Systematic methods of exploitation

were introduced by the colonialists to make sure that African resources were systematically exploited for the benefit of the metropolitan countries. Land was alienated from the indigenous people, cash crop cultivation was introduced as well as numerous taxes. All these served the colonialists' goal of systematic exploitation.

Forests were cleared to get timber for ship-building and construction of houses in Europe. Trees were also cut down to provide firewood that was needed to power the steam engine trains. In addition, the trees cut down provided woods which were used to construct rail tracks.

All these activities destroyed huge tracts of forests in the African colonies, the effects were almost catastrophic. The cutting down of trees resulted to increased soil erosion since most forest cover was destroyed. Soil erosion led to siltation in rivers that greatly affected fishing activities. The communities that relied on fishing suffered the consequences of siltation because fish greatly reduced in numbers in the affected areas.

The cutting down of trees contributed negatively to the climate of the East African countries. It reduced the amount of rainfall received in East African states and also altered the wet and dry seasons which has made it difficult for farmers to predict when it will rain and thus not able to determine when to plant.

Colonial economy disrupted the way of living of local communities and the development of the local societies. During the colonization process communities had to be moved and relocated to create white settlement areas for large scale farming. This was the fertile areas where the locals derived their livelihood. This movement was always done without consulting the local communities and they were always resettled in areas where it was less productive or less fertile. Any resistance to such resettlement resulted to death.

Colonial economy made East African countries to remain underdeveloped and dependent on the colonial masters. Part of this dependency was caused by making the East African countries depend on a few export oriented cash crops

which were destined to feed the European industries. This has led to the dependency syndrome which has continued up to today.

Forced labour in European establishment was equally introduced leading to immense suffering and poverty of the East African people. Similarly, the Africans were made to pay heavy taxes like hut tax and poll tax which increased the poverty of the Africans. The colonialists also introduced forced production of cash crops like cotton, pyrethrum which couldn't be consumed by the local people leading to widespread famine in East Africa.

The Africans were made to pay heavy taxes like hut tax and poll tax to cater for the colonial administrative costs of setting up infrastructures in East Africa since colonialism was not supposed to be a Whiteman's burden. The heavy taxes kept the people of East Africa in perpetual poverty. The force with which the taxes were collected and the punishment meted out on the defaulters was yet another source of misery to East Africans.

As noted above, land was confiscated from the East Africans and given to the white settlers leading to landlessness and poverty. In Kenya, the fertile land in the Kenya highlands was designated as land exclusive reserved for the white settlers following the 1923 Devonshire White Paper. In Uganda, the crown land was given to the British colonial administration. The Africans in Kenya were consequently taken to the infertile and dry reserves where life was difficult.

The application of colonial economic policies in East Africa ended the long distance trade which had thrived in East Africa before the coming of the colonialists. African traders who had previously participated in the trade were edged out of the business hence losing their source of livelihood.

Colonial economy also brought about different types of crop and animal diseases. Some of the diseases were not common with the local communities. An example of such diseases that was introduced by the settlers is rinder pest disease which affected the livestock of the East African people of present day Zimbabwe and Botswana.

Moreover, jiggers which are even nowadays a menace in many parts of East Africa regions were brought by the Indian workers who played a pivotal role in the construction of the railway line that links Kenya port and Uganda. In some areas of East Africa, the colonizers deliberately infected the local communities with different diseases to eliminate them and their livestock. Anthrax bacteria were used or put into the rivers so as to impoverish the locals by reducing their population and their animals.

Colonial economy led to the introduction of capitalism in East Africa which never existed before. After independence in the 1960's, the same leaders who were imposed on the locals, and who were always viewed as collabourators with the Whiteman were the ones who took over leadership and acquired a lot of wealth for themselves. This leadership allowed a concession to companies from former colonial masters to continue doing their business to date leading to further underdevelopment.

In conclusion, colonial economy largely impacted negatively on the people of the East African states; the legacy of which still exists. East African countries are still poor partly because of the century long economic policy of exploitation implementation by the colonialists. Nonetheless, there were also some minimal and accidental benefits that accrued to people of East Africa as explained above.

### **SUMMARY OF THE EFFECTS OF COLONIALISM ON THE PEOPLE OF EAST AFRICA**

Colonialism refers to the political, economic and social subjugation of a weaker nation by a superior one. Colonialism affected African countries negatively and positively. These effects were equally political, economic and social in nature. The following is the summary of the effects of colonialism on the people of East Africa.

- 1) Colonization ended the independence of East African societies leading to servitude.
- 2) African traditional leaders lost their powers to the colonialists, for example Kabalega of Bunyoro.

- 3) Colonization completely ended slave trade and slavery in East Africa.
- 4) It also speeded up the development of legitimate trade in East Africa trade which enabled the participants to earn income.
- 5) Intertribal wars in the interior of East Africa were stopped by the colonialists.
- 6) Colonialism led to the establishment of colonial rule over East Africa.
- 7) Colonialism led economic exploitation of the African resources like land which made the Africans poor.
- 8) It led widespread rebellions wars of resistances leading to loss of lives and destruction of property.
- 9) Colonialism also led to rise of nationalism as people started revolting against the German rule in Tanganyika.
- 10) Forced labour in European establishment was equally introduced leading to immense suffering and poverty.
- 11) The Africans were made to pay heavy taxes like hut tax and poll tax which made the Africans poor.
- 12) The colonialists introduced forced production of cash crops like cotton, pyrethrum which couldn't be consumed by the local people.
- 13) Tribal institutions which existed in East Africa were destroyed by the colonialists.
- 14) Colonial led to massive loss of lives arising from the many resistances against the Whiteman.
- 15) The establishment of colonial rule in Africa ended the long distance trade.
- 16) African traders who had previously participated in the trade were edged out of the business
- 17) Land was confiscated from the Africans and given to the white settlers leading to landlessness and poverty.
- 18) Western civilization was spread through building schools where the Africans were taught how to obey the Whiteman. It also promoted literacy.
- 19) Colonial rule undermined African cultures in East Africa.
- 20) Colonial rule led to spread of Christianity except the coast.

- 21) Health facilities in East Africa were improved on leading better health for the people of the people.
- 22) White settlers poured into East Africa especially Kenya.
- 23) Direct and indirect rule were established in East Africa by the colonialists.
- 24) Colonialists created tribalism and rivalry among the societies. For example, Buganda and Bunyoro conflicted.
- 25) Colonial rule divide and ruled the African societies.
- 26) The colonialists introduced currency in East Africa which facilitated and other economic activities.
- 27) It led to the emergence of new states like Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.
- 28) The colonialists established and developed towns in East Africa.
- 29) The colonialists also built roads, railways and communication network to provide easy transport for the exploited resources.
- 30) Colonialism resulted into separation and dividing of people who previously belonged to one ethnic group. For example, the Samia and the Banyarwanda.

In conclusion, colonialism affected the people of East Africa politically, economically and socially.

Note

Let learners compare the situation in East Africa before and after the colonial economy was established.