

# **ESTABLISHMENT OF COLONIAL RULE**

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During the 19th Century East Africa and Kenya in particular witnessed an influx of groups of visitors from European countries

They came as :-

- i. explorers
- ii. Missionaries
- iii. Imperialists
- iv. Traders
- v. Scientists

# Factors for the scramble and partition of East Africa

## Economic factors

1. The Europeans needed raw materials e.g. cotton vegetables, oil, rubber and minerals for their industries.
2. They wanted markets for their manufactured goods.
3. They wanted areas to invest surplus capital gained through industrial Revolution.
4. To abolish slave trade and slavery and replace it with legitimate commerce.

# Political factors

1. European nationalism. European nations were competing to be the powerful by acquiring as many colonies as possible.
2. Balance of power between Britain France and Germany. Germany was unified in 1871 and she upset the balance of power in Europe. France lost her prestige and territories. Hence wanted to avenge her defeat and humiliation by acquiring colonies in Africa.
3. To nations like Italy and Germany, colonies provided them with a sense of pride and identity. To Britain and France colonies were a source of strength.

## Strategic factor

- East Africa was important due to its strategic position. Hence it was vital if Britain was to protect her interests in India.

# Social factors

1. The European countries wanted to introduce western culture to the Africans
2. Civilizing the Africans
3. They wanted to protect the missionaries
4. To convert Africans to Christianity
5. British humanitarians wanted to abolish slave trade
6. Europeans wanted to counter Islam especially in Uganda and their ambitions of controlling East Africa.
7. Population had grown in Europe, therefore European governments wanted to establish settlement overseas to settle their surplus population.

# Special interest groups

1. Missionaries who came to East Africa faced a lot of hardships and trials and that made their missionary societies to lobby their governments for protection
2. Anti-slave trade proponents, Imperialists, traders and explorers presented their national interests in the quest for colonies East Africa.



# The Process of Partition

- The British and the Germans had to struggle to control East Africa with the sultan of Zanzibar.
- A commission was set up to enquire into the exact dominion of the sultan.
- This led to the signing of the first Anglo-German Agreement, of 1886.

# **The Anglo-German Agreement 1886**

## **Terms**

- 1) The sultan of Zanzibar was given a 16km (10mile) coastal strip and the offshore islands of pate, Mafia, Pemba, Zanzibar and Lamu
- 2) Germany got the territory between River Umba in the North and R. Ruvuma in the South antl Witu coastline.
- 3) British got territory between north of River Umba stretching up to River Juba in the north.

# The Anglo-German Agreement 1890/Heligoland Treaty

## Terms

1. Uganda was confirmed as a British sphere of influence. The western boundary was defined
2. Germany abandoned her claim over Witu and agreed that the British to take Pemba and Zanzibar
3. The sultan was left with a 16km coastal strip.
4. Germany got a strip of land on L. Tanganyika (from Britain) and the coastal region of Tanganyika which she purchased from the Sultan.
5. Britain surrendered the North sea Island of Heligoland to Germany for whom it was of strategic importance
6. Uganda fell under British sphere of influence and Tanganyika under the Germans.

# British Occupation of Kenya

## Company Rule

- Administration was in the hands of commercial companies, that is IBEAco. and GEAco.
- They were given the charter in 1888.

## Duties of the company

- 1) To establish political authority in the area
- 2) Maintain general order and security
- 3) Develop and regulate trade by facilitating movement of goods and people between the coast and interior
- 4) Collect taxes and institute custom duty
- 5) Develop and civilize the local people.

## **Achievements of IBEA**

- 1) It quelled local aggression in the British colonies e.g. Maasai, Nandi and Akamba
- 2) IBEAco laid the basis for colonial administration by establishing forts e.g. Kibwezi, Fort Smith, Dagoretti etc.
- 3) It developed rubber industry along the coast and interior
- 4) It secured freedom of several slaves
- 5) IBEA pioneered building of roads e.g. sclater's road between Kibwezi and Busia in 1894.

# Problems of the Company rule

- 1) Financial problems
- 2) Lack of natural resources for export
- 3) Lack of enough personnel
- 4) There were no navigable rivers, transport of goods was slow and expensive
- 5) Poor means of communication between the head office in Europe and the colony, thus poor co-ordination of the colony
- 6) Corrupt company officials who were untrained for the job
- 7) Inexperienced company agents
- 8) Hot and dry tropical climate and diseases

# Methods used to establish Colonial Rule

- 1) Signing of treaties where Africans were cooperative and willing to accept colonial rule
- 2) Force by military expeditions where people resisted e.g. expeditions against the Nandi, Bukusu, Gusii e.t.c.
- 3) Collaboration where the British supported African leaders or individuals who were friendly to them
- 4) Operational bases e.g. administrative and trading centres were set up to enhance British political control
- 5) Occupation of empty lands
- 6) Use of chartered companies e.g. IBEAco.
- 7) Use of Berlin conference.

# **The Response of the Peoples of Kenya to British Invasion and Occupation**

## **Resistance**

### **Nandi**

#### **Reasons for Resistance**

- 1) Nandi pride. The Nandi were a proud war like people who had defeated all their neighbours e.g. Luo, Luhya, Gusii e.t.c. They did not allow foreigners to trespass through their territory
- 2) Kimnyore's prophecy, that the Nandi would one day be ruled by foreigners hence they wanted to preserve their independence



- 3) They wanted to protect their land
- 4) Appearance of Europeans. The Nandi regarded them as evil due to their complexion, strange clothes and the sound of their guns
- 5) Wanted to preserve their culture
- 6) To protect their livestock
- 7) Were against the construction of Kenya-Uganda railway
- 8) They had an inspiring leader Koitalel Arap Samoei who was able to unite them.

# Course of the Nandi Resistance

- In 1895 a British trader Andrew Dick killed two Nandi warriors
- The Nandi retaliated by killing Dick's friend Peter West and his thirty workers
- This incident led to 11 years of hostility between the Nandi and the British
- From 1895, they harassed British traders
- The British sent a punitive force against the Nandi but it was unsuccessful
- 1897, they destroyed a British mail party. A bigger punitive force was sent against the Nandi
- 1899, the Uganda Railway reached the Nandi country.

# The Nandi :-

- i. Killed and raided railway workers
- ii. Stole rails and telegraph wires
- iii. Refused to give rail workers food and water
- iv. In 1900 three expeditions were sent against the Nandi, but the British failed to subdue them
- v. The Nandi continued their attacks and even attacked the European farms

Their resistance was only suppressed in 1905 when the British officer in Nandi Colonel Meinertzhagen killed the Nandi leader Koitalel Arap Samoei after tricking him.

# Why the Nandi were defeated by the British

- 1) The British were supported by some, local communities e.g. Somali and Maasai soldiers
- 2) The British had superior weapons
- 3) The British tricked the Nandi into a meeting where they killed Koitalel Arap Samoei
- 4) The Nandi were demoralized by the death of their leader
- 5) The British used scorched earth policy
- 6) Natural calamities e.g. Small pox epidemic of the 1890s killed many Nandi and weakened the survivors
- 7) Lack of support from neighbouring communities
- 8) The British got reinforcement in 1905 from Indian, Somali and Swahili fighters.

# Results of the Nandi Resistance

- 1) Loss of independence
- 2) Death of their leader which demoralized the Nandi. Loss of life; about 1000 warriors were killed
- 3) Alienation of their land
- 4) Destruction of property
- 5) Famine
- 6) British confiscated Nandi livestock
- 7) Displacement of the Nandi to a Northern reserve away from the railway line

- 8) The railway line was built through their land
- 9) Nandi military organization was destroyed
- 10) Disruption of their economic lifestyle
- 11) Many Nandi warriors were recruited into the colonial force
- 12) The Nandi were separated from their "cousins" the Kipsigis
- 13) In 1906, many British forts were built in Nandi country and effective British administration was established.

# Factors that aided the Nandi in their Resistance

- 1) The terrain of their land is mountainous, deep and thickly wooded valleys which was ideal for guerilla warfare
- 2) The mixed economy of the Nandi
- 3) They had a disciplined and effective army with military experience
- 4) The wet and cold climate caused respiratory diseases among the British whereas the Nandi were used to it
- 5) Nandi pride. They were proud and confident having subdued their neighbours
- 6) Kimnyole's prophecy. Had prophesied that the strangers must be resisted
- 7) Nandi determination to safeguard their independence.

# **The Agiryama Resistance**

## **Cause of their Resistance**

1. Loss of land
2. Taxation e.g. hut tax
3. Being forced to join the army
4. Forced labour in the cotton and rubber plantation
5. Resented wage labour.
6. Loss of traditional power to British appointed headmen
7. Resented IBEAco. administration over their territory



## Course of the Resistance

- A. 1896 Agiryama joined Mbarak of Mazrui Arabs in a revolt against the British
- B. 1912, Agiryama refused to volunteer to work on the British farms
- C. 1914, they were recruited as soldiers and porters for the British army. A revolt arose organized by Mekatilili wa Menza. She was assisted by Wanje wa Madorika
- D. They administered an oath taken so as to unite them. The oath was called Fisi for men and Mukushekushe for women

- E. They engaged in guerilla warfare attacking converts, homes of loyalists, chiefs, headmen, Europeans and collaborators
- F. The British burnt their villages and crops
- G. Mekatilili and Wanje were arrested and deported to Kisii
- H. Their land was taken, shrines (Kaya Fungo) destroyed, though they build another one at Mangea
- I. The resistance went on until 1916.

# Role of Mekatilili in the Resistance

- 1) Encouraged Agiryama to face the British by administering oaths to unite them
- 2) Through the oaths she inspired the Agiryama to prolong their resistance
- 3) She presented their grievances to the British.
- 4) Some were later addressed
- 5) Her leadership highlighted the role of women in the struggle for independence in colonial Kenya
- 6) She mobilised her people into resistance, thus she was a symbol of unity.

# Results of the Agiryama Resistance

- 1) Loss of lives
- 2) Destruction of property
- 3) Loss of independence
- 4) Disruption of the Agiryama economic activities e.g. trade
- 5) Role of women in struggle for their rights emerged prominently.
- 6) The Bukusu Resistance

# **The Bukusu Resistance**

## **Causes of their Resistance**

- 1) Imposition of Nabongo Mumia of Wanga as the overall leader of the Abaluhya by the British
- 2) They wanted to safeguard their independence
- 3) In 1894, the British ordered Bukusu warriors to surrender their guns
- 4) Cultural interference by Europeans
- 5) Imposition of taxes and the ruthless mode of tax collection
- 6) They had a strong military organization. They felt confident that they would defeat the British.

# Course of the Bukusu Resistance

- The clash started with murder of Mr. Hamisi, a Wanga agent
- British sent an army to attack the Bukusu
- The Bukusu on sensing defeat went to seek Njuge at the Tachoni's fort at Webuye
- British pursued them with machine guns and many of the Bukusu were killed
- The rebellion ended in 1908.

# Results of Bukusu Resistance

- 1) Loss of lives
- 2) Mumia's rule was extended to Bukusuland
- 3) Loss of independence
- 4) Enmity between Bukusu and Tachoni
- 5) Loss of their cattle and sheep
- 6) Total disruption of their economy
- 7) Children and women were taken as prisoners.

# The Somali Resistance

## Causes

- 1) The Muslim Somali were strongly opposed to the threat of Christian British
- 2) They wanted to protect their pastureland and watering points .
- 3) Their raiding activities were disrupted
- 4) The Europeans wanted them to settle down and stop their pastoralist/nomadic lifestyle
- 5) Division of Somaliland into Italian and British spheres of influence, divided their clans e.g. the Darod and Hawige clans
- 6) They could not stand the punitive expeditions sent by the British on their land.



# Course of the Resistance

- 1898 the Somali raided Kismayu, a British centre
- At first the British did not attack them due to:-
- It was expensive for such an undertaking in terms of arms and military personnel
- The Somali being nomadic made it difficult to suppress them
- Economically it was highly unproductive territory
- The Somali murdered Mr. Jenner in 1900, a British sub-commissioner
- The British responded by fighting and killing most of them
- The conflict continued up to 1925, when border disputes were settled.

# Results

1. Loss of lives
2. Their cattle were confiscated
3. British divided the Darod and Hawige Somali clans
4. Loss of independence for the Somali.

# Collaboration

## Maasai Collaboration

- ✓ The Maasai were a fierce and powerful community in Kenya until about 1850
- ✓ This was attributed to able leadership of the Laibons and a well trained army
- ✓ But when the British entered their territory in the second half of 19th Century the Maasai collaborated.

# Reasons for their Collaboration

- 1) Maasai were weakened by numerous human and cattle diseases and therefore they were too weak to resist in the coming of British rule.
- 2) Natural calamities, drought and famine further weakened them, forcing them to seek food from the British
- 3) The Nandi raided and weakened the Maasai
- 4) The Maasai had been engaged for half a century in civil wars, which weakened them i.e. between pastoral Purko and Agricultural Kwavi

- 5) Lenana their leader thought British would help him fight Sendeyo because they had a succession dispute
- 6) Lenana needed food to save his people from starvation
- 7) Following the Kedong massacre, 100 Maasai died and they realized that they could not overpower the British
- 8) Lenana wanted to consolidate his position and that of his kingdom
- 9) Wanted to be helped to get back their women and children taken by Agikuyu during the 1891 famine.

# Course of the Maasai Collaboration

- Lenana sought assistance against Sendeyo
- After Kendong massacre the British and Maasai signed two treaties.
- 1904 Agreement
- It created two reserves for the Maasai, Ngong and Laikipia with a corridor (road) to connect the two reserves.
- 1911 Agreement
- Maasais were moved from Laikipia to the drier Ngong reserve
- The Maasai morans were used to fight resisting communities.

# Results of the Maasai Collaboration

## Positive

- 1) Lenana was recognized as the paramount chief of the Maasai in 1901
- 2) Maasai gained favoured status and were employed as soldiers and guides, and to fight against other communities
- 3) The Maasai were rewarded with livestock taken from other communities
- 4) Good relationship existed between the Maasai and British.

## Negative results

- 1) Loss of independence and manipulation by the British
- 2) Loss of land
- 3) Purko Maasai were divided into two sections Loita and Ngong
- 4) Displacement of the Maasai
- 5) Their freedom to conduct rituals was limited
- 6) The Maasai economic activities were disrupted
- 7) Their migration grazing habits were curtailed as they were taken into the reserves.



## Wanga Collaboration

- People of Wanga were ruled by Nabongo (king) Mumia
- Nabongo was known to be hospitable to strangers e.g. Swahili and Arab traders
- When IBEAco agents came to his headquarters at Eureka (Later Mumias), he was hospitable to them.

# Reasons for Wanga Collaboration

- 1) To consolidate his position and that of his kingdom
- 2) He wanted military support against his enemies e.g. Luo of Ugenya, Nandi e.t.c
- 3) For fame, it was prestigious to be associated with Europeans
- 4) Hoped to obtain material benefits from the British e.g. clothes and guns.
- 5) He realized that it was useless to fight e.g. Buny-oro had tried to resist and was defeated
- 6) Nabongo had previously welcomed the Arabs and Swahili, so he did the same for the British.

# Process of Collaboration

- The IBEAco. built forts and trading stations at Wanga capital in Mumias or Eureka
- British government upon taking control of Kenya, made Mumias, the headquarters of Western Kenya until 1920, when it was moved to Kakamega
- Between 1894 to 1906 Mumia soldiers together with Bugandas and Sudanese were used to fight the resisting Nandi, Luo and Bukusu.

# Results of Wanga Collaboration

- 1) Nabongo was declared a paramount chief in 1909 up to 1926
- 2) British rule was established over Western Kenya
- 3) Mumias became an administrative centre for the British till 1920
- 4) Wanga chiefs relatives (sons) were used to rule various parts of Western Kenya e.g. Idakho, Maragoli

- 5) Rule of Wanga agents in other parts provoked hostility and resentment from their neighbours
- 6) Nabongo Mumia was consulted by the British in the appointment of headmen and chiefs in Western Kenya
- 7) Wanga kingdom gained more territories e.g. Samia, Busoga, Bunyola
- 8) Wanga lost her independence
- 9) Wanga gained material benefits through trade, Western education, religion e.t.c.

## Mixed Reactions

This meant that some or part of a community either resisted while others collaborated with the British e.g. among the

- a) Akamba
- b) Agikuyu
- c) Luo.

# **Akamba**

The British East Africa Company built a fort at Machakos in 1890. This brought mixed reaction from the Akamba.

## **Resistance**

### **Reasons for Resistance**

- 1) Loss of independence
- 2) Forced labour
- 3) Disrespect of Akamba traditions and customs  
e.g. were ordered to cut down the sacred lthembo tree for use as flag post

- 5) Disrespect and abuse of Akamba culture e.g. raped their women, bullied and molested people.
- 6) Establishment of garrisons where they were molested
- 7) They were prevented from raiding the Oromo and Maasai
- 8) They hated European culture especially of dressing
- 9) Loss of land
- 10) Imposition of hut tax.



# Course of Resistance

- In 1890 Nzibu wa Mweu organized the Akamba to resist the British and instructed his people not to sell food to them
- 1891, a prophetess, Syonguu organized the warriors of Iveti to attack the Masaku fort because of cutting down of the Ithembo tree
- In return, the British soldiers were sent and they looted, burnt houses and destroyed the Akamba property
- 1894 at Kangundo Mwatu wa Ngoma (a warrior and trader) organized warriors against the British for preventing raids on their neighbours. It was successful

- Mwana Muka of Kangundo urged his people to attack British Forts and posts at Mwala and Mukuyuini in Kithome
- Muka cut off communication links between Machakos and Fort Smith (Kabete)
- The British sent a punitive expedition and Muka sought for peace
- At the beginning of the 20th Century a spiritual dance-Kathambi spread in Ukambani organized by a prophetess Siotune wa Kathure and Kiamba wa Muthario

- They urged people to withdraw from all European activities (labour and taxes)
- This paralyzed all economic activities
- Syotune and Kiamba were arrested and deported to Kismayu
- In 1922 Ndonye wa Kauti revived it, called it Kilumi, he was arrested and exiled to the Coast
- They resisted up to the end of 20th Century when they became too weak to fight.

## Results of the Resistance

1. Loss of land
2. Loss of independence
3. Confiscation of cattle
4. Destruction of property
5. Imposition of taxes
6. Arrest and exile of Akamba leaders.

# Reasons for Akamba defeat

- 1) Severe famine between 1898 and 1899 which claimed 1/3 of their population
- 2) Some sections collaborated with the British, some who had resisted later collaborated with them e.g. Mwatu wa Ngoma
- 3) The society was not centralized and therefore could not offer a well co-ordinated resistance
- 4) Most of the young men were taken to perform forced labour

- 5) Most of the Akamba had been left landless
- 6) Disruption of trade which led to loss of their important source of livelihood
- 7) Missionaries undermined Akamba religious and traditional practices which would have unified them.

# **Collaboration of the Akamba**

## **Reasons for Collaboration**

- 1) Some decided to collaborate after they were defeated in the resistance
- 2) They were weakened by the 1899 famine
- 3) Many were scared by the ruthlessness and power of the British
- 4) The traders collaborated for personal gain and prestige e.g. The women exchanged food for clothes and beads
- 5) Rivalry between the Akamba leaders e.g. Mbole leaked Mwatu's plans to attack Machakos fort to the local district commissioner, because they were rivals.

# Results of the Akamba Collaboration

- 1) There was enmity between those who collaborated and those who resisted
- 2) It led to spread of Christianity in the area
- 3) Akamba men were recruited in the Kings African Rifles (KAR) in the first world war
- 4) A class of wealthy traders arose who used their connection with the British to increase their wealth.



# **The Agikuyu**

They were a decentralized community who lived in ridges and therefore it was hard to unite the whole community to either resist or collaborate

## **Resistance**

### **Reasons for Resistance**

1. Taxation e.g. hut tax
2. Harassment of local people living near the forts
3. Disrespect of their traditions and customs

4. Loss of land
5. Loss of independence
6. Conduct of IBEAco. soldiers, who looted, killed, raped their women and raided their cattle and grains
7. Fear of loss of leadership positions to foreign authority
8. Use of excessive force to quell resistance

## Forms of Resistance used by the Agikuyu

- a. They refused to sell food to the British
- b. Refused to enlist in public work
- c. Defied directives to supply porters to British caravans
- d. Physical confrontation.

# Course of the Agikuyu Resistance

- 1890 Lugard built a fort at Dagoretti, he met Waiyaki wa hinga, elder in charge of the area
- Captain Wilson later took over as the new company official
- He conflicted with Waiyaki because he refused to pay for food delivered to them and took cattle by force
- The Agikuyu attacked Dagoretti Fort and burnt it
- Francis Hall another company official built a new fort in Upper Kabete (Fort Smith)
- The Agikuyu refused to supply food or volunteer s porters

- Waiyaki marched to Kabete (the new fort) and met the person in charge of the fort. He was arrested and sent to the coast, but died on the way
- 1901 Richard Meinertzhagen succeeded Francis Hall
- 1902 he attacked the Muruka section of Agikuyu at Kihumbini and killed about 200 warriors
- He also attacked Agikuyu of Tetu led by chief Gakere because they had earlier killed a whole Asian caravan on the slopes of Aberdares ranges. Chief Gakere was murdered
- 1904 colonel Meinertzhagen attacked the Agikuyu of Iriaini, Mukurweini Nyeri for refusing to pay taxes. About 800 people died.

## **Results of the Resistance**

1. Loss of life
2. Loss of independence
3. The British were forced to move their base at Fort Smith to Fort Hall
4. Destruction of property, farms, houses and cattle
5. Hatred and animosity between collaborators and the ones who resisted.

# **Collaboration of the Agikuyu**

## **Reasons for Collaboration**

1. Some individuals wanted assistance to ascend to power
2. Others wanted to retain their positions
3. Some wanted protection from their local enemies e.g. Karuri wa Gakure of Fort Hall
4. For material wealth/benefit
5. For prestige.

# Course of the Collaboration

- Lugard a friend of Waiyaki built a fort at Dagoretti in 1890
- Waiyaki agreed to sell foodstuffs to the British
- Kinyanjui wa Gathirimu sold land in Southern Kiambu to the first settlers in 1902
- He was appointed headman of Dagoretti, then chief and finally the paramount chief of Agikuyu
- John Boyes (a trader) forged alliances with Karuri wa Gakure of Murang'a
- Wang'ombe wa Ihura of Nyeri also collaborated and helped British to take over land
- He provided Boyes with warriors and land where they built Nyeri town and Fort Hall (Murang'a).



# Results

1. Loss of land
2. Social stratification i.e. the wealthy and squatters or the poor
3. Widespread poverty due to land alienation
4. Enmity between loyalists and the resisters
5. Some leaders rose to prominence because of collaboration
6. Collaborators received western education and converted to Christianity
7. Emergence of agents of British rule in Central Kenya e.g. headmen
8. Loss of independence.

# The Luo

## Resistance

Those who resisted included the Luo of:-

- a. Sakwa
- b. Seme
- c. Uyoma
- d. Ugenya
- e. Kisumu
- f. Kalungu
- g. Alego.

# Reasons for Resistance

1. Fear of losing their independence
2. The need to protect their land
3. They were opposed to forced labour on public works and in settler farms
4. They resented paying of hut tax
5. The British took their fish without pay
6. British raided their livestock and grains
7. The British attack of Luo of Ugenya for attacking the Wanga their allies.

## Course of Resistance

- The Luo raided a British canoe party
- The British retaliated by sending a punitive raid against them
- The Luo of Sakwa, Seme, and Ugenya offered a lot of resistance but by 1899 they were defeated and completely brought under the British rule.

# Results

1. Loss of life
2. Destruction and loss of property
3. Confiscation of cattle and sheep
4. Loss of independence
5. Loss of land
6. Hatred and animosity between collaborators and resisters
7. Their traditional political systems were undermined and replaced with those appointed by the British.

# **Collaboration of the Luo**

These included the Luo of Gem and Asembo

## **Reasons for Collaboration**

1. They wanted to be protected against their enemies e.g. Luo of Seme and the Nandi.
2. They were influenced by the people of Wanga who were their neighbours
3. They realized the futility of resisting.

## **Process of Collaboration**

- Luo of Asembo collaborated with the British
- Luo of Gem under Odera Akang'o also collaborated
- Akang'o ensured that government policies were implemented and supervised public works
- He was later made the chief in Teso.

# Results

1. Loss of independence
2. Loss of land
3. They assisted the British to fight the resisting groups of the Luo
4. Hatred and enmity between the collaborators and resisters
5. They were used in the setting up of colonial administration.
6. They gained western education and religion as the British established schools and missions in their areas



# **The Process of Colonial administration in Kenya**

The British government established a Central and Local Government for effective administration.

## **Central Government**

- At the head of the central government was the colonial secretary based in London
- In Kenya the British government was represented by a Governor, in charge of the colony
- There was an advisory council to advise the governor which later became the Executive council

- In 1907 a legislative council was established to make laws for the colony
- The colony was divided into provinces led by Provincial Commissioners, who were British
- Provinces were subdivided into districts headed by District Commissioners (also British)
- Districts were divided into divisions headed by District Officers.
- Divisions were divided into locations headed by African Chiefs under whom were the Headmen.

# Local Government

- It was established with the aim of involving the local people in the running of government
- In 1902, the Village Headmen Ordinance was passed by the government which empowered the Provincial Commissioner to appoint natives as official headmen of villages
- It was to deal with local people in the running of government
- In 1912 the Local Authority Ordinance was passed to cater for the needs of white settlers.

# Functions of Local Government

- a. Provide link between the central government and the rural community
- b. Make use of local resources in development
- c. Provide a legal forum for local people to make decisions concerning their day to day affairs, through committees.

# **Establishment of Local Native Councils**

The legislative council passed the Native Authority Ordinance in 1924 which established the local native councils for Africans in reserves.

# **Aims of Local Native Council**

- 1) Restriction of Africans in their reserves
- 2) To develop a sense of responsibility and duty towards state among African leaders
- 3) Provide a forum for Africans to express themselves
- 4) Provide a way of government to understand the Africans and be able to contain them
- 5) To be a check and balance of the chiefs who abused their powers
- 6) The Local Native Councils would provide water, markets, education and public health, cattle dips, maintenance of roads and collection of taxes to finance their operations.

# Establishment of African District Councils

- In 1950 the African ordinance changed the Local Native Council (LNC) to African District Councils (ADC)
- The members included the District Officer and Africans appointed by the Provincial Commissioner.
- Administrative units of ADC
  - a. Clerk
  - b. Secretary
  - c. Treasurer
  - d. Small support staff
  - e. A work superintendent

In 1952 the post of an African deputy chairman of ADC was created. By 1961 there were nine African chairmen.

# Local Government in European Areas

- In 1917 the government created District Advisory Committees (DAC) chaired by DOs who gave European interests priority (roads, hospitals, schools)
- In 1929, the DAC became European District Councils
- Between 1929 and 1930 EDCs were established in Nakuru, Uasin Gishu, Kisumu, Naivasha and Nairobi
- In 1937 Aberdare District Council was set up
- The councils relied heavily on central government for funds to develop and run their social functions.



# Local Government in Urban Areas

- These councils were dominated by Europeans and Asians, Africans were regarded as foreigners and migrant labourers in towns
- Africans in urban areas relied on self-help schemes to provide social services like schools and dispensaries
- In 1946, the first African councilor sat on the Nairobi Town Council.

# Problems encountered by the Local Government

1. Racial discrimination characterized by absence of basic services to African areas
2. Inadequate funds with which to undertake their day to day operations and programmes
3. Poor transport and communication
4. Rivalry between the settlers and the locals
5. Poor co-ordination
6. Lack of trained and experienced personnel.

# KCSE SAMPLE QUESTIONS