SOCIAL ECONOMIC & POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS & CHALLENGES IN KENYA SINCE INDEPENDENCE

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Kenya became independent in 1963, and the government was immediately faced with a number of challenges.

These problems included:

- 1. Imbalance in land ownership,
- 2. uniting the different communities,
- 3. a fast growing population etc.

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS SINCE INDEPENDENCE IN KENYA

- 1. 1963- Kenya attained independence.
- 2. 1963- differences between KANU and KADU emerges.
- 3. 1964-kadu joins KADU, thus making Kenya a *de facto* (by fact) one party state under KADU until 1966.
- 4. 1965- assassination of Pio Gama Pinto, the only Asian detained during the state of emergency.
- 5. 1966- following KADU delegates in Limuru, Oginga Odinga resigned and with fellow hardliners defected and founded KPU party.
- 6. 1969- Tom Mboya was assassinated ,thus increasing political tension, particularly between the Luo and Kikuyu communities.

- 7. 1969- Tension between the Luo and the Kikuyu came to a head when Kenyatta visited Kisumu in 1969 to open the New Nyanza General Hospital. Kenyatta was pelted with stones and rotten eggs.
- 8. 1969- KPU was banned and Odinga and his associates detained.
- 9. 1975- Assassination of JM Kariuki sparked off riots and street demonstrations especially among Nairobi University students.
- 10. 1975- Politicians close to Kenyatta, members of GEMA, began "change the constitution campaign" led by Kihika Kimani, Njenga Karume and Jackson Angaine.
 Ostensibly they wanted to block Moi, the then VP from ascending to power after the death of Kenyatta.

- 11. 1975 October- Martin Shikuku and Seroney were arrested and detained for criticizing the KANU government.
- 12. 1976- Chelagat Mutai, MP for Eldoret North was arrested and imprisoned for two and half years allegedly for inciting her constituents to violence.
- 13. 1977- George Anyona, MP for Kitutu Central was detained for accusing the government of abetting corruption.
- 14. 1978, Aug 22nd- Kenyatta died in his sleep at state house in Mombasa. Though many anticipated anarchy, peace prevailed and there was smooth transition of power.

- 15. 1978- Moi ascended to the presidency in an acting capacity for 90 days, and after the general elections in which he was unopposed, he was inaugurated as the new and second president of Kenya.
- 16. 1978- Moi ordered the release of all political prisoners including George Anyona, Shikuku and Seroney.
- 17. 1980 July- Moi banned all tribal organizations including GEMA, the Luo Union, New Akamba Union, Abaluhya Union and the Kalenjin Association, Kenya Civil Servants Union and Nairobi University Staff Union.

- 18. 1982 June- KANU members passed a constitutional amendment (section 2A) that made Kenya *a de jure* (by law) one party state, thus legalizing KANU as the only political party on the land. Those expelled from KANU had no other party to turn to, thus eventually leading to the agitation for multi-party democracy.
- 19. 19821st Aug- Unsuccessful planned coup by junior officers of the Kenya Air Force, led by Senior Private Hezekiah Ochuka,
- 20. 1982- Moi regime became ruthless in cracking down all those deemed to be against the government. He formed a disciplinary committee within the KANU party led by Okiki Amayo to discipline errant party members. Those expelled included Charles Rubia and Kenneth Matiba.

- 21. 1988- KANU introduced queue voting method (Mlolongo) which created a political crisis and public outcry as many would be winners were openly rigged out.
- 22. 1988- Many critics of the government were arrested and sentenced to jail on fabricated charges. These included Njeru Kathangu,Prof. Ouma Muga, George Anyona, Ngotho Kariuki, Rumba Kinuthia, and Koigi wa Wamwere. Ngugi wa Thiongo and Micere Mugo escaped and went to exile.
- 23. 1990- KANU national delegates conference held in Nairobi agreed to discard the queue voting method.

- 24. 1990- Dr. Robert John Ouko, minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation was found murdered at Got Alila, near his rural home. This led to widespread riots by Wananchi and students who blamed the government for the murder.
- 25. 1991- Section 2A of the constitution was repealed therefore paving way for the re-introduction of multiparty politics again
- 26. 1992- politically instigate ethnic clashes.
- 27. 1992- The first multi-party elections were held in which KANU won.

- 28. 1997- inter-party parliamentary group was formed to come up with ways of leveling the political field- major agreement was the involvement of political parties in the nomination of ECK commissioners.
- 29. 2002- Third multi-party elections were held in which, Moi's KANU candidate, Uhuru Kenyatta, was beaten by NARC led by Mwai Kibaki.
- 30. 2002- Moi peacefully handed power to Mwai Kibaki, the third president of the republic of Kenya.
- 31. 2002- August, Michael Kijana Wamalwa, the Mp for Saboti Constituency and VP, died and was succeeded by Moody Awori.

- 32. 2003- President Kibaki disowns the pre-election MOU leading to misunderstandings within the government and the coalition partners of NARC, thus seriously affecting the constitution making process.
- 33. 2007/2008- Presidential elections were severely contested leading to wide-spread post-election violence in which over 1300 people lost their lives and thousands displaced, creating IDPs in the country.
- 34. 2008- The Kenyan post-election crisis attracted mediation teams which included John Kuffor and eminent African personalities led by Kofi Annan, William Mkapa and Graca Machael.
- 35. 2008- Mediation efforts gave birth to the formation of the coalition government, led by two principals, president Kibaki and Prime Minister, Raila Odinga.

- 36. 2005- The draft constitution was put to a referendum and was defeated. This led to the birth of ODM and the subsequent dismissal of ODM followers from government. Kibaki formed a Government of National Unity(GNU)
- 37. 2008- Many commissions were established to deal with the causes of post-election violence and recommend the way forward. Among these was the Waki commission, which recommended the prosecution of perpetrators of post-election violence
- 38. 2010- August 27th, the New Constitution was promulgated officially giving Kenya a new constitution, thus ending over twenty years of search for a fitting constitution.
- 39. 2011-March, the six named individuals as perpetrators of postelection violence received summonses to appear the ICC judges at the Hague, thus occasioning political tension and a flurry of activities in terms of shuttle diplomacy led by VP, Kalonzo Musyoka, to try to save the Ocampo six.

The Ocampo Six

- Uhuru Kenyatta
- -MP Gatundu {up to date}

2) William Ruto

-MP Eldoret North {up to date}

3) Henry Kosgei

-MP Tinderet {up to date}

4) John Arap Sang

-Radio Presenter(by then)

5) Mohamed Ali then}

- -Police Commissioner (by
- 6) Francis Muthaura
 - -Head of Civil Service {by then}

Multi-party Democracy in Kenya Factors that led to Multi-party Democracy

- 1) Rampant corruption
- 2) Alleged rigging of the 1988 elections i.e. the queuing system
- 3) KANU policies where by KANU failed to accommodate other people views. Those with different opinions were stigmatized, grilled, suspended and expelled from the party.
- 4) Political changes in the Soviet Union which led to political reforms and liberalization of policies. These changes influenced democratization in Kenya and Africa.
- 5) Western Aid conditions, which pressurized governments in Africa to legalize multi-partyism or aid would be suspended
- 6) Influence of pluralism in Zambia and Togo and this encouraged multi-party activists

- 6) Role of activists e.g. the clergy, politicians, lawyers and journalists pressurized the government to legalize multi-partyism
- 7) KANU's response to criticism. It resisted multipartyism and refused to license meetings by multi-party activists
- 8) Saitoti review committee of 1990. The committee recommended reforms within KANU e.g. abolition of queue voting and expulsions from the party
- 9) In December 1991, KANU accepted to legalize the formation of other National Political parties. Section 2A of the constitution was repealed and Kenya reverted to multi-party democracy.

Challenges of Multi-party Democracy

- 1) It has encouraged ethnicity because most of the parties are tribal
- 2) Most of the parties lack the funds to sustain themselves and the government does not give them support
- 3) Multi-partyism led to a lot of tension in Kenya leading to ethnic clashes in 1992
- 4) There was a lot of defection and bribery from opposition to the ruling party
- 5) The KANU government still continued to control the state owned corporations e.g. radio and television together with other government machinery

- 6) There are a lot of leadership problems leading to break up or dormancy of very many parties
- 7) Harassment by the government of the day, their meetings are disrupted or they are denied licenses.
- 8) Most of the people are not well informed about multiparty democracy; they follow their tribal leaders blindly
- 9) The international community has continued to interfere in the running of the country i.e. giving funds to the group that will look after their interest if they are in power. Sometimes they openly criticize the government of the day and side with the opposition.
- 10) Voters are still bribed during election and this is because of poverty.

Role of Political Parties in Nation Building

- 1. They offer serious managerial approach constructive alternative solutions to the problems in the country
- 2. They are involved in political decision making e.g. in committees of the legislature
- 3. They sell alternative ideas to Kenyan citizens
- 4. They work for the repeal of unjust and oppressive rules e.g. chiefs Act
- 5. It has led to establishment of free and independent trade unions
- 6. Quality education at all levels
- 7. It has led to better performance of government institutions

- 8. Improved health services
- 9. Ensures the independence of the judiciary
- 10. They act as the watchdog of the people by pointing at the shortcomings of the government
- 11. They mobilize people for participations in the political democratic process
- 12. They ensure that public funds are properly used e.g. through the Parliamentary Accounts Committee (PAC)
- 13. They provide civic education to the masses and thus educate them about their rights
- 14. They ensure that the government/party in power does not abuse its powers.

Economic Development

Land Policies

- 1. Creation of the Ministry of Land and settlement in 1963 to establish and expand settlement schemes
- 2. Land policies were formulated at independence to solve the land crisis in Kenya and to enhance economic independence
- 3. Formation of cooperatives and land buying companies to purchase land formerly owned by Europeans
- 4. The government had to transfer land from European large scale farmers to the Africans
- 5. Land had also to be consolidated and registered

- 6. The government therefore established high and low density settlement schemes to enhance transfer of land
- 7. The government encouraged large scale farming e.g. the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) was set up to manage the large scale
- 8. The government also established research stations to promote agriculture.
- 9. The government availed loans to Africans to enable them purchase land and farm inputs
- 10. Diversification of agriculture
- 11. Setting up of the Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) and Nyayo Tea Zones to facilitate tea growing and processing

- 12. Establishment of irrigation schemes to boost agricultural production
- 13. In order to coordinate the proper utilization of resources, development authorities were set up e.g. Tana and Athi River Development Authority (TADA), Lake Basin Development Authority (LBDA)
- 14. Establishment of the Permanent Presidential Commission on Soil conservation and Afforestation in 1981
- 15. Establishment of co-operative societies that enabled fanners to buy farm inputs and market their produce. The government encouraged large scale farming e.g. the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) was set up to manage the large scale
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TYPES OF LAND HOLDINGS Principles of land policies

Land in Kenya is used and managed in a manner that is equitable, efficient, productive and sustainable, and in accordance with the following principles-

- 1. Equitable access to land
- 2. Security of land rights
- 3. Sustainable and productive management of land resources

- 4. Transparent and cost effective administration of land
- 5. Sound conservation and protection of ecologically sensitive areas
- 6. Elimination of gender discrimination in law, customs and practices related to land property in land, and
- 7. Encouragement of communities to settle land disputes through recognized local community initiatives consistent with this Constitution.

Classification of land

All land in Kenya belongs to the people of Kenya collectively as a nation, as communities and as individuals.

Land in Kenya is classified as

- I. Public
- 2. Community and
- 3. Private.

Public Land

I. Public Land is:

- 1. Land lawfully held, used or occupied by any State organ
- 2. Land transferred to the State by way of sale, reversion or surrender
- 3. Land in respect of which no individual or community ownership can be established by any legal process
- 4. Land in respect of which no heir can be identified by any legal process
- 5. All minerals and mineral oils as defined by law
- 6. Government forests, government game reserves, water catchment areas, national parks, government animal sanctuaries, and specially protected areas

- All roads and thoroughfares provided for by an Act of Parliament
- 7. All rivers, lakes and other water bodies as defined by an Act of Parliament
- 8. The territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone and the sea bed
- 9. The continental shelf
- 10. All land between the high and lower water marks
- II. Any land not classified as private or community land under this Constitution

- 2. Public Land shall vest in and be held by a county government in trust for the people resident in the country, and shall be administered on their behalf by the National Land Commission, if it is classified as:
- 1. Land which was un-alienated government land
- 2. Land lawfully held ,used or occupied by any state organ
- 3. Land transferred to the state by way of sale reversion or surrender
- 4. Land which is unclaimed by any community or individual
- 5. Land whose heir cannot be identified

- 3. Public land that vest in and held by the national government in trust for the people of Kenya and administered on their behalf by the National Land Commission includes the following:
- I. All minerals and mineral oils as defined by law
- II. Government forests, government game reserves, water catchment areas, national parks, government animal sanctuaries, and specially protected areas
- III. All roads and thoroughfares provided for by an Act of Parliament
- IV. All rivers, lakes and other water bodies as defined by an Act of Parliament

- V. The territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone and the sea bed
- VI. The continental shelf
- VII. All land between the high and lower water marks
- VIII. Any land not classified as private or community land under this Constitution

4. Public land shall not be disposed of or otherwise used except in terms of an Act of Parliament specifying the nature and terms of that disposal or use.

Community Land

- 1. Community land vest in and be held by communities identified on the basis of ethnicity, culture or similar community of interest.
- 2. Community land consists of-
 - ✓ Land lawfully registered in the name of group representatives under the provisions of any law
 - ✓ Land lawfully transferred to a specific community by any process of law
 - ✓ Any other land declared to be community land by an Act of Parliament, and
 - ✓ Land that is
 - lawfully held, managed or used by specific communities as community forests, grazing areas or shrines
 - > ancestral lands and lands traditionally occupied by huntergatherer communities, or
 - > lawfully held as trust land by the county governments,

- 3. Any unregistered community land shall be held in trust by county governments on behalf of the communities for which it is held.
- 4. Community land shall not be disposed of or otherwise used except in terms of legislation specifying the nature and extent of the rights of members of each community individually and collectively.
- 5. Parliament is yet to enact legislation to give effect to this Article.

Private land

Private land consists of-

- Registered land held by any person under any freehold tenure
- b. Land held by any person under leasehold tenure
- c. Any other land declared private land under an Act of Parliament.

Landholding by non-citizens

- 1. Any person who is not a citizen may hold land on the basis of leasehold tenure only, and any such lease shall not exceed 99 years.
- 2. If a provision of any agreement, deed, conveyance or document of whatever nature purports to confer on a person who is not a citizen an interest in land greater than a ninety-nine year lease, the provision shall be regarded as conferring on the person a ninety-nine year leasehold interest, and no more.

- 3. For purposes of this Article
 - a. a body corporate shall be regarded as a citizen only if the body corporate is wholly owned by one or more citizens, and
 - b. Property held in trust shall be regarded as being held by a citizen only if all of the beneficial interest of the trust is held by persons who are citizens.
- 4. Parliament may enact legislation to make further provision for the operation of this Article.

Regulation of land use and property

- 1. The State may regulate the use of any land, or any interest in or right over any land, in the interest of defense, public safety, public order, public morality, public health, or any land use planning.
- 2. Parliament shall enact legislation ensuring the investments in property benefit local communities and their economics

National Land Commission Functions of the National Land Commission

- To manage public land on behalf of the national and county governments
- 2. To recommend a national land policy to the national government
- 3. To advise the national government on a comprehensive programme for the registration of title in land throughout Kenya
- 4. To conduct research related to land and the use of natural resources, and make recommendations to appropriate authorities

- 5. To initiate investigations, on its own initiative or on a complaint, into present or historical land injustices, and recommend appropriate redress
- 6. To encourage the application of traditional dispute resolution mechanisms in land conflicts
- 7. To asses tax on land and premiums on immovable property in any area designated by law, and
- 8. To monitor and have oversight responsibilities over land use planning throughout the country

Legislation on land

Parliament shall-

- 1. Revise, consolidate and rationalize existing land laws
- 2. Revise sectoral land use laws in accordance with the principles of land policies.
- 3. Enact legislation
 - i. To prescribe minimum and maximum land holding acreages in respect of private land
 - ii. To regulate the manner in which any land may be converted from one category to another

- iii. To regulate the recognition and protection of matrimonial property and in particular the matrimonial
- iv. home during and on the termination of marriage s
 To protect, conserve and provide access to all public
 land
- v. To enable the review of all grants or dispositions of public land to establish their propriety or legality
- vi. To protect the dependents of deceased persons holding interest in any land, including the interests of spouses in actual occupation of land
- vii. To provide for any other matter necessary to give effect to the provisions of this chapter

Challenges facing Land policies

- 1. High rate of population growth leading to land fragmentation
- 2. Unreliable climatic conditions characterized by drought and famine
- 3. Low prices of agricultural commodities in the world market versus the high cost of agricultural inputs
- 4. Corruption e.g. land grabbing
- 5. Mismanagement of the agro-based co-operatives

- 6. The HIV/AlDs pandemic had decimated the agricultural work force
- 7. Ethnic clashes which have discouraged farming activities
- 8. Low levels of technology
- 9. Destruction of crops by pests
- 10. Poor transport network
- 11. Inadequate funds with which to complete the process of land demarcation and adjudication
- 12. The squatter problem has yet to be resolved and the squatters resettled.

The Co-operative Movement

- 1. Since independence the government has made a deliberate move to promote the growth and development of co-operatives
- 2. The Ministry of Co-operatives was created in 1963 in order to facilitate the growth of cooperatives and to streamline and consolidate their management
- 3. Africans have been mobilized to form Co-operatives
- 4. 1968 the Co-operative bank was established
- 5. There is a Co-operative Training College at Langata.

Benefits of Co-operatives

- 1) They assist members to invest their money in tangible assets
- 2) They advance loans to members
- 3) They market produce for the farmers e.g. milk, tea, coffee
- 4) Co-operatives promote consumer interests
- 5) They play an important educational role through seminars
- 6) They provide advisory services
- 7) Provision of employment
- 8) They generate revenue for the government
- 9) They enable farmers to buy farm inputs
- 10) They have put up infrastructure e.g. rural access roads
- 11) They have improved the living standards of rural communities.

Problems of Co-operatives

- I. Fraud, dishonesty and favoritism in management
- 2. Mismanagement and embezzlement funds
- 3. Lack of experience and understanding of business principles
- 4. Political interference
- Fluctuation in world prices of agricultural produce.

Industry

- Major industrial developments started during the colonial period
- □Kenya being an agricultural country has a lot of agro-based industries e.g. Sugar processing, flour milling, tea and coffee processing e.t.c.
- □ The government took several measures to promote growth of industries in 1963 the Development Finance Company of Kenya (DFCK) and the Industrial and Commercial Development Corporation QCDC) were established to finance industries in Kenya.

- □ Foreign Investment Act of 1964 allowed foreign investors to repatriate their profits In 19.66 the Kenya Industrial Estates (KIE) was established to facilitate expansion of industrial estates in rural towns of Kenya In 1971, Capital Issues Committee" was set up to regulate the movement of capital from Kenya. Local industries had to be protected and the government also set up parastatals to:
 - Create employment Generate revenue
 - ✓ Indigenize the economy
 - ✓ To enhance state control of certain essential services
 - Equitable distribution of essential commodities
 - ✓ To stimulate economic development.

Problems facing industrial Development in Kenya

- Lack of qualified personnel
- 2) Lack of funds to set up industries
- 3) Corruption. There is a lot of embezzlement and misappropriation of funds leading to collapse of many industries
- 4) Poor means of transport and communication Lack of market locally and internationally
- 5) Power supply in the country is irregular, costly and inadequate

- 6) Mismanagement of industries leading to their collapse
- 7) The KIE lacks funds with which to support entrepreneurs
- 8) Competition from the industrialized countries
- 9) Lack of strategic raw materials to set up industries
- 10) Heavy repatriation of capital by multi-national countries
- 11)Importation of cheap products which is a threat to local industries
- 12) Inadequate power supply.

Social Development Education

- I. The government has made a lot of changes an. developments in education
- II. At independence the government had poor quality education and facilities to suit the Africans who were segregated by the colonial regime
- III. Education was seen as a way of developing skilled manpower to replace expatriates in the civil service, commerce and industry
- IV. Several commissions were set up to give advice to the government on educational reforms i.e.:-

Ominde Commission 1964,65; Gachathi, 1976; Mackay 1982; Kariithi 1983; Kamunge 1988 and Koech 2002

- V. This led to expansion of education from nursery to university level
- VI. Harambee Institutes of Technology were established to equip secondary school leavers with skills to enable them to secure employment.
- VII.Other training colleges were opened up, together with polytechnics.
- VIII. The inspectorate and Kenya Institute of Education were established and the Kenya National Examination Council, together with the Kenya Literature Bureau.

- IX. Adult education programmes were also established.
- X. In 1974, free primary education was implemented.
- XI. In 1985, 8-4-4 system of education was effected.
- XII.Cost sharing strategy also started due to expansion in education.
- XIII.In 2002, the NARC government introduced "free primary education" policy and there was massive enrolment in schools.
- XIV.University education has also expanded tremendously with six public universities and several other private universities.

Challenges facing Education

- I. High cost of education
- 2. Frequent curriculum and policy changes,
- Inadequate and inequitable distribution of & education facilities
- 4. HI V/AIDS has affected the overall performance of education centres
- 5. Brain drain
- 6. Opportunities abroad.

Health

- A. Since 1963 health services have been expanded There has been training of personnel, and improvement in the quality of health care
- B. Health services have been provided to the rural population through government efforts and private initiative This has led to:
 - i. Increased life expectancy
 - ii. Drop in infant mortality
 - iii. Rapid population growth rate
 - iv. The Government licensed private medical practice.

Challenges facing Health Developments in Kenya

- 1. High cost of drugs and medical equipment
- 2. Inadequate medical and research facilities
- 3. Corruption
- 4. Negligence and malpractice
- 5. Brain drain i.e. qualified doctors have been preferring to work outside the country.
- 6. The HIVIAIDS menace has drained a lot of government resources
- 7. Environmental pollution and degradation has increased the health risks.
- 8. High rates of accidents and injuries

Cultural Developments Music and dance

There are traditional music and dance troupes all over the country and traditional poets.

Drama and music

- 1. Drama is very popular is schools, teachers training colleges and other groups
- 2. They are organized by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Culture and Social services

Theatre

- □ Kenya national theatre promotes theatrical performances where local and foreign plays are staged by various institutions and clubs
- There has also been a lot of developments in sculpture, craft, cultural festivals, research, documentaries and recreational facilities.

Challenges facing Cultural Development

- 1. Lack of funds to implement cultural
- 2. Programmes
- 3. Poor facilities
- 4. Corruption and misappropriation of funds
- 5. Piracy of local artists music has denied them the revenue.

K.C.S.E SAMPLE QUESTIONS