

## FIRST TERM E-LEARNING NOTE

**SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT**

**CLASS: SS3**

### SCHEME OF WORK

<b>WEEK</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
1.	Military Rule In Nigeria: Historical Background, Reasons for Military Rule, Achievements of Military Rule in Nigeria
2.	Weakness of Military Rule in Nigeria; Measures That Could be Taken to Prevent Military Intervention in Nigeria
3.	Local Administration in Nigeria; Structure, Functions, Sources of Finance and Problems of Local Government: Features of 1976 Local Government Reforms in Nigeria; Roles of Traditional Rulers in Government
4.	Nigeria and the World; (i) Interdependence of Nations (ii) Nigeria's Foreign Policy; Meaning, Nigeria Foreign Policy since Independence
5.	Nigeria and the World; Factors that can affect Nigeria's Foreign Policy, Formulation of Nigeria Foreign Policy; Features of Nigeria's Foreign Policy
6.	Africa as the Center Piece of Nigeria's Foreign Policy; Origin; Reasons for the Adoption of Nigeria as the Center Piece of Nigeria's Foreign Policy
7.	How Nigeria has Demonstrated that Africa is the Center Piece of Her Foreign Policy; Ways by which Nigeria maintains Friendly Relations with African States
8.	Non-Alignment; Origin, Meaning, Aims and Objectives
9.	Non-Alignment Problems; Factors that Stimulated the Formation of Non-Align Movement; Nigeria and Non-Aligned Movement
10.	International Organization- Organization of African Unity (O.A.U.); Historical Perspective, Aims and Objectives, Principles
11.	Organization of African Unity- Organs and functions, Aims and Objectives, Achievements and Problems
12.	Revision/ Examination

### REFERENCE

- Essential Government by C.C. Dibia
  - Comprehensive Government by J.U. Anyaele
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## **WEEK ONE**

### **MILITARY RULE IN NIGERIA**

#### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The first military regime in Nigeria started in January 15<sup>th</sup> 1966, which was staged by five (5) Majors led by Major Chukwuma Kaduna Nzeogwu. It was a bloody military coup in the annals of Nigeria's politics. Prominent Politicians including the Prime Minister, Alhaji Tafawa Balewa, Premier of Western Region, S.L. Akintola, the Minister of Finance, Chief Festus Okotie Eboh, Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Premier of the Northern Region and many other top ranking officers in the armed force were killed.

This coup brought General Aguiyi Ironsi to power. On July 29<sup>th</sup> 1966, a counter coup was staged by Northern officers in the army and Aguiyi Ironsi Government was toppled and he was killed. Then Col. Yakubu Gowon took over from him. July 29<sup>th</sup> 1975 Coup brought an end to the 9 years rule of Yakubu Gowon when he was busy attending O.A.U. summit in Kampala Uganda. General Murtala Mohammed who was the coup leader took over as the Head of State. General Murtala Mohammed was assassinated in an aborted coup led by Lt. Colonel Buka Suka Dimka on February 13, 1975. General Olusegun Obasanjo the next in command to Murtala Mohammed took over as the Head of State. General Olusegun Obasanjo eventually handed over power to a democratically elected Government of President Shehu Shagari on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1979.

On December 31<sup>st</sup> 1983, the civilian government was terminated by a coup headed by General Mohammed Buhari. On August 27<sup>th</sup> 1985, General Ibrahim Babangida, the Chief of Staff to Mohammed Buhari took over from him and became the President and Commander In-Chief of the Armed Forces. On December 1985, unsuccessful coup was led by late General Mamma Vatsa. Then on April 1990, another unsuccessful coup was led by late Major Gideon Orka. However, Babangida retired from the army after handing over in 1993. He set up an interim government with Chief Ernest Shonekan as the Head of State. Late general Abacha sacked the interim government and assume the Military Head of State of Nigeria. Abacha died on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1998 and was succeeded by General Abdulsalam Abubakar, who eventually handed over power to a democratically elected President on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 1999.

#### **EVALUATION**

1. Account for the coming of the military into Nigeria's politics.
2. Why was February 13 1975's, coup regarded as aborted?

#### **REASONS FOR MILITARY INTERVENTION IN POLITICS**

1. When the process of changing political leadership is in doubt, the military may intervene.
  2. Politicization of the army.
  3. Nepotism, tribalism and favoritism which pervert justice.
  4. Regional differences; Differences among regions were so acute as to precipitate crises leading to direct assumption of power.
  5. Mismanagement of the national economy e.g Alhaji Shehu Shagari.
  6. Corruption and abuse of office by political leaders in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Republics.
  7. Clumsy handling of census exercise e.g Nigeria in 1962 and 1963 census.
  8. Lack of free and fair election e.g Western Nigeria election of 1965.
  9. Long stay in office; Most Nigerian leaders want to make themselves life president.
  10. Bad administrations in Nigeria have contributed to frequent coups that occurred in the country.
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## **EVALUATION**

Give five reasons for military intervention in Nigeria's politics.

### **ACHIVEMENTS OF MILITARY REGIME IN NIGERIA**

1. Preservation of the unity of Nigeria; the civil war was fought in order to preserve the unity of Nigeria.
  2. Infrastructural development; such as construction of roads, bridges, air ports and establishment of institutions.
  3. The creation of more states which gives room for self determination by different ethnic groups in the country.
  4. The National...
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