Governments and Politics in Africa

Spring 2011

Review for Midterm Examination

A. Acronym

AU DRC GNP IFI KANU OAU TNC

B. Important Items to Remember

- 1. Colonial powers of the African countries.
- 2. Previous name of some African countries.
- 3. Countries maintaining diplomatic ties with the Republic of China on Taiwan.
- 4. Countries with serious civil wars since 1990s
- 5. Capitals of South Africa, Kenya, Congo, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Ghana, Egypt, Ethiopia and Algeria
- 6. People of these African Countries: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Ghana, Lesotho, Niger, Sao Tome and Principe, Swaziland, Togo, Western Sahara
- 7. Three major ethnic groups in Nigeria
- 8. Countries experiencing two alternation of party in power since 1990s
- 9. Countries with different names and capitals since independence
- 10. Countries changing the president's term limit since 1990s.

C. Important Political Leaders of Nigeria

- 1. Sani Abacha
- 2. Ibrahim Babangida
- 3. Muhammadu Buhari
- 4. Yakubu Gowon
- 5. Goodluck Jonathan
- 6. Murtala Ramat Mohammed
- 7. Olusegun Obasanjo
- 8. Alhaji Shagari
- 9. Umaru Musa Yar'Adua

D. Important Founding Fathers of African Nations

- 1. Hastings Banda
- 2. Felix Houphouet-Boigny
- 3. Kenneth Kaunda
- 4. Jomo Kenyetta
- 5. Kwame Nkrumah
- 6. Nelson Mandela
- 7. Robert Mugabe
- 8. Julius Nyerere
- 9. Ahmed Sekou Toure
- 10. Leopold Senghor

E. Notorious Ruthless African Leaders

- 1. Idi Amin
- 2. Omar Bashir
- 3. Jean-Bedel Bokassa
- 4. Mobutu Sese Seko
- 5. Charles Taylor

F. Important Contemporary African Leaders in the 21st Century

- 1. Zine Al-Abidine Ben Ali
- 2. Blaise Compoare
- 3. José Eduardo Dos Santos
- 4. Laurent Gbagbo
- 5. Muammar Gaddafi
- 6. Joseph Kabila
- 7. Paul Kagame
- 8. Mwai Kibaki
- 9. Hosnic Mubarak
- 10. Yoweri Museveni
- 11. Abdoulaye Wade
- 12. Boni Yayi
- 13. Jacob Zuma

G. Terminology

- 1. vertical cleavages
- 4. crosscutting cleavages
- 7. core
- 10. apartheid
- 13. cash crop
- 16. comprador
- 19. bourgeoisie
- 22. irredentism
- 25. dependence theory

- 2. horizontal cleavages
- 5. communalism
- 8. periphery
- 11. neo-colonialism
- 14. charisma
- 17. proletariat
- 20. class consciousness
- 23. secession

- 3. reinforcing cleavages
- 6. imperialism
- 9. underdevelopment
- 12. indirect rule
- 15. mode of production
- 18. means of production
- 21. instrumental ethnicity
- 24. separatism

- 1. How does African nationalism differ from other nationalism found elsewhere in the world? How successful have African nationalists been in defending the inherited nation-state structure on the African continent? Please give one or two examples to illustrate support your argument.
- 2. Distinguish the concepts of kinship, clanship, tribal group, and ethnic group. How do you see colonial rule in blurring or reinforcing the tribal and ethnic differences in Africa?
- 3. What are some of the major social groups identified by the author of our textbook? Can these classes of African people be defined solely by the means of production, defined by Karl Marx? Why and why not?
- 4. What are the three sources of legitimacy introduced by Max Weber? Define each one of them. Compare the experiences of legitimacy in Africa before 1990 to the Weberian definition and give your own assessment.
- 5. What are the basic components of the structural adjustment programs (SAPs)? Why are they instituted? How are they affecting those African countries choosing to accept them?