

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2010**

TITLE OF PAPER : ECONOMIC HISTORY OF WEST AFRICA

COURSE CODE : H302/IDE H302

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS, CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE FROM EACH SECTION**
 - 2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A

Question One

Discuss the different methods of production used by early pre-colonial West African societies. [25 marks]

Question two

Using any early pre-colonial West African kingdom as an example, explain the role played by trade and Islam in the process of state formation in the region. [25 marks]

Question three

Some historians have argued that the trans-Saharan trade had a positive impact on West Africa's economic, political and social development. Do you agree? [25 marks]

Question four

Closely examine the development and organization of vegetable oil trade in West Africa during the second half of the nineteenth century. [25 marks]

SECTION B

Question five

Discuss the main features of the West African colonial economy between 1900 and 1939.
[25 marks]

Question six

With reference to any cash crop, assess the role of European trading firms in the marketing of peasant produce in colonial West Africa.
[25 marks]

Question seven

Why did cocoa producers in the Gold Coast and Nigeria decide to “hold” their produce in the 1930s?
[25 marks]

Question eight

Do you agree with the view that the integration of West Africa into the international economy during the colonial period increasingly led to the region’s dependence on Western capitalism?
[25 marks]