

UGANDA MARTYR'S SS NAMUGONGO

History Department notes

- a) Explain the causes of the 1953 Kabaka Crisis.
- b) What were the effects of the crisis on the people of Uganda?

Causes of the kabaka crisis

- a) This was a political misunderstanding between the Governor –Sir Andrew Cohen and the Kabaka of Buganda –Mutesa II
- b) It involved a lot of tension, mistrust and suspicion between the two gentlemen.
- c) 1945 the first Africans were nominated to the Legislature Council to hasten Constitutional advance.
- d) Buganda, Busoga and Ankole were all supposed to send one representative each but Buganda refused.
- e) This would mean placing Buganda on the same footing with other regions – thus eroding their semi – independent status.
- f) The Kabaka applauded the lukiiiko's refusal to send a representative to the LEGCO and openly supported its demand that Baganda should be left to plan their own future.
- g) This was not accepted by the governor who wanted a united Uganda.
- h) 1952, A.C Wallies was appointed to look into the problems of the local government of Uganda.
- i) He emphasised the need to set up local council and that the colonial government should maintain overall control of Uganda.
- j) This report worried the Baganda who sought it as a move aimed at sabotaging their semi- independence.
- k) The Baganda were also worried by the development in the LEGCO which was evolving into a small national assembly including all races, tribes and regions of Uganda.
- l) The formation of the Uganda National Congress (UNC) as the first major political party in 1952 further worried the Baganda.
- m) The party aimed at uniting all the peoples and hastening the achievement self –rule.
- n) This was seen as a threat to the institution of Kabakaship and the Lukiiiko.
- o) The Baganda were also alarmed by the colonial secretary –Oliver lyttelton's proposal for the East African Federation.

- p) The Baganda didn't want their kingdom to be merged with other areas because this would mean loss of independence.
- q) The Kabaka was supported on the issue of federation by his subjects, the Lukiiiko and other provinces of Uganda such as Busoga i.e. they all opposed the idea.
- r) The governor was also annoyed by Buganda's demand to be transferred from the colonial office to the foreign office.
- s) The Situation was worsened by the Kabaka's failure to guarantee cooperation with the protectorate government.
- t) On 30th Nov. 1952 the British government withdrew its recognition for Mutesa II as the ruler of Buganda.
- u) This resulted into the deportation to England hence the beginning of the crisis.
- v) Baganda refused to choose a successor to Mutesa contrary to what the governor had thought.
- w) They airily voiced out one point /statement "We want our Kabaka back".

EFFECTS OF THE KABAKA CRISIS

- a) A state of emergency was declared in Buganda.
 - b) A delegation that included Eridadi Mukisa, Thomas Makumbi, and Apollo Kironde were sent to England to plead for Mutesa return.
 - c) Early 1954, a constitutional expert Sir Keith Hancock was sent to see how sanity would return to Baganda.
 - d) This led to Namirembe conference.
 - e) After a year's discussion with mistrust ,the following were agreed upon;
 - f) The position of the Kabaka was redefined, he was to become a constitutional monarch.
 - g) The election to the lukiiko was to be the responsibility of the county (saza) chief.
 - h) The Lukiiko was empowered to nominate Kabaka's ministers but approved by the governor.
 - i) Buganda was to elect members to the LEGCO like the other provinces of Uganda.
 - j) There were to be no further constitutional changes for the next seven years.
 - k) The Kabaka (Mutesa) would return if the Lukiiko invited him.
 - l) 17th Oct 1955, Mutesa returned amidst jubilation from the people.
 - m) The Crisis resulted into Buganda's boycott of the National Assembly elections in 1961.
 - n) Fresh elections had to be organised in 1962 and the Kabaka Yekka (king alone) party was formed.
 - o) The crisis led to the violation of the 1900 Buganda agreement by both the British and Baganda.
 - p) For instance the British refused to recognise the Kabaka as the supreme ruler of Buganda and Buganda states demanding for independence outside protectorate.
 - q) Riots increased in Buganda, demanding for the return of the Kabaka.
- Conclusion; used positive and negative