

Exam 1**AYOBAMI LAWAL****HISTORY 1301****DR. MARK SAAD SAKA****OCTOBER 31ST, 2023****Question 1**

Adam Smith believed that the "discovery of the Americas" was one of the most important historical moments, and his observations somewhat coincided with those of Karl Marx. There were significant historical and economic ramifications to this historic occurrence. Christopher Columbus's voyage of the Americas in 1492 marked a turning point in history by bringing forth a new era of international trade and economic development. It made it possible for the Old World (Europe, Asia, and Africa) and the New World (the Americas) to trade goods, concepts, and cultural practices on a scale never seen before. Wide-ranging effects of this trade route expansion would surely have pleased Adam Smith, the renowned economist who highlighted the crucial role that commerce plays in economic progress and prosperity (Foner, 2019). The enormous potential offered by the construction of new trade routes, which successfully connect different regions of the world and promote global commerce, is in perfect harmony with Smith's theories regarding trade as a driver of economic development.

A vast array of riches, including valuable metals like gold and silver and a variety of agricultural items like maize, potatoes, and tobacco, were also given upon the Americas. The direction of

economic growth was greatly impacted by this resource inflow into Europe, which is now known as the Columbian Exchange. The richness of materials brought from the Americas clearly aligns with Adam Smith's thesis that resource abundance is a catalyst for economic development and capital accumulation (Foner, 2019). Because these resources could be utilized to finance investments and boost economic activity, the flood of precious metals in particular spurred economic growth.

The finding of the Americas also opened up completely new markets for European products. The creation of new consumer bases and the accessibility of American resources led to a surge in production and trade. Adam Smith's theories on growing markets and the division of labor are consistent with this expansion. It promoted economic growth and industry innovation by enabling the specialization of production and the worldwide flow of goods (Foner, 2019).

Also, Karl Marx and Adam Smith both emphasized the role that capital accumulation plays in the advancement of the economy. The wealth that was transported to Europe from the Americas was crucial to the continent's capital accumulation, particularly in the form of precious metals. As a necessary component of economic expansion, this capital accumulation supplied the funds required to support the rise of modern capitalism and industrialization. A new economic system and an industrialized civilization emerged in Europe largely as a result of the wealth transfer from the New World.

Question 2

The economy, governmental systems, and living arrangements of the New England and Chesapeake colonies in North America were very different at the beginning of the 17th century. The main sources of income for the New England colonies—which included Connecticut and

Massachusetts—were trade, fishing, and subsistence farming. Smaller family farms proliferated since large-scale agriculture was less feasible in this area due to the stony and less fruitful soil. Building ships and engaging in trade with Europe and the West Indies rose to prominence, influencing the development of a comparatively independent and diversified economy. On the other hand, the economies of the Chesapeake colonies, including Virginia and Maryland, were primarily focused on the large-scale cultivation of tobacco (Pearson Custom Publishing, 2008). The Chesapeake region's abundant, fertile soil was perfect for growing cash crops. The plantation system with tobacco as the main export consequently came into being. Due to their increased reliance on a single product, the Chesapeake colonies were more vulnerable to changes in the economy.

Governmental frameworks varied as well. Town meetings were frequently used in New England colonies as a means of self-governance because they were impacted by communal and religious ideals. Early democratic ideals were expressed in the Connecticut Fundamental Orders and the Mayflower Compact. These colonies promoted a culture of local government and civil rights while valuing each person's right to practice their religion. The state of the economy has a big impact on Chesapeake government institutions (Pearson Custom Publishing, 2008). Due to the labor-intensive nature of large estates and cash crop agriculture, indentured servitude and eventually slavery as an institution grew. With power concentrated among the affluent plantation owners and a royal governor chosen by the English crown, the governance in this area was more elitist and hierarchical in nature. Individual liberties and democracy were not as prominent as they were in New England.

Early colonial household patterns in the Chesapeake region and New England showed clear distinctions that were intricately linked to the social and economic circumstances of each

location. Families in New England generally followed a nuclear family structure, emphasizing the sacredness and unity of the family (Foner, 2019). The Puritan populations that established in the area left behind values that were reflected in this emphasis on the nuclear family. In the New England colonies, family life was very important, and the household was the center of the community. Additionally, the nuclear family structure promoted a strong feeling of personal accountability and independence. On the other hand, because of the economic emphasis on large-scale tobacco farming, the Chesapeake region had a unique household structure. Larger, extended households were common on Chesapeake plantations since a sizable labor force was required for tobacco production (Pearson Custom Publishing, 2008). In addition to members of the immediate family, these extended houses also included indentured servants and, subsequently, Africans in slavery.

Question 3

In the British colonies in the eighteenth century, two significant intellectual and spiritual movements were the Enlightenment and the Great Awakening. These revolutions gave rise to concepts that went against the political, social, and religious establishment. Skepticism and critical thinking were fostered by the Enlightenment, which was defined by an emphasis on reason, science, and individual liberty. Proponents of natural rights, the separation of powers, and the value of religious tolerance were among the Enlightenment intellectuals like Voltaire and John Locke (Shute, 2016). As a result of these concepts spreading throughout the colonies, there were challenges to the ruling ecclesiastical establishment. As they fought for the right to practice their own religion freely, colonists started to challenge the established churches' dogmatic hold on doctrine. This eventually led to challenges to religious authority and the growth of many religious groupings, as well as calls for the separation of church and state (Shute, 2016).

A direct relationship with God and personal religious experience were prioritized in the Great Awakening, a religious revival movement that occurred at the same time. Bypassing the established religious hierarchy and clergy, it encouraged sentimental and independent approaches to faith. This change in religious mood put existing churches and their clergy under pressure. The Great Awakening created a strong desire for religious independence and led to the establishment of new religious movements that provided more intense and inclusive worship experiences, such the Baptists and Methodists (Foner, 2019).

The political and social landscape was significantly impacted by the concepts of the Enlightenment and the Great Awakening. The revolutionary ideals that would lead to the American Revolution were based on the Enlightenment's emphasis on reason and individual rights. Demands for religious liberty and defiance of religious authority fueled political movements that upheld individual liberties and the separation of church and state (Pearson Custom Publishing, 2008). The Great Awakening's emphasis on individual salvation and religious liberty encouraged a spirit of equality and egalitarianism among Christians, which in turn challenged the prevailing social hierarchies and had a democratizing effect.

Question 4

A complicated and multidimensional process gave rise to the African-American collective identity in British North America in the years preceding and following the colonial era. It was influenced by a number of things, including as the experience of slavery, aspects of African culture that were shared, resistance to oppression, and the growth of an own African-American culture (Foner, 2019). Slave uprisings were important in this process because they were displays of resistance against the institution of slavery as well as catalysts for a communal identity.

Enslaved African-Americans experienced moments of camaraderie and togetherness during slave rebellions like the New York Conspiracy in 1741 and the Stono Rebellion in 1739 in South Carolina. The yearning for independence and a feeling of collective tyranny frequently propelled these upheavals. Even though many of these uprisings were put down, they showed how resilient and determined African-Americans could be in the face of overwhelming hardship. They also contributed to the establishment of a common identity based on the fight for liberation by fostering a collective memory of resistance against oppression (Kook, 2008).

Due to their participation in the transatlantic slave trade, colonial merchants in British North America were crucial to the Atlantic economy. They benefited from the trade in African slaves, which was essential to the Atlantic region's economy. African captives were bought and transported to the Americas by colonial merchants, frequently working in conjunction with their European counterparts, mostly to labor on plantations. Known as the "Middle Passage," this slave trade involves exchanging African prisoners for items including rum, textiles, and weaponry (Kook, 2008). The plantation-based economies of the southern colonies were founded on this economic framework, which also benefited colonial merchants.

The development of businesses and the amassing of riches in Europe, the Caribbean, and the American colonies were all facilitated by the Atlantic slave trade, which was a major factor in the larger Atlantic economy. In the Atlantic region, cash crops like rice, sugar, and tobacco were key exports, and their production required slave labor. Due in large part to the crops' profitability, slave labor was exploited, which strengthened the Atlantic region's economic interdependence (Foner, 2019).

Terms to Identify

Caravel: This was a particular kind of sailing ship that was invented during the Age of Exploration in the fifteenth century. The caravel's importance in American history stems from its function as a crucial technological development that allowed explorers such as Christopher Columbus to go on transatlantic journeys (Foner, 2019). The caravel's ability to navigate allowed for these expeditions, which resulted in the discovery of the Americas, which connected the Old and New Worlds.

Mercantilism: Mercantilism was a common economic philosophy and practice during the European colonial era. Mercantilist policies encouraged the expansion of colonies as suppliers of raw resources and marketplaces for manufactured goods. They also sought to achieve a positive trade balance, with exports exceeding imports. Because the American colonies were frequently viewed as rich resource sources for the advantage of their European mother countries, mercantilism had a considerable impact on the development of the colonial economies in the context of American history (Foner, 2019).

The Middle Passage: The Middle Passage is the name given to the cruel and dangerous portion of the transatlantic slave trade that required moving Africans who were in slavery from Africa to the Americas. Given that it takes place during one of the worst periods in American history, the Middle Passage is extremely significant historically (Pearson Custom Publishing, 2008). It demonstrates the cruel treatment of Africans held in slavery as well as the significant influence the slave trade had on the growth of the American colonies and the Atlantic region's economy.

Republicanism: This is a political philosophy that favors the idea of a republic above a monarchy or an aristocracy, in which the people exercise power through elected representatives. Republicanism was a major influence on the formation of democratic institutions and the nation's

guiding ideals throughout American history. Republican ideas played a major role in the American Revolution, which resulted in the creation of the United States as a democratic republic with a constitution that upheld the values of popular sovereignty, limited government, and individual liberties (Foner, 2019).

Short Answers

1.

Deep insights into the hopes and motivations of the Pilgrims who set out on the difficult trek to the "New World" in 1620 can be gained from the "Mayflower Compact". Their motive was fundamentally entwined with their steadfast dedication to religious observance and the fight for religious liberty. They were looking for a place where they could freely practice their faith and create a community that reflected their religious values since they were fleeing religious persecution in England (Foner, 2019). This emphasizes how crucial religious freedom has always been to American history and lays the groundwork for a vital idea that would eventually be codified in the First Amendment. Constitution even after centuries. Furthermore, the Compact makes clear their desire to build a civil government that is just and orderly in the New World. The declaration places a strong emphasis on their dedication to establishing a civil body politic founded on the consent of the governed, a notion that would have a big impact on how American democracy developed. The subsequent democratic ideals of the United States were founded on the pioneers' will to establish a society based on the values of individual rights, cooperation, and self-governance.

2.

According to historians like James Axtell, Native American responses to the European colonization of the Americas were complex and changed over time. In an effort to forge alliances and economic benefits, several Indigenous communities initially engaged in commerce and diplomacy with the immigrants. However, the introduction of illnesses that decimated Native people was one of the disastrous effects of the entrance of the Europeans. Resistance took many forms as European settlement increased the frequency of conflicts and land confiscation. Certain tribes, like as the Powhatan Confederacy, interacted with the English through diplomacy as well as occasional conflicts. Others, like the Wampanoag people led by King Philip, used force to stop the invading settlers. Notwithstanding these difficulties, Native Americans shown fortitude and flexibility in negotiating the significant upheavals brought about by European encounter (Newell, 2023). In response, they made an attempt to uphold cultural customs and adjust to changing conditions, demonstrating the resilience and agency of Indigenous communities. The intricate and varied history of Native-European contacts in the Americas was greatly influenced by these responses.

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