



RIARA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
NURTURING INNOVATORS
JANUARY-APRIL 2024 TRIMESTER
EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF LAWS PROGRAMME
RFC 105: FOUNDATIONS OF AFRICA'S CIVILIZATION

DATE: 9TH APRIL 2024

TIME: 9:00AM TO 11:00AM

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Students are NOT permitted to write on the examination paper during reading time.

This is a closed book examination. Text book/Reference books/notes are not permitted.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Write your REGISTRATION NO. Clearly on the answer booklet(s).
- 2 Answer Question ONE (Compulsory) and ANY other FOUR questions.
- 3 Questions in all sections should be answered in answer booklet(s).
- 4 Marks allocated to each question are shown at the end of the question.
- 5 PLEASE start the answer to EACH question on a NEW PAGE.
- 6 For the questions, write the number of the question on the answer booklet(s) in the order you answered them.
- 7 Write your answers in paragraph form unless stated otherwise.
- 8 Keep your phone(s) SWITCHED OFF at the front of the examination room.
- 9 Keep ALL bags and caps at the front of the examination room and do not refer to any unauthorized material before or during the examination.
- 10 You are only allowed to leave the examination room 30minutes to the end of the Examination.

60 years of African unity: what's failed and what's succeeded



Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie (C) and Ghana's founder and first President Kwame Nkrumah (L) during the formation of the Organisation of African Unity. STR/AFP via Getty Images

Africa Day this year marks 60 years since the founding of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). The anniversary begs the question: How much of the vision of the OAU's founding fathers has been realised 60 years on? What would not be there but for the efforts of the organisation and its successor the African Union?

There were two competing visions lobbying at the founding. Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's president, in his Africa must Unite speech, argued the pan-African case for continental federalism, for a Union of African States, with one continental diplomatic corps, one department of defence, and a common market.

He was hugely outvoted by other presidents refusing to give up their sovereignty. So the OAU, formed on 25 May 1963, was instead modelled on the Organisation of American States. It was an inter-governmental organisation whose charter pledged it to not interfere in the internal affairs of its member states - even in the event of massacres. This followed the precedents of the UN United Nations, the Arab League, and the Organisation of American States, and would soon be followed by the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The OAU was committed to decolonisation, including the end of apartheid in South Africa and the settler regime in Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). It contributed herculean diplomatic lobbying and sanctions to achieve this. Its Liberation Committee, based in Dar es Salaam (the Tanzanian commercial capital), donated weapons and funds to the insurgencies in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Angola, and Mozambique. The OAU was a state-centric realisation of pan-Africanism.

One success of the AU is its growing prestige. The AU architecture for peacekeeping and peacemaking has no peer in the Organisation of American States, Arab League, or ASEAN. While

most AU organs meet only twice per year, the Peace and Security Council has met twice per month since its founding in 2004.

Dozens of its ad hoc military missions help governments with the suppression of terrorism everywhere from the Sahel to northern Mozambique. Various AU and regional economic community peacekeepers have served in the Democratic Republic of Congo's numerous civil wars for decades.

The AU seeks a role in global governance. It tries to negotiate that Africa speaks with one voice in the halls of international organisations. Since some of the most important economic decisions about Africa are made outside the continent, the urgency of this is self-explanatory. The AU has its own embryonic diplomatic corps, with permanent diplomatic missions in Brussels (to negotiate with the EU), Beijing, Cairo (to negotiate with the Arab League) in New York (at the United Nations), and in Washington (to negotiate with the World Bank and IMF).

One failure of the AU is in not preventing serial coups-de-etat. There have been more than 200 coups following the era of independence in the 1960s. The obvious reason is that the continental body never sends a military intervention to suppress the putchists, to capture them and bring them to trial for treason. It limits itself to diplomatic pressures against them, such as suspending their membership.

In 2016 the AU launched a campaign to "silence the guns by 2020". Unhappily, it proved powerless to prevent both coups and terrorist insurgencies from continuing, so the slogan was repackaged as "silence the guns by 2030". It remains to be seen if wars can be suppressed throughout the African continent by 2030.

Published: May 24, 2023 7.47am SAST by Keith Gottschalk a member of the African National Congress, but writes this article in his professional capacity as a political scientist.

QUESTION ONE: (20 MARKS)

The challenge of African Unity is still persistent in six decades as per the case study above. This may be cited or traced from the early times of Africa's Civilization based on the statelessness all the way to the influence of the colonizers and beyond. Elaborate the reasons for this state and the solution to these challenges. **(20 marks)**

QUESTION TWO:

World history without Africa seems a bizarre statement. In view of this statement discuss FOUR (4) themes that Hegel argued for the denial of Africa's presence in world history. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION THREE:

Elaborate the FOUR (4) African Philosophies as proposed by H. Odera Oruka (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR:

Discuss any FOUR (4) ancient civilizations. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE:

Discuss the role of the Portuguese influence to Africa's civilization with the guiding statement being "the fabric of African societies was exposed to alien forces of change of an intensity and on a scale unparalleled in the previous history". (10 marks)

QUESTION SIX:

Discuss any FOUR (4) themes identified under Nationalist Ideological Philosophy as proposed by African Philosophers: (10 marks)

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