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# JALINGO HISTORICAL REVIEW

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The history of Africa is, indeed, a reflection of an undulating pendulum manifesting many successive disturbing phases stretching across the primitive to colonial and post-colonial periods. The first phase was characterized by primitive accumulation which was followed by the era of political or imperial revolution characterized by the rise and fall of empires, kingdoms, chiefdoms and state systems. This phase was characterized by mutual hostilities associated with wars of conquest for expansionist purposes, with attendant anarchy and subjugation of some groups to tribute paying status.

The second phase was dominated by European exploratory activities on the shores of Africa and associated with unintelligible stories of discoveries of territories and phenomena that had existed in Africa from time immemorial. One major feature of this era was the signing of treaties with African leaders for the benefit of European powers. The phenomenon was not free from hostilities between the European explorers (agents) and patriotic African leaders due to their strong suspicion about the hidden agenda for the treaties. It is not contestable that it was this exercise which paved smooth way for the next phase of African history, which was European mercantilism, imperialism and eventual colonialist activities in Africa.

The 19th century ushered in the third phase in African history which was dominated by European colonialist activities in Africa. The era was, no doubt, a violent phase during which African territories were forcefully and violently overpowered by the European colonial powers, prominent among which were Britain, France, Germany and Portugal. For more than a century, Africa became the source of raw materials and markets for the sustenance of industrial revolution in Europe. There is even no gain repeating the fact that this phase was equally characterized by very disturbing variables.

The wake of the 20th century ushered in the fourth phase in African history, which was the era of nationalism across Africa. Within this period, the echoes of violent and peaceful nationalist activities filled up the continent, and in the process, colonialism was overwhelmed. Very worrisomely, not long after the overthrow of colonialism that it became eminent that another disturbing phase was emerging in our continental history. The transfer of leadership baton from the colonialists to African leaders soon ushered in the fifth phase, which was interplay of misrule, lack of focus and anarchy. These unfortunate developments ushered in yet another disturbing phase, which was the era of military coups.

The emergence of military rule in Africa enthroned dictatorial leadership with attendant gross abuse of fundamental human rights, anarchy and misrule across Africa. The collective cry and efforts by well-meaning Africans, and supported by international organizations like the United Nations Organisation (UNO) and powerful nations resulted in the proscription of military leadership. The strong campaign resulted in the vicious circle of the return to democratic dispensation, which ushered in the current phase.

Unfortunately, not soon after the institutionalization of the current vicious phase, an ill-wind blew in with its very disturbing variables. Under the watch of this current phase, nobody needs any mental energy to know that the phase is overwhelmed by unimaginably very shameless vices such as corruption and unprecedented electoral irregularities. It is no doubt that the two variables, put together, have produced all shades and colours of untold social vices such as terrorism, banditry, kidnapping, armed robbery, inter and intra ethnic/group hostilities, prostitution, among many. Consequently, today, many African nations have become theatres of very disturbing bloody crises. And Nigeria is, at present,

worst caught up at this crossroad.

At this juncture, there is even no gain echoing the fact that all the aforementioned phases or variables in African history have factors claimed to have produced them. This has thrown the African historian into the herculean task of intellectual excavation and analysis for the purpose of unearthing the clinching variables responsible for the unfortunate development or phases in our continental history.

It is for the purpose of giving intellectual analyses of the foregoing unfortunate developments in our continental history that the Department of History and Diplomatic Studies, Taraba State University, Jalingo, has floated this intellectual platform tagged: "Jalingo Historical Review", to pull together intellectual resources from scholars. Our belief is that such intellectual materials will contribute enormously in the in-depth understanding of the variables accountable for the changing patterns in our continental history over the centuries, especially as from the 19th century.

**Akombo I. Elijah, PhD**

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# The Impact of British Military Expedition On the People and Society In Gongola-Hawul Confluence, 1904 to 1960

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**Abstract**
The people of the Gongola-Hawul Confluence, like the people of the present day Nigeria, had the serenity of their normal life disturbed by the intrusion of the Europeans into the Confluence area. The Confluence area is presently located in Adamawa and Borno states. The Confluence area is a home to conglomeration of ethnic groups which include the Kanakuru, Lunguda, Lala, Babur-Bura, and Wallama who claim to have come to the area from the East. In 1904, the British sent a Military Expedition to the Confluence area and invaded the peoples and brought them under effective British Colonial Military control. It is against this background that this paper examines the socio-political and economic Impacts of the British Military expeditions in the area from 1904-1960. The work also discuses the British Military patrols that were carried out in the confluence area and the people's resistance against the British Military forces. In attempt to achieve the desired results, both primary and secondary methods of Historical research were used. In conclusion, the work brings to limelight the Impact of the British Military expeditions on the peoples and societies of the Gongola-Hawul confluence area. From the findings, the research would be used as one of the documents which will help in preserving the History of the British Military expeditions in Gongola-Hawul valley which appears to be relatively scanty.
Keywords: Military, Expedition, Gongola, Confluence

## Introduction

In 1904, a British Military expedition was sent to Gongola-Hawul confluence area to bring the people under British control. After serious military confrontation, the

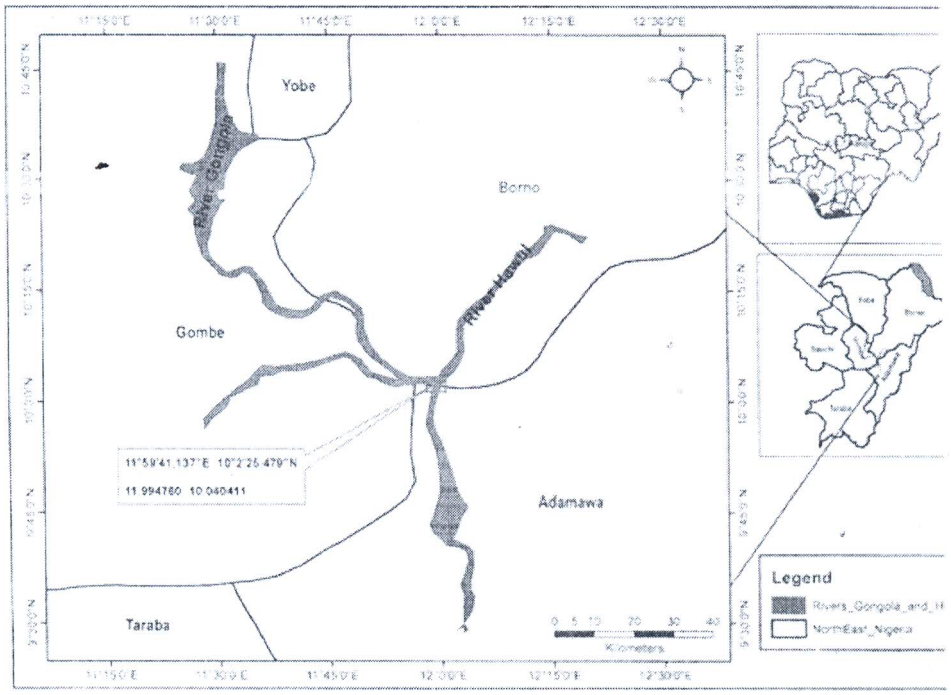
Wallama and the Babur-Bura who migrated from Biu and settled at the confluence area were conquered and brought under British Authority. Other ethnic groups around the GongolaHawul confluence like the Kanakuru refused to give up their sovereignty to the British. To compel the people to accept British overlord, Lord Lugard, the architect of Indirect Rule in Northern Nigeria, had to send punitive expeditions to force the people to give up their independence. Therefore, in 1914, a Military expedition was sent against the Kanakuru very close to the Confluence area. The Military expedition was led by Captain Hopkinson.[6] After serious Confrontation with the Kanakuru warriors, they were defeated by the British expeditionary force.[1]

The next British Military encounter was with the Lala. In this encounter, the British expeditionary forces were joined by Mr. James, an Assistant District Officer in charge of Lala District[2]. Like the Babur Military encounter, the Lala and Lunguda were heavily defeated by the British Military forces. Other military expeditions were also sent to other Districts like Shani, Burgu and Gasi located at the Gongola-Hawul Confluence area. Today, these ethnic groups are found in all the Local Government Areas that make up Gongola-Hawul Confluence. The Local Government Areats presently consist of Guyuk, Hawul, Shelleng and Shani of Adamawa and Borno States respectively[3].

Before 1960, there were isolated cases of Military patrols to bring the so-called recalcitrant people under effective British Colonial Military control. This paper discusses the process of the British Military expeditions in the Confluence area leading to the effective control of the area in terms of her economic, social and political circumstances and the attendant impact on them.

**Geographical Location of Gongola-Hawul Confluence area**

The Gongola-Hawul Confluence is presently located between Adamawa and Borno States. It has an area of about 5,627 square kilometres.[4]The Confluence area consists of three Local Government Areas namely: Shelleng, Guyuk of Adamawa State and Shani Local Government Area of Borno state. The confluence area has a population of about 3,406,234 according to 2006 population census. It lies between longitude $11^0$ 59' and $10^0$ 2' east and latitude $11^0$ 99' and $10^0$ 04 North. The greatest length of the Confluence from North to South is over 20 kilometres and its greatest width from East to West is about 15 kilometres.[5] The Gongola-Hawul Confluence area falls within the hybrid of Sudan and Guinea Savannah Zones and has a tropical climate marked by dry and raining seasons. Generally, the temperature of the Confluence area ranges between $35^0$C and $40^0$C during November – December and as low as $25^0$C in January. However, temperatures appear to rise from March to May. The hottest month of the year is April. Water temperature is dependent on atmospheric condition. In the dry season, from the month of November through March when the North-East trade winds blow from the Sahara Desert over the Confluence, changes in the temperature of more than $10^0$ may be noticed. The average annual rainfall of the area is about 654mm. When the raining season starts, it always begins with strong wind that appears to be destructive. The same thing could be say for the end of the raining season.[6]




**Source**: Adamawa State Ministry of Environment Yola

**The British Military Expedition and the Invasion of the Gongola-Hawul Valley**

The protectorate of Northern Nigeria, over which Lugard, was appointed High Commissioner, existed only on paper. Lugard therefore, deemed it imperative to embark on Military campaigns as from 1900 to transform the "paper" Protectorate into reality. The main obstacle to Lugard's efforts to bring the area under British effective control were the chiefs of the Gongola-Hawul Confluence who had refused to recognise the authority of the British, and were still engaged in-brisk trade in slaves with the Emir of Gombe.[7]

British, Military operations in the area began in 1901 and continued for about five years of sporadic fighting. In April 1902, an expedition was sent from Yola against the people of the area. The expeditionary forces which were led by Captain Cubitt comprised Borno and Yola forces. The expeditionary team arrived at Lamurde in April, 1902, and in the ensuing encounter, the Bachama who are close to the Confluence area were heavily defeated. In 1903, British Military outpost was established in Gongola District to secure peace in the area. The region was organised as Gongola District and later, in 1909, as Gongola Division.[8]

In November, 1903, Colonel Morland leading a force of twenty –two Europeans, 365 African ordinary soldiers, four guns and four maxims ascended the Gongola-Hawul Confluence. The chiefs of the area had two cannons and sixty deserters from Rabeh's Army who were in possession of modern rifles in the battle that ensurd between the Chiefs and the British. In the battle, thirteen men on the side of the chiefs were killed and two British officers were wounded.[9]

The remnant of Borno Empire was also invaded in 1902. Sokoto Caliphate and

Kano Emirates were taken over in 1903. In 1906, a large Mahadist revolution began outside the city of Sokoto in the village of Satire. A combined British forces destroyed the town, killed most residents and dethroned Sultan of Sokoto, Muhammad Attahiru II. After 1907, there were fewer revolts and the use of Military forces by the British.

After the conquest and occupation of the Gongola –Hawul Confluence, it did not take the British a long time to realize that the people were intractable subjects. Basically, the people resented their subjection to the British and began to oppose the British authority by various forms of passive and active resistance. It seems clear that, there were pockets of resistance which, in most cases, proved in effective.[10]

By 1912, however, the British had almost completed consolidating their position in the Gongola-Hawul Confluence. On 1st January, 1914, the Northern Protectorate system ended when it was unified with the Southern Nigeria protectorate and Lagos Colony to form Nigeria.

By the end of the First World War in 1918,reactions against British domination were clearly a thing of the past, although there were isolated cases up to the 1950s[11]

**The British Military Patrols in the Confluence area.**

The British military embarked on punitive patrols in the confluence area with the aim of ensuring the compliance of the payment of tax imposed by the British authorities on the peoples of the confluence area. Captain W.J Terry the then Commanding Officer, led the Hona-Bura Military Patrol team which left Yola Province on 3rd May, 1912, to visit Hona and then Bura Districts. The patrol team consisted of an Assistant Resident Officer, Mr. Arcland, and Dr. Partens with 56 ranks and file and five maxim guns. Furthermore, they visited other places like Song and Gombi. It is said that, Hona and Bura Districts were unsettled, therefore, a punitive patrol was sent to bring the situation under control. The District head of Hona was attacked and a policeman was murdered at Garkida. These events led to serious conflicts between the two Districts. Mr. Mathew who was the Assistant Resident Officer of Yola Province instructed the patrol team that efforts should be made to avoid the future occurrence of such disturbances as offences should be punished. The patrol team left to Yola on June 24th, 1912.[12]

The British military patrol in Biu District was led by C. F. Gardon. The main reason for the patrol was the refusal of the people to pay tax to the British authorities. Initially, the District Head, Bulama Jikan, was instructed by the British to inform the village heads under his District to begin payment of annual tax to the British authorities. But, unfortunately, the head of Bwongi village was opposed to the instruction of the British. This triggered misunderstanding among the two village heads. Furthermore, the collection of tax in other District's was attended with difficulty. Therefore; a punitive patrol team visited the District which consisted of fifty men and 2 Officers to assist to accomplish the mission of tax collection in the District.

Another event that captured the attention of the British military patrol team is the fighting between the Puba and Bulingwi Districts. The District Head of Biu had trouble with the two village heads. The first instance was an attack on Puba village on arriving at the village. The Yimanas men attacked Bulama Jikan and wounded him and his wife. On receiving the reports of the disturbances, the Resident District Officer left Biu to Bulingwi where the incident occurred. This led to an open confrontation between the people and the Resident District Officer and his escorts. The young men began to fire poisonous arrows at

the District officer's escorts. In replay to this; the District Officer ordered his escort to fire a volley in the air which led to the arrest of 3 men concerned in the Puba disturbances. But, unfortunately, the ring leader had already fled to the nearby community.[13]

Another patrol was the Bogan (Lala District) peaceful military patrol in 1912. The peaceful military patrol led by S.H.P Vereker of the Detachment of Northern Region from Pirambi, the Bogan locality, of Lala District. The patrol team consisted of military forces of 24 rank and files under the command of S.H.P Vereker and Lt Scott Moncrieft accompanied by a small police escorts on tour in the Division. The patrol team visited other places which included Dingai, an outskirts of Bogan locality, and Dahara, a small village of Lala pagan situated on the rocky ridges on the hills. The patrol team visited Robba community on the 24th February, 1914. During the patrols, the behaviour of the troops was excellent in the sense that no single instance had one cause to complain of the troops attempting to take any unfair advantage of the indigenes in their mutual dealing, and no any act of criminally recorded in the District by its citizens.[14]

The British Military patrol team in Shani District was led by C. Elder. The aimed of the patrol was to end the conflict between the Kanakuru and the British as a result of the people's refusal to pay tax to the British authority which was an annual events since 1913. This led to military patrol led by Captain Hopkinson. The first place to be visited on April 16th 1914 was Ghlee village where an armed spy was caught, who confessed that he was sent to the village to gain all the information he could about European soldiers that were stationed at the town. This led to an open confrontation between the British and the natives. For example, an attack was lunched on Yeriwa Wuriwa of the Tera District and Gumsa of Gerassa District during which latter was killed, while the former run away to Numan in Yola Province. The British authority enacted laws to the indigenous people of the communities. The enactment of the laws resulted in conflicts between the British and the indigenous people. Among the provisions of laws were burial fees, the increase of tax from 6 dollar to 9 dollars and imprisonment of Young men when caught with poisoned arrows.[15]

The Lala District Military patrol which began on 25th April 1908 was led by Capt Browne, Col Sergt and 38 rank and files. The first town visited was Gaila. Thereafter, the team moved to Tawa which was 10 miles away from Gaila town. The aim of the patrol was to bring to an end the conflict that had been going on between Gabun and Gaila Districts on the account of their raids on the loyal Honas. The town of Gabun was the strongest militant base of the Lala peoples[16].

Another patrol was the Bura District. The patrol teams were stationed at Aga-bura and Doggira in Biu District for collection of annual tax. In resistance to the request by the British, fighting broke out between the British and the indigenes of the area. The Burah used poisonous arrows to fight the British tax collectors. In defence, however, the British used M/4 guns and fire arms to subjugate the natives. The patrol team attempted to visit other neighbouring villages but, unfortunately, their mission was not successful. This was because the areas to be visited were extremely difficult, being very rocky and intersected with enormous rivers. Therefore, since the expeditionary forces were small, they could not defeat the Bura. Another factor for the defeat was because the British were not conversant with the terrain in the District[17].

## TABULAR STATEMENT OF MINOR OPERATIONS IN GONGOLA-HAWUL CONFLUENCE AREA

| Name of Expedition | Province | Purpose of the Expedition | Officer Commanding | No. of men and Guns Employed | Causalities | | Date | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Killed | Wounded | From | To |
| PIRI. | Yola | To punish a cannibal for raiding and murdering traders | Lt. R.M Blackwood 2/N.N Regt. | 1 Officer 1 European NCO 51 R& F, 1 maxim Gun 2 NNR | Nil | 1 private | 4th April | 8th April |
| Bulungwi | Biu District | To punish the people that refused to pay tax to the British Authorities | C.F. Gordon | 2. Officers 50.R&F | Nill | Nill | 10th April | 14th April |
| Hona-Bura | Yola Province | To settled the two districts Hona-Bura who are in conflict | W.J Terry Capt. Mr. Arcland | 2 Officers 1 European 56. R & F 5 Maxim guns | 1 Police man was murder | Nill | 15th May | 24th May |
| Bogan | Lala Districts | The Military Patrol team visit the area on a regular tour | SH.P Verekar Lt. Scott, Moncritt, | 2 Officers 24 R& F | Nill | Nill | 29th May | 31 May |
| Kanakuru | Bura Districts | To arrest the peoples who refused to pay tax to the British Authorities | Capt. Hopkins C. Elder | 2 Officers 25.R&F | Nill | Nill | 10th June | 13th June |
| Gaila | Lala Districts | To bring to an end the conflicts between Gabon on the account of their raids on the loyal | Capt. Brown, Col. Serge | 2 Officers 38 R&F 2 N.CO's | - | - | 20th June | 23rd June |

SUMMARY OF MINOR OPERATION FROM 1904 – 1920

**Resistance of the people of the Gongola-Hawul confluence against the British Military Forces**

The peoples of the Gongola-Hawul Confluence, like other ethnic groups in Nigeria, reacted against the British military activities in their area. Among the persistent opponents of the British occupation were Kanakuru, Lunguda, Babur, and Wallama ethnic groups. The groups who never submitted fully to the British proved to be a thorn in the flesh of the British. They continued to attack traders and passers-by.

In the early years of the Military Expeditions in the Gongola-Hawul, the Lunguda, Wallama and Lala attacked and killed Hausa traders who attempted to trade in the villages. As already noted, the British had to send military patrols to punish those ethnic groups. Even then, the Traditional Rulers in the Confluence area refused to cooperate with the British authority.

The British, in turn reacted by deposing those rulers who refused to recognised them. For instance, Idris the ruler of Shani was removed by the British in 1918 for refusing to carry out the British policy in his Emirate. Even after he was removed, the British continued to treat him as a dangerous person. In the same vein, the Districts Head of Biu, in 1919, mobilised his subjects and put up strong resistance against the British. He was, however, overpowered by the British who used sophisticated military machines, and because of his disobedience he was equally deposed. Other rulers put up passive resistance to the British authority by simply telling their subjects not to pay taxes demanded by the British. Some of them even run on seeing the British taxe collectors approaching their village. Some of them decided to move to the top of the mountain to avoid contestation with the British. Other villagers hid in caves and on the trees to fire at the British patrol team. All these resistance put by the people of the Gongola-Confluence would not prevent them from been conquered by the British.[18]

Therefore, beginning from1904-1916, the British Military machines were deployed against the people of the Gongola-Hawul Confluence area. like earlier pointed out, the people defended their communities with bows and arrows, spears, slings, clubs and even stones artillery and diplomacy. Eventually, the people were conquered and brought under the British colonial authority. By 1920, only few isolated cases of the people's resistance to the British were reported in the Confluence area. This means the people, by 1920s, began to comply with the British by paying their tax as when due to the British taxes collectors. Even the cases of the attacks on Hausa traders were minimal. Such was the British Military expeditions in the Gongola Confluence area and the resistance of the people to the
British occupation.[19]

**Aftermaths of British Military Expedition in the Gongola-Hawul Confluence area**

There is no doubt that the British occupation of the Gongola-Hawul Confluence area from 1904-1930s, as already indicated, was a very important events in the history of the area. It is important to note that the effects were both beneficial and detrimental to the people of the confluence area as outlined and discussed below.

### 5.1 Economic Impact

At the beginning, the British seemed to have been preoccupied with the pacification of the Gongola-Hawul confluence and paid little or no attention to the economic development of the region. Once pacification was achieved, British officers began to create conditions conducive for the development of the economic resources of the confluence and for the entry of products into the stream of world market. At the turn of the second decade of British colonial rule in the region, the promotion of economic development became an important aspect of their colonial policy.

The implementation of British economic policy in the Gongola –Hawul confluence started with the construction of motorable roads, the introduction of the British currency and the diversion of hitherto existing trade routes in the region to Bargu, Doma, Guyuk and Numan towns situated at the Confluence of the Gongola and Benue rivers. Moreover, markets were established in major administrative and commercial centres in the confluence.

These steps were taken with the view to providing infrastructure for the production and export of raw materials. From findings, the two cash crops in which the British Authority was particularly interested to promote their production were groundnut and cotton. To promote and boast the production of these primary products, the British Colonial Administration embarked on lecture tours in the region with a view to educating the farmers on modern methods of cultivating the crops. Improved cotton seeds (long-stable seed) were distributed to the farmers. In 1933, for example, more than 35 tons of cotton seeds were distributed among
District Heads, Village Headmen and prospective cultivators.[20]

The administration also encouraged the Christian missionaries in the confluence to set up demonstration gardens where their Christian converts and students could learn modern techniques of farming. In 1928, Mr. Jerslev Hansen of the Sudan United Mission (SUM) carried out experiments with modern cultivating machines (Garma) brought from Denmark. The harvests from the experimental plot nearly doubled that of the plot cultivated by traditional method. With a view to inducing peasant farmers to adopt the new method, Mr. Hansen loaned the machines to African members of the Mission, and gave them instructions on the use of the machines.[21]

The promotion of primary products, mainly cash crops, attracted a number of expatriate firms to the area. The first foreign company to establish itself in the region was the Royal Niger Company (RNC). These companies were interested in export of groundnut, gum Arabic, cotton, hides and skins and sheanut. Therefore, in 1910, about 100 tons of groundnuts were shipped from the confluence area to Britain. Similarly, in 1920, about 200 tons of cotton were brought out from the Confluence area. By 1958, cotton production had raised from 200 tons to 1,100, which marked the region's largest cotton export from Gongola Province.[22]

Export of primary product to Europe 1910

| Year | Product | Total exports (in tonne) |
|---|---|---|
| 1910 | Groundnut | 100 (tonne) |
| 1910 | Gum Arabic | 9 (tonne) |
| 1920 | Cotton | 200 (tonne) |
| 1958 | Cotton | 1,100 (tonne) |

**Sources; Quarterly Reports 1910, Gongola Division National Archive Kaduna**

From 1956 to 1960, because of the increase in cotton production, the British Cotton Growing Association (BCGA), which had been operating in Northern Nigeria since 1904, decided to open its branch at Biu and Numan. with the aim of processing the product before it would be shipped to the world market.[24]

Furthermore, the attention of the British was turned in the mining sector. In 1909; the administration began serious geological surveys at the study area. During the surveys, iron ore in its almost pure state was discovered in large quantity. Late in the year, the British Non-Ferrous Mining Association visited the sites and succeeded in loading barges of the mineral resources. In that year, about 3500 tons of iron ore were mined and transported to Europe.[25]

### 5.2 Social Impact

British officers were primarily preoccupied with consolidating political power in the newly acquired territory and paid negligible attention to social transformation of the area. The process of social transformation took the form of provision of social amenities to the people of the area. Britain's attitude was not altogether sincere. Like most imperialist power, Britain was principally interested in the exploitation of the economic resources of the area, as a major manufacturing and capital exporting country.

After the framework of Indirect Rule had been set up, it became necessary for the British officers to secure some form of revenue to carry out their activities in the Confluence area. But it should be noted that the construction of roads and sinking of concrete wells in the area was as a result of the tax paid by the people and not out of the pocket of the British tax payer or aids from the British imperial treasury. The imposition of direct taxation was based on the old principle laid down by Earl Grey in 1852 that "the surest test for the soundness of measures for the improvement of uncivilized people is that they should be self supporting"[14]. This was because Britain was not willing to finance social projects in the territory with fund from the British treasury, but mainly interested in exploiting the economic resources of the area.

Another social impact of British Military Expedition on the people of the confluence area was the great lost of population. Many people died as a result of the conflicts that took place during the Expeditions. Houses were burnt and property was destroyed. The expedition also affected the customs and traditions of the people in the area.[26]

The British military expeditions in the Gongola-Hawul area had encouraged intergroup relations. Before the British military expeditions were carried out, there was no love between the ethnic groups in the confluence area. For instance, the Puba and Bulingwi

villages were enemies. They often fought on the slightest provocation. But with the coming of the British, the misunderstanding between the two communities in the confluence area ended. Thus, the British encouraged the people to leave in peace so that they can be civilized. Consequently, the people of the Confluence area did not only agreed to co-habit in peace, but also promised to end the misunderstanding amicably. Resulting from the British efforts, before 1945, the people of the Confluence area were busy trading with one another and were exchanging cultural ties. This was a very good effort by the British in encouraging inter-group relation.[27]

Similarly, the constant fight between the Lunguda and Kanakuru of Doma on the one hand, and that of the Fulani on the other over grazing land came to be suspended. When the British visited the area, the people became united against the common enemy, the British. After the British attack on the community, the unity which was established during the British attack continued to exist between these ethnic groups to the extent that the people began to inter-marry. These inter-marriages which came as a result of the British activities hard encouraged the inter-marriage between the Fulani, Lunguda, and Kanakuru of Doma. Today, it is hardly to distinguish between a Fulani, Lunguda, Wallama and Kanakuru woman who presently live in the Doma village situated on the Confluence area.

The British military expeditions also led to the provision of portable water through the sinking of wells as already noted. Infact, it was in the early 1940s and 50s that the British began to sink concrete wells in some villages like Doma, Shani, Gasi, Kobo, Kumbo. By 1950s, about 15 wells were sunk in the confluence area. These wells and the roads were constructed using parts of the taxes collected from the natives of the confluence area.[28]

In education, the British Colonial Authority contributed a little. Most of the primary schools established in the area were by the Christian missionaries, particularly those provided by the Church of the Brethren Ekkilisiyar Yan Uwa a Nigeria (EYN), the Sudan United Mission (SUM) and the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN). The British encouraged the missionaries to set up primary schools in Wallama, Doma, etc. These schools received little or no grants from the colonial government. But after 1937, more and more primary schools were established in the confluence area by the missionaries. It was in the 1960s that the Nigerian government started to invest in the primary education.[29]

The British Colonial Government did not only encourage the Missionaries to set up schools in the confluence area, but also to provide medical services. Thus, clinics were set up in Shelleng, Doma, Bargu, Wallama and Shani Districts. The establishment of health centers by the missionaries reduced infant mortality and put under control diseases like smallpox, missiles malaria, etc .Apart from the health services provided, they also proveded employment. Indigenous people were also employed as cleaners, steward, cook, and ward attendants. Others were indigenous people, especially ward attendants, that were trained by the missionaries as nurses and midwives. The establishment of medical services both by the missionaries and, later, by the British had some negative effects on the traditional medicines. Some of the Traditional medicine practitioners became Christians and abandoned their traditional medical practice.[30]

### 5.3 Political Impact

The British colonial masters undermind and adulterated the political system of the people of the confluence area. The British became masters over traditional rulers in the

confluence area. The British did not strictly observe traditional guidelines in their appointments of District Heads and subordinate chiefs. The principal criterion which guided them in this exercise was the loyalty of the candidates. Thus, disloyal District Heads and subordinate Chiefs were removed and replaced by those whose qualification was personal loyalty. [31]

**Conclusion**

The investigation into the impacts of the British military expedition on the people and society in the Gongola-Hawul Confluence 1904-1930s reveals that the people of the Confluence area were conquered and subjugated under British Colonial Military control. After they were conquered, the British military imposed tax on the people of the Confluence area. Some people in the area refused to pay the tax to the British Authority. This development led the British Authority to send punitive patrol to the Confluence area to punish them.

The British military expedition made remarkable impacts to the people and society of the Confluence area in a number of ways. The constant fights between the Ḳanakuru and Lunguda on the one hand, and that of the Fulani on the other hand over grazing land, came to be suspended. When the British Military visited the area, the people became united to fight the common enemy, "the British". These led the ethnic group to become united to the extent that the groups began to inter-marry and live peacefully. Before 1945, the people of the Confluence area were busy trading and exchanging cultural ties.

The British colonial administration also did well in the provision of portable water through the sinking of well as already noted. Health canters were built in the confluence area. The health centres help immensely in reducing infant mortality and put under control diseases like small pox and missels. The health centres also provided employment to the indigenous people of the confluence area.

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