WEEK THREE (3)

TOPIC: NON-CENTRALISED STATE (TIV)

THE ORIGIN OF TIV

Tiv nation or ethnic group is located in North central part of Nigeria in Benue state, Taraba state, Nasarawa state and a part of Cameroon Republic. Tiv is the largest ethnic group in Benue state and the seventh largest ethnic group in Nigeria.

The Tiv believe they emerged into their present location from the southeast part of Africa. It is claimed that the Tiv wandered through southern, south-central and west-central Africa before arriving at the savannah lands of West African Sudan via the River Congo and Cameroon Mountains and settled at Swemkaragbe the region adjoining Cameron and Nigeria in the beginning of 1500 CE. The Tiv people started spreading in different batches; some moved southward across Obudu mountains others moved northward spreading over Mdema and Waka district, while others moved into core Benue valley present day core Central Nigeria. These dispersions took place in the early 1500 CE to 1600 CE. Tiv people trace their history to a man called Tiv who gave birth to two sons Ichongo and Ipsu.

SOCIO-POLITICAL STRUCTURE OF TIV

1. **Mba Tsav** : traditional ruler
2. **Ipaven(the family)** : the " Oruya" the oldest man , was the head of his family .
3. The kindred : a collection of families bounded by common ancestor. It was headed by **''Shagba''** a very wealthy man . the **''Tec''** was the spokesman who had both spiritual and magical powers.
4. **The clan (upyaven**) : the elders of various clans, makes up the clan.

ECONOMY OF TIV

1. **Farming :** they were predominantly farmers . farming was their main occupation and yam was their major agricultural produce. They also produced cocoyam, mushroom, locust bean and maize .
2. **Rearing of Animals** : domestic animals were reared in large numbers. Sheep's, chickens, pigs and goats were sources of food and income for Tiv people.
3. **Fishing**
4. **Hunting**
5. **Trade**

ASSIGNMENT:

1. State the socio political structure of Tiv people.
2. Describe the economy of Tiv.