

MFECANE AND STATE FORMATION

- Dingiswayo of the Mthetwa
- The Mfecane period
- Shaka of the Zulu
- Other Zulu Leaders after Shaka
- Sobhuza of the Swazi
- Mosheshe of the Basuto
- Mzilikazi of Ndebele
- Sekwati and Sekhukhuni of the Pedi

Dingiswayo of the Mthetwa

Qns. Describe the achievements of Dingiswayo to Mthetwastate.

How did Dingiswayo build and expand the Mthetwa state by 1817?

Introduction

The Mthetwa was one of the various tribes in Natal which later formed the Zulu state. This was during the time of Dingiswayo one of the important nation builders of South Africa.

Dingiswayo the wonderer was a son of chief Jobe who grew up at his father's palace. In his early years, he tried to kill his father in order to take over leadership but when the plan leaked out, he fled to Hlubi area.

- While in exile, he gained a lot of experience from European known as Robert Owen. Owen taught him how to use a gun and how to ride a horse.
- Dingiswayo later returned home after his father's death and over threw his brother Mawewe. He later killed him and declared himself the new king of the Mthetwa.
- As a new king his first priority was protect his people from the strong neighboring tribes e.g. Ndwandwe under Zwide and the Ngwane under Sobhuza.
- He managed to protect people by forming a strong army which he divided into regiments called Ntanga. Each regiment had its own colour of spears and shields which were provided by him.
- At the beginning his army was made up of about 500 soldiers and the army was not permanent but due to increasing wars, he managed to form a permanent and professional army.
- He appointed and promoted warriors basing on their talents and abilities and it was because of this that Shaka was appointed as a military commander at an early age.
- His Age regiments produced food for themselves.
- He abolished all the traditional ceremonies in order to create full time worriers. That helped him to defeat his neighbours very fast and brought them under his rule.
- All the youth in his kingdom were supposed to join the army in order to expand and defend his state. The practice helped him to have a very large and powerful nation.

- As a way of promoting loyalty, he became kind to his enemies i.e. gave them back their cows and other forms of property.
- He also allowed them to retain their chiefs but they had to pay tributes to him.
- He promoted unity by marrying from different clans. Most of the people therefore were related to him and could not easily fight him.
- He donated some of the captured cows to his warriors in order to make them more efficient and obedient.
- He ruled with the help of the traditional leaders, trained soldiers (the indunas) who always advised him.
- He created friendship with the whites at the cape in order to get the guns from them with the aim of strengthening his army and state.
- He encouraged people to trade with the whites in order to boost the economy. He also boosted the economy by developing a skin and hide industry.
- Dingiswayo was however killed in 1818 in an ambush led by Zwide and planned by Shaka.
- His skull was preserved and later taken to decorate the hut of Zwide's mother.

Problems faced by Dingiswayo

- He was hated right from the beginning of his rule by his family members and relatives because he planned to kill the father and also killed his brother.
- He suffered internal or civil wars within the state and spent most of the time fighting against his enemies.
- He was also attacked by external wars and therefore spent most of his life time fighting against his neighbours
- He was at one time wounded and narrowly died after attempting to kill his father although he managed to escape to Hlubi Mountains.
- Some of his warriors were indisciplined and that made his life and administration difficult e.g. Shaka always wanted to over throw him and finally helped Zwide, leader of Ndwandwe to kill him.
- His kingdom was made up of many tribes; as a result it was very difficult for him to unite his people.
- He attempted to promote loyalty by allowing the conquered people to rule themselves that created more trouble.
- There was increase in population because of his policy of absorbing the conquered people. That brought about famine which negatively affected his warriors.
- At first he did have permanent army and as a result he experienced many external attacks and the army weakened.

- These warriors had long spears which were too heavy to carry. And they also fought in heavy sandals which made them less efficient.
- His enemies and neighbours started copying his military tactics and changes which helped them to compete against Dingiswayo e.g. they also abolished circumcision in order to create more time for the warriors.
- Some of his military commanders like Shaka refused to help whenever he had military problems and instead betrayed him.
- He suffered from constant attacks from the conquered states who wanted to gain their independence and this destroyed his kingdom.
- He did not have a special council to advise him and instead depended on the military commanders or Indunas and traditional leaders who could not effectively advise him.

Solutions to his problems

NB: Leave space for 12 points and discuss them with your teacher and note them down.

Shaka and the rise of Zulu nation.

Explain the origin of the Zulu nation

- The origin of the Zulu nation is not clear but it is believed by many historians that it was founded by Shaka in the 19th century.
- The kingdom was established in northern Nguni land where different people lived in small chiefdoms with about 200 clans.
- However, there were three dominant states that developed out of the numerous clans namely the Mthetwa under Dingiswayo, the Ngwane (Swazi) under Sobhuza and the Ndwandwe under Zwide.
- The above states always conflicted with each other. The Ndwandwe under Zwide were the first to attack and defeat the Ngwane (Swazi) under Sobhuza driving them north wards to Swaziland where they eventually settled for trade. Hence acquired the name Swazi.
- The Ndwandwe later attacked the Mthetwa and killed their leader Dingiswayo leaving behind Shaka as the military commander.
- The Zulu nation was originally a small kingdom headed by Senzangakona, the father of Shaka. The kingdom was founded among the Bantu speaking people in the east coastal areas of South Africa.
- Shaka was an unwanted child born in 1783 to a chiefly family of the Zulu nation. His father Senzangakona was a chief of a small Zulu chiefdom while his mother was Nandi.
- Shaka was unwanted because he was born before his father was circumcised. He was therefore rejected by the Zulu royal family. He was regarded as an illegitimate child hence a bastard.
- Because of this background, Shaka grew up with his mother and maternal uncles; he therefore had a miserable childhood and was always teased by his playmates. This later made him grow up with fierce determinations, ambitions and courage.

- As a youth he joined Dingiswayo's army and this marked the beginning of his military career. He therefore distinguished himself as a courageous and intelligent warrior leading to his promotion by Dingiswayo as a military commander (Induna of a given regiment).
- While in Dingiswayo's army, he made several changes e.g. introduction of short stabbing spears orassegai, fighting bear footed and use of cow horn formation.
- Around 1816 Shaka's father died and he was succeeded by his brother Segujane. With the help of Dingswayo, Shaka defeated his brother and declared himself new Zulu chief.
- Around 1818, Dingiswayo was betrayed by Shaka and ended up being killed by Zwide. That gave Shaka a chance to take over Mthethwa thereby leading to the expansion of his kingdom
- Shaka then started fighting and defeated neighboring states e.g. Ndwandwe, Pondo which also helped him to establish a strong Zulu kingdom. Shaka became the most feared and most popular person in the region.
- His military campaigns resulted into the creation of a very large empire and he assimilated all the conquered people. After creating a very large empire, he was able to put in place a well-organized political system.
- In conclusion, the Zulu kingdom developed out of Shaka's creation after taking advantage of the conflicts in the area after the death and disappearance of prominent leaders like Zwide, Dingiswayo and Sobhuza

Factors for the rise of the Zulu kingdom

- **Introduction:** Zulu kingdom was located north of Nguni land in Natal. It was founded by Shaka. The factors for the rise and development of the Zulu Kingdom were social, economic and political as explained below.
- The death of Shaka's father Senzangankona and his brother Segujane created a power vacuum in the Zulu state which gave Shaka a chance to become the new leader of the state.
- Shaka's personality as an ambitious and courageous person led to the rise of the Zulu kingdom. This was created by his miserable childhood which made him determined to succeed in order to disprove his playmates.
- He conquered several Zulu neighbouring states such as the Mthethwa, Ndwandwe, Pondo, etc thus transforming the Zulu state into a very powerful empire.
- The Zulu state practiced agriculture and grew crops like millet which helped them to have food security. Food security helped the warriors to fight effectively.
- The area had heavy rainfall and fertile soils. Such a climate was conducive for farming and human settlement.
- It had able leaders who were determined to expand at all costs. Such leaders also carried out effective administration. e .g Shaka, Dingane, Mpande and Ceteswayo.
- Introduction of military changes by Shaka also led to the rise of the state i.e. he stopped circumcision to make warriors concentrate on the military training , introduced short stabbing spears, fighting bear footed, fighting at night and soldiers marrying after 40 years.

- The Zulu neighbours were militarily weak and this gave Shaka the chance to expand into their areas e.g. Tswana, Sotho.
- The death of Dingiswayo cleared way for Shaka's expansion i.e. when Dingiswayo died; Shaka added his area to the Zulu kingdom.
- The occurrence of Mfecane which made many people like the Ngoni, Ndebele, Basuto, etc to fight and kill each other, and others decided to move away. That helped Shaka to expand into their area.
- The over centralization of power by the Zulu kings also ensured order, loyalty and effective control of the state.
- The Zulu state participated in trade between Africans and the whites. The trade enabled the state to accumulate wealth for survival.
- The Zulu were united and the unity was further boosted by the similarity in language and culture.
- It also grew because of strong army that was availed with short stubbing spears. The army defended and carried out expansion.
- The Zulu army had high degree of loyalty, discipline, fought bare torted and did not carry luggage. That made them carryout their defense and raids effectively.

Conclusion: The above mentioned social, economic and political factors led to the rise of the Zulu nation but most importantly were the personality and character of Shaka.

SHAKA'S MILITARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS/ ACHIEVEMENTS

How did Shaka build and rule the Zulu nation?

What were the achievements of Shaka to the Zulu nation?

- **Introduction:** Shaka was a son of Senzangakona a minor Zulu chief and mother was Nandi. Shaka was founder of Zulu kingdom. The following were the political, social, economic and administrative reforms made by Shaka.

Political reforms

- The king was the head of the kingdom and he ruled with absolute power i.e. his word was final. He therefore ruled as a great dictator.
- He conquered the neighbouring states or societies e.g. Mthetwa, Pondo, Thembo and Ndwandwe and made them part of the Zulu nation. These greatly contributed to the expansion of the Zulu nation.
- He replaced 'the traditional leaders with the military commanders (Indunas) but none of these Indunas were allowed to organize a meeting without his permission.
- He introduced a strong military army which was in form of military regiments. This army was professionally trained to fight, expand and protect the state against external attacks.
- He constantly trained his soldiers and divided them into smaller groups. This made it easy for them to adopt the new method of fighting i.e. cow horn formation.

- The army became the source of his power and made himself the commander in chief who was responsible for military affairs. He gave rewards to his warriors as a way of encouraging them to be efficient.
- He introduced new methods of warfare e.g. the use of cow horn formation, surprise attacks, use of short stubbing spears and the use of long shields for protection against enemies.
- His warriors lived in special military settlements (barracks) e.g. at Bulawayo, Ndebele, etc. Each of these settlements had its own colour and source of food that differentiated them from others.
- He never allowed his soldiers to marry until 40 years. That was to make them serve as full time warriors. He also employed a group of medicine men to treat the warriors.
- He abolished circumcision in order to make the youth full time warriors and also maintained a high level of discipline in the army which made the warriors more efficient.
- He united many small chiefdoms thereby forming one powerful Zulu kingdom. He however forced all the conquered people to speak the Zulu language.
- The chiefs of the conquered people were forced to abandon their power and placed under his indunas.
- The conquered youths were added to his army and all the old people were killed because they were of no use.
- He kept the retired soldiers into reserves forces that provided food to the active soldiers.

Economic reforms

- The army was productive and each regiment had royal herds that provided milk and meat to soldiers.
- He introduced women regiments and women in various regiments worked in the gardens and provided food to the active soldiers.
- He befriended the British who provided him with guns and encouraged his people to trade with them. Hence boosted the Zulu economy.
- He promoted raiding activities in his area by encouraging his people to raid their neighbours in order to acquire more cattle and food.
- He ensured that all people had enough food, millet and local beer to the soldiers. That helped to solve the problem of famine which could have negatively affected his people.
- He established state farms that provided food, millet and local beer to the soldiers. Therefore agriculture was very important during the time of Shaka. That strengthened the economy further.
- He introduced the system of collecting tributes from the conquered states. These tributes were paid in form of cattle and food to the chief.

Social reforms

- In order to effectively control his nation, he made himself the chief judge and his word was final.

- He made his family relatives to marry his top officials in the nation. That was made the family relatives to spy on the top officials and he therefore had a strong spy network.
- Marriage was a very important affair. The soldiers would be released at the age of 40 (men) and women at the age of 30 to marry. They would however marry from their regiments.
- There were religious ceremonies and the king himself presided over these ceremonies. Rituals were performed for the benefit of his people since people believed that he used his ability as a religious leader.
- There were royal dances especially after the war. The warriors would gather and dance in the presence of the king most specially to please the visitors like the whites and to also impress the king.
- Under Shaka's rule, the society was classless one i.e. all people were considered to be equal.

Problems faced by Shaka

- There was no tribal unity in his kingdom because it was made up of several tribes and conquered people which brought about disunity.
- During his childhood, Shaka was always teased and humiliated by his peers because of his background and that made him always to feel small.
- Some of the conquered chiefs and their people were always troublesome. They continued demanding for their freedom and independence something that destabilized Shaka's administration.
- His administration also faced constant attacks from his neighbors so he had to always prepare for counter attacks against them.
- Some neighbouring kingdoms copied his military tactics and eventually used them against him e.g. surprise attacks, cow horn formation and short stabbing spears.
- Shaka as a leader was always on the offensive and attacking other kingdoms something that caused his army to get exhausted and turn against him.
- His dictatorship was hated by his own people and that forced some of his commanders like Zwangendaba to run away thus remaining with weak ones.
- His empire was too big for him and that made it difficult for effective administration.
- He faced opposition from his brothers who looked for an opportunity to snatch power from him .i.e. Dingane who connived with Mhlangane and their Aunt Mkabayi to kill Shaka.
- He was like a refugee in his own country and survived death in many occasions.
- He failed to handle the crisis after the death of mother and even lost the fighting spirit instead led to the torture of his subjects
- The white penetration into his kingdom greatly threatened his administration since they were more powerful than him and could easily influence his people against him. For instance, he lost part of Natal to an English man called Farewell.

- Shaka led to period of Mfecane which resulted into a lot of suffering within the kingdom causing others to flee e.g. the Nguni, Ndebele, etc.
- Shaka was betrayed by his indunas who killed him with the support of his brothers Dingane and Mhlangane.

EFFECTS OF SHAKA'S MILITARY CHANGES, WARS AND EXPANSION ON HIS NEIGHBOURS

How did the rise of Shaka of Zulu nation affect the neighbours?

Introduction: Give the background of Zulu and Shaka. The growing popularity the Zulu empire affected the neighbouring chiefdoms both negatively and positively.

- Many societies lost their land and many were displaced and became refugees in their homeland.
- There was family break down as most of the captured states lost their youths to Shaka's army.
- There was large scale migration of people from Zulu land to other areas like the Ngoni and the Ndebele.
- Many people were killed by Shaka's warriors and that led to depopulation in the area and suffering of those who lost their relatives. Most of the neighbouring conquered societies lost their people who were killed by the Zulu warriors e.g. Zwibe of the Ndwandwe.
- There was a decline in economic activities like trade, agriculture. Such activities could not go on during the course of the wars.
- There was a wide spread of famine as a result of unsettled life and increased wars in the region i.e. people could not settle down to cultivate.
- His military reforms led to the Mfecane period i.e. wars, insecurity, fear, misery and suffering which in the long run forced neighbours to migrate to other areas.
- Many states broke up and declined after being defeated by the Zulu e.g. the Ngwane, Ndwandwe.
- The captured states lost their independence to Zulu e.g. the Ndwandwe, Mthethwa and Pondo.
- A lot of property was lost and destroyed in the endless wars that were fought between Shaka and his neighbours.
- There was large scale loss of cattle in the region that resulted into a period of poverty.
- There was creation of dangerous groups of thieves who survived on stealing and killing of people such as the Fingo cannibals.
- Zulu militarism was spread in the region and his military tactics and weapons were adopted by other societies. They in turn used these tactics against him.
- There was creation of a vacuum land (empty space) in the Zulu that later attracted Boer penetration into the interior. That was after some societies fled Shaka's influence.
- There was emergence of new and strong societies like the Swazi and Basuto nation created to resist Shaka.
- There was increased enmity between the Zulu and their neighbours as a result of Shaka's wars of expansion.
- His activities increased slave raiding where they raided the neighbouring communities.

THE ORGANIZATION OF ZULU STATE.

Political

- Zulu nation was centralized with the king at the top of the head of the kingdom and was highly respected.
- Zulu nation was a military state which was under a king who was a military man and the chiefs were also military men.
- The king was a chief judge and his word was final law.
- The king was also the leader of the religious affairs and a high priest in the kingdom.
- The succession to the throne was hereditary and patrilineal i.e. from father to son.
- The kingdom had a strong standing army that was used for defence and expansion.
- The king ruled with assistance of an advisory council.
- The kingdom had military settlements or barracks e.g. Bulawayo, Ndebele, Ndwandwe, etc
- The army was made up of regiments and each regiment was under a military chief called Induna.
- The Indunas were appointed by the king because he was the commander and he promoted them according to their capabilities.
- The king had powers to appoint or dismiss any Induna at will.
- During shaka's rule, the Induna were not allowed to hold any meeting without the permission from the king,
- The chief Indunas and other chief leaders visited king's palace to pay respect to him.
- The Zulu kingdom also comprised of conquered areas, the outer provinces of the kingdom were under a Royal chief.
- All conquered states were forced to follow Zulu culture, the youth joined the army and the old people were killed.
- The Zulu warriors remained in the camps or barracks until the age of 40 to retire and get married.

Economic

- The Zulu economy was highly centralized and controlled by the king.
- The Zulu had a mixed economy i.e. they grew crops like millet, beans and kept animals like cattle, goats, etc.
- Cattle were highly respected as a sign of wealth and were used for paying dowry.
- They also carried out iron working and produced spears, shields, hoes, etc.
- They always raided the neighbors for cattle, goats, sheep and women.
- The retired soldiers and women regiments produced food for active warriors.
- They participated in trade with the neighbors and the Europeans. They traded in items like ivory, guns, etc.
- The Zulu acquired taxes and tributes from the conquered states in form of cattle and ivory.

Social

- The king controlled the social affairs of the state i.e. was the highest social figure in the land.
- He was the spiritual leader and high priest and presided over the first fruit ceremony.
- The Age regiments were the Centres of socialization and created social unity.
- Zulu worshipped their gods and the most important was god of war.
- Zulu society was divided into Classes i.e. Royal family, ordinary people and slaves.
- They carried out initiation ceremonies e.g. Circumcision but was later abolished by Shaka.

THE MFEKANE IN SOUTH AFRICA

The causes of Mfecane

1. What were the causes of the great Mfecane?
2. Why did the Eastern Bantu tribes conflict among themselves between 1800 and 1830?
3. Why were there the 1800-1830s wars among the eastern Bantu tribes in South Africa?

Introduction

Mfecane was a Nguni word meaning period of trouble, wars, suffering and migration; the Sotho called it Defecane.

It was a period of upheaval among the South African societies during the 1st half of the 19th century. It occurred among the Nguni, Bantu tribes like the Zulu, Ndwandwe, Mthethwa, etc.

It took place in the first thirty years of the 19th century e.g. between 1800 and 1830 and it took place in the area south of river Limpopo and North east of the Vaal and Orange River in Natal region. The causes were economic, political and social as seen below.

- There was increased population in Zulu land both animals and humans which brought problems and created need for expansion.
- The period of Mfecane was characterized by forced migrations which led to the rise of many new revolutionary states. It was essential process of social, political and military change which was rapidly explosive and revolutionary.
- There was burning desire and competition for fertile soils with good pastures and waters for animals and agriculture.
- Therefore the land shortage also created quarrels among the different clans and tribes causing disunity and wars.
- There was also competition for areas with favourable climate among different clans and tribes causing disunity and wars.
- The expansion of Kalahari Desert created shortage of land leading to conflicts among the Bantu tribes.
- The rise of stubborn ambitious and military leaders like Shaka, Zwibe, and Dingiswayo also led to the Mfecane.

- Inter territorial raids and counter raids i.e. the Boer trekkers from the cape exerted pressure on the Africans when they tried to take their land and cattle. The Africans on the other hand were not willing to accept defeat. So they fought back resulting into Mfecane.
- The presence of desperate groups of refugees or people who had resorted to cannibalism e.g. Fingo attacked the people and led to the Mfecane.
- Contacts with the Europeans e.g. Dingiswayo met a British military official who gave him ideas on how to create and enlarged state. He then used these ideas to attack his neighbours leading to instability.
- The Bantu were struggling and competing to have control over the trade with Europeans in the region in order to acquire guns from the Europeans.
- The expansion of the whites into Zulu land caused more pressure among the Zulu or Bantu people.
- The need to strengthen and improve their military organization by the Bantu leaders like Dingiswayo led to a period of trouble.
- The killing of Dingiswayo and later Zwibe increased the fighting between the Bantu tribes as there was strong hatred between each other.
- The character of Shaka also contributed to the Mfecane i.e. he was cruel and influenced his people to be cruel causing hatred and misunderstandings.
- The military reforms of Shaka introduced the idea of total war which increased fighting in the Zulu land as the people were used to the war like nature that they went through.
- The introduction of new fighting weapons like the short stubbing spears that were portable and could kill many people at ago, use of surprise attacks, cow horn formation, etc always made them victorious.
- Abandoning of useless cultures e.g. Dingiswayo and Shaka argued that circumcision would prevent boys from active military services, it was abandoned for some time and increased war fare.
- The cultural practice of initiation created unity since the group that was circumcised at the same time became a force which would fight together.
- Shaka's expansionist policy forced him to attack his neighbours like the Ndwandwe leading to the Mfecane. Shaka's desire to loot and cause e uncontrolled suffering to others.
- The struggle for power and succession conflicts also caused a period of trouble. It was accelerated by the introduction of guns among the Nguni.
- The death of Shaka's mother Nandi annoyed him and made him to kill all innocent people for not mourning properly.
- Even the death of Shaka increased conflicts and wars among the Zulu. For all the existing leaders now wanted to replace Shaka.
- There was also increased demand for the rich ivory, hunting grounds which was on high demand.

N.B. All Shaka's reforms can be used as causes of Mfecane i.e. Use of reforms of Shaka and show how they led to the Mfecane. These were social, economic and political causes.

Effects of the Mfecane

How did the Mfecane affect the people of South Africa?

Introduction:

Define Mfecane. The Mfecane affected the people of South Africa in their social, political and economic aspects of their lives as seen below;

- There was great loss of lives in Zulu land and this in turn led to depopulation of the area.
- It facilitated the settlement of Boer trekkers. They found societies which were already weak while others were depopulated hence the Boer comfortably settled.
- Some leaders were killed during the period of trouble e.g. Shaka who was killed by his brothers, Dingiswayo betrayed by Shaka and Zwide, etc.
- Zulu military system spread i.e. neighbouring societies adopted the Zulu military system. The Zulu military tactics like the cow horn tactic, short stabbing spears, fighting barefooted tactics were adopted and spread over a wide area.
- Some weak tribes like Mthethwa and Ndwandwe lost their land to the powerful and organized kingdoms like Zulu.
- Many people were displaced into new homelands and became refugees.
- There was large scale migration from Zulu land as people were running away to safe areas creating vacuum land that later attracted the Boers settlement.
- Small and weak societies lost their independence and were swallowed up by Shaka in his kingdom.
- There was increased misery and suffering and many people became refugees and kept on moving looking for survival e.g. Fingo.
- There was increase in slavery especially among the Ndebele and Ngoni who took many people as slaves and wonderers e.g. the Fingo and Hlubi.
- There was a decline in agriculture that resulted into shortage of food that forced people to resort to cannibalism. E.g. the Fingo.
- Many societies lost large herds of cattle due to constant raiding and therefore suffered from poverty.
- It led to a period of fear, tension and insecurity that divided up many societies.
- Insecurity forced them to concentrate or live in hilly areas that were safe.
- New and strong states came up to safe guard their people from dangers of Mfecane e.g. Swazi and Basuto nations.
- Fighting was also improved as new methods were introduced and spread to central and South Africa.

Note: The effects of the Mfecane = Effects of Shaka's wars on his neighbours and the general effects of wars.

THE ZULU KINGDOM AFTER SHAKA

THE RULE OF DINGANE (1828-1840)

Describe the achievements of Dingane to the Zulu people before 1840.

Introduction:

Dingane was a half-brother to Shaka and therefore a son to Senzangakona,

- In 1828, Dingane collaborated with his brother Mhlangene with the help of a chief Induna Mbohopa to kill Shaka.
- Dingane temporarily shared power with Mhlangene and the chief Induna. He later turned against his brother and chief Induna and killed them assuming full powers.
- When the Zulu army returned from the raid, tired and weak, Dingane bribed them by promising them peace and that saved him from a coup.
- As a ruler he was interested in pleasing people especially the warriors and that was why he relaxed the harsh laws Shaka had put on the warriors e.g. he abolished the regular military training and stopped all the military attacks which made warriors idle.
- He went ahead and disbanded and dissolved the military regiments and even allowed the warriors to marry before the age of 40.
- Because of his peaceful policy, the warriors started escaping from his kingdom to go and work in the white farms of Natal.
- Later because of the fear of being overthrown he tried to re-militarize the army i.e. making it busy again. He therefore ordered new raids on his neighbours like Swazi, etc.
- He created friendship with the whites in Natal and even tried to acquire guns to strengthen his kingdom. There was increased number of Europeans in Natal which threatened the survival and security of Zulu.
- He made endless requests to Natal to return the Zulu warriors who had fled into their land but the whites refused.
- Later he had to sign an agreement with a white official captain Allen Gardner requesting for his people and warriors.
- Later he was able to convince the whites and some returned but this was after giving the British part of Natal.
- In 1838, Dingane came into contact with the Boer trekkers under Piet Retief who requested for land in his kingdom. He promised them land but on condition that they recover his cattle that had been stolen by neighbouring chief Sekonyela of the Tlokwa.
- After recovering the cattle, Dingane organized a beer party where Retief and his group were killed. Later the Boers got a new leader Andres Pretorius who organized a revenge battle in Dec.1838 (Battle of Blood River).
- The Zulu and Dingane in particular were defeated at the battle and forced to give away Natal to the Boer trekkers.

- In 1840, Dingane was overthrown by his brother Mpande who was supported by the Boers. He fled to Swaziland where he was killed by the Swazi for his crimes against them.
- But all in all, he failed to pursue Shaka's militarism which would have united the Zulu people.

PROBLEMS FACED BY DINGANE AS A RULER OF ZULU STATE

What challenges did Dingane face as a ruler of the Zulu state?

Introduction: Dingane faced a number of challenges during his reign. These were political, social and economic as explained below.

- He failed to maintain tribal unity in the kingdom and many people were disunited during his reign.
- He was not liked by the royal family because he took over power after killing his brothers Shaka and Mhlangane.
- His peaceful policy annoyed the Zulu warriors who hated him and even stopped supporting him.
- Many of his warriors ran away from the kingdom to the white's plantation in Natal from where they threatened his rule.
- He was unpopular because of his military weakness and his strong love for feasting.
- The traditional rulers never supported him and instead encouraged his warriors to support his brother Mpande.
- He faced competition from his brother Mpande who was supported by the Boers.
- He was hated by his neighbours mostly the Swazi because of his regular attacks on and later killed him when he fled to Swaziland.
- The British in Natal refused to give him back all the Zulu warriors who were working while hiding in Natal.
- The Boer penetration into Zulu land during the great trek was one of his major problems
- He lost a big part of his kingdom to the Boer trekkers who constantly demanded for more land from him.
- The Boers interfered in the politics of the Zulu states and even supported Mpande against him.
- He was defeated by the Boers at Battle of Blood River and was replaced by his brother Mpande.

THE DEFEAT OR FALL OF DINGANE

Why was Dingane defeated by Mpande?

- Mpande had the support of the Boers who were militarily stronger and more organized than Dingane's warriors.
- Mpande had support from some of the Zulu warriors who were not happy with Dingane's peaceful policy.
- Dingane had lost support of the traditional rulers who instead supported and encouraged the Zulu warriors to join Mpande
- Dingane had lost support of the royal family who later overthrew him and imposed his brother.

- Dingane was also unpopular because he had abandoned the military regiments and training yet Zulu was a military state.
- There was a lot of disunity in the kingdom during his rule which undermined and weakened him.
- He was defeated by the Boers at the battle of Blood River and he was later overthrown. His brother Mpande collaborated with the Boers to overthrow him from power.
- e.t.c. add more 5 points

THE REIGN OF MPANDE (1840-1872)

Describe the contribution of Mpande from 1840-1872.

Introduction: Mpande was a leader of the Zulu kingdom after Dingane. He was therefore a son of Senzangakona and a brother to Shaka and Dingane.

- He was unpopular in his early years but later became famous after Dingane had started messing up the Zulu kingdom.
- He collaborated with the Boers in order to defeat Dingane in 1840, with the assistance of the Boers, he overthrew his brother and he was crowned as the Zulu king by the Zulu Royal Family.
- During his rule the Zulu kingdom gained some stability and peace with the neighbours. He befriended the Boers and because of that, the Boers never attacked his kingdom for the period he was in power.
- Mpande also befriended the British who were living in Natal and at the Cape.
- During his rule population greatly increased, this was because he allowed the refugees to return and also allowed the British to settle in his area.
- However, he organized an attack against the Swazi which was aimed at stealing their cattle and raiding their other property that brought about hatred between the Zulu and the Swazi.
- Like Dingane, Mpande spent most of his time feasting, dancing and being entertained by women. Therefore, this occupied most of his time instead of carrying out administrative duties.
- Because of his age and size, he avoided leading his warriors to war and instead left his children to assist him with leading the warriors.
- His children therefore started fighting each other over succession before the father died. They divided the people of Zulu into two.
- During his rule, the number of Boers increased. He even gave them more land along the Blood River territory.
- Mpande was killed by his half-brother Clu-cIu in 1872 but was succeeded by his son Cetewayo in 1873.
- A succession conflict had developed between his two sons i.e. Mbulazi and Ceteswayo in which Cetewayo defeated his brother and later killed him.
- Mpande died in 1872 and was succeeded by his son Ceteswayo having presided over an eventful year in the history of the Zulu state.

CETEWAYO'S REIGN (1873-1884)

He was the son of Mpande and therefore Shaka's nephew. He actually had a lot in common with his uncle Shaka i.e. He was intelligent, ambitious and forceful.

- He got involved in a civil war of succession with his brother Mbulazi in 1856. This made him quite famous especially after defeating his rival. He was thus assured as the next Zulu king
- He thus became active in Zulu politics hoping to succeed his father. He was officially installed as king in 1873 although his father had died in 1872.
- Ceteswayo was installed by Theophilus Shepstone the British secretary for the native affairs.
- As the new Zulu leader, Ceteswayo wanted to revive military strength of the Zulu state just like it was during Shaka's reign unlike Mpande's peaceful reign.
- Unfortunately, during his rule the British were determined the Zulu state although he managed to protect his independence up to 1879.
- In 1879, the British commissioner sir Bartle Frere ordered him to disarm all his warriors which he refused to do.
- Frere then attacked the Zulu state on 2nd Jan 1879 but was defeated by the Zulu the battle of Isandhlwana.
- However, to revoke (remove) the humiliation, Frere again attacked the Zulu in July of the same year(1879) where he defeated the Zulu at the battle of Ulundi.
- Ceteswayo then resorted to guerilla warfare but was later betrayed leading to his capture by the British. He was later exiled to London in 1882.
- He was brought back in 1883 as a puppet leader (with limited powers) but was discontented and also rejected by his people. That forced him to escape to a reserve in 1884 where he died
- He was succeeded by his son Dinizulu.

HIS REFORMS

- He restored or reformed the age-regiments and revived the military tactics of the Zulu.
- By 1877 he had raised 30,000 disciplined and efficient soldiers.
- He created nationalism and unity among the Zulu.
- He also promoted trade with the Portuguese at the in Port Durban and Mozambique which enabled him to acquire guns.
- He avoided any form of war especially with the Boers and the British in the first years of his reign and hence kept the nation peaceful.
- To make his warriors active, Ceteswayo encouraged them to raid his neighbors.

THE REIGN OF DINIZULU

Dinizulu was the eldest son of Ceteswayo.

- He proclaimed himself as the paramount chief of the Zulu in 1883 after his father escaping into exile.

- He had the support of the Boers and thus gave part of Zulu land to them as a reward for their support.
- He was however in disagreement with the British because he hated their imperialistic policies
- He was later arrested and convicted of treason and later exiled to St. Helena Island, He was later returned in 1897 as headman of the thirteen units created by the British.

FACTORS LEADING TO THE DECLINE/ DOWNFALL OF THE ZULU STATE

The Zulu kingdom collapsed in 1879 after the British defeat at the battle of Ulundi. The decline was a long term process dating as far back to Shaka's reign.

- Shaka's cruelty forced many of his commanders and subjects to run away from him e.g. Zwangendaba and Mzilikazi.
- The state lacked unity since it was made up of many tribes. It was thus held together as a military state by Shaka and quickly collapsed after his death.
- The death Nandi, Shaka's mother in 1827 caused him to make a lot of political mistakes e.g. mourning was declared for a period of one year, couples were not allowed to have sex during this time, no cultivation, etc. Many people ended up being killed for not abiding to the mourning and others escaped.
- The death of Shaka left a political vacuum in the kingdom since he is the one who had held together the kingdom.
- Many of the conquered people started asserting for their independence after Shaka's death since they hated the Zulu for killing their ancestors.
- The leaders who succeeded Shaka were militarily weak e.g. Dingane, Mpande and Ceteswayo. They even neglected the military regiments which were the source of Zulu's strength.
- The kingdom suffered succession dispute after the death of Shaka e.g. between Dingane and Mpande, Cetewayo and Mbulazi.
- The Zulu neighbors had copied Shaka's military tactics and weapons. They used them against the Zulu after the death of Shaka.
- The vigorous training and constant wars by the army exhausted it such that after Shaka's death the relaxation could not keep the army as strong as before.
- The coming of foreigners in to the Zulu kingdom led to its decline. These interfered with the politics of the Zulu kingdom e.g. the Boers disorganized Dingane and Mpande, the British undermined Ceteswayo.
- The role of the Mfecane. This created depopulation leaving a vacuum land which attracted the Boer to occupy it. e.g. the Boers took Zulu land defeating them at the battle of Blood river.

- The downfall of the Zulu kingdom was inevitable because the period this was the period of scramble and partition in Africa thus the Zulu could survive.
- The kingdom also declined due to the discovery of minerals in Kimberly and Wit-waters Rand which made the youth to run away to seek employment.
- The kingdom collapsed due to the influence of missionaries against the Zulu customs and traditions hence they led to disloyalty from the Zulu subjects.
- The rise of Ceteswayo to power also became a threat to the Europeans especially the British. These became even more determined to take control of the Zulu so that they weaken their military might.
- The British had a desire to expand their tax base. They therefore had to defeat Zulu in order to impose heavy taxes on them and further weaken them.
- The poor relationship between the Zulu and their neighbors led to the collapse. That was because the neighbours decided to make alliance with other people especially the Europeans in order to defeat them e.g. the Swazi allied with the British.

Anglo-Zulu war 1879 and Bambatta rebellion 1906