

CONTRIBUTION TO WAR EFFORTS: A MENACE TO SOCIAL ORDER IN OSUN DIVISION OF WESTERN NIGERIA, 1939-1945

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ABSTRACT

Although no real battle was fought in Nigeria during the Second World War (1939-1945), the burden of the war was much felt by Nigerians. “Contribution to war effort” was therefore the name given to the coping strategy of the Allied powers. It was a method, through which the British shifted burden of the war onto their colonial subjects. This strategy had caught the attentions of many scholars, and various discussions have centered on its origin, purpose and operation at Nigeria wide level. This paper focuses the effects of the strategy on the Yoruba society with Osun Division as a case study. This restriction becomes imperative, in order to make in-depth study a possibility. The study adopts historical approach, which depends on written, oral, and archival sources. However, it is hoped that, impact of the Second World War on African social order would be better ascertained.

KEYWORDS: Second World War, Contribution to War Effort