



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya

Tel: +254(0) 799 529 958, +254(0) 799 529 959, + 254 (0) 712 524 293,

Website: [info@must.ac.ke](mailto:info@must.ac.ke) Email: [info@must.ac.ke](mailto:info@must.ac.ke)

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## University Examinations 2024/2025

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR  
OF EDUCATION ARTS

### EHI 3201: THEMES OF EAST AFRICA HISTORY

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

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INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question *one* and any other *two* questions

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#### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- There are numerous tools that are at the disposal of contemporary historians for their exploration of world history. Basing your argument on this statement, elucidate the sources of East African History (5 marks)
- Explain the factors that influenced the beginning of complex societies in East Africa during the pre-colonial period (10 marks)
- Elucidate the reasons why the Europeans were interested in East Africa in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century (5 marks)
- Explain the factors for the rise of Nationalism in Africa and the rest of the developing world (10 marks)

#### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- East Africa is considered the cradle of humankind. Discuss (10 marks)
- Describe the culture of early man during the Stone Age period in East Africa (10 marks)

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**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Geography and Climate have significantly influenced in settlement patterns in pre-colonial and post-independence East Africa. Discuss (10 marks)
- b) East Africa's economic and social development before 1500 may arguably have been ahead of Europe. Justify (10 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Describe the characteristics of the colonial economy of East Africa (10 marks)
- b) Explain the challenges facing East African Contemporary States (10 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Elucidate the factors that led to the partition of East Africa by the European powers (10 marks)
- b) Between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century, East Africa became a theatre of competition between the major Imperialistic European Nations of the time. Justify (10 marks)