

The
Management
University
of Africa



Sponsored by the Kenya Institute of Management

UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

BDS 205/ BDS 325: GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 8TH APRIL 2026

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

EVOLUTION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM (LGS) IN KENYA

In early 19th Century Kenya had some form of Local Government that had started before independence in 1902 with the Village Headman Ordinance. Chiefs were appointed by the colonial administration to manage these units of Local Government. Some forms of municipalities were established in Kenya in 1903. The first townships were established in Nairobi and Mombasa to serve European settlers (Muia, 2005). The purpose of the Local Government system at that time was to control the local communities.

The structure of the hierarchical system included the Governor, the Provincial Commissioner (PC), the District Commissioner (DC), the District Officer (DO) and the Chief. In the Local Authority Ordinance of 1912, selected chiefs were appointed to head councils. In 1919 the Local Government system witnessed some change when Nairobi Municipality was allowed to have a mixed -race council. However, this was without Africans. A number of changes were introduced in the Local Government system. The Native Ordinance of 1924 gave powers to DCs to chair native local councils. The mandate of these councils were to collect local taxes, provide some services like water, markets, education, roads and bridges (Muia, 2005). The 1928 District Council Ordinance segregated the district councils in the areas settled by European farmers.

The post of the Commissioner for Local Government and the Ministry of Local Government was established in the same year.

It is in 1937 that Africans were elected as Councilors for the first time. The local native councils were renamed African District Councils (ADCs) and the settler District Councils were changed to County Councils in 1950. By 1950 the functions of the Local Government system were described as “representation for decision making; resources mobilization; agency for central government and link between local community and central government”.

Required:

- a) Describe the function of Local Government systems. **(10 Marks)**
- b) Discuss the structure of the hierarchical system of the Local Government. **(6 Marks)**
- c) Evaluate the evolution of the Local Government System (LGS) in Kenya. **(9 Marks)**

QUESTION TWO

- a) The potential benefits of decentralization are often not realized because of the different kinds of risks. Expound on five kinds of risks. **(10 Marks)**
- b) Assess the principle of financial sufficiency in reference to governance and development. **(5 Marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Discuss any three blocks of contract management. **(6 Marks)**
- b) Local Authorities of late have been struggling in their performance. Discuss three challenges hindering local authorities' performance. **(9 Marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) With agenda 2063 being the discussion to develop Africa. Examine the focus of resource good governance. **(6 Marks)**
- b) Do you think Africa is ready in the transforming its development. Using three basic principles of good governance as given by the United Nations, discuss your answer. **(9 Marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Expound on grassroots strategy for rural development planning in Kenya. **(8 Marks)**
- b) Analyzing the impact of devolution on economic development potentialities in Kenya. **(7 Marks)**

QUESTION SIX

- a) Evaluate any three roles of private organization in corporate social responsibilities. **(9 Marks)**
- b) In this digital age, the importance of contract management cannot be overstated. After all, contracts are the bedrock of most business transactions and serve as a wealth of information about a business enterprise's overall health. Essential contract manager skills cannot be underrated. Analyze the importance of having contract management skills. **(6 Marks)**