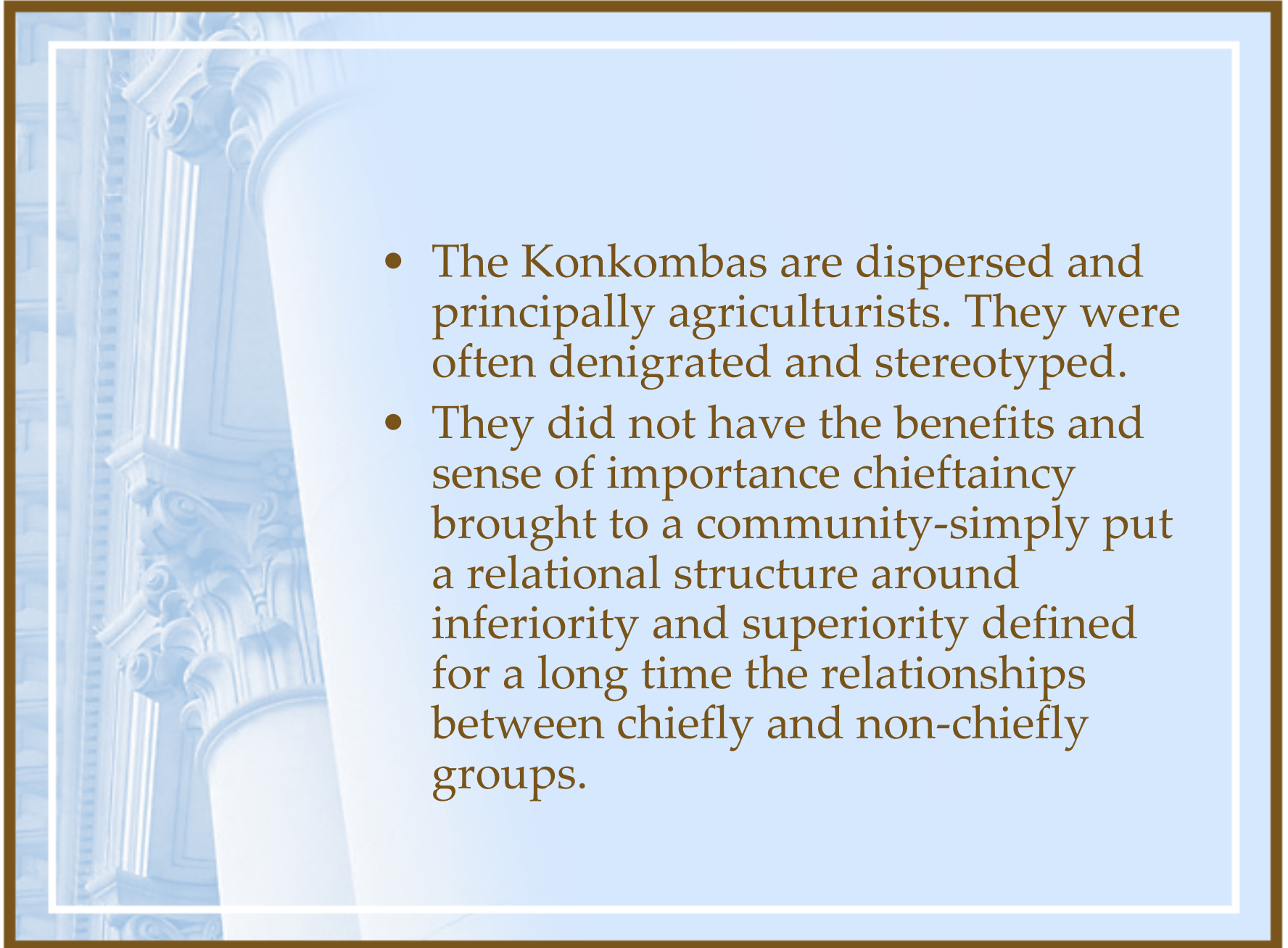




# A DEEPENING AND EXPANDING ENGAGEMENT

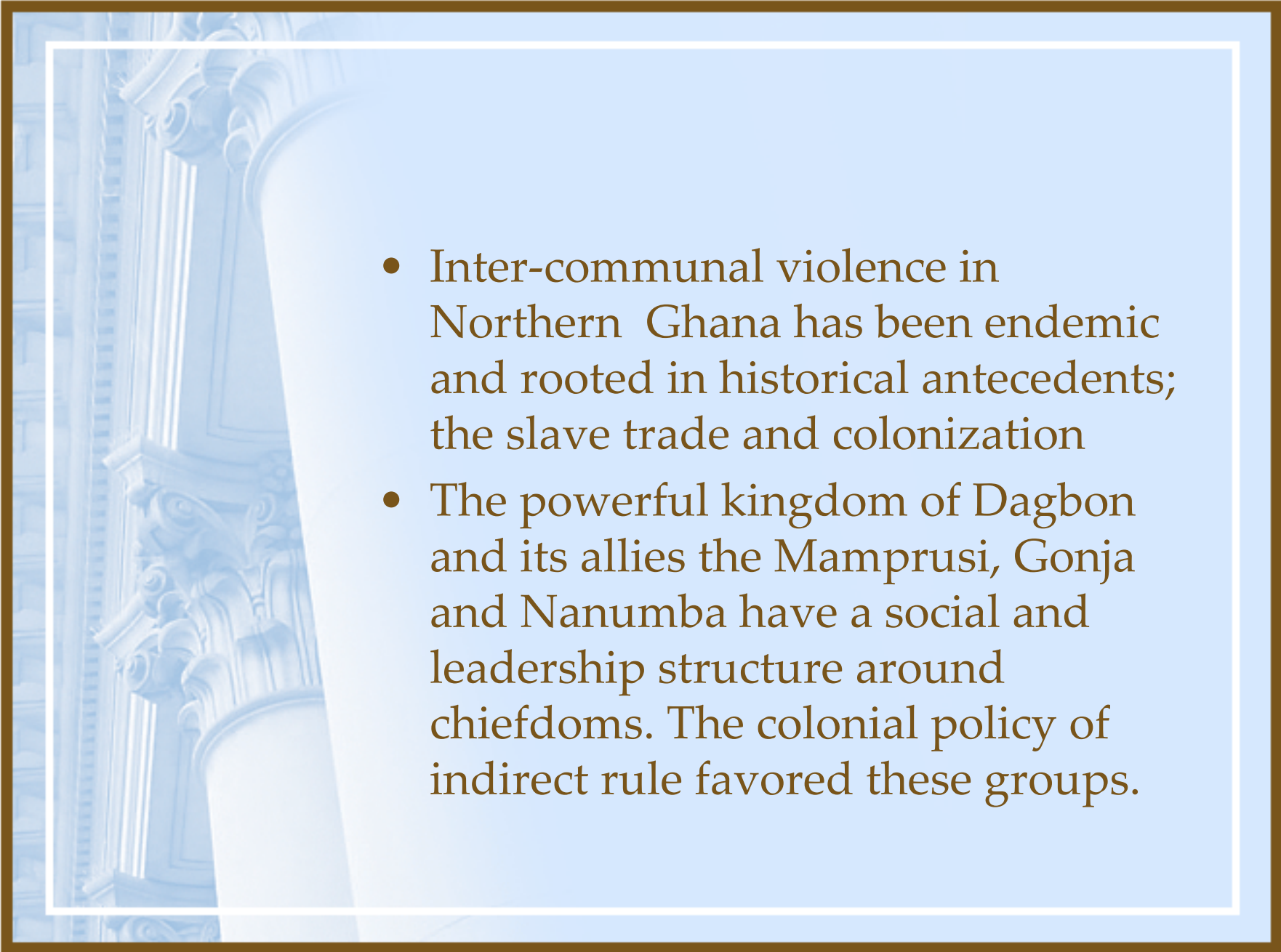
The Social integration process: Konkomba-Nanumba

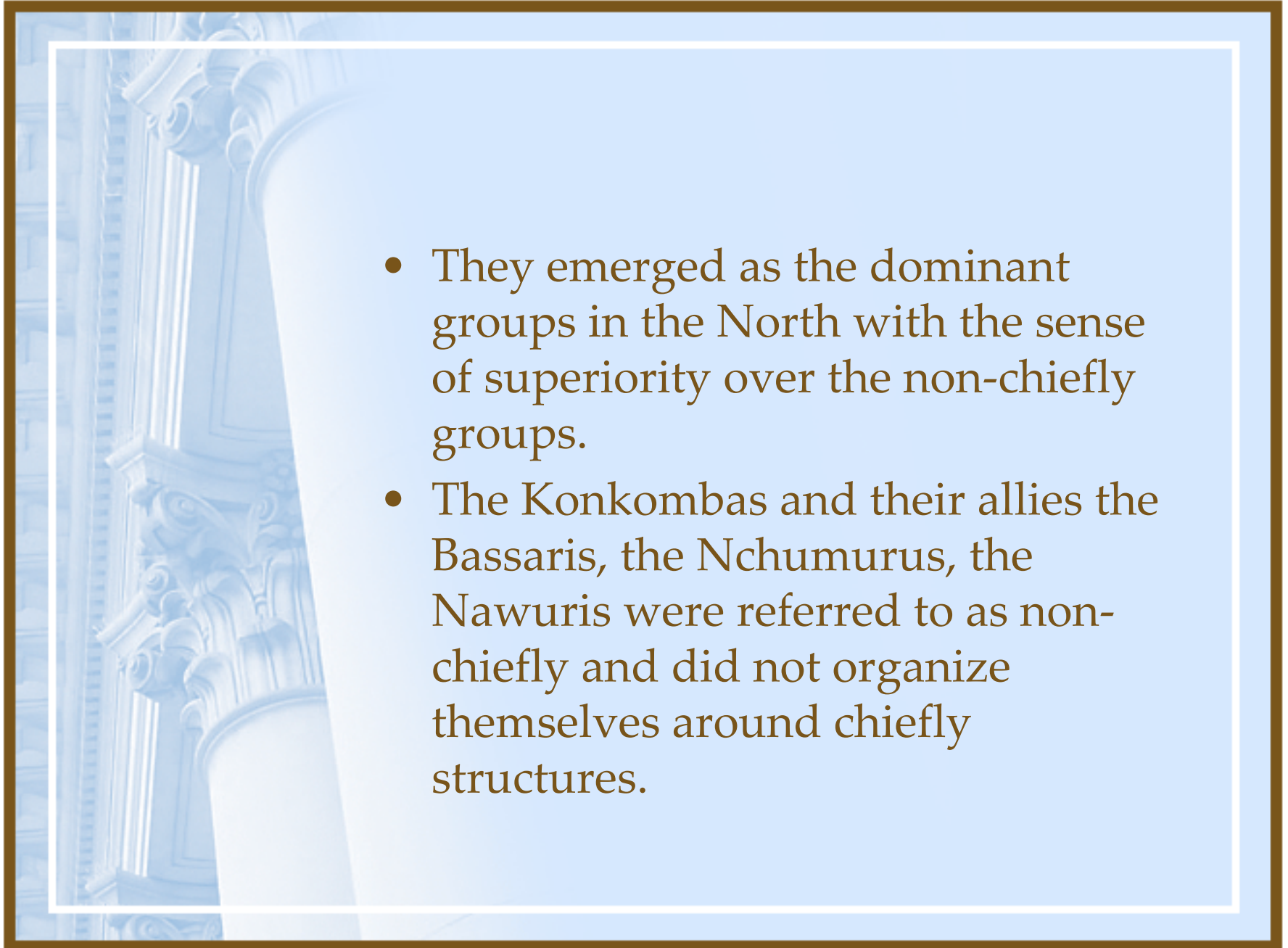
- 
- The Konkombas are dispersed and principally agriculturists. They were often denigrated and stereotyped.
  - They did not have the benefits and sense of importance chieftaincy brought to a community—simply put a relational structure around inferiority and superiority defined for a long time the relationships between chiefly and non-chiefly groups.

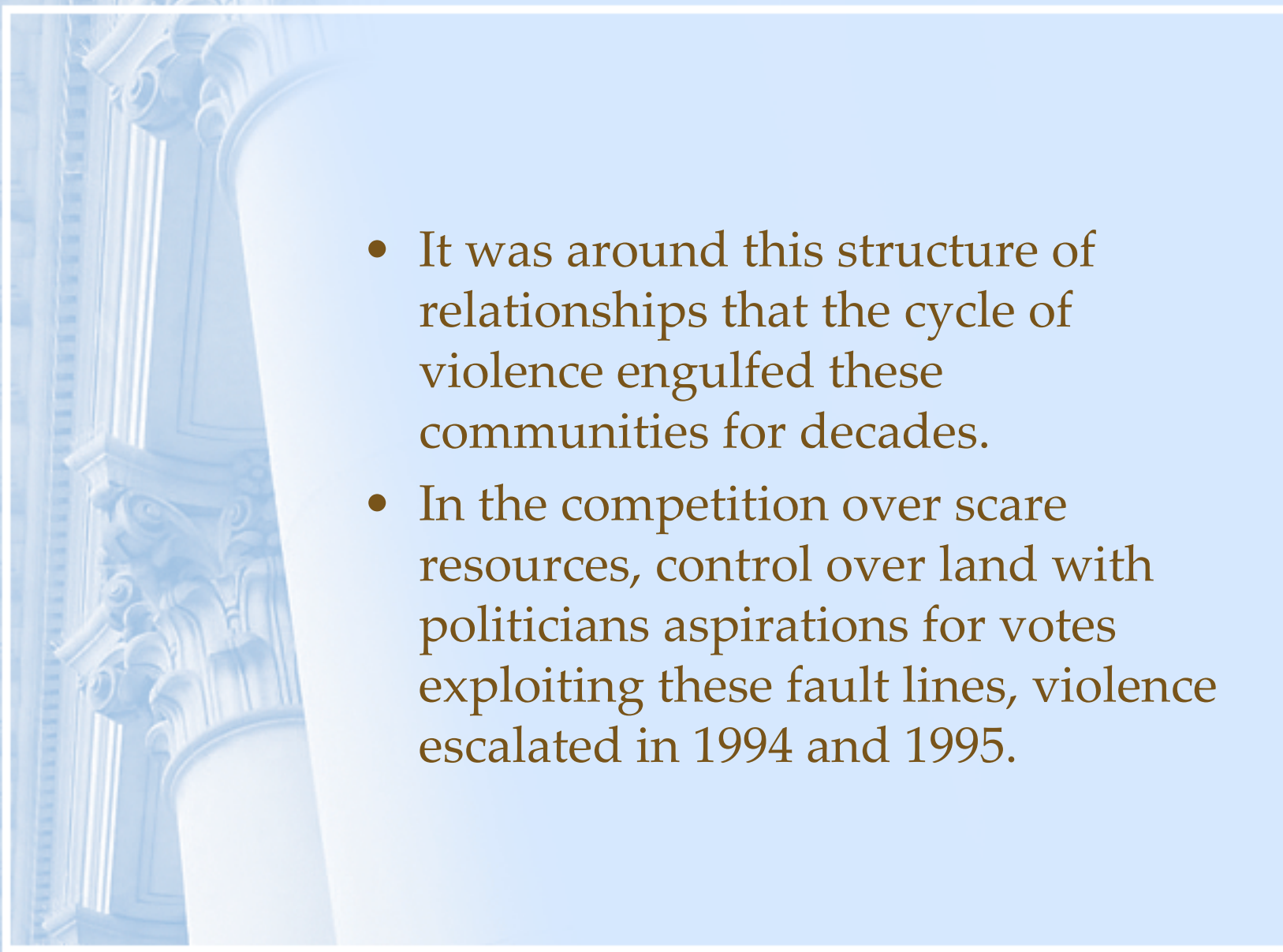
The background of the slide features a light blue gradient with a faint, semi-transparent image of classical architectural columns on the left side. The columns are white with detailed capitals and fluted shafts, set against a darker blue background. The entire slide is framed by a thin brown border.

## Background

- Northern Ghana particularly the Northern Region has faced rising escalation of ethnic conflict in the 1990s and up to 2002
- These conflicts appear localized but have a destabilizing potential at national level as well as spreading across borders; e.g. Togo factor.

- 
- Inter-communal violence in Northern Ghana has been endemic and rooted in historical antecedents; the slave trade and colonization
  - The powerful kingdom of Dagbon and its allies the Mamprusi, Gonja and Nanumba have a social and leadership structure around chiefdoms. The colonial policy of indirect rule favored these groups.

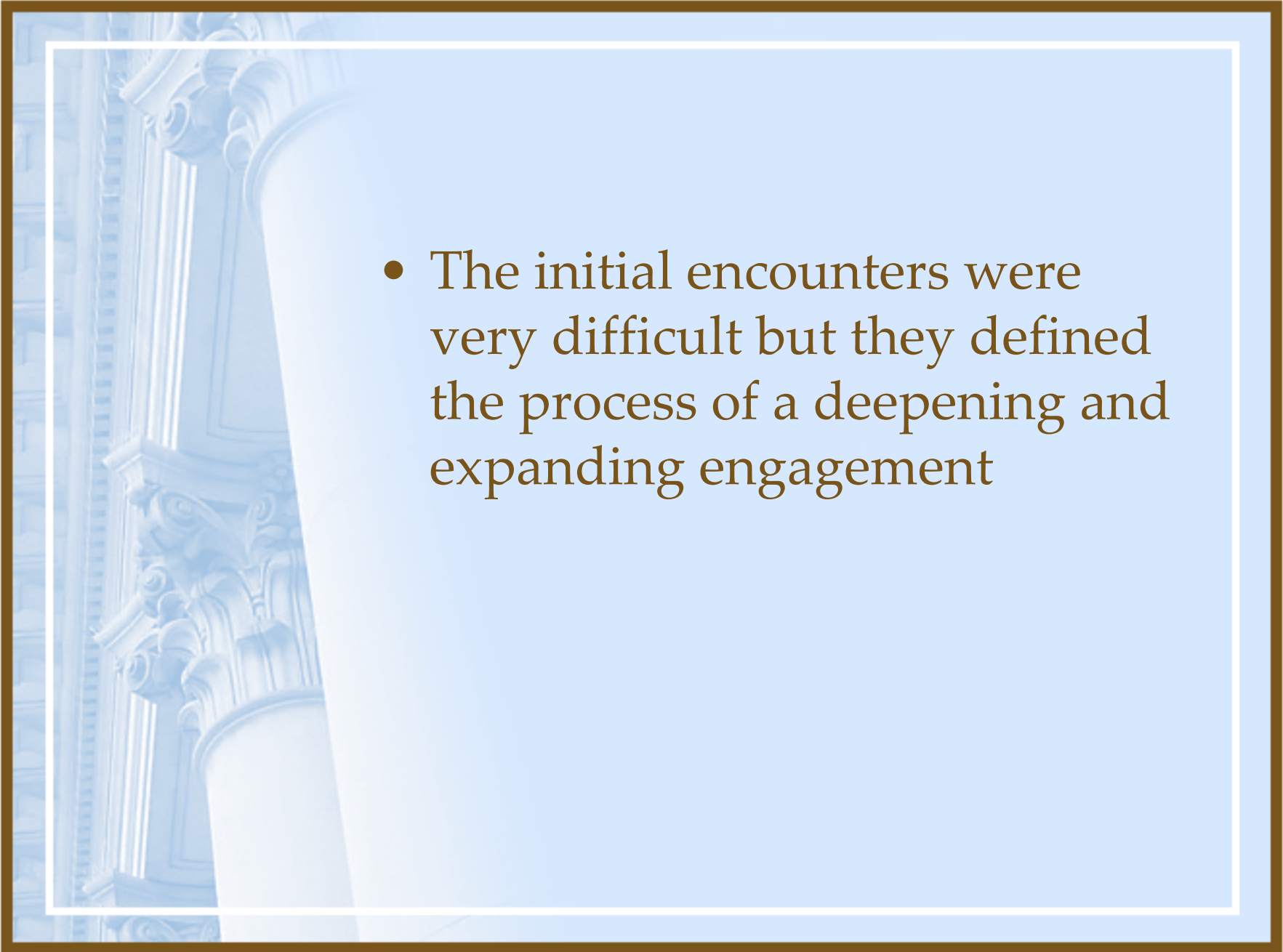
- 
- They emerged as the dominant groups in the North with the sense of superiority over the non-chiefly groups.
  - The Konkombas and their allies the Bassaris, the Nchumurus, the Nawuris were referred to as non-chiefly and did not organize themselves around chiefly structures.

- 
- It was around this structure of relationships that the cycle of violence engulfed these communities for decades.
  - In the competition over scarce resources, control over land with politicians aspirations for votes exploiting these fault lines, violence escalated in 1994 and 1995.



## Dialogue in the Social Integration Process

- NGOs in Ghana formed the inter-NGO consortium to provide humanitarian relief in the aftermath of violence, destruction and displacement of thousands of people
- As part of this process, we engaged in a process to invite leaders of all the different ethnic groups to advice on how development activity could continue in such violence and inter-communal hatred

- 
- The initial encounters were very difficult but they defined the process of a deepening and expanding engagement