



7TH INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

OBJECTIVE

The Conference Committee welcomes contributions not limited to the under listed subthemes from Academics in Education, Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences, Management, Economics, Environmental, Agricultural Sciences, Natural and Applied Sciences and Engineering Professions, Designers, Researchers, Entrepreneurs, Energy, Oil and Gas Sector, Consultants, Policy Makers and Public Administrators, Non-Governmental Organization, and Social and Market Research Practitioners.

THEME

Development Challenges & Sustainability in Africa: Multi-Disciplinary Discourse

DATE: Wednesday 14th - Thursday 15th December, 2022

VENUE: Benue State University, Markurdi - Nigeria

TIME: 9:00am

CHIEF HOST

Professor Tor Joe Lorapuu

Vice Chancellor,

Benue State University, Markudi, Nigeria

HOSTS

Prof. Terkura Tarnande

Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences,

Benue State University, Markurdi - Nigeria

Dr. Bassey Anam

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7TH INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY ONE – Wednesday 14th December, 2022

OPENING SESSION/PLENARY

Conference Registration	- 8:00am – 9:00am
Opening Prayer/Welcome Remark	- 9:00am – 9:15am
Institutional Brief/Chairman's Opening Remark	- 9:15am – 9:30am
Research Training	- 9:30am – 12noon
Launch Break/Group Photograph	- 12noon – 1:00pm
Plenary Session	- 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Policy Review Session	- 4:00pm – 5:00pm

DAY TWO – Thursday 15 December, 2022

OPENING SESSION/PLENARY

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Plenary Session	- 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Policy Review Session	- 4:00pm – 5:00pm



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Conference Abstracts

Assessment and Implication of Price of Engineering Project in Nigeria for National Development

¹Zakari, Danladi, ²Ahmed, Babayo, ³Adamu Makama Pindiga & ⁴Abubakar Abdulkadir

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Abstract

The importance of providing adequate road networks linking rural areas with the city centres for the development of this nation, called for concerted efforts to provide quality data for its construction. The objective can only be achieved through proper survey observations to furnish engineers with the necessary survey data for geometric designs which serve as the framework for the construction of civil and building engineering project. Route Survey is usually conducted to capture spatial data for geometric design of roads. It provides data for the heighting, alignment, as well as for the setting out curves, culverts, bridges where necessary along communication routes such as road networks, railroads, canals, transmission lines, and pipelines. The proposed route starts from Yelwan Duguri to Birim village in Alkaleri Local Government Area of Bauchi State, covering a distance of habitants of both villages are mainly farmers and are in daring need of good roads, specifically this particular project if utilized, could facilitate the conveyance of their farm produces to the city centre. Sokkia SET 600 Total Station instruments was used to carry out the route survey along the proposed road to provide data on the existing Position and heights as well as the topographic features within the corridor for the plotting of the longitudinal profile of the road and subsequent Engineering design of the geometry of the road. Levelling was carried out along the proposed route at 20m interval to provide vertical controls for the alignment of the centre-line of the route and for the design of the longitudinal profile. Hydraulic structure such as culvert and concrete line drain were designed in this research for road construction. Engineering bill of quantity was also produced for appropriate costing of engineering work. This research work is recommended for used by the Bauchi state Government as well as the Federal Government of Nigeria.

Keywords: *Engineering bill, quantity, costing, road network, profile and cross section*

Teachers Empowerment as Tool for National Development

Blessing Aladi Okpe PhD

Department of Education

Nasarawa State University, Keffi

Abstract

Given an enabling environment, teachers can be effective, efficient and produce students who will give their best for the development of a nation. National development can be referred to strengthening the skills, competencies and abilities of people and communities so that they become useful to themselves and to the society at large. Knowledge has become a key drive of growth and development. Countries with higher skill levels are better equipped to face new challenges and master technological discoveries. The skills, knowledge and technological discoveries are made possible through the help of teachers. Thus, teachers are the brain behind every development. Teachers need to be given their right due and place in the society. This paper looks at the teaching profession, hindrance to national development, the need for teachers' security as empowerment, recommendations and conclusion.

Keywords: *Teachers, Security, Empowerment, National development.*

A Review of the Proposed Design of Hajj Transit Camp for Bauchi State

Abdullahi Adamu Abdullahi

*Department of Architectural Technology,
Federal Polytechnic Bauchi, Bauchi State*

Abstract

The present Bauchi state Muslims pilgrims' welfare board is faced with many prominent problems such as lack of or inadequate facilities to meet the need of the increasing a number of pilgrims from within and outside the state. Contradiction to the problems faced, it is in the view of this that this project aims at evolving a design for the Hajj transit camp that will have multi-purpose functions. This work will hence, showcase the case study approach method to explore the idea of flexibility in design architecture in a transit Hajj camp building. It can be concluded that the selected transit Hajj camps in spite of some technical weakness led to in ability for the usability of some functional spaces, is still able to come up with changing condition and new demands of its undefined users. Generally, it was recognized that the idea of flexibility includes some features which can be considered as a guideline to get flexibility for today's architecture for solution of these buildings toward meeting changing needs and demands for various flexible spaces suiting to the socio-economic requirements, the knowledge of smart strategies of achieving spatial functions in Hajj transit camp. The proposed design of Hajj transit camp for Bauchi, will therefore create suitable solution for a transit Hajj camp building to serve various conditions and solutions of Hajj activities.

Keywords: *Architecture, Multi-purpose, Socio-economic, Transit camp and welfare boards*

Fight Against Corruption in Nigeria: Exploring Community Participation Through Local Language Policy

Dr. Timothy Onimisi

*Department of Political Science, Federal University Lokoja,
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Abstract

Decades after Nigeria's independence, the country is still among the poorest in the world despite the availability of both human and material resources. The image of the country has been damaged by corruption. The level of corruption in Nigeria is beyond the imagination. This article explores the role of community participation in the fight against corruption in Nigeria using the local language. The article uses secondary data to examine the extent to which community participation can assist in the fight against corruption using local languages. The paper opined that local language can serve as a functional vehicle of interaction and an instrument of advocacy in the fight against corruption in Nigeria. The paper further established that local languages are an embodiment of culture, reflecting the depth of the people's beliefs and knowledge. Hence, using it as a tool in the fight against corruption would be highly effective. The paper concludes that strengthening of democratic institutions, including those created for fighting this menace, and the possibility of having a creditable community-sponsored candidate for elective position in the government would create a sense of belonging and indeed, bring a sense of optimism in governance, and in the fight against corruption.

Keywords: *Corruption; Community; Languages; Participation; Nigeria.*

Agriculture as an Instrument for Economic Growth and Development in Taraba State

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Abstract

This paper takes a brief analysis of agriculture as an instrument for economic growth and development in Taraba state, using questionnaire research method, a sample of 504 farmers farming maize, cassava, rice, yam in all the sixteen 16 local governments areas in Taraba state participated in the study, the study centers on two variables; the dependent variable which is economic growth and development and the independent variable which is agriculture. The study reveals that agriculture as a mainstay of growth and development, create a very significant role in the economic growth and development in Taraba state, its plays a vigorous role in the aspect of development ranging from youth empowerments, boost the income level of the citizens, standard of living of the citizens through marketing of the farm produce in the various local government areas across the state, meaning that there is significant effect of agriculture on the economic growth and development in Taraba State at 5% level ($P < 0.05$), $R^2 = 0.806$. the research concludes that agriculture composed of 70-80% of the state's economic growth and development, the recommendations were drawn in the place of farm inputs such as chemicals, seeds, fertilizers, etc. are to be improved suitably by government, commercial and subsistence farmers as well on the farmland to enable good yield and larger capacity of the farm produce, also good road to link the production areas in order to enhance rapid economic growth and development in the state.

Keywords: *Sustainability, Instrument, Growth and Development, Agriculture.*

Effects of Gender and Parents Educational Attainment on Second Language Acquisition Among Pupils in Ibadan South-West Local Government of Oyo-State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study investigated the effect of gender and parents educational attainment on second language acquisition among pupils in Ibadan South-West Local Government of Oyo-State. Education is an art of teaching and learning while language is the pivot that facilitates learning processes. Hence, the importance of English Language has not only made it significant but also as a means of enhancing second language acquisition among pupils. It has been observed that students need second language to improve their academic attainment. In spite of these, researchers have sought to find solution to the problem of second language acquisition but the problem still persists. Correlational survey research design was adopted for the study. 200 teachers were involved in the study. One self-designed instrument was used for data collection titled 'the influence of gender and educational background of parents on second language acquisition among students questionnaire' (*igebpslasq*). The instrument was validated and tested for reliability. The calculated reliability index was ($\alpha = 0.82$) using cronbach alpha (α) reliability technique. Two research questions were answered and two hypotheses were tested using descriptive (frequency count, simple percentage, mean and standard deviation) and inferential (t-test, ANOVA and Multiple Regression) statistics. The findings showed that There is no joint or composite contribution of gender and parents educational attainment on second language acquisition of pupils ($F_{(2,197)}=1.34$; $P>0.05$), there is no significant relative contribution of gender on second language acquisition of students ($\beta = 1.62$; $t= 1.61$; $P>0.05$), there is no significant difference between gender and second language acquisition of students ($t = 0.63$; $df = 183$; $p> 0.05$), and lastly, there is significant relationship between parents educational attainment and second language acquisition of students ($F_{(6,193)} = 3.77$; $P< 0.05$). It was recommended among others that, parents should be aware of and understand their individual and collective roles in ensuring that children acquire and master the usage of language effectively.

Keywords: Education, English Language, Second Language, Learning processes

An Investigative Study on Corona Virus Infection in the Northern Nigeria

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Abstract

The Coronavirus pandemic was caused in China by a new coronavirus that related to SARS-CoV, and is termed as SARS-CoV-2. By the reports, the virus killed many people across the globe. This study aims to investigating the impacts of Covid-19 pandemic on the Northern Nigeria region. A total of 150 questionnaires each was sent to three states of the three Northern geo-political regions, and those states include Nasarawa (North-central), Zamfara (North-west) and Adamawa (North-east); 146, 141 and 145 questionnaires respectively were returned. The results of the study revealed that majority of the respondents in each region indicated that they observed Covid-19 pandemic necessary measures and they were not infected with the virus. In addition, many of the respondents accounted that they did not go for Covid-19 test, and they were cautious of the virus outbreak and stayed indoor or outside within their respective houses. Although, the results revealed that in North-central and North-east, close to half of the respondents went about beyond where they live compared to Northwest where few people seemed likely to go out of their domains where they live. This might be due to incomplete lockdown. Finally, results further revealed that in the three regions, few people travelled during the virus outbreak, while majority did not.

Keywords: *Covid-19, Infection, Measures, Test, and Travel*

Financial Development and Savings Mobilization Nexus in Nigeria Using Combined Cointegration Approach

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Abstract

The link between financial development and saving mobilization is examined in Nigeria for the period 1970 – 2020. Utilizing the life cycle hypothesis as a theoretical framework and combined cointegration approach of the Bayer and Hanck that is robust, the empirical results will reveal the long run relationship between saving, interest rates and financial development. If there is positive relationship between saving and interest rates, it implies that Nigerians are net savers, indicating substitution effect overwhelms income effect. On the contrary if there is inverse relationship between saving and interest rate, it means Nigerians are net borrowers as the income effect supersedes the substitution effect. This will revealed the level of savings, and appropriate policy to enhance saving.

Keywords: *Savings, Financial development, Interest rate, Life cycle hypothesis, Combined Cointegration*

Assessing the Impact of Banditry and Kidnapping Activities for Sustainable Development of Isa Local Government Areas in Sokoto State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The activities of bandits and kidnapers complement earlier security challenges, as many people lost their lives and properties on daily bases, some are forced to leave their homes to seek safety on new places very strange and unfamiliar to them, people are exposed to enormous hardship and unavoidable dangers, which has negative impact for the sustainable development in the study area, due to serious threats on sectors for human and society progress that cut across education, social, economic, political and among others. This research examines the factors responsible of banditry and kidnapping activities and its effects for the sustainable development in the study area. It used qualitative method. Twenty (20) Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) in ten political wards were employed and two groups of participants were purposively selected from each ward with the highest prevalence of bandits and kidnapper's attacks. The main factors that led to banditry and kidnapping activities are illiteracy, unemployment, Poverty, bad government, and proliferation of arms and ammunitions in the country, but illiteracy is the most leading factor behind these, which will continuous to increase the situations in the area and no doubt it will experience low sustainable development, if care is not taking. Also, the study highlighted that these criminal activities bring threat to safety and well-being of the citizens, threat to education, poor macro-economic indices and threat to food security and political right, which are considered as engines for the sustainable development of any society. The study recommends government at all level should show serious commitments in educating it citizens at various level of education. There is need for re-orientation to inculcate ethical values reverence for life and human right in the people as well as need to co-exist irrespective of religious or ethnic inclinations by the traditional and religious leaders.

Keywords: *Attacks, Bandits, Kidnappers, Sustainable, Development and Security.*

Challenges and Prospects of Integrating Information and Communication Technology in Adult Education in Nigeria

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Abstract

Adult education is indispensable tool for illiterate adult populace to fit into the modern society. It requires Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to be strengthened. Adult education touches all aspects of human life that demand the use of technological equipment. It offers the adult members of the society opportunities to acquire skills, knowledge, competencies, attitudes, values etc., through the use of ICT. This helps in increasing the individuals' ability to manage affairs, and resources both human and material things. The integration of ICT in adult education will engender positive development in actualizing societal goals and associating with the terrain of computer age. This paper contains the concept of ICT and ICT integration in adult education, importance and challenges of ICT in adult education, problems and prospects of integrating ICT in adult education as well ways forward.

Keywords: *Adult education, Information and Communication Technology, Problems and Prospects*

Effect of Purchasing Techniques on Organizational Profitability

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Abstract

This study aimed at determining the effect of purchasing techniques on organizational profitability. The specific objectives are to examine how quality materials requisition affects organizational profitability of NASCO Groups Company Limited, Jos; to establish how right source affects organizational profitability; as well as to establish how Just-In-Time (JIT) delivery affects organizational profitability of the company. The study adopted survey research method. The primary source of data (questionnaire) was used to collect data for presentation and analysis. Also, the secondary sources were consulted for relevant literatures to support the findings. The correlation analysis justified the entire findings. The major findings of the study show that there is a significant and positive relationship between quality materials requisition and organizational profitability. The finding also indicates that there is a significant and positive relationship between right source and organizational profitability. The findings also reveal that there is a significant and positive relationship between Just-In-Time (JIT) and organizational profitability. The recommendations clearly stated that the management of NASCO Groups Company Limited, Jos; should pay more attention to quality services or materials requisition as it play crucial role on their organizational profitability; also stated that the management of Company should still focus their attention more on right source as it increases their organizational profitability; also recommended that Company should train and encourage their staff to develop new methods with new ideas that will make them to get on-time delivery of products in order to achieve desired profitability.

Keywords: *Profitability, Quality Material Requisition, Right Source, Just-In-Time (JIT) and Cost Management*

An Exploration of the Gaps Between Constitution and Constitutionalism in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study explores and identifies the gaps which have hindered constitutionalism in Nigeria from independence to date as there contained in the constitutions, with particular emphasis to the 1999 constitution; and identify the other factors responsible for failure to achieve constitutionalism in Nigeria. The study used qualitative method to gather data from secondary sources and used historical documentation and qualitative method to analyse the data collected from journals, books, public and other documents. The study found that apart from imperfections contained in every constitution, the Nigerian politicians, elites and judicial officers are responsible for several constitutional gaps which hinder effective constitutionalism in Nigeria. Corruption, especially among the judicial officers and elites/politicians result in orchestration of gaps in order to achieve personal interests. This study is useful to the Nigerian state authorities in promulgating both popular and effective constitution as well as greater achievement of constitutionalism in Nigeria; it is also useful in establishing an orderly state and society with a stable and secured future for Nigeria and Nigerians. This study is unique in exploring and identifying issues in both orchestrated and erroneous gaps in the Nigerian constitutions. It is an expansion in the body literature on the Nigerian constitution and constitutionalism, especially at this critical time of searching for a viable constitution for Nigeria.

Keywords: *Constitution, constitutionalism, Nigeria, gap, government, judiciary*

Students Attitude to Mastery Learning Instructional Approach in Teaching Methods on their Achievement in Early Childhood Education in Niger State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper presents students' attitude to mastery learning instructional approach implementation in improving their achievement in early childhood education among Niger State College of Education Students' in Minna Metropolis. Mastery learning is an alternative method of teaching and learning that involves the student reaching a level of predetermined mastery on units of instruction before being allowed to progress to the next unit. The study adopted the action research type of the non experimental design. The study population consisted of Niger State College of Education students in the state. The multistage sampling technique was used to select the samples of the study which comprised of all NCE II student's in school (37 students). Results of the study show that mastery learning strategy is effective in enhancing students' learning outcomes in early childhood education; students have a positive attitude towards the implementation of mastery learning strategy in teaching and learning early childhood education; the gender of students do impact on their achievement in the subject. It is recommended therefore, that early childhood education teachers should be encouraged to adopt mastery learning approach during instructions and that educational planners increase the numbers of periods allotted to early childhood education teaching and learning in schools as this would foster students' learning outcomes/mastery of the subject.

Keywords: *Mastery, Learning, Instructional, approach, Students', Early childhood education, Nigeria*

Cross-Platform Application Development Framework

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Abstract

In the last few years, a huge variety of framework for the mobile cross-platforms development have been released to deliver quick and overall better possible solutions. Most of them are based on different approaches and technologies; therefore, relying on only one for use in all cases is not recommendable. The diversity in smart devices (i.e. smart phones and tablets) and in their hardware features; such as screen resolution, processing power etc. as well as availability of different mobile operating systems makes the process complicated. In this work, we analyzed few of these cross-platform development frameworks through developing three mobile applications on each of them as well as on the native Android and IOS environments. Moreover, we also performed a user evaluating study on the developed mobile apps to judge how users perceive the same mobile apps developed in different frameworks and environment.

Keywords: *Cross-Platform, Application, Development, Framework*

Lessons from the Past: Towards Credible General Elections in Nigeria

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Abstract

This article focuses on the lessons that can be drawn from the previous general elections in Nigeria, with emphasis on the role of electoral observer/monitoring groups in ensuring a credible general election. The article relies on secondary sources of data, such as journal articles, reports, and textbooks, as well as qualitative content analyses to achieve the objective of the paper. The article shows that the role of observer/monitoring groups serves as a boost to the integrity, confidentiality, and creditability of general elections in Nigeria. The groups also serve as mediators during an electoral dispute, as well as providing support logistics, and play the role of a watchdog in detecting electoral frauds. The paper revealed that the lack of wider coverage, accessibility, suspicion, and bias, remains obstacles to the group. Thus, the paper concludes that the activities of the electoral observer/monitoring groups would further ensure the integrity and credibility of the general election in Nigeria if the observed obstacles hindering their activities are removed.

Keywords: *Credibility; Election; Electoral Monitoring; Democracy; Observers*

Implication of Insecurity on Healthcare Services Delivery in Nigeria: A Case Study of Sokoto State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Insecurity in Nigeria has impacted negatively on the provision and delivery of healthcare service. The Nigerian Medical Association NMA maintained that insecurity affect the health sector in form of brain drain industrial disputes and a decline in efficacy and effectiveness of healthcare intervention. Nigeria suffer from numerous insecurity, ranging from banditry, kidnapping, inter-tribal and religious conflicts,, Boko haram insurgency and arm robbery among other. the aim of the paper is to examine the negative consequences of insecurity in the provision of healthcare services in Nigeria with a reference to Sokoto State. However, in this research, mixed method was employed where both qualitative and quantitative data were used, popularly known as triangulation. The data for the study were obtained from both primary and secondary sources. Primary data were collected using in depth interview to source for information from the healthcare personnel and journalists male and female residing at different places in the state. Multi stage sampling was used in selecting 4 LGAs across the three senatorial districts while Secondary data were sourced from the government publication such as Statistics Department, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Ministry of health and ministry for local government affairs Sokoto State. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics to present frequency distribution, tables, graphs and charts. the study concluded that the major implication of insecurity on healthcare delivery include, diversion of government attention in funding the healthcare facilities; brain drain; damages to healthcare facilities, killing and kidnapping of healthcare personneks; underutilization of healthcare facilities and congestion of healthcare facilities in the urban areas. the paper recommended that more measures should put in place to tackle the insecurity.

Keywords: *Implication, Insecurity and Healthcare Services*

The Impact of Border Closure on Food Security in Nigeria: A Study of Domestic Rice Production in Kebbi State (2015 – Date)

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Abstract

Countries employ different strategies to guarantee security of lives and property as they inter-relate with one another. Depending on their national interests, some adopts free trade while others adopt protectionist policies as a tool for guaranteeing national security. National security has evolved over time and transcends protection against military attack to include non-military dimensions such as food security, Human economic security, environmental security, protection against terrorism, energy security, among others. An attempt to guarantee national security through food security, the Nigerian government partially closed its land borders. During this period the country witnessed a boost in rice production, however the price of rice increased astronomically which impacted negatively on the food security in Nigeria. The study focuses on Arugungu and Augie Local Governments of Kebbi state. Objectives of the study are; to determine the impacts of border closure on rice production, examine the impediments to rice production, examine the challenges confronted during the border closure. The study employed both primary and secondary sources of data generation, 160 questionnaires were administered on rice farmers at the two local governments. Descriptive statistical tools of percentage and bar chart were used for data analysis and inferential statistical tool of Leven test was adopted for testing the statistical difference. The study discovered that farmers are confronted with challenges of inadequate incentives, exploitation by middlemen, insecurity and lack of cooperation by the Nigerian neighbours which cause smuggling of foreign rice into Nigeria. The study recommends that a comprehensive data base of rice farmers should be created to include all farmers in incentives, incentives of government should be more of grants than loans, government should provide more rice processing mills to subsidize rice production and reduce exploitation by middlemen, community policing should also be created, Nigerian government should implement a sustainable policy that will deter smuggling.

Keywords: *Impact of Border Closure, Food Security, Domestic Rice Production*

Exchange Rate Volatility and the Nigerian Foreign Trade Responses: Empirical Investigation from the COVID-19 Period

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Abstract

The paper Exchange rate Volatility and the Nigerian Foreign trade Responses: Empirical investigation from the covid-19 Period investigated the connection between exchange rate volatility and the Nigerian foreign trade with particular emphasis on the covid-19 period. The data used for the analysis were time series data on exchange rate, import and export growth rate sourced from the World Bank and the central bank of Nigeria from 1990 to 2020. The paper adopted the use of the augmented dickey fuller test and the Johansen Cointegration test to test for stationarity and for the verification of a long run relationship respectively. The Vector autoregressive model was used to ascertain the relationship between exchange rate volatility and foreign trade. The paper found a negative relationship between import and exchange rate volatility and a positive relationship between export growth rate and exchange rate volatility. The study therefore recommended that government agencies should ensure a more stable rate of exchange to improve the balance of trade and balance of payments in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Exchange Rate, Volatility, Nigerian Foreign Trade, Empirical Investigation, COVID-19*

Assessing the Effect of Banditry Activities on the Livelihood of Rural Communities in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study was carried out to assess the effect of banditry activities on the livelihood of rural communities in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State, Nigeria. The objectives were to identify factors responsible for the upsurge of banditry activities, determine the effect of banditry on economic activities, ascertain type of crimes committed by the bandits and to identify methods that can be employed to curtail banditry. The purposive sampling was used to select the study area and simple random sampling technique was used to select eight wards out of fifteen wards in the local government, a total of 400 questionnaires were randomly administered. However, 373 questionnaires were retrieved. Findings revealed that crimes committed by bandits in the study area range from cattle rustling, kidnapping, rape, murder and looting of farm produce. The economic effect of banditry in the area led to impracticability of farming, trading and businesses activities, loss of livestock and limited natural resources. Factors responsible for the upsurge in banditry in the study area include; insecurity, abundance of weapons, vulnerability of areas, rural poverty, corruption, greed, political interference, land dispute. Finally, on ways to minimize challenges of banditry respondents suggested reporting of suspicious persons, intelligence gathering, tackle corruption, poverty reduction and increase security level. The study recommended that constant and effective deployment of adequate number of security personnel to the affected communities to checkmate the illegal activities of the rural bandits, government should set up effective modalities to retrieve/recover the unlawfully possessed fire arms from wrong hands and government to encourage dialogue and reconciliation among the different ethnic groups in the respective communities affected by the problem of rural banditry, Discrimination and marginalization should be addressed with ultimate sense of responsibilities and accountability.

Keywords: *Assessing, Banditry, Livelihood and effect*

Assessing the Effects of Poor Drainage System on the Morphology of Some Selected Areas in Minna Metropolis

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Abstract

The study assessed the effect of poor drainage system on the morphology of some selected areas in Minna metropolis. The objectives were to assess and evaluate the spatial distribution of drainage network, examine the effect of poor drainage system on the residents and to assess the attitude of people towards drainage system. Descriptive survey was utilized with the application of a questionnaire as an instrument for the collection of data. Three hundred (300) questionnaires were randomly administered and 263 questionnaires were retrieved. Findings revealed that, on respondents perception about poor drainage system in the area, the respondents have different view about poor drainage system ranging from poor quality of construction, lack of proper location of drainage installation, improper depth of drainage installations, inefficient planning and performance of measures to be the major causes of poor drainage system in the area. On availability of drainage system in the area, majority of the respondents have drainage within the surrounding however, only few stated lack of drainage within the area. On effect of poor drainage network on the environment, in Barikin sale, 14.8% of the respondents explained that poor drainage resulted to flooding, 19.1% stated that it caused erosion, 25.5% revealed that it caused house collapse, 23.4% attributed it to blockage of road and 17.0% affirmed that it caused pollution. In Fadukpe 31.8% where for flooding, 13.6% erosion, 13.6% house collapse, 31.8% blockage of road and 9.0% pollution. In Sauka kahuta, 22.4% flooding, 16.3% erosion, 22.4% house collapse, 18.3% blockage of road and 18.2% pollution. Brighter area, 45.2% flooding, 38.8% erosion, 18.1% house collapse, 45.4% blockage of road and 4.7% pollution. Kafin tella 50.0% flooding of streets and houses, 14.2% erosion, 55.5% house collapse, 25.8% blockage of road and 55.5% pollution. Maitumbi 28.0% flooding, 35.7% erosion, 34.0% house collapse, 12.0% of the respondents revealed that it brought about blockage of road and 16.0% pollution. The study recommends improvement of drainage facilities through maintenance, redesign and reconstruction. Improving the role of poor workmanship in the construction of drainages and roads and provision of proper connection or integration between the road network and drainage network systems were required always when construction of roads and drainages were to take place. Drainages should be constructed by each resident across each home to reduce pressure on the general drainage and residents should avoid dumping of refuse into drainages.

Keywords: *Poor, Drainage, Metropolis, Morphology*

Assessment of the Impact of Domestic Violence on Socio-Economic Development in Kogi State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Women experiences so many social injustices in Africa, one of such is domestic violence. The problem of domestic violence against women in Nigeria had not been given much attention both at the individual and governmental level. Thus, this descriptive study sought to assess the impact of domestic violence on socio-economic development in Kogi State, Nigeria. The research instruments used was self-structured questionnaires and interview while data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The study found among others that, majority (85%) of the respondents had in one way or the other experienced one forms of domestic violence. About (95.2%) of the respondents indicated that marital infidelity, lack of finance and poverty, influence of alcoholism, forced sex and sex refusal and hot temper had contributed greatly to the incidence of domestic violence against women in the study area by the perpetrators. High cost of expenditure on service provision, decreased productivity, loss of source of income for victims and their families, poor physical and mental status were the major impacts of domestic violence on socio-economic development in Kogi State. Thus, this study recommends among others that, more efforts should be made by government and non-governmental organizations to strengthen laws and protection against domestic violence.

Keywords: *Domestic violence, impact, socio-economic, development, Nigeria*

Assessment of the Impact of Microfinance on Entrepreneurship Development

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Abstract

Ever since microfinance was identified to be a tool for entrepreneurship development, scholars and researchers have continued to develop different levels of interests on the subject matter. This paper attempts a scrutiny into the position of microfinance in entrepreneurship development in Nigeria using the existing literature and records relevant to the study to make an incursion into the impact of microfinance in entrepreneurship development. The literature review highlights the status of microfinance in Nigeria, importance of microfinance and problems of microfinance in Nigeria as well as a review of empirical studies. It is observed that microfinance has indeed played a significant role in promoting Small and medium size enterprises even though it is bedeviled with so many obstacles ranging from inadequate staff training to handle lending to small and medium enterprises, policy conflicts resulting from numerous alternative sources of credit with different interest rates, inability of borrowers to offer acceptable collateral for large loans which places a limit on their probable scale of operation and problems of illiteracy which affects record keeping and decision making ability of borrowers. Based on the findings, it was recommended that in order to positively encourage the spirit of entrepreneurship among youth, government should strengthen microfinance to address the problem of financing and capital accumulation through increase in its funding of financial institutions that provide lending to entrepreneurs.

Keywords: *Microfinance, Entrepreneurship Development, Small and Medium Size Enterprise*

Perceived Effect of Single Parenthood on Educational and Developmental Outcomes of Undergraduate Students

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Abstract

Background information: Single parenthood has become a social phenomena all over the world. The aim of the study was to assess the effects of single parenthood on developmental outcomes such as personality type, social relations as well as academic performance among undergraduate teenage students. Method: A cross sectional descriptive study carried out among students in Moshood Abiola Polytechnic Abeokuta. A total of 751 students were selected for the study using multistage sampling method. Data was collected by pre-tested, semi-structured, self-administered online questionnaire. Data collected was analysed with frequency distribution, t-test and logistic regression. Data analysis was carried with SPSS 23 software. Result: Mean age of the respondents was 17.5 ± 2.67 years. Majority of the respondents (64.7%) were female and almost half (48.8%) lived in single parents household, 83.4% of which were headed by mothers. The result showed that students from dual parent homes had higher academic performance than those from single parent families. In addition, male students from single parenting families had lower academic performances than females. Students from single parent families were also more likely to exhibit antisocial behaviours than those from dual parent families. Similarly, male students from single parent families showed worse outcomes than female. The study did not observe any statistically significant difference in the outcomes of students from single parent families compared with dual parent families with respect to personality traits. However, the result showed that female students are more likely to express negative personality traits than male students.

Keywords: *Perceived Effect, Single Parenthood, Education, Development, Undergraduate Students*

African Financial Development, Institutional Quality, and Inclusive Growth

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Abstract

The study examines the relationship between financial development (FD) and inclusive growth (IG). While examining how FD affects IG, the moderating effects that institutions and the regulatory environment have on FD's efforts to help the poor. In addition to creating an IG Index utilizing the robustness methodology developed by the Asian Development Bank, we evaluate IG using a social mobility function technique. In our dynamic estimations of the FD-IG nexus, a panel data set of 28 years were gathered from 44 African nations. Finance and IG have a nonlinear relationship from the study. Our findings demonstrate the necessity of an adequate institutional framework that controls financial market participants' behaviour to ensure inclusivity if FD is to result in IG. When institutions are weak, FD has a detrimental impact on IG. In addition to examining how FD explains the total amount of money, our study also looks at how it is distributed among various social groups.

Keywords: *Inclusive Growth, Financial Development, Institutions, Africa*

Domestic Investment, Bank Credit to the Private Sector and Manufacturing Performance in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study examines the influence of domestic investment and bank credit to the private sector on manufacturing sector performance in Nigeria using an annual time series dataset from 1985 to 2021. The dependent variable in the model is manufacturing sector performance proxied by manufacturing contribution to gross domestic products while the independent variables include domestic investment, bank credits to the private sector, lending rate, inflation rate and foreign direct investment. In the estimation, the study used Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model and the results show that domestic investment and bank credit to the private sector have a significant positive influence on manufacturing sector performance in Nigeria. In addition, the study finds that lending rate and foreign direct investment have a significant negative effect on manufacturing sector performance. To increase the performance of the manufacturing sector in Nigeria, this study recommends the need for an increase in domestic investment and bank credit to the manufacturing sector. Finally, there is a need for the lending institutions to reduce the lending rate to the manufacturing sector and the government should limit the inflows of foreign direct investment to the manufacturing sector.

Keywords: *Domestic investment, Bank credit, Manufacturing sector, ARDL*

Globalisation, National Development, Challenges and Way Forward: Nigerian Perspective

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Abstract

The paper examines the effect of globalisation on development in Nigeria. Globalisation has significant impact on national development in the aspect of trade, information technology, foreign direct investment, migration and capital flows. This paper used secondary data obtained from books, journals, magazines and reputable journals with content analysis as methodology. The paper is anchored on interdependence theory (Keohane & Nye, 2001). The theory emphasised the critical need for mutual and bilateral interaction between nations for economic, political, and social benefits of the citizens. This paper discovered that globalisation offers Nigeria citizens an golden opportunities for creating wealth via export, external trade expansion, to gain access to new ideology, ideas and technologies. Also, the force of change is factored by the willingness of the Nigeria to integrate in to the global economy by adding key value to its market. On the contrary globalisation has impacted negatively on Nigeria's to develop as a nation. The dominance tactics of the advanced capitalist's countries has suffocated the nation's economy to that of slave to the imperial power. Above all, the dominance strategies of globalisation have gone a long way in diminishing our humble cultural heritage or values which translate to the extinction of our cherished values. Therefore, recommended that the Nigerian government should encourage or stimulate the private sectors to drive the economic development strategies in order to enhance external trade, employment generation and productivity efficiency. In the same vein, government, policy makers and stakeholders to take decisive steps to eliminate the negative effects of globalisation on our cultural heritage

Keywords: *Globalisation, National development, Trade, Migration, Economic growth*

Patriotism Beyond Service Year: NYSC Anthem Reemphasized

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Abstract

The National Youth Service Corps scheme has become the major vehicle of youth mobilization for nation building since formation in 1973, after the epic ferocious fratricidal war. While several components of the scheme in the context of nation building has been studied, little has been done in the context of the anthem. It is against this backdrop the paper examines the impact of the letter and spirit of the NYSC Anthem within and beyond service year. This investigation becomes germane for the following; firstly, come May 2023 NYSC would be fifty, celebrating its golden jubilee. Thus, it must take stock of how it has fared over the decades. Similarly, by 2023 over five million graduates would have passed through the scheme since 1973, how has the number contributed to fostering national unity for sustainable development? Furthermore, following the renewed separatist agitations and security challenges worrying the nation, what prospects awaits the scheme in the twenty first century and beyond? Finally, since 1984 when the anthem was composed and popularized by the duo of Oluwole Adetiran and Fredrick Nwosu, what impact has it made on corps members? Gleaning on evidences from events and happenings around the scheme for the past fifty years, the paper notes that through the letters and spirit of the Anthem; coupled with other essential components of the training NYSC offers, corps participants have built bridges across ethno-religious divide and have rendered patriotic services to the nation during and after service year. It further notes that though NYSC remained the major vehicle of youth mobilization, it is not by any means the only institution saddled with the responsibility of nation building. Thus, it concludes, while more is expected from the NYSC despite the lasting impression it has made; outliving legions of its unrepentant critics, all hands must be on deck to salvaging the several threats to national unity and development.

Keywords: *Patriotism, NYSC*

Driving Youth Development in Africa Through the National Youth Service Programme: The Gambian Model

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Abstract

The National Youth Service scheme has become the major vehicle of youth mobilization for development in Africa particularly the sub-Saharan region since the 20th century. The degree of importance attaches to national youth services is a reflection of the significant position youths occupies as fundamental element of societal development. In driving youth development agenda through service programme African States adopts different approaches as may be seen in the case of Nigeria, Ghana, The Gambia, Botswana, South Africa, Zambia, Togo, among others. The attention of this paper would be on The Gambia National Youth Service Scheme (GNYSS) founded by the Nigeria National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) through technical assistance in 1996. The Gambia's traditionally appeared modeled after NYSC, but strongly differs in operations. It is against this backdrop the paper examines the operations of the GNYSS and its impact on the youths and the Gambian society at large. The paper adopts quantitative and qualitative methods of research and gleans on evidences from events and developments around the operations of the GNYSS since 1996. The paper foregrounds its narrative on the ideas of the National Youth Service as "Moral Equivalent of War", "Service- Learning" and as "A Way of Strengthening Ties among the People of the World" espoused by William James, John Dewey and Rosenstock-Huessy. It discovers that as at the time of the founding of the GNYSS 47 per cent of the Gambian population were youths; about 200,000 of which between the ages of 17 and 27 were highly vulnerable to unemployment, indiscipline, frustration, drug abuse and perpetual drinking of the Chinese tea known as the *Ataya*. However, the narrative changed consequent upon the founding of the national youth service programme for the nation, underscoring the social, economic, political contribution of the scheme to The Gambia. The paper concludes that though The Gambia model targets at non graduate youths contrary to the NYSC, through skill acquisition and empowerment it engenders it has been able to reposition the youths and the society on the developmental and progressive trajectory. In view of the numberless challenges facing African youths, African nations are charged to clue from The Gambia.

Keywords: *Youth Development, Africa, National Youth Service Programme*

Refugee Crisis, State Response and Urgency for Institutional Reforms in Nigeria

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Abstract

Refugee crisis is an emerging global humanitarian crisis arising from unpleasant conditions due to war, natural disasters and severe economic downturns that forces communities to leave their places in search of reprieve. Of late, the phenomenon has assumed catastrophic magnitude which attracts global attention due to its repercussions on social, economic and political spheres of countries and organizations involved. Severe economic conditions and incessant communal feuds in Nigeria and neighboring countries have colluded and exacerbated refugee crisis. This has overstretched institutions in Nigeria with tolls on resources and procedures that call for reforms to ensure that the phenomenon is handled appropriately. Specifically, this paper reviews refugee crisis in Nigeria and state responses to the plights of the people involved and urgency for institutional reforms in view of its position as potent destabilization factor in state building efforts. This research adopts Institutional Approach in drawing its conclusions. It is more on account of the fact, that unless processes, regulations, laws and procedures are improved and strengthened upon, relevant agencies may not be well placed to handle refugee crisis properly in Nigeria. The paper argues that taking into cognizance of the myriad of challenges bedeviling Nigeria's quest for sustainable peace and development, bold steps need to be taken to strengthen institutions to respond to the plights of refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the country.

Keywords: *Refugee Crisis, State Response, Institutions, Institutional Reforms, Internally Displaced Persons*

Political Party System in France: Lessons for Nigeria in the Context 2023 General Elections

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Abstract

French today is governed by a constitution which was adopted on 28 September 1958 by a vote of all adult inhabitants of France, including Algeria, and the French Union, in a national referendum. The decision to conduct the referendum was taken by General de Gaulle's government on 26 August 1958. Nationwide propaganda was conducted for and against the constitution by 23 approved political parties and groups, and in the result the constitution as submitted to the voters by the government was approved by an overwhelming majority. It is equally of note that in the politics of France since the French Revolution of 1789 there has hardly been any form of political consensus, an ability to agree on the fundamentals of her political system. Multiple parties is the key to the understanding of French politics. It explains the short-lived, weak coalition cabinets, the dominance of the legislature over the executive, and the practical necessity under which cabinets were placed to win votes by granting favors to individual deputies. The paper examines the French as against the Nigeria system and concludes that Nigeria can learn from the French in terms of ideological formation, political party and membership structure, gender targeting and state funding of political parties.

Keywords: *France, Nigeria, Political party System, Constitutional development*

Comparative Effectiveness of Mastery Learning and Cooperative Teaching Methods on Students' Academic Achievement and Retention in Early Childhood Education in Niger State College of Education, Minna

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Abstract

This study was to determine the comparative effectiveness of mastery learning and cooperative teaching methods on students' academic achievement and retention in early childhood education in Niger State College of Education, Minna. The study adopted quasi-experimental research design. This study was carried out in Niger State of the South-Eastern Zone of Nigeria. The population of the study comprised the entire 560 National Certificate Examination (NCE), Year II Early childhood education students in all the 12 Niger State College of Education, Minna in the 2018/2019 academic year. Purposive sampling technique was used to select four technical colleges based on the number of Early childhood education students (male and female), their age, availability of teaching facilities and professional qualified teachers. The instrument for data collection for the study was Early Childhood Education Achievement Test (BEAT) for measuring achievement and retention of Technical College Students in Early childhood education. The instrument was validated for its content and face validity by three experts, two in the department of technology education and one in measurement and evaluation, all from Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. The reliability of the instrument was determined by administering BEAT to a trial group of intact class of 30 NCE II Early childhood education students of Federal Government College Kontagora, Niger State. Reliability co-efficient of the score was established using Kuder-Richardson 20 Formula which yielded a coefficient index of 0.87. Data for the study were collected using Early childhood education Achievement Test (BEAT) through the research assistants who were the regular Early childhood education teachers in the sampled schools. The test scores of the pre-test, post-test and delay post-test for the groups were collected and used in the analysis. Teachers of early childhood education should train, encourage and motivate students on how to apply meta-cognitive strategies in learning Early childhood education so as to improve their retention ability. Government and other stakeholders in technical colleges should sensitize technical education teachers on the efficacy of cooperative and mastery learning teaching method through conferences, seminars and workshops.

Keywords: *Comparative, Effectiveness, Mastery learning and Cooperative, Academic Achievement and Retention, Early Childhood*

The Application of Information Communication Technology in Enhancing Security Network

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Abstract

The Application of I.C.T in Enhancing Security Network is a major aspect of National Development. It Introduces a Technical Approach to Cyber Security Network. This Ensures the Availability, Integrity, Confidentiality and Non-Repudiation of Resources and Services in Network Environment and Relevant Security Technologies Are Explained, Some Electronic Mail (E-Mail) and Electronic –Commerce (E-Commerce) risk issues are discussed and security solutions are given the important of technical security measures to decrease the number and impacts of cyber-attacks is presented. The need is identified for a complementary technical protocol and prevention of information risks, and towards improving the efficiency of security solutions.

Keywords: *Application, Information Communication Technology, Security Network*

Effect of Poverty and Social Status on the Use of Argot by Area Boys in Sokoto Metropolis

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Abstract

This study investigates the effect of poverty and social status on the use of argot by area boys in Sokoto metropolis. Argot is a secretive language used mostly by criminals (e.g. area boys) to hide their immoral activities and identity in a society. The study used survey data set for a sample of 426 respondents and applied multiple regression technique in the analysis. The result indicates that poverty has a significant positive effect on the use of argot by the area boys. This implies that, poverty is one of the factors that lead to use of argot by the group in the study area. On the other hand, the study also reveals that the lower class of the social status has a significant positive effect on the use of argot by the group. This means that, given the social status of the area boys in the society, argot is mostly used by the lower class of people in the metropolis. The study recommends the need for government at all levels to introduce policies and programmes aimed at reducing the level of poverty and mitigating the enrollment of youths into area boyism in the metropolis.

Keywords: *Argot, Area boyism, Poverty, Social status*

Globalization and Job Creation in Nigeria

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Abstract

The study examines the effects of globalization on job creation in Nigeria. Globalization is a multi-faceted concept that includes telecommunication, trade, finance, etc. For convenience, the study contracted globalization to economic globalization and x-ray its effect on job creation in Nigeria. Unemployment has been attributed as a nightmare to global economic growth; recently Nigeria's unemployment rate has astronomically increased without interruption. This uninterrupted increase of unemployment rate has resulted to decrease in household income and standard of living, consequently, increasing the level of poverty and insecurity. The study employed an econometric model to test a long run relationship between globalization and job creation. The study found that openness of the economy and foreign direct investment tends to enhance job creation, whereas exchange rate and import duties improve the level of unemployment. Therefore, economic globalization is employment friendly. The consequence of this is sharp productivity increase to domestic industries, which culminated into decline in unemployment and poverty in the country.

Keywords: *Globalization, Job Creation, Nigeria*

An Integration of Service Quality and Security in the Determinants of Internet Banking Acceptance Among Bank Customers

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Abstract

Of internet banking acceptance among bank customers. Design/Methodology/Approach: The study adopted the survey research design based on quantitative approach. Structured questionnaire was used to collect data from bank customers in Bauchi and Gombe states, North-east Nigeria using the convenience sampling technique. Out of the 406 questionnaires administered to the bank customers, 403 responses were retrieved back and found fit for the analysis. The collected questionnaires were analyzed using structural equation modeling. Findings: The analysis revealed that performance expectancy, effort expectancy, social influence and reliability have significant positive effect on the behavioural intention to use internet banking service while security does not. In addition, behavioural intention and security have a positive effect on acceptance of internet banking. Originality: The study contributes to the understanding of the role of service reliability and security as determinants of internet banking acceptance in a developing country; it shows the mechanism through which reliability and security influence intention and actual usage of internet banking. Practical Implications: The findings implies that banks service reliability coupled with strong Security protocols that prevent intruders from gaining access to customers' information will enhance the acceptance rate of internet banking systems. In addition, banks' marketing communication should not overlook the important role of technology and individual related factors as they influence intention decisions of customers.

Keywords: *Behavioural intention, effort, performance expectancy, internet banking acceptance, reliability, security, social influence*

COVID-19 Pandemic and Entrepreneurship Development in Nigeria: Business Tragedy and Opportunities at a Glance

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Abstract

The tragedy that awaited the world at the dawn of 2020 with the surfacing of the new COVID-19 pandemic was recognized as deadliest in recent history considering from the standpoint of its socio-economic and political disruptions worldwide. No country was left untouched by the pandemic as even in Nigeria, businesses activities were reduced by at least 50%, putting an estimated 26.42 million employees at risk of losing their jobs. Thus, this study focused at Covid-19 pandemic and entrepreneurship development in Nigeria vis-à-vis business tragedy and opportunities at a glance. An exploratory design approach was adopted and data collected mainly from secondary sources especially qualitative from a theoretical perspective of existing literatures. The findings revealed that there were two categories of goods in the market: essential and non-essential goods. It was also discovered that while businesses and economies were hit hard negatively worldwide, especially aviation, service and the tourism industries, there were some sectors that had phenomenal results such as online conferencing applications, e-Commerce, online food retailing, pickup and delivery services, robotics, pharmaceutical, and the gaming industries, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic as they saw upsurge in sales and revenues. Several emerging entrepreneurial opportunities were also recognized and recommended for entrepreneurs to take advantage of and make profit, providing what is really essential in these hard times.

Keywords: *Covid-19, Pandemic, Tragedy, Opportunities and Entrepreneurship Development*

The Use of ICT in Education: Challenges and Sustainability in Borno State, Nigeria

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Abstract

ICT as a revolution left no area of life untouched. ICTs play a vital role in educational institutions. It improves teaching and learning and contributes meaningfully to an economy. This paper was to examine the influence of ICT in Education in Borno state, Nigeria. In this regard, the study adopted questionnaire method for data collection, where 120 questionnaires were administered to teachers and students from randomly selected five secondary schools (24 to each school) and simple frequency count and charts in MS Excel were used to analyze the collected data from schools. The study found out that ICT's role is very vital in teaching and learning, as it provides quality education and helps in economic development. Also, the study further revealed that ICT facilities are not available in most of the school, most lecturers do not use ICT tools in class and students that do not have ICT knowledge and use ICT facilities interact poorly.

Keywords: *Education, ICT, Implementation, Influence, Learning*

Forms of Government and Political Participation Through the Prisms of Classical Political Theory

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Abstract

Politics as practiced today is a much different process than it was practiced in the classical era. In an attempt by the classical scholars to categorize the different system of government, their concern is on who participated in the governing process or who participated in the selection of those who governed. This participation varies depending on whether the government is a monarchy, an oligarchy or democracy. More so, persisting definition of regime types are found in the writings of the ancient Greek thinkers (Plato and Aristotle). Even though, their judgment is different from contemporary responses to democracy which in spite of its various theoretical and practical forms, remains the unchallenged term of approbation by many scholars. It is against this background therefore, this paper seeks to examine the philosophical consideration of different forms of government in the classical perspectives where it identifies three forms of government which are located in different discursive contexts and presume that, man has a choice on how and what pattern of government shall be made. The paper relied on the secondary sources to explain the purposes for which governments are required to promote and also inquire what form of government is best fitted to fulfil those purposes. The paper conclude that, the form of government which combines the greatest amount of good and the least amount of evil is the best form of government which is capable of fulfilling the conditions of action that are necessary either in keeping the established polity in existence or otherwise.

Keywords: *Politics, Government, forms of government, Democracy and Participation*

Relationship Between Strategic Planning and Performance of Small and Medium Enterprises in Nigeria During Inflation: The Moderating Effect of External Business Environment

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Abstract

Despite the strategic efforts by the Federal and State government of Nigeria to enhance and support the sub-sector to grow with special policies and funding such as Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (Youth/Women/General), National MSMEs Policy, National/State Councils on MSMEs, One Local Government One Product (OLOP), amongst others, the Small and medium enterprises sector have performed below expectation due to number of problems. The objective of this paper is to examine the relationship between strategic planning and performance of small and medium enterprises in Nigeria: the moderating effect of external business environment. Resources based view theory has been utilised to explain the relationship between the strategic planning as independent variable and performance of SMEs as dependent variables, as well as external business environment as the moderating variable. The study utilizes Cross-Sectional Research Design, sample size of this study was 382 from the population of 8396 registered SMEs. This study employed simple random sampling, Primary data and Questionnaire was utilised and administered to collected data. Based on the findings discovered that strategy formulation, strategy implementation and evaluation and control have positive effect on the performance of SMEs in Nigeria during inflation. Similarly, external business environment moderate the relationship between strategy implementation and SME performance during inflation. However, the moderation of external business environment on the relationship between strategy formulation and evaluation and control and SME performance during inflation has not reached a significant level. The study therefore recommends that SMEs should embrace the practice of strategic planning in order to enhance their performance and increase their chances of survival within the national economy during inflation. SMEs should embrace the use of strategic planning as a tool and a concept to be used in achieving organizational performance during inflation.

Keywords: *Strategic Planning, SMEs Performance, External Business Environment*

Assessment of President Muhammadu Buhari Administration's Fight Against Corruption in Nigeria (2015-2020)

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Abstract

On assumption of office on 29 May 2015 President Muhammadu Buhari assured Nigerians that corruption was going to become a thing of the past in Nigeria within a very short time of his assumption of power. Most Nigerian did not doubt this assurance based on his antecedent as a military head of state in Nigeria between 1984 and 1985. Three years into his second term in office, it is considered appropriate to assess the performance of the administration. The broad objective of this study is to assess the performance of the administration in the fight against corruption in Nigeria between 2015 and 2020. Specifically, it examined prevalence of official corruption, identified their motives, examined their effects on Nigeria and assessed the efforts of the administration in curbing the menace. The study used secondary source to collect data and applied content analysis tool to analyze data. Structural Conflict theory is the theoretical underpinning of the study. Findings of the study revealed that corruption is a major impediment to Nigeria economic development. It also reveals that the Buhari administration demonstrates determination to curb it, but it keeps growing. The study similarly finds that, debased value system, selfishness, gluttony, materialistic instincts, glorification of wealth, judicial heresy and absence of punitive punishment for convicts account for its pervasiveness. The study recommends death penalty, in addition to forfeiture of products of corruption as a major remedy to the menace.

Keywords: *Democratic governance, Official corruption, Buhari administration, Fourth republic*

Development of Pre-Primary School Education in Public Primary Schools in Niger State – Challenges and Recommendations

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Abstract

Before the official recognition of Pre-Primary Education in the National Policy of Education, pre-primary education was considered to be the foundation of Nigerian Educational System. Presently, pre-primary level of education is recognized in Nigeria National Policy on Education (FRN, 2012) as the basis of education in Nigeria. Qualitative pre-primary education had been proven to give wide range of opportunities to children, especially those from low socio-economic background. This article looked at how pre-primary schools in public schools in Niger State developed. In the course of the development, some challenges were faced, among the challenges identified in this study are inadequate professionally trained caregivers/teachers, lack of conducive learning environment and inadequate learning materials. It was also recommended in this study that in-service training should be organized for the available teachers, conducive learning environment should be set up in all public pre-primary schools.

Keywords: *Development, Pre-Primary School Education, Public Primary Schools, Niger State*

Education and Youth Empowerment as Instruments for Sustainable Community Development in Africa

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Abstract

It has been accepted by developmental scholars that sustainable community development is a veritable pathway towards attaining the overall sustainable development. This implies that when communities are sustainably developed, the whole society will be developed. The key ingredients to bring about this much desired development is education and youth empowerment. It is based on this fact that this paper examines education and youth empowerment as instruments for sustainable community development in Africa. Concepts of education, empowerment, community development as well as sustainable development were clarified. The paper further looked at the specific role of education and youth empowerment in achieving sustainable community and national development. In addition, the paper identified the major challenges to education and youth empowerment processes in Africa. The paper concluded that there is urgent need to adopt drastic measures to ensure that education and youths can contribute maximally to sustainable community development of less developed countries. To better place education and youth empowerment as catalysts for sustainable community development, the paper proffered certain recommendations which include that; education as the greatest tool for youth empowerment should be given the required attention by government at all levels through adequate funding; there is need to make African educational system more functional as well as the need for private individuals and organizations to be passionately involved in initiating economic empowerment programs for the youths among others.

Keywords: *Education, Youth Empowerment, Sustainable Community Development.*

Educational Futures and Increased Female Enrolment in Federal Tertiary Institutions in Katsina State Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper examines the growing trend of demographic changes in the admission process and outcome in the educational sector in Katsina State, Nigeria. It is an analysis of the admission trend in publicly owned institutions in Katsina State. It was discovered that the number of female enrolments is on the rise. This increased interest in educational and professional training of the girl child in higher institutions of learning shows a silent revolution in changing the status of women in society. The outcome will eventually impact the structure and coloration of the labour market and the working class in the nearest future as well as women entrepreneurial representation. Using secondary data from the archives of the three publicly owned tertiary institutions in the state which was supplemented with interview of selected students of the institutions, it was discovered that the bulk of this admission offered to the feminine gender was by no means moderated to favour them as some of these female candidates have been discovered to out-perform their male counterparts in virtually all subjects' areas taught in the various institutions. Considering that the female gender constitutes approximately 50% of the labour force, it was recommended that more gender-centric policies be promulgated to maximally tap into this growing positive trend

Keywords: *Girl-child, Enrolment, University, Education*

Effect of Peer Tutoring on Students' Achievement for Sustainability in Senior Secondary School Chemistry

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Abstract

The study investigated the effect of peer tutoring on students' achievement for sustainability in senior secondary school Chemistry. The study adopted quasi experimental design. The population of the study consisted of all the 1,820 senior secondary school two (SS II) students who offer Chemistry in the all co-educational public secondary schools in Minna Education Zone. Four (4) co-educational schools were drawn out of all the schools. A sample size of 160 SS II Chemistry students were drawn out of the four (4) co-educational schools through simple random sampling technique. The instrument used for data collection was Chemistry Achievement Test (CAT). The instrument was validated by three experts. The reliability index of the CAT instrument was established using Kuder-Richardson (K-R20) method of internal estimate which gave an overall reliability index of 0.66. Mean and standard deviation were used in answering the research questions while the null hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance using analysis of covariance (ANCOVA). Findings from the study revealed that students taught Chemistry with peer tutoring achieved better than those taught with the conventional lecture method. The results also showed that there was no significant difference between the mean achievement scores of male and female students taught Chemistry using peer tutoring. The study found out that school location either in rural or urban area does not in any way affect the mean achievement scores of students in Chemistry. It was therefore recommended that the Chemistry curriculum planners should carry out a review of the senior secondary school Chemistry curriculum with a view to incorporating peer tutoring in order to ensure effective teaching and learning of Chemistry. That Government should organize periodic workshops, conferences and seminars with a view to training and retraining Chemistry teachers on the use of peer tutoring for effective teaching and learning of Chemistry through the curriculum.

Keywords: *Peer tutoring, Chemistry, Achievement, Students, Sustainability*

Influence of School Environment as Challenges to the Academic Performance and Discipline Among Public Pre-Primary School Pupils in Niger State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study was titled “influence of school environment as challenges to the academic performance and discipline among public pre-primary school pupils in Niger State, Nigeria”. The objectives were to assess the influence of school environment as challenges to the academic performance and discipline among public pre-primary school pupils. The study adopted descriptive survey. The population was 223 with sample size of 152 which was determined via research advisor's sampling table (2006). A multistage sampling technique was used to select the respondents. Self-designed structured items questionnaire was used. To determine reliability of the instrument, a pilot study was conducted on 20 respondents through a test re-test method and at interval of 14 days. The two results were correlated using Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMC) and the result obtained was 0.92 which implies the instrument was reliable. The data were analysed through frequency, simple percentages and mean. The results were that most schools especially those in rural areas were not fenced, school environment is a determinant to the realisation of school goals as it negatively affects academic performance and discipline of public pre-primary school pupils in Niger State. It was therefore recommended that head teachers should collaborate with community through School-Based Management Committee (SBMC) and Parent-Teachers' Association (PTA) to fence and provide adequate conducive learning school environment as towards promoting positive academic performance and discipline among public pre-primary school pupils in Niger State.

Keywords: *Influence, School Environment, Challenges, Academic Performance and Discipline*

Extent of Adoption of Inspection and Testing Practices in Domestic Electrical Installation in Minna, Niger State

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Abstract

The study investigated the extent of adoption of inspection and testing practices in domestic electrical installation in Minna, Niger State. Two objectives and two research questions were raised. A cross sectional survey research design was adopted. The population of the study consists of 165 electricians. A 26 – item questionnaires developed by the researcher, validated by three experts was used for data collection. Mean and standard deviation were used in answering the research questions. The findings of the study revealed among others that; verifying that switch or receptacles are installed correctly at their correct position and verifying the functional testing of residual current devices were practices adopted at high and a low extent respectively. Based on the findings, it was recommended among others, that the Niger State Government should organize Capacity Building Workshop for the electricians on practices for ensuring safety of lives and installations.

Keywords: *Extent, Adoption, Inspection, Testing Practices, Domestic Electrical Installation*

A Comparative Study of External Debt-Economic Growth Relationship: An Evidence from Nigeria and South Africa Experience Using ARDL Approach

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Abstract

External debt is a source of funds for capital formation which aids the achievement of desired economic growth in most developing countries of the world. Hence, this made it imperative to conduct a comparative study of external debt-economic growth relationship in Nigeria and South Africa. The objectives of the study is; to examine the impact of external debt on economic growth in Nigeria and South Africa. The study used annual time series data on Real Gross Domestic Product growth rate as proxy for economic growth being the dependent variable while external debt, debt service payment, ratio of external debt to export, ratio of external debt to GDP, and ratio of external debt service to export were the independent variables. The study utilized Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) test as the technique of estimations. Comparatively, the study revealed that external debt had negative impact on economic growth in Nigeria while external debt had positive impact on economic growth in South Africa. The study concluded based on the findings that increase in external debt led to decline in economic growth in Nigeria while increased in external debt led to increase in economic growth in South Africa within the study period. The study recommended that Nigerian government should ensure that borrowing from the rest of the world is reduced to the barest minimum level in order to achieve the desired level of economic growth in the Nigerian economy while South African government should ensure that there is intensification in her amount of borrowing from the rest of the world in order to achieve the desired level of economic growth.

Keywords: *Comparative Study, Debt-Economic Growth, Evidence, Nigeria, South Africa, ARDL*

Co-Operative Societies and Poverty Reduction Among Members for Community Development in Edo State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The paper examined and investigated how cooperative societies operating in Edo State have been carrying out poverty reduction activities among their members so as to help them contribute to community development. The study answered three research questions. The population of this study comprised 1,178 members of twenty-one (21) registered cooperative societies whose activities cover thrift and loan, and thrift and credit facilities. Stratified random sampling technique was used to sample 552 representing 50% of the members of the twenty-one (21) thrift loan and credit co-operative societies which were used for the study. Through the study, author established that cooperative societies in the area of study have been empowering their members through their poverty reduction activities. However, factors such as Lack of capital and corruption among the heads of cooperative societies in the State have been militating against the effectiveness of the cooperative poverty reduction activities. Therefore, in order to sustain the cooperative poverty reduction activities, cooperators need cooperative education.

Keywords: *Cooperative society, Poverty, Poverty reduction, Community development*

History of Nigeria: An Overview of the Political Perspective

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Abstract

This paper overviews Nigerian political history in connection with the trends and events related to the political event and historical reflections in Nigeria. Nigeria's political history is characterized by numerous interesting, conflicting, peaceful and violent, controversial issues and events. The paper overviews the main issues and events in line with the current political and historical trends in the Nigerian federation. The paper is theoretical and used secondary sources of data collection. The study is unique and significant at this time when the political and historical issues and events of Nigeria are being misinformed, manipulated and or negated to suit political and other interests, but at the expense of Nigeria's national unity, coherence and peaceful co-existence. The study makes some recommendations including increased contextual teaching of Nigeria's political history in all academic institutions and at all levels.

Keywords: *Britain, Economy, Independence, Nigeria, Political history, Political leadership, Unity.*

Incorporating Basic Primary Education Curriculum into Qur'anic Education for Children for Sustainable Development in Bida, Niger State

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Abstract

The main purpose of this study is to incorporate universal basic education programme into the Qur'anic Education for children for sustainable development in Bida, Niger State. Survey research design was used for the study to investigate the opinion and perception of Qur'anic Education teachers and UBE teacher in Niger State. The population for this study is 95 from some selected schools while simple random sampling was used to select 80 teachers of Islamic Studies and 15 teachers of basic primary education schools. A structured questionnaire consisting of thirty-five (35) items divided into five parts was used to collect data to answer the research questions formulated to guide this study. Data collected for research questions were analyzed using means and standard deviation scores, while the hypotheses were tested with t-test at 0.05 level of significance. This instrument was validated by three experts and the Cronbach's Alpha method was used to establish their internal consistency. The result of the findings indicated that most of the elements and pre-vocational skills of universal basic education is to be integrated into the Qur'anic system of education for an age group of five years and above and it was also established that the environment is a facilitator of effective incorporation of UBE into Qur'anic education system for sustainable development. It was recommended that Qur'anic schools should be provided with ICT equipment and laboratory to lay sound basis for scientific and reflective thinking in children and efforts should be made by the government to equip Qur'anic schools with basic facilities like libraries and vocational centres to provide children with basic tools for further educational advancement, including preparation for trades and craft of the locality as proposed in the National Policy of Education (NPE).

Keywords: *Basic Primary Education, Curriculum, Qur'anic Education, Sustainable Development*

Isolation and Identification of Parasites of Public Health Important from the Body of Cockroach (*Periplaneta Americana*)

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Abstract

The study was conducted in Kafin Hausa community, Jigawa State Nigeria. The study involved trapping and examination of cockroaches from toilets, kitchens and soak away of four distinct quarters households of Kafin Hausa town. This was to identify the parasites in and on the cockroach and also to assess possible role of cockroaches in carrying parasites of medical important. A total of 150 cockroaches were trapped from different sites within the households and all were identified as *Periplaneta americana* species. Out of 150 cockroaches examined in the study, 79 cockroaches were found harboured parasites. Parasites isolated and identified includes: *Hookworms* 19(22%), *Entamoeba histolytica* 17(19.3%), *Taenia spp* 21(26.5%), *Ascaris lumbricoides* 50(68.8%), *Wuchereria bancroft* 12(15%) and *Schistosoma spp* 10(13.10%). All these are obtained from both external and internal body of the cockroaches. Cockroaches collected from the toilets and sock away were found have highest parasites load followed by kitchens and bathrooms. However, parasites that were isolated from the internal body were higher than those that were isolated from external body surface where $P < 0.05$ thus there is significant differences between the external and internal part of cockroaches obtained. Conclusively, the study has shown that cockroach (*P .americana*) carried parasites of public health importance which cause disease to man.

Keywords: *Isolation, Identification, Parasites, Public Health, Cockroach*

Impact of Personal Selling on the Marketing of Industrial Products

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Abstract

This study was poised to examine the impact of Personal Selling on the Marketing of Industrial Product, using Wikki spring water, Bauchi as a case study. The basic objective is to determine the impact of canned strategy, features strategy as well as consultative strategy on marketing of Wikki Spring water products. The primary data include questionnaire used to collect data for presentation and analysis. The multiple regression was used to test the hypotheses. From the findings, the regression of coefficients showed that there is positive and significant relationship between canned strategy and marketing of the products of Wikki spring water. The findings also indicated that there is positive and significant relationship between features strategy and marketing of Wikki spring water products. The findings also showed that there is positive and significant relationship between consultative strategy and marketing of Wikki spring water products. Therefore, canned strategy was found to be the most significant among the three variables studied. The recommendations clearly stated that the management of Wikki Spring Water should focus more on features and consultative strategy as they play crucial roles in marketing of industrial products. The study also recommends that Wikki water should continue making use of personal selling in order to increase sales performance. Finally, the management of Wikki should endeavor to strictly follow the personal selling process so as to ensure that prospective industrial buyers are convinced and properly served in order for them to make purchase. In conclusion, the findings from the study led the researcher to conclude that personal selling have significant impact on marketing of industrial products in Wikki spring water, Bauchi.

Keywords: *Impact, Personal Selling, Marketing of Industrial Products*

Knowledge Based Economy & Productive Sector: Business Management and Entrepreneurship

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Abstract

Business management is very important in the productive sector of the economy. Business management and entrepreneurship provides the skills required to introduce or develop new knowledge before starting up business. Someone cannot set up a business without having the knowledge of what to do, how to do, for whom to do. The paper emphasized on the entrepreneurship aspect of business. Someone has to be creative and innovative in business. The differences between business management and entrepreneurship were discussed.

Keywords: *Management, Entrepreneurship, Innovation.*

Linear Group of Filanz Matrix from Hourglass Matrix

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Abstract

Filanz matrix consists of a non-singular 2×2 matrix obtained by taking the first and the last nonzero elements of the i th and $(n + 1 - i)$ th row of an hourglass matrix. We establish that the entries of filanz matrix have group axioms and that the filanz matrix is indeed a linear group of degree 2 over $\mathbb{R} \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{R})$. Then we showed that the products of filanz matrices are $\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{R})$.

Keywords: *Linear group, Group, Hourglass matrix*

Local Government Revenue Generation and Grassroots Development in Kogi State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Revenue generation has remained a neglected area in Local Government Administration in Nigeria in spite of the important role it plays in implementation of various programmes promised to the electorate at the grassroots level. Local Government exist for the provision of services to the people; hence it is essential that they raise enough funds to carry out these services. This paper assesses the revenue potentials available to Lokoja local Government Area of Kogi State and the prospects it holds for Grassroots Development. The paper adopts the Efficiency Services theory which holds that local government exist to provide efficient services for the people as its framework of analysis. The study uses qualitative approach. It relies on the Kogi State Local Government harmonized rates and levies law 2015 and Financial Statements of some selected Local Government Areas in Kogi state. Interviews were conducted to complement the secondary data. Findings revealed that fines, tenement rates, licenses, motor parks levies were potential revenue sources but however notes that these sources have not been fully exploited. The paper recommends that the local government should engage its revenue machinery in routine training, provide necessary incentives and assert its authority in revenue drives to enhance its revenue base for service delivery to the grassroots.

Keywords: *Local Government, Efficiency Services, Grassroots Development, Revenue, Harmonized law.*

Agricultural Productivity and Poverty Alleviation in Nigeria (1981-2020)

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Abstract

The study examined the relation between agricultural productivity and poverty alleviation in Nigeria from 1981 to 2020. Secondary data were collected on the relevant variables namely Per capita income which was used as a proxy to poverty, agricultural output, agricultural loans to individuals and the real gross domestic product. The result of the study showed that an increase in agricultural output improved per capita income which reduces the level of poverty. The study concluded that the poverty can be alleviated through the improvement of the agricultural sector and so the study recommended among other things that the government embarks on policies that can strengthen the agricultural sector in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Agriculture, Productivity, Poverty*

Does Entrepreneurship Education Determine Entrepreneurial Motivation Among University Graduates? An Empirical Investigation

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Abstract

The study seeks to know if the acquired knowledge from entrepreneurship education offered in the university enhances and moderate's entrepreneurship competencies on entrepreneurial motivation. The study employs both qualitative interviews and a cross-sectional survey of a sample of 300 graduates cutting across different faculties. The study finds that entrepreneurship education is a requisite to entrepreneurship motivation. It also reveals that entrepreneurship motivation could be predicted through entrepreneurship competencies. Contrary to the common belief that entrepreneurship education is a requisite to entrepreneurship motivation and competencies, this study reveals otherwise. It shows that entrepreneurship education does not account for graduate's motivation to becoming entrepreneurs. The study recommends that the entrepreneurship education should be directed towards developing the psychology of graduates along the path of entrepreneurship to boost entrepreneurial motivation, skills, and critical thought. The study contributes to research on entrepreneurship. Specifically, it seeks to find out if the acquired knowledge from entrepreneurship education influences entrepreneurship competencies on entrepreneurial motivation.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship Education, Entrepreneurial Motivation, University Graduates, Entrepreneurship Competencies.*

Oil Price Shocks and Exchange Rates in Nigeria: A Forecasting Model

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Abstract

Several empirical studies have revealed equivocal behavior in exchange rates as a result of unpredictable oil prices. This study forecasts the exchange rates of the Nigerian surrence, Naira using both dynamic and static forecasting procedures. The stationarity test which revealed that all variables are stationary at both level and first difference motivated the use of autorgressive distributed lag (ARDL) model to forecast exchange rates in this study. The ARDL reveals evidence of a short-run relationship between exchange rates and the explanatory variables that forecast exchange rates. The study compared the actual exchange rates with the forecasted exchange rates to form an analysis that measures the forecasting accuracy of the various models. The results show that all the estimates in the ARDL model behave well in forecasting exchange rates for Nigeria. Thus, the models performed well, and it is concluded that they are suitable to forecast exchange rates in the country. Findings from the study serve as a guide to policy makers. It could also assist policy makers to obtain early signals of future crises, hence, allowing them to make accurate exchange rates forecasts. As a result of globalization, the findings of this study are important to both importers and exporters since exchange rates instability has different effects on their decision making on matters relating to international transactions.

Keywords: *Oil Price Shocks, ARDL, Exchange Rates, Theil's U, Forecasting*

Impact of Public Relations on a Corporate Organisation

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Abstract

This study is poised at examining the impact of public relations in First Bank Bauchi main branch as a case study. Public Relations role in First Bank of Nigeria PLC cannot be over emphasized because the services of the organization are aimed at satisfying the aspirations of its publics. The research identifies how public relations helps in not only maintaining but improving high acceptable corporate identity, corporate image and corporate communication in First Bank PLC Bauchi Main Branch. The study adopted survey research method as the population was picked amongst the internal and external publics of First Bank of Nigeria PLC Bauchi. Copies of questionnaire were administered to the respondents to elicit information that helped in the organisation of data and presentation. The research showed that public relations helps in elevating the image of First Bank of Nigeria PLC. It was recommended among others that Bank should consult a public relations practitioner in dissemination of information to its publics.

Keywords: *Impact, Public Relations, Corporate Organisation*

Students' Internship/Training in Universities: Challenges and Sustainability

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Abstract

The key factor for workers to be proficient and efficient is training and practice. The Students Work Experience (SIWES) program prepares students for labour markets. It has become an innovative phenomenon in human resources development and training in Nigeria (Ugwuany, 2010). Professional is someone who has mastered certain specialized intellectual techniques, it is the intellectual content that distinguish the professional from the medieval craft men. The study examined the challenges encounter during students' internship/training in universities like lack of appropriate place to practice and infrastructures for practice. Recommendations such as government commitment to her intervention and synergy between all the actors involved were mentioned.

Keywords: *Internship/Training, Universities, Challenges, Sustainability*

The Development and Expansion of Modern Road Transportation System in Colonial Sokoto Metropolis, 1930 – 1960

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Abstract

This paper examines the expansion and development of modern road transportation system in colonial Sokoto metropolis from 1930 to 1960. Although wheeled/motor transportation system was introduced in Sokoto Province as far back as 1916 and subsequently in 1919 when N.A motors transportation service was introduced, formal commercial motor transportation system could not commence. The services were considerably small and mostly restricted to elites from the native and colonial establishments as well as the expatriate firms. But, the expansion of Railway line to Gusau in 1929 and Kaurar Namoda in 1932 gave a significant development to the trading activities both by the native and expatriate traders in Sokoto province. During the period, the N.A motors services were tasked beyond its operational capacity and made the need for additional commercial transportation system very pressing indeed. Coincidentally, after the extension of the railway lines to Gusau and Kaurar Namoda, the colonial authority facilitated the introduction of another transportation services, that is, the Railway Motor Services in Sokoto metropolis in the early 1930s. The Railway motors transported goods and persons to and from the railway stations at Gusau and Kaurar Namoda from Sokoto metropolis. The appearance of the Railway motor services in Sokoto metropolis, in addition to the existing N.A motors transportation services significantly contributed to the expansion and development of transportation services in the metropolis on one hand, and on the other hand the overall socio-economic development of the province. However, the fixated nature of the operation of the N.A and Railway Motors services eventually made them less attractive to both European Expatriate Firms and local traders and commuters within and outside the Sokoto metropolis. Consequently, that serious challenge facilitated the emergence of indigenous transporters in Sokoto metropolis. People like Alhaji Abdun Zagi, Alhaji Shibkau Bodinga, Alhaji Garba Dikkon Gande, Alhaji Shehu Kamba, Alhaji Sidi Mamman Asarakkawa, Alhaji Aliyu Nagwadi among many others emerged as important service providers in the commercial motor transportation services in Sokoto metropolis and beyond. Moreover, from the late 1930s through the remaining part of the colonial period, indigenous transporters effectively competed and made significant contribution in the commercial motor transportation services, not only in the Sokoto metropolis, but the province as a whole. Despite the challenges such as poor conduction of roads, lack of competent mechanics, shortage of fuel and automobile spare parts among others which undermined the expansion of commercial motor transportation services, the significant contributions made towards the socio-economic development of the metropolis cannot be overemphasized.

Keywords: *Colonialism, Infrastructure, Metropolis, Sokoto and Transportation.*

Assessment of Rainfall Variability and its Impact on Yam Production in Bosso Local Government Area of Niger State Nigeria

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Abstract

Despite the technological advancement in the global agricultural sector, unreliable rainfall still remains a major threat to agricultural development in Nigeria which is usually associated with significantly poor yield and high variability in crop production. The present study aims at assessing rainfall variability and its influence on Yam production in Bosso LGA, Minna, Niger State. Secondary data were used for weather and yam production. Weather data were obtained from the Nigerian Meteorological Agency, Minna, (NIMET). Data for yam production was obtained from the Agricultural development program Minna.(ADP.) The method of data analysis used to achieve the objectives, includes Coefficient of Variation (CV) was used to measure of relative variability patterns of rainfall, The Mann-Kendall test was deployed to assess the trend in yam production, The linear regression was employed having yam as the dependent variable and rainfall as the independent variable, this examine the relationship between rainfall and yam production. The result from the analysis between rainfall and yam production gave a positive correlation. From the research work it is therefore recommended that farmers should seek better advice on the weather requirement for each crop, also since rainfall is of great benefit in yam production, its cultivation should be programmed in a way that at the beginning of the rainy season, yam seedling should already be in the soil so as to obtain maximum produce.

Keywords: *Rainfall, variability, Yam, Bosso*

New Product Development: A Panacea to the Failure of an Enterprise

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Abstract

Nowadays enterprises in Nigeria are operating under difficult political and economic conditions such as insecurity, high inflation, poverty with its attendant consequences of low disposable income and low demand among others. Other challenges include stiff competition, epileptic power supply, and poor infrastructure to mention but a few. That make it difficult for a number of enterprises to succeed. The purpose of this paper is to examine new product development as a key factor for the success of an enterprise using Chine Food Company Bauchi, Bauchi State as a case study. The general objective of this paper is to examine new product development as a key to the success of an enterprise. The specific objectives of the study are: to find out the role of new product development on the profit of Chine Food Company Bauchi and to examine the role of new product development on the sales volume of Chine Food Company Bauchi. The population of the study is twenty- two employees of the company. Since the population of Chine Food Company is small, a census sampling technique was used. Therefore, the sample size of the study is twenty- two. Data was collected through the questionnaire. Regression analysis was used to analyze the data. It was discovered that new product development helped Chine Food Company to operate at a profit. The study also revealed that new product development assisted Chine Food Company to achieve high sales volume. It was recommended that in order to maintain and even increase its profit and high sales volume, Chime Food Company should continuously create an enabling environment in which new product development will continuously thrive and even become its culture.

Keywords: *New product development; Failure of an enterprise.*

Government Health Expenditure and Health Outcome: The Nigerian Experience 1981-2019

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Abstract

Infant mortality is not a desirable outcome in any nation and as such, countries around the world strive to reduce its occurrence. This paper examined the impact of government health expenditure on health outcome in Nigeria using time series data from 1981 to 2019. Infant mortality rate was used as a proxy to health outcome in Nigeria, based on data availability. The paper adopted the use of Vector Autoregressive model (VAR) to analyze the relationship between government health expenditure and health outcome. Government health expenditure was found to have a positive relationship with infant mortality indicating that an increase in health expenditure could decrease infant mortality in Nigeria. The coefficients of the variables were insignificant. Therefore, the study recommended among other things that government expenditure should be increased in order to diminish mortality.

Keywords: *VAR; Government; Mortality; Health Expenditure; Health Outcome; Nigerian.*

Research and Development for Assessing Water Sanitation and Hygiene (Wash) in Bauchi Metropolis

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Abstract

Everybody is in need of – water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) to survive and thrive at all time and all places around the world. From the travails of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), WASH is the sixth goal that is important for health, nutrition, education and other outcomes for all and sundry. Despite many people have gained access to water and sanitation, and hygiene practices, much remains to be done as people still practice open defecation and majority do not have access to potable water. The purpose of this paper is to work on strategies on how to assess, plan, strategize, and implement WASH activities in Bauchi metropolis, how it has fared and the necessary adjustments needed in schools and health centres, private and public places. To overcome this challenge there is the need to shift from the use of local unimproved pit latrines to something more innovative and have suitable toilet designs that would not only be cost-effective, environment-friendly and easy to construct but also would be acceptable to people especially less privileged arise the concept of low-cost but high-quality toilets called 'SMART TOILETS'. Also, standard water provisions at all levels State, Senatorial Districts, Local governments and will achieve safe hygiene practices for a collective responsibility, sustainable waste management and benefits to the Bauchi metropolis. It has been recommended that government and stakeholders should strictly enforce and implement the laws that will promote 'Use The Toilet Campaign' towards positive development in the state by providing more improved Smart toilets, safe potable water and basic hygiene practices towards a sustainable development.

Keywords: *Education, development, hygiene, open defecation, smart toilet*

Strategies for Improving the Available E-Learning Devices for Teaching Technical Drawing in Technical and Vocational Schools in Niger State

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Abstract

This study investigated strategies for improving the available e-learning devices for teaching technical drawing in technical and vocational schools in Niger State. Three research questions and one null hypothesis tested at 0.05 level of significance were used for the study. The design of the study was a descriptive survey research design. The population of this study comprised all the 31 technical drawing teachers in technical and vocational schools in Niger State. A 26-item questionnaire structured and validated was used to generate data for the study. Data obtained were analyzed using percentage, mean and standard deviation to answer the research questions while t-test statistic was used to test the hypothesis. The findings revealed that most schools have computer laboratories, laptops, some computers and standby generators but lack some e-learning devices such as slides, projectors, among others. The study also revealed that technical drawing teachers encounter a lot of problems in the use of available e-learning devices such as poor power supply and illiteracy. However, some strategies were suggested by the researcher for improvement of e-learning devices by technology teachers such as provision of adequate ICT infrastructure. Some recommendations were made such as organizing seminars and workshops for technical drawing teachers and improving power supply.

Keywords: *E-learning, e-learning devices, teaching and learning, technical drawing subjects and technical drawing teachers*

Growth and Fiscal Effects of Terrorism on the Nigerian Economy: Evidence from ARDL Model

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Abstract

Over the year's Nigerian economy is engulfed with terrible incidence of terrorist attacks being unleashed by dreaded Boko Haram insurgency which has claimed thousands of lives and destruction of property. Given this background, this study is aimed at investigating the growth and fiscal effect terrorism on Nigerian economy. To achieve the objective, the study employed Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model and Granger causality based on time series data from 2009-2021. Intuitively, terrorism is expected to dampen economic growth, reduce government expected revenue while at the same time leading to increase in government security spending. The policy implication arising from the findings would be imperative for policy formulation in fighting the menace of terrorism with a view to achieving rapid and sustained economic growth of Nigeria.

Keywords: *Terrorism, Insurgency, Government Expenditure, Economic Growth, ARDL*

Dynamic Linkages Between Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Trade Openness (TOP) and Economic Performance in Nigeria: Do Quality Institutions Matter?

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Abstract

Globalization and structural changes have greatly accelerated economic integration, thus contributed to the opening of newer markets (Saidi et al., 2020). The modern transformation, FDI is regarded as the most important factors in a country's economic development (Zaman et al., 2021) through a variety of factors such as technology transfer, ripple effects, productivity gains, the introduction of new processes, and managerial skills (Bende-Nabende et al., 2003; Lee, 2013). These new technologies can increase returns on investment, and enhanced new investment opportunities, potentially increasing global trade flows and economic performance (Arvin, Pradhan & Nair, 2021). Nigeria as a member of a number of bilateral and multilateral organizations, and has implemented various incentives and policies to increase trade openness as a precursor to attracting much-needed FDI inflows for economic development (Dauda, 2007). To WDI (2021), Nigeria attracted approximately \$89,570.52 million in FDI inflows and it is expected that these capital inflows will boost socioeconomic activities. However, trade as a % of GDP average is 36.63%, which is below expectations when compared to South Africa, with trade as a % of GDP at 51.59% and Egypt at 46.37%. In terms of economic performance, GDP growth averaged 4.87%, which is below the level that can stimulate economic performance and is one of the reasons why unemployment (percentage of total labor force) and inflation averaged 5.00% and 12.21%, respectively. Surprisingly, the Nigerian economy witnessed significant appreciation of trade (percent GDP) and FDI (percent GDP) up until 2012 before it began trending downward from 44.53%, 1.55% (2012) to 25.39% and 0.55% (2020), while GDP growth fell from 4.23% to negative value of -1.79 percent. The implication is that each successive regime reduces trade appreciation and FDI inflows. Some of these setbacks can be attributed to poor government effectiveness (Yildirim & Gokalp, 2016; Epaphra & Kombe, 2018; Owasanoye, 2019; Sule, 2020). This study specifically seeks to understand the dynamics of the linkages between FDI, TOP, and economic performance in Nigeria, as well as to test whether the bidirectional hypothesis of the nexus of FDI, TOP, and economic performance in the context of interaction with different institutional quality indicators holds true. The study proposes Toda Yamamoto granger causality test and Autoregressive Distributive Lag (ARDL) bounds testing approach for the analysis from 1996 to 2021. It is expected that interaction of institutional quality indicators with FDI and TOP will respond negatively to economic performance (i.e. real GDP).

Keywords: *Dynamic Linkages, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Trade Openness (TOP), Economic Performance*

An Assessment of Industrialization in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study aims at investigating an assessment of industrialization in Nigeria. Industrialization is the process by which an economy is transformed from a primarily agricultural one to one based on the manufacturing of goods, Investopedia (2021). The structure of the Nigerian economic is typically an underdeveloped country which rely on the oil and gas sector. Nigeria today, like other developing countries making its hopes for the rapid economic growth on industrialization. This research used literature review to collect information on the subject matter based on the information gathered, it was found that the present level of industrialization in the economy is very small in the sense that, in 2011 manufacturing industries were only contributed (4%) to gross domestic product (GDP). While in present situation were estimated to have (9 – 11%) respectively. West African Countries depends heavily on subsistence agriculture. The industrialization will provide more employment opportunities for both skills and unskills workers.

Keywords: *Assessment, Industrialization*

Causes and Consequences of Divorce Among Hausa Community of Sokoto State

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to examine the Causes and Consequences of Divorce among Hausa Community of Sokoto State. Every society in the history of man has upheld the institution of marriage as a bond between a man and a woman, and is seen as the basis for the establishment of the family, it could be in the form of arrangement by relatives, but the most common form of marriage is that which involves the payment of "Bride-Price". The general objective of this research is to find out the implication of divorce among Hausa of Sokoto State. However, the research specifically, aimed at determining the causes and Consequences of divorce among Hausas in the study area, as well as assessing the implications of divorce among Hausas in the study area. Based on the research findings there are several factors associate with divorce among Hausa community of Sokoto State, such as Criminal and non-Criminal Social Problems, differences in priority between husband and self-interpretative issue, which a lot of husbands and wives discuss and anticipate prior to the marriage contract. From all the respondent, majority peoples of 66 (57.9%) respondents believe in divorce affect the academic performance of children, another larger percentage (42.1%) of the respondents although lesser than those who believe this in accordance with Bascon and Hersksvits (1990) argued that the implication of this tendency is that the father-child relationship assumes a greater emphasis in society than the mother-child relationship. The Causes of divorce among Hausa people of Rijiya Area Sokoto State. Majority of the respondents believe that Lack of proper upbringing leads to divorce with 35 (30.4%) respondent who strongly agreed to this fact while a larger percentage (48.7%) of the respondents agreed. However, unanticipated matters at times do become a major problem for many marriages.

Keywords: *Causes, Consequences, Divorce, Hausa Community*

Review of Factors Militating Against the Utilization of Teleconferencing Technology in Nigerian Colleges of Education for Sustainable Development in Education

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Abstract

The paper review of factors militating against the impact of teleconferencing technology in Nigerian colleges of education indicates that the focus of most of the studies has been to assess teleconferencing as a medium for education and training along diversification such as interactivity factors influencing effectiveness in teaching-learning, role of teachers' resource person etc. there are hardly any studies on the factors militating against the utilization of this technology in education sector. The present study focuses on teachers' views and students' views, their opinions, experiences and account on the factors that militating against use of teleconference as a teaching tool. To achieve the above objectives, descriptive survey research design was adopted using the simple random sampling techniques among the 50 educators and learners available in the case study. Questionnaire was utilized for data collection and data collected were analyzed using simple percentage. It was discovered from the findings of the study that teleconferencing can enhance collaborative learning in education and that limited access to technological equipment was the greatest challenge to educators in deploying teleconferencing as to support distance learning. Therefore, the study recommends that government should make provision for computer system and teleconference technology equipment to the various schools in order to encourage and educate teachers and learners.

Keywords: *Teleconferencing, Education and Learning*

The Role of French Language Education in Addressing Border and Security Challenges in Nigeria

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Abstract

Foreign languages enable one not only to acquire an in-depth knowledge of why the world is, where it is today and how national and transnational economic and political forces shape our lives, but also to negotiate our way in the global dimension. A linguist had it that, the need for linguistic competent professionals has never been greater, in fact, it looms as a threat to a nation's security" Brecht, R.D. and Rivers,(2000). Nations in the world today have understood the essence of studying more foreign languages to enhance their economic, political and security efficiency. As a country that is surrounded by francophone countries, Nigeria needs competent French language speakers within its security agencies, the military and all other sectors of public life for the purpose of efficiency in international Relations and security. The ability of the security personnel to receive, evaluate analyze and decode information and intelligence from foreign sources and to interact with their counterparts in a coalition setting, will go a long a way in curbing threats of insecurity in Nigeria. The paper therefore seeks to examine the role that French language Education in Nigeria can play in cross border relations between Nigeria and her Francophone neighbors. It also seeks to propose ways and means of enhancing proficiency in the use of the French language by border and security agencies in the discharge of their responsibilities.

Keywords: *Role, French Language Education, Border and Security Challenges*

The Vital Roles Nigerian Institutions Play to Wards its Nation Building

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Abstract

Institutions are very important in the building of a democratic and economically prosperous country. The establishment and functioning of any institution is critically dependent on the social, economic and political support it receives from the government. The well-directed and efficient functioning of institutions will ensure a better quality of life for people at large and it will also create unity and sense of belonging among heterogeneous groups in the state. Several years after the attainment of political independence, the Nigerian state has continued to be faced with enormous challenges on her nation building efforts to the extent that majority of the people still wallow in despair and hopelessness as a result of its institutional weaknesses. Failure of the different institutions of the state will lead to the collapse of the entire system of government, more especially when the educational, military and political institutions of the state failed. Nation building represents an integrative effort through which nations engage in the search for nationhood. National unity and consolidation will always lead the individuals and groups to fill the senses of belong and love so that they can put their efforts toward the nation building. It involves the process of developing effective and functioning socio-economic and political institutions capable of promoting national consciousness instead of ethnic chauvinism and religious bigotry among groups and individuals who are expected to develop a sense of oneness and love for their fatherland. The aim of this paper is to investigate the vital role an institutions play in nation building. Basically, the study is qualitative, utilizing mostly secondary data in it is analysis. The findings of the paper revealed that there is a relationship between an institution of the state and nation building. Strong, effective and functioning institutions promote nation building. Weak institutions on the other hand, brought about instability and failed state. The paper concludes by recommending that nation building efforts in Nigeria and any other country should revolve around strengthening of the institutions to be result oriented and people focused.

Keywords: *State, Institutions, Nation Building, Government and Nigeria.*

Trends in Nigeria's Foreign Policy: A Historical Perspective from Independence to Date

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Abstract

The ability of a nation to interact with other nations is a reflection of its acceptance internationally as well as evaluation of its level of civility in terms of behavioural conformity with international legal principles. This interplay between a nation and the rest of world is referred to as foreign policy. It borders on interactions and transactions among states and involving high diplomacy with the sole purpose of achieving certain national objectives. However, the broad goals and objectives of Nigeria's foreign policy since independence have remained constant and although the style and conduct have changed, there have been no profound changes in the content of substance in its foreign policy. Against this background therefore, this paper intends to examine the Nigerian foreign policy since independence in 1960. The paper employed the use of historical research method where secondary data from relevant sources were analyzed. It is observed that the trends of Nigeria's foreign policy that emanates from the successive administrations was as a result of their varying perspectives with regards to Nigeria's national interest. The paper also concludes that Nigeria's foreign policy has been consistently guided by the same principles and objectives but with some slight adjustment.

Keywords: *Foreign Policy, National objectives, Independence, Diplomacy and Nigeria.*

The Nature and Extent of Urban-Rural Interaction Between Minna and Selected Rural Settlement in Niger State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study aims to investigate the increasing rate of interaction in terms of flow of people, goods and services between Minna, Garatu, Beji, Gwada and Tunga-mallam. The study assessed the nature and extent of interaction between Minna and the four rural settlements. A traffic survey of vehicles and volumes of passengers that moved between Minna and the four rural settlements on market and non market days was carried out. Gravity model was used to calculate the relative strength of interaction of people between Minna and selected rural settlements. One hundred and fifty six (156) respondents were sampled and administered a structured questionnaire. The result showed that there was a strong interaction between Minna and Garatu compared to other settlements (Beji, Gwada and Tunga-mallam) on market and non-market days. The data also showed that the rural settlements that specialized in providing low-order goods and services are significant market of agricultural products to neighbouring towns especially Minna and that the presence of a variety of agricultural products at cheaper prices in the rural markets encouraged urban-rural interaction. It was also confirmed that goods like agricultural products, clothes, petrol and other services like transport, labour, education were exchanged on the market and non-market days in the study area. Road accidents were the major problems that hindered the interaction. The research therefore recommends adequate support for agricultural production to minimize high cost of food in Minna and that road accidents cases should be properly checked to have smooth urban-rural interaction.

Keywords: *Urban-Rural, Gravity model, Traffic survey, Relative strength of interaction*

Vocational and Technical Education: Challenges and Sustainability

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Abstract

The economic scenario during the Corona virus pandemic is pathetic. It is interesting to note how the economy suffers during such traumatic times as it affects us all, it is something to be dreaded by producers as well as consumers. Vocational and technical education is an education that helps learners to acquire practical and applied skills as well as basic scientific knowledge which can be used in creating jobs and wealth for the individuals as well as to the nation. Many graduates in different field are roaming the streets of Nigeria as a result of lack of technical and vocational skills necessary for employment as skilled personnel. The purpose of the paper is; to review the extent that vocational and Technical education contributes to the economic development of Nigeria and What are the factors that facilitate or inhibit the implementation of vocational and technical education in Nigeria? The paper recommends among others; Technical and vocational education be compulsory at every levels of education in Nigeria, even if it is not complete, most of its components such as; entrepreneurship, skills developments, management skills and others, though TVE is an expensive type of education (capital resources, human and time), governments at all levels should put in more appropriation. The society must realise that the era of white collar jobs is over, only those with practical and skill collar jobs will be able to cope with the present situation brought by the effect of Corona virus pandemic.

Keywords: *Corona Virus, Vocational and Technical Education, Economic, Pandemic.*

Women Empowerment: An Antidote for Poverty Reduction and Economic Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

Many women entrepreneurs in developing countries most especially Nigeria are facing disproportionate obstacles due to lack of mobility, capacity and technical skills, with some experiencing several discrimination, hardship and exclusion. This paper examines women empowerment as an antidote for economic development and poverty reduction in Nigeria. The study tests the hypothesis that women empowerment has effect on poverty reduction. Data used for this study were sourced from both secondary and primary sources of data. The data were analyzed using frequency tables, percentages, mean and z-test. The study was conducted using some selected women entrepreneurs registered with National Association of Small-Scale Industries (NASSI) in Ogun State, Nigeria. The study found out that women need education, skills, access to assets/credit, social protection in order to fully develop their productive assets and tackle poverty. The researcher recommended that for women, their families and society to reap the benefits of economic development and poverty reduction; investments in and empowerment of women both economic and socially are inevitable.

Keywords: *Economic Development, Empowerment, Poverty Reduction, Women*

Women Empowerment: Panacea for Poverty Reduction and Economic Development in Nigeria

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The Federal Polytechnic Ile-Oluji Ondo State, Nigeria*

Abstract

Many women entrepreneurs in developing countries most especially Nigeria are facing disproportionate obstacles due to lack of mobility, capacity and technical skills, with some experiencing several discrimination, hardship and exclusion. This paper examines women empowerment as a panacea for economic development and poverty reduction in Nigeria. The study tests the hypothesis that women empowerment has effect on poverty reduction. Data used for this study were sourced from both secondary and primary sources of data. The data were analyzed using frequency tables, percentages, mean and z-test. The study was conducted using some selected women entrepreneurs registered with National Association of Small-Scale Industries (NASSI) in Enugu State, Nigeria. The study found out that women need education, skills, access to assets/credit, social protection in order to fully develop their productive assets and tackle poverty. The researcher recommended that for women, their families and society to reap the benefits of economic development and poverty reduction; investments in and empowerment of women both economic and socially are inevitable.

Keywords: *Economic Development, Empowerment, Poverty Reduction, Women*

The Impact of Training and Development on Sales Force Performance

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Abstract

This study seeks to ascertain the extent to which Training and Development influence Sales Force Performance, with specific focus on Ammasco International Ltd, Kano. The target population for this study was made of 84 which comprises staff of AMMNASCO International Ltd, Kano from different departments. Questionnaires were used as data collection instrument and analyzed using Bivariate Correlations in Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) for windows version 21. The findings of the study revealed among others that employee training plays a vital role in improving performance as well as increasing sales revenue, furthermore, employee competencies change through effective training programs which improve the employee's performance. The research draws the conclusion that indeed the training and development play very vital roles on the sales, revenue, profit generated and number of orders in AMMASCO International. Ltd. Based on the findings of the study, it is therefore recommended that organizations should engage and invest more in training and development of its salesforce in other to improve their business performance.

Keywords: *Training and Development and Influence Sales Force*

Food Security and Households' Welfare in Nigeria

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Abstract

Food is a universal human right, with no known substitute, thus Woolf (2016) stated that, "one cannot think clearly, reason well, love well, or sleep well until one has dined properly." This remark underscores the imperativeness of food to man, hence the main objective of this study was to determine the effect of food security and households' welfare in Nigeria, using Nigerian data. The study based its theoretical stand on the popular Sen's Poverty and Famine theory and utilized econometric techniques wherein it found that, with the interaction between corruption and the disaggregated food security components, food insecurity was prevalent. Nevertheless, when the tools for the control of corruption were made effective, food security showed divergent or mixed results. These conclusions clearly aligns with the opinions of Sen (1981), who noted that famines in many countries did not occur solely as a result of a gap in food production or supply but also as a result of some other socio-economic influences, hence this study concludes that Nigerian households were food insecure between 1999 and 2021 due to the debilitating influence of corruption on the country's economy and her food system. These suggests that for Nigeria to overcome the incidence of food insecurity, the focus should be on curtailing corrupt practices by empowering the various anti-graft agencies to live up to their biddings. Similarly, the government's current poor and uninspiring approach toward appropriated funds for agricultural development must change, hence to hedge against food insecurity; government expenditure on agriculture must be reviewed upward.

Keywords: *Food Security; Welfare; Corruption; Sen's Theory; ARDL*

The Role of Play on the Development of Children Between 1 to 6 Years in Oguta Local Government Area of Imo State

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Abstract

This study examined the role of play on the development of children between 1 to 6 years in Oguta Local Government Area of Imo State. Two specific purposes and two research questions guided the study. Survey research design was used for the study. A total population of 2,849 people comprising 2,808 pupils and 41 care givers were used for the study. The sample for the study was 200 comprising 159 pupils and 41 teachers. The sample size was selected using random sampling techniques. Data were collected with the use of questionnaire. Data were analyzed using percentages. The result showed that play promotes social behavior, language development, creativity, and cognitive development. The study concluded that play is one of the brains behind academic achievement in early years because children learn a lot as they play. The study recommended that caregivers, school head teachers as well as classroom teachers should engage children to different types of play.

Keywords: *Role, Development, Children, Oguta Local Government, Imo State*

Impact of Electronic Banking on the Operational Performance of Deposit Money Banks in Kaduna State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study investigated impact of electronic banking on the performance of deposit money banks in Kaduna Metropolis of Kaduna State, Nigeria adopting a descriptive survey research design and anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model. The population of the study consists of 193 employees of managerial cadre in fifteen deposit money banks in Kaduna Metropolis. However, based on the fact that the population size was relatively small, the entire 193 population members were selected in the study using total sampling technique. Data for the study were collected with the use of a questionnaire, while data analysis was done using descriptive statistics and OLS – Multiple Regression Analysis. Findings from the study revealed that a significant positive relationship exists between e-banking (Mobile Banking and ATM) and the performance of deposit money banks in Kaduna Metropolis. Findings also revealed that the implementation of Mobile Banking and ATM each had significant positive impact on the performance of deposit money banks in Kaduna Metropolis. The study therefore, concludes that e-banking has significant positive relationship with the performance of deposit money banks, with Mobile Banking and ATM each having significant positive impact on the performance of the banks in Kaduna Metropolis. The study recommended that management of deposit money banks in Nigeria should continually improve the quality and efficacy of e banking services so as to encourage customers to utilize them in carrying out their banking transactions, as this has the propensity of generating more income for the banks; hence improving their performance, among other recommendations.

Keywords: *ATM, Bank Performance, Deposit Money Bank, Electronic Banking, Mobile Banking*

Human Resource Development and Economic Growth in Nigeria: The Missing Link

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Abstract

This study investigated impact of electronic banking on the performance of deposit money banks in Kaduna Metropolis of Kaduna State, Nigeria adopting a descriptive survey research design and anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model. The population of the study consists of 193 employees of managerial cadre in fifteen deposit money banks in Kaduna Metropolis. However, based on the fact that the population size was relatively small, the entire 193 population members were selected in the study using total sampling technique. Data for the study were collected with the use of a questionnaire, while data analysis was done using descriptive statistics and OLS – Multiple Regression Analysis. Findings from the study revealed that a significant positive relationship exists between e-banking (Mobile Banking and ATM) and the performance of deposit money banks in Kaduna Metropolis. Findings also revealed that the implementation of Mobile Banking and ATM each had significant positive impact on the performance of deposit money banks in Kaduna Metropolis. The study therefore, concludes that e-banking has significant positive relationship with the performance of deposit money banks, with Mobile Banking and ATM each having significant positive impact on the performance of the banks in Kaduna Metropolis. The study recommended that management of deposit money banks in Nigeria should continually improve the quality and efficacy of e banking services so as to encourage customers to utilize them in carrying out their banking transactions, as this has the propensity of generating more income for the banks; hence improving their performance, among other recommendations.

Keywords: *ATM, Bank Performance, Deposit Money Bank, Electronic Banking, Mobile Banking*

Re-Appraising the Impact of Corruption on Service Delivery in Obio – Akopr and Emohua Local Government Councils of Rivers State, 2015 – 2021

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Abstract

The study examined the relationship between corruption and service delivery in local government administration of Emohua and Obio/Akpor Local Government Areas in Rivers State, Nigeria. The independent or predictor variable – corruption has five dimensions, namely: Bureaucratic corruption, embezzlement, ghost workers, misappropriation of fund and nepotism. The dependent variable - service delivery in local government administration was measured by itself. The study adopted survey/cross-sectional design. The population of the study consisted of 165 staff of Obio/Akpor and 150 staff of Emohua Local Government Areas of Rivers State, that is 315 staff. Structured questionnaire was used to collect data from the respondents. The study sampled, 315 respondents and 283 respondent-staff of the two local government were found useful, relevant and valid for the data analysis and this represents 89.84% response rate. Descriptive and inferential statistical tools were used to analyse data and test hypotheses in this study. The hypotheses were tested by using Pearson Product Moment Correlation (r) analysis. The study revealed that bureaucratic corruption affects service delivery in local government administration. Bureaucratic corruption as one of the imperative challenges hindering effective performance in any endeavour in the local government area has significant relationship with service delivery in local government administration. The study found that embezzlement affects service delivery in local government administration. The study observed that embezzlement which relates to corruption could expand the impossibilities of poor allocation of resources and access to information and experience acquired in dealing with this situation. The finding of the study demonstrated significant relationship between ghost workers and service delivery in local government administration. The study revealed that local governments in Nigeria suffer from the problem of ghost worker, lack of experienced staff who are either without required qualifications or lacking in requisite technical know-how. The study found that there is significant relationship between misappropriation of funds and service delivery in local government administration. The study revealed that, corruption/misappropriation of funds in Nigeria is endemic and does not spare the local governments. The study revealed that there is significant relationship between nepotism and service delivery in local government administration. The study found that the structural problem faced by local governments in Nigeria, as experienced in poor planning, ineffective implementation and nepotism is further rooted in corruption. Conclusively it is obvious from the study that corruption harms public finances, deters business investment, reduces the standard of living, exasperates inequality, and weakens the social contract between the government and its people, thus, making it practically difficult for the government to follow up on its programme or deliver on its promises. The study, therefore, recommends that Local Government officials must desist from inflation of salaries. The local government has to take necessary measures that will stop the local government officials from doing that. This can be in form of computerizing the payment system and conducting biometric data verification at the Local Government level. Local Government officials have to be dedicated in following and implementing the budgets based on budgetary provisions and to ensure that their budgets were dominated by the service delivery in the areas of: education, feeder roads, potable, water supply, housing, improved agricultural production and so on.

Keywords: *Corruption, Service Delivery, Local administration government, Embezzlement, Ghost Workers, Misappropriation, Nepotism*

Re-Evaluating Technological Innovations and Public Sector Performance in Nigeria: A Study of Central Bank of Nigeria, 2005-2021

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Abstract

The study examined the influence of technology adoption on public sector performance of Central Bank of Nigeria, 2005-2021. E-banking, automation, communication devices and work computerization were used as the dimensions of technology adoption in this study. The study used productivity to measure organisational performance of Central Bank of Nigeria. The study adopted descriptive and inferential statistical tools to analyze the data and test the hypotheses. The study used a questionnaire to elicit information from the respondents. The target population of the study consisted of all the 154 of CBN staff identified by this study. The study sampled 154 respondents from Central Bank of Nigeria and validly used 133 respondents representing 86.36% response rate for data analysis. The study found that Central Bank of Nigeria uses e-banking, automation, communication devices and bank computerization to conduct their technology adoption activities in the manner of promoting banking operations and persuasion of customers to patronize them and these activities enhance organisational performance of banks. The study revealed that e-banking has positive but significant effect on productivity. The study discovered that automation has positive and significant effect on productivity. The study revealed that communication devices have positive and significant effect on productivity. The study found that bank computerization has positive and significant effect on productivity. The study concludes that as banks use e-banking, automation, communication devices and bank computerization to perform banking operations their productivity is significantly and positively boosted. The study therefore recommends that Central Bank of Nigeria authorities should use e-banking, automation, communication devices and bank computerization to their advantage by encouraging their staff and not just the e-banking department to participate in technology adoption which in turn covers more ground for the enhancement of productivity leading to organisational performance of Central Bank of Nigeria.

Keywords: *Technology adoption, Productivity, Organisational performance, E-Banking, Bank Computerization, Central Bank of Nigeria*

