



10TH AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

FEDERAL UNIVERSITY, BIRNIN KEBBI

THEME Addressing Africa's Development Challenges in the 21st Century

DATE: Wednesday 17th - Thursday 18th April, 2024 **TIME:** 09:00 am (GMT+1)

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10TH AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

FEDERAL UNIVERSITY, BIRNIN KEBBI

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY ONE:	Wednesday 17th April, 2024	
	Conference Briefing via Google Meet	- 10:00am - 10:30am
	Online Visual Presentation via Google Meet	- 10:30am - 1:00pm
	WhatsApp Video Presentations	- 3:00pm-4:00pm
DAY TWO:	Thursday 18th April, 2024	
	Conference Briefing via Google Meet	- 10:00am - 10:30am
	Online Visual Presentation via Google Meet	- 10:30am - 1:00pm

WhatsApp Video Presentations- 3:00pm - 4:00pm



he University was established in 2013 by the federal government of Nigeria. Professor Lawal Suleiman Bilbis, FNSMB, a Professor of Biochemistry and former Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic at Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto was appointed as the pioneer Vice Chancellor of the University while Ibrahim Abubakar Mungadi, FCAI, was appointed as the Registrar.

Academic activities began in November 2014, for the 2014/2015 academic session with a students' population of 507 and academic staff strength of 102. Accordingly, maiden and second matriculation took place on 5 March 2015, and 9 February 2016, with a total of 507 and 972 Undergraduate sworn in, respectively.

The University currently has three faculties and a College of Health Sciences and offer a total of twenty-four (24) degree programmes. The University has six (6) directorates which include, Academic Planning, Physical Planning, Research and Innovation, ICT Directorate, Entrepreneurship and CSBE Directorate. The University just recently toward the ends of the year 2017 had the substantive leadership, where the federal government approved the appointment of Prof. Bello Bala Shehu as the new university vice-chancellor; Prof. B.B Shehu is a Medical Practitioner of neural science, he was also the former Chief Medical Director of the National Hospital, Abuja.

The university is maintaining two sites, the takeoff site and the permanent site, the takeoff site maintains the School for Basic and Remedial Studies and Females Hostels at Kalgo; whereas, the permanent site maintains the major campus capacity buildings at Unguwar Jeji (a village 4 kilometers away from the takeoff site.)

Dr. Yeldu, Musa Yakubu Federal University Birnin Kebbi (FUBK)



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A Smart Hybrid Eggs Incubator for Small Scale Application

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Abstract

n this study, a smart hybrid incubator was constructed and tested. To increase production of day-old poultry chicks, the incubator has solar power system to tract compliment power shortage in the event of failure from the national grid. The capacity of the incubator is 720 eggs. During the performance evaluation of the system, a temperature of 38.5 0C and humidity 64% were maintained. Turning of the eggs' tray was achieved by an intelligent hatch controller the electric motor at an angle of 450 after a period of six hours. Fresh eggs of Broiler, Noilier chickens, guinea fowl and turkey were tested twice from 6th May to 3rd June 2020 and 7th June to 3rd July, 2020. Fertility of the eggs were determined by candling method after ten days of laying the eggs after which fertile eggs were returned to the incubator. The system hatching rate of the incubator was between 88.6% to 96.1%. The automatic turning of the eggs was effective throughout the period. However, turning should stop some few days prior to hatching; that is three or four days maximum, because the embryos are moving into hatching position and need no turning. Therefore, three days to hatch the eggs were transferred to the hatching basket or hatcher. Utilizing the solar power indeed has provided a solution to the major constraint of power failure or inadequacy for commercial poultry farming.

Keywords: Incubator; Hybridization; Microcontroller; Hatching, Renewable energy; Chicks

Investigation of the Possibility of Ground Water Contamination in Some Refuse Disposal Site in Bauchi Metropolis

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Abstract

ubject to waste disposal and management which remains one of the major challenges in the developing countries, Landfills are sources of groundwater and soil pollution due to the production of leachate and its migration through refuse. The large quantities of contaminants are transported in association with sediment suggest that problems may arise where contaminants are biologically available or can become biologically available. Thus, the aim of the research is to investigate the quality of ground water near some refuse disposal site in Bauchi metropolis. The Study adopt a Water sampling followed by analysis in the laboratory which is common to monitor specific pollutants such as trace organic and inorganic chemicals (pesticides, hydrocarbons, toxic metals) and pathogens like Escherichia coli bacteria. The concentration of ground water quality near some municipal solid disposal site in Bauchi metropolis using parameter e.g physical and biological were evaluating and the result presented graphically. The study concluded that The ground water in the study area is not good enough for drinking quite a number of the physical, chemical and biological parameters analyzed have exceeded the limit recommended by regularity authorities such as WHO and SDWQ, that the concentration of parameter has more impact on ground water in some part of Bauchi metropolis probably areas that it should be noted that certain disposal in and around ground water sources may result in water quality falling below that required for drinking purpose. Recommendation was made to carryout extensive evaluation of ground water near some dumping site in Bauchi state.

Keywords: Bauchi Metropolis, Ground Water, Refuse

Abstract ID: ABS:18:08A-24

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Conflicts in Africa and the Challenges of Sustainable Rural Development

Kwaghmande Joseph Iorhen PhD

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Abstract

he African continent has in the recent times witnessed series of protracted conflicts that have tend to derail sustainable rural development. Though conflict has been part and parcel of human existence and vehicle of change, prolonged conflicts in Africa have retarded the development of the region especially rural areas. This paper therefore examines the phenomenon of conflict in its totality as its relates to Africa and its attendant drawback effects on rural development. Adopting the failed state theory in its analysis the paper argued that persistent conflicts in the region have retarded development of rural communities, hindering socio economic activities that would have accounted for aggregate development. It noted that conflicts in the form of religious, political, communal and banditry activities have combinatively contributed to an unstable climate of hostility that tend to inhibit sustainable rural development. Taking conflicts from various parts of the continent into focus, the paper concluded that the development of rural areas of Africa will remain elusive except urgent and concrete steps are taken to tame the tide of conflicts been perpetuated. It therefore recommends amongst others, deliberate efforts to be put in place to eradicate corruption, poverty, unemployment and ignorance amongst the populace. These, the paper insisted can only be achieved through good leadership at all levels of governance.

Keywords: Conflicts, Africa, Challenges and Sustainable Rural Development

Abstract ID: ABS:04:09A-23

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Effective Technical and Vocational Education for Self-Reliance and Sustainable National Development

Chukwudike Emmanuel Chukwunonyerem

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Abstract

The main import of education generally is to train the mind to use the hands. Consequently, directing attention to Technical and Vocational education for skills acquisition is of utmost importance for sustainable living. Nigeria as a nation requires speedy progress and advancement in technology if she must meet the needs of her people who are presently confronted by multifarious problem that can be solved through technical and vocational education. This paper examines the ways effective technical and vocational education can contribute to the nation sustainable development. It also identified some challenges obstructing the effectiveness of technical and vocational education. Some recommendations are made to enhance the effectiveness of technical and vocational education for self-reliance and sustainable national development.

Keywords: Effective, Technical, Vocational Education, Self-reliance, Sustainable development.

Unravelling Intricacies: Insights and Pathways to Address Maternal Mortality in North-Eastern Nigeria: A Study of Bauchi-South Senatorial District, Bauchi State

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Abstract

aternal mortality persists as a critical global concern, particularly prevalent in developing nations such as Nigeria. Despite progresses in the healthcare sector, maternal mortality rates are still significantly influenced by socio-economic and cultural factors. The research addresses the socio-economic and cultural factors that are linked to maternal mortality in Bauchi South Senatorial District, Bauchi State, Nigeria. Through a comprehensive analysis, the study examines the social, economic, and cultural factors influencing maternal mortality, as well as the availability of maternal health services and their consequences. The research adopts the Political Economy of Health Theory as its conceptual framework, highlighting the interaction among power dynamics, resource distribution, and societal frameworks in shaping health results. Applying a blend of methods, data was collected via surveys and detailed interviews, and then processed using SPSS and qualitative analysis methods. The findings illustrate the impact of factors such as educational attainment, healthcare workers' attitudes, socio-economic status, cultural norms, and barriers to accessibility on maternal mortality. The research underscores the importance of holistic interventions that address healthcare accessibility, socio-economic disparities, and cultural traditions to improve maternal health outcomes. Recommendations encompass enhancing healthcare accessibility, addressing socio-economic disparities, promoting cultural awareness, coordinating educational initiatives and advocacy campaigns, as well as advocating for policy modifications. The implementation of these recommendations has the potential to diminish maternal mortality rates and promote maternal health outcomes in Bauchi South Senatorial District, consequently fostering socio-economic progress and enhancing the welfare of women and children.

Keywords: Maternal mortality, Bauchi South Senatorial District, Socio-economic factors, Healthcare accessibility, Cultural norms

Abstract ID: ABS:14:30A-24

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Appraisal of Knowledge, Perceptions and Adaptation to Flood Risks in the Downstream Section of River Niger Flood Plain in Mokwa Local Government Area of Niger State

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Abstract

lood is a well-known phenomenon in the flood plain of River Niger that has continues to pose serious multiple threats to the inhabitants. Despite the risk involved, the communities continue to occupy the area using their creative set of profound local knowledge, perceptions and adaptive initiatives, because of its economic benefits. However, existing approaches to flood risk reduction and management by stakeholders at local levels over the years have not produced the desired results. This is partly because of the conventional conceptualization by the stakeholders that has overlooked and ignored local knowledge, perceptions and adaptive initiatives in the management of flood plain areas. This neglect is partly due to the lack of real evidence base to understand the importance of local knowledge, perceptions and adaptive initiatives of flood plain communities. Hence, the search to identify this evidence base to understand the importance of these initiatives of flood plain communities has prompted the need for this study. The study therefore, will identify and appraises the community's knowledge, perceptions and adaptation initiatives with a view to understanding it importance to flood risk management for safer floodplain habitation. In order to achieve this, the research will adopt mixed methods (quantitative and qualitative) for data collection. There are 46 settlements with 26,851 persons in area. Nine (9) settlements will be selected using purposive sampling and questionnaires with interviews and focus group discussions (FGDs) shall be used. The respondents shall include the household heads while interviews and FGDs will involves village heads, members of Community associations, elderly community members, religious leaders, lead farmers and youth representatives. The participants will be selected systematically in consultation with Village Heads.

Keywords: Flood risk, Vulnerability, Local knowledge, Perception, Adaptation Initiatives

Anti-Diabetic Effect of Chloroform- Methanol Extract of Abrus Precatorious Linn Seed in Alloxan Induced Diabetic Rabbit

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Abstract

he antidiabetic effect of chloroform – methanolic extract of Abrus Precatorious seed was studied in alloxan diabetic rabbits. The effect was compared to that of gilbenclamide—a known antidiabetic drug in the class of Sulphonyl Urea and a control group that received normal saline instead of the extract. Normal blood glucose levelsdrawn before alloxan injective were 127.80 ± 2.55 , 114.36 ± 4.17 and $123.60 \pm 1.47 \text{ mg}/100 \text{ml}$ for chloroform – methanol, gilbenclamide and control respectively. When 50mg/kg body weight of chloroform-methanol, Gilbenclamide and 5ml of normal saline for control were given orally, blood glucose levels decreased in chloroform – methanol and gilbenclamide has 13.8, 32.3, 60.3, 53.5, 46.8, and 46.2 after 65, 10, 20, 30, 40, 60 and 68 hours of oral administration respectively. While that of chloroform methanol extract was 42.9, 58.7, 67.1, 67.9, 56.6 and 51.8% respectively. The peak percentage reduction was 69.1% after 30hrs and 61.3% after 20hrs for chloroforms - methanol extract and gilbenclamide respectively. This study therefore has shown that the chloroform - methanol extract of Abrus precatorius seed has some anti-diabetic properties similar to that of gilbenclamide. This is shown in their similar percentage reduction in blood glucose level.

Keywords: Anti diabetics, Chloroform, Methanols extract, Abruss precatorious seed and alloxan

Challenges and Development Strategies in Housing in Nigeria in the 21st Century

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Abstract

The problem of housing in Nigeria has subsist in this 21st century despite the energies put in by the government and the private organisations in that regards. Strategies so far put in place to mitigate the housing challenges is yet to yield any tangible fruits. The establishment of mortgage institution and government/private partnership among other policies appears not to achieve their objectives. The worst of the matter is that, while there are few and inadequate houses for the growing population, there are also many unoccupied houses in many cities as a result of high cost. This paper reviews the effort embarked upon to resolve the housing needs of Nigerians. It identifies cost of construction materials, funding, concentration in the capital cities and ineffective mortgage system among others as the causes of the housing challenges in Nigeria. Therefore, recommended that effective strategies should be developed such as researching on the use of local and cheaper construction materials, rejigs mortgage system, while developing houses across the country not just the capital cities among others.

Keywords: Housing, Challenges, Development, Strategies

Political Party System in France: Lessons for Nigeria in the Quest for a Viable Political Party System

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Abstract

he 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. Multiple party system is the key to the understanding of French politics. Secondary and qualitative sources of data was used for the research. The paper examines the French as against the Nigeria political system in the areas of constitutional development, political party formation, funding and monitoring, women participation and gender targeted funding, political party ideology and defection etc., and concludes that Nigeria can learn from the French. The paper recommends an amendment of the Electoral Act to introduce gender targeted funding by political parties in order to increase women participation in politics, an agency to monitor political party donation and funding, and a clear demarcation and articulation of political party ideology in Nigeria.

Keywords: France, Nigeria, Political Party System, Constitutional Development, Political Party Ideology, Electoral Act

Design and Implementation of a Smart Greenhouse for Optimum Crop Production

Sanusi Mohammed

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Abstract

smart greenhouse is a structure that allows the creation of an indoor microclimate for crop development and protection from adverse outdoor conditions. The techniques for climate control are to tune the crop needs and avoid unnecessary energy consumption. The use of fuzzy logic controller (FLC) represents a powerful way to minimize and facilitate management of climate conditions of the smart greenhouse This microclimate is controlled by actuator components, which are the fans, heater and humidifier, as heating and cooling elements to provide the best environmental conditions for the crop and the design of fuzzy logic controller for the regulation of climate parameters in the greenhouse system to ensure that the temperature and humidity values of the greenhouse did not exceed 27°C and 60% respectively. The main components of the fuzzy logic controller include the fuzzification interface, knowledge-based, decision-making logic and defuzzification interface. The controller senses the changes in the temperature and humidity through input sensors and processes to take control action. The circuit was designed and drawn using Proteus software and the controller has been designed using Matlab/Simulink software. The model of the system was developed using Matlab/Simulink software. The developed controller controlled the microclimate parameters of the sensors. The relay outputs for the fans, heaters and humidifier can be activated in normal scheduled operating mode. An integrated Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) is used for real-time display of the data acquired from the various sensors. The system works smartly and hence reduces human intervention. The implementation of the fuzzy logic-based control system for the regulation of climatic parameters under greenhouse through heating and cooling to ensure an optimum temperature and humidity values of 27°C and 60% respectively. The obtained results show a good management performance to the greenhouse environment. It is recommended that more sensors should be added so as to monitor more parameters.

Keywords: Greenhouse, Microclimate control, FLC, Automation.

An Exploration of the Gaps Between Constitution and Constitutionalism in Nigeria

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Abstract

his study explores the gaps hindering operation of constitutions and adherence with constitutionalism in Nigeria as contained in the various Constitutions, with particular emphasis on the 1999 Constitution. It also explores the other several factors responsible for failure of constitutions and in achieving constitutionalism in Nigeria. The study used qualitative method to gather data from primary and secondary sources – the constitutions, and other sources, including journals, historical materials, books, public and other relevant documents. The paper further explores the various accounts of constitutional makings and crises, especially among politicians and the levels of government. The study also used qualitative method to analyse the data collected. As no constitution is perfect, several gaps and issues and apart from those of Nigerian politicians and factor, elites and judicial officers, to be responsible for the several identified constitutional gaps which hinder effective constitutionalism in Nigeria. Corruption and other self-interests result in orchestration and widening of such gaps in order to achieve personal interests. This study is useful to the Nigerian state authorities, the Judiciary and public in identifying the gaps in the Nigerian constitutions and will lead to greater achievement of constitutionalism in Nigeria. It is also useful in establishing an orderly Nigerian state and society with a stable and secured future for the state and citizens who have been searching for the right constitution and aim to achieve constitutionalism. The study is unique in uncovering issues in both schemed and erroneous gaps in the Nigerian constitutions. It expands the body literature on the Nigerian constitution and constitutionalism, which Nigeria lacks, especially at this critical time of searching for a viable Constitution vis-a-vis manipulations of the Constitution by various interests in Nigeria, and highlights the imperfections of the Nigerian Constitutions.

Keywords: Constitution, Constitutionalism, Nigeria, Gap, Judiciary, Law

Environmental Impact Assessment in Developing Urban Economy: A Perspective of Challenges Impeding Public Participation in Traditional City of Bida, Nigeria

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Abstract

vidence reveal that, broad-based social capital and social inclusion has been failing in the practices of public participation in Environmental Impact Assessment for the development of urban economy in the traditional cites of less-developed countries. The impact of broad-based failing on urban economy is exacerbated by series of factors, organic settlement development, lack of plan, lack of effective development control and behavioural attitude of inhabitants among others. For a traditional city which requires a relatively high number of redevelopment projects as parts of socioeconomic development and environmental management, public participation as a component of decision-making process, is more complex and difficult due to micro-based factors as challenges in traditional cities of Africa. To date, studies on public participation focus extensively on macro-based factors with little attention to examine micro-based factors on government-based projects. This study aims at identifying challenges causing broad-based failing by examining the micro factors affecting public participation in physical development planning. In this study, 344 questionnaires were administered to examine microfactors militating against citizens to participate in developing urban economy of Bida traditional city in Nigeria. Standard multiple regression reveals that, experience, socio-ethnic differences, status of existing amenities, and social cohesion are the prime factors affecting the willingness and ability of citizens to participate in government initiative projects for urban economy. This study suggests areas of promoting broad-based participation and apparently could be used by the practitioners and law makers of the programs in the traditional cities of African countries, like Bida-Nigeria.

Keywords: Citizen Participation, Environmental Impact Assessment, Traditional City and Urban Development

Abstract ID: ABS:20:10A-24

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Parallel Market Exchange Rate Premium and Growth Performance in Nigeria: Any Lessons for Building Economic Resilience?

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Abstract

his paper examined the effects of parallel exchange rate premium on Nigeria's economic performance. It utilized quarterly frequency data spanning from 2010Q1 to 2021Q4 as well as employed Structural VAR model with a recursively orthogonalized identifying restriction that is guided by underlying economic assumptions. The findings show that GDP growth rate responds negatively and significantly to a positive shock to exchange rate premium up to the second quarter. On the other hand, credit to private sector does not significantly respond to a positive innovation in exchange rate premium in Nigeria. It was equally found that positive shock in exchange rate premium causes base money to fall significantly up to the second quarter, while exchange rate premium significantly impacts domestic interest rate but in the long term. On the basis of the findings, the study recommends, among others, the need to conduct monetary policy reforms that will aim at closing the widening gap between the CBN approved exchange rate and the parallel rate. This will in turn minimize opportunities for rent seeking as well as eliminate the unwarranted pressure on dollar and its associated economic consequences on Nigeria's economy.

Keywords: Parallel Market, Exchange Rate Premium, Growth Performance, Structural VAR, Impulse Response.

Fuel Subsidy Removal and Exchange Rate Volatility in Nigeria: Implications on Macroeconomic Stability

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Abstract

he paper examines empirically the implications of fuel subsidy removal and exchange rate volatility vis-à-vis macroeconomic stability in Nigeria. The paper employs ex-ante and ex-post as the research design using time series data from January, 2023 to January, 2024 to measure the causal relationships among the fuel subsidy removal and macroeconomic variables which include; exchange rate, consumer price index, inflation, international oil price and Gross Domestic Product. The paper employs Statistical Package of Social Science (SPSS) as a tool of data analysis and uses regression analysis to ascertain the positive relationship or otherwise between the explained and the explanatory variables. The result shows that fuel subsidy removal and foreign exchange volatility within the period under review triggers low-capacity utilization leading to collapse of some companies, increase headline inflation, low saving and diminishing real income leading to vicious circle of poverty in the country. The result further reveals that one of the factors that induced higher prices (inflation), particularly food prices and other commodities are as a result of high exchange rate and fuel subsidy removal, due to their affinity with international crude oil prices. The paper concludes that fuel subsidy removal and exchange rate volatility has exacerbated the level of poverty in the country, leading to reduction of productivity in the real sector. The paper recommends to the policy makers the gradual removal of fuel subsidy in the country in order to ameliorate the sufferings of the populace as the economy experiences shock. The paper further recommends infrastructural development in transport and roads as well as incentivizing tax holiday for companies with a view to spur production, growth and brings down price stability.

Keywords: Fuel Subsidy Removal, Exchange Rate Volatility, Gross Domestic Product, Headline Inflation

Challenges in Financing Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Post Primary School System in Ondo State

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Abstract

he study was designed to examine the extent of funding TVET in Post Primary School in Ondo State. The objectives of the study include to identify the present sources of financing TVET programme, determine the roles played by the Government and different bodies in encouraging the activities of TVET. Three research questions guided the study. And three hypotheses were tested. A survey research design was adopted. The population for the study consists of 7 Principals of technical and vocational education schools in Ondo State and three officials from the ministry of technical education in Ondo state which were studied without sampling as a result of sizeable population. A four-point rating scale questionnaire was used for data collection. The instrument was face validated by three experts in the field. The reliability of the instrument was determined using cronbach coefficient alpha and an overall reliability coefficient of 0.78 was obtained. The questionnaire was personally administered by the researcher. The data collected were analysed using percentage to answer the research questions. The findings revealed that the three arms of government are the present source of funding TVET, the problems associated with TVET programme and the strategies to be adopted TVET. The paper recommends that government and co-operate bodies concerned should support TVET, the control of finance for this programme should have a separate body to be managed by vocational administrator.

Keywords: Financial challenges, Vocational Education and School System

The Role of Economic and Financial Crime Commission in Nigeria's Anti-Graft: Limits and Possibilities

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Abstract

The paper examines the roles of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in Nigeria and the possibilities of playing these roles as well as possibilities of actualizing them. The paper role played on sustaining Nigeria's administration on issues cannot be over-emphasized of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission in Nigeria. The primary duties and responsibilities of Economic and Financial Crime Commission and the constitutional roles and powers for it handling all financial crimes in Nigeria. The advance fee fraud, money laundering, counterfeiting, illegal fund transfers, contract scam. The paper uses the qualitative methods and secondary sources of data collection. The paper traces the origin and establishment of the commission the limits and possibilities of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission achieving its aims and objectives of establishment. The paper also makes some recommendations on financial crimes in Nigeria.

Keywords: Crimes, Economy, EFCC, Financial crime, Nigeria

Effects of Job Security on the Performance of Employees in Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Abuja

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Abstract

hen employees become confident that their jobs are secured, protected and cannot be dismissed arbitrarily, their attitude to work could become a threat to their productivity as well as a threat to their ability to meeting work deadlines and some employees in Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Abuja have battled with this, and this has in turn pose a threat to attainment of organizational set targets in the organization. The main objective of this study is to examine the effects of job security on the performance of employees in Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Abuja. In view of the above cause, data was collected from both primary and secondary sources. The population of the study is one thousand five hundred and fifty-one (1551) and 318 copies of questionnaire were administered to the respondents and 254 copies of questionnaire were returned successfully which was used as the bases for the research analysis. Pearson moment of correlation was the tool of analysis used. The research findings revealed that there is a strong positive relationship between Job security and employees' performance in Federal Inland Revenue Service, Abuja.

Keywords: Assurance of job, Attitude to work, Job security, Performance, Productivity

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The Role of Local Government and Traditional Institutions in Addressing Africa's Development Challenges in the 21st Century: A Historical Analysis

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Abstract

he world is full of institutions since they are essential to human relations, habitation, and continuation and should be governed to prevent potentially disastrous conflicts. Due to the above-described rationale, distinct societal domains such as politics, economics, culture, and a plethora of other fields emanate unique establishments that differ according to individuals, environments, and intended outcomes. Therefore, it is normative that African institutions and environments are different from those of other continents. Africa often referred to as a peculiar continent embodies various ideals as well as institutions which are peculiar to its people and majorly evident in their political settings. Having established the fact that African political institutions and structures are unique, it beggars' belief that such is undergoing tough times especially in the 21st century which is perhaps the most sturdy onslaught against such. In view of the aforementioned, this paper becomes crucial since it addresses important issues and provides a thorough analysis and discussion of the current political trends and changes in Africa. This work also looked at traditional political institutions' status and future in Africa. Information was extracted using historical research methods; as a result, interviews with pertinent stakeholders made up the primary source while books, articles from journals, newspapers and the internet made up the secondary source. Through the research, it has been affirmed that African political life is till date anchored on indigenous political institutions which serve as irrefutable evidence of African sociopolitical heritage and history.

Keywords: Normative, Unique, Onslaught, Altercation, Political Institutions, Conflicts, Traditional Institutions

The Middle Belt of Nigeria: Struggles, Estrangement and Controversies

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Abstract

his article explores the quest for separate identity, resentment and estrangement in the Middle Belt of Nigeria which has for long in Nigeria's history been using both peaceful and violent means to achieve that, explored the issues in it and trailed the controversy surrounding the struggle. The study used the qualitative (non-statistical) method of data collection and analysis; collected and used data from secondary sources (journal articles, books, public records, archive materials) and historical documentation method for the purpose of its analysis. The Middle Belt is embroiled in both wide and deep controversy in the process of pursuing its estrangement, dissidence and resentment to the larger North; it would be most difficult for the Middle Belt to achieve such because of incoherence and multiplicity of the groups, lack of popular, comprehensive and sustainable future plan and the inherent intraethnic acrimonies. This study and its findings are useful to all the stakeholders in the Middle Belt, North and Nigeria; would benefit as the study provides background, state of the issues and the inherent contradictions in the quest for a separate geography and identity within the Northern Nigerian context. Other areas of Nigeria would also draw lessons from the study. There is paucity of studies on the inherent controversy in the Middle Belt's pursuit of separate identity and geography from the general and Northern Nigeria. This study is exposing and addresses the critical issues of use of peace and violence in the struggle, manipulation by the elites and notable events and periods in the struggle.

Keywords: Estrangement and controversy, Ethnicity and religion, Middle-Belt, Nigeria, Northern Nigeria.

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A Study of the Impact of Bacterial Vaginosis Infection on the Socio-Economic and Educational Life of Pregnant Women in Delta State

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Abstract

acterial vaginosis (BV) is one of the most prevalent vaginal infections among women in Africa. BV is a polymicrobial syndrome resulting in a decreased concentration of Lactobacilli and an increase in pathogenic bacteria, mainly anaerobes in the vagina. Gardnerella vaginalis appears to be the only one among several bacteria genera or species that are common or present in large quantities in women with BV. In pregnancy BV has been associated with many gynecological conditions and complications such as pelvic inflammatory disease, post hysterectomy vaginal cuff cellulitis, endometritis, amniotic fluid infection, preterm delivery, preterm labor, premature rupture of the membranes, and, possibly, spontaneous abortion. This study investigated the impact of BV on the Social and Educational Life of Pregnant Women in Delta North Senatorial District and suggested possible interventions to avoid BV-associated complications in pregnancy. The women were studied at the different stages of their pregnancy (i.e. the three different trimester; first trimester, second trimester and third trimester respectively). One thousand five hundred (1500) high vaginal samples were collected from pregnant women and examine for BV using Nugent criteria. A structured questionnaire was used to gather information on socio demographic characteristics, medical and treatment history of patients after informed consent by the patients. Statistical analysis was based on cross-tabulation of variables and association between different variables were determined using Chi-square. Two hundred and nineteen (14.6%) were at their first trimester, five hundred and eighty-five (39.0%) were at their second trimester and six hundred and nighty-six (46.4%) were at their third trimester. Eight hundred and eighty-nine pregnant women (59.27%) were BV positive. Of the 889 positive patients, 640 (72%) were symptomatic and 249 (28%) were asymptomatic. Bacterial vaginosis was more prevalent among pregnant women in their second trimester (64.9%) and age group 21 to 30 years (68.8%). Educational qualifications had no significant association with BV among pregnant women (P>0.05). All the patients using antibiotics were BV negative. Consequently, high rate of BV among pregnant women attending Anti-clinics Delta North Senatorial District demands adequate attention to prevent BV-associated complications in pregnancy and also reduce referrals that may ensue from such complications. Pregnant women attending antenatal clinic in various hospitals in Delta North Senatorial District should be screened routinely for BV to avoid infection sequelae. Adequate laboratory facilities should be provided, and laboratory personnel should be trained in the use of Nugent criteria for effective diagnosis of BV since the method is convenient and reliable. This will aid prompt and adequate diagnosis of BV in pregnancy. Effort should be made to discourage promiscuity among sexually-active age group and self-diagnosis/medication among pregnant women.

Keywords: Bacteria, Vaginosis, Infection, Pregnant women, Medication, Diagnosis, Asymptomatic, Trimester

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Strategies for TVET Funding for Sustainable Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

his paper explores the critical theme of "Strategies for TVET Funding for Sustainable Development in Nigeria." Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is a linchpin for sustainable development, yet Nigeria faces a myriad of challenges in financing its TVET programs. The paper delves into the multifaceted issues plaguing TVET funding, including outdated curricula, bureaucratic hurdles, lack of coordination among stakeholders, and the urgent need for policy reform. Drawing from a wealth of research and empirical evidence, this article offers comprehensive policy recommendations designed to address these challenges. The proposed strategies encompass increasing budget allocations for TVET, streamlining funding mechanisms, fostering collaboration among stakeholders, and aligning TVET curricula with industry needs. By implementing these recommendations, Nigeria can harness the transformative power of TVET to bridge the skills gap, reduce unemployment, and promote economic growth. The paper underscores that investing in TVET is not merely an educational endeavor; it is an investment in human capital, economic prosperity, and social development. This article concludes by emphasizing the pivotal role TVET plays in achieving sustainable development goals and underscores the urgency for stakeholders, from policymakers to industry leaders, to collaborate in implementing these recommendations. Nigeria stands on the precipice of a future marked by social equity, environmental sustainability, and economic advancement through TVET-driven sustainable development.

Keywords: Funding, Multifaceted, Streamlining and Bureaucratic

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