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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE**

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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Conflicts and insecurities (Terrorism, Banditry etc)

Structural and Systemic Determinants of the Endsars Protest in Nigeria: An Empirical Exploration

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Abstract

The EndSARS protest is a Decentralised social movement and a string of large-scale demonstrations in Nigeria opposing police brutality. The Endsars protest reflects the myriads of problems confronting the development of Nigeria and the challenges most of the populace face. This study investigates the factors that influenced the Endsars protest. The study adopted the descriptive and cross-sectional research design where both quantitative and qualitative research methods were utilized. The study used primary data comprising of 359 questionnaires, 3 In-depth Interviews, and 6 Key-informant interviews. There are overt and covert causes to the Endsars protest. This study found out that the major factor that necessitated the Endsars protest was policing factor (54.60%). The Nigerian youth took to the street to protest police brutality and extortion by a defunct unit of the Nigerian Police Force known as the 'Special Anti-Robbery Squad'. Furthermore, findings of this study showed that there are economic (18.9%) and social factors (26.5%) that also influenced the protest. The study concludes that while policing factor was the main factor behind the protest, there are also economic, governmental, Discontent with government, and social factors as well that played a key role during the protest. The Endsars protest was not in any form politically motivated, however, the protest was reactionary to systemic and institutionalized injustice and human right abuse. The study recommended that there needs to be a concerted effort to reform the Nigeria police force holistically.

The Perception of Perinatal Personnel Wives on Deployment to One of the Most Conflict-ridden Section of the Country: North-East Nigeria

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Abstract

The humanitarian crisis in the Northeastern, Nigeria remains profound and widespread across the region. Hence, people in this region face extreme deprivation beyond their existing poverty levels, including daily threats to their well-being. However, inadequate attention is being paid to this issue. Thus, this study examined the perception of Army Personnel Wives (APW) on deployment to the one of the most conflict-ridden section of the country: North-east, Nigeria. Health Belief Model and a semi-structured questionnaire was administered to 890 APW. Thirty-six in-depth interviews were conducted with APW and medical personnel. Twenty-seven Key Informant Interviews were conducted with six doctors and 21 nurses in each Abs. The quantitative data were analysed using descriptive statistics and Spearman Rank Correlation. Respondents' age was 31.00 ± 5.63 years; 26.85% were Multiparous, 22.4% were Hausa-Fulani, and 19.1% had tertiary education. The result showed that the relationship between the duration of SD revealed Emo Dis $r = -.131$, Sig. = .000; MIN $r = 0.083$, Sig. = 0.013; Hardship = $-.046$, Sig. = .168, AF $r = .067$, Sig. = 0.045; and loneliness, isolation & lack of communication $r = .050$, Sig. = 0.133. The cause of negative perception was fear of uncertainty of spousal loss $r = 0.075$, Sig. = 0.026. The number indicated; Emo Dis $r = 0.082$, Sig. = .014; AF ($r = .067$, Sig. = 0.045; MIN $r = 0.081$, Sig. = 0.016. Deployments influenced negative perception of SD in selected Abs. Military authorities should consider first time and longer duration spouses.

Farmers-Herders' Conflict and Early Warning Systems in Igangan Community, Oyo State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The persistent farmers-herders conflict in Igangan Community, Oyo State, Nigeria, has led to insecurity, economic downturn, and social unrest. This study investigates the causes of the conflict at the local level, examines the existence of Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) systems in Igangan, evaluates local governance structures for strengthening social cohesion, and explores ways to integrate EWER systems into local governance for effective conflict prevention. The research also analyzes community perceptions of conflict prevention and resolution while assessing pre-existing institutions' capacities to mitigate violence. The study is significant in highlighting the role of misinformation, resistance to legal frameworks, and distrust in state institutions as key drivers of the conflict. By examining these factors, the study aims to provide practical recommendations for fostering stability in Igangan and similar conflict-prone communities. A qualitative research design was employed, using both primary and secondary data sources. The primary data was obtained through Key Informant Interviews (KIIs). Secondary data included journal articles, news reports, online sources, and archived documents. A combination of purposive and convenience sampling was used to select Igangan Community due to its history of violent clashes between farmers and herders. Participants for the KIIs were selected based on their roles in governance, security, and community affairs. The study focuses on analyzing social cohesion at three levels: vertical (state institutions and policies),

horizontal (relationships among groups), and individual capacities (community members' resilience and leadership in conflict prevention). Thematic analysis was applied to interpret the qualitative data. Findings reveal that the primary cause of conflict in Igangan is the farmers-herders crisis, fueled by misinformation, disinformation, and resistance to legal structures. Misinformation spreads rapidly, exacerbating historical tensions and deepening divisions among community members. Additionally, the absence of functional local governance structures has led to a breakdown of law enforcement, with traditional leaders and community-based security initiatives stepping in to fill the gap. However, the effectiveness of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms has been undermined by growing distrust in community leadership. While EWER mechanisms exist at both governmental and community levels, these systems are not integrated, weakening their overall impact. The study also finds that security agencies and local authorities lack the necessary resources and trust of the people to function effectively. The study concludes that the lack of functional local governance structures and the weak integration of EWER systems have significantly contributed to the persistence of conflict in Igangan. It recommends urgent reforms to strengthen local governance, improve trust between communities and the government, and institutionalize EWER mechanisms for proactive conflict prevention. Strategies such as decentralization, enhanced community policing, and increased financial allocations to local governments are proposed to bridge the existing governance gap. Furthermore, media literacy programs, public sensitization campaigns, and trust-building initiatives should be implemented to counter misinformation and resistance to law. Finally, the study suggests further research on comparative early warning systems in different regions, the role of traditional leadership in conflict mediation, and the influence of media on local conflicts.

Influence of Psychological Variables and the Mediatory Role of Psychopathic Personality on Recidivism among Juvenile Offenders in Homes in Southwest Nigeria

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Abstract

Recidivism refers to the tendency of former offenders to re-engage in criminal activities, leading to re-arrest or re-incarceration. This issue presents challenges for correctional institutions, law enforcement, and society as a whole. While past research has focused on the prevalence and socioeconomic predictors of recidivism, limited attention has been given to psychological factors such as self-control, peer influence, and drug use. Additionally, little research has explored the mediating role of psychopathic personality traits in recidivism among Nigerian inmates, particularly juveniles in correctional facilities. This study is based on self-control and social learning theories and utilizes a cross-sectional survey design. The quantitative approach employs an ex-post facto design, assessing psychological determinants of recidivism. The sample was selected using a complete enumeration method. Various standardized psychological scales were used, including Grasmick et al. (1993) for self-control, Santor et al. (1994) for peer pressure, Harvey (2008) for drug use, and Levenson's (1995) psychopathic scale. Recidivism was measured by the number of times participants had been admitted to correctional facilities. The data were analyzed using multiple regression and hierarchical multiple regression at a significance level of $p < 0.05$. Findings from Model I indicate that peer influence, drug use, and self-control significantly predict recidivism, jointly accounting for 84.6% of its variance. Model II reveals that these factors also significantly predict psychopathic personality traits, explaining 21.5% of the variance. Model III demonstrates that psychopathic personality mediates the relationship between peer influence, drug use, self-control, and recidivism, accounting for 43.3% of its variance. In conclusion, peer pressure, self-control, and drug use independently predict recidivism and psychopathic traits. Moreover, psychopathic personality plays a mediating role in this relationship, further reinforcing the need for targeted interventions addressing these psychological factors.

Sustainable Food Security in Africa in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

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Abstract

Climate change, gentrification, urbanization, and scarcity of skilled and unskilled laborers in farming calls for the adoption of precision agriculture through the introduction of Algorithms and machine learning. There is no contest of the notion that by 2050, the global population will be around 10 billion. Africa will be the most densely populated at the time because of the relative increase in the living standard, access to basic health care and uncontrolled birth rate. It is estimated that in the next 25 years, 70% of the world population will live in the cities, 70% of additional food will be needed to cater for the envisaged "overpopulation"; and presently, 70% of fresh water goes to food production with its negative impacts on rivers, streams and oceans pollution through application of inorganic fertilizer. With all the identified challenges, the following research questions will dominate this paper: How can Africa achieve the SDG 2 when the continent is technologically at the nascent level? What are the likely roles of government in the age of globalization and AI to secure food sovereignty? In

trying to address the two questions, the paper will adopt mixed methods of data collection and theoretically, embedded liberalists school will dominate the study. The paper concludes that the much-touted position that AI will keep many people out of job in Africa will be debunked and interrogated. The paper will point out a need to accommodate smart technology for quality food production at the minimum cost.

Keywords: Africa, food sovereignty, Artificial Intelligence, SDG 2, embedded liberalism

Sources and Socio-economic Costs of Cyber Conflicts in Nigeria

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Abstract

Globally, the criticality of the multiple threats posed by cyber conflicts to nations, organizations, and individuals has been recognized as cyberspace is increasingly metamorphosing into a virtual battleground. In Nigeria, cyber conflicts have emerged as another dominant challenge threatening human security and the safety of critical national information infrastructure. Therefore, guided by the propositions of space transition theory, this paper seeks to discuss the major sources of cyber conflicts in Nigeria in the era of digital habitat, the dominant cyber threats resulting from cyber conflicts, and the socio-economic costs of cyber conflicts. The paper contends that cyber conflicts in Nigeria are essentially internally induced and mainly revolve around political issues, religious intolerance, ethnicity, ideological differences and law enforcement issues. It identifies data breaches, denial of service attacks (DoS), unauthorized access, cyber harassment, and cyber propaganda as the dominant cyber conflict-induced attacks on Nigerian cyberspace. The paper concludes that although the Federal Government of Nigeria recognizes the harmful impacts of cyber conflicts and has stipulated some institutional frameworks for tackling it in the 2024 Cybercrime Prohibition (Amendment) Act, relying exclusively on the legal strategy to address the problem is inadequate. Therefore, it advocates a holistic multilayered approach involving a systematic combination of human, legal, and technological interventions for dealing with cyber conflicts.

An Examination of the Role of Banditry on Education in Federal Government College Kwali, Abuja

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Abstract

The study examines the impact of banditry on the educational development of Federal Government College Kwali Abuja. In the course of this study, data were sourced from two major sources; the Secondary and the Primary Sources. The Secondary sources were from existing literature on Banditry and Education while Interview method, Focus Group Discussion were adopted as the main primary source of data. In addition, Qualitative method of analysis was adopted to present and analyse data based on the objectives of the study, within the theoretical framework of frustration-aggression theory. The Study concludes that banditry in the study area has become so alarming as it caused the school closure due to the threat and warning from the bandits. A situation that forced the suspension of school activities. Based on the findings, the study suggests that certain measures need to be taken in other to reduce the incidences of banditry in the study area, some of which are: acquiring adequate security presence in the school premises and its surroundings, adequate surveillance within and outside the school premises, enhancing people-centred approach in tackling banditry, prompt response from the security agencies, adequate and quick intervention from the Federal Governments.

Keywords: Banditry, educational development, secondary education, insecurity in schools in Kwali

From Guardians to Pawns: Interpreting Checkpoints as Countermeasure to Insecurity Management in Southwestern Nigeria

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Abstract

In the face of growing insecurity, checkpoints have become vital instruments in managing internal and external security threats. Security checkpoints are best interpreted as designated places, lines, or points of contact along a road or border where people and vehicles are subject to security checks. Extant studies have explored the phenomenon of security checkpoints, however, the preponderance of existing studies concentrated more on the politics of checkpoints and those checkpoints manned by non-state actors. Current scholarship lacks an understanding of how checkpoints are interpreted and used as countermeasures to insecurity management. With the proliferation of checkpoints and the incessant rate of insecurity in the southwestern region, the extent to which checkpoints serve their initial purpose remains questionable. Guided by the qualitative methods of data collection and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), this study elicited information from six (6) security personnel from three checkpoint locations (Mamu, Ondo-Owenna, and Saki-Ogboro) through In-Depth Interviews (IDI). It seeks to document the forms of relationships that these checkpoints produce and the implications of these relationships for the management of insecurity in southwestern Nigeria.

Keywords: Countermeasure of insecurity, security management, checkpoints relationships

The African Union Strategy for Regional Security and Asymmetric Threats in the Lake Chad Region

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Abstract

The Lake Chad region has consistently faced insecurity crises due largely to terrorism/insurgency. Consequently, the humanitarian crisis within this region has displaced 1.9 million people, with over 80% of them in Borno state. Managing the insecurity dilemma in the region led to the establishment of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) in 2014 based on the African Union (AU) regional security strategy. The management of the MNJTF is however under the oversight functions of the Lake Chad Basin Commission consequent on the stipulated security architecture of the AU. In this vein, the MNJTF is tasked with combating insurgency and terrorist attacks posed by Boko Haram and its splinter group, the Islamic State of West Africa Province (ISWAP). Hence, the core objective of this study is to interrogate the AU's conflict and counter terrorism measures needed for the MNJTF's operational success. Methodologically, this study employed the qualitative approach in sourcing and analysing data. Data were sourced from secondary sources like textbooks, journals, official archived documents, the internet, and newspapers, while qualitative content analysis was used in data analysis. Regional Security Complex Theory was used as the theoretical framework. The study's findings reveal that the African Union's security strategy is being hampered due to the regional body's bureaucratic process that has not been structured to accommodate the dynamic security challenges in the continent which could allow for unilateral military operations and common funding. The study recommends amongst others, that the African Union should discourage managing security operations with multiple resources and should not create more counter-terrorist forces where existing ones have not been properly managed.

The Role of Keyboard Warriors in Cyber Conflict in Nigeria

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Abstract

The activities of keyboard warriors have become an unavoidable part of the digital culture, where they influence online debates, fuel conflicts, and shape public opinion with just a few clicks. This study employed social identity theory to explore how keyboard warriors engage in cyber conflicts, their role in either escalating or de-escalating tensions, and how their actions impact public discourse and broader social dynamics. To illustrate this, a case study of the high-profile rivalry between Nigerian musicians Wizkid and Davido was adopted to understand the cyber conflict patterns and dynamics. The findings revealed that while some keyboard warriors provoke conflict through provocative behaviour, others promote more constructive discussions by driving public engagement and mobilisation. This duality pinpoints the complex role of keyboard warriors in today's online spaces, where their influence can be both divisive and unifying. As a result, this paper advocates for increased awareness and regulation to effectively manage both the positive and negative impacts of keyboard warriors' actions in the Nigerian cyberspace.

Keywords: Keyboard warriors, cyber conflict, cyber-attack, cyber space, digital culture

Technological Globalization and Criminality among Female Inmate in South-West Nigeria

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Abstract

The number of female engaging in crimes has been increasing in leaps and bounds. This is evident in the number of female inmates in the Nigerian Correctional Centers in South-west Nigeria. However, despite its seriousness, existing studies have concentrated on factors responsible for criminality among males. Also, most of the existing studies on the subject matter excluded globalization variables as factors of criminality in the contemporary globalized society. To fill this gap, this study examines the effect of technological globalisation on criminality among female inmates in selected correctional centers in South-west Nigeria. Three (3) correctional centers were purposively selected from South-western Nigeria. A total of 309 inmates were selected using systematic sampling technique and 12 participants were selected for interviewed using purposive sampling. Survey research method was utilized for this study where both questionnaire and in-depth interview were used to collect quantitative and qualitative data respectively. For quantitative data, descriptive and inferential analyses were conducted. For descriptive analysis, frequency distribution and percentage methods were used; while multivariate analysis of logistic regression were used to test the formulated hypothesis. Content analysis was used to analyse the qualitative data for this study. The study found that information and communication technology (AOR=3.73; 95% CI: [1.66-7.18]) had significant positive effects on female criminality. The study concluded that increasing pace of technological globalization is associated with increasing level of female criminality. Thus, the study recommended that relevant government agencies and non-governmental organisations should initiate and implement policies and programs to cushion the negative effects of technological globalization variable on female in Nigeria and beyond.

Keywords: Technology, globalisation, female criminality, crime

Social Policy and Healthcare Reform in Africa: The Nigerian Case

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Abstract

Like in other continents around the world, health sector reforms in Africa is characterised by extensive macroeconomic policies and the implementation of Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs). These policies and programmes perpetually hamper a considerable health development and outcomes as well as the efforts towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) which is a major targets of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 (Good Health and Well-Being). This study analyses the healthcare reform in Nigeria within the context of colonial, post-colonial and neoliberal discourses. We also examine the healthcare financing mechanisms and the 'behind the scenes' components of the healthcare reform process in Nigeria which is mainly driven by international donor

agencies. We argue for the deployment of social policy prescriptions that are based on visionary agenda-setting, capturing a wider vision of society for long-term health benefits for all.

Keywords: Healthcare reform; social policy, universal health coverage, healthcare financing, Structural Adjustment Programme

Structural and Systemic Determinants of the EndSARS Protest in Nigeria: An Empirical Exploration

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Abstract

The EndSARS protest is a decentralised social movement and a string of large-scale demonstrations in Nigeria opposing police brutality. The EndSARS protest reflects the myriads of problems confronting the development of Nigeria and the challenges most of the populace face. This study investigates the factors that influenced the EndSARS protest. The study adopted the descriptive and cross-sectional research design where both quantitative and qualitative research methods were utilized. The study used primary data comprising of 359 questionnaires, 3 In-depth Interviews, and 6 Key-informant interviews. There are overt and covert causes to the EndSARS protest. This study found out that the major factor that necessitated the EndSARS protest was policing factor (54.60%). The Nigerian youth took to the street to protest police brutality and extortion by a defunct unit of the Nigerian Police Force known as the 'Special Anti-Robbery Squad'. Furthermore, findings of this study showed that there are economic (18.9%) and social factors (26.5%) that also influenced the protest. The study concludes that while policing factor was the main factor behind the protest, there are also economic, governmental, Discontent with government, and social factors as well that played a key role during the protest. The EndSARS protest was not in any form politically motivated, however, the protest was reactionary to systemic and institutionalized injustice and human right abuse. The study recommended that there needs to be a concerted effort to reform the Nigeria police force holistically.

Keywords: EndSARS, police brutality, political protest

Workplace Behaviour

Unpacking the Role of Organizational Politics Subscales and Burnout as Predictors of Turnover Intention among Healthcare Workers in Ibadan, Nigeria

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Abstract

Nigeria's healthcare system faces severe strain, as evidenced by a critical doctor-patient ratio and inclusion on the World Health Organization's Health Workforce Support and Safeguard List 2023. Existing research has primarily explored individual-level factors, such as job satisfaction and job embeddedness, in relation to turnover intention among healthcare workers. However, this study bridges a significant knowledge gap by investigating the complex interplay between burnout and perceived organizational politics, specifically examining the distinct contributions of organizational politics subscales on turnover intention among healthcare workers in Ibadan, Nigeria. The Job Demands-Resources Model, Social Exchange and Organizational Justice theories provided the framework, while a cross-sectional survey design was employed to sample 379 healthcare workers who completed a structured questionnaire assessing burnout, perception of organizational politics, and turnover intention. Data were analysed using multiple regression and independent sample t-tests. Burnout ($\beta = 0.15$, $t = 2.96$, $p < 0.01$), general political behavior ($\beta = 0.14$, $t = 2.37$, $p < 0.05$), and pay and promotion policies ($\beta = -0.12$, $t = -2.26$, $p < 0.05$) significantly predict turnover intention. The overall model was significant ($F(7,370) = 3.83$, $p < 0.001$). Additionally, perceived organizational politics had a statistically significant influence on turnover intention ($t(37) = -4.97$, $p < 0.001$), with participants with high perceived organizational politics ($M = 19.39$, $SD = 4.89$) reporting higher turnover intention than those with low perceived organizational politics ($M = 17.21$, $SD = 3.95$). Addressing burnout and organizational politics can help mitigate turnover intention among healthcare workers. Therefore, Ministry of Health should implement transparent policies that will address workplace expectations to reduce burnout and turnover intention.

Keywords: Healthcare workers, turnover intention, burnout, organisational politics

Weighed Down at Work: Psychosocial Determinants of Work-Related Stress among Cargo Handlers in Lagos, Nigeria

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Abstract

The cargo and logistics sector is very important to Nigeria's economy, especially in Lagos State, which is a major center for trade. People who work in this field often deal with long hours, heavy physical work, and strict deadlines. These tough conditions can cause a lot of stress. If this stress is not properly managed, it can affect workers' health, reduce how well they do their jobs, and make them less satisfied at work. Most research has focused on physical and workplace problems, but the psychosocial causes of work-related stress are not well studied yet. This study investigated the influence of psychosocial factors on work-related stress among Cargo employees in Lagos state. A cross-sectional survey design was employed, with 220 cargo employees from Ikeja airport with a mean age of 36.49 and a standard deviation of 13.34. Data were collected using a 61-item structured questionnaire. The findings revealed that work-family conflict, work-life balance and perceived social support jointly predicted work-related stress ($R = .40$, $R^2 = 0.16$, $F = 13.75$, $p < 0.001$), explaining 16% of the variance in work-related stress. However, only work-life balance was a significant independent predictor of work-related stress ($\beta = 0.387$, $p < 0.001$). This study revealed that work-life balance is a major factor influencing work-related stress among cargo workers in Lagos State. Employees often face long hours, irregular shifts, and heavy workloads, limiting their time for rest and family. Poor work-life balance was found to significantly increase stress levels, negatively affecting workers' mental well-being. The study underscores the need for workplace strategies that promote balance, such as flexible scheduling, adequate rest, and stress management programs. These measures can enhance employee health, satisfaction, and productivity. The findings offer important guidance for employers and policymakers in Nigeria's logistics and cargo sector.

Keyword: Work-related stress, cargo employees, work-life balance, perceived social support

Compulsive Internet Use, Perceived Stress and Positive Mental Health as Predictors of Academic Procrastination among University of Ibadan Undergraduates
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Abstract

Academic procrastination among undergraduate students has been linked to negative outcomes such as poor academic achievement as well as undesirable behavioral tendencies. Yet little research attention has been given to the predisposing factors to academic procrastination. Therefore, this study examined the influence of Internet Use, perceived stress and mental Health on academic procrastination among University of Ibadan Undergraduate Students. Data were obtained from 251 undergraduates at the University of Ibadan using a structured questionnaire. The participants who were purposively selected based on ongoing internet use, enrollment as an undergraduate student at the University of Ibadan and willingness to provide informed consent. Results of multiple regression analysis revealed that the overall model was significant, $F(3, 244) = 33.26, p < .001$, and accounted for 29 percent of the variance in academic procrastination. Compulsive internet use ($\beta = .46, p < .001$) and mental health ($\beta = -.13, p < .05$) were significant independent predictors of academic procrastination but perceived stress was not significant ($\beta = .02, p > .05$). Sex ($\beta = .14; p < .05$) and level of study ($\beta = .17; p < .05$) were significant demographic factors whereas age, department and faculty were non-significant. The practical implications of findings, recommendations for policy intervention as well as future research directions are discussed.

Keywords: Academic procrastination, compulsive internet use, perceived stress, positive mental health, University of Ibadan undergraduate

The Impact of Self-leadership Skills on Lecturers' Work Passion in Nigeria Higher Education Institutions

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Abstract

The importance of work passion in the competitive modern world has been widely recognized, so, organizations need passionate workers which effectively lead their task. It is thus important for organizations to identify the factors that promote the positive attitude. However, studies that investigate the impact of self-leadership skills on work passion of employees are lacking. For this reason, the current study did a survey to examine the impact of self-leadership on work passion in a sample of 302 lecturers from three higher education institutions (federal, state and private) in three states (Lagos, Oyo and Osun) in Nigeria. In the study, the sample was drawn using convenience sampling technique; self-leadership skills and work passion were measured using self-leadership scale (35 items, $\alpha = .920$) and work passion scale (16 items, $\alpha = .839$). Data were analyzed using correlation and regression analyses to assess the relationship between self-leadership and work passion as well as the impact of self-leadership on the work passion of lecturers. The results indicate that self-leadership has significant relationship with work passion. Self-leadership is also found to be a significant predictor of work passion (adjusted $R^2 = .449$).

Keywords: Work passion, self-leadership, lecturers, higher education institution, Nigeria

Effect of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy on Extra-judicial Aggression among Police Officers in Ondo State

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Abstract

Background: Extra-judicial aggression, defined as the unlawful application of coercive force by law enforcement personnel outside the scope of legal jurisdiction, poses a serious threat to human rights and erodes public trust in the justice system. This form of aggression, often driven by psychological and emotional strain, has been reported among police officers charged with enforcing law and order. Given the multifaceted nature of aggression and its detrimental consequences, there is an urgent need for evidence-based psychological interventions. This study investigated the effect of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) on extra-judicial aggression among police officers in Ondo State, Nigeria.

Methods: The study adopted a pretest-posttest experimental design. Twenty-nine police officers who met the inclusion criteria for high levels of extra-judicial aggression were selected using purposive sampling techniques to participate in a CBT intervention program. Data were analyzed using repeated measures t-tests at a 0.05 level of significance.

Results: The results revealed a statistically significant reduction in extra-judicial aggression among participants exposed to CBT, $t(28) = 4.32, p < .05$. Specifically, post-test aggression scores ($M = 17.10, SD = 7.80$) were

significantly lower than pre-test scores ($M = 24.10$, $SD = 4.97$), indicating the efficacy of CBT in reducing aggressive behaviors among police officers.

Conclusions: The study concludes that Cognitive Behavioural Therapy is an effective intervention for reducing extra-judicial aggression among police personnel. Addressing cognitive distortions and maladaptive emotional responses is essential for promoting ethical conduct in law enforcement. The study recommended that CBT be integrated into routine psychological support and behavioral management programs within the Nigerian Police Force. This could help enhance officers' emotional regulation and professional behavior, thereby reducing instances of extra-judicial aggression.

Keywords: Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, extra-judicial aggression, police officers, Nigeria, psychological intervention

Environment Economic Policy

Service Quality in Intercity Transport: Understanding Commuter Priorities in Ibadan Metropolis

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Abstract

An understanding of the quality of intercity road transport based on commuter's priority is crucial for improving the quality of services. This study aims to assess the factors commuters prioritize in evaluating the quality of intercity transport services in the Ibadan Metropolis. The SERVQUAL model provides the theoretical framework for the study. A cross-sectional research design was adopted. Purposive sampling was used to select five major terminals that provide inter-city and intra-city services. A purposive sampling technique was also used to select 400 commuters boarding inter-city vehicles across the terminals. Structured questionnaire forms were used to collect data. Tables and percentages were used to summarize the data, while the Kruskal-Wallis test was used to test hypotheses. Results indicate that fifty-two percent of the respondents are female, and forty-eight percent are male. The mean age is 39.8 years. The results of the Kruskal-Wallis test reveal significant variations in service quality across the terminals $\chi^2(4) =$ (for Reliability and Punctuality $H = 79.514$, $p = 0.000$, Safety and Security $H = 46.584$, $p = 0.000$, Comfort and Amenities $H = 19.240$, $p = 0.001$, Affordability and Cost $H = 13.132$, $p = 0.011$ and for Accessibility and Convenience $H = 30.715$, $p = 0.000$) etc. The mean rank score of (167.66 for Iwo Road, 247.06 for Ojoo Bus-Terminal, 211.75 for Challenge Bus-Terminal, 73.02 for New Garage, and 215.61 for Apata). The study revealed that commuters prioritize punctuality and reliability, safety and security, comfort and amenities, affordability and cost-effectiveness, and accessibility and convenience. The findings highlight the need for supportive policies and interventions to address the challenges by ensuring the provision of improved infrastructure, upgraded facilities, safe roads, and reduced fares charged to meet the evolving needs of commuters and enhance the overall quality of intercity transport services in Ibadan Metropolis.

When Residents Pay: Un-sustainable Waste Management in Mainland Lagos, Nigeria

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Abstract

The 'ability to pay' has been cited as a problem facing sustainable waste management in developing economies. In this study, we assess payment for waste disposal services and its effects on sustainable waste management in the Lagos Mainland Local Government Area (LGA) of Lagos State. Both qualitative and quantitative data were collected across the 18 wards within the LGA using a form deployed within the kobo collect app, on android tablets. Responses to qualitative questions were obtained from respondents via voice recordings, while survey questions were recorded in the typical multiple-choice format. A total of 418 respondents were surveyed. Secondary data on ward population was obtained from the GRID3 National data repository. According to the responses analyzed, almost 80% of respondents currently pay for their means of waste disposal. However, over 25% of respondents are not served by waste disposal companies known as the Private Sector Participation (PSP) waste collectors. Instead, about 22% of respondents are served by 'outlawed' cart pushers. Residents patronized cart pushers due to the lack of access by Lagos State Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) trucks into some areas and the inadequate frequency of waste pickup in accessible areas. The foregoing suggests that there were people who were paying for waste disposal but were still not disposing their wastes in an environmentally-sustainable/friendly manner. The findings of this study also suggest that despite the wide-ranged socioeconomic characteristics of respondents, the willingness to pay is not so much the problem with sustainable waste management in the study area as much as the timely availability of, and access to sustainable options. In order to resolve this predicament, environmentally favourable government policies will need to be promoted, with the increased participation of non-government and private institutions being encouraged across the LGA.

Key words: Sustainable waste management, affordability, mixed methods research, Trans-disciplinarity, climate action

Health, Tele-therapy and Development

Maternal Health Care Challenges in Conflict-Induced Displacement: Ethnographic Study of Internally Displaced Persons in Ogoja Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Maternal health is a vital aspect of public health, yet internally displaced persons (IDPs) face unique challenges in accessing essential services. Resource-based conflicts, communal clashes and environmental degradation in the environs of Ogoja Local Government Area of Cross River State disrupt maternal health systems, deepening socio-economic inequities for displaced populations. Anchored on the Health Belief Model and Social Network Theory, this ethnographic research, investigated on maternal healthcare challenges; coping and adaptive strategies; and government and civil society interventions. Using Observation technique and the conduct of In-depth interviews with 20 internally displaced women; key informant interviews with 3 camp officials and 5 healthcare workers, the research uncovered systemic and socio-cultural challenges shaping maternal health outcomes. Findings from the study highlighted severe infrastructural deficits; including poor water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities; limited access to healthcare facilities; the unsupportive attitudes of healthcare workers towards IDPs; and economic burden. The pervasive fear of violence and restricted mobility further deterred access to care, while gendered norms marginalized women's autonomy in health-seeking decisions. Despite these adversities, community resilience strategies such as peer-supported birth networks and advocacy by local women's groups emerged as vital lifelines. The challenges are not only rooted in systemic barriers but also compounded by the physical conditions of the IDP camp, which limit healthcare access and compromise maternal health outcomes. Centering the voices of displaced women, this work contributes to discourse on adaptive resilience in conflict zones. Thus, the need for interventions which are community-driven health partnerships, mobile clinics tailored to insecure environments, and policy frameworks prioritizing IDPs in national health agendas.

Keywords: Maternal healthcare in Nigeria, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), coping strategies

Lived Experiences, Health Problems, Healthcare Needs, Access to Healthcare and Health-Seeking Behaviour of Returned Nigerian Victims of Trafficking in Lagos, Nigeria

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Abstract

Human trafficking is a growing international phenomenon and a major problem cutting across all age groups, especially young people. Over several decades, Nigerians have embarked on irregular migration to seek better socioeconomic opportunities. However, these migration often result in exposure to darker reality of human trafficking, with vulnerable individuals falling prey to traffickers who exploit their desperation. Many become victims of trafficking, torture, kidnapping, sexual exploitation, gender-based violence, and labor exploitation. Consequently, the victims are at risk of developing varying health problems during and after the trafficking experience. The negative health consequences because of violence suffered from exploitation resulting from human trafficking can be damaging to the overall well-being of the victims. Nigeria is one of the African countries facing problems of irregular migration and human trafficking, and this has remained a public health concern. Despite the extensive global research on migration and human trafficking, there is a significant gap in the literature specifically addressing the health problems and healthcare needs of returned Nigerian victims of trafficking. Documented literature on their health problems and access to healthcare is essential for policy development and program planning. The proposed study seeks to describe the lived experiences of returned Nigerians victims of human trafficking, identify their health problems and healthcare needs and the factors associated with the identified problems and access to healthcare. This presentation discusses the synthesis of existing literature on the topic and proposed a mixed method approach of surveys and key in-depth interviews. Expectedly, the findings will provide policymakers with information to inform evidence-based migration policies and specialized protection services for these persons of concern.

Vulnerability Perception and Sexual Behaviour among Persons with Disability in Oyo State, Nigeria: A Quantitative Perspective

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Abstract

Sexual Behaviour (SB), an act associated with genital stimulation or copulation, is a global issue with multidimensional implications. In Nigeria, vulnerability to risky SB is a major determinant of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and unwanted pregnancies. Existing studies on SB have focused mainly on the general population, with scant attention paid to Persons With Disabilities (PWD). This study, therefore, examined the influence of Vulnerability Perception (VP) on SB among PWD in Oyo state. Ajzen and Fishbein's Reasoned Action and Rogers' Protection Motivation theories provided the framework. The quantitative approach, using a cross-sectional design, was adopted. Five local government areas were purposively selected: Ibadan South-East, Ibadan North, Oyo East, Oyo West and Ogbomosho North due to the availability of well-established PWD's facilities. Respondent-driven sampling was used to administer a structured questionnaire to PWD (aged ≥ 15 years) to 404 respondents. The quantitative data were analysed using descriptive statistics, Binary and Multinomial logistic regressions at $p \leq 0.05$. The respondents' age was 24.96 ± 9.78 years; 33.4% had tertiary education and 26.0% were married. The majority (73.0%) perceived themselves to be vulnerable to risky SB. The sexual behaviour patterns which included NSP and CU showed that 43.3 percent had at least one sexual partner with only 33.2% using contraceptives. The proportion of males and females that had single sexual partners was the same (38.1%). The use of contraceptives was slightly more prevalent among males (34.0%) than females (32.3%). The NSPs was significantly related to those who had a positive VP about rape (OR=0.110) and positive VP about unwanted pregnancy (OR=2.896). The PWD who perceived being vulnerable to wife/husband (OR=0.04), friends (OR=0.04) and older persons (OR=0.02) as rape perpetrators were less likely to use contraceptives. Those who perceived being vulnerable to relatives as perpetrators of unwanted pregnancy (OR=8.04) were more likely to use contraceptives than those without such perception. Vulnerability perception influenced sexual partnerships and contraceptive use among persons with disabilities in Oyo State. There is a need for advocacy by stakeholders in the health sector on the appropriate sexual behaviour among persons with disabilities to reduce, appreciably their vulnerability to risky sexual behaviour.

Patterns of Mobile Health Consultation in Urban Slums of Southwest Nigeria

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Abstract

The inadequacy of healthcare delivery in urban slums is a significant global concern. While digital health innovations like mConsulting shows promise in low- and middle-income countries, limited research exists in Nigeria. This study examined mConsulting use in two urban slums in Ibadan. A sequential exploratory mixed-methods approach was adopted, using multistage sampling to select 776 adult respondents. Structured questionnaires were used. Ten in-depth interviews were conducted with slum residents and community health workers. Quantitative data was analysed using descriptive statistics and chi-square analyses at $p \leq 0.05$; qualitative data was thematically analysed. Respondents' age was 35 ± 13.4 years, with the majority being female (75.5%) and Muslim (70.5%). Majority (68.7%) had attained at least secondary education. Majority were either traders or artisans, who own at least a feature phone. Phone calls were the primary medium for mConsulting (99.5%). Two forms of mobile health consultation, formal and non-formal, were used by slum residents. There were social and cultural variations in the use of mConsulting. Phone calls and text messaging were the technological platforms used for mConsulting. There were significant associations between education ($\chi^2 = 6.573$, $p < 0.05$); religion ($\chi^2 = 9.137$, $p < 0.05$); income ($\chi^2 = 8.742$, $p < 0.05$); type of phone ($\chi^2 = 5.378$, $p < 0.05$) and use of formal mConsulting. mConsulting is being used in urban slums for various health conditions. There is also need for studies on determinants of the use of mConsulting as well as policies/interventions on regulated use of healthcare service delivery in underserved communities.

Challenges of Conducting Ethnographic Research on Zoonotic Transmission in a Livestock Market in Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria
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Abstract

Livestock markets have been identified as one of the major hotspots of zoonotic disease transmission. Social science disciplines such as Sociology and Anthropology have been identified as crucial disciplines that can provide deeper insights in to how transmission can occur in such spaces, adopting ethnographic method as a tool to understand practices within the market. However, little has been documented on the challenges of conducting ethnography in such a highly social and culturally sensitive environment. The objective of this paper is to provide insights in to the challenges of conducting ethnographic study on zoonotic transmission in a livestock market, and how the challenges were navigated. The paper leverages a three-month PhD field work experience on the social organization of livestock market, and zoonotic transmission in Ibadan which was conducted in a large livestock market at Akinyele, Ibadan, Nigeria. The study objective was to explore the structure of the market and practices that can facilitate zoonotic transmission, perception of zoonotic transmission, protective measures, and pathway to healthcare utilization for zoonotic infections among the market actors. The method adopted for the study included non-participant observation, key informant interviews, and in-depth interviews. The study obtained necessary ethical approval as well as the consent of the market leadership. Gaining trust of the market participant was highly challenging at the early phase of the research as the market participants perceived the researcher to be a government spy who will leak market secrets, social media content creator who will reveal market practices to the public, and a researcher who will make promises without fulfilling them. Participants were also reluctant to discuss zoonotic diseases at first, and to reveal some market practices. These challenges were eventually navigated through patience, persistence, informal conversations with market actors to build relationship and trust, leveraging on influence of key market actors, as well as willingness to learn and not just to collect data. The paper concludes that while social science disciplines are crucial in providing substantial knowledge on zoonotic diseases, trust which is highly essential to the research process and willingness to discuss the topic among animal dealers is challenging at the early phase of the research but could be navigated with social skills.

Risky Postpartum Sexual Behaviour and Unintended Pregnancy Outcomes among Multigravida Women in Ondo State
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Abstract

There is an extensive body of literature on risky sexual behaviour among unmarried women in Nigeria. Although sexual intercourse is a common discourse for married couple, little attention has been giving to risky postpartum sexual behaviour and its possible unintended pregnancy outcomes among multigravida women in Akoko south west, Ondo state. It is against this background that this study investigated early postpartum sexual resumption and unintended pregnancy outcomes among multigravida women in Oka and Akungba Akoko. Simple survey design was adopted for this study and the data was generated through the triangulation method. A total of 200 respondents was drawn from Akoko south west local government of Ondo state through purposive sampling technique. The data were analysed at univariate and bivariate levels using statistical data Stata version 13. The findings of this study revealed that fertility preference (6.6%) and fear of the side effect of using modern contraceptive among respondents serves as an inhibiting factor to the use of contraceptive, culminating into risky postpartum sexual behaviour in the study area. The majority of the respondents (72.1%) who never used modern contraceptive resumed sexual activities before menstruation after childbirth. On the other, respondents who resumed sexual activities before the return of menstrual period after childbirth was mostly shaped by male dominance in reproductive decisions in the area. A little above one half of the respondents who had untimed pregnancy did not use modern contraceptives. Finally, the study revealed that women who abstained from sexual intercourse after childbirth in less than 7 months have higher fertility preference and reported not to have used modern contraceptives. The study therefore concludes that resumption of sexual intercourse before the return of menstruation without the use of contraceptive and short period of abstinence after childbirth culminates into unwanted pregnancy, hence high fertility in the area.

Keywords: Postpartum sexual activity, contraceptive use, fertility preference, untimed pregnancy

Behaviour Change and Mental Health

Psychological Burden of Displacement: Impact of Psychotrauma and PTSD on the Health-Related Quality of Life of Internally Displaced Persons in the Middle-Belt Region of Nigeria

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Abstract

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) often face severe challenges that impact their health-related quality of life (HRQoL). This study investigates the impact of psychotrauma and symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) on the HRQoL of IDPs. A cross-sectional survey design was used to collect data from 387 conveniently selected IDPs in the Abagena IDP camp, Benue State, Nigeria. The sample consisted majorly of married (73.1%), female (52.5%) individuals aged between 19 and 75 ($\bar{x}=33.33\pm10.5$) years that had been living in the IDP camp for over 6 years (51.9%). Psychotrauma, traumatic events that could potentially leave the victim psychologically scarred, was measured using the 22 item Global Psychotrauma Screen (GPS), while the 9 item National Stressful Events Survey PTSD Short Scale was used to assess the severity of PTSD symptoms and the 12 item Short-Form Health Survey (SF-12) measured their HRQoL. Pearson Product Moment Correlation and Multiple Regression were the statistical data analyses techniques adopted at $p\leq0.05$. IDPs who have spent longer years in the camp reported higher levels of psychotrauma and PTSD symptom and scored relatively poor on HRQoL. This implies that, as duration of stay in IDP camp ($r=.247$), psychotrauma ($r=-.247$) and symptoms of PTSD ($r=-.194$) increase, the HRQoL of the participant decreases, and the reverse is also true. The findings also indicate that psychotrauma and symptoms of PTSD significantly jointly and independently reduce HRQoL among IDPs. The research highlights the importance of addressing mental health challenges faced by displaced populations and suggests interventions to reduce trauma-related conditions.

Influence of Attitudes Toward Disabilities and Previous Interactions on the Psychological Well-Being of Physically Challenged Persons in Ibadan, Oyo State

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Abstract

Many studies have examined how discrimination and social exclusion by significant others negatively impact the mental health and overall well-being of physically challenged persons without a corresponding attention to how physically challenged persons themselves constitute a hindrance to their psychological wellbeing. This study examines the roles of previous interaction with persons with disabilities and attitudes toward disabilities in the psychological well-being of persons living with disabilities in Ibadan, Oyo State. Data were collected from a purposive sample of 119 participants in disability homes and special education institutions in Ibadan using standardized scales for previous interaction with persons with disabilities ($\alpha = 0.98$), attitudes toward disabilities ($\alpha = 0.91$) and psychological well-being ($\alpha = 0.94$). Findings revealed that physically challenged persons with higher levels of previous interaction with persons with disabilities exhibited significantly greater psychological well-being than those with lower levels [$t(117) = -7.35$; $p < .001$]. Similarly, those with positive attitudes toward disabilities demonstrated significantly higher psychological well-being compared to those with negative attitudes [$t(117) = -9.25$; $p < .001$]. Further analysis showed that previous interactions and attitudes toward disabilities had a significant joint effect on psychological well-being [$R^2 = 0.58$, $F(2,116) = 80.86$; $p < .001$], accounting for 58 percent of its variance. Type of disability significantly influenced psychological wellbeing while all other demographic variables were non-significant. The practical implications of findings, recommendations for policy intervention as well as future research directions are discussed.

Keywords: Psychological well-being, attitudes toward persons with disability, social integration, stigma reduction

Compulsive Internet Use, Perceived Stress and Positive Mental Health as Predictors of Academic Procrastination among University of Ibadan Undergraduates

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Abstract

Academic procrastination among undergraduate students has been linked to negative outcomes such as poor academic achievement as well as undesirable behavioral tendencies. Yet little research attention has been given to the predisposing factors to academic procrastination. Therefore, this study examined the influence of Internet Use, perceived stress and mental Health on academic procrastination among University of Ibadan Undergraduate Students. Data were obtained from 251 undergraduates at the University of Ibadan using a structured questionnaire. The participants who were purposively selected based on ongoing internet use, enrollment as an undergraduate student at

the University of Ibadan and willingness to provide informed consent. Results of multiple regression analysis revealed that the overall model was significant, $F(3, 244) = 33.26, p < .001$, and accounted for 29 percent of the variance in academic procrastination. Compulsive internet use ($\beta = .46, p < .001$) and mental health ($\beta = -.13, p .05$) were significant independent predictors of academic procrastination but perceived stress was not significant ($\beta = .02, p > .05$). Sex ($\beta = .14; p < .05$) and level of study ($\beta = .17; p < .05$) were significant demographic factors whereas age, department and faculty were non-significant. The practical implications of findings, recommendations for policy intervention as well as future research directions are discussed.

Keywords: Academic procrastination, compulsive internet use, perceived stress, positive mental health, University of Ibadan undergraduates

Influence of Self-Efficacy and Personality Traits on Gambling Behaviour among Young Adults in Ibadan North Local Government Area, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Although gambling may not be inherently harmful, it becomes a significant concern when it escalates into compulsive and uncontrolled behaviour, often driven by underlying psychological factors. Among young adults, this can result in financial hardship, strained family relationships, substance abuse, criminal activity, and mental health issues. Therefore, this study is motivated by the need to understand the problems associated with gambling. This examines the influence of self-efficacy and personality traits on gambling behaviour among young adult in Ibadan North Local Government Area, Ibadan, Oyo state. Social learning and Cognitive theories provided the framework, while a cross-sectional survey design was employed to sample 200 participants aged between 18 and 25, with a mean age of 22.58 ± 2.05 . Purposive and systematic sampling technique was used to sample respondents in the study. A structured questionnaire consisting of demographics and scales measuring self-efficacy, personality and gambling behaviour were used to collect the data. Three hypotheses were tested using t-test for independent sample and multiple regression analysis at 0.05 level of significance. Respondents who scored low on self-efficacy ($X = 71.56, S.D = 13.72$) significantly reported higher gambling behavior compared to respondents high on self-efficacy ($X = 61.91, S.D = 10.14$). Openness, conscientiousness, extroversion, agreeableness and neuroticism jointly influenced gambling behaviour [$R = .377; R^2 = .142, F(5, 169) = 5.59; p < .001$] with $R^2 = .18$. Conscientiousness [$\beta = -.133; t = -1.73; p < .05$] and neuroticism [$\beta = -.163; t = -2.00; p < .05$] had significant independent influence on gambling behaviour. There exists no significant gender difference in gambling behaviour [$t(173) = ; p > .05$]. Self-efficacy and personality traits significantly influenced gambling behaviour. Therefore, it is recommended that the government agency regulating gambling should implement strict regulatory policies and public awareness campaigns to limit access to gambling and educate young adult about the psychological, social, and economic impacts associated with gambling.

Keywords: Self-efficacy, personality traits, gambling behaviour and young adults

Job Stressors Work Burnout and Psychological Health as Predictors of Family- Related Quality of Life among NECO Officials in South-West Nigeria

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Abstract

In demanding public service institutions such as the National Examinations Council (NECO), job stress and work burnout can severely impact employees' psychological health and, by extension, the quality of life they experience within their families. This study investigated the extent to which job stress, work burnout, and psychological health predict family quality of life (FQoL) among NECO officials in South-West Nigeria. A cross-sectional survey design was adopted using a randomized sample of 268 NECO officials across six states in South-West Nigeria. Standardized questionnaires were administered for data collection. Data were analyzed using SPSS; ANOVA, Pearson correlation and stepwise multiple regression were conducted. ANOVA results showed significant differences in family quality of life based on levels of burnout and job stress ($p < .05$). Job stress ($r = -0.58$) and burnout ($r = -0.61$) were negatively correlated with FQoL, while psychological health correlated positively with FQoL ($r = 0.65$). Psychological health ($\beta = .59, p < .001$), job stress ($\beta = -0.44$) and burnout ($\beta = -0.39$) significantly predicted FQoL. These variables accounted for 52.3% of the variance in FQoL ($R^2 = 0.523$). The study concludes that workplace stressors, burnout and

psychological health predict family quality of life. It was recommended that structured group sports activities should be introduced in NECO offices to enhance social support and physical health as a buffer against stress.

Keywords: Job stress, burnout, psychological health, family quality of life, NECO officials

Psychosocial Predictors of Emotional Intelligence Among Elementary School Teachers in Lagos State

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Abstract

This study investigated the psychosocial predictors of emotional intelligence among elementary school teachers in Lagos State. The survey research design and systematic random sampling technique were used for data collection and selection of participants. Forty-eight males and one hundred and two females between the ages of 25-57 years participated in this study. Four hypotheses were raised and tested using simple regression analysis, t-test for independent samples and one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). The result revealed that self-esteem significantly predicted R² emotional intelligence [$F(1,148) = 32.022, p < .01$], accounting for 17.8% variance in construct ($r = .178, p < .01$). Further analysis revealed a significant difference in emotional intelligence of teachers with low self-esteem and those with high self-esteem [$t(148) = 2.567, P < .01$], with teachers who have high self-esteem ($n = 138$) rating higher in emotional intelligence than those with low self-esteem ($n = 133$). Furthermore, the result revealed a significant difference in emotional intelligence based on marital status [$t(148) = 2.328, P < .05$], with married teachers ($n = 137$) rating higher in emotional intelligence than single teachers ($n = 133$). On the contrary, personality characteristics exerted no significant influence on emotional intelligence [$F(5,144) = 1.378, p > .05$]. Also, there was no significant difference in emotional intelligence based on educational background [$F(3,146) = 1.915, p > .05$], gender [$t(148) = -1.430, P > .05$], and type of school [$t(148) = .617, P > .05$]. This study concluded that self-esteem and marital status significantly influenced emotional intelligence, and that educational background, gender differences and personality characteristics have no influence on emotional intelligence of elementary school teachers. It recommended that efforts be made to boost teachers' self-esteem, especially the unmarried ones.

Keywords: Emotional Intelligence, self-esteem, personality characteristics of teachers

Prevalence and Perceived Psychosocial Effects of Substance Abuse Among Undergraduates of University of Ibadan

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Abstract

Introduction: Substance abuse, the harmful use of psychoactive substances, is a significant public health concern, particularly among university students who are prone to risks associated with newfound independence, peer pressure, and academic stress. Research shows high rates of substance abuse globally, with Africa following this trend. In Nigeria, where 19% of the population, especially youth aged 15-35, engages in substance abuse, university students are particularly affected. However, there are limited studies on the prevalence and psychosocial effects of substance abuse among university students in southwestern Nigeria. Hence, this study aims to assess the prevalence and impact of substance abuse among undergraduates at the University of Ibadan.

Method: Through a descriptive cross sectional study approach, this study assessed the prevalence of substance abuse and its perceived psychosocial effects among 410 undergraduate students of the University of Ibadan. Utilizing an adapted form of the standardized questionnaire 'Core Alcohol and Drug Survey questionnaire' data was gathered on participant's socio-demographics, types of substance abused, prevalence of substance abuse, perceived psychosocial; physical effects, psychological effects, academic effects and social effects of substance abuse among undergraduates. Data were analysed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences 20.0 and hypotheses were tested using chi-square at 0.05 level of significance.

Result: From this study, findings show there is a low level of prevalence of 69.5% among undergraduate students of the University of Ibadan. More than half (68%) of the students reported negative perceived effects of substance abuse. The findings regarding the types of substances being abused among undergraduate students of the University of Ibadan indicates that marijuana is the most commonly abused substance, with 46.8% of the students reporting its abuse. There was a significant relationship between the faculty of respondents and the prevalence of substance abuse ($p = 0.000$). There was also a significant relationship between the academic performance of students and the prevalence of substance abuse ($p = 0.000$). Additionally, there was a significant relationship between the age of students and perceived effect of substance use among undergraduates ($p = 0.040$).

Discussion: Based on the findings, it is recommended that the university continues to prioritize academic excellence and provide resources for substance abuse prevention and support which will reinforce its commitment to fostering a conducive learning environment.

Keywords: Substance abuse, prevalence, perceived psychosocial effects, undergraduate students

Artificial intelligence and Social Science Research

Machine Learning-Based Prediction of Air Quality and Hydrological Changes in Response to Land Cover Dynamics in Ibadan, Nigeria

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Abstract

Land cover dynamics; referring to alterations in vegetation and built-up areas caused by processes like deforestation and urbanization are key environmental drivers that influence air quality and hydrological systems by modifying surface properties and atmospheric behavior. This study assessed the effects of land cover change on air quality and water balance in Ibadan, Nigeria, through an integrated approach combining remote sensing, machine learning, and statistical analysis. Multi-temporal datasets from Landsat 7, Sentinel-2, Sentinel-5P, and ERA5 were employed to examine trends in land cover, pollutant concentrations (CO, NO₂, SO₂, HCHO), wind pattern analyses, and land surface temperature between 2019 and 2024. Additionally, indices such as the Normalized Difference Built-up Index (NDBI), Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), Soil-Adjusted Vegetation Index (SAVI), Urban Index (UI), and Modified Normalized Difference Water Index (MNDWI) were computed, and land use-land cover (LULC) analyses were conducted on the study area from 2019 to 2024. The Random Forest algorithm was applied for land cover classification, while hydrological modeling was conducted using ArcSWAT. Relationships between land cover change, pollutant levels, and hydrological variables were examined using R, employing correlation, regression, and ANOVA techniques. Findings revealed extensive urban expansion and vegetation loss, contributing to a >30% rise in pollutant concentrations in built-up areas and altered water balance components, including reduced infiltration and increased runoff. Wind pattern analysis showed significant spatial variation in pollutant dispersion. These insights emphasize the need for environmentally informed urban policies and the application of AI-driven geospatial tools for sustainable city planning.

Keywords: Climate change, Urbanization, Air quality, Water balance, Remote sensing, Machine learning

Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for The Early Detection and Personalised Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease: A Machine Learning Approach in Nigerian Healthcare Systems

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NO DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY

Abstract

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder with an alarming and rising prevalence in Nigeria. Artificial Intelligence (AI) offers a promising pathway to support early diagnosis and personalised treatment in the healthcare system. This study proposes the development of a culturally sensitive, AI-powered diagnostic framework tailored to the Nigerian context. Using a mixed-methods approach, 600 participants will be recruited across three groups: diagnosed AD patients (n = 300), healthy controls (n = 200), and individuals at high risk (n = 100) from federal teaching hospitals in Southwestern Nigeria. The study will gather multimodal data, including neuroimaging, cognitive assessments, genomics, comorbidities, functional status, lifestyle factors, treatment history, and socio-demographic details, to train and validate interpretable machine learning models aimed at early intervention and personalised treatment. The model will be trained to predict AD risk levels (low, moderate, high) and provide tailored treatment recommendations, including pharmacological options, neuropsychological rehabilitation, caregiver support, and follow-up schedules, based on individual profiles. Primary outcome measures include diagnostic accuracy (>85%), precision in treatment stratification, and alignment with clinical decision-making. Secondary outcomes involve provider satisfaction, ease of interpreting the model, and potential for integration into existing healthcare workflows. By ensuring ethical design, clinician readiness, and real-world applicability, this study aims to position AI as a transformative tool in Nigeria's evolving neurological care landscape.

Keywords: Alzheimer's disease, Nigerian healthcare, Artificial Intelligence, machine learning

Artificial Intelligence and Recruitment Practices in the Telecommunications Sector of Nigeria

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Abstract

Recruitment is a pivotal aspect of human resource management, influencing organizational efficiency and competitiveness. Globally, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming recruitment by automating resume screening, enhancing candidate-job matching and reducing hiring biases in the process. However, concerns about algorithmic bias, transparency and ethical implications persist. In Nigeria, the telecommunications sector, a key economic driver, has started adopting AI-driven recruitment, but challenges such as inadequate digital infrastructure, regulatory uncertainties and data privacy concerns hinder its full implementation. This study examines AI adoption in recruitment at Globacom and Airtel Nigeria, assessing its impact on efficiency and decision-making while identifying associated challenges and opportunities. The research is guided by the Technological Acceptance Model (TAM) and Resource-Based View (RBV) theory, which explore AI's role in organizational strategy and adoption. A mixed-methods approach will be used, combining qualitative and quantitative research. Primary data will be collected through surveys and interviews with HR professionals in both organizations, while secondary data will include HR reports and industry publications. Qualitative data will be analyzed thematically and quantitative data will be processed using statistical methods. Preliminary findings suggest AI improves hiring efficiency but faces challenges such as algorithmic bias and resistance to adoption. The study concludes that AI can enhance recruitment in Nigerian telecommunication if regulatory and technical challenges are addressed. It recommends AI training for HR professionals, clear governance policies and regulatory frameworks to ensure ethical AI implementation.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, recruitment, telecommunications in Nigeria, AI-driven hiring

Trust, User Acceptance and Data Quality in Artificial-Intelligence-Powered Data Collection in Social Research Nigeria

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Abstract

The rapid integration of AI-powered tools in social research data collection has raised ethical concerns particularly in Nigeria, where cultural, regulatory and infrastructural factors shape human-AI interactions. This study focuses on the implications for trust dynamics, user acceptance and data quality in using AI-powered devices for collecting social research data. Using a survey approach, the study examines respondents' perception of trust, transparency and accountability as well as people's willingness to engage with AI-powered devices. It also describes how adherence to ethical standards affects the reliability and validity of data collected through AI solutions. The findings aim to provide actionable insights for developing ethical frameworks that enhance trust, promote user acceptance and ensure high quality data in AI-powered data collection practices, especially in understudied contexts like Nigeria. The research contributes to the broader discourse on AI ethics while offering practical recommendations for researchers, policymakers and technology developers working in similar environments.

Knowledge and Utilisation of Loan Apps among Undergraduate Students in University of Ibadan, Nigeria:

An App-Based Financial Stress Relief and Management

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Abstract

Loan Apps (LAs) represent global digital financial arrangement that facilitate accessibility to loans in financial institutions. However, existing studies on LAs have focused on its risks and technological infrastructure challenges, little is known about the knowledge and utilisation of LAs, particularly among undergraduate students in University of Ibadan (Nigeria) in relation to financial stress relief and management. This paper bridges this gap in knowledge.

Actor-Network Theory (ANT) provided the framework, while a mixed-methods design was utilised. Using a multistage sampling procedure, a structured questionnaire was administered to 388 undergraduate students. Key informant and in-depth interviews were purposively conducted with two bank officials and eight students, respectively. The data were analysed using descriptive statistics and thematic analysis method. The respondents' age was 23.13 ± 2.30 years. Despite 97.4% of the respondents were aware that LAs are used without physical visits to financial institutions, only 77.8% were familiar with its operations. Of the 74.7% who indicated that they utilised LAs, only 48.7% of them agreed that they were used for emergency situations. Palmpay, Fairmoney, Palmcredit, Flexiapp, Okcash, Easemoni, Kia Kia and Soko loan, among others, were commonly used to obtain loans from the banks. The opportunity mobile technology afforded students to source loans from multiple financial institutions and the ease of repayment, enhance their coping mechanisms with financial and academic stress. These results underscore the need for students' sensitisation on the use of LAs to mitigate the negative effects of financial and academic stress on them by the guidance and counselling units of universities

Digital Marketing Strategies and Client Acquisition in Photography Businesses in Ibadan Metropolis

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Abstract

In today's advancing digital age, online marketing strategies and digital media play an increasingly vital role in boosting customer loyalty and driving sales growth for businesses and brands. The rapid expansion of digital marketing has significantly influenced business operations across various industries, including photography. This study examined the role of digital marketing strategies in client acquisition for photography businesses within Ibadan Metropolis. It specifically highlighted the various digital marketing strategies employed by photography businesses in Ibadan for client acquisition and retention and documented the perception of clients regarding the digital presence and marketing efforts of businesses in Ibadan metropolis. Employing a mixed-methods approach with a sample size of 205 consisting of Photography clients and photographers. The research investigated how photographers leverage social media, search engine optimization (SEO), paid advertisements, and content marketing to enhance visibility and attract clients. Findings indicated that social media platforms, particularly Instagram and Facebook, serve as primary tools for engagement and brand awareness, while personalized client interactions and targeted advertising contribute to customer retention. Despite the opportunities digital marketing presents, challenges such as algorithm changes, high competition, and resource constraints limit its effectiveness. The study concluded that a strategic blend of organic and paid marketing efforts, coupled with strong customer relationship management, is essential for sustainable business growth in the photography industry. These insights offer practical implications for photographers seeking to optimize their digital presence and expand their client base in a competitive market.

Exploring Perceptions and Impacts of Social Media Technology on Crisis Awareness and Response in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study aims to investigate the perceptions and effects of social media technology on crisis awareness and response in Nigeria. Through the examination of this convergence, the study investigated the attitudes and perceptions towards the utilization of social media technology for crisis awareness and response in Nigeria; examined the impacts of social media technology on public awareness and response to specific crises in Nigeria. The study employed a descriptive research design, combining survey and case study methods. Qualitative primary data were collected through semi-structure interview and seventy (70) participants were selected from the six south-western states of Nigeria - Lagos, Ogun, Oyo, Ekiti, Osun, and Ondo - using a convenience sampling method based on accessibility. The study result revealed that a significant majority of participants prefer to retrieve information about crises and emergencies from social media rather than actively sharing or disseminating information. The results also showed that majority of the respondents believe that they would make use of social media for crisis awareness and response in the future. Also, a very large percentage of the respondents believe that social media is a useful tool to use for crisis awareness and response and that it is easy to access and respond to crisis and emergency. Furthermore, the study found that during the ENDSARS and Justice for Mohbad protest, social media witnessed extensive utilization by the Nigerian public for the purposes of information dissemination and active engagement with the government to attain their objectives. Conversely, in the case of currency redesign and money scarcity crisis, there was a significant lack of utilization of social media by the Nigerian government for information dissemination and engagement with the Nigerian public.

Artificial Intelligence and Nigerian Security Architecture: A Critical Assessment

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Abstract

Globally, every part of the world is adjusting to the reality of development of Artificial Intelligence in addressing issues of human endeavors. Including security architecture and Nigeria cannot be left behind. The AI technological development has a potential to enrich the Nigeria's security architecture with more efficiency in tackling the insurgency and other forms of criminality. The specific objectives of the study include; i. unraveling the connectivity between AI and Nigeria's security architecture in tackling the burning insecurity challenges facing the country ii. providing solid ground for adequate integration of AI in Nigeria's security architecture. The study is anchored on the theory of institutional theory, analyzing the importance of standard regulatory framework in shaping AI security operatives. The study adopts qualitative research method employing survey research design. Data were generated through interview and existing literature, and analyzed using content analysis. Findings reveal that lack of well-articulated integration of AI into Nigeria's security architecture is a major factor inhibiting the effectiveness management of security issues in the country. The study therefore recommends among others, that the Nigerian government should formulate a well-designed AI policy that revolves around the security architecture of the state to effectively tackle the insecurity challenges in the country.

Artificial Intelligence and Peace Education in Africa: Potential and Challenges

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Abstract

The study examines Artificial Intelligence and peace Education in Africa: potential and challenges. Transformative Learning Theory served as framework, while secondary sources of data were used in the study. The empirical studies identify significant barriers to AI adoption in Africa, including low digital literacy, inadequate infrastructure, and the risk of exacerbating existing inequalities. It underscores the importance of developing regionally tailored AI strategies and policies to ensure equitable and effective implementation. Finding from the study revealed that Artificial Intelligence holds immense potential to transform peace education in Africa by enabling innovative, scalable, and personalized learning solutions. It can help bridge educational gaps, support conflict resolution efforts, and empower youth with tools for dialogue and understanding. However, this potential is accompanied by significant challenges, including infrastructural limitations, lack of localized data, ethical concerns, and socio-political complexities. The study recommends that, Governments and stakeholders should invest in digital infrastructure to bridge the technological divide, especially in rural and marginalized communities. It is equally important to promote the development of localized AI systems that reflect African languages, cultures, and conflict dynamics, ensuring relevance and accessibility.

Party Politics, Elections and Election Violence in Africa

Diversity and Inclusion in Nigeria's Federal Civil Service

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Abstract

It is of no doubt that the current Nigeria reflects the better treatment of a section of the population over others who made up the minority groups leading to the creation of diversity and inclusion policies by the government. This paper investigates the impact of diversity and inclusion on Nigeria's Federal Civil Service. Despite the country's population and its diversity, the public sector has struggled to reflect this diversity, leading to inefficiencies and inequality. This study examines the relationship between diversity management practices and organisational performance in Nigeria's Federal Civil Service. A mixed-methods approach is employed, exploring existing literature and interviews with federal public sector employees. The paper argues that diversity and inclusion have a positive impact on employee commitment, innovation, and organizational performance in the Nigerian Public sector. However, challenges persist which includes poor implementation of diversity policies, lopsided appointments, and limited representation of the minorities. The study recommends the establishment of regulatory bodies that will be independent, diversity and inclusion training, and ensuring fair representation and equal opportunities for the diversified population.

The Role of Good Governance in African Regional Integration

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Abstract

Good governance remains a benchmark upon which African integration rests especially in promoting political stability, economic cooperation, and social cohesion across the continent. As Africa continues to pursue regional and continental integration through institutions like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the African Union (AU), the principles of transparency, accountability, rule of law, and participatory governance become essential in ensuring sustainable development and unity. This paper examines the role of good governance in Africa's integration efforts. The paper also identifies the factors that hinder good governance in African and highlights strategies to enhance good governance for African integration. The paper relied on secondary data extracted from documentary materials and the information gathered are analysed through content analysis. Additionally, the paper revealed that good governance enhances policy harmonisation, reduces corruption, and strengthens institutions, making it easier for African nations to collaborate on trade, infrastructure, security, human development and free movement of goods, services, and people. However, challenges such as weak institutions, political instability, and governance deficits hinder the pace of integration. Addressing these challenges requires a commitment to democratic values, effective leadership, and inclusive decision-making processes.

Influence of Psycho-Social Factors on Low Voter Turnout in the 2019 Presidential Election Among Residents of Mafoluku Registration Areas (Wards) of Lagos State

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Abstract

This study was designed to investigate the psycho-social factors (patriotism, fear of election violence, perceived quality of candidate, learned helplessness, age, gender and education) influence of low voter turnout in the 2019 Presidential election among residents of Mafoluku registration areas (wards) of Lagos State. Four hundred respondents purposively and randomly selected with ages ranges from 20 years and above, a mean age of 25.21 and standard deviation of 3.76 took part in the study. The result indicates that patriotism, fear of election violence, perceived quality of candidate, learned helplessness, age, gender and education jointly influenced low voter turnout ($R = .206$; $R^2 = .192$; $F(7,392) = 29.05$). Independently, patriotism ($\beta = .226$; $t = 4.656$; $p = .000$), fear of election violence ($\beta = .168$, $t = 3.585$, $p = .000$) and perceived quality of candidate ($\beta = .179$; $t = 3.076$, $p = .000$) predicts low voter turnout. It is suggested that appropriate government agencies should embark on mass mobilization to garner the patriotic zeal of the citizenry, provide the platform for independent candidates aside from political parties as well as introduction of electronic voting as an option to physical presence of voters at the polling booth.

Terrorism and Soft Power: Interrogation of the Clogs in the Wheels of Nigerian Efforts in Combatting Terrorism

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Abstract

One of the major security challenges affecting both developed and developing countries alike is the issue of terrorism. In Africa, countries like Kenya, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria are facing terrorist attacks. Each of these countries also engages in seamless efforts to combat terrorism. Nigeria has been facing terrorist attacks since 2009, when Boko Haram struck its first attacks. Since then, to date, a series of attacks, both large and small scale, has been mounted on innocent Nigerians. Successive governments equally made concerted efforts to curb and combat terrorism in Nigeria. However, it seems those efforts have yielded little or no results. The perception in some quarters was that President Goodluck Jonathan did not do enough to fight against terror and that President Buhari, being a northerner and ex-serviceman, would do better. In fairness to him, he equally demonstrated more commitment to fighting these terrorists as he shifted military headquarters to Maiduguri. Despite all these, the situation remains the same. Why is it that it is difficult for Nigeria to get rid of terror despite the efforts to do so? This study examines factors that serve as clogs in the wheel of Nigerian efforts to put an end to terrorism in Nigeria. The research adopts primary and secondary data with the use of interview, textbooks, journals, online documents, and documentaries. It also adopts Protracted Social Conflict (PSC). The research finds that there are still socio-political and structural problems in Nigerian society that hinder all efforts to combat terrorism. The research recommends that all efforts to combat terrorism should not be concentrated more on the military approach but must also involve a soft approach or the civil aspect of counterterrorism.

Has it ended in tears? Party constitutionalisation and strengthening of constitutional democracy in Nigeria

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Abstract

Political parties have remained critical actors in modern representative democracy. In most democratic countries, they are codified into national constitutions to safeguard their operation and provide a congenial context for inclusive democracy and civilized party politicking. This study examines the nexus between party constitutionalisation and the strengthening of party democracy in Nigeria's Fourth Republic. By focusing on three areas of party constitutionalisation, the paper seeks to contribute to existing body of knowledge on the prospect of constitutional codification of political parties as an instrument for deepening constitutional democracy and constitutionalism in Nigeria. Essentially a qualitative study, the paper largely relies on literature and the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as sources of data while it adopts zero-sum approach as its theoretical framework of analysis. The paper finds that while the constitution contains elaborate and ambitious provisions aimed at achieving inclusive democracy, civilized/violence-free politicking and accountable party organization, a combination of factors has constrained the achievement of these democracy-enhancing objectives. In conclusion, the paper suggests some measures capable of achieving intended consequences of party constitutionalisation.

Intergovernmental Relations, Market-Preserving Federalism, and Digital Governance in Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper examines intergovernmental relations in Nigeria using the theory of market-preserving federalism developed by Barry Weingast. The federal structure in Nigeria has long been strained by the dominance of the federal and state governments over resources, weak state and local autonomy, as well as inconsistent policy implementation. Disputes over revenue allocation, such as those involving value-added tax and oil derivation, reflect deeper institutional deficiencies that hinder inclusive economic development. In this context, digital governance tools present innovative opportunities to realign Nigeria's federalism toward greater fiscal transparency and accountability. E-tax systems, open budget portals, and digital revenue tracking can strengthen the capacity of state and local governments

to mobilise resources and deliver public services more effectively. The study adopts a qualitative research design, drawing on documentary analysis of federal and state-level policy documents, legal frameworks, and audit reports. Key Informant Interviews with policy actors and fiscal experts complement this, offering insights into the interplay between institutional design and public financial management. The paper also reviews selected digital governance tools currently in use or piloted across selected states in Nigeria. Findings suggest that embedding digital governance within a market-preserving federal framework could foster greater fiscal transparency, enhance subnational revenue generation, and promote a competitive policy environment among states. The paper recommends targeted policy reforms: devolving greater fiscal authority, incentivising innovation through inter-state benchmarking, and institutionalising the rule of law to guarantee property rights. It advances current debates on the evolving challenges of intergovernmental relations, public sector reform, and digital transformation in Nigeria.

Party Defection in Nigeria's Fourth Republic: A Trend Analysis

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Abstract

Unregulated party defection weakens party institutionalisation and democratic consolidation. The post-1999 Nigerian democracy is characterised by party defection which is attributed to factors such as ethnicity, godfatherism, candidate imposition, poor intra-party conflict management and weak legal frameworks. Hence, this study examined the implications of self-interest in political party defection showing the trend and pattern of party defection in Nigeria. Rational Choice theory provided the framework. The case study design was utilised. Two political parties, the All Progressives Congress (APC), and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) were used. Key Informant Interviews were conducted with politicians, party leaders, academics and heads of civil society organisations to gather primary data. The interviews focused on members' reasons and nature of defection. Secondary data were sourced from party constitutions, party guidelines and media reports. Data were content analysed. The finding showed that party defection is prompted by self-interest, political opportunism, candidate imposition, lack of internal democracy and noncompliance with party rules. For trend and pattern, party defection was frequent around party primaries, and when a new government is taking up. Again, defection was commonly from the opposition to the party in government. Party defection took multiple directions as politicians traversed political parties. This has implication on party identity, accountability, organisational cohesion, and opposition parties' capacity to provide alternative public policies is grave. Therefore, Nigerian parties serve as mere means of access to power and patronage. Civic culture, politics of ideas, and internal democracy are required to bond members and reduce party defection.

Military Coup and Democratic Backsliding in West Africa

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Abstract

This article explores the resurgence of military coups in West Africa, particularly in Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, and their implications for democratic backsliding in the subregion. The paper uses secondary data and thematic analysis to investigate the trends, drivers, and repercussions of democratic backsliding, placing recent coups within this context. The article finds that democracy in West Africa has been fragile, defined by weak institutions, poor governance, and electoral manipulations despite the wave of democratisation that consumed the subregion in the 1990s. The re-emergence of military coups since 2020 represents the erosion of democratic ideals and the consolidation of military authoritarianism. The coups have hampered democratisation, worsened governance crises, and eroded civil and political liberties. This article argues that these military coups are both symptoms and drivers of democratic decay in West Africa. Ultimately, the article underscores the significance of addressing governance challenges and strengthening democratic institutions to protect democracy in West Africa.

Institutional Crises and Social Science Research Impact on Development Policies in Nigeria

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Abstract

The social sciences study human society, its culture, and interactions therein, whether human interactions or between human and non-human. It seeks to understand societal challenges and, therefore, provide solutions for the advancement of society. This is also the case in Nigeria, where social science research has been dedicated to improving the state's social, political, economic, and cultural well-being. However, current developmental challenges suggest that social science research has minimal impact on the quality of policy formulation and implementation, reasons for

which have been adduced to institutional crises within the academic/research community and policy environment. As a result, policy failure and underdevelopment persist despite the increase in social science research and knowledge production. Using documented secondary data sources and thematic analysis, this study will interrogate the failure of social science research to improve policy formulation and implementation and overall development in Nigeria. Specifically, the study will examine the challenges of social science research and knowledge production and policy formulation and implementation in Nigeria, and then situate these within the context of factors driving the protracted failure of social science research to improve public policy and development in Nigeria.

The Political Economy of Arms Proliferation and Banditry in North-West Nigeria

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Abstract

The political economy of arms proliferation and banditry has been given widespread international focus in the contemporary era. This is so because these weapons have become the primary tool for both ethnic and internal conflicts and other related violent crimes that pose threat to our national security. Using North-West Nigeria as a case study to determine the impact of arms proliferation on the increased banditry activities on national Security using secondary and primary data (journals, textbooks, periodicals, interviews, etc.) to proffer solutions and identify measures for controlling the proliferation of arms and its accessibility by the bandits. Ultimately, it is important to note that strengthen Inter-Agency Coordination: The Nigerian government should enhance coordination among various security agencies involved in arms control and border security. This can be achieved by establishing a centralized command structure that facilitates information sharing and collaboration. Regular joint training exercises and workshops can also improve operational effectiveness and foster a unified approach to tackling arms proliferation.

NEPAD and Economic Development in Africa

NEPAD, Human Development and the Forgotten Workforce: Informal Artisan and Economic Development in Africa

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Abstract

The study examines the place of informal artisans in the human development agenda of the New Partnership for African's Development (NEPAD) and its implications for economic development in Africa. Even though NEPAD has poverty reduction, employment creation and skills development as part of its objectives, the segment of population that should be the target of such objectives such as informal artisans are often overlooked in NEPAD's framework. Informal artisans are a crucial portion of the informal economy and the informal economy represents about 85 per cent of Africa's workforce. This work force while confronting the challenges of adverse conditions, remain essential key innovators in their local economies, adapting and utilising limited available resources to create new products and techniques. By drawing on qualitative analysis of NEPAD policy documents, labour reports and academic literature, this study investigates the place of informal artisans as both workers and innovators in the economic development of Africa. This study finds out that by neglecting informal artisans, NEPAD's framework creates an exclusive system of development that does not address poverty reduction at the grassroots, nor tap into localised innovations that can be harnessed to reduce Africa's technological dependency. Thus, this study argues from a political economy perspective that to create a sustainable and inclusive system of development in Africa, NEPAD's human development framework should pay more attention to the contributions of informal artisans as agents of economic development in the drive for economic growth in Africa.

Keywords: New Partnership for African's Development, informal artisans, informal economy, economic development in Africa

Co-Producing Blended Learning: Stakeholder Engagement in Designing and Scaling the Nigerian Learning Passport for Sustainable Education

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Abstract

Globally, COVID-19 pandemic brought about a significant change in educational practices, with blended learning gaining prominence as an innovative learning approach in secondary education. The Nigerian Learning Passport (NLP) is an e-learning platform with mobile, offline and online capacity that ensures continuous access to quality education. This was a necessary shift as traditional face-to-face learning has proven inefficient in achieving the United Nations sustainable development goal 4 of quality education by 2030. Blended learning (BL) combines traditional face-to-face learning with technology-mediated learning. While there are significant challenges in designing and scaling across diverse regions. This study examines the role of stakeholder engagement in co-producing and expanding blended learning approach using the NLP. Using qualitative design, this study, therefore examines stakeholder engagement in designing and scaling the Nigerian Learning Passport (NLP) for blended learning adoption in senior secondary education. Stakeholder theory was adopted, while twenty-six (26) interviews were conducted with teachers and other policymakers in the education sector. Findings reveal that effective co-creation of blended learning solutions hinges on inclusive stakeholder participation, policy alignment, and sustainable infrastructure. While NLP presents several prospects for blended learning adoption and scaling, challenges such as inadequate teacher training, infrastructural deficits, and limited user adaptability hinder its full-scale implementation. The study highlights the critical role of multi-sectoral collaboration in designing contextually relevant blended learning strategies, while ensuring that technology adoption aligns with pedagogical goals. This paper argues that a participatory, stakeholder-driven approach to blended learning policy and implementation is essential for sustaining the Nigerian Learning Passport. It recommends a structured co-design framework that prioritizes capacity-building, continuous feedback mechanisms, and public-private sector synergy. By integrating these elements, the NLP can serve as a scalable model for bridging Nigeria's learning gaps, fostering digital inclusion, and improving secondary educational outcomes.

Climate Change, Adaptation, Financing and Resilience

Pattern of Air Pollutants and Land Surface Temperature in Nigeria Using Space-Time Pattern Mining Techniques

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Abstract

In Nigeria, environmental challenges including air pollution and rising Land Surface Temperature (LST) have been intensified due to increasing urbanisation and industrialisation. Previous studies have examined the impact of these challenges on the environment and public health using the traditional method datasets from ground-based monitoring systems with limited spatio-temporal resolutions required in defining pollutant and LST extent in the country. This study therefore aimed at analysing the spatio-temporal patterns of air pollutants (NO₂, CO, SO₂, and O₃) and LST across Nigeria from 2019 to 2024 using remote sensing datasets with a better spatial extent. Air pollutants from Sentinel-5P and LST from MODIS of European Space Agency (ESA) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) were employed to construct a Space-Time Cube that facilitated trend analysis, emerging hotspot detection, and local outlier identification in Space-Time Pattern Mining techniques in ArcGIS Pro. While Time Series Cross-Correlation analysis was done to assess the relationship between air pollutants and LST, forecasting models including Curve Fit Forecast, Smoothed Exponential and Forest-Based Forecast were adopted to predict future LST variations. The models' outputs were therefore subjected to Evaluate Forecasts by Location to identify best predictive models. The regions with statistically significant pollution and temperature patterns and trends would be determined. Also, the influence of air pollutants on LST would be detected. The most suitable forecasting models for various States for future temperature variation predictions would be identified. This study will therefore serve as a methodological framework to understand other geographic phenomena with both spatial and temporal dimensions and the findings will provide environmental awareness and inform the decision to develop targeted interventions for mitigating air pollution and temperature variation, promoting sustainable environmental management in Nigeria.

Keywords: Air pollution, land surface temperature, space-time pattern mining, remote sensing, Nigeria

Flooding and Vulnerability: Examining the Impact of Disasters on Marginalized Communities in Nigeria

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Abstract

One of the most common and damaging natural catastrophes in Nigeria is flooding, which severely damages infrastructure, the environment, and society at large. This study employs case studies, academic journals, and other government papers to present a thematic analysis of the causes and impacts of floods in specific Nigerian areas. The results show that a number of natural and man-made variables, such as deforestation, high rainfall, soil moisture, climate change, and poor urban planning, greatly affect the frequency and intensity of flooding. The socio-economic effects are extensive, covering everything from the ruin of homes and other structures to the displacement of entire communities and the disturbance of farming systems. Floods harm the ecosystem by causing soil erosion, biodiversity loss, and water resource contamination. The study further highlights how low-income and rural populations are disproportionately affected, which exacerbates poverty, causes long-term economic losses, and leads to public health emergencies. The critical need for enhanced flood control plans, disaster preparedness, and sustainable development in cities is emphasized by this study. Strengthening social protection programs for vulnerable areas, encouraging climate-resilient agricultural techniques, and improving early warning systems are some of the major recommendations. It is vital that these steps be taken in order to lessen the destructive effects of floods and increase community resilience in Nigeria.

Geospatial Assessment of Urban Expansion and Land Surface Temperature Using Google Earth Engine in Owo, Ondo State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Urban expansion and rising land surface temperatures (LST) have become critical environmental challenges, particularly in rapidly urbanizing regions like Owo, Ondo State, Nigeria. These changes contribute to the Urban Heat Island (UHI), increased energy demand, and potential health risks. Previous studies have primarily focused on major cities and relied on ground-based monitoring systems and traditional GIS-based methods with limited spatial and temporal resolutions. Such approaches often fail to capture detailed urban growth patterns and their impact on temperature variations, particularly in mid-sized but rapidly urbanizing towns like Owo. This study aims to analyze the spatio-temporal patterns of urban expansion and LST in Owo from 2000 to 2024 using Google Earth Engine (GEE) and remote sensing datasets with higher spatial and temporal coverage. Landsat satellite imagery was used to classify land use/land cover (LULC) changes, while LST was derived from the thermal infrared bands of Landsat. The Cellular Automata-Markov (CA-Markov) model was employed to project future urban expansion trends, and machine learning regression models (Random Forest) was applied for LST forecasting up to 2040. Spatio-temporal trend analysis and regression techniques were used to examine the relationship between urban expansion and LST variations over time. By integrating cloud-based geospatial processing, predictive modeling, and a localized focus on Owo, this study offers a more computationally efficient, scalable, and data-driven approach compared to conventional methods. The results will quantify the impact of impervious surface expansion on LST, forecast future urban-climate interactions, and provide actionable insights for urban planning, climate adaptation, and sustainable land use policies. This research will serve as a methodological framework for localized urban heat studies in developing regions, bridging the gap between large scale assessments and community level urban planning.

Keywords: Urban expansion, land surface temperature, Google earth engine, spatio-temporal analysis, remote sensing in Owo

Industrial Sociology and Employment Relations

Family Types and its Influence on Adolescents Involvements in Street Crimes in Abuja Metropolitan Area

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Abstract

The adolescence stage of an individual is a critical stage of transiting to adulthood where behaviours learned are usually put to practice. Teenagers who have been exposed to anti-social acts are often found to engage in different forms of street crimes majorly due to negligence from the family which is serve with the primary responsibility of nurturing the child to grow into responsible adult(s). Due to its metropolitan nature, some parts of FCT, Abuja has continues to experience adolescents' involvements in street crimes such as drug abuse, theft, burglary, amongst others. Hence, the study assessed family types and its influence on adolescents' involvements in street crimes Abuja metropolitan area. The survey design was adopted for this study with the distribution of questionnaire purposefully to one hundred and fifty-seven (157) police officers across the six divisional headquarters in Abuja metropolitan area who had equally been involved in adolescents' criminal cases. The descriptive statistics of means was used to determine the ranking of response on the association between the variables of the study. However, results from the study showed that adolescents from polygamous and single parent families are majorly involved in street crimes than nuclear families. Therefore, the study recommends full operationalisation of the child right acts in order to drastically reduce involvement of adolescents in street crimes irrespective of the family types.

Keywords: Street crimes, adolescents, single parent, polygamous, nuclear families

Breaking Gender Barriers: An Investigation of The Socio-Cultural and Economic Factors Influencing Occupational Choices in Ibadan Metropolis, Oyo State Nigeria

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Abstract

This study investigated the socio-cultural and economic factors influencing individuals' decisions to pursue occupations traditionally dominated by the opposite gender in Ibadan Metropolis. Guided by Parsons' theory of role socialization, the study adopted descriptive cross sectional research design using purely qualitative research techniques. Study location was Ibadan metropolis while study population included 42 individuals working in male-dominated (butchering, driving, cobbling) and female-dominated (hair styling, catering, tie and dye) occupations, and were purposively selected. Instrument of data collection was In-depth Interview and data collected were content analysed. The findings revealed that family background, parental support, and economic necessity were significant factors influencing choices of occupations. Cultural and religious values also shaped job characteristics and opportunities in gendered occupations. However, societal values and norms were major challenges for individuals who chose to pursue non-traditional occupations, and this manifested in the form of stigma, discrimination, and marginalization. This study contributes to knowledge on the complex interplay between socio-cultural and economic factors influencing occupational choice. The results highlighted the need for policies and programmes that promote gender equality, challenge traditional gender roles, and provide support for individuals pursuing non-traditional occupations. Ultimately, this research offered strategies for promoting gender equality and empowerment in the workplace and contributed to the development of more inclusive and equitable societies.

Keywords: Occupational choice, gender roles and equality, socio-cultural and economic factors

Start-Up Motivations in Igbo Apprenticeship System
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Abstract

Globally, apprenticeship provides on-the-job training and skill acquisition for self-employment and empowerment, especially among Igbo entrepreneurs in Lagos State where there is high concentration of IAS practitioners. Similarly, the informal Nigeria's Igbo Apprenticeship System (IAS) is associated with skill transmission and wealth creation among the Igbo entrepreneurs. Start-up motivation is the factor that encourages one to engage in actions that could lead to self-employment or business ventures. In other words, it is regarded as what propels an individual to willingly exert effort in the venture creation process to make the enterprise work (Dimov, 2010); Start-up motivation is recapitulated as the attraction or encouraging factor(s) that fascinated a would-be entrepreneur to enroll for training (Uzoigwe, 2025). This study intends to unveil the start-up motivation in IAS. Qualitative and descriptive research design was adopted in surveying the Start-up motivation in IAS. Six (6) Key Informant Interview (KII) were utilised to complement the data generated from the forty (40) In-depth Interview (IDI). The two data collection instruments were triangulated in the study. Lagos State is the study location. The choice is because a good number of Igbo entrepreneurs operate their businesses there. Population of study comprises of all Igbo entrepreneurs that pass-through IAS as dependent apprentice and operates their businesses in Lagos State, irrespective of age, marital status, religion, educational or occupational bias. Purposive sampling techniques was utilised in recruiting the forty IDI while snowball sampling techniques were adopted in selecting the six KII. Souder's Motivation Theory (2020) was adopted as the framework for the investigation. The result shows that the participants were predominantly male, aged between 31 and 45 years and had primary education. The start-up motivations for IAS were associated to graduation settlement, wealth creation, poor background, migration, parental influence and the impact of the experiences of successful apprentices. Wealth creation and influence of successful Igbo entrepreneurs were observed to be major motivating factors in IAS. Encouraging the young adults to see the big picture could help to sustain the system.

Keywords: Graduation settlement, wealth creation, parental influence, migration, cultural altruism

Crossed Crafts: Togolese Artisan Influx Displacing Indigenous Vocational Labour in Lagos, Nigeria
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Abstract

Togolese artisan infiltration into Nigeria in general is on the increase and is rendering indigenous artisans alienated in Lagos. Positioned within a complex and evolving informal economy, this paper investigates crossed crafts, where transnational vocational mobility intersects with the vulnerabilities of local livelihoods. The study anchored in Dual Labour Market Theory, World System Theory, and Social Displacement Theory, reveals the socio-economic challenges encountered by indigenous artisans as Togolese entrants exhibit greater collaborative efficiency, competitive pricing, and quicker client service. Its design uses interpretive and exploratory qualitative approaches which include in-depth interviews together with focus group discussions and key informant interviews that took place in Mushin, Ikeja and Lagos Island. The study depicts that indigenous craftsmanship has diminished while opportunities for apprenticeship have decreased and native artisans feel less dedicated to their vocations. Earnings of indigenous craftsmen have decreased alongside reduced clientele, and they feel vocationally alienated. The better organizational structure of Togolese artisans leads to changes in power dynamics within Lagos's informal craft industry despite their frequent informal operations. Various stakeholders demand intercultural cooperation through training partnerships and integrated institutions that contribute to shared crafts improvement. This investigation reveals all aspects influencing the current transformation of Nigeria's urban craft markets. Togolese artisans entering the workforce have taken the place of indigenous craftsmen thus causing cultural dilution, occupational changes and occupational adaptations of the remaining artisans. The government must implement policies that protect indigenous crafts by establishing training programmes together with modernization initiatives and financial backing which includes international alliances and proper regulatory mechanisms and intercultural partnerships.

Keywords: Togolese artisan infiltration, indigenous artisans, transnational vocational mobility, occupational changes in Lagos State

**An Exploration of Factors Promoting Wage Inequality in Federal Government MDAs in Ibadan Metropolis,
Oyo State, Nigeria**

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Abstract

The study explored factors promoting wage inequalities in Federal Government MDAs in Ibadan metropolis. Federal Ministry of Finance (FMoF), Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and Federal Inland Revenue Services (FIRS) were purposively selected in Ibadan, being their zonal headquarters. Guided by equity theory, this research explores the experiences of 439 employees in the selected MDAs (Ministry of Finance, Department of Petroleum Resources and Federal Inland Reserve Service) which were purposively selected. The study was descriptive and applied purposive sampling. The finding revealed that autonomy to determine wages and salaries (83.8%), unequal budgetary allocation (84.5%), lack of uniformity in the operating labour policy (73.2%), revenue generating capacity (86.6%), negotiation power of labour unions (95.4%) are major reasons for wage inequalities in Federal government MDAs. Selective promotion policies (96.8%), priority of wage awards (95.8%) and lack of harmonized job evaluation (93.1%) also contributed to wage inequalities. However, the effects of these were manifested in the form of negative career longevities (69.7%), poor national wage (85.3%), emotional detachment (58.1%), disloyalty (83.7%) and poor performance (85.6%). This study contributed to knowledge of the complex interplay between wage inequality and employees' work attitude. The results highlighted the need for the federal government to make policies that promote equitable wage policy and structure across all sectors to enhance equity and positive work attitude among its employees.

Keywords: Pay structure, salaries harmonization, work behavior, wage inequalities among federal civil servant

**Workplace Social Loafing: Do Glass Ceiling Beliefs and Organizational Commitment Matter: A Study of
Female Employees in Selected Organizations**

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Abstract

This study examined relationships among glass ceiling beliefs, organizational commitment and employee social loafing. Specifically, the study aim to ascertain the contributions of glass ceiling beliefs and organizational commitment to social loafing. Designed as cross-sectional quantitative research, a purposive sample of 270 female employees completed a self-report questionnaire that measured standardized scales of glass ceiling beliefs, organizational commitment and social loafing. Data were analyzed using bivariate correlation and hierarchical regression tests. The results showed that correlation coefficient between glass ceiling beliefs ($r = .33$, $p < .01$), organizational commitment ($r = .49$, $p < .01$) and social loafing respectively is positive and significant. Hierarchical regression analysis indicated glass ceiling beliefs significantly and positively predicted social loafing ($\beta = .33$, $p < .01$), accounting for 10% variation in social loafing. Organizational commitment significantly and positively associated with social loafing ($\beta = .44$, $p < .01$), and contributed 11% variance in social loafing. The study concludes that glass ceiling beliefs and organizational commitment predicted social loafing, but not in the direction hypothesized for organizational commitment among the study participants.

Keywords: Glass ceiling beliefs, organizational commitment, employee social loafing, female employees

**Factors Impeding Income Generating Activities and Sustainable Wealth Creation among Low-Income
Women in Nigeria**

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Abstract

In this study, the mitigating factors impeding income-generating activities (IGA's) and sustainable wealth creation (SWC) among low-income women in Nigeria were examined. Women constitute over 50% of Nigeria's 236 million total population and dominate the low-paying jobs and the informal sector of the economy. Despite their critical role in unpaid reproductive and domestic labour in the household, most of the poor in Nigeria are women in low-income generating ventures. Although, Nigeria is a rich country, blessed with abundant mineral resources and manpower, available statistics indicate that there's a widening gender poverty gap with low-income women, particularly those aged 25- 34 years in their prime working years at the bottom of the ladder. The study adopts a participatory approach, Gender Inequality Theory (GIT) and a mixed method comprising (quantitative and qualitative data sources) to assess the militating factors impeding income generating activities (IGA's) and sustainable wealth creation (SWC) among targeted low-income women across two (2) Local Government Areas (LGA's) in each of the three (3) states (Benue, Kaduna, Ogun) and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja. The quantitative approach engaged a multi-stage sampling technique to survey 2,954 respondents, mainly low-income women across the three (3) states, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Each selected State was highly populated, multi-cultural and multi-ethnic to obtain a holistic perspective of the targeted population with an average monthly income of sixty thousand Naira (N60,000.00). The qualitative data was elicited from Focus Group Discussions (FGD's) and In-depth Interviews (IDI's) of various women groups, leaders and market associations. The study found that lack of capital for purchasing raw materials and the necessary equipment was the most important factor affecting women's engagement in income-generating activities (IGA's). Additionally, high interest rates from money lenders and the challenges associated with loan repayment are major obstacles to women's participation in income-generating activities (IGA's) and sustainable wealth creation (SWC) in the study area. The study recommends the need for orientation and training to remove cultural barriers that discourage women from accessing financial incentives for their business. Women's access to financial resources is restricted by behaviours and customs that the community must acknowledge and challenge. These customs resemble those that forbid women from accessing credit, land ownership, or education. All hands must be on deck by various stakeholders (Women Associations, Non-Governmental Organisations and the Government) to reverse the negative trend.

Keywords: Low-income women, wealth creation, access to financial resources in Nigeria

New Wave of Migration in Africa

International Migration and Workplace Experience of Nigerian Women in Canada

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Abstract

The increasing percentage of African women's migration is heavily premised on the search for better economic and social opportunities. However, in destination countries, immigrants encounter challenges of acculturation and integration particularly in workplace, where working conditions and environment significantly impact their workplace behaviour, productivity and wellbeing. Due to the complexity of the migration, it can be difficult to guarantee migrant workers' equal protection. In lieu of this, the study will examine workplace related challenges and coping mechanisms employed by Nigerian migrant women for better integration in new environment. Given the upsurge of migration along Nigeria-Canada corridor, this paper employs the exploratory research design to examine the workplace experiences of Nigerian women in Canada through technology, regarding the issues and approaches in adapting to workplace behaviour. Using purely qualitative research methods, through in-depth interviews, the study examines Nigerian women workers that have lived in Canada for at least a year. Through women shared experiences and coping strategies, workplace policies and practices can be established to enhance women's overall life quality and wellbeing thereby contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Targets 5.4 and 8.8 that aim to safeguard labour rights and ensure secure working conditions for migrant women workers.

Keywords: Women migration, acculturation, workplace challenges, coping mechanisms

International Migration, Left-behind Spouses, and Challenges in Nigeria

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Abstract

International migration realities and narratives have remained ubiquitous with recurring studies on Blockchain-based remittance systems, climate change migration, transnationalism, technology's role in migration, and human rights and vulnerability. The existential impact of these realities and their interconnectedness cannot be overemphasized within International migration parlance, especially for migrants who are constantly migrating across the globe for various socio-economic reasons. Although various studies have been conducted, the broader family dynamics particularly with left-behind spouses in Nigeria remain considerably neglected and their challenges seem faintly captured within the qualitative research community. This paper therefore examines the left-behind spouses' challenges to contribute to the growing discussion around migrants within International migration and the spouses back at home. Yes, remittances from migrants and the larger diasporan network have painted and accrued a celebratory social status to spouses back at home but to what extent are these inducements eradicating the subject issues faced by left-behind spouses? Again, the concept of Idea Remittance has been viewed as largely beneficial to the spouses and their network at home but has it eroded the somatoform disorder amongst the left-behind spouses? Social Network Theory was the theoretical framework for this paper. The methodology involved primary data generated across the migrants, left-behind spouses, and their Social/kinship network.

Keywords: International migration, left-behind spouses, kinship network

Black Tax: The Experience and Obligation of Africa Migrants to their Left Behind Families

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Abstract

The concept of black tax though defined as a financial burden carried by black people that have obtained some level of success and provide financial support to less financially secured family members have also been absorbed in migration and remittance discourse. In Sub-Sahara Africa, the cultural orientation binding the family system has made these transactions seem like an expectation and obligation situationship. These might not necessarily be the state of existentiality for non-Africa migrants whose cultural orientation elucidate individualization over collectivity. Hence, the study intent was to uncover the experiences of African migrants in sending remittances to left-behind family members, how the experiences differ from non-African migrants and how these lived experiences affect their well-being abroad. The study was theoretically hinged on the Social Action Theory while adopting an explanatory approach. 15 published papers in I-indexed journals between 2017 to 2024 were reviewed and juxtaposed with 10 in-depth interviews among Africa migrants. It was deduced that Africa migrants find it difficult adjusting to the new environment, finding jobs and sustaining their livelihood in western societies, yet they are willing to keep working to be able to send money home. Experiences also differ across African and non-Africa migrants in their intentionality, intervals, and reasons behind the act of remitting. Owing to this, it is important that left-behind families get pre-occupied with paying jobs to relieve migrants of burden. The government should introduce poverty alleviation schemes for the youths, social welfare programmes for the elderlies and free education system for children.

Keywords: Black tax, remittance, migration, collectiveness

The Paradox of Kinship and Social Networks Supports in Postpartum Care for Neo-Local Migrant Women in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The worldwide migration trend has amplified interest in mental health of migrants, particularly new mothers. While factors influencing postpartum depression among migrant women have been largely explored from an international migration perspective, this study therefore aimed to understand the factors influencing postpartum depression among internal migrant living in Ilorin, Kwara state, Nigeria, due to its significance towards the improvement of maternal and child health outcomes. Using a mixed-method research design, the study combined quantitative data from administering 388 Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale and qualitative data from 10 in-depth interviews with internal migrant new mothers. Data analysis was carried out using SPSS 25.0 and thematic content analysis respectively. The study revealed a high prevalence of 58.8% at an EPDS cut-off score of 10. The qualitative data interestingly attributed this finding to the mismatched between the postpartum care that neo-local new mothers are provided and the support they genuinely need. The adoption of Psycho-social theoretical framework in this study offers a new lens to understanding postpartum depression, bringing to a logical submission that addressing this mental health issue requires inclusive attention to social cues that this group of women experience, and their unique impact on their mental health during the vulnerable period of pregnancy and postpartum period. Therefore, this study recommended that it essential to provide unique care to migrants' women, tailored to mirror their individual needs and preferences, as most postpartum practices though well-intentioned, continue to have adverse effects on the study population.

Keywords: Migration, postpartum depression, Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale, psycho-social

The Paradox of Support in Postpartum Care for Internal Migrant Women in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The worldwide migration trend has amplified interest in mental health of migrants, particularly new mothers. While factors influencing postpartum depression among migrant women have been largely explored from an international migration perspective, this study therefore aimed to understand the factors influencing postpartum depression among

internal migrant living in Ilorin, Kwara state, Nigeria, due to its significance towards the improvement of maternal and child health outcomes. Using a mixed-method research design, the study combined quantitative data from administering 388 Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale and qualitative data from 10 in-depth interviews with internal migrant new mothers. Data analysis was carried out using SPSS 25.0 and thematic content analysis respectively. The study revealed a high prevalence of 58.8% at an EPDS cut-off score of 10. The qualitative data interestingly attributed this finding to socio-cultural factors, including alien traditional postpartum practices, family dynamics, stigmatization, societal expectations, and migration challenges that migrant women face in their new location. The adoption of Psycho-social theoretical framework in this study offers a new lens to understanding postpartum depression, bringing to a logical submission that addressing this mental health issue requires inclusive attention to social cues that this group of women experience, and their unique impact on their mental health during the vulnerable period of pregnancy and postpartum period. Therefore, this study recommended that it essential to provide unique care to migrants' women, tailored to mirror their individual needs and preferences, as most postpartum practices though well-intentioned, continue to have adverse effects on the study population.

Keywords: Migration, postpartum depression, Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale, psycho- social

Migrant Fulani Cattle-Rearing Hirelings (Alágbàdà) and Land Conflict in Oyo State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Land conflict between Fulani herders and local farmers have become a persistent challenge in Nigeria, driving by competition over dwindling natural resources, shifting land-use patterns, and broader socio-political factors. In the Ibarapa area of Oyo State, the role of migrant Fulani cattle-rearing hirelings, locally known as Alágbàdà, as intermediaries who manage cattle on behalf of cattle owners, remains understudied despite their significant presence in the pastoral economy and conflict dynamics. This study was designed to investigate the roles of migrant cattle-rearing hirelings (Alágbàdà) in land conflict between the Fulani herders and local farmers in Ibarapa area. Huntington's Clash of Civilisation theory was adopted for the study, while the descriptive, cross-sectional design was employed. Ìbàràpá area of Oyo State was purposively selected due to the lingering herdsman-farmer conflict in the area. Ìbàràpá was clustered into three (Ìbàràpá East, Ìbàràpá Central and Ìbàràpá North local government areas) and one town from each cluster was selected except in Ìbàràpá East where two towns were selected. The towns were chosen due to the prevalence of herdsman-farmer conflicts. In all, Èrúwà, Igbóorà, Lànlátè, and Aiyètè/Àńkó towns were selected. Thirty-five in-depth interviews were conducted on land conflict between Fulani herders and local farmers in Ìbàràpá. Twelve Fulani herders, 14 local farmers, 4 Seriki Fulani and 5 Yoruba community leaders were interviewed. Data were content analysed and presented thematically. There was an established, decades-long, mutually beneficial relationship between local farmers and Fulani herders. This relationship fuelled indirect perception among the Fulani herders on their rights to land in Ìbàràpá, which also led to a feeling of mutual suspicion. The social and cultural dynamics showed established collaborative agricultural practices between Fulani herders and local farmers, which also accommodated the role of Alágbàdà (the Fulani herders hired to care for cattle). The Alágbàdà were mostly new Fulani migrants, who had contracts with settled Fulani herders, and whose obligations were target-driven. The need to meet up with contractual returns exerted huge pressure on the Alágbàdà, which, in turn, manifested in regular destruction of crops. The mutual suspicion among the two groups, and the destructive activities of Alágbàdà, who were allegedly known for drug use instigated the conflict. The drought in the northern Nigeria, was also a factor for increase in the number of Alágbàdà in Ìbàràpá. The Fulani herders and local farmers conflict in Ìbàràpá was fuelled by mutual suspicion and activities of the Alágbàdà. Adequate conflict resolution measures that will address the cause of the conflicts must consider the drivers of mutual suspicion and the activities of Alágbàdà in Ìbàràpá.

Keywords: Alágbàdà, contractual agreement, herders-local farmers' conflict, land conflict in Ibarapa, substance use

Context of Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking among Africans

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Abstract

Migrant smuggling and human trafficking remain a bane in the corridor of migration of the contemporary Africa, with thousands risking terrifying journeys in search of a greener pasture. Crisis, Political instability, poverty, and weak borders have sponsored organized smuggling networks, primarily for exploitation. Although, human trafficking and Migrant smuggling overlaps, they are two distinct crimes. While victims recruited through deception, threats or force, for the sole purpose of exploitation constitutes human trafficking, Migrant smuggling involves individuals paying a smuggler to illegally gain entrance into a country of which they are neither a citizen nor a permanent resident. This study seeks to investigate the main drivers of migrant smuggling in Africa, the hazy lines between smuggling and trafficking, and the socio-economic impacts on victims. It also evaluates international and regional policy responses to this social phenomenon. The study would be hinged on the push-pull migration theory and strain theory, while study explores structural inequalities, systemic vulnerabilities, and the role of criminal networks in facilitating irregular migration. A qualitative approach, utilizing content analysis of reports from international agencies (UNODC, IOM), case studies from key transit regions (Sudan, Niger, Libya), and interviews with stakeholders, will be employed. Probable findings indicate that smuggling routes are increasingly fierce, and traffickers exploit legal migration pathways (Yahya & Onour, 2024). Regional security measures have had mixed success in curbing trafficking (Abayomi, 2024). Border strengthening is not sufficient. Deployment of multi-sectoral approaches that incorporates economic modifications, legal migration pathways, and enhanced victim protection policies are recommended.

Keywords: Migrant smuggling, human trafficking, irregular migration, Africa migration crisis, transnational crime

Geospatial Applications for Social Research and National Development

Geospatial Analysis of Legal Land Dispute in Ibadan Metropolis, 1972-2018

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Abstract

As cases are decided in the law courts to Supreme Court, on regular basis, a bulk of law reports are created. Land matters among other disputes, rank high in Ibadan Metropolis. The complexity of legal land disputes requires efficient spatial techniques. The capability of GIS in the legal institution is demonstrated in this study by the analyses, and visualization of land conflicts in Ibadan Metropolis. Primary and secondary sources of data was adopted for this study. Court locations obtained by hand-held GPS. Secondary data was on published law reports from 1972 – 2018 was obtained from the Law Pavilion website, while Openstreetmap (OSM) data together with administrative boundary of Local Government Areas in Ibadan were used to understand the geographic areas. Land addresses from Law Pavilion website were geocoded to ascertain the respective locations in GIS environment. Nearest Neighbour analysis and standard deviational ellipses tools were used to analyse spatial pattern of land conflicts, while Space Time Pattern Mining tool was used for temporal pattern analysis with ELK stack tool to visualize spatial queries on online interactive maps. This study shows that spatial pattern of land conflict locations in Ibadan is clustered. This indicates that land conflicts occurred in few geographical enclaves. The general distributional trend of land conflict in Ibadan Metropolis is oriented in a North-East to the South West direction. Temporal analysis shows that 67% of land disputes cases were settled in Appeal Court, while 33% were settled at the Supreme Court forming elliptical shape. Consecutive hotspot which shows consistency of conflicts occurred more than sporadic hotspot of land disputes from 1972-2018. New hotspot only occurred in Ibadan North East LGA. This study therefore revealed that quality Justice Service delivery in legal institutions can be significantly improved using Geospatial technique in GIS with efficient geodatabase.

Keywords: Legal land dispute, law pavilion, ELK stack, hot spot analysis, GIS

Integrated Multimodal Transport Systems for Urban Mobility in Lagos: Prospects and Implementation Challenges

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Abstract

Integrated multimodal transport systems (IMTS) provide a strategic means of improving urban mobility in Lagos, a fast-expanding megacity beset by fragmented transit choices and extreme traffic congestion. Focussing on the integration of road, rail, and water transport to increase accessibility, lower travel time, and support sustainable urban growth, this paper investigates the opportunities and challenges of IMTs in Lagos. Using a qualitative research approach, the study examines peer-reviewed journal papers, policy documents, transportation infrastructure projects, and stakeholder initiatives including Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority's transport initiatives such as; Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), light rail networks, and environmentally friendly water travel options. The results show that although IMTS has great ability to change Lagos's urban mobility scene by encouraging seamless connectivity and lowering environmental effects, some obstacles prevent its complete realisation. Among these difficulties are poor infrastructure, scattered regulations, limited financing, and the predominance of unofficial transportation providers. Furthermore, aggravating implementation challenges are fast urbanisation and the absence of integrated land-use and transportation planning. The study concludes that effective implementation of IMTS in Lagos calls for coordinated governance, more investment in multimodal infrastructure, involvement of stakeholders, and acceptance of smart technology for uniform ticketing and real-time information. The consequences highlight the importance of thorough policies matching transport planning with urban development objectives to attain equitable and sustainable mobility. This study adds to the increasing corpus of knowledge on urban transport integration in developing megacities and provides useful information for planners and legislators seeking to improve mobility in Lagos and related surroundings.

Keywords: Integrated multimodal transport, urban mobility, transport infrastructure in Lagos State

The Role of Community Agency in Flood Disaster Management in selected States of Nigeria

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Abstract

Flooding is one of the most devastating natural disasters globally, affecting lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure. Over the years, the world has witnessed several notable disasters which have caused large fatalities, devastating economic losses, and incredible environmental damages. In Africa, flooding is widespread, particularly in West and Central Africa where it has affected more than 4 million people (WHO, 2024). Nigeria, with its diverse climate and geographic conditions, experiences annual flooding, causing significant economic losses and human displacement. Despite governmental policy efforts to manage flood disasters, preparedness and response measures remain inadequate. Government interventions are largely reactive, focusing on relief provision rather than proactive risk reduction. State and government agencies have also played dominant roles in shaping policy responses and decision-making for flood management in Nigeria, with inadequate space for the experiences and knowledge systems of local communities. This study explores the agency of local communities in flood management in Nigeria, focusing on the assessment of existing community-based disaster management practices, the roles of community actors in disaster preparedness and response, intersection of community-based practices and participatory approaches, and challenges and opportunities for these practices. The study adopts the Systems Theory, which views disaster management as an interconnected system involving multiple stakeholders including government agencies, NGOs, communities, and international bodies. Adopting a concurrent triangulation design, the study will utilize both quantitative and qualitative methods to investigate the agency of local communities in flood disaster management in one flood-prone LGA per selected state through a multistage and purposive sampling procedure. This aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the study objectives by combining quantitative data with in-depth insights. Quantitative data collected via structured questionnaires will be analysed using SPSS, while qualitative data obtained through in-depth and key informant interviews will be analysed through NVivo. The study is expected to provide insights into the effectiveness of community-based flood management practices, identify barriers to community participation in disaster management, develop recommendations for effective implementation of community-based initiatives into national disaster policies, and finally enhance community resilience through these policy recommendations. This study intends to highlight the significance of community agency in flood management in Nigeria. Strengthening the agency of local communities will ensure sustainable flood disaster management and improve Nigeria's overall disaster response frameworks.

Keywords: Disaster management agency, flooding, human displacement, local communities in Nigeria

Metropolitan Villages as a Strategy of Urban Management

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Abstract

Metropolises face several challenges. One of the most fundamental is congestion. Several strategies have been adopted to address this challenge. The development of metropolitan villages is one such approach. This paper examines the use of metropolitan villages as a tool of metropolitan planning, employing a case study approach. The case studies used include United Kingdom, South Africa, China, Canada and United States. The concepts of metropolitan villages and livable cities provide the theoretical framework. In various parts of the world such as the United Kingdom, United States and China, Metropolitan villages have been developed as a means of decongesting large cities. In the United Kingdom, Irby, Willaston and Greasby have been used to decongest Liverpool. Similarly, Poundbury has been used to decongest Dorchester. Crown Village was employed to decongest Glasgow and Britannia village was used to make London a more liveable city. Alexandra village was employed to make Johannesburg, South Africa a more liveable city. In the United States, Webster village was used to decongest Iowa city. In the same way, in Canada Columbia's Cook Street Village was employed to make Victoria a more liveable city. Three metropolitan villages; Shipai, Tangxia, and Xiancun have emerged in an attempt to make Guangzhou city, China more livable. There is no doubt that the details of the experiences on the use of metropolitan villages to make large cities more livable vary from one country to another. This is why research that compares the experiences in various parts of the world is meaningful.

Keywords: Metropolitan villages, liveable cities, challenges of metropolis, decongestion of cities, metropolitan planning

Environmental Attitudes and Values

Service Quality in Intercity Transport: Understanding Commuter Priorities in Ibadan Metropolis

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Abstract

An understanding of the quality of intercity road transport based on commuter's priority is crucial for improving the quality of services. This study aims to assess the factors commuters prioritize in evaluating the quality of intercity transport services in the Ibadan Metropolis. The SERVQUAL model provides the theoretical framework for the study. A cross-sectional research design was adopted. Purposive sampling was used to select five major terminals that provide inter-city and intra-city services. A purposive sampling technique was also used to select 400 commuters boarding inter-city vehicles across the terminals. Structured questionnaire forms were used to collect data. Tables and percentages were used to summarize the data, while the Kruskal-Wallis test was used to test hypotheses. Fifty-two percent of the respondents are female, and forty-eight percent are male. The mean age is 39.8 years. The results of the Kruskal-Wallis test reveal significant variations in service quality across the terminals $\chi^2(4) =$ for (Reliability and Punctuality $H = 79.514$, $p = 0.000$, Safety and Security $H = 46.584$, $p = 0.000$, Comfort and Amenities $H = 19.240$, $p = 0.001$, Affordability and Cost $H = 13.132$, $p = 0.011$ and for Accessibility and Convenience $H = 30.715$, $p = 0.000$). The mean rank score of (167.66 for Iwo Road, 247.06 for Ojoo Bus-Terminal, 211.75 for Challenge Bus-Terminal, 73.02 for New Garage, and 215.61 for Apata). Commuters prioritize punctuality and reliability, safety and security, comfort and amenities, affordability and cost-effectiveness, and accessibility and convenience. The findings highlight the need for supportive policies and interventions to address the challenges by ensuring the provision of improved infrastructure, upgraded facilities, safe roads, and reduced fares charged to meet the evolving needs of commuters and enhance the overall quality of intercity transport services in Ibadan Metropolis.

Precarity and Resilience: Exploring the Working Conditions and Survival Strategies of Waste Pickers in Ibadan Metropolis

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Abstract

Waste picking serves as a critical component of informal waste management in many developing countries, offering a livelihood for marginalized populations. In Ibadan Metropolis, Nigeria, waste pickers operate under precarious conditions, facing economic instability, social exclusion, and occupational hazards. This study examines the socio-economic challenges and coping strategies of waste pickers in Ibadan, focusing on their motivations, working conditions, and adaptive mechanisms. The study is anchored on the Rational Choice Theory. Using an exploratory qualitative research design data were collected through in-depth interviews and key informant interviews with 24 waste pickers and 12 buy-back centre operators across four purposively selected Local Government Areas In Ibadan Metropolis. Findings indicate that employment scarcity, ethnic ties, and mentorship networks drive individuals into waste picking. The sector operates through a hierarchical structure, with experienced waste pickers mentoring newcomers. Despite their role in waste recovery and environmental sustainability, waste pickers face systemic stigmatization, harassment, and economic exploitation. Challenges include police extortion, unfair profit-sharing mechanisms, and seasonal fluctuations in waste availability. In response, waste pickers employ both positive and negative coping strategies. Social support from cooperative networks, religious faith, and income diversification help them navigate economic uncertainties. However, some resort to repression and hostility in reaction to societal discrimination. The study highlights the resilience of waste pickers amid adversity and emphasizes the need for policy reforms to integrate them into formal waste management systems. Recognizing waste pickers as key stakeholders in waste governance can improve their working conditions, enhance livelihoods, and promote sustainable urban waste management.

Keywords: Waste picking, informal economy, social exclusion, coping strategies, waste governance, Ibadan

Integrated Multimodal Transport Systems for urban mobility in Lagos: Prospects and Implementation

Challenges

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Abstract

Integrated multimodal transport systems (IMTS) provide a strategic means of improving urban mobility in Lagos, a fast-expanding megacity beset by fragmented transit choices and extreme traffic congestion. Focusing on the integration of road, rail, and water transport to increase accessibility, lower travel time, and support sustainable urban growth, this paper investigates the opportunities and challenges of IMTs in Lagos. Using a qualitative research approach, the study examines peer-reviewed journal papers, policy documents, transportation infrastructure projects, and stakeholder initiatives including Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority's transport initiatives such as; Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), light rail networks, and environmentally friendly water travel options. The results show that although IMTS has great ability to change Lagos's urban mobility scene by encouraging seamless connectivity and lowering environmental effects, some obstacles prevent its complete realisation. Among these difficulties are poor infrastructure, scattered regulations, limited financing, and the predominance of unofficial transportation providers. Furthermore, aggravating implementation challenges are fast urbanisation and the absence of integrated land-use and transportation planning. The study concludes that effective implementation of IMTS in Lagos calls for coordinated governance, more investment in multimodal infrastructure, involvement of stakeholders, and acceptance of smart technology for uniform ticketing and real-time information. The consequences highlight the importance of thorough policies matching transport planning with urban development objectives to attain equitable and sustainable mobility. This study adds to the increasing corpus of knowledge on urban transport integration in developing megacities and provides useful information for planners and legislators seeking to improve mobility in Lagos and related surroundings.

Keywords: Integrated multimodal transport systems, urban mobility, sustainable transport in Lagos State

Population Issues and the Crises of Adaptation

Moderating Effect of Population Growth on Environmental Factors and Crude Death Rate Nexus in Africa

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Abstract

Crude death rate (CDR) remains a pressing global health issue, acutely affecting Sub-Saharan Africa where environmental inadequacies exacerbate mortality challenges. Few studies have explored the moderating role of total fertility rate (TFR) in this disturbing phenomenon. This study investigated moderating effect of TFR on clean fuels and technologies for cooking (ACFTC), access to at least basic drinking water services (PUBDWS), access to at least basic sanitation services (PUBSS) and CDR nexus in Africa. The study was undergirded by Health Production Function and Demographic Transition Theories. A retrospective research design was utilised to study 30 African countries purposively selected. Panel data for these countries were sourced from the World Bank's World Development Indicators for the period 2000–2022. A robust fixed effects regression model was employed to estimate the relationships between variables after pre-estimation and post-estimation tests. Findings indicated that the direct effect of ACFTC on CDR was insignificant and minimal (coef. = 0.0029, $t = 0.46$, $p = 0.649$). After incorporating TFR, the direct effect of ACFTC became negative but remained insignificant (coef. = -0.0656, $t = -1.00$, $p = 0.324$), and no evidence emerged to suggest that TFR moderated the ACFTC–CDR nexus (coef. = 0.0171, $t = 1.19$, $p = 0.243$). In contrast, PUBDWS had a significant positive effect on CDR (coef. = 0.0207, $t = 2.07$, $p = 0.039$), with TFR significantly moderating this relationship (coef. = -0.0554, $t = -4.17$, $p = 0.000$). Greater access to PUBSS was associated with lower CDR (coef. = -0.0726, $t = -9.11$, $p = 0.000$), although its interaction with TFR was statistically insignificant (coef. = 0.0018, $t = 0.10$, $p = 0.919$). Fertility rate was significant across both models, highlighting its role in explaining variation in CDR. While it was suggested that systemic obstacles probably causing counterintuitive effect of PUBDWS on crude death rate be eliminated, it was concluded access to basic water services exerted greater influence on mortality reductions when moderated by lower fertility rate.

Keywords: Crude death rate, total fertility rate, environmental health factors, sub-Saharan Africa

Enhancing Groundwater Yield in Nasarawa State through AI-Driven Predictive Analytics and Geospatial Multi-Criteria Evaluation

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Abstract

This study investigates drought hazard and identifies groundwater yield zones in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. Artificial Intelligence (AI), Remote Sensing (RS), Geographic Information System (GIS), and the Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) methodologies were integrated for this investigation. Nine hydrogeological factors were analyzed spatially by utilizing data derived from remote sensing and ancillary sources. The factors include the 12-month Standard Precipitation Index (SPI-12), Groundwater Storage Anomaly (GWSA), Rainfall, lithology, lineament density, drainage density, slope, aspect, and land use/land cover (LULC). Image processing and rose diagram generation, which depict lineament orientations, were performed using R and Python programming languages. The SPI-12 analysis for ten years revealed near-normal to mild drought conditions across the state, with the eastern region experiencing more pronounced dry periods. The AHP, a qualitative methodology, established GWSA as the primary driver of groundwater yield with a weight of 38%. Other layers were weighted based on their influence on groundwater occurrence. The consistency ratio obtained was 0.0197, indicating coherent assessments by experts. The AHP-generated map provided a generalized overview, indicating a low yield in the eastern part and a high yield in the northern part of the study area. To enhance AHP results, AI was employed: the result obtained revealed subtle and distinct patterns that AHP could not identify. Random Forest and Extreme Gradient Boosting (XGBoost) achieved accuracies of 99% and 98%, respectively, which indicates their strong performance in predicting groundwater yield. The models identified Keffi, Kokona, and others as high groundwater yield zones, while Toto, Awe, and others were classified as low groundwater yield zones.

Keywords: Drought, groundwater yield, Artificial Intelligence, analytical hierarchy process, geographic information system, remote sensing

The Effects of Artificial Intelligence on Firm and Labour Market Outcomes: Evidence from Selected sub-Saharan African Countries

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Abstract

The fast integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into business operations and labour processes is reshaping global economic landscapes. This study examines the effects of AI adoption on firm performance and labour market outcomes in selected sub-Saharan African countries. Utilising a firm-level dataset from the World Bank Enterprises, the study employs difference-in-differences techniques to evaluate the impact of AI on productivity, profitability, and innovation. The results show that AI adoption has a significant positive effect on firm performance and productivity in the selected sub-Saharan African countries, albeit with nuanced differences due to varying industrial structures and levels of technological readiness. On the labour market front, while AI drives job creation in high-skill sectors, it also contributes to job polarisation and displacement in routine occupations. These results underscore the importance of targeted policy interventions—such as upskilling initiatives and supportive regulatory frameworks—to harness AI's benefits while mitigating adverse impacts on workers. This research contributes to the growing literature on technology adoption in developing economies and provides valuable insights for policymakers and business leaders in sub-Saharan African countries.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, firm performance, labour market outcomes, productivity

NEPAD's Governance Agenda: Contributions to Political Stability and Economic Growth in African States

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and

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Abstract

The post-independence trajectory of African nations has been largely shaped by the pursuit of political stability and economic development. In response to persistent challenges such as conflict, economic stagnation, and poor governance, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was established in 2001 by African leaders as a continental framework to promote accountability, good governance, and sustainable growth. Despite the determined goals under NEPAD's governance agenda including the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and various institutional reforms, many African states continue to struggle with political instability, weak institutions, and inconsistent economic performance. The study employs panel data 2001-2024 and uses panel data analysis involving fixed effects or random effects panel regression models, including the Hausman test to choose the best estimation technique. The results suggest significant impact of NEPAD's governance agenda on economic growth and political stability in Africa. It is suggested that African countries should adopt NEPAD's governance frameworks in their national development strategies and policy processes.

Keywords: Economic growth, governance agenda, political stability, NEPAD

Exploring the Relationship Between Workers' Attitudes and Job Performance in the Ministry of Education, Jos North Local Government Area

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Abstract

The success of any educational system is closely tied to the attitudes and performance of its personnel. In public education administration, employee attitudes significantly influence the quality and effectiveness of service delivery. This study explores the relationship between workers' attitudes and job performance in the Ministry of Education, Jos North Local Government Area, using Symbolic Interactionism as the theoretical framework. This theory offers a sociological perspective for understanding how everyday interactions, shared meanings, and workplace

communication shape workers' attitudes and influence their behaviour and productivity. The study aimed to examine how positive attitudes contribute to improved job performance and to investigate how negative attitudes affect employee output. A survey research design was adopted, with data collected through structured questionnaires distributed to 100 staff members, of which 80 were completed and analyzed. The analysis involved both descriptive statistics and inferential techniques using Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression. The findings revealed that workers' attitudes significantly influence job performance. Specifically, positive attitudes were found to enhance performance, while negative attitudes had a detrimental effect. The study concluded that a strong and meaningful relationship exists between workers' attitudes and job performance, largely shaped by interpersonal dynamics within the workplace. It recommends that the Ministry adopt strategies that promote positive workplace interactions, effective communication, and a supportive organizational culture. These elements are essential for fostering positive attitudes among staff and enhancing employee performance, ultimately contributing to improved service delivery in the public education sector.

Keywords: Workers attitudes, employee performance, negative attitudes, positive attitudes

**Migration and Development in the Sahel in a Context of Geopolitical Instability and Climate Change Effects:
A Study Based on Migrants from Neighboring Countries of Senegal in the Territory of Upper Casamance**
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Abstract

This study explores the nexus of migration and development in the Sahel, focusing on the geopolitical instability and climate change impacts in the Upper Casamance region of Senegal. This study investigates the transborder migration dynamics in Kolda, a key migratory crossroad in Western Africa, focusing on the interactions between migrants and the local socio-economic and climatic environment. Kolda's strategic geographical position makes it a hub for arrivals, transit, and departures of migrants, primarily drawn by agricultural and trade opportunities. The research methodology encompasses document analysis, quantitative and qualitative surveys, and focus groups involving migrants and local stakeholders. Utilizing this mixed-methods approach, the research analyzes the socioeconomic integration and environmental vulnerabilities of migrants from neighboring West African countries. Findings highlight the diverse profiles of migrants, their economic and familial motivations for migration, and the significant challenges they face in integration, particularly in accessing employment and basic services. The results indicate also that geopolitical shifts and climatic factors significantly influence migration patterns, with many migrants seeking better livelihood opportunities due to economic duress and ecological degradation in their home countries. The study highlights the critical need for policies that support sustainable development and enhance the resilience of migrant populations against climate risks. It also underscores the importance of regional cooperation in addressing the complexities of migration in the Sahel.

Keywords: Migration, Sahel, climate change, environmental vulnerability, geopolitical instability, socioeconomic integration

Nigerian Elite Misrule, Boko Haram Insurgency and the Fragile State
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Abstract

Elites are key decision makers in the determination of the destiny and functioning of the political, economic, and military system of any country or a sovereign state. Their actions, political, religious, military and economic impacts Boko haram insurgency. Usually, they have mishandled the trajectory in the fight against Boko haram since 2009. Nigeria has not been able to provide security for its citizens, and also provide basic necessities of life for the inhabitants of the North East. What are the proofs of Elite misrule in the handling of the Boko Haram conflict? What is the place of religious elites in the fight against Boko Haram. The Study used elite theory and political economy approach. The study utilized secondary data sources. The study concluded that there is elite complicity in the religious and political circles of the Nigerian state. It advocated for transparency in the political, military sector, and that religious leaders should preach peaceful doctrines harmony trust and cohesion in affected communities.

Keywords: Nigerian elite misrule, Boko Haram, fragile state, Nigeria, Boko Haram Insurgency

The Role of Soft Power in International Diplomacy: A Critical Examination of the Impact of Cultural Diplomacy on Nation-Branding and Foreign Policy

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Abstract

In the contemporary global arena, states increasingly rely on soft power as a diplomatic strategy to influence international perceptions and foster foreign relations through non-coercive means. Cultural diplomacy, as a core instrument of soft power, plays a pivotal role in nation building by shaping a country's image and strengthening its influence in international affairs. This study critically examines the impact of cultural diplomacy on nation-branding and foreign policy, assessing its effectiveness as a strategic tool in global diplomacy. Through an analysis of historical and contemporary examples, this research explores how cultural diplomacy has been employed by various states to enhance their global reputation and achieve foreign policy objectives. The study further evaluates the limitations of cultural diplomacy, addressing concerns about its perceived authenticity, political instrumentalization, and varying degrees of success in influencing international relations. The paper adopts soft power theory, public diplomacy theory and nation building theory as framework for research guide. By integrating these theoretical perspectives, this study provides a comprehensive analysis of the interplay between cultural diplomacy, nation-branding, and foreign policy formulation. The findings suggest that while cultural diplomacy significantly contributes to shaping national identity and fostering cross-cultural exchanges, its impact on concrete foreign policy decisions remains context-dependent. The study concludes that for cultural diplomacy to be an effective component of soft power, it must be strategically aligned with broader diplomatic objectives and supported by long-term policy commitments.

Keywords: Soft power, cultural diplomacy, nation branding, foreign policy

The Political Economy of Regionalization of Security in Western Nigeria

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Abstract

In recent years, Nigeria has witnessed a significant surge in violent crime, insecurity, and symptoms of state fragility, particularly in the face of federal government's constrained capacity to ensure effective security provision nationwide. This has catalyzed a growing trend toward the regionalisation of security, especially in the southwestern region. Despite this development, there remains a critical gap in the literature regarding the underlying political, economic, and institutional dynamics that drive the decentralization of security governance. Most scholarly attention to date has focused on descriptive narratives of regional security initiatives, such as the Western Nigeria Security Network- popularly known as Amotekun- without adequate empirical engagement with the political economy of their emergence and operation. This study seeks to address this lacuna by undertaking a comprehensive political economy analysis of the regionalisation of security in Nigeria using Amotekun as a focus. It examines how the inability of the federal government to provide adequate security has created a vacuum that emboldens non-state actors and criminal networks to engage in sustained violent activities, including kidnapping, banditry, sexual violence, and cattle rustling. The research interrogates the political incentives, economic interests, and power negotiations that have shaped the formation, implementation, and contested legitimacy of subnational security arrangements. Furthermore, the study engages with the broader developmental implications of security regionalization, especially its effects on state legitimacy, public trust, and governmental relations within Nigeria's federal structure. The central argument advanced in this paper is that the persistent failure of the federal government to enact and implement proactive, development-oriented security policies has compelled subnational actors in the southwest to develop autonomous mechanisms of protection. In this context, Amotekun represents not merely a response to insecurity but a politically and economically informed initiative that reflects evolving centre-periphery dynamics and contestations over authority and governance within the federation. Methodologically, the study adopts a qualitative case study approach, drawing on in-depth interviews with key informants as well as the review of relevant secondary sources, including policy documents, security reports, and scholarly literature on federalism and governance. The analytical framework is grounded in political economy analysis, which facilitates a critical examination of the interests and actors that benefit from the regional security arrangement, the scope and scale of state-level investments in security, and the intergovernmental tensions that have ensued between southwestern states and the federal government. Data will be coded and analysed using Atlas.ti 24, enabling thematic patterns related to security governance and federalism. Besides, triangulation and validation techniques will be employed to ensure credibility and trustworthiness. Based on the analysis, the study will suggest structured training programmes for Amotekun operatives in line with modern security standards, clearer

constitutional interpretations of security responsibilities, and the development of inclusive policies that enhance public safety while reinforcing state legitimacy.

Cyberterrorism and National Security: Emerging Threats in the Digital Age

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and

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Abstract

In an era defined by digital transformation and hyperconnectivity, cyberterrorism has emerged as a formidable threat to national and international security. This study explores the conceptual, historical, and operational dimensions of cyberterrorism, distinguishing it from cybercrime and hacktivism while emphasizing its ideological and strategic implications. By analyzing patterns, actors, motives, and methods, this research highlights how cyberterrorism has evolved from simplistic website defacements to complex, state-sponsored or ideologically driven operations targeting critical infrastructure, public services, and governmental systems. The literature review traces the historical development of cyberterrorism and identifies conceptual debates around its definition and legal classification. Through empirical case studies including the Stuxnet operation, the 2007 Estonia cyberattacks, and ISIS's digital propaganda campaigns, the study provides insight into the real-world consequences of cyberterror tactics. Furthermore, the paper examines current national and international security policies, assessing their effectiveness in detection, attribution, deterrence, and response. Findings indicate that while progress has been made in establishing cybersecurity protocols and global cooperation mechanisms, significant gaps remain in legal harmonization, attribution capabilities, and technological preparedness. The research also projects future threats, focusing on the disruptive potential of artificial intelligence, deepfakes, and quantum computing. These innovations are expected to redefine the scope, reach, and impact of cyberterrorism in the coming decade. The study concludes with strategic recommendations to strengthen cyber resilience, improve legal and institutional frameworks, and foster international collaboration to preempt and mitigate the evolving cyberterrorism landscape.

Keywords: Cyberterrorism, national security, critical Infrastructure, Artificial Intelligence, cyber policy

Moderating Effect of Population Growth on Environmental Factors and Crude Death Rate Nexus in Africa

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Abstract

Crude death rate (CDR) remains a pressing global health issue, acutely affecting Sub-Saharan Africa where environmental inadequacies exacerbate mortality challenges. Few studies have explored the moderating role of total fertility rate (TFR) in this disturbing phenomenon. This study investigated the moderating effect of TFR on clean fuels and technologies for cooking (ACFTC), access to at least basic drinking water services (PUBDWS), access to at least basic sanitation services (PUBSS), and CDR nexus in Africa. The study was undergirded by Health Production Function and Demographic Transition Theories. A retrospective research design was utilized to study 30 African countries purposively selected. Panel data for these countries were sourced from the World Bank's World Development Indicators for the period 2000–2022. A robust fixed effects regression model was employed to estimate the relationships between variables after pre-estimation and post-estimation tests. Findings indicated that the direct effect of ACFTC on CDR was insignificant and minimal (coef. 0.0029, t 0.46, p 0.649). After incorporating TFR, the direct effect of ACFTC became negative but remained insignificant (coef. -0.0656, t -1.00, p 0.324), and no evidence emerged to suggest that TFR moderated the ACFTC–CDR nexus (coef. 0.0171, t 1.19, p 0.243). In contrast, PUBDWS had a significant positive effect on CDR (coef. 0.0207, t 2.07, p 0.039), with TFR significantly moderating this relationship (coef. -0.0554, t -4.17, p 0.000). Greater access to PUBSS was associated with lower CDR (coef. -0.0726, t -9.11, p 0.000), although its interaction with TFR was statistically insignificant (coef. 0.0018, t 0.10, p 0.919). Fertility rate was significant across both models, highlighting its role in explaining variation in CDR. While it was

suggested that systemic obstacles probably causing counterintuitive effect of PUBDWS on crude death rate be eliminated, it was concluded access to basic water services exerted greater influence on mortality reductions when moderated by lower fertility rate.

Keywords: Crude Death Rate, total fertility rate, environmental health factors, sub-Saharan

Africa

Death Anxiety, Coping Styles, and Life Satisfaction Among Residents of Regions Affected by Banditry and Terrorism in North-East Nigeria

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Abstract:

Persistent insecurity stemming from widespread acts of banditry and terrorism significantly undermines life satisfaction, especially in conflict-affected regions of Northern Nigeria. There is limited empirical attention given to how individuals cope with death anxiety and how such coping mechanisms influence their overall behavioural functioning. A cross-sectional survey design was employed involving 312 adult participants selected through stratified random sampling from communities severely affected by violence in Northern Nigeria. Standardized instruments; Death Anxiety Scale (DAS), Brief COPE Inventory, and Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS) were administered. Data analysis included Pearson correlation, ANOVA, and multiple regression techniques. There was a significant negative correlation between death anxiety and life satisfaction ($r = -0.47, p < .01$); Coping styles significantly moderated this relationship. Emotion-focused coping was negatively associated with life satisfaction, while problem-focused coping emerged as a significant positive predictor ($\beta = 0.35, p < .01$). Overall, coping styles and death anxiety jointly accounted for 42.6% of the variance in life satisfaction. The findings emphasize the psychological burden of prolonged exposure to violence and the protective influence of adaptive coping mechanisms. Strengthening problem-focused coping strategies may serve as an effective intervention for enhancing well-being in conflict-impacted populations. It was recommended that exposure to terrorism and banditry adversely affects mental health and life satisfaction. However, the use of adaptive coping styles; particularly problem-focused strategies, can mitigate these negative effects. Psychosocial interventions tailored to conflict zones are germane for supporting affected communities.

Drug Use, Peer Pressure and Gender Differences in Risky Sexual Behaviour among n-School Adolescents in Lagos, Nigeria

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Abstracts

More than half of the world population is made up of young people less than 25 years old, and majority of this population live in developing country. Young people are at high risk of practicing high risk sexual behaviors. However, the role of Drug abuse and peer pressure has not been fully investigated among secondary school students. This study helped to fill the gap by investigating the influence of Drug abuse and peer pressure on risky sexual behaviour among secondary school students. Using an ex post facto research design, a total of 211 adolescents, who were students in selected secondary schools in Badagry, Lagos state were purposively selected and participated in this study. Their mean age was $x = 15.27 \pm 1.73$. Participants completed standardized measures of drug abuse, peer pressure and risky sexual behaviour. Findings showed that both drug abuse ($\beta = .24, t = 4.25, p < .01$) and peer pressure ($\beta = .54, t = 9.58, p < .01$) were significant independent predictors of risky sexual behaviour among the participants. Further, male students scored significantly higher on the measure of risky sexual behaviour ($t(209) = 2.26, p < .05$) in comparison to their female counterpart. It was concluded that gender differences exist in risky sexual behaviour and that drug use alongside the peers adolescents keep were important contributors to this outcome. It was recommended that campaign must be intensified on the dangers of drug abuse and the long term effect of risky sexual behaviours.

Electoral Violence and Party Politics in Nigeria, Africa: Insights from the Rivers State Local Government Election

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Abstract

Nigeria is widely regarded, both within Africa and beyond, as a nation expected to lead by example in upholding democratic principles and best practices. However, since gaining independence in 1960, its electoral process has been consistently undermined by violence, casting a shadow over its democratic development and governance. Electoral

violence remains a critical challenge to democratic consolidation in Nigeria, often fueled by party politics and intense political rivalries. This study i) examines the key factors contributing to electoral violence in Rivers State, ii) assesses the role of political parties, security agencies, and other stakeholders in either mitigating or exacerbating electoral violence, iii) evaluates the impact of electoral violence on democratic governance and political stability in Rivers State. This study adopted a mixed-methods approach, integrating both quantitative and qualitative research techniques to ensure a comprehensive analysis. Data were collected from a combination of primary sources, such as surveys and interviews, and secondary sources, including official reports, academic literature, and media publications. The study therefore recommends the urgent need for electoral reforms, stronger law enforcement mechanisms, and political will to curb violence and ensure free, fair, and credible elections. The paper concludes by offering policy recommendations for mitigating electoral violence and strengthening democratic institutions in Nigeria and beyond.

Rethinking Migration and Security in Africa: A Human Security Approach

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Abstract

Deconstructing narratives surrounding (in)voluntary migration across national borders in Africa reveals intricate security implications. These resonate at both macro and micro levels as both home and host communities and their citizens grapple with emerging security challenges. In Africa, racism, xenophobia, social intolerance, and adaptability clause are recurrent lived experiences of migrants in some spaces. At the same time, migrants in other contexts have also been found culpable of terrorism, banditry, violent conflict, and other social misdemeanours. These are closely connected to the various push and pull factors underlining cross-border movements. Using the Human Security Framework (HSF) and phenomenological method that benefits from secondary data, this study explores the interconnectedness of migration and security with particular focus on mitigating the insecurity of human persons. The HSF is a preferred analytical lens given its emphasis on the safety, dignity, and welfare of individuals. This approach probes beyond the realists' state-centric approach which is characterised by exclusive protection and control of state borders and sovereignty. The paper identifies the inadequacies of the state-centric conception of security in understanding and addressing the complex (in)security dynamics of migration in Africa. It, therefore, argues that in finding an accommodation between migration and security concerns in a changing world, stakeholders need to place prime import on individual human safety, dignity, security and welfare- which is the central position of human security paradigm. The paper also examines the critical roles of International Organisation for Migration in mitigating security challenges associated with migration. The paper concludes that rethinking migration and security via a human security lens provides a resilient pathway as Africa seeks to prioritise human security across borders. The paper concludes with policy recommendations for African states, regional bodies and international partners/institutions to integrate human security into migration governance.

An Assessment of Workplace Behaviour and Its Impact on Employee Productivity among Staff of Public Tertiary Institutions in Ibadan, Oyo State

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Abstract

One of the main attributes of productivity in any work environment is the workplace behaviour of the employees. Psychologically inclusive environments foster innovation and efficiency. In the context of public tertiary institutions in Ibadan, Oyo State, understanding the behavioural patterns of employees and their influence on productivity is essential for fostering a positive work culture and institutional success. Hence, the need to examine the relationship between workplace behaviour and employee productivity, exploring key factors such as work ethics, interpersonal relationships, leadership styles, motivation, organizational culture, and employee engagement within the academic and administrative workforce of public tertiary institutions. Public tertiary institutions in Nigeria face numerous challenges, including bureaucratic inefficiencies, poor staff morale, inadequate resources, and workplace conflicts, all of which can influence employee behaviour and, ultimately, institutional performance. A critical evaluation of workplace behaviour in these institutions will provide insights into how positive and negative behaviours impact employee output, job satisfaction, and institutional effectiveness. This research work will explore themes such as the role of leadership in shaping workplace behaviour, the impact of workplace policies on staff performance, ethical considerations in workplace interactions, and strategies for fostering a healthy work environment that promotes efficiency and innovation. This paper seeks to contribute to academic discourse by presenting empirical research, theoretical analyses, case studies, and policy recommendations aimed at improving workplace behaviour and productivity in Nigeria's public tertiary institutions. The research will address workplace ethics and professionalism among academic and non-academic staff, the influence of leadership and management styles on employee behaviour,

the role of organizational culture in shaping workplace behaviour, and psychological and emotional factors affecting staff behaviour and productivity. The public institutions to be examined are both the federal and state-owned tertiary institutions in Ibadan. Employing descriptive research design, data will be analysed using inferential statistics.

Employment, Decent Work, and Social Protection in Nigerian Construction Industry

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Abstract

The Nigerian construction industry stands at a critical juncture in its quest for sustainable development through employment, decent work, and social protection. Despite its significant role and remarkable potentials in national economic growth and urban development, the construction sector faces persistent challenges such as informal employment, poor working conditions, lack of social protection, and exclusion of vulnerable groups including youths, disabled persons, and low-skilled workers. The absence of adequate labour protections and social security schemes for nonstandard and informal workers exacerbates their vulnerability to economic shocks and undermines the realization of decent work as advocated by the International Labour Organization (ILO). Recent initiatives, particularly the Nigeria Decent Work Country Programme III (DWCP 2023-2027), represent a transformative step towards addressing these deficits in the industry. With the developed collaboration by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment, ILO, labour unions, and employers' associations, this programme aims to create more and better jobs, guarantee rights at work, extend social protection, and promote social dialogue across sectors including construction. DWCP III aligns with Nigeria's National Development Plan and the Renewed Hope Agenda, emphasizing inclusive, private sector-led growth and the mainstreaming of decent work principles into employment generation activities. To truly advance decent work in the Nigerian construction industry, stakeholders must prioritize social sustainability by improving occupational safety and health, ensuring fair wages, and fostering inclusive employment opportunities for marginalized groups. Strengthening labour laws, enhancing labour inspection capacity, and promoting collective bargaining can help bridge the current gaps in social dialogue and workers' rights. In addition, integrating social protection mechanisms tailored to the informal and nonstandard workforce will reduce their economic insecurity and promote social cohesion within the sector. In conclusion, the path to sustainable development in Nigeria's construction sector hinges on a holistic approach that combines job creation with the enforcement of decent work standards and comprehensive social protection. The ongoing implementation of DWCP III offers a promising framework to transform employment conditions, empower workers, and foster equitable growth, ultimately contributing to a more resilient and socially inclusive construction industry in Nigeria.