



THE GRACE UZOMA OKONKWO FOUNDATION

In collaboration with

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND LITERARY STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA

AND

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
CHUKWUEMEKA ODUMEGWU OJUKWU UNIVERSITY, IGBARIAM



WED.
19TH
FEB.
2025

Time
10
AM



ON

**ETHNICITY, TRIBE AND THE QUEST FOR COHESION IN
AFRICAN STATES: MULTIDISCIPLINARY REFLECTIONS**



OPENING CEREMONY AT
PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM
UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA

♦ PROGRAMME OF EVENTS
♦ CONFERENCE SESSIONS
♦ BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Chief Host



PROFESSOR OGUEJIOFO UJAM

Ag. Vice Chancellor University of Nigeria

Chief Host



PROFESSOR KATE AZUKA OMENUGHA
Ag. Vice Chancellor
Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam.

SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR



PROFESSOR ALOYSIUS-MICHAELS OKOLIE
Vice-Chancellor, Enugu State University of Science
and Technology (ESUT)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



VERY REV. PROFESSOR CHINEDU OSITADINMA NEBO,
CON, NPOM, OON
Vice-Chancellor, University on the Niger, Umunya, Anambra State

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



PROFESSOR JACOB K. OLUPONA

Chair and professor of African and African American Studies,
Harvard University.

LEAD PAPER PRESENTER



Professor Saša Božić
Department of Sociology, University of Zadar, Croatia

LEAD PAPER PRESENTER



Hamzat Lawal
CEO, Connected Development (CODE)

ROYAL FATHER OF THE DAY



HRM, IGWE SAMUEL IKECHUKWU ASADU (Jnr)
(OGADAGIDI)

CHAIRMAN



Nkadi Onyegegbu
Professor of Science Education
University of Nigeria

Awardees & Citations



VERY REV. PROFESSOR CHINEDU OSITADINMA NEBO, CON, NPOM, OON, FNSE, FNMS, FMSN, FNIPE, FNATE, FNAEng, FNMMM

Professor Chinedu Nebo was born in Kafanchan to the family of Mr. & Mrs. Christopher O. Nebo on 3rd June, 1952. He had his primary school education in Ibadan, Kafanchan and Port Harcourt where he bagged the First School Leaving Certificate with Distinction. Professor Nebo then proceeded to attend Government Secondary School Afikpo, where he passed his School Certificate Examination with flying colours. Chinedu, thereafter won a Federal Government Scholarship to study Mining Engineering in South Dakota School of Mines and Technology USA, known then as a top institution for Minerals Engineering studies.

Professor Nebo graduated with First Class Honours in Mining Engineering and at the top of his graduating class. He also bagged a Master of Science degree in Metallurgical Engineering and a Ph.D. in Materials Engineering & Science. An accomplished engineering scholar, Professor Nebo served the

then Anambra State University of Technology which metamorphosed into Enugu State University of Science & Technology (ESUT) and Nnamdi Azikwe University at the creation of Enugu State. Prof. Nebo rose in rank to become a Professor of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. He served as Dean of Student Affairs for several years before being appointed in January 2000 as the sole Deputy Vice Chancellor of ESUT. At the completion of his tenure as Deputy Vice Chancellor, he contested for and was appointed Vice Chancellor of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN).

A seasoned, humble and astute administrator, Prof. Nebo rebuilt UNN, completing most of the abandoned projects and started and completed scores of other projects, including building a Lecture Hall for every Faculty in the University from IGR only, and without any assistance from government. An ordained servant of God, Prof. Nebo restored peace and harmony in a University that was referred to as “National War College II” in some circles. During his tenure, UNN did not take part in any strikes.

At the end of his tenure as Vice Chancellor of UNN, Prof. Nebo was again invited to serve as the pioneer Vice Chancellor of Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, where he performed the feat that was dubbed “the Six Month Miracle”, by converting a virgin forest to a university campus within six to eight months and starting lectures on the permanent site before any of the other new universities. He equipped the University with such modern Information Communication Technology (ICT) facilities that resulted in the new university being recently ranked webometrically as number 17 in Nigeria, way ahead of most Federal and State universities. It was in the process of building a modern, brand new University from the scratch that President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR, appointed Prof. Nebo as Minister of Power of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

As Minister of Power, Prof. Nebo, provided strong dependable and proactive leadership for a problematic sector that was in a period of transition. He enrolled the cooperation of the Unions which made for a seamless transition from a government-owned and controlled electricity industry to a private-owned and driven industry; an exercise that is described outside Nigeria as the largest and most elaborate privatization of utilities globally.

Prof. Nebo has brought about unprecedented synergy and cooperation within the energy sector, championing engagement of all players in a bid to solve Nigeria's power problems. He midwived Operation Light Up Rural Nigeria and the popular maxim in the Federal Ministry of Power is “No Nigerian or community left in darkness”.

Prof. Nebo continued to serve within the Church as an ordained minister, rising to the position of Provost of the Diocesan Cathedral Church, before retiring at age 70. In July 2023, Prof. Nebo was appointed the pioneer Vice Chancellor of University on the Niger, Umunya, becoming the first person in the history of Nigeria to serve as Vice Chancellor three times in a lifetime (two Federal Universities and one Private University). He is also currently the Pro Chancellor and Chairman of Council for Coal City University.

Prof Nebo is married to his heartthrob Ify, and they are blessed with four children and twelve grandchildren.

PROFESSOR POLYCARP E. CHIGBU



**Immediate Past Ag.
Vice-Chancellor
University of Nigeria**

**Professor Polycarp E. Chigbu, B.Sc., M.Sc.
(Nigeria), Ph.D. (London), FRSS, FASI,
FNSA, F.UNNBS**

**Academic Qualifications obtained with Institutions
and Dates:**

- Ph.D.: University of London, United Kingdom (March 1996)
- M.Sc. (Experimental & Applied Statistics): University of Nigeria, Nsukka (August 1988)
- B.Sc. (Honours) (Statistics) [Second Class, Upper Division]: University of Nigeria, Nsukka (June 1983)

University Administrative Experience at the University of Nigeria:

- August 2024 to February 2025: Ag. Vice-Chancellor
- April 2013 to March 2016: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
- July 2011 to April 2013: Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies
- October 2010 to June 2014: Coordinator, Lagos Outreach Programmes
- August 2009 to June 2011: Director of Academic Planning Unit
- August 2002 to July 2004: Head, Department of Statistics

Some Community Service(s) rendered (including dates and locations):

- December 2021 to May 2023: Member, University of Nigeria Governing Council Advisory Committee on Financial Status of the University.
- August 2, 2017 to August 1, 2022: Member, Governing Council, Michael & Cecilia Ibru University, Agbarha-Otor, Ughelli North, Delta State, NIGERIA.
- April 2013 to March 2016: Member, University of Nigeria Governing Council as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).
- April 2013 to March 2016: Chairman, Committee on Africa Climate Change Adaptation Initiative (ACCAI) for University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
- April 2009 to April 2013: Member, Joint Council/Senate Committee of the University of Nigeria on Endowment Fund.

Membership/Fellowship of Learned Societies & Professional Bodies:

- 5 September 2014: Fellow, Nigerian Statistical Association (FNSA).
- March 2014: Fellow, African Scientific Institute (FASI).
- 17 April 1996: Fellow, Royal Statistical Society (FRSS) (based in the UK).
- 29 January 2025: Fellow, University of Nigeria Business School (F.UNNBS)

JACOB KEHINDE OLUPONA Curriculum Vitae



EDUCATION:

1983 Ph.D., History of Religions,
Boston University, Boston
1981 M.A., History of Religions,
Boston University, Boston
1975 B.A., Religious Studies,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

2023- present Chair of African and
African American Studies, Faculty
of Arts & Sciences
2011 – 2016 Director of Graduate
Studies, African and African
American Studies, Faculty of Arts &
Sciences
2006-2009 Chair, Harvard
University Committee on African
Studies
2006 - present Professor of African

and African American Studies, Faculty of Arts & Sciences

Professor of African Religious Traditions, Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University

1995-2006 Professor of African American and African Studies, University of California, Davis.

ACADEMIC HONORS, GRANTS, LECTURESHIP, AND FELLOWSHIPS:

2023 Member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences

2021 Doctor of Letters (D. LITT) Honorary Degree, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

2015 Doctor of Letters Honorary Degree from Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

2018. Martin E. Marty Public Understanding of Religion Award, American Academy of
Religion

Books

2024. *In the Twilight of Time: Chief Lóòghò Bámátulá, a Biography of an African Medicine Man.* University Press, Ibadan.

2013. *African Religions: A Very Short Introduction.* Oxford University Press, Very Short Introductions Series, 2013.

2012. *In My Father's Parsonage: The Story of an Anglican Family In Yoruba-Speaking Nigeria.* University Press, Ibadan, 2012

2011 *The City of 201 Gods: Ile-Ife (Nigeria) in Time, Space and the Imagination.* Berkley: University of California Press, 2011.

PROFESSOR NKADI ONYEGEGBU



Nkadi Onyegegbu is at present, Professor in the Science Education and a Reproductive Health and Sexuality Educator in Science Education Department of University of Nigeria, Nsukka. She is the current Director, Gender and Development Policy Center, a past Head of Department, Science Education and past Director, Institute of Education. She holds a BSc. in Microbiology, a PGDE in Science Education, M.Ed and Ph.D. in Science Education. Her academic career is garnished with strings of academic publications. She has edited ten books, contributed chapters in many books and has published avalanche of academic articles in renowned national and international journals. She was the Editor-in-Chief of Review of Educational Journal, African Journal of Science, Technology and Mathematics Education (AJSTME) and Editor of Educational Research Journal and Online African Journal of Education. She has also for over fifteen

years successfully organized and co-coordinated International, National researches, and seminars, workshops, conferences for institute of Education and Leadership Training programs for the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Her professional activities can be measured by her membership in ten professional societies and associations. She is a Fellow of Science Teachers Association of Nigeria (STAN) and a member of National Academy of Education (NAE). She is also a Director in Global Health Awareness Research Foundation (GHARF), Lift Saxum, SpeakUP Africa and Women Leadership Institute International (WLI).

As a Teacher, Professor Nkadi Onyegegbu, has supervised nine Ph. D students and fifteen MED and twenty two undergraduate projects in Science Education. And mentored several academic and non-academic staff under her tutorship. She has served in several occasions as Chairman and Member of Accreditation and Recourse Verification Committees of National Universities Commission (NUC). She has also served as an external examiner in some universities in Nigeria

As a Researcher, Professor Nkadi Onyegegbu has severed as a consultant to many international organizations including the World Health Organization [WHO], United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF], John D, & Catherine T MacArthur Foundation, Action Aids, Rainbow West Africa, Ford Foundation, United Nations Development Program [UNDP], UKAID, DFID, Federal Ministry of Health, Nigeria and Millennium Development Goals [MDG] and National Reproductive Health, HIV & AIDs Prevention, Care and support through NYSC. As an academic and active researcher, she has globally traveled to the USA, Germany, UK, France, Canada, China, Malaysia, India, South Africa, Uganda, Ghana, Kenya just to mention a few. She has delivered keynote addresses and Lead Paper presentations in a number of conferences. She has also conducted a number of funded researches and facilitated as Lead Resource Person in a number of sponsored capacity building workshops, seminars and training programs for teachers and youths. She served as a full-time National Consultant for UNICEF on WASH, Wins4Girls MHM Research Project. A member of Mannion Daniels, AmplifyChange, UK Technical Review Panel {TRP}. Her current research as a Fellow, is on Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL).

HRM, Igwe Samuel Ikechukwu Asadu (Jnr)



(Ogadagidi)

HRM, IGWE SAMUEL IKECHUKWU ASADU (Jnr), (OGADAGIDI), THE IGWE OF EDEM-ANI OGWUGWU ANCIENT KINGDOM. CHAIRMAN ENUGU STATE COUNCIL OF TRADITIONAL RULERS AND THE IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN SOUTH EAST COUNCIL OF TRADITIONAL RULERS; MEMBER BOARD OF TRUSTEES COUNCIL OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS OF AFRICA (NIGERIA BRANCH)

EARLY LIFE AND EDUCATION

HRM, Igwe Samuel Ikechukwu Asadu Jnr was born to the family of late Sir and Lolo Asadu Samuel Ejikeme of Ozalla Edem-Ani in Nsukka LGA of Enugu State.

He is the first child in a family of six children. He attended primary school at Central School Edem-Ani and Boys High School, Okpo, Enugu-Ezike. He studied Nursing at School of Nursing, Iyieniu, Ogidi, Anambra State. He was employed with the then Anambra State Ministry of Health before traveling to the United State of America where he obtained Bsn at Grand Canyon university in Arizona USA.

COMMUNITY/HUMANITARIAN SERVICES

He built and equipped an ultramodern, free twenty-bed hospital for the community, and pays monthly bill of over one million naira to doctors and other staff from 2019 till date.

He recently constructed 2.1 kilometers asphalt road leading from Odenigbo Nsukka to Edem-ani, sponsored erosion control at Ugwu Aji and has donated up to N27,000,000 for reticulation of water in Edem ani.

He has built eight houses for the widows and the indigents from Edem ani community.

He donated 63 million Naira to Edem ani youth on January 2nd 2024.

He also sponsored 24 persons from Akpa, Ozzi, Edem ani and Ugwunagbo to Abuja to seek for greener pastures.

In the area of security, he spent millions of Naira in procuring a Hilux Van, motorcycles, Walkie Talkie and other security gadgets to equip the Edem-Ani Neighborhood Watch to secure the community. He recently sponsored solar lights in the whole of Edem ani and Ugwunagbo Community to the tune of N12,000,000. He recently donated a sienna bus to the youth wing of Edem ani Ogwugwu ancient kingdom. In education and youth empowerment, he purchased Jamb forms for about 300 youths of Edem origin. He donated laptops and generators to four primary schools in Edem-ani; donated N5,000,000 to some Edem-Ani youths to start businesses; awarded scholarships to indigent University students; sponsored up to eight of Edem ani indigenes for Masters degree programs abroad with a promise to pay for Masters degree program abroad for any Edem ani indigene who made first class or second class upper in any Nigeria university.

He has sponsored 10 years of the Ogadagidi Children's Party: a platform he uses to reward outstanding students from public primary schools in Edem-ani. Constructed the culverts that links Otobo Ubogidi, Obinagu Ubogidi and Ozalla Umuneje village. Built a food bank that feeds up to 250 people on daily bases since 2022. As a result of these, his community unanimously agreed to erect his status at the central place in the community which will be there in perpetuity. Igwe Ogadagidi's philanthropic deeds cannot be enumerated in this write up. He is happily married to HRM, Happiness Ederechukwu Asadu (Lolo Akudo) and the marriage is blessed with four wonderful children.

Professor Saša Božić



Saša Božić is Full Professor at the Department of Sociology, University of Zadar. He was the Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Zadar (2012-2017), President of the Croatian Sociological Association (2013-2015) and Director of the Joint Doctoral Studies in Sociology of Regional and Local Development, (University of Zadar, Croatia and University of Teramo, Italy, 2013 – 2020). He is the organising director of the international postgraduate course Divided Societies in the Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik, since 2010. Prof. Saša Božić is an Associate Editor of Innovation Journal. Innovation Journal is supported by The European Association for the Advancement of the Social Sciences. His research interests include migration, diaspora and transnational social spaces.

Amb. Prof. Ifeanyichukwu M. Abada



Ambassador Professor Ifeanyichukwu M. Abada PhD is a distinguished scholar and seasoned administrator in the field of Public Administration. A two-time Head of the Department of Political Science at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN), he also served as the Chairman of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), UNN chapter. Additionally, he was the Director of the Youth-Friendly Centre, where he played a pivotal role in youth development initiatives.

He was also director/ chairman Lion Water and headed the University Press at point. Beyond academia, Prof. Abada is a respected community leader and a prolific author with numerous publications and books to his credit. His contributions to research and scholarship have significantly advanced the study and practice of public administration in Nigeria. He is happily

married and blessed with beautiful children.

Hamzat Lawal, CEO, Connected Development (CODE)



[HamzatLawal](#) ([Hamzy!](#)) is a global citizen, community organizer, an award-winning advocate and humanitarian who has successfully led grassroots campaigns in over 40 African countries with over fifteen years practical experience in the non-profit sector and specializes in practical issues associated with Climate Change, Open Data, advocacy campaigns and development policies as it affects rural and deprived grassroots communities.

Hamzy! is also the Founder of [Follow The Money](#), a home-grown Pan-African grassroots data-driven initiative currently in 10 African countries and one of the fastest growing movement engaging citizens and leads a team of technology & innovation driven campaigners to amplify voices of marginalized communities in promoting accountability as it affects utilization of public funds focusing on specific communities across Africa. He is currently the Chief Executive of [Connected Development \(CODE\)](#), an organization he founded and under his leadership, CODE won the ONE Africa 2016 Award which recognizes, rewards, and advances the exceptional work of Africa based organizations; dedicated to helping the continent achieve the Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs).

Hamzy! seats on the Executive Board of the largest Youth Movement in Africa: [African Youth Initiative on Climate Change \(AYICC\)](#), advising on communications strategies and campaigns using technology tools in shaping and actualizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and has joined his voice on different platforms and policy influencing coalitions across Africa such as the [Not Too Young To Run](#) movement which drives youth political inclusion.

Before his role at CODE, he was an Executive with the International Centre For Energy, Environment & Development (ICEED) working on high level advocacy for Nigeria's energy needs and climate actions.

Hamzat was honored and recognized on the '[2018 and 2019 list of the worlds 100 most influential people in digital government by Apolitical](#)'. He was also recognized amongst the [100 most influential people in 2019 joining Amina J Mohammed, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Aliko Dangote](#). In 2019, Hamzat was named as one of the top 6 young person's changing the world alongside Malala Yousafzai, Greta Thunberg and Eddie Ndopu, by an award-winning Spain-based non-governmental organization, The Global School.

Hamzat's Follow The Money won United Nations SDG Action Award as Mobilizer 2019 in Bonn, German; The Council of Europe Democracy Innovation 2019 Award in Strasbourg, France, and he won the 2019 Future Africa Award under 'Advocacy' category. [Oxfam Novib in The Netherlands](#) has recently recognized Hamzat as one of the many heroes fighting for a fair distribution of power, wealth and equality worldwide.

MS. NWADI ELOBUIKE

**Director Training, Nigerian Television Authority (NTA)
Headquarters, Abuja**

Ms. Nwadi Elobuike, THE DIRECTOR TRAINING, NIGERIAN TELEVISION AUTHORITY (NTA) HEADQUARTERS, ABUJA

It was the Czech - born British playwright, Tom Stoppard, who once said, and I quote, "I still believe that if your aim is to change the world, journalism is a more immediate short term weapon." Nwadi Elobuike, a nationally celebrated Broadcaster, has through her love, zeal and commitment to the



distinguished pen profession, been able to navigate to the top of her career, leaving in her trail, some indelible footprints for the young ones to follow. From her years of impactful transformational reportage on Africa's largest Television Network, the NTA to the pinnacle of her excellent career as a Director, Nwadi established herself as a go-getter and jinx breaker. In the course of a three decade running broadcast career, she rose from a News Reporter cum Editor, Presenter to become a Manager, General Manager of Stations and Zonal Director. Until her very recent and current posting to NTA Headquarters, Abuja as the Director of Training, Nwadi Elobuike was Zonal Director, NTA Enugu Network Centre which she was able to reposition as a true Station for Excellence by attracting

the Enugu State Government's solar power project within one year of her service tenure.

The amiable, calm and discrete iconic Broadcaster, Nwadi Elobuike who hails from Eke in Udi LGA of Enugu State was born in the early 1970s. She attended the prestigious Queen's School Enugu, the Enugu State University of Science and Technology where she obtained a double B.Sc. in Mass Communication and Psychology and later, M.Sc. Industrial Psychology.

Nwadi is a selfless compassionate humanitarian with uncommon wisdom and faith. She has since 1998, been championing media and legislative campaigns against obnoxious gender-based traditional practices. In her quest to achieve social justice for the indigent and vulnerable, she founded the Women and Orphans Rights to Family Assets Foundation - WORFAF to provide legal and other assistance to oppressed persons.

May I now present to you, a dedicated, most unassuming, ever cheerful, accomplished Broadcaster and human rights activist, Nwadi Elobuike.

Comrade Harrison Gwamnishu

Nigerian Human Rights Activist, Social Entrepreneur and

Harrison Gwamnishu (born 17 July 1989), is a Nigerian human rights activist, social entrepreneur, and philanthropist. Gwamnishu is known for raising awareness about social justice issues, wrongful incarceration, legal reforms, and the well-being of prisoners.

Gwamnishu rose to prominence for his advocacy work on behalf of prisoners, particularly those who have been unjustly incarcerated. Through his organization Behind Bar Human Rights Foundation he has worked to highlight the harsh conditions faced by prisoners in Nigerian jails and to provide



assistance in securing justice for individuals who have been wrongfully imprisoned. His work extends to raising awareness about human rights violations, and advocating for systemic reforms within Nigeria's legal and prison systems. Among his significant contributions is his involvement in the case of Ada Jesus and the high-profile missing person cases of Celine Ndudim and Afiba Tandoh.

Harrison Gwamnishu entered politics as a candidate for the Labour Party during the 2023 Delta State House of Assembly elections, representing the Aniocha South Constituency. Although he lost this election, his participation marked his initial foray into public office. Afterward, he pulled out, announcing his resignation from the Labour Party, citing persistent allegations that he betrayed the party during the campaign. He expressed regret in a social media statement but noted that staying with the party could harm his reputation. He reaffirmed his commitment to the "Obidient Movement," inspired by Peter Obi. Gwamnishu thanked the party leadership for their support and pledged to cooperate with investigations to clear his name.

In August 2024, Gwamnishu was appointed Senior Special Assistant on Civil Society and Youth Mobilization to the Delta State Governor, Sheriff Oborevwori.

HOST AND CONVENER



PROFESSOR FLORENCE O. ORABUEZE
BOT Chairperson, The Grace Uzoma Okonkwo Foundation

CO-HOST



PROFESSOR S.U.N. OKOYE-UGWU

Head, Department of English and Literary Studies, University of Nigeria

CO-HOST



DR. IKECHUKWU ASIKA

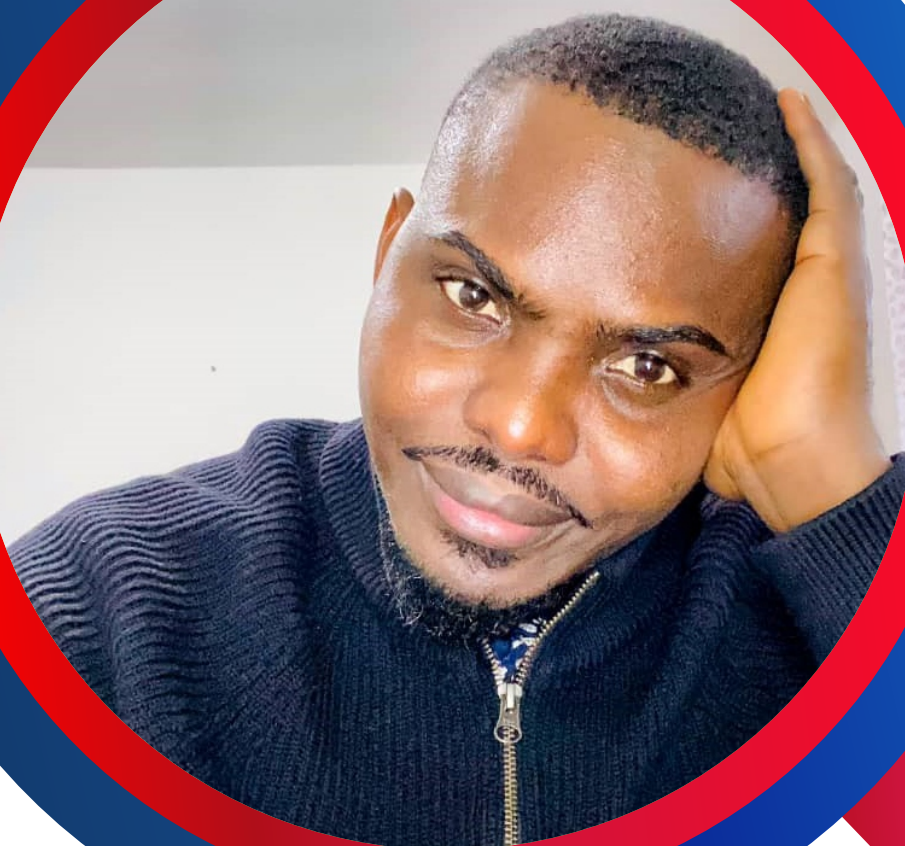
Head, Department of English Language and Literature,
Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam.

LOC



Professor Victor Ukaogo
Chairman

LOC



Onyemuche A. Ejesu
Secretary

LOC



Dr. Godstime Eze
Secretary

THE 5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF GRACE UZOMA OKONKWO FOUNDATION IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & LITERARY STUDIES, UNN & DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE, COOU, IGBARIAM HOLDING ON WEDNESDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY 2025 AT PRINCESS ALEXANDRIAR AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA

Programme of Events

1. 10: 00 am - The dignitaries pay a courtesy call on the Ag. Vice Chancellor
2. 10: 25 am - Introduction of dignitaries at PAA
3. 10: 35 am - The National Anthem
4. 10: 45 a m - The University Song
5. 10: 50 am - Opening prayer by a Priest & an Imam
6. 11: 00 am - Breaking of kolanuts by HRH, Igwe G.F.O. Asadu
7. 11: 05 am - Chairman's Opening Speech by Prof. Nkadi Onyegegbu
8. 11: 10 am - Welcome Speech by the LOC Chairman
9. 11: 55 am - Address by the Convener and Host of the conference
10. 12:10 pm - Vice Chancellor's Address and Declaration of the Conference
Open
8. 11:20 pm - A Short Citation on the Keynote Speaker
9. 11:25 pm - The Keynote speech by Venerable Prof. Chinedu Nebo
10. 1:05 pm - Music Interlude
11. 1:15 pm - Short Citation on the Lead paper Presenter, Comrade Hamzat

Lawal

12. 1: 20 pm - Presentation of the Lead paper
13. 1:55 pm: A Short Citation on the Guest Lecturer, Prof. Jacob Kehinde Olupona
14. 2.00 pm - Presentation of the Guest Lecture by Prof. Jacob Kehinde Olupona
15. 2.30 pm - Music Interlude
16. 2:35 pm - A Short Citation on Prof. Saša Božić
17. 2: 40 pm - Presentation of lead paper by Prof. Saša Božić
18. 3:00 pm - Music Interlude
19. 3: 10 pm - Presentations of Pillar of Peace Awards to Recipients
20. 3: 30 pm - Good will messages from The Ag. Vice Chancellor, COOU Igbariam, the HOD, Department of English, UNN and Comrade Harrison Gwamnishu
21. 3: 45 pm - Vote of Thanks by the HOD, Department of English, COOU
22. 3:50 pm - Music Interlude & Refreshments
23. 3:55 pm - His Royal Majesty, Igwe Sam Asadu, gives His Royal Blessings to the Audience
23. 4:00 pm - National Anthem and Departure

PANEL SESSIONS

(20th February 2025)

Panel 1: The Politics of Ethnicity, Religion and National Cohesion

Chair: Professor Ifeanyichukwu Abada

Rapporteur: Dr Victor Omeje

Venue: Room 112, Professor Florence Orabueze's office

Time: 9 am – 11 am

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Political party financing and democracy in Nigeria: a study of 2015 and 2019 general elections	Innocent Uchechukwu Ugbagu, Magnus Chijindu Onyemaobi & Okechukwu Ozioma. H ¹
2.	Politics of Tribe and Ethnicity and the Eradication of Social Stigmatization in Nsukka Town: An Aesthetic Discourse	Oguejiofor V. Omeje, Cindy Anene Ezeugwu & Nneka Alio.
3.	Ethnicity, Coastal States and Resource Control	Kenneth Okhumode Osikhuemhe, Abada Micheal Ifeanyichukwu & Okeke Augustine Obi
4.	Climate change litigation: A rising trend in environmental law	Anyachebelu, Chijioke Nnamdi
5.	Social conflicts and ethnic politics: elements in Nigeria's underdevelopment	Azowue O. Emmanuel, Ezugwu Kelechi, Egoigwe Sarah, and Ezea S. Chinedu
6.	Ethnicity and Markets in Nigeria: How Ethnic Identities Shape Market Structures in Nigeria	Ogechi A. Ikem & Victor Ifegwu-Mbonu
7.	Political economy of ethnicism in African world war	Chisom Sophy Abraham, Obi Augustine Okeke & Rejoice Ifebuche Vincent
8.	Ethnic politics and voting behaviour of electorates during the 2023 presidential election in Nigeria	Ifeanyi Michael Abada, Chikwado Ezugworie & Arinze Victor Nwawuche

Panel 2: Literature, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Prof. Florence O. Orabueze

Rapporteur: Dr Cindy Ezeugwu

Venue: Room 112, Faculty of Arts Complex B

Time: 11 am – 1 Pm

SN	Paper title	Name
1.	Ethnic Dissidence and Economic Disparity in Niger Delta: Hindsight from Helon Habila's <i>Oil on Water</i>	Samuel Enudi, Abdul'aziz Bako, & Ahmad Musa Saleh
2.	Contemporary oral poetry as an instrument of pan-African cohesion	Bizuum Godwill Yadok
3.	Issues in African Literary Research: Key Challenges	George Ijezie-Asoegwu
4.	Political ethnicity and tribe in Nigeria: A study of Wole Soyinka's play: <i>The Death and the king's Horseman</i>	Oyekola, Taiwo Samuel
5.	Weaving Ethnicity, Music, and Culture in Africa	Feicia O Ezeugwu, Ph.D
6.	Tribal Belongingness and Issues of <i>Nrighbe</i> : An Existential Reading of Achebe's <i>Things Fall Apart</i>	Ike Doris Ann Ph.D.

Panel 3: Literature, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Prof S. U. N. Okoye-Ugwu

Rapporteur: Dr Obiorah Ekwueme

Venue: ROOM 320, Department of English & Literary Studies, UNN, Faculty of Arts Complex B

Time: 9 am – 1 pm

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Caribbean Literature: Tolerance and Culture in Bryan Buchan's <i>Copper Sunrise</i>	Mariagorathy Amaka Uhunmwunwa (PhD) & Rita-Ann Ugbechie
2.	Ethnicity and Tribe in AfroCaribbean Poetry: A Call for African Unity in Kamau Brathwaite's <i>The Arrivants</i>	Abegunde, Clement Tayo (Ph D)
3.	Ethnicity, Colonial Borders and the Challenges National Unity in Ngugi wa Thiong'o's <i>Wizard of the Crow</i> and Zakes Mda's <i>The Heart of Redness</i>	Obi, Chidiebere Chukwuemeka
4.	Women, ethnicity, and resilience: exploring gendered narratives in Chukwuemeka Ike's <i>Sunset at Dawn</i> and the Nigerian Biafran War	Mary J. N. Okolie, PhD and Ihuoma Nwanyieze Ike-Nwachukwu
5.	Interrogating Ethnicity and Tribalism in Soyinka's <i>A Dance of the Forests</i>	Obiorah Ekwueme, PhD & Emmanuela Chioma Nnadiukwu
6.	Achebe's Trilogy and (the Quest for) Nigerian Unity: Ethnicity, Tribe and the Challenge of Nation- Building	Ifeoma Obianuju Ukazu

7.	Accessing Nigerianisms In Old Wines Are Tasty And Harvest Of Corruption	Ijem, Ugo Blessing, Okpala, Victory Ogochukwu, Ngwoke, Festus Uwakwe & Abah, James Akogwu
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Panel 4: Literature, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair Dr T.M.E. Chukwumezie

Rapporteur: Chiamaka Ugoka

Venue: ROOM 316, Interactive Learning Centre, Department of English & Literary Studies, UNN

Time 9 am – 11 am

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	The Will to Power: Apolline-Dionysian Dynamics in Tribal and Ethnic Conflicts in Africa: A Socio-literary Exegesis of Elechi Amadi's <i>The Great Ponds</i>	Alaribe, Theodore Udochukwu
2.	The Politics of Belonging and Ethnic Identity in Adichie's <i>Half of a Yellow Sun</i>	Anaduaka, Chisom Kaetochukwu
3.	Identity disenfranchisement in Iheanyichukwu Duruoha's <i>Eaters Of Dust</i>	Chiamaka Amalachukwu Ugoka & Chinonye Calister Ekwueme-Ugwu, Ph.D
4.	Consciousness, Hybridity and Politics of Identity in Chimamanda Adichie's <i>Purple Hibiscus</i> and Chidubem Iweka's <i>Ancient Curse</i> .	Ikegbunam, Chinemerem Chidubem & Kenneth C. Ahaiwe Ph.D
5.	Cultural dualism and displacement in Buchi Emecheta's <i>The New Tribe</i>	Thomas-Michael Emeka Chukwumezie
6.	Cohesion in Diversity: Multiculturalism, Ethnicity, and the Challenge of Building Inclusive African Societies: A Study of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's <i>Americanah</i> and Imraan Coovadia's <i>Tales of the Metric System</i>	Shege, Nkeiruka Monica
7.	Tribal Conflicts And The Question Of The Fighting Elephants: A Psychoanalytical Discuss On Emecheta's <i>Joys Of Motherhood And Achebe's Arrow Of God</i>	Ejie Ifeoma Ogbonnaya

Panel 5: Literature, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Dr Virginia O. Eze

Rapporteur: Dr Oluchi Okeugo

Venue: ROOM 314, Department of English & Literay Studies, UNN

Time: 9 am – 11 am

	Paper title	Name
1.	Ethnic conflicts and challenges of nation building in Nigeria: perspectives in Chimamanda Adichie's <i>Half of a Yellow Sun</i>	Ozoemena Johnkenedy Azubuike, Ngwoke, Festus Uwakwe & Kalu, Obasi Kalu
2.	Durkheim's theory of function and chinua acheb's <i>anthills of the savannah</i>	Dorothy Ogochukwu Eze and Grace Mgbosorochukwu Nwasogwa
3.	Interlocutory Linguistic Unintelligibility and Inter-Ethnocultural Dysconnectivity as Constraints to Nigerian Cohesion	Virginia Obioma Eze, Florence Onyebuchi Orabueze, & Ifeyinwa David-Ojukwu
4.	The Dilemma of a failing Nigerian State and Trope of Reorientation in Festus Iyayi's <i>Heroes</i>	Chukwuka Eugene Ofie, PhD.
5.	Maternal ambivalence and ethnic identity in Emecheta's <i>The Joys Motherhood</i>	Nebolisa, Carolyn Ifeyinwa
6.	Environmental Sustainability through Herbal Medication: A Comparative Study of Eco-Feminist Representation in Achebe's <i>Things Fall Apart</i> and Kincaid's <i>Annie John</i>	Oluchi Chris Okeugo
7.	Representing race and ethnicity in Nnedi Okarafo's <i>She Who Fears Death And She Who Knows</i>	Omajuwa Oguguo & Solomon Onovwiom

Panel 6: Literature, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Dr Chibuzo Onunkwo

Rapporteur: Ms Henrietta Okafor

Venue: ROOM 308, Department of English & Literary Studies, Faculty of Arts Complex B,
UNN

Time: 9 am – 11 am

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Unhomeliness and Escapism in Meg Vandermerwe's <i>Zebra Crossing</i>	Ekwuru, Praise Onyinyechi and Chigbu, Andrew Chigbu
2.	Ethnic Problems And The Nigerian Civil War In Chukwuemeka Ike's <i>Sunset At Dawn</i>	Dr. Nwanneka Christiana Chinedu and Ibekwe, Thaddeus Osinakachukwu
3.	Ethnic supremacy and African underdevelopment in chinua achebe's arrow of God and anthills of the savannah: a literary response	Chibuzo Onunkwo & Chigbu Andrew Chigbu
4.	Ethnicity and Ethnic Conflict in Esiaba Irobi's <i>Hangmen Also Die</i> and Fidelis Okoro's <i>Joys of War</i>	Henrietta Okafor.
5.	Dying With Dignity As A Tribal Weapon In Achebe's <i>Anthill Of The Savannah</i>	Steve Olughu Oko

6.	Nation and narration in modern Nigerian literature: a study of ngozi chuma-udeh's echoes of a new dawn	Chigozie Simon Okeakpu & Francisca Ifeoma Nwafor
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Panel 7: Language, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Professor Laz Ogenyi

Rapporteur: Esther Nwakire

Venue: ROOM 314, Department of English & Literary Studies, Faculty of Arts Complex B,
UNN Time: 11 am – 1 pm

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Language as a Panacea for Contemporary Socio-economic Development in Nigeria	Samuel Enudi
2.	Understanding Intercultural Communication through the Utterances of Selected Interracial Couples on Social Media	Esther N. Nwakaire, Ifeoma Precious Oriaku & Onyinyechi Gift Agbo
3.	Language and culture: the major paraphernalia for ethnic identification	Mercy Chiaka Okoye
4.	Dissolving the concrete walls of ethnicity in Nigeria: the role of humility	Basil O. Nwokolo
5.	Psycho effects of societal influence on language among users of English as a second language	Lucy Chinwa Nweke
6.	Language of Tribal Bigotry in African Politics: Nigeria Experience	Ngozi Anyachonkeya & Nwando Onyejebu
7.	Love and the Issues of Lack in the Poetry of Remi Raji and Obari Gomba	Nkama Obo Akaji

Panel 8: Language, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Dr Moses Melefa

Rapporteur: Ifeyinwa David-Ojukwu

Venue: Interactive Learning Centre, Department of English & Literary Studies, UNN

Time: 11 am – 1 pm

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Discourse of tribe and ethnicity on x platform	Isaiah I. Agbo, Goodluck, C. Kadiri, Moisola G. Aliu, Josephine N. Akah & Anthony C. Ajah
2.	Ethnicity and Language Choice: An Ecolinguistic Appraisal of Social Media War in Nigeria	Uche Ken Chukwu, PhD, Chioma Chinedu-Oko, PhD, & Chukwuka Chukwueke
3.	Ethno-regional identity, western ideologies and media framing strategies in #EndSARS protest	Ifeyinwa David-Ojukwu, Florence O. Orabueze, Stella Okoye-Ugwu, Virginia Obioma Eze & Chinedu Ejezie
4.	A critical discourse analysis of ethnic stereotyping in Nigerian political discourse	Ogechi C. Unachukwu, Amaka G. Nwuche, Goodluck C. Kadiri & Benice N. Ogbochie
5.	Fractured Identities, Forgotten Humanity: A Representation of War as an Outcome of Ethnic Rivalry in Veronique Tadjó's <i>The Shadow of Imana</i>	Anthonia-Greg Nwanekwu Chibuoike & Caroline Olubunmi Nwaka
6.	Bina Jennifer Efidi: The face of political violence in 2023 Election in Lagos, Nigeria.	Ngozika Anthonia Obi-ani (PhD)& Sam-Igbo Precious Adimchi
7.	Politeness in Language Use among Subordinated Group: A Success Mantra for Social Cohesion	Prof. Fidelia Azuka Okeke

Panel 8: The Law, Media, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Professor Clara Obi-Ochiabutor

Rapporteur: Barr Chiamaka Orabueze

Venue: ROOM 310, Department of English & Literary Studies,

Time: 11 am – 1 pm

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Ethnicity, minority rights and constitutionalism in Africa: revisiting the Nigerian question	Chidebe Matthew Nwankwo,
2.	Influence of tribalism on presidential elections in Nigeria	Chiama Orabueze, Ibuchukwu Okonkwo, Florence Orabueze & Clara Obi0
3.	Ethnicity, religion and underdevelopment in Nigeria	Augustine Chijioke Emele, Chike Onyeacho & Ifeanyi. E. Iwundu
4.	Good governance as a panacea to ethnic conflicts in Nigeria	Denis Boniface Umoh & Ogar Ferdinand Ebi
5.	Freedom of religion in contemporary Nigeria and its implication for security	Happiness K. Ogiri

6.	Evaluating Ethnic Identity on Political Communication Patterns in Nigeria	Somtochukwu Victor Okeke, Peace Nwamaka Ojonta, ThankGod Ekene Ugwuanyi & Dorathy Ngozi Ugwuja
7.	Politics, Tribe and Ethnicity in Africa	Ogbodo Chijioke Sunday
8.	The Role of Academic Libraries in Promoting Tolerance among Ethnic Groups in Academic Environment	Dr. Promise Ilo, Ehikioya Emmanuel Ehimen & Nwachi, Chiegonu

Panel 8: African Identity, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Prof Ifeanyi Iwundu

Rapporteur Dr Ijeoma Ogbonne

Venue: ROOM 312, Department of English & Literary Studies, Faculty of Arts Complex B, UNN

Time: 9 am – 11 am

S/N	Titles of Abstracts	Authors
1.	Neopatrimonialism and the Persistence of Ethnic Politics in Nigeria's Fourth Republic	Kenneth Chinedu Asogwa & Ijeoma Pauline Ogbonne
2.	The Activist's Dilemma: Unpacking the Complexities of Ethnicity, Tribe, Nationalism and State-Building in Africa	Linda Ngozika Ugadu
3.	Bridging Divides: Ethnic Identity and National Cohesion in Post-Colonial States	Ike-Nwachukwu Ihuoma Nwanyieze
4.	Ethnicity, tribe and the quest for cohesion in African states: Multidisciplinary reflections	Chukwuemeka Raphael Oledibe, Ifeanyichukwu Michael Abada & Augustine Obi Okeke
5.	Exploring the Impact of Renewable Energy and Environmental Risks on Economic Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa	Abada Chika Felicia
6.	Ethnicity, Tribe and the Quest for Cohesion in Nigeria: A Maritime Perspective on Niger Delta	Echezona Chukwujekwu Davidson & Fred Achoru, Josiah Ogbuka, Ikenna Amuka
7.	The Economics of Tribal and Ethnic Conflicts in Africa	Ozor Benjamin Aninweokwu
8.	Political Economy of Ethnicism in African World War	Abraham, Chisom Sophy, Okeke, Obi Augustine & Vincent, Rejoice Ifebuche
9.	Relationship Between Herbal Medicine And Western Medicine	Onwugbufor Chijioke Frank
10.	'They Were Neither Brothers nor Men': An Interrogation of Conflict of Masculinities between	Vitalis Nwashindu

	the <i>Ijekebe</i> and the <i>Wawa</i> 'Men' in Colonial Enugu, 1909-1960	
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Panel 9: African Heritage, Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Dr Joy Ejikeme

Rapporteur: Dr. Chika Ojukwu

Venue: ROOM 310, Department of English & Literary Studies, Faculty of Arts Complex B, UNN

Time: 9 am – 11 am

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Ethnic Relations in Pre-Colonial African Societies and Lessons for the Modern African States	Dr Christopher Ike Uhere
2.	Ethnic favouritism and its socio-economic implications: challenges and pathways toward African integration	Ezinwanne Ekekwe, Dominic C. Onyejegbu, Jeffrey M. Ibeh, Chiedozie O. Okafor
3.	Cultural Tourism and Social Cohesion in Nigeria: Exploring the Potential for Intercultural Dialogue	Joy Nneka Uchenye, Ejikeme
4.	The role of artificial intelligence and big data in marine preservation	Ikechukwu Chime
5.	Determinants of attitudes towards breast cancer examination among women in Nsukka Local Government Area, Enugu State	Chioma Eunice Akaebe, Okereafor Adaugo Stephanie & Ijeoma Igwe
6.	Ethnicity, ethnic conflicts and migration: its effects on tourism and development	Olumuyiwa A. Akande and Edward Itoyum
7.	The Role Of Education In Fostering National Identity And Social Cohesion	Jasper Ejikeme

Panel 10: Historical Perspectives to Ethnicity and National Cohesion

Chair: Prof Victor Ukaogo

Rapporteur: Dr Ndidi Obele

Venue: ROOM 308, Department of English & Literary Studies, Faculty of Arts Complex B, UNN

Time: 11 am – 1 pm

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Historicizing the concept of ethnicity in Nigeria development	Isaac Chinyere Madukw, & Emmanuel T. Eyeh
2.	Ethnicity and tribalism as bane for national tension: assessment of President Tinubu's key political appointments since coming to power	Ndidi O. Obele PhD & Egbute Otuu Ikechukwu PhD
3.	Tribe and Economy of Okpaka: A study of its people	Saba, Habibat Ladidi
4.	Youth engagement and social media's role in shaping ethnic perceptions and unity in Nigeria	Fatima D. Adepoju
5.	Evaluating ethnic identity on political communication patterns in Nigeria	Somtochukwu Okeke, Peace Nwamaka Ojonta, Thankgod Ekene Ugwuanyi & Dorothy Ngozi Ugwuja
6.	Student Interaction Moves: Features and Pattern	Chukwunyer Daberechi Goodness
7.	They widened the lines that separate us: a study on the effect of colonialism on African nations	Chiamaka Chukwunwike
8.	Turn-Taking, Conversational Strategies and Identity Construction in Football Discourse among Fans in Nsukka Metropolis	Jumbo Daniel & Joeek Ekwueme (Ph.D.)
9.	Muslim-Muslim Ticket: Ethnic And Religious Influence In 2023 General Election In Nigeria	Mrs. Maria Alege, Miss Margaret Oluwaseun Okolocha & Ikechukwu Otuu Egbuta, PhD
10.	The Influence of Ethnicity and Tribe on the Spread of Arboviral Infections: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Understanding and Mitigating Transmission	Ibuchukwu Nkeonyenasoya Orabueze, Chaimaka Ifeatu Orabueze, Shedrach Chikezie Emeribe, Samuel Onuzulike Ebode, Martin Ekechukwu Ohanu, Florence Onyebuchi Orabueze & Uchenna Chinedu Ozumba

Panel 11: Ethnicity, National Cohesion and Theatrical Implications

Chair: Professor Uche Nwaozuzu

Rapporteur: Dr Godstime Eze

Venue: ROOM 312, Department of English & Literary Studies, Faculty of Arts Complex B, UNN

Time: 11 am – 1 pm

S/N	Paper title	Name
1.	Ethnicity and national cohesion among Netizens in the Nigerian social media space	Godstime Eze, Uche Chinemere Nwaozuzu & Somtochukwu Ogbuehi
2.	Tribe and economy of Okpaka: A study of its people	Saba Habibat Ladidi
3.	Decoding cultural identity in Zulu Sofola's <i>Old Wines Are Tasty</i>	Lizzy-Janeonyebuchukwu Egbuchiem
4.	Politics of ethnicity in Chinua Achebe's <i>There was a Country</i> : A personal history of Biafra	Chijioke Paul Anih
5.	Rigidity: the bane of peaceful tribal coexistence in Ola Rotimi's <i>Kurunmi</i>	Joy Nwakaego Ogota
6.	Promoting Cohesion Through Animated Proverbs; A Functionalist Study Of <i>Beautifulplateauproverbs</i> On Youtube	Manta G. Yadok

Panel 12: Virtual

Chair: Engr. Sikiru Salau

Rapporteur: Dr Modesta Ezema

Date: 20th February 2025

Venue: Zoom

Time: 11 am – 1 pm

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

LANGUAGE OF TRIBAL BIGOTRY IN AFRICAN POLITICS: NIGERIA EXPERIENCE

Ngozi Anyachonkeya¹ & Nwando Onyejegbu²

Department of English and Literary Studies,

Imo State University, Owerri

Institute of African Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

nganyachonkeya@imsuonline.edu.ng/08039203921

Abstract

The paper examines the language of tribal politics in Nigeria politics. It observes that in Nigeria every pursuit that affects Nigerians is a political matter that must be decided politically; even indigenous languages constitute serious political parameter for decision-making and implementation. Since language permeates all activities of a people, political bigotry has certain diction with which it can be identified. The paper is agitated that tribal bigotry is both social and political cankerworm that has eaten very deep into the fabric of Nigeria polity and the salient reason Nigeria has not been making appreciable progress among the comity of nations since Independence. Should Nigeria remain “Obi is a boy!” and stagnate, descend into a subterranean abyss, or disintegrate into oblivion? The paper thinks aloud in the research questions it has come up with in the intent to interrogate the problem that has necessitated this inquiry; it is confident that if the language of tribal bigotry is erased and decolonized from the mindset of the political elite as well as the Civil Service technocrats and the University policymakers, “Obi”, who has ever remained “a boy”, will quickly gallop to meet up with his developmental tasks to become a full-grown man. The paper is a sociolinguistic study as this subfield of linguistics is about society and domiciles in the society. The study is developed through explication of relevant literature.

Keywords: tribal politics, language of tribal bigotry, sociolinguistics, decolonization

CULTURAL DUALISM AND DISPLACEMENT IN BUCHI EMETA'S *THE NEW TRIBE*

Dr Thomas-Michael Emeka Chukwumezie

Department of English and Literary Studies

University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

Abstract

This study will examine the challenges of identity formation and belonging experienced by the protagonist, Chester, whose British citizenship could not assuage his longing for his root. The novel portrays Chester's conflicted sense of self as he struggles to reconcile the dreams of his African heritage and main stream British culture as an adopted child to a British family. Hinged on Ethnic Studies, the study delineates Chester's double consciousness that led to his first visit to Nigeria in search of his root. The broader implications of cultural displacement on identity, as well as the intersections of cultural heritage, familial ties and self-perception were critically examined. Although the visit eventually proved very disastrous and disappointing, but it helped Chester on his return to England to embrace his dual heritage that colours his sense of self.

Keywords: Cultural dualism, Double-Consciousness, Ethnic Studies, Identity, New Tribe.

**ETHNIC SUPREMACY AND AFRICAN UNDERDEVELOPMENT IN CHINUA
ACHEBE'S *ARROW OF GOD* AND *ANTHILLS OF THE SAVANNAH*: A LITERARY
RESPONSE**

Chibuzo Onunkwo & Chigbu Andrew Chigbu
Department of English and Literacy Studies
University of Nigeria, Nsukka

chibuzo.onunkwo@unn.edu.ng / Andrew.chigbu@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

The problem of African underdevelopment has continued to generate debates and arguments among scholars from various fields of human study. It is a question that has engaged the founding fathers of African nationalities like Patrick Lumumba, erstwhile president of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah, Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe of Nigeria and the host of others scholars. As a result of this problems, several causes were attributed as major causes of African underdevelopment such as wars, diseases, corruption such as wars, diseases, corruption and embezzlement of public funds. On the other hand, large scale globalization and slave trade is attributed as another source of African underdevelopment. However, there is another aspect of African underdevelopment which recent studies has not sufficiently focused on, that is, the problem of ethnic supremacy and African underdevelopment. In Achebe's two novels, *Arrow of God* and *Anthills of the Savannah*, the texts examine how ethnic supremacy has undermined African growth and development prior to the arrival of western imperialism and colonialism, and also how it has undermined development efforts in modern African states. It is the argument of this paper that notwithstanding several causes attributed as the reasons for African underdevelopment, ethnic supremacy is a major source of African underdevelopment which this paper addresses using two novels of Chinua Achebe.

Keywords: Ethnic supremacy, African underdevelopment, colonialism, corruption, wars, diseases

**PROMOTING COHESION THROUGH ANIMATED PROVERBS; A FUNCTIONALIST
STUDY OF *BEAUTIFUL PLATEAU PROVERBS* ON YOUTUBE**

Manta G. Yadok
Department of English and Literary studies
Federal University Wukari, Taraba State, Nigeria.
Email; manta@fuwukari.edu.ng/08038065960

ABSTRACT

Nigeria is the most culturally diverse country in Africa with over two hundred and fifty (250) ethnic groups and over five hundred (500) dialects. Power mongers have been taking advantage of Nigeria's ethnic plurality to create divisions and increase tensions among the various cultural groups. Accordingly, this informs the need to promote and teach cohesion among the different ethnic groups in order to fortify the nation's seeming fragile bond of unity. This study intends to demonstrate how cohesion can be achieved through animated proverbs, using four ethnic groups of Plateau State - Tarok, Berom, Ngas and Mwaghavul – to make a case. The research investigates selected proverbs of the aforementioned languages from a compendium of animated proverbs published on a YouTube channel

known as *Beautiful Plateau Proverbs*. Plateau State, located in North-Central Nigeria, is a home to over 53 native languages. Thus, the paper argues that the quest for cohesion is not entirely new but had been in existence among most ethnic groups as encapsulated in their proverbs. The overarching theme of cohesion is presented through the sub-themes of tolerance, harmonious co-existence, and hard work. The study anchors on functionalist theory which posits that every work of orature must satisfy some important cultural, social or psychological function for the cohesion and stability of the society. On the whole, the paper reveals that proverbs still remain a vibrant tool in teaching and promoting cohesion especially among youths of the present generation who tend to be more divisive due to political and economic realities, and this highlights the role of content creators or digital ethnographers in promoting cohesion through their works.

Keywords: Plateau proverbs, animation, cohesion, orature, and functionalism.

Politeness in Language Use among Subordinated Group: A Success Mantra for Social Cohesion

Prof. Fidelia Azuka Okeke

Department of English, Faculty of Arts, Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam

fideazuksokeke@yahoo.com/fa.okeke@coou.edu.ng

08037577311

In any speech community, participants strive for a purposeful communication in order to create mutual intelligibility through appropriate use of language. The contextual nature of language enables users to employ it directly or indirectly. In a social context, language could be used directly when users sense a seeming correspondence between what is said and what is meant, without creating any form of ambiguities or complexities. On the other hand, when used indirectly, it breaks the conventional denotative interpretation giving way for meaning to be inferred indirectly. Politeness in Language use among subordinated group is, to a great extent, considered in this paper as a success mantra for social cohesion. Politeness can be said to be "the oil with which a successful communication is achieved" without which there will be catastrophe and infidelity among language users in a speech community. This study anchored on Geoffrey Leech's (1983) Politeness theory that stipulates six politeness principles, five scales that determine the degree of application of the principles and the situations that account for them. A qualitative research design was employed allowing for a textual analysis of sampled utterances. It was discovered that pragmatic competence could be attained by language users through politeness strategies: being clear (which incorporates Gricean maxims) in expressions and being polite (which incorporates avoiding imposing, giving others options and being friendly). It was concluded that politeness is very crucial in achieving tolerance and mutual intelligibility for social cohesion, irrespective of class, sex, education or age among subordinated groups. Recommendations were made, among others, that interlocutors should use language politely to allow for progress, peace, respect and security which are indices for social cohesion. Again, subordinated groups should be united in pursuing their target goals and combating their challenges together. The study contributed to knowledge by investigating and discovering some of the factors responsible for tribal or ethnic oppression of subordinated communities in our societies and by emphasising on the relevance of applying politeness principles by interlocutors to ensure security, peaceful coexistence and progress among subordinated groups.

Keywords: Politeness, Language Use, Pragmatic Competence, Subordinated Group, Mantra and Social Cohesion

ETHNICITY, ETHNIC CONFLICTS AND MIGRATION: ITS EFFECTS ON TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT

Olumuyiwa A. Akande¹ and Edward Itoyum²

¹Tourism and Development Programme, Department of Sustainability Studies,
University of Ibadan, Nigeria

and,

²Department of Psychology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Corresponding: muyiwaakande2@gmail.com

edwarditoyum@gmail.com

Abstract

The idea of migration has been a human phenomenon from time immemorial. It is an established fact that human beings are mobile beings and their mobile tendencies are justified based on several reasons. Ethnicity and ethnic conflicts have been the spotlight on which most migration find its way within the scope of human existence. People leave their locations due to ethnic conflicts and also based on ethnic marginalization from their original location. The objectives of this paper are to examine the effect of ethnicity on migration, to examine the extent of damage caused by ethnic conflicts and to understand the effect of ethnic conflicts on tourism and development. The study would adopt quantitative techniques containing secondary data obtained from literature by virtue of the view of other scholars on the subject matter. The results of the data being analyzed would serve as the baseline for the understanding of ethnic crisis and its effects on tourism and development. Conclusions around the study would be made and these conclusions would be based on analytical results of the data and submission of respective scholars. Recommendations would be made suggesting the remedies to the ending of ethnic conflicts and its devastating effect on migration and development.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Ethnic conflicts, Migration, Tourism, Development.

Women, Ethnicity, and Resilience: Exploring Gendered Narratives in Chukwuemeka Ike's Sunset at Dawn and the Nigerian Biafran War

Mary J. N. Okolie, PhD & Ihuoma Nwanyieze Ike-Nwachukwu

English Department

University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Mary.okolie@unn.edu.ng/+2348038826565

Orcid ID: 0000-0001-7896-2726

Abstract

This paper examines the intersection of women, ethnicity, and the Nigerian Biafran War through the lens of Chukwuemeka Ike's novel *Sunset at Dawn* (1976). By focusing on the experiences of female characters during the tumultuous period of the Nigerian Civil War (1967-1970), the study explores how gender and ethnic identities shaped their roles in the conflict. Through a nuanced portrayal of women's emotional, psychological, and social realities, Ike offers a critique of the war's impact on both

individual lives and broader societal structures. The paper analyzes how women, as both victims and active participants, navigate the shifting boundaries of ethnicity and nationhood, reflecting on their complex positions within the Biafran cause. By engaging with the thematic concerns of ethnic nationalism and gender, the study aims to illuminate how *Sunset at Dawn* contributes to our understanding of the war's multi-dimensional effects on Nigerian society, particularly in terms of the marginalization and resilience of women. The novel thus serves as a valuable text for understanding the intersectionality of ethnic conflict, gender, and the human experience during one of Africa's most significant wars.

Keywords: Women and War, Ethnicity and Nationalism, Nigerian Biafran War, Gender and Conflict, Chukwuemeka Ike, *Sunset at Dawn*

ETHNO-REGIONAL IDENTITY, WESTERN IDEOLOGIES AND MEDIA FRAMING STRATEGIES IN #ENDSARS PROTEST

¹Ifeyinwa David-Ojukwu*, ¹Florence O. Orabueze, ¹Stella U. N. Okoye-Ugwu,
Virginia O. Eze & Chinedu Ejezie

¹Department of English, Faculty of Arts, University of Nigeria, Nsukka*
ifeyinwa.david-ojukwu@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

National issues embodied in the #EndSARS protest, and represented in Nigeria's media, were observed in extant studies to have been contextualised on ethno-regional identity, which informed the media bias in how these critical issues were coded. This study furthers the conversation by using Critical Discourse Analysis and Cultural Discourse Studies to interrogate the framing strategies adopted in selected Nigeria's and international media in thematising the national issues that morphed into the protest. The study seeks to show that beyond the influences of ethno-regional cleavages, western ideology with its polarisation perspectives were equally contextualised which shaped how various media maximised linguistic resources as framing strategies in the representations of police brutality, bad governance, criminality, and other social vices that organised the #EndSARS protest. Media bias could also have implications for the violence that characterised the protest.

Keywords: Nigeria's multiculturalism, white supremacy ideologies, #EndSARS protest, ethno-regional identity, media bias, Critical Discourse Analysis and Cultural Discourse Studies

CLIMATE CHANGE LITIGATION: A RISING TREND IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Anyachebelu, Chijioke Nnamdi
Institute of Maritime Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
nnamdi.anyachebelu@unn.edu.ng/08100718970

Abstract

This paper provides an overview of the environmental laws and climate change litigation as a rising trend in environmental law. It explains the term environment according to different international and local legal frameworks, as well as considers the meaning of environmental law. The paper explores the

conceptual analysis of climate change as an upshot of environmental law as well as climate change litigation as a way of promoting government and corporate accountability. It further considers landmark climate-related cases highlighting the role these cases have played in compelling states to adopt more ambitious greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, whilst emphasizing a right-based approach to climate change, mitigation and adaptation measures. Furthermore, the paper considers the legal grounds for climate change litigation which includes green-washing and climate washing, polluter damages, fundamental human rights-based claim, fossil-fuel, corporate accountability, increased climate disclosure, ESG backlash etc. as well as discuss certain emerging global trends on issues relating to climate change litigation. Overall, the findings of the paper deduct that climate change litigation is a powerful tool for promoting government and corporations accountability as well as a mechanism for ensuring the promotion of a healthier and safer environment.

Keywords: Climate Change, Environmental Laws, Climate Change Litigation, and Human Rights

Ethnicity, Colonial Borders and the Challenge of National Unity in Ngugi wa Thiong'o's *Wizard of the Crow* and Zakes Mda's *The Heart of Redness*

Eze, Chidiebere Chukwuemeka (*University of Nigeria, Nsukka*)

Email: eze.chidiebere@unn.edu.ng

Phone: 08060204835

Abstract

Coloniality refers to the lingering effects of colonialism long after formal colonial rule has ended. Despite decades of independence, African nations continue to grapple with numerous colonial legacies, including ethnic fragmentations that were arbitrarily created to serve imperial interests. These ethnic borders extend beyond physical and territorial divisions to encompass cultural, linguistic, political, economic and psychological dimensions. As a result, these borders shape postcolonial struggles and pose significant challenges to national cohesion. Both *Wizard of the Crow* by Ngugi wa Thiong'o and *The Heart of Redness* by Zakes Mda explore how these colonial borders undermine national unity. While these texts have been examined through various thematic and theoretical lenses, they have rarely been analyzed at the intersection of ethnicity, colonial borders and the challenge of national unity. This study employs decolonial perspectives from Aníbal Quijano and Walter Dignolo to challenge imposed ethnic hierarchies and promote solidarity among diverse African identities. Ngugi's novel suggests that unity is possible through political resistance and collective action, while Mda's work advocates for cultural hybridity by proposing an inclusive national identity that reconciles indigenous epistemologies and Western modernization. The study concludes that cohesion in African states can be achieved through cultural reclamation, linguistic decolonization and resistance to neocolonial forces.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Colonial Borders, National Unity, Decoloniality, Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's *Wizard of the Crow*, Zakes Mda's *The Heart of Redness*

**'They Were Neither Brothers nor Men': An Interrogation of Conflict of Masculinities
between the *Ijekebe* and the *Wawa* 'Men' in Colonial Enugu, 1909-1960**

Vitalis Nwashindu
Department of History,
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
vitalis@uwm.edu

The study examines the social stratification of masculinities and maleness in colonial Enugu. It argues that apart from the racial binary of black and white that shaped the categorization of men, there was geographically enhanced stratification of Igbo men in the order of relevance and importance in colonial Enugu. Using the concept of Geographical Determinism, the paper underscores the intra-Igbo conflict over masculinity and maleness between the Northern Igbo people (*Wawa*), and the Southern Igbo men (*Ijekebe*) in the coal mines, urban politics, education, and the economy. The impact of the clash of masculinities among the Igbo in undermining social cohesion and resistance movements in colonial space will be examined. The study underscores the intersection between intra-ethnic geopolitics and colonialism in the un(making) of maleness and identities in colonial Enugu.

Keywords: Masculinities, colonialism, urbanity, Enugu, conflict

ISSUES IN AFRICAN LITERARY RESEARCH: KEY CHALLENGES

George Ijezie-Asoegwu
Department of English, Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam
georgeasoegwu@gmail.com/08037437528

Abstract

African literature refers to the literature of and for the African people. African literature is different from American, European, Asian or any other literature in terms of its experience and values. African literature helps to promote cultural heritage of the continent and helps to foster cross-cultural understanding among multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural nations in Africa and beyond. It is used to provide historical context of the continent as well as the impact of colonization, slave trade and apartheid regime. African literature is used to tackle social issues in the African society, such as poverty, inequality, corruption and human rights. It is used to address certain happenings in the society, spark up important conversations and reflections. African literature is gaining attention of many scholars both Africans and non Africans. However, African literary research presents a major challenge for researchers across the continent. Some of these challenges include Language and cultural issues. Some scholars believe that African literature must be written in African language otherwise it is no longer an African literature. Others have a contrary view. Also, a large portion of African literature are oral literature which require a specialized research methods to capture and interpret performances and narratives. Besides, the linguistic diversity of the continent makes it difficult to translate a particular work into all the different languages in the continent thereby creating a gap. Other challenges include: lack of adequate archives and libraries for African literary works, lack of funding for African literary research, lack of institutional support, amongst others. This paper tends to address all of these key challenges in African literary research and proffer a solutions to these challenges.

Key words: African literature, African languages, Cultures and Historical context.

Psycho-effects of Societal Influence on Language among Users of English as a Second Language

Lucy Chinwe Nweke (PhD)

Department of English

Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam Campus

08030775357 nwekelucyc@gmail.com.

Abstract

This study explores the psycho impacts of societal influences on language among the second language users of English. It evaluates the place of societal pressure such as power dynamics, language attitudes, anxiety, biases and stereotypes on language use and psychological well-being of second language users of English. This paper anchors on Social Identity theory of Taffel and Turner, 1979 as its framework of analysis. Using purposive sampling technique for data collection, a population of 100 participants are selected. It is observed that the awareness of the societal influence on the second language use suggests promoting inclusive communication. Also, the results show that individual's language use is closely tied to their social identity, self-esteem, and sense of belonging. This study therefore recommends an understanding of the intricate relationships between language, society, and human psyche, highlighting the need for a quest of fostering empathy and understanding, leading to more inclusive social cohesion by promoting inclusivity and diversity in language education policies, prioritizing effective communication over grammatical perfection, and raising awareness about language anxiety, bias, and stereotype.

Keywords: language attitudes, identity, anxiety, societal influence, social cohesion

THEY WIDENED THE LINES THAT SEPARATE US: A STUDY ON THE EFFECT OF COLONIALISM ON AFRICAN NATIONS

Chiamaka Chukwunwike

Department of English and Literary Studies,

University of Nigeria, Nsukka

chukwunwikechiamaka@gmail.com/08107285966

Abstract

Africa, in spite of her many cultures and diversities, is reputed for her culture of brotherliness and unity. The Ubuntu spirit – I am because we are – has been a guiding philosophy for the Africans nurturing a communal existence where there is oneness even in her differences. Unfortunately, the invasion of the colonists disrupted this unity through its imposition of colonial borders which led to the creation of artificial nation-states. These imposed boundaries highlighted the differences in the African nations to the benefit of the colonists and the detriment of the Africans. Using the border theory, through a qualitative methodology, this study examines how the colonists fostered division and conflict in the African state and how they exploited this division to maintain control in Africa by favouring one ethnic group over another while instigating genocide and civil wars as evidenced in Nigeria represented in Chimamanda Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun*. Furthermore, it seeks to show the impact of colonialism on ethnic and tribal ties in Africa.

Keywords: Colonialism, Borders, Africa, Tribal Ties, Politics

Consciousness, Hybridity and Politics of Identity in Chimamanda Adichie's *Purple Hibiscus* and Chidubem Iweka's *Ancient Curse*.

Ikegbunam, Chinemerem Chidubem & Kenneth C. Ahaiwe (Ph.D)
Department of English and Literary Studies,
University of Nigeria Nsukka.
dubemchinnie@gmail.com/07039248255

Abstract

This paper explores the intersection of consciousness, hybridity and identity politics in Chimamanda Adichie's *Purple Hibiscus* and Chidubem Iweka's *Ancient Curse*. Through a postcolonial lens, this study examines how both authors deploy hybridity as a narrative strategy to represent the complex, fragmented, and multiply-located consciousness of their protagonists. By analyzing how Adichie and Iweka negotiate the tensions between traditional and modern, local and global, and indigenous and foreign, this research reveals the politics of identity that underpin their works. Ultimately this paper argues that the novel offers a nuanced portrayal of the hybridized consciousness of contemporary Nigerians, one that reflects the complexities of living in a postcolonial, globalized world.

Keywords: Consciousness, Hybridity, Identity politics, Postcolonialism, Globalization, Mimicry, African literature.

Environmental Sustainability through Herbal Medication: A Comparative Study of Eco-Feminist Representation in Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* and Kincaid's *Annie John*

Oluchi Chris Okeugo
Department of English and Literary Studies University of Nigeria Nsukka
oluchi.okeugo@unn.edu.ng
08063276460

Abstract

This comparative study engages the intersections of environmental sustainability, herbal medication, and eco-feminist representation in Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* and Jamaica Kincaid's *Annie John*. Through a critical eco-feminist lens, this research examines how these iconic novels deploy herbal medication as a catalyst for environmental sustainability, while concurrently subverting patriarchal norms that perpetuate ecological degradation. Achebe's depiction of Igbo herbalism and Kincaid's portrayal of Caribbean folk medicine are juxtaposed to reveal the ways in which women's knowledge and agency are crucial to environmental sustainability. This study contends that the novels' eco-feminist representations not only challenge dominant Western epistemologies but also underscore the imperative of indigenous knowledge systems in mitigating environmental degradation. Ultimately,

this research demonstrates that herbal medication can serve as a powerful tool for environmental sustainability, while also highlighting the need for a more inclusive and equitable approach to ecological conservation.

Keywords: Environmental Sustainability, Herbal Medication, Eco-Feminism, Postcolonial Literature, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Ecological Conservation

UNHOMELINESS AND ESCAPISM IN MEG VANDERMERWE'S *ZEBRA CROSSING*

Ekwurur, Praise Onyinyechi & Chigbu, Andrew Chigbu
Department of English and Literary Studies
University of Nigeria, Nsukka
Email: ekwurupraise33@gmail.com/07058109157

Abstract

This paper explores the critical layers of unhomeliness and escapism in Meg Vandermerwe's *Zebra Crossing*. Drawing from the postcolonial and psychoanalytic theories of Homi Bhabha and Sigmund Freud, the study interrogates the intricate dynamics between unhomeliness and escapism, shedding light on their profound physical and psychological impacts on some of the characters in the narrative world. The paper discovers that the feeling of unhomeliness does not only stem from the places of ex-territorial and cross-cultural initiations but also the socio-cultural stigma and concomitant marginalization associated with existing genetic conditions, like albinism. It also finds that escapism is often deployed by the character victims as a defence mechanism as well as a coping strategy, irrespective of the fact that it only offers temporary relief. The paper argues that the reconstruction and reconstitution of the discourse of cultural, racial, or ethnic difference cannot be complete until the genetically, physically, or mentally challenged individuals are given a sense of belonging in the domains of psychic and social identifications. It concludes by calling for reevaluation and rearticulation of some of our African settled beliefs that create the sense of otherness, for it will help provide the real escape route for the postcolonial malaise of unhomeliness within our socio-cultural space.

Key Words: unhomeliness, postcolonialism, escapism, psychoanalysis, albinism

STUDENT INTERACTION MOVES: FEATURES AND PATTERN

Chukwunyere Daberechi Goodness
Department of English, Faculty of Arts,
Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam
daberechichukwunyere@gmail.com/07038235038

Abstract

Discourse encompasses the complex interplay of language, context, and social dynamics in communication, shaping how individuals convey meaning, and construct shared understanding within various contexts. This paper investigated the various strategies employed by Nigerian students with a focus on discourses of students of Grace Court International School, Awka. It sought to find out how the discourse participant that initiates a talk can affect a conversation. The research employs a multi-step approach, beginning with data collection through recordings of random conversations of students outside the classroom, in the classroom and telephone conversations. Adopting Conversational Analysis as its theoretical framework, the study identified some features such as turn taking and move as well as some discourse genres. Through qualitative analysis of spoken interactions, the study uncovers patterns, linguistic strategies, and cultural influences shaping communication within this demographic. The findings contributed to understanding the dynamics of Nigerian student discourse, shedding light on language use and social interactions. In this study, we found out that follow up move is a reinforcement tool as it helps boost the confidence of students.

Keywords: Discourse, Language, Turn Taking and Turn Allocation

ETHNICITY, TRIBE AND THE QUEST FOR COHESION IN AFRICAN STATES; MULTIDISCIPLINARY REFLECTIONS

Chukwuemeka Raphael Oledibe, Abada Micheal Ifeanyichukwu & Okeke Augustine Obi
Department Of Political Science,
University Of Nigeria, Nsukka
Emysonoledibe@gmail.com
obi.okeke@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

The paper established, also focus on ethnicity/origin, clan and the quest for cohesion in African states-multidisciplinary reflections, verifiable data needed and solutions to African ethnic crisis and its implications in socio-political diversity in Africa, Nigeria in particular that religion, ethnicity and clan crisis has disintegrated the whole institutions and system that is currently affecting job opportunities, political economy and economic development. The focus/specific objectives of the paper are to determine with multidiscipline reflections studies that lead to united Africa states, with innovations like preaching against division, race, clannish minds and too religious minds that are eating deep in Africa, emphasis on the voting system and failure to maintain constitutional federal character sharing formula in Nigeria. If African leaders can be united actively not passively, and focus on unity and

diversity in this globalization era for African development, qualitative research was adopted, simple random technique was used, while focus discussion, documentation method in data collections and conflict theory explore how ethnic identity is formed, and changes over time, it examine power disparities and struggle between racial members and different clans. The second theory on unity and diversity which is shared identity theory that argues that with diverse backgrounds, individuals, can identify with a collective national identity based on shared values, history, and political principles. As the time frame of gathering this data, quest for unity in Africa states are taking Africa unity to its zenith, and unity in diversity currently curtail ethnic and clannish crisis in Africa, and descriptive design was launched that enhanced the paper. This paper made use of descriptive analysis, while the findings reveal that effective campaign for united Africa yield positivity results against division, ethnic crisis, xenophobic actions that affect Africa unity and development. Recommendations were put forward in order to tackle ethnic crisis and disunity, the paper generated lasting solutions to ethnic crisis and xenophobic activities.

KEYWORDS; Ethnicity, unity, diversity, clan and xenophobia

MATERNAL AMBIVALENCE AND ETHNIC IDENTITY IN EMECHETA'S *THE JOYS OF MOTHERHOOD*

NEBOLISA, CAROLYN IFEYINWA

School of General Studies, Department of Languages,
Federal Polytechnic, Oko, Anambra State

Email: nebolisacarol@gmail.com/ +2348034475028

Abstract

This paper examines maternal ambivalence and ethnic identity in Emecheta's *The Joys of Motherhood* through the lens of psychofeminism. Maternal ambivalence, often overlooked in African literary discourse, reflects how mothers in patriarchal society experience conflicting emotions of love, sacrifice and resentment. Set against the backdrop of colonial society, the novel depicts Nnu Ego's struggles as a mother within a socio-cultural context that prioritises motherhood as a woman's identity. This paper argues that Emecheta critiques patriarchal and colonial systems by exposing the psychological burden of maternal expectations and the restrictive connections of gender and ethnicity. The study adopts a qualitative method that employs textual analysis, exploring how maternal ambivalence emerges as a response to cultural expectations and economic constraints. The first objective is to investigate how maternal expectations psychologically affect Nnu Ego, and the second is to analyse the ways ethnic identity intensifies the challenges of motherhood, and complicate her role as both a mother and an individual. The study, therefore, discovers that Nnu Ego's maternal ambivalence stems from the clash between traditional Igbo values and the harsh realities of colonial modernity. Also, it highlights the dual oppression of patriarchy and colonialism. The paper concludes that Emecheta deconstructs romanticised notions of maternal sacrifice, presenting motherhood as a space of empowerment and entrapment. Furthermore, the study recommends exploration of maternal ambivalence in African gyno-texts to expand the discourse on women's experiences. Finally, the study advocates for a re-evaluation of cultural norms that perpetuate gender inequalities within the family.

Keywords: Maternal Ambivalence, Ethnic Identity, Psychofeminism, Patriarchy

The Dilemma of a failing Nigerian State and Trope of Reorientation in Festus Iyayi's *Heroes*

Chukwuka Eugene Ofie, PhD.

Department of English and Literary Studies,
Dennis Osadebay University, Asaba, Delta State, Nigeria.
Email Address: ofie.chukwuka@dou.edu.ng/+23408069763512

Abstract

This paper examines social realities in Festus Iyayi's *Heroes* as means of reorientating the citizenry about the socio-political impediment confronting them. This researcher demonstrates with examples from the text, how the author has done this and to what extent he has succeeded. The theoretical framework used for this study is the Sociological Theory of analyzing literary works. The reason for using Sociological Theory is because of Festus Iyayi's belief in literature serving the needs of the people and the society. Primary and secondary sources were used in the collection and analysis of the data. While the novel, *Heroes* constitute the primary source of the data, journals, internet articles and literary texts comprise the secondary sources. This investigation employs the content analysis approach to qualitative research.

Keywords: Reorientation, Sociological, Literature, People, Society.

TRIBE AND ECONOMY OF OKPAKA: A STUDY OF ITS PEOPLE

Saba, Habibat Ladidi

Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria Nsukka
e-mail address: habibat.saba@unn.edu.ng; phone No. +2347061804696

Abstract

Okpaka is a rural community in Koton-Karfe, Kogi Local Government, Kogi State, Nigeria. The people of Okpaka belong to the Egbira Koto ethnic group and speak the Egbira Koto language. They have a rich cultural heritage rooted in agriculture and traditional practices. The economic life of the people revolves around farming, fishing, and trade. Both men and women actively engage in farming, which serves as the primary means of livelihood. While men specialize in fishing, utilizing the local rivers and water bodies, women are primarily responsible for processing and selling fish. The traditional method of smoke-drying fish ensures preservation and makes it a valuable trade commodity in neighboring markets. Despite their economic activities, the people of Okpaka face several challenges, including limited access to modern farming equipment, lack of advanced fishing techniques, and inadequate infrastructure to support trade. The impact of modernization and economic development has been slow, leaving the community largely dependent on traditional economic practices. However, there are opportunities for growth, particularly in agricultural innovation, improved market access, and government support for rural farmers and traders. This paper explores the tribal identity and economic activities of the Okpaka people, highlighting their contributions to local trade and food production. It also examines the challenges they face and potential solutions for economic advancement. Understanding the socio-economic structure of Okpaka provides valuable insights into rural life in Kogi State and the broader Nigerian agricultural economy.

Keywords: Okpaka, Farming, Trade and Economy.

Ethnicity and Tribe in AfroCaribbean Poetry: A Call for African Unity in Kamau Brathwaite's *The Arrivants*

Abegunde, Clement Tayo (Ph D)
Department of English and Communication,
Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin

clemtayo2011@gmail.com, 07043882233/08096757655

Abstract

The African literature as we know it today has extended beyond the geographical boundary of the continent. This is because as people migrate, they move with their cultures and literatures. The migration of enslaved Africans to the new has made this possible. Hence the African literature is present in virtually all the Black world. This has been emphasised by Newell (2006) in her book, *West African Literature: Ways of Reading* and is observable in the interconnectivity and literary exchanges that take place between Africa and the rest of the Black world. This paper examines how Brathwaite's poetry collection approaches the issue of tribes and ethnicity in Africa in particular and Black world in general. *The Arrivants*, has been a call for African tribes and ethnic groups to unite in the fight/struggle for freedom from cultural alienation, stigma from the past history of slavery and take pride in their heritage. Selected poems in the collection are subjected to critical analysis with postcolonial theory as theoretical framework. Most of the poems are addressed to different ethnic groups in the continent. For instance, Ashante tribe in Ghana, tribes in Mali, Niger and other African tribes are not left out. This paper establishes AfroCaribbean poetry as off-shoot of African literature and advocates that it should be treated as such. It concludes that the call for African unification and cohesion is paramount to Kamau Brathwaite's poetic vision and it has influenced a handful of African poets who have patterned their works after his vision.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Tribe, Poetry, AfroCaribbean, *The Arrivants*, and unity.

CONTEMPORARY ORAL POETRY AS AN INSTRUMENT OF PAN-AFRICAN COHESION

Bizuum Godwill Yadok

Department of English, Federal University of Education Pankshin, Plateau State Nigeria

Phone: 08060924445 / Email: bizuumyadok@gmail.com

Abstract

Renowned Catholic priest and activist, Bishop Matthew Hassan Kukah, once remarked that ethnicity is like a knife, and that one could use it to cut vegetables or kill human beings. Sadly, ethnicity in Africa is being exploited for all the parochial reasons, which add to the numerous problems bedeviling Africa. Against the backdrop, this paper aims to highlight the imperative of contemporary oral poetry as an instrument of pan-African cohesion. Contemporary oral poetry, also known as live poetry, performance poetry, or spoken word, is a subgenre of modern African poetry that lies at the intersection

between traditional oral poetry and popular culture; it mostly uses English or other widely spoken languages as its medium of expression and it is easily adaptable to the new media. To buttress the relevance of contemporary oral poetry as an instrument of continental cohesion, the research will sample the works of two oral artists – Dike Chukwumerije from Nigeria and Lesogo Rampolokeng from South Africa – which will show the potential of contemporary oral poetry in recreating a cohesive pan-African identity. For the analysis of the works, the postcolonial literary theory and the functionalist theory will be engaged. It is hoped that the outcome of the research will lead to new approach of propelling inter-state cohesion across the African continent.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Poetry, Africa, Post-colonialism, and Functionalism

Ethnicity and National Cohesion among Netizens in the Nigerian Social Media Space.

Godstime Eze, Uche Chinemere Nwaozuzu & Somtochukwu Ogbuehi³

Institute of African Studies/ Theatre and Film Studies¹

Theatre and Film Studies²

English and Literary Studies³

University of Nigeria, Nsukka

godstime.eze@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

In Nigeria, ethnic divisions have long been a source of tension and conflict. The rise of social media has introduced new platforms for Nigerians to engage with one another and negotiate their ethnic identities. This study explores the role of social media in promoting national cohesion among Nigerian netizens, with a focus on how digital interactions reflect, promote and shape ethnic identities and national unity. Using digital ethnography as a theoretical framework, this study examines the online behaviours and interactions of Nigerian netizens on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. A content analysis approach is employed to analyse 10 social media posts and 20 comments related to ethnic identity, national unity, and social cohesion. The study reveals that social media platforms provide opportunities for Nigerians to engage in constructive dialogues that promote national unity. However, the data also show that ethnic biases and prejudices persist online in some cases, highlighting the need for targeted interventions to promote inclusive and respectful online interactions. This study contributes to our understanding of the complex relationships between the effect of minimised ethnicity in nation building as evident in digital media in Nigeria, and the potential of social media to promote national cohesion and social inclusion.

Keywords: Digital ethnography, National cohesion, Ethnic identity, Netizens and social media.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL MEDIA'S ROLE IN SHAPING ETHNIC PERCEPTIONS AND UNITY IN NIGERIA

Fatima D. Adepoju

Abstract

Youth engagement and social media have become powerful forces in shaping ethnic perceptions and promoting—or challenging—social unity, especially in ethnically diverse societies like Nigeria. As digital natives, Nigerian youth use social media extensively to communicate, form communities, and

share information. While social media has the potential to foster intercultural understanding, bridge divides, and promote unity, it can also be a platform for the spread of misinformation, stereotypes, and divisive narratives. This paper explores the dual role of social media in shaping ethnic perceptions among Nigerian youth, examining how it can either deepen existing prejudices or serve as a tool for promoting interethnic tolerance and social cohesion. Through case studies and examples, this research highlights the positive uses of social media, such as campaigns for unity, advocacy for social justice, and collaborative platforms that celebrate diversity. It also addresses the challenges posed by online hate speech, misinformation, and group polarization. Finally, the paper provides recommendations on policies and educational initiatives that can empower youth to use social media constructively, fostering an environment where diversity is embraced, and ethnic harmony is cultivated.

Keywords: Youth engagement, social media, Ethnic perceptions, Unity, Nigeria, Social cohesion, Misinformation, Interethnic tolerance

Ethnic Dissidence and Economic Disparity in Niger Delta: Hindsight from Helon Habila's *Oil on Water*

Samuel Enudi, Department of Arts, Delta State Polytechnic
+2348100923870 samnudi@yahoo.com

&

Abdul'aziz Bako, Department of English, Gombe State University
+2348036828310, bako@gsu.edu.ng

&

Ahmad Musa Saleh, Department of English Language
Nasarawa State University Keffi
+2348036930821, Ahmadmusa448@gmail.com

Abstract

Historical evidence reveals that prior to the discovery of oil and its subsequent exploration in the early 50s, the oil-rich Niger Delta region of Nigeria was widely known for its relative peace, communal ties, mutual coexistence and minimal altercation among diversified ethnicities cohabitating the region. However, ethnic strife and tribal wars set in the aftermath of the discovery of oil in 1956, which ultimately sowed the growing seeds of distrust and disdain among people that were once living in relative harmony. While these resentments are commonly adjudged as ethnically inclined or tribally induced altercations, they are deeply rooted in economic disaffect among the dominant tribal groups, with each group battling for supremacy and survival. Oftentimes, available literature from the Niger Delta region tends to highlight the phenomena of environmental degradation, resource control and identity crises among others, leaving for the most part, the lingering crisis of tribal wars and inter-ethnic conflicts. Thus, through the appropriation of the novel genre, which provides nuanced information and desired avenue for story telling than any other literary form, this essay attempts to explicate the horrendous experiences of minority tribes in the Niger Delta region, whose environment and humanity have been degraded and botched on accounts of their cultural identities and ethnic affiliations. As literary work of art, the novel, *Oil on Water*, represents oppression, tribal rift and resistance in clear actions thus, highlights an aspect in literary scholarship not previously approached by related studies.

Key Words: Inter-Ethnic Conflict, Dissidence, Economy, Resource Control, Marginalization

Ethnic Relations in Pre-Colonial African Societies and Lessons for the Modern African States

Dr. Christopher Ike Uhere

Department of Social Sciences

Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic, Unwana, Ebonyi State

+2348063393368

cuhere.unwanapoly@gmail.com

Abstract

Centralized kingdoms and decentralized stateless societies characterized the governance structure of the pre-colonial African societies. These systems significantly impacted the management of ethnic relations and engendered social cohesion. In this research, the governance framework of a number of pre-colonial African societies are examined and their conflict resolution mechanisms are highlighted. Harnessing both primary and secondary sources of data, this paper appraises the effectiveness of these indigenous practices and how they may have fostered peaceful co-existence among ethnic groups and reduced social division. This paper explores how contemporary African states that are confronted with ethnic tensions and political instability can draw lessons from these traditional systems. The paper argues that sustainable solutions for enhancing cohesion among ethnic groups and national unity can be achieved by combining the elements of pre-colonial governance with the modern political systems. Recalling these indigenous practices can foster inclusive governance model that address the intricacies of multiculturalism in the African states.

Keywords: Ethnic Relations, Pre-Colonial Systems, Conflict Resolution, Pre-Colonial Governance, African States.

Interlocutory Linguistic Unintelligibility and Inter-Ethnocultural Dysconnectivity as Constraints to Nigerian Cohesion

Eze, Virginia Obioma¹. School of General Studies

Orabueze, Florence Onyebuchi². Department of English and Literary Studies,

David-Ojukwu Ifeyinwa³. Department of English and Literary Studies,

University of Nigeria, Nsukka¹²³.

Abstract

Nigeria stands in the global map as one of the countries with multi-lingual and ethnic groups (over 450 languages and tribes), yet, great emphasis is placed on the acquisition of the English language more than the other indigenous languages in use. Many scholars interested in demographic studies have acknowledged the importance of English language as a language of unification but the burning question is how does the English language unify the roughly over half of the population in the urban and rural areas who do not understand English? This paper argues that the lack of cohesion in the country, fundamentally, emanates from mutual linguistic unintelligibility. Using a survey method of investigation, and questionnaires as instruments of data collection, the study seeks to ascertain the import of mutual unintelligibility among the ethnic groups in Nigeria. 450 males and females were randomly drawn from the three most spoken languages and ethnic groups in Nigeria (Hausa, Igbo & Yoruba), who are settlers in Enugu State as sample population. The result shows that mutual linguistic

unintelligibility creates lack of understanding, mutual suspicion, resistance and, thus, disunity. On the other hand, those who can communicate across ethnic divides tend to form kinship bonds and are ready to share ideas and implement tasks mutually. The study, thus, provides evidence of the need for Nigerians to learn and promote the acquisition of multiple Nigerian languages for mutual understanding, inter-ethnic and national cohesion and development.

IDENTITY DISENABLEMENT IN IHEANYICHUKWU DURUOHA'S *EATERS OF DUST*

Chiamaka Amalachukwu Ugoka & Chinonye Calister Ekwueme-Ugwu, Ph.D.,
Department of English and Literary Studies,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
chiamaka.ugoka@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

The emergence of self-rule in African states, which created euphoria over tyranny by the colonizers, became only a mirage. The oppression culminated in ethnic disintegration, and the struggle for cohesion prompted African intellectuals to engage in deliberative discourse. Hence, this scholarly work interrogates identity disablement in Iheanyichukwu Duruoha's *Eaters of Dust*. This academic discussion appears not to have received an in-depth analysis of the chosen Nigerian creative oeuvre. Moreover, identity disablement refers to the process by which an individual's ethnicity is impaired. This qualitative study utilizes Irving Goffman's model of passing as its conceptual framework. This highlights when a person falsifies or misrepresents his disabled identity to abled identity in order to avoid victimization, subjugation, exploitation among others. The analysis uncovers that the Igbo ethnic characters, such as Nduweze, Chima, Lance Corporal Whypper the Regimental Provost, depicted in the literary work, experience identity disablement amidst the civil war. In other words, they disguise their debilitated Biafra identity and assume another identity to evade persecution and execution by the Federal troops. Thence, the literary writer employs the civil war as a backdrop to illustrate ethnic identity disablement.

Keywords: Disability Studies, Dehumanization, Ethnicity, Iheanyichukwu Duruoha, Passing, Postcolonial Studies, Political Disillusionment

THE POLITICS OF BELONGING AND ETHNIC IDENTITY IN ADICHIE'S *HALF OF A YELLOW SUN*

Anaduaka, Chisom Kaetochukwu
Department of English and Literary Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
Email: chisomkaetoo@yahoo.com +2348064763920

Abstract

This paper examines the powerful exploration of the complex and fraught politics of belonging and ethnic identity in Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun*. The novel has generated significant critical attention bordering on identity, feminism post-colonial, trauma, memory, and gender. However, little focus has been given to the relationship between the politics of belonging and ethnic identity. It employs Yuval

Davis's theory on the Politics of Belonging to explore the complex and contested nature of Belonging in contemporary societies. The findings reveal that Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun* explores Igbo characters' complex and nuanced experiences as they negotiate belonging in the face of violence, displacement, and trauma. The study shows how policies, social structures, and cultural narratives determine who is included and excluded from certain spaces. Furthermore, the study discovered that through characters like Olanna, Kainene, and Ugwu, Adichie examines how ethnic identity rooted in the historical context of Biafra shapes personal and collective experiences of belonging. The work contributes to a deeper exploration of belonging, self-determination, and ongoing struggles in post-colonial Africa.

Keywords: belonging, ethnicity, social structures, politics, trauma, identity

The Will to Power: Apolline-Dionysian Dynamics in Tribal and Ethnic Conflicts in Africa – a Socio-literary Exegesis of Elechi Amadi's *The Great Ponds*

Alaribe, Theodore Udochukwu
Department of English and Literary Studies,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
Email: theoalaribepoet@gmail.com
Phone numbers: 08038667089, 08136167210.

Abstract

Tribal and ethnic conflicts in Africa have indeed caused much of the economic and social instabilities on the continent. A close look at statistics would reveal this as many countries in Africa have some of their ethnic groups at strife with their neighbours. Therefore, the purpose of this work is to undertake a critical study of the nature, causes, and consequences of tribal and ethnic conflicts in Africa, and to provide informed suggestions for their solution. To achieve these, the study applies Friedrich Nietzsche's theory of art in critically analyzing Elechi Amadi's *The Great Ponds*, which is the literary text on which it is based. Amadi's *The Great Ponds* and Nietzsche's theory of art would help to achieve efficient literary and social analyses of the nature, orientation, and aptitudes of the ethnic communities embroiled in such conflicts. It is expected therefore that using Amadi's text as a referent, and Nietzsche's theory as its tool of analysis, would help pinpoint the types and fundamental causes of these conflicts and thereby dispose one to understand what their natural solutions might be. The study adopts the qualitative research methodology, which is text-based and involves the process of critically analyzing *The Great Ponds* based on Nietzsche's theory of art. Other books, journal articles, and internet resources constitute secondary resource materials, while *The Great Ponds* is the primary. As the study is qualitative, the methodology adopted is of critically interpreting and organizing all research resources under Friedrich Nietzsche's theory of art.

Keywords: Apolline, Conflicts. Dionysian, Dynamics, Elechi, *The Great Ponds*.

DECODING CULTURAL IDENTITY IN ZULU SOFOLA'S *OLD WINES ARE TASTY*

Egbuchiem, Lizzy-JaneOnyebuchukwu
Department of English and Literary Studies,
Dennis Osadebay University, Asaba

Email:egbuchiemiizzyjane010@gmail.com/08160583673 & 08038976855

Abstract

This study delves into the intricate world of character naming in Zulu Sofola's *Old Wines are Tasty*, using semiotics to unravel the cultural significance embedded in the names of the characters. By examining the complex interplay between language, culture, and identity, this research reveals the ways in which Sofola employs character naming to negotiate, reinforce, and subvert cultural norms and beliefs. Zulu Sofola is a Nigerian playwright, novelist, and poet whose contributions to Nigerian literature and theatre are significant. Her works continue to be studied and performed in Nigeria and beyond, offering insights into Nigerian culture, identity, and social issues. Building on this rich cultural context, this study undertakes a nuanced close reading of the play's characters and their actions, illuminating how Sofola's naming strategies reflect and refract the complexities of Nigerian cultural identity, shedding light on the tensions between tradition and modernity. This research aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the intersections of culture, identity, and power in African literature, highlighting the significance of character naming as a literary device for exploring cultural identity. The study's findings provide insights into the ways in which Nigerian playwrights like Sofola navigate the complexities of cultural identity in their works.

Keywords: Semiotics, Character, Culture, and Identity.

DISCOURSE OF TRIBE AND ETHNICITY ON X PLATFORM

Isaiah Ifeanyichukwu Agbo¹, Goodluck, Chinenye Kadiri¹, Moisola G. Aliu¹, Josephine Ngozi Akah^{2,3} and Anthony Chinaemerem Ajah^{2,4}

¹ Department of English and Literary Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka; ² Humanities Unit, School of General Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka; ³ Department of Religion and Cultural Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka; ⁴ Department of Philosophy, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Abstract

Hate speech is a prevalent yet divisive linguistic strategy. It conveys prejudiced, derogatory, offensive, and hostile messages against individuals and social groups. It leads to cyberbullying and other forms of unhealthy attitudes towards their targets. For these reasons, it challenges the existence of respectful and inclusive online discourses and environments. This study explores communicative strategies employed by users on X platform, to express hostility and prejudice in their tweets. It also highlights identity-based mental orientations responsible for the adoption of such strategies. The study adopted interdisciplinary frameworks of pragmatics, hermeneutics, and critical analyses of online discourses

on social identity, tribe and ethnicity. These frameworks emphasize how contexts, speaker intentions and implicature determine the conveyance pattern and interpretation of language/meanings. The study utilized a corpus of hate tweets from the X platform and employed qualitative methods of hermeneutics and critical analyses to identify linguistic patterns and discourse strategies in the tweets. It also identified common linguistic markers, such as derogatory terms, slurs, and explicit expressions of hostility. The findings of this study will contribute to a deeper understanding of the pragmatic dimensions of hate speech on X. They also suggest how to reorient users of online communicative spaces to be more responsible, respectful and inclusive in their discursive engagements.

Keywords: Hate speech; ethnicity and tribe; discourse; pragmatics; X

Caribbean Literature: Tolerance and Culture in Bryan Buchan's *Copper Sunrise*

Mariagorathy Amaka Uhunmwunwa (PhD) & Rita-Ann Ugbechie
Department of Language and Communication Education,
Federal College of Education (Technical) Asaba, Delta State
anesagy.o@gmail.com 0803 088 3673

Abstract

Caribbean, a land of diverse and complex blend of many cultures has a literature which is equally diverse and multicultural. A delve into the Caribbean literature is a search into the gory story of bloodshed, slavery, the brutality of conquest, and colonialism. This work is a look into the historical scares of imperialist subjugation and its attendant torture and suffering of the group of people that makes up the Caribbean. It is a leap into the dissonance of racial prejudice, cultural dislocation, ancestral enslavement, and the agonizing condition of exile. Across the world, culture differs and each group or society sees his own as the most superior to others thereby causing conflicts and disorder. This urge can be curbed through tolerance as portrayed in the novel under study.

Keywords: Cultural Diplomacy, Love, Tolerance, Exile,

ETHNICITY AND TRIBALISM AS BANE FOR NATIONAL TENSION: ASSESSMENT OF PRESIDENT TINUBU'S KEY POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS SINCE COMING TO POWER

Obele, O. Ndidi, PhD
Department of English and Literary Studies,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka
&
Egbute Otuu Ikechukwu, PhD
Department of English and Literary Studies,
University of Nigeria Nsukka

Abstract

Nigeria is a diverse country with over 250 ethnic groups, each with its own distinct culture, language,

and traditions. This diversity has often been a source of conflict and division. The country has a long history of ethnic and tribal tensions, which have sometimes led to violence and war. However, abused opportunities abound in the country with weak successive government institutions where people within the corridors of power largely and inappropriately rely on sub-optimal indices such as blood/family ties, ethnic affiliation, kinship linkage, friendship, race, gender and religious links in the creation, allocation and distribution of values, as such, enthrone favoritism over inclusive, competence and meritocracy. Although this is a form of corruption, it is almost generally accepted as individual members of each ethnic denomination awaits to partake in this cycle of turn-taking. This paper thus seeks to explore and analyze the dimensions of parochial attachments in the recruitment and selection processes in the Nigerian Public sector for this period. It also traces the debilitating implications of championing sub-optimal indices in value/resources allocation/distribution with regard to service delivery. The paper adopts a qualitative research strategy using comprehensive document review in tune with critical examination of extant literature. The assessment of President Tinubu's key political appointments since coming into power suggests that ethnicity and tribe have played very significant roles in the appointment process. While the president has made some efforts to promote national unity and cohesion, the appointments have been criticized for being biased towards certain ethnic group, which has further heightened ethnic and tribal tensions. It is the conclusion of the paper that it is essential for the president to make more inclusive and diverse appointments that reflect the diversity of the country in order to promote national unity and cohesion. It therefore recommends best practice in forms of integrity, accountability, adherence to competence and meritocracy, discipline, professionalism, patriotism, and impartiality in the observance of the federal character principle in Nigeria.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Tribalism, Nepotism, Preferential Treatment, Public Sector Performance, Corruption.

MUSLIM-MUSLIM TICKET: ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS INFLUENCE IN 2023 GENERAL ELECTION IN NIGERIA

Mrs. Maria Alege, Miss Margaret Oluwaseun Okolocha & Ikechukwu Otuu Egbuta, PhD
Department of Languages, the Federal Polytechnic, Offa, Kwara State.

Phone No: +2348068378633; Email: ikechukwu.egbuta.pg02391@unn.edu.ng

The 2023 general elections in Nigeria marked a significant moment in the country's political landscape, particularly with the emergence of a Muslim-Muslim presidential ticket by the All Progressives Congress (APC). This unprecedented development stirred considerable debate regarding the interplay of ethnic and religious identities within Nigerian politics. Historically, Nigeria has been characterized by its diverse religious affiliations, predominantly Islam and Christianity, which have often influenced electoral dynamics. The decision to field a Muslim-Muslim ticket raised concerns about the potential marginalization of Christian voters, especially given that no Christian has been elected or appointed as vice president from Northern Nigeria by the ruling party. The election showcased how deeply ingrained ethnic and religious sentiments can shape political alliances and voter behavior. Despite a significant portion of the population asserting that religion should not dictate political

leadership—67% according to a poll conducted by the Africa Polling Institute—the reality during elections often contradicts this ideal. The socio-political context surrounding the 2023 elections revealed that candidates' religious affiliations were leveraged strategically to galvanize support among specific demographic groups. Moreover, social media played a crucial role in amplifying ethno-religious rhetoric, highlighting existing fault lines within Nigerian society. The historical backdrop of religious politics in Nigeria underscores how past grievances continue to influence contemporary electoral processes. As such, the Muslim-Muslim ticket not only reflects current political strategies but also serves as a lens through which to examine broader issues of representation, inclusivity, and national unity amidst Nigeria's complex ethnic and religious identities. This paper examines the 2023 Presidential elections in Nigeria viz a viz ethnic and religious influence in the election. Anchored on the rational choice theory, the paper relied on secondary source of materials such as text books, journals, electronic sources and official publications especially from the Independent National Electoral Commission. These were analysed using content analysis. It argued that both ethnic and religious influences play decisive roles in Nigeria political arena. Our recommendation is that there is the need for all stakeholders to be deliberate in stemming the tide of destructive ethnic and religious influence on politics in Nigeria.

Keywords: Muslim-Muslim Ticket, Ethnicity, Religion, Politics, Election, Influence

**TRIBAL CONFLICTS AND THE QUESTION OF THE FIGHTING ELEPHANTS: A
PSYCHOANALITICAL DISCUSS ON EMECHETA'S *JOYS OF MOTHERHOOD* AND
*ACHEBE'S ARROW OF GOD***

EJIE IFEOMA OGBONNAYA. Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Unwana, Ebonyi State.

ifeomaejie@yahoo.com (08115676078)

Abstract

The work on *Tribal Conflicts and the Question of the Fighting Elephants* stems from an Igbo adage, which states that 'When two elephants fights, the grass suffers'. The idea of the 'Fighting Elephants and its connectedness to tribal conflicts is a metaphor that signifies the resulting effect of ego and pride, which causes actions that may trigger physical crises between tribes. The study employed Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytical theory to examine the role of the 'ego' in proud and selfish individuals, and how their activities trigger ethnic crises. Using Buchi Emecheta's *Joys of Motherhood* and Chinua Achebe's *Arrow of God*, the ego-driven activities of the characters resulting into ethnic unrest is explored, the consequences of the actions expressed and variant actions that could have been employed to avert the conflict suggested. It is found that proud and selfish individuals often nurse an exaggerated sense of self-importance, which leads to a distorted perception of reality that is prone to violence. In the *Joys of Motherhood* for in instance, *Nnaiife's* pride, which is the fighting elephant within him caused him to attack a Yoruba man whose son is in love with his Igbo daughter. It is further observed that due to selfish reasons, some leaders encouraged intertribal wars between the two communities in the *Arrow of God*- and that is to showcase their superiority. The work therefore provided an understanding of the underlying force responsible for ethnic crises, and explored some strategies for conflict prevention and resolution.

Keywords: Ethnic Crises, Pride, Ego, Leadership, Fighting Elephants,

Ethnicity and Ethnic Conflict in Esiaba Irobi's *Hangmen Also Die* and Fidelis Okoro's *Joys of War*

Henrietta Okafor.

Department of English and Literary Studies and
Use of English Unit, School of General Studies
University of Nigeria, Nsukka, 2347066115530

Abstract

Conflict has come to define today's world and has become an enduring theme in African literature. This study affirms that ethnic conflict in the selected work occurs as a result of greed and man's inhumanity to man. The implication of the study is that it interrogates the occurrence of ethnic conflicts occasioned by greedy politicians who appropriate the compensation money from the Federal Government, meant for assuaging the effect of the hardship experienced by the indigenes as a result of exploiting their natural resources and the oil spillage. This study argues that, ethnicity in this work is politicized as ethnic identities are manipulated to suit corrupt politicians, leaving the indigenes impoverished. This work employs conflict literary theory which interrogates the relationship and struggle or competition for limited resources as the theoretical framework of study for its enquiry. The aim of this study is to investigate conflict in the selected text and its concomitant effect on the indigenes, resulting in revolution. Some of the core objectives of this study are to explore the representation of ethnicity and conflict in the texts. The tenets of conflict literary theory will be critically employed in interrogating the interception between conflict and ethnicity in the selected text. Grounded qualitative method of data analysis will be used in this work.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Ethnic Conflict, Greed, African Literature, Federal Government

HISTORICIZING THE CONCEPT OF ETHNICITY IN NIGERIA DEVELOPMENT

Madukwe, Chinyere Isaac, (Ph.D)

Humanities Unit, School of General Studies,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

chinyere.madukwe@unn.edu.ng. 08035666097

&

Emmanuel T. Eyeh (Ph.D)

Department of History and International Studies,
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

emmanuel.eyeh@unn.edu.ng 07067772166

Abstract

Nigeria as a political entity came into being following the 1914 amalgamation of the Northern and Southern protectorates by Lord Fredrick Lugard, then British Governor General of the territory. Since the amalgamation, Nigeria has been struggling with the challenges of nation-building fueled partly by

the misplacement and the misapplication of the idea of ethnicity. The historical experiences of the peoples of Nigeria prior to colonial rule on the contrary does not support the misplaced application in the context of Nigeria development. Colonialists, with the support of Nigeria's elite manipulated ethnic differences for parochial gains during the colonial period, while the latter have continued to feast on these sentiments in postcolonial period for similar gains. Relying on written materials by some of the key players and other secondary sources, this study by way of historical comparative analysis attempts to explain that contemporary ethnic conundrum in Nigeria political space that has whittled down her development can be controlled when emphasis is laid on common mutual beneficial interests, which have directed past intergroup relations among the peoples of Nigeria.

Key words: Nigeria, amalgamation, Ethnicity, Nation-building, Colonial rule and Intergroup relations.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HERBAL MEDICINE AND WESTERN MEDICINE

ONWUGBUFOR CHIJOKE FRANK

Department Of Medical Biochemistry,

University Of Nigeria, Enugu campus,

chijioke.onwugbufor@unn.edu.ng/08036185056

Abstract

Herbal medicine and western medicine have historically distinct approach to health care yet they share a common goal of promoting health and general wellness. This abstract examine complex relationships between herbal medicine and western medicine highlighting areas of history, integrative, collaborative, regulation, educational, critical and evolving relationship. Herbal medicine and western medicine share a common ancestry with ancient civilization using plant and natural remedies for healing, as western medicine evolved it became more focused on pharmaceuticals and surgery, while herbal medicine continued to emphasize on natural remedies. Herbal medicine is mostly used as complementary therapy with western medicine to enhance treatment results. Western and herbal medicine researchers collaborate to study the safety and efficacy of herbal remedies. Herbal medicine is often less regulated than western medicine raising concern about safety efficacy and quality control, western medicine is subject to stringent regulation including FDA approval. Educational programs promotes cross-cultural understanding and exchange between herbal and western medicine practitioners to provide comprehensive care. Herbal medicine practitioners critique western medicine which focuses on pharmaceutical and surgery while western medicine practitioners critique herbal medicine which based on lack of standardization and regulation. Western medicine is increasingly recognizing the value of herbal medicine in promoting health and general wellness, herbal medicine is being integrated into healthcare system with many hospitals and clinics offering herbal medicine services.

Keywords: Herbal medicine, Western medicine, Integrative medicine, Complementary therapies, Regulatory frameworks, Collaboration, Critique

ETHNICITY, RELIGION AND UNDERDEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

Dr. Augustine Chijioke Emele¹, Barr. Chike Onyeacho² and I. E. Iwundu³

¹Department of Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution

University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Umuagwo

Phone no: 08038912849

Email: emeleaugustine1986@gmail.com or augustine.emele@uaes.edu.ng

Department of Criminology and Security Studies

University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Umuagwo

Phone no: 08033284744

Email: onyeachochambers@yahoo.com or godfrey.onyeacho@uaes.edu.ng

³ Institute of African Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Phone no: 08056637065, Email: ifeanyi.iwundu@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

Since time immemorial, religion and ethnicity have positively influenced development and nation-building in the developed societies of the world. However, the opposite is the case in Nigeria. Mixed economic performance and uneven social development have characterized Nigeria's post-Independence history. Nigeria is a country with multiple ethnic groups, religion, culture and diverse languages. Diversity is usually preached as strength when the country faces ethno-religious problems that threaten its development, unity and peaceful coexistence. This paper examined the place of ethnicity and religion in Nigeria's underdevelopment which are seen in her economic, social and educational deterioration. This study adopted descriptive and observation approaches for a better outcome. It found that ethnic and religious bigotry are serious parts of the challenges in Nigeria's developmental processes. It also recommend that Nigeria and its leadership look and consider beyond ethnic or religious affinity in the governance of the country for a better developmental results. Ethnic and religious tolerance/integration is capable of not only ensuring sustainable national growth and development but also strong nationhood.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Religion, Development, Underdevelopment, Leadership and Economy.

Political ethnicity and tribe in Nigeria: A study of Wole Soyinka's play: *"The Death and the king's Horseman"*.

Oyekola, Taiwo Samuel

Department of Theatre and Film Studies

University of Nigeria, Nsukka./09066586142

Abstract

Political ethnicity refers to the intersection of ethnic identity and political dynamics within a society. It encompasses how ethnic affiliations influence political behavior, power structures, and governance. The contention nature of Nigeria politics stem from inter-ethnic agitation for power and scarce resources. This is often led to nepotism, ethnic bigotry and corruption. Nigeria is home to over 300 ethnics groups and more than 800 dialects, with the three largest groups being the Hausa-Fulani, Igbo, and Yoruba, which together make up about 68% of the population. This diversity has profound

implications for political representation and power dynamics. Without any form of prejudice, the aim of this paper is to examine the implications place of political ethnicity and tribe in Nigeria. The methodology used is qualitative research method through literary analytical method of the plays by expressing the subject matter, as the researchers employed secondary method of data collection from books, journals, and web-based materials to successfully review some literatures in the confine of the subject matter. Theoretically, the study adopted the Group theory. Therefore, since ethnic bigotry has implicated the developmental process of Nigerian nation, the paper is suggesting that contemporary playwrights should do well to capture and address more often such theme, so as to put more relevant themes on Nigerian theatre stage.

KEYWORDS: Ethnic groups, Nigeria Politics, Tribe, Tribalism in Politics.

DURKHEIM'S THEORY OF FUNCTION AND CHINUA ACHEB'S *ANTHILLS OF THE SAVANNAH*

Dr Dorothy Ogochukwu Eze
Enugu State College of Education (Technical), Enugu
dorothyoeze@gmail.com/07062175547
Dr Grace Mgbosorochukwu Nwasogwa
Institute of Management and Technology, Enugu
mbgoonwasogwa@gmail.com/08105130675

Abstract

Cohesion has been defined as the strength of relationship and the sense of solidarity among members of a given society based on trust and shared values. Social cohesion is related to a wide range of factors ranging from the presence of strong social bond, identifying and promoting shared values, encouraging dialogue and discussion, supporting diversity and inclusivity and fostering a sense of civic responsibility. In *Anthills of the Savannah*, there is lack of clear goal by His Excellency, poor communication, trust issues, insecurity, discrimination, oppression and inability of the various sectors of Kangan government to function interrelatedly. This study investigates social cohesion between the rulers and the ruled using *Anthills of the Savannah* as a case study. Durkheim's theory of functionalism is adopted because the concept of cohesion which this study investigates is tied in one way or another to function. The functionalist perspective also known as functionalism is one of the major theoretical perspectives in sociology that has its origin in the works of Emile Durkheim who sees society as a structure with interrelated parts designed to meet the social needs of individuals in a given society. Society consists of various parts such as judiciary, political, administrative, artistic, each serving a particular purpose. These social functions are necessary for a society to exist. Nigeria like Kangan is beset with social problems, hence, social cohesion remains elusive.

Key Words: Durkheim's theory, cohesion, *Anthills of the Savannah*, society.

**ETHNIC CONFLICTS AND CHALLENGES OF NATION BUILDING IN NIGERIA:
PERSPECTIVES IN CHIMAMANDA ADICHIE'S *HALF OF A YELLOW SUN***

Ozoemena Johnkenedy Azubuike

The Use of English Unit, School of General Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
Email: johnkenedy.ozoemena@unn.edu.ng Phone: 08064766753

Ngwoke, Festus Uwakwe

Department of English & Literary Studies
University of Nigeria, Nsukka
Email: festus.ngwoke@unn.edu.ng/08037367014

Kalu, Obasi Kalu

Department of English & Literary Studies
University of Calabar, Calabar.
Email: obasikalu@ymail.com/07056772264

Abstract

This article examines ethnic conflicts and the challenges of nation building in Nigeria, from the fictive but realistic representation in Chimamanda Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun*. Of all the political and economic challenges that Nigeria has encountered as a country since independence in October 1, 1960. The thirty months Nigeria/Biafran civil war stands out in the collective memory of Nigerians, and in the history of Nigeria, as most harrowing and devastating. This article intends to look at the civil war era as an ethnic conflict and one of the challenges that Nigeria has to overcome on its march to nationhood. The thirty months civil war was fought between the Nigerian federal government and the secessionist Biafra from 1967-1970. It has widely been justified by none- Igbo Nigerians, the aggressors and foreigners that the war was fought with the aim to keeping Nigeria one, hence the general mantra "One Nigeria" In this article we set out to examine this general mantra of keeping Nigeria one by wasting more than three million lives, with property worth millions of pounds lost, all from one tribe. The theory of new historicism is applied to examine this historical event. This article reveals that one of the remote causes of the civil war is the fear of political domination among the three major ethnic groups in Nigeria, and that the Nigerian/Biafran civil war was genocide against the Igbo nation/tribe, jointly perpetrated by all other tribes in Nigeria, with the full support of the federal military government, hence all the principles that guides modern warfare were blatantly flouted by the (aggressors) The Nigerian Federal Military Government during the Pogrom.

Ethnic Favoritism and Its Socio-Economic Implications: Challenges and Pathways Toward African Integration

Ezinwanne Ekekwe¹, Dominic C. Onyejebu², Jeffrey M. Ibeh³, Chiedozie O. Okafor*⁴

¹Department of Public Administration and Local Government, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
ezinwanne.ekekwe@unn.edu.ng +2348164949983

²Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka. dominic.onyejebu@unn.edu.ng,
+234806978999

³Social Science Unit, School of General Studies, Michael Okpara University of Agriculture,
Umudike, ibeh.jeffrey@mouau.edu.ng, +2348036847400

⁴Department of Psychology, Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu-Alike, Ebonyi State.

chiedozie.okafor@funai.edu.ng, +234805417550*

Abstract

The study critically examines the role of ethnic favoritism in shaping socio-economic development across African nations, emphasizing its implications for governance, economic growth, and regional integration. Ethnic bias often erodes meritocratic principles, leading to inefficiencies in public administration, employment, and entrepreneurial ventures. By prioritizing ethnic affiliations over competence, governments and organizations foster an environment of nepotism, limiting access to opportunities, weakening institutions, and exacerbating socio-economic disparities. Additionally, ethnic-based political appointments and resource allocations fuel corruption and public distrust, impeding sustainable development. We adopt a qualitative methodology, utilizing semi-structured interviews with policymakers, business leaders, human resource professionals, and civil society actors to explore how ethnic favoritism influences economic and social structures. Thematic analysis uncovers prevailing patterns of exclusion, inefficiency, and economic stagnation linked to ethnic bias. Rooted in Conflict Theory, the study argues that competition for power and resources entrenches ethnic divisions, reinforcing socio-political instability. However, the findings highlight emerging frameworks that promote merit-based governance, cross-ethnic collaboration, and inclusive economic policies as pathways toward national and continental cohesion. By offering insights into both the systemic challenges and potential policy interventions, this study contributes to the discourse on African integration and sustainable development. Its recommendations will be valuable to policymakers seeking institutional reforms, business leaders fostering inclusive economic ecosystems, and civil society groups advocating for equitable governance.

Keywords: Ethnic Favoritism, Socio-Economic Development, Institutional Integrity, African Integration.

GOOD GOVERNANCE AS A PANACEA FOR ETHNIC CONFLICTS IN NIGERIA

Umoh, Boniface Denis *& Ebi, Ferdinand Ogar

Institute for Development Studies

University of Nigeria Enugu Campus

Email: boniface.umoh@unn.edu.ng/ princeebifo@gmail.com

Phone: 08037431634

A b s t r a c t
Ethnic conflicts remain a pervasive and deeply entrenched challenge in Nigeria, driven by a combination of historical, socio-economic, and political inequities that have remained unaddressed for too long. With a population of over 2020 million people and made up of a conglomeration of 371 ethnic groups a diversity of that has turned a fulcrum of division a rancor rather a source of cultural wealth and strength. This paper examines the critical role of good governance in addressing ethnic tensions and fostering national cohesion. Good governance, characterized by transparency, accountability, inclusiveness, adherence to the rule of law, and equitable distribution of resources, is essential for mitigating these conflicts and promoting long-term stability. In many instances, the diversity of Nigeria has been manipulated for political and economic gain, resulting in systemic corruption, resource mismanagement, and exclusionary policies that marginalize certain groups and fuel grievances. To

reverse these trends, it is crucial to consciously work for the progress of all men and women and regions of the country. This will stem from selfless leadership, inclusive governance, and strengthening of institutions that will ensure individuals do not capture the state. Inclusive governance frameworks and effective conflict resolution mechanisms are pivotal in turning the diversity of Nigeria into strength. This article offers actionable insights for policymakers, civil society groups, and stakeholders committed to building peace, unity, and sustainable development in Nigeria.

Key Words: Governance, Good Governance, Ethnic Conflict, Peace, Nigeria.

ETHNIC POLITICS AND VOTING BEHAVIOUR OF ELECTORATES DURING THE 2023 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN NIGERIA

Abada, Ifeanyichukwu Michael¹, Ezugworie, Chikwado² & Nwawube, Arinze Victor

Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

ifeanyi.abada@unn.edu.ng/chikwado.ezugworie@unn.edu.ng/arinze.nwawube@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

Without a doubt, the phenomenon of ethnic politics in Nigeria may be interpreted as a response to the emotional needs of establishing and maintaining political influence, identity, and security. As a result, the quest for this political power and authority has caused certain political leaders to pose as leaders of particular ethnic groups, which has caused the countries to become divided into hostile ethnic groups. This study looked at how voters' voting patterns were affected by ethnic politics in Nigeria's 2023 presidential election. The study specifically looked into whether the politicisation of ethnicity by political candidates explains the ethnic emotion that voters displayed when selecting candidates in Nigeria's 2023 presidential election. The study was directed by the expo facto research design and used the elite theory as its theoretical stance. The documentary approach was used to collect the data, while the qualitative descriptive method was used for analysis. The study found that voters' choices of candidates in the 2023 presidential election were influenced by the politicisation of ethnicity by political candidates. The study therefore recommends that in order to prevent complete breakaway, political leaders and candidates need demonstrate a certain amount of national statesmanship by promoting national integration and bridging the nation's ethnic split.

Keywords: Ethnic Politics, Voting Behaviour, Election, Electorates, Nigeria

ETHNIC PROBLEMS AND THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR IN CHUKWUEMEKA IKE'S *SUNSET AT DAWN*

Dr. Nwanneka Christiana Chinedu

Department of English Language and Literary studies

Nnamdi Azikwe University, Akwa,

Chinedunneka@gmail.com/08030937124

and

Ibekwe, Thaddeus Osinakachukwu

Department of English, St Charles Borromeo College of Nursing Sciences

Thaddensibekwe@gmail.com/07037465564

Abstract

Ethnicism has seriously harmed the socio-political affairs of Nigeria. From time to time, following records of history, Nigeria has never maintained that homogeneous nation which the amalgamation of 1914 brought to her. The independence of 1960 and its after-math brought ethnicism more than nationalism and the unity of a homogeneous country becomes an irony. This paper focused on ethnic problems and the Nigeria civil war in Chukwuemeka Ike's *Sunset at Dawn*. The paper explored the consequences of ethnic problems such as division, hatred, Unhealthy rivalry, power tussles, discrimination and intolerance among others. All these fanned the ember of the Nigerian civil war. The paper is anchored on Marxist theory, evaluating the imbalances in the relationships that exist among the three tribes that went into war, namely: Igbo, Hausa, and Yoruba. Data for the paper were from two main sources. The primary source is the novel used while the secondary source looked into journals, articles, interviews etc employed in the paper. The paper concluded that the Hausas, Yorubas with the support of Britain and Russian came together against the Igbo tribe then known as Biafra. The paper also concluded that as a result of ethnic rivalry, Biafrans went into thirty months struggle against the Hausas and the Yorubas which led to the massive destruction of lives and property.

Keywords: Ethnicism, homogeneous, unity, war

Determinants of Attitudes towards Breast Cancer Examination among Women in Nsukka Local Government Area, Enugu State

Chioma Eunice Akaebe, Okereafor Adaugo Stephanie & Ijeoma Igwe
Department of Sociology & Anthropology
University of Nigeria, Nsukka
chioma.akaebe@unn.edu.ng/08030916404]
ORCID: [0009-0006-6520-2166](https://orcid.org/0009-0006-6520-2166)

Abstract

Breast cancer remains a serious public health concern, and effective treatment and survival are greatly hampered by late detection, which is mostly brought on by an adverse attitude toward the disease. The study investigated the factors determining women's attitudes about breast cancer examination in Nsukka Local Government Area, Enugu state. A multistage sampling procedure was used, and a sample of 204 young and older persons were given questionnaires as part of a cross-sectional survey design. An In-Depth Interview (IDI) was also used to collect qualitative data from the urban and rural groups under study. Version 22 of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) was used for analyzing the quantitative data, and the qualitative data was used to supplement the quantitative data through thematic analysis. The hypotheses were tested at the 0.05 level of significance using chi-square, a statistical method for analysis. According to the results, only 13% of respondents frequently get breast cancer exams, while a large percentage (76.5%) had never had any form of breast cancer examination. Additionally, the results of both primary hypotheses showed a substantial correlation between age, education level, and attitude toward breast cancer examination. However, there is no connection between the respondent's residency and attitude toward breast cancer examination. Therefore, the study concludes that among women in Nsukka LGA, opinions regarding breast cancer

examination are influenced by age and education. The study suggested a focused awareness effort to enhance attitudes, willingness, and understanding of breast cancer.

Keywords: Breast Cancer, Examination, Education, Age, and Residence

Cultural Tourism and Social Cohesion in Nigeria: Exploring the Potential for Intercultural Dialogue.

Joy Nneka Uchenye, Ejikeme

Humanities Unit, School of General Studies,

University of Nigeria, Nsukka

joy.ejikeme@unn.edu.ng/08039557797

ORCID ID: <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-4483-2939>

Abstract

Nigeria, a nation renowned for its cultural diversity, offers a vibrant landscape for exploring the intersection of cultural tourism and social cohesion. This article examines how cultural tourism can serve as a platform for fostering intercultural dialogue in Nigeria, a country with over 250 ethnic groups and a history of ethnic and religious tensions. Drawing on examples such as traditional festivals, heritage sites, and community-based tourism initiatives, the study highlights how these activities promote mutual understanding, unity, and shared identity among diverse groups. The researcher utilized Osun-Osogbo Festival, Argungu Fishing Festival, and Calabar Carnival as case studies, along with heritage sites and community-based tourism projects. It also addresses the challenges of cultural commodification, representation, and inclusivity within the tourism sector. By emphasizing strategies for sustainable and inclusive tourism practices, the article underscores the potential of cultural tourism to bridge divides, preserve Nigeria's rich heritage, and strengthen national unity. Sources for writing this article were derived from secondary documents such as books, journals, and other written materials. A descriptive method of analysis has been adopted in writing this article. The findings contribute to a growing body of knowledge on the role of cultural tourism in promoting peace and cohesion in multi-ethnic societies.

Key words: Cultural tourism, social cohesion, Nigeria, intercultural dialogue.

POLITICAL PARTY FINANCING AND DEMOCRACY IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF 2015 and 2019 GENERAL ELECTIONS.

Innocent Uchechukwu Ugbagu¹, Magnus Chijindu Onyemaobi² & Okechukwu Ozioma.

Department of Public Administration, Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic Unwana.

²Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka².

ugbaguinnocent2@gmail.com/09126075783 & 08069323830

Abstract

This paper discusses political party financing and democracy in the politics of Nigeria and tries to ascertain if political party financing in Nigeria contravenes the electoral laws which undermines democracy in Nigeria. Using documentary method of data collection, the paper extensively

explores political party financing and democracy in Nigeria as well as the interplay between political party financing and democracy in the Nigerian politics. This paper is guided by this objective, to ascertain the extent political party financing in Nigeria adheres to the party finance ceiling as dictated by the electoral acts 2002,2006,2010 and 2022 in Nigeria. This analysis is anchored on the theory of political Clientelism' to explain the interplay of political party financing and democracy in Nigeria, as it sees the INEC's inability to enforce limits on party campaign expenses and finance ceiling as the reason behind excessive flow of money in politics during electioneering campaigns which results in the use of money by political parties to perpetrate bribery of the electoral body, electoral fraud, vote buying, etc in Nigerian politics. Apparently, this paper discovers that spending limits and party finance ceiling enshrined in the electoral laws are not obeyed by political parties and party candidates. Therefore, this paper recommends that government has to put more effort with outright seriousness in the implementation and enforcement of the electoral laws and prosecution of the would be offenders through lawful disqualification of any candidate or political party that violates the electoral acts with regards to party finance ceiling in Nigeria.

Keywords- Political party, Party financing, Electoral act, Democracy.

The Activist's Dilemma: Unpacking the Complexities of Ethnicity, Tribe, Nationalism and State-Building in Africa.

Ugadu Ngozika Linda
Department of English and Literary Studies
University of Nigeria, Nsukka
obasingozi1@gmail.com

Abstract

This multidisciplinary examination of Tanure Ojaide's novel "The Activist", delves into the intricate relationships between ethnicity, tribe nationalism, and state-building in Africa. By examining the intersections of ethnicity, nationalism, and state-building, this research aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing African states in their quest for cohesion and stability. The paper adopts qualitative research methodology that combines Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and literary analysis. Using the Critical Discourse Analysis framework, the study reveals the ways in which power dynamics, identity politics, and social justice intersect in the novel. Ultimately, this paper seeks to illuminate the ways in which African states can harness their diversity to build more inclusive equitable unified and just society.

Language as a Panacea for Contemporary Socio-economic Development in Nigeria

Samuel ENUDI
Department of Art
Delta State Polytechnic, Otefe-Oghara

Abstract

The role of the English language as an official means of communication and its attendant effect on

socioeconomic development has generated heated debate in the extant literature. Some people argued that the current state of development in Nigeria today would not have been possible without the use of English Language while other scholars submitted that the unification role of the English Language is partly responsible for the current socioeconomic challenges. Against this backdrop, the paper examines to what extent the English language can be used to overcome the contemporary socioeconomic challenges in Nigeria taking into consideration the pivotal roles in the functioning of the Nigerian society. This is against the multilingual nature of Nigeria as a country in which the role of language as a unifying factor cannot be denied. Using the theoretical view of Stubbs, the paper discusses the functions of language in human society and went ahead to examine the functions of English language in Nigeria against the indigenous languages. The paper submitted that to achieve socioeconomic development, Nigeria needs a common language that will offer a hitch-free access and ensure mass participation in national development. Accordingly, the relationship between the English Language and literacy as tools for national development forms the core of this paper. The paper made some recommendations among which include a paradigm shift in the method of teaching English language in our schools and that a grassroots language education should be given to all citizens in Nigeria.

Keywords: English Language, socioeconomic development, Nigeria

Neopatrimonialism and the Persistence of Ethnic Politics in Nigeria's Fourth Republic

Kenneth Chinedu Asogwa & Ijeoma Pauline Ogbonne
Institute of African Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

*Correspondence: Kenneth.Asogwa @unn.edu.ng

Abstracts

Nigeria's politics of "We" versus "Them" since the fourth republic began in 1999 has found its clearest expressions in the regionalization of national wealth, interregional contestation for federal resources, and rivalry in the provision of social amenities to the people. Existing theoretical explanations of ethnicity as a fundamental predictor of the dynamics of national politics are located within the perspectives of primordialism, instrumentalists, and constructivism. These constructs, despite their robust and engaging viewpoints, cannot satisfactorily explain the persistence of ethnic cleavages in Nigerian politics. Deploying the theoretical constructs of neopatrimonialism, this work claims that the persistence of ethnicism in Nigerian politics is fundamentally related to the clientelism, informal networks, and loyalties that characterize their politics. The implication is that until Nigeria fully embraces the culture of secularism as a bureaucratic society, the harmful impact of ethnicity in Nigerian politics will persist.

Keywords: Neopatrimonialism, ethnicity, primordialism, instrumentalists, constructivism

EVALUATING ETHNIC IDENTITY ON POLITICAL COMMUNICATION PATTERNS IN NIGERIA

Somtochukwu Victor Okeke, Peace Nwamaka Ojonta, ThankGod Ekene Ugwuanyi & Dorathy Ngozi Ugwuja

Department of Mass Communication
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

victor.okeke@unn.edu.ng *

Abstract

This study examines the influence of ethnic identity on political communication patterns in Nigeria, a country noted for its extensive ethnic diversity and intricate political environment. The study delves into the ways in which individuals' ethnic backgrounds shape their preferences, actions, and participation in political discussions/activities. A structured survey methodology was utilized to gather data from a sample of 1,200 participants, encompassing the principal ethnic groups in Nigeria, such as Hausa-Fulani, Yoruba, and Igbo, along with various minority groups. The analysis incorporated descriptive statistics and multivariate regression techniques to examine the correlation between ethnic identity and significant political communication factors. Findings reveal that ethnic identity plays a crucial role in influencing political communication patterns in Nigeria. Respondents with pronounced ethnic ties demonstrated a greater inclination to engage with political content from media sources that cater to their ethnic group and exhibited a higher level of trust in information provided by leaders and influencers associated with their ethnicity. Additionally, ethnic identity emerged as a significant factor in selective exposure to political information, as individuals tended to seek out news and political narratives that resonate with their ethnic viewpoints. The research underscores the significance of these trends for fostering national unity and advancing democratic processes. It posits that the ethnic framing of political discourse exacerbates divisions and hampers initiatives aimed at promoting inclusive political engagement and national solidarity. Drawing from these findings, the research advocates for the development of integrative communication strategies that encourage dialogue and trust across ethnic lines. Recommended policy measures include the establishment of impartial, diversity-aware media platforms and programmes designed to improve political literacy while mitigating the impact of ethnocentric perspectives in media consumption.

Keywords: Nigeria, Ethnic, Politics, Information, Communication.

Representing Race and Ethnicity in Nnedi Okorafor's *She Who Fears Death* and *She Who Knows*

Ogugua Omajuwa¹ and Solomon Onovwiona²

Department of Languages, School of General Studies,
Delta State Polytechnic, Ogwashi-Uku, Delta State.

Email: oguguaomajuwa@gmail.com ; solomononovwiona@yahoo.com

Abstract

This paper aims to engage in a racial and ethnic discourse on Nnedi Okorafor's speculative novels, *She*

Who Fears Death and *She Who Knows*. The paper uses the sociological approach for its inquiry. It discusses critical aspects of the representation of race and ethnicity, in the both novels, which are their historical formation, how different ethnic groups are perceived biologically, geographically, and socially, the extreme consequences of racial and ethnic conflicts/clashes. The paper concludes that, in both novels, the author employs the most destructive effects of race and ethnic conflicts, death, weaponised rape, trauma, and identity crisis, to drive home her message. Also, it concludes that the trauma of these conflicts transcends generations.

Keywords: race, ethnicity, Nnedi Okorafor, death, weaponised rape, identity crises

Achebe's Trilogy and (the Quest for) Nigerian Unity: Ethnicity, Tribe and the Challenge of Nation-Building

Ifeoma Obianuju Ukazu

Department of English and Literary Studies

University of Nigeria Nsukka

igbolore2023@gmail.com/+234 9067960307

Abstract

Issues bothering on ethnicity, tribe, and cohesion in Nigeria have gained much political and historical discourse in the field of social sciences. The discourses on ethnicity and tribe have raised various issues on division, equity, unity, and sustainable peace in Nigeria. The previous studies dwell on the extent to which ethnicity and tribe have either impaired or enhanced national cohesion, with the aim of actualizing a sustainable national unity and development. The previous studies have done little in realizing the desired goal. Not much has been done on researches in literary studies with respect to ethnicity, tribe and the quest for cohesion. Achebe's Trilogy portrays the complexities of ethnicity, tribe, and nation-building in Nigeria, with the challenges of attaining a harmonious co-existence of different ethnic and cultural groups in the quest for national unity. The work examines ethnicity, tribe, and cohesion from the perspective of literary studies with emphasis on Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, *Arrow of God* and *No Longer at Ease*. The work examines ethnic relations, and the challenges and opportunities for cohesion in a multi-ethnic society. This study employs a postcolonial theoretical framework, with emphasis on hybridity, and nation-building and identity formation theories of H.K. Bhabha and P. Chatterjee respectively. A qualitative method of analysis is employed in the study, involving reading, analysis and critical examination of the texts. Data collection include primary and secondary sources. The novels portray the need for a better understanding of ethnicity, tribe and their implication for cohesion and nation-building in postcolonial Nigeria.

Keywords: Ethnicity, tribe, cohesion, nation-building

Fractured Identities, Forgotten Humanity: A Representation of War as an Outcome of Ethnic Rivalry in Veronique Tadjo's *The Shadow of Imana*

Anthonia-Greg Nwanekwu Chibuoke & Caroline Olubunmi Nwaka

The Use of English Unit, School of General Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

anthonia.chibuoke@unn.edu.ng/caroline.nwaka@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

This paper explores the complex interplay between ethnicity and conflict, examining how ethnic rivalries can manifest as violent confrontations and wars. As contemporary global conflicts increasingly reflect deep-rooted ethnic divisions, it is essential to understand the mechanisms through which ethnicity contributes to warfare. The paper begins by defining the concept of ethnicity and its socio-political implications highlighting the historical contexts that have shaped ethnic identities. Through a close reading, the paper using a postcolonial lens, “Ordering” discusses the impact of external influences such as colonial legacies and international political dynamics that exacerbate ethnic rivalries. This paper therefore calls for a reevaluation of conflict resolution strategies, advocating for approaches that address ethnic grievances and promote inclusive narratives. Ultimately, the research underscores the necessity of understanding the representation of war as rooted in ethnic rivalry, illuminating pathways to peace that are sensitive to the intricacies of identity and belonging in a pluralistic society.

Keywords: War, ethnic rivalry, genocide, postcolonial lens, resolution

Ethnicity and Markets in Nigeria: How Ethnic Identities Shape Market Structures in Nigeria

Ogechi A. Ikem & Victor Ifegwu-Mbonu

Department of History and International Studies

University of Nigeria, Nsukka

ogechi.ikem@unn.edu.ng (07068948901)

Abstract

Markets in Nigeria are deeply enmeshed in ethnic identities, shaping trade patterns, market structures, trade networks, and economic dominance in various sectors. This paper explores how ethnicity influences market structures in Nigeria, with a primary focus on the Igbo people of Nigeria while drawing comparisons with the trading systems among the Yoruba and Hausa. Historically, ethnic specialization in trade has led to the dominance of certain groups in specific industries. For instance, the Igbo are notable for trade in spare parts and electronics, the Hausa in agricultural trade and cattle markets, and the Yoruba in textiles and artisanal businesses. These ethnic-based trade structures have been shaped by historical migration, colonial economic policies, and socio-cultural factors that encourage intra-ethnic business cooperation. However, while these networks foster economic growth and resilience, they also contribute to exclusionary practices, market competition tensions, and ethnic-based economic conflicts. Drawing largely from historical and economic perspectives, this study examines the implications of ethnicity-driven market structures on economic integration, inter-ethnic collaboration, economic competition, and national cohesion. By analysing case studies of major markets in the Southeast and referencing comparable trends in the Southwest and North, this study sheds light on how ethnicity continues to define Nigeria's commercial landscape. Ultimately, we argue that while ethnic-based market structures foster economic growth within communities, they also pose challenges to inclusivity and national economic integration.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Markets, Trade Networks, Economic Identity, Nigeria

Rigidity: The Bane of Peaceful Tribal Coexistence in Ola Rotimi's *Kurunmi*

Joy Nwakaego Ogota
University of Nigeria, Nsukka
kasiisioma@gmail.com/08144014984

Abstract

This paper explores the concept of rigidity in line with the major preoccupations of Ola Rotimi's critical message to the reader and society at large especially Nigerians and Africans who keep falling prey to destructive manipulation found in cultural and leadership tussle. The purpose of this study is to awaken our consciousness on the dangers of Tribal/Ethnic, Cultural and Religious Strife which may lead to violence and later escalate to war. Thus the text under study presents the rivalry that triggered off between Ibadan and Ijaiye with the Egba coming on the side of Ijaiya to fight. This war started with little disagreement about kinship- Alafin Atiba demands that his son Adelu be acknowledged as his successor upon his death. Only Kurunmi maintained his stand that the Prince (Adelu) should commit suicide as tradition demands. This unyielding nature of Kurunmi brought tribal war that made many homes desolate and others emigrants elsewhere. Another aspect of the purpose of this study is to discuss the importance of Dialogue, Tolerance and Patience in human communication and interaction to enhance unity and peaceful coexistence. This paper adopts Charles Cooley (1864-1929) and George Herbert Mead (1863-1931)'s Sociological theory of Self Development. Cooley, (1902) notes that people's Self Understanding is constructed in part by their perception of how others view them-“a process termed the looking glass self”. Later Mead studied the “self” and presents it as a person's distinct identity that is developed through social interaction. Added to this is that in order to engage in this process of “self” an individual should be able to view him or herself through the eyes of others. For this he states that through socialization we learn to put ourselves in someone else's shoes and look at the World through their perspective. The Research Methodology adopted is a critical rereading and analysis of the text *Kurunmi*. The analysis is done through the events and actions of the characters in the play. Findings: It is found that undue rigidity mar situations. Also through some of the characters one finds out that Kurunmi's house was already divided before the said war. It is also found that some people hastily jump into war just to avenge their personal quarrel with their target. In conclusion, the paper presents tribal rivalry and its consequences in African society namely Ibadan, Ijaiye and Egba. The paper recommends dialogue with good listening ears to avert war.

Keywords: Intolerance, War, Disagreement, Rigidity, Anger, Dialogue and Tactfulness.

ETHNICITY AND LANGUAGE CHOICE: AN ECOLINGUISTIC APPRAISAL OF SOCIAL MEDIA WAR IN NIGERIA

Uche Ken Chukwu, PhD, English Language Unit, Directorate of General Studies, Federal
University of Technology, Owerri
Chioma Chinedu-Okoro, PhD & Chukwuka Chukwueke
Department of Humanities, Federal Polytechnic Nekede, Owerri

Abstract

This paper explores the intersection of ethnicity and language choice in the context of Nigeria's social media war. It explores how language choices used by participants in the identified digital ecosystem shapes and is shaped by ethnic affiliation. The authors posit that the Nigeria social media space can be designated as a battleground where language is not simply a medium of communication but a

contrivance for ethnic warfare; expressing inherent polarization that is anchored on ethnic struggles and patronage. The paper draws its data from social media discussions, comments and debates on national issues, and relies on the ecolinguistic framework for its analyses. The analyses take the qualitative approach, and the findings underscore the need for social reorientation, especially among the youths; calling for an adoption of mindset that is predicated on socio-ethnic cohesion.

Keywords: Ethnicity, language choice, ecolinguistics, social media, Nigeria, digital discourse

POLITICS, TRIBE AND ETHNICITY IN AFRICA

Ogbodo Chijioke Sunday

Faculty of Law, University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus

Chijioke.ogbodo.pg97381@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

The complex interplay of politics, tribe, and ethnicity in Africa forms a critical and often contentious foundation of the continent's socio-economic political dynamics. Rooted in centuries of historical, colonial, and post-colonial influences, African political landscapes remain deeply entangled with ethnic identities and tribal affiliations. As a corollary to the foregoing, this study examines the intricate relationships between politics, tribe, and ethnicity in contemporary Africa, focusing on how these factors shape political dynamics and national identity. The central problematique of this study is to understand how ethnic and tribal affiliations influence political processes, decision-making, and social cohesion in African nations, especially in the post-colonial era. Utilizing a comparative analysis of several African countries with diverse ethnic compositions, this study draws on qualitative methods, including political case studies, ethnographic interviews, and historical data. The findings highlight that while ethnicity remains a pivotal determinant of political identity and allegiance, the manipulation of tribalism for political gain exacerbates divisions, leading to conflicts, instability, and entrenched inequality. Furthermore, the study reveals that ethnic politics often disrupts efforts at democratic consolidation, as political leaders use ethnic divisions to solidify power. The research concludes that sustainable political solutions in Africa require a reframing of ethnic identities within a broader national context, emphasizing inclusive governance and the promotion of cross-ethnic coalitions to foster stability, development, and social cohesion. The study contributes to the ongoing discourse on ethnic politics in Africa, offering insights into strategies for mitigating ethnic conflicts and enhancing democratic practices across the continent.

Keywords: Political identity, tribal affiliations, tribalism, ethnic politics, postcolonial Africa, political dynamics.

THE ECONOMICS OF TRIBAL AND ETHNIC CONFLICTS IN AFRICA

Ozor Benjamin Aninweokwu

Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

E-mail: ozorbenjamin7@gmail.com, 08067853904

Abstract

Post colonial African states have tribal and ethnic cleavages that are characterized by intense conflict. This tribal and ethnic conflict is a recurring decimal rearing its ugly head. Hutus and Tutsis of 1994

genocide in Rwanda, Dinka and Nuer ethnic conflict in South Sudan, Tiv/Idoma farming community and Fulani herdsman conflict in Nigeria, largely substantiate excruciating conflict among tribes and ethnic groups in Africa. Basically, the struggle and competition for economic resources like land, water, oil and gas, and other natural resources which are standpoint for livelihood contribute immensely to this conflict. Unemployment, poverty, differences in economic and political advantages, income and wealth gains, exacerbate tribal and ethnic conflict in Africa. Most importantly, tribal and ethnic conflict in Africa constitute serious economic sabotages in Africa as destruction of human life leads to drastic fall in human resources that is an engine block for development. Indices of economic development as physical and natural resources, Banks, insurance companies, businesses, market, foods and live stock are target in period of tribal and ethnic conflict. This attack retard largely economic development as seen in Hutus and Tutsis Rwanda Genocide, Biafra/Igbo and Hausa/Fulani civil war, the Tiv/Idoma and Fulani herdsman conflict in Nigeria. This paper maintains that peace-building through dialogue, negotiation, roundtable discussion are possible measures to resolve tribal and ethnic conflict in Africa. This paper relies on secondary sources of data collection such as journals, seminar works and textbooks dealing on conflict studies in Africa while content analysis is done. Essentially, frustration aggression theory of conflict developed by Dollard et al offers a useful insight to explain and analyze tribal and ethnic conflict in Africa. This theory asserts that there is nexus between frustration and aggression. Violent conflict occurs because people are already frustrated, which triggers aggression.

Keywords: Conflicts, Africa, Ethnic, Tribal, Economics.

A Critical Discourse Analysis of Ethnic Stereotyping in Nigerian Political Discourse

Ogechi C. Unachukwu, Amaka G. Nwuche, Goodluck C. Kadiri & Bernice N. Ogbochie

Department of English and Literary Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

ogechi.unachukwu@unn.edu.ng, amaka.nwuche@unn.edu.ng, goodluck.kadiri@unn.edu.ng,

bernice.ogbochie@unn.edu.ng

08063787716, 08037334873, 08037956298, 08077000410

Abstract

Ethnic stereotyping is a persistent feature of Nigerian political discourse that influences national cohesion and electoral behavior. Politicians strategically employ language to construct ethnic narratives that either reinforce unity or deepen divisions. This study investigates ethnic stereotyping in Nigerian political speeches, media interviews, and debates using Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Approach to Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). The data comprises 50,000 words drawn from selected political speeches of President Muhammadu Buhari's 2015 inaugural speech, Goodluck Jonathan's 2015 concession speech, and Atiku Abubakar's 2019 campaign speech and interviews from Channels TV as well as transcripts from the 2023 presidential debates featuring Peter Obi and Rabiul Kwankwaso. These provide insights into the rhetorical framing of ethnicity in political discourse. Findings reveal that politicians use lexical choices, rhetorical devices, and implicit presuppositions to construct in-group and out-group distinctions that reinforce ethnic loyalty. While some political figures advocate national unity, others perpetuate stereotypes that contribute to political exclusion and ethnic tension. This research emphasizes the role of language in shaping ethnic perceptions and calls for more responsible political rhetoric to enhance national cohesion.

Keywords: Ethnic stereotyping, political discourse, Nigeria, critical discourse analysis

Language and Culture: The Major Paraphernalia for Ethnic Identification

Okoye, Mercy Chiaka

Use of English Unit, School of General Studies, University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus

Email: mercy.okoye@unn.edu.ng/08163643666

Abstract

Language is powerful and culturally transmitted. It is an integral part of culture that reflects many characteristics of a given socio-cultural context or community. In other words, language conveys behavioural patterns or blueprints of a community of people in diverse ways, even in a geographical context. It is therefore a marker of ethnicity, a means of expressing a society's tradition and culture, identifying a specific people or ethnic group, as well as differentiating them from others. This paper examines the concept of ethnicity and identification and it is hinged on the principles of sociolinguistics. The study posits that ethnicity leans heavily on language and culture which are part of the major features for ethnic determination and identification. This work draws mainly from the multi-cultural context of Nigeria and authenticates the sociolinguistic principle that language, which embodies culture, is a means of ethnic or national identity and cohesion.

Keywords: Language and Culture, Ethnicity, Community, Identification and Sociolinguistics

INTERROGATING ETHNICITY AND TRIBALISM IN SOYINKA'S *A DANCE OF THE FORESTS*

Obiorah Ekwueme, PhD & Emmanuela Chioma Nnadiukwu

Department of Theatre and Film Studies

University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

obiorah.ekwueme@unn.edu.ng/09039361425, 08122164844

Abstract

Ethnicity and tribalism have played significant roles in shaping Nigeria's socio-political landscape, often serving as both a source of cultural identity and a tool for division. This study critically examines how Wole Soyinka's *A Dance of the Forests* interrogates ethnic tensions and the dangers of tribalism in Nigeria. The study offers a prophetic critique of the nation's fractured identity, exposing how historical grievances, ethnic rivalries, and political opportunism threaten national unity. Using Cultural Hegemony Theory, this study explores how Soyinka employs allegory, symbolism, and myth to challenge the glorification of the past and warn against the cyclical nature of ethnic conflicts. The study presents history as a burden rather than a source of pride, emphasizing the need for a new national consciousness that transcends tribal divisions. By examining Soyinka's representation of ethnic tensions and his vision for a unified Nigeria, this study highlights the enduring relevance of *A Dance of the Forests* in contemporary discussions on ethnicity, tribalism, nationalism, and governance. The findings contribute to the broader discourse on how Nigerian drama functions as a medium for social critique and nation-building.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Tribalism, Culture, Nigeria.

**Politics of Tribe and Ethnicity and the Eradication of Social Stigmatization in Nsukka Town:
An Aesthetic Discourse**

Oguejiofor V. Omeje^{1*}, Cindy Anene Ezeugwu². & Nneka Alio²

Humanities Unit, School of General Studies¹

Theatre and Film Studies²

University of Nigeria Nsukka

victor.omeje@unn.edu.ng/+2348037812684

Abstract

This paper is an aesthetic discourse of social stigmatization in Nsukka town. The circumstance of birth is a universal indeterminate human experience. Thus, social stigmatization to individual or a group of persons on account of birth, tribe or ethnicity is disingenuous. This factor in most cases lead to social stigmatization and its attendant stratification, and inequality. Despite the claim of shared ancestry among Nsukka Igbo people, social stigmatization has persisted, perpetuating a system of social stratification that divides society into rigid classes such as bourgeoisie and proletariat, superior and inferior, slave and free-born, the osu caste and other sundry system classes which are hitherto unfamiliar. The objective is to tackle the delicate issue of social stigmatization, which is often shrouded in silence or evaded. However, the consequences of social stigmatization are far-reaching, causing psychological and physical trauma for individuals and groups, while also hindering social cohesion, development, and political progress. Research findings reveal that although old traditions can be challenging to eradicate, Nsukka town's efforts in abolishing all forms of social stigmatization have led to a new era of freedom, unity, and peaceful coexistence, essential for sustainable development; though some schools are still unyielding. Concluding, this paper urges governments at all levels to take immediate humanitarian action to enforce existing laws and eliminate social stigmatization. Furthermore, it is recommended that individuals should report any instance of social stigmatization to relevant authorities for investigation. This study adopts a functional and conflict theoretical framework to explore the complex dynamics of social stigmatization.

Keywords: tribe, ethnicity, slave, caste, social stigmatization

**TRIBAL BELONGINGNESS AND ISSUES OF *NRIGBE*: AN EXISTENTIAL READING
OF ACHEBE'S *THINGS FALL APART***

Ike Doris Ann, Ph.D.

Eucharistic Heart College of Health Technology, Orba Nsukka,

chidorisann51@gmail.com Tel: 08080257147

Abstract

Things Fall Apart is a literary text that examines universal truth, considering how the representation of incidents exercise a 'self-standing' (Akwanya, 2022) character. The central knowledge that runs through the mythos raises question on the essence of life in relation to *nrigbe*. *Nrigbe* in *Igbo* cosmology has an understanding of belongingness of being, which our hero, Okonkwo seeks to imbibe. The paper argues that seeking for tribal belongingness drives Okonkwo's activity, but why his strive to maintain a space among his tribesmen should taint his being with existential error remains a puzzle. The paper takes the part of phenomenology to bring to light instances of tribal configuration among Mbaino and Umuofia elders. It adopts the theory of Ujamaa, to inquire into the structures that birth the agents as tribal beings. Ujamaa is Nyerere's ideological expression for communality of spirit

or interrelatedness of being that authenticate African nations. The basis of Ujamaa suggests inclusivity of being, *Sorge*, care, and concern for the other. These form the tribal values that Okonkwo seeks to understand. The finding of this paper reveals that tribal belongingness has a primordial implication, which Okonkwo fails to perceive. In the end, this existential lack extradites his space among his tribesmen and ill fates his existence with a tragic nod.

Keywords: Tribe, Being, Belongingness, Seeking, and *Nrigbe*.

The Role of Academic Libraries in Promoting Tolerance among Ethnic Groups in Academic Environment

Dr Promise I Ilo

Nnamdi Azikiwe Library, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
Promise.ilo@unn.edu.ng/+2348132749547

Ehikioya Emmanuel Ehimen

Anchor University Library

Ehikioya@aula.edu.ng/+2348060993390

&

Nwachi, Chiegonu

Nnamdi Azikiwe Library, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
Chiegonu.nwachi@unn.edu.ng/+2347034469401

Abstract

Academic libraries play a vital role in fostering inclusiveness, cultural awareness, and ethnic tolerance of diversities within academic institutions. By providing access to diverse resources, curating multicultural collections, and organizing programs that celebrate different ethnic backgrounds, libraries contribute to the promotion for tolerance among ethnic groups and the management of tribal differences. These efforts help to create an environment that encourages intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding among students, faculty, staff and community development. Additionally, academic libraries serve as neutral spaces where individuals from various ethnic backgrounds can engage in intellectual discourse free from biases or discrimination. Through the integration of digital archives, oral histories, and research materials that highlight ethnic diversity, libraries empower students to explore their cultural identities while appreciating the history and tradition of others. Furthermore, library-led initiatives such as cultural exhibitions, discussion forums, outreaches and collaborative learning projects serve as essential tools in addressing tribal divisions and fostering unity. The role of librarians as information mediators also extends to ensuring equitable access to knowledge that supports diversity and inclusiveness. In an increasingly globalized academic landscape, libraries remain instrumental in shaping institutions that embrace pluralism. This paper examines the strategies engaged by academic libraries in promoting tolerance among ethnic groups, emphasizing their transformative impact on social cohesion in academic environment.

Keywords: Academic libraries, ethnic tolerance, tribal differences, multiculturalism, social cohesion

Ethnicity, Tribe and the Quest for Cohesion in Nigeria: A Maritime Perspective on Niger Delta

Echezona Chukwujekwu Davidson & Fred Achoru, Josiah Ogbuka, Ikenna Amuka

Abstract

Notwithstanding its rich cultural heritage, Nigeria's ethnic and tribal variety has long been a factor in political division, economic disparity, and ineffective government. Policy decisions are frequently influenced by ethnic and tribal ties, which also affect access to economic opportunities, political appointments, and resource distribution. In the end, these divisions impede sustainable development by promoting marginalization, undermining national cohesiveness, and escalating socio-political instability. These issues are seen in the maritime industry as unequal distribution of marine resources, disregard for riverine and coastal people, and increased insecurity, especially in the Niger Delta. Nigeria's trade and maritime industry have suffered as a result of piracy, militant activity, and port operations disruptions brought on by ethnic disputes. This study uses a qualitative research methodology, combining primary data from semi-structured interviews with policymakers, stakeholders in the marine industry, and community leaders with secondary data from policy papers, reports, and scholarly literature. Nigeria's maritime governance is compared to successful models, like Ghana, using a comparative case study approach in order to pinpoint best practices. Systemic obstacles and recurrent issues will be examined using thematic and comparative analyses, which will also highlight successful interventions. The results will provide tactical suggestions for promoting national unity via equitable marine policies and inclusive governance. Nigeria can improve marine security, foster unity, and promote sustained economic growth by resolving ethnic divisions and guaranteeing equitable allocation of maritime resources.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Maritime Resources, Niger Delta, National Cohesion

SOCIAL CONFLICTS AND ETHNIC POLITICS: ELEMENTS IN NIGERIA'S UNDERDEVELOPMENT

Azowue O. Emmanuel, Ezugwu Kelechi, Egoigwe Sarah, and Ezea S. Chinedu
School of General Studies, Social Science Unit, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Abstract

Despite the country's abundance of natural and human resources, Nigeria remains underdeveloped. In accordance with this, a consensus is forming that ethnic politics and social conflicts are the most fundamental factors contributing to this underdevelopment. The authors of this study substantiated the assertion that ethnic politics and social conflicts have impeded political, economic, and social advancements in the nation by conducting a content analysis of the reviewed literature. In numerous instances, they have impeded the development process, which is crucial for Nigeria's transition from destitution to a future of stability and sustainable development. This paper suggests that Nigerians should strive to operate a true federalism, cultivate a suitable political culture, and outgrow ethnic rancour in order to face these challenges and promote development in the country. They should also cease to blame ethnicity for any social policy that unintentionally affects a group.

Keywords: Social, Conflict, Ethnic, Politics, Underdevelopment

LANGUAGE AND ETHNIC LOYALTY: A CLOG IN NIGERIA'S QUEST FOR NATIONAL UNITY

Donatus Chijioke Nwabunze
Department of English & Literary Studies
Nwafor Orizu College of Education, Nsugbe
Phone: 08038530288 Email: dnwabunze@gmail.com

Abstract

Language and ethnicity are social mirrors which reflect a people's identity and origin. It is an instrument of ethnic and cultural solidarity. Language and ethnic loyalty causes people to retain their native language and identify with their cultural root at all costs. Nigeria is a heterogeneous society composed of distinct ethnic nationalities, each with its own native language. The country is a typical multilingual mosaic in which multifarious minority languages coexist with three major ones of Hausa, Igbo and Yoruba. Both the majority and minority languages in the country have marginal status as none serves as official or national language. Language being a mark of identity, the ethnic backgrounds of Nigerians are easily identified through their native languages. Identification with native languages goes with loyalty to native languages and love of ethnicity. This makes the citizens feel proud of first identifying themselves as natives of one tribe or the other, before being identified as Nigerians. This is the major reason the country is lacking a national language. Every ethnic group in the country resists the imposition of any indigenous language other than its own as a national language; each being afraid of enslavement through language. This paper is of the view that this scenario of linguistic mistrust is a threat to national unity and development. To foster national unity and enhance national development, the paper concludes with a suggestion that a language like Pidgin, which breaks communication barrier across regional boundaries be promoted, not only as the national language, but also as the language of instruction and a subject of study in Nigeria.

Keywords: Language, ethnic loyalty and national unity

NATION AND NARRATION IN MODERN NIGERIAN LITERATURE: A STUDY OF CHUMA-UDEH NGOZI'S *ECHOES OF A NEW DAWN*

Chigozie Simon Okeakpu & Francisca Ifeoma Nwafor
Department of English and Literary Studies,
Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, igbaram Campus
chigozieokeakpu@gmail.com/+2348064856688
nwaforwonder1414@gmail.com/+2348102351898

Abstract

Modern Nigerian literary writers aim to recreate the distorted image of the nation. Literature is life, and life is an art. Art, in the sense of creating, becomes a narration of the lives and ways of a people through writing. Therefore, modern Nigerian writers, through their writing, aim to create a true image of their nation by infusing their literature with elements that mark the inhabitants as a people of culture, knowing that people are defined by their worldview. The aim of this paper is to examine these

interpretations of nations by modern Nigerian writers, using *Echoes of a New Dawn*, since no critical review has been done on it in that respect; current debates highlight mainly the theme of feminism in the novel. This study aims to fill the gap by generating new insights and deepening knowledge. Through a qualitative research methodology, the study employs the liberal postcolonial strand of Chinua Achebe, which emphasizes the preservation and respect of indigenous cultures alongside the English language. The study explores how national values such as marriage rites, belief in fetish, superstitious beliefs, rites of passage, initiation, incantation, communal lifestyle, and ancestor worship are reflected in the text. The findings reveal that what makes these modes of existence unique is the attitudinal understanding given to them by the practitioners of those systemic values and the complex means of attachment to which the inhabitants of those values attach. The researchers recommend that modern Nigerian fiction can and should be studied on its own terms, underscoring its unique value and credibility to global literature.

Key Words: Nation, Narration, Culture, Literature

ETHNICITY, COASTAL STATES AND RESOURCE CONTROL

Kenneth Okhumode Osikhuemhe, Abada Micheal Ifeanyichukwu & Okeke Augustine Obi
Department Of Political Science,
University Of Nigeria Nsukka.
kennethosikhuemhe233@gmail.com.

Abstract

With over two hundred and fifty distinctively divergence lingual groupings, Nigeria has more ethnic groups than any other nation state. With this diversity, Nigeria has much to offer to humanity, especially its rich human and natural resources which spread across the coastal states in the south-south geopolitical zone of Nigeria, as a former colonial state. However, one of the major challenges facing Nigeria is the need to overcome ethnicity and resource control prejudices that have impeded the development, of coastal states of Nigeria, making it the poorest zones. Therefore, the thrust of this paper is to consider how best we could overcome this daunting challenge and foster inter ethnic harmony in the country. Its theoretical perspective is anchored on the Human Need theory in explaining the generic nature of ethnicity and resource control and its application is necessary for resolving inherent challenges of national cohesion in a multi ethnic society like Nigeria. The methodology employed in writing this paper is essentially qualitative, descriptive and historical as data and information were obtained from documentary sources in books, journals and online materials. The paper concludes that there is the need to transform ethnic politics into mutually beneficial relationship as pathways to progress in Nigeria. Therefore, the way forward is anchored on the structural school of thought, advocating for further degree of autonomy to component ethnic groups behaviour and attitude must be reborn rather than courting division among the ethnic groups.

Keywords: Coastal, Control, Ethnicity, Resource.

Bridging Divides: Ethnic Identity and National Cohesion in Post-Colonial States

Ike-Nwachukwu Ihuoma Nwanyieze
Lux Mundi University Umuahia, Abia State
08064580100

Abstract

Ethnic identities are central to the political, social, and cultural dynamics of post-colonial states, often impeding national cohesion. This presentation examines the interplay between ethnicity, nationalism, and unity, with a focus on Nigeria. The 1914 forced amalgamation of its northern and southern protectorates created a fragmented nation, where over 250 ethnic groups coexist within colonial-drawn borders. These artificial boundaries continue to exacerbate ethnic tensions, political instability, and resource competition, with tribal loyalty often overshadowing national identity. Grounded in Donald L. Horowitz's Ethnic Conflict Theory (Ethnic Groups in Conflict, 1985), this analysis explores ethnicity as a tool for political power, exclusion, and marginalization. By examining Nigeria's ethnic divisions and historical conflicts, such as the Biafran War, the presentation highlights the enduring legacies of colonial governance. Additionally, Globalization Theory is employed to explore how globalization fosters hybrid identities and transnational solidarities while amplifying ethnic divisions. Through comparative analysis, case studies like Ethiopia's federalism and the Zapatista Movement illustrate pathways for reconfiguring ethnic identities toward inclusivity. The presentation underscores how Nigeria's federalism, though imperfect, holds potential for accommodating ethnic diversity while fostering political unity. Findings suggest that national cohesion requires rethinking ethnic identities not as divisive forces but as sources of strength through recognition and mutual respect. By addressing historical grievances and fostering equitable governance, post-colonial states can transform ethnic diversity into a cornerstone for unity and progress.

Keywords: Ethnic Identity, National Cohesion, Post-Colonialism, Ethnic Conflict Theory.

POLITICAL ECONOMY OF ETHNICISM IN AFRICAN WORLD WAR

Abraham, Chisom Sophy, Okeke, Obi Augustine & Vincent, Rejoice Ifebuche
Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka
Chisomsophyabraham@gmail.com

Abstract

The African continent is often depicted as a region of vast economic potential, yet it remains plagued by persistent conflicts that hinder development and stability. One of the most complex and enduring factors contributing to these conflicts is the intersection of ethnicism and resource misappropriation. This study examines how ethnic divisions are exploited in the political economy of war, focusing on Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where resource wealth has fueled intractable conflicts. Nigeria, Africa's largest oil producer, has struggled with insurgencies like Boko Haram, while the DRC, home to some of the world's most coveted minerals, remains embroiled in conflicts involving ethnic militias, warlords, and multinational corporations. This study employs qualitative methods to investigate how resource appropriation sustains conflicts. Secondary data was collected using empirical tools such as ACLED, GIS software, trade databases, and displacement records. Thematic content analysis will be applied to the collected data. Anchored on Intractable Conflict Theory, the study explores how ethnic conflicts over political power and resources persist in

Nigeria and the DRC. Oil wealth fuels tensions in Nigeria, while minerals drive ethnic struggles in the DRC. Resource competition fosters zero-sum dynamics, leading to recurring violence and failed peace efforts. By analyzing patterns of resource appropriation, illicit financial flows, and ethnic entrenchment, this research highlights broader implications of ethnicism in Africa's resource wars. The findings will contribute to discussions on political economy, ethnic conflict resolution, and governance in Africa, offering insights for policymakers, scholars, and international organizations seeking sustainable solutions to ongoing conflicts.

Keywords: Ethnicism, Resource Misappropriation, Intractable Conflict Theory, Political Economy of War, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

INFLUENCE OF TRIBALISM ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA

Chiamaka Orabueze, Ibuchukwu Okonkwo, Florence Orabueze & Clara Obi-Ochiabutor
University of Nigeria

Abstract

The Wilson Centre estimates that Nigeria has over 200 ethnic groups and that over 500 languages are spoken, making it one of the world's most culturally diverse countries. This heterogeneous nature is recognised in the 1999 constitution (as amended) which states in section 14 that the composition of the federal, state and local governments and government agencies must reflect the diversity of the people and promote a sense of belonging. Section 15(2) also encourages national integration and freedom from discrimination based on, among other factors, ethnicity. Unfortunately, the fabric of Nigeria's nationhood is thin because loyalty lies along tribal and religious lines, not national unity. This is most evident in the country's elections where tribalism is a dominant factor, especially in presidential elections. Using the doctrinal methodology, this study examines the phenomenon of tribalism and its influence on presidential elections in Nigeria. To fully carry out this task, primary and secondary sources of information are utilised, especially legislation, case laws and journal articles. The study finds that tribalism has been a common feature of elections in Nigeria, starting with post-independence Nigeria where political parties were formed along ethnic lines. It further finds that tribalism is a weapon wielded by politicians for their selfish interests by creating a tense political undertone of "us-versus-them". The recommendations of this study include feasible actions that promote national integration and respect for diversity, penalising politicians and political parties that use slogans and campaign materials that encourage tribalism, and enforcing a strict adherence to the federal character principle enshrined in the 1999 constitution (as amended).

Keywords: Tribalism, Nigeria, Election, Integration, Constitution

Understanding Intercultural Communication through the Utterances of Selected Interracial Couples on Social Media

Nwakaire, Esther.N.¹, Oriaku Ifeoma Precious¹ & Agbo Onyinyechi Gift²

Department of English and Literary Studies¹

Institute of African Studies²

University of Nigeria, Nsukka

esther.nwakaire@unn.edu.ng. Phone: 08063083587

Abstract

Language is essential to the construction of both individual and shared identities in interracial

marriages. The study of identity management theory looks at how people create, grow, and preserve their identities in relationships—especially cross-cultural ones. In order to balance individual cultural manifestations with the development of a unified shared identity, effective communication is crucial. This study examines the linguistic and cultural boundaries experienced by interracial couples in their digital interactions. Through a qualitative analysis of selected social media conversations and interviews collected from their YouTube Channels, the study explores how these couples navigate language barriers, negotiate cultural differences, and construct shared identities. Utilizing theories such as Sociolinguistic Theory, Communication Accommodation Theory and Cultural Identity Theory, the research identifies key linguistic features, including code-switching, hybrid language use, and digital translation tools, as mechanisms for overcoming communicative challenges. Findings indicate that while language can act as a barrier, it also serves as a tool for bridging cultural divides and fostering mutual understanding. Interracial couples employ adaptive communication strategies to mitigate conflicts arising from differing cultural norms and expectations. The study underscores the role of social media in both reinforcing and challenging cultural stereotypes, highlighting its potential to either promote inclusivity or perpetuate existing prejudices. This research contributes to the field of sociolinguistics by offering insights into digital discourse, cultural hybridity, and the evolving dynamics of intercultural relationships in online spaces. Potential researchers can expand on these findings by exploring broader demographic variations and the impact of different social media platforms on interracial couple interactions.

Keywords: Intercultural Communication, Interracial Couples, Sociolinguistics, Social Media, Identity.

DISSOLVING THE CONCRETE WALLS OF ETHNICITY IN NIGERIA: THE ROLE OF HUMILITY

Basil O. Nwokolo

School of General Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

Email: basil.nwokolo@unn.edu.ng/08050972604

Abstract

There exist as many ethnic groups as there are languages. Language is, therefore, considered as the primary and major marker of ethnicity and ethnic identity. The boundaries shared by one ethnic group and another are usually delineated by language, cultural practices, ancestry, physical characteristics and others. As a result of these observable natural differences, ethnic rivalry, conflict and domination remain frequent occurrences in human society. Ethnically-motivated conflicts are rife, pandemic and destructive globally. In view of this reality, this paper investigates the nature of the foundation that sustains ethnicity and discusses a measure, if adopted, that could eliminate or minimize ethnic conflicts in the world. This measure revolves around the cultivation and instillation of humility in the people. As a core innate virtue or trait, humility possesses the ingredients that can transform the political, cultural, religious and intellectual fabric of any society. Its instillation is proposed to be through verbal and non-verbal communication. The paper, which is descriptively qualitative, has adopted observation and content analysis as tools for data gathering. The theoretical anchor of the study is Marx Weber's 1905 social conflict theory. Weber, unlike Karl Marks', has identified three major sources of conflict in a human society: economic, social and political. Weber insists on the inevitability of conflicts in a human society as long as differences in religion, culture, language, values, gender, economic opportunities

and others exist. Recommendation is also made regarding measures to prioritize the cultivation of humility in individuals.

Keywords: ethnicity, language, culture, humility, communication

POLITICS OF ETHNICITY IN CHINUA ACHEBE'S *THERE WAS A COUNTRY: A PERSONAL HISTORY OF BIAFRA*

Chijioke Paul Anih

Department Of English and Literary Studies,
Faculty Of Arts, University Of Nigeria, Nsukka
Chijiokeanihp@Gmail.Com/09015850120

Abstract

This paper examines the representation of politics of ethnicity in Chinua Achebe's *There Was a Country: A Personal History of Biafra*, focusing on the depiction of characters, tribes and events. Politics of ethnicity is mostly concerned with placing ethnic interests over all other considerations, say national goals. Drawing on Postcolonial theory and employing the Qualitative method of analysis; this study will analyse how the primary text under study thrives on the politics of ethnicity. Postcolonial theory is concerned with the aftermath effects of colonialism. The findings reveals that the novel do not necessarily present politics of ethnicity as being dangerous in itself, but that; it is so much more an irresistible submission on the need for premeditation unto self-discovery, negotiations and more essentially rebuilding of strained relationships and broken walls among the various Nigeria ethnic groups. The study will provide insights into future discourses on literature as well as subsequent debates on ethnic, regional and world politics.

Keywords: Politics, Ethnicity, Postcolonial, Theory

WEAVING ETHNICITY, MUSIC, AND CULTURE IN AFRICA

Feicia O Ezeugwu, Ph.D

Department of Music,
Faculty of Arts, University of Nigeria Nsukka
felicia.ezeugwu@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

This study, focusing in Nigeria, explores the intricate web of relationships between ethnicity, music, and culture in Africa, highlighting the ways in which these elements intersect and influence one another. Drawing on a constructivist grounded theory approach, this research investigates how ethnicity shapes musical expression, and how music, in turn, reflects and reinforces ethnic identities. The study employs a multi-case study design, incorporating in-depth interviews, focus groups, and participant observation, with data collection from the three major ethnic groups in Nigeria involving participants from diverse ethnic backgrounds - Igbo, Yoruba and Hausa. Thematic analysis is used to identify patterns and themes in the data. Grounded in social constructivist theory, which posits that reality is constructed through social interactions and cultural norms, and informed by the concept of "cultural hybridity" (Bhabha, 1994), this study reveals complex and nuanced relationships between ethnicity, music, and culture. Preliminary findings suggest that music plays a vital role in shaping and

reinforcing ethnic identities in Africa, with participants' narratives highlighting the significance of cultural hybridity in shaping musical expression and ethnic identity. This study contributes to a deeper understanding of the complex relationships between ethnicity, music, and culture in Africa, with implications for music education, cultural policy, and identity formation in African contexts.

Keywords: Ethnicity, Music, Social Constructivist Theory, Cultural Hybridity, Identity Formation.

Cohesion in Diversity: Multiculturalism, Ethnicity, and the Challenge of Building Inclusive African Societies: A Study of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah* and Imraan Coovadia's *Tales of the Metric System*

Shege, Nkeiruka Monica

shegenkeiruka@gmail.com/08063490246

Federal College of Education, Eha-Amufu, Enugu State

Abstract

This study explores multiculturalism and ethnicity in building inclusive African societies through Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah* and Imraan Coovadia's *Tales of the Metric System*. Both novels examine identity, migration, and cultural interactions within and beyond Africa. In *Americanah*, Adichie follows Ifemelu, a Nigerian woman who migrates to the United States of America, addressing race, identity, and assimilation challenges. Ifemelu's journey highlights the ambivalence of multiculturalism as she navigates being a non-American Black in the U.S. and later grapples with her transformed identity upon returning to Nigeria. On the other hand, Coovadia's *Tales of the Metric System* presents interconnected narratives in South Africa across decades, reflecting on political and social changes. The novel explores intersections of race, class, and gender, illustrating the challenges of fostering cohesion in a diverse society. By juxtaposing these works, this study highlights the broader challenges African societies face in embracing diversity while striving for unity. It emphasizes the importance of recognising and addressing identity and belonging complexities in creating inclusive communities. This study applies multiculturalism theory as a critical framework to analyse how diverse cultural identities interact within African societies and beyond. This study employs a qualitative research approach, using textual analysis as the primary method to examine the themes of multiculturalism and ethnicity in both novels.

Keywords: Multiculturalism, Ethnicity, Cohesion in Diversity

The Influence of Ethnicity and Tribe on the Spread of Arboviral Infections: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Understanding and Mitigating Transmission

Ibuchukwu Nkeonyenasoya Orabueze,^{1,2} Chaimaka Ifeatu Orabueze,³ Shedrach Chikezie Emeribe,^{1,2} Samuel Onuzulike Ebede,^{1,2*} Martin Ekechukwu Ohanu,^{1,2} Florence Onyebuchi Orabueze,⁴ Uchenna Chinedu Ozumba^{1,2}

Email: samuel.ebede@unn.edu.ng GSM +2348036664441*

¹Department of Medical Microbiology, Faculty of Basic Clinical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Nigeria, Ituku-Ozalla Campus, Enugu, Nigeria

²Department of Microbiology, University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital, Ituku-Ozalla*,

³ Department of Corporate and Commercial Law, Faculty of Law, College of Medicine, University of Nigeria Enugu Campus, Enugu, Nigeria

⁴ Department of English and Literary Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Nigeria Nsukka.

Abstract

Arboviral infections present a growing public health challenge in Africa. While environmental and ecological factors are well-recognized drivers of arboviral transmission, the role of ethnicity and tribal affiliations in shaping disease dynamics remains underexplored. Ethnic and tribal affiliations influence healthcare access, health-seeking behaviors, and public trust in disease control measures, thereby impacting outbreak response and disease burden. Geographic and occupational factors increase exposure for certain ethnic groups, while systemic healthcare disparities, historical marginalization, and political favoritism lead to unequal resource allocation. Cultural beliefs and mistrust in government-led initiatives contribute to vaccine hesitancy and resistance to vector control efforts further exacerbating the public health impact of these infections. Addressing these challenges requires a multidisciplinary approach that integrates epidemiology, anthropology, and governance to develop inclusive public health strategies.

Keywords: Arboviral infections, ethnicity, tribe

The Role Of Education In Fostering National Identity And Social Cohesion

Jasper Ejikeme

Abstract

Education plays a pivotal role in building national identity and fostering social cohesion, particularly in multi-ethnic and culturally diverse societies. This paper explores how educational systems contribute to developing a unified national identity, encouraging a sense of belonging, and promoting cooperation among diverse groups. By shaping values, attitudes, and shared understandings, education can reduce prejudices, enhance tolerance, and create a foundation for societal harmony. In the Nigerian context, where ethnic and religious diversity often complicates social unity, education has a unique potential to bridge divides and nurture a cohesive identity. This paper examines policies and curricula designed to promote social cohesion, the role of inclusive teaching practices, and the impact of school environments on students' intergroup relationships. It also discusses the challenges and limitations faced by the Nigerian educational system in achieving these goals. Recommendations are made on educational reforms that emphasize inclusivity, cultural awareness, and conflict resolution. Through comprehensive educational approaches, it is possible to create a national identity that respects diversity while promoting unity.

Keywords: Education, National Identity, Social Cohesion, Diversity, Nigeria, Conflict Resolution, Curriculum, Inclusivity

Exploring the Impact of Renewable Energy and Environmental Risks on Economic Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa

Abada Chika Felicia.
chika.abada@unn.edu.ng
Social Sciences Unit, School of General Studies, UNN.

This paper conducts a comprehensive examination of the intricate relationship between renewable energy, environmental risks, and economic growth in the Sub-Saharan African region. It highlights the significance of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass, and hydropower, alongside the critical examination of greenhouse gas emissions and their implications on economic sustainability. By analyzing a substantial time series dataset spanning from 1990 to 2022, the study aims to provide valuable insights and robust recommendations for policymakers aimed at fostering sustainable economic growth while mitigating environmental risks. The research methodology employs the Generalized Method of Moments (GMM) for panel studies, allowing for an insightful comparison of multiple countries within the Sub-Saharan region. Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP) has been selected as the primary dependent variable, serving as a comprehensive proxy for measuring economic growth and enabling a nuanced understanding of each country's economic performance. The independent variables encompass a range of factors, including greenhouse gas emissions, energy derived from solar, wind, hydro, and biomass sources, and electricity consumption. Data on these variables will be meticulously collected from the World Development Indicators (2024), ensuring a solid foundation for analysis. The analysis itself will be conducted using Eviews 9 software, which provides robust capabilities for handling complex econometric models. Ultimately, the findings from this study are expected to contribute significantly to the discourse on sustainable energy policies and economic growth frameworks in Sub-Saharan Africa, addressing the pressing challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation.

Keywords: Renewable Energy, Environmental Risks, Economic Growth, Generalized Method of Moments.

DYING WITH DIGNITY AS A TRIBAL WEAPON IN ACHEBE'S *ANTHILL OF THE SAVANNAH*

Steve Olughu Oko
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
Steve.oko.pg97439@unn.edu.ng/08037886353

Abstract

This study focuses on gaiety as a weapon of the tribe in Chinua Achebe's *Anthill of the Savannah*. It draws from Paul Ricoeur's "the History of Suffering" and Nietzsche's idea that the overman is the modern day Dionysiac and a tribal man. By adopting a qualitative approach in the investigation of the characters in the narrative the research argues that the tragic character in *Anthill of the Savannah* resembles the modern tribal man. A close reading of the text shall reveal in this character the full realization of the Dionysiac "Dissolution of boundaries" and the desire to do what needs to be done.

Again, the nature of the tragic death of the protagonist equals the confrontation with more than man. The analysis of the text shall focus on the juxtaposition of other character to show how they conform or disagree with the concept of tribe in the narrative. By interrogating the actions of the hero this research is set to establish the new face of the tribal man in the text. The study concludes that the character died as a tribal man.

Keywords: boundaries, conform, confrontation, Dionysiac, disagree, juxtaposition, narrative, Overman.

Love and the Issues of Lack in the Poetry of Remi Raji and Obari Gomba

Nkama Obo Akaji

Department of English and Literary Studies

University of Nigeria, Nsukka

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6852-5282>

akaji.nkama@unn.edu.ng/08069310805

Abstract

In Remi Raji's and Obari Gomba's poetry are multiple issues of love and lack. These issues broadly occur in the strong expressions of different intricate forms of desire: majorly the articulation of love in different forms towards different figures (human and non-human, figuratively, and even at metaphysical levels); to the expression of love/desire towards certain real individuals, one's homeland, city/town etc. In these expressions, is observed that there exist certain forms of limiting or restrictions that militate against the expression of love specifically by the factors of lack, absence, or loss. Hence, in this study, the paper adopts the Lacanian psychoanalytic notion of desire to explain how the factors of lack, absence or loss in the subjects' unconscious sustain the expression of love in the poem. The aim however also remains to explain how the articulations of love by the subjects in the poems are as a result of lack in the subjects' Other. Therefore the paper concludes on the note of seeing lack as playing significant role in the articulations of love/desire in the poems of Raji and Gomba.

Keywords: Poetry, Love, Lack, Raji, Gomba.

ACCESSING NIGERIANISMS IN OLD WINES ARE TASTY AND HARVEST OF CORRUPTION

Ijem, Ugo Blessing: Department of English and literary studies, federal university, Taraba State;

Okpala, Victory Ogochukwu: The Use of English, SGS, University of Nigeria, Nsukka;

Ngwoke, Festus Uwakwe : The Use of English, SGS, University of Nigeria, Nsukka;

Abah, James Akogwu: The Use of English, SGS, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

Corresponding author: akogwu.abah@unn.edu.ng

Abstract

The uniqueness of an individual can be identified through different means such as the mode of dressing, style of speech presentation, the manner in which the person walks, the environment of the person, the type of food an individual eats, etc. Nigerianism refers to the pattern or style of life common to people in Nigeria. In the view of Abah & Lamidi (2023), Nigerians in their spoken discourse are to a great extent influenced by their environment. This implies that where one lives determine one's choice of

words or diction. There is no doubt that a plethora of studies have been done on the pattern of dressing, sounds, grammar and lexico-semantic features of Nigerian speakers of English as well as characteristics of Nigerian images in *Things Fall Apart*, but it is worrisome to note that despite the deluge of literatures on Nigerianism, there is still no study to the best knowledge of the researchers that has examined Nigerianism in the texts, *Old wines are taste* and *Harvest of corrupt*, it is against this background that this study is out to fill the gap. The study used the descriptive survey method; it is also anchored on the Contrastive analysis hypothesis. The study discovered that there were features of Nigerianism in the two texts, but more in *Old wines are tasty*. The features include Nigerian nomenclature, proverbial statements, lexis, etc. The study however recommends that more Nigerian plays, novels and poems be explored to examine the features of Nigerian English which could be used in developing the Nigerian English dictionary for pedagogic purpose.

Keywords: Language, Nigerianism, Nomenclature, Texts

THE ROLE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND BIG DATA IN MARINE PRESERVATION

Ikechukwu Chime

Abstract

The oceans and the earth's surface interact in numerous ways to support life, as approximately 70% of the earth's surface is covered by oceans, which are vital for the global economy, biodiversity, and climate regulation. However, these oceans are continually threatened by habitat destruction, climate change, acidification, pollution, and more. With the consequences of ocean degradation becoming increasingly evident, protecting the marine ecosystem has become a global priority. In this context, technological advancements and international commitment have led to the rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and a heightened awareness of big data management to help transform marine environmental challenges into opportunities for restoration and sustainable management. This article aims to contribute to the ongoing conversation and efforts to understand the significant role of AI and Big Data in marine preservation. It adopts an analytical approach using doctrinal research methodology, beginning with the contextualisation of the importance of marine preservation and the limitations that hinder conservation practices. It further explores the emergence of AI and Big Data along with the unique capabilities of these technologies in marine habitat preservation, emphasising the potential of AI in data analysis, real-time monitoring, predictive analysis, and more. The article also considers the sources, methods of collection, and storage of big data. Additionally, the synergy between AI and big data is analysed, projecting how their integration can foster more efficient marine preservation practices. The paper concludes with a summary of findings and recommendations for researchers, policymakers, and others, such as advocating for ethical and transparent AI practices, improving data management strategies, and promoting collaborative efforts.

Keywords: artificial intelligence, big data, technologies, resource management, marine preservation.

Turn-Taking, Conversational Strategies and Identity Construction in Football Discourse among Fans in Nsukka Metropolis

Jumbo Daniel

Federal School of Statistics, Manchok, Kaduna

Joekin Ekwueme (Ph.D.)

Department of English and Literary Studies, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

joekinekwueme@gmail.com/07068582571

Abstract

Conversation Analysis is an approach to the study of social interaction, embracing both verbal and non-verbal conduct, in situation of everyday life. Football debate, therefore, could be classified as a natural occurring conversation, because it involves two or more people (fans) who take turns to speak on football related issues, hence constructing their true identity as to which team or player they align or dis-align with. So as pertinent as this form of conversational discourse is, enough scholarly attentions have not been given to it. This paper, therefore, explores turn-taking conversational strategies, and identity construction in football discourse among fans in Nsukka urban in order to ascertain how turns are fashioned and allocated to speakers during these debates; what types of conversational strategies fans deploy during debates; how these fans identify with their teams and players; and the most frequently deployed conversational strategies that facilitate or hamper communicative meaning. The paper adopted Sacks' (1974) theory of Conversation Analysis as the theoretical framework for the study. The data for the study were collected through the use of an audio recording device. The researcher recorded football debates among football fans in five (5) viewing centers in Nsukka town for the period of one month (from 6 December 2024 to 11 January 2025). The data were analyzed qualitatively in accordance with the tenets of Conversation Analysis. Again, some aspects of quantitative analysis were used to determine the frequencies of the conversational strategies deployed in the text. The study revealed that the world football debate which Nigerian football fans indulged in, despite being characterized by noise and haziness, still follows the conventional pattern of everyday conversation. Specifically, the conversational strategies deployed in the discourse include floor holding, floor grabbing, floor yielding, overlap, overtaking, silences and repair. These strategic features give the fans the chance to identify with their fellow fans, clubs, teams and players that appeal to them. These features also give the discourse a touch a reality. It is concluded that Conversation Analysis is a viable tool in the analysis of naturally occurring conversations.

Keywords: Conversation analysis, football debate, conversational strategies, turn-taking and identity

Bina Jennifer Efidi: The face of political violence in 2023 Election in Lagos, Nigeria.

Ngozika Anthonia Obi-ani (PhD)& Sam-Igbo Precious Adimchi
University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

ngoziika.obi-ani@unn.edu.ng/08068827455

samigboprecious@gmail.com/08144280773.

In the last February election, politicians resorted to playing the ethnic card. This charged the political space in the country especially, Lagos, in particular was saturated with ethnic tensions and threats from political thugs. Unfortunately, the 2023 election was marred by violence, resulting in numerous injuries and fatalities. Jennifer's harrowing experience serves as just one example of the deep scars inflicted upon the Nigerian people due to the violent events that unfolded during the election. This paper aims to analyse the events of the period using the Joseph Richard's concept of prebendal politics. By so doing, it seeks to shed light on the potential consequences of such politics, including further disillusionment in Nigerian politics, ethnic violence and voters' apathy. Through the utilisation of qualitative research methods such as interviews, observer participation and analysis of news media and social media platforms, this study will delve into the issues involved to gain a comprehensive understanding of the trauma and indelible scars often inflicted on individuals during elections in Nigeria.

Keywords: Nigerian politics, ethnic violence and voters' apathy.

African Identity in flux: *The Palm-Wine Drinkard* as a reflection of the tensions between ethnicity, tribe and National belonging

Abstract

This research explores the intersections of ethnicity, tribe and the quest for cohesion in Amos Tutuola's novel, *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*. Set against the backdrop of Yoruba mythology and folklore, the novel navigates the complexities of cultural identity and belonging in a society fraught with tribal tensions and colonial legacy. Through the journey of the palm-wine drinkard, Tutuola masterfully weaves together themes of cultural heritage, tradition and modernity, highlighting the struggles of African societies to reconcile their diverse ethnic and tribal identities with the imperative of national cohesion. This analysis reveals the novel's profound insights into the challenges of building a unified African state, while celebrating the rich cultural diversity that defines the continent. It explores the tensions between ethnicity, tribe, and national belonging in Amos Tutuola's *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*, using a postcolonial and cultural studies framework. Drawing on the theories of Homi K. Bhabha (1994) and Stuart Hall (1990), this research examines how Tutuola's novel reflects the complexities of African identity and culture. A qualitative content analysis approach is employed to analyze the novel's narrative, characters, and themes. The study reveals how Tutuola's work challenges dominant discourses on African identity, highlighting the fluidity and multiplicity of cultural experiences. The findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the intersections between ethnicity, tribe, and national belonging in African contexts.

Key words: Ethnicity, Tribe, National cohesion, African states, Cultural Identity, Colonial legacy.

ETHNICITY, MINORITY RIGHTS, AND CONSTITUTIONALISM IN AFRICA: REVISITING THE NIGERIAN QUESTION

Chidebe Matthew Nwankwo*

Abstract

A notable feature of contemporary African constitutionalism is the neglect of group or minority rights. Gilbert explains that this characteristic of African constitutionalism is both deliberate and longstanding. Historically, group-based claims and political formations were anathema to postcolonial Africa's founding elites. In this wise, Prempeh aptly observed that early official hostility to political mobilization on the basis of ethnicity stemmed from a fear that recognition or encouragement of such activity might challenge and undermine the inchoate national identity that loosely held newly independent Africa states' ethnically heterogeneous populations together. Thus, among the first constitutional and legislative changes enacted by Africa's postcolonial governments were the proscription of political parties allegedly organized along ethnic lines and the removal of structural safeguards that had been inserted in independence constitutions to preserve a realm of territorial autonomy for ethno-regional subnational communities. As things stand, "only three African constitutions protect minority rights making specific reference to 'minorities'". This approach has been justified in the name of national unity. Within the Nigerian context, the long-standing injustices surrounding the Niger-Delta region and the exploitation of its oil wealth, and the continued socio-economic marginalization of other minority communities demonstrate the need to recalibrate the place of minority rights within the Nigerian constitutional system. To these points, this paper re-examines the question of minority rights and its ramifications within the Nigerian constitutional context in recent years. It adopts a comparative methodology by analyzing the constitutions from other jurisdictions.

Keywords: Minority Rights, Constitutionalism, Ethnicity, Social inclusion, Democracy, Africa, Nigeria.