

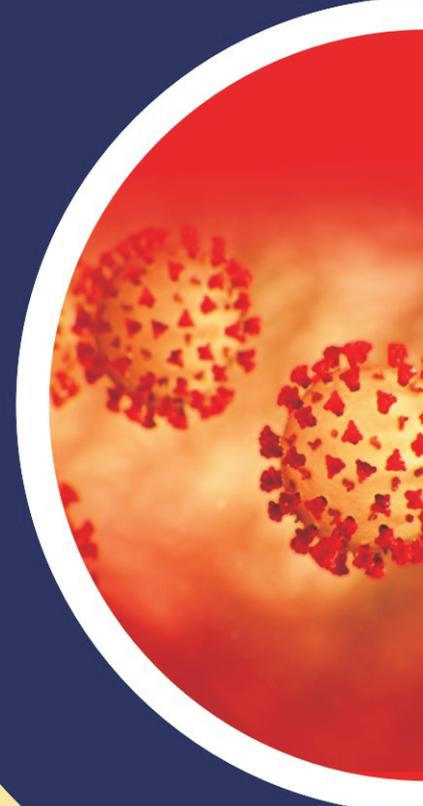
2020 APAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COVID-19

Organized by:

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION
OF AFRICAN STUDIES (APAS)

In Collaboration With

FEEDBACKHALL



**PROGRAMME &
BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

T H E M E :
**THE IMPACT OF
COVID-19
ON AFRICA AND
THE QUEST FOR
AFROCENTRIC
PERSPECTIVES**

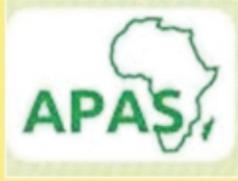
DATE:

17TH SEPTEMBER, 2020.

TIME:

Opening Ceremony:
10:00-11:30 AM GMT + 1:00
West Central Africa

Technical Session:
12:00-01:00 AM GMT + 1:00
West Central Africa



ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF AFRICAN STUDIES (APAS)

(Motto: Coalition for African Pride)

CAC/IT/NO: 105112

Website: www.apas.africa

The Association for the Promotion of African Studies (APAS) was founded by Prof. KANU Ikechukwu Anthony, OSA, on January 10, 2016, to:

- 1.** promote and encourage research and scholarship on African philosophy, religion, history, culture, social movements, linguistic, literary and artistic expressions, science and technology;
- 2.** forge intellectual links and network with scholars, policy makers, and activists in Africa and beyond;
- 3.** participate actively and collaboratively in continental and global debates with interested organizations in Africa and other countries in the world, on issues specifically relevant and correlated to African studies; and
- 4.** work proactively for the promotion of the African cultural heritage with interested organizations and/ or institutions in diverse regions of the world.

This association has the vision of putting Africa and African scholars on the global map and to furthering knowledge of Africa in all forms and manifestations. This is accomplished through Academy-wide and regional conferences and meetings, publications, programs, and membership services.

2020 APAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COVID-19

Keynote Speaker

Prof. Pat Utomi

Lagos Business School, Lagos

Lead Paper Presenter I

Jorge Galindo

IOM Nigeria

Lead Paper Presenter II

Prof. Dr. Philip C. Njemanze

Chairman, International Institute of Advanced Research and Training

Convener

Professor KANU, Ikechukwu Anthony, OSA

President, Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Local Organizing Committee

Dr. Mani Ibrahim Ahmed

Baze University, FCT, Abuja

Chairman

Dr. Ejikemeuwa J. O Ndubisi

Tansian University, Umuaya

LOC Sec./APAS Sec.

Dr. Malachi U. Theophilus, OSA

Santa Clara University, California, USA

Member

Dr. Kolawole Chabi, OSA

Instituto Patristico Augustinianum, Rome

Member

Dr. Jimoh Bakare

University of Nigeria Nsukka

Member

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- Introduction and Recognition of Guests
- National Anthem *
- Opening Prayer
- A Welcome Address by the Convener, Prof. I. A. Kanu, OSA
- A Brief Citation of the Keynote Speaker *
- Keynote Paper by Prof. Pat Utomi
- A Brief Citation of the Lead Paper I *
- Lead Paper I by Jorge Galindo
- A Brief Citation of the Lead Paper II *
- Lead Paper I by Prof. Dr. Philip Njemanze
- Vote of Thanks / Announcements
- Closing Prayer
- Parallel Session @ 1pm

* May be ignored because of the Online nature of this year's conference.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AT THE 2020 APAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COVID-19

PROF. KANU, IKECHUKWU ANTHONY, OSA
President, Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Distinguished guests, Respected colleagues, Ladies and gentlemen, Good morning and very warm welcome to the 2020 APAS Online International Conference on the “Impact of COVID-19 on Africa and the Quest for Afrocentric Perspectives”.

COVID-19 remains one of the most difficult tests faced by humanity in modern history, with a huge potentiality to take lives, overwhelm health systems, and trigger lasting geopolitical changes.

As an association with the objective of asking questions and questioning answers until answers are unquestionable and questions unanswerable, after our conference in June 2020, we resolved to raise questions and seek Afrocentric responses to the problems bordering on the impact of COVID-19 on Africa.

We appreciate all the members of APAS for taking up this challenge.

This conference was inspired by a retinue of questions that have bordered the inquisitive minds of the members of APAS and beyond. Questions such as:

1. Are there pragmatic indigenous African responses to COVID-19?
 2. Taking into cognizance the positive rate at which alternative medicine is developing in Africa, what contribution can African traditional medicine make in the global search for COVID-19 vaccine?
 3. How best can issues of pandemic be handled in Africa?
 4. What are the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on African economy, religion, social life and Identity in general?
 5. How has COVID-19 affected the lives of African migrants, especially as they journey through transit countries to their countries of destination?
 6. What are the roles of African scholars in tackling post-COVID-19 experience in Africa?
- These questions among others, constitute the thrust of this international conference.

We appreciate the partnership of FeedbackHall with the Association for the Promotion of African Studies in the organization of this Conference. FeedbackHall's core values of excellence and focus on reality with courage and candor are indispensable for the achievement of the objectives of this conference.

The Association's respectful sentiments of welcome go to:

1. Professor Pat Utomi of Lagos Business School, who would be giving the Keynote Address
2. Jorge Galindo of the International Organization for Migration, Nigeria, who would present the first Lead Paper
3. Professor Dr. Philip C. Njemanze of the International Institute of Advanced Research and Training, who would present the second Lead Paper

I convey my sentiments of gratitude to the members of the Local Organizing Committee of this Conference chaired by Dr. Mani Ibrahim Ahmad from Baze University, Abuja. You have not only been committed to the course at hand, but have been exceptionally innovative.

I congratulate all the Conferees as we look forward to a wonderful opportunity to encounter valuable insights and fresh ideas.

May God bless the Association for the Promotion of African Studies!

ABRIDGED PROFILE OF PROFESSOR PAT UTOMI



Pat Utomi, Political Economist and Professor of Entrepreneurship is Founder and CEO of the Centre for Values in Leadership (CVL). A fellow of the Institute of Management Consultants of Nigeria and founding Senior Faculty of the Lagos Business School-Pan Atlantic University, and Chairman and Chief Executive of the Integrated Produce City (IPC), as well as Executive Vice Chairman of SmartCity Lagos, a joint holding with Dubai Holdings by SmartCity Dubai. He serves on the Africa Board of leading global professional service firm, Deloitte and was Director of The Centre for Applied Economics at the Lagos Business School. He has served in Senior positions in government, as an Adviser to the President of Nigeria; the Private Sector, as Chief Operating Officer for Volkswagen of Nigeria, and in academia. He is the author of several Management and Public Policy books including the Award-Winning Managing Uncertainty: Competition and Strategy in Emerging Economies, 1998 and the 2006 book "Why Nations are Poor" as well as The Art of Leading, 2016, Chairman of PAFTRAC the Pan African Private Sector Trade and Investment Committee sponsored by AU and Afrexim Bank.

He has passionately pursued the building of a viable opposition political party in Nigeria and transparent, accountable government.

He was candidate for President of Nigeria in 2007 and 2011.

He is a man of faith and family who is widely traveled through all the continents of the world. He has visited more than eighty countries.

ABRIDGED PROFILE OF JORGE GALINDO



Jorge Galindo is the Public Information Officer for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Nigeria. Jorge joined the Mission in June 2018. As the head of the media and communications team in IOM's main office in Abuja, Jorge is in charge of developing and managing IOM's external visibility portfolio including media appearances, press releases and social media activity to help position the Organization as the leading UN migration agency in Nigeria. He has traveled extensively across the country, collecting the testimonies of people on the move, including those whose journeys have been interrupted by exploitation and abuse in Libya, as well as internally displaced people in the north-east's humanitarian crisis. Prior to Nigeria, Jorge worked in the media and communications division at the IOM Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland where he oversaw the communication activities for the Department of Migration Management.

A Mexican national, Jorge holds a Master of Science degree in Intercultural Communication (cum laude) from Tilburg University in the Netherlands.

PROFILE OF ACADEMICIAN (PROF.) PRINCE DR PHILIP NJEMANZE

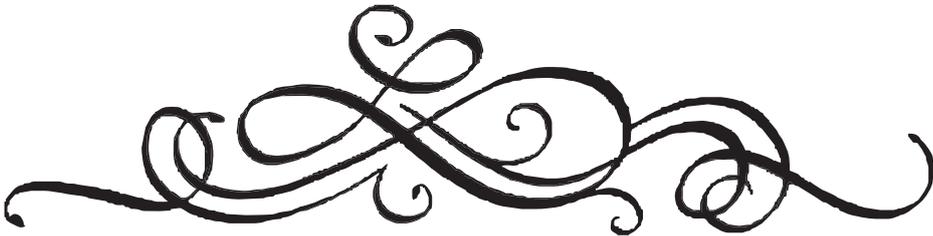


Academician (Prof.) Prince Dr Philip Njemanze MD (Hons) Scientist, Medical Practitioner, Igbo history researcher and author of the Book Series: Igbo Mediators of YAHWEH Culture of Life. He is an academician of the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), the highest UNESCO body for Space research.

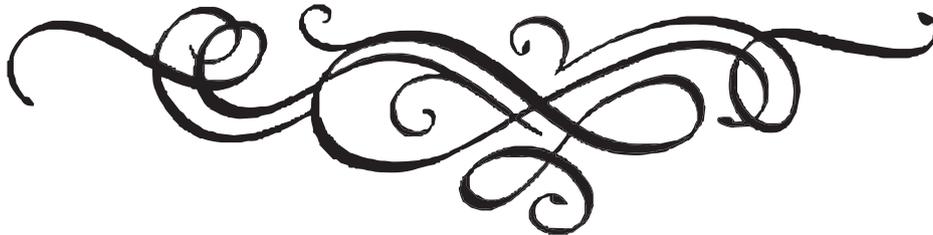
He was born on 15th March, 1962 at Owerri, Imo State Nigeria, in the family of the Njemanze Royal Dynasty. He went to school at St. Paul's Catholic Primary School, Owerri. His secondary education was at Government Secondary School, Owerri. In 1986, he completed his medical education at Rostov State University Medical School, Rostov-on-Don, Russia. He undertook postgraduate training and fellowships in Neurosurgery, Neurology and Angiology at Klinikum Grosshadern, University of Munich, Germany, GUY's Hospital London, and Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston Salem, North Carolina USA. He became a research and visiting professor at Souers Stroke Institute, St Louis Medical Center, St Louis, Missouri, USA, and at several American and European Universities. Among the remarkable developments of his postgraduate studies was the first in literature in 1989, description of a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) phase-contrast technique for examining cerebrospinal fluid pulsatile flow in the brain.

He also described the first detailed hemodynamic study of the human brain using Fourier analysis of the flow velocity envelope in cerebral arteries. In 1991, he pioneered the brain cognitive studies of language localization using non-invasive transcranial Doppler ultrasound. He performed neurocardiology studies on brain-heart relationships and was first to describe the cerebrovascular changes during fainting spells that were not accompanied by blood pressure drop. In 1995, as one of the leading neuroscientists in the World, he was selected on a competitive basis to join with other neuroscientists from USA, Germany, France, Canada, Japan, The Netherlands and Italy to design the experiments to study the Brain in Space. This was a program of the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) mandated by the United States Congress in the Decade of the Brain. He was one of the pioneers of cognitive neuroscience in Space. He was first to demonstrate facial processing, motor processing, color processing and intelligence processing on Earth and in Space.

In 2005, he was first to postulate the theory of lateralization of general intelligence in the right brain in men but in the left brain in women. This has since been confirmed by other leading neuroscientists. In 2010, he postulated the Light Theory of Cerebral Asymmetry of Brain Function, which unified fundamental Quantum Physics, Neurobiology, Genetics, Evolution, Social and psycho-physiology on the basis of gender complementarity. He has over 200 published works including two dozen US and UK patents. He is married to Mrs Felicia Njemanze, and has three children: Nkem, Chidi and Odera.



ABSTRACTS



001.

CORONA VIRUS: IMPACT ON THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY

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Abstract

The church no doubt is part of the society. Hence, whatever that affects the society affects the church. When in the month of April 2020, the government moved for the lock down of the society, every other facet of the Nigerian society was affected. Mostly affected in this exercise was the church. The church to an average Christian in Nigeria serves as not just an antidote but as an umbrella of relief to myriads of life challenges. This researcher is poised to x-ray many of the impacts of covid19 on both the society and the church. The researcher adopted observational and qualitative method in eliciting relevant data required to do justice to this research. In the course of this research, the writer observed among many impacts that the total lock down of the society unleashed quantum of economic hardship on the people while the spiritual life of most church members were adversely affected. The paper recommends that in times of pandemic such as covid19, lockdown affecting the church must be avoided because such a trying moment requires the corporate prayers of the church.

Keywords: corona virus, church, society.

002.

VIRUS PANDEMIC LOCKDOWN AND THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The paper looked at the nexus between the corona virus pandemic lockdown and how the law enforcement agents in Nigeria have been able to protect the human rights her citizens. the study looked critically into the various violations of human rights by the law enforcement bodies all in the name of enforcing lockdown. Human Rights are “rights” which all individuals have by their virtue of their humanity. They are natural, inviolable, and unalterable. They provide a common standard of behavior among the international community. The law enforcement bodies in Nigeria have taken more lives than the corona virus pandemic in Nigeria. The study discovered that there a lot of extra judicial killings, harassment, unlawful arrests and detentions of citizens. The study relied on the failed stated theory as its theoretical framework. It recommended that there should be a stiffer punishment for the officers who contravene the United Nations Charter Declaration of the Fundamental human rights of 1948.

Keywords: Corona Virus, Fundamental Human Rights, United Nations, Law Enforcement Bodies, Lockdown

003.

**COVID 19: A MEGA CHALLENGE TO
AFRICAN COMMUNALISM**

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ABSTRACT

As the current pandemic, Corona virus, known with the code, COVID 19 is still spreading like a wild fire; its impacts on so many sectors of African life were also enormous. Many sectors of the worlds' economy went into lockdown, likewise so many nations or countries in Africa. And with the introduction of COVID 19 sanitary rules or precautionary measures that were aimed at defeating the virus, like social distancing, staying at home, staying alone to stay safe, one instantly sees a serious problem or challenge or even an attack to the fundament or the foundation of African communitarian life or communalism. African communalism as an African way is community-oriented life. It is never individualistic. Using Philosophical analysis, as the methodology, exposition of COVID 19 and African Communalism is made, first, the most dreadful effect of the pandemic is portrayed, and then, this noble life of African man is x-rayed too, so as to see its benefits to Africans of nowadays, however not as it was to those of yesteryears and seeing the Challenges posed to its root by the Crown virus, the researcher portrays the way forward especially as it pertains to African Ethics of care which is rooted firmly on African communalistic principles of living. Not only that the most vulnerable must be catered or cared for, however, African communalism is still in voyage as solidarity palliatives or assistance from the governments, groups, and well to do Africans, reached to the less privileged ones and even to middle class among the privileged ones as well, so as to gain enormous strength to defeat the pandemic together.

Key words: Corona virus (COVID 19), African communalism, Philosophy, Pandemic

004.

**COVID -19 AND HAND WASHING:
THE IGBO CULTURE PERSPECTIVE**

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Abstract

The novel corona virus (covid-19) is a pandemic which was first reported by the officials in Wuhan City, China, in December, 2019. Since the outbreak, the pandemic has torched and ravaged almost all the countries of the world, including those of the African Continent. Hand washing has remained prominent amongst all the safety measures recommended by the World Health Organization, and other health institutions, to prevent Covid- 19 infection. This paper recalls therefore, that hand washing, which is being preached presently as a basic safety measure, in the wake of Covid 19 pandemic, has been there, as part of the Igbo and African Cultural values, unfortunately, people have neglected this cultural good practice and waited for World Health Organization, UNICEF and other government agencies, to remind them, before they put it into practice, even when it is for their personal safety and protection. This paper contends that if the hand washing and cleanliness culture of the Igbo is adequately propagated, it will go a long way in protecting the people from diseases and untimely death. This paper will benefit the general public, especially teachers and care givers, at this period of covid 19 pandemic and always. Social Cognitive Theory (SCT) of Albert Bandura was adopted to ex- ray the culture of cleanliness and hand washing in Igbo culture, reasons for hand washing, the benefits and the state of hand washing in the present Igbo society. The paper exposed numerous benefits of hand washing and general cleanliness,

which include,- prevention of diseases, Covid 19 inclusive, and recommends the revitalization of the Igbo culture of hand washing and cleanliness, in such a way that people will be sensitized to take initiative of doing the right thing at the right time, instead of waiting for the government or the World Health Organization to remind them to do the needful.

Key words: Hand washing, Cleanliness, Covid 19, Culture, Infectious diseases.

005.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND LEADERSHIP IN AFRICA: THE NEED FOR A PURPOSEFUL LEADERSHIP

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Abstract

The novel Coronavirus has presented yet another daunting challenge to African leaders by exposing their sheer lack of political will for effective leadership. Coronavirus, which causes a disease known as COVID-19, has revealed vulnerabilities in the global community's response to outbreaks of viruses, with Africa as the worst hit. The World Health Organization (WHO) on March 11, declared the outbreak as pandemic. How did African leaders respond to the outbreak? What effective leadership role have they played before the outbreak as good leaders work and save for rainy days? How prepared are the African leaders to tackle this pandemic and other similar emergency to come? What should African leaders do to pre-empt such outbreaks in the future and be battle ready to tackle eventual outbreak in good time without wasting much lives and resources. Methodologically, the paper adopts the historical analysis approach to x-ray the weaknesses of African leaders in the face of emergencies because of their selfish interest to amass wealth at the detriment of their countries. Data was collected from both oral and written sources such as interviews, newspapers and websites for the purpose of analysis. The paper proffers a number of solutions which African leaders should adopt in order to respond effectively to emergency outbreaks of this nature of novel Coronavirus pandemic such as improved state of the arts infrastructure in our health sector at all times and not during emergencies only. The paper concludes that purposeful leadership is needed by African leaders to bring about good governance for the overall good of the African continent.

Keywords: Covid-19 pandemic, African leaders, Leadership, Good governance, CDC

006.

COVID -19 AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS: AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Violence against women is a global and perennial phenomenon which has claimed many lives and ruined many too. It includes domestic violence, sexual violence etc. The advent of Covid-19 has doubled its increase. This is because, with the stay at home order, the perpetrators of these crimes are now sitting down in their houses for several hours, battling with stress, frustration and joblessness. This gives them more opportunity and reason to be more violent than ever. Violence against women and girls is a grave violation of their human rights. Its negative impact ranges from immediate to long-term results, such as health, sexual and mental consequences, including death. It also affects women's general well-being and

prevents them from fully participating in society. This paper used the analytical and expository methods and also noted that women do not suffer the effects of violence alone. Its consequences extend to their families, communities and even the country at large. Thus, the paper encouraged everyone to understand that violence against women and girls will not improve the well-being of anybody, including the society at large. Respect for women was highly emphasized.

007.

COVID 19 AND AFRICAN MIGRATION (A PHILOSOPHICAL INSIGHT)

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ABSTRACT

Migration has been and is still a major issue or challenge facing African nations. It has been on the increase as majority of the African youths migrate to Europe, Asia, America and the likes in search of greener pasture. This is owing to increasing rate of poverty in African continent, which is caused by bad leadership, corruption and the likes. Corona virus pandemic, with the code name, COVID 19 is the greatest menace encountered by man in the last days of the year 2019 and in the year 2020, and this paralyzed so many sectors in the worlds' economy. Migration is one of the sectors affected badly as not only were there total lockdown in aviation sector, thereby creating no room for local or international flights and there was interstate lockdown preventing interstate travels. And with the restriction of movement and total lockdown within the states, migration was not possible. Now, with the employment of analytic method of philosophical inquiry towards the two concepts, we discovered that the dangers of migration notwithstanding, it has really contributed much to the development of African nations. Again, apart from the woes of COVID 19 pandemic which is stated daily in our media, the pandemic has really prevented our youths from unnecessary migration and from dangers of human trafficking, racial discrimination, exploitation, dehumanization and the likes.

Key words: Corona virus (COVID 19) and African Migration.

008.

COVID – 19 AND AFRICAN PHILOSOPHY: IMPLICATIONS FOR AFRICAN IDENTITY

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Abstract

African Philosophy was birthed as a consequence of the twin evils of slavery and colonialism in Africa. So, one of the contending issues of African Philosophy has being a search for African Identity. The novel Covid – 19 pandemic may not be as dangerous as slavery and colonialism to African Identity but it raises anew the issue of identity as regards African Philosophy. Using the method of analysis as well as phenomenology, this work examines the impact of Covid -19 on African Philosophy especially in its quest for identity and relevance not only to Africa but also to the rest of the world. The work finds out that there are some positives of Covid - 19 on African identity which include : the improvement of the culture of hygiene, the opportunity to utilize and improve the traditional African medicine as orthodox medicine is failing in curing the disease, a deconstruction of the myth of superiority of races which was the logic of slavery and colonialism of Africa by the West, opportunity for Africans to demonstrate their

communalistic spirit by reaching out to those affected by the pandemic and so on. On the other hand, the isolationist tendencies of Covid – 19 such as sit – at – home, social distancing, lock down, curfew, quarantine and border - closure are against the African communalistic way of living. Also, the Covid – 19 pandemic has exposed the ineptitude of African leaders who could not manage the pandemic and are copying disease control models from other continents which complicated the issue on ground rather than ameliorating it. These negative traits of Covid – 19 are adversely affecting the African Identity. It is the conclusion of this work that African Philosophy should give a prime place to traditional African medicine in its research as Covid – 19 pandemic has shown that health is very important to socio – economic wellbeing of any nation.

009.

COPING WITH COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN AFRICA: THE RELIGIOUS COPING OPTION

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&

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Abstract

Since its emergence in Wuhan, China in December 2019, COVID-19 has affected almost all the continents of the world including Africa. The daily real-time reporting of the COVID-19 pandemic has heightened panic and fear in people, as the number of cases and deaths recorded globally continues to increase. There is a lot that remains unknown about this disease. Authorities and scientists do not yet have all the answers to the many questions being asked. Currently, there is no cure or vaccine for COVID-19; medical treatments are limited to supportive measures aimed at relieving symptoms, use of research drugs and therapeutics. In the absence of a vaccine and no known cure for COVID-19, it is expected that people will easily turn to a higher power than themselves as a way of finding hope in a seemingly hopeless situation. In Africa, the role of religion in crisis situation cannot be overlooked, therefore religious coping becomes a credible option for coping with the challenges of COVID-19 in Africa. Using the Religious Coping Theory, this paper highlights how the soothing power of religion can be explored by Africans in coping with the COVID-19 crisis. It recommends among others the need for Africans to develop a stronger relationship with God by concentrating on personal religious activities, and the need for people of all professions and religious faiths to spread God's love and hope to family members, neighbours, friends, and anyone else in need. It is believed that through these, Africans will overcome the challenges posed by the dreaded COVID-19 pandemic.

Key words: Africa, Coping, Corona Virus, Pandemic, Religion.

010.

**CONSTITUTIONALISM AND THE CRISIS
OF DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA**

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ABSTRACT

This Paper identifies absence of constitutionalism as a major challenge to political governance in the post-independence Africa. It examines the negative consequences this has had on socio-economic and political developments of the continent. As the Paper reveals, these include widespread corruption, bad governance, weak political institutions and economic stagnation. As a way forward, the Paper recommends such approaches that can promote constitutionalism as the need for a participatory approach in constitution-making that involves the people, constitutional literacy for the people, and a limited government that respects the rule of law.

011.

**BUDGET FACILITY AND ECONOMIC SECURITY IN
THE FACE OF ECONOMIC SHOCKS (2020 COVID-19)**

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ABSTRACT

Economic security is vital for all economies. The true test of development is anchored on the level of economic security which a society provides to its citizens. Studies have shown that an individual who has economic security is more contented, happy with chances of growth and development. Economic security simply implies that regardless of whatever economic shocks that may occur, the economy's longevity and prowess will not be adversely affected and will consequently tackle such shocks whether financial, social, etc. Sectors which guarantee economic security when invested in include the health sector, education sector, agricultural sector, research and development, humanitarian affairs and social disaster relief sector. These sectors possess the multiplier effect of economic growth across other sectors consequently guaranteeing economic security. The main objective of this study is to measure the impact of adequate budgetary facility in guaranteeing Economic Security in the health sector especially with shocks like the COVID19 from 1989 to 2018. The Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) method of estimation is required to measure the causal relationship between both variables where Life Expectancy and Public Health Expenditure serve as proxy for economic security and budgetary facility respectively. This study will also have control variables such as Primary Enrolment Ratio to measure the impact of education on economic security in health sector. The normative expectation from this study is that the Public Health Expenditure would be a major contributor to Life Expectancy. This finding is consistent with the endogenous theories, which argues that an improvement in capital will improve productivity. Other theories which support the modeling of this study include the production theory, and the Grossman model. The estimated coefficient of the causal model is expected to indicate that increase in public health expenditure would result in positive health outcomes. However, based on the current reality of the Nigerian health sector, it is highly plausible to have the findings hint to a negative relationship which will in turn reiterate the growing need for a reform in the Nigerian budgetary allocation to the health sector.

012. | AWARENESS AND PERCEPTION OF EDUCATORS IN ENUGU ZONE ON THE USE OF SOME ICT PLATFORMS: WHATSAPP, FACEBOOK AND ZOOM IN DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON COVID-19

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ABSTRACT

COVID-19 pandemic has grossly affected life in all ramifications. For education in Nigeria, it has been brought to a halt. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is the difference. While measures are being set in place to re-strategize and re-adapt, it is pertinent to examine the use of ICT in the management of COVID-19 pandemic. Experts found that physical distancing, regular and adequate hand washing (with water and soap, or hand sanitizer), and correct use of face masks are notable preventive means for the control. Dissemination of information has only been made possible via the use of ICT platforms.. This study examined the Awareness and Perception of Educators in Enugu Zone On The Use Of Some ICT Platforms in this regard. ICT Platform Questionnaire(QICTPLA) of ten(10) items, face validated by three experts and trial - tested in Nsukka Zone was used as instrument for data collection. Its reliability was found to be 0.88 using Cronbach Alpha from SPSS version 20. Multistage sampling technique was used from the 294 Government schools in Enugu State. Percentages(%) from MS Excel were used in analysing collected data . Awareness for the use of whatsapp and facebook in dissemination of information was 100% each. For the use of zoom, awareness was 65% .The Educators' Perception on the use of whatsapp, facebook and zoom were respectively 89%, 72% and 49%. Challenges were lack of light, high cost of data and poor ICT skills acquisition. Training of Principals were recommended so that fairly Physical school may resume soonest.

Key Words: State Educators, ICT platforms, COVID-19.

013. | AN ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC RESPONSES TO MEDIA CAMPAIGNS ON PREVENTIVE MEASURES OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN SOUTH EAST, NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study assesses public responses to media campaigns on preventive measures of covid-19 pandemic in South East, Nigeria as advised by government and other health officials aimed at curtailing the spread of the disease since there is no clinically known vaccine or drugs for the treatment of covid-19. The

population of this study was drawn from the South East states of the country with four hundred copies of questionnaire administered to respondents across the five states that make up the geo-political zone. Health belief model was used as the main theoretical framework for the study. The study found that the media campaigns on preventive measures of covid-19 has been successful to some extent. The study also found that majority of the respondents are aware of the various media campaigns to curb the spread of the disease but the level of compliance is poor despite the intensity of these various media campaigns. But it is appalling that majority of the respondents still move about without wearing facemasks, not avoiding crowded places as well as not maintaining social distancing as advised in the media messages. Thus, this study recommends the use of mixed media strategy in disseminating the messages so that the different medium will complement each other. Also, the government should enact law that would make it mandatory for people to wear facemasks and also adhere to the covid-19 safety protocols.

Keywords: Public, response, covid-19, health protocol, pandemic and media campaigns.

014.

AFRICAN MODEL OF APPROACHING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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ABSTRACT

Severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2(SARS-COV-2), also known as “COVID-19” is the third novel coronavirus to emerge in this century. Following the sudden outbreak of this pandemic from China in 2019, the whole world was thrown into panic. As a result, economic and other activities were halted. The confusion on how to combat the spread of this virus led many continents, including Africa into providing measures to curtail the spread. At the start of this pandemic, World Health Organization's (WHO's) African regional office and the Africa Center for Disease Control provided guidance, technical and financial support to prepare countries. The swift response and approaches employed to contain the spread of this pandemic influenced this research. The purpose of this study is to examine and discuss the afrocentric approach in curtailing the spread of the virus. Descriptive model of research is employed to analyse the materials in this study. The research concludes that, in to other contain this virus like other diseases, citizens should adhere strictly to the precautionary measures put in place by WHO and other agencies.

015.

EVALUATION OF CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT ON PERFORMANCE OF HOTEL INDUSTRIES IN THE ERA OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN ENUGU STATE

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Abstract

The advent of Covid-19 pandemic has brought about restrictions, confinement and devastation, on every sector of industry especially in hotel industry. The study evaluates the customer relationship management on performance of hotel industries in the era of Covid- 19 pandemic. The study adopted descriptive survey research design. A total of 320 respondents (managers and front desk officers) drawn from 160 registered hotels in Enugu metropolis, represent the sample for the study due to its manageability. Enugu metropolis was used because it is the capital and most of the major hotels are located there. The instrument for data collection was a structured questionnaire titled “Customer Relationship Management on Performance of Hotel Industries in Covid-19 Questionnaire” (CRMPHICQ) and was validated by three experts from department of Business Education, University of Nigeria Nsukka. The internal consistency of the questionnaire was ascertained through Cronbach Alpha technique which yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.81. The questionnaire was administered personally by the researcher through the help of three research assistants. The data collected were analyzed using mean and standard deviation. The hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance using t- test statistics. The study provided valuable information for hotel managers on how to manage their customers during this period of Covid – 19. The study also revealed on how hoteliers should always gear up to counter any crisis and handle future distress. Due to intensified emergence of the disease the study recommends that management of hotel industries should develop a diplomatic protocols and procedures in handling their customers for a better service.

Key Words: *Customer relationship Management, Customer service, Hotel, Performance, Covid-19 pandemic*

016.

COVID-19: PRESENTING AN EQUITABLE HUMANITY IN AFRICA

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The incursion of the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa made an unquantifiable destruction on the African economy. Beyond the economy, the fear, trepidation and uncertainty that came with the disease, as though the world was coming to an abrupt end, largely because of the lack of adequate knowledge on it. Lives were lost with the accompanying grief, misery, pain, despair and the general sense of loss for families, communities, states and the continent as a whole. COVID-19 has done an irreparable damage to Africa. However, after an analytical consideration of the whole scenario, while considering the negative aspects of the pandemic, it is the position of this presentation that COVID-19 accorded the world, Africa in particular, some sort of social equity to the effect that everyone, despite differences in their social classes, were brought to the level of equity and equality. The closure of international borders and the restriction of movements within placed a shared burden of equal grief, despair, pain and uncertainty in life. It also placed on all a collective burden on finding solutions to the disease and the accompanying economic and ethical challenges.

016. | BEYOND COVID-19: EMERGING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN DIGITALIZATION OF LEARNING IN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The digitalization of education has been at the fore front of the plethora of challenges facing teaching and learning in government owned tertiary institutions in Nigeria. Nevertheless, the year 2020 would always be a point of reference towards surmounting this challenge. It is the year every education system activated emergency response to mitigate the effect of school closure on the education calendar resulting from COVID-19 pandemic. To continue teaching and learning in a lockdown period, efforts were directed towards online classes, remote learning and various technological connections between teachers and learners. One big lesson of COVID-19 with respect to education is that learning processes can be innovative. COVID-19 global emergency heralded such an unprecedented shift in education and innovation which hitherto has never been felt simultaneously on a large scale around the globe. Such paradigm shift in teaching and learning during this emergency buttressed this, and would always be referred to in post-COVID education reformation. However, the question now is- judging from the peculiarities of Africa schooling systems and technological advancement ,how prepared are they for such transformation? How would the challenges of technology facing the education system which have been re-affirmed by COVID-19 be converted to opportunities after the pandemic? It is on this note that this paper through a descriptive study highlighted some of the challenges and prospects of entrenching virtual learning into the tertiary education system in Nigeria beyond COVID-19. Amongst other things, it advocated the need to restructure the tertiary education system to accommodate virtual learning experiences.

Keywords: Education, digital education, virtual learning, digital literacy and COVID-19

018. | THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INFLUENCE OF COVID-19 ON AFRICAN CONSUMERS' BEHAVIOR: A STUDY OF ENUGU METROPOLIS

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Abstract

Covid-19 is a pandemic that will not be forgotten in a hurry around the globe. Its devastating effects on political and economic sphere of life cannot be overlooked. The present study examined the political and economic influence of Covid-19 on African consumers' behavior in Nigeria generally and Enugu Metropolis in particular. In this study, 90 informants were consulted (comprising 66 males and 24 females). Consumers from nine markets in Enugu metropolis were used. Their ages range from 25-50 with a mean age of multiple regression was used to analyze data. Results of the analysis showed that Covid-19 affected both political and economic life of consumers in Enugu Metropolis. The implications of the present finding is that consumers cannot predict their choices of commodities and expected consumer behavior towards certain commodities any longer. It is recommended that government should implement strict measures to lessen the suffering of the people, to mention but a few.

Keywords: Covid-19, Consumers' Behaviour, Politics, Economy, Enugu Metropolis

019. | DETTOL'S HANDS-ON AD ON HUMAN CORONAVIRUS: BETWEEN FAKE NEWS AND EFFECTIVE PR IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The deadly Coronavirus codenamed COVID-19 caused by a large family of viruses which results in illnesses that range from common cold to more severe diseases such as respiratory syndrome and severe acute respiratory syndrome which broke out in Wuhan, China on 31st December 2019 has recorded alarming fatalities. The fear and confusion associated with the disease is further heightened by arguments for and against its cure leading to various solutions such as the latest Dettol's Hands-On Ad on Human Coronavirus making the rounds on various social media handles such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram et al. To this end, the researchers embarked on a qualitative narrative study titled "Dettol's Hands-On Ad on COVID-19: Between Fake News and Effective PR in Nigeria" to investigate the matter. The study which used the individual differences theory as theoretical framework found that the "human coronavirus" written at the back of Dettol sanitizer refers to common cold and not COVID-19. To checkmate the trend, the paper recommended multimedia approaches, invoking media ethics and procurement of high-tech equipment as possible panacea. It concluded that with the right advice from health experts and requisite information by the press, the scourge of COVID-19 could be minimized and eventually fought.

Keywords: COVID-19, Dettol, Fake, News, Nigeria.

020. | REINFORCING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET): IMPERATIVE FOR EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TOWARDS COVID-19 CRISIS.

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Abstract

This study focused on reinforcing science and technology in Technical vocational Education and Training (TVET) of federal university in Enugu State Nigeria. Two research questions and one hypothesis guided the study. The study made use of survey research design and was carried out in Enugu State, Nigeria. The population was 89 TVET lecturers which comprises of 46 men and 43 female TVET lecturers of (2019/2020) academic session) from the federal university in Enugu State. The only federal University in Enugu State is the University of Nigeria Nsukka. There was no sampling

since the population is of manageable size. Structured Questionnaire was used as the instrument for data collection. The instrument was validated by three experts. Cronbach Alpha reliability method was used and an overall reliability coefficient of .85 was obtained. The data was collected by the researchers. Out of 80 copies of the questionnaire administered, only 75 copies were retrieved giving a 93.8% return rate. Data generated were analysed using mean, standard deviation and t-test. The study found out among other things that there is urgent need for reinforcement in science and technology especially in Technical vocational Education and Training (TVET) for effective response toward Covid-19 crisis and its kind in Nigeria and the world at large. The paper recommended among other things that TVET stakeholders should collectively join hands in reinforcing science and technology in TVET in federal university in Enugu state for effective mitigation and management of covid-19 crisis in Nigeria.

Keywords: COVID-19, Science and Technology, Technical vocational Education and Training (TVET)

021.

.COVID19 PANDEMIC AND ITS POLITICIZATION IN NIGERIA: A REFLECTION

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Abstract

In the wake of the rapidly spreading novel coronavirus (COVID-19), with its debilitating effects on humanity, the Nigerian government launched a social distancing campaign, restricting movements in certain parts of the country. The government also encouraged self-isolation for Nigerians returning from high-risk countries. A major aspect of Nigeria's approach to the COVID-19 pandemic has been the prohibition of gatherings that exceed 30-50 people, including worship places and all forms of social events. With much surprise, many Nigerians have continued to defy the state directives. Despite the lockdown with its warnings on public gathering; churches and mosques opened their doors for worship, fun lovers continued with their normal parties and clubbed like nothing was happening around them. When questioned about their refusal to follow precautionary measures established by the government, most of them dismissed the reality of the disease. Some of the reasons being that several Nigerians perceive the virus to be an attempt by political elites to create an emergency and siphon public money. Again, there is no trace for the so-called confirmed cases. It is an opportunity to steal public money.' The preceded idea was buttressed by Adeola (2020) when he said, Nigeria's hot temperature may suppress spread of disease. This is because the usual hot temperature in the country spells danger to disease just unlike the influenza virus which thrived better under cold climates. Hot temperature which many see as almost unbearable may be a blessing in disguise which can come in handy for the federal government in the battle to stop the spread of corona virus. This is as tropical weather is capable of suppressing the virus. (p.1). Therefore, the purpose of this study is to point out how covid19 pandemic has been politicized in Nigeria and how it has affected Nigerians and their loyalty to the government; because there is already a yawning gap in trust and accountability between citizens and the government of Nigeria. Data collection method for this research is mostly secondary data collection. The research concludes with reviewing of elite's theory as a kind of problematic system of political power holding among few members of political leaders, which has contributed immense problems in Nigeria polity; which our political leaders must avoid and choose to be more democratic.

Keywords: Covid19, Pandemic, Politicization, Reflection, Nigeria's, Approaches

022.

**MONO-ECONOMY IN A
PANDEMIC RAVAGING SOCIETY**

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Abstract

Suffice to observe that nations with diversified economy were badly hit by the ravaging nature of the corona virus but the magnitude of its effect on a mono-economy such as Nigeria is incomparable. The reality of covid19 on the Nigerian economy is only a tip of the iceberg to many lessons that the Nigerian government should learn. Nigeria no doubt is a mono-economy with heavy reliance on crude oil. I seriously doubt if there were lessons learnt during the zero dollar price of the American oil coupled with the continuous dwindling price of the London Brent. If there is any time to consider imperatively the issue of diversification of the Nigerian economy, it is now because the worst of the earth phenomenal pandemics are yet to be here. This paper was conceived with a view to highlighting some of the adverse effects a mono-economy is bound to face in situations such as covid19. It is in the optimistic view of this researcher that the outcome of this research will further nourish and reengineer the proactive posture of policy makers in Nigeria to do the needful. The researcher identified that the Nigerian government is docile and yet to learn any lesson from the effect of Covid19 on the economy. Consequent on this reality, the researcher recommends that the government should genuinely swing into action the diversification of the economy.

Keywords: mono-economy, pandemic

023.

**COVID-19 IMPACT ON PAEDIATRIC SURGERY
SERVICES IN ABIA STATE NIGERIA**

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Abstract

Since the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS- CoV-2) in Wuhan, China at the end of 2019, the vast majority of severe COVID-19 cases globally have occurred in older adults compared with children. Epidemiological data from the USA show that <2% of laboratory-confirmed cases have occurred in children, with the majority presenting as mild or asymptomatic. In Abia state, a child tested positive who was under our care for Hodgkin's lymphoma. Eight children deaths have been reported worldwide by May 2020, with one case possibly related to intussusceptions. It remains unknown whether children with COVID-19 have less severe illness than adults due to a combination of a lower incidence of infection, lower disease severity or both. The paediatric surgery services in Abia State have been disrupted by Covid-19 due to social and economic impact of the pandemic. A retrospective study of paediatric surgeries done at the Abia State University Teaching Hospital Aba and Federal Medical Centre Umuahia which are the two tertiary hospitals in Abia State Nigeria. The medical records from January –June 2020 were retrospective reviewed. The

cases done between January to March were compared to April to June. The data collected from the medical record include Demography, admissions, surgeries, complication, follow up. During the study period, 200 patients were seen with the six months period. 120 boys and 80 girls (3:2). 140 surgeries were elective while sixty were emergency surgeries. One hundred elective surgeries and forty emergency surgeries were done during January to March 2020 while twenty emergency and forty elective surgeries were done between April and June 2020. Ten patients developed complications comprising secondary haemorrhage, surgical site infection and wound breakdown. The patients were followed up in the ward and paediatric surgery outpatient department. The Covid-19 pandemic had a serious impact on paediatric surgical services in Abia State leading to marked reduction in the number of surgeries carried out during the pandemic. Routine screening of patients booked for surgery will help to protect the surgeon and the patients.

024.

COVID-19 AND AFRICAN TRADITIONAL MEDICINES

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Abstract

Any pandemic outbreak is a global health emergency that requires efficient and viable approaches to manage and contain. The usual scientific response to the health crisis is to search for scientific vaccines to combat a novel pandemic. The World Health Organization (WHO) has been in the front line of championing scientific solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic. Claims by some African countries to have discovered herbal remedies for COVID-19 have been met with scathing remarks by the WHO that is demanding scientific explanations and validation of alleged curative COVID-19 herbal drugs. But the process of scientific verification and validation of new vaccines for medical treatments is rigorous and lengthy. The aim of this paper is to argue for approval of COVID-19 herbal medicines by health authorities in African countries on pragmatic grounds. The method of analysis is employed to explore some African traditional medicines and their uses. Research shows that though herbal drugs are no substitute for scientific vaccines that are yet to be developed, they are effective in boosting the body's immune system which is necessary for maintaining and controlling COVID-19. Ultimately, the immune system is a determining factor as to how successful humanity is in managing old and new viruses that easily mutate and replicate in their host humans. This paper recommends that health authorities in African countries should develop and legitimize their own efficient validation systems for evaluating the safety and efficacy of African traditional medicines for management and treatment of COVID-19 and other virulent diseases in Africa, while waiting for the development of COVID-19 scientific vaccines.

Keywords: Africa, African Traditional Medicines, COVID-19, COVID-19 Treatments

025.

**COVID 19 LOCKDOWN: EFFECTS
ON IGBO AFRICAN FAMILIES**

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Abstract

Coronavirus disease commonly referred as COVID 19, brought great fear to the whole world. The COVID 19 disease had never been previously found in humans, but was first identified in 2019 in Wuhan China and was reported to WHO in December 2019. The entire world was in total disarray at the spread of this virus. Lockdown was one of the measures adopted by many countries of the world to help minimize the spread of COVID 19 pandemic. The lockdown affects in no great measures the economy, education, religion, politics and social life of every country of the world. Family lives especially that of Igbo Africans of south eastern part of Nigerian were affected greatly. The problem being that amongst the Igbo's, family finance was extremely affected with the attendant hunger. Closure of schools because of COVID 19 lockdown create boredom accompanied with kinds of licentious behaviour. Therefore, many families among the Igbo people, especially the low-income earners experience hunger and kinds of immoral behaviours. It is on this premise that the study aims to examine different avenues to help absorb the problems created by COVID 19 lockdown through farming and training in various skills. The study is descriptive in nature. The use of questionnaire was adopted as a means of data collection. Three research questions were used to guide the study. The outcome show that farming and skill acquisition can help to upgrade family finances, thereby reducing the rate of hunger created by COVID 19 pandemic lockdown. Skills can also reduce boredom and immoral acts that results from idleness. It is therefore, through hard work, change of attitude and type of lifestyle that Igbo African families can contend with the COVID 19 pandemic.

Keywords: COVID 19, Lockdown and Family

026.

**COVID-19, VIOLENCE AND
SOCIAL INEQUALITY IN NIGERIA**

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Abstract

Coronavirus disease (2019) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2. It was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, Hubei, China, and has resulted in an on-going pandemic. Many people have lost their lives as a result of the virus. As countries all over the world took different measures to contain the pandemic and abate its impact on public health, one of the preventive measures has been the lockdown of schools, institutions, religious worship centres, business centres, and general restriction of movement of the people. The lockdown policies imposed to check the spread of the disease involuntarily confined people to their different homes and places of abode. This has resulted in heightened levels of gender-related domestic violence and social inequality in the society. The closure of all educational institutions has left many young people idle. Some of these

youths have ended up engaging in immoral sexual activities with the opposite sex. Little children also suffered molestation and harassment from predators. Newspaper reports reveal that there has been an increase in cases of rape in the society during this period. The lockdown due to the pandemic has caused a reduction in revenue generation for the government, private companies and individuals, which has translated into salary cuts and job losses. The loss of jobs has affected many families negatively. The situation has led to financial hardship in homes and has increased misunderstandings and various forms of domestic violence in the society. Spousal violence, landlord-tenant violence, homeowner-house help violence, boyfriend-girlfriend violence, violence on widows and police-citizen violence are now more commonplace in the society. Even though it is undeniable that gender-based violence had existed before the pandemic, the malaise has been greatly aggravated by this deadly disease. The paper seeks to examine how COVID-19 has exacerbated violence and social inequality in Nigeria and attempts possible solutions to the problem.

027. |

THE SYMBOLS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Abstract

With the termination of the Millennium Development Goals emerged the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They are also known as the Global Goals adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. The seventeen Sustainable Development Goals are integrated, that is, they recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability. During this period of COVID-19 pandemic, the question looming at the horizon of this research borders on the relationship of the Sustainable Development Goals with the COVID-19 pandemic- that is, how can the Sustainable Development Goals improve the quality of life of Africans particularly during this season of COVID-19. This is very important as we are dealing with a continent that has high levels of poverty, illiteracy, overpopulation of the urban areas, very limited access to healthcare, bad governance and economic hardships. No doubt, many Africans survive on subsistence earnings, and with a high level of ignorance among the majority in the rural areas. Statistics has shown that most hospitals in Africa are in sorry states. While presenting the various symbolic expressions of the relevant images of the Sustainable Development Goals, this paper established a relationship between them and the COVID-19 context. For the purpose of this research, the phenomenological method of inquiry would be employed.

Keywords: Sustainable Development Goals, COVID-19, Pandemic, Africa, Symbols

028.

**COVID-19, NATURAL EVILS,
DIVINE AND NATURAL LAWS**

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Abstract

In the world today, atheists and non-Christians think that they are under no obligation to obey Divine laws, and thus they could deliberately and recklessly flout them. This flagrant disregard for Divine laws accounts for the multiplication of natural evils in the world, including the latest COVID-19 pandemic. This paper employs the method of hermeneutics and analysis to argue that while God's ordinances and instructions are only applicable to the Israelites regarded as the chosen people of God in the Old Testament, all humans are now subject to Divine laws by virtue of sacrificial and salvific death of Jesus Christ that brings redemption and salvation to mankind, irrespective of religion, creed, tribe, race, nationality, gender, and social status. Thus, Divine retribution could be inflicted on indivisible humanity in the wake of violations of God's laws to redress human iniquities and prompt humans to expiate their sins in distress, return to God, and seek the remission of sins. Findings show that the COVID-19 outbreak is a corollary of disruption of natural order of things as well as disobedience to God's instruction to avoid eating certain animals and birds that He declares unfit for human consumption. This paper concludes that the outbreak of COVID-19 is a wake-up call to humanity to return to God, the ground of being, and abide by Divine and natural laws to heal the world.

Keywords: COVID-19, Divine Laws, Natural Evils, Natural Laws

029.

**COVID-19 AND FOOD SYSTEM, SECURITY AND
SAFETY IN RURAL AREAS OF SOUTH-EAST NIGERIA:
IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE COPING STRATEGIES**

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ABSTRACT

Farmers in rural areas are the hub of food system in South-East Nigeria. Unfortunately, the phobia of COVID-19 and its abrupt quarantine measures enforced through government agencies to an extent affected routine food system activities such as food production, distribution, consumption among others in rural areas of South-East Nigeria. Consequently, there is a serious threat to food security and safety which are dependent on sustainable food system. Therefore, the study sought to identify specific impacts of COVID-19 on food system, security and safety and possible coping strategies in rural areas of South-East Nigeria. The study was guided by 5 specific objectives. Exploratory sequential mixed method approach was adopted for the study. The sample size of the study was 150 commercial rural farmers purposively selected from each of the 5 states in South-East Nigeria. A semi-structured

interview guide and researcher-adapted structured questionnaire were respectively used to elicit qualitative and quantitative data from respondents by researchers with the help of 3 trained research assistants. The permissions of respondents were sought before data collection; therefore, data collection was entirely on voluntary basis. Researchers also ensured that the issues of privacy and confidentiality of respondents were respected. Also, strict adherence to COVID-19 rules during contacts with respondents was maintained. Quantitative data collected using a structured questionnaire were analyzed using descriptive statistics such mean and standard deviations, and qualitative data from interview meetings were coded and analyzed to support the findings of the questionnaire. SPSS-software version-22 was used for the data analysis by researchers. The study identified 15 specific impacts of COVID-19 on food production, 10 specific impacts of COVID-19 on food distribution, 4 specific impacts of COVID-19 on food security, 3 specific impacts of COVID-19 on food safety and 14 possible coping strategies to the Impacts of COVID-19 on food system, food Security and food Safety in rural areas of South-East Nigeria. Therefore, the study among others recommended that government, international organizations, philanthropists and banks should provide farmers with loans, subsidies, grants (funds, seeds, seedlings, agrochemicals and other relevant inputs) in order to boost food production in South-East Nigeria.

Key Words: COVID-19, Food System, Food Production, Food Distribution, Food Security, Food Safety

030.

MONO-ECONOMY IN A PANDEMIC RAVAGING SOCIETY

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Abstract

Suffice to observe that nations with diversified economy were badly hit by the ravaging nature of the corona virus but the magnitude of its effect on a mono-economy such as Nigeria is incomparable. The reality of covid19 on the Nigerian economy is only a tip of the iceberg to many lessons that the Nigerian government should learn. Nigeria no doubt is a mono-economy with heavy reliance on crude oil. I seriously doubt if there were lessons learnt during the zero dollar price of the American oil coupled with the continuous dwindling price of the London Brent. If there is any time to consider imperatively the issue of diversification of the Nigerian economy, it is now because the worst of the earth phenomenal pandemics are yet to be here. This paper was conceived with a view to highlighting some of the adverse effects a mono-economy is bound to face in situations such as covid19. It is in the optimistic view of this researcher that the outcome of this research will further nourish and reengineer the proactive posture of policy makers in Nigeria to do the needful. The researcher identified that the Nigerian government is docile and yet to learn any lesson from the effect of Covid19 on the economy. Consequent on this reality, the researcher recommends that the government should genuinely swing into action the diversification of the economy.

Keywords: mono-economy, pandemic, Nigeria, Governmen

031.

LACK OF ADEQUATE CITIZENS' INFORMATION AND THE CHALLENGE OF RESPONDING TO COVID 19 PANDEMIC IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

A country's ability to response adequately to unforeseen circumstance depends to a large extent on its preparedness. This can easily be seen in the policies, programs and plans put in place by such a nation. Covid 19 which originated from in China in late 2019 took the world by a surprise. Being a novel disease, many countries of the world were thrown into confusion regarding ways of curbing its spread. Due to its nature of transmission, one of the many measures recommended to reduce human to human spread was a total or partial lockdown which many countries adopted. With the lockdown, countries' economies were adversely affected leading to millions of job losses globally. Various countries devised various means of taking care of their citizens worse hit. Stimulus packages, emergency aid payments, palliative and unemployment benefits were some of the means devised to cushion the negative effects of Covid 19. Again, for those infected, the easiest way of tracing others who could have been infected was by contact tracing. To either ameliorate the negative impacts of Covid 19 on the citizens or trace those infected through contact with infected persons, contact tracing remains the most effective mean. Unfortunately, due to lack of adequate information of her citizens, the management of Covid 19 in Nigeria seems to have resulted in a situation where the search for a solution became worse than the problem itself. Many with already existing health issues died of treatable sicknesses since they could not have access to medical facilities due to lockdown. Palliatives distributed by the Nigerian governments to alleviate the pains occasioned by the pandemic became an avenue for enrichment by a few. This study examines the effects lack of adequate citizens' information has on Nigeria's response to Covid 19 pandemic and suggests possible remedies.

Keywords: Covid 19, Citizens' information, Nigeria

032.

PHILOSOPHY, COVID – 19 AND MIGRATION

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Abstract

Philosophy is a discipline that consistently and realistically probes into the fundamental nature and essence of reality as a whole in order to ascribe meaning to human experiences, social relations and existence as a whole. It is a discipline that is always concerned about the ought of reality without prejudice to the epoch, people and peculiar experiences surrounding their worldview. The whole world has been plagued by the deadly Corona Virus, also known as Covid-19. While concerted efforts are being made worldwide to produce a Vaccine that can cure this deadly pandemic, scholars of various disciplines have been making serious and sincere efforts to examine the issue from different perspectives. This paper examines Corona pandemic from the point of view of migration as it affects internally displaced persons labour and the millions of refugees in many countries all over Africa. It attempts to elucidates and analyse the effects of the pandemic on both internal and external migration. It also seeks to identify how these resultant effects have had a toll on social and human development globally and how it has grossly affected Africa as a continent. There is also the problem of

dissemination of information concerning the virus across borders of various countries which easily could be misconstrued and distorted in the process of transmission from one place to another, which in turn can affect the sensitivity of people to the reception of vital information concerning restrictions, precautions, care and cure, which is primarily on the production of vaccines that could possibly cure the virus, This paper utilizes the descriptive, hermeneutical and critical methods in this study.

033.

PHYSICAL SOCIAL DISTANCING: A THREAT TO OMABALA-IGBO-AFRICAN COMMUNALISM DEEPLY ROOTED IN IGWE BU IKE

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Abstract

The study surveys the ? mabala-Igbo people's communal lifestyle which is threatened by the Covid-19 pandemic's rule of maintaining physical social distancing. The ? mabala people's communal and social lifestyle is deeply rooted on the Igbo philosophy that says, 'to live is to socialize,' backed up with another Igbo social philosophy that says, 'majority is strength- Igwe b? ike.' Life in ? mabala is more of social activities from the sun rise to the dusk. Hence anything that becomes stumbling block to their usual social life is a threat to both their individual and collective existence. It is on this background that Covid-19 pandemic's rule of maintenance of physical social distancing becomes a thorn on their flesh. The scope of the study is on the rule of maintenance of physical social distancing and its effects on the economic and sociocultural life of ? mabala people. The study sets out with the objective of exposing the danger of contracting Covid-19 to the people. At the same time and encouraging them on the importance of keeping to the safety measures of which maintenance of physical social distancing is one of them. This is because they have to be alive in order to socialize, hence the study is provoked with the passion for their safety which also used as a succor to them. The study is not concerned with the origin, myths and realities of Covid-19, rather it sets out to pacify the people to hold on with their social life, that Covid-19 like a stranger will soon outstay its welcome and leave. On this note the study is propagating the philosophy that one has to be alive in order to socialize. Hence for one to be alive, one should abide by the rule of physical social distancing for the time being. The area of study is on the threat on the social life of ? mabala people by the Covid-19's rule of maintenance of physical social distance. The data for the study are sourced through observation, library as well as internet. Psychological Theory is adopted for analysis of the study, in order to expose the depth of helplessness in new life style of isolation as result of fighting to stay alive in the face of Covid-19 saturated society. At the end of the study the findings revealed that maintenance of physical social distancing has inflicted untold harm to the social existence of ? mabala people. That it has brought in a new culture of individualism and fear of one another as they are trying to follow the rule of maintaining physical social distancing in order to stay safe and alive. The study would be of great value to the general public, mostly to the teachers, students and researchers with keen interest in the study of ? mabala people's condition in their communal, and social lifestyle in the face of Covid-19's rule of maintaining physical social distance.

034.

RAPE IN THE ERA OF COVID 19: THE RESPONSE OF THE CHURCH IN THE SOUTH EAST OF NIGERIA

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Abstract

The globe witnessed a surge of a new disease in the first half of 2020. The disease called Covid 19 started and spread like wildfire from China to the USA and the global economy, spirituality, political and international relationship were shut down. Movement from one country to another and physical contacts were greatly hampered. Health workers were highly overstretched as the global rate of affected patients continued to soar and surge. For instance, in the USA alone a total of over twenty thousand deaths were recorded daily in the second quarter of 2020. It was predicted that Africa would be worst hit as preventive vaccine may not be readily available in the next couple of months. As a result of the lockdown, most people were forced to stay home. The moral effect in most Sub Saharan Africa was the rise in the incidence of rape. For instance the Federal Bureau of Statics revealed that Nigeria had witnessed over 60 percent in rape cases and reportage in the past four months that is over 3.5percent of last year. The Church in the south East of the country had taken up the challenge of rape in a view to managing the incidences. The researchers employed the narcissist theory of rape and some conspiracy theories of Covid 19. The researchers discovered that the Church has taken certain measures to manage rape but recommends that parental training and control are necessary to avert occurrences.

Key words: Covid 19, Church, Vaccine, Moral, Conspiracy.

035.

UKA DI N'OBI: A PHILOSOPHICAL REFLECTION ON COVID-19 EXPERIENCE IN IGBO-AFRICAN SOCIETY

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Abstract:

The idea of Uka d? n'obi has both metaphysical and physical implications. Metaphysical because it tallies with the process philosopher–Alfred North Whitehead's postulation that Religion is what we do with our solitariness; if we were never solitary, then, we were never religious. Thus, a feeling of the self as the basis for true spirituality and not necessarily because we are part of organized religions. Physical, because it shows that the true church is not the physical building or monument but the heart as a

reflection and sanctuary of charity, good works and moral rectitude. The Coronavirus pandemic that halted the activities of the World in all ramifications from late part of last year to now, has exposed the common adage that Uka d?n'obi and not necessarily that people must congregate on particular days of worship, say Sunday, to worship the Divine. Using the philosophical methods of analysis and hermeneutics, this present study seeks to evaluate the concept of Uka d?n'obi and interpret it in the light of the pandemic experience within the ecology of the Igbo society, as a conspicuous example of a society that actively believes in the Sunday physical presence in the Churches and what becomes of them, if there is a paradigm shift as witnessed during the lockdown caused by the pandemic. The Study concludes that true spirituality begins with the self before alignment to organized religions and that a personal relationship with God is better and will give more existential authentication than lip-service assembly and deviant lifestyles that have not aided society in the development index or better it in any way.

Keywords: Uka d?n'obi, COVID-19, Igbo African Society, Philosophy

036.

POLITICS AND LEADERSHIP IN A PANDEMIC, AN AFROCENTRIC EXPERIENCE: EXAMPLE IN ACHEBE'S ARROW OF GOD

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ABSTRACT:

Human population sometimes comes under one form of severe health emergency or another that disrupts its people and order of living. This will usually come as a pandemic with a magnitude of impact spreading over a wide area, and affecting a large portion of the population. Currently, the year 2020 holds the global populace under siege of Coronavirus, commonly called COVID-19 pandemic having a sweeping fatality across continents, including, Africa. In Nigeria, the pandemic takes a toll on human lives, economy, and the livelihood of the people. In dealing with the reality of the time, there are narratives, theories and politics around the origin, cause, prevention and containment of the Virus. However, the inconveniences of the Government's preventive measures; lockdown, releases, statements and protocols on the severity of infection and fatality rate give rise to controversies and suspicion. Achebe's Arrow of God, showcases incidents of politics of power between the Chief Priest and the people of Umuaro in a period of crises. The Afrocentric experience in containing disaster proffers concerted efforts of the leadership and the people as a mitigation of unfortunate situations as presented in the text. Using the framework of conspiracy theory, this paper identifies contentions surrounding the pandemic and the impact on the people. A literary analysis of conspiracies and power play in the traditional arena espouses the imperative for an afrocentric approach to knowledge sharing during such crises periods.

KEY WORDS: Afrocentricism, Conspiracy Theory, Containment, Coronavirus, Pandemic, Politics.

037.

**RELIGIOUS CONVICTION AND CHALLENGES
POSED BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN AFRICA**

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Abstract

Man was not born genetically as a religious being, but man (Homo-sapien), is a religious being, and inevitably religious either overt or covert. Be that as it may, religion has offered man psychological defence against spiritualities, physical, scientific and empirical proven facts. These religious convictions and defiance adopted by man have been challenged by the challenges posed by the emergence of Corona virus/Covid-19. The leadership of the civil society has been left with no alternative measure to control or prevent the widespread contraction of the virus than to embark on total lock down. This lockdown sincerely affected religious activities that religious practitioners were left with no other option than to practice their religious in their privacy. It is discovered in this paper, that the art of lockdown and other preventive measures introduced to save human lives against Covid-19 seriously affected the spiritual, social and economic wellbeing of religious institutions in Africa. It is the position of the paper that religion in its totality should pay attentive attention to science and government even though God is truly in charge. It should be born in our minds that we also believe that God in His infinite power created science and constituted those in authority. Therefore, they should be honoured and acknowledged by every religious adherent. In order to make a sound presentation of these issues, this study employed phenomenological research approach. Both primary and secondary materials were used, and data collected were analysed with descriptive method of data analysis. It is recommended among other things that religious institutions in Africa should form teams that will collaborate with the health teams that go for Covid-19 outreach to convince people more that Covid-19 is real and should be prevented.

Keywords: Covid 19, Religious Convictions, Challenges, Pandemic, and Africa

038.

**SOCIO-RELIGIOUS ISSUES IN THE AFRICAN
RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC;
THE OGBA AND ENGENNI PERSPECTIVES**

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ABSTRACT

This paper on the socio- religious issues on the African response to the Covid-19 pandemic, focuses on the Ogba and Engenni perspectives. The research identifies the pandemic as one that shook the world to its foundation. It explores the World Health Organisation's (WHO) definition of Pandemic and its attitude to the outbreak of the Coronavirus in December, 2019. The paper traces the origin of the virus to the Chinese city of Wuhan from where it spread to other parts of the world. The response from different countries to the challenge was critically x-rayed. It notes that Ogba/Engenni in

general have their ways of treating infectious and contagious ailments through quarantine, isolation and physical distancing as applied to sufferers of tuberculosis, leprosy, measles, chicken and small pox. The purpose of this research is to identify and explain how Ogba/Engenni people approach issues of pandemic in the traditional setting. The work adopts the phenomenological method in the discussion. It observes that Africans use roots and herbs to attend to issues of health care. It concludes that the flora and fauna in Africa is rich enough to be explored to curb the spread of the disease.

039.

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON AFRICA'S CULTURAL AND SYMBOLIC DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

COVID-19 pandemic has brought difficult situations for citizens of nations across the world. The effects, however, may be more severe for others, especially those in the Third World countries, who are in desperate situations, and whose conditions may well further deteriorate if not put into consideration. Focusing on the economic impact, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Report in 2020 observed that in the face of COVID-19 pandemic, the global economy faces its worst downturn since the Great Depression. In line with the report of IMF, the Oxfam International (OI) in her 2020 report warned that half a billion people could be pushed into poverty as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This would have more consequences for the Third World countries. While most recent documents focus on the economic impact of COVID-19 on the world, this paper shifted attention from the economic impact of Coronavirus and focused on the cultural consequences of the pandemic with specific interest on the African continent. It, therefore, focused on the some alterations that have occurred in African cultural expressions and designs as a result of the emergence of the pandemic. This paper discovered that while attention is focused on the economic impact of the pandemic, several changes are taking place at the cultural sphere. For the purpose of this research, the phenomenological method of inquiry would be employed.

Keywords: Cultural, Symbolic Developments, COVID-19, Pandemic, Africa, Coronavirus

040.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC: IMPLICATION AND WAY FORWARD TO RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION

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Abstract

The global outbreak of Corona Virus (COvid-19) has affected the whole world with a significant threat to globalization. This pandemic disease has brought about economic, health, educational and social crises that have had a serious negative impact on millions of people around the world regardless of geographical location. The enforcement of lockdown, social distancing and travel bans have greatly affected rural-urban migration globally. Covid-19 has triggered boarder closure, travel restrictions, massive repatriation of migrants with an unprecedented impact on global economies. Most migrants are vulnerable to the infectious Corona Virus disease with increased rate of unemployment, poverty, health crises, and high mortality rate. The thrust of this study is to examine the concept of COvid-19 pandemic and its attendant implication on rural-urban migration. The paper also examined the effect of COvid-19 pandemic on rural-urban migration, rural economies, and assessment of future impacts of Covid-19 outbreak on rural economies, strategic approach on how Covid-19 is changing global migration, implications and way forward for rural-urban migration. More so, the paper provides a comprehensive blue print that can support the design of policies, intervention and further research on the nexus between COvid-19 pandemic, migration and the environment.

Keywords: Migration, Typology of migration, Rural-urban migration, rural economies and COvid-19.

041.

MODALITIES FOR EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE FACE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN ONDO STATE

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Abstract

The scale of the COVID-19 pandemic impact's on educational sector, ranging from students learning, wellbeing and day to day school administration in alarming. This truly is a global crisis which is preventing citizens in every country, including Nigeria, from fulfilling their right to quality, safe and

inclusive education. This study was carried out to ascertain the modalities for effective administration of secondary school in the face of the covid-19 pandemic in Ondo state. Three research questions and one null hypothesis guided the study. The study adopted a descriptive survey research. A sample of 300 participants made up of 80 principals and 220 teachers was used for the study. The instrument used for data collection was an e-questionnaire. The research questions were answered using mean and standard deviations while the null hypotheses were tested using t-test statistics. The findings of the study revealed that **the** outbreak of the Covid-19 Pandemic poses serious challenges on secondary school administration in Ondo state, Nigeria, principals' level of preparedness against the Covid-19 Pandemic in the day to day administration of schools was reported low, among others. Based on the findings, the researchers recommended that Government should employ more competent teachers, erect more classrooms in order to maintain social distancing and minimize number of students per teacher, and make provision for safety materials for promotion of better hygiene culture. Also, that there should be encouragement of sustainable e-learning platform by creating e-libraries and adopting e-teaching softwares, that can be used for holding meetings and delivering lectures with no or less physical contact in the schools.

Keywords: Education, Secondary School, Administration, Covid-19 Pandemic

042.

MANAGEMENT OF THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION AND THEIR PRAGMATIC IMPLICATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Abstract

The ability to manage the dissemination of apt information devoid of all forms of ambiguity, misinterpretation and vagueness is one of the first steps to overcome the Covid-19 pandemic. Information is power and this is majorly made possible through the use of language. As such, what goes into circulation ought to be properly situated to eliminate all forms of social unrest and this deals largely with the choice of appropriate pragmatic devices employed while passing information about the virus and their socio-economic, political as well as religious implications. Using Mey's (2001) pragmatic act theory as the theoretical framework and President Muhammadu Buhari's March 29th, 2020 address on Covid-19 pandemic as data, this study attempts a pragmatic evaluation of the ways language has been deployed by African leaders to enlighten, educate and instruct the people on the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. It also highlights how the mismanagement of information necessitated by the wrong choice of expressions has hindered absolute cooperation, loss of trust for the government of the day and breakdown of laws and order during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Keywords: Africa, Speech act theory, Information, Language, Covid-19

043. | SYMBOLIC EXPRESSIONS OF COMMUNITY IN AFRICA AND THE COVID-19 PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

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Abstract

World events from the 19th century till date reveal that many health challenges have emerged across national and continental boundaries, affecting humankind in very extra-ordinary ways. These health emergencies range from the Third and Sixth Cholera Pandemics between 1852 to 1860 and 1910 to 1911 respectively, through the era of the Spanish Influenza (1918-1921) and the still on-going HIV/AIDS (since 1981) to the Ebola epidemic (2014-2016). These global health emergencies have often come with diverse symptoms, thus necessitating various kinds of prescriptions as to how people should respond to them. As would be expected, different societies have reacted to such pandemics in diverse ways owing their cultural norms, as well as levels of preparedness and awareness. Africa, as a region quite distinct from the rest of the world in several remarkable ways, particular in its demographic structure, has continued to present distinctly unique features and responses to global pandemics. This is not only due to its weak healthcare systems and poor infrastructure, but its cultural specificity. This paper studied Africa's efforts at grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic, with particular focus on the precautionary measures in relation to the worldview of the African people. The precautionary measure of social distancing would be studied in relation to the African spirit of community- this would be done by analyzing the different images of community in relation to the social distancing measure. This piece discovered that there is a lack of local content in the COVID-19 international precautionary measures and called for the localization of global measures in times of pandemic. For the purpose of this research, the phenomenological method of inquiry would be employed.

Keywords: Community, Precautionary Measures, COVID-19, Pandemic, Africa,

044. | INTERROGATING NIGERIAN CHRISTIAN CHURCHES' MISSIONAL AND PROPHETIC INNOVATIONS DURING AND AFTER COVID 19, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE GLOBAL PANDEMIC

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ABSTRACT

This paper interrogates roles played by the Christian Churches in Nigeria during the COVID 19 pandemic and critically reviews their prophetic and missiological successes and challenges as well as the way forward in future global crisis. How have the Churches performed during COVID 19? Were they able to carry out divine healing of COVID 19 patients? If not, why were they unable? Why were the Churches shut down as non-essential service during COVID 19? What alternative prophetic and missiological activities did the Churches carry out during the pandemic. The paper defines the expected prophetic and missiological roles of the Nigerian Christian churches based on New

Testament standards of preaching, teaching, healing, fellowships, discipleship and service. The study reveals that although the churches were shut down as non-essential, they still engaged in preaching and teaching at house fellowships levels and reached out to people through online platforms and virtual preaching daily, weekly and on Sundays. Many churches also engaged in Christian service by making provisions of money and food palliatives for church members and communities. Some churches also gave medical materials to state hospitals while financial donations to Nigerian governments at state and federal levels. However, the paper expresses disappointment that the Church was shut down as non-essential service and could not carry out much of her divine healing ministry of COVID 19 patients as expected by New Testament standards. The paper suggests some solutions to the churches' inadequacy to directly therapeutically respond to COVID 19. This was due to her limited missional and prophetic charismata at the time of the Global crisis. The paper then suggests ways by which such missional and prophetic innovations may be renewed in post COVID 19 era. The paper concludes by suggesting how the Church may pro-actively prepare herself for the possible Global pandemic in future

045. | INFLUENCE OF NIGERIA CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL (NCDC)'S HEALTH COMMUNICATION MESSAGES ON COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON PUBLIC ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE SPREAD OF THE DISEASE IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The outbreak of covid-19 pandemic has caused so many deaths across the globe including Nigeria since the index case was recorded in Wuhan city, China in December, 2019. The study examines the influence of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)'s health communication messages on covid-19 pandemic on public attitude towards the spread of the disease in Nigeria. The population of the study was drawn from the south-west geo-political zone of the country with online survey method used to administer 845 copies of questionnaire to respondents in line with the covid-19 protocols to maintain social distancing. The health belief model was used as the core theoretical framework for the study due to its correlations to the topic of this study. The study found that majority of the respondents do not take the messages serious. A greater percentage of the respondents delete the messages without reading them while others ignore the messages across the various social media platforms and conventional media used by the NCDC to disseminate the information. The study also found that only few people read the messages and adhered to the content of the NCDC health communication messages. It was also found that there are other people who read the messages but do not adhere to all the preventive measures advised by the NCDC. Therefore, this study recommends that the NCDC should be more aggressive and practical in its approach. Also, effective communication is advocated and the content of the messages should be simple and clear for people to comprehend. The messages should also be written in local languages for the rural dwellers in order to curb community transmission of the disease.

Keywords: Covid-19, NCDC, health, messages, pandemic, influence and communication.

046. |

**THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19
PANDEMIC ON THE NIGERIAN CHURCH**

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It has been historically and existentially proven that the human person, over the years, has been growing from one pandemic experience to another which makes one to believe that every era has its own pandemic story. This has raised multiple questions on the faces of religion and science. Covid-19 is one out of many challenges that have besieged man in the 21st century. The effects of this covid-19 have indeed affected and is still affecting the whole world at present. Its effects in the Nigerian Church forms the fulcrum of this paper. This study attempts to analytically x-ray the effects Covid-19 and also proffer solutions in order to reduce or eliminate the negative effects of the covid-19 pandemic on the Nigerian Church.

Keywords: Church, Covid-19, Nigeria, Pandemic, Human Person

047. |

**IMPACT OF COVID-10 ON
AFRICA'S EDUCATION**

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The eruption of the COVID-19 Pandemic has affected almost every sphere of life and may forever change how we have always lived and conducted our businesses and no one is able to resist this wind of change that is blowing. Of all the sectors of governance, the Educational sector particularly at all the Tertiary level appears to have been most greatly affected and therefore requires a more pragmatic approach to resolution. With this sudden shift away from the classroom in many parts of the country, some are wondering whether the adoption of Online learning will continue to persist post pandemic and how such a shift would impact the worldwide education market. The Covid-19 Pandemic has an impact on just about every aspect of life around the world, with education being one of the hardest hit sectors. The pandemic has to date caused the disruption of learning to over a billion students globally. Schools have been closed due to the pandemic, meaning students don't have any classes except for some schools that engage their students with E-Learning. At a time like this, what would be the way-out so that the educational sector does not deteriorate further? In this article, we shall consider the numerous impacts of this dreaded virus- COVID-19 on the Educational Sector and the likely way out.

Keywords: COVID -19, Education, Deadly Diseases, Government

048.

IMPACT OF MIGRATION ON THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN AFRICA

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Abstract

The novel corona virus, also known as covid-19, is a pandemic that in a very short time, has totally transformed the world and has necessitated an emergency health response since its outbreak in the Wuhan City, Hubei Province of China. Within five months of the virus appearance, it spread quickly to the seven continents of the world, claiming hundreds of thousands of lives, leaving millions in the hospitals and crippling nations' economy. The African continent is not spared by this destructive and highly contagious virus. The virus has not only taken several lives in Africa and stagnated the continent's economy, it has also brought untold hardship on the people and disrupted social lives. Migration which is prevalent in Africa has been found to be one of the major reasons the virus has spread and is still spreading in Africa. This paper therefore investigated how migration is impacting on the wide spread of covid-19 in African countries. We relied on the Infectious Disease Transmission Model as the framework of this study. The purpose of the infectious disease transmission modeling is often to understand the factors that are responsible for the persistence of transmission, the dynamics of the infection process and how to control transmission. We anchored on the documentary method of data collection for data gathering. In the findings, migration which is an inevitable aspect of socio-economic activities because of the mobility of labour involved, makes the spread of the novel virus imminent. Therefore, among other recommendations of the paper include migrants' access to proper healthcare facilities and adequate contact tracing of migrants should be enhanced by the respective African governments and authorities.

Keywords: Corona virus, Pandemic, Wuhan Province of China, Africa, Migration.

049.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD: THE FUTURE OF AFRICA

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Abstract

The [Covid-19](#) pandemic is affecting global economies. Some key sectors of the world's economy are already experiencing a slowdown because of it. Tourism, air transport, education and the oil sectors are visibly impacted. Globalization, on the other hand, has become an integral of human existence. No nation of the world no matter how economically buoyant can live and grow in isolation. Covid-19 Pandemic and Globalization remains challenges that will preoccupy emerging nations of the world that aspire to attain the status of a developed nation. Drawing from the African experience and taking advantage of the rich scholarship on globalization in Africa, this research will examine the threats posed by Covid-19 Pandemic and globalization on the continent's socio-economic development. More specifically, this paper will give an overview of how to resolve the crisis of Covid19 Pandemic and

globalization among African nations. The paper will argue that political stability, constant power supply, laws to fight corruption, human capital development, bilateral relation etc, are major factors that will catapult African nations to developed nations in this inevitable globalized world. It will conclude that if necessary measures are not put in place, then Africa may be excluded in this era, and globalization of poverty rather than prosperity will occur. In light of the researcher's findings, Covid-19 Pandemic is an additional "invention" for socioeconomic enslavement of the African people. To achieve these objectives, this study will adopt the method of content analysis of relevant existing literature; materials, tables, and news reports to draw up conclusion based on the researcher's area of interest. Among other suggestions, this paper calls for a continuous research that will foster relevant policies on constructive responses to Covid-19 and to save Africa's economies from imminent collapse.

Keywords: Covid-19, globalization, interdependency, pandemic, Africa

050. | HISTORICIZING THE POLITICS OF COVID-19 PALLIATIVES TOWARDS EFFECTIVE PEACE BUILDING IN NIGERIA: THE EBONYI STATE EXPERIENCE

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Abstract

By the second week of March 2020, Nigeria came under the threat of covid-19 pandemic. Trammeled by the global lockdown on international borders, the need for interstates' border closure to curtail the widespread of the virus in the country became imperative. With the first index case recorded in Ekiti state and subsequently in many other states, Federal government at one time or the other announced that state governments are to inaugurate covid-19 Task Force in order to ensure that there is safety to the lives of Nigerians. In doing that, Federal Government decided to give palliatives through the state governments to cushion the effects of the lockdown. Rather than sharing the palliatives, a dawn to dusk curfew in Ebonyi State was announced without necessarily providing any kind of economic assistance to the people. This created serious problems to the day to day economic activities of the people to the extent that corporate bodies, civil society and wealthy Nigerians began to make cash donations to governments in order to mitigate the hardship associated with the lockdown. This study therefore interrogates the measures adopted by state governments towards distributing the palliatives without flouting covid-19 safety measures in the state. Materials for this study were sourced from both primary and secondary methods while historical and analytical methodology was adopted and the paper concludes that Ebonyi state government's approach to the federal government palliatives was a deceptive peace mechanism that allowed people to continuously compiling their names while the lockdown had been relaxed.

Key words: Historicizing, Politics, Covid-19 Palliatives, Peace building, Ebonyi State

051. |

**HOMOCENTRIC HUMANISM AND
THE LESSONS OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

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&

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The dreaded Corona virus aka, COVID-19 of which appearance was first recorded in WUHAN province of China hit the entire world like a bombshell. As the global communities were busy with toppling political, economic and social activities founded on and mainly driven by the features consistent with the tenets of homocentric humanism, the virus crept in and took the world like a fiery storm crippling almost all global popular activities. While humanity gropes under the scourge of the pandemic, struggling with its own survival, to include even sought for divine interventions, this paper sets out to reflect on the stings of the pandemic in relation to the global benefit of homocentric humanism, with a view to identifying and relating the lessons of the pandemic for the acclaimed self-sustaining world. Redirecting humanity to theo-centric humanism is preceded with the question of whether God has a place in human affairs.

Keywords: Humanism, COVID-19, Global Effect

052. |

**HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE: A PROGNOSIS
TO SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE
IN NIGERIA IN THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC**

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Gender-based violence (GBV) and in particular its subset of violence against women and girls (VAWG) are abhorrent human rights violations, with detrimental impacts on victims, survivors, families, communities and societies. The types of violence encompassed by GBV include sexual violence, physical violence, emotional and psychological violence, child marriage, trafficking, female genital mutilation (FGM), domestic violence and rape. Globally, it is estimated that one in three women experience either physical or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. While women and girls are proportionately affected by GBV, sexual violence against men and boys also occurs, particularly in conflict-affected contexts. Service providers in the North East, for instance, have observed incidents of sexual violence towards men and boys. However, male survivors are less likely than women to report an incident of sexual violence. Nigeria and the world have been facing a GBV crisis, deeply rooted in harmful patriarchal social, cultural, traditional and religious norms. However, this crisis has been elevated by the COVID-19 pandemic, with widespread evidence that GBV has sharply increased since the beginning

of the pandemic. Women and girls in conflict-affected states, particularly Borno, Yobe and Adamawa, are at increased risk of GBV due to the deprived living conditions. The overcrowded housing conditions in camps also exacerbate the risks of intimate partner and other forms of domestic violence. Children being separated from their caregivers during displacements leads to an increase in the number of female-headed households, which may add a financial burden and expose them to exploitation and abuse. Within the context of camps, women and girls face a high risk of having to use survival sex in exchange for mobility, safety and access to resources. The study recommends the following there should be an advocacy program to the women especially in the rural areas who seem to more vulnerable to Gender Based Violence, the victims of Gender Based Violence should not be stigmatized they should be heard and listened to.

Keywords: Gender Based Violence, COVID 19, Violence, Sexual Abuse, Violence Against Women.

053.

COVID-19 AND ICT SKILLS REQUIRED BY TEACHERS FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHING OF BASIC ELECTRONICS IN SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN MAINLAND LGA IN LAGOS STATE.

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Abstract

This study was carried to determine the ICT skills required by Teachers for effective teaching of basic Electronics in senior secondary schools (SSS) mainland LGA in Lagos state. Three research questions guided the study. Descriptive research design was adopted for the study. The population was 67 teachers purposively chosen from colleges, polytechnics and universities in Lagos state. A 30-item questionnaires was developed for gathering data. The questionnaire was validated by three Experts. Cronbach alpha reliability method was used to determine the internal consistency of the instrument, reliability coefficient value of 0.85 was obtained. sixty-seven copies of the questionnaire were administered and retrieved from the respondents. representing 100% retrieval. Mean and standard deviation was used for data analysis. The result showed that; 13 ICT skills are required by Teachers to operate computer for the effective teaching of Basic Electronics, 8 ICT skills are required by Teachers to access Internet for effective teaching of basic Electronics and 9 ICT skills required by Teachers to solve some computer problems for effective teaching of basic Electronics It was recommended that all the identified competencies should be packaged into a training programme and be utilized in retraining the teachers of Basic Electronics through workshops and seminars.

Keywords: ICT, Skill Teachers. Basic Electronics,

054.

**IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON PRIMARY EDUCATION
IN SOUTH EASTERN NIGERIA**

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Abstract

Corona virus, otherwise known as COVID 19 is a global pandemic that has shaken the world in the first half of the year, 2020. The drastic effect of this deadly virus prompted the beginning of different studies. This particular study was undertaken to ascertain the impacts of Covid 19 on primary education in South Eastern Nigeria. A public opinion survey design was adopted for the study where the impacts of Corona virus on pupils, teachers and parents were investigated and identified. Three research questions guided the study. The population of the study consisted of all the primary school pupils, teachers and parents in South East Geographical Zone. The sample for the study comprised 200 pupils, 200 parents and 100 teachers in the five states of the zone in both rural and urban settings. The respondents were selected through convenience sampling technique. Data was collected through interviewing the populace on the issues of continued primary school lockdown due to Corona virus pandemic. The result showed that, generally, parents, teachers and pupils in the south east zone are not comfortable with the school lockdown due to its negative impact on academic progress. It also showed that the lockdown increased the rate of child abuse and other vices in the neighbourhood. Based on the findings, it is recommended that in order to curb the spread of Corona virus, schools especially primary schools should remain closed until safety is assured. Recommendations were also made on the importance of government providing preventive measures of Corona virus in schools and on the need for all hands to be on deck to fight the war against Covid 19.

055.

**COVID 19, VIOLENCE AND SOCIAL INEQUALITY IN AFRICA:
A CALL TO AWAKEN AFRICAN MORAL CONSCIOUSNESS**

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ABSTRACT

Covid -19 pandemic is a very harsh experience to the world at large and Africa in particular. The strategies to prevent it are at the same time uncomfortable for all and sundry. This harsh experience and falsehood on the part of some agents to distribute relief materials and support from higher and more advanced countries and wealthy institutions, bodies and individuals have made people in different parts of the continent to demonstrate and destroy lives and properties. Based on this finding, the study advocates for the need for Africans to awaken their moral consciousness the way their forebears did in the distant past. It recommends that African studies that can add value to the moral psyche of upcoming African leaders should be made compulsory in both secondary and tertiary institutions. Religious bodies and few academic departments should not be left alone in course of embarking on house-to-house teachings of moral education especially when the Covid-19 problem must have gone. The research introduces historical and hermeneutical research method. Data were gotten from both primary and secondary sources. Data generated were analyzed with phenomenological method of data analysis.

Keywords: Covid-19, Moral Consciousness, Violence, Social, Inequality, Africa

056.

COVID-19 AND THE IMPERATIVE OF PRIORITIZING HEALTH AND EDUCATION SECTORS IN AFRICA**OKORO, CHARLES KENECHUKWU**Department of Philosophy, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.
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07032712275**ABSTRACT**

Against the backdrop that the basic human needs, food, shelter and clothing, invariably correlate with human health and educational concerns, serious improvement in human health and the development of human intellectual or cognitive capacities remain fundamental. Regrettably, there is an observable negligence of these aspects of life in many African societies. Prior to the Covid-19 experience, the need to give attention to these fundamental aspects of life received very minimal attention in many African countries, since many African leaders are considerably comfortable and consider the provision of basic amenities neither a legal obligation on their part nor the rights of the citizens, but a mere demonstration of benevolence. The Covid-19 experience dramatically shuffled the hitherto stereotyped ideas of definite opportunities for definite people in the world order. It demonstrates the possibility of precluding all and sundry from any safe haven, underscoring the need for a more objective evaluation of man's living conditions and intersubjectivity. In the wake of Covid-19 pandemic, therefore, a critical review of its implications for Africa is imperative. Considering the imports of the pandemic as important lessons, this paper examines them and highlights the urgency of declaring a state of emergency in the health and education sectors, with a view to achieving sustainable development and putting measures in place for containing the unpleasant effects of a possible worse scenario.

Keywords: Covid-19, Pandemic, Health sector, Education sector, Sustainable development

057.

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON DEEPENING FOOD INSECURITY IN NIGERIA**Anene, Chidi P.Ph.D**Department of History and International Studies
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Abstract

The paper examined the impact of Covid-19 on deepening food insecurity in Nigeria. Adopting a qualitative method of research which utilized content analysis of secondary data collected for the study, the paper argued that the onset of Covid-19 pandemic worsened Nigeria's food challenges in the following dimensions: first, the Covid-19 caught up with the country at the embryonic stage of food import restrictions via border closure aimed at encouraging domestic food production and boosting food self-sufficiency. Thus, the policy was yet to gain grounds even as the people were still grappling with the challenge of inflation that was triggered by the food import restrictions in that Nigeria had been a net food importing nation. Secondly, the Covid-19 pandemic set in when the impact of the policy on food self-sufficiency supported by the federal government credit facilities to farmers were yet to yield the requisite dividend. Addressing the different dimensions of food insecurity among Nigerians within the period under review while drawing inference from pre-

covid-19 pandemic period, the study concludes that indeed Covid-19 pandemic has deepened food insecurity due to lockdown effects of restricting the movement of farmers which isolated them from work.

Keywords: Covid-19, Farmers, Food insecurity, Lockdown, Nigeria.

058. | THE DEFICITS OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE: DISSECTING THE EPISTEMIC LESSONS OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Abstract

This paper examines the epistemological fallouts of covid-19 pandemic of 2020. In the first half of the year 2020, humanity has been brought to the outbreak of the corona virus challenged the efficacy of our epistemic prowess. Our major institutions for making sense of the world have generated a torrent of conflicting ideas that fall short of solving the on-going pandemic. This exposes the defective nature of the epistemic structures that limit knowledge of what is real and also constrain the integration of imaginative alternatives into our understanding of the world. Against this backdrop, this paper analyses the mental nature of knowledge as something that exists only in the human mind which is an imperfect learner. Following this, it examines the integrative necessity of epistemic alternatives in our understanding of the world. Thus, the paper submits that for humanity to capture knowledge from its ever-evolving possibilities, it is an imperative to consciously cultivate the virtue of epistemic humility and eliminate the tendencies of epistemic arrogance in our cognitive structures.

059. | COVID-19 PANDEMIC: CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN NIGERIA SECONDARY EDUCATION

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Abstract

The eruption of the Covid-19 Pandemic has affected every sphere of human life such as: businesses, education, carrier advancement, religion gathering and other social activities globally including Nigeria. This study examines Covid -19 pandemic: Challenges and way forward in Nigerian secondary education. However, of all the sectors of governance, the educational sector was highly affected because of the ill preparation due inadequate funding despite the 24% UNESCO recommendation to the sector especially the primary and secondary school levels. The covid-19 pandemic out break hits badly on school programmes which made it impossible for students to attend classes and write examinations. These make it imperative to seek for measures to cushion the effect of the pandemic on secondary school programmes. Base on the findings, the researchers recommended among others that the Nigerian government should encourage the learners (students) to participate vehemently in distance learning through adopting multiple learning modalities such as television, radio and SMS-based mobile platform. Federal government should liaise with the ministry of Education with the ultimate aim of creating innovative strategies that would help to enhance the effective use of electronic library in secondary schools for access to current information and studying materials.

Keywords: Education, Secondary Education, Covid-19 Pandemic, Electronic Library

060.

COVID - 19 AND SEXUAL ABUSE IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The concern of this paper was sexual abuse that was common during Covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria in form of rape. It did not neglect the fact that sexual abuse comes in various forms like incest, homosexuality, lesbianism, child prostitution and boys initiating sex with older women. In all, this paper paid attention to rape from the perspective of men forcing ladies and children for sex. This was common in Nigeria during Covid -19 pandemic lock down. At a stage, seven hundred and seventeen (717) cases of rape were reported in Nigeria during the time of pandemic lock down. Causes of rape were identified as early childhood environmental factor, antisocial personality traits, mental illness, sexual gratification, wickedness, anger and effect of drugs among others. All these factors eventually result into rape that had adverse effect on victims in form of depression, physical injury, shame and unsafe abortion. It was then suggested that proper parenting must be emphasized through governmental regular awareness programs and Churches counselling sessions. Also, men caught in this act ought to be prosecuted and decent dressing among ladies and children should be encouraged. Descriptive research of correlational type was used for this study, since it attempted to solve the problems of sexual abuse in Nigeria by appealing to the use of existing phenomenon.

Keywords: Covid-19, Sexual abuse, Nigeria, Rape, Mental illness, shame, Unsafe abortion and decent dressing.

061.

COVID-19 AND THE UNNAMED PANDEMIC OF SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN AFRICA

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ABSTRACT

The whole world has been shaken to its root resulting from the sudden invasion of a dreaded and seemingly incurable 'Coronavirus' also referred to as 'Covid-19' (Coronavirus Disease of 2019). Since late 2019 when the said virus invaded China and from there spread to other nations of the world there have been undying global unrest, economic instability, untold hardship and massive deaths. The world was brought almost into a standstill resulting from the lockdown concept. People of the world got accustomed to staying at home. However, beyond this glaring pandemic, are some other crimes which are perpetuated in the shadow of the pandemic. School children and students are out from school, parents are out of work, a good number not even having any source of income at all for months. This has led some to crime and more especially to sexual related offences. There have been increasing cases of rape even against children. Also, Gender based Violence against females – women and girls are also on the increase. There is also a global rising call for help to protect women and girls from domestic violence meted against them. In this paper we shall be unveiling this showdown Pandemic that has merged the female folks in the pit of fear of uncertainty and untold depression. We shall consider the various forms of Sexual and Gender based Violence and the activities of International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) to curb this menace and we shall recommend the role which everyone must play in the family and in the society so as to curb this showdown pandemic.

KEYWORDS: Covid- 19 Pandemic, Sexual Violence, Gender-Based Violence, Children,

062.

SOCIAL ETHICS IN GENESIS 47:1-12 AND ALMAJIRI (TSANGAYA) CHILDREN IN NIGERIA DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Abstract:

This article examines the impacts of COVID-19 on Almajiri children in Nigeria in the light of Genesis 47:1-12. Almajiri children were discovered to be part of major careers of coronavirus in northern Nigeria. The government of the states where these Almajiri were discovered insisted that these children must be sent back to their states of origin. This is coming on the heels of the increasing number of coronavirus cases in Nigeria. Due to public outcry, what these governors did was to start smuggling these Almajiri children in trucks and transferring them to other states in Nigeria without the approval or consent of the government of these receiving states. It was discovered that this has led to the increasing number of coronavirus cases, miscreants taking advantage of the situation, religious tension and high-level suspicion amongst Nigerians. Observing this forceful migration of Almajiri children in this troubling time, the researcher sees Genesis 47:1-12 as limelight. The pericope concerns Jacob who due to hunger migrated to Egypt. However, he ensured that he followed the migration policies and border policies of Egypt. Jacob's migration to Egypt was not detrimental to Egyptians health or security. It is strongly believed that the pericope will speak anew Almajiri children conditions in coronavirus pandemic.

063.

COVID- 19 CRISES AND A SEARCH FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN AFRICA: USING RELIGIOUS RESOURCES TO CHECKMATE DICTATORIAL GOVERNANCE

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Abstract

The common cry from the African Continent is that of poor governance rooted in gross abuse of social justice. Social justice and religious resources are fundamental factors for development and sustainability in the quest for a prosperous society and nation such as Africa. The primary purpose of this paper is to underscore the importance of religious resources in promoting social justice and peace in this age of COVID- 19, as well as to checkmate dictatorial governance. The paper argues that social justice and religious resources are prerequisites to good governance and often used to checkmate bad governance. It suggests that dictatorial governance; and violence; have come about largely as a result of frequent leadership change, lack of African ideology, policy reversal and weak institutional patterns. Using the method of historical interpretation, review of related literature to collect data and employed the theories of primordial, fundamentalism, instrumentalism, religious market place theory and structural conflict theory the researcher argues for how it affects religion and COVID- 19 crises that leads to the use of religious resources to checkmate the polity (government). The paper also examines the leadership selection process in Africa and that leadership selection process in Africa takes the imposition pattern mostly and that African leaders frequently come to their position with limited technical know-how of the job. Hence, the decline in moral and godly values and discipline caused by bad policies, eroded professional standards and ethics, and this weakened the system of governance. The paper lays emphasis on COVID- 19 crises, religious resources, governance and religious fundamentalist in some selected African countries. The paper observes that for African countries to overcome the COVID- 19 crises; Afrocentric leadership governance is key, proper utilization of the religious resources and social justice in the Continent. The paper concludes that religious resources is not the only factor to use to checkmate the government and only resources that have maximum empathy for the people can be relevant to the qualitative movement of African countries from COVID- 19 crises.

Keywords: COVID- 19 Crises, Africa, Social Justice, Religious Resources, Dictatorial Governance!

064. | PSALM 82:1-8 AND THE COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COVID-19 AND HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

This article examines the human rights abuses during COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria in the light of Psalm 82:1-5. The pericope concerns God's command to man to judge justly, defend the poor and help the needy. It seeks for protection of the afflicted in the society. This injunction is very important to the problem of human right abuses in Nigeria. During the COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria, there were so many cases of killings by security agents and infringements of the fundamental human rights of Nigeria (death of expectant mothers and biased distribution of palliatives for those it was meant for, among others). The government failed to respect, protect and fulfil her obligation to Nigerians. It is believed that Psalm 82:1-8 will speak anew to the Nigerian situation.

065. | DEVELOPMENT OF E-TEACHING CAPACITY OF UNIVERSITY LECTURERS TO CUSHION THE EFFECT OF COVID-19 AND OTHER FUTURE PANDEMICS ON TERTIARY EDUCATION SYSTEM IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The study developed the e-teaching capacity of university lecturers to cushion the effect of covid-19 and other future pandemics on tertiary education system in Nigeria. Four research questions were posed while the null hypotheses formulated were tested at 0.05 level of significance. Descriptive survey design was employed by the study. The population for the study was 430 comprising information and communication technology experts, telecommunication/computer engineers, computer science and education lecturers at Management Information Systems, ICT centres and Departments of computer science and computer education of the participated universities. Structured questionnaire was used to obtain primary data from the respondents. The questionnaire was validated by 20 experts while the internal consistency of the questionnaire items was determined using Cronbach alpha reliability method and 0.86 reliability coefficient was obtained. The finding of the study revealed that 21 competencies were required for effective planning of e-teaching; 28 facilities/equipment were required for building the e-teaching capacity of the universities, 45 skills were required for operating and troubleshooting e-teaching facilities and 5 attitudinal management skills were required in using e-teaching. Recommendations include that all the skills and competency items determined should be employed to prepare lecturers and support staff for effective e-teaching, the determined facilities and equipment should be used by relevant bodies including university administrators to setup e-teaching platform.

Keywords: e-teaching, online, Covid-19, pandemic, low and middle income, country, lecturers

066. | SCHOOL CALENDAR AND ELECTRONIC LEARNING IN NIGERIA: AN ANALYSIS

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The onset of corona virus COVID-19 sent waves of panic across Nigeria, like in every other country. Coronaviruses are a family of viruses that cause illnesses ranging from common cold to more severe diseases such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and the middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS). As a result, many countries are suggesting various levels of containment in order to prevent its spread. With these worries, schools and universities are closing down and moving abruptly to online (e – learning) platforms and remote education. But no one knows whether the move to online learning could be the catalyst to create a new, more effective method of educating students. Though the knowledge of e -learning will expose both lecturers and students to the reality of the world outside the classroom since the world is a global web. The article made use of newspapers, internet materials, textbooks, reputable journals etc. While the methods adopted were critical analysis and expository methods.

Keywords: COVID-19, E -learning, School Calendar, Nigeria.

067. | COVID -19 AND THE IMPACT OF ITS PREVENTIVE MEASURES IN NIGERIA. CASE OF PORT-HARCOURT PEOPLE OF RIVERS STATE FROM MARCH – JULY, 2020.

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ABSTRACT

The paper examined the corona virus popularly called COVID -19 and its devastating negative impact on humanity. COVID 19 was first noticed on 31 December, 2019 in Wuhu, in China. On 11th March, 2020 World Health Organization declared the covid-19 a global pandemic, World Health Organization quickly came up with precautionary measures that was accepted and adopted worldwide to combat the virus. Nigeria followed WHO preventive measures and added other stringent measures without recourse to the Nigerian peculiarities and uniqueness thereby leading to excruciating pathetic condition of the masses that are not only vulnerable to the disease and hunger, also susceptible to death by installment and other adverse impact on the economy. The federal government declared locked down in Lagos, Ogun and Abuja. State government through their governors adopted other precautionary measures in their respective states in fighting the spread of the virus. The paper made use of structural functionalist theory and collected data through secondary sources. The implication of the preventive measures to the people of Rivers state in Port Harcourt and its environs formed the thesis of this paper. The perception of the people about the pandemic and the impact of COVID-19 to the people were analyzed. The study discovered that government lacked good policy formulation and implementation to fight and control the pandemic, it showed that Nigerian health sector is fragile and plagued with inadequacies. Government palliative measures were not commensurate to cushion the effect of pandemic to the people. Stakeholders and actors used corona virus as a conduit to appropriate wealth for themselves. There was no uniformity of actions and data from agencies and ministries. Conclusively the paper made recommendations on way forward, which includes the use of our natural and medical clinical research and personal in finding a cure for it just as Madagascar focusing on African. There is need to upgrade our health sector, policy experts and technocrats on policy formulation be consulted to come up with good policies to mention but few.

068. | MEDIATION APPROACHES TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC INFLATIONARY PRESSURE ON CONSUMERS OF FAST MOVING CONSUMER GOODS IN ANAMBRA STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

The study was conducted to identify mediation approaches by consumers of Fast Moving Consumer Goods to the inflationary pressure caused by Covid-19 pandemic lockdown through the coping strategies adopted by consumers. Two research questions and one hypothesis were formulated to guide the study. Purposeful sampling technique was used to select 200 male and female consumers in Anambra State Nigeria, while structured questionnaire was used to elicit information from the respondents. Using simple percentage, mean and, standard deviation and hypothesis, the demographic information, the research questions and the hypothesis were analyzed respectively. The result revealed that while the purchasing power and savings of consumer reduced drastically, consumers in Anambra State forfeit the use of some products, switched over to close substitutes with lower prices in order to cope with price increase of essential products while most public civil servants remain loyal to product brand but reduced the quantity purchased. The study also showed that if manufacturers of fast moving consumer goods should offer price discounts, increase the quantity of packaged goods and can source local raw materials locally that they will be able to reduce production costs and prices of products which will help assist them to gain and maintain their market share and recommend that manufacturers of fast moving consumer goods should invest in the local production of raw material to reduce cost at long run for their sustainability.

068. | THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT:

The COVID-19 pandemic is changing consumption patterns as the lockdown and physical distancing measures have disrupted the consumer behaviours. This study was conducted using a survey design. The survey was placed on the Feedbackhall website (feedbackhall.com) where some members of the community took the poll in August, 2020. The respondents were 450 adults age 18+ who reside in Nigeria and represent the country's demographic and geographic diversity. Questionnaire and interview guide were the instruments for data collection and were designed by the research team. The items in the questionnaire were of multiple-choice format to facilitate quantitative analysis. Semi-structured interviews were designed to supplement quantitative data and add to the level of insights. The instruments were pre-tested on a group (n=15) to reinforce their content validity. Frequency, percentage and mean were used to analyse the data from the study. The interview data were subject to qualitative thematic analysis. Transcripts were coded to establish major themes which were graphically represented. The study finds that consumers' income was more affected by the COVID-19 lockdown compared to their social lives, education, family and career. The study also finds that many consumers who did not buy online prior to the lockdown patronised online shops during the lockdown.

However, findings reveal that almost half of consumers who made this change during the lockdown intend to return to conventional stores post COVID-19. These findings reinforce the need for businesses to investigate the real new normals on the part of consumers and adapt effective ways of conducting their businesses.

Keywords: COVID-19, COVID-19 lockdown, Consumption, Responsible Consumption

068.

THE EFFECT OF COVID-19 LOCKDOWN ON RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AMONG WORKING CLASS WOMEN IN ENUGU STATE, NIGERIA

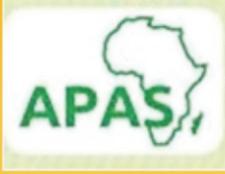
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Abstract

This paper investigated the views of South-East working-class women in Enugu State on how COVID-19 lockdown affected responsible consumption. Several studies have investigated the impact of COVID-19 on consumers but none focused on how COVID-19 lockdown affected responsible consumption. This study is a qualitative phenomenological investigation in which semi-structured interview was used to gather data for the study. Sixty participants were recruited using purposive and snowball sampling techniques. Graphical representation of participants' views assisted in explicating the data. All participants had strongly held views and provided unique insights into their perceptions. Six dominant themes and twelve sub-themes were identified. The sub-themes show how COVID-19 impacted responsible consumption and revealed that the consumers reduced quantity of products purchased and transformed products in sustainable ways during the COVID-19 Lockdown. The study however found that the COVID-19 lockdown did not make consumers dispose their waste more responsibly. The findings of this study contribute to existing literature on responsible consumption and could be used by producers, retailers, campaigners and relevant government organisations to promote and sustain responsible consumption post COVID-19 lockdown.

Keywords: COVID-19, COVID-19 lockdown, Consumption, Responsible Consumption



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