



**“POWER DYNAMICS IN NIGERIA: SEPARATION OF POWERS, HUMAN RIGHTS,
AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE”**

**3rd ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES
ALEX EKWUEME FEDERAL UNIVERSITY, NDUFU-ALIKE, EBONYI STATE, HELD
ON THE 10 JULY, 2025**

PANEL MEMBERS

PANEL ONE: Democratic Governance and Institutional Frameworks

Chair: Dr. Okonkwo Eze

Rapporteur: Dr. Angela Odo

1. “Local Government Autonomy and National Development” By Kelechi Collins Okoro PhD
2. “Local Governments Autonomy and National Development: The Nigerian Perspective and Experience” By Isah Shehu Mohammed
3. “The Judiciary and Democratic Governance in Nigeria: Between Constitutional Mandate and Political Reality” By Oyioha Ifesinachi Linda
4. “Is it the Barber’s Blunt Razor or His Incompetence? The Nigeria’s Constitutions and Local Government System, 1976-2023” By Ikenna Odife Ph.D
5. “Role of State Actors in Implementing AU Migration Policy Framework for Africa” By Dr. Chigozie Udensi
6. “A Historical Perspective on the Mass Media for Democratic Sustainability in Nigeria” By Dr. Constance Ejiaga,
7. “Media ownership as predictor of quantitative and qualitative bias in political news coverage of the 2023 presidential election campaigns in Nigeria” By Asogwa Fidelis Ndidiamaka, PhD
8. “From Native Courts to Customary Courts: A Historical Analysis of Nigeria’s Indigenous Justice System and Democratic Evolution” By Kelechi G. Onyegbule PhD
9. “Legislative Oversight and Governance in Nigeria: Focus on Imo State, 1999-2020” By Michael Nwokorie

PANEL TWO: Human Rights and Social Justice

Chair: Dr. Enwo-Irem Immaculata Nnenna

Rapporteur: Dr. Echara Ambrose Echara

1. “Mainstreaming Gender into the Nigerian Democratic Governance” By Enwo-Irem, Immaculata Nnenna
2. “Nigeria Police as an Instrument for Violation of Fundamental Human Rights: Thematic Reform for Good Policing” By Osuigwe Damian Chukwuebuka
3. “The Impacts of Islamic Fundamentalism on the Human Rights of Muslim Women in Abuja, Nigeria” By Kevin, Ifenayi Fidelis and Chukwunenye C. Njoku

4. "Human Rights and Economic Development" By Anyogu Rockefeller Chike, and Okonkwo Michael Chiedozie
5. "Empowering Democratic Governance: The Role of Women in Shaping Socioeconomic Power Dynamics in Post-COVID-19 Nigeria" By Joseph Osita Omeke
6. "Power Dynamics in Nigeria: Separation of Power, Human Rights, and Sustainable Democratic Governance" By Ogbuibe Ijeoma Dollaries
7. "Sit-at-home Order in South East Nigeria and the Question of Citizens' Human Rights, 2021 – 2023" By Ifeoma Francisca Nwoma and Patrick Chinonso Onwuma
8. Abomination and its Atonement in Ngwo Clan In North Central Igboland, 1917 – 2003" By Uchenna Ani Ph.D

PANEL THREE: Political Corruption, Neocolonialism, and Nation-Building

Chair: Dr. E.C. Alaku

Rapporteur: Mrs. Ifeoma Francisca Nwoma

1. "A Historical Analysis of Political Corruption In Nigeria, 1999-2023" By Solomon Egwu Isu, Nwali, Sunday Oshiodo and Emmanuel Achone Ushie
2. "The Federal Character Principle And The Crisis Of Nation-Building In Nigeria" By Ugochukwu A. Okoji
3. "Neocolonial Leanings of Nigerian Government: An Investigation of Government Quest for Foreign Investments Amidst the Frustration of Local Industries, 1999-2023" By Angela Ogochukwu Odo
4. The Dual Faces of Identity Politics In Nigeria: A Barrier Or Catalyst For Democratic Development? By Solomon Eyesan, PhD and Rex-Michael OjochenemiAdemu
5. "Power Dynamics" By Amadi Dorathy Eleje .C.
6. Power Plays on the Pitch: Exploring Ethnic and Regional Influences in Nigerian Football Governance, 2008-2024" By Dr. Timothy Chibuike Anyanwu, Dr. Johnson Ifeanyi Okeke And Mrs. Chiemela Adaku Mbalisi,
7. "In Search of Elusive Peace: Rethinking the Strategic Approaches to Nigeria's Security Dilemma" By Prince Ukaegbu Uduka Nmaju PhD

PANEL FOUR: Virtual Discussions

Anchor: Dr. Uchenna S. Ani, Dr. Jude Ekeh, Dr. Chigozie Udensi, Prince Ukaegbu Uduka Nmaju PhD, Dr. U.S. Osisioma and Dr. Chukwuemeka Agbo

Rapporteur: Mr. Michael Nwokorie and Mr. Patrick Onwuma

1. "Balancing Judicial Activism and Democratic Governance: Navigating Challenges for a Robust Legal System" By Adigun, Ibironke B. Dominion **1:00-1:15pm**
2. "The Role of Civil Society in Promoting National Security and Democratic Governance" By James C. Chukwu **1:15-1:30pm**
3. "Human Rights Violations And Its Limitations From Pre-Colonial To Post Colonial Era In Nigeria" By U.S. Osisioma PhD **1:30-1:45pm**
4. "Securing the State or Silencing Dissent: Interrogating National Security Challenges and Democratic Governance in Nigeria since 1999" By Mbalisi, Chinedu N. PhD and Nwaiwu, Nnaedoziem S. **1:45-2:00pm**
5. "The Cost of Peace in Middle-Belt Nigeria: Overview on National Security Responses and its Impact on Democratic Consolidation since 1999" By Mbalisi, Chinedu N. PhD, and Nwaiwu Nnaedoziem S **2:00-2:15pm**

thoroughly, which had been challenge to good governance in the area. Using the analytical and the matic approach, the study relied heavily on primary and secondary sources of data to examine the legislative oversight and governance in Nigeria.

Keywords: Legislature, Oversight, Democracy, Governance, Power, System

“Local Government Autonomy and National Development”

By

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Local government autonomy in Nigeria has been a subject of continuous debate, significantly impacting national development. As the third tier of government, local governments are meant to function independently in delivering grassroots development. However, constitutional constraints, political interference, and financial dependence on state governments have hindered their effectiveness. Historically, Nigeria's local government system has evolved from colonial-era indirect rule to post-independence reforms aimed at strengthening decentralization. Despite these efforts, challenges such as inadequate funding, corruption, and limited administrative capacity persist, affecting service delivery and economic growth at the local level. In the context of national development, local government autonomy is crucial for improving governance, enhancing public service delivery, and fostering inclusive economic growth. Models, from other federal systems like the United States and Germany, suggest that stronger local governance structures can drive sustainable development. In Nigeria, however, the excessive control by state governments has weakened the effectiveness of local authorities, creating disparities in development across regions. This paper employs a qualitative research approach, utilizing historical and comparative analysis. Data is drawn from secondary sources, including government reports, academic publications, and policy documents. By examining Nigeria's local government structure within its historical and international context, the paper identifies challenges and best practices in decentralization. Comparative case studies from other federal systems provide insights into how increased local autonomy can contribute to national development. The findings aim to inform policy reforms that enhance local governance, ensuring a more effective and inclusive development process in Nigeria.

Keywords: Local government, autonomy, national development, decentralization, governance.

“Democratic Goveernance And The Rise Of Amotekun: Rethinking Regional Security In South Western Nigeria (2020-2024)”

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