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Digitally Signed by: Chris Ezeibeme

DN : CN = Webmaster’s name
O= University of Nigeria, Nsukka
OU = Innovation Centre
BRIEFS ON SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND CREATIVE WORKS:

Books: Mainline Books


Preface:

This book is a product of many years of teaching and practical utilization of social science research methods. Therefore, it strives to fill both theoretical and practical gaps in the crucial area of social research methods. The book is motivated essentially by the need to provide a comprehensive reader-friendly text on research methods for both students and general readers.

There is no gainsaying the fact that in spite of its relevance in social science curriculum and practice, research methods is often a “better-avoided” area for university students. This attitude is largely a product of the dearth of easily comprehensive texts in this area, and the esoteric approach often adopted by both writers and teachers of the subject. As a result, this book seeks to overcome these constraints while serving both the academic requirements of research methods in most disciplines in the social sciences and the real life research needs of social science scholars.

In other words, the book while focusing on the traditional concerns of the area of study like the nature of social science research, conceptual foundations of research, planning and executing the research enterprise, instruments of data collection, measurement, analysis and presentation of findings, statistical tests, etc also examined the practical concerns of developing a research proposal, outline of thesis, citation and references. Perhaps, one striking feature of the text is that despite the attempt of a comprehensive coverage of the area of research methods, it equally comes out as not voluminous enough to scare or kill the interest of the average reader. In addition, the book has been written in a simple and lucid manner with copious illustrations to facilitate comprehension. Probably, the success of the book may be gauged by the extent to which it presents social science research methods in a non-esoteric fashion while retaining its substance as a study and practical guide to research in the social sciences


This book has eighteen chapters. Chapter one starts with concept clarifications and explications. Chapter two introduces the reader to the basic theories of Double Entry, balancing the cash book, and the trial balance. Chapter three initiates the reader into the books of prime entry. Chapter four then explores the single entry and incomplete records, while chapter five examines the receipts and payment accounts. Chapter six x-rays income and expenditure account while chapter seven deals with trading, profit and loss accounts and balance sheet. Chapter eight explores bank reconciliation statement and chapter nine discusses suspense accounts and correction of errors. Chapter ten deals on branch account, while chapter
eleven treats consignment account. Chapter twelve explores control account. Chapters thirteen and fourteen treat container and royalty accounting. The subsequent chapters, fifteen to eighteen delved into government accounting with emphasis on model financial memoranda for local government.


Perversion of rules and regulations, negative orientation of local government officials, and the disregard for the code of conduct expected of the officials, have often led to charges of corruption and financial recklessness. In fact, it will not be an exaggeration to say that the members of the public, rightly or wrongly, see the local government system as the bastion of corruption and financial mismanagement. This piece is an examination of the local government system in Nigeria from the accountability and inter-branch perspectives.


Whether you are a student of Public Administration or a practicing Public Administrator, the essence of knowledgeable facts about topical issues in public administration is evident. The significance of this book to the general public, students at various levels and public administrators cannot therefore be overemphasized.

Public Administration cuts across various disciplines. To non experts, this book has general application to various disciplines like Economics, Education and so forth. It is couched in interdisciplinary perspectives.

The book x-rays the strengths of public administration based on both theoretical concepts and pedagogical principles the staff has been developing in the classroom. This book will to a reasonable extent serve as a good supplement to our students to appreciate the connections between actual current events and what they are learning from classroom. It will therefore help in sharpening their ability to analyse problems thoughtfully and critically. The book will also equip Scholars and Practitioners with ideological and non ideological methods for understanding and evaluating issues in public administration through effective tools and information that will enhance practice in a variety of ways.

Chapters in Mainline Books:

INTRODUCTION

Financial duties and responsibilities in the Local Government system were formerly based on the first comprehensive model financial memoranda for Local Governments compiled more than a decade ago. The objective ever since has been to effectively perform financial duties and responsibilities within the Local Government, so as to properly harness the limited resources within the system. However, this noble objective was easier to realize when the system was less complex. In the recent past, the Local Government service had grown more complex, making most of the provision for allocation of financial duties and responsibilities in the first edition obsolete. There was, therefore, the felt need to revise the memoranda.


The main aim of this second edition was to update and re-enforce existing checks and balances, so that loopholes which could be exploited to fritter away available meagre resources would be blocked. In this way, prudent management of public resources within the local government system would be maximised to optimise effective results.

Against this background, certain instructions to provide detailed guidance on the financial and accounting procedures were prescribed for observance. For instance, for effective performance of financial duties and responsibilities, the precise duties and responsibilities of Local Government Councils, the executive committee and senior officials in respect of financial duties and responsibilities were stipulated.

Against this background, the main questions emerging from the implementation of financial duties and responsibilities in the Local Government system under the revised financial memoranda are:

What are the detailed procedures and processes of financial duties and responsibilities in the Local Government system? What actions can be taken to enhance as well as address problems of financial duties and responsibilities in the Local Government system?


Abstract:

This paper gives an overview of Auditing in local government system. It examines the auditing procedures and processes in the system. It also investigates the problems of auditing and suggests ways of minimizing the problems identified.
INTRODUCTION

This paper looks at the accounting framework for public accountability in local government financial management in Nigeria. The chapter is divided into four sections. Section one is the introduction. Section two gives an overview of the accounting framework in the local government system. Section three examines adherence of local government staff to the Model Financial memoranda and to accountability. Section four then draws conclusions.

Abstract:

The public sector in Nigeria is made up of three levels of government. These are the Federal, State and Local Governments. Presently, there are 36 states and 774 local governments in Nigeria. The status, powers and relationships of these various levels of governments are clearly defined by the constitution. The activities of local councils are in most instances limited to their areas. These activities are usually performed through the local government functionaries via their various departments. This paper gives a brief summary of the budgetary process in Nigeria. It then fully examines local government budgets/estimates as both document and control mechanism.

INTRODUCTION

Generally, environment can be viewed as all the conditions, circumstances and influences affecting the development of, and activities of the local government. Ubeku (1983) defined it to mean “those factors and events in Nigeria that helped to shape the industrial relations”. These factors among others include industrial and political development, the economic changes and socio-cultural factors affecting attitudes and behaviour at work. Ubeku (1983) noted that “it is within this milieu of interrelated factors that the parties in the industrial relations systems interact. What then is industrial relations with particular references to Nigeria? Hymen (1971) views industrial relations as the study of processes of control over work relations; and among those processes, those involving collective worker organization and action are of particular concern.

Some other scholars like Flanders (1965) see industrial relations as a “study of the institutions of job regulation”. In other words, this definition provides that the rules of industrial relations are
determined through the rule-making process of collective bargaining which is regarded as a political institution involving a power relationship between employers and employees.

In Magarison’s (1969) view, industrial relations is a complex field of study that requires understanding at the behavioural, as well as institutional levels. So, as conflict is inherent in industrial society, there is a need to resolve it through agreed rules between the contending parties in order to avoid the use of violence or other non-legitimate measures. “Based on the above theoretical expositions, Ubeiku (1983) identified some characteristics as common in any industrial relations system. These characteristics include:

- The key actors: the trade unions employer’s associations and government and its agencies;
- The interaction of the actors and the conflict thus generated;
- The rules and regulations established through the collective bargaining process to regulate regular relationships including conflict resolution; and
- The role each actor plays or should play in industrial-relations system.

This chapter gives an overview of local government environments and industrial relations. The chapter is divided into three sections. Section one gives the introduction, while section two examines the environmental factors and industrial relations in the local government system. Section three then draws the conclusions.


Abstract

This study was prompted by the challenge for improved revenue at the local government level in Nigeria. The purpose was to critically examine the prospects and problems of revenue generation. The research design used was descriptive survey. The major problems and sub-problems were addressed and two null hypotheses were formulated and tested. Data was collected from subjects drawn from local government system. The major instrument for data collection was a questionnaire. In analyzing the data $x^2$ was used. The findings indicate that local governments in Nigeria were financially over-dependent on the federal government for survival. Most of these local governments were not created on the basis of economic viability, but rather as a pacification strategy under the patronage structure established by the ruling elite. Poor motivation and attitude to work, manifesting in various ways, were identified as major problems of poor internal generated revenue in the system. These findings have far reaching implications, which include the need for improved internally generated revenue through motivating the local government staff and improving their attitude to work. Strategies for minimizing revenue leakage and creating new revenue yielding areas were also identified.
JOURNAL ARTICLES:


Abstract

The public service is taken generally as the live wire of any government. Political leaders, chief executives, top government official and the public usually look on the service as the machinery that will help them to realize their goals and aspirations. In a democratic process that requires public officers to periodically give account of their stewardship, there is growing concern for making public servants accountable for their service. Based on this, the paper addresses the problems of accountable management in the service, its expectations and failure. Suggestions are also made based on the variables identified on how to build accountable management into the Nigerian Public Service.


Abstract

The trust of this paper is to critically examine the financial duties and responsibilities in the local government system. Such duties and responsibilities in the local government system are based on the guideline stipulated in the revised financial memoranda given the limitation of resources available to the system.

The paper also examines the problems and prospects of financial management at the local government level with the aim of highlighting areas of strength and weakness that needed improvements for greater effectiveness.

It is hoped that if procedures and processes of financial management as prescribed by the revised financial memoranda are thoroughly understood, along with factors underlying their effective application, the trend of abuses and ineffectiveness will reverse in favour of careful implementation thereby resulting in optimized priority and accountability.
Abstract:

This paper examines the financial and administrative control procedures in the Nigeria civil service. It discusses control processes and techniques, thereby explaining how these procedures can be geared towards effective and efficient financial and administrative control within the system. It also highlights the problems of financial and administrative control. It finally suggests measures through which the identified problems will be minimized.

Abstract:

There are various constitutional responsibilities assigned to the three tiers of government, federal, state and local government. This study looks at the constitutional responsibilities of local government system. Local government plays crucial roles in the development of any nation. This tier of government is usually faced with the problems of inadequate finance. This is in spite of recent increases in revenue allocation from the federal government. The major problem facing local governments in relation to the performance of their constitutional assignment lies in inadequate finance. Over the years, there seems to be increase in federal government subventions for the local government system. However one wonders whether there is a significant difference between the rate of this increase and that of the internally generated fund. What are the factors contributing to poor internally generated revenue in the local government, which contribute to non-performance of their constitutional responsibilities? How can the identified problems be addressed? This study proffers solution to the questions raised. It is hoped that the findings of this study will stimulate further interest on financial issues as they affected local governments in Nigeria. This is because the turbulent nature of the relationship between local governments in Nigeria and the other two tiers of government especially the states can be traced to financial problems.
Introduction

Many scholars have shown interest in the relation between gender and politics. These include Ezeani (1998); Bernstein (1986); Dowse (1971); Jennings (1985) and Nowotony (1981). “Gender inequality in political participation remains a notable feature of all nations of the world” (Ezeani, 1998). “Where power is, women are not” (Nowotony, 1981). As succinctly noted by Blundel (1987:25) “Leaders are overwhelmingly male”. Omoruyi (1992:106) concurs with Blundel, noting that: “women are arguably a silenced majority.” Women are quintessentially marginalized in politics, and there is some agreement that gender inequality is a fact of political life. Even in the oldest and established liberal democracies of the world, like the United States and the United Kingdom, the participation of women in politics is quite low especially with respect to the distribution of political offices. Despite the fact that “half of the world’s electorate is female, they hold just 10 percent of the parliamentary seats and 6 percent of the ministerial position” (Mexico, 1975; Copenhagen, 1980; Nairobi, 1985; and Beijing, 1995). It is not surprising, therefore, to find that women do not play a very active role in Nigerian politics. This however, does not mean that women have not made remarkable contributions to Nigerian politics.

Many women in Nigeria have made impressive contributions in the political arena. These include Queen Amina of Zaria and Efuseta Aniura of Ibadan who masterminded the mobilization of women troops during the Ibadan war. Women, like Chief Fumilayo Ransome Kuti, Margaret Ekpo, Janet Mokelu, and Koja Aboyemi played prominent roles towards the attainment of Nigerian independence. But most importantly, women play a very prominent role in the foundation of any society, because the success of any family depends on the ingenuity of women who serve to sustain it (Orjiakor 1997 and Chukwuemeka, 2000). Nigerian women have been trying to gain access to the political centre since the country became independent in 1960. At the partisan level, Nigerian women have gone a long way. But in respect to holding political offices, they have actually not achieved much.

Abstract:

This paper had identified that poverty is prevalent in Nigeria especially among the uneducated and the rural dwellers. Government is aware of this problem and recognises that the provision of a minimally decent existence devoid of want is the hallmark of a progressive society. Thus the abolition of want and its associated poverty should be regarded as a basic right of the people, hence social policies must be pursued by government as a necessity. This study has shown that while Nigerian government has reacted to poverty by enacting certain programs, these programs have not been able to address and curtail poverty. The findings indicate that one of the major reasons for this is because women are not included in the social policy process. In policy analysis, it has been found that policies that do not involve the
beneficiaries in its formation, experience difficulty in the course of implementation. In the case of Nigeria, women are not involved in policy making. Even when involved, it is the city dwelling elite women who arrogate the power of identifying and determining the policy types that address the so-called needs of women to themselves. This paper critically examines Poverty in Nigeria, Social Policy and Women’s Participation.


Abstract

Nigeria is classified as one of the countries in Africa with high suffering indices. Using illiteracy, access to clean water and the number of poor people below the poverty level as indicators of poverty, Nigeria ranks below other Sub-Saharan African countries like Kenya, and Zambia on the poverty scale. Poverty is a contributory factor to environmental degradation in Nigeria. Poverty and environmental degradation have negative impact on national security. This study examines the effect of poverty on environmental degradation in Nigeria. It also evaluates the efficacy of poverty alleviation programmes with the aim of making suggestions on how to maximize the benefits of such programmes.


ABSTRACT

Nigeria became the 99th member of the United Nations General Assembly, eight days after her independence in 1960. Nigeria has since 1960 been a prominent member of the international community and has continued to play a very active role in global governance in various international organizations and bodies such as the commonwealth, the Non-aligned Movement, etc. At the continental level, Nigeria has played a leading role in governance in Africa. It is a founding member and the powerhouse of the organization of Africa Unity, which has metamorphosed into African Union. Nigeria’s record in peacekeeping in African is unmatched by that of any other country in the continent. This background informs Nigeria quest for a permanent seat in the United Nation Security Council. This quest is timely. This is because reform is now inevitable for United Nations. At its present form, the Security Council is the exclusive preserve of the so-called great powers. It is now time for United Nations to adapt to emerging geo-political and geo-strategic changes in the world. This will help in correcting the injustices of the past and make the United Nation truly representative and relevant to current global realities. This
paper gives an overview of the need of United Nations Reform. It also examines the Nigeria quest for a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council. The problems involved in this quest are highlighted and suggestions are made on how Nigeria can achieve this great feat.


ABSTRACT
Local government is the government at the grassroots. The primary objectives of local government is to render services to the grassroots. Generally, conflicts rarely have a positive influence on goals. Since conflicts are inevitable in organizations, it is necessary to effectively manage conflicts so as to minimize its occurrence in the local government system. The study was descriptive survey in which data were generated from the subjects in their natural environment. It aims at determining the extent to which career and elected officials agree that adherence to established financial guidelines in the local government system will serve as a curative measure to financial conflict in the system. The formulated hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance. The study indicates that both the political appointees and career officials believe that adherence to established financial guidelines in the local government will minimize financial conflicts in the system. Based on this, suggestions were made on how conflict could be minimized in the system.


Abstract
Nigeria has more than 250 ethnic groups. The problems associated with this have resulted in coining the word, “Federal Character” to take care of fair representation of all ethnic groups in national affairs. However these problems have persisted. Ethnic conflict is a serious problem, which hinders sustainable
development. Ethnic problem has reared its ugly head in local government creation and management. Most local governments were not created on the basis of viability. They were created rather on pacification grounds to douse ethnic tension. Even in such local governments, ethnic conflicts still persist. Conflict is divisive and hinders unanimity of purpose and goal attainment. Hence the proliferation of local governments has not resulted in sustainable development in Nigeria. It has rather raised more questions. This paper examines ethnic conflict as it affects sustainable development in the local government system in Nigeria. These problems of ethnic conflict in the Nigerian local government system are highlighted together with the solutions.


Abstract
Nigeria is a multi-ethnic country. It has over 250 ethnic groups. Traditional Institutions are very important in the contemporary socio-economic and political development in Nigeria. Though the provision of the 1976 chieftaincy Act can be said to be recent, it is a well known fact that Tradition actually implies total belief, customs and way of life of an ethnic group, a community or a clan. A Traditional ruler for example is an emblem of a Traditional Institution. The Traditional Ruler has authority over his ethnic group or tribe. In some cases, he settles disputes and takes major decisions concerning his clan in consultation with his cabinet members, elders or specific age grades within the society. This is in tune with Max Weber’s typologies of authority. A lot of ethnic conflicts have been experienced in Nigeria. These conflicts include those of Tiv and Jukun ethnic groups, which has claimed many lives, and an ethnic conflict between the Ijaw and the Itsekiri ethnic groups of the Niger Delta region, to mention but a few. This study concentrates on the conflicts between the Ijaws and Itsekiris, which have resulted in massive killing of people and destruction of properties. The thrust of the study is to critically examine the causes of the conflicts and to highlight the ways through which the conflicts can be resolved especially through the role of traditional institutions.

Published Conference Proceedings:
INTRODUCTION

The problem of inadequate financial resources has been identified as a general problem of Local Government in Nigeria. The revenue patterns of local government consists of the following:

(a) Statutory revenue grants through the federation account and through the State joint account.

(b) Project grants and non-statutory receipts from State governments and agencies.

(c) Internally generated revenue.

Of these sources internally generated revenue is the one that usually makes a difference between one local government and another. It is this source that each local government can significantly exploit to better her financial position.

The three main classes of internal revenue include:

(a) Taxes and rates
(b) Licenses and fees
(c) Earning and sales

In spite of this seemingly uniform flow of revenue patterns to local governments, the problems of inadequate revenue to the local government system differ from place to place. This difference is related to size, structure and varied attitudes of state governments. In some urban local governments, their financial problems are related to inadequate exploitation of available channels. In the case of rural local governments, it is usually lack of adequate financial resources to exploit.

However, in both rural and urban local governments, there is usually the common problem of poor performance of revenue collectors. It is important to note at this juncture that revenue collectors in this paper refer to revenue officers in the local government who go for revenue drive. The poor performance of these collectors has been attributed to many factors.

These revenue collectors do exhibit lack of interest in their work. When they go out for revenue drive, the amount collected usually differs from the receipted amount. Some people have tried to explain this by saying that these revenue collectors belong to the cadre of local government staff whose salaries are so poor that they need even ill-gotten money for mere existence. Others have attributed their problem to poor motivation. If this is so, how then can the revenue collectors in the local government system be properly motivated to get them committed to their work? This question constitutes the major problem of this paper.
Against this background, the main objective of this paper is to briefly look at the concept of motivation and then suggest how revenue collectors should be motivated towards effective revenue collection at the local government level.


Abstract:

Public Accountability and probity confer legitimacy to the actions of public officers and restore public confidence in the behaviour of public officials. That is why the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Handbook on local government, the local government Financial Memoranda and a number of decrees on local government have made elaborate provisions on public accountability and probity. They have also established necessary checks and balances, and institutions and structures for promoting public accountability and probity in the local government system. This paper critically examined public accountability of the Executive and the Legislative Arms of local government system.

INTRODUCTION

The essence of the Local Government Service Board is to reduce the peculiar needs of the Local Government service. In the Local Government service, there is a dire need to protect the career Local Government Officials from the misfortune that may result from partisan politics. There is no doubt that protecting this calibre of staff will attract, retain and maintain credible career structures for trained hands in the local Government system.

This paper looks at the place and role of the Local Government (Area Council) Service Board in the management of the Local Government/Area Councils.

It is believed that if the duties and responsibilities of the Area Council service Board are effectively performed, that the area Council will enjoy an overall management efficiency and effectiveness. And for management efficiency and effectiveness to be attained in any system, that system must recognise the need for “specialization, job satisfaction, span of control and clear lines of authority and responsibility”. This is highly desirable in the management of the Area council, and above all a certain degree of authority is critical.
Abstract:

This study examined the contribution of women to socio-economic development in Nigeria. In carrying out this study, an instrument, Women and Socio-economic Development Observation Scheme (WOSECDOS) was developed by the investigator. The items in the instrument depict the contribution of women to socio-economic development in Nigeria. The instrument was validated using a test-re-test technique. The data were analysed and the study revealed that women contribute to socio-economic development in Nigeria especially at grassroots. However this contribution would have been more significant if not for the problem that impede women effective contribution. The study identified some of these militating factors and proffered solutions on how they would be minimized.

Key Words: Contribution, Development, Grassroots, Socio-economic, Women

Abstract:

This paper identifies some agricultural policies in Nigeria and examines the constraints responsible for non-sustainability of these policies as machinery for poverty alleviation. In doing this, the problem of exclusion of women in major decisions is explored with its effects on poverty alleviation. Solutions are proffered based on the problems identified especially on how Nigerian agricultural policies should be sustained. It is the position of this paper that if the role of women in development is maximized, sustainable agricultural policies at the grassroots would be attained. The end result would be alleviation of poverty in the new millennium.