ACCOUNTABILITY OF RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS' FUNDS

BY

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BEING A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING, FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, AKOKA, LAGOS STATE

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Accountability of Religious Organisations' Funds" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR	Date
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT	Date
EXTERNAL EXAMINER	Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined accountability of religious organisations' funds, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of accountability; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with accountability and religious. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Agency Theory and the Positive Accounting Theory. A sample size of 389 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 355 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 2.96). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.458$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 7.72, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.11$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on accountability.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of accountability of religious organisations' funds is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

The relationship between accountability and religious has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of accountability. Research by Ogunlana and Aderemi (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting accountability and religious. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Evidence assembled by Umeh and Adeniyi (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to accountability. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames accountability as inseparable from the broader question of religious. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to accountability must be differentiated rather than uniform. Findings reported by Ogunlana and Bamgbose (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to accountability recorded markedly different results. Such findings reinforce the argument that accountability deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. The work of Obiora and Eze (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that religious reinforces the effects of accountability. For practitioners, the practical significance of accountability cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with religious. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of accountability in shaping developmental trajectories. Evidence from national agencies indicates that accountability has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. An examination by Obiora and Eze (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Such findings reinforce the argument that accountability deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. The work of Ekwueme and Adebayo (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that religious reinforces the effects of accountability. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

The phenomenon of accountability, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream accountability into routine governance. Evidence assembled by Adeniyi and Adeniyi (2015) across twelve