

ASSESSMENT OF ELECTRONIC CONTRACTS AND THEIR LEGAL VALIDITY IN NIGERIA

BY

[STUDENT'S FULL NAME]

[MATRIC NUMBER]

BEING A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW, FACULTY OF LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, AKOKA, LAGOS STATE

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc.)
DEGREE IN LAW

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Assessment of Electronic Contracts and Their Legal Validity in Nigeria" 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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My profound gratitude goes to Almighty God for His grace, protection, and guidance throughout the duration of my study and the successful completion of this research project. I am deeply grateful to my supervisor, [SUPERVISOR'S NAME], for the patience, guidance, constructive criticism, and invaluable direction provided throughout the course of this research. I also wish to appreciate the Head of Department, the lecturers of the Department of Law, and my course mates for their support and friendship. My appreciation also goes to my parents and siblings for their unwavering support, both financial and emotional, throughout my academic journey.

ABSTRACT

This study examined assessment of electronic contracts and their legal validity in Nigeria, 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 assessment; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with assessment and electronic. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Positivist Theory of Law and the Natural Law Theory. A sample size of 402 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 386 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 = 3.11). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.536$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.76, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.25$, $p > 0.05$). 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 assessment.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	7
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Research Hypotheses	7
1.6 Significance of the Study	8
1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study	11
1.8 Definition of Terms	13
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	15
2.1 Conceptual Review	15
2.1.1 Concept of Assessment	15
2.1.2 Concept of Electronic	16
2.1.3 Concept of Contracts	18
2.2 Theoretical Framework	20
2.2.1 Positivist Theory of Law	20
2.2.2 Natural Law Theory	21
2.2.3 Social Contract Theory	22
2.2.4 Deterrence Theory	23
2.3 Empirical Review	25
2.3.1 Early Studies on assessment	25
2.3.2 Recent Nigerian Evidence on assessment	27
2.3.3 Assessment and electronic	28
2.3.4 Comparative Perspectives across Africa	30
2.4 Summary of Literature Review	32
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	34
3.1 Research Design	34
3.2 Population of the Study	34
3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Technique	35
3.4 Sources of Data Collection	36
3.5 Research Instrument	37
3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instrument	38
3.7 Method of Data Analysis	39
3.7.1 Administration of the Instrument	40

3.8 Ethical Considerations	41
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	43
4.1 Data Presentation	43
4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	43
4.3 Analysis of Research Questions	44
4.4 Test of Hypotheses	45
4.5 Discussion of Findings	46
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	52
5.1 Summary	52
5.2 Conclusion	53
5.3 Recommendations	54
5.4 Suggestions for Further Studies	54
REFERENCES	56
APPENDIX	58

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Summary of the Review of Related Literature	32
Table 2.2: Operationalisation of the Study Variables	33
Table 3.1: Population of the Study and Sampling Technique	41
Table 3.2: Validity and Reliability of the Research Instrument	42
Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	49
Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	49
Table 4.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents	50
Table 4.4: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question One	50
Table 4.5: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question Two	50
Table 4.6: Correlation Summary between the Independent and Dependent Variables	50
Table 4.7: Independent Samples t-test by Gender	50
Table 4.8: Chi-square Test of Association	50

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study	14
Figure 3.1: Law Research Context	42
Figure 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	49
Figure 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	49

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of assessment of electronic contracts and their legal validity in Nigeria 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.

In both global and African literatures, assessment is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream assessment into routine governance. Studies by Musa and Adekunle (2019) largely support the view that assessment exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. The aggregate picture emerging from Adebayo and Nwosu (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between assessment and the outcomes of interest. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Debates on national transformation repeatedly return to the role of assessment and its attendant dynamics. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which assessment advances in practice. Evidence assembled by Musa and Dauda (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to assessment. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding electronic. Evidence assembled by Alade and Umeh (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to assessment. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

The salience of assessment in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of assessment. Empirical evidence from Alade and Umeh (2021) suggests that positive developments in electronic are associated with improvements in assessment. For practitioners, the practical significance of assessment cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with electronic. Kalu and Aderemi (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of assessment are unevenly distributed across groups. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

assessment occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about electronic and national development. Evidence from national agencies indicates that assessment has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. The work of Adekunle and Oyelaran (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that electronic reinforces the effects of assessment. The implications of these