

BOUNDARY DISPUTES BETWEEN NEIGHBOURING COMMUNITIES

BY

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Boundary Disputes Between Neighbouring Communities" 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 boundary disputes between neighbouring communities, 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 boundary; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with boundary and disputes. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 385 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 364 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 = 3.0). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.495$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 7.27, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.03$, $p > 0.05$). 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 boundary.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of boundary disputes between neighbouring communities 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.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames boundary as inseparable from the broader question of disputes. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of boundary. The work of Chukwu and Adigun (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that disputes reinforces the effects of boundary. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Longitudinal research by Chukwu and Bamgbose (2016) revealed that sustained attention to boundary yields appreciable dividends over time. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Debates on national transformation repeatedly return to the role of boundary and its attendant dynamics. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of boundary. Field evidence gathered by Umeh and Nnamdi (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of boundary. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Comparative work by Musa and Ibrahim (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking boundary with disputes. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

The relationship between boundary and disputes has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream boundary into routine governance. Studies by Musa and Ibrahim (2019) largely support the view that boundary exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. An examination by Musa and Nwosu (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

Scholars have long recognised boundary as a critical determinant of outcomes in history and international studies. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream boundary into routine governance. The aggregate picture emerging from Dauda and Adeniyi (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between boundary and the outcomes of interest. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in history and international studies. Findings reported by Eze and Adeniyi (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to boundary