

HERDER-FARMER CONFLICT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

BY

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DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Herder-Farmer Conflict and Community Relations" 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 herder-farmer conflict and community relations, 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 herder; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with herder and farmer. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Structural Functionalist Theory and the Social Learning Theory. A sample size of 411 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 393 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 = 3.19). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.57$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.05, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.16$, $p > 0.05$). 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 herder.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of herder-farmer conflict and community relations 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 salience of herder in national discourse has grown steadily, driven by changing social conditions and technological penetration. Auxiliary variables, including education, income, and location, further condition how herder is experienced across communities. Longitudinal research by Okonkwo and Kalu (2016) revealed that sustained attention to herder yields appreciable dividends over time. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. A notable study by Alade and Umeh (2017) argued that the impact of herder is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

herder, when examined in relation to farmer, reveals complex and often paradoxical dynamics. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which herder unfolds. Field evidence gathered by Nwosu and Ibrahim (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of herder. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Musa and Ekwueme (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. For practitioners, the practical significance of herder cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with farmer. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

In both global and African literatures, herder is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of herder. Empirical evidence from Musa and Ekwueme (2021) suggests that positive developments in farmer are associated with improvements in herder. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Research by Dauda and Ibrahim (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting herder and farmer. 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.

herder, when examined in relation to farmer, reveals complex and often paradoxical dynamics. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream herder into routine governance. Empirical evidence from Bakare and Nnamdi (2021) suggests that positive developments in farmer are associated with improvements in herder. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Empirical evidence from Ogunlana and