

# **LEADERSHIP STYLES OF PRIVATE SCHOOL PROPRIETORS**

BY

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

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

[MONTH, YEAR]

## CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Leadership Styles of Private School Proprietors" 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.

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PROJECT SUPERVISOR

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Date

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Date

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EXTERNAL EXAMINER

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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 Business Administration, 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 leadership styles of private school proprietors, 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 leadership; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with leadership and styles. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Resource-Based View Theory and the Theory of Planned Behaviour. A sample size of 386 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 375 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 = 3.1). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ( $r = 0.499$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.47,  $p < 0.05$ ). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ( $t = 1.09$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ). 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 leadership.

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## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background to the Study**

The study of leadership styles of private school proprietors 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 recent years, leadership has emerged as a central theme in scholarly discourse on business administration. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of leadership are observed in their starkest form. A notable study by Adeniyi and Adigun (2017) argued that the impact of leadership is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. For practitioners, the practical significance of leadership cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with styles. A notable study by Eze and Ekwueme (2017) argued that the impact of leadership is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. For practitioners, the practical significance of leadership cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with styles. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

The phenomenon of leadership, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of leadership. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Eze and Salami (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Field evidence gathered by Alade and Musa (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of leadership. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

leadership continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in business administration. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to leadership must be differentiated rather than uniform. Comparative work by Alade and Musa (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking leadership with styles. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. The work of Ogbeide and Oyelaran (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that styles reinforces the effects of leadership. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

leadership occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about styles and national development. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which leadership advances in practice. Comparative work by Nwosu and Bello (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking leadership with styles. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. An examination by Eze and Famuyide (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. The practical import of these findings