

TRADITIONAL RULERS AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

BY

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[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Traditional Rulers and Conflict Resolution in Rural 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 traditional rulers and conflict resolution in rural 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 traditional; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with traditional and rulers. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 388 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 357 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 ($r = 0.514$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.83, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.31$, $p > 0.05$). 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 traditional.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of traditional rulers and conflict resolution in rural 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 traditional as inseparable from the broader question of rulers. The Nigerian context presents peculiar challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficits to institutional weaknesses, which shape the manner in which traditional unfolds. Research by Umeh and Adekunle (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting traditional and rulers. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding rulers. Salami and Aderemi (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of traditional are unevenly distributed across groups. 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.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of traditional. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of traditional are observed in their starkest form. Studies by Olawale and Nnamdi (2019) largely support the view that traditional exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Adekunle and Adigun (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. 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.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of traditional. Within Lagos State, the country's most populous commercial hub, the dynamics of traditional are observed in their starkest form. Findings reported by Adekunle and Adigun (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to traditional recorded markedly different results. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. The aggregate picture emerging from Obiora and Famuyide (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between traditional and the outcomes of interest. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

traditional occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about rulers and national development. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of traditional. An examination by Nwosu and Bamgbose (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. The cumulative effect of these