

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ADMINIS-  
TRATION RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN  
NIGERIA  
(A CASE STUDY OF IREPODUN LOCAL GOV-  
ERNMENT AREA KWARA STATE)

*BY*

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BEING A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTM-  
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HNIC, ILORIN

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR TH-  
E AWARD OF NATIONAL DIPLOMA (ND) IN PUBLIC ADMINIS-  
TRATION

JULY, 2025.

## **CERTIFICATION**

This project has been read and approved as having meet the standard requirement for the award of Nation Diploma in the Department of Public Administration, Institute of Finance and Management Studies, Kwara State Polytechnics, Ilorin.

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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this work to God Almighty, the author and finisher of all works and also my parents Mr. Adekunle Jimoh Jamiu and Mrs. Adekunle.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

All thanks to Almighty Allah for all His guidance and support in my life to make me start my journey with Bismillah and end with Alhamdulillah. I am still expressing my gratitude to Him for the knowledge, wisdom and talent He granted me.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Table of Content	v

## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Background to the Study  
1
- 1.2 Statement of the Problem  
2
- 1.3 Purpose/ Objectives of the Study  
2
- 1.4 Significance of the Study  
3

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

3

1.6 Organization of the Study

3

1.7 Definition of Term or Operation Terms

4

References

6

**CHAPTER TWO**

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

7

2.2. Theoretical Framework

7

2.3 Current Trends in Thinking

9

2.4 Summary of the Chapter

10

References

11

**CHAPTER THREE**

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

12

3.2 Sample/ Population of the Study

12

3.3 Sources of Data / Data Collection

13

3.4 Methods of Data Analysis

14

3.5 Research Problems

14

References

16

**CHAPTER FOUR**

DATA PRESENTATION INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

17

4.2 Briefs History of the Case Study

17

4.3 Presentation of Data

19

4.4 Analysis of Data

20

4.5 Testing of Hypothesis

21

4.6	Summary of the Chapter	22
	References	23

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

5.1	Summary of Findings	24
5.2	Conclusion	24
5.3	Recommendations	25
	References	26
	Bibliography	27

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

Local government was naturally acclaimed as the third tier of government in 1976 three years before the inception of the second republic in Nigeria. The 1979 constitution gave substance to this position by assigning certain functions and services to the level of government both exclusively and concurrently.

Most people in Nigeria believe that the local government are the efficient provider or certain services concerned to other levels of government is the nearest to most citizen, most of who live in the rural areas. The above assertion was employed in the political reform report, which says local government is widely acknowledged as noble instrument for rural transformation and for the delivery of social services to the people. It is strategically located because of its proximity to the people.

The physical and psychological distance between officials of the other tiers of government and the people frustrates effort in making people full

y identified with government program. People at the grass root are only able to feel its presence and impacts on their day to day activities.

## **1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEMS**

Irepodun Local Government just like every local government is faced with varieties difficulties for development and transformation of rural communities so as to improve the standard of living of the local populace and make sure that they contribute to the economic development of nation in this research work, it is set out to economically examine and analyze the role of government in rural transformation.

## **1.3 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The purpose and objective of the study is clearly examined in the role of local government in rural transformation of Irepodun Local Government of Kwara State which thereby includes the fellow objectives.

- (1) To know the various development roles played by government and non-government organizations Irepodun area.

- (2) To analyze the difficulties encountered in rural development and possible solution to such difficulties.
- (3) To review the role of local government in rural transformation of Irepodun Local Government.
- (4) To determine the impact of government in transforming the rural local government.

#### **1.4 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The significance of the project will be felt by the research writer (that is student) because it is once of the requirement for acquiring the award of national diploma certificate, so this project will make the achievement possible. It will enable than to know the various strategies applied by the local government to bring about development can use this finding, it can be significant any other person or student who may consult and use it as a take off point, when writing on such related research topic in the future.

#### **1.5 SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY**

The study covered the role of local government in rural transformation in local government area of Kwara State and its rural environment.

The topic parahars a very wide range but gracefully to problem and p  
rospect between 2009 and 2012.

## **1.6 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY SYNOPSIS OF EACH CHAPTER**

The organization of this research work contain chapter one, which is t  
he first chapter with general introduction, background of the study, stateme  
nt of the problems, purpose and objective of the study, significance of the s  
tudy, organization of the study plan of the study. Synopsis of each chapter a  
nd definition of term or operations.

Chapter two centered on literature review, interpretation theoretical fr  
amework, current trends in thinking and summary of chapter.

Chapter three contain methodology and research method introductio  
n sample and populations of the study, source of data and data collection i  
nstrument, methods of data analysis and research problems.

Chapter four covered data presentation and interpretation of finding,  
introduction brief history of the case study, presentation of data, analysis of  
data, testing of hypothesis and summary, conclusion recommendation for f  
urther findings.

## **1.7 DEFINITION OF TERMS OR OPERATIONAL**

Local government: This is the government of the local exercised through a representation five council established by law of exercise power within defined area has substantial control over local affairs as well as the staff and institutional power to initiate and direct the provision of service and to ensure that oral initiator and response to local need and condition area maximized.

Development: According to Sills D.L.Y. (1982) development is defined as the transformation of rural area from primitives situation to a high level of economic social and political relevance and it can be seen as the process whereby an area or society undergoes social and economic transformation geared toward and improvement in the quality of life of its citizens.

Transformation: Kogi State Local Government Commission explained transformation as a complete change in way which we work. The way the society is changing from the primitive stage to enhance an lightly sophisticated stage.

Local: Encyclopedia Britannica (1968) define local as a group of people

ple each smaller or large in population on living together for a basis condition of common life.

Rural: This is usually connected to area that are under development e.g. country side or sub town and it is better placed near the local government.

Community: According to Andiron O. Onamah (2002) community is the group of people living together in a geographical entity sharing the same interest and is committed towards the same goals in realizing and objectives for which they are established. The limitation to the study is paraphrased to Irepodun Local Government are headquarter and however there are similarities in all various Local Government Area of Kwara State.

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## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

The idea of literature review and the theoretical framework in the study is used scholarly and accepted scientific work to provide a kind of working guide frame or basis for analytical discussion of the subject matter which did not only contribute to the national understanding of the study, but will greatly improve the level of accuracy of our science judgment.

#### **2.2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

An attempt would be made to have a review the changing faces of the local government system in Nigeria since the independent day to the present day.

The seemed attempt would be pursued on the role of local government in rural transformation. J.S. (1949) listed the purpose of local government on the following grounds.

1. That these are certain functions which should be locally administered and improved as they put it the very object of having local presentation

It is in order to those who have interest in common which they cannot share with the general body of their countrymen, many are managing the joint interest themselves.

2. That local council is mostly easily held accountable to their groups and individuals that are central government and its agencies.
3. That local government is trained for material politicians the British being aware of these ideas of mill established the first nation authority.
4. Following the occupation of northern Nigeria in 1900.

The aim was to formalize the customary power of the chiefs as well as they oblige them to use the power to the maintenance.

Olowosu (1979) reported that the second attempts to introduce local government in Nigeria as in 1930 by Donald Cameron as the governor of Nigeria. As far back in 1947, the district council for the improvement and development of the villages be doing so, it was through for write rightly that these councils could conditions of rural areas as helped to raised the standard of living.

In 1962, the local government law passed in western Nigeria which in

introduces that law provided for elected and traditional members of council. This system of transforming local government was very in living during the emergency period in the west in 1962, Senator Majekodunmi was appointed by the Federal Government to serve as the administrator in dual capacities of gubernatorial premier of the region the emergency lasted for six months and during this period much councils were appointed in these places.

Bogunde (1963) wrote that the local government council misuse the power especially in the transformation of local government. Apart from this, many of the council members did not appear to know what purpose of local government is. All these combined together to make transformation for rural areas. Many societies saw it as a more punishable especially if they do not belong to the ruling party.

### **2.3 CURRENT TRENDS IN THINKING**

This refers to a thinking above phenomenon in terms of including parts, components or sub-system and work with emphasis refers to the chairmen are appointed their own supervisors from outside the elected councilors and where councilor is appointed supervisors would reign and by election in

s conducted. All these gave the local government while the chairmen, the vice-chairmen and the supervisors from the executive arm of the local government authority.

Aliyu, T.A.O. (1998) considered the need to transforming local government authority under the following:

- (a) It provide valuable political education: This type of education express citizen to power and authority it is an acquisition used for development.
- (b) It is more demarcate: It is referring to the fact that of increase the scope for citizenship participation the government of the locality.
- (c) Power is more widely dispersed which is a safeguard against tyranny.
- (d) Local initiative can easily be identified and taken on board especially in mobilizing the community to give local support for progress.
- (e) Local variations and needs in service provision can better be handled by local government since it understand the needs of it's own locality.
- (f) It trains people for higher public of tices, local becomes a platform o

r a higher career in government. Local knowledge as bought to bear and decision by local government.

## **2.4 SUMMARY OF THE CHAPTER**

In the chapter, a look at the concept of local government transformation, needs and strategies used by the local councils to expand the transformation of rural area in Kwara State in addition, examination is mark on the economic realism which involve provision of new springs of inspiration and support for development within the board of partner of national program and creating of enough room for local activities and crest unit to enrich the local partner.

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## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 INTRODUCTION**

In this research work, primary and secondary source were involved, a n interview which gives room for conduct of oral interview this method allo wed for asking of some question from the respondents (staff in Ilorin Sout h Local Government Area) on the way of transforming rural area in the local government, the method enhance effective information collection from the original (i.e. right source).

Secondary method of inflation which involved the use of journals, text book, newspaper, daries and written do current as was also adopted to co mplement that of primary method.

#### **3.2 SAMPLE AND POPULATION OF THE STUDY**

Sample random sampling method is used in the sense that it always i nvolves the process of random selection as some stages. Random is com monly used to describe something that occurs or done without plan or cha nge. But in sampling in had more specific technical meaning. It refers to a p

process favours certain cases or if the selection of the one case increase or decrease the likelihood that another number. Sixty-four becomes the first one drawn for the sample the next digits are 0.0 and 8 resulting in paper being the second draw for this sample, if I draw the same number trick of draw a number higher than my late paper such as 90. I then regard the draw and continue the process. A random sample may not necessarily respondents the characteristics of his population but when the choice of subject is left to chance the possibility of bias entering selecting of the sample is reduced.

Osula (1991) explained that it is better to draw a good sample. This will help to reduce uncertainty example write each individual name in a place of paper and put it in a bag shake, it is very well before selecting the desired number of slip from the bag.

### 3.3 SOURCES OF DATA INSTRUMENT

Data is sub-derived into two major types

- Primary data
- Secondary data

(a) **Primary Data:** In the collection of primary data, the following are the

methods used.

- i. Erving of questionnaire to the respondents and collection the necessary information from the respondent through the sealed questionnaire filled and returned.
  - ii. Face to face oral interview will respondent sometime on issue not directly raised in the questionnaire to some respondents. Some other methods the researcher used are though personal observation and opinion polls.
- (b) **Secondary Data:** The secondary data, which form the main building for chapter two of the research works, was obtained from text books, magazines, professional journals and other written source materials.

### 3.4 METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

Questionnaire was used for the collection of information for this study. Letter of introducing was written and attached to all questionnaire, this was sent to all respondents to complete as honestly as possible as the information given was solely for academic.

### 3.5 RESEARCH PROBLEMS

In the process of this research work, the researcher encountered the following constraints.

1. **Financial constraints:** Is the major problem in the course of this research work, transport fare from where the research resides to the information collection centers, the research needs to put aside some transport fare to travel to Ilorin South Local Government, which is the main area covered for the gathering of the write up information.
2. **Limited Time:** The time given for the research work was not enough to go through the document dished out for governing information in the local government as case study. The limitations of the study also include the following. Limited copious book: the researcher could locate enough works are consulted in the course of writing the project and some books in the library were for and out dated without review.
3. **Class Assignment:** The researcher find it difficult to combine project with class assignment as the work may be easy to juxtapose hence, the need to pull aside one work for another for good attention.
4. **Personal family issues:** Sometime, in the course of working some p

Personal issues may arise that will delay the writing as the family remains a major back up for the write up hence, the need to make sure they are protected.

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## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS**

#### **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

This aspect of the study presents an account of the data collection, the various instruments of social investigations used were documentary, oral interview and questionnaire.

#### **4.2 BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CASE OF STUDY**

At the start of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was a border town northwest of the Oyo empire was a main Yoruba population but with a many Hausa is a traditional state based on the city of Ilorin, Kwara State. Nigeria aerial view of Ilorin in 1929 Ilorin was found by the Yoruba one of three largest ethnic groups in Nigeria 1450.

Districts / Areas

Gaa-Akanbi

Tanke

#### **Topography and Climate**

To local government enjoy wet and dry season design toward the end

of march and towards to end of October and dry season begin in November and ends lately in February December and January are usually cold month to the influence harmation form the desert region in the north.

### **Occupation**

Many indigenes of Ilorin South Local Government levels with commercial enterprises outside the local government area are:

Garri processing industries

Nobel braveries

Bodejoku technical service

Obanimoma block industry

Obanimoma leather processing industry

There are orders namely (90) primary schools and secondary school for fort-five (45) and on technical college.

### **Amenities**

Provision of amenities in form of electricity pipe-born water school, health centre are not lacking in most wards.

Apart from this, there are several tarred roads in the town maintained

by the local government one open secret that needs to be mentioned in the chapter is land dispute. Which is generally common in all part of Kwara State Local Government area by all govern all people is Kwara State. There are quite a number of problems in Ilorin South Local Government area an example of this land dispute is between Ilorin South and Akanbo.

### 4.3 PRESENTATION OF DATA

In an analysis data, it is assured that the basic knowledge of element and statistic must be applied the data described as a set of figure obtained in a simple form. To be referent the mean, media standard derivation, analysis of percentage and many others.

But in this projects simple figure will be employed since the detail find in this project in transformation of rural area the items contained in the questionnaire, the rest obtained from the respondents were analysis below.

Table 4.3.1 are the communities in the local government that participates in the transformation of development project for the year 2009?

Options	No of Respondents	Percentage %
Yes	38	95

No	2	5
Total	40	100

**Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024.**

Table 4.3.2 resources used by the communities both the human and materials to embark on development project for the year 2010?

Options	No of Respondents	Percentage %
Yes	10	25
No	30	75
Total	40	100

**Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024.**

Table 4.3.3 The number of respondents by the community for development project for the year 2017?

Options	No of Respondents	Percentage %
Yes	15	37.5
No	25	62.5
Total	40	100

**Source: Researcher's Field Survey, 2024.**

#### 4.4 ANALYSIS OF DATA

Table 4.3.1 show that 38 (95%) of the respondents replied yes to the question that ask the communities in the local government the participated

in the transformation of development project for the year 2009. In which 2 (5%) of the respondent replied with an option.

Table 4.3.2 show that 10 (25%) of the respondents replied with yes option to the research questionnaire that find out about the resources used by the communities both the human and materials to embark on developmental project for the year 2015 while 30 (75%) of the respondent that carried the highest percentage respondent with no option.

Table 4.3.3 show that is (37.5%) of the respondents replied yes that research questionnaire that tends to find out the number of respondents by the community for development project for the year 2011 which the rest 25 (62.5%) of the respondents replied no.

#### **4.5 TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS**

The following hypotheses would to test the research project.

Lack of effective leadership

Poor accountability

Absence of skill man power

Low rate community participation

Bribery and corruption

Administrative and political problem and  
Access of land

#### **4.6 SUMMARY OF THE CHAPTER**

In this chapter looked at the concept of the data presentation, data analysis and testing of hypothesis. In addition, I examined the collection of respondents for the year 2009, 2010 and 2011.

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## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The project work titled "the role government in rural transformation with a case study of Ilorin South Local Government Area of Kwara State". During the field survey, the researcher test six (6) hypothesis state in chapter four and discovered that the hypothesis has it was in chapter four dealing with presentation of the analysis of the data collected.

#### **5.2 CONCLUSION**

The option of the investigation, there are rooms for improvement in rural transformation and for the delivery of social service to the people. It is strategically located fully carry out the adore functions because of it's proximity of the people.

The whole some programs and project of rural development must be articulated directly at increasing the efficient utilization for the sources for their environment such that their output, their producing and the quality for their life can be greatly. Enhanced conscious and deliberate efforts must be

made through education and general enlightenment to reduce or climate unwanted waste and protect the rural population from destabilizing change.

Local government has been re-emphasized to be seen created as the wheat for progression change and development in rural area. It means or it's important aspect is the recognition of the rural population so that it can serve effectively and increase factors that enhance accountability and process of development.

What has been established in this project is that the best instrument for administering development or to take transformation to the rural community is through effective local government administration. If the local government achieve development they must be viable by both the government and the community.

The recommendation made in this research work will be great help to any local government that wish to have impact on the local populace.

### **5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Irepodun Local Government should not be under the control of state government anymore. Autonomy and job motivation could help workers to

perform efficiently training and retraining should encouraged provision of good incentive should be made available to work political consideration in the area of recruitment and contract should be discouraged.

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