

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
(A CASE STUDY OF ILORIN EAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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CHAPTER ONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

A local government is recognize through its function and the provision makes then local government economic development of the people with jurisdiction towards improvement the living of the local popularities are however the rural dwellers. The question that readily comes to mind why rural development or who should contribute to rural development noticeable rural development and local government are inter-woven, hence hand in hand.

Rural development implies on the innovation or modernization of sub-towns within the local government which are very far away to the state of regional government local government authority, under the 1963 republic and construction were independent bodies created by the regional government “local government was mere appendages with little or no authority” for independent action to state administration that created and appointed them.

Rural development in this country should be potential solid rural development should be seen as the corner stone of a development process of any nation an effective local government is better placed as a government at the grass root. Reducing the level of rural poverty for the development of rural areas in world of education scheme. Involves a through going transformation of social structure and extensive mobilization and motivation of the masses. However, a government that is for away from data to day realistic of rural area is unlikely to be equip the task of rural development.

Rural development as a part of local government endeavours shall be discussed in subsequent chapter ahead.

1.2 SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The scope of this study is the choose cane study of Ilorin east local government area of Kwara State and its rural environment. The topic entails a very wide range but gracefully limited to a local government level. However there are relevance and similarities in a various local authorities, management principles and organization performance but to the major concern, is rural development nevertheless, in this research work facts and data are much relevant to the chosen topic.

1.3 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- i. To understand how local government administration serves as an agent of communication development.
- ii. To understand the historical background of Ilorin East Local Government Area.
- iii. To identify the problems facing local government in rural development
- iv. To recommend a suitable solution s to the identified problems.

1.4 STATEMENT OF PROBLEMS

Priors to the 1976, a local government reform in Nigeria the system of local government authorities in the country was so cumbersome and each state was practicing its own system

In west cases local government are faced with a lot of responsibilities and function eve self generated resources and insufficient compared to the needs. Its dutiful task under the law

and guild line are to provide both social and economic needs for its people.

To ascertain the validity and genuineness in development of rural areas of Ilorin East Local Government area of Kwara State. The following statement could be used to test for any Local Government validity.

- i. The impact of Ilorin East local Government as regard development in rural areas.
- ii. The distribution and analysis of social and economic facilities to the rural area and its populace.

1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Relatively we are to understand what part and the role that local government play to fasten and rural development or otherwise both concepts do not have any linkage however, it would be noted that local government have various function and responsibilities which are exceptionally performed or are based on temporary circumstance.

1.6 DEFINITION OF TERMS

- Administration: means the process or act of organizing the way things are done.
- Development: means a multi-dimensioned re-organization and re-orientation on the entire economic and social system changes in structure, attitude acceleration of economic growth eradication of object poverty and radical change in administrative structures.

- Local government: means a sub-division of national and regional government which performs function which mainly all cases its legal power from national or regional government.
- Public administration: means formulation, implementation and modification of public policy.

1.7 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

In this essay, chapter contains the introduction and background to the study scope and limitation of the study objective of the study statement of problem, significance of the study, definition of the terms used in the study and organization of the study chapter two contains the literature review meaning of local government, types of local government function of local government problem of local government and objective of rural development. Chapter three contains research of data, method of data analysis and research problems chapter four has data presentation, interpretation of the findings brief history of the case study and chapter five consist of summary conclusion recommendation and references

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

The theory of local government according to W.J MC KENZIE, a British scholar “there is no theory of local government, there is no normative general theory from which we can revise testable hypothesis about what is it but contrary to this C.S whitener expressed that “no obstacle to analysis arise are universally acceptable function and purpose of modern democratic local government.”

The differences between the two positions above is that while the former has emphasized that no theory of local government was yet in existence the latter suggested that what is yet to being existence is universally accepted the theory of local government is derived from previous systematic operations or studies on the basis of which general assumption are made.

2.2 CURRENT TRENTS IN THINKING

Local government is the lowest tier of government any where I the world it has a very important of multipurpose in terms of carrying out socio-economic services in the local areas, stimulating and encouraging local initiatives in communities work promoting the democratic process serving as training ground for national political leaders such as medium of communication between the people and the tier of government.

Nwankwo (1990) believed that local government or local authority is a government set up by a central authority or state government as means of ensuring effective administration at the

grass root in other words local government is the types of government that help either the central or state government to carry out effective administration of a country at the grass rot levels.

Akamere (2001) committed that local government is simply and precisely the government at the local level as system of devolution of powers to the local authority to provide services of local nature. It is an autonomous or independent body created by law and charged with the responsibilities of administrating and dealing with matters of local government importance within a defined areas by then law that create them.

The guidelines for local government reforms (1976) defined local government as government at local level exercised through representative council established by law to exercise specific power within a defined area.

Ola (1984) defined local government as a political sub-division of a national or state which is constituted any low and has substantial control of local affairs including the powers to impose tax or to exact labour for prescribed purpose.

Sady (1962-132) believed that local government is a political sub division that local government federal system) state which as constituted by law and has substantial central of local affair including the powers to impose tax or to exact labour for prescribed purpose. The government body of such as activities is elected or other wise locally selected

2.3 THEORETICAL FRAME WORK

The term “local government” can mean different things to different people depending on the country they come from there are probably as many different kind of local government as there are countries however professor carol F.R in his book local government I development countries there are four basic patterns of local government in the world today namely:

1. The traditional types:

This types can be found in the remote village of the third world. By this, professor Ander, this was the form of local government in the pre-literature and underdevelopment or tribal societies such system of local government is usually associated with Chiefdom traditional ruler e.g. emperor, Oba, Obi, etc. In this type of local government we terms such as Chief-In-Council, Oba-In-Council. That is in case of disagreement between the chief and the council what the chief says is the final and supersedes the views of the council.

2. Anglo Saxon type: this type of local government which even though does not have absolute autonomy, with a limited local government through locally elected council another name for these types of local government is councilor type of local government. This is a system of local government base on elected to the elector or representatives who are responsible to the electorate in a locality for the orderly administration of the practices some countries prefer the councilor type of local government like Nigeria.

3. The French type (professional type): in the French types of local government, the system is usually an extensive of the arm of

the central government. The local government are normally headed by elected major but they have their decision approved or voted by a civil servant representing the central government and the civil servant is normally known as the "Prefect". Prefects are highly experienced and able administrator similar to the Colonial Governor resident in Nigeria in the colonial period.

4. The communist type: this type of local government based on the concept of democratic centralism. Thus is defined as a process in which the party exercise firm direction and control on the socialistic planning for the economic development of the communities under the system, the interest of the communities is equated with the interest of the party and therefore to the state.

2.4 FUNCTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The function of local government as identified in the guideline for local government reforms (1976) are:

- i. to make appropriate services and development activities responsive to local wishes and initiatives by developing or delegating them to local representative bodies.
- ii. Facilitate the exercise of democratic self government close to the local government of our societies and to encourage initiatives and leadership potential.
- iii. To mobilize human and materials resources through the involvement of members of the public in their local development.
- iv. To provide a two-way channel of communication between local communities and government (both State and Federal).

Sady (1962) also summarized the purpose of local government as follow:

- i. Making programme to fasten social and economic betterment at the local communities.
- ii. Training people in the art of self-governance.
- iii. Strengthening national unity.
- iv. Increasing the people understands support of social and economic development activities and as a result of gaining the benefit of their own.

2.4 PROBLEM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- i. Inadequate Funding: - Local government do not have enough fund with which they operate. Their responsibilities are far greater than the amount of fund allocated to them.
- ii. Embezzlement of Fund: - Some council officials embezzled fund granted to the council authorities. This reduced the amount of fund available for public services.
- iii. Bribery: - Some council officials demand and take bribe before they perform their official duties.
- iv. Lack of Qualified Personnel: - Some council personnel lack the required qualification for their job; this affects the efficiency of local government.
- v. Favoritism: - Some council officers use their authority to give undue favour to relations and friends, for instance, in the award of contracts.

vi. Political Interference: - The central or State government unduly interfere with the work of local councils. This slows down the progress in local government services.

vii. The Size of Local Government: - Some local governments are so small to the extent that they are unable to generate enough found to perform their functions.

2.5 OBJECTIVE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Rural area is an uncomplicated area characterized by simplicity and lacking sophistication. The related to people living in the part of an administration region of a country. To understand the rural phenomenon, one has to go into the wiser socio-economic structure some commendation have attributed “economic backwardness” and traditional to the rural areas, suggesting that these are the major ingredients to national economic development. The present days, rural dwellers in Nigeria are never adapted to positive changes but rather year as far such. The level of living standard of the contributed substantially to the foreign earning of the country has not changed significantly from what it was in the colonial era. There are major constraints on rural transformation in Nigeria which include poverty and lack of social amenities.

Apart from agricultural development, the focus of rural development projects and programme includes generation health improvement, low cost housing and creation of incentive among others.

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CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 In this chapter, the researcher need to show the methods and sources of data used to carryout the research work. The sources of data may be primary or secondary source while the method of data analysis may interview, questionnaire, document e.t.c.

3.2 SAMPLE AND POPULATION OF THE STUDY

Sample of party respondents were drawn for the entire population under the study. The sample is a time representative of the entire population.

3.3 SOURCE OF DATA/DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENTS

The researcher made extensive use of secondary collated and published data which is relevant to this research work, these included data collected from journals papers presented by lecturers, magazines e.t.c.

3.4 METHOD DATA ANALYSIS

Esse3ntially, descriptive and quantitative frequency table and sample random techniques are used. This further explained that the method the researcher used in analyzing the data collected for the purpose of the research work can be observed as the frequency table method in which the whole information acquired is being explained in a tabular format in order to put more light and to be well explained.

3.5 RESEARCH PROBLEMS

This problem of this research work is time factor, because of the limited time, the researcher finds it extremely difficult to obtain

adequate information from the staff of Ilorin East Local Government area of Kwara State. In carryout this research work, the researcher came across some problems which include:

1. Financial Inadequacy: - The research work requires some money but as a student who is not financially good, the researcher was unable to get adequate fund needed in the course of the research work.
2. Illiteracy: - With high percentage of illiterates in the country, there is the tendency that the researcher will have problem of convincing the illiterates to respond to the interview or questionnaire, even if they are ready to do so, communication problem may finder such interaction.
3. Classified data: Some authorities found it difficult to disclose needed data to the researcher which led to scanty statistics.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.1 DATA PRESENTATION ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

This chapter contains analysis of various data extracted from respondent in the course of undertaking the study. Data itself was extracted mainly through the application of self-administered questionnaire. The questionnaire contained a designed reflection of the nature and the role of local government in rural development within the study setting which is Ilorin East Local Government council. The analyses are illustrated below in the personal characteristics of respondents whose opinions were sampled in section A and the answer to the structure question are arranged in the other section (section B).

4.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF ILORIN EAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Ilorin east local government which was part of the headquarter of Ilorin native authority under Ilorin province in the old northern region of Nigeria with creation of states in 1967, Ilorin local government came to being there were twelve's local government areas as at 1976 two more local government areas were however caved out of the formal Ilorin local government area with the creation of additional states by Babagida led administration in 1991. Ilorin. Ilorin local government area was further divided into Ilorin west and east, Ilorin east local government area is vested responsibilities to enable it provides the most needed local government services.

4.3 ORGANIZATION/ STRUCTURE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The organization structure are staffing of local government strictly in line with the federal military government guideline on the forms that all over local government council directly responsible to the chief executives of the council who is appointed under section of the edict in 1991 section 34 of the said edict was amended to allow the chairman to appoint his own secretary who will equally go with him/her on completing the term of office. The secretary is also the most senior member of their staff the local government headquarter is sub-divided into six function department each consisting of suitable number of related units as following: administration department, finance natural resources medical work and survey and education department.

Politically, we have reformed the age long system of district administration. This involved the division of each local government. Into a suitable member of district are divided into village head. Each village areas further sub-divided hamlets in rural areas and wards in urban areas.

4.4 PRESENTATION OF DATA

TABLE 1: SEX DISTRIBUTION

Alternative	Question issued	Question returned	Percentage
Male	23	23	57%
Female	17	17	42.5%
Total	40	40	100%

Sources: Researcher Field Survey 2024

From the table above, the data shows that the number of male workers in the researchers' case study is more than the number of female worker.

TABLES 2: AGE DISTRIBUTION

Alternative	Question issued	Question returned	Percentage
21-30	3	3	7.5%
31-40	17	17	42.5%
41-50	19	19	47%
51 and above	1	1	2.5%
Total	40	40	100%

Sources: Researcher Field Survey 2024

TABLE 3: DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTION

Alternative	Question issued	Question returned	Percentage
Administration staff	5	5	12.5%
Finance and account	2	2	5%
Works	13	13	32.5%
Health	5	5	12.5%
Agriculture	7	7	17.5%
Education	8	8	20%
Total	40	10	100%

Sources: Researcher Field Survey 2024

The tables above shows that the researcher has a tremendous number of respondents, in view of thus forty (40) responded positively towards the collection of the questionnaires. The reason for the classification of staff in the above table in accordance and respect to their various position is to understand the different view and opinions of the council staff holding various position in the organization.

TABLE 4: RELIGION DISTRIBUTION

Alternative	Question issued	Question returned	Percentage
Muslim	25	25	55.5%
Christian	15	15	33.3%
Pagan	5	5	11.1%
Total	45	45	100%

Sources: Researcher Field Survey 2024

The table above shows that response representing 55.5% of respondent and Muslim, there was longer number of Muslim I the office while 15 is response representing 33.3% are Christian and 5 response representing 11.1% of respondents are pagan, their number in the office is the lowest.

TABLE 5: MARITAL STATUS

Alternative	Question issued	Question returned	Percentage
Single	20	20	33.3%
Married	25	25	41.7%
Widow	15	15	25.0%
Total	60	60	100%

Sources: Researcher Field Survey 2024

The table above shows that 20 respondent which is represent 33.3% respondents are single and 25 responses which represent 41.7% respondent are married while 15 people which represent 25.0% of respondents are widow.

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CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Every local government is faced with development aspect within its geopolitical areas, it also sees to the formulation of policies and the implementation such political and personnel policies. The issues of rural development among other can tarred roads, drinkable water, electricity, better medical services, employment opportunity qualitative education creation of recreational and entertainment centres access to communication facilities and many were. These all seem reserved for urban dwellers and yet the rural people are also humans.

However, these inequalities must be redressed through the empirical data collected in the study the study has shown that persistence effort of the local government on the development of this area had improved greatly the standard of living of its rural dwellers which could be seen in the case study of the research work.

Lastly, if the local government council are being given much more assistance from the central government, it would go along way in performing their duties efficiently and effectively.

5.2 CONCLUSION

Local government as a matter emphasizes must be seen and treated as the wheel and tub of progressive changes and development in rural areas an important factor such as recognition is also needed to organize the rural populace so that it can serve effectively as

monitoring factor to enhance accountability and increase check and balance in the process of development of ensuring optional utilization of allocated resources.

Whichever way we look at is, grass root integrated rural development is a fundamental compelling and immediate necessity for us. It is indeed much more than a must, it s our immediate future. It is through soci-foundation on which we can build our nation and mixture it rapid growth individually and collectively, we can make ourselves and our communities the very best place each and every one of us can live.

Finally conscious and deliberate effort must be made through education and general enlighten to reduce or eliminate unwanted waste and protect the rural population form destabilizing change.

5.3 RECOMMENDATION

Noted among the numerous data collected is in adequate water. In order to solve this problem alternative strategies relating to pressing situation are placed and examined. However, those already in existences should be properly taken care of by both central and the local government.

In the area of insufficient fund, the local communities and wealth individual should make communal efforts to where necessary because the government cannot really satisfy the generally public at the same time.

Education, health and nutrition of the rural dwellers is rested an the local government and communities this can be seem by the

recent nine (9) years adoption and compulsory education by the federal government.

The town planning and housing for the rural dweller need to be reviewed. The current status of traditional pattern need to be modernized because we are now in the twenty first century.

Lastly, all the parts mentioned above need to be addressed in order to see the new face of our rural areas in some years to come.

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