

CHAPTER ONE

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The framework of this project is to critically have a broader look at the problem and prospect of rural areas and analyze development so far and its involvement is the bedrock of national development. It is commonly said "The strength of chain, it the strength of its weakest link". Therefore, there is a strong need to ensure that every particular rural community constitutes itself into development.

It should be noted that no nation could develop without deliberately undertaking the development of its rural areas. Such development is however possible only when the rural population in the various communities are brought together and mobilized to engage and participate rigorously in the endeavors.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Making a vivid look at this present time, rural communities constitute the economically backward area of Nigeria. This has been so since the colonial days, but it need always be so. Rural is not only economically backwards, the gap between rural and urban areas has also been withdrawn in recent time. Consequently, the nation's rural communities have to be supported or assisted by both the federal and state government to enable them to provide for themselves, such amenities they cannot provide (individually) alone.

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This project has been set a track for certain objectives which are indicated below:

1. To examine the problem and prospect of rural development in Ilorin south local government area
2. To make various development project by Ilorin South local government and possible solution to the barrier faced
3. To know difficulty in developing rural area of Ilorin south local Government
4. Also to analyze development in Ilorin south local government area.
5. More so, to bring about strategies for mobilizing in rural development as well as Ilorin south local government area of Kwara state.
6. Also to know the historical background of Ilorin south local government area of Kwara state.

1.4 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This project will help in explaining the origin of rural development in Ilorin south local government area. It will also help to know the various strategies of development. It also reveals the major occupation of the people living in the rural areas. It will also contribution to the body of the existing knowledge.

1.5 SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

This project deal largely with the problem and prospect of rural development in Ilorin south local government area and effort shall under its area of jurisdiction.

And also it deals with all the necessary aspect that needs to examine under the development of rural area in Ilorin south local government.

1.6 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The research is divided into five chapters the first chapter deals with introduction, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, organization of the study and finally the definition of the study.

Chapter two examines literature review, concept of rural development, rational for rural development, theories of rural development, local government contribution to rural development, etc.

Chapter three deals with research methodology, the sample and population of the study, sources of data, method of data analysis and lastly research problem. In chapter four, there is brief history of the study, presentation of data and analysis of data:

And five is contains summary of finding, recommendations and conclusions.

1.7 DEFINITION OF THE TERM

Development means to become or make larges, more mature or more advanced. It also means to start to exist, experience or possess. It also to convert land to a new purpose, local

government is the government from the grassroots, it also a system of government that give chance to community to rule or govern their selves while rural is a part of a country.

The term rural development can now be defined as the restructuring and rebuilding of socio-economic and political of rural people in order to make their living efficient. Rural development is linked crucially with rural structure through latter often difficultly to analyze.

This term is about the analysis in which government or group of people may decide to lay hand into it, for the benefit of the rural masses or people.

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CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

These are the data collected from various text books and conference papers on rural development such as UNESCO on perspective on basic community and rural development administration. Duddly, Seers (1970), Journal on rural development, etc.

2.2 CONCEPT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Before any tangible definition of rural development could be drawn, the meaning of rural development concept to be understood. The concept, rural means an area where by resident their produce timbers and raw material which were converted into finished product. Rural areas lack amenities or facilities, which could up lift the living standard of the people. Development as a concept has been viewed from different perspectives. Literally development means to grow large, fully and more matured.

Todavo (1979) defined development as the reorganization and reorientation of the entire economic and social system in order to improve income and output.

Ake viewed development as liberation of the under development countries from so called advanced countries. According to element development would be experienced if we were economically, politically and socially free from advanced countries.

Diddly (1970) viewed development as declination in poverty, unemployment and equality in the community. He said further that if those mentioned above is growing worse or declining, it will be wrong to call the result development.

In fact development is simply a progression from a state of affairs found to be unfavorable to a better state. It also a process by which a man tries to harness his natural environment for his substance. By knowing the meaning of rural development as well as rural and development separately, then rural development can be convened meaningful.

Umaele (1975) defined rural development as a designed strategy for general up lifting of economic, socio-political lives of specific group of people which involves extending the benefit of development to the poor people among who seek for lively hood, these group of people are landless women, tenants small scale farmers etc.

Olabode (1977) defined rural development as a means of restricting of the economy in order to satisfy the material needs and aspiration of the rural masses and to promote individual and collective incentive to participate in the process of development. This involve a host of multi-pectoral actives including the improvement of agriculture, the promotion of rural industries the creation of the requisite of rural industries, the creation of the requisite infrastructure and social overhead, as well as the establishment of appropriate decentralized structure in order to allow mass participation. Community development and rural developments are used interchangeable but the different is that community development is more complex in structure than rural development. Attention an response is usually less in rural areas than community, in fact, development project are usually embarked upon by communities complained for rural areas.

Rural areas are different from urban areas. However, according to demographic year 1970 if united nation for instance define urban area from places of 500 inhabitants to place of 30,000 while formal zecoclorakin required that the urban centre should have population of at least 5,000 and that must have a population density of more than 100 person per hectare, that those people must be under urban characteristics therefore, according to these definition all other centre which fall outside these criteria are regarded as rural centre.

2.3 RATIONAL FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Bearing in mind the spatial under development of the rural areas and poor quality of life of the rural ties, therefore several reasons have been advanced for this.

Those reasons are:

a. Economic Growth

b. Social equity

c. Regional balance

a. **Economic Growth:** Certainly where the quality of life of the rural ties is upgraded, they are made effective contributors, to socio-economic growth, rural areas produces agricultural product for local consumption, raw materials and exports are produced.

b. **Social Equity:** Rural ties are country men, so it is indefensible to denial them those social service provided in urban areas, if provided in rural areas, it will ensure and retain social enquiry in the country.

c. Regional Balance: The persistence wide range in social, economic and cultural disparity between rural and urban areas encourage rural to urban migration tremendously. Therefore to avert this tide of migration problem, attractive social service should be provided in rural areas. For this, it will reduce the population density in urban areas thereby stabilizing and uphold regional balance.

2.4 THEORIES OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The concept of development like other social science concepts has been defined in different ways by different scholars. According to WALIER RODNEY. Development in human history is a many sided process. At the individual level, development implies increased skill and capacity, self-discipline, responsibility and material wellbeing.

At social level it is concerned with the relationship among men as social groups come into conflict with one another in the society. Development have implies as increased capacity to regulate both internal and external relationship.

However, a social develop economically as its member increase jointly their capacity for dealing environment. This according to RODEY is development on the extent to which they understand the law of nature (science) and the extent to which they put that understanding to use by devising tools (technology) and on the manner in which work is organized.

According to Fredrik, Herbisan and Charles Moyes the Slogan of worldwide revolution is development and like other revolutionary slogans it has different meanings to different groups in some, it symbolizes the achievement of independence politically and economically. In other, it

encompasses opportunity for education, the building of sky scrapers the construction network in ones primitive land. Consequently, development viewed from two thus perspectives.

First, development as a process of modernization emphasized the transformation of social and political institution. Secondly, development and modernization, are synonymous with economic growth concerning itself mainly with investment saving national income productivity and balance of payment. But it is clear today that the word wise aspiration for development is much more than a desire for economic growth.

According to DUDDLE SEERS (1969) in an article involves not only economic growth but also a condition in which people in the country have adequate food and jobs and income inequality among them is greatly reduced.

To understand development, he suggested the following question.

- a. Have general levels of living expanded with a nation to the deprecation of life sustaining goods, the degree of inequality in income distribution, the level of unemployment and the nature of quality of education health and other and cultural services have all improved. In other word what has been happening to poverty employment and equality.
- b. Has economic progress expanded the range of human choice tree people from external dependence and internal seriated (savory).

To other man and institution or as it merely substituted one for of depending e.g. economic, political and cultural from another. It all the answer to above question is yes, on then a nation can be considered unquestionable developed.

In 1977, seek suggested an addition of the important element of reliance of the important element of self-reliance to the conception of development. This would bring the crucial problem of development to ownership as well as output in leading economic sectors consumption patterns that economized on foreign exchange, institutional capacity research and negotiation, and cultural goals of country.

Bennis Goulet also identified three broad goals of development

1. Life sustenance: This includes adequate bumpy of goals, health and shelter etc.
2. Freedom: The capacity to development and express the potentials

Little attention was given to the development Theories. The various approaches that have been postulated to referred to as the rural development theories among such theories that will be considered below.

The *laisses faire* models of Development: these models are described of *laisses faire* because they involve minimum intervention in the procedure. They place emphasis on planning through large emphasis by planning through large sizeable fiscal allocation to areas.

Indeed, the transformation of area is explaiend to take place through large investment in agriculture input and support prices or agricultural produce.

Some of the models which precede the capitalist societies are discussed below (Essang, 1975: 297-315). The classical and Neo-classical model: the formulators of this models argues that a function of capital investment and employment of labour. In view of the fact that capital tends to flow in sector characterized by high rates of return and high marginal productivities

capital characterized by highly way rates the classical and neoclassical preposition stipulated that the promotion on of economic development should involve measures which will raise the rate of return to capital investment and earning of labour.

Although this model has some relevance to third world countries where the out migration of labour and capital, from agriculture is usually attributes to much lower returns to these factors of production in rural then in urban investment, it has some limitations. In the first place, it ignores the importance of improved quality of labour as a factor in economic development especially since it is well known that is both the advanced and primitive community of the urban of for urban.

Secondly the model ignores the role of community services and infrastructure which is generating external economies account for high rates of return to capital investments.

Thirdly the model places on emphasis of factor and input prices as a determinant of investments and growth there by ignoring the role of investment and organizational arrangements. Finally the model fails to take into consideration the crucial role of technology which by shifting the production to the right tends to reduce cost and increase the rate of return to capital investment.

The dual economy models: This model stipulates that the typical less development exist in two distinct sectors namely: the modern sector and the subsistence (rural) sectors. According to the model, the mode sector is market oriented and uses equipment and technology while the

subsistence sector produces for family consumption and relies on non-purchased input such as family labour and land for production.

The dual economy model therefore articulates a development strategy which emphasizes the concentration of resources on the dynamic commercial modern sector and withdrawing resources from the subsistence sector for this purpose. It is argued that this strategy would ensure growth of incomes, employment and rapid structural transformation of the underdevelopment economies.

The dual economy model resembles the classical and neo-classical model in its emphasis on the need to channel resources to the growing area of the dynamic sector where returns to investment are presumably higher.

The basic resources theory: these theories emphasize the role of basic natural environmental resources in the development. They stipulate that economic growth depends on the presence, quality and magnitude of basic areas. On economic regions, it argues that the development of these resources attracts investment capital to these areas and thereby increases income level and employment.

There is no doubt that natural resources have a role to play in the development of any locality especially in the initial stages of the process of economic development. In such situations, regions with basic resources tend to have higher income and to grow faster than those with small resources. Experience indicates that in many parts of the world, natural resources have influenced their rapid rate of development relative to other, i.e. the context of rural areas.

with adequate natural resources such as good climate fertile soils; moderate land etc. will grow faster than those without.

Despite the importation of natural resources in development, it must be noted that the more availability of basic resources is not sufficient to guarantee development in any area. There is a limited example of an area where the abundance of natural resources did not stimulate development which in other areas limited natural resources have rapid development. It has therefore been argued that in the long run what really counts is the availability of a technically competent labour force and a leadership strongly dedicated to the objective of economic development rather than the mere quality of basic natural resources.

2.5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION

All local government has a vital role to play in rural development. The activities of the rural masses are in fact complementary to what all local governments are supposed to do. Hence the financial and material help hardly is emphasized here. The irony of this maximum is that most of the local government has very limited resources for their own development programme let alone to get anything to spare and to aid the project being executed, the various communities. Although it is obligatory that all local government set aside part of their budget as financial assistance to on-going projects in their areas of jurisdiction.

Most of the local government has failed to realize and embarked for this purpose. The reason is of course the inadequate financial resources of the local government. Some of the projects over by the local government because of the recurrently burden of their maintenance which are very hard for the communities to bear.

Many local government also make use of tools like caterpillars, grades and even technical man power available to the communities understanding self-help, projects in their areas.

2.6 STRATEGIES OF MOBILIZATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT

Abanure defined mobilization as he process of pulling together, harnessing, activating, actualizing and utilizing potential, human and material resources for the purpose of development. It is the process whereby human beings are made aware of the resources at their disposal and are also motivated and energized to collectively utilized such resources for improvement of their spiritual and material well seeing.

Those mobilization strategies are identified by Obanure as are follow:

Operation Feed the Nation: This mobilization strategy was used by general Muritala/Obasanjo administration to attain rural and community development in Nigeria. It was launched in 1976.

Through the operation feed the nation, government vigorously encourage all Nigerians to produce food by putting available land into cultivation and back yard farming and poultry farm through government financial and material assistance to farmers.

This mobilization strategy was implemented in the rural areas where these are available land mass for agriculture.

Green Revolution Programme: it is introduced by Shagari in 1978/83. This programme was to improve crop yield variety of wheat etc. and able many other aspect of agricultural development such as livestock forestry, agro industry etc. in fact it was designed to raw gluttonize agriculture

and consequently the living standard of the people in rural areas and reduce rural urban migration.

2.7 PROBLEM OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

In rural development there are some formidable problems in carry out development project. These problems are:

1. Lack of effective leadership
2. Lack of fund
3. Administrative and political problems
4. Absence of skilled man power
5. Corruption of officials and leader
6. Access to land

1. LACK OF EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP: for any programme or project to be successful, of require effective leadership.

The leadership problem which is a national phenomenon in Nigeria is much acute at rural areas. Effective leadership involves abstinence and self-sacrifice. These qualities are very much lacking among most leaders at various levels in the Nigeria society and the rural areas.

2. LACK OF FUND: Poverty is pervasive among the Nigeria communities especially rural area. Rural development project require contribution from member of the community. However, the poverty level of the people at the grass roots level constitute great impediment to successful

execution of rural development projects it is not an exaggeration to say that most families in Nigeria area living below poverty level. This as using them to make financial contributions to works development project which will amount to increasing their hardship (Temporarily though) in away.

3. **ABSENCE OF SKILLED MANPOWER:** Development project a times requires the utilization of skilled manpower of execution. In most cases such man power are not readily available at the rural development endeavors. The absence of skilled man power is our grass roots communities' hampers rural development programme as it is always expensive to engage the services of experts on professional in execution of technical projects such as bridge contribution etc.

4. **ADMINISTRATION AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS:** There are general problems for administering rural politically, in fact it is noteworthy that some government does not wish to provide some amenities which can improve the well-being of the society.

5. **CORRUPTION OF OFFICIAL AND LEADERS:** Corruption has become an epidemic disease which has eaten deep into the fabric of the entire society to the extent that some time money meant for rural development project are diverted from selfish purpose either by government officials or trusted leaders of the communities. This singular act has led to the abandonment of many rural development project and frustrated many rural area over the year.

6. **ACCESS TO LAND:** Lack of land for project is a serious battle neck to the development of rural areas. Land ownership is a matter of do or dies affair and some communities have no land and space for development and this stifled development.

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CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with method used in collecting data for the study, methodology is been defined as the system classification as it is applied by a science or art. It is applied by a science or art. It described the details, research method used for collecting data that will be analyzed to arrived at conclusion in the project work.

3.2 SAMPLE AND POPULATION OF THE STUDY

Obviously the sample of the study is to vividly show or identify a small part or quantity intended to show what the whole is like in this research project while the population cannot be over look that is the inhabitant of the place. Ilorin south local government area is said to be one of local government that have a large population but somewhere used in Akanke district as a simple toward the completion of this research work.

3.3 SOURCES OF DATA

To be candidly portray a things, place and people through which this research work is originated. The first thing that was used when the research work begin to materialized was the place sheet given to some category of people in Ilorin south local government area of Kwara state. The origin is the local government area which the research topic intended to focus its problem and prospect rurally

3.4 METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

The method used in the data analyzed in this project consist of primary and secondary method of collecting data And analysis. Interview, questionnaire and observation were used for the data. The data analysis is on analyzing the response, no of respondents and percentage in the act of using questionnaire method in collection the data.

3.5 RESEARCH PROBLEM

The problem in carrying out this research simply refer to the stress that the researcher passed through before he could get to the local government and meet the targeted group of people. The major problem is those majorities are not ready to respond or answered such given questions resulting from the habit of un-enthusiasm of some people in this country. Even the long some category respond to question may not satisfy the researcher but researcher must as well able to adapt with the situation justly for a perfect finding.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF DATA AND ANALYSIS

4.1 BRIEF HISTORY OF THE STUDY

Ilorin South Local Government Area is one of the sixteen local government area in Kwara state and also one of the given local government area in Ilorin Emirate was created alongside other new local government area and the headquarter at Fufu by the federal military government during late general Sanni Abacha Regime.

Ilorin south local government area comprises of (2) two traditional districts, these are:

- i. Akanbi District
- ii. Balogun Fulani District

The district are made up of eleven political wards. They include Akanbi ward I, Akanbi ward IIb and Akanbi ward IV. Other are Balogun Fulani ward III, Okaka ward I Okaka ward II and Oke Ogun ward.

Ilorin south local government with headquarter at Fufu is on longitudes 40:35E. the local government have boundaries with area to the south, it is also area bounded to the west by Ilorin south, it is also bounded to the west by Ilorin west local government area and to the east by Ilorin east and Ifelodun local government area.

The cultural activities of the people include Walimat, Nikkah and other that are synonymous with Islam. The major festivals in the local government are headed Futril, headlit Kabir, Maulud Nabiyy and other festivities associated with Islam.

The local government is blessed with a lot of natural resources which are mostly from agriculture product and are marketable locally and internationally, such product include locust beans and shea butter as raw material for processing into finished products.

4.2 PRESENTING OF DATA

The data will be presented in a tabular form, through the use of questionnaire method.

TABLE ONE

Question 1

Are the communities in this local government fully participating in community development project?

Responses	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	38	85%
No	2	15%
Total	40	100%

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

It can obviously be seen that majority of the people living in the council aware that not only government provide their needs.

TABLE TWO

Question 2

Do you think that the communities in this council has the resources (human and materials) to embark on self-help project?

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

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

From the above table, we can see that nearly all the communities in this council do not have enough resources to carry out self-help projects and this can impeded development of this rural areas.

TABLE THREE

Do the communities initiate any development project in this local government?

Responses	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	15	30%
No	25	70%
Total	40	100%

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

From the above table, we can see that most the people do not initiate the projects, themselves due to factors such as inadequate resources and awareness.

TABLE FOUR

Question 4

Responses	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	20	50%
No	20	50%
Total	40	100%

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

From the above table it is manifested that 50% of the respondents respond positively and 50% equally negatively. In this case, local government authorities should embark on more development project.

TABLE FIVE

Question 5

Are the non-governmental organization contributing to development projects in local government?

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

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

It can clearly be seen that the percentage of which non-governmental organization participate towards community development project is low simply because these organizations are very few in this local government.

TABLE SIX

Question 6

What strategy do people adopt in executing rural development project in this local government?

Responses	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	15	40%
No	10	20%
Non-directive approach	15	40%
Total	40	100%

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

. From the above table, we can see that participation of the government toward rural development projects is inadequate; therefore, government should increase their level of participation in development project to the rural areas

TABLE SEVEN

Question 7

Does local government authorities concentrate more on urban area than rural areas of this council?

Responses	No of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	20	50%
Disagree	15	37.5%
Undecided	5	12.5%
Total	40	100%

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

From the table above, it can be seen that the authorities do not concentrate on rural area rather than, they continue to site development project in the urban areas of the council.

TABLE EIGHT

Question 8

Do you think that the council is situating development projects in only the communities that voted for it?

Responses	No of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	20	50%
Disagree	15	37.5%
Undecided	5	12.5%
Total	40	100%

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

It can be seen from the above table that the authorities is been politicized in siting development projects in this local government.

TABLE NINE

Question 9

Do government allow the rural dwellers to participate in decision making concerning rural development projects?

Responses	No of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	15	37.5%
Disagree	10	25%
Undecided	15	37.5%
Total	40	100%

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

From the above table, it is manifested reasonably number of people (communities) are not allowed to participate in making decision about rural development projects.

TABLE TEN

Question 10

Do you agree that the spirit of self-help initiative is encouraging this local government to move forward?

Responses	No of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	40	100%
Disagree	-	-
Undecided	-	-
Total	40	100%

Sources: Researcher's Field Survey, 2025

It is apparent from the above table that this local government will move forward, if the self-help initiative is encourage.

4.3 ANALYSIS OF DATA

The chapter is derived to the presentation and analysis of finding of the researcher. Information obtained from the field of work is presented in tabular form by the use of people percentage method.

The mechanism employed in the collection of data in this project were techniques of interviews and questionnaire. The researcher administered the instrument by giving question that comprises two sections. Section A comprises of Yes/No response from the respondents to write their views as far as rural development is concerned in Ilorin South Local Government Area.

Out of 50 questionnaires administered to the management, staff, the district heads, community leaders and other inhabitants of Ilorin South Local Government Area, 40 were returned, the returned questionnaires were found to be useful to the researcher.

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CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.1 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The problems and prospect of rural development taking Ilorin south local government area as a case study by researchers, this is the essence of this research work. We tried to trace the origin of Ilorin south local government, the major occupation, festival and cultural activities of the inhabitants of the council.

We also examined the level of achievement of the development of rural countries in its area of jurisdiction so far and its involvement and efforts of national development.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The researcher will now prescribe certain recommendations to the authorities of Ilorin south Local government are both present and future ones. In as much as the local governments are foundation stores the councils.

In view of this, it is imperative for Ilorin south local government to involve the rural dwellers in the system in terms of this, the communication problem between the local solved and provision of social amenities and infrastructural facilities such as medical institution, good drinking water, good road, education and electricity will be evenly distributed.

The area office should be well equipped with high caliber officers with executive responsibility. The area officers should be responsible for revenue collection and meditate or serve as Larson office between the local government and the rural dwellers.

The establishment of subordinate council by local government is very essential and a good venture to improve the standard of living of the rural dwellers and to ensure equitable provision of social amenities and infrastructural facilities.

However, it is realized that Ilorin south local government is confronted with a number of problems in the implantation o non-involvement and know participation of rural dwellers and lack of good road etc.

It is however hoped with the recommendations made above, these problems would be solved and the condition of the rural dwellers improved if only the board objectives of the local government are affected.

5.3 CONCLUSIONS

The goal of development is the achievement of the quantity of life and it availability at minimum level to all section of the production. The improvement of the living standard of the poor rural dwellers is the essence of rural development.

The local government area close to the local committee and is made it possible for attention to be given to them as constituting the major agents of rural development. The writer as also shown in the paper that local government is general has tremendous function to perform for the welfare of the people.

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