FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.

4TH International Conference

28-29 April, 2026 **09hr00 to 16hr00 daily (WAT)**

Deborah Atanda Memorial Hall, Phase III, Fuoye

Theme:

RESILIENT SOCIETIES:
SOCIAL SCIENCES SOLUTIONS
FOR A TURBULENT WORLD



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Federal University Oye-Ekiti,
Ekiti State, Nigeria.

4TH International Conference

Theme:

RESILIENT SOCIETIES: SOCIAL SCIENCES SOLUTIONS



FOR A TURBULENT WORLD



Prof. Joshua Olalekan Ogunwole
Vice-Chancellor, FUOYE
CHIEF HOST



Prof. Sunday A. Adedini
Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
HOST



Prof. Hassan Saliu
President, Nigerian Political Science Association (NPSA)
SPEAKER

28-29 April, 2026 09hr00 to 16hr00 daily (WAT) Deborah Atanda Memorial Hall, Phase III, Fuoye

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.

4TH International Conference

Theme:

RESILIENT SOCIETIES: SOCIAL SCIENCES SOLUTIONS

FOR A TURBULENT WORLD



28-29 April, 2026 **09hr00 to 16hr00 daily (WAT)**

Deborah Atanda Memorial Hall, Phase III, Fuoye

FUNDERS

1. Management of the Federal University, Oye-Ekiti
2. Donation from faculty members

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

1. Prof. Philip Nwosa	Chairman
2. Dr. Anthony Adebayo	Member
3. Dr. Oluwaseun Bamidele	Member
4. Dr. Israel Ayodele	Member
5. Dr. Judith Azikiwe	Member
6. Dr. Olawale Ariyo	Secretary – L.O.C
7. Mrs. Adedayo Owoeye	Secretary – Workshop & Conference Committee

SUB COMMITTEE MEMBERS

A. Scientific Sub-Committee

Dr. Oluwaseun Bamidele	Chairman
Dr. Samuel Oyewole	Member
Dr. Okechukwu Chukwudeh	Member
Mr. Sunday Abatan	Member
Mr. Dogara Joshua	Member
Dr. Olawale Ariyo	Secretary

B. Fund Raising Sub-Committee

Prof. Sunday Adedini	Chairman
Prof. Olayiwola Fasoranti	Member
Prof. Azeez Olaniyan	Member
Dr. Ken Egbo	Member
Dr. Osmond Agu	Member
Dr. Ifedayo Aje	Member
Dr. Jackson Osuh	Member

C. Welfare Sub-Committee

Dr. Judith Azikiwe	Chairperson
Dr. Olubunmi Efuntade	Member
Dr. Tolulope Odunayo	Member
Mr. Able Azabagun	Member
Mrs. Mercy Towoju	Member

D. Logistics Sub-committee

Dr. Israel Ayodele	Chairperson
Mr. Monday Ojiezele	Member
Mr. Olusegun Amodu	Member
Mr. Femi Fayomi	Member
Mr. Celestine Obele	Member
Mrs. Helen Babalola	Member
Mr. Alausa Sulaiman	Member
All Corpers in the Faculty	Members

E. Hospitality Sub-Committees

Dr. Christiana Alex-Ojei	Chairperson
Mrs. Folashade Akinyemi	Member
Mrs. Tolulope Abayomi	Member
Mr. Olugbenga Dada	Member
All Corpers in the Faculty	Members

PROGRAMME FOR THE OPENIING CEREMONY

1. National Anthem – the second stanza
2. FUOYE Anthem
3. Chairman's Opening Remarks
4. Dean's Opening Speech
5. Keynote Presentation
6. Performance by the Mass Communication and Media Studies
7. Vice-Chancellor's Speech and Official Opening of the Conference
8. National Anthem
9. Group Photograph

OPENING REMARK BY LOC CHAIR OF THE
4TH FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Vice Chancellor (or the representative of the Vice Chancellor)
Other Principal Officers of the University Management,
The Dean, and other Deans and Directors,
Professors
Distinguished scholars, esteemed guests, colleagues, and participants from around the globe.

It is with great honour and privilege to welcome you all to the 4th international conference of the Faculty of Social Sciences, titled "Resilient Societies: Social Sciences Solutions to a Turbulent World."

We are gathered here at a critical moment in human history—one defined by incessant turbulence - uncertainty, crises and complex global challenges that test the very fabric of our societies. Consequently, the world is experiencing economic instability, political tensions, environmental crises among others. These challenges, though daunting, also present an opportunity for reflection, innovation, and collective action across academic disciplines. It is within this context that the interventions of the social scientist become indispensable.

The theme of this conference underscores the vital role of the disciplines in social sciences and beyond, in addressing the complexities of this global turbulence. Social sciences provide us with the analytical tools, evidence-based insights, and policy frameworks necessary to build societies that are not only resilient but also inclusive, equitable, and sustainable.

Resilience, in this sense, goes beyond mere survival. It speaks to the capacity of individuals, institutions, and countries to adapt, recover, and thrive amid rising economic turbulence. It is about strengthening governance systems, promoting social cohesion, fostering innovation, and ensuring that no one is left behind. This conference serves as a platform for robust intellectual engagement, interdisciplinary dialogue, and the exchange of ideas that transcend borders. I encourage all participants to actively contribute, and collaborate in ways that generate practical solutions to prevailing real-world problems.

As we commence this important gathering, let us remain mindful that the knowledge we share here has the potential to shape policies, influence societies, and improve lives. Let us work together with a shared sense of purpose and commitment to building a more resilient and peaceful world.

On behalf of the organizing committee, I sincerely welcome you all and wish you a fruitful and impactful conference.
Thank you.

AN ADDRESS PRESENTED BY DEAN, FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES FEDERAL UNIVERSITY, OYE-EKITI AT THE 4TH SOCIAL SCIENCES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HELD ON 28TH APRIL, 2026.

The Vice-Chancellor,
Members of the management Team,
The Keynote Speakers,
Conference Participants,
Gentlemen of the Press
Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is with a heart filled with warmth and joy that I welcome you to this auspicious occasion of the fourth in the series of Social Sciences International Conference. I am indeed thankful to the Almighty God, the giver of life, for the preservation of our lives and sustenance of this conference; in Him alone we shall eternally be grateful.

This is the fourth consecutive conference in a row, and these have further reinforced our resolve and resilience as one family bonded in love and unity. I know that the series of conferences of our dear faculty shall continually be an annual event.

Let me most profoundly appreciate our indefatigable, dynamic, and goal-getter Vice-Chancellor Professor Joshua Olalekan Ogunwole, the fifth substantive Vice-Chancellor of this University for graciously supporting this conference. Mr. Vice-Chancellor, sir, the faculty appreciates you for your giant strides and refirms to steering the course of our great institution within a short period of your assumption of office. We therefore pray that the good Lord directs your cause, gives you Solomon's wisdom and guards you, to discharge your duties effectively at this epochal period in the annals of our university. Sir, it is our solemn prayer that your tenure would be marked with unprecedented successes.

Let me appreciate our Keynote Speaker, a Political Scientist and scholar of global rating, who is also the quintessential President of Nigerian Political Science Association, Professor Hassan A. Saliu, for honouring our invitation with his presence. We are highly indebted to have you in our midst despite your tight schedules. I know that you would be bringing to the fore your intellectual wealth of experience as you take us through the theme of the conference. We are very delighted to have you here at the Federal University, Oye Ekiti.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, with the benefit hindsight, the themes of the previous conferences held from the first conference theme “Optimizing and Achieving the Nigeria's Socio-economic development-Prospects, Opportunities and Challenges”, to the second one, themed "Nigeria's diversity for prosperity and sustainable development, and then the last one, with the theme, Social Innovations for a Sustainable World: Reimagining global challenges through Social Sciences " have shown that the faculty conference series were deliberately poised to interrogating issues that are timely, relevant and of global importance to the ever changing world. In keeping faith with these lofty ideals, the theme of this year's conference Resilient Societies: Social Sciences Solutions for a Turbulent World,"' is very aptly apropos on the need to engage the avalanche of issues and vices marauding the global space through the lens of social sciences research. The choice of this theme is very apposite at a time like this, when the world is facing a plethora of socio-economic and developmental issues ranging from economic instability, global terrorism, political mistrust, and climate change, all of which, in part and/or combined, pose grave threats to global sustainability. The world can only be sustainable when we are resilient and intentional in meeting the needs of this generation without jeopardising the ability of future generations to realise theirs. Hence, this conference is billed to provide a viable and charitable way forward to the myriad issues confronting the World.

I must most sincerely commend the conference participants for submitting quality papers for presentation. It is my unwavering hope that your presentations at this meeting will guide the robustness of your paper, thereby enhancing your contribution to the body of knowledge.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of this conference, ably led by the enigmatic Prof. Phillip Nwosa, for working tirelessly round the clock for a successful conference. Thank you for holding fort and sustaining the tempo. You have proven your mettle to be a trusted hand, as I always hold the view that there is no success without a good successor. History shall be equitable to you.

Let me also thank the committee members for their support and commitment to the seemingly herculean task of ensuring a successful conference. Let me place on record that you have indelibly etched your names in gold, and history shall beam a joyous smile on your undertakings.

Finally, I thank every member of the Faculty for contributing their quotas to the success of the Faculty conference series and its sustenance. We are indeed one big happy family. I thank you all, God bless you.

AN ADDRESS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR FEDERAL UNIVERSITY, OYE-EKITI AT THE 4TH SOCIAL SCIENCES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HELD ON 28TH APRIL, 2026.

Protocols

With a heart laced in delectation and enthusiasm, I welcome you all to this conference, and by extension to this sanctuary of intellectual learning, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria. I am extremely happy to be in this auspicious gathering, being the fourth consecutive Social Sciences International Conference of this university. I most especially appreciate the Faculty management under the leadership of the Dean, Prof. Sunday Adepoju Adedini, for making frantic efforts to make this conference an annual event.

As Academics, it behoves us to be distinguished in our calling. Research is one of the key tripods on which our academic world stands. As such, conferences and meetings like this are of holistic relevance to strengthening our research capabilities by disseminating our research outputs, engaging robust critiques, cross-fertilising ideas, and, more importantly, networking thereby enhancing academic productivity and visibility. I have no reservations in my mind that, as we confer at this intellectual event, just like the previous ones, the conference will, in no small measure, yield the expected outcome, which is advancing the frontiers of knowledge. To us as an administration, we shall keep supporting endeavours like this, to make our university a leading research institution in Nigeria and the world at large.

On the theme of this conference, "Resilient Societies: Social Sciences Solutions for a Turbulent World". I wish to say, devoid of any modicum of equivocation, that this theme is very apt and timely at a time like this, in a world that is so much more enmeshed in great turbulence than ever. It is appropriate to say that the globe is facing a myriad of challenges, ranging from the uprising in the Middle East, which has drastically affected the global economy, the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, and terrorism within the African continent and beyond. Also, the increasing population, competition for scarce resources and its attendant vices, like economic and political instability, civil unrest, and climate change crisis, pose significant challenges to the global peace and order.

Therefore, the Social Scientists hold a special place in stemming this tide of turbulence by attenuating the challenges earlier identified, if not ameliorating them, using their research prisms to examine the challenges ravaging the globe, identify the opportunities and provide a veritable way forward to mitigating the challenges through evidence-based research. I harbour no doubts in my mind that this conference is positioned to achieve these laudable goals.

Let me at this point, extend my warmest wishes and appreciation to the Keynote Speaker – the affably dynamic President of the Nigeria Political Science Association, Professor Hassan A. Saliu, for his participation at this conference. I thank you most specially for finding time out of your busy schedules to be here. I do not doubt that you will be sharing with us, thought-provoking discourse from your wealth of experience on the theme of this conference.

I wish to congratulate the Faculty of Social Sciences for organising this conference. Let me also commend the participants for submitting papers for this conference. I believe there would be robust engagements, and publications in high-ranking journals would follow thereafter.

On a final note, I thank everybody who has in one way or another contributed to the success of this conference, as I declare this conference open in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit (Amen), while wishing you a happily stimulating and fruitful deliberation. Thank you.

DAYS	DAY OF SESSION	VENUE	NO OF PAPERS	CHAIR-PERSONS
OPENING CEREMONY - 10:00AM-12:00PM				
DAY ONE	**MORNING SESSION - 11:30AM-1:00PM**			
	Parallel Session 1A	Econometric lab, at FSS New Building,	6	Assoc. Prof. Omolade Adeleke
	Parallel Session 2A	Twin Building 1 (TB-1)	6	Assoc. Prof. Anthony Adebayo
	Parallel Session 4A	Twin Building 2 (TB-2)	5	Dr. Abare Ogah
	Parallel Session 6A	Psychology Lab 2 at FSS New Building,	5	Assoc. Prof. Anthony Agbegbedia
	Parallel Session 9A	DSS lab, at FSS New Building,	7	Dr. Blessing Babalola
	Parallel Session 10B	Psychology Lab 1 at FSS New Building	6	Dr. Judith Azikiwe
DAY ONE	**AFTERNOON SESSION - 2:00PM -3:30PM**			
	Parallel Session 1B	Econometric lab, at FSS New Building,	5	Dr. Stella Mbah
	Parallel Session 3A	Twin Building 1 (TB-1)	5	Assoc. Prof. Micheal Aleyomi
	Parallel Session 5A	Twin Building 2 (TB-2)	7	Prof. Chiedu Abrifor
	Parallel Session 8A	Psychology Lab 2 at FSS New Building,	7	Prof. Emmanuel Odusina
	Parallel Session 10A	DSS lab, at FSS New Building,	6	Assoc. Prof., Ajoke Olatunji
	Parallel Session 10C	Psychology Lab 1 at FSS New Building,	6	Dr. Helen Olagundoye
DAY TWO	**MORNING SESSION - 09:00AM-10:50AM**			
	Parallel Session 1C	Econometric lab, at FSS New Building,	4	Dr. Gbenga Akinola
	Parallel Session 2B	Twin Building 1 (TB-1)	6	Dr. Beatrice Adeoye
	Parallel Session 4B	Twin Building 2 (TB-2)	5	Dr. Isreal Oluwole
	Parallel Session 7A	Psychology Lab 2 at FSS New Building,	7	Dr. Gbeke Adenuga
	Parallel Session 9B	DSS lab, at FSS New Building,	6	Dr. Jackson Osuh
	Parallel Session 10D	Psychology Lab 1 at FSS New Building,	6	Dr. Christiana Alex-Ojei
	CLOSING CEREMONY – 11:00AM – 11:45AM			

PARALLEL SESSION 1

Economic Resilience, Employment Dynamics, Labour Markets, Poverty Reduction, Sustainable Growth and Global Shocks

Session 1A

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Omolade Adeleke (Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Ojo Ademola E.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Akerele Dolapo T.

01	Fagbomedo Oluwadare Rufus Federal College of Education, Okene, Nigeria	**The Effect of Credit Risk on the Dividend Policy of Deposit Money Banks in Nigeria**
02	Sanmi Olubokun Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, Nigeria	**Do Remittances Reduce Poverty? Compelling Evidence from Nigeria**
03	Saheed Aliu, Aladejana Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, Nigeria	**Military Expenditure and Socio-Economic Development in Nigeria: A Guns Butter Perspective**
04	Osmond Chigozie Agu Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Capital Flight, Exchange Rate and Economic Growth in Nigeria**
05	Abimbola Theresa Fanu; Hammed Nafisat Bamidele; Oluwaseyi Peter Adeseye Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Perception of Undergraduate Agricultural Science Students on Environmental Changes in Ekiti State**
06	Akinola Gbenga W., Adeyemi Abiola S., and Joseph Felix D. Department of Economics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.	**Foreign Direct Investment, Unemployment and Economic Growth in Nigeria**

Session 1B

Chair: Dr. S. Mbah (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Omodara Ayodeji T.; **Rapporteur 2**: Miss. Olayomi Marvelous B.

01	Philip I. Nwosa; Adekunle Ayesimoju Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Does Remittance Inflows Influences Urbanization Drive in Nigeria?**
02	Pamilerin Ogundare; Babatunde J. Omotosho Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Socio-Economic Characteristics of Low-Skilled Workers in Selected States of South-West Nigeria's Informal Economy: A Demographic Analysis**
03	Iranola O.M; Shehu M. Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria	**Impact of Government-Provided Processing Equipment on Beneficiaries Poverty Status in Ondo State, Nigeria: A Mixed-Methods Assessment**
04	Ayesimoju Adekunle; Nwosa I. Philip Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Financial Development, Institutional Quality and C02 Emission in Nigeria**
05	Efuntade O.O Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Financial Inclusion and Health Outcomes in Nigeria**

Session 1C

Chair: Dr. Wilfred Akinola (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Adesanmi Oriola O.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Akinlolu Blessing O.

01	Osondu Joshua Ebuka Federal College of Education, Okene, Nigeria	**Assessing the Impact of Student's Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) on Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMES) in Nigeria**
02	Celestine Ogechi Obele; Omosolape Olakitan Owoseni Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Employee Voice, Innovative Work Behaviour, and Inclusive Leadership as Predictors of Employee Engagement among some selected Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria**
03	Augustus Olukayode Fisher Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Financial Dimensions of Nigeria s Space Policy: Budgetary flows, Revenue Streams, and Developmental and Security Impacts**
04	Amodu O.O; Awoyemi B.O; Ibitoye J; Akin O.A Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**ICT Penetration, Financial Inclusion and Unemployment Rate in Nigeria**

PARALLEL SESSION 2

Innovation, Digital Transformation, and the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Session 2A

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Anthony Adebayo (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mrs. / Miss. Bamikole Justinah.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Akenu Ayomide M.

01	Kemo Juwara; Taiwo A. Olaiya University of the Gambia, Gambia; Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria	**Navigating Rough Terrains in Higher Education Learning: A Study of Digital Adoption in Quality Assurance Administration at Gambian Universities**
02	Makuachukwu G. Ojide; Chigaemezu J. Uzor; Kelechi C. Ojide Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu-Alike, Nigeria	**Effects of Technology and Innovation on the Performance of Food and Beverage in Small and Medium Enterprises in Abakaliki, Ebonyi State**
03	Olawoyin Mustapha Adeyemi Lead City University, Nigeria	**Remote Work Policy and Employee Productivity in Nigeria s Civil Service: The Role of Technological Adaptability**
04	Aishat T. Lukman; Taiwo A. Olaiya Federal Polythechnic Ede, Nigeria; Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria	**Scepticism or Adaptability in a Turbulent Learning Environment? Perceptions of Artificial Intelligence Adoption in Nigerian Universities among Senior Academics**
05	Raji Sulaiman Amoo Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Drone Technology, Artificial Intelligence and Food Security: Implications for Rice Production in Developing Economies**
06	Abari Ijuo Ogah Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Navigating Digital Communication Approaches for a Turbulent World in Building strong Information Ecosystems among Crisis Communities in Osun State, Nigeria**

Session 2B

Chair: Dr. Adeoye Beatrice (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mrs. / Miss. Odeyemi Mosun; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Olatunde Michael A.

01	Awodiya Funke; Ademowo Adeyemi Afe Babalola University, Nigeria	**Digital Transformation from the Margins: Digital Practices and Social Resilience in Nigeria Benin Border Towns**
02	Aneke Chijioke Ezra; Emmanuel Odeh Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria; University of Uyo, Nigeria	**AI and the Future of Public Administration: Opportunities and Risks for Developing Countries**
03	Oyalabu Grace Idowu Adeleke University, Nigeria	**A Multi-Dimensional Analysis of Barriers to E-Governance in Developing Countries: Perspectives from Nigeria**
04	Israel O. Ayodele; Faith A. Osaweme; Celestine Obele & Modupe Abe Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Threat of Artificial Intelligence to Intellectual Rigor and Academic Integrity in Research among Undergraduate Students and Academic Staff in Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria**
05	Faith A. Osaweme Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Autocorrect Phenomenum: The Brains Adriotness in Unconsciously Correcting Homophonic Words Pilot Study**
06	Bamidele Ogunniyi Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Digital Leviathans: Evaluating the Systemic Constraints of Big Tech Conglomerates on Mental and Socio-Economic Development of Content Creators in Nigeria**

PARALLEL SESSION 3

Adaptive Governance, Migrations, and Policy Responses to Global Crises

Session 3

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Micheal Aleyomi (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Oluyemi Koyade L.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Oni Oyedele S.

01	Kingsley Oghenekevwe Ogbeta; Aishat Temitope Lukman; Taiwo Akanbi Olaiya University of the Gambia, Gambia; Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria	**Adaptive Governance and Policy Innovation in Nigeria's Response to Security Crises**
02	Fatou Mbye; Taiwo A. Olaiya Civil Service University, Gambia; Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria	**Governing Mobility in Times of Crisis: Analysing Emergency Migration Policies and their Implications for Sustainable Long-Term Reform**
03	Madeline B. Gomez; Taiwo A. Olaiya University of the Gambia, Gambia; Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria	**Adaptive Governance for Migration Management in West Africa: Policy Lessons and Institutional Responses from Selected ECOWAS Member States**

04	Waliyu Oladotun Akanni; Justinah Tinuola Bamikole Kwara State University, Nigeria	**Civil Unrest as a Resilience Test: Adaptive State Responses to Social Protests in Nigeria**
05	Thaddeaus Sylvester Deshi; Ojo Olawale Ariyo Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria	**The Resource Curse Conflict Dilemma: The Nigerian Experience**

PARALLEL SESSION 4

Democratic Governance, Institutional Reform, and Political Stability

Session 4A

Chair: Dr. Ogah Abari (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Adeyemi Stephen A.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mrs. / Miss. Ajayi Omobola O.

01	Samson Olukayode Bamidele Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology, Nigeria	**The Dilemma of Pursuit of Democratic Governance in Nigeria: Institutional Reform as Recipe of Peace**
02	Amos Olajubu Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Captured Opposition Political Parties in Nigeria Electoral Process: A Trend of Party Defections among the Opposition Governors**
03	Adeyinka Iretomiwa Oluwatunmise Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Assessing the Impact of INEC on Democratic Consolidation (2015-2023 Election Cycle)**
04	Mercy Oyinkansola Towoju Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Do Critical Actors Substitute for Critical Mass? Evidence from Gender Bills in Nigeria's 7th And 8th National Assemblies**
05	Mercy Ifeyinwa Obichili Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu Alike Ikwo, Ebonyi State, Nigeria	**Evaluating Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Perception of Climate Change Communication and its Influence on Public Awareness and Behavioural Responses related to Food and Economic Security in Nigeria**

Session 4B

Chair: Dr. Oluwole Isreal (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Fasaanu Oluwabusayo O; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Fapohunda Oluwatunmise M.

01	Sheikh Omar Fye; Taiwo A. Olaiya Civil Service University, Gambia; Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria	**Strengthening Democracy through Institutional Reform: Pathways to Democratic Resilience and Political Stability in the Gambia and West Africa**
02	Abari Ijuo Ogah, Abdullahi Ishola Salaudeen; Habeeb Opeyemi Daranijo Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria; Kwara State University, Nigeria	**Media Resilience in the Age of Disinformation: Rethinking Journalism Practice as a Social Science Solution for Democratic Stability in Nigeria**
03	Olakunle Akingbulu, Williams Michael Afolabi and Oluwafemi Sunday Olowokanga Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria & Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, Okitipupa	**Impeachment of Deputy Governors in Nigeria: Executive Recklessness or Legislative Culpability?**
04	Odeyemi, M.O. Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria	**The Role of the Local Government Administration in Rural Development in Ekiti State**
05	Wahab Jamiu Folawiyo Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Managing Global Perspectives on Resilient Societies: Lessons and Approaches to Security, Governance, and Emerging Threats**
06	Omotosho, Babatunde Joshua and Arogundade, Abiola Oluyemi. Federal University Oye-Ekiti; Bamidele Olumilua University of Edu. Sc. and Tech. Ikere-Ekiti, Nigeria.	**Crime Prevention Strategies in the Turbulent Ondo State, Nigeria.**

PARALLEL SESSION 5

Security Sector Governance, Crime Prevention, Terrorism, Cybersecurity and Emerging Threats

Session 5

Chair: Prof. Chiedu Abrifor (Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Fatoyinbo Sola A.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Ogunsakin Adebola T.

01	Luka Tanko Fun Kaduna State College of Education, Nigeria	**Nigerian Deradicalization and Integration in a Resilient Society**
02	Olowojolu Olakunle; Fayomi Oluwafemi; and Deshi Thaddeus Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Banditry and Re-Thinking the Security Architecture of Kwara State**
03	Samuel O.Ijimakinwa; Mercy Ayomide Omoniyi Olabisi Onanbajo University, Nigeria; Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria	**Assessing Citizen Security and Governance in Lagos State: A case of Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency in Perspective**
04	Mustapha Mohammed Musa; Babatunde J. Omotosho; Anthony A. Adebayo Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Effectiveness of Interagency Collaboration in Managing and Preventing Kidnapping Cases in Ekiti and Ondo States, Nigeria**
05	Talabi Rasheed Ayegbusi; Mercy Oyinkansola Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria	**Human Security Approach to Insecurity in Africa**
06	Niyi Adegoke National Open University of Nigeria, Nigeria	**Police Brutality and Police Community Relation: A Carrots and Tick Approach to Criminality in Ekiti State**
07	Oriabure Monday Ojiezele Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Sycophancy and the Challenges of Development: The Nigerian Experience**

PARALLEL SESSION 6

Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding, and Community/Local Security Mechanisms

Session 6

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Anthony Agbegbedia (Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Ekundayo John K.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mrs. / Miss. Adeyeye Omonike B.

01	Iranola O.M Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria	**Conflict Prevention through Peace Building among Agrarian Communities**
02	Odunayo E. Akomolafe Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Marital Conflict as a Challenge to Human Security: Causes, Patterns and Consequences among Married Couples in Ado Ekiti, Nigeria**
03	Tolu Elizabeth Aje Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Indigenous Governance Structures and the Role of Traditional Authority in Community Security Management in Southwest Nigeria**
04	Ojo Olawale Ariyo; Odunayo Elizabeth Akomolafe; Olakunle Akingbulu; Thaddeus Sylvester Deshi; Aishat Oladoyin Azeez. Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria	**Territorial Citizenship and Migration Justice: Land Conflict and Belonging in Southwestern Nigeria**
05	Azabagun Able, Ojo Samuel Olugbenga, Durojaye Oyedolapo Babatunde and Iji Adebowale Salem Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Interrogating Political Godfatherism as a Driver of Structural Violence and Social Instability in Northern Nigeria**

PARALLEL SESSION 7

International Relations, Migration, Borders, and Humanitarian Security

Session 7

Chair: Dr. Gbeke Adenuga (Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Oluyomi Emmanuel D..; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Asododo Francis A.

01	Gbeke A. Adenuga; Mercy Towoju Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Reassessing Sovereignty in a Turbulent Global Order: An Analysis of President Donald Trump's Foreign Policy**
02	Oluwafemi Ola Fayomi; Godday Oriase Omogbemi; Williams Micheal Afolabi, Adebiyi Emmanuel Ayomide; Adam Solomon Olowu; Adeeyo Masroor Mahmud Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Strategic South-South Cooperation and Digital Diplomacy: Strengthening Statehood in Fragmenting Global Order**
03	Akingbulu Olakunle; Adeeyo Masroor Mahmud; Williams Michael Afolabi Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Migration Diplomacy in Times of War: The Impact of Middle East Conflicts on Global Migration Governance**
04	Busuyi Joshua Omotayo; Oghenevwoke Anthony Agbegbedia Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Middle East War: Implication on Global Energy and Food Security in Nigeria**

05	Arinze Ngwube; Basil Okoli; Jude Obeta Federal University Oye Ekiti, Ekiti State Nigeria	**The Military Coup in Benin Republic and Nigeria Intervention**
06	Arinze Ngwube; Chuka Okoli Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Iran's Wars and Implication for Nigeria's National Security**
07	Anuoluwapo Victoria Matiminu; Seun Bamidele Department of Peace and Conflict Studies Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Legality, Legitimacy, and the Use of Force: U.S. Military Action in Venezuela Under Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter**

PARALLEL SESSION 8

Population Dynamics, Demographic Transitions, Mortality Trends, and Urban Rural Change

Session 8

Chair: Prof. Emmanuel Odusina (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Miss. Ayandosu Oluwawemimo; **Rapporteur 2**: Mrs. / Mrs. Olatuyi Folakemi.

01	Ismaila Ibrahim; Emmanuel Odusina Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Prevalence of Child Mortality Differentials by Socio-Economic Status in Kogi State, Nigeria**
02	Sunday A. Adedini; Funmilola F. Oyinlola; Christiana A. Alex-Ojei; Blessing I. Babalola; Sunday M. Abatan; Olusegun Amodu; Adesoji Dunsin Ogunsakin Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Sub-National Evidence on the Drivers of Child Mortality in Ekiti State, South-West Nigeria**
03	Tolu Ayo Ogunniyi; Anthony Abayomi Adebayo Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Investigating Socio-Cultural Factors Influencing the Prevalence of Teenage Pregnancy among Public Secondary School Students in Ekiti State, Nigeria**
04	Adekunle Eniyanu Akinkunmi; Blessing I. Babalola; Emmanuel K. Odusina Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Determinants of Contraceptive Non-Use among Couples in Nigeria**
05	Odusina Emmanuel Kolawole; Falade Philips Adekunle; Kunmifayo Deborah Odusina Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Prevalence and Socio-Demographic Determinants of Unmet Need for Contraception among Young Women in Ekiti State, Nigeria**
06	Sunday Matthew Abatan; Funmilola O. Oyinlola; Sunday A. Adedini Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.	**Mobile Health Solutions and Postpartum Family Planning Utilization in Ekiti State, Nigeria: Acceptability, Barriers and perceived effectiveness**
07	Ismaila Ibrahim; Emmanuel Kolawole Odusina Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria	**Assessing Access and Utilization of Modern Contraceptive Services among Women in Okene Local Government Area, Kogi State, Nigeria**

PARALLEL SESSION 9

Health Systems, Epidemiology, Social Welfare, and Human Development across the Life Course

Session 9A

Chair: Dr. Babalola Blessing (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Ajayi Taiwo E; **Rapporteur 2**: Mrs. / Mrs. Abdulkabir Rofiat O.

01	Kunmifayo Deborah Odusina Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria	**Effect of Public Health Expenditure on Infant Mortality Rate in Nigeria (1980 to 2024)**
02	Lorretta Favour Chizomam Ntoimo; Adepoju Praise Asaolu; Oluwafemi Oluwaseun Ifanayajo; Oluwawemimo Ayandosu Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria; University of Ibadan, Nigeria	**Women's Financial Inclusion Drives Optimal Antenatal Care in Nigeria**
03	Chukwuechefulam Kingsley Imo; Chidi Slessor Mbah Adekunle Ajasin University, Nigeria; Abia State University, Nigeria	**Caregivers' Comprehensive Knowledge of Malaria Preventive Behaviours and Risk of Malaria among Under-Five Children: Exploring the Modulating Effect of Malaria Awareness Messages from the 2021 Nigeria Malaria Indicator Survey**
04	Christiana Alake Alex-Ojei, Lorretta Favour Chizomam Ntoimo, Nneka Lynda Nzewi Federal University Oye Ekiti, Ekiti State; Women's Health and Action Research Centre, Benin City, Edo State; University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State	**An Exploration of Service Provision and Oversight among Traditional and Faith-Based Birth Attendants in Urban South West Nigeria**

05	Justinah Tinuola Bamikole; Sunday Matthew Abatan; Taiwo Olabode Kolawole Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Evaluation of the Pattern and Barriers to Modern Family Planning Methods in Nigeria: An Implication for High Fertility Rate**
06	Beatrice D. Adeoye; Abigail T. Ogbede Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Determinants and Patterns of Antenatal Care Practices among Rural Pregnant Women in Oye-Ekiti Local Government Area**

Session 9B

Chair: Dr. Jackson Iheukwumere Osuh (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Ajao Paul O; **Rapporteur 2**: Mrs. / Miss. Ogunmodimu Esther.

01	Bukola Bosede Ogunro-Abiola; Agboola Femi Adebayo Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Perception of Rural Dwellers towards Malaria in Akure South LGA, Ondo State, Nigeria**
02	Sunday M. Abatan; Stephen A. Kenechukwu; Olawale O. Ariyo; Patrick T. Adegun; Adria Molotsky Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Navigating a Fractured Care Landscape: Policy Pathways for Bridging Alternative and Biomedical Treatment in Prostate Cancer Management in Nigeria**
03	Jackson Iheukwumere Osuh; Faith Alberth Osaweme Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Dose-Dependent Effects of Alcohol and Cannabis on Body Weight and Spatial Memory in Albino Rats**
04	Jackson Iheukwumere Osuh; Sikirulai Alausa Sulaiman; Faith Alberth Osaweme Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Effect of Prenatal Alcohol Exposure on Pregnancy Outcomes and Cognitive Development in Albino Rat Offspring**
05	Confidence Chioma Otoghile; Judith Chineye Azikiwe Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Psycho-Social Predictors of Dangerous Driving Behaviour among Drivers in Yenagoa, Nigeria**
06	Muhammed, A. Y.; Raji, A.; Nweke, U. P. University of Ilorin, Nigeria	**Tackling Juvenile Delinquency: Exploring the Role of School Disciplinary Policies among Secondary School Students in Kwara Central**

PARALLEL SESSION 10

Mental Health, Social Inequality, Misinformation, Digital Risks, Social Cohesion and Psychological Resilience

Session 10A

Chair: Assoc. Prof., Ajoke O. Olatunji (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Musa Toyyib O.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mrs. / Miss. Ogunlere Elizabeth.

01	Olatunji O. Ajoke; Iyinyeoluwa Elizabeth Oyeleye; Ifeoluwa Esther Sunday Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Influence of Stigmatization, Discrimination and Suicidal Ideation on Mental Health among LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Others) Individuals**
02	Sikirulai Sulaiman; Alausa Sulaiman, Judith Chineye Azikiwe; Olugbenga David Dada Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**"I Feel Less of Myself": A Qualitative Exploration of Perceived Pregnancy Related Stress, Anxiety, and Depression among Pregnant Women in Ekiti State, Nigeria**
03	Helen F. Olagundoye Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Resilience: A Psychological Tool in a Traumatic World**
04	Ajoke O. Olatunji; Helen F. Olagundoye; Azeez Garuba Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Predictors of Medication Adherence among Mentally Ill Patients in the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH), Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria**
05	Osuh Jackson; Sulaiman Sikirulai Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Economic Constraints and Socio-Demographic Factors as Predictors of Mental Health among Middle-Aged Adults in Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria**
06	Israel O. Ayodele; Yesirat S. Adesemowo and Faith A. Osaweme Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Examining the Impact of Mindfulness and Emotional Intelligence on Burnout in Healthcare Professionals (The Federal Teaching Hospital Ido (FETHI))**

Session 10B

Chair: Dr. Judith Chineye Azikiwe (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Balogun Ayodeji M; **Rapporteur 2**: Mrs. / Miss. Atofarati Mary.

01	Toyin Olanike Adaramoye; Israel O. Ayodele; Adebisi Victory Okere Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria; Nile University, Abuja, Nigeria	**Influence of Social Support and Self-Esteem on Resilience among Undergraduates**
02	Popoola, O. Abiola; Azeez, Z. Morayo University of Ilorin, Nigeria	**Body Shaming among Youths: Exploring the Impact of Internet Information Usage**
03	Muhibat Olanipekun; Judith Chineye Azikiwe Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Individual Lifestyles Self-Esteem and Celebrity Worship as Predictors of Mental Health among Young Adults in Ado-Ekiti**
04	Judith C. Azikiwe; Omoyemi H. Babalola; Samson O. Adeyemi Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Influence of Pornography Addiction, Loneliness, and Relationship Satisfaction on Masturbation Addiction among University Undergraduates**
05	Olugbenga David Dada; Judith Chineye Azikiwe; Adebayo Jacob Adeoye; Iyanu Oluwasegun Rasak Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Parental Neglect and Environmental Factors as Predictors of Juvenile Delinquency among Secondary School Students in Oye-Ekiti**
06	Oluwafemi Abiona Olubunmo, and Judith Chineye Azikiwe Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Parenting Styles, Parental Monitoring, and Social Media Use as Predictors of Substance Abuse among Young People in selected Institutions in Ekiti**

Session 10C

Chair: Dr Helen F. Olagundoye (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Olaoye Oyeyemi M; **Rapporteur 2**: Mrs. / Miss. Fasakin Temitope I.

01	Paul O. Ajao; Benjamin O. Omolayo; Helen F. Olagundoye Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Psychosocial Factors Determining Counterproductive Work Behaviours: Moderating Role of Emotional Intelligence among selected Teachers in Ilorin Metropolis**
02	Emmanuel Dele Ajayi; Judith Chineye Azikiwe Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Resilience, Social Connectedness, and Quality of Life as Predictors of Drug Abuse among Youths in Ekiti State**
03	Judith Chineye Azikiwe; Dare Daniel Adebayo; Aishat Bisola Tajudeen Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**The Relationship among Substance Use, Self-Esteem and Anxiety of Undergraduates**
04	Judith Chineye Azikiwe; Aishat Bisola Tajudeen; Olugbenga David Dada, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**The Role of Personality and Mental Health on the Academic Performance of Federal University Oye-Ekiti Students**
05	Israel O. Ayodele; Faith A. Osaweme Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Big Five Personality Traits and Mathematical Performance: A Case Study of St Augustine Junior Secondary School, Oye-Ekiti**
06	Stephen Afam Kenechukwu Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Health Misinformation and Journalism in Public Health Crises: Implications for Societal Resilience**

Session 10D

Chair: Dr. Christiana A. Alex-Ojei (Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria)
Rapporteur 1: Mr. Ogunleye Gbenga P.; **Rapporteur 2**: Mr. Ariyo Damilare E

01	Chukwudeh, S. Okechukwu Federal University Oye-Ekiti Nigeria	**Slum Health, Water Governance and Child Survival in Nigeria**
02	Emmanuel Durosinmi Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Poverty Traps and Social Protection in Northern Nigeria: A Systematic Review of Structural Constraints and Policy Responses**
03	Ayodele Charles Oluwasanmi Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology, Nigeria	**Multi-Cultural Education in Heterogeneous Society: A Panacea to Effective Leadership in Nigeria**
04	Keji Sunday Anderu Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria	**Institutional Quality and Industrial Output Growth in Nigeria**
05	Sarafa. B Shittu, Ridwan. O. Shittu and Sunday A. Adedini Federal University, Oye-Ekiti	**Correlates of Internal Migration on Marriage Dissolution among Women in Nigeria: A Cohort Analysis**
06	Akomolede, Odunayo Tolulope & Kevin Akpanke Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.	**An Exploration of Youth Involvement in Rural and Agricultural Development as Panacea to Youth Unemployment and Criminality**

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

4TH International Conference

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES,
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OYE EKITI, NIGERIA
28th -29th April, 2026

FSS 26-01:

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY THROUGH INSTITUTIONAL REFORM: PATHWAYS TO DEMOCRATIC RESILIENCE AND POLITICAL STABILITY IN THE GAMBIA AND WEST AFRICA

[1]Sheikh Omar Fye & [2]Taiwo A. Olaiya, Esq.
[1]Civil Service University, Kanifing, The Gambia
[2]Department of Public Administration, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

Abstract
Democratic governance in West Africa has experienced alternating phases of strengthening and decline, characterised by electoral conflicts, manipulation of constitutional provisions, military coups, and diminishing public confidence in government institutions. This paper explores how institutional reform can function as a driving force for reinforcing democracy and achieving lasting political stability, with particular attention to The Gambia's ongoing democratic transition. By comparing reform trajectories across selected West African countries, namely, The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, and Mali, the analysis investigates the critical linkages between institutional design, accountability mechanisms, and regime longevity. The paper argues that democratic resilience in West Africa depends less on the formal adoption of democratic frameworks and more on the credibility, autonomy, and enforcement capacity of political and oversight institutions. Electoral commissions, constitutional courts, anti-corruption agencies, legislatures, and security governance structures play decisive roles in mediating political competition and preventing instability. Where reforms have strengthened transparency, judicial independence, civil-military relations, and term-limit compliance, democratic systems have demonstrated greater adaptability to crises. Conversely, institutional weakening manifesting through executive overreach, politicisation of oversight bodies, or erosion of constitutional norms has contributed significantly to democratic backsliding and recurrent instability across the region. Employing a comparative qualitative approach, this study identifies three reform pathways critical to long-term stability: first, safeguarding electoral integrity through genuinely independent management bodies; second, reinforcing constitutional checks and balances to constrain executive dominance effectively; and third, institutionalising comprehensive security sector reforms to prevent unconstitutional transfers of power. The Gambia's post-Jammeh transition offers valuable insights into both the possibilities and challenges of democratic reconstruction following prolonged authoritarian rule. The findings suggest that sustainable political stability in West Africa requires deliberate, context-sensitive reforms that strengthen institutional accountability while simultaneously embedding democratic norms within political culture. Institutional reform, when effectively implemented and sustained, functions as both a preventive and corrective mechanism against democratic erosion, offering a viable pathway toward resilient governance in The Gambia and beyond.
Keywords: Democratic Governance, Institutional Reform, Democratic Resilience, Political Stability, Electoral Integrity, West Africa, The Gambia

FSS 26-02:

SCEPTICISM OR ADAPTABILITY IN A TURBULENT LEARNING ENVIRONMENT? PERCEPTIONS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ADOPTION IN NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES AMONG SENIOR ACADEMICS

[1]Aishat Temitope Lukman & [2]Taiwo A. Olaiya, Esq.
[1]Department of Public Administration, Federal Polytechnic Ede, Osun State, Nigeria
[2]Department of Public Administration, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Abstract
The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into higher education presents both transformative potential and significant challenges, particularly within the context of Nigerian universities. While much of the discourse focuses on student usage or institutional infrastructure, the perspectives of senior academics, who are pivotal to curriculum delivery and institutional governance, remain grossly underexplored. This study, thus, investigates the perceptions of older lecturers, such as Professors and Readers/Associate Professors, regarding the adoption of AI for academic purposes within a Nigerian university setting.

Anchored in the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), this research employed a quantitative approach using a structured questionnaire distributed to 140 lecturers selected proportionally across the 13 Faculties of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. The instrument was designed to assess perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and behavioural intention to utilise AI tools in their academic work. The findings reveal a complex duality in attitudes. A significant portion of respondents expressed reservations, articulating a concern that over-reliance on AI could erode essential critical thinking and writing skills, potentially fostering academic dependency and diminishing scholarly rigour. However, contrary to the assumption of widespread technological reluctance, the results also indicated that more than half of the participants demonstrated a willingness to engage with AI for academic purposes, provided its application is approached with discernment. The study concludes that while scepticism exists and primarily rooted in pedagogical integrity rather than technological aversion, there is a foundational openness among senior faculty members that can be cultivated. To bridge the gap between caution and adoption, this paper recommends the implementation of targeted capacity-building workshops that emphasise the complementary role of AI in enhancing, rather than replacing, human intellect. Furthermore, it advocates for the integration of AI literacy into institutional academic development programmes. By addressing the specific concerns of this demographic, universities can foster a more inclusive and representative approach to shaping an AI-driven academic future in Nigeria.

Keywords:Artificial intelligence, higher education, technology acceptance model, senior academics, Nigeria, digital adoption.

FSS 26-03:

ASSESSING ACCESS AND UTILIZATION OF MODERN CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES AMONG WOMEN IN OKENE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, KOGI STATE, NIGERIA

Ismaila Ibrahim & Emmanuel Kolawole Odusina
Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University Oye Ekiti State, Nigeria.

Abstract
Unintended pregnancies and high fertility rates remain significant public health concerns in Nigeria, particularly in rural areas. The Okene Local Government Area in Kogi State is no exception, with limited access to modern contraceptive services and high fertility rates. This study aims to investigate the access and utilization of modern contraceptive services among women in Okene Local Government Area, Kogi State, Nigeria, and explore the fertility differentials associated with these factors. This cross-sectional study employed a stratified sampling technique to select 400 women of reproductive age (15-49 years) from Okene Local Government Area. A pre-tested questionnaire was used to collect data on socio-demographic characteristics, access and utilization of modern contraceptive services, and fertility outcomes. The study revealed that only 30.5% of the respondents had ever used modern contraceptive services, with a significant gap in access and utilization among married and unmarried women, as well as those with higher levels of education and income. This study highlights the need for targeted interventions to increase access and utilization of modern contraceptive services among women in Okene Local Government Area, Kogi State, Nigeria. The findings also suggest that fertility differentials are associated with access and utilization of modern contraceptive services, emphasizing the importance of addressing these disparities to achieve reproductive health goals. Based on the study's findings, it is recommended that the government, non-governmental organizations, and health providers should implement policies and programs to improve access to modern contraceptive services, particularly among married women and those with lower levels of education and income.

Key words: Contraceptives, Women, Okene, Reproductive health, Utilization

FSS 26-04:

GOVERNING MOBILITY IN TIMES OF CRISIS: ANALYSING EMERGENCY MIGRATION POLICIES AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE LONG-TERM REFORM

[1]**Fatou Mbye & [2]Taiwo A. Olaiya, Esq.**
[1]Civil Service University, Kanifing, The Gambia
[2]Department of Public Administration, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Abstract
The governance of human mobility has faced unprecedented challenges over the past two decades, as a succession of global crises. The situation includes, but not limited to, pandemic-induced border closures, armed conflicts triggering emergency protection schemes, recurrent Mediterranean migration flows, and accelerating climate-induced displacement, which has repeatedly tested the resilience and adaptability of national and international migration systems. In responding to these disruptions, governments have frequently adopted rapid, often temporary policy measures enacted under intense political and administrative pressure. While such interventions are typically designed to address immediate humanitarian and security concerns, their long-term implications for mobility regulations, international protection regimes, labour market integration, social service provision, and broader social cohesion remain insufficiently examined within both academic literature and policy discourse. This study aims to evaluate crisis-era migration policies systematically, drawing critical lessons for the design of sustainable long-term reforms. Anchored firmly in the discipline of public policy analysis, the research employs a qualitative methodology utilising established policy evaluation frameworks to review, analyse, and assess selected migration policy responses across diverse crisis contexts. The evaluation will focus on multiple interconnected dimensions, including policy effectiveness, equity considerations, administrative feasibility, fiscal sustainability, and the protection of migrant rights. Data derived from comprehensive content analysis of policy documents, peer-reviewed scholarly literature, and institutional reports from relevant international organisations will be synthesised and presented using descriptive analytical methods. The findings are expected to illuminate the complex ways in which short-term crisis interventions shape, enable, and sometimes constrain long-term policy implementation trajectories. The study anticipates revealing inherent tensions and trade-offs between expedient executive action during emergencies and fundamental principles of democratic accountability and legislative oversight. Furthermore, it will explore the persistent friction between assertions of national sovereignty and the practical realities of local implementation capacity, particularly within decentralised governance structures. By distilling evidence-based lessons from diverse crisis responses across multiple geographical contexts, this paper aims to contribute meaningful insights for policymakers, international organisations, and governance scholars seeking to design more resilient, humane, and effective migration frameworks for an increasingly crisis-prone world.

Keywords:Migration governance, public policy, global crises, emergency response, policy evaluation, long-term reform, resilience

FSS 26-05:

DOSE-DEPENDENT EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL AND CANNABIS ON BODY WEIGHT AND SPATIAL MEMORY IN ALBINO RATS

Osuh, Jackson Iheukwumere & Osaweme, Faith Alberth
Department of Psychology, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

Abstract
Exposure to psychoactive substances such as alcohol and cannabis has been associated with physiological alterations and cognitive impairments. This study examined the independent and interactive effects of alcohol and cannabis doses on body weight and spatial memory in albino rats. An independent-group randomized design with a 2 × 2 factorial matrix was employed. Forty albino rats were randomly assigned to eight experimental groups (n = 5 per group) receiving alcohol (20% vs. 40%) and cannabis extract (10 mg/kg vs. 20 mg/kg body weight) for 21 days. Spatial memory was assessed using the T-maze learning task, while body weight was recorded weekly. Data were analysed using factorial analysis of variance (ANOVA) to determine main and interaction effects. A significant main effect of alcohol dose on spatial memory was observed, with rats exposed to 40% alcohol exhibiting longer T-maze latencies than those exposed to 20% alcohol, $F(1, 32) = 9.12$, $p = .005$, $\eta^2 = .22$. Cannabis dose also showed a significant effect on memory performance, with 20 mg/kg producing longer latencies than 10 mg/kg, $F(1, 32) = 4.87$, $p = .035$, $\eta^2 = .13$. Alcohol exposure significantly reduced body weight, $F(1, 32) = 7.46$, $p = .010$, $\eta^2 = .19$, whereas cannabis dose alone did not significantly influence body weight, $F(1, 32) = 2.14$, $p = .153$. A significant alcohol × cannabis interaction was found for spatial memory, $F(1, 32) = 5.23$, $p = .029$, $\eta^2 = .14$, indicating greater impairment among rats exposed to higher doses of both substances. A similar interaction trend was observed for body weight. The findings demonstrate dose-dependent and interactive effects of alcohol and cannabis, with combined higher doses producing the most pronounced impairments in spatial memory and reductions in body weight.

Keywords:Alcohol, cannabis, dose-dependent effects, T-maze, spatial memory, body weight, albino rats.

FSS 26-06:

EFFECT OF PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE ON PREGNANCY OUTCOMES AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN ALBINO RAT OFFSPRING

Osuh, Jackson Iheukwumere, Sulaiman, Sikirulai Alausa & Osaweme, Faith Alberth
Department of Psychology, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

Abstract
Prenatal alcohol exposure is a major teratogenic factor associated with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and long-term neurobehavioral deficits. Experimental animal studies have consistently shown that gestational alcohol exposure disrupts fetal growth and brain development, resulting in impairments in learning and memory. This study examined the effects of prenatal alcohol exposure on pregnancy outcomes and cognitive development in albino rat offspring. An independent randomized experimental design was employed. Twelve female albino rats were randomly assigned to three groups: 20% alcohol exposure, 40% alcohol exposure, and a control group. For mating, one male albino rat was introduced into each cage containing a female for three consecutive days to allow copulation. Following mating, pregnant females received the assigned treatments for 18 days of gestation. Maternal body weight, pregnancy rate, litter size, and physical abnormalities were recorded. Cognitive performance of the offspring was assessed using the T-maze learning task, a standard measure of spatial learning and memory. Data were analysed using independent samples t-tests. Female rats exposed to alcohol showed lower pregnancy rates compared with the control group. Maternal weight gain was significantly higher in the control group than in alcohol-exposed groups, $t(10) = 2.47$, $p < .05$. Offspring from alcohol-exposed dams also demonstrated poorer performance on the T-maze task, indicating reduced cognitive functioning. Prenatal alcohol exposure adversely affects reproductive outcomes and impairs cognitive development in offspring, providing further experimental evidence that gestational alcohol consumption disrupts early neurobehavioral development.

Keywords:prenatal alcohol exposure, fetal alcohol effects, albino rats, offspring cognition, T-maze learning.

FSS 26-07:

ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS AND SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS AS PREDICTORS OF MENTAL HEALTH AMONG MIDDLE-AGED ADULTS IN OYE-EKITI, EKITI STATE, NIGERIA.

Osuh, Jackson Iheukwumere & Sulaiman, Sikirulai Alausa
Department of Psychology, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

Abstract
Economic hardship is widely recognized as a critical social determinant of psychological well-being, particularly in low- and middle-income contexts where financial instability may increase stress and vulnerability to mental health problems. This study examined the influence of economic constraints and selected socio-demographic factors on the mental health of middle-aged adults in Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria. A cross-sectional survey design was employed. Descriptive statistics were used to examine the distribution of economic constraints and mental health outcomes. Reliability analysis assessed the internal consistency of the measurement scales. Independent samples t-tests and multiple regression analysis were conducted to test the study hypotheses. Descriptive statistics indicated moderate levels of economic constraints ($M = 52.31$, $SD = 14.06$) and considerable variation in mental health outcomes ($M = 105.05$, $SD = 25.40$). Reliability analysis demonstrated strong internal consistency for the Economic Constraints scale ($\alpha = .84$) and the Mental Health scale ($\alpha = .89$). Independent samples t-test results revealed that participants experiencing higher economic constraints reported significantly poorer mental health compared with those experiencing lower constraints, $t(101) = -2.32$, $p < .05$, Cohen's $d = -0.46$. No significant gender difference was found in mental health outcomes, $t(101) = 0.45$, $p > .05$. Multiple regression analysis further indicated that economic constraints significantly predicted mental health outcomes ($\beta = .21$, $t(97) = 2.13$, $p = .036$), whereas age, gender, ethnicity, and religion were not significant predictors. The findings highlight the significant role of economic conditions in shaping mental health outcomes among middle-aged adults.

Keywords:economic constraints, mental health, socio-demographic factors, middle-aged adults, Nigeria.

FSS 26-08:

STRATEGIC SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION AND DIGITAL DIPLOMACY: STRENGTHENING STATEHOOD IN FRAGMENTING GLOBAL ORDER

Oluwafemi Ola FAYOMI, Godday Oriase OMOGBEMI,
Williams Micheal AFOLABI, Adebiyi Emmanuel AYOMIDE,
Adam Solomon OLOWU & Adeeyo Masroor MAHMUD
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

Abstract
Today, the global system is undergoing a gradual structural change which can easily be linked to the declining western hegemony. This shift is a precarious paradox for states in Global south. The fading influence of Bretton Woods institutions coincides with the emergence of new strategic alliances. Relying on secondary data, this paper examines how south-south strategic alliances notably BRICS+ expansion serves as essential mechanisms for maintaining state resilience. By leveraging joint collaboration, states in Global south are transitioning democracy from passive "rule-takers" to active architects of a multipolar system. This paper further explore digital systems as means of modern diplomacy. How that states are leveraging on digital platform to pursue state agendas and communicate international audience. It also examines viable mechanisms to address challenges associated with this development such as data exploitation, cybersecurity, cyber-warfare, information disruption etc... It also interrogates the urgent need for developing states in particular, to embrace emerging digital mode as strategic diplomatic relations. The paper argues that regional integration and digital sovereignty is necessary for survival. Both guarantee a thriving and resilient state in a continuous changing global order. It recommends that, developing countries should invest in regional development banks and joint infrastructure projects; Also, there should be increased investment in digital infrastructure and the development of institutional strength that can effectively manage the opportunities and risks associated with digital diplomacy.
Keyword: south-south alliance, digital diplomacy, global order, resilience, stateho

FSS 26-09:

PERCEPTION OF RURAL DWELLERS TOWARDS MALARIA IN AKURE SOUTH LGA, ONDO STATE, NIGERIA

1Bukola Bosede, OGUNRO -ABIOLA,
& 2Agboola Femi, ADEBAYO
1Department of Sociology, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Ekiti State
2Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Ekiti State

Abstract
Background: Malaria is one of the most dominant causes of morbidity and mortality in Nigeria especially among rural populations where environmental conditions and the lack of access to healthcare predispose populations. The perception of the community towards malaria has significance in shaping the practice of prevention, treatment and health seeking behaviour. This study evaluated the attitude of the rural dwellers towards malaria in Akure South Local Government Area (LGA) of Ondo State, Nigeria. Methods: The study design was a cross-sectional mixed-method study. A purposive sampling was used to sample 400 rural dwellers across three rural communities of Oda, Oke-Iya, and Abusoro to obtain quantitative data. Information about socio-demographic attributes of respondents, their perception about malaria, prevalence, and treatment practices were obtained through structured questionnaires. Further, 12 in-depth interviews (IDIs) with rural residents were used to acquire qualitative data. The analysis of quantitative data was performed with the help of descriptive statistics, and the analysis of qualitative data was performed with the help of thematic analysis. Results: The findings indicated that most of the respondents (53.1) identified the primary cause of malaria to be the bite of mosquitoes, whereas 26.0% of the respondent s perceived malaria as a fatal condition. The majority (88.8 percent) of the respondents considered that malaria could be prevented, but prevention was frequently regarded as the use of anti-malaria medication as opposed to controlling mosquitos. Malaria was considered prevalent among the community with 93.9 percent and 80.6 percent of the respondents confirming prevalence and having had malaria in the past six months respectively. The use of modern medical treatment was highly favored where 71.4% cited modern method as most effective form of treatment and 72.4% cited the clinics or hospitals as the most preferred source of treatment. Nevertheless, the consumption of herbal remedies and traditional medicine was also reported by a considerable percentage of the respondents. Conclusion: Rural residents of Akure South LGA show

moderately good knowledge of malaria and its treatment, but the signs of misconceptions about the causes of malaria and the use of traditional remedies are still evident. Community-based health education, environmental sanitation, and the provision of preventive measures against malaria like insecticide-treated nets should be strengthened to ensure better management of malaria in the rural regions.

Keywords:malaria, perception, rural communities, treatment practices, health-seeking behaviour, Akure South LGA, Nigeria.

FSS 26-10:

MULTI-CULTURAL EDUCATION IN HETEROGENIOUS SOCIETY: A PANACEA TO EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP IN NIGERIA

Ayodele Charles OLUWASANMI, PhD
Department of Political Science & International Diplomacy,
Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology, Ikere-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
The relevance of multi-cultural education in heterogeneous society to effective leadership for sustainable development cannot be overemphasized, simply because multi-cultural education promotes acceptance of diversity and imbibe in her citizens, the right concept of leadership that brings about good governance. The aspiration and ultimate desire of every human being is to enjoy certain level of good and quality life. In Nigeria, politics is synonymous with ethnicity. Ethnic-political and religious problems have remained constant features of the nation's political and economic life. This has given rise to accidental leadership as it continuously featured in the nation's political history, which in most cases accounts for leadership failure. This paper therefore examines the impact of multi-cultural education on effective leadership in a heterogeneous society. The aim is to reflect on the effects of ethnicity on the quality of leadership in Nigeria. The study adopted a descriptive qualitative method. Data were gathered through qualitative semi-structure interview with key representatives of the three major ethnic groups and the data were analyzed. Other data were sourced from position papers, research material and other literature on the theme of ethnicity, multi-cultural education, ethnic revival and ethnic leadership. Comparative analysis was conducted with the aid of ethnic leadership material which tracked the behaviors and reactions of ethnic minorities as they struggled to integrate. The interview data were analyzed through simple categorization of responses and very important responses were quoted. The study revealed that leadership with primordial sentiment of ethnic coloration had dominated the political landscape of the country since independence which has given rise to politics by identity, and consequently accounted for leadership failure in Nigeria. Equally, it is established that consistent good quality leadership tends to promote patriotism, while accidental leadership dampens patriotism. The paper therefore recommended that multi-cultural education should be introduced in public and private schools in Nigeria. This would imbibe in the citizens the acceptance of diversity, social and economic justice that would guarantee a needed patriotic leadership who can raise the sight of the citizens to believe in the country for all round development.

Keywords:multi-cultural education, heterogeneous society, effective leadership and politics of identity

FSS 26-11:

TACKLING JUVENILE DELINQUENCY: EXPLORING THE ROLE OF SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY POLICIES AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN KWARA CENTRAL

Muhammed, A. Y., Raji, A. & Nweke, U. P.
Department of Sociology, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria

Abstract
Juvenile delinquency is one of the issues causing turbulence in schools and society at large. As a vital socialization agent, the school plays a crucial role in shaping the behaviour of juveniles through their disciplinary policies. However, the effectiveness of these policies remains a subject of concern. Against this background, the study employs the social control theory to investigate the influence of school disciplinary policies in tackling juvenile delinquency among secondary school students in Kwara Central, Nigeria. The theory suggests that institutional rules could strengthen bonds and discourage delinquency. A

cross-sectional survey design was used in the study. A mixed-methods approach, using questionnaires and interviews, was employed to collect quantitative and qualitative data respectively. Quantitative data were collected from 363 respondents representing a population of 3,950 students across 10 public and private schools drawn through a multi-stage sampling technique while qualitative data were collected from 20 participants comprising the principals and the vice principals (administration) in each selected school. While the quantitative data were analysed through frequency counts, percentage, mean and simple linear regression with the aid of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), the qualitative data were analysed using content analysis. The findings of the study revealed that school disciplinary policies do not significantly influence juvenile delinquency among the students. This means that there is no sufficient evidence to prove that the presence of disciplinary policies in schools dissuades students from engaging in delinquency. Qualitative evidence further shows that the students perceive the existing disciplinary measures as severe, inconsistent and unfairly administered coupled with parental intervention which may undermine their effectiveness. Based on these findings, the study recommends a shift from punitive disciplinary measures to restorative approaches, fairness in policy implementation, strengthening guidance and counselling services in schools and greater collaboration with parents in the discipline of their children. These approaches will in turn, build resilience in juveniles and prevent potential crime upsurge in the future.

Keywords:Juvenile delinquency, crime prevention, school disciplinary policies, restorative justice, Kwara Central

FSS 26-12:

INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES AND THE ROLE OF TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY IN COMMUNITY SECURITY MANAGEMENT IN SOUTHWEST NIGERIA

Tolu Elizabeth Aje PHD
Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Federal University, Oye Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
The increasing violence throughout Nigeria reveals how centralized security organizations fail to handle conflicts and street crime which occurs in local communities. The indigenous governance systems of South West Nigeria along with traditional authorities like Obas and Baales and chiefs and traditional councils still serve as crucial elements for maintaining social order and assisting with local security operations. The research investigates how traditional institutions handle security problems which exist in the specific area. The research uses a qualitative method which includes semi-structured interviews with important stakeholders who include traditional leaders and community heads and vigilante coordinators and security personnel and secondary data from academic research and policy documents. The results show that traditional leaders maintain their power as community security decision-makers because they use their abilities to resolve disputes and share intelligence and manage local security teams and help communities work with official security organizations. Traditional councils use indigenous dispute resolution systems to handle conflicts which helps create social stability because they focus on reconciliation and restorative justice practices. The traditional institutional framework faces operational limitations because it encounters three major challenges which include modernization efforts and political interference together with the lack of proper legal frameworks that define institutional security responsibilities. The research demonstrates that institutional partnerships between traditional leaders and official security agencies will strengthen community security efforts throughout Nigeria. The process of integrating indigenous governance systems with existing security governance structures will result in improved local legitimacy and better information exchanges which will enhance security operations in South West Nigeria.

Keywords:traditional authority; indigenous governance; community security; conflict; traditional institutions

FSS 26-13:

A MULTI-DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS OF BARRIERS TO E-GOVERNANCE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: PERSPECTIVES FROM NIGERIA

OYALABU, Grace Idowu PhD.
Department of Political Science & Public Administration, Adeleke University, Ede, Nigeria.

Abstract

This study examines the multifaceted barriers to effective e-governance in developing countries, using Nigeria as a case study. Despite substantial investments in information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the adoption of national digital governance strategies, the performance of e-governance in Nigeria remains uneven and below expectations. This paper argues that the limited success of e-governance initiatives cannot be explained by technological deficits alone, but rather by the complex interaction of technological, institutional, socio-economic, and political constraints.

Drawing on Innovation Diffusion Theory, Institutional Theory, and Digital Divide Theory the study analyses how low digital literacy, limited perceived usefulness, poor system compatibility, and weak trust in government institutions slow the adoption of e-government platforms among citizens and public officials. From an Institutional Theory perspective, the paper highlights how bureaucratic inertia, fragmented administrative structures, weak regulatory frameworks, and entrenched organisational cultures undermine the implementation and sustainability of digital reforms. Using Digital Divide Theory, the study further demonstrates how inequalities in income, education, gender, and geographical location restrict access to and effective use of digital public services, thereby reinforcing existing patterns of social exclusion. The paper adopts a qualitative analytical approach based on document analysis, policy reviews, and selected empirical studies on Nigeria's e-governance initiatives. The findings reveal that political interference, corruption, policy discontinuity, and limited accountability mechanisms interact with infrastructural deficits and socio-economic inequalities to constrain the transformative potential of e-governance. The study concludes that addressing Nigeria's e-governance challenges requires an integrated reform strategy that combines technological investment with institutional restructuring, inclusive digital policies, and strong political commitment to transparency and accountability. These insights offer important implications for other developing countries pursuing digital governance reforms.

Keywords: multi-dimentional, e-governance, developing countries, perspectives, technology

FSS 26-14:

DETERMINANTS OF CONTRACEPTIVE NON-USE AMONG COUPLES IN NIGERIA

Adekunle Eniyanu Akinkunmi; B.I. Babalola & E.K ODUSINA

Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

Abstract

This study examines the determinants of modern contraceptive non-use among married or cohabiting couples in Nigeria using data from the 2018 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) Couples Recode dataset. Despite widespread awareness of modern contraceptive methods, usage remains low, posing significant challenges to reproductive health and population management. A total of 8,061 couples aged 15 49 years were analyzed using descriptive statistics, chi-square tests, and multilevel logistic regression. The results revealed that 73.9% of couples were non-users of modern contraceptives. Educational attainment, religion, ethnicity, region, and spousal communication were found to be significant determinants of non-use, while age and employment status showed no significant association. Findings were interpreted within the Andersen Behavioral Model framework, emphasizing predisposing, enabling, and need factors that influence contraceptive behavior. The study concludes that addressing educational disparities, religious misconceptions, and regional inequalities is essential for promoting contraceptive uptake among Nigerian couples. Policy recommendations include strengthening female education, engaging men in family planning, improving rural health infrastructure, and enhancing spousal communication through culturally sensitive interventions.

Keywords: Modern contraceptive non-use, couples, Nigeria, NDHS, Andersen behavioral model

FSS 26-15:

INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL SUPPORT AND SELF-ESTEEM ON RESILIENCE AMONG UNDERGRADUATES

[1]Toyin Olanike ADARAMOYE (Ph.D),
[2]Israel O. AYODELE (Ph.D),
[3]Adebisi Victory OKERE (Ph.D)

[1]Department of Guidance and Counselling, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.
[2]Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria,
[3]Department of Psychology Nile University of Nigeria, Abuja, Nigeria.

Abstract
Resilience has become an important psychological resource that enables university students to cope with academic pressure, social adjustment, and developmental challenges. This study investigated the influence of social support and self-esteem on resilience among undergraduates. A correlational survey research design was adopted. A total of 500 undergraduate students participated in the study using four standardised instruments. Descriptive statistics, Pearson Product Moment Correlation, independent t-test, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), and regression analysis were used to analyze the data. The findings revealed that social support was positively and significantly correlated with resilience (r=.491, p<.05). Similarly, self-esteem showed a significant positive relationship with resilience (r=.119, p<.05). However, no significant differences in resilience were observed based on gender (t=0.250, p>.05) or age (F(2,497) = .919, p>.05). Furthermore, regression analysis demonstrated that social support significantly moderated the relationship between self-esteem and resilience. These findings suggest that supportive social networks enhance students ability to withstand stress and adapt to challenges, particularly when combined with positive self-perception. The study recommends the need for university policies that foster interventions that strengthen peer support systems and self-esteem enhancement programs in order to improve resilience among undergraduates.

Keywords:Resilience, Self-Esteem, Social Support, Undergraduates

FSS 26-16:

EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF MINDFULNESS AND EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE ON BURNOUT IN HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS (THE FEDERAL TEACHING HOSPITAL IDO FETHI)

Israel O. AYODELE, PhD; YESIRAT S. ADESEMOWO; & Faith A. OSAWEME
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

Abstract
Various studies have established that burnout among healthcare professionals is a growing concern in Nigeria, particularly those that are working in the public sector that always have large population of patients to attend to. Hence, this study examined the interrelationship between mindfulness and emotional intelligence on work-related stress by healthcare workers. The Federal Teaching Hospital Ido (FETHI) was used as the case study. Primary data was used for the study. The sample population of study comprised the staff of FETHI, two hundred and fifty-eight, comprising 77 medical personnel and 181 non-medical personnel. Data collected were analysed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. Findings show that there was significant negative relationship between mindfulness and burnout (r = -.37, p < .01), which implies that increase in mindfulness will significantly decrease burnout among the healthcare professionals. Also, it was also revealed that there was significant negative relationship between emotional intelligence and burnout (r = -.43, p < .01). This indicates that increase in emotional intelligence will significantly decrease burnout among healthcare professionals. Furthermore, the study that there was significant joint prediction of mindfulness and emotional intelligence on burnout among healthcare professionals of the Federal Teaching Hospital Ido (FETHI) (F [2, 247] = 35.56, R2 = 0.22; p<.05). This signifies that the combination of both can be used to predict more accurately than either each of them alone.
The study recommends that healthcare professionals should properly understand the causes of burnout as related to their job, and adopt mindfulness and emotional intelligence activities/practices that can curb the effect in their daily routine.

Keywords: mindfulness, emotional intelligence, burnout, healthcare professionals

FSS 26-17:

MOBILE HEALTH SOLUTIONS AND POSTPARTUM FAMILY PLANNING UTILIZATION IN EKITI STATE, NIGERIA: ACCEPTABILITY, BARRIERS AND PERCEIVED EFFECTIVENESS

[1,2]ABATAN, Sunday Matthew,
[2]OYINLOLA, Funmilola O

[1,3] & ADEDINI, Sunday A
[1]Department of Demography and Social Statistics Federal University Oye-Ekiti
[2]Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife
[3]Programme in Demography and Population Studies, Schools of Public Health and Social Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa

Abstract
The burden of maternal mortality due to increasing unwanted pregnancies and low family planning uptake among postpartum mothers in Nigeria is so terrific. This study investigates the acceptability and barriers to mobile health (mHealth) solutions in family planning (FP) uptake in Ekiti, Nigeria. The study evaluates the perceived effectiveness, and identify socio-economic factors impacting usage of mHealth for family planning. A cross-sectional study design of two populations was examined consisting 133 health workers (FP providers) and 447 postpartum women (end-users). Participants were randomly selected from 15 health facilities out 535 functioning facilities in Ekiti State. Data were collected using a semi-structured questionnaire and analyzed using STATA 17MP. The results from the study revealed that 17.2% of mothers reported to have used mHealth for FP education, while the usage was 38.3% among health-workers. Acceptability of mobile health apps was found to be relatively high among health workers (64.7%), but overall acceptance among mothers was lower (37.4%). About 82% of women with no access to mHealth solutions, cited network connectivity as the primary barriers (56.4%). Among those who ever used any app, 66.6% found it efficient, and 35.8% reported it was very easy to use. The barriers to usage are network connectivity, access to android phone, poor caption. The socio-economic factors influencing acceptance and usage are level of education, occupations, phone ownership, and attitude toward contraceptives. The study concludes that while mobile health solutions hold promise for enhancing family planning services, significant barriers related to technology access and socio-economic constraints must be addressed to improve their effectiveness and reach in the target population.
Keywords:Mobile Health (mHealth), postpartum family planning, digital health interventions, contraceptive uptake

FSS 26-18:
ASSESSING CITIZEN SECURITY AND GOVERNANCE IN LAGOS STATE: A CASE OF LAGOS STATE NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFETY AGENCY IN PERSPECTIVE

[1]**Ijimakinwa Samuel O. Ph.D**
& [2]Omoniyi, Mercy Ayomide
[1]Department of Public Administration, Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago- Iwoye, Ogun state, Nigeria
[2]Department of Accountancy, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State

Abstract
The issue of insecurity in Nigeria has led to the proliferation of sectional security bodies across the country. This has created a situation whereby organized groups within the state have had to initiate processes to establish security outfits for the safety of their lives and properties. That is why Lagos state government established Neighbourhood Safety Agency in curbing insecurity in the state. The study examined the state of insecurity in Lagos State and the intervention of the Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency. The study used mixed methods and triangulated data analysis to achieve the research questions. Questionnaire was used to collect data from the respondents. Face- to-face interview were conducted with the top officials of the Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency. Key documents were also reviewed. The findings of the study revealed that the Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency has not been adequately equipped to combat insecurity in the state due to lack of proper recruitment process, inadequate training of security personnel, misplaced priority of personnel of the agency, and dearth of modern security equipment. The study concluded that It is more worrisome that the government seems to be short of tactics to tackle the overwhelming security challenges. However, the study recommended among others the need for effective recruitment process of personnel into the agency, training and re-orientation on operational processes, and adequate funding for modern security appliances to promote a more secured community from the grassroots in Lagos state.

Keywords: Security, citizens, neighbourhood safety, training, equipment

FSS 26-19:
WOMEN'S FINANCIAL INCLUSION DRIVES OPTIMAL ANTENATAL CARE IN NIGERIA

Lorretta Favour Chizomam Ntoimo[1,2], Adepoju Praise Asaolu[3],
Oluwafemi Oluwaseun Ifanayajo[1], & Oluwawemimo Ayandosu[4]
[1]Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Faculty of Social Sciences, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria
[2]Women's Health and Action Research Centre, Benin City, Nigeria
[3]Department of Finance, Faculty of Management Sciences, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.
[4]Department of Epidemiology and Medical Statistics, University of Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

Abstract
Nigeria accounted for 28.7% of global maternal deaths in 2023, totaling 75,000 deaths, the highest worldwide, and 11.9% of neonatal deaths in 2022. Many of these deaths are attributed to untreated maternal infections, hypertension, poor fetal growth, and other treatable conditions that can be detected through antenatal care (ANC). Despite its importance, ANC uptake has declined from 67% in 2018 to 63% in 2024, with only 16.4% of pregnant women obtaining ≥8 visits and 18% starting ANC in the first trimester, endangering both mothers and their unborn babies. Numerous studies have identified barriers and facilitators to ANC uptake at individual, household, community, and health system levels. Notably, affordability has been identified as a major barrier to ANC, yet scholarly attention to financial inclusion, a critical component of affordability, has been negligible. Existing evidence shows that financial inclusion, defined as access to affordable financial services such as savings, loans, insurance, and mobile money, is a critical driver of health outcomes in low- and middle-income countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Drawing on the capability approach, this study examined the link between financial inclusion and the utilisation, initiation, and adequacy of skilled ANC among Nigerian women of reproductive age. Using data from the 2021 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), we analysed a weighted sample of 9,813 women who had a live birth within 2 years before the survey. Results show that financial inclusion variables significantly influenced ANC utilisation, initiation, and adequacy. Holding other factors constant, awareness of at least one financial product increased the odds of utilising skilled ANC but decreased the odds of early initiation. Additionally, women who saved in banks/other financial institutions and outlets, and formal and informal groups such as cooperative and thrift societies, were more likely to initiate ANC early and achieve 8+ visits compared to those who saved at home. Ownership of a bank account increased the odds of utilising skilled ANC. Compared to women who did not borrow money from any sources, those who obtained a loan from a bank or family members were more likely to initiate skilled ANC in the first trimester, whereas those who obtained a loan from a friend were less likely to initiate skilled ANC early. These findings highlight the potential of empowering women through financial inclusion to improve maternal health outcomes, aligning with Nigeria's Vision 2050 and global health goals.

FSS 26-20:

INTERROGATING POLITICAL GODFATHERISM AS A DRIVER OF STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE AND SOCIAL INSTABILITY IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

AZABAGUN Haruna Able, OJO Samuel Olugbenga,
DUROJAYE Oyedolapo Babatunde
IJI Adebowale Salem
Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Federal University, Oye Ekiti

Abstract
The influence of political godfatherism poses a significant threat to democratic governance in Northern Nigeria. The erosion of democratic values, the perpetuation of corruption, and the stifling of political competition are critical issues that necessitate urgent attention. This study is to examine the influence of political Godfatherism on Democratic Governance in Northern Nigeria. It employs a descriptive method that integrates qualitative approaches for a comprehensive analysis. The design facilitates the exploration of complex dynamics between political godfathers, electoral outcomes, and corruption. In-depth interviews with key stakeholders, including politicians and voters, utilize an interview checklist to gather primary data through open-ended questions. This qualitative data reveals personal experiences and perceptions, highlighting the influence of godfathers on political behavior and voter motivations. The studies enhance the validity and reliability of findings, contributing to a deeper understanding of godfatherism's impact on Nigeria's political landscape. The findings indicate that godfatherism significantly undermines the accountability of elected officials, fosters corruption and patronage within local governance, and hinders political competition and the emergence of new candidates. To address these challenges, there is an urgent need for reforms that promote transparency, enhance electoral integrity, and empower grassroots political movements. These changes are essential for fostering a more equitable political environment that prioritizes the interests of constituents over entrenched political elites.

FSS 26-21:

MIGRATION DIPLOMACY IN TIMES OF WAR: THE IMPACT OF MIDDLE EAST CONFLICTS ON GLOBAL MIGRATION GOVERNANCE

AKINGBULU Olakunle; ADEEYO Masroor Mahmud, & WILLIAMS Michael Afolabi.
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
War rarely ends on the battlefield; its consequences often travel with people who are forced to flee in search of safety. In the twenty-first century, conflicts in the Middle East have produced one of the most significant waves of displacement in modern history that has reshaped migration routes and drawn global attention to the politics of migration diplomacy in times of war. Millions of displaced individuals from countries such as Syria, Palestine, Iraq, Iran, and Yemen have moved across borders, creating humanitarian pressures that extend far beyond the region. As these movements intensified, migration gradually evolved from a purely humanitarian concern into a major subject of international diplomacy and global governance. The challenge of managing large-scale displacement has therefore pushed states, regional organizations, and international institutions to increasingly rely on migration diplomacy as a tool for negotiation, cooperation, and crisis management. This, has in turn, led to the concept of global migration governance. The objective of this paper, therefore, is to determine the impacts of conflicts in the Middle East on global migration governance, with particular attention to the role migration diplomacy plays in times of war. The paper adopts the qualitative approach and data will be drawn from existing literatures such as journals, books, and reports from international organizations amongst others. These sources provide reliable insights that aid smooth understanding of the relationship between migration diplomacy and war, migration patterns, and diplomatic engagement in the management of global migration. Furthermore, the paper also adopts the Migration Diplomacy theory as the theoretical framework. The theory, as developed by Adamson and Tsourapas, explains that migration flows does not only force a reaction from States, it also allows them to utilize it as a tool in foreign relations and foreign policy. This theory buttresses the fact that migration diplomacy plays a key role in the interactions between Middle Eastern countries not just as a humanitarian effort, but as a critical part of domestic and global governance. Findings indicate that prolonged conflicts in the Middle East have significantly altered global migration flows, intensified pressure on asylum systems, and compelled states to develop new diplomatic strategies for managing refugee movements. The paper recommends stronger international cooperation and improved burden sharing among States. It also calls for greater diplomatic commitment to conflict resolution in order to strengthen global migration governance and ensure better management of displacement crises that may arise from the outbreak of wars.

Keywords:Migration Diplomacy, Middle East, Middle East Conflicts, Forced Migration, Global Migration Governance, War, Displacement.

FSS 26-22:

IMPEACHMENT OF DEPUTY GOVERNORS IN NIGERIA: EXECUTIVE RECKLESSNESS OR LEGISLATIVE CULPABILITY?

[1]AKINGBULU Olakunle, [2]Williams Afolabi & [3]Oluwafemi Sunday Olowokanga
[1], [2] Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria
[3] Olusgun Agagu University of Science and technology, Okitipupa

Abstract
The analysis in this paper focuses on the impeachment of deputy governors in Nigeria, investigating whether this action stems from executive recklessness or legislative culpability. Since Nigeria s return to democracy in 1999, there have been at least seventeen (17) impeachment cases involving deputy governors. Interestingly, this figure stands in sharp contrast with the total number of governors impeached within the same period (8). This striking imbalance raises important questions about the importance of the deputy governor s position within the Nigeria s political structure. The frequency of their removal suggests that the office is indeed perceived as a political threat to governors, who often use impeachment as a way to neutralize rivalry and safeguard power. Beyond the politics of ambition, however, state legislatures also play a complicit role, sometimes acting less as independent arbiters of accountability and more as instruments of executive control. Against this backdrop, this study seeks to examine the phenomenon of the impeachment of deputy governors in Nigeria, especially the causes. Drawing on case studies, constitutional analysis, and elite theory as a guiding framework, this research argues that while impeachment is constitutionally framed as a tool for accountability, in practice, it has been weaponized by the political

elites. The study also addresses the ripple effects of these impeachments and what they spell for Nigeria's democracy in the long run. Finally, the study concludes by providing recommendations including financial and administrative autonomy for state assemblies, mechanisms for disputes settlement etc. in improving the impeachment processes as well as in enhancing governance in Nigeria.

Keywords: impeachment, deputy governors, Nigeria, executive recklessness, legislative culpability.

FSS 26-23:

FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND HEALTH OUTCOMES IN NIGERIA

EFUNTADE, Olubunmi. O.
Department of Economics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract

The study examines the relationship between financial inclusion and health outcomes in Nigeria over the period 1990 to 2025. Financial inclusion has gradually been acknowledged as a major driver of economic development, with potential spillover effects on welfare indicators such as health outcomes. However, despite various policy initiatives aimed at improving access to financial services in Nigeria, the degree of financial inclusion s contribution to improved health outcomes is not sufficiently explored. This study seeks to fill this gap by providing empirical evidence on the connection between these two important variables. The primary objective of the study is to investigate the effect of financial inclusion on health outcomes in Nigeria. To achieve this, the multiple indicators of health outcomes and financial inclusion are combined into single indices each to form Health Outcome Index (HQI) and financial inclusion Index (FII). Principal Component Analysis method was adopted for the construction of the indices. The study employs time- series data spanning from 1990 to 2025, sourced from reliable national and international databases. Econometric techniques including regression analysis are utilized to examine the long-run relationship between the variables, while controlling for other relevant macroeconomic factors. The empirical findings reveal that a significant positive relationship exists between financial inclusion and health outcomes in Nigeria. Specifically, increased access to financial services such as banking, savings and credit facilities increases individual ability to afford healthcare services, invest in preventive care and manage health-related risks. The results also suggest that improvements in financial inclusion contribute to reduced health risk exposure and better overall well-being among the population. This is evident in the trend of life expectancy, infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate and under-5 mortality rate within the period under review. The study concludes that promoting financial inclusion can serve as a viable tool for enhancing health outcomes in Nigeria. It therefore recommends that efforts should be intensified by policymakers to expand access to affordable and comprehensive financial services particularly in underserved and rural areas. Additionally, the study suggests that policies that integrate financial inclusion initiatives with health sector reforms are likely to produce more sustainable and wide-ranging development outcomes.

Keywords:Credit facilities, financial Inclusion, health care, Nigeria

FSS 26-24:

THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN EKITI STATE

M.O. Odeyemi
Department of Sociology, Federal University, Oye Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract

Rural development is one of the exclusive responsibilities of Local Government Administrations. The study therefore identified specific rural development projects in the Local Government Areas and assessed their conditions in relation to the quantum of Local Governments budgetary allocation devoted to rural development in Ekiti State. The Study design adopted exploratory research design and mixed method of data collection; the primary data were generated through the use of questionnaire and interview guide. A multi-stage sampling technique was adopted. At the first stage, two Local Governments areas were selected from the three Senatorial Districts in the state, giving a total of six Local Government Areas. At the second stage, six rural communities in each of the selected Local Government Areas were selected purposively with the Local Government headquarters in each case. In all, a total of 150 respondents was selected. Quantitative data were analysed using descriptive and inferential analysis and the qualitative data were analysed using thematic approach. The findings revealed that infrastructural development at the grass root and economic development via small scale enterprises aids rural development. Also, the study shows that the Local Government Administration in Rural Development in Ekiti State involve

building of schools, building of market stalls, rural electrification, clearance of drainage, repairs and construction of 1.2 km. Road at Gboyin LGA, building of health centers, construction of culvert, provision of soft loan, technical support, and provide seedling to farmer and market for local products. The study concludes that functions of local government were not adequately felt by majority of the rural communities in Ekiti state as a result of poor implementation and corruption and therefore recommended that rural dwellers should learn to speak out and not connive with the stakeholders to override them.

Keywords: rural development, local government administration, rurality

FSS 26-25:

IRAN'S WARS AND IMPLICATION FOR NIGERIA'S NATIONAL SECURITY

[1]**Arinze Ngwube & [2]Chuka Okoli**
[1,2]Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye_Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
The ongoing conflict involving Iran and its adversaries has evolved into a major geopolitical crisis with far-reaching implications for global and regional security. The war has significantly disrupted global energy markets, particularly through instability in the Strait of Hormuz, a critical route for oil and gas transportation, leading to sharp increases in energy prices and economic uncertainty worldwide. For Nigeria, an oil-dependent yet import-reliant economy, these developments pose complex national security challenges. Economically, rising oil prices may generate short-term revenue gains for Nigeria as an OPEC member; however, volatility undermines fiscal planning, increases inflation, and raises the cost of imported refined petroleum products. The war also heightens global investor risk aversion, potentially triggering capital flight and reducing foreign direct investment into Nigeria, thereby weakening economic stability. Additionally, disruptions in global supply chains and maritime trade routes increase logistics and insurance costs, further straining Nigeria's economy. From a security perspective, the conflict may exacerbate internal vulnerabilities. Nigeria's religious and ethnic diversity could be exploited by extremist groups leveraging global tensions to incite unrest or radicalization. Furthermore, diplomatic pressures to align with global powers may expose Nigeria to geopolitical risks, including sanctions or reduced international cooperation. While geographically distant, the Iran war poses indirect but significant threats to Nigeria's national security by intensifying economic instability, amplifying internal security risks, and constraining foreign policy choices. Proactive economic diversification and strategic diplomacy are essential to mitigate these challenges.

Keywords:Middle East crisis, proxy warfare, regional instability, Strait of Hormuz disruption

FSS 26-26:

ADAPTIVE GOVERNANCE FOR MIGRATION MANAGEMENT IN WEST AFRICA: POLICY LESSONS AND INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES FROM SELECTED ECOWAS MEMBER STATES

[1]**Madeline B. Gomez & [2]Taiwo A. Olaiya, Esq.**
[1]University of The Gambia, MDI Road, Kanifing, The Gambia
[2]Department of Public Administration, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Abstract
Migration dynamics in West Africa are increasingly shaped by intersecting global crises, including climate change impacts, security threats, and economic pressures, which collectively challenge the capacity of governments to design and implement effective policy responses. This paper examines how public administration systems within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) can enhance adaptive governance frameworks to manage migration more effectively amidst these evolving pressures. The study employs a comparative case study methodology, analysing migration governance approaches in Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, and The Gambia to identify critical policy gaps, institutional constraints, and emerging best practices across diverse national contexts. The analysis reveals that effective migration governance in the region requires deliberate and coordinated multi-level coordination, spanning supranational ECOWAS frameworks, national government institutions, and subnational administrative structures. Furthermore, meaningful engagement with local communities, such as migrant populations, host communities, and civil society organisations, emerges as essential for developing context-sensitive policies that address ground-level realities. The findings underscore the necessity of policy frameworks designed with inherent flexibility, enabling governments to adapt swiftly to changing migration patterns triggered by sudden-onset crises such as climate disasters or security emergencies. The paper argues that sustainable migration governance in West

Africa depends on the strategic integration of migration objectives into broader national development plans, ensuring that population mobility is recognised as both a developmental reality and an opportunity rather than merely a security concern. Additionally, strengthening regional cooperation mechanisms under ECOWAS protocols offers significant potential for harmonising policy approaches, sharing data and best practices, and facilitating coordinated responses to cross-border migration challenges. These insights contribute to building resilient and adaptive governance systems capable of responding effectively to contemporary migration pressures while safeguarding the rights and dignity of mobile populations across West Africa.

Keywords:adaptive governance, migration management, ECOWAS, public administration, West Africa, policy reform, regional cooperation

FSS 26-27:

AI AND THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

[1]Aneke Chijioke Ezra, & [2]Emmanuel Odeh, Ph.D.
[1]Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.
[2]Department of Political Science, Federal University Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria.

Abstract
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming public administration globally, presenting both unprecedented opportunities and significant risks for developing countries. This paper examines the dual nature of AI adoption in public governance across Africa, with particular focus on Nigeria and Kenya as case studies. Drawing on empirical evidence from recent national AI strategies, e-government initiatives, and algorithmic governance frameworks, the study analyzes how AI can enhance service delivery, efficiency, and transparency while simultaneously posing threats of algorithmic bias, digital colonialism, and democratic erosion. The research employs a mixed-methods approach combining document analysis and comparative case study methodology. Key findings reveal that while AI offers substantial potential for automating administrative processes, improving public service accessibility, and combating corruption through systems like Nigeria's IPPIS, developing countries face unique challenges including inadequate digital infrastructure, skills deficits, data poverty, and dependence on foreign technology providers. The study applies the Technological Determinism and Social Construction of Technology theories to contextualize AI governance within broader development paradigms. The paper concludes that realizing AI's transformative potential requires robust governance frameworks, significant infrastructure investment, human capital development, and strategies to ensure algorithmic accountability and data sovereignty. Recommendations include establishing independent AI auditing bodies, developing context-specific ethical guidelines, and fostering regional cooperation to prevent digital dependency.

Keywords:Artificial Intelligence, public administration, developing countries, algorithmic governance, digital transformation, Nigeria, Kenya.

FSS 26-28:

SUB-NATIONAL EVIDENCE ON THE DRIVERS OF CHILD MORTALITY IN EKITI STATE, SOUTH-WEST NIGERIA

Sunday A. Adedini[1,2,3], Funmilola F. Oyinlola[4], Christiana A. Alex-Ojei1,[2],
Blessing I. Babalola[1,2], Sunday M. Abatan[1,2],
Olusegun Amodu[1,2] & Adesoji Dunsin Ogunsakin[1,2]
[1]Demography and Social Statistics Department, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria
[2]FUOYE Population Health Initiatives, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria
[3]Programme in Demography and Population Studies, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa
[4]Demography and Social Statistics Department, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Abstract
Despite global progress in reducing child mortality, Nigeria bears a high burden, with Ekiti State having a disproportionate rate within the South-west region. This study explored community and healthcare worker perspectives to understand the underlying factors of child deaths in the State. The study conducted group and individual interviews across diverse communities and undertook inductive content analysis to identify themes. The research identified economic hardship – characterised by inflation, food scarcity, and poverty– as the primary driver of child death. These conditions lead to

malnutrition, poor feeding practices, and limited healthcare access. Additional contributors include parental negligence, delayed medical attention, and widespread illnesses such as malaria, diarrhoea, typhoid, and measles. Cultural beliefs and myths, like dietary restrictions during pregnancy and spiritual interpretations of illness, further exacerbate misinformation and poor health outcomes. The study highlights a complex interplay of socioeconomic, cultural, and health system factors that continue to threaten child survival in Ekiti State, underscoring the need for targeted interventions and community-based health education.

Keywords:child health; child mortality; caregivers; health professionals; sub-national evidence; Nigeria

FSS 26-29:

DO CRITICAL ACTORS SUBSTITUTE FOR CRITICAL MASS? EVIDENCE FROM GENDER BILLS IN NIGERIA'S 7TH AND 8TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES

Mercy Oyinkansola Towoju
Department of Political Science, University of Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Debates on women's political representation have long been shaped by the assumption that increasing the number of women in parliament will automatically translate into policies that advances gender equality and women empowerment. This expectation, rooted in critical mass theory, has however been increasingly questioned, particularly in contexts where women remain significantly underrepresented yet gender issues still emerge on legislative agendas. Most Africa countries exemplify this paradox including Nigeria. Since the return to civilian rule in 1999, women have consistently constituted far below the thirty percent threshold commonly associated with the Critical Mass necessary for influencing policy outcomes. Such persistent underrepresentation raises a central question of whether the presence of a few influential legislators conceptualized as Critical Actors nonetheless can compensate for the absence of substantial numerical presence of women in parliament. This paper explores the question through the study of gender related legislation in Nigeria's 7th (2011 to 2015) and 8th (2015 to 2019) National Assemblies. During both period women held only six to seven percent of seats in both the Senate and House of Representatives. Drawing on Childs and Krook's critical actor's framework, the analysis examines bill sponsorship, committee participation, and legislative outcomes on key women issues during this parliamentary cycle. Also, as part of broader research agenda on women's parliamentary representation and legislative impact in Nigeria, the study adopts a qualitative approach to understand how determined female legislators in the selected Assemblies played the significant roles through advocacy, coalition-building, and strategic engagement with parliamentary procedures. Rather than assuming that descriptive representation automatically produces substantive outcomes, the analysis interrogates the mechanisms through which a limited number of women legislators attempt to navigate through institutional constraint, procedural hurdles and patriarchal norms. The study therefore offers a practical insight for enhancing legislative influence in both low and high representation democracies.

Keywords:critical actors, critical mass, substantive representation, gender legislation, women parliamentarians, Nigeria National Assembly.

FSS 26-30:

ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF INEC ON DEMOCRATIC CONSOLIDATION (2015-2023 ELECTION CYCLE)

Adeyinka Iretomiwa Oluwatunmise

Abstract
Democratic consolidation remains a critical challenge for emerging democracies, particularly in contexts characterized by institutional fragility, political volatility, and historical governance deficits. In Nigeria, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) serves as the central institution responsible for organizing, supervising, and regulating elections, thereby directly influencing the credibility of electoral outcomes and the legitimacy of democratic governance. This study assesses INEC's role in consolidating democracy across the 2015, 2019, and 2023 general elections, focusing on its operational effectiveness, structural capacity, and impact on public confidence. Employing a qualitative research methodology grounded in secondary data, the study analyses scholarly publications, election observer reports, official INEC documents, and media investigations to examine the interplay between institutional reforms and electoral credibility. The research identifies key reforms, including the introduction of the Smart Card Reader in 2015, Continuous Voter Registration in 2019, and the Bimodal

Voter Accreditation System (BVAS) alongside the INEC Result Viewing Portal (IReV) in 2023, and evaluates their effectiveness in enhancing transparency, reducing electoral malpractice, and fostering voter participation. Findings indicate that while these reforms contributed to procedural improvements, INEC's performance remained constrained by structural weaknesses, political interference, technological failures, and operational inefficiencies, which collectively undermined public trust and limited the full consolidation of democracy. The study further highlights declining voter turnout, recurring judicialization of electoral outcomes, and uneven implementation of reforms as indicators of persistent institutional challenges. By situating INEC's performance within the broader framework of democratic consolidation theory and electoral governance, the research underscores the critical importance of strengthening institutional autonomy, operational capacity, and public confidence to ensure sustainable democratic development. The findings provide empirical insights for policymakers, civil society, and electoral stakeholders, offering evidence-based recommendations to enhance electoral integrity, institutional resilience, and citizen engagement in Nigeria's democratic processes. Ultimately, this study contributes to the scholarly understanding of how electoral management bodies shape democratic consolidation in transitional democracies, highlighting both prospects and persistent challenges in the Nigerian context.

FSS 26-31:

PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS DETERMINING COUNTERPRODUCTIVE WORK BEHAVIOURS: MODERATING ROLE OF EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AMONG SELECTED TEACHERS IN ILORIN METROPOLIS.

Paul O. AJAO[1]; Benjamin O. OMOLAYO[1]
& Helen F. OLAGUNDOYE1
[1] Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
The height of havoc caused by employees at workplace whenever they feel threaten by the status of their job is on the increase. This was evident on the persistent relationship that exists between job insecurity and counterproductive work behaviour over the years. Research has shown that employees who feel threatened about their job could engage in behaviours that could negatively affect the organization as well as other employees. Therefore, this study examines the moderating role of emotional intelligence on the association between job insecurity and counterproductive work behaviour among selected private school teachers in Ilorin metropolis while also considering some demographic factors. A survey research method was used and a total number of 332 comprising 129 males and 203 females with (M=1.61, SD=.49) were sampled using Slovin's formular. The research instruments used were Job Insecurity Questionnaire (JIQ), Genos EI Inventory (Genos EI) and Counterproductive work behavior (CWB). The result shows that gender has no significant influence on counterproductive work behaviour among selected teachers in Ilorin West LGA f (330) t= .171; p >.05). One-way ANOVA also revealed a significant difference on CWB based on length of service F(2,329) = 8.414 p<.05). A further post hoc analysis revealed that teachers in 6-10years of service have significantly higher score on CWB than the other groups. Lastly, emotional intelligence moderated the relationship between job insecurity and CWB (b=-.544, t=-1.606, p<.05). Thus, it was concluded that the emotional intelligence of teacher has the tendency to moderate their involvement in counterproductive work behaviour even when situational cause like job insecurity predisposes them to such. It was therefore recommended that the educational institutions should consider proper psychological assessment of candidates during recruitment and selection process which will give insight about their underlying qualities such as level of emotional intelligence. Also, for the management to see the need to train their teachers on emotional intelligence as this will help them to possess the ability to manage their behaviour and that of their other employees even when they feel insecure about their job.

Keywords:counterproductive work behaviour, emotional intelligence, job insecurity, length of service, teachers.

FSS 26-32:

DETERMINANTS AND PATTERNS OF ANTENATAL CARE PRACTICES AMONG RURAL PREGNANT WOMEN IN OYE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

[1]Beatrice D. ADEOYE, PhD & [2]Abigail T. OGBEDE
[1],[2]Department of Sociology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Pregnancy related deaths and disorders remain inadmissibly high at the global front, claiming millions of women and infants–

life. Most of these deaths and conditions are preventable because research has shown that about 80% of maternal deaths could be averted if women had access to essential maternity and basic health-care services, mainly antenatal care. This study examines the determinants and patterns of antenatal care among rural pregnant women in Oye local government area. However, in order to achieve the objectives of this study, primary data were collected through descriptive research design using quantitative method. Respondents were purposively selected from two major towns in Oye LGA. A total of 100 respondents were used in this research. The qualitative data was analyzed using statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The findings revealed that the major factors that promoted women's antenatal care (ANC) attendance are the availability of health facility and short distance to health facility and adequate supports from the spouse. The major challenges faced by rural pregnant women in accessing ANC services are the bad attitude of health workers, lack of ANC supplies and long distance. The study recommends assistance or incentives to women for antenatal visits which will help to overcome economic barriers which is one of the major barriers that prevents rural women from seeking antenatal care.

Keywords:Antenatal care (ANC), maternal mortality, maternal health services, rural pregnant women.

FSS 26-33:

THE ROLE OF PERSONALITY AND MENTAL HEALTH ON THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF FUOYE STUDENTS

AZIKIWE, Judith Chineye, TAJUDEEN, Aishat Bisola;
& DADA, Olugbenga David
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Academic performance remains one of the most important measures of student achievement and institutional quality in higher education. Personality traits describe consistent patterns in how individuals think, feel, and behave while mental health refers to a state of well-being where an individual can effectively manage stress, maintain positive relationships, make sound decisions, and function productively. This study investigated the influence of personality traits and mental health on academic performance of Federal University Oye-Ekiti (FUOYE) undergraduates. the study employed a Cross-sectional research design, and collected data from 345 students. Data was collected through structured questionnaires of standardized scales. The findings revealed a significant joint prediction of personality traits and mental health on academic performance, $F(6,338) = 6.54$, $R2 = 0.10$; $p<.001$]. Further results show that conscientiousness ($\beta=.20$; $t= 3.46$; $p=.001$), Emotional stability ($\beta=0.13$; $t= 2.27$; $p=.02$) and mental health ($\beta= -.12$; $t= -2.18$; $p.03$) independently predicted academic performance. All the stated hypotheses were thus confirmed.
The study concludes that personality traits and mental health are strong predictors of academic performance among FUOYE undergraduates. Thus, mental health programs that emphases building strong personality trait awareness was recommended.

Keywords:School performance, individual traits, university students, mental health, Oye-Ekiti

FSS 26-34:

EMPLOYEE VOICE, INNOVATIVE WORK BEHAVIOUR, AND INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP AS PREDICTORS OF EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT AMONG SOME SELECTED TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IN NIGERIA

OBELE, Celestine Ogechi
& OWOSENI, Omosolape Olakitan
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Employee engagement is no longer luxury, but a necessity for thriving institutions, especially within Nigeria's tertiary education sector where staff often face systemic challenges such as limited resources, rigid hierarchies, and policy instability. This study explored how employee voice, innovative work behavior, and inclusive leadership predict employee engagement among staff in selected Nigerian tertiary institutions, Ebonyi state university and Federal University Ndufu-alike ikwo. This study utilized a cross-sectional research design and a total number of 380 comprising 225 males and 125 females were sampled using Slovin's formula. The research instruments used were Employee Voice Behaviour Scale, Innovative Work

Behaviour Scale, Inclusive Leadership Scale and Utrecht Work Engagement Scale. The analysis of the results showed there was no significant gender difference employee engagement among the staff of selected institutions in Nigeria (f (378) t= .959; p>.05). Further analysis revealed that there was a significant difference in employee engagement regarding the age of the staff (F (2, 377 = 3.946, p<. 05)Also, dimensions of employee voice(self, peer and supervisor), have significant prediction on employee engagement {R = .886; R2 =.785; F(456.397) p<.01}.Similarly, the result revealed that dimensions of innovative work behaviour (idea generation, idea promotion and idea realization) have significant prediction of 13% on employee engagement among the staff of selected institutions in Nigeria {R = .371; R2 =.138; F(20.012) p<.01}. Also, it was revealed that dimensions of inclusive leadership (openness, availability and accessibility) have significant prediction on employee engagement {R = .273; R2 =.074; F(10.080) p<.01}. Lastly, the result shows that employee voice, innovative work behavior and inclusive leadership have significant prediction of 68% on employee engagement among the staff of selected institutions in Nigeria {R = .828; R2 =.685; F(272.639) p<.01}. The analysis of the independent prediction showed that employee voice (t =24.684 p<.01; β =.867), innovative work behavior (t =-3.841 p<.01; β =-.178) and inclusive leadership (t =-4.760; p<01; β =.191) have significant independent prediction on employee engagement among the staff of selected institutions in Nigeria. Thus, it was concluded that the dynamics of employee engagement within Nigerian tertiary institutions, affirming that employee voice, innovative work behavior, and inclusive leadership are not just peripheral factors but central pillars in cultivating a committed workforce. It was therefore recommended that strengthening employee voice mechanisms, fostering a culture of innovation, and promoting inclusive leadership will not only improve employee engagement but also strengthen team cohesion and institutional loyalty

Keywords:employee involvement, innovative acts at work, participative leadership, employee commitment, and tertiary institution

FSS 26-35:

THE RELATIONSHIP AMONG SUBSTANCE USE, SELF-ESTEEM AND ANXIETY OF UNDERGRADUATES

AZIKIWE, Judith Chineye; ADEBAYO, Dare Daniel
& TAJUDEEN, Aishat Bisola
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Anxiety is a growing mental health concern, especially in university environments where students face academic and social pressures. The study identifies anxiety as a significant mental health issue, particularly among Nigerian students with low self-esteem and those who engage in substance use. This study investigated the influence of self-esteem and substance use on anxiety among students at the Federal University of Technology Akure (FUTA). With the objective to explore the relationship between these variables and assess gender differences in anxiety levels, the study employed a correlational research design, and collected data from 300 students. Data was collected through structured questionnaires of standardized scales: the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale to measure self-esteem, the Substance Use Scale, and the GAD-7 scale to assess anxiety. The findings revealed a significant relationship between self-esteem and anxiety, with students possessing low self-esteem reporting higher anxiety levels. Furthermore, increased substance use was linked to heightened anxiety symptoms, as substance use often serves as a maladaptive coping mechanism. Male students reported significantly higher anxiety levels than their female counterparts, challenging some existing literature that typically associates higher anxiety levels with females. The study concludes that there is a cyclical relationship between low self-esteem, substance use, and anxiety, where substance use exacerbates anxiety rather than relieving it. Based on these findings, the study recommends that Nigerian universities implement mental health programs that focus on enhancing self-esteem, promoting healthier coping mechanisms, and addressing substance use. Gender-sensitive interventions are also essential to reduce anxiety among male students. These findings can guide policymakers and educators in developing tailored mental health interventions for students.

Keywords:self-esteem, substance use, anxiety, university students, mental health, gender differences.

FSS 26-36:

DIGITAL LEVIATHANS: EVALUATING THE SYSTEMIC CONSTRAINTS OF BIG TECH CONGLOMERATES ON MENTAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF CONTENT CREATORS IN NIGERIA.

Bamidele Ogunniyi
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
This paper presents a critical examination of the adversarial impact of global technology platforms termed as – Digital Leviathan– upon socio-economic, psychological and financial stability of Nigerian Content Creators. While these platforms are often framed as engines of opportunity, they have simultaneously cultivated an ecosystem of unhealthy competition and an obsessive scramble for followers, viewers, and subscribers where digital metrics are increasingly equated with human value. Using platform capitalism theory and social comparison theory, this burden is further tightened by the precarious nature of platform governance, characterized by arbitrary page suspension, shadow blocking and outright permanent blocking without justification, systemic exploitation of creators who post contents without monetization and the heartbreaks of those who post contents with millions of viewers without corresponding revenue often due to restrictive regional policies. Mixed-methods approach, was used to highlights a disturbing correlation between these digital pressures and a surge in depression and anxiety, intensified by the – Fear of Missing Out– (FOMO) and the constant comparison to curated, unrealistic online lives. For many, the desperate pursuit of digital success has led to the loss of personal dignity, life savings and the accumulation of unsustainable debt in hopes of trending or viral windfall that rarely materializes. In extreme cases, the intersection of financial ruin, cyberbullying, and the collapse of digital identities/dignity has been linked to tragic outcomes, including depression, substance abused, mental disorder, suicide and premature death. By analysing these dark sides of virality, this paper argues for a radical shift in digital policy that prioritizes dignity of labour, mental health, financial security, stable employment and also advocate digital literacy among content creators in Nigeria.

Keywords:Content Creators, Platform Capitalism, Mental health.

FSS 26-37:

HUMAN SECURITY APPROACH TO INSECURITY IN AFRICA

Ayegbusi Talabi Rasheed, & Oyinkansola Mercy
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Insecurity in Africa, characterized by conflicts, terrorism, banditry, and socio-economic challenges, poses significant threats to human well-being, community stability, and regional development. This study explores a human security approach to addressing these multifaceted insecurities, emphasizing the protection and empowerment of individuals and communities. It examines the interplay of poverty, governance deficits, climate change, and political instability, which exacerbate insecurity across the continent. The study assesses existing security frameworks, highlighting their limitations in addressing root causes, and proposes strategies prioritizing human-centered solutions, including inclusive governance, sustainable development, and community resilience programs. Despite notable efforts, challenges such as resource constraints, weak institutional coordination, and external influences persist. The study recommends integrated policies that combine security interventions with socio-economic development to promote enduring peace and human security in Africa.

FSS 26-38:

BANDITRY AND RE-THINKING THE SECURITY ARCHITECTURE OF KWARA STATE

[1]OLOWOJOLU Olakunle, [2]FAYOMI Oluwafemi
& [3]DESHI Sylvester Thaddeus
[123]Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Kwara state is a multi-ethnic configuration situated in North Central geo-political zone of Nigeria. For many years, Kwara state enjoyed peaceful co-existence along ethnic and religious lines. The once peaceful state has become the theatre of bloodshed and agony due to incessant banditry and terrorism related crimes. Using secondary sources of data, the paper will assess the impact of banditry on communities in Kwara state. The study will examine the effectiveness of the security actors in combating the menace of banditry. Conclusively, the study advocates for integrating community policing into the existing security architecture in Kwara state.

Keywords:banditry, kidnapping, community policing, Kwara State

FSS 26-39:

FINANCIAL DIMENSIONS OF NIGERIA'S SPACE POLICY: BUDGETARY FLOWS, REVENUE STREAMS, AND DEVELOPMENTAL AND SECURITY IMPACTS

Fisher, Augustus Olukayode
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
This study presents a comprehensive analysis of Nigeria's space policy and strategy, emphasizing institutional evolution, resource development, and satellite capabilities. Employing a qualitative methodology, it critically examines secondary sources– including academic literature, policy documents, and reports– to evaluate the alignment between Nigeria's declared space policy objectives and actual implementation outcomes. Thematic content analysis explores the contributions of space-based assets to national development sectors such as agriculture, environmental management, disaster response, communication, and healthcare, alongside security domains including border surveillance, military communications, and crisis management. Findings reveal significant progress in satellite deployment and capacity building, yet persistent gaps in effective policy execution, sustainable financing, and private sector engagement. Financial analysis indicates fluctuating expenditures on satellite programs, with investments ranging from approximately US$70 million in 2013 to US$48 million in 2018, primarily allocated to satellite manufacturing, launch, infrastructure, and capacity building. Revenue generation remains limited, with Nigeria's space sector predominantly state-funded and lacking robust commercialization models, constraining economic sustainability. The study integrates multidisciplinary theoretical framework– systems theory, liberalism, and dependency theory– to contextualize Nigeria's space ambitions within broader socio-political and economic realities. Recommendations focus on enhancing funding transparency and consistency, fostering indigenous technological development, promoting private sector participation, and aligning space initiatives with national development priorities to optimize socio-economic and security benefits. This research contributes empirical evidence to the underexplored field of space policy in emerging African space nations and offers actionable insights for policymakers aiming to strengthen Nigeria's space program for sustainable development and regional influence.

Keywords:Nigeria Space Policy, satellite programs, development, security, financial analysis, institutional capacity

FSS 26-40:

BIG FIVE PERSONALITY TRAITS AND MATHEMATICAL PERFORMANCE: A CASE STUDY OF ST AUGUSTINE JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, OYE-EKITI

Israel O. AYODELE, PhD
& Faith A. OSAWEME
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
This study examined the influence of personality traits and gender on students– mathematics performance among junior secondary school students in a rural setting. The study adopted an ex-post facto research design and was conducted at St Augustine junior secondary school, Oye-Ekiti. A total of 134 students participated in the study. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire to assess the Big Five personality traits: Extraversion, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, Neuroticism, and Openness, while students' mathematics performance was measured using their examination scores. Data were analyzed using Pearson Product Moment Correlation, independent samples t-test, and two-way Analysis of Variance at the 0.05 level of significance. The results revealed that Extraversion ($r = .052$, $p = .547$), Agreeableness ($r = .140$, $p = .106$), Conscientiousness ($r = .078$, $p = .369$), Neuroticism ($r = -.096$, $p = .271$), and Openness ($r = .126$, $p = .148$) had weak and non-significant relationships with mathematics performance. The independent samples t-test showed no significant difference between male ($M = 48.73$, $SD = 9.81$) and female ($M = 51.58$, $SD = 11.03$) students– mathematics scores ($t(132) = -1.581$, $p = .116$). Furthermore, the two-way ANOVA indicated no significant main or interaction effects of gender and dominant personality trait on mathematics performance ($p > .05$). The study concludes that personality traits and gender are not significant determinants of mathematics performance in the study area. It is recommended that emphasis be placed on improving teaching quality, learning resources, and the learning environment to enhance students' achievement in mathematics.

Keywords: Personality traits, Mathematics performance, gender, rural education, Oye-Ekiti.

FSS 26-41:

AUTOCORRECT PHENOMENUM: THE BRAIN'S ADRIOTNESS IN UNCONSCIOUSLY CORRECTING HOMOPHONIC WORDS: PILOT STUDY

Faith A. OSAWEME
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
This study propounds the Autocorrect Phenomenon as a novel cognitive framework explaining how the brain intuitively corrects linguistic errors during reading, particularly in the presence of homophonic substitutions. Drawing from principles of predictive processing, top-down cognition, and contextual integration, the study argues that language comprehension is not strictly dependent on surface accuracy but on meaning reconstruction. Using an experimental within-subject design, sixty undergraduate students were exposed to three text conditions: homophonic errors, non-homophonic errors, and a control condition without errors. Data were analyzed using Cochran's Q test and McNemar test. Findings revealed a significant difference across conditions, $Q(2) = 80.939$, $p < 0.05$, with participants demonstrating highest accuracy in the control condition, moderate performance in the homophone condition, and lowest accuracy in the non-homophone condition. A significant difference between homophone and non-homophone conditions ($p = 0.001$) further confirmed that phonological similarity enables subconscious correction, while non-homophonic disruptions increase cognitive load and hinder comprehension. Based on these findings, the study formally proposes the Autocorrect Phenomenon as a cognitive mechanism underpinning efficient language processing, emphasizing the brain's reliance on context, prediction, and familiarity in constructing meaning from imperfect input.

Keywords:Autocorrect Phenomenon, homophones, cognitive prediction, top-down processing, language comprehension

FSS 26-42:

EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION IN MANAGING AND PREVENTING KIDNAPPING CASES IN EKITI AND ONDO STATES, NIGERIA.

Mustapha Mohammed Musa; Babatunde J. Omotosho;
& Anthony A. Adebayo
Department of Sociology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Kidnapping is a global security challenge driven by factors such as unemployment, poor governance, border insecurity, and the proliferation of arms. In Nigeria, particularly in Ekiti and Ondo States, kidnapping has become a persistent security challenge which has generated widespread fear and disrupted social and economic life by restricting movement, altering lifestyles, and discouraging investment, resulting in abandoned development projects in the area. This study examined the effectiveness of interagency collaboration among security agencies in managing and preventing kidnapping incidents. Using a mixed-method approach involving 384 security personnel and 384 civilian respondents, complemented by Key Informant Interviews (KII) and In-Depth Interviews (IDI). The study revealed mixed perceptions of collaboration among the security agencies. While a majority acknowledged the effectiveness of interagency efforts, significant gaps exist in communication, intelligence sharing, coordinated operations and interagency rivalry; 60.1% of security personnel and 77.3% of civilians consider intelligence sharing adequate, while an overwhelming majority 91.4% of security agents and 89.3% of civilians-acknowledge that collaborative efforts significantly contribute to combating kidnapping. Qualitative evidence revealed inconsistencies and challenges such as information hoarding, inter-agency rivalry, and uneven implementation of collaborative practices. It was also revealed that collaboration is hindered by poor communication, fragmented operations, lack of unified command, and institutional rivalries. Joint bush-combing operations, community support often led to tangible results such as arrests, rescue operations, and reduced incidents in some areas. The study recommended improved interagency collaboration strengthened by efficient coordination frameworks, improved intelligence-sharing systems, regular joint training, trust-building measures, and enhanced community engagement to ensure sustainable security outcomes.
Keywords:Interagency, collaboration, rivalries, bush combing, joint stimulation, rescue operations

FSS 26-43:

PREVALENCE AND SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DETERMINANTS OF UNMET NEED FOR CONTRACEPTION AMONG YOUNG WOMEN IN EKITI STATE, NIGERIA.

Odusina Emmanuel Kolawole[1], Falade Philips Adekunle[1]
& Kunmifayo Deborah Odusina[2]
[1]Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria
[2]Department of Economics, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Abstract
Globally, although the number of modern contraceptive users has nearly doubled since the 1990s, an estimated 164 million women still experience unmet need for contraception. Sub-Saharan Africa, including Nigeria, has the highest proportion of women (predominantly young women) with unmet needs for contraception. Therefore, the study examined unmet need for contraception among sexually active young women (24-25 years) in Ekiti State, Nigeria. A cross-sectional study was conducted among 252 young women and data were obtained using a structured questionnaire. Using Chi-square test and binary logistic regression models, bivariate and multivariable analyses were performed through STATA version 14.0. The prevalence of unmet need for contraception among respondents was 28.60% with 10.70% being unmet need for limiting and 17.90% being unmet need for spacing. Findings from socio-economic status and unmet need for contraception revealed that young women >20 years [aOR=-1.74; CI=-3.37 - -0.11, p<0.05] had lower odds of unmet need for contraception compared to women who were <20 years. Young women who had secondary [aOR=-1.53; CI=-2.84 - -0.23, p<0.05] and post-secondary [aOR=-2.21; CI=-2.56-0.15, p<0.05] levels of formal education had lower odds of unmet need for contraception compared to those with primary formal education. With work status, young women who were not working [aOR=1.76; CI=0.60-2.92, p<0.05] had higher odds of unmet need for contraception compared to those who were working. Also, young women with two [aOR=-1.01; CI=0.03-1.98, p<0.05] and three [aOR=3.11; CI=1.60-4.63, p<0.05] children had higher odds of unmet need for contraception compared to those who had one child. In addition, with mass media, young women who were exposed to radio [aOR=-2.35; CI=-3.62-1.07, p<0.001] and television [aOR=-2.14; CI=-3.40-0.87, p<0.05] had lower odds of unmet need for contraception compared to those who were not exposed. Conclusively, study revealed high prevalence of unmet need for contraception among sexually active young women in Ekiti State, Nigeria. It is associated with socio-demographic factors such as age, education, work status, number of children and media exposure. Therefore, policies and programmes of intervention on family planning in the study area should take these factors into consideration.

Keywords: Family planning, reproductive health, contraceptive use, birth control, fertilityControl

FSS 26-44:
POLICE BRUTALITY AND POLICE COMMUNITY RELATION: A CARROTS AND TICK APPROACH TO CRIMINALITY IN EKITI STATE.

Niyi Adegoke PhD, BL, LL.M
Department of Criminology and Security Studies, National Open University of Nigeria

Abstract
This study explained the influence of police brutality on police-community relations in crime reduction in Ekiti State, Nigeria. The study examined how incidents of excessive force, unlawful detention, intimidation, and abuse of power by police officers affect public trust, cooperation, and providing information to police on criminal activities within the local communities. The research employed a quantitative approach, using structured questionnaires administered to a sample of 100 respondents across selected areas in Ekiti State. Data collected were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistical tools. Findings revealed a negative relationship between police and community they serve, also it was observed that public had lost trust in the activities of Nigeria police, as public cooperation with law enforcement agencies reduce drastically. Respondents expressed concerns over recurring instances of harassment, unlawful arrests, and excessive use of force, which have contributed to fear, resentment, and reduced willingness to assist the police in crime prevention and control efforts. The study concludes that persistent police brutality had negative effect on police community relation. It recommended urgent reforms in police training, accountability frameworks, and human rights education to foster transparency, rebuild trust, and enhance collaborative police-community relations in Ekiti State and Nigeria at large.

Keywords: Police brutality, community trust, cooperation, human rights, Ekiti State.

FSS 26-45:
INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY AND INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT GROWTH IN NIGERIA

Keji Sunday Anderu

Department of Economics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Strong and open institutions are expected to be supportive of efficient management of existing resources, human capital skills, and corruption, thereby boost investors' confidence for industrial output growth. However, the reserve has been the case in Nigeria, where industrial output growth has become low. This can be attributed to a poor institutional framework, low productive skills, and dilapidated industrial tools, which have constrained rapid industrial output growth, thereby slowing overall output growth in Nigeria. Using unit root tests, trend analysis and Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) techniques, this study examined the impact of institutional quality on industrial output in Nigeria. Findings disclosed that institutional quality influenced industrial growth in Nigeria. Notably, the study systematically revealed that labour participation rate, proxy for human capital skills, gross capital formation catalysed industrial output growth in Nigeria. The overall outcomes via the F-statistics showed significant effects of institutional quality on the Nigerian industrial output growth. Consequently, to improve industrial output growth in Nigeria, the study suggests that governments at all levels should draft policy to prioritise institutional frameworks such as human capital skills via improving school enrolment rate at the secondary schools, vocational skills, curbing corruption via hybrid technology, and expanding infrastructure technology to reduce real cost and money cost of production for rapid industrial output growth.

K**eywords: Human Capital Skills; Industrial Output; Economic Growth.**

FSS 26-46:

THREAT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO INTELLECTUAL RIGOR AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY IN RESEARCH AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AND ACADEMIC STAFF IN FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OYE-EKITI

Israel O. AYODELE, PhD, Faith A. OSAWEME,
Celestine OBELE & Modupe ABE
Department of Psychology, Federal University, Oye- Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

Abstract
This study investigates the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on intellectual rigor and academic integrity in research by analyzing a dataset of 250 respondents, comprising 234 students and 16 lecturers. Utilizing a quantitative approach through SPSS-based frequency distributions and cross-tabulations, the research explores AI usage patterns, perceptions of critical thinking, and attitudes toward institutional regulation. The findings reveal a high adoption rate, with 96% of participants using AI tools at least occasionally, primarily for idea generation (43.2%) and writing assistance. While 91.6% of respondents credit AI with improving their productivity, a significant majority (72.4%) believe it reduces the necessity for critical thinking, and 67.6% perceive it as an intensifier of academic dishonesty. To determine the strength of the relationship between respondent status and these perceptions, Cramer's V tests were conducted, revealing consistently strong and statistically significant associations ($p < .001$). Specifically, a very strong association was found regarding the disclosure of AI use (Cramer's $V = .751$), highlighting a major disparity where 56.3% of lecturers demand constant transparency compared to only 9% of students. Similarly strong associations were observed for the frequency of AI use (Cramer's $V = .719$), the belief that AI encourages plagiarism (Cramer's $V = .715$), and the primary application of AI in research (Cramer's $V = .713$). These high Cramer's V values indicate that the professional role whether student or lecturer powerfully dictates one's perspective on AI's ethical and practical integration. Ultimately, the study concludes that while AI serves as a potent productivity aid, it creates a "perception gap" regarding rigor and honesty that necessitates nuanced institutional regulation rather than outright prohibition.

FSS 26-47:

MANAGING GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON RESILIENT SOCIETIES: LESSONS AND APPROACHES TO SECURITY, GOVERNANCE, AND EMERGING THREATS.

Wahab Jamiu Folawiyo Ph.D.
Department of Educational Management and Business Studies, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Resilient societies are those that can assimilate shocks, engulf to frustration, catastrophic events of lives and grow vigorously

in the face of adversity. The concept of resilience has become central to global public discussions and argument about addressing convoluted and interconnected security, governance, and societal challenges. From multifactor conflict and terrorism to climate change and cyber threats, societies worldwide are act of engaging in close hand to hand combat with risks that threaten their stability and long-term national development. This paper investigates the global perspective on resilient societies by examining some case studies from different regions and the strategies adopted to enhance resilience. It demands insights from diverse sectors, including security reform, governance, technological innovation, community engagement, climate adaptation, and postulates how these can be applied to the Nigerian context. The article concludes by underscore the importance of collaborative efforts of stakeholders across governments, civil society, and international organizations in building robust and adaptable societies that can overcome emerging challenges. The concept of resilience in this article refers to the capacity of societies and institutions to absorb shocks, acclimate to challenges, and ultimately thrive despite calamitous events. This article provides solutions that focus on addressing the roots of insecurity, improving governance, and fortifying the security apparatus in order to create a resilient society in global perspectives and Nigeria.

Keywords: global perspectives, resilient societies, security, governance, emerging threats.

FSS 26-48:

SLUM HEALTH, WATER GOVERNANCE AND CHILD SURVIVAL IN NIGERIA

Chukwudeh, S. Okechukwu (Ph.D)
Department of Sociology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti Nigeria

Abstract
The faecal oral route is the major channel of contracting diarrhoea, but studies on sanitation have focused on household sanitation with little attention paid to childhood sanitation practices, especially among slum communities in Nigeria. This study examined childhood sanitation practices and risk of diarrhoea in the slums, characterised by congestion and environmental decadence. Cross-sectional survey that combined qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection was utilized. The World Health Organization (WHO) Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) (30 by 30) cluster sampling technique was used to arrive at 900 households for this study. Six In-depth interviews were conducted with community leaders in the study location. Value-belief norms and planned behavior theories guided this study. The sanitation behavior of most (95%) under-five children in Nigeria slums is unsanitary. There was a relationship between children sanitation practices ($\chi2=67.187$, df=4, $P<0.05$), materials used for cleaning buttocks ($\chi2=126.693$, df=3, $P<0.05$), faeces disposal site ($\chi2=118.344$, df=2, $P<0.05$), and childhood diarrhea. Daily societal values, norms, and traditions influence childhood sanitation practices in Nigeria. Thus, there is need for grassroots sensitization on improved childhood sanitation practices in order to reduce prevalence of diarrhea in Nigeria.

Keywords: Childhood diarrhea, faecal oral route, Nigeria, Sanitation, Slums.

FSS 26-49:

POVERTY TRAPS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION IN NORTHERN NIGERIA: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF STRUCTURAL CONSTRAINTS AND POLICY RESPONSES

Emmanuel Femi Durosinmi
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Northern Nigeria continues to experience persistently high levels of poverty, driven by structural inequalities, conflict, demographic pressures, and limited access to basic services. Despite the introduction of various social protection programmes, many households remain trapped in intergenerational cycles of deprivation. Understanding the dynamics of poverty traps and the effectiveness of social protection interventions is essential for designing resilient and inclusive policy frameworks. This study examines the nature and drivers of poverty traps in Northern Nigeria and critically evaluates the role of social protection programmes in addressing chronic poverty and vulnerability. The study adopts a qualitative desktop research design based on a systematic review of existing literature. Sources include peer-reviewed journal articles, government policy documents, and reports from international organizations such as the World Bank, UNICEF, and the

International Labour Organization. A thematic analysis approach is employed to identify recurring patterns related to poverty persistence, structural barriers, and the effectiveness of social protection interventions. Findings reveal that poverty traps in Northern Nigeria are sustained by a combination of low human capital development, limited access to education, high dependency ratios, insecurity, and weak labour market integration. Social protection initiatives particularly cash transfer programmes, school feeding schemes, and livelihood support interventions have demonstrated short-term poverty alleviation effects but remain constrained by limited coverage, weak targeting mechanisms, and institutional inefficiencies. Furthermore, the intersection of conflict and displacement exacerbates vulnerability and undermines programme delivery. While social protection programmes play a critical role in mitigating poverty, their current design and implementation are insufficient to dismantle entrenched poverty traps in Northern Nigeria. The study underscores the need for integrated, context-sensitive approaches that combine social protection with investments in education, employment generation, and security. Strengthening institutional capacity, improving targeting systems, and incorporating local knowledge systems are essential for enhancing long-term resilience and sustainable poverty reduction.

FSS 26-50:

CORRELATES OF INTERNAL MIGRATION ON MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION AMONG WOMEN IN NIGERIA: A COHORT ANALYSIS.

Sarafa. B Shittu, Ridwan. O. Shittu
& Sunday A. Adedini
Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti

Abstract
Marriage dissolution has significant social and demographic implications for individuals, families, and society at large. In Nigeria, internal migration patterns not only alter sexual behaviour but also cultural norms and marital stability. This study investigates the effect of internal migration on the dissolution of marriage among women in Nigeria. The study used the Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) data collected in 2003, 2008, 2013, and 2018 and four birth cohorts were generated: Gen Boomers. Gen X, Gen Millennial and Gen Z. The dependent variable was marital dissolution (previous and current dissolution) and main independent variable is internal migration. Other explanatory variables included women s age, age at first sex, number of lifetime partners, level of education, religion, working status and access to mass media. The method of analysis for univariate, bivariate and multivariate analyses involved frequencies and percentage distributions of both outcome and explanatory variables, chi-square test of association and binary logistic regression respectively. The result showed that current marriage dissolution was high among Gen X by 3.4%, followed by Gen Boomers (2.7%), Gen Millennial (2.2%), and Gen Z (1.6%). Previous marriage dissolution was highest among Gen Boomers (19.6%), followed by Gen X (14.1%), Gen Millennial (8.9%) and Gen Z (2.8%). Further analysis showed that rural non-migrants among Gen Millennial were 0.60 times less likely to have current marriage dissolution compared to rural-urban migrants (CI: 0.38-0.95). Urban non-migrants among Gen Boomers, Gen X and Gen Millennial by 0.60 times (CI: 0.40-0.91), 0.72 times (0.51-1.04) and 0.64 times (CI: 0.47-0.87) respectively less likely to have a previous marriage dissolution compared to rural non-migrants. Other significant factors were level of education, sex of household, number of lifetime partners, wealth index and working status. The study recommended that the needs for programs promoting marital counselling and relationship support for rural-urban migrants, empower economically and women with low educational attainment should be strengthened.
Keywords: Generation, migration, disintegration, Nigeria, contemporary

FSS 26-51:

THE RESOURCE CURSE CONFLICT DILEMMA: THE NIGERIAN EXPERIENCE

Thaddeaus Sylvester Deshi
& Ojo Olawale Ariyo
Department of Political Sciences, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Nigeria as a country has long been perplexed by the developmental trajectory required for its economy to thrive. The concept of the Resource Curse explains the paradox in which resource-rich countries such as Nigeria experience slower economic growth, weaker institutional frameworks, and persistent poverty when compared to resource-poor nations. This study interrogates the Nigerian experience within this paradox, with particular attention to the intersection between resource

dependence and conflict dynamics. Drawing on secondary data from the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index and the Global Terrorism Index (2025), the findings further substantiate that overreliance on oil revenue, poor leadership structures, and recurrent internal conflicts have collectively reinforced the manifestations of the resource curse in Nigeria. These factors have not only constrained sustainable development but have also contributed to governance deficits and widening socio-economic inequalities. The study further argues that the persistence of conflict in resource-rich regions, particularly oil-producing areas, complicates development efforts and deepens national instability. Consequently, the Resource Curse remains a relevant analytical framework for understanding Nigeria's development challenges and underscores the urgent need for transparent governance, economic diversification, and strategic investment in human capital. The study concludes that addressing these structural issues is critical for overcoming the paradox of abundance and repositioning Nigeria on a path toward sustainable and inclusive development.

Keywords: Resource curse, Nigeria, oil dependency, conflict, governance, human development, terrorism

FSS 26-52:

INVESTIGATING SOCIO-CULTURAL FACTORS INFLUENCING THE PREVALENCE OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY AMONG PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN EKITI STATE, NIGERIA

Tolu Ayo Ogunniyi
& Anthony Abayomi Adebayo
Department of Gender, Social Work and Development Studies
Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Teenage pregnancy, defined as conception among females aged 13– 19, remains a pressing socio-cultural and public health challenge in Nigeria. In Ekiti State, its prevalence disrupts education, health, and community development, perpetuating cycles of poverty and gender inequality. Beyond individual consequences, adolescent pregnancy undermines social well-being and weakens community structures. This study investigated the socio-cultural determinants influencing teenage pregnancy among public secondary school students, situating the phenomenon as both a developmental and public health concern requiring urgent intervention. The study assessed awareness and knowledge of teenage pregnancy among adolescents; identified socio-cultural factors contributing to its prevalence; explored psycho-social consequences for adolescent mothers and proposed evidence-based recommendations for reducing teenage pregnancy in Ekiti State. A concurrent mixed-methods design was employed, integrating quantitative and qualitative approaches. Primary data were collected from 300 students using semi-structured questionnaire, while qualitative insights were obtained through Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with six principals, guidance counsellors and parents. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and presented in tables and graphs, whereas qualitative data underwent thematic content analysis to identify recurrent narratives and socio-cultural patterns. Findings revealed that although most students possessed baseline knowledge of pregnancy largely influenced by social media and visible community cases this awareness did not serve as a protective factor. Determinants included exposure to sexualized media, inadequate sex education, substance misuse, poverty, peer pressure, and weak parental guidance. Consequences for adolescent mothers were severe, encompassing school dropout, truncated life goals, emotional distress (guilt, depression, loneliness, low self-esteem), and social stigmatization leading to isolation from peers and family. These results underscore the multifactorial nature of teenage pregnancy and its profound psycho-social ramifications. The study recommended a multi-pronged intervention strategy, including comprehensive sexual health education, adolescent friendly contraceptive services, poverty alleviation programs, regulatory measures to limit minors' access to sexualized media, resilience-building initiatives against peer pressure, and abstinence-oriented messaging.

Keywords: Adolescents, peer pressure, poverty, sex-education, teenage-pregnancy.

FSS 26-53:

THE MILITARY COUP IN BENIN REPUBLIC AND NIGERIA INTERVENTION

Arinze Ngwube
& Jude Obeta
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract

This paper examines the military coup in the Republic of Benin and Nigeria's intervention within the broader context of political instability and regional security management in West Africa. Military coups have historically posed significant challenges to democratic governance in the region, often arising from weak institutions, economic grievances, and contested political authority. Focusing on Benin, the paper analyses the circumstances that led to military intervention in politics, highlighting the role of elite competition, civil– military relations, and legitimacy crises in facilitating unconstitutional changes of government. The paper further explores Nigeria's interventionist role, emphasizing its position as a regional hegemon and a key factor in promoting political stability through diplomatic pressure, mediation, and regional security mechanisms. Nigeria's response is examined within the frameworks of collective security and regional leadership, particularly through its engagement with multilateral institutions and bilateral initiatives aimed at restoring constitutional order. The paper argues that Nigeria's intervention reflects both normative commitments to democratic governance and strategic interests in regional stability, given the transnational implications of coups, including insecurity, refugee flows, and economic disruption. By situating the Benin case within wider West African coup dynamics, the paper contributes to ongoing debates on the effectiveness of regional interventions in curbing military takeovers. Ultimately, the paper underscores the need for preventive diplomacy, strengthened civilian institutions, and sustained regional cooperation to address the root causes of military coups and ensure long-term political stability in West Africa.

Keywords:Military coup, Benin Republic, Nigeria intervention, regional security, democratic governance, West Africa.

FSS 26-54:

REASSESSING SOVEREIGNTY IN A TURBULENT GLOBAL ORDER:AN ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP S FOREIGN POLICY

Gbeke Adebowale Adenuga, PhD
& Mercy Oyinkansola Towoju
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract

The study reassesses the concept of sovereignty in a turbulent global order through an analysis of President Donald Trump's foreign policy. Against the backdrop of globalization, multilateral governance, and rising nationalist politics, the study interrogates how the "America First" doctrine redefined traditional understandings of state sovereignty. Drawing on key International Relations theories, the article situates Trump's foreign policy within broader debates on unilateralism, populism, and the erosion or reassertion of state authority. Methodologically, the study adopts a qualitative case study approach, focusing on U.S. policy toward Venezuela and the Greenland episode as illustrative cases of sovereignty in practice. The Venezuela case highlights tensions between non-intervention, regime change, and humanitarian justification, while the Greenland case exposes the commodification of territory and strategic interest in contemporary great power politics. The article demonstrates that Trump's foreign policy has redefined the concept of Westphalian sovereignty and reconfigured global norms leading to a selective and interest-driven reinterpretation of sovereignty. The findings suggest that this approach contributed to increased uncertainty in international norms, strained alliances, and challenged established practices of multilateral cooperation, with lasting implications for global governance and U.S. leadership in the international system. The study calls for a global order premised on the notions of equality and fraternity of states.

Keywords: America first, Donald Trump, foreign policy, Greenland, sovereignty, Venezuela.

FSS 26-55:

NAVIGATING ROUGH TERRAINS IN HIGHER EDUCATION LEARNING: A STUDY OF DIGITAL ADOPTION IN QUALITY ASSURANCE ADMINISTRATION AT GAMBIAN UNIVERSITIES

Kemo Juwara
School of Business and Public Administration, University of The Gambia, Kanifing, The Gambia
& Taiwo A. Olaiya, Esq;
Department of Public Administration, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Abstract

The digitalisation of quality assurance (QA) administration in West African higher education institutions holds significant

promise for enhancing transparency, accountability, and academic excellence. However, the journey towards effective digital integration is fraught with challenges, particularly in resource-constrained environments such as The Gambia. This study investigates the multifaceted factors impeding the adoption of digital technologies in QA administration within Gambian universities, framed within the broader context of West African higher education. Employing a qualitative research design, this study utilises content review as its primary method to systematically examine peer-reviewed journal articles, policy documents, and institutional reports. Thematic analysis, facilitated by Vos Viewer and Atlas.ti software, will be employed to identify recurring patterns and emerging themes from the literature. Preliminary exploration suggests that key challenges include grossly inadequate digital infrastructure, limited technical expertise, and a lack of institutional readiness among QA personnel. Furthermore, policy-related obstacles, such as poor budgetary allocation to universities, ineffective implementation and monitoring of digitalisation processes, and inconsistent evidence-based data collection and reporting practices, exacerbate the situation. These barriers collectively undermine institutional service delivery, academic programme quality, teaching and learning outcomes, student assessment integrity, and financial and academic transparency. The findings of this study are expected to provide a nuanced understanding of the specific constraints within the Gambian context, offering empirical insights that can inform policy formulation and strategic interventions. Ultimately, this research aims to equip university administrators, quality assurance practitioners, and government policymakers with foundational knowledge to navigate the rough terrains of digital adoption and foster resilient, effective QA ecosystems in The Gambia and similar West African contexts.

Keywords: Digital adoption, quality assurance, higher education, The Gambia, West Africa, educational technology

FSS 26-56:

THE EFFECT OF CREDIT RISK ON THE DIVIDEND POLICY OF DEPOSIT MONEY BANKS IN NIGERIA

Fagbomedo Oluwadare Rufus, Ph.D.
Business Education Department, Federal College of Education, Okene, Kogi State.

Abstract
This study examined the effect of credit risk on the dividend policy of listed deposit money banks in Nigeria, with capital adequacy serving as a moderating variable. The study adopted an ex post facto research design and covered all 13 listed deposit money banks using a census sampling technique. Secondary data were sourced from the annual reports of the banks and relevant national statistics over a fifteen-year period (2008 – 2022). Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and regression analysis. The findings revealed that credit risk had a negative and statistically insignificant effect on both dividend payout and dividend yield of listed deposit money banks. Furthermore, the moderating role of capital adequacy on the relationship between credit risk and dividend policy was found to be statistically insignificant. The study concluded that credit risk does not significantly influence the dividend policy decisions of deposit money banks in Nigeria, though maintaining adequate capital levels remains important for financial stability.

Keywords: Credit risk, dividend policy, payout deposit money banks, dividend yield, capital adequacy.

FSS 26-57:

DO REMITTANCES REDUCE POVERTY? COMPELLING EVIDENCE FROM NIGERIA

Sanmi OLUBOKUN, Ph.D.
Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, Okitipupa, Nigeria.

Abstract
This study examined the effect of migrants remittances on poverty in Nigeria from 1981 to 2025, with specific attention to the two standard components of remittances: personal transfers and employees compensation. Using annual time series data sourced from the World Development Indicators (WDI), the study applied the Vector Error Correction Model (VECM) to capture both short-run and long-run dynamics. The unit root tests reveal a mixture of I(0) and I(1) variables, justifying the use of the VECM framework. The results showed that employees compensation significantly reduced poverty both in the short-run and in the long-run, while personal transfers exerted a negative but statistically weak effect. Inflation and interest rates aggravate poverty, indicating that macroeconomic instability weakens the poverty-reducing potential of remittances. The

variance decomposition and impulse response results confirm that remittance shocks explain a growing proportion of poverty variation over time, though their effect remains modest compared with domestic interest rate shocks. The study concludes that remittances play an important but insufficient role in poverty alleviation in Nigeria. The study therefore recommends that government and financial regulators reduce the cost of remittance transfers, promote financial inclusion for recipient households, and stabilize macroeconomic conditions so as to mitigate the scourge of poverty in Nigeria.
.

Keywords: Remittances, poverty, employees' compensation, personal transfers, VECM.

FSS 26-58:

MILITARY EXPENDITURE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA: A GUNS- BUTTER PERSPECTIVE.

Saheed Aliu, Aladejana Ph.D.
Department of Economics, Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology (OAUSTECH),
Okitipupa, Ondo State, Nigeria.

Abstract
This study examined the relationship between military expenditure and socio-economic development (SED) in Nigeria from 1990 to 2024 using the Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) framework. Annual time-series data were obtained from the World Bank, the Central Bank of Nigeria, and the National Bureau of Statistics. The ARDL bounds testing approach confirmed the existence of a long-run equilibrium relationship among the variables. The short-run results showed that changes in military expenditure exerted a positive and statistically significant effect on socio-economic development, indicating that defence spending temporarily improved security conditions, stabilised investment, and supported employment. Social sector spending also positively influenced SED in the short run, reflecting welfare gains from investments in education and healthcare. In contrast, government revenue exerted a negative effect on SED, suggesting inefficiencies in fiscal allocation and resource utilisation. Inflation exhibited a marginal positive effect, implying that moderate price changes slightly stimulated economic activity. In the long run, sustained military expenditure exerted a negative and significant impact on socio-economic development, underscoring the opportunity costs of prolonged defence spending and its tendency to divert resources from productive and human-capital-enhancing sectors. Conversely, social sector spending remained a strong driver of development, while inflation was insignificant and government revenue continued to impede SED. Interaction effects between military and social spending were insignificant, although lagged interactions indicated potential crowding-out effects. The study concluded that military expenditure supported short-term development but undermined socio-economic progress in the long run. Accordingly, it recommended a balanced fiscal strategy consistent with the Guns-Butter framework, emphasising efficient defence spending, sustained social sector investment, and strong institutional governance to achieve inclusive and sustainable development.

Keywords:Military expenditure; socio-economic development; ARDL model; social sector spending; Fiscal policy.

FSS 26-59:

ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF STUDENT'S INDUSTRIAL WORK EXPERIENCE SCHEME (SIWES) ON SMALL AND MEDIUM SCALE ENTERPRISES (SMES) IN NIGERIA

OSONDU JOSHUA EBUKA
Department of Business Education, Federal College of Education, Okene, Nigeria.

Abstract
The student's industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) is a program designed to provide students with practical work experience in their chosen field. This study investigates the impact of SIWES on small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) in Nigeria. A mixed-methods approach was employed, combining both quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis methods. A survey was administered to 300 SME owners/managers. Interviews were conducted with 20 SME owners/managers. The results indicate that SIWES has a significant positive impact on SMEs, including improved productivity, enhanced innovation, and increased competitiveness. However, challenges such as inadequate funding, limited infrastructure and poor altitudes of student were identified. The study recommends that policy makers and stakeholders should provide adequate funding, improve infrastructure and promote positive attitudes among students to enhance the effectiveness of SIWES.

Keywords: SIWES, SMEs, Human capital development, skill acquisition, Economic development.

FSS 26-60:

EVALUATING NIGERIA UNION OF JOURNALISTS' (NUJ) PERCEPTION OF CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNICATION AND ITS INFLUENCE ON PUBLIC AWARENESS' AND BEHAVIOURAL RESPONSES RELATED TO FOOD AND ECONOMIC SECURITY IN NIGERIA

Mercy Ifeyinwa Obichili, Ph.D.
Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu Alike Ikwo, Ebonyi State, Nigeria.

Abstract
This study assesses the perceptions of members of the Nigeria Union of Journalists as regards climate change communication and its perceived influence on public awareness and behavioral responses related to food and economic security in Nigeria. The study used descriptive survey research design. The findings indicate significant relationships between journalists' perceptions of climate communication strategies and their evaluation of public response, emphasizing the media's role in promoting environmental literacy and policy responsiveness. The study imparts to climate communication scholarship in developing countries and suggests goal-oriented training and professional development for journalists in climate advocacy.

Keywords: Climate change communication, NUJ, public awareness, behavioral response, food security, economic security.

FSS 26-61:

EFFECTS OF TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ON THE PERFORMANCE OF FOOD AND BEVERAGE IN SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN ABAKALIKI, EBONYI STATE

Makuachukwu G. Ojide[1], Chigaemezu J. Uzor[1], & Kelechi C. Ojide[2]
[1]Department of Economics and Development Studies, Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu-Alike, Ebonyi State
[2]Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu-Alike, Ebonyi State

Abstract
This study investigates the effect of technology and innovation on the performance of food and beverage in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Abakaliki, Ebonyi State. The objectives of the study were to examine how product innovation, market innovation, organizational innovation, and customer satisfaction influence profitability in SMEs. The study adopted a survey research design, with data collected from 115 respondents through structured questionnaires. Ordered logistic regression was employed to analyze the relationship between profitability and different forms of innovation. The findings revealed that technology significantly enhance SME performance by improving sales growth and increasing customer satisfaction. However, innovation on product, marketing and organization were found not to be statistically significant towards enhancing SME's profit. The study concludes that technology adoption is vital tool for the survival of food and beverage SMEs. It recommends that SMEs should continuously adopt and upgrade modern technologies, foster an innovation-friendly organizational culture, and provide staff training to improve technical know-how. By adopting these measures, SMEs will improve their sales growth and customer satisfaction as a way of enhancing profitability in the food and beverage SMEs subsector in Abakaliki.

Keywords: Small and Medium Enterprises, market innovation, product innovation, organizational innovation, customer satisfaction, logistic regression

FSS 26-62:

NIGERIAN DERADICALIZATION AND INTEGRATION IN A RESILIENT SOCIETY

LUKA Tanko Fun
Kaduna State College of Education Gidan Waya.

Abstract
In a turbulent world, the Nigerian government has been battling with extremist violence especially in the northeast of Nigeria, which informs a systematic resilience approach. This study x-rays the nation's disengagement, de-radicalization and integration programs, analyzing their role in harnessing a robust society. The research aims at evaluating, assessing and

analyzing the programs, the social status and psychological wellbeing of the aggressors and victims, as well as the community readiness to accept government programs and policies. The study adopted the mixed methods approach, including a critical review of policy documents, structures and unstructured interviews with program officials as well as communities affected in the northeast Nigeria. Meanwhile, results of the findings show some level of success in disengagement, de-radicalization, reintegration of extremists, while the desired results are been hampered with so many factors thereby risking division. a whole of society– model approach is recommended, with special concentration on traditional and religious mediation guaranteeing sustainable livelihood as well as expert mediation from psychology to harness both the repentant extremists and victims.

Keywords: Disengagement, De-radicalization, Reintegration, Extremism and Programs

FSS 26-63:

NAVIGATING A FRACTURED CARE LANDSCAPE: POLICY PATHWAYS FOR BRIDGING ALTERNATIVE AND BIOMEDICAL TREATMENT IN PROSTATE CANCER MANAGEMENT IN NIGERIA

[1]Sunday M. Abatan; [2]Stephen A. Kenechukwu;
[3]Olawale O. Ariyo; [4]Patrick T. Adegun
& [5]Adria Molotsky
[1]Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti
[2]Department of Mass Communication, Federal University Oye-Ekiti
[3]Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye-Ekiti
[4]Ekiti State Teaching Hospital, Surgery and Urology Unit
[5]American Institute of Research, United State

Abstract
Prostate cancer is a leading cause of mortality among men aged 50 and above in Nigeria, yet treatment pathways remain fragmented across biomedical, traditional, and faith-based systems. This study explores structural, economic, and sociocultural factors shaping care-seeking decisions in Ekiti State, Nigeria. Between October and December 2025, ten (10) in-depth (IDI) and nine (9) key informant interviews (KII) were conducted among prostates cancer patients, urologists, a nurse, traditional healers, and religious leaders to examine treatment practices, collaboration dynamics, and patient behaviors using qualitative approach. The findings from the thematic analysis revealed limited access to early diagnosis among prostate cancer patients, high out-of-pocket costs for surgery (~~₦~~3.5–~~₦~~5 million), and inadequate insurance coverage as major barriers to biomedical treatment. Financial constraints drive many patients toward alternative medicine, while cultural constructions of masculinity encourage silence and delayed disclosure. Although traditional and faith-based practitioners' express openness to collaboration, biomedical providers remain hesitant, reinforcing parallel systems of care. Additionally, patients' expectations of rapid recovery often result in treatment discontinuity across multiple care pathways. Conclusively, the absence of regulatory coordination between formal and informal providers undermines continuity of care and contributes to late-stage presentation. Policy reforms should prioritize expanded financial protection, structured engagement frameworks, and culturally responsive awareness campaigns to promote early screening and sustained treatment adherence.

Keywords:Prostate cancer; health systems governance; alternative medicine; masculinity and health; financial barriers to care

FSS 26-64:

INFLUENCE OF STIGMATIZATION, DISCRIMINATION AND SUICIDAL IDEATION ON MENTAL HEALTH AMONG LGBTQ+ (LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER AND OTHERS) INDIVIDUALS

Olatunji Olabimpe Ajoke (Ph.D); Oyeleye Iyinyeoluwa Elizabeth
& Sunday Ifeoluwa Esther
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
The study examined the influence of stigmatization, discrimination, and suicidal ideation on the mental health of LGBTQ+ individuals. These are individuals whose sexual orientation is not absolutely heterosexual such as the Lesbians, Gay, Bisexual,

Transgender, Queer and other identities like Asexual, Nonbinary, Pansexual, Intersex and more. A cross-sectional survey design was adopted and data were collected from 57 participants (male = 20; age 18 - 35 years; mean age = 23) through online platforms. Standardized instruments including the Internalized Homophobia Scale, Heterosexist Harassment and Rejection Scale, Suicidal Ideation Questionnaire, and the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12) were used to collect data from the respondents. The results showed that stigmatization had a significant negative influence on mental health ($t = 42.293$, $p < .001$), indicating that higher levels of stigma were associated with greater psychological distress. Discrimination also significantly influenced mental health ($t = 8.549$, $p < .001$), suggesting that experiences of biased treatment and rejection critically undermined emotional well-being. Suicidal ideation further demonstrated a significant impact on mental health ($t = 11.644$, $p < .001$), meaning suicidal thoughts influences poorer psychological functioning. The joint regression analysis revealed a significant combined influence of stigmatization, discrimination, and suicidal ideation on mental health ($R = .421$, $R^2 = .177$, $F = 3.795$, $p < .05$), showing that these variables collectively account for a notable proportion of the variance in mental health outcomes. The findings align with minority stress theory, emphasizing that sustained exposure to stigma, prejudice, and identity-based rejection elevates the risk of psychological challenges among minority communities. The study highlights the urgent need for inclusive mental health services, supportive environments, and policies that reduce stigma and discrimination while promoting resilience and emotional well-being in LGBT+ individuals.

Keywords: Sexual Minority individuals, prejudice, social exclusion, suicidal thoughts, psychological wellbeing.

FSS 26-65:

CONFLICT PREVENTION THROUGH PEACE BUILDING AMONG AGRARIAN COMMUNITIES

Iranola Olaniyi M.
Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Niger State Nigeria,

Abstract
This study highlights a concise step to preventing conflict among agrarian community, using the principle of a peace building as a measure to forestall occurrences of conflict majorly among farmers. The study was basically founded on human need theory. It aims to defining the term conflict, conflict prevention and a typical agrarian community; identify the importance and types of conflict in an agrarian community, explicit the processes of peace building in an agrarian community and give a classical strategy applicable to preventing conflicts in rural community through the process of peace building. The study identifies and explains types of conflict in agrarian community as pastoral-agricultural conflict / crop farmers-herdsmen conflict, town-country conflict, inter family and inter-clan-conflict, conflict of wages, and conflict of land and person-person conflict. It explains the concept of peace building and the process involved in building peace. The study concluded with a concise strategy for peace building and recommended the adoption of the method and process as explained, taking into consideration the activities of spoilers and their proper handling.
Keywords: Conflict, peace building, spoilers, Local leaders.

FSS 26-66:

IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT-PROVIDED PROCESSING EQUIPMENT ON BENEFICIARIES- POVERTY STATUS IN ONDO STATE, NIGERIA: A MIXED-METHODS ASSESSMENT

Iranola O.M.
& Shehu M.
Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, Federal University of Technology Minna, Niger state, Nigeria.

Abstract
Ondo state benefited from the Federal Government recipient of credit, and through FADAMA provides support to beneficiaries with food processing and equipment. This study assesses the impact of the benefits of the processing equipment supplied to the beneficiaries on their poverty level. The study population consist of 450 beneficiaries. Multi-stage sampling procedure was adopted. Based on the preponderance of processors, purposive sampling was used to sample 11 out of 18 Local government areas across the three senatorial districts within the state. Random sampling technique was used to select 30.2% of the beneficiaries to give a sample size of 136, structured questionnaire was administered to the respondents by the trained enumerators. Data obtained were analyzed using descriptive (means, frequency and percentage) and inferential statistics t-test. Findings revealed that majority of the respondents (64.7%) were male with average age 46.9 years,

having secondary education, mean household of 5 person. It was also observed that majority of the respondents (91.9%), primarily had food processing as their major occupation. Findings also revealed an Improve poverty reduction from the lives of the beneficiaries as evident in increase in output (60.3%) and income (58.8%). The study concluded that the assistant received by the beneficiaries in form of processing equipment, has significantly reduced the poverty level of the recipients, and had positively impacted on the outputs and income and as well as substantial improvement on their lives. The study recommended among others that more awareness programs and enlightenment campaign should be mounted to sensitize the populace on the needs to be empowered economically and be self - employed especially in the present economic situation where there is scarcity of white-collar jobs.

Keywords;processing equipment, beneficiary, poverty reduction, government intervention, income

FSS 26-67:

ADAPTIVE GOVERNANCE AND POLICY INNOVATION IN NIGERIA S RESPONSE TO SECURITY CRISES

[1]Kingsley Oghenekevwe Ogbeta
[2]Aishat Temitope Lukman
& [2]Taiwo Akanbi Olaiya
[1]University of The Gambia, The Gambia
[2]Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Abstract
In the last few decades, Nigeria has had ongoing security and economic problems that have led to insurgency, banditry, unstable economies, widespread poverty, and a loss of trust in government organisations. As a result, these interconnected problems have highlighted major flaws in traditional ways of running the government and raised important questions about the state's ability to change and develop new policies. This study examines how Nigeria's response to security and economic crises has been shaped by adaptive governance and policy innovation. It does this by asking how governance institutions change, what new policies come up, and what effects these have on trust and resilience. The study is based on the Adaptive Governance Theory, which holds that institutions should be able to change, learn, work together, and coordinate across multiple levels to handle complex and uncertain situations. A qualitative case study design is used, along with policy papers, government reports, budget statements, and interviews with key informants. The data is then analysed using content analysis. Early results show that Nigeria has made significant policy changes, primarily through collaborative security initiatives and economic recovery frameworks. However, these efforts remain constrained by institutional rigidity, poor coordination, corruption, and a lack of policy learning. Nevertheless, flexible methods for multi-actor engagement and incremental reforms show promise for strengthening crisis governance. Thus, the study adds to the body of knowledge by theoretically contextualising adaptive governance in a hybrid democratic setting and offers policy-relevant insights to enhance institutional resilience, coordination, and trust in Nigeria's turbulent governance environment.

Keywords: Adaptive governance; policy innovation; security crises; public policy analysis; Nigeria.

FSS 26-68:

BODY SHAMING AMONG YOUTHS: EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF INTERNET INFORMATION USAGE

Popoola, O. Abiola
& Azeez, Z. Morayo

Abstract
The increasing engagement of youths with social media platforms and online communities has raised concerns about negative psychosocial outcomes, particularly body shaming and diminished self-worth. Online environments frequently promote idealized body standards, which may intensify social comparison and expose young people to negative body-related evaluations. This study examined the predictive role of internet usage and self-esteem in body shaming among youths in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. A cross-sectional survey design was employed, involving 291 youths selected through convenience sampling. Participants completed standardized measures including the Internet Addiction Test (IAT), Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (RSES), and Body Esteem Scale (BES). Data were analyzed using regression and independent sample t-test analyses with SPSS version 27 to determine the predictive influence of internet usage and self-esteem on body shaming and to

examine gender differences. The findings revealed that internet usage significantly predicted body shaming, $F(2, 288) = 67.10$, $p < .01$, $R^2 = .19$, suggesting that frequent exposure to online environments, particularly social media platforms, increases the likelihood of encountering or engaging in body shaming. Self-esteem also emerged as a significant predictor ($\beta = -0.22$), $F(2, 288) = 19.26$, $p < .01$, indicating that individuals with lower self-esteem are more vulnerable to body shaming experiences. Furthermore, internet usage and self-esteem jointly explained 21% of the variance in body shaming, $F(2, 288) = 38.39$, $p < .001$. A significant gender difference was observed, with males reporting higher levels of body shaming than females. The study highlights the importance of promoting responsible internet use, digital literacy, and self-esteem enhancement programs to mitigate the prevalence and impact of body shaming among youths.

Keywords: Body shaming, internet usage, self-esteem, youths, social media.

FSS 26-69:

PERCEPTION OF UNDERGRADUATE AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE STUDENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES IN EKITI STATE

Fanu, Abimbola Theresa, Hammed Nafisat Bamidele
& Adeseye, Oluwaseyi . Peter
Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, Federal University Oye -Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
The study assessed the perception of undergraduate agricultural science students on environmental changes in Ekiti State. The study described the socioeconomics variables of agricultural science students; identified the students' sources of information about environmental changes; assessed the level of knowledge of environmental changes among undergraduate students; evaluated agricultural students' perception of environmental changes; examined the level of awareness of environmental changes among undergraduate students. A multi-stage sampling procedure was used to select respondents. In the first stage there was selection of two Agricultural Zones in Ekiti (Ekiti Central and Ekiti North, due to the availability of tertiary institutions in these zones). In the second stage, there was selection of Eksu, Fuoye and Ado Polytechnic from these zones. In the third stage there was random selection of 40 students from the faculties of Agriculture in Eksu, Fuoye and Ado Polytechnic making a total of 120 students. The mean age of respondents was 21.83 years and about (64.2%) were between ages 21-30 years, Majority (80%) of the respondents were females while 40% of the respondents were males. Majority of the respondents (84.2%) were Christians. Respondents got their information on climate change from various sources, but majority of them got their information from their various institutions (91.7%), The study revealed that respondents were highly knowledgeable about environmental changes with global warming having the highest mean score (2.64). For their perception of environmental changes, the respondents (66.7%) strongly agreed that climate change affects agriculture. The study revealed that respondents were fully aware of the various environmental changes that takes place in their surroundings, such as the impact of climate change on crop yield (95.8%) ranking highest. The study concludes that respondents were highly knowledgeable about environmental changes, majority perceived that climate change affects agriculture, and are aware of the various environmental changes that takes place in their surroundings. The study therefore recommends that students should be allowed to take advantage of institutional resources to enhance knowledge of environmental issues. Institutions should provide opportunities for students to gain practical experience in sustainable agriculture through community engagement and support student-led initiatives that focuses on environmental conservation.

Keywords: knowledge, awareness, students, perception, tertiary institutions

FSS 26-70:

SYCOPHANCY AND THE CHALLENGES OF DEVELOPMENT: THE NIGERIAN EXPERIENCE

OJIEZELE Oriabure Monday
Department of Criminology Security Studies, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Sycophancy continues to pose a significant challenge to governance and development within Nigeria, manifesting as excessive flattery, uncritical loyalty, and the suppression of thoughtful discourse. This paper investigates sycophancy through the frameworks of patron-client theory and elite theory, emphasizing its historical origins and contemporary manifestations within Nigerian political institutions. The analysis elucidates that sycophantic behaviour distorts democratic processes,

engenders corruption, and compromises institutional integrity by prioritizing personal allegiance over merit-based criteria. Furthermore, it identifies systemic inequalities and socio-economic vulnerabilities as principal catalysts for sycophancy, illustrating that individuals frequently engage in such practices not solely for individual advantage but as a survival mechanism within a framework that favours loyalty over competence. To mitigate the detrimental consequences of sycophancy, this paper advocates for institutional reforms that support meritocratic governance, transparency, and accountability. Enhancing civil society engagement, ensuring media autonomy, and cultivating ethical leadership are vital components in addressing the systemic entrenchment of sycophantic behaviours. The study concludes that confronting sycophancy is both a political imperative and a moral obligation for the realization of sustainable development and effective governance in Nigeria.

Keywords:sycophancy, governance, patron-client theory, institutional integrity, political accountability

FSS 26-71:

TERRITORIAL CITIZENSHIP AND MIGRATION JUSTICE: LAND CONFLICT AND BELONGING IN SOUTHWESTERN NIGERIA.

[1]Ojo Olawale ARIYO, [2]Odunayo Elizabeth AKOMOLAFE,
[3]Olakunle AKINGBULU, [4]Thaddeus Sylvester DESHI
& [5]Aishat Oladoyin AZEEZ.
[1,3,4,5] Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria.
[2]Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Persistent land conflicts in Nigeria are frequently framed as communal boundary disputes, yet such explanations often obscure deeper structural contradictions within land governance, migration politics, and resource control. This study examines the protracted conflict between Araromi Obu and Ago Alaye in Odigbo Local Government Area of Ondo State through the lens of the Territorial Citizenship Paradox– a condition in which constitutional citizenship and prolonged residence do not translate into full territorial belonging or secure land rights. Drawing on qualitative field evidence and political economy analysis, the study identifies four intersecting drivers of the dispute: the limited peace-enforcement capacity of local governments; the centralization of land ownership under the Land Use Act of 1978; the enduring legacy of colonial indirect rule that territorialized ethnic authority; and resource-driven migration associated with rubber, cocoa, timber, and potential oil deposits. Findings show that although Nigeria's constitutional framework provides pathways for naturalisation and equal citizenship, customary indigene– settler distinctions continue to shape access to communal land, reinforcing exclusion and mistrust. The Land Use Act creates overlapping statutory and customary sovereignties, weakening coordinated land governance. Colonial administrative arrangements further entrenched territorial identities that contemporary actors mobilize to justify ancestral claims. Meanwhile, the economic value of land intensifies zero-sum competition. The study argues that sustainable peace requires aligning constitutional citizenship with territorial inclusion, strengthening local institutional capacity, and institutionalizing equitable resource-sharing mechanisms. This case contributes to broader debates on migration justice, postcolonial governance, and contested land administration in plural societies.

Keywords: Territorial citizenship, migration governance, land governance, colonial administration and political economy

FSS 26-72:

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FROM THE MARGINS: DIGITAL PRACTICES AND SOCIAL RESILIENCE IN NIGERIA-BENIN BORDER TOWNS

Awodiya, Funke
& Ademowo Adeyemi
Department of Sociology, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
This paper examines how everyday digital practices shape social resilience and the negotiation of authority in Nigeria– Benin border towns marked by economic uncertainty, high mobility, and limited institutional presence. Positioned within

debates on digital transformation and the Fourth Industrial Revolution, it investigates how residents use platforms such as TikTok, WhatsApp, and Facebook to coordinate social life, maintain credibility, and navigate unstable conditions where formal state structures are weak and informal networks dominate. Rather than viewing digital platforms as mere communication tools, the study treats them as socio-technical and cultural spaces where identity, reputation, and influence are publicly performed. These practices produce fluid forms of authority that traverse local hierarchies, informal institutions, and platform infrastructures, showing how resilience emerges through everyday innovation rather than formal policies. Based on qualitative fieldwork including interviews and digital ethnography the paper reconceptualizes digital marginality as a socially embedded condition shaped by platform logics, cultural repertoires, and adaptive strategies. By highlighting how marginalized communities actively produce resilience through digital engagement, the study contributes to sociological understandings of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, showing that technological change is culturally mediated, socially negotiated, and creatively reworked in African borderlands.

Keywords: Digital transformation, digital practices, social resilience, marginality, border towns

FSS 26-73:

THE DILEMMA OF PURSUIT OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN NIGERIA: INSTITUTIONAL REFORM AS RECIPE OF PEACE

Samson Olukayode BAMIDELE (PhD),
Department of Political Science and International Diplomacy, Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology, Ikere-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Rather than being influenced by its pursuit of reforming the various institutions and agencies towards attainment of sustainable democratic governance. Nigerian leaders engage in militarizing the civil society and introduce all kinds of palliative measures in order to divert attention of the citizenry from daily hardship and insecurity prevalent in the country. The study examines the dilemma of Nigeria's leaders in policy projections in the nation of providing good governance that will enhance adequate service delivery in all sectors. Further, the study evaluates the constitutional impact in view of achieving total obedience of both government and the governed that will holistically result to sustainable democratic development in Nigeria. In this study, structural conflict theory was used to explain causes of failed institutional reform and synergy between the theory and the themes of the study. The study rely on secondary sources of data, includes publications, articles, journals, textbooks and internet materials on the studied subject. Data were analysed using descriptive method and content discussion. The study observed that lack of political-will, sectionalism, weak constitutional compliance, bureaucratic-bottleneck among others inhibit lofty reforms towards good governance in Nigeria. it concludes that strict adherence to constitution is the bane of good governance and democratic sustainability in Nigeria.

Keywords: Sustainable Development, Democratic Governance, Service Delivery, Bureaucracy, Public Policy, Institutional Reform

FSS 26-74:

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF LOW-SKILLED WORKERS IN SELECTED STATES OF SOUTHWEST NIGERIA'S INFORMAL ECONOMY: A DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Pamilerin Ogundare
& Babatunde J. Omotosho
Department of Sociology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
The informal economy in Nigeria serves as a critical arena for survival and livelihood, particularly for low-skilled workers who participate in diverse daily activities. The sector's inherent vibrancy and low barriers to entry enable a wide range of participants to enter and exit freely. In the Southwestern states, the sustained expansion of the informal economy is increasingly contingent upon the demographic composition and capabilities of its workforce, among whom low-skilled workers constitute a significant and influential segment. Despite the growing prominence of low-skilled workers within the informal economy of Southwest Nigeria, there is a notable paucity of reliable, disaggregated data regarding their demographic characteristics. This data gap has impeded the formulation and implementation of targeted government interventions, rendering policies largely ineffective in addressing the specific needs and vulnerabilities of this population in the selected

study areas. This paper conducts a demographic analysis to examine the socio-economic characteristics of low-skilled workers operating within Nigeria's informal economy, focusing specifically on selected state capitals in the Southwest region. Employing a mixed-methods research design, this study draws primarily on quantitative data collected through a survey of 625 respondents. Structured questionnaires were administered across selected state capitals in Southwest Nigeria: Osogbo (Osun State), Ado Ekiti (Ekiti State), Akure (Ondo State) and the resulting data were subjected to descriptive statistical analysis to identify key demographic patterns. The findings reveal distinct demographic profiles that challenge conventional assumptions about informal sector participation. The study shows that low-skilled workers in these urban centers are predominantly young (47.68% aged 18-24), male (82.88%), and single (65.44%). A significant majority are internal migrants, primarily originating from Nigeria's Northern region. Critically, the educational attainment among this group is exceptionally low, with 55.84% having no formal education and 21.42% possessing only Islamic education. Furthermore, the data indicates a high level of family displacement, as 78.70% of respondents do not reside with their families. These characteristics have profound implications for urban planning, social welfare, and national development. The paper recommends the urgent development and implementation of targeted, context-specific policy interventions in the study areas.

Keywords: Informal economy, low-skilled workers, demographic analysis, Southwest Nigeria, internal migration

FSS 26-75:

CAREGIVERS' COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF MALARIA PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOURS AND RISK OF MALARIA AMONG UNDER-FIVE CHILDREN: EXPLORING THE MODULATING EFFECT OF MALARIA AWARENESS MESSAGES FROM THE 2021 NIGERIA MALARIA INDICATOR SURVEY

[1]Chukwuechefulam Kingsley IMO
& [2]Chidi Slessor MBAH
[1]Department of Sociology, Faculty of the Social Sciences, Adekunle Ajasin University, Akoko-Akungba, Ondo State, Nigeria
[2]Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, Abia State University, Uturu, Abia State, Nigeria

Abstract
Malaria remains a major global public-health threat to children, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, including Nigeria. The 2025 landscape shows alarming trends, with more than 24.4 million confirmed cases reported in the first nine months of 2025, driven by high transmission, economic disparities, and health-system gaps. This study examined how caregivers' comprehensive knowledge of malaria prevention and exposure to malaria awareness messages relate to malaria risk among under-five (U-5) children in Nigeria. The study analysed a nationally representative weighted sample of 10,601 U-5 children (0-59 months) from the 2021 Nigeria Malaria Indicator Survey. Descriptive statistics (frequency distributions) and multilevel logistic regression models were conducted using Stata (version 15), with results reported as odds ratios (OR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI). The results showed that most children were born to mothers with low comprehensive knowledge of malaria prevention and exposure to malaria awareness messages, and overall malaria risk was high (54.5%). Bivariate analyses showed that comprehensive knowledge of prevention, exposure to malaria messages, child's age, sleeping under an insecticide-treated net (ITN), mother's receipt of SP/Fansidar during pregnancy, household ITN ownership, source of drinking water, housing type, and region of residence were significantly associated with malaria risk. In adjusted models, malaria risk was higher among children whose mothers had high comprehensive knowledge of prevention (aOR 1.44, 95% CI 1.01-2.05) and among those whose mothers had heard malaria messages in the past six months (aOR 1.55, 95% CI 1.35-1.77). Female children had lower odds than males (aOR 0.81, 95% CI 0.67-0.98). Malaria risk was also higher among children whose mothers received SP/Fansidar during pregnancy (aOR 1.43, 95% CI 1.16-1.75). Caregivers had limited comprehensive knowledge of malaria prevention and awareness messages, while U-5 children faced a high malaria risk. Comprehensive knowledge and exposure to messages did not automatically translate into lower risk. Prevention strategies should be reassessed to improve mothers' understanding and ensure awareness messages are delivered in ways that lead to consistent protective behaviours for children in Nigeria.

Keywords: Caregivers' knowledge, preventive behaviours, awareness messages, malaria, under-five children, Nigeria

FSS 26-76:

CAPITAL FLIGHT, EXCHANGE RATE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA

Osmond Chigozie Agu, Ph.D.
Department of Economics, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti. Ekiti State, Nigeria.

Abstract
Capital flight has caused macroeconomic instabilities and worsened the precarious nature of emerging and developing economies. This study examined the effect of capital flight and exchange rate on economic growth in Nigeria spanning 1980 and 2023, using various econometric procedures such as unit root, cointegration test, Autoregressive Distributed lag method, Generalized methods of moment and causality tests. This study found evidence for a statistically significant negative influence of capital flight on economic growth in Nigeria. In the short run, the exchange rate is negative but statistically significant while in the long run it displayed a significant positive sign with economic growth in Nigeria. The causality results confirmed that there was a unidirectional causation running from capital flight to exchange rate and none caused economic growth in Nigeria. The study therefore recommended that the Nigerian government should take proactive measures to control capital flight movements off the shore of the country. They should implement stricter regulations such as discouraging repatriation of profits and dividends, as this increases the exchange rate, encouraging more capital flight. These measures could effectively curb the outward flow of capital from the country.

Keywords: Capital outflows, currency depreciation, macroeconomics, investment, GDP.

FSS 26-77:

DOES REMITTANCE INFLOWS INFLUENCES URBANIZATION DRIVE IN NIGERIA?

Nwosa Philip I.
& Ayesimoju Adekunle-
Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, Federal University Oye-Ekiti.

Abstract
Remittance inflows have become a significant source of external finance in Nigeria, with growing implications for improvement in human living conditions through migration from the rural areas to the urban centers, that is, urbanization. Remittances increase household income, relax liquidity constraints, and facilitate migration to urban areas by financing housing, education, and job search costs. Empirical evidence indicates that remittances tend to have stronger welfare and inequality-reducing effects in urban areas than in rural areas, thereby reinforcing urban concentration (Fonta et al., 2011). Additionally, remittances contribute indirectly to urbanization by promoting financial inclusion and access to banking services, which are more concentrated in urban centers (Edafe et al., 2024). However, the study also finds that the developmental impact of remittances on urbanization is mixed. While remittances stimulate consumption and urban growth, their contribution to productive investment remains limited, suggesting that urban expansion may not always translate into sustainable economic development (Ogu & Nandi, 2024). Drawing from the above, this study examines the relationship between remittance inflows and urbanization in Nigeria, focusing on how migrant transfers influence rural-urban migration, household location decisions, and urban expansion. Utilizing time-series data from sources such as the World Development Indicators and the Central Bank of Nigeria, the study intends to utilize the Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) technique to analyze both short-run and long-run dynamics on the link between remittance inflow and urbanization in Nigeria for the period 1980 to 2025. This study is important because policy recommendations from the study is expected to engender policy-initiatives for strengthening formal remittance channels, improving urban infrastructure, and designing investment-oriented diaspora policies to channel remittances into productive urban sectors. Overall, this study is expected contributes to knowledge by linking migration finance to spatial development outcomes in Nigeria.

FSS 26-78:

REMOTE WORK POLICY AND EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY IN NIGERIA'S CIVIL SERVICE: THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGICAL ADAPTABILITY

OLAWOYIN Mustapha Adeyemi,
Department of Public Administration, Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Abstract
This study examines the relationship between remote work policy and employee productivity in Nigeria's civil service, with particular focus on the mediating role of technological adaptability. Drawing on the Technology Acceptance Model and Adaptive Structuration Theory, the study conceptualizes technological adaptability as a function of digital skills, infrastructure, and organizational support. A quantitative cross-sectional survey design was employed, with data collected

from civil servants across selected ministries, departments, and agencies. Descriptive and inferential analyses, including correlation and multiple regression, were conducted to explore the relationships among the variables. Findings reveal that remote work policies positively influence employee productivity only when supported by adequate technological adaptability. Employees with higher digital competence, access to reliable infrastructure, and institutional support demonstrated significantly higher productivity under remote work arrangements. The study highlights the critical role of technological adaptability in mediating the effectiveness of remote work policies and underscores the importance of targeted training, infrastructure development, and organizational support in enhancing productivity. Recommendations include institutionalizing digital capacity-building programs, investing in strategic infrastructure, and adopting outcome-based evaluation frameworks. The study contributes to understanding how technology-mediated work arrangements can be effectively implemented in the Nigerian public sector and provides evidence-based guidance for policymakers seeking to improve civil service productivity through digital interventions.

Keywords: Remote work policy, employee productivity, technological adaptability, civil service, Nigeria

FSS 26-79:

CAPTURED OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES IN NIGERIA ELECTORAL PROCESS; A TREND OF PARTY DEFECTIONS AMONG THE OPPOSITION GOVERNORS.

Amos Olajubu
Department of Political Science, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
2025 has witnessed a wide range of defections especially among the opposition parties such as People's Democratic Party (PDP) which negate the impetus of opposition political party in any democratic setting. In any democratic setting opposition play a significant role on putting the government of the day on it toes by ensuring accountability and competition in the electoral process. However, the rate of party defection especially among the opposition parties has caught the attention of both the academic and practitioners (politicians) as the act of defection shows that opposition have been captured in Nigeria electoral process. This study will seek to explore why defection of opposition governor s to the ruling All Progressive Congress (APC) especially after the 2023 general election establish a captured opposition parties and probably limits the choices of electorates in 2027 general election. Drawing from previous election in the fourth republic, this study explores political patronage and economic motivation as the reason behind party defection, hence the implication of defection on electoral competition and democratic consolidation. It argues that governor's defection shows that they lack the capacity to win election on their own and want to bankroll on the president success. This will conclude by making recommendation such as electoral reform on effective internal democracy as well as reducing the number of political parties.

Keywords: Opposition political parties, electoral process, party defection, governors and Nigeria

FSS 26-80:

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY AND C02 EMISSION IN NIGERIA

Ayesimoju Adekunle
& Nwosa Philip I.
Department of Economics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
In recent years, Nigeria has experienced persistent environmental degradation alongside rapid financial sector expansion, exposing a dangerous convergence of economic growth and carbon emissions. However, government efforts through financial sector reforms in addressing environmental sustainability have not been successful. In addition, literature has emphasized the importance of institutional quality in strengthening the relationship between financial development and carbon dioxide emission. These literatures argued that in the presence of weak institution quality, corruption, poor regulatory quality and weak rule of law weakened the relationship between financial development and carbon dioxide emission. Although plethora studies exist on the nexus between financial development and carbon dioxide emission in (Adebayo et al., 2022; NA et al., 2024; Bilgili et al., 2025) while other studies have investigated the link between institutional quality and financial development in Nigeria (Hayat et al., 2022; Kacho & Dahmardeh, 2017). However, empirical lacuna exists on the role

of institutional quality in the relationship between financial development and carbon dioxide emission in Nigeria. This study intends to cover the period 1996 to 2025 and utilized appropriate methodologies in unravelling the relationship among financial development, institutional quality and carbon dioxide emission in Nigeria.

FSS 26-81:

EFFECT OF PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENDITURE ON INFANT MORTALITY RATE ON NIGERIA (1980 TO 2024)

Kunmifayo Deborah Odusina[1,2]
[1]Department of Economics, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria.
[2]Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria.

Abstract
Health expenditure plays a critical role in improving health outcomes, particularly in low- and middle-income countries where infant mortality remains a major public health challenge. In sub-Saharan Africa, weak healthcare systems and inadequate funding continue to hinder progress in child survival. Understanding the impact of government health spending on infant mortality is essential for effective policy formulation and intervention programme. Therefore, this study examines the effect of public health expenditure on the infant mortality rate in Nigeria over the period 1980 to 2024. The study employs secondary time-series data obtained from the World Bank, Central Bank of Nigeria, and the World Health Organization. An Autoregressive Distributed Lag Modelling Approach is adopted to analyse both the short-run and long-run relationships between public health expenditure and infant mortality. The model also incorporates key control variables, including gross domestic product per capita, population growth rate, and female education. Although the study is ongoing, it is expected that increased public health expenditure will significantly reduce the infant mortality rate in Nigeria, while improvements in income levels and female education are also anticipated to enhance child health outcomes. The findings of this study will contribute to the existing literature by providing updated empirical evidence on the effectiveness of government health spending in Nigeria. The study also offers important policy implications for improving healthcare financing and strengthening health systems to achieve better child survival outcomes and progress toward sustainable development goals.

Keywords: Public spending, healthcare financing, child health, child survival, Autoregressive Distributed Lag Modelling Approach,

FSS 26-82:

MIDDLE EAST WAR: IMPLICATION ON GLOBAL ENERGY AND FOOD SECURITY IN NIGERIA

[1]**Busuyi Joshua, OMOTAYO**
[2]**Oghenevwoke Anthony, AGBEGBEDIA**
[1]Department of Peace and Security Studies, Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology, Ikere-Ekiti, Nigeria.
[2]Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Federal University Oye -Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Middle Eastern conflicts have always had geopolitical, security, and other ramifications outside of the region. Global economic institutions, energy markets, and the state of food security in far-off economies were all impacted. The Middle East's geopolitical unrest has impacted the world's oil supplies. Disruptions to vital energy transit routes, like Iran's Strait of Hormuz, have often led to fluctuations in global oil prices, which in turn impacts transportation costs, agricultural production costs, and food prices in states that rely on imports. The country's food systems are more susceptible to external energy shocks due to the structural difficulties in Nigeria's domestic energy sector and its strong reliance on fuel-based transportation systems. Hence, this study looks at how Middle Eastern war affect global energy security and how that affects Nigeria's food security. This study uses secondary data and qualitative analysis. This paper uses two theories. Human security theory and just war theory serve as its foundations. A framework for comprehending the moral implications of armed conflict is provided by just war theory. Human Security Theory broadens the analytical focus by highlighting the wider socioeconomic effects of war on civilian populations. The results showed that rising fuel prices, inflationary pressures in transportation, and higher agricultural production costs have all contributed to the indirect escalation of food insecurity in Nigeria as a result of changes in the world energy markets brought on by the Middle East conflict. The study contributes to current discussions in peace and conflict studies about the transnational effects of contemporary military confrontations and aids in connecting geopolitical conflict to human security results. Additionally, it closes the vacuum in the literature on the contemporary

problem that Nigeria and the rest of the globe are facing. This study suggests diversifying the country's economy, bolstering domestic energy infrastructure, improving agricultural resilience and prioritising diplomatic engagement among international communities.

Keywords: War, Middle East conflict, energy security, food security, Nigeria.

FSS 26-83:

"I FEEL LESS OF MYSELF": A QUALITATIVE EXPLORATION OF PERCEIVED PREGNANCY RELATED STRESS, ANXIETY, AND DEPRESSION AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN IN EKITI STATE, NIGERIA.

Sikirulai Alausa SULAIMAN, Judith Chineye AZIKIWE
& Olugbenga David DADA
Department of Psychology, Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Pregnancy, while a period of anticipation, is also a time of significant psychological vulnerability, particularly in low-resource settings where mental health support is often limited. While quantitative studies have established the prevalence of perinatal mental health issues in Nigeria, the subjective, lived experiences of pregnant women remain underexplored. This study qualitatively investigated the manifestations and interconnections of perceived related stress, pregnancy-related anxiety, and depression among pregnant women in Ekiti State, Nigeria. This study employed a qualitative descriptive design. Data were collected through in-depth, key informant interviews with 20 pregnant women recruited from antenatal clinics in Ekiti State. Participants were purposively selected based on high scores on the Perceived Stress Scale from a larger survey. Interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed verbatim and analyzed using thematic analysis. Four major themes emerged: (1) The Burden of Unseen Pain: Navigating Depression, characterized by profound sadness, anhedonia, and a loss of self-identity, often summarized by the phrase "I feel less of myself"; (2) The Cycle of Worry: Pregnancy Related Anxiety, involving persistent fears about fetal health, childbirth, and maternal capabilities, frequently exacerbated by past trauma and cultural narratives; (3) The Double-Edged Sword of Spousal Support, highlighting that while emotional and practical support was a powerful buffer, its absence particularly emotional neglect despite financial provision intensified stress and feelings of isolation; and (4) The Silencing Stigma, where women's psychological distress was minimized or invalidated by family and healthcare providers, discouraging help-seeking. The findings reveal that perceived pregnancy stress is a complex phenomenon deeply rooted in emotional, relational, and socio-cultural contexts. The powerful expression "I feel less of myself" encapsulates the core of maternal distress, indicating a profound impact on self-identity. Interventions must move beyond a purely biomedical model and integrate culturally sensitive mental health screening, community awareness to reduce stigma, and programs that promote holistic spousal support to improve maternal psychosocial well-being.

Keywords: Perceived Stress, Pregnancy-Related Anxiety, Antenatal Depression, Qualitative Study, Maternal Mental Health, Nigeria, Spousal Support.

FSS 26-84:

MEDIA RESILIENCE IN THE AGE OF DISINFORMATION: RETHINKING JOURNALISM PRACTICE AS A SOCIAL SCIENCE SOLUTION FOR DEMOCRATIC STABILITY IN NIGERIA

Abari Ijuo Ogah, PhD[1]; Abdullahi Ishola Salaudeen[2]
& Habeeb Opeyemi Daranijo[2]
[1]Department of Mass Communication, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.
[2]Department of Mass Communication, Kwara State University, Malete, Nigeria

Abstract
The proliferation of disinformation in the Nigerian media landscape has emerged as one of the most formidable threats to democratic governance, civic trust, and political stability in the twenty-first century. As journalism confronts an unprecedented crisis of credibility, economic disruption, and technological disruption simultaneously, this paper interrogates the concept of media resilience as a social science framework for addressing disinformation and restoring democratic stability in Nigeria. Anchored on the Framing Theory and the Normative Theory of the Press, the paper adopts a qualitative analytical approach, drawing on secondary data, peer-reviewed literature, and documented case studies from the Nigerian media

landscape between 2018 and 2026. Findings reveal that the Nigerian media ecosystem is severely stressed by the convergence of fake news, algorithmic amplification, political instrumentalisation of media, declining revenues for legacy media, and low digital literacy among the citizenry. However, the paper also identifies emergent models of journalistic resilience including solutions journalism, collaborative fact-checking, community media, and digital media literacy advocacy as viable social science interventions capable of reversing democratic erosion. The paper argues that journalism, reconceived as a resilience infrastructure, can serve as a democratic stabiliser in turbulent societies, particularly when supported by institutional, regulatory, and civic ecosystems. Recommendations are made for journalism education, institutional reform, policy development, and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Keywords:Media resilience, disinformation, democratic stability, solutions journalism, fake news

FSS 26-85:

NAVIGATING DIGITAL COMMUNICATION APPROACHES FOR A TURBULENT WORLD IN BUILDING STRONG INFORMATION ECOSYSTEMS AMONG CRISIS COMMUNITIES IN OSUN STATE, NIGERIA

Abari Ijuo GAH, Ph.D. & Olanrewaju Afeez OYEBAMIJI
Department of Mass Communication, Federal University Oye-Ekiti

Abstract
Digital communication has become a crucial tool to observe how societies respond to crises, public perception, collective action and shaping information flow. In turbulent period marked by environmental disasters, health emergencies, and political instability, information ecosystems encompassing traditional media, social media platforms, and interpersonal networks play a crucial role in defining the resilience of communities. However, challenges such as digital divides, misinformation, and weak institutional communication often undermine these systems. However, this study investigates how digital communication within information ecosystems can be tactically leveraged to build resilient communities during crises. The study adopts a mixed-method approach, combining qualitative interviews and quantitative survey data. A structured questionnaire was administered to 400 respondents across urban and semi-urban communities of Osun state, while in-depth interviews were conducted with 20 media practitioners and communication experts. The Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics for survey and thematic analysis for the interview to identify patterns in digital communication usage and its impact on crisis response. Findings reveal that timely and credible digital communication significantly enhances community awareness, preparedness, and adaptive capacity during crises. Social media platforms were identified as the most accessible channels for rapid information dissemination, while traditional media contributed to message credibility. However, the study also found that misinformation and unequal access to digital tools weakened the effectiveness of communication efforts in some communities. The study concludes that healthy information ecosystems are indispensable for fostering resilient societies. The study recommends solidification of digital literacy, promoting partnership between media institutions and government agencies, and implementing policies to regulate misinformation. Furthermore, there should be more investments in inclusive digital infrastructure to ensure equitable access to crisis-related information, thereby enhancing community resilience.

Keywords: Digital communication, turbulent World, crisis response, media credibility, ecosystem

FSS 26-86:

PREDICTORS OF MEDICATION ADHERENCE AMONG MENTALLY ILL PATIENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN TEACHING HOSPITAL (UITH), ILORIN, KWARA STATE, NIGERIA

OLATUNJI, O. AJOKE, Ph.D.; OLAGUNDOYE, HELEN., Ph.D.
& GARUBA, AZEEZ
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Adherence to medications is seen as a major plight that most patients' stakeholders are facing. Medication adherence is the degree to which a patient takes in medications or drugs as recommended by a psychiatrist or physicians. Thus, this current study was carried out to examine the predictive power of perceived stigmatization, resilience, and pain intensity on medication adherence among the mentally ill patients receiving outpatient cares at the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH), Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. A cross-sectional survey design consisting of 93 mentally ill outpatients attending clinics at the Department of Behavioural Science in the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH) was used. The Morisky 8-Item

Medication Adherence Scale, Perceived Discrimination and Devaluation (PDD) Scale, Brief Resilience Scale (BRS), and Pain Intensity Scale were the tools used for data collection. Descriptive statistics, Linear and Multiple Regressions, and T-test inferential statistics were employed in the analysis of data gathered for the purpose of the study. The results of the linear regression analyses revealed that perceived stigmatization negatively and significantly predicted medication adherence among the mentally ill patients (β= -.263, t = -.263, p < .05), resilience (β = .017, t = .163, p > .05) did not significantly predict medication adherence among the mentally ill patients, and pain intensity (β = .216, t = 2.10, p < .05) significantly predicted medication adherence among the mentally ill patients. The multiple regression analysis showed that perceived stigmatization, resilience, and pain intensity jointly predicted medication adherence F ((3, 89) = 3.606, p < .05). The T-test result revealed that there was no gender difference in patients' adherence to medications [t (91) = .125, p > .05]. This study concluded that as the patients' perception of discrimination due to mental illness is high, their adherence to medications as recommended declined. This study recommends that clinical psychologists working in mental health facilities should ensure that their patients feel unbothered about anticipated stigma from society. Also, clinical psychologists and other mental health professionals may involve in community sensitization concerning the dangers of public stigma directed towards patients with psychiatric problems.

Keywords: Drug adherence, Social Perception, Grit, Pain, and Psychiatric Patients.

FSS 26-87:

AN EXPLORATION OF YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AS PANACEA TO YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND CRIMINALITY

Akomolede Odunayo Tolulope
& Kevin Akpanke
Department of Criminology and Security Studies, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Traditionally, agricultural practice and rural development have been viewed as the responsibility of the aged as the youth migrates to urban center in searching for better life and white-collar job; which had made majority of the youth unemployed and pushed them to various criminal activities (such as robbery, money ritual etc.). This study focused on examine youth engagement in rural Agriculture to promote economic sustainability and to reduce criminality among youth, also, to explore how youth inclusive in rural development can stimulate rural economies, food security and reduce criminalities among youth. The study adopted descriptive research design and employed mixed methods of data collection. Using purposive sampling techniques, two rural communities were selected in Ekiti state, from the selected communities; Self Administer questionnaire were given to 200 youths to solicit information on how providing alternative livelihoods and agricultural development can help in reducing youth involvement in criminal activities. Also 50 farmers, and 10 community leaders were interviewed, making 260 respondents in all. Both interpretative and descriptive approaches were applied in analyzing data. The findings revealed youth equal access to land, agricultural support (such as modern tools, chemicals, manure etc) will enhance youth inclusiveness in Agriculture. Also, majority (70%) of the respondents were of the viewed that market availability for agricultural products will enhance youth involvement in Agriculture and reduced criminality, Finally, the study revealed that adequate training for youth on sustainable commercial Agriculture and implementing policies that are favorable to youth involvement in Agriculture will assist in reducing criminality among youth. The study concluded that engaging youth in commercial agriculture will increase rural economy, food security and reduction in criminal activities. Therefore, the study recommended that government should implement policies that support youth involvement in Agriculture and rural development.

Keywords: Agriculture, Rural Development, youth, crime, Food security

FSS 26-88:

EVALUATION OF THE PATTERN AND BARRIERS TO MODERN FAMILY PLANNING METHODS IN NIGERIA: AN IMPLICATION FOR HIGH FERTILITY RATE

[1,3]BAMIKOLE Justinah Tinuola, [2]ABATAN Sunday Matthew
& [3]KOLAWOLE Taiwo Olabode,
[1]Department of Social Justice and Security Studies, Kwara State University, Malete, Kwara State

[2] Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria.
[3]Department of Sociology, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Nigeria, the most populous country in Africa, continues to experience high fertility, with a total fertility rate of about 4.8 children per woman. Despite increasing awareness of reproductive health services, modern contraceptive use remains low. The 2023-2024 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) report a modern contraceptive prevalence rate (mCPR) of about 17% among married women, while unmet need for family planning remains approximately 19%. Significant regional disparities also persist, with contraceptive use higher in the South-West and South-South regions but substantially lower in the North-East and North-West, reflecting deep socio-cultural and structural barriers. Understanding these patterns is critical for strengthening Nigeria's reproductive health policies. This study examined the pattern of adoption of modern family planning methods and identified key barriers influencing their effective utilization among women of reproductive age in Nigeria. The study utilized secondary data from the 2023 2024 NDHS, a nationally representative survey. The analysis included 41,821 women aged 15 49 years. Descriptive statistics were used to examine the prevalence and distribution of modern contraceptive use, while multivariate logistic regression identified socio-demographic and contextual factors associated with modern family planning utilization, adjusting for the complex sampling design. Modern contraceptive use remains uneven across population groups. Women with higher education, urban residence, greater household wealth, and exposure to health information through media were significantly more likely to use modern contraceptives. Major barriers included fear of side effects, partner opposition, limited access to services, and cultural or religious constraints, particularly in northern regions. Closing Nigeria s family planning gap requires targeted investments in rural service delivery, community education, and male partner engagement, alongside region-specific strategies to address socio-cultural barriers and reduce unmet need for contraception.
Keywords: Modern family planning methods, contraceptives, adoption, barriers, Nigeria

FSS 26-89:

MARITAL CONFLICT AS A CHALLENGE TO HUMAN SECURITY: CAUSES, PATTERNS AND CONSEQUENCES AMONG MARRIED COUPLES IN ADO EKITI, NIGERIA.

Odunayo Elizabeth Akomolafe, PhD
Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Marital conflict has increasingly become a significant social concern with far-reaching implications for family stability and human wellbeing. Despite its prevalence, there is a dearth of qualitative studies examining the nature and patterns of marital conflict among couples in Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria. This study therefore investigates the prevalence, patterns, and perceived consequences of marital conflict among married couples in the study area, with particular attention to its implications for human security. Adopting a qualitative research design, data were collected from twenty married men and women in monogamous unions using purposive sampling techniques. Semi-structured interviews were conducted to elicit in-depth insights into participants lived experiences, and the data were analysed using qualitative content analysis, guided by Lewis A. Coser Social Conflict Theory. The findings reveal that the causes and patterns of marital conflict are closely interwoven, with key issues including financial stress, poor communication, infidelity, fetish practices, denial of sexual intimacy, and emotional, verbal, and physical abuse. These conflicts manifest in recurring patterns of disagreement and power struggles within marital relationships. The study further finds that marital conflict poses significant challenges to human security by undermining emotional wellbeing, physical safety, and overall quality of life of spouses and children. In extreme cases, prolonged conflict may result in family disintegration and loss of life. The study recommends the institutionalization of premarital counselling through religious and community-based platforms to equip couples with skills in communication, emotional regulation, and conflict management. It also emphasizes the importance of early conflict resolution mechanisms and the need for stronger institutional responses to domestic violence to protect victims and promote family stability.

Keywords: Emotional stability, physical abuse, gender-based violence, marital disharmony and domestic violence

FSS 26-90:

CIVIL UNREST AS A RESILIENCE TEST: ADAPTIVE STATE RESPONSES TO SOCIAL PROTESTS IN NIGERIA

[1]**AKANNI Waliyu Oladotun, Ph.D.**
& [2]BAMIKOLE Justinah Tinuola,
[1,2]Department of Social Justice and Security Studies, Kwara State University, Malete, Kwara State

Abstract
Traditional political discourse often frames recurrent civil unrest in Nigeria as a symptom of a "failing state." However, such perspectives frequently overlook the tactical sophistication with which the state apparatus survives these crises. This study pivots the conversation toward "state resilience," conceptualizing civil unrest not merely as a threat, but as a critical "resilience test" that reveals the adaptive capacity of the Nigerian political system. The paper examines adaptive state responses to social protests in Nigeria, drawing on resilience theory, adaptive governance frameworks, and protest-response typologies to analyse patterns of state behaviour under duress. This study adopts a non-empirical, qualitative research design. It utilizes a multi-disciplinary theoretical framework drawing from Authoritarian Adaptability and Rentier State Theory. The analysis is based on a critical review of extant literature, policy documents, and documented state responses to key protest cycles, including the #EndSARS movement and recent anti-subsidy demonstrations. The analysis reveals that the Nigerian state exhibits a "hybrid resilience" model. This is characterized by coercive adaptation, institutional buffering, counter-protests and discursive resilience. The study finds that while these responses ensure short-term regime survival, they often widen the legitimacy gap, creating cycles of resilience without stability. The study concludes that the Nigerian state's resilience is largely reactive rather than transformative. While the state has mastered the art of "bending without breaking," its reliance on survivalist tactics over substantive reform suggests that its resilience is built on increasingly fragile foundations. This research offers a new lens that transformative responses, though rare, foster inclusive governance and mitigate escalating risks.

Keywords: State resilience, civil unrest, Nigeria, adaptive governance, social protest

FSS 26-91:

RESILIENCE: A PSYCHOLOGICAL TOOL IN A TRAUMATIC WORLD

Helen F. Olagundoye,
Psychology Department, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
In a global era marked by crises, uncertainty, and economic instabilities. Also in Nigeria, a country faced by terrorism, banditry, and kidnapping, which has plunged so many citizens into trauma and post-traumatic stress disorders. Societal resilience is therefore a nonnegotiable focus for psychological research and intervention. This paper examines psychological strategies aimed at helping societies become resilient and adaptable to turbulence, economic instability, climate change, wars, and similar crises. It investigates how psychological science can promote resilience in communities facing rapid shifts and uncertainty, emphasizing adaptive mindsets and psychological interventions. Additionally, it reviews evidence-based interventions that enhance collective efficacy and strategies that enable societies to flourish amid adversity and improve overall well-being. The study narratively reviews recent literature and case studies on electronic databases on the effects of resilience on the ability to cope, adapt to changes, and bounce back after hardships. Resilience has proven to be a great attribute to positive coping and adaptation, drawing on modern theories of resilience. The study emphasized the importance of resilience education, leadership, trust, and trauma-informed policies in building resilience across societies.

Keywords: Resilience assessment, psychological intervention, Trauma

FSS 26-92:

INFLUENCE OF PORNOGRAPHY ADDICTION, LONELINESS, AND RELATIONSHIP SATISFACTION ON MASTURBATION ADDICTION AMONG UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATES

AZIKIWE, Judith C., BABALOLA, Omoyemi H.
& ADEYEMI Samson O.
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
The study aimed to explore the influence of pornography addiction, loneliness, and relationship satisfaction on masturbation addiction among university students at Federal University Oye-Ekiti (FUOYE). The research identified the growing concern of compulsive masturbation linked to increased pornography consumption and social isolation. A cross-sectional research design was adopted, with 300 part-time students selected through accidental sampling. Participants completed structured questionnaires, including the Problematic Pornography Consumption Scale (PPCS), UCLA Loneliness Scale, and Burns Relationship Satisfaction Scale. Results revealed that pornography addiction significantly predicted masturbation addiction $t(298) = 7.04$ $p<.05$), with students who had high pornography exposure reporting higher levels of compulsive masturbation (Mean = 66.83) compared to those with low exposure (Mean = 57.81). Loneliness also played a significant role $t(298) = 7.28$ $p<.05$), as students with higher loneliness levels reported more compulsive behaviors (Mean = 67.59) than those with lower loneliness levels (Mean = 58.12). Relationship satisfaction emerged as a critical predictor, with low relationship satisfaction leading to higher masturbation addiction. Collectively, these three variables explained 43% of the variance in masturbation addiction $F(3,296) = 74.77$, $R2 = 0.43$; $p<.05$]. Additionally, there was a significant influence of gender on Masturbation addiction $t(298) = 2.22$ $p<.05$), male students reported higher levels of addiction (Mean = 62.92) compared to female students (Mean = 59.76). Age and religious beliefs also significantly influenced masturbation addiction $F(2,297) = 4.85$, $R2 = 0.03$; $p<.05$], although they accounted for only 3% of the variance. The study concluded that pornography addiction, loneliness, and relationship satisfaction are jointly and independently predictors of masturbation addiction among university students, hence, interventions targeting pornography consumption, loneliness, and relationship satisfaction could mitigate the rise of compulsive sexual behaviors among university students.

Key words: Pornography addiction, loneliness, relationship satisfaction, masturbation addiction, undergraduates

FSS 26-93:

PARENTAL NEGLECT AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS AS PREDICTORS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN OYE-EKITI

DADA Olugbenga David, AZIKIWE, Judith C., ADEOYE, Adebayo J. & RASAK, Iyanu Oluwasegun
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
This study investigated parental neglect and environmental factors as predictors of juvenile delinquency among secondary school students in Oye-Ekiti. Ex-post facto research design was used in the study. Three hundred secondary school students (i.e 137 males and 163 females) from selected secondary schools in Oye-Ekiti participated in the study. Questionnaire was used as an instrument for data collection, which constituted demographic information and reliable scales measuring variables of interest. Three hypotheses were tested with Pearson product moment correlation and multiple regression. Result showed that there was significant positive relationship between parental neglect and juvenile delinquency ($r = .13$, $p < .05$). There was significant positive relationship between adverse environmental factor ($r = .18$, $p < .01$) and neighborhood safety ($r = .16$, $p < .01$) on juvenile delinquency. There was significant joint influence of parental neglect and adverse environmental factor on juvenile delinquency, $F(2,297) = 9.64$, $R2 = 0.06$; $p<.05$]. The $R2 = 0.06$ indicates that the independent variable parental neglect and environmental factor explained 6% variation in dependent variable (juvenile delinquency). Further results show that parental neglect ($\beta=0.18$; $t= 3.08$; $p<.05$) and environmental factor ($\beta=0.22$; $t= 3.73$; $p<.05$) independently predict juvenile delinquency among secondary school students in Oye-Ekiti. Findings were discussed in line with some previous related studies. It was concluded that parental neglect and environmental factors are predictors of juvenile delinquency among secondary school students in Oye-Ekiti

Keywords: Parental neglect, environmental factors, juvenile delinquency, Oye-Ekiti

FSS 26-94:

PSYCHO-SOCIAL PREDICTORS OF DANGEROUS DRIVING BEHAVIOUR AMONG DRIVERS IN YENAGOA, NIGERIA

OTOGHILE, Confidence Chioma & AZIKIWE, Judith Chineye
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Dangerous driving behaviour among commercial drivers in Nigeria has been a contemporary issue due to its potential risk to many lives. This issue is of utmost concern since many people depend on the use of commercial vehicles as means of transportation. The study investigated psychosocial variables (personality traits, alcohol use, and emotion regulation) as predictors of dangerous driving behaviour among commercial drivers in Yenagoa. A cross-sectional survey design was adopted in the study with a total of 300 commercial drivers in Yenagoa being involved in the study. Four standardized psychological scales (Eysenck Personality Questionnaire-Revised, Alcohol Use Disorders Identification, Emotion Regulation Questionnaire and Dula Dangerous Driving Index) were used to collect the study data and the data was analyzed using SPSS version 20.0. Three hypotheses were tested in this study. Results showed that a total of 296 commercial drivers in this study were males, while 4 were females, the mean age was 43.85±8.96 years with age range of 25-63 years. Results from the multiple regression analysis showed that the personality traits extraversion, neuroticism, and psychoticism jointly and significantly predicted dangerous driving behaviour, $R = .375$, $R^2 = .140$, $F(3, 296) = 16.105$, $p < .01$.The result of the analysis indicated that age, duration of commercial driving and number of hours driven daily jointly predicted dangerous driving behaviour among commercial drivers with (R2 = .042; p<.05). The result of 3-way ANOVA indicated that alcohol use (F [3, 274] = 7.920; p<.01) had significant main effects on dangerous driving behaviour among commercial drivers in Yenagoa. It was recommended that structured training initiatives should be provided for commercial drivers to enhance emotional control, stress management, and safe driving practices.

Keywords: Temperament, emotional control, drunkenness, transportation, accidents

FSS 26-95:

PARENTING STYLES, PARENTAL MONITORING, AND SOCIAL MEDIA USE AS PREDICTORS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN SELECTED INSTITUTIONS IN EKITI

OLUBUMMO, Oluwafemi Abiona
& AZIKIWE, Judith Chineye
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Substance abuse among youth has become a major public health and social concern worldwide, posing significant challenges to families, communities, and governments. Thus, this study investigated some psychological factors that might act as buffer against this menace. Parenting styles, parental monitoring and social media use were examined in relations to substance abuse among the youth in selected institutions in Ekiti State. The study adopted a cross-sectional survey research design in assessing 408 young people aged 16- 24years of age. Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST), Parenting Styles and Dimensions Questionnaire-PSDQ, Parental Monitoring Scale and Social Media Use Scale (SMUS) were all employed to gather data in the study. Results revealed that there was a significant gender difference in substance abuse among the young people in selected institutions in Ekiti State (f (404) t= 6.554; p<.01). It was also discovered that that permissive, neglectful, authoritarian and authoritative have significant prediction on substance abuse among the young people in selected institutions in Ekiti State {R = .736; R2 =.542; F(118.773) p<.01}. The result also shows that child disclosure, parental solicitation and parental control have significant influence of 15% on substance abuse among the young people in selected institutions in Ekiti State {R = .736; R2 =.542; F(118.773) p<.01}. Similarly, the result shows that image-based, comparision-based, belief-based and consumption based have significant prediction on substance abuse among the young people in selected institutions in Ekiti State {R = .193; R2 =.370; F(3.895) p<.05}. Lastly, the result shows that parenting styles, parental monitoring and social media have significant prediction on substance abuse among the young people in Ekiti State {R = .595; R2 =.355; F(73.623) p<.01}. The analysis of the independent prediction showed that parenting styles (t =-7.757 p<.01; β =-.377), parental monitoring (t =-3.965 p<.01; β =-.197) and social media use (t =4.734 p<.01; β =.198) had significant independent prediction on substance abuse among the young people in selected institutions in Ekiti State. Thus, the study concludes that some demographic factors, effective parental engagement, positive parenting practices, and responsible social media use are essential preventive strategies to mitigate substance abuse among young people in selected institutions in Ekiti State. It was therefore recommended that interventions should thus target both family-based and media-related factors to promote healthier youth development and possibly eradicate the menace of substance abuse.

Keywords: Parenting method, parental supervision, social media engagement, substance misuse, young adults, Ekiti State

FSS 26-96:

INDIVIDUAL LIFESTYLES SELF-ESTEEM AND CELEBRITY WORSHIP AS PREDICTORS OF MENTAL HEALTH AMONG YOUNG ADULTS IN ADO-EKITI

OLANIPEKUN, Muhibat
& AZIKIWE, Judith Chineye
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
Mental health challenges among young adults are a growing public health concern, influenced by psychological and socio-cultural factors. The study examined individual lifestyles, self-esteem, and celebrity worship as predictors of mental health among young adults. Individual lifestyles encompassed health-related behaviors, social engagement, and media use patterns. Self-esteem was conceptualized as a core psychological resource influencing emotional resilience and vulnerability to distress. Celebrity worship, a contemporary cultural phenomenon, was explored for its potential adaptive and maladaptive implications for mental health. A cross-sectional survey design was adopted. Data were collected using standardized self-report measures assessing lifestyle patterns (Individual Lifestyle Profile (ILP)), self-esteem (Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (RSES), levels of celebrity worship (Celebrity Attitude Scale (CAS)), and mental health outcomes (Mental Health Continuum-Short Form)). Data collected were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistical method. The population of the study was young adults (Age range 18-25 years) within Ado-Ekiti and the sample size of 380 participants. Results show that healthier individual lifestyles and higher self-esteem significantly predict better mental health among young adults. Conversely, higher levels of celebrity worship, particularly intense or obsessive forms, were anticipated to predict poorer mental health outcomes. Hence, individual lifestyles, self-esteem, and celebrity worship jointly and significantly influenced mental health among young adults in Ado-Ekiti. The study highlights the importance of promoting healthy lifestyle choices, strengthening self-esteem, and encouraging balanced engagement with celebrity culture in mental health promotion. The findings provide useful implications for psychological interventions, counseling practices, and preventive strategies aimed at enhancing mental well-being among young adults. Furthermore, Public health campaigns should be intensified to encourage healthy living among young adults through proper diet, regular exercise, adequate sleep, and effective stress management. Higher institutions are encouraged to establish wellness centers and organize regular fitness and mental health workshops to promote holistic well-being among students.

Keywords: Personal life pattern, youth, personality idolisation, self-image, psychological well-being

FSS 26-97:

RESILIENCE, SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS, AND QUALITY OF LIFE AS PREDICTORS OF DRUG ABUSE AMONG YOUTHS IN EKITI STATE

AJAYI, Emmanuel Dele & AZIKIWE, Judith Chineye
Department of Psychology, Federal University Oye-Ekiti

Abstract
In Nigeria, the rising prevalence of drug abuse among young people has reached alarming levels, significantly impacting public health, social stability, and economic development. Therefore, this study investigated resilience, social connectedness, and quality of life as predictors of drug abuse among young adults in Ekiti State using cross-sectional survey design. Multistage sampling techniques were used to sample 511 participants. The Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale (CD-RISC), Social Connectedness scale, Quality of Life Scale (QOLS) and Drug abuse Questionnaire (SAQ) were used for data gathering. The results show that resilience has significant prediction on drug abuse among young adults in Ekiti State (f (509) t= 5.262; p<.05). Similarly, social connectedness has significant prediction on drug abuse among young adults in Ekiti State (f (509) t= 7.284; p<.01). Furthermore, it was observed that quality of life has significant prediction on drug abuse among young adults in Ekiti State (f (509) t=6.241; p<.05). Lastly, the result shows that resilience, social connectedness, and quality of life have significant prediction on drug abuse among young adults in Ekiti State {R= .327; R2 =.107; F(11.287) p<.01}. The analysis of the independent prediction showed that resilience (t =-3.995 p<.01; β = -.239), social connectedness (t =2.517 p<.05; β =2.517) and quality of life (t =2.508; p<05; β =.145) have significant independent prediction on drug abuse among young adults in Ekiti State. Therefore, the study concluded that resilience, social connectedness, and quality of life demonstrated collective and independent prediction on drug abuse among young adults in Ekiti State. Thus, it was recommended that effective prevention and intervention programs should adopt a multidimensional approach that enhances resilience, carefully addresses the nature of social networks, and improves overall quality of life to reduce drug abuse risk within this population.
Keywords: Perseverance, social support, life satisfaction, illicit drug use, young adults.

FSS 26-98:

ICT PENETRATION, FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN NIGERIA: ECONOMIC RESILIENCE, EMPLOYMENT DYNAMICS, LABOUR MARKETS, POVERTY REDUCTION, SUSTANABLE GROWTH AND GLOBAL SHOCKS

Amodu O.O; B.O, Awoyemi; Ibitoye J;
&Akin O.A.
Department of Economics, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract
Unemployment has been one of the major challenges that economies face the world over, most especially in developing economies like Nigeria. Adoption of Information and Communication Technology has led to some forms of job losses while also creating new ones. This study, therefore investigated the impact of ICT adoption and financial inclusion on the unemployment rate in Nigeria. The study employed ARDL econometric techniques to examine how technological adoption and financial inclusion indicators affected the direction and magnitude of movement if the unemployment rate of Nigeria. The study found that the use of point of sales (POS) services has increased unemployment, while the use of mobile banking has reduced the unemployment significantly. The study also found that economic growth in Nigeria has contributed to the problem of unemployment in Nigeria, while the monetary policy rate has led to the reduction of unemployment in Nigeria, similarly the penetration of mobile phone usage in Nigeria has made significant contribution to the reduction of unemployment in Nigeria. The study concluded that ICT adoption has significantly reduced Nigeria unemployment rate so also is the financial inclusion most especially when moderated by appropriate monetary policy rate. The study recommended that financial inclusion tools that leverages on ICT, which enable the less privileged to access formal financial services such as mobile banking should be leveraged upon to reduce the unemployment rate in Nigeria.

Keywords: Mobile banking, teldensity, monetary policy.

FSS 26-99:

PREVALENCE OF CHILD MORTALITY DIFFERENTIALS BY SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS IN KOGI STATE, NIGERIA

Ismaila Ibrahim
& Emmanuel Kolawole Odusina
Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract:
Child mortality remains a significant public health concern in Nigeria, with Kogi State being one of the states with high infant and under-five mortality rates. This study aims to investigate the prevalence of child mortality differentials by socio-economic status in Kogi State. A mixed-methods approach was employed, combining both qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis methods. A survey of households was conducted by the Demographic Health Survey Nigeria, with data collected on socio-economic status, child mortality rates, and associated factors. Additionally, in-depth interviews were conducted key informants, including healthcare providers, traditional birth attendants, and community leaders. The results showed that child mortality rates were significantly higher in households with lower socio-economic status. Factors associated with child mortality included lack of access to healthcare services, poor hygiene and sanitation, and limited awareness of maternal and child health (MCH) practices. The study highlights the need for targeted interventions to address child mortality differentials by socio-economic status in Kogi State. Recommendations include strengthening healthcare services, improving access to MCH information, and promoting community-based interventions to reduce child mortality rates.

Keywords: Child mortality, socio-economic status, Kogi state, Nigeria, public health, maternal and child health.

FSS 26-100:

DRONE TECHNOLOGY, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND FOOD SECURITY: IMPLICATIONS FOR RICE PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPING ECONOMIES

RAJI, Sulaiman Amoo
Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
The rapid advancement of digital agriculture technologies has transformed modern farming systems, particularly through the

integration of drone technology and artificial intelligence (AI). These technologies enable precision agriculture by facilitating real-time crop monitoring, improved resource management, and enhanced decision-making processes. This study reviews existing literature on the application of agricultural drones and AI in improving agricultural productivity and food security, with a specific focus on rice production in developing economies. Using a thematic literature review approach, the study synthesizes conceptual, empirical, and theoretical perspectives on drone technology adoption and its implications for agricultural productivity and food security outcomes. Findings reveal that drone technologies significantly improve crop monitoring, pest detection, and yield estimation, thereby enhancing farm productivity and operational efficiency. However, the literature also highlights several barriers to adoption, including high capital costs, limited technical skills, regulatory constraints, and inadequate digital infrastructure. Furthermore, existing studies predominantly focus on productivity outcomes while neglecting the multidimensional nature of food security. The review identifies significant research gaps, particularly the lack of longitudinal studies and context-specific empirical evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa. The study concludes that integrating drone technology with supportive policies, farmer education, and digital infrastructure development could significantly enhance food security and sustainable agricultural production.

Keywords: Agricultural drone technology, artificial intelligence in agriculture, precision agriculture, rice production and food security

FSS 26-101:

HEALTH MISINFORMATION AND JOURNALISM IN PUBLIC HEALTH CRISES: IMPLICATIONS FOR SOCIETAL RESILIENCE

Stephen Afam Kenechukwu, PhD
Department of Mass Communication, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract
This study is about health misinformation and journalism in public health crises, and what this means for the resilience of society. Anchored in the technological determinism and located in the interpretivist research philosophy, the study uses qualitative systematic review to analyse the secondary data obtained from Google Scholar, ResearchGate, Academia.edu and other reputable indexing databases. An initial pool of thirty-two (32) scholarly articles was identified, from which twenty (20) were excluded because they were duplicates, lacked peer review, or were not of much relevance to public health crises and the practice of journalism. Consequently, twelve (12) peer-reviewed English-language studies addressing health misinformation, media coverage of health crises and communication dynamics were retained, including non-scholarly commentaries and unrelated studies. Inductive thematic analysis shows that digital media ecosystems, rapid information diffusion, algorithmic amplification and user-generated content play a key role in the production and circulation of health information in times of crisis with direct implications for accuracy, public perception and trust. The results further suggest that journalistic practices are increasingly bound by flows of misinformation, time constraints and the need for immediacy. The study concludes that the accuracy of information and ethics of journalism need to be improved in order to make society more resilient. This is especially true when it comes to helping people make better decisions, keeping the public's trust and working together better during public health situations.

Keywords: Health misinformation, health journalism, public health crises, societal resilience, digital media.

FSS 26-102:

AN EXPLORATION OF SERVICE PROVISION AND OVERSIGHT AMONG TRADITIONAL AND FAITH-BASED BIRTH ATTENDANTS IN URBAN SOUTH WEST NIGERIA

[1,2]Christiana Alake Alex-Ojei,
[1.2]Lorretta Favour Chizomam Ntoimo,
& [3]Nneka Lynda Nzewi
[1]Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University Oye Ekiti, Ekiti State
[2]Women's Health and Action Research Centre, Benin City, Edo State
[3]Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State

Abstract
The continued use of alternative healthcare providers contributes to the low maternal healthcare utilisation rate in Nigeria. This is a cause of concern, especially in urban areas, as modern healthcare facilities are readily available. This study used the qualitative study design to examine the services provided by, and oversight given for traditional and faith-based birth

attendants in urban South West Nigeria, specifically in Lagos and Ekiti States. In each state, key informant interviews were conducted with four TBAs/FBBAs, as well as one focal person from the State Ministry of Health and Human Services. Data were analysed using thematic analysis with NVivo software. All providers reported having several years of experience, with various types of formal and informal training undertaken. The majority of providers also reported undergoing continuous training being provided by the State Ministries of Health and affiliated agencies. Providers also reported that their activities were overseen by the State Ministries of Health through facility visits and training programmes. Also, majority of providers reported that they partner with modern health facilities in case of emergencies. In addition to providing clinical services such as checking vital signs, HIV and hepatitis testing, immunisation, and postnatal care, they provide counselling and prayer support. With evidence of oversight and adherence to regulations by TBAs and FBBAs, their services should be better mainstreamed into the primary health sector to avoid the proliferation of quacks. Also, incentives should be given to service providers who refer their clients in obstetric crisis to the relevant health facilities, with appropriate sanctions for non-compliance.

Keywords:maternal health; traditional birth attendants; faith-based birth attendants; healthcare providers

FSS 26-103:

LEGALITY, LEGITIMACY, AND THE USE OF FORCE: U.S. MILITARY ACTION IN VENEZUELA UNDER ARTICLE 2(4) OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER

Anuoluwapo Victoria Matiminu
& Seun Bamidele
Department of Peace and Conflict Studies Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria

Abstract

Debates over the legality and legitimacy of the use of force remain central to contemporary international law, particularly in cases involving unilateral military action. Despite sustained attention to Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter and its prohibition on the use of force, there has been comparatively limited scholarly engagement with how legality and legitimacy diverge in practice when powerful states invoke humanitarian, democratic, or security-based justifications. This paper examines the legality and legitimacy of potential U.S. military action in Venezuela through a close analysis of Article 2(4) and its recognized exceptions. It situates contemporary legal arguments within the historical and political contexts of U.S. interventionism in Latin America, highlighting how claims of legitimacy often rest on contested interpretations of sovereignty, consent, and humanitarian necessity. I argue that prevailing legal frameworks inadequately address the power asymmetries that shape the application and enforcement of the Charter's use-of-force regime. By distinguishing between formal legality and asserted legitimacy, this paper demonstrates how selective legal reasoning risks undermining the normative authority of international law. Generally, the analysis underscores the need for more rigorous and context-sensitive approaches to the use of force that reinforce the prohibition in Article 2(4) while confronting its uneven application in practice.

Keywords:Legality, legitimacy, United States, military, Venezuela, Article 2(4), United Nations Charter

FSS 26-104:

Foreign Direct Investment, Unemployment and Economic Growth in Nigeria

Akinola Gbenga W., Adeyemi Abiola S.
& Joseph Felix D.
Department of Economics, Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract

This study examined the impact of foreign direct investment (FDI) and unemployment on economic growth in Nigeria over a 41-year period. Three guiding research questions were addressed (1) What is the trending relationship between FDI, unemployment, and economic growth in Nigeria? (2) What is the impact of FDI and unemployment on economic growth in Nigeria? (3) What is the direction of causality between FDI, unemployment, and economic growth in Nigeria? Data were sourced from the World Bank Development Indicators and the Central Bank of Nigeria Statistical Bulletin. The methodology employed time series econometric techniques, including the Auto-Regressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model and the Toda Yamamoto causality test, following preliminary analyses such as descriptive statistics and unit root testing. In the short-run dynamics, evidence revealed that FDI and unemployment exert negative impacts on economic growth. This suggests that foreign investment inflows and rising unemployment initially hinder Nigeria's growth trajectory. While in the long run, the negative effects dissipate, and the variables do not significantly constrain growth, indicating that structural adjustments and absorptive capacity may mitigate short-term shocks. The Toda-Yamamoto test confirmed a bidirectional

causal relationship between FDI and economic growth. This implies that FDI Granger-causes economic growth, and economic growth in turn attracts FDI inflows whereas unemployment and economic growth exhibit a unidirectional relationship, with unemployment influencing growth but not vice versa. Similarly, FDI and unemployment show a one-way causal link, underscoring structural labor market challenges. The findings underscore the need for comprehensive structural reforms– targeting investment quality, labor absorption, demographic management, and financial stability– to sustain Nigeria's economic growth trajectory. It is recommended that government expenditure be strategically directed toward sectors with high labor absorption capacity – such as agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and ICT in order to create sustainable employment opportunities for Nigeria's unemployed population. By reducing unemployment, such policies can contribute not only to improved economic growth but also to a decline in the crime rate, as gainful employment reduces incentives for criminal activity.

Keywords: Economic Growth, Unemployment, Foreign Direct Investment, Toda-Yamamoto Causality

FSS 26-105:

CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES IN THE TURBULENT ONDO STATE, NIGERIA.

[1]OMOTOSHO, Babatunde Joshua

& [2]AROGUNDADE, Abiola Oluyemi.

[1]Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.

[2]Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology Ikere-Ekiti, Nigeria.

Abstract

This study examined crime prevention strategies in the turbulent Ondo State, Nigeria, exploring their current state, challenges, effectiveness, and impact on crime rates. Despite efforts, crime prevention remains a critical issue, affecting community safety and cohesion. The rising crime rates in Yoruba land, Nigeria, have become a pressing concern for the government, law enforcement agencies, and the community. Despite efforts to combat crime, the region continues to experience high levels of crime, including theft, robbery, and violence, leading to a breakdown in law and order and undermining the safety and security of individuals and communities. While previous studies have explored the effectiveness of community policing in reducing crime rates, there is a need for more research on the specific challenges facing crime prevention efforts in Yoruba land. Additionally, there is a need for more studies on the impact of traditional systems of crime control on crime prevention in the region. The objective was to assess existing strategies, identify obstacles, evaluate traditional systems, and measure their impact. A descriptive survey design was employed, targeting residents of Yoruba land. The study was conducted across the 3 Senatorial Districts and 18 Local Government Areas of Ondo State. 423 questionnaires were distributed, with 392 completed and returned (92.7% response rate). Data were analyzed using SPSS, with hypotheses tested via chi-square, correlation, and regression. Findings revealed community policing, adequate funding, and responsive police services were perceived as effective. Traditional systems, involving leaders and customs, also contributed to crime reduction and community cohesion. However, corruption, porous borders, inadequate funding, poor communication, and lack of trust in security agencies hindered efforts. The study recommended strengthening community policing through training and resources, increasing funding, enforcing anti-corruption measures, securing borders, integrating traditional and modern systems, and investing in socio-economic programs (e.g., job creation) to address root causes. Sustained efforts are needed to improve security and quality of life.

Keywords: Crime prevention, community policing, traditional systems, corruption, Yoruba land.

Appreciation

The Local Organising Committee (LOC) sincerely expresses its profound appreciation for the moral, financial, and academic contributions of members of the Faculty, as well as distinguished scholars from across the globe who participated in the submission and presentation of papers at this conference. Their remarkable inputs significantly contributed to the successful organisation and overall achievement of the programme.

The Committee also gratefully acknowledges the special donations received from the University Management, Faculty of Social Sciences and esteemed scholars within the Faculty, including Professor Sunday Adepoju Adedini, Professor Benjamin Olubunmi Omolayo, and Professor Babatunde Omotosho, whose generous support greatly enhanced the success of the conference.

Furthermore, the LOC extends its heartfelt appreciation to all members of the Local Organising Committee and subcommittees for their tireless efforts and invaluable contributions toward the successful execution of the programme.

FACULTY OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES
Federal University Oye-Ekiti,
Ekiti State, Nigeria.

4TH International Conference

Alexwill
Graphics & Prints
08066728882 | 08036191517