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**ABSTRACTS**

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## Environmental and Behavioural Risk Factors Associated with Childhood Diarrhoea in Ibadan Metropolis, Oyo State

**Alex. E. Asakitikpi**

### **Introduction**

Diarrhoea is a major problem in developing countries. People who live in over-crowded settlements where environmental conditions are poor and have little access to clean water and good sanitation are especially susceptible to the disease. Children under the age of five are easily infected because of their vulnerability against the germs that cause the disease. Diarrhoea is transmitted mainly by flies and through contaminated water. When houseflies feed on faeces, they come in contact with exposed food and the disease is dispersed. In the same vein, unhygienic disposal of faeces allows fecal germs to spread to food, water, food containers and household utensils. Using contaminated water that is used to prepare weaning food without being boiled can also cause diarrhoea.

At the Oyo State Ministry of Health (OSMOH), clinical records show that diarrhoea now ranks second only to malaria as a major cause of children morbidity in the state. In Ibadan, the Oyo State Capital, clinical records also show a progressive increase in diarrhoea cases. In 1995 for example, a total number of 8,421 cases were reported in government health centres, while in 1998 and 2001 reported consistent increase in the number of diarrhoea cases reflect that much ground is yet to be covered in eradicating the problem.

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## Women and Sustainable Development: A Study of Women Involvement in Small Scale Businesses in Uyo Local Government Area (LGA) of Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria

**Nseabasi Akpan**

### **Abstract**

This paper investigates women participation in the informal sector of Nigerian economy with emphasis on business. Its main objectives are: (a) identify the socio-economic characteristics of women in business; (b) highlight the types of business undertaken by women. Data were elicited from 300 out of 500 women with registered businesses in Uyo Local Government Area. The findings include: (i) middle-aged women with large families embark which on business to supplement family incomes; (ii) Nigerian women are withdrawing from the formal sector into business; (iii) women engage in labour-intensive businesses; (iv) that abuses and misunderstandings they face does not deter them and (v) some women in business have provided some facilities to their communities.

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## The Psycho-physiologic After-Effects and Coping Strategies of Bomb Blast Victims at Ikeja Cantonment, Lagos

**Godwin A. Ugal**

**Abstract**

This study attempts to survey the psycho-physiological after-effect, coping strategy and management of emergencies of bomb blast in Ikeja Cantonment Lagos, Nigeria. A total of 133 victims were studied belonging to three different groups — people who were injured in the blast (18), people who saw the blast (66), and people who heard the blast (49). A questionnaire was developed to assess the physiological and psychological after effects and coping strategies (adaptive/maladaptive) of the victims. Multiple regression analysis and the “T” test were used to analyse the results. The results showed that there exist a difference between injured and eye witness on the variable physiological after- effect. Appropriate recommendations were proffered.

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## Archaeological Research at Kasana: A search for evidence on the Historic Slave Traffic in the Upper West Region of Ghana

**J. Boachie-Ansah**

**Abstract**

This report is an account of excavations conducted at Kasana, a site which became the headquarters of the slave-raiding Zabarima in the 1870s. It examines the excavated finds and their implications for the archaeology of the site, particularly as they relate to slavery. While there is no clear-cut evidence for slavery, archaeological reconnaissance has revealed a well-organised community of iron smelters whose activities predated, and probably ended, with the arrival of the slave raiders.

Ruins of rectangular sun-dried brick houses, claimed to have been built in the Merchants' Quarters of the site by traders at Kasana, were found, on investigation, to have been built on the

occupation level associated with the iron smelters. The ruins are therefore a recent phase of the site that may perhaps be related, and identified with the arrival of the slave raiders.  
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## The Environment of North Central Yorubaland and Its Implications for the Archaeology of the Area

**J. O. Aleru and R. A. Alabi**

### **Summary**

Environmental studies in parts of north-central Yorubaland have revealed a lot of data about the environmental setting of the area. Both biotic (flora and fauna) and abiotic (rocks, landform, soils, drainage systems and climate entities) are highlighted. Some archaeological remnants of plants and animals recovered during excavations in some parts of the area have also yielded information about some aspects of the past environment (at least up to about 400 years ago). On the basis of these finds, it is even possible to infer palaeoclimatic conditions in the area. It is surmised that a thorough understanding of these environmental components would go a long way in contributing to a better appraisal of information (oral, ethnographic, historical or archaeological) derived/deriving from northern Yorubaland concerning the early history, cultural development as well as palaeoenvironmental conditions in the area.

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## The Imperatives of Natural Forest Management in Nigeria

**Olajide, O. Udofia and Ikojo, H. A.**

### **Abstract**

Forest is basically a composite natural resource of multiple benefit to man. Ironically, forest has been managed parochially solely over the years for the production of timber/wood. Quite often, vast areas of forest which are considered poorly stocked with economically desirable timber trees, but well stocked with diversity of much more valuable exploitable non-timber resources, coupled with invaluable environmental services rendered by such forests, have been cleared for the establishment of less valuable monoculture forest plantations for timber production, farming and pasture. This phenomenon has culminated in ecological disasters and socio-economic distortions. This paper examines the need to sustain natural forest management discussed herein include biodiversity and heritage conservation, production of food and medicine, environmental protection and climatic regulation, and sustainability of trade and livelihoods.

**Keywords:** Natural Forests, Sustainable Management, Conservation, Nigeria.

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## The poverty issue in globalization: The Nigerian situation 1975-2004

**L. A. Adeniran**

### **Abstract**

Technological developments have challenged world leaders and policy makers to come to terms with the fact that the fate of humanity is inextricably intertwined. Consequently, widening socio-economic inequalities is not only antithetical to the goals of a better world, it also poses a threat to global civilization. This has informed the policy thrust of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as enunciated by the United Nations. The reduction of poverty to one-half of the 2000 level by 2015 is one of the eight-point of MDGs. This paper examines this particular thrust, using Nigerian as a reference point. It submits that rather than the problem abating, the number of Nigerians living below the poverty line has accentuated. Among the implications drawn is that successive government are lacking in commitment to addressing the problems of the less-privileged members of society. Consequently, Nigeria's political leverage on the global scene can be said to be compromised.

## The cultural context of economic development in Ghana: Preliminary observations

**Kodzo Gavua**

### **Abstract**

This discussion is a summary of preliminary observations I have made about the cultural context within which Ghana's economic development is pursued. Based on the view that Ghana's cultural transformation and economic development are mutually related, I define a number of variables, including cognitive structures and social behaviour, which continuously hold sway over Ghana's economic development. Economic development, as I argued, can be attained in Ghana only when major stakeholders in the country's development efforts pay serious attention to these variables. The variables include traits that probably formed part of the coping mechanisms of the forebears of Ghanaians in their adaptation to pre-colonial and colonial socio-economic conditions. Although the traits known are discussed informally by many citizens, their effects on the country's economic development are rarely considered by relevant agencies when development strategies are planned and executed.

## Spiritual corridor development in Nigeria: Challenges for planners and faith-based organizations

**Olusola Olufemi  
Adekunbi Labeodan**

**Abstract**

Spiritual corridor in this paper refers to the evangelization sites or prayer camps that have symbolic significance or serve as spiritual places of pilgrimage where people experience a sense of connectedness to a sacred being. The unfolding emergence of sacred places or spiritual places along a linear corridor and their integration thereof in Nigeria is germane to new ways of inquiry in urban development and planning. This paper contends that the contribution of faith-based organizations (religious institutions) to development planning is very pertinent to new urbanism. Urban sprawl is an antithesis to new urbanism, therefore faith-based organizations have to partner with planners, developers, architects and engineers in promoting the development of sustainable communities and curtailing urban sprawl.

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## Space culture and health attitudes as threats to child survival in Ibadan City, Nigeria

**A. S. Ajala**

**Abstract**

The existing interaction between human and environment seeks to manage space, and the biological and non-biological resources found on the space. On rare occasion has human beings been successful in setting up a balanced equilibrium between space management and human survival. In Low Income Residential Areas (LIRAs) of Ibadan City an interrogation of cultural process between space culture and health attitudes, with the aim of assessing how space culture has caused. The study was conducted through qualitative ethnographic approach conducted in selected LIRAs in Ibadan City. The study established that space culture in the areas provoke certain unhealthy attitudes which have resulted in high frequency of child morbidity and mortality in the areas. Thus, if the threats are to be removed, an improved space culture needs to be created to engineer better health attitudes especially the Low Income Residential Areas of Ibadan City.

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The space of market, the market of space:

# Environmental planning in urban Yoruba societies of Nigeria

**O. B. Lawuyi**

## **Introduction**

Debord, reflecting on the state of environmental planning in capitalist countries hints about the re-organization of space going on in the cities and how this has “crystallized around the distribution factories or giant shopping centers created *ex-nihilo* and surrounded by acres of parking space” (Debord 1994: 123). The shopping centers, spaces of heavy consumption, are subject to irresistible centrifugal trend as demands for them grow. Their domination of the city space may not, however, in Debord’s (1994) opinion, last a longwhile because under heavy taxation they may be forced to go under or vanish.

There are two dimensions to Debord’s prognosis. The first deals with the reality of the spread of the shopping-centers. They are now a formidable presence in the cities. The second is, basically, speculative as to the end of the enterprise. Could such an end come soon or never? It is observed that urban centers have become one huge space of markets, with shopping centers found on any available space. And, it is speculated that the centers would disappear not for the lack of patronage, the absence of goods, the lack of capital or the intensity of competition. Rather, they would do so because state interventionist policies, particularly of those of taxation, would have devastating consequences on gross income. Ironically, the shopping-centers still flourish, years after their emergence in the central business district of the urban-centers. Somehow, they have managed to cope with state’s intrusion into market enterprise. So, what is significant about Debord’s observation, for now, is that space of market impact on environment planning. This is the case in Yoruba urban-centers or in Nigeria as a whole.