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ABSTRACT

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL POWER OF GODLIGHT.

By

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This presentation examines the impact of Dr. Bart Barthelemy's working hypothesis: If all the universe is light (GodLight), then so are we. As we consider the scientific support and spiritual references to perceive God as Light, we are invited to expand our thinking, uplift our emotions, and fortify the ways we live and relate to each other. Seeking answers to these questions can be a lifelong journey for so many of us: How was the universe created? What is our purpose? How do we know that God exists? Who is God? Finding meaning and inner peace are at the core of our search for answers. We devote so much of our lives to managing uncertainty and gaining comfort with it. Both science and spirituality help us manage uncertainty in life while spirituality has the added benefit of helping us make peace with it. GodLight offers an array of possibilities for answering these and other questions as Dr. Bart Barthelemy uncovers patterns of reality in scientific studies and spiritual realms. GodLight can bring us closer to inner harmony and universal connection. Experiencing God as Light can help solidify our understanding of the universe while offering us contentment as we explore the vast unknown.

GODLIGHT AND YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP: PAVING THE WAY FOR SUCCESS (JEREMIAH 29:11)

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In Nigeria, many young people and those from underprivileged backgrounds face significant challenges, including high unemployment and limited access to opportunities, which hinder their potential for success. The GodLight Foundation seeks to address these issues by empowering youth through entrepreneurship and skill-building initiatives. Inspired by Jeremiah 29:11, which speaks of hope and a promising future, GodLight aims to guide young individuals toward creating their paths and achieving their dreams. This study explores the mission of GodLight and its potential impact on youth entrepreneurship in Nigeria. By utilizing surveys and interviews with participants, the research aims to assess how these initiatives can enhance skills, confidence, and economic prospects among youth. As GodLight begins its journey in Nigeria, preliminary findings and feedback from potential participants suggest a strong desire for mentorship and support in developing entrepreneurial capabilities. The study recommends that GodLight focus on building a supportive ecosystem for young entrepreneurs, emphasizing the importance of resources and mentorship to foster a brighter, more prosperous future for Nigeria's youth. Through these efforts, GodLight hopes to inspire and empower the next generation to contribute positively to their communities and drive economic growth.

Keywords: Youth empowerment, entrepreneurship, GodLight Foundation, Nigeria.

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THE INTERSECTION OF FAITH AND GOVERNANCE: EXPLORING THE ROLE OF GODLIGHT IN SHAPING NIGERIA'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE.

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This article examines the role of GodLight, a spiritual movement advocating ethical leadership and civic responsibility, in shaping governance and civic participation in Nigeria. It highlights religion's dual influence in Nigerian politics, both as a unifying and divisive force, and explores GodLight's focus on integrity, accountability, and service as a model for addressing corruption. The movement's grassroots mobilization has increased voter participation, especially among marginalized groups, and shifted electoral priorities. However, challenges such as societal polarization and exclusion of minorities are also considered. Case studies illustrate GodLight's impact through voter education, policy advocacy, and leadership development. Beyond politics, the article underscores GodLight's contributions to national development in education, healthcare, and poverty alleviation, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals. It concludes by advocating a balanced approach that respects Nigeria's secular framework while leveraging the positive influence of faith-based initiatives to drive unity and progress.

Keywords: Ethical leadership, civic participation, voter education, poverty alleviation, national development

CAN SCIENCE ALONE PROVIDE MAN WITH ADEQUATE REFLECTIVE AND AUTHENTIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE WORLD?

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Formal education today has two broad divisions – humanities and science. The German educational system makes the distinction clearer: Geistewissenschaften and Naturwissenschaften. Initially, education consisted in the reading of the original works of authors such as Homer and Hesiod. Later, it shifted to Shakespeare. The industrial revolution inaugurated an era that eventually led to the rapid development of science and technology. The result was profound transformations in human thinking and life. Today, with the rise of digital technologies, humanity's relationship with the world has become increasingly mediated by technological advancements. The result is the conclusion by some that science has overtaken humanity. Even in our secondary schools today, those students who offer science subjects look down on the ones that offer arts subjects as their academic inferiors. Our world seems to be moving purely towards the digital direction. However, it is a truism that man is a being in the world. The question is: can science alone provide man with adequate reflective and authentic engagement with the world? This paper answers in the negative. This position is by no means a rejection of science and technology. Taking a clue from the critic of science made by E. Husserl and M. Heidegger, this paper rejects the dominant role assigned unreflectively to science in our contemporary world. It

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takes the position that a reciprocal relationship between humanities and science can aid man better in his relationship with the world enabling him to objectively face the challenges of the contemporary era. Hermeneutics can be a veritable method.

Keywords: Reciprocal, Critic, Transformation, Hermeneutics.

THE INFLUENCE OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS ON RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND MORALITY

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The relationship between scientific and technological advancement, religious belief, and moral philosophy is complex and ever-evolving. This study delves into these domains' historical and contemporary intersections, examining how scientific discoveries and technological innovations have shaped, challenged, and reinforced religious beliefs and moral frameworks. Much of the research focuses on the impact of scientific discoveries, particularly in fields like cosmology, evolution, and neuroscience on traditional religious interpretations. By exploring the historical and contemporary responses of religious communities to these scientific advancements, the study highlights the tension between faith and reason and the potential for constructive dialogue between science and religion. The study further examines the ethical implications of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and nanotechnology. These advancements raise profound questions about the nature of humanity, the limits of technological intervention, and the role of morality in a technologically driven world. The research explores how religious traditions have responded to these challenges, either by adapting their moral frameworks or by resisting technological advancements that they perceive as morally problematic. This study is important because it helps us better understand how science, religion, and morality are connected. By analyzing the historical and contemporary interactions between these domains, the study offers insights into the challenges and opportunities that arise as society grapples with the rapid pace of scientific and technological progress. Ultimately, this research aims to foster a more nuanced and informed dialogue between science, religion, and morality, and to promote a future where these domains can coexist harmoniously.

Keywords: Science, Religion, Technology, Morality, Ethics

HARMONIZING SCIENCE AND HUMANITY: THE ROLE OF GOD IN BRIDGING ETHICAL INNOVATION IN THE AFRICAN CONTEXT

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Africa stands at a critical juncture where rapid scientific advancements intersect with deeply rooted cultural, ethical, and spiritual values. This discourse examines the transformative role of God in harmonizing science and humanity within the African context, emphasizing the necessity of integrating faith-based principles with innovation to address the continent's unique challenges. From healthcare to technology, and climate change to social justice, Africa's development requires solutions that honor both scientific rigor and the moral imperatives of compassion,

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community, and human dignity. By drawing on the rich spiritual heritage and ethical frameworks of African societies, this exploration advocates for a God-centered approach to innovation—one that prioritizes sustainable progress and the well-being of all people. Scholars, scientists, and faith leaders are invited to engage in dialogue on how divine guidance can inspire ethical decision-making in science, fostering equitable and transformative development. This abstract calls for a reimagining of science as a tool for justice and hope, grounded in a faith-driven commitment to uplift humanity in Africa and beyond.

BEYOND BOUNDARIES: RETHINKING ENVIRONMENTAL THEOLOGY THROUGH INTEGRATIVE SCIENCE

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The study delves into the transformative potential of integrating theology and science to address pressing environmental concerns in a holistic manner. This interdisciplinary approach transcends the conventional silos of knowledge, emphasizing a synergistic relationship between faith-based perspectives and scientific insights to illuminate a path towards sustainable coexistence with the environment. By exploring the interconnectedness of theological beliefs, ecological principles, and ethical imperatives, the study advocates for a paradigm shift that acknowledges the intrinsic value of nature and the interconnectedness of all life forms. Through a lens of integrative science, it posits that a comprehensive understanding of environmental issues requires a synthesis of empirical observations, spiritual values, and cultural narratives to inform a more nuanced and inclusive environmental theology. Furthermore, the study highlights the practical implications of this integrative framework, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts among diverse stakeholders in fostering environmental stewardship and promoting ecological resilience. By engaging with issues of environmental justice, sustainability, and interfaith dialogue, this approach seeks to inspire a collective reimagining of humanity's relationship with the natural world, grounded in reverence, reciprocity, and responsibility. The study employs a qualitative and quantitative methodology while the qualitative method involves literarily and descriptive analysis, the quantitative method conduct and analyze a Pilot Projects. Implement pilot projects in collaboration with religious and scientific communities to test the integrative framework. The research recommends a radical approach and holistic approach to address environment crisis and hazard. The study concludes that only this approach can salvage human environmental challenges, a holistic approach.

Keywords: Environment, Science, Integrative Approach, Beyond Boundaries, Environmental Theology

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EDUCATION, A SCAM? TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF PEDAGOGY IN WOLE SOYINKA'S *AKE: THE YEARS OF CHILDHOOD* AND TARA WESTOVER'S *EDUCATED*

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In this current era, there is confusion about the worthiness of wasting resources in being educated because of the rising quest of the youths to grab money quick. This paper swayed over the naïve notion that education has become a scam considering its influence on the authors as unveiled in their memoirs. The uncloaking of these psychobiographies garnered eloquent testament to the emancipative power of education in fostering power of critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, fostering of personal growth and self-awareness, bridging of cultural and socio-economic divides, and other myriads of impress of education as a catalyst for personal liberation, social change, and empowerment. The paper is grounded in Critical Pedagogy as its theoretical framework and discovered that the writers gained their exposure to new ideas, cultures, critical thinking, and overall transformation from teaching and learning. Soyinka precisely garnered his power to challenge the domineering ideologies of the colonists through education, through the same vein Westover overcame the challenges of her family's survivalist's ideology. The paper contributed to ever growing knowledge the timeless fact that education is the foundation, transformative, central to human advancement, and a special tool that separates man from other animals. The paper craved to bring up the success story of Soyinka and Westover to refute the notion that education has become a scam now that it is highly needed in this world of distracted ideologies, need for technical competency, and investing in vocation. It pledges for continual fostering of education of the young across the globe.

Keywords: Pedagogy, Transformative, Education, scam

AN OVERVIEW OF GOD, ALLAH AND CHINEKE IN CHRISTIANITY, ISLAM AND ATR AND THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATIONAL DELIVERY.

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These has been disputes, quarrels between the three major religions in Nigeria namely Christianity, Islam and African Traditional Religion. This quarrel has continued and went as far as claiming lives. These issues prompted the researcher to go into the area of God, Allah and ATR.and the use of technology in Educational Delivery. In trying to delve into the area, the researcher did a comparative study of the three major religions in Nigeria and on what they believe in, it was discovered that in the three major religions in Nigeria, that all the three have what they believe in. For Christianity, it is God, for Islam, it is Allah and for ATR, it is Chineke.



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The researcher went further to discover that these three names in the three major religions are functionally the same and regarded as the highest being. The researcher also proposed that the teaching and learning of these beings be it God, Allah or Chineke could be studied using internet, distance learning and digital library instead of mere guessing. This is as a result of the fact that preservation of the knowledge of God, Allah, or Chineke in Christianity, Islam and African Traditional Religion is now technologically driven. The researcher did this using technological educational driven approach. It recommends that there is no need for the tension between the three major religions; there is no need on the understanding between God, Allah and Chineke since functionally they are the same. It equally recommends that technology should be used in this study since the world is now digitally friendly.

Keywords: overview, God, Allah, Chineke, technology, educational delivery.

GODLIGHT, GOVERNANCE

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The act of governing or exercising authority is paramount and crucial in Biblical narratives. God, who beamed his light into the world which was covered with darkness, is central when it comes to governance and he exercises authority both in the governments of heaven and humanity. Undoubtedly, he reigns over the affairs of men, and as he radiates the light of his reign over the angels in heaven, he likewise gives authority to men to reflect this light as they rule or govern everything he created, and this is displayed in a glaring transparency, equity, and sustainable governance. As government rests on his shoulders and of the greatness of his government and peace, there would be no end, of which, he reigns with justice and righteousness from the beginning and forever. Also, he relinquishes governance on earth for man, and demands a rule that enhances an egalitarian society, where there is fairness, justice, and equity. The present society that makes up our nation Nigeria does not actually reflect in its totality what God intended for humanity as regard governance based on the foregoing. Many authors have written on governance, but have not strategically examined how humanity needs to appropriate the radiance of the light of God in governance and critically proffered the modality to be adopted in ensuring that the governing system in Nigeria aligns with God Light. Using historical and sociological methods to gather relevant information and data analysed, it is unequivocally certain that when governance such as that of Nigeria is built on how God demands it, it will enhance good governance that brings about a robust economy and a blessed egalitarian society. This paper therefore posits that, every society, especially that of Nigeria, should as a matter of urgency carry out governance that is God inclined.

Keywords: GodLight, Governance, Egalitarian Society

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GODLIGHT AND GOVERNANCE IN NIGERIA: AN ETHICAL PERSPECTIVE

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This study explores the interplay between divine principles, as conceptualized by the term "Godlight," and governance in Nigeria, with a focus on ethical considerations. In a nation grappling with persistent issues of corruption, poor leadership, and social injustice, the integration of moral and spiritual dimensions into political discourse is both timely and vital. Qualitative methodology is adopted for the study. Data is sourced through documented literature on the subject matter. Utilizing descriptive method of analysis, the paper argues that the ethical framework provided by religious teachings serve as a guiding principle for governance by promoting integrity, accountability, and transparency among leaders. The study examines historical contexts where religious ethics have influenced political actions and policy-making in Nigeria, highlighting both successes and failures. Furthermore, the research delves into the potential of "Godlight" to foster a governance model that transcends mere legalistic frameworks and emphasizes moral responsibility. The study gathers insights from various religious leaders, political analysts, and citizens to assess the impact of ethical governance inspired by spiritual values on societal development. The findings suggest that a governance approach infused with ethical principles drawn from both religious and cultural traditions can positively influence public trust, enhance civic engagement, and promote social cohesion. Ultimately, this study advocates for a reevaluation of the relationship between faith and governance in Nigeria, positing that ethical leadership rooted in "Godlight" can pave the way for sustainable development and a more just society. By promoting a culture of integrity, this perspective offers a hopeful pathway towards resolving Nigeria's complex sociopolitical challenges.

Keywords: Godlight, Governance, Nigeria, Ethics and Perspective.

GODLIGHT IN GOVERNANCE: EXPLORING THE ROLE OF FAITH IN NIGERIA POLITICS

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The issue of governance in Nigeria is one that has seemed to elude the political system of Nigeria. This topic is a thought provoking one that delves into the complex relationship between faith and politics in Nigeria. Through the lens of Social Contract Theory, the study examines how faith influences political leadership, policy making, citizen engagement and national identity. Some potential angles explored within this topic include: the role of Islamic and Christian values in



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shaping Nigeria's political culture, the impact of faith-based organizations on Nigeria Politics and governance, the tension between secularism and religiosity in Nigerian politics and case studies of Nigerian leaders who have explicitly linked their faith to their governance style. Through qualitative methods, the findings reveal that faith plays a significant role in shaping the governance priorities and decision-making processes of Nigerian Leaders, with important implications for the country's development and democratic consolidation. This study contributes to a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics between faith, politics, and governance in Nigeria and highlights the need for a more nuanced and contextualized approach to addressing the country's governance challenges.

Keywords: Political Leadership, Policy making, Citizen Engagement, Faith and Politics.

GODLIGHT, GOVERNANCE

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This thesis attempts to synchronize and synthesize Godlight's core mission, basically, illuminating the path towards a world where scientific progress is harmonized with ethical considerations and human dignity. The paper focuses on the interface between humanistic values and scientist innovation in shaping and or addressing world order. In the same vein, it explores the intricacies of the complicated details of governance in the global space. However, governance can be viewed from some enumerated disciplines related to the multi-dimensional and multi-faceted milieu/nuances of the duo complex phenomena. The empirical and analytical methods of investigation were used to carry out the research. The result showed that ethical values and good governance are the only requisite for peaceful and mutual co-existence among peoples or groups in any human society. Cruising and or navigating further, the paper, reasoned on the need for values such as human rights and responsibility, intergenerational equity, solidarity, justice, democracy, freedom of expression and tolerance, moral or ethical equilibrium and above all, the fear of God. Finally, the paper tasked political actors/actresses and gladiators to de-emphasize all forms of criminal rascality in all governance responsibility and accountability and re-designing a productive world order.

Keywords: Godlight's core mission, governance, ethical equilibrium, humanistic values, world order.

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BEYOND HUMANISM: INVESTIGATING THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN GODLIGHT, HUMAN VALUES, AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) DRIVEN SOCIETIES

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As Artificial Intelligence (AI) increasingly shapes human societies, profound questions emerge about the intersection of technology, human values, and transcendence. This research explores the interplay between Godlight, human values, and AI-driven societies, challenging traditional humanistic frameworks. Godlight, understood as divine guidance, spiritual awakening, or divine presence, is examined for its influence on human values and decision-making in AI contexts. This study investigates theological and philosophical foundations of Godlight and their implications for human-AI interactions. It also explores how AI affects values such as empathy, compassion, and fairness, and considers the potential for Godlight to guide ethical AI development while mitigating associated risks. Through a multidisciplinary approach drawing from theology, philosophy, ethics, and AI research, the study seeks to develop a nuanced understanding of Godlight's role in shaping human values amidst societal transformations driven by AI. It aims to identify synergies and tensions between Godlight, human values, and AI, while informing strategies for responsible AI development that prioritize human flourishing and transcendence. This research contributes to ongoing debates about AI ethics, human values, and the search for meaning in a technologically advanced world. By examining the dynamic relationship between Godlight, human values, and AI, it encourages a deeper reflection on what it means to be human in the face of rapid technological progress.

Keywords: Humanism, Godlight, Human Values, Artificial Intelligence (AI).

GODLIGHT, HUMANITY, AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF DIVINE INSPIRATION, HUMAN INGENUITY, AND MACHINE LEARNING

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This interdisciplinary study examines the converging realms of Godlight (divine guidance), humanity, and artificial intelligence (AI). As AI increasingly influences human existence, we investigate the theological, philosophical, and ethical implications of this synergy. We explore how Godlight, understood as divine inspiration and wisdom, informs human creativity and innovation, particularly in AI development. This paper addresses the intersection of divine inspiration, human ingenuity, and machine learning. The objective of this study is to evaluate how Godlight inspire human ingenuity in AI development, the ethical implications of AI on human existence and relationships, and how AI systems reflect or contradict divine values and principles. Using a qualitative approach, the paper draws on recent literature to analyze the intersection of

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divine inspiration, human ingenuity and machine learning. The study concludes that the intersection of Godlight, humanity, and AI invites a profound reflection on our existence, purpose, and relationship with technology. By acknowledging divine inspiration and guidance, we can harness AI's potential to enhance human flourishing while mitigating its risks. This research encourages an ongoing dialogue between theology, philosophy, and AI development to ensure a future where technology serves humanity's highest aspirations. Recommendations emphasize the need to develop AI systems that incorporate moral and ethical frameworks, foster interdisciplinary dialogue between theology, philosophy, and AI development, and explore AI-assisted biblical hermeneutics and exegesis.

Keywords: Godlight, Artificial Intelligence, Human Ingenuity, Ethics, Theology, Philosophy.

INVESTIGATING SOME OF THE PROBLEMS FACING THE BLOCKADES OF SPIRITUAL INFORMATION THROUGH ITS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN TRADITIONAL RELIGION: A CRITIQUE.

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This study critically examines the challenges confronting the flow of spiritual information within African Traditional Religion (ATR) as impacted by modernity, foreign religions, and technological advancements. Employing a multidisciplinary approach, the research explores the erosion of sacred spaces, the loss of cultural custodians, and the commodification of religious symbols, which have profoundly disrupted the transmission and preservation of ATR's rich spiritual heritage. The analysis also delves into the influence of Christianity and Islam, whose doctrines and media dominance have relegated ATR to the margins, labeling it as primitive and irrelevant. Furthermore, the study underscores the role of secrecy, esoteric language, and the lack of systematic documentation in limiting ATR's accessibility and adaptability to contemporary society. This work sheds light on the socio-cultural and technological forces that obstruct ATR's propagation, highlighting how these dynamics generate identity crises and impede spiritual authenticity in African societies. Ultimately, the research advocates for a reinvigoration of African Traditional Religion by embracing innovative communication strategies while preserving its essence in the face of cross-cultural currents.

Key Words: Artificial, heritage, intelligence, tradition, spiritual.

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AI AND HUMANISTIC VALUES AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS: A CASE STUDY OF UNIVERSITY OF CALABAR, CROSS RIVER STATE OF NIGERIA

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The world in contemporary time is almost driven by one scientific innovation or the other. It is a general opinion of many observers of the influence of Artificial Intelligence that sooner or later, machines would not only be employed in almost every sphere of human endeavour, but will be used to solve all human problems, thereby, leading to the extinction of the 'humanity' in human beings. Since the phenomenal appearance of AI in the late 1940s, humanity has had to grapple with some ethical humanistic concerns amidst this scientific innovation. At the core of this year's GODLIGHT conference is the desire to find a common ground where humanistic values and scientific innovations can be harnessed in shaping our contemporary world order. In light of this therefore, this paper intends to investigate whether university students in Nigeria, with particular focus on the students of the university of Calabar, Cross River State, can still maintain ethical humanistic values in this AI driven era. This is the research problem this study intends to investigate. With a purposeful random sampling technique, the study uses survey research method and the human relation theory as its theoretical framework. The significance of the study will be deduced after the collection and analysis of data. The conclusion and the recommendations will be drawn from the research findings after field work.

Keywords: Godlight, humanistic values, AI, scientific innovation, human dignity, University students, and human relation

SOCIAL ORDER AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A SOCIO ETHICAL DISCOURSE

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People in every part of the globe have moral values and principles. It is this moral values and principles that govern the society, since no human society practices free- rider society. The fundamental for the public good and general wellbeing of every society as far as social order is concerned are those rules and regulations. Social Order, which is the matrix of human relationship in the society, is borne out of the context of human nature. Human nature is endowed with many social attributes and characteristics like way of thinking and empathy. The idea of replacing human contact with technological term Artificial Intelligence (AI) generates serious social and ethical concern. Ethics was developed and used because man is corporeal and his nature is vulnerable and empathetic. These characteristics are the basis of social nature and hence,



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societal ethics. Therefore, the objective of this paper is to study the social and ethical dimensions of artificial intelligence (AI) in our modern society. The new normal termed artificial intelligence (AI) poses significant social and ethical challenges that demand careful considerations. It has the capacity of transforming our society positively or negatively. To achieve the objective of this study, the paper applies phenomenological and sociological approach while it will be theoretically framed using human nature theory. The study observes that while artificial intelligence (AI) has the potentials to bring significant benefits to the society, it also poses challenges and risk that need to be addressed. The work however suggests that AI must be built to align with the overreaching goals of man.

Keywords: Social Order, Artificial Intelligence, Social, Ethical and Society.

EGŌ EIMI TO PHŌS TOU KOSMOU (JOHN 8:12) AND THE CHALLENGES OF NEO-PAGANISM IN AFRICA TODAY: THE WAY FORWARD

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A look at the situation in Africa today with regard to the rise of neo-paganism will surely make one believe that Christian is about getting into her dark ages in Africa. The Western world believed few years back that Africa would surely be the hub of Christianity considering the speedy growth the religion experienced. The recent unprecedented rise in neo-paganism in Africa especially indicate a very conspicuous and worrisome downward curve in Christianity. Statistics show that most young people believe that Christianity is a stranger in Africa. They feel that our ancestors were fooled into embracing Christianity and so they see it as their duty to return to the religion they believe is properly African. In the face of this obvious concern, one wonders the place of Jesus as the Light of the world. This paper adopts exegetical tool to examine the real meaning of John 8:12. It discusses the possible causes of the relapse into neo-paganism. It proposes proper catechesis, orthodoxy and development of a theology that addresses African issues as the indisputable panacea to this perilous malady.

Keywords: I am, Light, World, Neo-paganism, Africa.



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EXPLORING THE ROLE OF SPIRITUAL BELIEFS IN SAFEGUARDING CULTURAL PRACTICES

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Spiritual beliefs, as central components of many indigenous cultures, serve as custodian of cultural identity, offering frameworks for understanding the world, guiding moral principles, and preserving ancestral knowledge. The aim of the paper is to explore the role of spiritual beliefs in safeguarding cultural practices. Using a descriptive analysis, the paper delves into the intricate relationship between spiritual beliefs and cultural practices, highlighting the pivotal role that spirituality plays in safeguarding cultural heritage. By examining the intersection of spirituality and cultural practices across diverse societies, it demonstrates how spiritual beliefs serve as a resilient framework for preserving cultural identity, traditions, and values. The findings underscore the importance of acknowledging and respecting the spiritual underpinnings of cultural practices in efforts to promote cultural conservation and sustainability. The paper recommends that elders and spiritual leaders should be encouraged to pass down sacred knowledge, rituals and traditions to younger generations. While formal and informal education systems should integrate cultural teachings, ensuring that young people appreciate the significance of their spiritual heritage. Ultimately, it concludes that preservation of cultural heritage requires a nuanced understanding of the complex relationships between spirituality, cultural practices, and cultural heritage. By recognizing the importance of spirituality in shaping cultural practices and traditions, we can work towards preserving cultural heritage in a way that is meaningful and relevant to local communities.

Keywords: Spiritual beliefs, Cultural Heritage, Cultural Preservation, Indigenous Knowledge, cultural revitalization

AFRICAN RELIGION, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY: EXPLORING THE GODLIGHT CONCEPT

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This paper is an inter-disciplinary discourse. It explores the intersection of African Religion and environmental management and sustainability, focusing on the concept of Godlight and environmental management and sustainability within the ambit of African context. The paper employs ethnographic, participant observation, analytic and comparative methods. Findings by



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the research reveal that, the environment is under degradational threats due to man's incessant perilous activities which counteract African Religion and Godlight concept on environmental management and sustainability. African spirituality and Godlight concept are interwoven which foster environmental stewardship and sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation is also at the verge of collapse today due to man's recklessness and impunity towards nature, which remains lamentable today. The research recommends that, there should be integration of African ethology and Godlight concept on global environmental management and sustainability. Stringent and punitive measures should be put in place by relevant authorities for environmental safety, its judicious and continuous use. There should also be a designed road map out policy on education, enlightenment, sensitization on environmental management and sustainability at all times. All hands must be on deck to support community -led conservation and sustainable initiatives for environmental safety, its judicious use and for continuity. Conclusion, this study exhibits a high sense of romance that lies between African spirituality and Godlight concept on environmental management and sustainability which showcase the interwoven relationship of humanity, nature and the divine. Africa Religion and Godlight concept reiterate reflective and responsible stewardship for environmental management and sustainability which should be fostered by all and sundry both now and for posterity sake.

Keywords: African Religion, Godlight concept, environment Management and sustainability

THE CHANGING REALITIES OF AFRICAN LIFE AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE TRADITIONAL AFRICAN VALUES AND SPIRITUAL INCLINATIONS.

By

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The fact of change is a reality in every human society; in relation to every growth and development, what can be said to have happened is growth. Societal cultural values change as the human persons who make up a given society change. As people come in contact with others, changes occur; invariably when a culture meets another one, a cross breeding of ideas occurs, one enriches the other and change automatically occurs between the duo. Africa as a multi-cultural continent has through the centuries had intercultural and intra-cultural encounters with the people outside her borders and within herself respectively. These have brought about tremendous change in her traditional African values and spirituality positively and negatively. Using the style of textual analysis and critical expose, this work wishes to identify the original African cultural values and the influences other cultures have made on her. It will argue that despite the harm done to the original African image, she can galvanize herself and create a much better identity and a rebranding of her original self. The Igbo cultural context will be a dominant ground for the expositions and critical appraisal.

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A SOCIO-RELIGIOUS CRITIQUE OF FEMALE PROSTITUTION AND HOOKUP CULTURE IN CONTEMPORARY NIGERIA

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This study offers a socio-religious critique of female prostitution and hookup culture in contemporary Nigeria, focusing on how these phenomena challenge traditional cultural and religious values surrounding sexuality, gender, and morality. The research investigates the social and economic factors driving women into prostitution and casual sexual encounters, examining how these practices reflect broader societal issues such as poverty, gender inequality, and the breakdown of family structures. The central problem addressed is the intersection of religious teachings, which condemn these practices, with the socio-economic realities that often push women into situations where their agency and dignity are compromised. Employing a qualitative research methodology, the study combines in-depth interviews with female sex workers, participants in hookup culture, and religious leaders, alongside an analysis of religious texts, socio-cultural frameworks, and media portrayals of female sexuality in Nigeria. The findings indicate that while female prostitution and hookup culture are often perceived as morally reprehensible within Nigerian society, they are also responses to systemic inequalities, including limited access to economic opportunities, education, and social mobility. Additionally, religious and cultural narratives frequently fail to address the complexities of women's choices in these contexts, leading to stigmatization rather than understanding. The paper concludes by advocating for a more compassionate, multi-dimensional approach that considers both the socio-economic and religious aspects of female prostitution and hookup culture, proposing that the Nigerian Church and society engage in dialogue that prioritizes human dignity, gender equality, and socio-economic reform. There is urgent need to highlight actionable recommendations for policymakers, especially within the context of economic empowerment programs. For example, suggest creating policies that provide alternative employment opportunities, educational resources, and social safety nets for women in vulnerable positions. Addressing the root causes of prostitution and hookup culture, such as poverty and gender inequality, can shift the conversation from moral judgment to practical solutions.

Keywords: Socio-Religious Critique, Female Prostitution, Hookup Culture, Contemporary Nigeria

THE EFFECT OF OKE-ITE PRACTICES ON IGBO SOCIETIES VIZ-A-VIZ 1 TIMOTHY 6:10: A CASE STUDY OF OKOFIA PEOPLE IN ANAMBRA STATE

By

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Within Igbo societies, wealth has traditionally symbolized prestige and communal responsibility. However, the pursuit of riches through fraudulent activities, ritual sacrifices, and other illicit means has led to moral decay and societal instability. This is focused on the effects of *Oke-Ite* on Igbo societies, examining its moral, social, and security implications through the biblical lens of 1 Timothy 6:10, which states that "*the love of money is the root of all evil.*" The research highlights



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Anambra's homeland security efforts, particularly *Operation UdoG'achi* and the “*If You See Something, Say Something*” initiative, in combating financial crimes. However, challenges persist in balancing cultural heritage with law enforcement measures. The study also examines how money-driven crime syndicates exploit financial power for influence and control, worsening social inequality and moral decay. A biblical perspective reinforces the dangers of wealth obsession, with Proverbs 28:20 warning that “*one eager to get rich will not go unpunished.*” The shift in Igbo societies, where wealth has become a status symbol regardless of its source, has contributed to fraudulent activities, particularly among the youth. To address these issues, the study recommends strengthening security frameworks, enacting stricter financial crime regulations, and promoting ethical entrepreneurship. Religious institutions should play a central role in moral reorientation, emphasizing biblical teachings such as Ecclesiastes 5:10: “*Whoever loves money never has enough.*” A holistic approach combining law enforcement, education, and faith-based interventions is essential to curbing *Oke-Ite* and restoring ethical economic practices.

Keywords: 1 Timothy 6:10; Oke-Ite; Igbo Societies; Anambra State; financial crime; ethical dilemmas; biblical perspective

INTEGRATING CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION INTO HUMAN DEVELOPMENT FOR A MORE COMPASSIONATE SOCIETY

By

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Cultural heritage serves as a foundation for identity, unity, and social cohesion. However, globalization and modernization increasingly threaten its preservation, eroding the values essential for human development and societal harmony. This study investigates how integrating cultural heritage preservation into human development frameworks can promote a more compassionate society. The study analyzes the relationship between cultural heritage preservation and the enhancement of empathy and social cohesion. A qualitative research design is adopted, utilizing case studies and documentary analysis. Data is collected through interviews, focus group discussions, and archival reviews to capture diverse perspectives on cultural heritage preservation. Thematic analysis is employed to interpret the data. Findings reveal that neglecting cultural heritage undermines communal values, leading to social fragmentation, while its preservation fosters stronger social bonds, inclusivity, and empathy. The study recommends integrating cultural education into school curricula, implementing robust policies for heritage preservation, and encouraging community-driven heritage initiatives. It concludes that preserving cultural heritage is essential for embedding compassion and shared values into societal structures, fostering a more inclusive and empathetic society.

Keywords: Cultural heritage, societal compassion, human development, preservation, inclusivity.

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GODLIGHT & THE ONTOLOGICAL GUIDANCE SYSTEM OF 'US'

By

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'Us' is the activator that generates and enlivens our light. The light of stars has been a vital navigational guidance system for centuries. Yet humans did not invent either light or stars. There are six interconnected bearing points on the human compass for understanding being that serves as an ontological guidance system. Knowing these is essential for generating 'us' wherever we are in our living, relating, and working. This is not a metaphor or abstraction. Something is missing in humans when we are not able to shine with the light of 'us.' The list of behavioral, social, geopolitical, and environmental crisis keeps getting longer. Underneath these we know that something is profoundly missing when it comes to freedom, respect, equality, and dignity. Without the light of 'us,' humankind will continue to operate in the dark with more of the same historical repetitions. The light of 'us' is always-already there. To know it, humans invented science and spirituality. Then they built a wall between them. We can choose to view light as a scientific paradox, and/or a spiritual mystery. When we allow them to intersect, a light always shines with new possibilities for our living, relating, and working. 'Us' is a practical ontological key that activates effectiveness and achievement. The light of 'us' is inherent when we say "we're all in this together."

GODLIGHT COACHING WORKSHOP FOR LETTING YOUR LIGHT SHINE

By

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USA*

At sunrise and sunset there's a moment when light begins to naturally shift. It's natural but different depending where we are on Earth. However, that light does not rely on or wait for humans. The way we shine our light in the world is naturally up to each of us. Every human is born with the gift of being able to create, generate, and shine with their light. While it's natural that we assess ourselves, and know what we need, some Godlight coaching helps. Our light comes with many names: kindness, inner peace, generosity, connection, love, joy, courage, discipline, gratitude, empathy, humility, understanding, achievement, honesty, and much more. Each of us shines differently. This Godlight coaching workshop provides a learning opportunity for the joy of how to shine.

GODLIGHT, COLLABORATION, & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

By

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USA*

Leaders design and achieve with collaboration and projects. When they are not able to generate 'us', they are simply going through the motions of things to do. There's an 'us' that knows how to cohere and correspond with who we are as individuals, and let's go of me-me-and-more-me. It has nothing to do with us versus them. Humankind cannot afford to continue spinning their wheels with a list of man-made crises that keeps getting longer. If we've been so effective at projects, why do we have countless projects to fix previous ones? This is not something abstract. Air, water, and food are not abstractions. Neither is disease. Social marginalization and isolation are real experiences. Human events that destroy, maim, and kill are perceptual realities. These are not the bright future that either our ancestors, or we today have envisioned. Humanity has progressed in

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unimaginable ways industrially and technologically. Yet there is something profoundly missing when far too many, for far too long, are left behind. Unfortunately, frustration, underachievement, and burnout are predictable. If we are not able to tap into the source of the light of 'us' that is always-already there, then our daily living, relating, and working will not reflect the light of a smile, inner peace, and pride.

ILLUMINATED LOVE; SØREN KIERKEGAARD'S CONCEPT OF DIVINE LOVE THROUGH THE LENS OF GODLIGHT

By

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Søren Kierkegaard's concept of divine love, as expounded in *Works of Love* (1847), reflects his existential and theological commitment to agape—unconditional, God-centered love. This article examines Kierkegaard's notion of "illuminated love" through the metaphorical lens of "Godlight," representing divine illumination that reveals the transcendent and eternal nature of love. The study highlights how Kierkegaard's theology frames love as both a divine command and a transformative ethical practice. By exploring the interplay between divine illumination and human responsibility, this article assesses Kierkegaard's vision of love and addresses critiques regarding its idealism, exclusivity, and applicability in pluralistic contexts.

Keyword: Søren Kierkegaard, illuminated love, divine love, Godlight, agape

"THOU SHALL NOT KILL" ENHANCING THE CULTURE OF LIFE IN NIGERIA

By

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Nigeria has become a butcher house. There is too much killing and shedding of blood in the forests, bushes, villages, towns and cities even the sacred places churches and mosques. No place is spared. Countries at war have not lost as many people as are being killed everyday in Nigeria. What has happened to us? The traditional African respect for life especially human life has gone. People are killed like animals even for flimsiest of reasons. Premeditated killing, violent killing, accidental killings, ritual killing, victims of wars and aggression, killing for business, hawking of human parts and all sorts bizarre reason for murder. Even those charged with protecting lives butcher those they are supposed to protect; parent killing their children for money etc. Does the law of God thou shall not kill still make sense? Why has our society become a theatre of death? Any redeeming features for our country? Can this trend be reversed? Any appeal to culture religion, ideology? What can help us restore sanity to our society? Can we restore a culture of life? This essay will address these issues and see how an appeal to tradition or religion and Christian values can help rescue our nation from the brink of destruction. It will end with a call to a return to the sanctity of life, rule of law and a radical respect for life at all stages of life from cradle to old age and death.

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FAITH AND LEADERSHIP IN CONFLICT MANAGEMENT: EMPOWERING LEADERS WITH GODLIGHT FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE IN NIGERIA

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In today's increasingly polarized world, conflict management is a central challenge for leaders at local, national, and global levels. Leadership grounded in faith, particularly through the lens of "Godlight," - the divine wisdom and moral guidance derived from spiritual teachings - can play a transformative role in resolving conflicts. Faith and leadership are pivotal forces in shaping conflict management strategies, particularly in culturally diverse and religiously pluralistic societies like Nigeria. This article explores how faith-based leadership, informed by Godlight, can empower leaders to manage conflict with compassion, justice, and sustainability. It argues that leaders who draw on spiritual principles possess the tools to navigate conflicts in ways that foster reconciliation, build trust, and establish lasting peace. Through qualitative research approach in which descriptive perspective was adopted in the analysis of the secondary data obtained for the study, the paper examines key aspects of faith-driven leadership in conflict management, such as the role of forgiveness, humility, and the pursuit of justice, drawing from case studies and religious teachings to illustrate practical applications. This paper offers actionable insights for policymakers, faith-based organizations, and leadership development programs aiming to cultivate leaders equipped with Godlight for peacebuilding in Nigeria and beyond.

Key words: Faith, Leadership, Conflict Management, Godlight, Sustainable Peace.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT: A PRE-REQUISITE FOR CURBING RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS IN NIGERIA IN AN ERA OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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Nigeria as a pluralistic nation both in religion and ethnic dimensions has been known for various conflicts at different times of her history. The inevitability of conflict among humans and the sensitivity of religion can account for incessant religious conflict in Nigeria. This work with clear understanding of the nature of conflict in Nigeria sets to presenting conflict management as a prerequisite for curbing religious conflicts in Nigeria in an era of science and technology. The study adopts interactionist theory and Thomas-Kelmann model in analyzing the findings. The work makes use of secondary sources of information for data collection. The findings show that religious conflict has been highly witnessed in Nigeria. It equally discovers that some of the conflicts that may look cultural or political have religious connotations. The study holds that there is need for people at different spheres to understand conflict management as well as early warning systems and apply such wherever they are especially religious leaders and political leaders. The study recommends training and re-training of human managers both in religious and secular sectors of the country on conflict management.

Keywords: conflict management, religion, conflict, Nigeria.

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GODLIGHT: RE-EXAMINING THE NIGERIAN CHURCH'S STAND ON 'FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE': ADDRESSING LIFE-THREATENING CHALLENGES IN CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MARRIAGES

By

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This study re-examines the Nigerian Church's doctrinal stance on the concept of "For Better, For Worse" in the context of contemporary Christian marriages, especially when faced with life-threatening challenges. The traditional Christian teaching, which promotes endurance through all circumstances, has been a cornerstone of marital guidance within the Church. However, with increasing reports of abuse, domestic violence, and other life-threatening issues in Christian marriages, this research questions whether the doctrine should be upheld unconditionally, particularly when one spouse's life is at risk. The study seeks to address the theological and pastoral implications of encouraging marital endurance despite life-threatening situations, exploring whether such teachings are contributing to harm or providing genuine spiritual support. Utilizing a qualitative research approach, the study includes interviews with pastors, marriage counselors, and affected individuals, alongside a thorough review of Church teachings and relevant theological texts. The findings suggest that while endurance and commitment are central to Christian doctrine, there is a need for a re-evaluation of the application of these principles in extreme circumstances. Many respondents advocate for a nuanced approach that allows for the possibility of divorce or separation in cases of abuse or severe danger. Generally, the study calls for a more compassionate, context-sensitive interpretation of "For Better, For Worse," one that prioritizes the well-being and safety of individuals while maintaining the core values of Christian marriage. The research ultimately challenges the Church to engage with contemporary issues in marriage more effectively, providing a pastoral framework that better aligns with the realities faced by many Christian couples today. **There is urgent need to reevaluate the "For Better, For Worse" Doctrine in context of abuse:** It is crucial for the Church to reconsider the traditional interpretation of the "For Better, For Worse" doctrine, especially when life-threatening violence is involved. The unconditional adherence to marital endurance may perpetuate harm in situations where one spouse's safety and well-being are at risk. A more compassionate stance should be adopted, allowing for separation or divorce in such cases as a means of protecting the individual's life.

Keywords: Re-examination, Nigerian Church's Stand, 'For Better, For Worse', Life-threatening Challenges, Contemporary Christian Marriages.



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**GOD LIGHT AND THE INFLUENCE OF INTER-COMMUNITY CONFLICT ON
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHURCH (ANGLICAN COMMUNION)
IN SOUTH EAST NIGERIA.**

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This paper discusses the inter-community conflict in South East region which has had adverse effect on the sustainable development of the church (Anglican Communion) in South East Nigeria. For a Christian region like the South East, sustainable church has come under serious threat. This is due to inter-community conflicts between the communities in the South Eastern States. The terrible destruction of human lives and properties and the dispute regarding the use of land for agricultural activities raise critical questions about the security of human life and properties. South Eastern Nigeria has experienced severe inter-community conflicts which has affected the growth of the churches in the region. This has also contributed to lack of sustainable church at the national level of Anglican Communion. The study adopts a comparative study method, partly historical, socio-religio, contextual and analytical method and is related to the Christian perspective. Secondary sources like books, journals and newspapers, articles both print and online have been made use of in the study. The result of the findings revealed that the conflicts has gross negative impact on sustainable churches in the South Eastern region (Anglican Communion). The findings also revealed that the governments of the States in South East region have not given due recognition and gracious consideration to the plea of the Anglican bishops across the States in their synods. The study will serve as a veritable tool in addressing and proffering sustainable solutions to the protracted violent conflicts between the communities in the South East States Nigeria.

Keywords: GodLight, Inter-Community, Conflict, Sustainable, Church

SUSTAINABLE STEWARDSHIP: GODLIGHT AND ETHICAL FRAMEWORK FOR NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE COMMON GOOD

By

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Sustainable stewardship has emerged as an essential paradigm for addressing the multifaceted challenges of natural resource management, particularly in the context of increasing ecological degradation and social inequity. This paper explores the concept of "GodLight," an ethical



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framework rooted in spiritual and moral principles that guide human interactions with the environment. The framework emphasizes the intrinsic value of nature and the interconnectedness of all life forms, promoting a holistic approach to resource management that prioritizes the common good. Drawing on theological insights, ecological economics, and social justice theories, we argue that sustainable stewardship should transcend mere resource conservation to encompass a transformative vision of ethical responsibility. Through a comparative analysis of various case studies, the paper illustrates how the GodLight framework fosters collaboration among stakeholders, enhances community resilience, and ensures equitable access to natural resources. The implications of this approach for policy formulation, educational initiatives, and grassroots activism are discussed, highlighting the potential for integrating spiritual values into environmental governance. By redefining stewardship through a GodLight lens, this study contributes to the ongoing discourse on sustainability, advocating for a paradigm shift that harmonizes human aspirations with the health of the planet for future generations.

Keywords: Ethical, GodLight, Management, Natural Resources, Sustainability, Stewardship

GOD-LIGHT AND THE RELEVANCE OF STEWARDSHIP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN THE SOUTH-EAST NIGERIA: A CALL FOR CHRISTIAN ACTION

BY

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The last decades of 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century have seen a surge in environmental challenges including erosion, pollution, loss of biodiversity, and climate change. The consequences on the quality of human life and other forms of life have invoked concerns both at the global and domestic levels, recognizing the need for collective action and cooperation. The growing call for sustainable solutions that balance human needs and activities with environmental protection and care informs the relevance of environmental stewardship. The objective of this study is to assess the impact of human unfriendly activities on environment in the Southeast, examine the relevance of stewardship for environmental sustainability and to proffer solutions. Data were collected from both primary and secondary sources while environmental ethical theory and theological approach were used for data analysis and interpretation. The paper identified among others, the misinterpretation of biblical stewardship and misapplication of the Dominion mandate as contributing factors to human unbridled economic activities, improper waste disposal, and other environmental issues. The work further x-rayed the consequences of environmental degradation on the human well being, and other forms of life including health problems, economic losses, displacement, loss of species and ecosystem. The paper recommends among other things, the reorientation of the Christian community towards its eco-stewardship responsibility and integrating stewardship values and public responsibility into government environmental policies to enhance actions by communities, individuals and organizations.

Keywords: Stewardship, Environment and Sustainability

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GOD'S BLESSING OF HUMANKIND AND HUMAN LABOUR (GEN 1:28-29): ITS MEANING AND IMPLICATIONS – RELEVANCE ESPECIALLY TO YOUTHS IN NIGERIA

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Work and positive human activity are, generally speaking, strong and essential ingredients for the self-actualization and development of the human person. But when these categories are down-played or are not sufficiently strongly emphasized, there is often a resultant situation of near-chaos – a description that could be given to the present state of general insecurity and societal decadence in Nigeria today. This bold statement is clear from practical life in human societies all over the world and it all derives from God's blessing of humankind and human labour right from the creation of the world in Gen 1:1-2:3, but precisely in Gen 1:28-29 – a blessing that humankind has to live out as responsible creatures. This paper, therefore, undertakes the study of this text of Gen 1:28-29 so as to bring out its meaning and implications especially for their application to Nigeria in general and her youths, the leaders of tomorrow, in particular. The method employed in this article is mainly sociological-theological, particularly engendered through library research and the use of the historical critical method of scriptural exegesis for the proper interpretation of the chosen biblical text. It is amply clear from this paper that the situation, now prevalent in this country, has been the result of gradual and consistent deterioration from past years owing mainly to general corruption and failure in governance as well as societal neglect. Hence, the recommendation for the government in Nigeria at all levels is to be up to its duties to the governed so as to help to stimulate the needed re-orientation in the society that all have to embark upon anew right from the grassroots. Therefore, this paper has high significance not just for youths in Nigeria but for all her citizens with particular reference to families, towns, the government, Churches and institutions of learning.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE IN CONTEMPORARY NIGERIA: A FOCUS ON THE KAMWE TRADITIONAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

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This study explores the significance of traditional medicine within the Kamwe traditional healthcare system in Adamawa State, Nigeria. Traditional medicine has been a cornerstone of healthcare across Africa, particularly in rural areas where access to modern medical facilities is limited. This research aims to document the therapeutic practices of the Kamwe people, examining their cultural, social, and spiritual foundations. Through key informant interviews and a review of existing literature, the study highlights diverse treatment methods, including the use of local herbs and spiritual rituals, which reflects the community's beliefs and values. Also Kamwe traditional healers engage actively in the administration of the traditional healthcare system through consultations, guidance, treatment and sacrifices where necessary. Additionally, the study identified challenges faced by the Kamwe traditional healthcare system, such as stigmatization and competition from modern medicine, while also the perceived potential for integrating traditional practices with contemporary healthcare approaches were explored. The findings highlight the resilience of traditional medicine and its relevance in addressing health needs, advocating for a more inclusive healthcare framework that recognizes the value of indigenous knowledge and practices in enhancing health outcomes in Kamwe society and Nigeria.

Keywords: traditional medicine, kamwe healthcare system, cultural practices, spiritual healing, healthcare integration

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GODLIGHT IN THE DARKNESS: AN EXEGETICAL ANALYSIS OF MATTHEW 5: 14 – 16 AND THE ROLE OF CHRISTIANS IN A FALLEN WORLD.

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This research explores the theological significance of Jesus' teachings on being 'light' in dark world, as recorded in Matthew 5: 14 – 16. Through an exegetical analysis of the passage, this study examines the meaning of 'light' in its biblical context, the implications of being a light in the darkness for Christian living and witness, and the practical applications for embodying GodLight in daily life. By investigating the Old Testament background of light and darkness imagery, the Sermon on the Mount's literary structure, and the cultural-historical context of 1st century Palestine, this research provides a nuanced understanding of Jesus' teachings on the role of Christians in a fallen world. This qualitative research employs an exegetical methodology, combining historical-grammatical analysis, literary analysis, and theological analysis. Primary sources include the Greek text of Matthew 5: 14 – 16, while secondary sources comprise commentaries, scholarly articles, and biblical theology works. This study argues that being a light in the darkness requires Christians to demonstrate love, compassion, justice, and righteousness in their daily lives, thereby reflecting the character of God and illuminating the darkness. The findings of this research have significant implications for Christian discipleship, evangelism, and community engagement, highlighting the need for Christians to embody GodLight in a world marred by sin and darkness.

Keywords: GodLight, Matthew5: 14 – 16, Sermon on the Mount, light and darkness imagery, Christian living, witness, discipleship.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATION OF THE ROLES OF RELIGION IN THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE DISCOURSE IN NIGERIA

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Climate change and its humanitarian crises is a global phenomenon and have no regard for race, culture, religion, or social orientation, therefore, posing great challenges to both the strong and weaker nations of the world in human history. Hitherto, the conversations around climate change has been understood severally as a scientific debate and have employed scientific methods in dealing with this challenges thus eliminating scholars and thinkers in the arts and humanities especially in the fields of religions, in the global fight against it surge. Therefore, the attempt to exclude humanities, particularly religious engagement, downplays the relevance of religious values and the role of religion in the fight against climate change in in Nigeria, where every



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material and immaterial things, including climate change, has religious background. This study aim to understand the role of religion in the fight against climate change in Nigeria and access its impacts. Therefore, to achieve the aim of this study, it employed a qualitative research methodology to systematically interrogate the complexity of climate change and its social and economic effects in Nigeria since she joined in the global effort of reducing carbon emissions in her space. The research method will depend basically on primary and secondary sources by administering questionnaires, interviews, and relevant literature to aid the study. Preliminary findings revealed that religion is a viable tool to understanding climate change in Nigeria. Finally, the study argued that religion plays critical role in climate mitigating and control climate by connecting the cosmic, design, and man as a moral agent.

Keywords: Ethics, Religion, Climate Change, Globalization, Nigeria.

GODLIGHT AND EDUCATION: EXPLORING FAITH AND CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION IN CHINUA ACHEBE'S *THINGS FALL APART*

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This paper explores the interplay of Godlight and education in Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, with a focus on how faith and knowledge build cultural identity in Igbo society. Anchored in postcolonial theory, it examines the arrival of Christian missionaries and Western education as dual forces of enlightenment and disruption. The study focuses on the transformational effects of faith and education on people as well as the Umuofia community's collective identity. While Western education and religion provided new chances for intellectual and spiritual development, they also destroyed traditional systems, resulting in intergenerational and ideological divisions. Characters like Nwoye embody the appeal of this "Godlight," seeing Christianity as a sanctuary from rigid traditional rules, but Okonkwo represents opposition to the disintegration of Igbo identity. The paper also highlights the opposing missionary techniques of Mr. Brown and Reverend Smith, emphasizing the nuanced interplay between coercion and collaboration in cultural transformation. At the end of this paper, it examines the dual character of Godlight and education in the novel, acting as both means of empowerment and devices of cultural alienation. By examining these themes through a postcolonial lens, the paper emphasizes the importance of a balanced approach to cultural preservation and modernization, which resonates with current discussions about education and globalization.

Keywords: Explores, Faith, Cultural, Transformation, Intergenerational.



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMME IN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN SOUTH EASTERN NIGERIA

By

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This paper explores the relationship between sustainable development and self-reliance on academic programme in College of Education in south eastern Nigeria. Specifically the study examined inculcation of moral values, collaborative teamwork in academic programme. Three hypotheses were formed to guide the study. The aim of the study is to assess sustainable development and self-reliance on academic programmer in colleges of education. The population of the study is Six Hundred (600) respondents including academic and non-academic staff, as well as students. Descriptive survey design was used and data collected via structured questionnaire and analyzed using mean standard deviation. The findings of this research are expected to contribute to policy discussions on improving the quality of education in Nigeria. This study offers practical recommendations such as College of Education Management in south-east Nigeria should ensure that the curriculum for Academic programme of colleges are regularly reviewed and updated to meet current standards.

Keywords: Self-Reliance, Academic Programme, Sustainable Development

LESSONS FROM THE PAST, SOLUTIONS FOR THE FUTURE: A HISTORICAL APPROACH TO CONFLICT IN NIGERIA

By

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This paper argues that a historical approach is essential to sustainable peacebuilding and conflict management in Nigeria. By examining the colonial legacies and post-independence conflicts that have shaped Nigeria's current challenges, this study highlights how history reveals the deep-rooted grievances such as economic exploitation, ethnic divisions, and resource-based inequalities that fuel ongoing tensions. Focusing on the Niger Delta crisis as a case study, the paper demonstrates how historical insights provide a foundation for ethical and culturally respectful conflict resolution strategies that resonate with affected communities. By uncovering the origins and evolution of these conflicts, historical analysis offers a comprehensive understanding that is critical for designing effective frameworks for peace. The paper contends that Nigeria's path to sustainable peace lies in acknowledging and addressing past injustices through historically informed solutions. By connecting the lessons of history with the demands of present-day peacebuilding, this approach provides a means to bridge Nigeria's past with a more stable and peaceful future.



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TRADITIONAL ENVIRONMENTALISM IN IGBOLAND: CONSECRATED SPACES AND ECO-SPIRITUALISM IN AMAGU-EZZA SOUTH, EBONYI STATE

By

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Amagu is one of the multiple communities that constitute the Ezza South Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, Nigeria. Its people, from antiquity, have shown conspicuous reverence for environmental spaces such as Ogbuiyioke forest reserve, and Uruenyim, which arguably remains the largest cluster of organic ponds in Igboland. The aim of this paper is to draw from oral sources, personal experiences, and existing literature to reflect on the ecological and religious imperatives for the consecration of such spaces. I want to demonstrate how the application of sanctions by the custodians of sacred spaces in Africa, could be interpreted as a form of environmental activism in the industrial age, a symbol of the people's understanding of the connections between nature and spirituality, as well as the capacity to transform a physical space into metaphysical dimensions of power and uniqueness. The study is intended to resonate with the environmentalist tone of *On Care for Our Common Home*, which was Pope Francis' second encyclical letter released in June 2015 to strengthen the nexus between greater commitment to the environment and sustainable development in the twenty-first century.

Keywords: Consecrated Spaces, Environmentalism, Igboland, Amagu, Eco-spiritualism.

SUSTAINABLE STEWARDSHIP: GODLIGHT AND ETHICAL FRAMEWORK FOR NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE COMMON GOOD

By

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Sustainable stewardship has emerged as an essential paradigm for addressing the multifaceted challenges of natural resource management, particularly in the context of increasing ecological degradation and social inequity. This paper explores the concept of "GodLight," an ethical framework rooted in spiritual and moral principles that guide human interactions with the environment. The framework emphasizes the intrinsic value of nature and the interconnectedness of all life forms, promoting a holistic approach to resource management that prioritizes the common good. Drawing on theological insights, ecological economics, and social justice theories, we argue that sustainable stewardship should transcend mere resource conservation to encompass a transformative vision of ethical responsibility. Through a comparative analysis of various case studies, the paper illustrates how the GodLight framework fosters collaboration among stakeholders, enhances community resilience, and ensures equitable access to natural resources. The implications of this approach for policy formulation, educational initiatives, and grassroots activism are discussed, highlighting the potential for integrating spiritual values into environmental governance. By redefining stewardship through a GodLight lens, this study contributes to the ongoing discourse on sustainability, advocating for a paradigm shift that harmonizes human aspirations with the health of the planet for future generations.

Keywords: Ethical, GodLight, Management, Natural Resources, Sustainability, Stewardship

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SACRED LIGHT, SACRED LIFE: EXPLORING THE CONVERGENCE OF SPIRITUALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE"

By

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Environmental challenges like climate change, deforestation, pollution, and biodiversity loss threaten life on Earth. While science and technology offer solutions, the role of spiritual perspectives in addressing these crises remains underexplored. Many spiritual traditions emphasize the sacredness of nature, but these teachings are often overlooked in environmental science and policymaking. This study explores how spiritual beliefs across diverse traditions can complement science in fostering ecological balance and sustainability. It highlights sacred teachings promoting stewardship, such as reverence for groves, rivers, and mountains in indigenous religions, alongside ecological ethics in major world religions. By examining case studies, the research shows how spiritual values inspire eco-conscious behaviors, community conservation efforts, and policies aligned with sustainability. Integrating science with spiritual values provides a holistic approach to tackling global environmental challenges. Through this synthesis, the study underscores the potential for spirituality and environmental science to collaboratively pave the way for a sacred, sustainable future. Using a qualitative research design, this study relies on sources like books and journal articles, internet as well as interviews with respondents. The findings are that; Spiritual Teachings emphasize environmental stewardship, spiritual practices can both harm and protect the environment and spirituality motivates ethical environmental behavior etc. The work concludes that, the convergence of spirituality and environmental science offers a holistic and ethical approach to sustainability of the environment. The work recommends that, there should be collaboration between spiritual leaders and environmental scientists, spirituality should be incorporated into environmental education and eco-friendly religious practices should be encouraged etc.

Keywords: Spirituality, Environmental Science, Sustainability, Conservation and Ethical Frameworks

GODLIGHT IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTIONS OF FAITH, PEACEBUILDING, AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

By

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In an increasingly complex and fragmented world, the quest for peace and conflict management has become a pressing concern. This study explores the intersections of faith, peacebuilding, and conflict management through a mixed-methods approach with a focus on the concept of GodLight. The presentation aligns with the sub-theme "GodLight: Peacebuilding and Conflict Management" by exploring the ways in which faith and spirituality can inform and enhance peacebuilding and conflict management efforts. By examining the role of spirituality in



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promoting peace and understanding, this paper aims to contribute to the development of innovative approaches to conflict management and peacebuilding. The paper aim to address questions such as; (1) How can the concept of GodLight be applied to peacebuilding and conflict management? (2) What role can spirituality play in promoting peace and understanding in a fragmented world? (3) How can the intersections of faith, humanities, and science inform the development of innovative approaches to conflict management and peacebuilding? (4) To what extent do faith-based peacebuilding initiatives reduce conflict intensity or improve intergroup relations? (5) What is the correlation between faith-based peacebuilding efforts and economic development or social cohesion in conflict-affected areas? The presentation adopts both quantitative and qualitative study approach, drawing on a range of sources including; primary and secondary sources, with a focus on Survey Research and Content Analysis approach; with the expectation that the findings will be of interest to scholars, policymakers, and practitioners working in the fields of peacebuilding, conflict management, and faith-based development. The paper therefore ends with some list of recommendations.

Keywords: GodLight, peacebuilding, conflict management, faith, spirituality.

HARMONIZING WORLDS: THE ROLE OF MUSIC EDUCATION IN SHAPING A GLOBAL FUTURE

By

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In a world increasingly characterized by fragmentation and polarization, the need for shared understanding and collaborative action is paramount. This article explores the profound potential of music education to contribute to a more harmonious and interconnected global future. It argues that music, with its inherent capacity to transcend cultural boundaries and evoke deep emotional responses, offers a unique and powerful avenue for fostering empathy, promoting intercultural dialogue and inspiring action towards shared vision of a more just and sustainable world. The article delves into the multifaceted ways in which music education can contribute to a more peaceful and equitable global community. It examines how music can provide dialogue and understanding between individuals and communities and explores the role of music education in cultivating critical thinking, fostering social justice and empowering individuals to become active agents of change within their communities and beyond. By highlighting examples of innovative music education initiatives from across the globe that demonstrate the transformative impact of music on individuals and communities, the article showcases the power of music to inspire creativity, build bridges and promote social cohesion. Above all, the article argues that investing in music education is an investment in a harmonious, just and sustainable future. The paper concludes that by nurturing the power of music to connect, inspire and empower, we can cultivate global community that is more resilient, compassionate and committed to building a better world for all.

Key words: Fragmentation, Polarization, Collaborative Action, Music Education,

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SUSTAINING PEACE IN A 21ST CENTURY CHEQUERED GLOBAL AREA

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Just as time elapses by the 'tiktok' chyme of every second, the world continues to drift nearer doomsday, no thanks to the multiplication of myriads of societal divisive factors. Relatively interconnected and globalised as the case may be, but inherently and inharmoniously strewn in distrust and eclipse of fraternal confidence, peace remains a mirage. The pursuit of peace has been a long-standing concern of human societies, with various discipline contributing to the understanding of conflict and its resolution. This research examined the historical and theoretical foundations of peacebuilding, with a particular focus on the intersection of humanities and science. From the Enlightenment thinkers who first posited the idea of a peaceful international order, to the modern-day applications of artificial intelligence and data analytics in conflict prediction and prevention, this study traces the evolution of peacebuilding thought and practice. Through a critical analysis of key texts and concepts in the fields of history, philosophy, literature and science, the study identified the ways in which interdisciplinary approaches have shaped the understanding of peace and conflict. This study attempts to highlight the importance of integrating humanities and science in peacebuilding initiatives, and demonstrates the potential of this approach to address complex global challenges. By methodically examining the historical and theoretical underpinnings of peacebuilding, this study provides a comprehensive framework for understanding the role of interdisciplinary collaboration in promoting peace and reducing conflict.

Keywords: Enlightenment, data analytics, artificial intelligence, theoretical foundations, conflict prediction.

RELIGION AND PRE-COLONIAL IGBO DIPLOMACY: THE NNEWI EXAMPLE

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There are a few scholars who are of the view that a large proportion of African societies including Igbo land in the pre-colonial era were not involved in diplomatic practices until the takeover of the region by the Europeans. Yet it would be difficult to accept such assertion hook, line and sinker especially in the light of the various inter-group relations that took place among the various

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African societies in the pre-colonial era. Human existence and the various co-operations that go with it has made the practice of diplomacy essential among groups of human societies including African societies in pre-colonial times. Hence right from the pre-historic age when people began to come together in societies it was necessary for them to co-exist and co-operate in their quest to harness nature and in their efforts to subdue and muster the environment to man's advantage. Therefore the practice of diplomacy in pre-colonial Igbo land was not a strange phenomenon, as diplomacy was practiced through various modes/channels and at different levels. Thus, this work is targeted at highlighting religion as a key mode/channel by which diplomacy was practiced during the pre-colonial times in Igbo land generally and particularly in Nnewi. This to a great extent would prove that religious activities did facilitate diplomatic practices in pre-colonial Igbo land. Religion in pre-colonial times hence provided the avenue for religious co-operation, alliances and intergroup relations between Nnewi and her neighboring communities as well as among other Igbo communities, thereby enhancing diplomatic intercourse among the various Igbo communities.

Keywords- Diplomacy, Religion, Oracle, Diplomatic-Agents, Igbo-land.

HUMANITY'S SEARCH FOR LIGHT: THE ROLE OF SPIRITUAL ENLIGHTENMENT IN MODERN NIGERIA.

By

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Nigeria, a nation with vibrant religious diversity and a history of resilience, continues its search for light amidst socio-political, economic, and moral challenges. This presentation, "Humanity's Search for Light: The Role of Spiritual Enlightenment in Modern Nigeria," examines how Nigerians seek divine wisdom and moral clarity through Christianity, Islam, and indigenous beliefs. It explores the struggles of corruption, insecurity, and moral decline while highlighting the role of faith, cultural values, and communal efforts in fostering enlightenment. By drawing from religious texts, historical movements, and modern leadership, this work aims to inspire a national reawakening, emphasizing that Nigeria's true transformation lies in spiritual and ethical renewal.

Keywords: Religious diversity, spiritual enlightenment, moral challenges, indigenous beliefs, moral decline, national reawakening, ethical renewal.



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GODLIGHT AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

By

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The preservation of cultural heritage is essential to maintaining the identity, traditions, and values of a community. This study explores the role of GodLight, interpreted as a metaphor for divine insight, spirituality, and enlightenment, in the preservation of cultural heritage. In many societies, religious and spiritual beliefs have long been intertwined with cultural practices, guiding communities to safeguard their traditions and practices across generations. The paper examines how GodLight, as a source of spiritual illumination and understanding, influences both individual and collective efforts in preserving cultural heritage. Through an exploration of religious teachings, practices, and community experiences, this study identifies how spiritual enlightenment offers a framework for protecting both tangible and intangible cultural assets. These include sacred rituals, traditional arts, languages, and historical narratives that are central to the identity of a community. GodLight is positioned as a metaphorical force that guides individuals and groups toward a deeper appreciation of their cultural heritage and a sense of responsibility toward its preservation. The research uses qualitative methods, including interviews with religious leaders, cultural practitioners, and community members, alongside an analysis of religious texts and cultural artifacts, to examine the ways in which spirituality shapes heritage conservation efforts. The study also addresses the challenges posed by globalization, modernity, and religious syncretism, which may threaten the survival of traditional practices and beliefs. Ultimately, the paper argues that GodLight serves as a guiding force in the preservation of cultural heritage, offering both spiritual and practical approaches to safeguarding identity and traditions. It also emphasizes the importance of collaboration between religious institutions, cultural heritage organizations, and policymakers to support sustainable preservation efforts.

Keywords: GodLight, divine insight, spirituality, cultural heritage, preservation, community identity, enlightenment, religious institutions.

GOD'S LIGHT AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

BY

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Cultural heritage is an important part of a society's identity, but faces threats from modernization, neglect, and lack of awareness. Many traditional practices, artifacts, and historical sites are disappearing, leading to a loss of cultural identity. This study examines how God's light, symbolizing divine guidance and moral values, can help preserve cultural heritage. The problem of cultural heritage loss is addressed by exploring the role of spirituality in sustaining traditions. The study aims to understand how faith and religious teachings influence the protection of

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cultural heritage. It explores the connection between spiritual beliefs and cultural sustainability, emphasizing the role of religious institutions in safeguarding traditions. The study is based on cultural heritage theory, which highlights the importance of preserving traditions, historical knowledge, and artifacts for future generations. A qualitative research methodology was used to analyze the relationship between divine guidance and heritage preservation. Findings reveal that religious values encourage people to respect and protect their cultural heritage. Many communities see their traditions as sacred and believe that divine guidance plays a role in maintaining them. Religious institutions also help preserve historical sites and oral traditions. The study concludes that God's light, through moral teachings and faith-based practices, supports cultural heritage preservation. It recommends collaboration between religious organizations and cultural institutions to promote awareness and ensure the continuity of traditions.

NAVIGATING THE TENSIONS BETWEEN CHURCH AND CULTURAL PRACTICES IN AWKA: A SEARCH FOR PEACFUL SOLUTIONS THROUGH GODLIGHT

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This study, illuminated by Godlight, examines the challenges between church teachings and traditional cultural practices in Awka and how these differences impact peace and relationships in the community. The church often promotes spiritual principles that sometimes clash with long-standing cultural traditions. The areas of disagreement include traditional ceremonies, community rituals, and moral values. These conflicts can create misunderstandings and tensions within the society. The research is based on interviews, observations, and historical records to understand why these issues arise. It highlights factors such as differences in beliefs, the influence of modernization, and changes in the attitudes of younger generations. The study also examines how the church tries to influence cultural practices and how the community responds to these efforts. To address these challenges, the study suggests peaceful solutions such as open discussions, mutual respect, and finding ways to balance both spiritual and cultural values. The recommendations encourage collaboration between the church and traditional leaders to promote understanding and cooperation. This research adds to the ongoing conversation about the relationship between religion and culture. It emphasizes the importance of working together to maintain harmony in Awka, showing how both faith and tradition can coexist peacefully in a diverse community.

Keywords: Church, Cultural Practices, Awka, Peaceful, Solutions

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GODLIGHT AND THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO OBNOXIOUS WIDOWHOOD PRACTICES IN ANAMBRA STATE NIGERIA, A CASE STUDY OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE ON THE NIGER.

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This work discusses the response of the church to the obnoxious widowhood practices such as hair shaving, stigmatized dressing code (mourning cloth), widow inheritance, confinement, disinheritance of widow, oath taking, and so on, in Anambra State particularly in the Anglican Diocese on the Niger. In pre- and post-Christian eras in Anambra State, widows are subjected to obnoxious treatments which are culturally based, dehumanizing, traumatic and barbaric in nature. The obnoxious widowhood practices give negative interpretation of widowhood. A Multi-dimensional interpretative approach with historico-cultural, descriptive and missiological methods, was used to analyze the data collected through primary and secondary sources. The primary sources comprised of organized oral information from both men and women knowledgeable and experienced in widowhood practices in Anambra State while the secondary sources of information were derived from text books, published and unpublished materials on widowhood practices. The findings revealed that Anglican Diocese on the Niger has caused a new light to shine upon the situation over the years, by resolutely standing against the cruel practices against widows: hair shaving, mourning cloth, confinement, observance of mourning period and any form of maltreatment of a widow, giving meaning to the term "Godlight" based on scriptural teachings. The church had defended widows from disinheritance of property, widow inheritance, and various dehumanizing and harmful widow subjections. Widows' welfare is prioritized in the church. Communities within the diocese are complying to the church stand. The study further shows that the difficulty in eradicating the obnoxious widowhood practices stems from the fact that church members have not resolutely embraced the biblical teachings of the church. Significantly, this work will enlighten leaders of church, community, as well as legal and legislative agencies in Anambra State and beyond on the plight of widows in the present time and recommends the need for intensified Christian teaching and practices as well as communal and legal measures to protect widows from maltreatments. The stand of Diocese on The Niger against obnoxious widowhood practices should be synergized by other Christian bodies/churches as well as the legal and legislative arms of the government. This implies that widows should be subjected to humane treatments, and socially soothed in the precarious, traumatic and sympathetic experiences faced due to irreparable loss of spouse.

Keywords: Godlight, obnoxious, widowhood practices, Diocese on the Niger

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DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND HUMAN RELATIONS IN CONTEMPORARY NIGERIA SOCIETY

By

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Digital technologies have permeated all aspects of society. Digital technologies have the capacity to alter the way people live and interact in business environment, educational and health sectors. They help humans to complete tasks faster and more efficiently. They are advance technologies that are transforming every human activity in this digital age. They can make or mar human relations in this era. This paper therefore, examines the influence of digital technologies and human relations in contemporary society. The sociological method of analysis, materials gathered from secondary source and postmodern theory enhanced the study. The findings show that communication technologies such as smartphones and social media platforms have changed the way people interact and relate to each other. They help humans to build relationships, enhance human communication, social exchange and human interaction, but undermine face-to-face interaction, conversation and increases loneliness. They lack human relations skills such as emotion and empathy, and promote the digital world by increasing the rate of human-machine interaction and mediation. Digital technologies promote superficial human relations but they are indispensable in all forms of relationships in this digital age. Therefore, the study recommends the use of digital technologies in human relations because they are useful in building and maintaining relationships in the contemporary world order.

Keywords: Digital Technologies, Human Relations, Contemporary Society, Postmodern theory

MEDIA FRAMING AND THE VALUE OF HUMANITY: SHAPING PERCEPTIONS, ETHICS, AND TRUTH.

By

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Media framing plays a crucial role in shaping public perception, influencing societal values, and constructing narratives that define humanity's worth. This paper explores the intersection of media framing, ethics, and the value of humanity, analyzing how the media selectively highlights, omits, and structures information to shape public discourse because media framing posits that the way and manner a specific event or issue is presented will have an effect on the way it is being understood and perceived. By examining real-world case studies and theoretical frameworks, this study investigates the ethical implications of framing and its impact on how different groups, crises, and social issues are represented. It also addresses concerns about bias, sensationalism, and misinformation, questioning whether media upholds or distorts the intrinsic value of human life. Ultimately, this work argues that responsible framing is essential for fostering ethical journalism and ensuring that media serves as a tool for truth rather than manipulation.

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REVERENCE FOR LIFE

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Reverence for life could be simplified to mean the respect due to every living elements. Also, it is the dignity to life of any living thing. This philosophical theory was developed by an environmentalist Albert Schweitzer in the year (1875-1965). It is noteworthy that this philosophical theory falls under the ambit of a branch in philosophy known as ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY. Albert Schweitzer initiated and made this call when he noticed the high rate of destruction of life and nature in the world owing to the fact that humans are gradually losing their consciousness on the dignity of life and nature. This call on reverence for life centre on humans having the consciousness of the intrinsic value of any form of life be it human or non-human in relative to its connection with the rest of nature. This is due to the fact that Albert Schweitzer believed all life has equal value and does not accept any justification for its persecution and destruction. Albert Schweitzer developed this theory based on his fundamental human experience which he simply puts by saying that “any life that wants to live, is also surrounded by life which wants to live”. This statement is not far from the golden rule that, ”whatever you would like men do to you ,do ye also to them” Challenges of this philosophical theory are, anthropocentrism, man's place in nature and our moral status

GODLIGHT, ANGLICAN CHURCH AND PEACE BUILDING: A STUDY OF ANAMBRA EAST LGA

By

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One of the primary reasons God sent Jesus is to bring peace to the world. Referred to as the Prince of Peace, Jesus declares that the peace He offers cannot be found in the world. Before His ascension, He entrusted the mandate of peacemaking to the Church, which has engaged in peacebuilding for over 2,000 years. The Anglican Church in Nigeria, as part of the body of Christ, is actively involved in this mission. This study employs key informant interviews (KII) and a qualitative descriptive method to investigate the Church's peacebuilding efforts in Anambra East, particularly in addressing the violent and protracted conflicts between Aguleri and Umueri, some of the bloodiest inter-communal conflicts in Nigeria. The research found that land scarcity was the primary cause of these conflicts, with additional factors including poverty and youth unemployment. The findings also highlighted specific roles played by the Anglican Church, such as mediation between community leaders, organizing prayer rallies for peace, and raising awareness about the importance of peaceful coexistence. Nevertheless, these peacebuilding efforts face challenges from inter-denominational rivalry between the Catholic and Anglican Churches and the tendency for initiatives to be reactive rather than proactive. The study recommends fostering ecumenism and implementing proactive peacebuilding strategies to strengthen the Church's efforts in the region.

Keywords: Anglican Church, Church of Nigeria Anglican Communion, peacebuilding, Anambra East LGA, conflict, Aguleri, Umueri.

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GODLIGHT IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF FAITH, PEACEBUILDING, AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

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In an increasingly complex and fragmented world, the quest for peace and conflict management has become a pressing concern. This study explores the intersections of faith, peace building, and conflict management through a mixed-methods approach with a focus on the concept of GodLight. The presentation aligns with the sub-theme “GodLight: Peace building and Conflict Management” by exploring the ways in which faith and spirituality can inform and enhance peace building and conflict management efforts. By examining the role of spirituality in promoting peace and understanding, this paper aims to contribute to the development of innovative approaches to conflict management and peace building. The paper aim to address questions such as; (1) How can the concept of GodLight be applied to peace building and conflict management? (2) What role can spirituality play in promoting peace and understanding in a fragmented world? (3) How can the intersections of faith, humanities, and science inform the development of innovative approaches to conflict management and peace building? (4) To what extent do faith-based peace building initiatives reduce conflict intensity or improve intergroup relations? (5) What is the correlation between faith-based peace building efforts and economic development or social cohesion in conflict-affected areas? The presentation adopts both quantitative and qualitative study approach, drawing on a range of sources including; primary and secondary sources, with a focus on Survey Research and Content Analysis approach; with the expectation that the findings will be of interest to scholars, policymakers, and practitioners working in the fields of peace building, conflict management, and faith-based development. The paper therefore ends with some list of recommendations.

Keywords: GodLight, peace building, conflict management, faith, spirituality.

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THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN ANAMBRA STATE IN PROMOTING DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES.

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The study sets out to x-ray the past and the present contributions of the Church in the economic development of Anambra state. A holistic query into the historic development of the state and indeed many states of Nigeria points to the elaborate contributions of the Church. Decent work and economic growth as the focal of this research is fortunately the number eight in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. Undoubtedly, this goal highlighted has tremendous impact and connection to some other goals for sustainable development even more so for the Africa. This research is however poised to search out those areas that the Church has continued to reinforce and affect opportunity for work and positive economic growth. This clearly goes with emphasis on provision of alternatives for unemployment. The method of this qualitative research is historical and analytical as it considers those challenges mitigating expected result and growth. It identified inadequate collaboration and partnership, corruption, decline in morality and insecurity as those obstacles. Findings showed that collaboration integrative ethical education strategy and adequate funding and monitoring of these schemes and projects founded by the Church will improve the probability of the success.

Keywords: Church, Decent work, Economic growth and Development

GODLIGHT NARRATIVES AND MEMORY: THE INFLUENCE OF SPIRITUALITY ON THE RECOGNITION AND PRESERVATION OF SACRED SITES

By

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This study investigates the intricate relationship between spirituality and the preservation of sacred sites, framed within the concept of "GodLight" narratives—stories and beliefs that invoke a sense of divine presence or illumination. Sacred sites serve as tangible embodiments of cultural identity, historical memory, and spiritual significance. Drawing upon interdisciplinary methodologies, this research analyzes case studies from diverse cultural contexts where spirituality profoundly influences community engagement in the recognition and preservation of sacred spaces. Through qualitative interviews, ethnographic observations, and textual analysis, the study reveals how narratives of divine significance shape collective memory and foster a sense of stewardship among local populations. The findings indicate that spiritual beliefs not only enhance the emotional connection to these sites but also mobilize communities in advocating for their protection against threats from modernization, tourism, and environmental degradation. Moreover, this exploration highlights the role of ritual and storytelling in reinforcing the importance of sacred sites within contemporary society. Ultimately, this research contributes to the field of cultural heritage preservation by emphasizing the necessity of incorporating spiritual perspectives into preservation strategies, thereby fostering a more holistic approach that honors both the tangible and intangible aspects of cultural heritage.

Keywords: GodLight, Narratives, Preservation, Sacred Sites, Spirituality

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THE ROLE OF AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION AND THE CONCEPT OF GODLIGHT IN PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE: A STUDY OF RITUALS, SYMBOLS, AND ORAL TRADITIONS

By

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This study investigates the pivotal role of African Traditional Religion (ATR) in preserving cultural heritage through its intricate interconnections with rituals, symbols, and oral traditions, emphasizing the concept of Godlight as a central tenet within ATR. Through a comprehensive analysis of various ethnic groups across the African continent, the research delineates how Godlight, often understood as a manifestation of divine presence and guidance, informs and shapes community practices and beliefs. The paper explores how rituals serve as both spiritual expressions and mechanisms of cultural continuity, enabling communities to maintain ties to ancestral knowledge and identity amidst modernization and globalization. Symbols derived from nature, mythology, and community life are examined to reveal their roles in conveying moral values and communal ethics intrinsic to ATR. Additionally, the study highlights the significance of oral traditions not only in the transmission of history but also in reinforcing collective memory and social cohesion. By positioning Godlight within the framework of ATR, this research underscores its foundational importance in nurturing cultural resilience and fostering a sense of belonging within communities. Ultimately, the findings advocate for the recognition and revitalization of ATR as a vital resource for cultural heritage preservation, emphasizing its relevance in contemporary discussions about identity, spirituality, and the socio-cultural dynamics of African societies.

Keywords: African Traditional Religion, Cultural, GodLight, Heritage, Preserving, Rituals,

THE INFLUENCE OF DIVORCE ON CHILDREN USING THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE ON THE NIGER

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This study investigates the influence of divorce on children, using the Anglican Diocese on the Niger as a case study. Marriage is ideally a union of joy and stability, particularly for children. However, in some cases, marital bonds are broken due to divorce, leading to far-reaching consequences. When a marriage dissolves, all strata of society experience its negative impacts. Notably, children from divorced families often face imbalanced upbringing, poor academic performance, and moral challenges, which have become pressing concerns in contemporary society. The aim of this study is to examine the effects of divorce on children's social lives, identify the primary causes of divorce, and analyze its broader implications. Data were collected from both primary and secondary sources, and the descriptive method of interpretation was employed for data analysis. Findings reveal that children from divorced homes experience social, moral, psychological, and academic challenges. Many of these children exhibit disciplinary issues and delinquent behavior, indicating the far-reaching consequences of parental separation. Furthermore, the study underscores the devastating nature of divorce, particularly on children, and highlights its growing prevalence as a global issue. To address these challenges, the study recommends systematic pre-marital counseling programs to prepare couples for marriage and minimize the likelihood of divorce. Additionally, an adequate period of courtship is advised to allow partners to understand each other before entering into marriage. This study serves as a valuable resource for spouses, children, teachers, pastors, students, and counselors, offering insights into marital challenges and the importance of pre-marital and post-marital counseling in fostering stable family structures.

Keywords: Divorce, Children, Influence, Anglican Communion

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GODLIGHT AND DIVINATION: PRESERVING AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS PRACTICES IN HUMANITIES AND SCIENCE IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD ORDER

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This study explores the intersection of African Traditional Religious practices, particularly the concepts of Godlight and divination, within the framework of contemporary humanities and science. It seeks to elucidate how these ancient spiritual systems not only persist but also adapt in the face of modernity and globalization. By examining the philosophical underpinnings of divination as a means of fostering communal cohesion and individual guidance, this research highlights the intrinsic value of these practices in navigating contemporary existential challenges. The paper argues that Godlight, as an embodiment of divine presence and knowledge, serves as a critical lens through which traditional religious practices can be understood and integrated into modern discourse. Utilizing a multidisciplinary approach, this study draws upon anthropological, theological, and scientific perspectives to demonstrate the relevance of African Traditional Religion in contemporary societal constructs. Ultimately, this work advocates for a reevaluation of the role of indigenous spiritual practices within the globalized world, positioning them as vital contributors to cultural heritage, ethical frameworks, and holistic understandings of human experience. Through this examination, the paper aims to foster greater respect for, and engagement with, the richness of African spiritual traditions in the ongoing dialogue between faith, knowledge, and modernity.

Keywords: African Traditional Religious, Divination, GodLight, Humanities, Practices, Preserving, Science, World Order

THE IMPLICATION OF ST PAUL'S MISSIONARY ENTERPRISE AT EPHESUS (ACTS. 19.23-41) TO EVANGELIZATION IN IGBO HEARTLAND OZUBULU IN FOCUS

By

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St Paul's Missionary Enterprise in Ephesus (Acts.19:23-41) where there was riot against Paul and his companions occasioned by the affect of his mission to the culture and tradition of Ephesians is juxtaposed to the cultural tension before and after the Advent of Missionaries in Ozubulu. There is upsurge of paganism, idolatry and it's attendant criminality in the hinterland Ozubulu inclusive because the Igbo man who received the gospel did that keeping intact his Deities and it's worship. Receiving the gospel in one hand they kept their gods in the other hand. The researcher tries to state that Christianity is facing serious problems of deletion to this regard. He tries to assemble material by primary and secondary sources as well as area culture approach applying textual criticism with Historical critical method of exegesis trying to fathom the near to the original text. Considering the reviewed literatures, one sees a missing thing as a challenge. Christianity is going down while traditional worship accompanied with it's abuse are in the increase as never witnessed in history of Evangelisation Ozubulu. All the problems and solutions bother around the vanguard of the gospel, his methodology, life and conviction. His inability to meet the immediate need of people. He must re-access his mission, method and examine his life to march that of Christ the master. Finally, though traditional religion and it's adherents are in the increase but what is evident is speedy erosion of Igbo traditional values. This is a room the research has created for further research. This constitute a challenge not only the church but to African traditional worship.

Keywords: Mission and Missionary; Evangelisation; Enterprise, Implication

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THE ROOTEDNESS OF KIDNAPPING FOR RANSOM AND TERRORISM BY FULANI HERDSMEN IN UMUNNEOCHI LGA, ABIA STATE.

By

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Kidnapping and the presence of Kidnappers in the forest of *Isuochihas* become a persistent security challenge in *Isuochi*, Abia State, Nigeria in the last four years, with severe socio-economic, psychological, and political implications. This study investigates the causes, consequences, and responses to kidnapping in *Isuochi*, Abia State: 2020 - 2023. A mixed-method approach is employed, combining qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis methods. These approaches help deeply to understand people's attitudes, experiences, and behaviours and help in measuring and quantifying the phenomenon of kidnapping in *Isuochi*. The study reveals that kidnapping is driven by factors such as poverty, unemployment, political instability, terrorism, the presence of Fulani herdsmen, and marginalization. *Isuochi* terrain has a vast area not habited by people, abandoned farmland, and a lonely road. These make it possible for the kidnappers to hide behind the bushes and attack unsuspected road users with automatic rifles, disabling their vehicles and taking them into the bush. The consequences of kidnapping include psychological trauma, economic loss, and social stigma. The responses to kidnapping have been largely inadequate, with law enforcement agencies facing challenges such as corruption, inadequate resources, and political interference. Kidnapping in *Isuochi*, is a complex issue requiring a multifaceted approach to address its root causes, mitigate its consequences, and strengthen responses. Recommendations include the Government removing their hands from kidnapping, addressing poverty and unemployment, improving law enforcement capacity and accountability. The Government should be proactive in the development of the area, like building federal or state institutions along the road.

Keywords: Kidnapping, Terrorism, Ransom, Herdsmen, Isuochi, Umunneochi

ILLUMINATING THE PATH: UNPACKING THE TRIADIC ROLE OF THE CHURCH, SOCIETY, AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS IN COMBATING NEO-TRADITIONALISM THREATS IN IGBOLAND: A CASE STUDY OF ANAMBRA STATE.

By

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This study examines the triadic role of the church, society, and political institutions in combating neo-traditionalism in Igboland, focusing on thgodlight268@gmail.com's transformative power of God's Light. Using a mixed-methods approach, this research investigates how God's Light can inform the church's response, transform societal norms, and guide political institutions in addressing the challenges of neo-traditionalism in Anambra State. The findings will provide evidence-based recommendations for effective collaboration among these institutions, highlighting God's Light as a catalyst for positive change.

Keywords: God's Light, neo-traditionalism, Igboland, church, society, politics, Anambra State.

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ACTIVITIES OF UNKNOWN GUNMEN AS A TREND FOR KIDNAPPING IN OGBARU LGA OF ANAMBRA STATE: A SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS

By

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This qualitative study investigates the alarming trend of kidnappings perpetrated by "unknown gunmen" in Ogbbaru Local Government Area (LGA) of Anambra State, Nigeria. The increasing frequency of abductions by unidentified mobs has created an atmosphere of fear and insecurity, significantly disrupting the religious, social, and economic lives of the residents. The research explores the underlying factors contributing to this phenomenon, including inadequate security infrastructure, poor governance, and rising unemployment. Through qualitative analysis and the use of Routine Activity Theory, this study assesses the impact of these kidnappings on the affected communities revealing psychological, economic, religious, and social consequences. The study's significance lies in its contribution to understanding the complex dynamics of kidnapping in the region and identifying practical solutions. Based on the findings, the research recommends a multi-faceted approach to address the issue, including enhancing intelligence gathering, strengthening community policing, and implementing socio-economic development programs to tackle the root causes of insecurity. This research provides actionable recommendations for policymakers, security agencies, and community leaders to curb the activities of unknown gunmen and restore peace to the affected communities in Ogbbaru. Ultimately, this study aims to inform evidence-based strategies for mitigating kidnapping and promoting sustainable development in the region.

Keywords: Unknown Gunmen, Kidnapping, Search, Solutions

GODLIGHT AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

By

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This study explores the interplay between divine principles, symbolized as "Godlight," and the preservation of cultural heritage in contemporary society. Cultural heritage, encompassing traditions, artifacts, and values, is a vital component of identity and continuity. However, the forces of modernization and globalization often erode these cultural treasures. The concept of "Godlight" is introduced as a metaphor for spiritual enlightenment and moral responsibility, advocating for the integration of faith-based values in safeguarding cultural legacies. Through a multidisciplinary approach, this paper examines how spiritual insights can inspire individuals and communities to preserve their cultural identity without compromising their ethical or religious beliefs. It highlights examples of successful cultural preservation driven by faith, discusses the challenges of balancing tradition with modernity, and proposes strategies for fostering respect for cultural diversity. Both primary and secondary sources were used for data collection. The primary source consist of interviews, observations and oral traditions while the secondary source consist of documented materials both published and unpublished on the preservation of cultural heritage in contemporary society. The findings underscore the potential of "Godlight" as a unifying force for cultural heritage preservation. By aligning spiritual principles with cultural conservation efforts, communities can safeguard their identities and traditions while embracing progress in a rapidly changing world. It is recommended that spiritual principles embodied in "Godlight" be integrated into cultural preservation efforts to strengthen heritage conservation while fostering moral responsibility and community identity.

Keywords: Godlight, Culture, Heritage and Preservation

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GODLIGHT: ILLUMINATING THE PATH TO UNITY IN THE FACE OF DENOMINATIONAL DIVIDES AMONG NIGERIAN CHRISTIANS

By

Onuzulike Onyeka Wilson

The Nigerian Christian community is fragmented by numerous denominational divides, hindering unity and collective impact. This research explores the concept of "GodLight" – a metaphor for the unifying presence of God – as a framework for illuminating the path to unity among Nigerian Christians. Through a qualitative, phenomenological approach, this study investigates the experiences and perceptions of Nigerian Christian leaders and laity regarding denominational divisions and unity. The research identifies key factors contributing to denominational divides, including theological differences, cultural influences, and power struggles. The study then explores the concept of GodLight as a unifying force, examining its biblical foundations, theological implications, and practical applications. The research proposes a GodLight-inspired model for unity, emphasizing shared spiritual values, collaborative leadership, and intentional efforts to foster understanding and reconciliation. This research contributes to the ongoing conversation on Christian unity in Nigeria, offering a fresh perspective on the role of God's presence in transcending denominational divides. The findings and recommendations of this study have implications for Christian leaders, scholars, and practitioners seeking to promote unity and cooperation among Nigerian Christians.

Keywords: Christian unity, denominational divides, Nigerian Christians, GodLight, unity model.

TEACHERS' UTILIZATION OF AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHING OF SCIENCES IN PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ANAMBRA STATE: IMPLICATIONS FOR CONTEMPORARY WORLD ORDER

By

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The importance of sciences education in the contemporary world order cannot be overstated, as it plays a critical role in preparing students for the complexities of the 21st century. However, the traditional methods of assessment have been criticized for their limitations in promoting deep learning and understanding of scientific concepts. In response to this need, this study investigates the relationship between teachers' utilization of authentic assessment and effective teaching of sciences in public secondary schools in Anambra State, Nigeria. The study adopted descriptive research design. The population of the study consisted of 6,598 teachers in all public secondary schools in Anambra State, Nigeria. The sample of the study comprised of 329 teachers as respondents. Stratified and Simple random sampling technique were adopted in selecting teachers from the public secondary schools. The instruments for data collection was a structured questionnaire titled teachers' utilization of authentic assessment (TUAAQ) and Effective



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Teaching of Science Questionnaire (ETSQ). The instruments were subjected to face and construct validity by three experts. The reliability of the instruments were established using Cronbach's Alpha statistics, the average reliability coefficient showed a value of 0.71 for (TUAAQ) and 0.83 for (ETSQ), therefore the instruments were considered reliable and adequate for the study. The researcher visited the sampled schools with the aid of six briefed research-assistants to administer and retrieve the copies of the questionnaire . The research questions were answered using mean and standard deviation, while the hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance using t-test. The findings indicated that teachers' utilization of authentic assessment has a significant relationship with effective teaching of sciences. The study recommends implementation strategies for authentic assessment in the teaching of sciences, including integration with 21st-century skills, use of technology, and design of real-world applications. The study's implications highlight the need for professional development opportunities, resources, and policy support for educators to effectively implement authentic assessment in the teaching of sciences.

Keywords: Authentic Assessment, Effective Teaching, Sciences Education, Contemporary World Order.

PURPOSEFUL SOCIO-RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP: THE PARADIGM FOR A WORLD ORDER IN NIGERIA.

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Historically, there has been a huge interaction and evidential force thriving in the sociology of people's religiosity and politics. This corollary borders strongly on the forms, quality and purpose of leadership. This nexus has been an intriguing exercise both within the society and academic circle. Leadership being one of the social institutions has remained an age long reality with a sustained and evolving universal phenomenon. The concept of world order has been primarily associated with the Peace of Westphalia negotiated in 1648 at the end of the Thirty Years War and treated as the beginning of the modern world. Similarly, Nigeria got her political independence in 1960 and seven years later plunged into nearly three years avoidable blood bath. The war was reportedly ended but since then, the country has been battling series of protracted instabilities. This is an unbiased investigation into the history of world order, the state of Nigeria socio economic and political reality and their attendant challenges. Adopting the human relations and relationship/transformational theories with historical survey approach, the study also tries to analyze the social, economic, religious and moral implications of purposeful leadership on the building of a virile, fair, firm and harmonious Nigerian nation where strong bond, general development, principles of solidarity, sustainability, peace and brotherhood and the desired world order.

Keyword: Purposeful, paradigm, leadership, world order,

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GodLight

*If you give people light,
they will find their own way*

