

## **Architectural Heritage of Medieval Ahom Kingdom: A Brief Study of the Ahom Monuments**

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### **Abstract**

The Ahoms occupy a great role in medieval history of Assam. They were the descendant of Tai race who migrated to the Brahmaputra valley under the leadership of Saulung Sukapha in 1228 and the rest was the history which encompassed a long 600 years of their rule in Assam. Their prime contribution was the state formation among the diverse tribal chiefdoms in an unknown place full of uncertainty. However, they succeeded to bring the politically fragmented valley under the same political boundary with their influence in polity, economy, society, etc and successfully overcame multiple attacks by the Mughal power. Chronicles refer to the rich architectural developments during Ahom reign and many of them are still standing with pride as epitomes of the prosperous Ahom rule in medieval Assam. The Ahom rulers constructed both secular and religious kinds of architectures which achieved the peak at the latter half of the Ahom rule mainly from the Tungkhungia rulers. In this study, I am only giving a brief description of Ahom architecture highlighting their three capital cities- Charaideo, Garhgaon and Rangpur.

## **Environmental education: a potent tool for the attainment of sustainable development goals in south south-Nigeria: implications of community development**

**Gagarang Sultan**

### **Abstract**

The study probes knowledge base of randomly selected students of tertiary institutions in South South States in Nigeria on key environmental aspects and concerns. Several related literature showed limited quantitative works that highlighted strategies and necessary Environmental Education (EE) components to meet sustainable development goals. Descriptive statistics (Simple percentage frequency, bar charts and pie charts) incorporated after reviews and other print media assessments. Results indicate a poor understanding of global, as well as local environmental challenges. Consequently, as future policy makers, a safer globe of higher potential will be achieved. This paper provides an overview of various initiatives regarding the role of environmental education towards sustainable development at global level in general and national level in particular. The paper also provides a brief analysis of various education projects, academic programmes and curriculum development initiatives for achieving the goal of sustainability. The paper shows that environmental education is a potent tool for the attainment of sustainable development goals; also health and well-being, clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy and sustainable cities and communities. It would also help the decision makers in designing better strategies for proper implementation of environmental education in Nigeria and achieving the common goal of sustainability. In addition, the paper also directs attention to the relationship between environmental education and sustainable national development. We argue that environment and development are intertwined and therefore must be systematically integrated into educational activities to produce environmentally accountable and responsible citizens and policies in the collective bid to achieve sustainable development.

## **Data Envelopment Analysis Technique (DEA) and Technical Efficiency Performance of Privatized and Non Privatized Firms in Nigeria**

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### **Abstract**

This study examined the technical efficiency of manufacturing firms in Nigeria over the 1995 to 2004 time period. Efficiency of the private sector in comparison to the public sector has been topical among economists and policy makers at all levels of government. This work is designed to empirically compare firms performance before and after privatization and the study adopted the Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) technique to analyze the technical efficiency of firms before and after privatization. Three critical input variables (Raw materials cost, labor and capital) and two output variables (output and profit) were used to evaluate the technical efficiency of ten manufacturing firms in Nigeria. The firms were selected from the numerous firms in the four geo political zones to represent the interest of the entire country due to their age long establishment, size and government equity investment in them. The investigation revealed that all the ten sampled firms used for the study exhibited various levels of efficiencies in terms of output and profit. Seven firms lied on the efficiency frontier with an efficiency score of 1.00 each before privatization while the remaining three firms were not technically efficient in terms of output. After privatization. In the after privatization era, seven firms were also technically efficient while three firms were inefficient. In terms of profit, Six firms lied on the efficiency frontier with an efficiency score of 1.00 each before privatization while the remaining four firms were inefficient. In the after privatization era, four lied on the efficiency frontier with an efficiency score of 1.000 each while the remaining six firms were inefficient in terms of profit. In a nutshell, the overall picture shows an improvement in performance after privatization. It shows that privatization has had a positive technical efficiency on privatized firms considering their present growth potentials across the country.

## **Youth perceptions of African traditional values and socio-economic implications for Nigeria**

### **Thank Gode**

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### **Abstract**

The perception that African indigenous values are inferior to foreign values has to a great extent imprisoned the psyche of most Nigerian youth to the extent that a lag is created with concomitant socio-economic implications. The new wave of lifestyles and values among youth is characterized by indiscipline and abuses. We live in a world where the youth pursue fashions and values that are alien to Africa's normative customs. As far as these youth are concern, African traditional values are archaic, demonic, timid and of no relevance in the present dispensation. It is also obvious that many youth pursue values without knowing whether they are right or wrong and sometimes ignorant of their implications. In a bid to appear "civilized" or "modern", some youth find themselves entrapped in a world of confusion. This paper employed qualitative research, involving published data. The study found out that youth negative perceptions of African traditional norms and values are consequences of interrelated factors involving western education, social media and globalization dilemma. In other words the craze for foreign values and the subsequent erosion of African traditional values is exacerbated by the type of education bequeathed to the African child during the colonial era, abuse of the social media, globalization dilemma dominated by America/Eurocentric ideologies. The consequence being the proliferation of crimes and immoral behaviors such as scam, hate speeches, kidnappings, terrorism, fraud, corruption, youth restiveness, drug abuse, cultism and conflicts of unimaginable proportion. It is therefore recommended among others that government, Non-Governmental Organizations, faith base organizations and social workers should introduce policy measures that will promote African indigenous values, norms and

culture among youth. This can also be done effectively through social work counseling, sensitizations, behavior change processes and advocacy. Word count: 286

## **Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in Nigeria work organizations: a situation analysis**

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&

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### **Abstract**

This paper centered on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in the Nigeria work organizations- a situation analysis. The study employed a theoretical –based approach and a conceptual review of related literatures. Three objectives were formulated to guide this study. The study revealed that ADR has a significant influence on organizational and employees' performance in the Nigeria work organizations. The study also revealed that the different methods of ADR such as arbitration, mediation, negotiation, collaboration, compromise, good governance, communication, facilitation, expert determination, mini-trial, etc. if adopted appropriately would have significant effects on operational efficiency and effectiveness of work organizations in Nigeria. Based on the findings, the study recommended that management and managers should employ the ADR mechanisms such as mediation, arbitration, negotiation, collaboration, compromise and good governance in settling disputes as well as conflicts among parties in the Nigeria work organizations in order to reduce cost, save time and being fast in reaching a consensus agreement or compromise. It was also recommended that the various mechanisms of ADR should be adopted in resolving disputes between management and workers of the work organizations depending on the situation or circumstances, since there is no one best method in solving organizational conflicts and problems.

## **Livelihood contexts and socio-economic determinants of deaths by diseases in Abia state, Nigeria**

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### **Abstract**

Diseases and deaths explanations have gone beyond biomedical levels to socio-cultural factors including livelihood status of people. However, the quality of peoples livelihood can better be achieved when the well-being of people measured by: good food, clean water supply, affordable housing, education, full employment, quality basic social amenities and access to decision-making in their own affairs are enhanced especially with democratic good governance.. This study investigated livelihoods and socio-economic factors influencing deaths by diseases with the dawn of democratic governance in Abia State, Nigeria. The sample size for the study was 390. The instruments for data collection were structured questionnaire and focus group discussion guide. The data were analyzed using simple and multiple frequency distribution tables and simple percentages while the hypotheses were tested using chi-square statistic. The findings show that Malaria is more prevalent in Abia state more than Typhoid, Gastroenteritis, TB and HIV/AIDS. The findings also show that low level of education and poor basic social amenities affect the people's livelihoods resulting in deaths by the above mentioned diseases in the study area. There is therefore an urgent need for the government to enhance good governance through free and compulsory education as well as the provision of basic social amenities to improve the livelihood of the people and reduce deaths by diseases in Abia State, Nigeria..

## **Ethnocentrism in a Nation of Complex Social Identity: Scale Development and Validation**

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### **Abstract**

Ethnocentrism is a major intergroup variable in the literature on intergroup dynamics. However, current measures of the variable make specific reference to other cultures or races which makes them unsuitable to capture this phenomenon in some societies because of the peculiarities of their cultural setup and social realities. Two studies were conducted to explore and confirm the factor structure of an ethnocentrism scale that is able to measure the phenomenon in multi-group societies with shared national identity. EFA and CFA confirmed a four dimensional construct of in-group superiority, out-group intolerance, in-group devotion/cohesion and in-group purity. Reliability analysis also confirmed the internal consistency of the four dimensions. Convergent validity indices were also established for the scale. Findings in this study also revealed that pro-in-group attitude may not necessarily produce anti-out-group attitudes. The authors conclude by calling for further examination of the factor structure of the ethnocentrism scale to improve the measure.