

African form of Indigenous Mass Communication in the Case of Ethiopia

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Abstract

The purpose of this article is to explore African form of indigenous mass communication with emphasis on Ethiopian indigenous form mass communication institutions, tools, manuscripts, and regulatory bodies. The method employed for this study is qualitative. First hand documents, tools and observation were considered as sources of primary data. Furthermore, pertinent literatures were reviewed. The data was analyzed qualitatively where description of the responses on the bases of themes was given emphasis. The finding of this study argued that drum beating, horn blowing and town crying are a form of mass communications in the ancient time. In the ancient time news in Africa was first made public from the tower in the center, squares of the city, palace main stairs, market and church. Town Criers, Azmari and shepherds were the journalists and the essential news presenter in ancient times. In the same manner, Afe Negus (mouth of the King) and Tsehafe Tezaze (Minister of Pen) was originally indigenous information regulatory bodies of the empire regime. This research discovered the oldest African news paper in Ethiopia a news sheet entitled Zena mewale (Daily News) and the first written news story inscriptions of king Ezana are the first type of African news, which dates back to 320 A.D. Zena mewale is believed to be the first handmade press so far known in Africa for 700 years. This confirmed that Ethiopia has 3000 years of indigenous form of oral mass communication and handmade press history in Africa.

Trends in Exchange Traded Funds in India: An Analysis

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Abstract

In the 26 years' history of Exchange Traded Funds, ETFs have become one of the leading categories offered by the mutual funds. The greatest advantage of this category is that it provides liquidity and gives access to both large investors and also retail investors. Investment in ETF has two advantages. One being diversification and other being liquidity. Another major benefit of ETF is its expense ratio. The expense ratio of ETFs is much lower when compared to other mutual fund schemes. Due to its unique benefits, ETF has emerged as one of the most popular Asset Classes amongst the Investor community across globe, including India. The first ETF launched in India was by Benchmark Asset Management Company called Nifty BeEs in 2001. Various types of ETFs have been launched by various Mutual Fund houses. The number of ETFs in India started growing with the introduction of Gold ETFs in the year 2007. The popularity of ETFs is growing due to the government's plans to divest its holdings in PSUs through this route. The total ETF folios are increasing year on year participation from retail investors, especially from small towns as steps taken by markets regulator SEBI such as giving extra incentives for fund houses expanding into smaller cities, coupled with increasing investor education programmes to increase penetration of mutual funds is paying dividend.

Extent of utilization of social media for effective Library and Information Service delivery in selected university libraries in Abia State, Nigeria: An Empirical investigation

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Abstract

The study empirically investigated the extent of utilization of social media for effective Library and Information Service delivery in selected university libraries in Abia State, Nigeria. The study adopted descriptive survey research design. Using multi-stage sampling technique 350 library users and staff were sampled from the entire population. Questionnaire and Observation Checklist was the instrument for data collection constructed for the study. The data collected was analyzed using frequency distribution table, charts, percentage and mean. The findings revealed that, both ABSU, Library and MOUAU, Library has no official facebook, twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp, Nairaland, Skype, Googletalk, Academia.edu, researchgate, Mendeley, Ning, Librarything, Flickr among other social media sites. The findings revealed that due to the lack of official social media sites in both university libraries studies, social networking sites are not used in providing Library and Information services. The respondents perceived social media as a great media for effective library service delivery. Obsolete Internet facilities, Technophobia, Poor communication systems, Lack of social networking sites use, Lack of training of staff in the use of computer, Inadequate computerization, Lack of awareness of social networking sites, insufficient bandwidth, Lack of qualified ICT librarians, Erratic power supply was identified as the challenges associated with the utilization of social media for effective Library and Information Service delivery in selected university libraries in Abia

State, Nigeria. the study recommended that, Social Networking Site use Policy should be formulated in the Library, Younger Librarians who are digital natives should be in charge of using social networking sites for providing Library and Information Services to Library users among others.

Awareness of National Health Insurance Scheme Activities and Service Utilization Among Enrolled Employees in Government Institutions in Nigeria

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Abstract

The study examined awareness of National Health Insurance Scheme activities and service utilization among enrolled employees in government institutions in Nigeria. Adopting the survey research method, data was collected from 1200 samples employed in three federal Government Institutions in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria using a structured self-developed questionnaire. The samples were selected using the purposive and proportional sampling technique. Descriptive analysis was used to present result and linear regression was used to check the variable under study at 0.05 confidence level. The result from the descriptive analysis revealed that there was moderate knowledge (48 per cent) that there are drugs not on the NHIS drug list. Result also revealed minimal knowledge (30 per cent) that there is some treatment not on the NHIS treatment List. Regression analysis revealed a moderate correlation (30 per cent) between awareness of NHIS activities and service utilisation ($F(1, 1112) = 16.472; p < .000$). The study concludes that there is moderate knowledge about the activities of the NHIS and this affects service utilization and satisfaction. The study recommends among others that the operators of the National Health Insurance Scheme should include more drugs on the prescription list to address the health needs of participants. The scheme should be expanded to cover all medical cases of enrollees. The government and the agencies in charge of the health insurance scheme should carry out periodic assessments of clients' satisfaction with the scheme so as to make future policy decisions for better service delivery.

A Bank branch network expansion and financial performance: an empirical survey of Nigerian banking system

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Abstract

This paper analyzed the growth and financial results of the bank branch network: An empirical survey of the Nigerian banking system. Time series data from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) quarterly annual report was used (2017 and Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (2017). The research applied statistical approaches to econometrics and was focused on the error correction model (ECM) for stationary, co-integration, and model estimation testing. The results showed that the sequence was stationary and co-integrated at none * with a long-term relationship as ECM (-1) co-efficient was negative and important at 5%. The results indicated that bank Total Asset (LnBAS) and bank asset development (LnBAG) have a positive impact on Nigeria's bank deposit base (total bank deposit / GDP). However, during the time the total number of banks network (LnTNB) and the prime lending rate (LnPLR) has a negative influence on the bank deposit base (total bank deposit / GDP) (LnBDB). Accordingly, the researcher concluded that bank deposit base (total bank deposit / GDP) (LnBDB) in Nigeria was guided during the period by the total number of banks network (LnTNB) and bank asset growth (LnBAG). Inflation rate as control variable has had a major positive long-term impact on the bank deposit base (total bank deposit / GDP) (LnBDB), hence it was suggested that to sustain a high bank deposit base (total bank deposit / GDP) (LnBDB), the total number of banks network should be increased over the period (LnTNB) and efforts should be made to strengthen the growth of bank assets (LnB).

ACanvassing demographic dissemination in Assam: A study of Hindus, Muslims and Christians

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Abstract

Demographic characteristics can be summarized as the reflection of human population of any region in terms of their size, structure and development. Demographic pattern and changing religious composition of population are to a great extent influenced by individuals' demographic behavior and self determination. The population dynamics among different religious groups of Assam is changing rapidly. Various parameter are responsible for such changes in the structure and composition of the mass. Thus in this backdrop, the present paper deals with the determinants of demography and their complex relationships with other social, economical, historical and geographical aspects that contour the religious mosaic of the state. The paper also tries to investigate the changing demographic scenario and religious composition of Assam in terms of annual, decadal and exponential growth of population on the spatio-temporal manner. On studying the issue, it has been found that that the people practicing different religion are distributed unevenly throughout the districts and regions of Assam. Also it is found that there is a steep decadal growth in the population among all the religious groups of Assam, however the religious composition across the state has not changed in the recent years. The study also show that annual exponential growth rate of population among the Hindu, Muslim and Christian religion in Assam for the period of 1991-2001 accounts for 1.4%, 2.6 % and 2.8% and for the period of 2001-2011 exhibits 1.04%, 2.6% and 1.6% respectively.

Application of Cluster analysis in medical research

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Abstract

Cluster analysis is used to classify and group the variables of similar nature. It creates homogeneous groups by sorting by data reduction method. In the present study, the researcher has analyzed the dataset of diabetic patients with the help of hierarchical agglomerative cluster analysis. For the study, the researcher has used Kaggle dataset of diabetic patients. Type II diabetic patients who are suffering from lack of insulin production ie., non-insulin-dependent, which is caused by ineffective use of insulin by human body which results in obesity, high cholesterol and high blood pressure which are the major risk factors that trigger diabetes and the risk is higher when the age increases. In the study , groups are sequentially created by systematic merging of similar clusters together and average linkage measure is chosen and reviewed by the researcher. Hierarchical cluster analysis is done using the SPSS statistical software.

An Assessment of the Experiences of Parents in Managing Mentally Ill Children: The Case of Ebinat Town, Northwest Ethiopia

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Abstract

Background: Nowadays, mental illness is the most common psychological problem worldwide, as usual, low-income countries take the lion's share and children are the most vulnerable groups of the population. **Objectives:** The aim of this study was to examine the experiences of parents in managing mentally ill children in Ebinat town. Particularly, it emphasized on the skills of parents in managing their children, the behavior of children, and current living conditions of children with mental illness.

Methods: This study used mixed methods research approach. Within this, cross-sectional survey, observation, key informant interviews and in-depth interviews were employed. In doing so, random sampling and purposive sampling techniques were used.

Results: The findings of this study revealed that the skills of parents in managing children with mental illness were very low in Ebinat town because of the lack of awareness about the nature of the problem, their low-income status and poor standard of living. Moreover, the result showed that there were no rehabilitation centers in the town.

Conclusion: There should be a rehabilitation center to address such adverse mental health problem. Similarly, there was a lack of awareness, especially among uneducated parents in managing mentally ill children, so education and related life-skill trainings shall be given by practitioners to those illiterate parents to improve their management skills.

Swami Vivekananda View's on Education

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Abstract

Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902), the ideal speaker for Hinduism is well-known globally for his spiritual wisdom of Hindu religion. Among the modern Indian religion reformers, Vivekananda argued for equality of men and women. Because, educating women was the most important way of salvation for India according to Swamiji. Education develops thought capacity and enhances creativeness through awakening women on the value of their own humanity and enabling them to strive for distinction denied by patriarchal cultural norms and backward traditions. Swami Vivekananda is the first monk to uphold and do work for freedom and equality of women and realized the importance of women for the society as well as the nation. He identified that the ignorance of women was the main hindrance for the progress of India. He insisted that women should be put in the position of power to solve their own problem in their own way and this cannot be possible without education. He engaged throughout his life for the development of women education. His objective of education is man making and character building- these principles also applied in field of women education. His educational perspective is based on applied Vedanta and western culture. Thinking the different social status Swamiji prepared different curriculum for the women. He also said mother tongue is the best medium for the social and mass education. In the post independent India, still women are still suffering from many chronic problems such as physical, social, political, cultural, economical etc. In the present paper, the author tries to clearly show the thoughts and ideas of Swami Vivekananda's regarding women education and also tries to present his views with the present scenario.