**ETHNICITY AND POLITICAL MARGINALISATION IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF *JASAWA* COMMUNITY IN PLATEAU STATE**

**BY**

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**NIGERIA**

**MAY, 2018**

**Declaration**

I declare that the work in this Dissertation entitled **Ethnicity and Political Marginalisation in Nigeria: A Study of *Jasawa* Community in Plateau State** has been carried out by me in the Department of Political Science and International Studies. The information derived from the literature has been duly acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. No part of this Dissertation report was previously presented for another degree or diploma at this or any other institution.

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Name of Student Signature Date

**Certification**

This Dissertation entitled **ETHNICITY AND POLITICAL MARGINALISATION IN NIGERIA: A STUDY OF *JASAWA* COMMUNITY IN PLATEAU STATE** bySalisu Hassan **INUSA** meets the regulations governing the award of the Degree of Master of Science in Political Science of Ahmadu Bello University, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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**Dedication**

This work is first of all dedicated to the service of humanity and the marginalised.

* My parents; Inusa Hassan and Aishatu Inusa Hassan (Ummah)
* My wife; Mubaraka Musa Ibrahim
* My two Sons; Mukhtar Salisu and Late Mubarak Salisu, may Allah S.W.T. His infinite Mercy admits you into Jannatul Firdausi Amin.

**Abstract**

*This study examines the role of ethnicity and the extent to which its consequences affect ethnic relations and political marginalisation of the Jasawa community in Jos North and Plateau state in general. One of the features of a multi-ethnic state is the exhibition of politics of group identity, which tend to manifest largely in form contestation by the relatively larger ethnic groups over others. Ethnic politics or identity politics in developing democracies usually induce conflicts over certain interest between and amongst the competing groups. The basis could be the aspiration for the control of political authority and economic scarce resources between the contending groups, which is likely to strengthened group consciousness towards establishing distinct identities. The study objectives examined the extent to which ethnic contestation over ownership of Jos results to political marginalisation of the Jasawa community. It also investigated the manifestation of indigene/settler dichotomy been a crucial factor in political contest and finally the study attempted to explore other likely factors other than ethnicity responsible for group politics and contestation. The theory adopted in the study is the “group theory”. Group theory hinged on the assumption that the best political outcomes would arise as a result of group conflict and that free and active group life was seen as crucial to the functioning of a democracy, in which the role of state was not to dictate outcomes, but rather to arbitrate among various outcomes. The theory further stated that, the best functioning democracy would not necessarily be the one with best constitutional structure, but rather the one with the most blamed, active and responsive group system. Data were generated using primary and secondary source, the instruments of questionnaire and in-depth interview were utilised. The responses from the questionnaire was analysed using a tabular form presented in simple frequency and percentage, while the qualitative interview data was transcribed qualitatively and analysed. The findings of the study revealed that, the basis for agitations and counter agitations between the Jasawa community and the Berom, Anaguta and the Afizere has been significantly influenced by ethnic identity and inter-communal relations. And that, the colonialist were culpable in entrenching animosity and suspicion between and among ethnic nationalities in Jos-Plateau. The interplay of the variables of ethnicity and political marginalisation as interrogated in the study correlate with one of the assumptions that; “The basis for ethnic contestation over the ownership of Jos is historical, thus a significant factor that contribute to the political marginalisation of the Jasawa community in Jos North”. The study concludes that, the crux of the matter lies in the myth that a Hausa man is not an indigene of Jos, despite the community’s effort in lobbying for the creation of Jos North LG in 1991. The study therefore, recommends that, mutual respect of everybody’s feeling, recognition in terms of giving equal opportunities to all, socio-economic justice, fair play and political engineering with all its attendants components, promotion of norms and values in religion, tradition and culture are significant indices for proper communal integration socially, culturally, economically and politically.*

**Table of Contents**

**Title Page……………………………………………………………………………………….i**

**Declaration Page……………………………………………………………………………….ii**

**Certification Page……………………………………………………………………………...iii**

**Acknowledgements……………………………………………………………………………...iv**

**Dedication………………………………………………………………………………………vii**

**Abstract………………………………………………………………………………………...viii**

**Table of Contents………………………………………………………………………………ix**

**List of Tables……………………………………………………………………………………xii**

**List of Appendices ………………………………………………………………………….…..xv**

**List of Abbreviations ………………………………………………………………………....xvii**

**CHAPTER ONE**

**GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

1.0 Introduction**……….………………………………………..……………………………...1**

1.1 Statement of the Research Problem**……………………………………………………….3**

1.2 Research Questions**……………………………………………………………………….4**

1.3 Research Objectives**……………………………………………………………….………4**

1.4 Research Assumptions**……………………………………………………………………5**

1.5 Justification**……………………………………………………………………………….5**

1.6 Scope and Limitations**…………………………………………………………………….6**

1.7 Chapter Outline**……………………………………………………………………………6**

**CHAPTER TWO**

**LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

**Literature Review**

2.1 Introduction **…………………………………………………………………………….7**

2.2 Conceptual clarification of *Jasawa***……………………………………………………….8**

2.3 The Myth and the Reality on Indigene-Settler Question in Jos**………………,,,…….....10**

2.4 Ethnicity and Religion: The Twin Identity Problem in Nigeria**…………………...…….19**

2.5 The Concept of Ethnicity**……………………………………………………………......24**

2.6 Approaches to Ethnicity**………………………………………………………………….26**

Primordialist Approach**…………………………………………………………...27**

Constructionist Approach**…………………………………………………………28**

Instrumentalism Approach**………………………………………………………..29**

Integrated Approach**………………………………………………………………30**

2.7 Amalgamation: A British Intention or n Evolving Phenomenon **…..…….……...………32**

2.8 The One North Integration Phenomenon: Ethnic Agitations Against Socio-Economic and Political Marginalisation**......................................................................…………………..37**

2.9 The Context of Political Marginalisation**...……………………………………………..45**

2.10 Theoretical Framework**…………………………………………………………………..50**

2.11 Assumptions and Criticism of the theory**.........................................................................51**

2.12 Relevance of the Theory to the Research Work**……...…………………………………51**

**CHAPTER THREE**

**METHODOLOGY**

3.1 Introduction…**……………………………………………………………..……………55**

3.2 Sources and Instrument of Data Collection**……………………………...………………55**

3.2.1 Questionnaire Administration**…………………………………………..……………....55**

3.2.2 Structured Interview**……………………………………………………………………...56**

3.2.3 Documentary Evidence**…………………………………………………………………..57**

3.3 Area of the Study**..............................................................................................................58**

3.4 Sample Size**……………………………………………………………………………...58**

3.5 Sampling of the Study Area**…….……………………………………………………….59**

3.6 Sampling Procedure**……………………………………………………………………..60**

3.7 Method of Data Presentation, Analysis and Discussion of Oral Interview Findings**…..62**

**CHAPTER FOUR**

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF JOS AND THE *JASAWA* COMMUNITY**

4.1 Geography and Location of Jos**…………………………………………………….......63**

4.2 The Origin of Jos and Hausa Native Town**…………………………………………….63**

4.3 The Ethnographic Thesis on How the Name ‘Jos’ Emerged **……..….……….…….…66**

4.4 Tin Mining Prospect and British Expedition in Jos**……...………………………….….78**

4.5 *Jasawa* Identity Consciousness: The Beginning**………………………………..……...72**

4.6 The Creation of Jos North LG in 1991**........................................................................74**

4.7 The Emergence of the Ulama’u/Elders Council and their Role in the Political Affairs of *Jasawa* Community**..........................................................................................................78**

**CHAPTER FIVE**

**DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

5.1 Data presentation and Analysis Introduction**……………….………………………….85**

5.2 Demographic Characteristics of Questionnaire Respondents **…………….…………..116**

5.3 Ethnicity and Political Marginalisation of the Jasawa Community in Plateau State: Discussion and Analysis of findings**……………………………………………………..89**

5.3.1 Discussion and Analysis of Research Objective One**………..…………………………..89**

5.3.2 Discussion and Analysis of Research Objective Two**……………...…………………..101**

5.3.3 Discussion and Analysis of Research Objective Three**……………..……………...….135**

5.4Major Findings of the Study**…………………………………...….…………………...143**

5.5 Contribution to Knowledge**…………………………………………...……………….147**

**CHAPTER SIX**

**SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 Summary**………………………………………………………………………………148**

6.2 Conclusion**…………………………………………………………………………….149**

6.3 Recommendations**……………………………………………………………….…….151**

References**………………………………………………………………………………153**

Appendices**……………………………………………………………………………..159**

**List of Tables**

**Table 3.1:** Jos North LGA Wards/Polling Units and their voter population……………….**65**

**Table 3.2:** Wards Sampled for Questionnaire Distribution………………………………….**66**

**Table 4.1:** Population Census of Jos 1931…………………………………..……………...**75**

**Table 5.1:** Showing Statistics of the Questionnaire Administered and Retrieved…………..**84**

**Table 5.2:** Demographic Characteristics of Questionnaire Respondents…………..………**85**

**Table 5.3:** Sex Distribution……………………………….……………………………..…..**85**

**Table 5.4:** Ethnic Group Distribution……….…………………………………………..….**86**

**Table 5.5:** Occupation Distribution………………………………………….……………...**87**

**Table 5.6:** Religion Distribution…………………………………………..……………...…**87**

**Table 5.7:** Educational Status……………………………………………..…………..……**88**

**Table 5.8:** Showing whether ethnicity is an inhibiting factor to political integration of the *Jasawa* community………………………………………………………………………**95**

**Table 5.9:** How Ethnicity influence socio-cultural identity between the BAA and *Jasawa*..........................................................................................................................***96***

**Table 5.10:** Showing ethno-religious sentiments and affiliation associated with ethnicity.…**97**

**Table 5.11:** Fear of political domination as factor in the protracted contestation in Jos……..**98**

**Table 5.12:** Whether to recognise *Jasawa* as indigenes there would have been a political integration with little or no agitation………………………………………………...…**100**

**Table 5.13:** Showing BAA vs. *Jasawa* indigene/settler identity divide in Jos North…....**105**

**Table 5.14:** Showing the alleged creation of Jos North for the *Jasawa* community and indigene/settler sentiment…………………………………………………………...….**106**

**Table 5.15:** Showing relation of Hausa traditional reign and ownership of Jos or claim of indigene by the *Jasawa*……………………………………………………………...….***110***

**Table: 5.16:** Successive Hausa Traditional Rulers 1912-1948……………………………....**112**

**Table 5.17:** Showing that Hausa traditional rulers reigned in Jos over the years………....**114**

**Table 5.18:** Showing whether subordination of Hausa people under the Gbong Gwong is the genesis of indigene/settler identity contest in Jos……………..…….……………….…**119**

**Table: 5.19:** Showing Wakilin/Magajin Garin Jos as of 1951……………………………….**122**

**Table 5.20:** Rights to vote and be voted for, is exercise without discrimination because of ethno- religious affiliation…………………………..………………………………………..…**125**

**Table 5.21:** Showing Parliamentary Members in Pre and Post-Independence National and Northern House of Assembly (1951-1966) from Jos Constituency………………….....**127**

**Table 5.22:** The *Jasawa* religious and ethnic identity influence political marginalisation in Jos……………………………………………………………………………………....**128**

**Table 5.23:** Showing Second Republic Parliament Representatives from Jos Constituency at the National and State Legislative Arm (1979-1983)……………………………………….…**129**

**Table 5.24:** Showing *Jasawa* Political Representation, yet agitate for been marginalised politically in state government appointment……………………………………..…...1**30**

**Table 5.25:** Showing whether not having control of Jos North is an indices for lack of political integration and marginalisation……………………………………………………......**131**

**Table 5.26:** Showing Chairmen and a Vice Chairman of Jos North in the Aborted Third Republic and Abacha Transition of 1998………………….……………………….…..**133**

**Table 5.27:** Showing Members House of Assembly and Reps in the Fourth Republic…....**134**

**Table 5.28:** Whether the agitation for political marginalisation of the *Jasawa* community would keep on re-surfacing in the elite interes……………………………………………**139**

**Table 5.29:** Showing whether socio-economic variable account for marginalisation other than ethnicity………………………………………...……………………………………….….**140**

**Table 5.30:** Showing settler identity accorded to the *Jasawa* is responsible for their lack of political integration…………………………………………………………………………………**141**

**List of Appendices**

**Appendix I** Questionnaire Draft…………………………………………………….**159**

**Appendix II** Oral Interview Questions……………………………………………….**162**

**Appendix III** List of Interviewees……………………………………………………..**163**

**Appendix IV** Gbong Gwom Upgrading Certificate Signed By Sir Cecil Rex Niven Deputy Colonial Governor of Northern Provinces 1951.........................**166**

**Appendix V** Rwang Pam at a function, a third class Chief and Member Northern House of Chiefs in 1954…………………………………………………...…...**167**

**Appendix VI** Chief of Berom, Rwang Pam welcoming Governor General Sir James Robertson at the Jos Aerodrome, 1956…………………………………**168**

**Appendix VII** Part of program of proceedings on the installation of Fom Bot as Chief of Jos 20th March, 1970**……………………………………………………169**

**Appendix VIII** Picture and brief biography of Fom Bot part of the program of proceedings on his installation**………………………………………………………170**

**Appendix IX** *Jasawa* Youth Association Letter of Request Dated 18th July, 1991 for the Creation of New LG To President IBB**…………..................................171**

**Appendix X**  *Jasawa* Youth Association Letter of Thanks and Appreciation in New Nigerian Newspaper 10th October, 1991 to President IBB**…………….180**

**Appendix XI** A Press Conference by Berom Educational and Cultural Organisation (BECO) Dated 29th April, 1994 Expressing Displeasure over the Splitting of Jos LG into North and South**………………………………………..181**

**Appendix XII** A Write up by Berom Youth Movement; On the Creation of Jos North and South LGAs: The Untold story Dated 24th November, 1991 in Sunday Standard**………………………………………………………………..187**

**Appendix XIII** The *Jasawa* Declaration Presented to the Government and People Nigeria Dated 8th July, 1996**……………………………………………………188**

**Appendix XIV** *Jasawa* Community: Additional Information on the Request for Creation of Jos Central LG out of the Existing Jos North LG July 8th 1996**……191**

**Appendix XV**  A Press Conference by Anaguta Youth Movement Dated 10th January, 2016 as a Protest for the Exclusion of their Community By Governor Simon Lalong**…………………………………………………………..197**

**Appendix XVI** A Rejoinder/Press Conference dated 3rd March 2017 by Afizere Cultural and Community Development Association (ACCDA)**…………………201**

**List of Abbreviations**

**AD \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Alliance for Democracy

**AG \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Action Group

**ANPP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** All Nigerian Peoples Party

**APC \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** All Progressives Congress

**BAA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Berom, Anaguta and Afizere

**CAN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Christian Association of Nigeria

**COCIN\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Church of Christ in Nations

**DPP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Democratic People’s Party

**DRC \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Democratic Republic of Congo

**ECWA\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Evangelical Church Winning All

**FCT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Federal Capital Territory

**ICG \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** International Crisis group

**INEC \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Independent National Electoral Commission

**JCDA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *Jasawa* Community Development Association

**JDA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *Jasawa* Development Association

**JDPI \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *Jasawa* Development and Peace Initiative

**JEF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *Jasawa* Elders Forum

**JICD \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *Jasawa* Initiative for Community Development

**JIBWIS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Jama’atu Izalatul Bid’ah Wa Ikamatus Sunnah

**JNI \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Jama’atu Nasril Islam

**JSA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *Jasawa* Students Association

**JYA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** *Jasawa* Youth Association

**LG \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Local Government

**LP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Labour Party

**NA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Native Authority

**NAPEP\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** National Poverty Eradication Programme

**NCNC \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** National Council of Nigerian Citizens

**NPC \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Northern People’s Congress

**NPN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** National Party of Nigeria

**NPP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Nigerian Peoples Party

**NRC \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** National Republican Convention

**NYUC \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Northern Yoruba United Congress

**PDP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Peoples Democratic Party

**PIDAN\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Plateau Indigenous Development Association of Network

**PLASIEC\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Plateau State Independent Electoral Commission

**SA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Special Assistant/Special Adviser

**SSA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Senior Special Assistant/Senior Special Adviser

**SAP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Structural Adjustment Programme

**SDP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Social Democratic Party

**UMBC\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** United Middle Belt Congress

**UNIP \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** United National Independent Party

**UPN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Unity Party of Nigeria