

EDITORIAL NOTE

Editorial Notes

Election and quest for power by the political elite has become a major source of violence in the contemporary African history. In many parts of Africa, election and quest for powerful position is the main source of accumulation of private wealth. Those that are in the seat of power uses it as an opportunity to amass unlimited national wealth and loth the treasury. They largely share the masses' commonwealth thereby undermining the necessary resources needed for development and societal transformation into private pocket.

Furthermore, the quest to attain these degree of wealth naturally pushes many African power elites into the competition for political offices. They engage in elections at all cost and unleash private, group and personal resources towards the attainment of their political interest. This Issue of the Journal focuses on the nature of elections, electoral violence in power politics within the African continent and the way forward. The first article discussed electoral violence and democratic transition in Africa, focusing on the causes and consequences as well as the way forward. The truth is that it is no longer news that sit-tightism has become a culture for a number of African leaders. The article gave examples of African states across all regions where democratic transition has become problematic due to the desperado of the ruling elite. The article that followed discussed leadership contestation and regional insecurity: an assessment of political conflicts in West African states. This study unravelled how quest for sovereign national seats of power has made the West African region very volatile as well as unsafe and proffered a number of solutions.

The next study focused on the relationship between social media and electoral violence in Kogi State, Nigeria. It gave an insight into the terrible situation of electoral violence in Kogi State and how the social media complicates the situation. That study was followed by perverse electoral politics and securitized youths: implications for peace and security in

Nigeria. It should be noted that there is no gainsaying that the youths remain the beacon of hope for national and regional security within the African continent. The paper therefore outlined how the energy of the youths could be harnessed to ensure sustainable national peace and security in Nigeria. The last article discussed the role of individuals and community development in Isuokoma: focus on implications for political and environmental transformation. It is often argued that across the Nigerian State, the power elite are increasingly failing in providing the needed resources for national development. Consequently, individuals and groups across many communities within the country are taking up the challenge to build sustainable communal development, which have multiple implication for political and environmental transformation as found in that study.

Finally, the ideas presented in this study remains valuable collection for African continental governmental and non-governmental organisations, regional bodies and institutions, states and groups that are conscious of transforming the nature of elections and African political culture. I therefore encourage you to spare your time and go through the intellectual collections in this study. They are highly scholarly and would satisfy your appetite for learning and new policy formulation!

Dr Kelechi Johnmary Ani

Guest Editor, Volume 2, Number 2.

Department of History and Strategic Studies,

Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu-Alike,

Ebonyi State, Nigeria

kani4christ@gmail.com; kelechi.ani@funai.edu.ng

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Kelechi Johnmary Ani