

**VOLUME
1**



NIGERIAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

32ND

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF NIGERIAN
POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION**

THEME:

**GOVERNANCE, SECURITY
AND ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA**

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**CONFERENCE
PROCEEDINGS**



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PREFACE

The Nigerian State is in a seemingly state of decline following the prevalence of governance deficits orchestrated by poor and inept leadership. Over the years Nigeria has been groping in the dark and traversing from one leadership failures to another. Worse still, there appears to be no end in sight to this orgy and recurring situation. The scenario has truncated development initiatives and constantly drag the Nigerian State to the precinct of precipice.

As a corollary of the above, Nigeria is presently and constantly at a crossroad. The polity is therefore infested by multivariate virus of insecurity, poverty, declining confidence level, economic imbecility, and entrapped in governance deficiency syndrome within the pervading contour of social dislocation and deleterious clash of values, norms and cultures. Each passing day presents a gloomy picture of bleak future characterised by seemingly institutionalised banditry, kidnapping, assassinations and other forms of bestial criminality. Thus, the public conversations now centre on issues of ethnic discontent, mutual and deepening suspicion, intolerance and inflamed religious-ethnic sypher. Indeed, the most frightening aspect of the orgy scenario is that the political leaders appear helpless, hapless and hence recline to joining the fray of contestations among political gladiators and ethnic bigots. Most frightening is the fact that the leadership merely watch and profit from the spectre of the highly motivated/activated centrifugal ‘demonstrations.’

The prevailing political instability, insecurity, economic downturn, electoral maleficence and social decay motivated the Nigerian Political Science Association to adopt, as its theme: **Governance, Security and Elections in Nigeria** in her 32nd Annual Conference organised at the Department of Political Science, University of Calabar on Monday 22nd through 25th July 2019. The conference considered several issues of pressing/urgent national importance relating to, but not limited to elections, insecurity, governance, security architecture and Nigeria’s external engagements in a rapidly changing world order. In fact, thirty-eight (38) different parallel sessions were constituted to interrogate different aspects of the theme. The various papers presented specifically explored the following thematic areas: Insecurity; proposed Rural Grazing Area (RUGA) Project; economic development initiatives; appraisals of the 2019 general elections; issues of restructuring of the Nigerian State; continued incarceration of the Chibok girls especially Leah Sheribu; separatist and secessionist agitations as well as Nigeria’s external relations among several other sub-themes.

These papers were empirical and well written. They represent major contributions to the extant literature on governance, development, electoral process and security studies. Fundamentally, some of the chapters provided insightful analysis on security studies and are indeed desiderata for managing insecurity in developing states. Besides, the proceedings provide useful insights into the strategies for instituting responsive governance, managing the electoral process, addressing escalating incidence of secessionist agitations and improving Nigeria’s external relations and subsequently harvesting the gains of global alliances and hence reaping the benefits of contemporary globalisation.

The proceedings are therefore recommended to the academic community, professionals, political leaders, Election Management Bodies, Security Chiefs and researchers engaged in enquiries on governance, security, development and security.

Professor Aloysius-Michaels Okolie
Immediate Past President, NPSA

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