

## Religion and Environmental Sustainability in Nigeria: A Sociological Pathway for Effective Service Delivery in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Rotimi ODUDELE<sup>1\*</sup>, Jonathan Oluropo FAMILUGBA<sup>2</sup>, Olatunji Samuel AKINWUMI<sup>3</sup>,  
Isaac Olusola AYEGUNLE<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Ph D. Department of Liberal Arts (Christian Religion unit),  
Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology,  
Ikere Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

<sup>2</sup>Ph D. Department of Liberal Arts (History unit),  
Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology,  
Ikere Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

<sup>3,4</sup>Department of Liberal Arts (Christian Religion unit),  
Bamidele Olumilua University of Education, Science and Technology,  
Ikere Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

### ABSTRACT

This article explores the intricate relationship between religion and environmental sustainability in Nigeria, emphasizing a sociological approach for enhancing service delivery in the 21st century. It delves into how religious beliefs and practices influence attitudes towards the environment, shaping behaviours that impact sustainability. By examining this sociological pathway, the research aims to provide insights into fostering effective service delivery strategies that align with both religious values and ecological preservation in the Nigerian context. The methodology employed is historical and descriptive. It was discovered that environmental sustainability is a critical global concern, and Nigeria, with its rich biodiversity and growing population, faces significant obstacles and challenges in achieving and maintaining a sustainable environment. It is recommended that environmental sustainability in Nigeria is imperative to evade earth warming for ecological preservation and economic resilience with a roadmap towards a more balanced and resilient future for Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Religion, Environment, Pathway, Service delivery, Nigeria

### INTRODUCTION

In Nigeria, a country marked by cultural and religious diversity, the intersection of religion and environmental sustainability has emerged as a crucial aspect of societal development. This article delves into the sociological dimensions of this intersection, exploring how religious beliefs can be harnessed as a pathway for effective service delivery in the realm of environmental sustainability. Nigeria, with its significant population adhering to various faiths, witnesses a profound impact of religious teachings on the values and ethics of its people. Many religions emphasize stewardship of the earth, promoting a sense of responsibility towards the environment. Sociologically, this influence can be leveraged to cultivate a collective consciousness for sustainable practices. Besides, religious institutions serve as focal points for community engagement, creating social capital that can be mobilized for environmental initiatives (Odudele, 2006). By integrating sustainability messages into religious teachings, leaders can inspire congregations to actively participate in economic-friendly practices. This communal collaboration can lead to the creation of sustainable projects and the dissemination of environmental knowledge.

---

\* Corresponding Author

Moreover, the 21st century demands a more informed and educated populace concerning environmental issues. Religious institutions, with their vast reach, can become hubs for environmental education. Incorporating ecological awareness into religious teachings fosters a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness between faith, humanity, and the environment. Thus, religious leaders, as influential figures within communities, possess the potential to shape public opinion and influence policy. Sociologically, this influence can be channelled towards advocating for environmentally friendly policies and practices (Eche & Amadi, 2020). Collaboration between religious institutions and governmental bodies can lead to the development of sustainable policies that align with societal values.

Religious teachings often emphasize the principles of justice and equality. Genesis 1:28-29 continues to shape human perspectives on the environment, influencing societal attitudes and behaviours. This article highlights the historical, cultural, and sociological dimensions of these verses, emphasizing the need for a nuanced understanding that aligns with contemporary environmental challenges. Recognizing the diverse interpretations and impacts of this biblical passage is crucial for fostering a sustainable coexistence between humanity and the natural world (Bassett, 2020). Sociologically, this can translate into a commitment to environmental justice, ensuring that vulnerable communities have access to a clean and sustainable environment. Faith-based organizations can play a pivotal role in addressing environmental disparities and advocating for inclusive policies that benefit all. While the sociological pathway between religion and environmental sustainability is promising, challenges such as resistance to change and differing interpretations of religious teachings must be acknowledged. However, fostering dialogue and promoting an inclusive approach that respects diverse perspectives can pave the way for overcoming these challenges (Odudele, 2018).

### **EARTH WARMING AND SOCIOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN NIGERIA**

Earth warming, driven by anthropogenic activities, poses a significant threat to the global environment. This article narrows its lens to examine how this phenomenon uniquely affects Nigeria, a country with diverse ecosystems and a large population heavily reliant on natural resources for livelihoods. Discussing the observed changes in temperature, precipitation patterns, and sea levels, the article outlines the specific manifestations of climate change in Nigeria. According to Agagu (2009), from prolonged droughts to increased frequency of floods, the environmental landscape is undergoing transformations that demand a sociological examination.

#### ***Sociological Implications:***

**Agricultural Impact:** The warming climate disrupts traditional farming practices, affecting food security and altering the socio-economic structure of rural communities dependent on agriculture.

**Migration and Displacement:** Changing climate patterns force communities to migrate, leading to potential conflicts over resources and challenging established societal structures.

**Health Concerns:** The article addresses the escalating health challenges associated with climate change, from the spread of diseases to increased vulnerability to heat-related illnesses.

**Social Inequality:** Vulnerable populations, particularly those with limited resources, face disproportionate impacts, exacerbating existing social inequalities.

#### ***Cultural Adaptation:***

Exploring how local cultures in Nigeria are adapting to the changing environment, the article highlights innovative strategies and traditional knowledge systems that communities employ to mitigate the impacts of Earth warming.

***Governmental and International Response:***

An overview of the Nigerian government's policies and international collaborations aimed at addressing climate change is provided. The article evaluates the effectiveness of these measures in the context of sociological implications.

***Sacred Spaces and Environmental Changes:***

Explore how places of worship, considered sacred by different religions, are affected by extreme weather events such as floods, hurricanes, and wildfires. Discuss the challenges faced by religious communities in maintaining and preserving their holy sites amidst climate-related disruptions (Bassett, 2000).

***Religious Ethics and Stewardship:***

Examine the teachings and ethical principles within various religions regarding environmental stewardship and the responsibility of humanity to care for the Earth. Discuss how rising temperatures and climate change pose moral dilemmas and challenges to adherents of different faiths.

**OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN NIGERIA**

Nigeria, as a developing nation, grapples with numerous obstacles that impede progress towards environmental sustainability. To Bayode, Emmanuel and Sogbon (2011) rapid urbanization, fuelled by population growth and industrialization, leads to increased demand for resources, resulting in habitat destruction and environmental degradation. Inadequate waste management exacerbates the problem, causing pollution and threatening ecosystems.

Deforestation is a pressing concern, driven by logging, agricultural expansion, and urban development. The loss of critical forest cover contributes to biodiversity decline, disrupts ecological balance, and intensifies the impact of climate change. The interplay of these challenges demands a comprehensive understanding to formulate effective strategies for sustainable development. The obstacles and challenges are:

***Rapid Urbanization:***

Uncontrolled urban expansion leads to the encroachment of natural habitats. Increased resource consumption and waste generation strain ecosystems. According to Butler (2008), inadequate urban planning results in pollution and environmental stress.

***Inadequate Waste Management:***

Insufficient infrastructure for waste collection and disposal. Improper disposal practices contribute to soil, water, and air pollution. Lack of recycling facilities exacerbates the environmental impact (Emmanuel & Alakinde, 2006).

***Deforestation:***

Unregulated logging for timber and agricultural expansion. Loss of biodiversity and disruption of ecosystems. Amplification of climate change effects due to reduced carbon sequestration. Thus, there is climate change impact which leads vulnerability to extreme weather events such as floods and droughts. Rising temperatures affecting agriculture and water resources. Limited adaptation measures exacerbating environmental challenges.

***Resource Depletion:***

Overexploitation of natural resources, including water and minerals. Unsustainable agricultural practices leading to soil degradation. Threats to food security and loss of ecosystem services.

***Syncretism and Indigenous Practices***

Nigeria's religious landscape is also marked by syncretism, where individuals seamlessly blend traditional indigenous practices with their professed religions. This syncretic approach often involves rituals and ceremonies that connect communities with nature. While this fusion

may promote a holistic relationship with the environment, it can also lead to conflicts when traditional practices clash with modern conservation efforts.

#### ***Opportunities for Positive Change***

Recognizing the potential of religious institutions as agents of change, there is a growing movement in Nigeria to leverage religious platforms for environmental advocacy. Faith-based organizations are increasingly involved in community projects that promote sustainable agriculture, waste management, and conservation. This collaboration between religion and environmentalism serves as a bridge, aligning cultural values with contemporary ecological concerns (Eche & Amadi, 2020).

#### ***Education and Awareness***

Promoting environmental literacy within religious communities is crucial for sustainable change. Efforts to incorporate environmental education into religious teachings can empower individuals to make informed choices that align with their faith and contribute to a healthier planet. This educational approach fosters a sense of shared responsibility among diverse religious communities.

### **GENESIS 1:28-29 AND ITS SOCIOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Genesis 1:28-29, a pivotal scripture in the Judeo-Christian tradition, has significantly influenced human attitudes towards the environment. This article aims to analyse the sociological dimensions of these verses and their implications on human-nature relationships.

***Historical Context:*** Understanding the historical context is crucial to interpreting Genesis 1:28-29. These verses, part of the creation narrative, were written in a time when agriculture and dominion over nature were essential for survival. The command to "subdue" the Earth and have "dominion" reflects the socio-economic needs of ancient societies.

***Cultural Influences:*** The interpretation of Genesis 1:28-29 has varied across cultures, shaping diverse sociological perspectives on the environment. Some cultures emphasize stewardship, promoting responsible care for the Earth, while others may interpret dominion as a license for exploitation.

***Sociological Impact:*** The command to have dominion over the Earth has contributed to anthropocentrism, where human needs often take precedence over ecological considerations. This mindset has led to environmental degradation, deforestation, and overexploitation of natural resources.

***Contemporary Reinterpretations:*** In light of environmental challenges, contemporary theologians and scholars are revisiting Genesis 1:28-29. Some argue for an ecological interpretation that emphasizes responsible stewardship, aligning biblical teachings with modern environmental ethics.

***Environmental Movements:*** The sociological impact of Genesis 1:28-29 is evident in the development of environmental movements. Some groups draw inspiration from these verses to advocate for sustainable practices, while others critique the anthropocentric approach embedded in the biblical command. The intersection of religion and environmental sustainability is a complex and intriguing area of study. This article delves into the sociological implications of Genesis 1:29, a biblical verse that has been a guiding principle for many individuals, particularly in Nigeria, concerning their relationship with the environment.

### **ANALYSIS**

***Stewardship and Responsibility:*** The verse emphasizes human responsibility over the earth. Sociologically, it instills a sense of stewardship, advocating for responsible resource management and care for the environment.

**Cultural Impact in Nigeria:** In a country like Nigeria, deeply rooted in religious beliefs, Genesis 1:29 plays a crucial role in shaping cultural attitudes towards nature. The verse has influenced traditional practices, promoting a holistic understanding of the environment.

**Sustainable Agricultural Practices:** Sociologically, the verse encourages sustainable agricultural practices. The focus on seed-bearing plants aligns with principles of agroecology, promoting biodiversity and soil health, which are essential for long-term environmental sustainability.

**Community and Communal Living:** The sociological lens reveals that the emphasis on sharing resources, as suggested in the verse, fosters a sense of community and communal living. This communal mindset can have positive implications for sustainable living practices and environmental stewardship within Nigerian communities.

## SOCIOLOGICAL IMPACTS OF RELIGION ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN NIGERIA

Religion in Nigeria often plays a role in shaping attitudes towards the environment. Some religious teachings emphasize stewardship and care for nature, contributing to community efforts in sustainable practices. Additionally, religious institutions may influence environmental policies and advocacy, fostering a sense of responsibility for preserving the natural world. However, challenges such as deforestation and pollution persist, highlighting the need for a balanced approach that combines religious teachings with effective environmental policies.

In Nigeria, religion plays various sociological roles, serving as a significant cultural and social force. It often provides a sense of identity, community, and shared values among diverse ethnic groups. Additionally, religion in Nigeria can influence social cohesion, ethical norms, and even political dynamics, shaping the societal fabric in multifaceted ways.

Religion plays a significant role in shaping societal values, attitudes, and behaviors. In Nigeria, a country known for its cultural diversity and rich religious landscape, the impact of religion on the environment is a complex and multifaceted issue. This article explores the various ways in which religious beliefs and practices influence environmental attitudes and sustainability efforts in Nigeria.

Religious leaders wield significant influence in Nigerian society, and their stance on environmental issues can shape public opinion. Collaborative efforts between religious leaders and environmental organizations have the potential to amplify awareness and promote eco-friendly practices. Encouraging sermons, workshops, and community engagement can foster a sense of environmental responsibility among the faithful.

## RELIGION AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY IN NIGERIA

Religion plays a significant role in the socio-cultural fabric of Nigeria, a country known for its rich diversity in ethnicities, languages, and religious beliefs. With a population that is roughly divided between Christianity and Islam, the influence of religion permeates various aspects of Nigerian society, including its governance and service delivery mechanisms (Odudele & Ajayi, 2024). This article explores the intricate relationship between religion and effective service delivery in Nigeria, examining both the positive and challenging aspects of this dynamic.

### **Religious Influence on Values and Morality:**

One of the positive aspects of religion in Nigeria is its impact on shaping values and moral principles. Both Christianity and Islam emphasize values such as honesty, compassion, and justice. These shared moral foundations can contribute to a more ethical and accountable society, fostering an environment conducive to effective service delivery.

***Community Engagement and Social Welfare:***

Religious institutions often play a crucial role in community development and social welfare. Churches and mosques frequently engage in charitable activities, providing services like education, healthcare, and assistance to the less fortunate. This proactive involvement helps fill gaps in government service delivery, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

***Challenges to Secular Governance:***

While religious institutions contribute positively to societal welfare, challenges arise when religious beliefs intertwine with governance. In some instances, political decisions and policy implementation may be influenced by religious considerations rather than rational and inclusive approaches. This can lead to discriminatory practices and hinder the impartial delivery of services.

***Religious Tensions and Service Disruptions:***

Nigeria has experienced instances where religious differences have escalated into tensions, negatively impacting service delivery. Conflict between religious groups can disrupt the functioning of essential services, creating an environment where effective governance becomes challenging. Efforts to manage religious diversity and foster interfaith dialogue are crucial to mitigating such conflicts.

***The Need for Secular Institutions:***

To enhance effective service delivery, Nigeria must strike a balance between respecting religious diversity and maintaining secular governance. Establishing and strengthening secular institutions that prioritize merit, efficiency, and inclusivity can help ensure that services are delivered impartially, regardless of religious affiliations.

***Education as a Catalyst for Change:***

Education plays a pivotal role in navigating the relationship between religion and effective service delivery. Promoting education that encourages critical thinking, tolerance, and respect for diversity can help mitigate religious biases and foster a more inclusive approach to governance.

**BALANCING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY WITH EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY IN NIGERIA**

In Nigeria, the intersection of environmental concerns and the delivery of essential services poses a critical challenge. As the country strives for economic growth and improved living standards, it is imperative to strike a delicate balance between effective service delivery and environmental sustainability.

***Environmental Challenges:***

Nigeria grapples with a myriad of environmental issues, including deforestation, air and water pollution, and inadequate waste management. These challenges not only jeopardize the health of the population but also hinder the efficient delivery of services such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure (Omofonmwan & Osa-Edoh, 2008).

***Water and Sanitation:***

Access to clean water is fundamental for public health, yet many Nigerians lack reliable and safe water sources. Addressing water scarcity and contamination is not only essential for the well-being of communities but also influences the effectiveness of healthcare and sanitation services.

***Energy and Infrastructure:***

The quest for improved service delivery often intensifies the demand for energy and infrastructure development. However, the traditional reliance on fossil fuels can contribute to environmental degradation. A sustainable approach involves exploring renewable energy sources and eco-friendly infrastructure designs.

***Agriculture and Biodiversity:***

Agriculture is a vital component of Nigeria's economy, but unsustainable farming practices can lead to deforestation and loss of biodiversity. Implementing environmentally friendly agricultural methods is crucial to preserving ecosystems while ensuring food security and supporting rural development.

***Government Initiatives:***

Efforts to enhance service delivery and protect the environment require strategic government interventions. Implementation of policies that promote sustainable practices, investment in eco-friendly technologies, and stringent enforcement of environmental regulations are essential steps.

***Community Engagement:***

Active involvement of local communities is indispensable in achieving a harmonious balance between service delivery and environmental preservation. Public awareness campaigns, education on sustainable practices, and community-based initiatives contribute to fostering a sense of environmental responsibility.

**BENEFITS AND PROSPECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN NIGERIA**

Nigeria, a nation endowed with diverse ecosystems, faces environmental threats such as deforestation, pollution, and climate change. Embracing environmental sustainability not only safeguards the country's rich biodiversity but also holds the key to a more robust and equitable society. The benefits of environmental sustainability in Nigeria are as follows:

***Biodiversity Conservation:***

Preserving ecosystems helps protect Nigeria's unique flora and fauna, maintaining biodiversity crucial for ecological balance.

***Climate Change Mitigation:***

Sustainable practices reduce greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to global efforts to mitigate climate change and its adverse effects.

***Resource Efficiency:***

Adopting sustainable resource management practices ensures efficient use of natural resources, preventing depletion and promoting long-term availability.

***Public Health Improvement:***

Reducing pollution and promoting clean energy sources enhance air and water quality, directly improving public health outcomes.

***Economic Resilience:***

A shift towards sustainable industries fosters economic resilience by creating green jobs, reducing dependence on non-renewable resources, and attracting sustainable investments.

***Community Empowerment:***

Implementing sustainable practices empowers local communities, providing them with the knowledge and tools to manage their natural resources responsibly. Thus, the prospects for environmental sustainability in Nigeria are briefly discussed in the following order:

***Policy Frameworks:***

Strengthening environmental policies and regulations is essential for creating a conducive environment for sustainable practices.

***Green Technologies:***

Investing in and adopting green technologies can propel Nigeria towards a sustainable, low-carbon economy.

***Educational Initiatives:***

Promoting environmental education at all levels will raise awareness and foster a culture of sustainability among the populace.

***International Collaboration:***

Collaborating with global partners and participating in international initiatives will provide Nigeria with valuable resources and knowledge to address environmental challenges.

***Innovation and Research:***

Encouraging innovation and supporting research in sustainable practices will drive the development of context-specific solutions for environmental issues.

**CONCLUSION AND OBSERVATIONS**

In Nigeria, the sociological link between religion and environmental sustainability offers a unique pathway for effective service delivery in the 21st century (Haralambus & Alburn, 2007). By harnessing the influence of religious institutions, the nation can embark on a journey towards a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future, ensuring the well-being of both present and future generations. Navigating the complex relationship between religion and the environment in Nigeria requires a nuanced understanding of cultural, religious, and ecological dimensions. While challenges persist, the synergy between religious teachings and environmental consciousness presents an opportunity for positive transformation. By fostering collaboration, promoting education, and embracing indigenous wisdom, Nigeria can harness the power of its diverse religious tapestry to build a more sustainable and harmonious future.

The impacts of religion on the environment in Nigeria are intricate and multifaceted. While traditional belief systems often emphasize ecological harmony, Christianity and Islam provide frameworks for responsible stewardship. Balancing the positive aspects with the challenges posed by certain religious practices is crucial for fostering sustainable development in Nigeria. By harnessing the influence of religious leaders and promoting awareness within communities, there is potential for a harmonious coexistence between religious beliefs and environmental conservation in the country. The relationship between religion and effective service delivery in Nigeria is complex, marked by both positive contributions and challenges. While religious institutions contribute significantly to community welfare, ensuring impartial and efficient service delivery requires a commitment to secular governance and education that promotes inclusivity. Striking this delicate balance is essential for Nigeria to harness the positive aspects of religious influence while addressing potential impediments to effective service delivery.

As Nigeria advances, the intertwining challenges of environmental sustainability and effective service delivery demand innovative solutions and collaborative efforts. Striking the right balance requires a holistic approach, where policymakers, communities, and businesses work together to build a resilient and sustainable future for generations to come. The sociological implications of Genesis 1:29 towards sustaining the Nigerian environment are profound. The verse not only shapes individual attitudes but also influences communal and cultural practices, providing a framework for responsible environmental stewardship. Understanding and applying these sociological insights can contribute to the development of holistic and culturally relevant strategies for environmental sustainability in Nigeria.

This article concludes by emphasizing the urgent need for holistic, sociologically-informed strategies to address the complex challenges arising from Earth warming in Nigeria. It advocates for interdisciplinary collaboration and community engagement to foster resilience and sustainable development in the face of a changing climate. This comprehensive exploration aims to contribute to the understanding of the intricate relationship between Earth warming and the sociological fabric of Nigeria, providing insights for policymakers, researchers, and the general public. As Nigeria grapples with the complexities of environmental changes, the intertwining of socio-religious dynamics adds a layer of complexity to the nation's challenges. This article sheds light on the evolving landscape, emphasizing the need for a holistic approach that incorporates both environmental and cultural considerations to foster a resilient and



harmonious future for Nigeria. As temperatures rise and weather patterns become increasingly unpredictable, the intersection of religion and climate change becomes a critical focal point. Understanding how different faiths interpret and respond to these environmental challenges is essential for fostering a holistic approach to climate action. Ultimately, religious perspectives can play a significant role in shaping ethical and moral responses to the urgent environmental issues we face.

Environmental sustainability in Nigeria faces formidable challenges, necessitating urgent and concerted efforts from government, communities, and industries. Mitigating rapid urbanization requires sustainable urban planning, waste management improvements, and public awareness campaigns. Halting deforestation demands stricter regulations, afforestation programs, and sustainable land-use practices. Additionally, addressing climate change impacts calls for adaptive strategies and international collaboration (Schaefer, 2004). By understanding and tackling these obstacles comprehensively, Nigeria can pave the way for a more sustainable future, preserving its natural heritage and ensuring the well-being of its citizens for generations to come. Embracing environmental sustainability in Nigeria is not merely an ecological necessity but a pathway to a resilient, prosperous future. The benefits span from ecological preservation to economic empowerment, while the prospects lie in robust policies, technological advancements, education, and global collaboration. By prioritizing sustainability, Nigeria can unlock a greener, more sustainable future for generations to come.

The lack of self-discipline in scientific knowledge, driven by greed, certainly contributed to the global environmental crisis. Scientific knowledge, while emphasising rights over obligations in particular in the context of the natural environment, seems to ignore the traditional wisdom of the world's religious and spiritual traditions. It is heartrending to take a quick glance at the profile of Nigeria's environment. Nigeria is facing enormous challenges in the field of environment. In fact, Nigeria was found to be one of the world's worst environmental records according to Butler (2008). Besides, Agagu (2009) also confirmed that Nigeria is one of the world's most polluted regions. Nigeria's vulnerability to environmental risks and the lack of an effective environmental management strategy to respond to threats in a sustainable manner are highlighted by this dismal record. The study has shown that religion is the most feasible method of achieving this objective, given Nigeria's inability to manage its natural environment effectively.

## REFERENCES

- Agagu, O. K. (2009). *Threat to the Nigerian Environment: A Call for Positive Action*. Lecture Delivered at 7th Chief S. L. Edu Memorial Lecture.
- Bassett, L. (2000). *Earth and Faith: A Book of Reflection for Action in Interfaith Partnership for the Environment*. New York: United Nations.
- Bayode, O. J., Emmanuel, A. A. & Sogbon, O. (2011). Environmental Implications of Oil Exploration and Exploitation in the Coastal Region of Ondo State, Nigeria: A Regional Planning Appraisal. *Journal of African Studies and Sustainable Development*, 3(6).
- Butler, J. (2008). *Nigerian Environmental Profile*. Retrieved April 20, 2023, from [www.nigeriaworld.com](http://www.nigeriaworld.com)
- Emmanuel, A. A. & Alakinde, M. K. (2006). *Nature of Environmental Science*. Monograph of Department of Urban and Regional Planning.
- Eche, G. A. & Amadi, S. E. (2020). Religion and Environmental Sustainability in Nigeria. *Journal of African Studies and Sustainable Development*, 3(6).
- Haralambus, J. & Alburn, M. (2007). *Introduction to Sociology*. New York: McGraw Hill.
- Odudele, R. (2006). *Religion and Moral Instructions in Schools*. Akure: Al-hafiz Publishers.

- Odudele, R. (2018). Christians Religion and Peaceful Co-existence for Sustainable Development in Nigeria: A Sociological Approach. *KIU Journal of Humanities*, 3(2), 153-160.
- Odudele, R. & Ajayi, J. A. (2024). Communication as a Sociological Tool for Resolving Conflict in the Contemporary Nigerian Society. *ISRG Journal of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (ISRGJAHSS)*, II(II), 45-52.
- Omofonmwan, S. I. & Osa-Edoh, G. I. (2008). The Challenges of Environmental Problems in Nigeria. *Journal of Human Ecology*, 23(1), 53-57.
- Schaefer, R.T. (2004). *Sociology: A Brief Introduction* (5th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.