



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

**DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA  
FROM 1960 TO 1999**

**PETER OSINAKACHUKWU NWOKEKE**

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**DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA  
FROM 1960 TO 1999**

**By**

**PETER OSINAKACHUKWU NWOKEKE**

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,  
in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science.**

**February 2011**



## **DEDICATIONS**

This research work is dedicated to my lovely mother, Mrs. Juliana Nwokeke for all her never ending prayers, love and tremendous parental care even in the absence of her late husband, Mr. Nicholas Ogubuike Nwokeke.



Abstract of the thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia  
in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

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**Chairman: Professor Jayum Anak Jawan, PhD**

**Faculty: Human Ecology**

This research examines democracy and economic development in Nigeria between 1960 and 1999. It discusses various democracies in Nigeria and various economic development efforts, including some of the shortcomings in their implementations. It also discusses the relationship between democracy and economic development.

It is qualitative research which uses historical/content analysis to descriptively analyze both civilian and military regimes as they affected democracy and economic development in the country via secondary data collected from books, journals, magazines, newspapers and government reports.

The importance of this research is to help policy makers in carrying out policies that will strengthen the standard of living of Nigerian citizens, to improve leadership



qualities and good governance which will foster and consolidate democratic values and economic development in the nation.

Evidences from findings show that democracy and the economy have failed to triumph in Nigeria due to reasons emanating from corruption, bad governance, lack of democratic values and wrong economic policies.

This research contends that Nigerian democracy and economy have failed to develop because both economic and democratic policies are influenced by the West and this made this work adopted dependency theory. We are of the view that if all the findings in this work are properly put into cognisance by the Nigerian policy makers, it will go a long way in sustaining democratic values and economic development in Nigerian states.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains

**DEMOKRASI DAN PEMBANGUNAN EKONOMI DI NIGERIA  
DARI 1960 KE 1999**

Oleh

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Penelitian ini bertujuan menilai demokrasi dan pembangunan ekonomi di Nigeri antara 1960 dan 1999. Ia menghuraikan pelbagai demokrasi di Nigeria dan usaha-usaha pembangunan ekonomi termasuk kelemahan dalam pelaksanaannya.

Pendekatan kualitatif dipilih dan data sekunder yang terdiri daripada buku, jurnal, majalah, suratkhbar dan ucapan dalam persidangan digunakan untuk menilai kesan kerajaan awam dan militer dalam demokrasi dan pembangunan ekonomi di Negara ini.

Kepentingan kajian ini ialah ia dapat membantu pembuat dasar awam dalam melaksanakan polisi yang bakal menolong memperkukuhkan tahap hidup warga dan meningkatkan kualiti kepimpinan yang dapat memupuk dan menyatukan nilai demokratik dan pembangunan ekonomi di Nigeria.

Bukti daripada penemuan menunjukkan demokrasi dan ekonomi gagal di Nigeria kerana kekurangan nilai demokrasi dan dasar ekonomi yang salah. Ekoran itu, beberapa cadangan untuk memperbaiki keadaan adalah seperti berikut: tekanan dan penyesedaran; bantuan luar dan orientasi semula; identifikasi dan pengenalpastian; intervensi dan komitmen; ujikaji dan pencarian; pengukuhan dan penerimaan. Kesemua cadangan ini, sekiranya ia disedari oleh pembuat dasar Nigeria, akan membantu memupuk nilai demokrasi dan pembangunan ekonomi di negara berkenaan.

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With any work of this scope there are many people to thank for their assistance and advice. I have incurred a debt to my advisor, Prof. Jayum Anak Jawan and assistant supervisor Dr. Ma'rof Redzuan for their encouragement, guidance and their ever willingness to give attention to my work amidst other compelling commitments. Their friendly disposition, patience, corrections, suggestions, and above all their critical but excellent supervision and relentless effort towards the completion of this work and proof reading the manuscript give me so many reasons to be grateful for their untiring supervision and intellectual fecundity which were master-class in the course of this work.

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This thesis was submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia and has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science. The members of the Supervisory Committee were as follows:

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## **DECLARATION**

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously, and it is not concurrently, submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or at any other institution.

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**PETER OSINAKACHUKWU NWOKEKE**

Date: 25 February 2011



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AG	Action Group
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FEDECO	Federal Electoral Commission
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GNI	Gross National Income
GNP	Gross National Product
GNPP	Great Nigerian Peoples' Party
HDI	Human Development Index
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
NCNC	National Council of Nigerian Citizens
NEC	National Electoral Commission
NEEDS	Nigerian Economic Empowerment Development Strategy
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NEPD	Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree
NISER	Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research
NNDP	Nigerian National Democratic Party
NPC	Northern Peoples Congress
NPN	National Party of Nigeria
NPP	Nigerian Peoples Party
NRC	National Republican Convention
PRP	Peoples Redemption Party
SAP	Structural Adjustment Programme
SDP	Social Democratic Party
TcTc	Technical Committee on Privatization and Commercialization
UPN	Unity Party of Nigeria
USD	United States Dollar
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (Russia)



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