

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Forward.....	14
Acknowledgements.....	17
Lists of Abbreviations.....	20
GENERAL INTRODUCTION.....	22

## CHAPTER ONE

### THE REALITY OF CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM RELATIONSHIP IN NIGERIA: A HISTO-RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVE

1.0 Introduction.....	37
1.1 The Paradox of Nigeria as a Pluralistic Society.....	39
1.1.1 Religion as a paradox in Nigeria: Meaning and Nature.....	40
1.2 Basic Religious Conflicts in Nigeria: The Igbo Perspective.....	48
1.2.1 Meaning of Conflict.....	51
1.2.2 Origins: Historical Background of Conflicts in Nigeria.....	53
1.2.3 Religious Conflicts in Nigeria.....	56
1.2.4 Some Contemporary Cases of Religious Conflicts in Nigeria.....	62
1.2.4.1 The Maitatsine Crisis of 1980 in Kano State, Nigeria.....	63
1.2.4.2 The Religious Kano Riot of 1982.....	65
1.2.4.3 The OIC Crisis of 1986 in Nigeria.....	67
1.2.4.4 The 1987 Kafanchan Religious Conflict.....	69
1.2.4.5 The Muslim - Christian Kano Riots of 1991.....	70
1.2.4.6 The Sharia Conflict of 2000 in Nigeria.....	72
1.2.5 Terrorist Organisations: The case of Boko Haram in Nigeria.....	78
1.2.5.1 Meaning of Boko Haram Terrorist Organisation.....	78
1.2.5.2 A Concise Historical Background of Boko Haram.....	79
1.2.5.3 The Ideological Concerns and Terrorists Activities of Boko Haram: A brief analysis.....	81
1.2.5.4 Some Key Attacks of Boko Haram Terrorist Organisation in Nigeria.....	85
1.2.5.5 Basic Government Responses to Boko Haram Activities in Nigeria....	88
1.2.6 Some Factors Responsible for Religious Conflicts in Nigeria.....	89

1.2.6.1 Religious and Doctrinal differences between Christianity and Islam.....	91
1.2.6.2 Ethno-Political Agenda.....	92
1.2.6.3 Islamization Project in Nigeria.....	93
1.2.7 Consequences: The Igbo Experiences of Religious Conflicts in Nigeria.....	96
1.3 The Church Responses to the Incessant Christian –Muslim Conflicts in Nigeria.....	101
1.4 The Reality of Christian-Muslim Relationship in Nigeria.....	108
1.5 Conclusion.....	109

## CHAPTER TWO

### **HISTORICAL: THE RELIGIO-CULTURAL BACKGROUND OF THE IGBO PEOPLE**

2.0 Introduction.....	112
2.1 The Structural Components of the Igbo Community in the Light of Communalism.....	113
2.1.1 The Origin of Igbo people.....	113
2.1.2 The Distinctive Intrinsic Qualities of the Igbo people.....	116
2.1.3 The Notion and Organisation of Community in Igbo Land.....	120
2.1.4 Igbo Family Setting and Values.....	130
2.1.4.1 Definitions and Nature of Family.....	130
2.1.4.2 Meaning and Nature of Igbo Family.....	134
2.1.5 Marriage in the Traditional Culture of Igbo Society.....	137
2.1.5.1 General Concept of Marriage.....	137
2.1.5.2 Marriage in Igbo Traditional Culture.....	141
2.1.5.3 The Importance and End of Marriage among the Igbos: A Cultural Imperative.....	150
2.1.6 The Igbo Land Community Structures.....	155
2.1.6.1 The Igbo Village and Kindred Community structure.....	155
2.1.6.2 Composition of Igbo Villages: Okposhi Village in Perspective.....	156
2.1.6.3 Igbo Village Leadership role.....	157
2.1.7 Town Structure in Igbo Land: Okposhi Community as an Example.....	158

2.1.7.1 Formation of Okposhi Town Community.....	159
2.1.7.2 Age Grade System in Ezza Clan of Igbo Land.....	162
2.2 An Overview of Igbo Traditional Religion and Her Cultural Values.....	166
2.2.1 Meaning, Origin and Nature of Igbo Traditional Religion: A Brief Exposition.....	166
2.2.2 The Basic Beliefs and Practices of Igbo Traditional Religion.....	169
2.2.2.1 Belief in the Supreme God.....	169
2.2.2.2 The Deity ( <i>Alusi</i> ) and Spirits.....	172
2.2.2.3 Ancestral Spirits.....	176
2.2.2.4 Life-After-Death.....	181
2.2.3 The Concept of Morality in Igbo Land.....	184
2.2.3.1. Defining the term 'Morality' .....	184
2.2.3.2. Understanding of Morality in Igbo Land.....	188
2.2.4 Basic Aspects of the Igbo Cultural Value System.....	191
2.2.4.1 Igbo Sense of Community life.....	192
2.2.4.2 Igbo Sense of Love and Human Relationship.....	194
2.2.4.3 Sacredness of Life in the Igbo Culture.....	196
2.2.4.4 Igbo Sense of Hospitality and the Symbols of Kola-Nut.....	198
2.2.4.5 Igbo Sense of the Sacred and of Religion.....	208
2.2.4.6 Igbo Sense of Authority and Respect for Elders.....	210
2.3 Conclusion.....	212

## CHAPTER THREE

### THE RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS OF THE ETHNIC PEOPLES OF NORTHERN NIGERIA

3.0 Introduction.....	215
3.1 Structural Components of the Muslim community and Ethnic peoples of Northern Nigeria: Introducing the peoples.....	216
3.1.1 The Hausa-Fulani Ethnic People.....	217
3.1.1.1 Hausa Ethnic People.....	217
3.1.1.2 Fulani Ethnic People.....	224
3.1.2 The Kanuri Ethnic people.....	225

3.1.3 The Middle Belt people.....	229
3.1.4 The Nok people and their culture.....	231
3.2 Islamic Religion in Northern Nigeria and the Jihad of Usman dan Fodio.....	232
3.2.1 Meaning, Origin and Nature of Islamic Religion in Nigeria.....	233
3.2.2 Islam in Northern Nigeria.....	235
3.2.3 The Jihad of Usman dan Fodio in Nigeria.....	237
3.2.4 Basic Beliefs and Practices of Islamic Religion.....	243
3.2.4.1 Belief in Qur'an as the only and final word of Allah.....	245
3.2.4.2 Belief in Prophet Muhammad.....	246
3.2.4.3 Belief and the practice of Sharia Law.....	249
3.2.5 Islam: A religion of Peace or Not.....	250
3.2.6 The Concept of Morality among Muslims in Nigeria.....	265
3.2.6.1 Islamic Understanding of Morality.....	265
3.2.6.2 The Nigeria Situation.....	267
3.3 Critical Exposition of Islamic Religion in Igbo Land, Nigeria.....	269
3.3.1 Advent of Islamic Religion in Igbo Land.....	270
3.3.2 Spread of Islam in Igbo Land: Nature and mode of operation.....	270
3.4 Notion and Organisation of Town-Community in Northern Nigeria.....	277
3.4.1 The Hausa-Fulani Town Community Structure.....	278
3.4.1.1 Composition.....	279
3.4.1.2 Leadership roles.....	279
3.4.1.3 Town Structure: Social and Cultural Institutions Involved.....	280
3.5 The Meaning of Islamic and Traditional Family Setting in Northern Nigeria.....	282
3.6 The Concept of Marriage among Muslims in Northern Nigeria.....	283
3.6.1 Understanding of Marriage in Islamic Culture.....	283
3.6.2 The Significance of Marriage among the peoples of Northern Nigeria.....	286
3.7 Aspects of Hausa-Fulani Cultural Values.....	289
3.7.1 Religion.....	293
3.7.2 Hausa-Fulani Dressing Code.....	294
3.7.3 Greeting/Salutation.....	295
3.7.4 Hospitality.....	295
3.7.5 Family/Marriage.....	296
3.8 Conclusion.....	298

## CHAPTER FOUR

### NOSTRA AETATE: THE CHURCH'S RELATION TO NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

4.0 Introduction.....	299
4.1 A Historical Background Prior to the Promulgation of the Document of Nostra Aetate.....	301
4.1.1 Origin and Meaning of Nostra Aetate.....	301
4.1.2 Debates: Church Reactions towards New Proposal on Openness to Other Religions.....	303
4.1.3 Nostra Aetate: The Church and Anti-Semitism.....	306
4.1.3.1 Anti-Semitism: Its meaning.....	306
4.1.3.2 The Causes of Anti-Semitism: A Historical Development.....	307
4.2 The Understanding of Nostra Aetate by the Jews, Catholics and Muslims.....	309
4.2.1 Jewish People and Nostra Aetate.....	310
4.2.2 The Catholic Church Understanding of Nostra Aetate.....	313
4.2.3 Muslim Understanding of Nostra Aetate.....	316
4.2.3.1 Nostra Aetate: Christian-Muslim Relations.....	316
4.3 The Fruits of Nostra Aetate.....	319
4.4 Nostra Aetate: Five Decades Later.....	323
4.5 The Influence of Nostra Aetate on Theology and Religious Education.....	324
4.5.1 The Contributions of Nostra Aetate to Theology.....	324
4.5.2 Impacts of Nostra Aetate on Religious Education.....	330
4.6 Possible Contestations of Nostra Aetate on Theology and Religious Education.....	336
4.6.1 Tensions between Theory and Practices in Terms of Implementation.....	336
4.6.2 Tendencies of losing one's Religious Identity.....	337
4.7 Conclusion.....	338

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SITUATION IN NIGERIA AFTER THE PROMULGATION OF NOSTRA AETATE

5.0 Introduction.....	341
5.1 Reactions and Responses of Christianity and Islam on Nostra Aetate.....	342
5.2 Some Major Changes made by Nostra Aetate on Religious Education System and Theological Experience in Nigeria.....	344
5.2.1 Mixed Christian Religious Studies and Theology.....	347
5.3 The Theology of Dialogue: First Model Approach to the Problems of Christian-Muslim Relationships in Nigeria.....	349
5.3.1 Understanding and meaning of Dialogue.....	350
5.3.1.1 The Meaning and Nature of Interreligious Dialogue.....	356
5.3.1.2 The Needs for Interreligious Engagements in Nigeria.....	359
5.3.1.3 Catholic Church and Interreligious Dialogue in Nigeria.....	365
5.3.2 Practical Commitment to and Cooperation with other Religions in Nigeria.....	369
5.3.2.1 The Need for Real Implementation of 'Dialogue of Theological Exchange' in Nigeria.....	372
5.3.3 Possible Challenges facing the Implementation of Inter-Religious Dialogue in Nigeria.....	376
5.3.3.1 Wrong application of Dialogue among Religions in Nigeria.....	377
5.3.3.2 Generalising perceptions of each other.....	378
5.3.3.3 Self-sufficiency of different Religions.....	379
5.3.3.4 Politicization of Religions in Nigeria.....	380
5.3.3.5 Renewed efforts to Islamize Nigeria.....	384
5.4 Theology of Hospitality: Second Model Approach in Resolving Religious Conflicts in Nigeria.....	387
5.4.1 Understanding the Theology of Hospitality.....	390
5.4.2 Basic Sources of the Theology of Hospitality.....	390
5.4.2.1 The Scripture as a Source of Hospitality.....	391
5.4.2.2 Christianity and Islamic Tradition hospitality as Sources of Hospitality.....	398
5.4.2.3 The Nigeria Religious Pluralism and Hospitality.....	407
5.4.3 The Nature of the Theology of Hospitality.....	410
5.5 Conclusion.....	413

## CHAPTER SIX

### WAZOBIA AS AN INCULTURATED THEOLOGICAL APPROACH FOR NIGERIA

6.0 Introduction.....	415
6.1 Background Aspects of Wazobia in Relation to Ujamaa and African Communalism.....	417
6.1.1 Wazobia: Meaning and Clarification.....	418
6.1.2 Wazobia in the Tradition of Ujamaa.....	423
6.1.3 Wazobia and African Communalism.....	425
6.2 Dialogue in the light of Wazobia.....	430
6.2.1 Justice in the light of Wazobia.....	433
6.2.2 Equity in the light of Wazobia.....	440
6.2.3 Forgiveness in the light of Wazobia.....	444
6.3 Theology of Hospitality in the Light of Wazobia.....	446
6.3.1 The Immediate Strategies in the light of Wazobia.....	448
6.3.1.1 Provision of immediate support to the Victims of Religious Conflicts in the light of Wazobia.....	449
6.3.1.2 Psycho-Spiritual healing of the victims of religious conflicts in the light of Wazobia.....	452
6.3.1.3 Administration of justice to the victims of religious conflicts in the light of Wazobia.....	458
6.3.2 Enduring strategies for Handling Religious Violence in the light of Wazobia.....	462
6.3.2.1 Application of Structural Justice.....	463
6.3.2.2 Restoration of Moral probity in Nigeria.....	467
6.3.2.3 Standing in Solidarity with the Victims of Religious Conflicts.....	470
6.4 Concretizing the Theologies of Dialogue and Hospitality in the light of Wazobia.....	472
6.5 Conclusion.....	478
<b>GERNERAL CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>481</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>486</b>