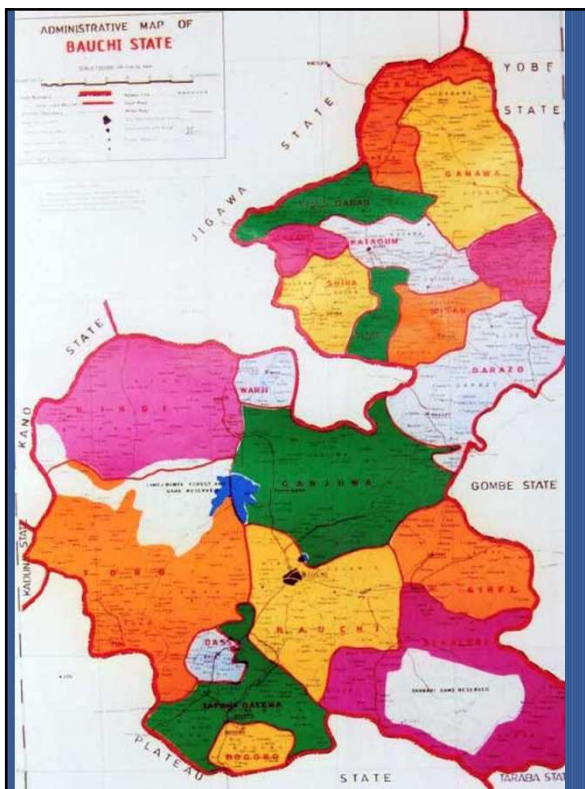
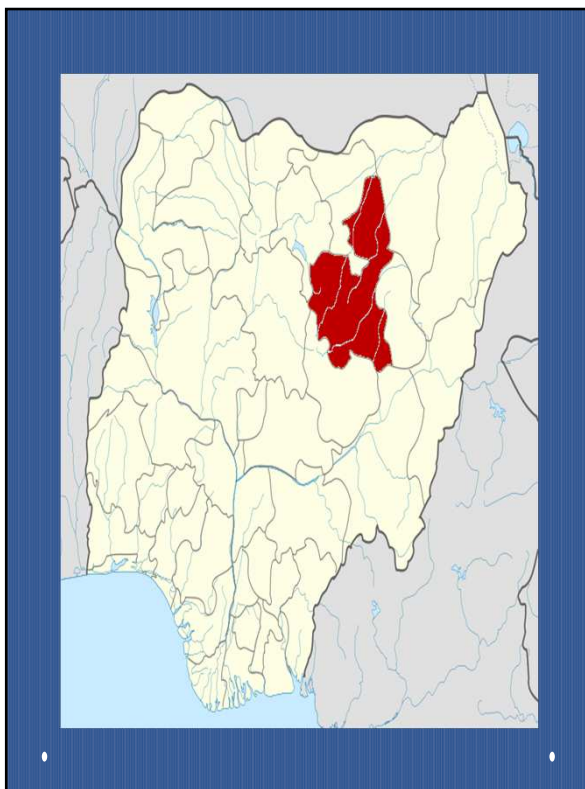


The Roles and Challenges of
Traditional Rulers in Land Conflict
Resolution and Management in
Nigeria: A Case Study of Bauchi State,
Nigeria.

Prominent Parties Involved in
Land Conflict Resolutions

- THE CLAIMANTS
- LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES
- COMMUNITY LEADERS (TRADITIONAL RULERS)
- ELDERS
- JUDICIARY AND
- SURVEYORS



4. Definitions of a Traditional Ruler

- 1. as a person who by virtue of his ancestral position occupies the throne or stool of an area and who has been appointed to it in accordance with the customs and traditions of the area and whose throne has been in existence before the advent of the British in Nigeria¹.
- 2.a traditional ruler is the traditional head of an ethnic unit or clan who for the time being the holder of the highest traditional authority whose title is recognized as a traditional ruler's title by the government of the state²

5. Examples of Such Traditional Rules are:

- I. In the Northern part of Nigeria are Sultan Of Sokoto, Emirs of Bauchi, Katagum, Ningi, Misau, Jama'are, Kano, Zazzau, Lamido of Adamawa, Etsu Nupe.
- II. In the Eastern part of Nigeria there are the Obis and Igwes of Onisha, Enugu, Calabar and Porthart Court.
- III. In the Western part of Nigeria, there are the Alafins and Onis in Oyo, Ibadan, Ife and Lagos.

7. Land and Population Distribution in Nigeria

- Nigeria has a total land mass of 910,000 sq km
- With a population of 152,217,341 by 2010 with an annual increase rate of 1.9%.
- It has about 250 ethnic groups with Hausa/Fulani, Igbo and Yuruba prominently being largest.
- Bauchi state has a total land mass of 49,119 sq km being the 6th in land mass.
- Its population is the 7th in rank with 4,653,066 people by 2010. With its internally displaced persons of over two million residing in the state, the ranking may change.
- It has major ethnics group such as Hausa/Fulani, Jarawa, Sayawa, Kare-Kare, Gerawa, Kanuri amongst others.

8. The Roles Played by the Traditional Rulers in Nigeria

- Enlightenment
- Maintenance of peace
- Mobilisation
- Sensitisation
- Custodian of culture and tradition
- Participation in Land issues, SLTR, state boundary commission

9. Composition of Traditional Rulers in Bauchi State.

- There are six Emirates in Bauchi State;
 - a. Bauchi Emirate
 - b. Katagum Emirate
 - c. Misau Emirate
 - d. Jama'are Emirate
 - e. Ningi Emirate and
 - f. Dass Emirate

10. Bauchi and Its Neighbours

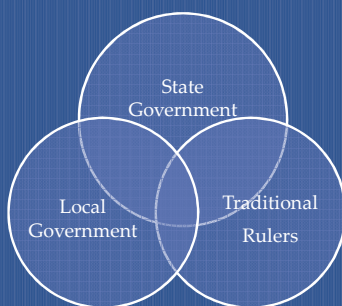
Bauchi State is living harmoniously with its immediate neighbours. This is as the result of its bondage with the states on historical, commercial, political, beliefs and common interest well before the advent of colonial rules. Bauchi state is sharing borders of 1269 km in length with the following six states;

1. Bornu State
2. Gombe State
3. Plateau State
4. Kaduna State and
5. Kano State
6. Jigawa State.

11. Composition and Hierarchy in Bauchi State Emirates



12. Relationship of Government and the Traditional Rulers



13. Causes of Land and Boundary Disputes

- Land limitation
- Multiple users
- Rural urban migration
- Minor/Gender issues
- Undefined or improper boundaries description
- Faulty land transfer eg. private conveyance

14. Maturity for conflict

- Sharing of limited resources.
- Perceived legitimacy in the resources
- Interdependency of the claimants.
- Perceived equal power.

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15. Types and Forms of Land Conflict

1. Positional:

- Marked for example by temporary points

2. Territorial:

- Claimed by long occupation or historical reasons

3. Resources:

- Scarcity of water, food or presence of oil, or gas

4. Cultural:

- Legitimacy, superiority on either, political, religious, ethnic or linguistics characteristics.

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16. Land Administration

- Land use Act
Seeks to simplify the access to land by both the government, cooperate bodies and individuals
- Departments in charged of Land & Survey
- Local Government Councils

17. Some boundary and land disputes settled through the Traditional Rulers Intrevention/Assistance

- Between Zungur in Bauchi LGA and Jambil in T/Balewa LGA
- Gwaran LGA in Jigawa State and Giade LGA in Bauchi State
- Marbini In ganjuwa LGA and Zumburum Gwaran LGA
- And many more are cited in the paper (see page 8)

18. Prospects in the Roles of the Traditional Rulers

- ❖ Indefinite in throne, hence enjoyed confidence of their people.
- ❖ Creation of additional District and Village Heads in the state justifies the confidence in the roles play by the traditional rulers
- ❖ Appointment of Village Heads through democratic method ensure authority and reliability in their intervention in land settlement.
- ❖ Incorporation of traditional rulers in all land disputes suggest that traditional rulers have a lot to offer in peace making.

19. Observations and Recommendations

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observations: 1. Few lands are surveyed and registered in Bauchi State. 2. In view of population explosion the need for land will continue to escalate, therefore the increasing complexity in land administration will also manifest. 3. Training institutions lack the capacity both in staffing and materials to take up the challenges posed by PTCLR, SLTR systems. 4. The Bauchi State Government drive for contracting out land registration and information system, BAGIS is commendable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations: 1. Efforts must be intensified to enlighten the public on the need to survey and register their lands. 2. The need to increase awareness, training, develop land policy, strategy and sensitisation in land management are necessary. 3. Training institutions must brace up to producing adequate and qualified surveyors to ensure while the government ensure the provision of staff, office equipment and materials. 4. Bauchi State government should be commended and encouraged for the developing BAGIS. Emphasis however, must be placed on staff training to ensure capacity building to run and maintain the system. |
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20. Continue.....

5. The traditional rulers should be recognised and be given specific or certain powers in matters relating to land, tradition, and culture.

6. All land transactions must be encouraged for registration at local government level.

7. Traditional rulers need to be exposed to rudiments of land management and demarcation through workshops and seminars on regular basis.

5. Traditional institutions are not recognised in the constitution and therefore not given any specific roles.

6. Land transactions in rural areas are not registered or are poorly registered.

7. Traditional rulers are not exposed to the rudiments of land and boundary demarcation.

21. Conclusion

- Land settled by traditional rulers are done and disposed of forever without recourse.
- Traditional rulers would continue to play active roles in land disputes resolution by the virtue of their significant position in the society.
- A lot of government programmes are accepted by community through the intervention of traditional rulers.
- Enlightenment, sensitisation and mobilisation remain the most effective method best employed by the Bauchi traditional rulers in addressing issues in their communities.
- The Rigours undergone to Settle land cases using traditional rulers are usually cheaper than the conventional lawsuit process .

THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING