Corruption and local government administration in Nigeria: A discourse of core issues

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ABSTRACT

Nigeria is rich in natural and human resources, with a population of over 150 million people, the most populous country in Africa. At the time of her political independence, on 1st October 1960, Nigeria excelled in production of agricultural produce such as groundnut, palm oil, cocoa, cotton, beans, timber and hides and skins. Then, during the oil boom period of the seventies Nigeria made headlines with its oil wealth, as a country richly endowed with oil and natural gas resources capable of financing a number of important projects to meet basic consumption and development needs (Salisu, 200:2). With per capital income of around $1,100 during the late 1970’s Nigeria was regarded as the fastest growing country in Sub-Sahara Africa (Salisu, ibid). Yet it remains predominantly underdeveloped due to the scourge of corruption that has corroded its economic growth and development potential, with a per capital income of $340. Nigeria now ranks amongst the least developed countries in the World Bank’s league table (Salusi, op.cit). Nigeria’s higher education system once regarded as the best in Sub-Sahara Africa is in deep...