

Sociological Dimensions of Human Rights Violations in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT The paper examined the sociological dimensions of human right abuse in Nigeria in the last two decades from historical as well as socio-economic and political perspectives relying largely on data gathered from documentary sources. The paper was anchored on both the conflict and the functionalist paradigms with the view that (1) conflict is an inevitable feature of all societies and are in most cases dysfunctional and (2) as a result the issues involved should be resolved so that all the parts of the society can become functional. The paper examined at the manifestations of human rights violations in Nigeria under several broad headings comprising of- the Press, Trade Unions, Individuals, Students' unions, the Academia and minority groups. The paper concluded by saying that human rights situation in Nigeria is bad, critical, and needs urgent attention. More importantly, the paper warned that a nation engages in the flagrant violation of the right of its citizens is in great danger and not in any way secured at all.

PREAMBLE:-

*Shame on you! you who make unjust laws
and publish burdensome decrees,
depriving the poor of justice,
robbing the weakest of my people of their rights,
despoiling the widow and plundering the orphan.*
Isaiah 10 Verses 1 and 2.