NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

NIALS

NIALS Digest

Jan.-Feb. 2024

NIALS DIGEST

Prof. M.T. Ladan, PhD

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MOTTO

Knowledge that makes the Difference.

MISSION

To be the nucleus and hub of legal research and advanced studies in law in Nigeria.

OUR VISION

To be a world class institution that is the primary source of information, training and advice at the highest level of policy formulation on legal matters, effectively impacting on local and international institutions in the development of law.

NIALS ENABLING ACT

Commencement Establishment of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies

(1) There is hereby established an institute to be known as the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (in this Act referred to as "the Institute") which shall have the functions assigned to it by this Act.

(2) The Institute shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL, etc.

(1) There shall be established for the management of the affairs of the Institute a body to be known as the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Council (in this Act referred to as "the Council")

(2) The Council shall consist of the following members, that is
(a) a Chairman to be appointed by the President;
(b) a representative of the Federal Ministry of Justice;
c) a representative of the Federal Ministry charged with responsibility for higher education;
(d) six Deans or Heads of Faculties, or other formations

of Nigerian Universities offering degree courses in law at not less than post-graduate level, to be appointed by the President; the Director-General of the Nigerian Law School; one member of the Judiciary nominated by the Chief Justice of Nigeria; the President of the Nigerian Bar Association; five persons of whom one shall be a woman to be appointed by the President; and the Director-General of the Institute.

(3) The provisions of the Schedule to this Act shall have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Council and the other matters therein mentioned.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

(i) Council shall be responsible for the determination of the overall policy of the Institute and in particular for the financial and operational programmes of the Institute and for ensuring implementation of such policies and programmes.

(ii) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection of this section, it shall be the duty of the Council to approve the research and training programmes of the Institute, determine the fees to be paid for research, consulting, training and any other services that may be offered by the Institute and promote or undertake any other activity that in the opinion of the Council is calculated to help achieve the purposes of the Institute.

NIALS ANTHEM

Ever questioning,
Ever Probing,
Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies!
Vision foretold by founding fathers,
Ideas nurtured by patriotic fervor,
Urging us to make the difference,
And be the nucleus of legal studies,
With passion and hope our mandate deliver,
And be the best that we can be,
A truly world class institution,
Nigeria's law abode!





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JUSTICE SECTOR RETREAT



The Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD alongside the Honorable Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Prince Lateef Fagbemi, SAN attended the Justice Sector Retreat for Heads of Agencies/Parastatals held on Thursday, 18th January, 2024 with the theme: **Justice Sector Plan.**

Also at the retreat were the Permanent Secretary/ Solicitor General , Mrs Beatrice Jedy Agba , the Senior Special Adviser to the President on Policy Coordination, Hadiza Bala Usman, Director Generals of Nigerian Law School, Professor Isa H. Chiroma, the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Professor Fatima Waziri-Azi PhD, Nigeria Copyright Commission, John Asien PhD, Nigeria Law Reform Commission, Professor Jummai Audi, Legal Aid Council, Aliyu Abubakar, Senator Mohammed Tahir Monguno, Chairman, Senate Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters, and Chairman House of Representative Committee on Justice, Honorable Olumide B. Osoba as well as Management Staff of the Institute.

The event was organized by the Federal Ministry of Justice held at the Abuja Continental Hotel, (Sheraton Hotel), Abuja.


FEDERAL MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
JUSTICE SECTOR PLAN




Abuja Continental










Held At:

COURTESY VISIT



The Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD played host the Team Lead Hauwa Mustapha, National Coordinator of the African Women Network on the AfCFTA AWNA-Nigeria Chapter.

AWNA is planning for a One- Day Workshop on the theme: "Putting a Woman's Face to the AfCFTA".

The event which is slated to take place in Abuja on Wednesday, 14th February, 2024 is requesting for paper presentation on *"Legislative and Enabling Policy Framework: Regional and National"*.









NIALS PERMANENT SITE UPDATE

The construction phase of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Permanent site project with the Phase 1 Admin Block work is still in progress.







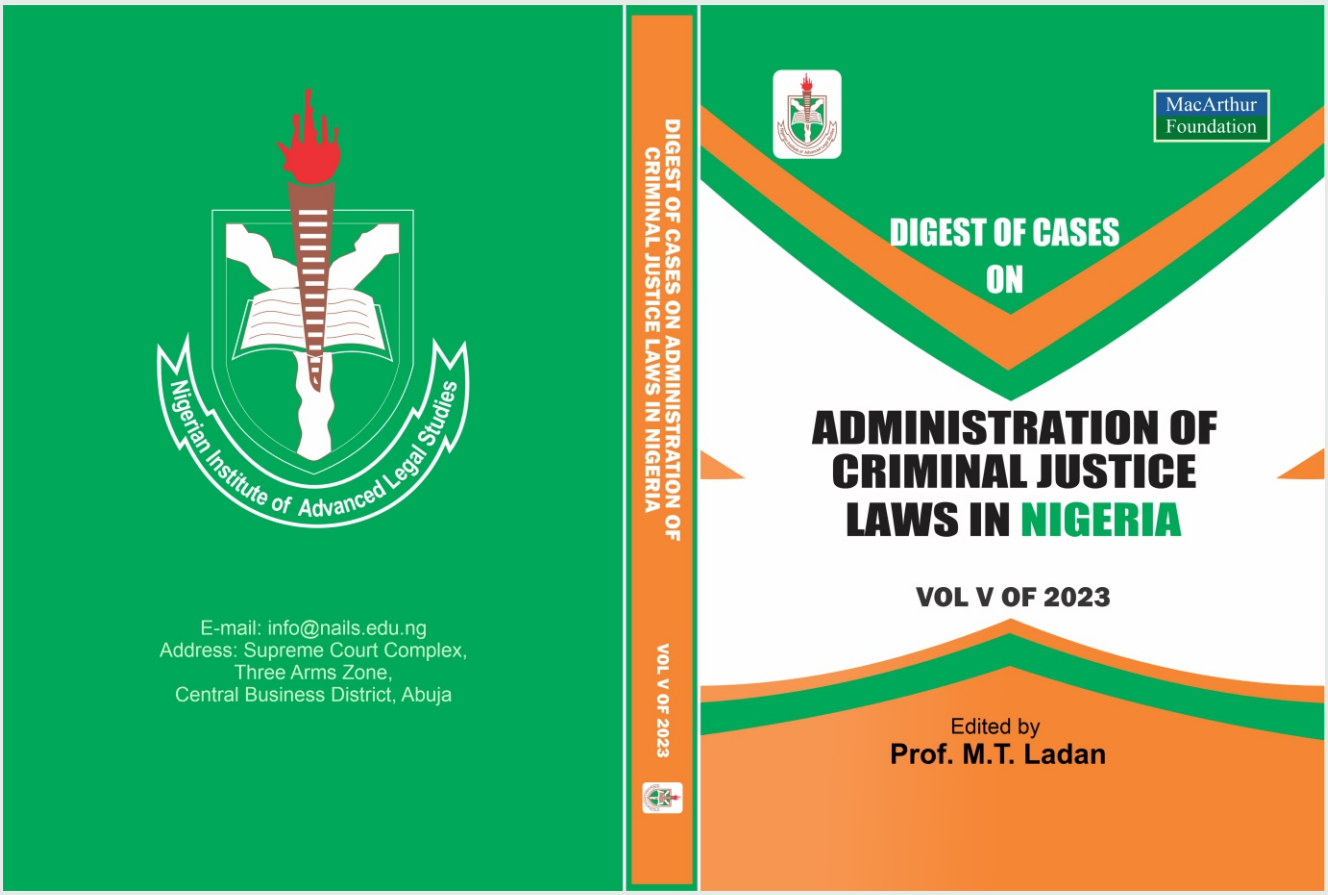

STAKEHOLDERS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

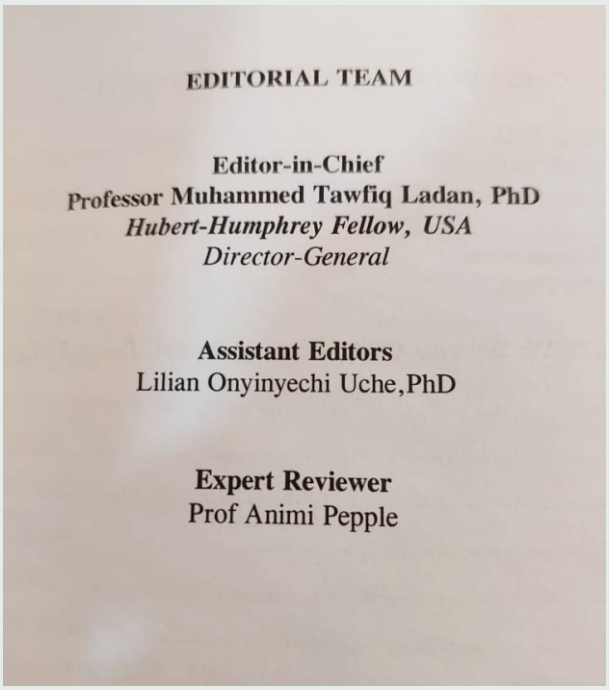




Dr. Nkiruka Madueke and Prudence Okparavero, both Senior Research Fellows of Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies participated at the *Stakeholders Roundtable Discussion on the Amendment of NIMC Act* held on 22nd January, 2024.

The event which held at Fraser Suite, Abuja was organized by The National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) following the Federal Government of Nigeria's desire to synchronize the existing fragmented identification ecosystem towards developing an optimal foundational identification platform with the overall objective of ensuring that the Nigeria Identification (ID) system fosters inclusion, universal coverage, and accessibility.



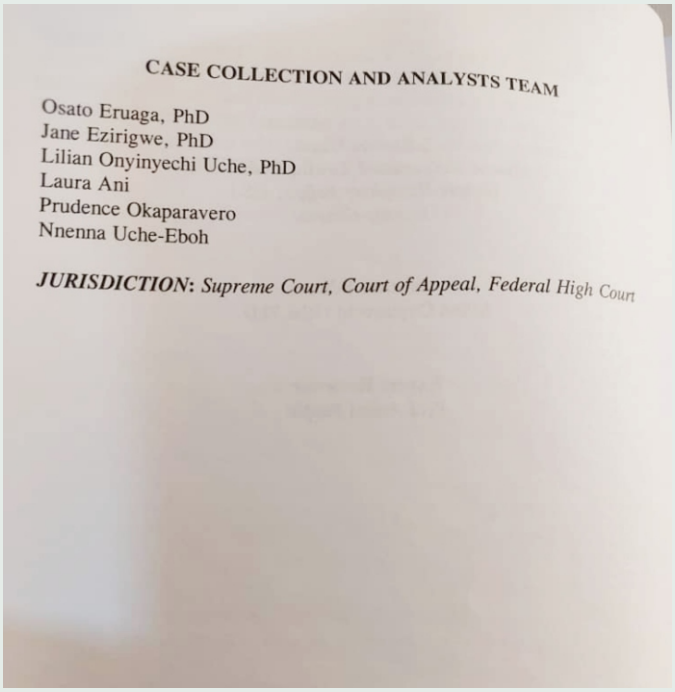


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Jane Ezirigwe, PhD
Lilian Onyinyechi Uche, PhD
Laura Ani
Prudence Okaparavero
Nnenna Uche-Eboh

JURISDICTION: *Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, Federal High Court*

COURTESY CALL

Wednesday 7th February 2024:

Courtesy Call on the DG NIALS by the Former ICPC Chairman Professor Bolaji Owasanoye SAN, and Major General S. I. Musa, Director Army Legal Services, Army Headquarter, Abuja. As well as Dr. Eze Onyepkere, the Executive Director of Economic and Social Justice Network.













DG SERIES OF STAFF MEETINGS ON THE FORTHCOMING:

1.NIALS 18th Fellowship Conferment and Founders' Day Lecture Combined On 29th February at National Judicial Institute, Abuja, 11am to 2pm.

2. The 30th April International Hybrid Seminar on International Economic Law in West Africa, at Rockview Hotel Classic Abuja.

3. NIALS Management Committee Feedback on Justice Sector Performance Report Workshop.

In attendance were: Institute Bursar, Mr John Yawe, Director Council Affairs, Tangni Danjuma, Director Press, Addingi Charity, Director Human Resource Management, Hajara Goniri, Director Marketing, Regina Macaulay, Director Protocol, Olomoda Lukman, Professor Ibe Ifeakandu, Professor Alemika Emily, Senior Research Fellows, Prudence Okparavero, Ikobi-Anyali Awele, Adediran Adejoke, Deputy Institute Bursar (Budget) Ufon Obot, Deputy Institute Bursar (Salaries) Auwal Inuwa, Deputy Institute Secretary (Press/Editorial), Abdullahi Habiba Trisha, SA-ICT and Documentation, Engr Jauda Yusuf and Senior Superintendent of Press (Graphic Designer) Ajayi Oisasumi Samson.






















NIALS





THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

NIALS CENTER FOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTERNATIONAL LAW AND POLICY

A ONE-DAY HYBRID INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON AFCFTA AGREEMENT AS A MODEL OF AFRICAN ECONOMIC LAW:- NATIONAL AND REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES AND

UNVEILING OF THE MAIDEN EDITION OF THE WEST AFRICAN YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW AND PRACTICE

DATE: TUES. 30TH APRIL, 2024 **TIME:** 10:30AM
VENUE: ROCKVIEW HOTEL CLASSIC, ABUJA

KEYNOTE AND LEAD SPEAKERS

PROF. PAUL KURUK,
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, GITC, GHANA.

PROF. ISMAIL FAISEL,
UCT, SOUTH AFRICA,

PROF. MELAKU DESTA,
HEAD OF ATPC, UNECA, ADDIS ABABA ETHIOPIA,

DR. FALLOU SAMB,
SA-PRESIDENT SENEGAL

DR. OLUFEMI T. ELIAS,
United Kingdom

PROF. DAMILOLA OLAWUYI, SAN,
HBHU QATAR

PROF. JONATHAN AREMU

PROF. KASIM BALARABE,
India

MR PETER ULUONYE,
ECOWAS

PROF. OLABISI AKINKUGBE,
CANADA

AMB. USMAN SARKI

PROF. NGOZI EGBUNA

COURTESY: DG NIALS
PROF M T LADAN

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PREVIEW: - THE JURISPRUDENCE OF NIGERIAN CONSTITUTION: - ESSAYS IN HONOUR OF PROFESSOR AUWALU HAMISU YADUDU.

This seventeen chapter and 439 page book published by Hallmark Publishing Nigeria Ltd in 2023, signposts some insight and perspectives of the Honouree, Professor Yadudu, on constitution making, review and reform as well as his proposal in addressing the following. Contentious constitutional issues in Nigeria: - federalism and restructuring; constitutional amendment procedure; financial autonomy of the Judiciary and legislature; status of local government; and constitutional interpretations of concepts like devolution of power, justiciability of fundamental objectives and constitutionalism.

Indeed, there could not have been a better time for a book that will address the complex issue of the development of constitutional jurisprudence in Nigeria than now when threats to sustenance of booth electoral democracy and social protection as well as economic growth are compounding the security challenges facing the nation. This is the context in which general readers must appreciate the little contribution of the authors and editors of this book.

The editors were bold and assertive on how they came about the idea of the book. In chapter one, the editors resolutely opined; - in over four decades of his intellectual journey, no work has specifically identified Yadudu's intellectual orientation and some of the factors that shaped and influenced his ideas and practical experience in relation to Nigeria's constitution-making process. Hence the chapter explains how the honoree used the lessons of history and legal theory to advocate for inclusive constitutional governance for all Nigerians.

In order to manage the expectations of readers, it must be noted that this book neither pretends to be a comprehensive textbook on the subject, nor a critique of Yadudu's scholarly works on constitutional jurisprudence, rather, it remains ESSAYS in honour of him on constitutional jurisprudence in Nigeria. Hence it is more intended to be a well-thought-out companion with in-depth analysis of wide-ranging topics in different areas of constitutional law and practice in Nigeria. Readers are therefore advised to access and read more detailed scholarly works of Yadudu for in-depth understanding of the honoree's bold and sometimes controversial perspectives on matters relating to the development and challenges of constitutional jurisprudence in Nigeria.

Chapter two traces Nigeria's constitutional history and underscore the fact that law makers rarely pay attention to history of constitutional amendment process that can provide them with guidance in their efforts to achieve a successful review process. The chapter identifies key challenges that impede the achievement of positive outcomes in nigeria's constitutional review process, and argues that public participation in the review process is an essential predicate to legitimacy and acceptability of the constitution that is enduring.

In chapter three, the authors argued that any meaningful discussion on the following contentious constitutional issues cannot ignore the socio-political circumstances surrounding them: - Restructuring the federation, devolution of powers, status of local governments, revenue sharing and

resource derivation principles, Sharia and role of traditional rulers / institutions. It concludes that the judiciary has a strategic role to play in ensuring some stability in the understanding and application of the relevant provisions of the Constitution on these issues.

While chapter four argues that referendum is an important tool to arrive at a truly home grown constitution that can generate the desired legitimacy to build a virile democracy in Nigeria, chapter five, sets out step- by- step process for effective amendment of the 1999 Constitution. Chapter six, with the aid of decided cases, examines literalism, liberalism and purposive methods of constitutional interpretation and advocates the adoption of judicial activism to give effect to the constitutional provisions in Nigeria. Chapter seven on the other hand, highlights the core issues and factors worth considering by law Review /Reform Commissions/ Committees in their bid to updating existing statutory instruments.

In chapters eight, nine, ten and eleven, the reader is taken through matters relating to: - citizenship, national identity and the role of constitution in national integration; lessons from history on the status and autonomy of local governments under the Nigerian constitution; the extent to which the human rights jurisprudence of the ECOWAS court of justice can strengthen rule of law and constitutional democracy in Nigeria; legal issues involved in intelligence-led policing in the face of insecurity and threats to Nigeria's national cohesion, peace and security.

Chapters twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen and seventeen, took the reader to the analysis of : - the powers of the Attorney-General in the application of AS-SULH mechanism in homicidal offences in kano state; international labour standards and collective bargaining under the Nigerian constitution; combating corruption and the abolition of the power of nolle prosequi; strengthening the legal framework on Islamic banking and finance in Nigeria; the extent of the jurisdiction of shariah courts over land matters as part of the estates left behind by a Muslim; autonomy of state judiciaries and legislatures in Nigeria.

The book contains appendices A to F, a Bibliography and an index.

In conclusion, as may sometimes be inevitable in a production of this volume, a number of typographical errors / spelling mistakes, such as “FORWARD” instead of “FOREWORD” all through; misnumbering of subheads of some chapters, such as: - 12.1 to 12.5 in chapter eleven, instead of 11.1 to 11.5; 14.4 in chapter 13, are noticed, and to which the editors must avert their minds in the next edition. These errors however do not detract from the fact that this is a valuable book. It deserves the widest readership beyond the legal profession.

By
Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan
13 February 2024

INVESTMENTS AND SECURITIES TRIBUNAL TEAM VISITS NIALS DG

The Chief Executive Officer of the Investments and Securities Tribunal, Amos Isaac Azi ESQ on Wednesday, 14th February, 2024 paid a courtesy visit to the Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD at his Supreme Court Complex Office, Abuja.

The Tribunal Chief Executive who was accompanied by Ten (10) members of the Tribunal during the visit sort collaborations in the following key areas;

i. Research on Capital Market Law and Practice

ii. Review of the decisions of the Tribunal

iii. For Publication in the form of Digest and Journal on Capital Market Law and Practice

iv. To organize Hybrid Webinar and Seminar on the mandate of the Tribunal and other Judgments for Public awareness.

The Chief Executive Officer presented Ten (10) Volumes of Law Reports, Laws of Court and a summary guide on the Tribunal to the Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies.








INTERACTIVE FEEDBACK ROUNDTABLE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE LAWS



Day 1 of the 2-day Interactive Feedback Roundtable on the Implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws 19th-20th February, 2024 at Reitz Continental Hotel Abuja: - The Director of Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, Dr. Amina Salihu of the MacArthur Foundation with Hon Justice Muhammad Lawal Garba of the Supreme Court (Representative of the Chief Justice of Nigeria), Justices of the Court of Appeal, Federal and States High Courts, Professors Yemi Akinseye George, SAN and Peter Akper, SAN, the NJI Institute Secretary, Mr Abdulazeez (Repve of the Administrator of National Judicial Institute), NIALS Management/ Coordinating staff at the opening session and unveiling of Strategic Tools Aiding Effective Administration of Criminal Justice in Nigeria.



















INTERACTIVE FEEDBACK ROUNDTABLE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE LAWS

NIALS STRATEGIC TOOLS AIDING EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACJA/ACJLS

BY

PROF.MUHAMMED TAWFIQ LADAN, PhD

(HUBERT HUMPHREY FELLOW, U.S.A)

DG, NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES.

A PRESENTATION MADE

AT A 2-DAY INTERACTIVE FEEDBACK ROUNDTABLE ON THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATIONOF AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT, 2015 AND ACJ LAWS OF STATES.

ORGANISED BY

THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES WITH SUPPORT FROM THE MACARTHUR FOUNDATION.

DATE:20TH FEBRUARY, 2024

VENUE:REIZ CONTINENTAL HOTEL, ABUJA

NIALS STRATEGIC TOOLS:-AIDING EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACJA/ACJLS

By

PROF. MUHAMMED TAWFIQ LADAN, PhD
Hubert Humphrey Fellow, USA
DG NIALS

INTRODUCTION:- ACJA/ACJLS MAIN PURPOSE

- Ensure that the system of Administration of Criminal Justice in Nigeria promotes efficient management of criminal Justice institutions
- Speedy dispensation of Justice and Protection of the society from crime
- Protection of the rights and interest of the suspect, the defendant, witnesses and the victim.

5 NIALS STRATEGIC TOOL:- AIDING THE APPLICATION/ IMPLEMENTATION OF ACJA/ACJLS WITH EASE FOR PROGRESSIVE REALIZATION OF THE PURPOSES SET OUT, 2019-2023

1. Developed two training Manuals for State Judicial Officers and Prosecutors

   Trained A total of 232 @ an Average of 6 Per State by 36 States and the FCT Between 2019-2023

   Engaged A total of 45 Prosecutors from Anti-Corruption Agencies, Judges of the Federal High Court and Justices of the Appellate Courts in 2 Colloquia Series

2. Drafted 20 Rules of Courts and Practice Directions and 17 State Judiciaries Adopted Them, Printed copies for each State To Disseminate

3. Published our findings on Comparative Analyses of ACJA/ACJLS Provisions into A 4 Volume Compendia Series to inform us on Similarities and Differences.

4. Tracked Trends of Case Law at Federal and State Judiciaries on the Application of ACJA/ACJLS and Published them in Volumes 1-5 Digest.

5. Tracked Contentious issues and Grey Areas and Published our Findings in Volumes 1-18 of Policy Bulletins for Policy Makers and Researchers.

From our working experience with the federal and state Judiciaries as well as their stakeholders committees on ACJA/ACJLS in developing the FIVE STRATEGIC TOOLS, we observed the following, among others:-

1. Differences in the contents and structure of the state ACJLs while retaining Substantial provisions of the ACJA, 2015.
   - E.g, from ACJA'S 495 Sections to states ACJLAWS WITH 378Sections(Katsina),552(Ebony)503(Bauchi),495(Benue),372 (Ekiti), 477(Rivers), 493(Delta), 542(Imo) etc.
   - More importantly, is the fact that while some states ACJLs have provisions for BAIL BONDPERSON, others omitted or were silent on it.While many state ACJLs have provisions on QUARTERLY RETURNS OF CASES BY LOWER COURTS TO THE CHIEF JUDGE, Others have provisions for MONTHLY RETURNS of criminal cases by the police to the supervising magistrate, and a few states have both monthly reports on case management and quarterly returns of criminal cases by lower courts.

2. There has been uniformity on the provisions relating to:- Registers of Legal aid providers; of convicted persons, witnesses expenses, and visitation to detention facilities orders, etc
3. These experiences informed NIALS as to how to approach the drafting of the Rules and Practice Directions for the respective states and the methodology to be adopted in tracking and analyzing the cases for our Digest and Policy Bulletins.
4. Finally, we observed constitutional federalism in practice in a healthy coverage to realize the purpose of both ACJA/ACJLs in Nigeria.

THANK YOU

2024 HYBRID INAUGURAL MEETINGS OF NIALS PROCUREMENT AND TENDERS BOARD COMMITTEES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CAPITAL BUDGET 2024

The Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD on Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 participated in the back to back Hybrid Inaugural Meetings of Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Procurement and Tenders Board Committees for the Implementation of Capital Budget 2024.

The meetings which held at his Supreme Court Complex Office, Abuja was attended by the Institute Bursar, Mr John Yawe, Institute Secretary, Mr Tiamiyu Sharafadeen, Institute Librarian, Professor Anyaogu Uluocha, Director General Administration (Abuja) Mrs Regina Macaualy, Directors Human Resources, Goniri Hajara, Director Procurement, Mrs Bukola Falana, Principal Assistant Secretary (Procurement), Mrs Matilda Irabor as well as Heads of ICT, Abuja and Lagos, Mr Onisun Jonathan and Mr Wahab Maroof.











NIALS PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING WITH DG

The Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD also on Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 met with NIALS Planning Committee Members to deliberate on the forthcoming 2024 NIALS Fellowship Conferment/Public Lecture Event slated for Thursday February 29th, 2024 at the National Judicial Institute, Airport Road, Abuja.

Present at the meeting were Institute Bursar, Mr John Yawe, Director Administration/Marketing, Mrs Regina Macaulay, Director Press, Ms Charity Addingi, Director Protocol and Publicity, Mr Lukman Olomada, Mr Sadiq Musa, Mr Adeola Adeniyi Adeyinka, Abdullahi Habiba Trisha, SA–ICT & Documentation, Jauda Yusuf.









ELECTORAL LAW AND PROCESS IN NIGERIA

The Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD on Thursday, February 22nd, 2024 joined other eminent Nigerians for a Public presentation on the book titled ***Electoral Law and Process in Nigeria: Essay in Honor of Justice Sidi Bage.***

Professor Ladan who was the Book Reviewer agreed with the submission of the Honorable Chief Justice of the Federation, Honorable Justice Olukayode Ariwoola GCON in his foreword, that the Twelve (12) chapter publication in honor of Justice Sidi Bage, the Emir of Lafia deserves the widest readership beyond legal profession for two reason:- that the twelve essays are well-written in simple and concise language by distinguished legal scholars and practitioners; and the discussions are highly analytical with policy oriented recommendations moving forward.

The event which held at Conference Hall, Chida Hotel, Abuja, was organized by the Nasarawa State University, Keffi and hosted by Professor Suliman Bala Mohammed.

















BOOK REVIEW ON THE OCCASION OF THE PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK: ELECTORAL LAW AND PROCESS IN NIGERIA:- ESSAYS IN HONOUR OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, JUSTICE SIDI BAGE MOHAMMAD, JSC (RTD), CFR, EMIR OF LAFIA. ORGANISED BY THE NASARAWA STATE UNIVERSITY, KEFFI, ON THURSDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 2024. HELD AT THE EVENTS CENTRE, CHIDA HOTEL, ABUJA, AT 10AM

This 12 Chapter and 340 page book of essays in honour of his royal highness the Emir of Lafia, (Rtd) Justice Sidi Bage Mohammad, updates our knowledge about Nigeria's current electoral processes, legal and institutional frameworks, as well as the role of the judiciary in the development of a credible electoral process in Nigeria. This is undoubtedly consistent with the honoree's 34 years of immense and lasting contributions to the development of Nigerian jurisprudence, including electoral jurisprudence.

Indeed, there could not have been a better time for a book that addresses the complex and controversial issue of electoral law and process in Nigeria than now, when the efforts to build a credible electoral process, as the strong foundation of a democratic polity under the rule of law and accountable governance, is NOT SEEN by many politicians, voters and political parties as a COLLECTIVE Responsibility for collective survival as a nation/people.

This is the context in which general readers of this valuable book must appreciate the contribution of the distinguished authors and editors.

The editors were bold and assertive on how they came about the idea of the book. In the preface, the acknowledgements and at pages 335 to 340, the editors resolutely opined that, institutionalizing the meritorious service of the honoree, through the first of its kind centre in Nigeria, Sidi Bage Centre for Law Enforcement and Administration Studies, under the Faculty of Law, Nasarawa State University, Keffi, will promote good leadership, enhance democratic governance and electoral integrity in Nigeria. This was corroborated by the Foreword written by honourable CJN/Chairman of this occasion, where he boldly asserted, that, "My brother on the bench of the Supreme Court, His Royal Highness, Justice Sidi Bage, JSC (Rtd), CFR, without reservation, deserves to have this excellent volume of essays published in his honour".

In order to manage the expectations of readers, it must be noted that this book neither pretends to be a comprehensive textbook on the subject, nor a critique of the honoree's contributions to the development of Nigerian jurisprudence, rather, it remains ESSAYS in honour of him on Electoral Law and Process in Nigeria. Hence it is intended to be a well thought-out companion with in-depth analysis of constitutional and statutory powers and operational roles of Nigeria's electoral body (INEC), the use of technology in the 2023 elections and the challenges that arose, how judicial decisions are impacting on the outcome of elections, shaping the country's electoral process, and how to improve the roles of citizens, judiciary, INEC, technology, security agencies in the development of a credible electoral process in Nigeria.

Readers are therefore advised to access and read more detailed judgments of his royal highness, the Emir of Lafia, for in-depth understanding of his bold and outstanding contributions to the development of constitutional and electoral jurisprudence in Nigeria.

While Chapter One of the book examines the innovations introduced by the 2022 Electoral Act and their prospects in promoting electoral transparency and integrity. Chapter two argues that vesting exclusive jurisdiction over presidential election matters in the Supreme Court through a constitutional amendment, would lead to the expeditious determination of such petitions. This is a moot point, as in practice, such a call will turn the Supreme Court into both the court of first instance and of last resort. In chapters three to twelve, the reader is taken through matters relating to:- the innovative provisions in the Electoral Act, 2022; determination of presidential election petitions in Nigeria and lessons from Kenya; understanding the bimodal voter accreditation system and its role in Nigeria's electoral process; cyber-enabled interference with the electoral process in Nigeria; political participation of persons with disabilities; failure of local government elections in Nigeria; effective prosecution of electoral offences; electronic voting based on block chain technology; historical account of Nigerian election laws and the challenges of prosecution of electoral offenders in Nigeria.

In an attempt to heed to the advice of his lordship, the CJN, that wrote the foreword, on the need for a second volume of this book to reflect on the post 2023 authoritative interpretations on election petitions of the various election tribunals and courts, the editors provided a note on Addendum and a 10-page Addendum highlighting the decisions of the Presidential Election Petition Tribunal and the Supreme Court on disputes arising from the 2023 Presidential Election.

The reader is however advised that the editors heavily relied on news reports to prepare the summary of the judgements under the Addendum because there was no reliable law report that had reported the cases as at 30th October, 2023 when they went to press.

In conclusion, the book contains unnumbered appendices, a bibliography and a brief bio of the eminent jurist, his royal highness, the Emir of Lafia.

I hereby concur with the submission of the honourable CJN in the foreword, that this valuable book deserves the widest readership beyond the legal profession for two reasons:- that the twelve essays are well-written in simple and concise language by distinguished legal scholars and practitioners; and the discussions are highly analytical with policy oriented recommendations moving forward.

THANK YOU

BY

PROFESSOR MUHAMMED TAWFIQ LADAN
DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CEO,
NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES.
22ND FEBRUARY, 2024

COURTESY Visit

The Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD on Tuesday February 27th, 2024 accompanied the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Justice/Solicitor General of the Federation, Mrs Beatrice Jeddy-Agba on a courtesy visit to the Chief of Defence Staff, General Christopher G. Musa OFR at the Defence Headquarter, Abuja.

Professor Ladan during the visit presented Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies latest publications to the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). General C. G. Musa OFR presented a plaque to the Solicitor General of the Federation, Mrs B. Jeddy-Agba who was also with members of the National IHL (International Humanitarian Law) Implementation Committee including representatives of the National Security Adviser (NSA), and Chief of Defence Staff. 2pm to 3.30pm









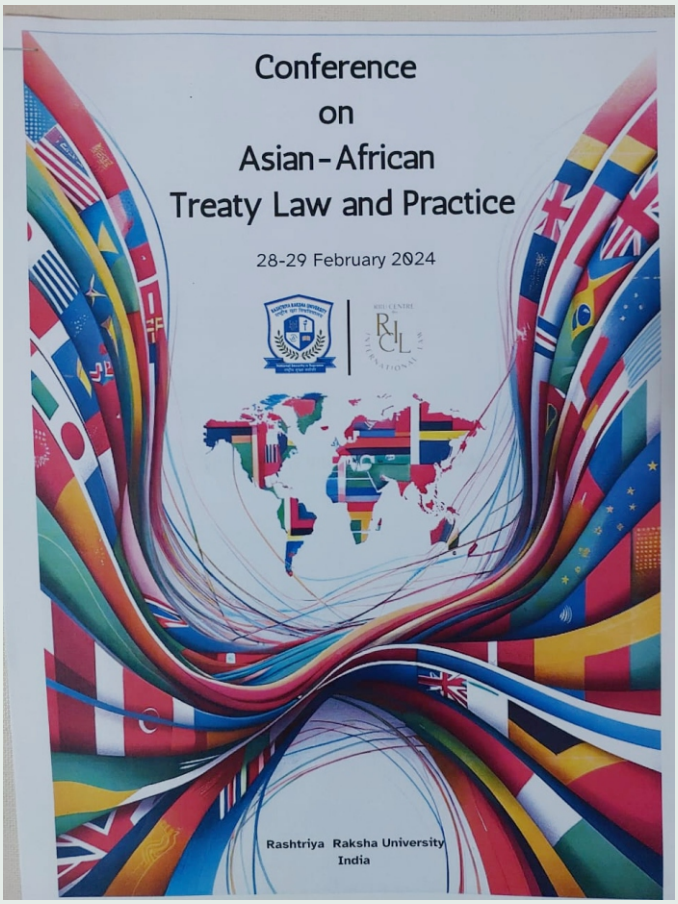
ASIAN- AFRICAN TREATY LAW AND PRACTICE

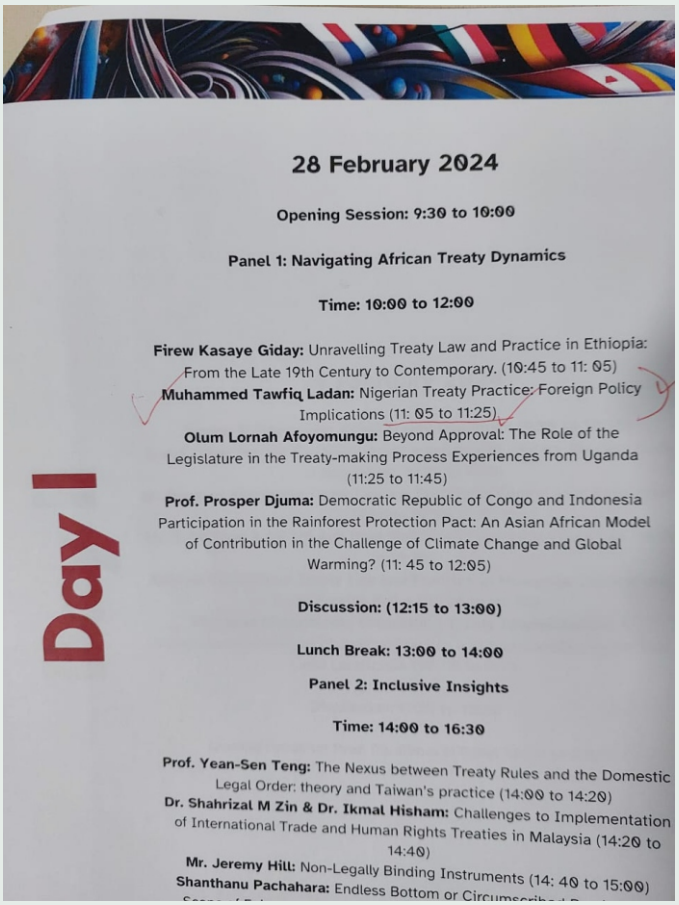
Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) Centre for International Law in collaboration with Ministry of External Affairs, India hosted a Two- Day Hybrid International Conference on ***Asian- African Treaty Law and Practice*** from 28th – 29th February, 2024.

The Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD who was one of the keynote speakers spoke on *Nigeria Treaty Practice: Foreign Policy Implications.*

The conference focused on treaties play and instrumental role in shaping International legal order.

The event gathered contributors and experts who engaged in profound discussions, shared insights, as well as identifying key issues pertaining to Asian- African Treaty Law.





JUSTICE SECTOR PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SIGNING CONTRACT WITH THE DGS/CEOS/HEADS OF AGENCIES

The Honorable Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Prince Lateef O. Fagbemi, SAN and the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Justice/Solicitor General of the Federation, Mrs Beatrice Jeddy-Agba, the Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD participated at the Justice Sector Management Signing Contract with the Director Generals of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), Professor Fatima Waziri-Azi PhD, Nigerian Law School, Professor Isa H. Chiroma, Nigerian Copyright Commission, John Asien PhD, Nigeria Law Reform Commission, Professor Jummai Audi, Executive Secretary National Human Rights Commission, Anthony O. Ojukwu Esq, International Commercial Arbitration Centre and other Heads of Agencies.

The meeting held on Wednesday February 28th, 2024 at the Federal Ministry of Justice Auditorium, Abuja.







NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES 18TH FELLOWSHIP CONFERMENT AND FOUNDERS' DAY LECTURE 2024

Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies on Thursday February 29th, 2024 held her 18th NIALS Fellows/Founders' Day Lecture at the National Judicial Institute, Abuja.

The Director General, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD in his remarks maintained that a sustainable democracy must provide a platform for access to the court and justice by all without any form of discrimination.

Honorable Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, GCON Chief Justice of Nigeria and Chairman, NIALS Body of Fellows and Chairman of the event, Rtd Honorable Justice Umaru Abdullahi, CON, FNIALS both commended the NIALS for upholding the mandates of the Institute in the areas of Legal Research, Education and training of Judiciary officers across the country.

Professor Yemi Akinseye George, SAN in his lecture on the titled ***"Access to Justice and Sustenance of Democracy in Nigeria: What Nexus?"*** sees the judiciary as the foundation of democracy and as such, citizens must have unhindered access to justice. He lamented a situation where about 70% of Nigerians due to poverty and socio-economic barriers are denied access to justice as potentials for continued unrest, as evidence in the rising cases of banditry and regional agitation in some quarters.

Five (5) Eminent Jurists and Distinguished Legal Scholars were conferred as Honorees of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies during the Biennial 18th Fellowship Conferment/Founders' Day Lecture. They are:

Honorable Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, GCON Chief Justice of Nigeria

Honorable Justice Inyang John Okoro, Justice of the Supreme Court

Prince Lateef O. Fagbemi, SAN Honorable Attorney General of the Federation

Professor Yemi Akinseye George, SAN

Professor Isa Hayatu Chiroma, SAN

Also in attendance were NIALS Fellows in Abuja, former Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Walter Onnoghen Retired, Justice Mary Odili Retired Justice of the Supreme Court, Chief Adegboyega Awomolo SAN, Professor Epiphany Azinge SAN, Professor Ameze Guobadia, Chief Bayo Ojo SAN, former Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Chief Joe-Kyari Gadzama SAN, Honorable Justice Ben Kanyip, President of the National Industrial Court of Nigeria, Professor Paul Idornigie SAN, Mr Damien Dodo SAN, as well as NIALS staff, Lagos that attended virtually.

The highlight of the event was the Unveiling of the First (1st) in Twenty (20) Years (Post LFN 2004) Compendium of Federal Acts in Force and Index, 2004-2023 by the Chairman, Governing Council of Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and the Chief Justice of Nigeria, Honorable Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, GCON flanked by Honorable Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Prince Lateef O. Fagbemi, SAN alongside other Fellows of the Institute.

NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES 18TH FELLOWSHIP CONFERMENT













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NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES 18TH FELLOWSHIP CONFERMENT

















NIALS STAFF LAGOS IN ATTENDANCE VIRTUALLY ON THE NIALS 18TH FELLOWSHIP CONFERMENT AND FOUNDER'S DAY LECTURE ON 29TH FEBRUARY 2024










Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies