THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF KURNAR-ASABE, KANO 1950-2000

BY

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CERTIFICATION

The Thesis titled, the establishment and development of Kurnar-Asabe 1950-2000 by Tijjani Ibrahim Abdullah meets the regulation governing the degree of Masters of Arts of Ahmadu Bello University, and it's approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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DECLARATION

I declare that this thesis is a result of my own research work and has been written by me, it has not been presented to any University for a higher degree. I fully acknowledge all sources of information in the footnotes.

Tijjani Ibrahim Abdullah

December, 2014

DEDICATION

This Thesis is dedicated to my late father Alhaji Ibrahim Abdullah (May his Soul rest in perfect peace, Ameen)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My profound appreciation and gratitude goes to Almighty Allah who spares my life, gives me courage, determination and resources to witness this great achievement in life. To my Lord I say Alhamdulillah.

I then owe a debt of gratitude to the members of my family particularly my Aunt Hadiza Ibrahim (Kande), my Mum HajiyaHadiza Suleiman and my children Miftah Ahmad Ibraheem and Ibraheem Ahmad Ibraheem (Moutaseem) for their steadfast love and encouragement during the course of this tedious exercise. I really appreciate their love and concern.

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ABSTRACT

The study of the establishment and development of Kurnar-Asabecan not be fully understood outside the study of the history of Kano. This is because the factors that led to the emergence, development and expansion of the ancient city to its peripheral environs were instrumental to understanding the factors that led to the emergence of the settlement of KurnarAsabe. This work with political economy approach critically examines these factors and establishes the fact that the settlement understudy was established in 19th century during the reign of Abdullahibn IbrahimDabo (1855-1882) when famine forced many of the city's inhabitants to relocate back to their farmlands outside the walled city to meet the challenges of the era. However, the study argues that disaster of whatever kind or even migration on its own can not lead to the emergence of settlements. Other factors such as viable economy, favorable environment etc. must be taken into cognizance. These said factors in relation to the study area played vital roles in addition to its strategic location, availability of cheap plots for expansion and accommodative nature of the inhabitants. The study did not confines itself to the factors for the emergence of the settlement alone but touches other issues such as inter-group relations due to the cosmopolitan nature of the settlement, inter-group friction and how disputes were settled as a result of such frictions.To establish these facts the study used a variety of oral accounts, archival materials, published and un-published materials.

PREFACE

This work on the establishment and development of Kurnar-Asabe is part of the requirement of the award of Masters Degree in History. It is written with the conviction that the history of Kano cannot be in any way comprehensive if that of its constituent units is not studied and documented. Therefore, this study is a step towards that direction. To realize this objective the researcher used a great deal of oral source, text books, journals, published and un-published articles and some archival materials.

The thesis is organized into six chapters. The first chapter provides a general background of the study. In Chapter two, we try to situate the study within the context of political economy theory.This greatly helped our discussion on the factors that led to the emergence and development of Kano from the ancient time to 1950. The theory also helped us to conclude that understanding the factors that led to the emergence of the study area cannot be outside the study of the history of the emergence, development and expansion of Kano outside its traditional boundaries.

Chapter threestudies the origin of Kurnar-Asabe and the reality that led to its emergence was made. Emphasis is laid on the people of the settlement, the nature of their economic activities, the changing pattern of the settlement and its administrative set-up and why the name of the settlement is associated with Asabe.

Chapter four concentrates on the vigorous analysis of the factors that led to the development of Kurnar-Asabe from a rural settlement to a fully developed sub-urban center. Other issues discussed were the factors that led to the influx of people into the settlement and how the nature of the settlement was altered as a result of such influx.

The issue of group relation was the focus of chapter five. The chapter examines the factors that promote interactions among the various language groups that made up the area and their input into the development of the settlement. Other issues examined were cultural relation, religious tolerance, inter-group frictions and how disputes are settled as a result of such frictions

Finally, the study concludes in Chapter six by outlining the major findings of the study and summarizing or sifting the major issues discussed.

GLOSSARY

Adashi	Rotational credit contributions
AllahuakbarAllah (God) is the greatest	
AlewaSweet	
AlmajiranchiThe act of going from one place or another in search for Islamic Knowledge	
Amir-al-muminin	Commander of faithful
Awaiki	Bracelet made of wood and covered with metal
Baki	Dyed cloth (mostly black)
Bakunta	Guest ship
Bandaki	Toilet
BangareParts	
BayiSlaves	
BaroriServants	
Bidia	Innovations in the act of worship
Birni	City
Cirani	To move from one place to another especially during hot seasons in Search of economic opportunities.
Dabino	Dates
Dagachi	Village head
Dalar-gyada	Groundnut pyramid
Dakuna	Rooms

Damina	Rainy season
Dan-majalisa	Palace official
Dawakin-zage	Spare horses for the emir during battles.
Dillalai	Brokers or Middle men
Fari	White cloth
Fatake	Merchants
FatomaLoading and uploading caravans	
Fatauchi	Long distance trade
FitaLarge leaves for parking cola nuts	
Gabas	East
Gagai	Aphrodisiac or substance that arouses sexual desire
Gandu	Family Farmland
Ganima	Booty
Ganuwa	Fortification or city wall
Gayya	Group self help effort
Gyartai	Calabash mender
Habe	Term used by the Fulani to describe non Fulani people
Hakimi	District head
Hawan-sallah	Procession on Sallah festivities
Jama'a	people
Jihad	Holy war
Jarumi	Brave warrior
Karatu	Reading
Karuwai	Hausa Prostitutes (sing. Karuwa)

Kida	Druming
KiraSmithing	
Kofa	Gate or a door
Kudi	Money
Layi	Street
Lunkui	Plain and straight land
Ma'aji	Treasurer
Makitsiya	Hair Plaiter
MaguzawaNon-Muslim Hausa	
Masu-alawa	Sweet makers
Masu-sarauta	Title holders
Okoto	Non Hausa prostitutes
Rangwame	Clemency
Ribbats	A fortress
Sabon-fegi	New land
Sadaka	Alms
SarkiEmir	
Shan-inna	Polio
Shari'aIslamic Legal system	
Risalat-al-mulk	Obligation of a prince
Tagwayenmasu	Twin-Spares
Talakawa	Commoners
Tara-ta-Kano	Nine king makers

Tasha	Motor Park
Tsafi	Fetishism or rituals
Tsakar-gida	Court yard
Tubali	Mud bricks
Ulama	Islamic clerics
Unguwa	Ward
Unguwar-zoma	Traditional birth attendant
Wasan-gabaFeud	
Yamma	west
‘YanboriThose who consult the abode of sprits	
‘Yandandi	Criminals or vagabonds
‘Yangaruwa	Water vendors
‘YankoliHarbadershers	
‘Yarmaiganye	Women herbalists
‘Yantatsine	The followers of Maitasine
‘Yantauri	Those who play with knife
‘Ya’yanSarki	Emir’s Sons
Zango	Resting Place

NOTES ON SOURCES

This work relied heavily on the oral interview however written materials were also used in the course of the work. These include text books, journals and archival materials.

ORAL INTERVIEW

The study made extensive use of oral sources. I went to many places like Markets, Airport, and places of residence to meet people who have some information to offer in relation to the history and development of the study area. Among the people who offered vital information in the course of this study are Mai unguwaDanladi, Bature the grand son of Asabe, Abdulkadirdanmaigoro, Mallam Mai-gidan Kara, Alhaji Isa (popularly known as BalaRunji) etc.

SECONDARY SOURCES

This work benefited a lot from books, journals, articles and other publications found in the following libraries: Post graduate library (NHRS), Sir Kashim Ibrahim Library (KIL), Murtala Muhammad Library, Kano, Kano state History and Culture Bureau Library, History Library, Bayero University, Kano.

ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

The archives materials used for writing this thesis were mostly obtained from the national archive Kaduna and History and Culture Bureau archives, Kano. These materials include Colonial government Records and Intelligent reports. The materials were used with caution because they were tailored to serve the interest of the colonial government.

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