PLANNING FOR RECREATION IN GOMBE

M.Sc. (URP) THESIS

BY

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PLANNING FOR RECREATION IN GOMBE

BY

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Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of an M.Sc. (URP) in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria.

DECEMBER, 2005.

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis has been written by me and it is the outcome of my research work. It has been presented before my examiners for the award of a higher degree. All sources of information are acknowledged by means of reference.

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Date

CERTIFICATION

This thesis titled: "PLANNING FOR RECREATION IN GOMBE" by Barde J. D. meets the regulation governing the award of the Degree of Master of Science (Urban and Regional Planning) of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my wife Mrs. Fifkatu J. D. who has suffered a seeming neglect during the course of my study and absence from home.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Praise and Honour be to God Almighty who's grace has sustained me throughout the task of this research.

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ABSTRACT

Gombe being a new state capital, is faced with new and increasing physical planning and developmental programmes. There are problems of Planning, implementation and management of recreational facilities especially as it relates to the changing forms of recreation in the town.

Recreational activities are observed to have been changing, this changes has some implications on existing facilities and services, and therefore requires the input of planners.

The focus of this study is therefore to analyse the nature and pattern of these changes in all the forms of recreation in Gombe, with the view to determining the most appropriate recreational facilities that are consistent with the preference of the people.

The underlying factors for the changes in recreational activities are determined. The implications of the changes on physical planning are also determined.

An appropriate Planning standard adopted and planning proposals made. It is proposed that the plan be implemented in three phases. The funding should involve the public, private and voluntary organizations. Recreational facilities be managed by the Gombe Recreation and Tourism Corporation (GRTC). Proper recreation planning and development in our cities can play an important role in enhancing an acceptable quality of life.

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CHAPTER ONE

THE DESIGN OF THE STUDY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Throughout history, man has sought for and recreate in one form or the other. History has shown that every community has always devised its recreational activities and sometimes adopted those of other communities. Recreation is an activity in which an individual or group of persons engages by choice to derive personal satisfaction in terms of relaxation, entertainment, personal development and well being. Recreation is fundamental in human life. It is needed and carried out in various forms by human being. Recreation facilities create demand for land and specialized facilities. Therefore, planners try to make adequate plans for the future by providing information about both the present situation of recreational facilities as well as the demand.

1.2 STATEMENT OF RESEARCH PROBLEM

Gombe town, like most urban centres in the developing countries has both traditional and modern forms of recreational activities. These cities have continued to experience changes in the patterns of recreation interms of types of facilities and usage.

These changes are observed in Gombe where some traditional forms of recreational activities such as ‘Langa’ sharo; ‘gada’ etc are changing and being replaced with modern forms of recreational activities such as footballing, athletics,

cinema viewing, etc. Also in Gombe, there are groups which organizes some traditional recreational activities e.g Bogo cultural group which has transformed to Bogo film production; the Bongga Shawara social club and Himma social club were initially engaged solely in traditional recreational activities, they have now added some modern forms of recreational activities.

These changes are mostly carried out in undesignated areas without due consideration to its implication on the surrounding environment. They are mostly carried out in privately owned premises (mostly on hired basis). This development has some implication on the existing facilities and resources and therefore requires the input of planners.

Examples of such activities are those done by the social clubs e.g. Amana in Bolari North, Himma in Tundunwada ward, Bonggasharawa in Herwagana, Jekadafari in Jekadafari ward and Kungiyar yan dambe in Bogo (BCGA) ward among others.

Studies on recreation planning have been done by a number of researchers some of which were: Ipinnuwa (1977) who worked on the appraisals of the existing recreation facilities in Zaria; Usman (1980) focused on creating responsive tourism centre; Jegede (1981) did the analysis and evaluation of the existing urban recreation resources in Lagos and projects to the future requirements; Shalfanda (1982) emphasized on the recreation resource potentials in and around Yola; Lawan (1985) conducted research on Leisure time potential

and its development in Kaduna metropolis; Attah (1986) worked on the depreciation of recreational space facilities and proposed for their redevelopment in Markurdi; Adamu (1999) in his research, focused on the limitations of existing policies and approaches to the planning and development of recreational facilities in Jalingo.

These earlier studies have been essentially appraisals of recreation activities and facilities and make proposals for their redevelopment or improvements. Both the practical and the theoretical contributions on recreation planning in Nigeria have used population figures and socio economic as the main standard for the planning of recreation facilities, and have emphasized on the appropriateness of standards for modern recreational facilities without due consideration to the change and pattern of these recreations. They fall short of providing or determining the appropriate recreation facilities to be provided to the end users.

The focus of this study is, therefore to critically analyse the nature and pattern of these changes in all forms of recreation in Gombe, with a view to determining the most appropriate recreational facilities that are consistent with the preference of the people.

The questions to answer in this study are:

i. What are the changes in types and usage of recreation in Gombe?

ii. What are the underlying reasons for the changes?

1.3.0 AIM AND OBJECTIVES

1.3.1 AIM:

The aim of this study is to analyse the changing patterns of recreational activities in Gombe and its determinants. This is with the view of making planning proposals to accommodate the recreational needs in Gombe.

1.3.2 OBJECTIVES

1. To review the concept of recreation, its role, factors affecting recreational activities and the approaches to recreation planning.
2. To analyse the changing forms of recreations in Gombe.
3. To identify the explanatory factors for the changes in types and usage of recreational facilities in Gombe.
4. To identify the planning problems associated with pattern of changes in recreation in Gombe.
5. To make planning proposals to accommodate the recreation needs in Gombe.

1.4.0 SCOPE OF STUDY

It covers both traditional and modern forms of recreational activities in Gombe. The planning is limited to both passive and active outdoor recreation facilities of all forms of recreation in Gombe.

1.5.0 THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1.5.1 DATA COLLECTION TECHNIQUES

The data for this study were obtained through the use of the following techniques

i. **Field survey:** Field survey was conducted to obtain information on: Recreational activities, spaces available, capacity of spaces, facility available in spaces, this is to ascertain the conditions and spatial analysis of recreational facilities in Gombe.

ii. **Informal interview:** An informal interview was conducted with the officials of ministries of sports and culture; women Affairs and Youth development; Lands and survey; Education; and the Gombe state Urban Development Board. This was to ascertain their programmes in respect to the development of recreational activities in Gombe.

iii. **Administration of questionnaires:** The questionnaires were administered using three separate sections viz: (a) Households heads (b) Recreation area information and (c) personal recreationist information.

The questionnaire provided data on the social and economic characteristics of the population, their preferences with regards to recreational facilities. The recreation area information served the purpose of ascertaining the type of recreation provided, number of visitors, capacity and ownership of the facilities. The personal recreationists information is to serve the purpose of seeking their opinion, level of satisfaction and also the problems

encountered when using the facility.

iv. **Review of official documents:-** Secondary data was obtained through the review of Gombe master plan, maps, unpublished works, journals and textbooks,

1.5.2 THE SAMPLING TECHNIQUES

For the effective administration of the questionnaire, Gombe town was sub divided into 12 residential zones using the route of some major roads. These served as the sampling frame. A systematic random sampling technique was adopted. About 1.5% of the estimated 51,125 households within Gombe town, that is 768 house – holds were administered with the questionnaires.

Table 1: Sample Population of Gombe, 2005

S/N	Residential zone	No of house-hold	Questionnaire administered	Returned with response	% of response
1	Jekada Fari South	2247	36	36	100
2	Jekada Fari North	5194	85	82	96
3	Bolari West	3551	57	55	96
4	Bolari East	4313	68	67	99
5	Tudun wada East	3008	49	49	100
6	Tudun wada West	2629	48	42	98
7	Dawaki	3903	62	53	85
8	Pantami West	6559	100	94	94
9	Pantami East	6215	95	92	97
10	Tunfure	5497	84	82	98
11	Bogo	5659	79	76	96
12	Liji	2350	42	40	95
	Total	51125	800	768	96

Sources: NPC Gombe; Field survey 2005.

1.5.3 DATA ANALYSIS METHOD

In analyzing the data, some of the statistical records were updated. Information on physical characteristic of Gombe town as well as information on

the socio-cultural activities in the town were updated. The data were analyzed with the use of tables, percentages, maps, charts and photographs.

1.5.4 METHOD OF DATA ESTIMATION AND FORECASTING

i. Recreation demand estimation and planning proposals are based on cultural affiliation, income, recreational habits and preference of the population.

ii. Population forecast-based on Gombe master plan projections.

iii. Land use forecast:- based on master plan projection and field survey.

CHAPTER TWO

CONCEPT OF RECREATION, ITS ROLE, AND APPROACHES TO RECREATION PLANNING

2.1.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the development of recreation in Nigeria. It also deals with the standards for various recreational facilities. It also discussed the factor that determines recreational activities patterns. However, it is important to understand some basic concept of recreation such as: Recreation, Leisure, Park, Recreation planning and also classification and characteristic of recreational activities.

2.2.0 DEFINTIONS

2.2.1 RECREATION:

Different schools of thought abound with regards to the meaning of recreation. Butler (1962) defined as" any form of experience or activity in which an individual engages from choice because of the personal enjoyment and satisfaction which it brings directly to him"

Abram (1971) defined recreation as "any activity voluntarily undertaken for pleasure, fun, relaxation, exercise, self-expression or to relax from boredom worry of tension which is physically and psychologically rejuvenating because it is different from the essential routine of one's life".

Recreation is “any pursuit engaged upon during leisure time, other than pursuits to which people are normally highly committed” (Roberts, 1974).

Awosaki (1977) defined recreation as “an activity which is not consciously performed for the sake of any reward beyond itself which offers man outlet for physical, mental or creative powers in which he engages because of inner desire and not because of outer compulsion”.

Bulton (1977) defined recreation as “activity which man engaged in during his free time which does not include work, nor does it include certain personal and social objectives that all people have such as sleeping and washing”.

“Recreation is any socially accepted sense involving constructive activities for the individual and the community”. (Ratcliff, 1981).

Pilgrim (1983) states that “recreation is considered to be activity voluntarily undertaken primarily for pleasure and satisfaction during leisure time”.

Arnold (1985) suggests that the meaning of ‘recreation’ is taken to represent the re-creation or revitalization of the individual after participation in certain activities, a value or worth is attributed to “recreation” in the sense that creativity is good and non-creativity is bad.

There are a number of elements associated with these concepts of recreation. These are; Recreation is prompted by internal motivation and desire to achieve personal satisfaction without extrinsic goals or rewards. Recreation is mainly dependent on the state of mind or attitude. It is not what one does as a

reason for doing that thing rather it is the way the individual feels about the activities that makes it recreation.

Recreation has been widely regarded as an activity that includes physical, mental, social and emotional involvement as contrasted with sheer idleness or complete rest. Recreation may include an extremely wide range of activity such as sports, games, crafts, performing arts music, dramatics, hobbies and social activities which may be engaged in by an individual or group of people.

2.2.2 LEISURE:

The international study group on leisure and social science defined leisure as consisting of a "number of occupations in which the individual may indulge of his own free will-either to rest, to amuse himself, to add to his knowledge and improve his skills disinterestedly and to increase his voluntary participation in life of the community after discharging his professional, family and social duties"

The country side Recreation Glossary said "Leisure is the time available to the individual when the disciplines of work, sleep and other basic needs have been met" "Leisure connotes choice, but does not exclude a decision to do nothing" (Gold, 1980). Burton (1970) sees leisure as free or discretionary time.

Leisure and recreation are highly associated yet they are quite different concepts. While leisure is a time of special kind available usually after the day's work and lasts for few hours during which people attend or participate in plays, arts, exhibitions. etc Recreation is an activity of special kind carried on within

leisure usually chosen voluntarily, because of the personal or social values it gives to him.

2.2.3 PARK

A park may be defined as a piece of land or water for recreation. Other definitions are: a trace of ground kept in its natural state for games, working, etc; a piece of land in or near a city or town for ornament and recreation (Enekebe, 88).

Two types of parks are distinguished, the Neighbourhood park and the District park.

i. **Neigbourhood park:** This is a small unit of a park, which serves a Neighbourdhood population between 1,000, to 3,000 or 3,000 to 5,000. It is generally from 0.7 hectare to 0.1 hectare

ii. **District park:** This is a bigger unit of park, which serve the district. It is generally from 0.8 hectare to 3.0 hectares. It varies in size and facilities, serves the population between 15, 000 to 60,000. The population for which a district park would serve varies too. The activities of both Neighbourhood and Districts range from tennis to football, games court, swimming pool etc.

2.2.4 TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

This refers to recreational activities that have been developed overtime by people based on their socio-cultural values, norms and technology adjusted to the

features of leisure time available to the people. In Nigeria for example indigenous recreational activities may be considered as those activities developed by various cultures before any contact with other cultures. Some of such recreational activities include: Kokawa, Ayo and Ekpe in Hausa, Yoruba and Ibo cultures respectively.

2.2.5 MODERN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

These are recreational activities introduced into a society as a result of contact with other cultures, notably the west. In Nigeria, modern recreational Activities, were introduced about the same time as colonialism, such activities include, soccer, tennis, card playing etc.

2.2.6 OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Gold (1973) defines outdoor Recreation as leisure time activities, which utilizes an outdoor area or facility. Thus any recreational activity, which utilizes covered structure (example cinema theatres) are excluded from this definition. The outdoor recreation may be passive or active, indigenous or modern. This is considered to be the working definition of this research.

2.2.7 RECREATION PLANNING

This is the process that relates people to leisure time and space. It also involves the use of information to allocate resources that accommodates the current and future recreation needs of a population and planning area (Gold,1980).

A knowledge of the nature and scope of the different kinds of recreation demand is a first prerequisite of planning. Recreation planning can be manifested, broadly into two:

i. **Deterministic:** that is, it can be concerned to provide recreational facilities of a kind which it is thought, by policy-makers, that the population out to have.

ii. It can be directed towards the provision of those facilities, which it has been shown (or which it is believed) that the population wants.

However, planning policies are increasingly being directed towards the provision of those facilities for which there is a known, assumed public demand.

Thus, the need is not simply to measure existing (expressed) demand and draw conclusion with out regard to the latent and potential demand for recreation. There is indeed a more important need to discover reliable ways for forecasting how all of those demands will change in the future.

2.3.0 THE ROLE AND OBJECTIVES OF RECREATION PLANNING

2.3.1 THE ROLE OF RECREATION

The importance of recreation in improving the quality of life of the societies can not be over emphasized. The ease of access to attractive recreational facilities in both rural and urban areas is a contributory factor to the concept of

quality of life in all societies.

Generally, the significance of recreation has been recognized as outlined below:

a. Recreation is essential for both mental and physical restoration of man after the rigours or stress of work.

b. Recreation leads to improvement in individual or communal skills especially through participation in recreational activities.

c. Participation in recreational activities in itself is an act of socializing and acquainting one's self with other fellow beings and the environment.

d. The provision of recreational facilities in an area goes a long way in improving the aesthetic quality of the environment as well as boosting the mental image and status of the people of the environment.

e. Individual and organizations who provide recreational facilities derive economic benefits from charging fees for use of facilities.

f. Recreation activities are value preserving and need to be encouraged for future consumption of younger and the unborn generations to come.

With regards to the aforementioned and many more importance of recreation, planners have become widely involved in planning for recreational activities. The situation has not been devoid of problems because many recreational activities are changing in form and patterns especially in the developing countries, some of these changes have not been fully identified and

addressed by planners. Further more, rapid increase in population, level of education, discretionally income and time, mobility and opportunities have resulted in great increase in demand for recreational facilities.

2.3.2 OBJECTIVES OF RECREATION PLANNING

It is sometime argued that planning for leisure is inappropriate on the grounds that, to most people, leisure is the time during which they are free to do as they chose, whereas planning implies direction. Recreation planning is not however, intended to inhabit freedom, but to enable such choice to be exercised. Without opportunity, there is little chance to exercise any choice.

Two main objectives of recreation planning could be identified:

a. To provide a range of opportunities for people to spend their Leisure time in meaningful, purposive or simply pleasurable ways.

b. To remove constraints upon people seeking opportunities for leisure by overcoming deficiencies, on the basis of demand and bearing in mind the particular requirements of all sections of the community, young and old, active and handicapped, car owners and non-carowners, rich and poor.

2.4.0 FACTORS AFFECTING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PATTERNS

There are several numbers of factors that determines both the forms and the patterns of recreational activities in any given urban environment. These can be classified into physical, time, socio-cultural and economic factors among others.

2.4.1 PHYSICAL FACTORS

Physical factors categorized as land and water bodies have great influence on the development of recreational activities. The location of natural resources is a major determinant of recreation patterns. Some of the important resources includes land, mountains, hills, lakes, rivers, other water bodies, forest etc.

Generally, physical resources could support land-based activities (mountaineering, football, car-racing etc), biologically-based activities (game viewing), and scenic-based activities (waterfall viewing, picnicking). Attah (1986).

2.4.2 TIME FACTORS

Recreational activities uses time. Time is an important factor in participation. Long uninterrupted period of time may be necessary for participation. In Nigeria, the eight (8) hours a day and 5 days a week with two (2) days free at the weekends observed by Government workers provide time for some to devote to recreation. In addition, National and religious holidays have helped in providing time especially for others to participate in recreational activities. Jibrin (1999).

2.4.3 SOCIO-CULTURAL FACTORS

Socio-cultural factors such as age, sex, education and religions are important determinants of recreational activities in any community.

Age: Age affects the type of recreational pursuit of an individual. The youth were noted to participate more on active and outdoor recreation then the

elderly. Burton (1970) has identified the age group 18-25years as those that participate maximally in outdoor recreation activities.

Gender: some recreational activities are exclusively or mainly done by males e.g females may be constrained by domestic responsibilities, a shortage of free time, gender stereotype and expectations. It has been established that except for individual of less than 10years old, males of all age-group have more leisure time than females (Gold, 1980).

Educational: Educational level shows some form of relationship with leisure time activities. It affects both types and level of participation. Studies carried out by Shalfanda (1982), Attah, (1986) and Jibrin (1999) in Yola, Makurdi and Jalingo respectively have shown that those with western education tend to participate more on recreational activities and vice-versa. This is mainly because educated people are more widely exposed to a variety of ideas and experiences, which broaden leisure interest and promote habits of varied participation. It is also partly a reflection of the influence education has on occupation and income level.

2.4.4 ECONOMIC FACTORS

There is a very strong correlation between income and recreation. As income increases so does participation in most recreation activities. This is more so with recreational pursuits such as polo, golf, etc that requires substantial amount of money for equipment. Vehicle ownership is very important as mobility for recreation and it is a factor of income. Certain recreational activities usually

take place with increasing mobility. Vehicle ownership became very important where recreational facilities are located away from residential areas and public transport is not convenient in terms of time, cost and comfort.

2.5.0 CLASSIFICATION OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2.5.1 Goodbye, (1978) has identified many types of recreational activities that existed since the pre-literate times. He did observe the following recreational activities.

i. Dancing and Rhythmic movement

ii. Mimicking and acting

iii. Story telling and conversing

iv. Creative expression in arts and science (arts and craft)

v. Games and contests.

Other classifications considered are by Max Kaplan, Ray Maw and the multinational time budget research project. Kaplan isolates those issues most relevant for understanding behaviours in leisure experience: sociability associations, games, art, movement and mobility.

Table 2.0.1: Classification Based on Behaviour in Leisure Experience.

Kaplan	Man	Time Budget
Sociability	Talking, parties, etc	social life, conversation
Game	Sport and active play	Sports
Art	Theatre	Movies, theatre.
Movement	Drinking and dinning out, gardening, Do-it-	Walking

	yourself, driving for please	
Immobility	Relaxing, passive play, T.V, radio, reading, etc	Reading, T.V radio, reading

Source: Attah, (1986).

2.5.2 CLASSIFICATION BASED ON PURPOSE AND PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

a. Cultural recreation activities or the art, these include Drama, Opera, Singing and Dancing

b. Sport and physical recreation include: games and informal play.

c. Social recreation include: dinning out, visiting the public and going to parties.

d. Countryside recreation include picnicking and camping

e. Holiday and tourism recreation

2.5.3 CLASSIFICATION BASED ON LOCATION

Recreational activities can also be classified based on location-such as Land, Water and Air. Examples of each is as given in the table below:

Table 2.0.2: Classification Based on Location

	Location	Examples
1.	Land based recreational activities	Mountaineering, car racing basketball, jogging, football, horse riding, cycling etc
2.	Water-based recreational activities	Fishing, boating, swimming surfing, water polo, sailing, water-skiing, angling, aqualung diving, rowing, hydroplaning punting etc.

3.	Air-based Recreational activities	Pleasure flying, parachuting Skydiving, ballooning, gliding

Source: Ekeneble, (1988).

2.5.4 CLASSIFICATION BASED ON ORGANIZATION AND PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

These are sub-divided into three main groups: (1) Indigenous and modern, (2) Active and passive and (3) Outdoor and indoor recreational activities (see table 2.0.3)

Table 2.0.3: Sub Classifications of Recreational Activities

1.	**Modern recreational activities**	**Indigenous recreational activities**
	Examples: Basketball, football, waterpolo, skydiving Ballooning, golfing, hockey, scrable, darts, polo, cycling lawn tennis	Examples: Langa (Hausa) Ago game (Yaruba), kare, game (kanuri) chumuo (Ibo), Sharo (Fulani), kwaghir, Biem ludo, (Tiv), La Linga (Tangale), Ba-Langa (waja) boju boju (Yaruba), dambe, kokawa (Hausa), bashari (waja), kuram (Tula), yilin (Dadiya), Dambang(Pero), llarzhare (Tera)
2.	**Active Recreation Activities** Examples: dambe, Kokawa, "langa" football, judo Swimming, mountaineering, Horse riding, athletics, dancing.	**Passive Recreational Activities**. Examples: picnicking, camping, reading novels, "ayo" game, sightseeing, viewing watching television/movies, story telling listening to music, draught, chess.

3.	Outdoor	Indoor	Outdoor/indoor
	Examples: golf, gliding, motor racing, picnicking "langa", dambe, 'sharo' "kokawa"	Examples: billiards, squash bowling, ice skating, bingo television viewing	Examples: football, basketball table tennis, badminton, reading novels, card playing, ludogame, "kare" and "ayo" game listening to music

Source: After Attah, (1986)

Modern recreational activities are activities that were introduced into Nigeria as a result of contact with other cultures especially western culture. Most modern recreational activities came during and after the colonial administration.

Indigenous recreational activities refer to all those activities that have been developed by the indigenes or community based on their socio-cultural values, norms and technology adjusted to the features of leisure time activities available to the people. (Ekenebe 1988).

Active recreation are those activities that involve physical exertion intensity of play in individual participation.

Passive recreational activities refer to those activities that require minimum amount of physical exertion on one's participation.

Outdoor recreation is performed outside a house or a building.

Indoor recreation is performed inside a house or a building. There are some

borderline in recreational activities, that can take place either outdoors or indoors

2.6.0 HISTOROCAL DEVELOPMENT OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2.6.1 REVIEW OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE WORLD HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The modern sense of recreation began with the industrial revolution. However, the earliest patterns of Urban recreation behaviour in America originated in 17th century England. The puritans who first settled the American colonies disapproved of sports, games and amusement. Despite their sanctions against recreation, they devoted much time to husking bees, tavern sports, hunting, fishing and country fairs. They were also instrumental in establishing the Boston commons in 1634, this was the country's first urban public open space used for recreation.

The industrialization and urbanization of the early 1800s and the decreasing workweek began to exert several new influences on recreation patterns. Indoors sports become more common. In the latter half of the century, organizing sports rose to prominence. Many of these activities took place in what seemed to be a limitless expense of open space or undeveloped areas in and around cities. But this was soon to be changed with the growth of industrial society, large urban centres and residential slums (Gold,1973).

In the early 20th century (1900-1940), a need for general policy on

recreation was recognized. The Antiquities Act of 1906 provided the authority for the Federal government to establish historic, scientific or cultural sites as national monuments. In 1916, the National park service within U.S Deportment of the interior was established. This period also heralded the beginning of emphasis on organized programme and professional leadership, planning and management. One other notable trend of this period was on effort toward neighbourhood organization reflected in "new enthusiasm for local organizations "(Gold,1973).

During the First World War, the recreation movement focused its resources on providing diversions for soldiers. Depression of the 1930s had some influence on recreation movement. Economic hardship reduced attendance at commercially based recreation areas and created soaring demand for available public facilities, which attracts little or no fees.

During the Second World War period (1941-1946), the emphasis was on "the values of recreation for the armed forces, industrial workers and civilian morale" (Gold 1973. p. 23). It witnessed the beginning of labour union involvement in the movement and close association of organization i.e. YMCA (Young men Christian Association), American Red Cross, etc to supply some of the programmes and facilities the government could not because of manpower and equipment shortages. This period saw the growth of industrial and therapeutic recreation and the beginning of Federal aid to assist local communities in providing leisure services (butler, 1964).

The post-war period (Butler, 1946-1960) witnessed a boom in urban development and had a marked effect on recreation use patterns and development. The rapid expansion of schools, parks, and all types of recreational areas was unprecedented and based on a drastic change in the population composition, mobility, amount of disposable incomes and increase in leisure time for large numbers of the developed societies. The issue of post-war reconstruction affected virtually every aspect of public policy. Three things in particular had changed, and they combined to influence important attitudes towards the protection of scenic quality and opportunities for outdoor recreation. The first is the role of agriculture in landscape management. The second is the strengthened land use planning system. The town and country-planning Act 1947 provided for the obligatory preparation of development plans covering the whole of U.K. The third, was the rapid increase in informal recreation in the country side, based on the family, car-borne excursion, demand multiply for picnic sites, lay-bys, car parks, access to beauty spots and the opening up of water space (Sue 1993).

During what could be described as space age that is 1960 - 1970 and beyond, its generally observed that people in the developed societies preferred simple, more convenient and less expensive forms of outdoor recreation that do not require great expenditures of money or time. Swimming, picnicking, outdoors games, attending sports events and concerts and walking for pleasure were the most popular outdoor recreation activities in the more developed societies.

2.6.2 REVIEW OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN NIGERIA.

The patterns and trends of recreational activities in Nigeria have been identified by Ojo (1978) to constitute three main phases. These phases are: pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial periods.

a. Pre-colonial period.

In the pre-colonial period, the people were mostly self-employed; the economic was agriculture, pastoral and crafts. Recreation at this period was limited and consisted of time not giving to working, eating, sleeping or performing other essential occupation as determined by individual. Recreational activities during this period (pre-colonial) had the following characteristics:

i. The recreation activities were home-based and took place within premises of houses or within the immediate surroundings.

ii. The activities were organized by people of the same age group or sex group for example kokawa, dambe and gada among the Hausas.

iii. Some of the activities were organized by people of the same profession. For example "igbante (hunting) among the Ibos.

iv. Some of the recreational activities took place during religious festivals, birth ceremonies, initiation, wedding, installation and funeral, which consisted large measures of activities in which every one participated.

During this period, recreational activities were not organized on commercial basis but rather it was a part of social living of the people

b. Colonial period:

In this period, there was diversification of activities. Apart from their primary occupation, a good number of the people were engaged in secondary and tertiary activities. This period witnessed the emergence of the white collar workers who earn income and obtained leave allowances meant for rest and relaxation (Ekeneble, 1988). In this period also, religious and educational holidays were introduced. In this period recreational activity such as: swimming, hunting, golfing, horse riding, football, social clubs etc were introduced.

The colonial period marked the major turning point in the patterns and trends of recreational activities from being wholly traditional to the modern recreational activities.

c. Post-colonial period

In this period, the economic situation set in motion certain forces, which single or jointly were conducive to the rapid development of recreational activities in Nigeria. This period witnessed the introduction of more efficient and easy forms of transportation, such as rail, road, water and air transport system. This transport system gave the people the opportunity to explore or visit recreational area located a way from one's residential area. This period also witnessed the engagement of people in non-agricultural jobs like factories, commercial houses, government and institutional

offices. Other factors that influenced recreational activities include the following:

i. More people were engaged in secondary and tertiary occupations. This means more discretionary time and income for the workers.

ii. The introduction of western education and religions resulted in formal recognition of leisure hours partly in the form of schools and religious holidays.

iii. The period also marked the decrease in working days from six to five days with Saturdays and Sundays free for government employees.

iv. There was also a marked increase in income because of the Morgan and Udoji salary review commissions.

v. Urbanization has also helped greatly in the increasing emergence of urban centres and has favoured the rapid growth in the recreational activities in the country. This is because urban centres are where recreational facilities are readily available and with reduced working days workers could afford to spend money and time to avail themselves of the available recreational facilities. These forces have resulted in increasing participation in recreational activities especially in those termed modern. This has increased the pressure on recreational facilities.

2.6.3 CHARACTERISTICS OF SOME RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN NIGERIA

The characteristics of recreational activities in Nigeria have been treated with reference to Traditional and Modern forms. Parameters such as age, sex, professional and social groups and religions are used to give an indication of the characteristics of some selected recreational activities in Nigeria.

a. **Age:** The youth engage more on active recreational activities, for example: football, volley ball, "dambe", "Langa" and "sharo" children and the elderly participate mostly in passive and home-based activities like ludo game, card playing, storytelling, 'ayo' and 'kare' games.

b. **Sex:** Males participate more than females in both traditional and modern recreational activities especially in the outdoor activities like golfing, "dambe", "sharo" and camping. The women participate more an passive recreational activities within the house such as storytelling, T.V. Viewing, etc. Recreational activities like boxing is mainly for men while netball are for females only. (Ekenebe, 1988).

c. **Education:** People with higher level of education have the tendency to prefer the traditional recreational activities (Ekeneble, 1988); but participate more on modern recreational activities. Those with low level of formal education tend to participate more in indigenous recreational activities.

d. **Professional and social groups:** Some recreational activities are

organized on professional and social groupings. For example recreational activities like golf, polo, 'dambe', "biem" (new yam festival), "Igbanta" (hunting), Argungu fishing festival and membership of some recreation clubs is restricted to certain income groups and class. Atteh (1986), Ekenebe (1988).

e. **Religious:** Some traditional recreational activities are performed to celebrate religious occasions like "Tashe" among the Muslims and some masquerade dances among the Christians. Religion is less significant in terms of participation in modern recreational activities.

2.6.4 LOCATION, ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONAL BASIS OF SOME RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN NIGERIA

a. Location

Some modern recreational activities are land based, others are water –based while others are Air-based (see table 2.04). Most of the traditional recreation activities are land-based with the exception of a few such as the Argungu fishing festival and the "lambo lambo" which are water-based (Attah, 1986).

Both the traditional and modern forms of recreational activities take place at various hierarchies and this is reflected in space requirement for the various activities (see tables 2.04, 2.05). Generally, activities that are home-based require less space than the city level and regional level recreation space (Attah, 1988).

b. Organization:

Space standards are very important characteristics of most modern recreational activities. Some modern recreational activities, mostly organized sports, have international space standards (see table 2.05).

Rules and regulations govern the effective functioning of both forms of recreational activities especially the modern forms. There are set rules and regulations with regard to number of participants, time of activity among other things.

C. Operation

Most of the organized modern recreational activities are operated on subscription basis. Some few traditional recreational activities are also on subscriptions e.g "dambe" and 'kokawa' where some amount of money is sometimes demanded from spectators.

Some traditional recreational activities are seen as part of social life. They make up the individual's socialization from birth, naming, wedding ceremonies to installations and funeral ceremonies.

Some of the traditional recreational activities take place mostly at night and some are seasonal or periodical (see table 2.04,2.05)

Table 2.04: Characteristics of Some Traditional Recreational Activities in Nigeria

S/N	Ethnic group	Type of activities	Location of activity/facility	Hierarch of Recreational space	Time of activity	Space required	Participants

1	Ibo Yoruba Hausa	Chomuo Boju Boju Wasan boyo	Usually within Compound Within the	Home oriented Space	Both day and Night time	Available space Within compound 10 x 10m	Male and Female children Children and Women
2	Hausa Ibo Yoruba	Tatsuniya Itainu Alo	Compound or along verandah	- do -	Usually at night For fear of evil spirits	2 x 2-5 x 5 meters	
3	Yoruba Ibibio Hausa	Ereiyawo Moimlim Wasan Aure	Within compound But a way From the elders	- do-	Either in the Day or night Time	Depend on the Number of Participants	Male and Female youths
4	Ibo Hausa Kanuri Ibo	Itu okwe oro Charafke	Usually within compound Or along verandah	- do -	Day time	50 x 50 -50 x 100m Not more than 2 x2 – 3x3m	Female children
5	Hausa Yoruba Hausa Ibo Yoruba	Dara Izu okwe Dara Ayo	Usually under shade of tree in front of compounds	Neighbourhood Level space - do - District/city Level space	Normally after The days work	1 x 1 – 3 x 3 m	Male adults
6	Hausa Ibo Yoruba	Ranwa (kodi) Okoso Okoto	Sandy area under Shade in front of Compound or river bank	-do- City level	Usually during the day	1 x 1 – 3 x 3m	Male children
7	Hausa	Dambe (boxing) Kokawa (wrestling) Langa (one legged game)	Open space away from Compound	District/city level City level	Usually during the day	10 x 10 – 50x50m 20x20-100x100m	Male youths Male youth Youth
8	Ibibio Idoma	Ekong Aleku ojuju	Movement from House to house	and district Level	Seasonal	100 x 100m	Male youths
9	Tiv	Kwaghir (puppetry)	Open space away from compounds	City level	Day time usually seasonal	-	Male &female youths
10	Fulani	Sharo (beating of the bridogroom)	Usually at market square	District/city level	During the day	30x30-80x80m 50x50-110x100m	Male adults
11	Hausa Yoruba Ibo	Farauta Igbe dide Hunting Igbanta	In the country side	City level and District level	During the day or Night usually at Dry season		Male youth and adults
12	Hausa	Lambo lambo	In the pond or lake	District/city level		The whole of The country side	Male youths

Table 2.05: Characteristic of some Modern Recreational Activities in Nigeria

S/N	Type of activities	Location of activities/ facilities	Hierarchy of recreational space	Time of activity	Space requirement	Participants	Operational basis
1	Swimming Boating Fishing	Water front e.g River	City level or regional Space levels	Day time	Stretch of few Kilometer of water	Both males & Female	Licensing usually Required
2	Football Hand ball Hockey Basket ball	Outdoor activities	Could be district, City or regional Space level	Could be Played in The day or Night time	10x20-70x100m	Usually males But females Could also Participate	Organized sports Operated on subscription Basis
3	Television and Cinema viewing	Usually indoor but could be outdoor also	Home-oriented space except for cinema district level space	Day and night	3x3-50x50m	Both sexes	Not on commercial except for cinema
4	Ludo, darts, Scrable, card Playing	Could be indoors or outdoors	Home-oriented space	Day or night	2x2-6x6m	Both sexes	Not operated on subscription basis but for pleasure
5	Sailing	Water front e.g lagoon	City/regional level space	Day time	Stretch of a few km of water	Both sexes, high income earner	Organized membership mandatory, Lic. Required
6	Camping mountaineering picnicking	Outdoor usually at the country side	City level and regional level	Usually at day but also at night	Areas left at natural state	Males & female adults	Not organized on commercial basis

Source: Adapted after Ekenebe, 1988

2.7.0 APPROACHES TO RECREATION PLANNING

Gold (1980), outlined seven different ways in which recreation planning can be approached. These are:

2.7.1 RESOURCE APPROACH

In this approach physical or natural resources determines the types and amount of recreational opportunities. The approach lays emphasis on supply rather than demand. This approach is most effective in non-urban resource recreation planning such as reservoirs, national forest reserve and national parks. This approach fails to recognize the importance of socio-economic and Political factors in recreation planning.

2.7.2 ACTIVITY APPROACH

This approach uses past participation in selected activities to determine what opportunities should be provided in the future. Supply creates demand. The emphasis is on users and the supplies of existing public recreation opportunities. This approach works best when applied to homogeneous population by a public agency with limited scope. It relies on the past trend hence it may not respond well in accommodating changes in the future.

2.7.3 ECONOMIC APPROACH

The economic base or fiscal resources of a community determine the amount, type and location of recreation opportunities. The emphasis here is on the question of fees and charges. This approach has great value for analyzing the question of welfare

economics, user-charges and private investments opportunities at the metropolitan or regional level. It can also provide the facts needed to help rationalized the cost effectiveness of public park and recreation facilities in cities. The problem of this approach is that public recreation should not be based on just economic principles; the issue of welfare should be of paramount importance.

2.7.4 BEHAVIOUR APPROACH

In this approach, the choice of how, where, and when people use their free time is influenced by human behaviour and events in leisure settings. This approach relates demand to supply to develop indicators of social needs which can be met in leisure settings that combine physical environment (space) and behaviour approach (activity). This approach requires value judgements, the developmental of credible measures and high levels of citizen participation making it more complex and controversial then other approaches.

2.7.5 COMBINED APPROACH

This is also called the "user-resource planning method" and was first developed for use in the California outdoor recreation plan. There is yet no known complete application of this approach, only aspects of this approach have been tried in several state wide recreation plans in the U.S.A. This approach holds much promise for urban and regional recreation planning. It combined the other approaches to recreation planning. This study will equally employ this approach for the planning of recreational facilities in Gombe.

2.7.6 TRADITIONAL

The traditional approach to planning emphasizes the following general concepts:-

a. Quantity over quality

b. Physical over social objectives

c. Form over function

d. Exploitation over conservation of human and natural resources and

e. Community rather than the individual.

These concepts are usually reflected in the more traditional methods which focus on:

i. Single product plan

ii. A terminal planning process,

iii. A centralized planning function, and

iv. Rigid planning unit usually related to political or physical boundaries (Gold, 1973 p.128).

2.7.7 INNOVATIVE

The innovative approach to recreation planning and development emphasizes a different set of values. These are:

a. Quality over quantity

b. Social over physical and economic considerations

c. Functions over form.

d. Conservation over exploitation of human and natural resources and

e. The individual over the community. These concepts are reflected in methods which generally focus on:

i. Alternatives or policy types of plans

ii. A continuous planning and review process.

iii. A decentralized planning function, and

iv. Flexible planning units based on natural and human resources, activities, functions or relationships (Gold, 1973 p. 128)

2.8.0 RECREATION PLANNING STANDARDS

Chapin (1972) defined standards as set of yardsticks established for measuring the excellence of quality in elements of the community's make up. Standards established in law generally take the form of minimum standards. Planning analyses use "desirable standards" an excellence of quality somewhere between the minimum and optimum situations. Something practicable to achieve in the great majority of applications.

The recreation planning standards explains the standards in terms of the population size and the facilities possible in a given hierarchy of geographical location such as locality, neighbourhood, and districts. It also indicate the time and distance to be covered to locate recreational facility in a given area. This is given as in the table below.

Table 2.06: General Standard for Recreation Planning

	Hierarchy	Time/distance	Rect time	Facilities possible	Pop size
1	Locality	500m-1km 10-15 mins	Very short period	Children plan ground, Club house, social Clubs, viewing centres	Up to 5,000
2	Nieghbour-	1km-2km 15-30 mins	Short Period	-Parks and gardens -Sports ground -Tennis courts -Cinemas	5,000-10,000
3	District	2km-5km 30-40mins	Short period 2days	District library Swimming pool Social centre Cinemas Sports games	10,000 - 20,000
4	Town/city	Up to 15km	2days Half day	Motor sport centre Stadium, polo house, Racing, cultural facilities theatre, large parks	Urban area above 20,000
5	Regional	50-80km Over 60mins 1-2hrs	Full day Several days	Outdoor water areas Zoo and museums Race tracks art galleries Public Park and gardens	Metropoli-tan areas
6	National	Longer Distance	Several days	Mountains, beaches, Wildlife resource, game reserves, museums, Water falls, National monuments, Historical sites.	Resources based Facilities

Source: Chapin (1972)

The general location principles of recreation area planning should note the following:

i. They should be in convenient proximity to living areas.

ii. they should be located to areas of cultural activities or spectacular spots

iii. The site should be adequate for development

iv. Parks and open spaces form basis of attraction

CHAPTER THREE

GENERAL SURVEY, REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF THE CHANGING FORMS OF RECREATIONAL IN GOMBE METROPOLIS

3.1.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter gives a general overview of the study area in terms of its location, Land use, physical characteristic, and socio-economic and demographic characteristics. It review and analyses the pattern and trends of recreational activities in Gombe.

3.2.0 AN OVER VIEW OF GOMBE METROPOLIS

3.2.1 LOCATION

Gombe the headquarters of Gombe state is at central geographical location within the state. It is on latitude $10^{o}15'N$ and longitude $11^{o}10'E$ (see fig 3.01). Gombe town is also centrally located in the Northeast sub-region. It is well linked by road to other regional centres like Biu/Maiduguri, Potisman/Damaturu, Bauchi/Jos, Kari/Kano and Numan/Yola.

3.2.2 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Under this sub-section the topography and drainage, geology and climate of Gombe are discussed.

a. Topography and drainage

The topography of Gombe town is dominated by the western uplands that dip eastwards down to the steep slope of the Akko escarpment in the west of the town.

The highest points on the landscape are on the Liji Hills and the Sandstone hills dotting the Southern part of the town. The highest part of the built-up areas of the town is at the western gateway, about 610.5m (1850ft) above sea level and the lowest parts at the BCGA areas, about 412.5 (1250ft) above sea level.

There are rivers and streams some of which tributaries with active gully heads, have truncated the town, particularly northeast and southeast parts, creating west east striations on the landscape. The very prominent feature of the huge rock out crop (Liji hill) constitutes a constraint to eastward expansion of the town.

b. Geology of Gombe town

The geology of Gombe town site consists of two (2) distinct zone. First the basement complex is made up of crystalline rocks (granites, diorites, migmatites and gneiss). It outcrops in liars locally known as Liji hill east of old Gombe town. The rocks withstand great pressure and provide construction materials (SLK, 2001). Second is the more dominant zone consisting of sandstone, which occurs in five (5) formations. These are: the Bima formation, Yolde formation, Pindiga formation, Gombe sandstones and the Keri-Keri formation.

c. Climatic conditions

Climatic factors are important considerations especially these climatic elements that relates to the provision of recreational facilities. Gombe town is located

within the sub-Sudan climatic zone. It is characterized by two distinct seasons; the dry season (November- March) and wet season (May to October). Temperatures become lower at 75^{o}F (24^{o}C) during the hamattan period (December –February). Average relative humidity is also lowest, at about 15% during the hamattan period of the dry season (SLK,2001).

The average yearly rainfall in Gombe is 122cm received over an average of seven months; with a peak in August (see table 3.01). Average of annual temperatures for various months are generally high but are highest in March/April with about 93^{o}F (34^{o}C). Wet seasons temperature is high with mean value of 80^{o}F (27^{o}C).

Solar radiation in Gombe is higher in the months of February and March, while from April to September there is cloud cover most of the time, in the month of November to January i.e during the hamattan period, the sky is covered by heavy hamattan dust from the Sahara, which sometimes causes poor visibility.

Gombe experience the two trade winds, the Northeast trade wind between November to February and the Southwest trade winds between April and September, Gombe also experiences thunderstorm during the rainy season.

3.2.3 DEMOGRAPIC CHARACTERISTICS

The population of Gombe consists of many ethnic groups such as Fulani, Tera, Tangale, Hausa, Waja, Jukun Bolewa etc from Gombe State, there are also Ibo Yuruba, Kanuri from other states of the Federation.

Gombe was founded in 1919 with about 300 population and grew to 409, 000 in 2005.

The population growth pattern and projection over the years is given in table 3.01

Table 3.01: Population Growth Pattern for Gombe From 1919 to 2025

Period	No of years	Pop change	Growth rate
1919-1963	44	300 to 47265	
1963-1974	11	47265 to 69,000	4.8
1974-1996	22	69,000 to 208000	4.9
1996-2005	9	208,000 to 409,00	9.0
2005-2015	10	409000 to 571,000	3.0
2015-2025	10	571,000 to 759,00	2.8

Sources: 1963 census, Max loc surveys 1973, SLK survey 2001 and Gombe state Pop. Commission. 2005 projections

The above table reveals that the rate of growth has been almost steady at 4.8 and 4.9 from 1963 to 1996. From the creation of Gombe state in October, 1996, the growth rate rapidly rose to 9.0%, this was due to the interplay of a number of factors brought by the creation of the state which Gombe town is the state headquarters.

The growth rate would, under normal circumstances, decline and stabilize at 2.8% by the year 2015

3.24: EXISTING LAND USE PATTERN OF GOMBE

The Gombe urban area as defined in the master plan is the area within a 15km radius. The generalized land use of Gombe is shown in table 3.02 and fig 3.03. Areas for various land uses are calculated based on the developed land. Residential area

covers about 3216.0ha (55.0%) of the total developed area. Recreation covered 117ha (2.0%) within the developed area. This is far below the recommended standard of 7-10% developed areas to be reserved for recreation areas.

Table 3.02: Existing Land use of Gombe Town.

Land use type	Area (ha)	%
Residential	3216.0	55.0
Commercial	351.0	6.0
Industrial	175.0	3.0
Public/semi public	1403.0	24.0
Recreation	117	2.0
Road space	585	10.0
Total	5847.0	100.0

Sources: Gombe master plan 2001, Field survey, 2005

3.3.0 EXISTING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN GOMBE

Here, we will look at the existing recreational activities in Gombe. This includes both the traditional and modern forms of recreational activities. The survey of existing recreational activities covers only the most popular and widely accepted activities.

a. Traditional recreational activities

The traditional recreational activities in Gombe are both indoors and outdoors. The traditional activities are as indicated on table 3.04. These activities takes

place all over the town but especially BCGA area, where traditional wrestling, boxing, dancing, music and drumming take place.

b. Modern recreational activities

The modern recreational activities cover indoors and outdoors activities. Sports and games takes place mostly on school playfields where there are sufficient sites and facilities. They take place at both day and evening time. The most popular recreational activities are football, film viewing, card

Plate 1: traditional Boxing (Dambe) in Gombe

Plate 2: A Modern form of Recreation in Gombe

playing and visiting clubs. Others are basketball, picnicking ludo etc. Modern activities such as golfing, Lawn tennis, horseracing, does not take place, as the

facilities are conscipiciously lacking in Gombe.

3.3.1 SOCIAL CLUBS IN GOMBE

There are social clubs that are formed at different times and actively involved in both traditional and modern forms of recreation in Gombe (see table 3.o.3)

Table 3.0.3 Registered Social Clubs in Gombe

S/n	Name and year established	Activities	Members/ users	Location	Area (ha)
1	Amana social club (1980)	Ludo, playing card	Over 400 People	Bolari North	15x25m
2	Bogo social clubs (1980)	Dara, dambe	117 members & public	BCGA	170x100m
3	Sa'a social club (1981)	Dancing and drama Drama, disco, card playing etc.	80 member Gen. public Members Gen public	Bolari Central	20x37m
4	Jekadafari soc club (1982)	Dara, cards Ludo etc	Members and Gen. public	Jekadafari west	10 x15m
5	Himma soc. club (1982)	Cards, dancing, Story telling	Many	Tudun wada East	10x13m
6	Rirni social club (1984)	Kokawa, Rawa Drama	Many	Displaced from Bolari seeking for a place	
7	Bongga shawara social club (1986)	Dara, Ludo, cards etc	Over 50 & gen public	T/wada Herwa - gana	30x45m
8	Haske social club (1986)	Cards, Ludo dara, Visitation	Members Gen. Public	Bolari south	20x26 m
9	Adalci social club (1988)	Drama, Luda, whott, Dara, kokawa, dancing etc	Over 800		6x10m

Sources: (a) Min. of Women Affairs & Youth Dev. (b.) Field survey, 2005

Most of these activities commences in the evening/afternoon and extends to late nights. Most of the active participants are in the age group of 28 and 50 years

3.3.2 CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS IN GOMBE

Gombe is the capital of Gombe state. It is a town with cultural diversity. Gombe is a cultural transitional zone between the Fulani and Hausa culture area to the north and the Tera and the other indigenous tribes of Tangale-waje (e.g pero, cham, Dadiya, Tula, Waja, Lunguda Tangale, Kamo, Awak etc) cultural area to the south. Gombe could best be described as an area with a high probability of conditions lying between the extremes.

These two major groups in Gombe tend to be distinct social and cultural groups. The Fulani and Hausa are dominantly Moslems while majority of the Tangale, Tera, Waja, Lunguda, Dadiya, Cham are Christians.

The above formed fairly distinct ethno-religious cultural complexes with the associated patterns of community social and recreational activities and physical artifacts.

Some cultural attractions that are performed in and around Gombe that attracts substantial number of people in the town are show in table 3.06.

Table 3.04: Major Cultural Attractions in Gombe

S/n	Name of activity	Period of activity	Ethnic group	Area cover (ha)
1	Ngorda International dancers	Year round	Tera	0.8
2	Eku-yeku	May/June	Tangale	0.6
3	Bashari	April/May	Waja	0.65
4	Chugothe	April	Cham	1.0
5	Yilim	Jan/Feb	Dadiya	0.8
6	Kuram	Dec	Tula	1.0
7	Sharo	Usually August	Fulani	1.5
8	Tangra	July-Aug	Shongom	0.9
9	Dambang	April May	Pero	1.3
10	Durbar	During Sallah	Hausa/Fulani	4.0
11	Dambe	Occasionally	Hausa	0.5
12	Ilarzhare	Nov/Dec	Tera	1.5
13	Kokawa	Occasionally		0.5
14	State cultural troupe	Year round		0.5

Source: Field survey, 2005

Table 3.05: Existing Elements of Gombe Cultural Centre

	Facility	Area (ha)
1	Emir's palace	7.83
2	Central mosque	0.6
3	Prison yard	1.0
4	Divisional police HQs	0.2
5	Gombe L.G. HQs	1.0
6	State Library	0.25
7	Baitu-mali	0.75
8	National pop commission	0.25

Source: (a) Gombe Master Plan, 2001. (b) Field survey, 2005

It should be noted (tables 3.04 and 3.05) that in Gombe there is a higher level of multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and inter-religious mix in Gombe compared to other new state capitals in the northern part of Nigeria.

3.4.0 REVIEW OF CHANGES IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN GOMBE

"The disadvantage of men not knowing the past is that they do not know the present. History is a hill or high point of vantage, from which alone men see the town in which they live or the age in which they are living"- G.K. Chesterton.

Gombe, the rapidly growing city faces many social challenges: population growth, the influx of rural migrants, and an evolving economic base all contribute to different recreational activities at different time (see table 3.06). An analysis of the previous recreational activities is needed to enable us make logical conclusion about the most probable pattern and trends of future recreational activities.

Gombe town started as a small settlement of a few tens of inhabitants, (SLK, 2001). Six major recreational Époque periods could be identified as in table 3.06

As indicated on table 3.06, the period between 1919 and 1949 was characterized by solely indigenous forms of recreational activities such as 'Dambe', 'Kokawa; 'Farauta' 'Sharo', traditional drumming, music and dances. There were also some religious recreational activities such as "tashe".

The period between 1950 and 1963 was characterized again mainly by indigenous recreational activities, modern recreation was still not much known to the inhabitants i.e the indigenes of the town.

From 1964 to 1975, some form of modern recreational activities commenced. These include. Cinemas, sports and games, going to clubs for relaxation, cards playing etc.

Between 1976 and 1985, both indigenous and modern forms of recreation

continued to co-exist. The kanawa forest was raised during this period. Modern hotels and accommodation and restaurants began in earnest in this period.

The period 1986-1995 witnessed the formation of social clubs in the town. Some traditional recreational activities began to decline in participation and patronage e.g “Sharo’, Langa etc.

The period from 1996 to 2005 could be described as Gombe new era or Gombe re-birth period. This period witnessed the re-activation of some cultural recreational activities. Some ethnic group’s cultural festival are now done in Gombe. The state government also introduced cultural activities competition. There is also the state cultural troupe.

Table 3.06: Historical Époques and Recreational Activities in Gombe

S/n	Époque/period	Population	Status	Recreational activities
1	Formative 1919 - 1949	300 -25,000	Emergent town, colonial admin. Headquarter for Gombe division, HQS for Gombe Emirate	Traditional e.g 'Kokawa' 'Dambe/, 'Sharo' Hunting (farauta), cultural drumming, singing and dances and some forms of religious dances.
2	Economic take off 1950 - 1963	25,000 -47,000	Built economic base, centre for cotton and g/nut farming, groundnut milling and cotton ginning, acquired improved road network, acquired rail line	Mostly still traditional activities. Modern Recreation still alien to most people
3	Early post in dependence 1964-1975	47,000 –69,000	Enthanced economic status, increase cosmopolitan population composition. Improved infrastructure from public sector works e.g NEPA Distributor centre of North-East, Gen. Hospital, secondary schools more primary school.	Beginning e.g modern recreation activities e.g cinemas, sports and games, going to clubs in the evenings for relaxation, Hotels built.
4	Post civil post-independence 1976-1985	72,000 -107,000	Some benefits of state creation came to Gombe from Bauchi and also from the F.G facilities e.g F.C.E, Army Barrakecks, ADP, farm centres etc	Both indigenous and modern forms of recreation continued to co-exist, Kanawa forest Planted
5	Stabilization period 1985-1995	110,000 -187,000	More urban facilities e.g new markets, urban roads, No main historical development due to Economic down turn during this period	Formation of social clubs, some indigenous recreational activities began to decline e.g 'Sharo'
6	Gombe be new-era 1996-2005	200,000 –409,000	Creation of Gombe state, immigration of over 14,000 civil servants from Bauchi, employment of people into civil and public service, rapid expansion of the town, democratic Govt, urban development programmes, more township roads And streets establishment of a state University and a new and modern Air port, construction of Banqucts Hall and other recreational facilities	Re-activation of some cultural activities i.e some ethnic groups cultural festivals now done in Gombe e.g waja cultural dance day, Tangale day cultural activities competition introduced.

Sources: (a) Gombe Master plan, 2001 (b) Field Survey, 2005

Table 307 Changes in forms of recreational activities in Gombe

Period	Recreational status	Major Recreation activities
Pre-colonial period	Generally home based; organized among members of the same age groups, or sex or profession. Some are performed as a sign of gratitude to the gods for bumper harvest	Kokawa, Gada, Dambe, Farauta, storytelling, Sharo, Langa, etc.
Colonial period	Foreign cultures sets in and introduced western culture and recreational activities. Modern religions ceremonies introduced	Football, tennis, clubs activities, Religious ceremonies. Etc
Post-colonial period	Decline in traditional recreation activities and introduction of modern recreation	Film viewing card playing etc
Gombe state creation:	Development of modern recreation facilities and formation of cultural troupe. Both modern and traditional recreational activities co-exist.	Cultural activities Clubs activities Tennis, football Film, T.V., cinema viewing.

Source: Field survey, 2005.

From the above table, it could be deduced that some forms of recreational activities that used to occupy so much space are almost non-existent in Gombe town e.g Wasan Bori, Sharo and Langa, and have transformed into other types of recreation.

However, some of the recreational activities have continue through the periods e.g Dambe and Kokawa, Dara and some traditional dances. It could also be noted that even some of the modern recreational activities are gradually changing and being transformed to some other types of recreational activities. This is evident with recreational activities like foot balling and cinema participation.

Plate 3: Table tennis played by children in Gombe

Note: Children queing and struggling for table tennis play. This is a change from children football to tennis. This is a feature in Gombe.

Most of the changes are towards indoor and passive recreational activities. This

could mean less space could be planned and developed for active and outdoors recreation activities in Gombe.

3.5.0 SURVEY OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN GOMBE

The survey of the existing recreational facilities in Gombe cover both outdoors and in-doors recreational facilities. It also includes both traditional and modern forms of recreation as well as passive and active types of recreational facilities. In Gombe, recreational facilities for activities like golf, lawn tennis, horseracing, cultural play ground etc are lacking (table 3.08, fig 3.03)

Table 3.08 Existing Recreational Facilities in Gombe

S/n	**Facility**	**Total number**	**Location**	**Area covered**
1	Stadium	2	Dukku rd, pantami	21.2ha
2	Foot ball pitch	1	Bolari	1.2ha
3	Play fields	Numerous	Within the town	(sch. Premises)
4	Picnic spot	1	Kwadon	Country side
5	Cinema hall	2	Sabon layi	0.72ha
6	Film viewing house	42	Within town	6.3ha
7	Hotels restaurants & beer place	Distributed all over the town	Distributed all over the town	5.78ha
8	Social clubs	9	Within the town	1.63ha
9	Table – tennis	Numerous	Within town	5x 4m
10	Snooker joints	//	//	4x 3m
11	Library	1	T/wada	0.25
12	Emir's palace	1	T/wada	7.83
13	Recreation clubs	16	Distribute all over	2.6

Source: Field survey, 2005.

Plate 4: Township stadium, Pantami Gombe

Note: this is one of the very few recreational facilities in Gombe

Plate 5: Bolari football pitch, Gombe

This is one of the very few organized open spaces in Gombe

1. **Stadium**. There are two (2) stadia in Gombe town. The Abubakar Umar stadium

located along Dukku road and the Gombe township stadium in pantami. The stadia are mainly used for activities such as foot ball, hand ball, and cultural activities (plate 7)

2. **Football pitch.** This is an open space, it was formally used for agricultural show and cultural activities, but now its mainly used for playing football, and cycling by children in the evenings. It is located in Bolari ward (see plate 8)

3. Play fields: many playing fields have been identified in Gombe town. Most of them are attached to primary schools, secondary schools and post-secondary schools. Playing fields consist of large open spaces for football and other sporting activities.

4. Picnic spot: there is only one main picnic spot identified in Gombe- the kanawa plantation. Most of the visits to this site are done during weekends and other work-free days. It's about 13km from the town.

5. Cinema Halls: in Gombe town, there are only two (2) cinema halls. The Miyetti cinema (the largest) and the Abubakar cinema (old and poorly maintained). They are located along sabon layi:

6. Film viewing house: This is of the rapidly increasing facility in the town especially from 1997 to date. These are small halls and temporary shades erected in some open spaces around the town. They mainly show films both local and international as, well as football matches. These houses

Plate 6: Miyetti Cinema, Gombe

Plate 7: Emir's palace, Gombe

Note: Durbar and other cultural and religious activities takes places here.

charges between ₦10–₦20 depending on the film and/or the matches being played. Forty two (42) films viewing house were identified within Gombe town.

7. Hotels, restaurants and beer parlous

i. Hotels- Thirty four (34) hotels have been identified in Gombe. The one's that are of international standard are: Jiyamere visitors suite, Bulma Guest house, A.Y. Guest house, Jewel suite and Gombe international hotel (under construction). The total numbers of hotels that are of international standard (existing and functional) are six (6). There are other smaller hotels spread within the town.

ii. Restaurants: these are also numerous in the town. The most outstanding ones are Aroma restaurant, Resort restaurant, Rahama restaurant, Top taste restaurant, Meenet restaurant, King's Milk' N' Honey and Sleek restaurant.

iii. Beer parlous: They are scattered all over within the town, especially, areas outside the old city area. The hotels, restaurants and beer parlous provide recreation facilities for drinking, dancing etc.

7. **Social clubs:** There are nine (9) registered socials clubs in Gombe. They are located within the town (table3.05) fig 3.04. These clubs provide facilities for draught, table tennis, dara, card playing, music, dancing, drumming, drama, ludo, cultural activities etc.

9. **Library:** there is only one library in Gombe town, located opposite the prisons yard near Emir's palace. The library covers an area of 0.25 ha with a seating capacity for about 160 people.

10. **The emir's palace:** The Emirs palace covers an area of 7.83 hectares. It is a centre for traditional recreational activities e.g. durbar during sallah and special occasions (plate 5)

11. Recreational clubs:- Many of such clubs have been identified in Gombe metropolis. They provide recreational facilities for both members and non-members alike. Such clubs include the PPMC staff club, Gombe club, etc.

3.6.0 PRESENT PATTERN OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN GOMBE TOWN.

To determine the present pattern and trend of recreational activities in Gombe, both oral interview and structural questionnaire were employed. A total number of seven hundred and sixty eight (768) people were interviewed during the survey. Those areas interviewed in relation to recreation are as follows.

a. Age and gender groups.

Out of the 786 people interviewed, 556 (72%) were males while 212(28%) were females. To find the relationship between age group and recreation participation, the population was categorized according to age groups as indicated in the table below (table 3.10).

Table 3.09: Response by Age and Gender

Age groups (years)	Number of respondent	Males	Females	%of respondents
Under 21	76	52	24	10.0
21-40	318	213	105	41.4
41-60	357	274	83	46.4
61+	17	17	-	2.2
Total	768	556	212	100

Source: Field survey, 2005.

From the table above, it should be noted that the people under 21 years formed 10%. Those between 21 and 40 formed 41%. The group between 41-60 years formed 47% while 61 years and above formed the least of 17%. It was discovered that there is strong relationship between age and gender in some recreational activities.

b. Occupation and Recreation Patterns in Gombe

It was discovered that recreation patterns are affected by the occupation of the individuals. The responses of the individuals as it relates to their occupation is as indicated in the table below.

Table 3.10 Existing Occupation Pattern in Gombe

	Occupation types	No of responses	%
1	Civil servant	289	37
2	Commercial	330	42
3	Farming	83	10
4	Un-employed	30	8
5	Retired	36	3
	Total	768	100

Source: Filed survey, 2005.

It was discovered that people that are self employed such as farmers, businesses and those employed by private companies have less time for recreation, and this is because they work longer hours in the day trying to maximize their gains. Those that were employed as civil servants formed 35%, those in the commercial sector formed 40%. Farming is 9%, schooling formed 5%. The un-employed and the retired formed 8% and 3% respectively.

c. Educational Attainment

The higher the level of education, the greater the awareness of the importance of recreation. Education therefore determines recreation habits. In Gombe, respondents with some level of education up to post-secondary school prefer a combination of modern and indigenous recreational activities. Those with low level of education are less aware of modern recreation activities and therefore prefer indigenous recreational activities. People with high level of education, on the other hand, participate in wider range of activities because they are more widely exposed to a variety of ideas and experiences, which broadened leisure interests and promote habits of varied participation.

Table 3.11: Educational level of Respondent

	Category	No of responses	%
1	Primary school	127	16.5
2	Secondary school	182	23.7
3	Post-secondary school	230	30.0
4	Informal education	95	12.5
5	Vocational training	46	6.0
6	None	87	11.3
	Total	768	100

Source: Field survey, 2005.

d. Participation of Leisure time Activities in Gombe

The interview indicated that people in Gombe engage in different types of recreation activities (see table 3.13).

Tables 3.12 Ways of Spending Leisure Time in Gombe

	Recreational activities	No of responses	% of response

1	Social cultural activities	327	42.5
2	T.V Video, cinema viewing	285	37.1
3	Sporting activities	92	12.0
4	Visits to friends, etc	27	3.5
5	Reading	5	0.7
6	Others	32	4.2
	Total	768	100

Source: Field survey, 2005.

CHAPTER FOUR

DETERMINANTS OF THE CHANGING PATTERN OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN GOMBE TOWN

4.1.0 INTER AND INTRA CULTURAL MIX

The ethnic and religious groups in Gombe tend to be distinct social groups that equally explain the reasons for the various forms of recreational activities . The Fulani and Hausa are predominantly Muslims while majority of Tangale, Tera, Tula, Waja, Cham and the other indigenous ethnic groups are Christians. These form fairly distinct ethno-religious and cultural complexes with the associated patterns of community social activities and physical artifacts.

The high inter-religious and education mixing in the new areas and low mix in the older areas characterized the social differentiation of the population in Gombe. There is a clustering of civil servants in the new areas and Christian population in the fringe areas of Gombe e.g. Bagadaza, Federal low cost, Arawa, kagawa, etc and of business or self employed communities in the older part e.g. T/wada, Bolari; J/Fari etc. In spite of the significant presence of the non-Hausa Fulani house-holds in the older part of Gombe, the newly build up areas such as Pantami; new G.R.A Arawa, Mallam Inna, Yelenguruza, Bagadaza, Federal low cost housing estate, Barunde, etc, have a higher level of ethic mix (SLK. 2001) There is therefore a high level of multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and inter religious mix in Gombe compared to other new state capitals in the northern part of Nigeria. This situation, therefore, calls for a planner's input as the different cultural groups

preferred different recreational facilities for their recreational activities. For instance, while the Fulani and Hausa needed space for Durbar; Kokawa etc the other ethnic groups needed most spaces for Drumming, music and dancing. Thus most of the traditional recreational activities are carried out on school fields and the stadium while others could not hold in Gombe for lack of a designated area (table 4,01).

It was noticed in the cause of this research that many people resolved to passive and indoor recreation partly because the facilities of choice for outdoor and active recreation are either too far (5%) from residence or completely non-existence (65%), or as a result of change in culture (3%).

4.2.0 INCREASE IN POPULATION

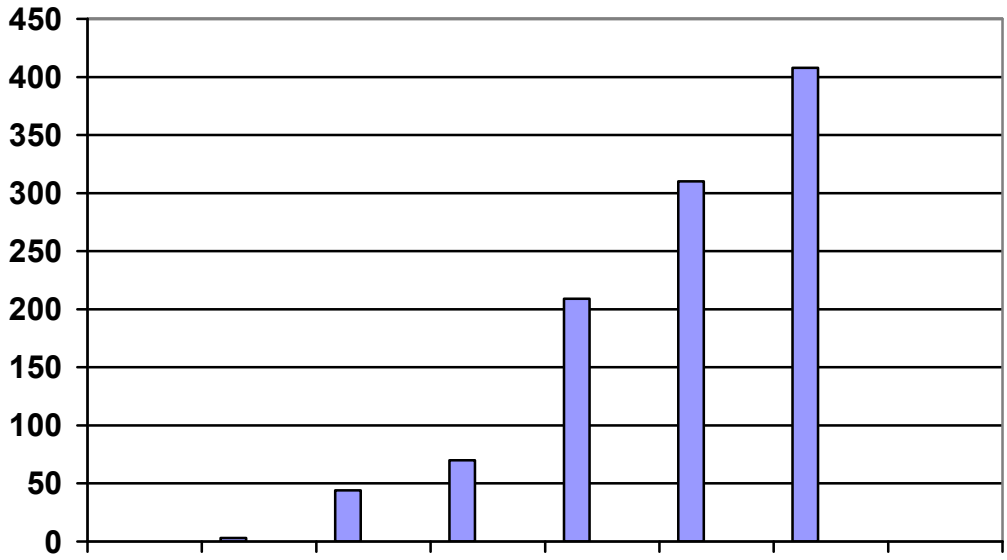
Gombe, with an estimated population of about 409,000 is large enough to generate conditions for the development of recreational facilities. The survey revealed that the areas that were reserved for recreational activities and other open space have been taken over by residential and other land uses. This is, due largely, to the influence of population since 1996 when Gombe was made the capital of Gombe state (see table 3.02, fig 401). This influx resulted into taking over some areas reserved

Table 4.01 Reasons for Changes in Recreation in Gombe

Reasons	Respondents	%
Socio-cultural mix	230	30
No preferred facilities	499	65
Facilities too far	39	5
Total	768	100

Source: Field survey, 2005

Fig: 4.01: Population growth pattern for Gombe



Source: Gombe Master Plan, 2001

Table 4.02: Length of Stay in Gombe

Duration	% of total respondent
Less than 10 years	40.6
10 – 20 years	16.8
21 – 40 years	9.5
41 + years	33.1
Total	100

Source: field survey.

for recreational purposes and open spaces to different land uses especially residential land uses. The few recreational facilities left are over stressed.

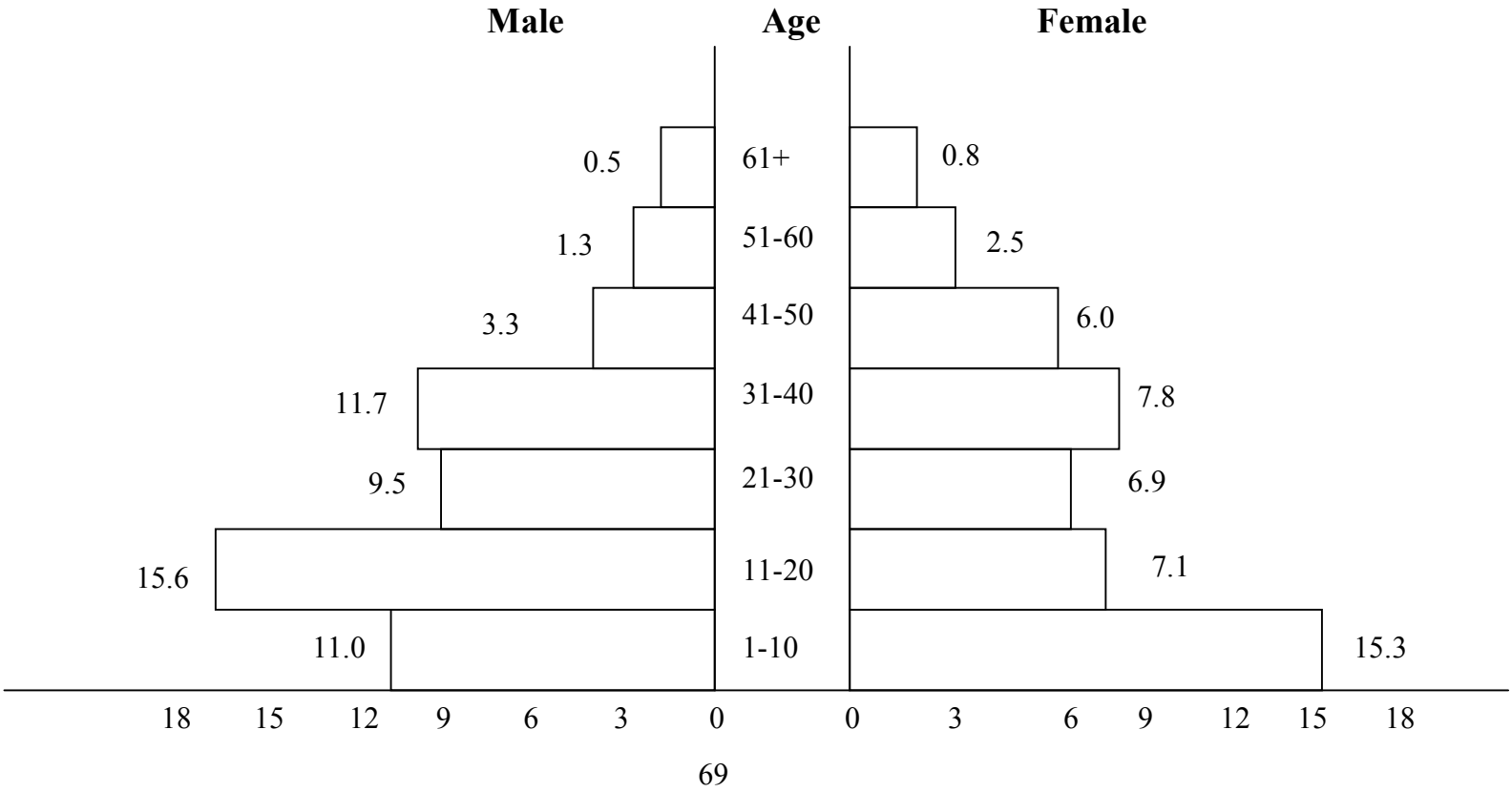
One other important determinant of the recreation demand facilities is the age structure population of Gombe (Fig 4.02 and table 4.02)

Table 4.03 Percentage Distribution of Age-Groups in Gombe

Age groups	Males	Females	Total pop	Total %
1-10	45350	62626	107976	26.4
11-20	64064	29188	93252	22.8
21-30	39141	28344	67485	16.5
31-40	48098	32066	80164	19.6
41-50	13841	24605	38446	9.4
51-60	5631	10320	15951	3.9
61 +	2061	3665	5726	1.4
Total	218186	190,814	409,000	100

Source: Field survey, 2005

Fig. 4.02: Age-Gender distribution in Gombe



Source: Field survey, 20005

It can be inferred from the above analysis that greater number of the population is in the age group of 11-40years i.e. 58.9%. On the whole, males are more than females, but in age 41 and above, males are less than the females. This could be due to the fact that older women became more secure from their limited or non-involvement in the life threatening activities such as child birth, journeys, work etc compared to the males in that age category.

About 26% of the population is below the age of 11 years. The working age population (age 21-60) contributes about 49% of the total population. This group is of particular importance to recreation planning, as they are to patronize and pay for facilities.

4.3.0 HOUSE-HOLD INCOME

The occupation pattern in Gombe is dominated by public service, and business as the main primary occupations of the majority of the people in Gombe.

The income level of Gombe is moderately high by the standards of town in northern Nigeria (SLK, 2001). The table 4.04 shows household income of Gombe per mouth.

Table 4.04 Respondents Household Income Per Mouth

House-hold income (₦)	No of respondents	% of respondents
Less than 5,000	40	5.2
5,001 – 7,000	86	11.2
7,001 – 9,000	128	16.7
9,001 –11, 000	104	13.6
11,001 – 13,000	97	12.6
13,001 – 15,000	74	9.6
15,001 – 19,000	59	7.7
17,001 -19,000	54	7.0
19,001 –21,000	44	5.7
21,000 – 23,000	50	6.5
More than 25,000	32	4.2
Total	**768**	**100**

Source: Field survey, 2005.

The analysis of the monthly income earning of the respondents as revealed by the

survey indicates clearly that majority of the household heads (53.3%) earns more than ₦11,000 Naira more than the minimum wage. This means therefore people can afford to pay for recreation services if provided.

Discretionary income is however more important in recreational planning than the total income of individual. The survey therefore made an attempt to find out the willingness to pay for recreational facilities.

Table 4.05 Willingness to Pay for Recreational Facilities in Gombe

Amount willing to pay per month (₦)	No of respondents	% of total respondents
Less than 1,000	209	27.2
1,000-3,000	487	63.4
4,000-8,000	46	6.0
9,000-15,000	20	2.6
No response	1	0.1
More than 15,000	5	0.7
Total	**768**	**100**

Source: Field survey, 2005.

It could be deduced from the above table that majority of respondents (63.4%) can afford to spend between ₦1000-3000 on recreation. Those that cannot pay or spand more than ₦1000 on recreation constitute 27.2%. This analysis shows the potentially available funds for the provision and maintenance of recreation facilities.

4.4.0 MOBILITY

Mobility provides greater opportunity to recreation travel. It should be noted from the table below (table 4.06 and fig 4.03) the distance covered by respondents to their preferred recreation site.

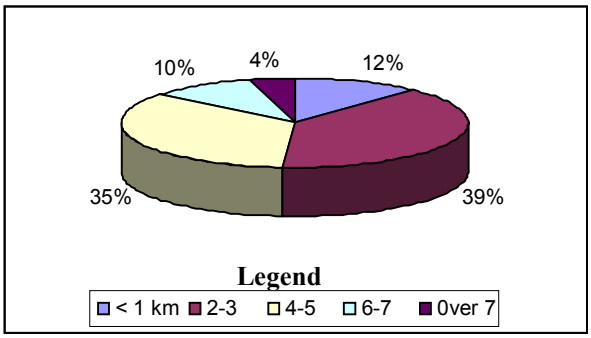
Table 4.06 Distance of Recreation Facilities from Residence

Distance (km)	Frequency	%

< 1km	92	12
2-3	300	39
4-5	267	35
6-7	77	10
Over 7	32	4
Total	**768**	**100**

Source: Field survey, 2005.

Fig.4.03Distance of preferred Recreation Area from Residence



Source: Field survey, 2005

It can be noted from these analyses that the participation in recreational activities decreases with increasing distance. This account for the low participation of recreational activities in Gombe. For instance the picnic spot (kanawa plantation), which is about 13km, is hardly visited by, most people. Thus, only people with means of mobility will tend to visit such centres more frequently than those without means of mobility.

4.5.0: AVAILABILITY OF FACILITIES.

The recreational land use in Gombe is poorly represented. The major recreational

facilities in the town are the two stadium, two Cinema halls, and school play fields. Important recreational facilities such as town parks, community play fields, golf course, tennis fields, indoors games halls, cultural center, etc are lacking.

In the course of this survey, two percent (2.0%) of the total developed land in Gombe is committed to recreation as against the recommended 7-10% in the master plan. This is grossly in adequate. This could have explained the reasons for the less participation in outdoor recreation in Gombe. Most of the recreational activities in Gombe, are indoor games such as film viewing card playing, traditional wrestling and dances, "red light" indulgences etc. Most of these take place as evening time pre-occupation.

Outdoors recreation being the most subdued component of the activity system in Gombe town, takes place mostly on school play fields, they also take place within the stadiums.

During the field survey, respondents were asked to give their assessment in terms of their perceived quality and availability of recreation support facilities. Their responses are as shown in tables 4.07 and 4.08.

Table 4.07 Rating of Recreation Facilities by

Perceived Quality

Rating	Respondents	%
Adequate	69	9
Not-adequate	538	70
Standard	31	4
Sub-standard	115	15
No response	15	2
Total	**768**	**100**

Source: Field survey, 2005.

Table 4.08 Rating by Availability of Support Facilities

Parameters	Good	Fair	Bad	Total
Physical attraction	15	35	50	100
Parking spaces	32	38	30	100
Maint. of facilities	50	30	20	100
Equipment availability	50	15	35	100

Source: Field survey, 2005.

The respondents, as shown, in the tables above (4.07 and 4.08) indicate the non-adequate of recreational facilities. The inadequacy is in both quality and quantity. Table 4.08 indicates that the respondents rated physical attraction as bad (50%). Only 15% saw the facilities as good. The problem of quality is worsening by the attachment of some facilities like play grounds and playing fields to public and semi-public institutions. The general public does therefore not use these facilities.

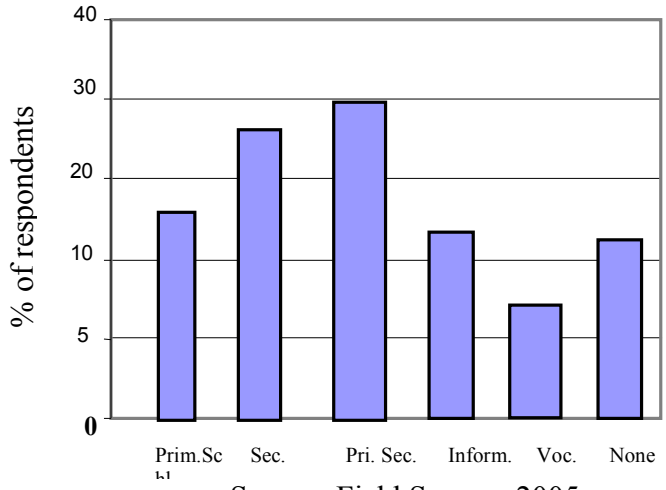
4.6.0. EDUCATIONAL LEVEL.

A large proportion of the population of Gombe is literate. This determines the level of awareness and desire for recreational opportunities. Those with low level of education are less aware of modern recreational activities.

From the analysis of the figure above, it could be noted that 30% of the population interviewed attained post-secondary level in education. Primary school is 16.5% while secondary school is 23.7%. Those that have non-formal training formed 11.3%.

Most of the respondents preferred a combination of modern and traditional forms of recreation. This is presented in table 4.09.

Fig. 4.04: Level of Education of Respondents



Source: Field Survey, 2005.

Table 4.09: Participation of Respondents in Recreation

According to Education Level

Education level	% of total population	% of participation
Primary school	16.5	10
Secondary school	23.7	28
Post-sec. school	30.0	52
Informal	12.5	5
Vocational	6.0	3
None (illiterate)	11.3	2
Total	**100**	**100**

Source: Field survey, 2005.

Table 4.10: Recreational Preference in Gombe

Activities	Frequency	%
Cultural activities	502	65
Football	467	61
Polo	93	
Cinema, T.V, Film, video viewing	370	48
Picnic	219	29
Night club activities	201	26
Drama, music, dancing	368	48
Visitation	138	18
Horse racing	200	26
Durbar	496	65
Traveling	46	6
Golfing	350	46
Lawn tennis	306	40
Social club activities	390	51
Dambe	401	52
Kokawa	449	59
Basket ball	342	58

Source: Field survey, 2005.

People with high level of education participate in wider range of activities because they are widely-exposed to a variety of ideas and experiences which broaden leisure interest and promote habits of varied participation.

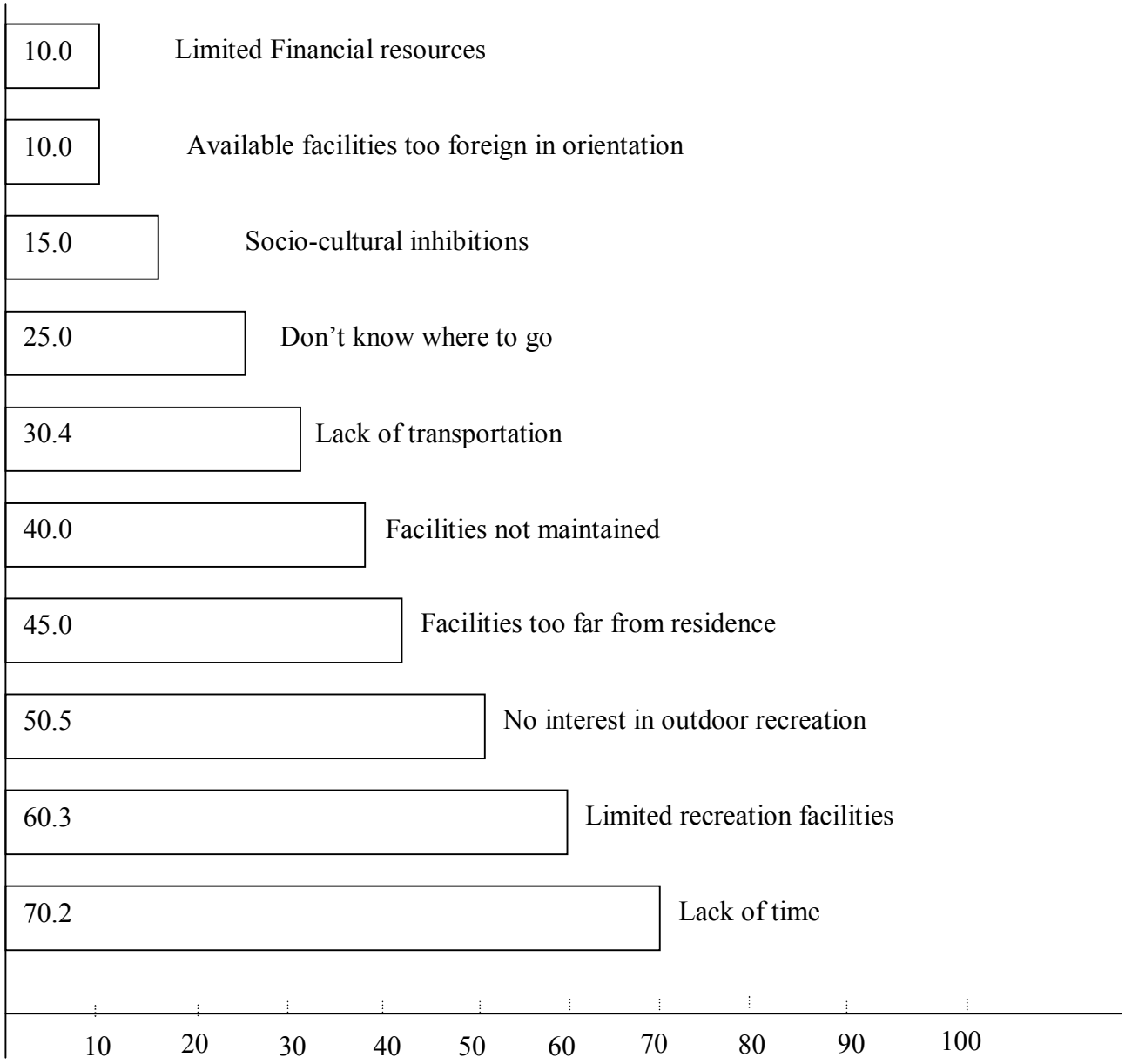
The recreation activities most preferred by the respondents are football 61%,

cultural activities 65.5% cinema, T.V/Film viewing 48%. Others are picnic, going to clubs houses, Drama, music, dancing, visiting friends and relatives, horse riding, traveling and reading as shown in table 4.10. It should be noted that recreation such as golfing, lawn tennis, etc are indicated to be preferred even though the facilities are lacking in Gombe.

4.7.0 TIME AVAILABLE FOR RECREATION IN GOMBE

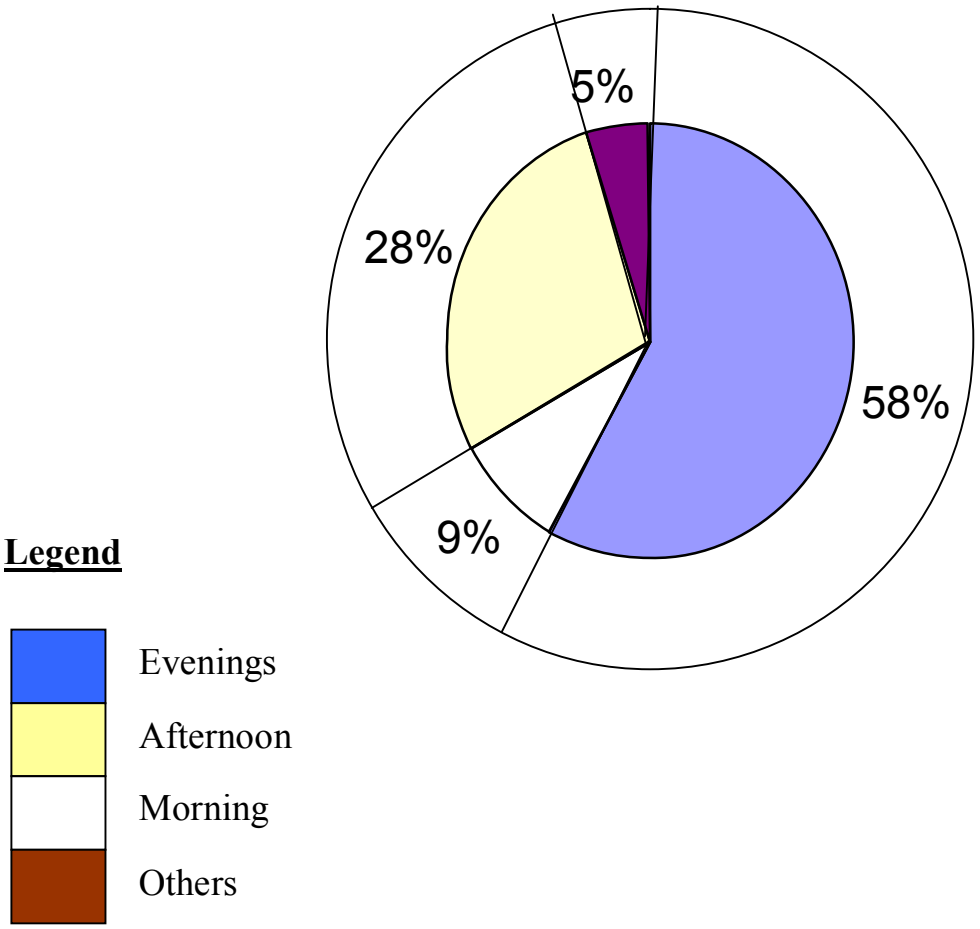
Most people in Gombe town are on the fast lane of hard work with limited free time or non-work time for recreation (SLK,2001). Lack of time has been indicated by 70% of the respondents as the main constraints to recreation participation. This explains why civil servants participate more in outdoor recreation because they have more leisure time (fig. 4.05)

Fig. 4.05: Respondents indication of constraints to recreation participation in Gombe



Source: Field survey, 20005

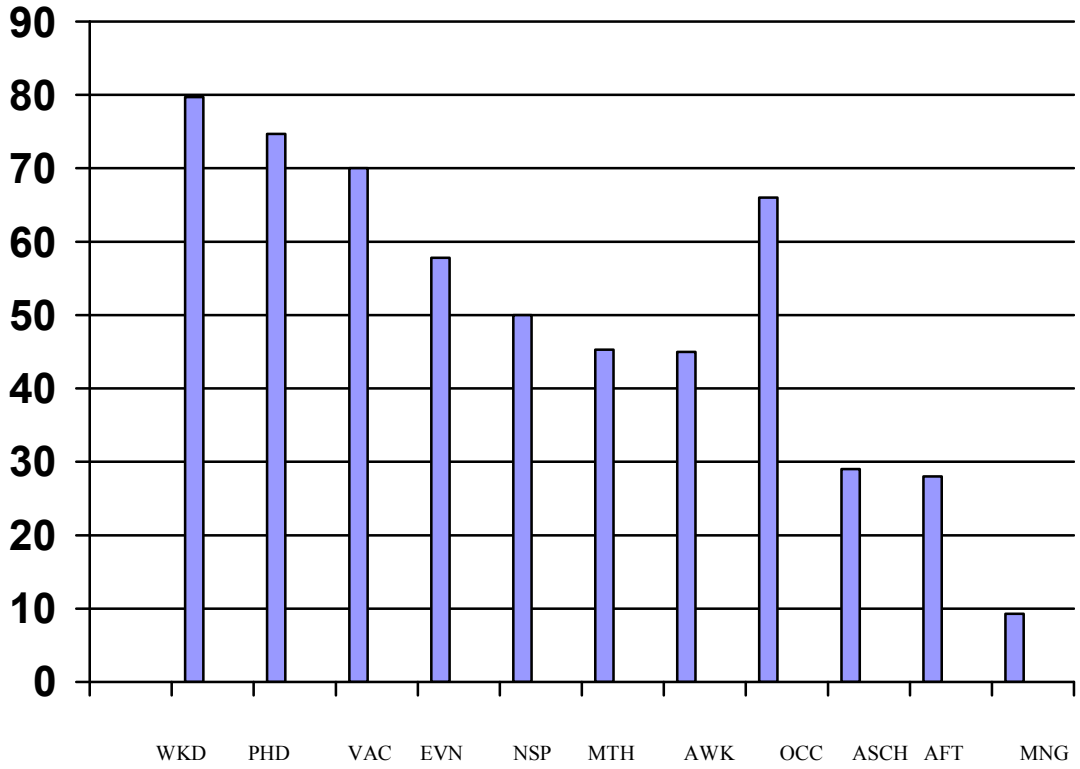
Fig. 4.06: Respondents indication of time available for leisure



Source: Field survey, 2005

On the time available for recreation (fig 4.06), 58% of the respondent indicates evening as the available leisure period, 28% indicates afternoon leisure period, 9% indicates morning period while other period are indicated by 5% of the respondents.

Fig. 407: Respondents time of use of Recreational Facilities in Gombe



Time of use of recreational facilities

WK	On Weekends	-	80%
PHD	During Public Holiday	-	75%
VAC	During Vacations	-	70%
EVN	In the evening	-	58%
NSP	No specific time	-	50%
MTH	Month ends	-	45%
AW	After work	-	45%
OCC	Occasionally	-	62%
ASC	After school hour	-	29%
AFT	In the afternoon	-	28%
MN	In the morning	-	9%

Source: Field survey, 2005

As regards the time of use of recreational facilities indicated in fig. 4.07, 80% of the

respondents said they patronize recreational facilities during weekends, 75% indicates during public holidays, 70% during vacations in the evenings, 58% of the respondents indicates use of recreational facilities. Other time usage is as indicated on fig 4.07

4.8.0 INFERENCES

The evaluation of the determinants of the changing pattern of recreational activities in Gombe town, has also led to a number of conclusions, which have very important relevance to recreation planning and development in Gombe town. The inferences drawn are as follows:

1. Recreational facilities for activities like golfing, horse racing, lawn tennis, etc are lacking in Gombe.
2. Gombe is centrally located within the Northeast sub region and has many ethnic groups with different cultural backgrounds. This is a challenge for recreational planning in Gombe.
3. Majority of the population is engaged in indoors-recreational activities.
4. The most preferred period's people would participate in recreational activities are during weekends, public holidays, and vacations and in the evenings.
5. There is an over whelming preference for both traditional and modern recreational facilities.
6. The economic status of the people is high and is still expected to increase over the years. This means brighter prospects for recreational development.

7. Among the recreational facilities not available but for which people preference was strong are facilities for golfing, polo, horse racing, cultural recreational facilities, parks etc.
8. About half (49%) of the population is in the working age group of 21-60 years. This group is of particular importance to recreation planning, as they are to patronize and pay for recreational facilities.
9. Majority of the people covers long distances of between 2-5km to their preferred recreation areas.
10. Physical planning should give emphasis on passive and indoor recreation facilities in Gombe.
11. There is an increasing demand for facilities for children, which is lacking.

CHAPTER FIVE

PLANNING PROBLEMS AND CONSTRAINTS ASSOCIATED WITH PATTERN OF RECREATION IN GOMBE.

5.1.0 INTRODUCTION:

Prior to the introduction of modern planning in Gombe, the traditional control and consensus produced a system of indigenous planning that guided the formation of Gombe and its early growth. The system worked very well with a strong cultural harmony. This also produced the grand composition of cultural control and recreational areas such as the palace, dandali, mosque and market. At the residential areas, the environment was characterized by enclosure of open spaces and facilities for recreation, other social activities and neighbourhood plays.

The introduction of other modern town components such as automobile transport mode, active market forces and importantly new demand patterns for urban recreation facilities and other infrastructures, the effectiveness of indigenous planning could not be sustained.

These developments had adverse effects on the available recreation facilities in Gombe. The government comes in through incremental planning as part of regular government level intervention. In the cause of the planning implementation, deciding the siting of recreational facilities, considerations were given to modern recreation with their set modern planning standards. The planning approach has not adequately guided the locations of most preferred recreational facilities as the traditional and cultural aspects have

not received the desired recognition. This explains much of the physical planning problems in Gombe.

This chapter discusses the changes in the constraints associated with the changes in the recreational activities in Gombe. This is discussed under two sub-headings viz: physical planning problems and Administrative planning problems.

5.2.0 PHYSICAL PLANNING PROLEMS OF RECREATION FACILITIES

The following are some of the physical planning problems encountered as a result of the changing patterns of recreational activities in Gombe**.**

5.2.1 RECREATION IN UNDESIGNTED AREAS:

As a result of the changes in the patterns of recreational activities, there are some recreational activities that are carried out in undesignated areas. These include some social clubs activities, cultural activities and some few modern recreational activities such as tennis and snooker games.

5.2.2 DISTORTION OF PLANS:

This is, another but serious physical planning problem in Gombe. The few places that are properly laid out for different land uses are being taken over by some recreational activities such as dambe, kokawa and children play fields. This is most evident in Bogo district of Gombe town.

5.2.3 RECREATION ALONG MAJOR RIGHT OF WAY (ROW)

a. Traffic hold-ups

Recreational activities such as Dambe (plate 1), social clubs activities now take place in the available space along the right of way (ROW) in the town. These recreational activities attract a lot of participants and spectators. These in, most cases extend into the carriageway thereby blocking and making it difficult for motorists to pass through. This causes serious hold-ups and sometimes causing fatal accidents. This is most common along Sabon layi road in Gombe.

b. Accidents

A number of accidents were recorded due to having performed these recreational activities very close to the roads. This is particularly common along unguwan Waja streets in Gombe.

5.2.4 INCOMPATIBLE LAND USES

Recreational activities occupy space and require some specialized facilities. And because they must exist on some space of land, they take to any available and affordable space in the town. They are carried out in areas that were exclusively reserved for either residential, commercial, industrial or roadspace. This causes a problem of functional disunity of the town. This problem is seen in parts of Bolari ward where some recreational activities are carried out in residential areas, this causes conflicts between the different land uses of Gombe town.

Plate 8: Drama staged by a social club in Gombe

Note: it is done within residential compound. The drama is accompanied with drumming, singing and dancing. This causes noise and discomfort to the residents.

Plate 9: Drumming, singing and dancing in Gombe

Note: This activities is done in a residential compound. Note the woman (house wife) coming out from one of the rooms, struggling her way to another room in the compound. This causes inconveniences to the residents.

5.2.5 PROBLEMS OF RESIDENTIAL HOUSING SHORTAGES

As a result of the changes in recreational activities in Gombe, many recreational activities that should be ideally be done in exclusively reserved areas are now performed in residential area. Out of the over 40-video/film houses in Gombe, 37 are performed within residential area. This become an issue when some tenants were ejected in unguwan chen-cheniya to allow part of the house to be used for film viewing. These compounds that are sub-divided to cater for recreational activities became squalid and overcrowded it also causes some inconvenience to the residents.

5.2.6 PROBLEM OF OVERSTRESSED OF TOWN UTILITIES

Some recreational activities require the use of some utilities like water and electricity. Some of the activities are carried out from evenings to late nights; so, they need electricity for lightening and for the electronics. This causes the problem of overstressing the electricity that was initially planned and provided without the consideration of these recreational facilities taking place there. Some of the electricity obtained are done through irregular and illegal connections. But when they want to make it formal and legal, it calls for the re-setting of utility networks to service lines.

5.2.7 NOISE

Some recreational activities are done too close to residential areas. These areas became very noisy to the discomfort of the residents. This is observed in

parts of Bolari, where residents have complained severally for the noise generated by some

recreational activities.

5.2.8 OVERCROWDING

Some recreational activities have continued to have more members and spectators. As they perform their activities in any available space, they created a lot of overcrowding along the major streets in the town.

5.3.0 ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER CONSTRAINTS OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES PLANNING IN GOMBE

Planning for recreational facilities in Gombe are faced with a number of administrative problem. Some of these problem are as enumerated below:

5.3.1 CONVERSION OF RECREATIONAL SPACES

Recreational spaces are being converted for other land uses especially for residential, commercial and religious uses. An example is the popular Bolari football pitch, which has been converted to religious land use.

5.3.2 PROBLEM OF COORDINATION

Recreational facilities in Gombe are being proposed for development by different government agencies. An example is as the table below:

Table 5.0.1 Agencies Responsible for Recreation Provision in Gombe

Facility	Agency
Banquet Hall	Commerce, Ind. & Tourism Dev
Theatre hall	Sports & culture
Youth centre	Women Affairs and Youth Dev.
Town Park	Works
Picnic Spot	Water resources and Environment
Stadium	Sports and culture
Comm. Viewing centres	Social Dev
Libraries	House of Assembly and seven agencies
Library complex	Ministry of Education

Source: Gombe State, 2005 Budgets Estimates.

5.3.3 POOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN PROPOSALS

The gap that exists between physical development proposal and its actual implementation is so wide that such plans are hardly considered for implementation. Plans are not implemented within the phased periods and so recreational spaces suffer encroachment and conversion. For example, the recreational facilities proposed for Gombe by Max Loc in 1974 have not been developed.

5.3.4 NON-PARTICIPATION BY PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

Individuals and private organizations are not encouraged to develop recreational facilities in the town. Recreational spaces provided for in the layouts are always left for the government to develop. Such spaces are left laid waste for long a time.

5.3.5 CONSTRAINT OF LAND ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION The Gombe urban area is governed by four local government areas. These are Gombe L.G.A., Akko L.G.A., Kwami L.G.A. and Yamaltu-Daba L.G.A. Therefore, the absence of a strong planning system to set an adequate framework accounts for the ineffective urban management especially in the aspect of recreation provision.

CHAPTER SIX.

PLANNING PROPOSAL AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR RECREATION IN GOMBE

6.1.0 INTRODUCTION:

This Chapter deals with the planning proposals for all recreational activities in Gombe but with particular reference to outdoors recreation activities since it occupies more space. This is based on the foundations of approaches to recreation planning and development that were discussed in chapter two.

This plan is specially based on the combined aspects of other approaches but with emphasis on socio-cultural characteristics of the population. Proposals are therefore developed reflecting the socio-cultural setting of Gombe. It is hoped that the plan developed on this basis will guarantee the development of recreational facilities that are consistent with the preference of the people for their recreational pursuits.

6.2.0 PLANNING PRINCIPLES

6.2.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

For a recreational facilities to be successfully planned, it depend on the `identification and application of the design principles.

(1) **Temporal dimension**: - It is important to note that:

i. People carry out their recreational activities close to their homes and work places during working hours. .

ii. At weekend or holiday periods people have the tendency of recreating at some distance away from home.

iii. Tourists and holiday makers prefer another town or area for their recreational activities.

(2) **Increasing demand: -** This is another general principle of planning. This is related to

i. Increase in the level of income.
ii. Increase in time available for recreational activities
iii. Increase in mobility.
iv. Urbanization
v. Changes in social values of the population.

(3). **Human needs** – The needs of the population of the proposed planning area must first be established. Their stage of development, Cultural , characteristics, settlement pattern, climate and topography.

(4). **Integration –** Recreational activities planning must be integrated with the Planning for living and work areas.

6.2.2 SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES- Specific planning principles for recreational activities

are necessary. The specific principles would include the following:

1. Recreational activities of children always take place within the compound. Planning should therefore provide facilities within the compounds e.g. adequate open spaces.

2. The youth and the elderly carried out their recreational activities mostly outside the compounds. Planning should therefore be on neighborhood centers. The centers should have shades for the elderly.

3. At the town center (dandali) for traditional city like Gombe, recreational facilities for the youth for both males and females.

4 In planning, one should note that there is relationship between recreation, living and work.

6.3.0 PLANNING STANDARDS

6.3.1 GENERAL PLANNING STANDARDS.

Recreational space standards are usually established to suit the local conditions under which they are developed. This means space standards developed in one locality may not be necessarily applicable in another locality mainly because of the differences in culture and other socio-economic characteristics. However, the generally accepted space standards for recreational facilities are as shown on table 6.o1, table 6.02, table 6.03, table 6.04 and

table 6.05.

Table 6.01. Standards For Recreational Facilities

	Facility	Standard /population
1.	Athletic Field	1/20,000
2.	Beach areas	When exist 1/20,000
3.	Botanical Gardens	1/region /100,000
4.	Library	1/20,000
5.	Museum	1/region/100,000
6.	Outdoor theatre	1/region/100,000Seats Between 1000-10,000
7.	Picnic Areas	1 acre /3,000-5,000
8.	Centre civic	1/100,000
9.	Community	1/25,000
10.	Stadium	1/100,000
11.	Tract and field	1/20,000
12.	Golf course	18 holes /150,000

Source: Arthur Essaghah, 1997.

Table 6.02. Standards For Recreation Areas

S/N	Type of Area	Areas/1,000 Population	Size of site Ideal/minimum	Radius of Areas serviced
1.	Play grounds	1,5	4 acres/ 2acres	0.75km
2.	Neighborhood parks	2.0	10 acres/5acres	0,75km

3.	Play fields	1.5	15 acres / 10 acres	2km
4.	Community parks	3.5	100 acres /40 acres	2.5km
5.	District parks	2.0	200 acres/100 acres	4.5km
6.	Regional parks	15.0	500-1,000 acres	15km.

Source: Essaghah Arthur, 1997.

Table 6.03. Standards for Active Recreation

S/N	Type of recreational Activity	Space requirements For Activity/pop.	Ideal size of space Required for Activity
1.	Children play Area	0.5 acres /1000 pop.	1 acre.
2.	Field play Areas for young childre	1.5 acres /1000 pop .	3 acres
3.	Fields play areas for Adult	1.5 acres / 1000 pop.	15 acres
4.	Tennis courts Basketball Courts	1.0acres /5,000 pop.	2 acres
5.	Swimming Areas	1 outdoor pool per 25,000 population	2 acres
6.	Golfing	18 Hole course / 150,000 population	120 acres. .

Source: Arthur Essaghah, 1997.

Table 6.04 Passive Recreation And Others

S/N	Type of Recreation Activity	Space requirements Per Activity/pop.	Ideal size of space Required for Activity
1.	Picnicking	4 acres/100-2,000	Variable.
2.	Zoo and of Botanical gardens	1 acres/1000	100 acres
3.	Indoor Recreation centers	1 acre/25,000	1-2 acres.
4.	Outdoor theatre	1 acre/25,000	5 acres.

Source: Arthur E. 1997.

Table 6.05 Spatial Standards For Socio-Cultural Activity

S/N	Particulars	Community Center	Church/ Mosque/ Shrine	Public Library	Museum	Cemmentary/ Burial ground
1.	Population to be Served by a unit Facility.	10,000-25,000	5,000-15,000	25,000-50,000	50,000 – 100,000	50,000-100,000
2.	Site area in acres	2-4	2-3	1-2	2-3	5-10
3.	Site coverage	30%-35%	25%-33%	30%-35%	30%-35%	-
4.	Number of car parking Spaces per 100 visitors	4-6	5-8	4-6	5-8	5-8

Source: Arthur Essaghah. 1997.

6.4.0 PLANNING STANDARD FOR USE IN GOMBE.

Standards are not meant to be rigid in physical planning; standards are applied in cognizance of needs, conditions, resources and characteristics of the community. Only these standards that satisfy these conditions are consider feasible. In drawing up the standard for recreation spaces in Gombe the following served as the basis.

1. Existing recreational situation in Gombe
2. General opinions of the surveyed population
3. Ideas of the community leaders
4. The author's personal knowledge of Gombe town.

With these considerations in mind, a number of recreation planning standards were reviewed.

This is because space standards developed in the industrialized countries may not be wholly applicable in Gombe because of differences in culture and socio-economic characteristics. It is in the consideration of the above fact that the following space standards are developed and adopted for Gombe town (table 5.06).

Table 6.06. Adopted Recreation planning Standards for Gombe

S/N	Type of facility / Activities	Space required Per Population	Radius of Area Served	Number of facility Per Population
1.	Play grounds	0.005ha/1000	0.3km	1/1000
2.	Play fields	0.60ha/2000	2.0km	1/1000
3.	Neighborhood parks	0.61ha/1000	1.0km	1/10,000
4.	Community parks	1,0ha/3000	2.5km	1/50,000
5.	District parks	0.80ha/1000	5.0km	1/150,000
6	City park	20ha/5,000	15.0km	1/500,000
7	Cinema halls	0.5ha/1000	2.5km	1/120,000
8	Video & film viewing	0.25ha/150	0.70km	1/6,000
9	Site for kokowa Dambe	0.65ha/150,000	5.0km	1/50,000
10	Social clubs	0.08ha/800	0.5km	1/40,000
11	Golf course	20.0ha/1000	15.0km	18holes/160,000
12	Cultural activities area	2.0ha/5,000	5.0km	1/210,000
13	Recreation clubs	0.008ha/500	1.5km	1/17,000
14	Library	0.50ha/1,000	1.5km	1/80.000
15	Picnic spot	Country side	20.0km	1/350,000
16	Stadium	10.0ha/20,000	5.0km	1/150,000
17	Sharo	0.4ha/1000	5.0km	1/50,000
18	Langa	0.25ha/50	1.0km	1/1000

Sources:

(a) Adamu (1999). (b) Field survey, 2005.

6.5.0 RECREATION FACILITIES REQUIRING IN GOMBE

In the cause of this study, some Recreational activities were found to be valid and still demanded at least within the medium term of 10-15 years. Some of these activities are as indicated on the table below.

Table 6.07: Recreational Facilities Required in Gombe.

	Proposed facilities	**Activities**
1.	Playing grounds	Children's play
2	Playing fields	Sporting activities
3	Cultural centers	Cultural recreational activities
4	Cinema & video viewing centers	Film and movie viewing
5	Picnic areas	Picnicking
6	Recreational clubs	Socializing, drinking, soft music.
7	Drama theatre	Viewing
8	Race / Golf course	Golfing
9	Sile for social clubs	Card playing, data, music, drama etc.
10	Site for kokawa & Dambe	Kokawa, Dambe
11	Parks	Sporting activities, children plays., passive activities, Traditional recreational activities, medifation etc.
12	Sports center (stadium)	Sporting
13	Zoological garden	Game viewing
14	Amusement park	Christian plays, passive recreation
15	Library	Reading
16	Recreational hall	Traditional recreational activities, informal active an Passive activities, sporting activities, T.V viewing
17	Museum	Sightseeing/viewing.

Source: Field survey, 2005.

6.5.1 GUIDING PLANNING CRITERIA FOR GOMBE.

As a general guide, some basic principles are use as important guiding criteria for the planning and development of recreational facilities.

These are as explained below: -

i. **Accessibility-** Facilities for recreation should be provided within reasonable access of the users. It should be within reasonable distance from the residents of those they serve.

ii. **Availability –** Recreation facilities should be made available at reasonable charges, throughout the time during which most people will want to use them.

iii. **Adaptability –** Recreational facilities should be sufficiently adaptable to satisfy more them a single set of demands. Multiple use facilities also safeguard against possible changes in taste.

iv. **Attractiveness-** In recreation planning and development, the attractiveness of the environment in which recreation activity takes place is very important.

v **Augmentation –** Recreation facilities are provided by a number of agencies, both public and private. These facilities can be augmented to cater for additional use. A well coordinated planning of requirements can ensure more and effective use and also brings

about saving in capital work.

vi. **Awareness-** for recreational facilities to be well patronages, public awareness must be ensured and this means that careful attention must be given to the sitting of facilities, there should be advertisement and the use of sign posting. Recreation budget should make provision for publicity for the facility.

vii. **Cultural characteristics.** - Gombe is a cultural transition zone. Many cultures come into contacts and interrelate. This is one of the main causes of the changes of recreation in Gombe. Planning for recreation must be therefore, consider the cultural mix in Gombe.

viii. Education and House –hold income:- The educational level house hold income of Gombe town is above average compared to other cities in northern Nigeria. This is expected to increase even higher and by implication means greater potentials for recreational activities in Gombe town

RECREATIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN GOMBE

6,6.1 EVALUATION OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITES REQUIREMENTS IN GOMBE

An evaluation of the recreational activities that are most preferred is carried but in order to know those activities that are preferred by the population. This evaluation of requirement is as indicated in table 6.08 below:

Table 6.08 Evaluation Of Recreation Activities Requirements In Gombe

Type of Recreation Activities	Ratings					%Total score
	1	2	3	4	5	
A. TRADITIONAL						
Durbar	29	16	9	7	3	64
Dambe	5	7	7	9	8	36
Kokawa	6	9	9	7	2	33
Langa	3	4	3	5	4	19
Tashe	1	1	3	5	1	11
Sharo	2	2	4	5	7	20
Dancing/music	8	14	8	6	2	38
Story telling	3	4	6	3	8	24
Dara & other passive activities	20	9	7	4	2	42
Wasan buya	13	7	9	8	14	51
B. MODERN						
Totlots	32	16	10	8	2	68
Polo	3	5	8	6	10	32
Squash	2	2	3	8	3	18
Fives	2	3	6	2	2	15
Reading	10	8	9	12	12	51
Picnicking	9	12	10	9	13	54
Golfing	6	8	9	8	6	37
Social clubs activities	26	13	10	7	2	58
Cinema and T.V viewing	31	20	11	6	3	71
Drama, music	15	18	20	10	3	66
Swimming	2	3	5	2	5	17
Court games	7	6	9	11	11	44
Football	30	16	8	8	2	64

Field survey, 2005

Recreational activities whose total score is 21% and above, have been included in the

schedule of requirements.

6.6.2 SHEDULE OF REQUIREMENTS

The Recreational facilities requirements in Gombe are carefully drawn up taking into consideration the user's evaluation, adopted planning principles and standards and the inferences from the survey. The following recreational facilities are hereby proposed for Gombe. Sites for Durbar, Dambe, kokawa, Parks, Dara and other passive recreational facilities, spaces for 'wasan buyo. Spaces for Dancing and other cultural activities, stadium, Golf course, spaces for social club activities, Drama theatre, cinema and T.V viewing centers, spaces for Recreational clubs, library and picnic spot.

6.6.3. SHEDULE OF REQUIREMENTS FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND PROJECTED POPULATION TO YEAR 2020.

Based on the resident's socio-cultural characteristics, economic, needs, preferences, physical characteristics and demand potentials, as well as the population of Gombe, recreational facilities, the area coverage and specific locations are identified.

Because of the complex cultural mix of the population of Gombe, the town is zoned into three (3) viz; Tundun wada, Bogo and Tumfure zones. The division has taken into account the peculiar nature of each of the zones. The Tundun wada zone comprise mainly of the old core town. Its population is mainly indigenous, most of which are engaged in commercial activities. This is on area of high density.

The Bogo zone is a zone of cultural diversity; the residents comprises of ethnic groups. The population is engage in both commercial and civil service.

The Tumfure zone is a low-density zone. Most of the senior civil servants are found in this zone. These include places like the new G.R.A. Orji housing Estate, Federal low cost housing Estate, the Federal medical center and the Federal College of Education. This is the most planned area in Gombe town.

Table 3.02 gives the projected population pattern for Gombe town to year 2025.

Table 6.09 Proposed Recreational Facilities for Gombe to year 2020

Facility	Existing	Proposed	Total no	Total area (ha)	Proposed locations		
					T/wada	Bogo	Tumfure
Playing grounds	-	40	40	2.0			
Playing fields	14	26	40	122.7			
Cultural centre	-	2	2	4.0	1	1	-
Cinema Hall	2	1	3	2.0	1	1	1
Comm. Viewing centre	40 -	20	20	15.01	8	4	8
Picnic spot	1	1	2	Country side	-	1	1
Recreational clubs	6	19	25	0.2	5	15	5
Open air theatre	-	1	1	3.6	-	-	1
Golf Course	-	2	2	40.0	-	1	1
Site for social clubs	8	6	14	1.2	8	4	2
Space for kokawa & Dar	-	9	8	5.2	3	4	1
Neighborhood park	-	41	41	24.6	10	14	17
Community park	-	8	8	8.0	2	3	3
City park	-	1	1	20.0	-	-	1
Stadium	2	1	3	30.0	1	1	1
Zoo, Botanical garden	-	1	1	0.20	1	-	-
Library	1	3	4	2.5	2	1	1
Multipurpose hall	-	1	1	0.5	-	-	1
Museum	-	1	1	2.0	-	1	-
	Total			**259.15**			

Source: Field survey, 2005

As proposed and indicated in the table above (table 6.09), a number of recreational facilities are proposed, Three districts or zones are proposed for the location of the facilities, this is to ensure complete coverage of the entire town . Some of the proposed facilities include:

1. **Playing fields and playing grounds:** this is recommended for all the three districts.

2. **Stadium-** one more stadium is proposed in Bogo district, this is to avoid duplication because two are existing in each of T/Wada and Tumfure districts.

3. An **open-air theatre** is recommended in Tumfare district.

4. **Spaces for kokawa and Dambe**- are proposed for each of the districts T/wada (1) Bogo (4) while Tumfura is one (1).

5. A neighborhood, community, district and a city park are proposed for Gombe town. This form Hierarchy of parks. Standard used to arrived to this at this arrangement is given in table 606.

6.7.0 PROPOSALS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation proposals for the recreational facilities will involve phasing, funding and management aspects.

6.7,1. Phasing

The implementation of the proposals for the Recreational facilities will be done in three (3) phases, beginning from the base year 2005 to the target year 2020. The phasing periods is as proposed below.

Phase **Period**

2005 –2010

2010 – 2015

2015 – 2020

Phase	Period	Recreational Projects.
1.	2005 -201	Play fields, viewing centers, open-air theatre, space for kokawa, Rehabilitation of the 2 no stadium, site for socia clubs.
2.	2010 -201	Play fields, cultural center, viewing centers, site for socia clubs, city park, museum, community park, multi purpos hall..
3.	2015 -202	Picnic spots, Recreational clubs, Golf course, District par neighborhood pools, No stadium, zoo, botanical garden

6.7.2 Funding:

Funds have proved to be one of the major factors militating against the provision of recreational facilities. This is even more so in Gombe where the state government is faced with many developmental projects such as housing provision, construction of township road network, educational institutions etc.

The governments at various levels traditionally finance recreation as a social service. Other minor source has been gifts or donations from private and voluntary organizations.

In Gombe, an investigation has revealed that some individuals and organizations have

shown their interest to develop some recreation facilities in the town.

The provision of recreational activity centers should be to some extent, a social service, which can best be provided by the government. It would therefore be necessary for both public and private developers to join hand in the financing of the project. It is hereby proposed that the financing of the recreational areas be shared between the government and the private organizations. The finance from government should come from the state government and the four (4) Local Govt..Areas that have Jurisdiction in Gombe Urban area.

Private developers should be encouraged to develop recreational facilities such as the cinemas, viewing centers, cultural activities areas etc. This should be done at the neighborhood and the community levels. The state government should develop facilities such as the stadium, open-air theatre, multipurpose hall, and cultural areas at town level. The Local Government Areas. As should finance the parks, viewing centers, museum etc at the district levels.

When these centers are developed, the use should be on fees and charges. Some little amount be charge and raise as revenue for the maintenance of the facility. The remain of the revenue could be shared as profits. Some of the ways of raising revenue include:

1. Gate fees 2. Admission fees 3. Rental fees,

4. User fees 5. Permits 6. Sales revenue and 7. License permits

6.7.3 Management

For any recreational facility to function properly, a good management policy must be ensured. It has been proposed earlier that the financing of the recreational areas be done by public, private and voluntary agencies, there is therefore, the need for a single body to coordinate and supervise the activities of those organizations. In addition, such a body will solve the problem associated with the present practice in which different government agencies are charged with different areas of recreational delivery within the same urban are in Gombe..

A single body to be called "**Gombe Recreation and Tourism Corporation" (GRTC)** be established. The corporation should be autonomous and mainly responsible for the provision and maintenance of all types of recreational facilities in Gombe. The tourism Department of the Ministry of commerce and industries be transferred to form the GRTC.

The corporation (GRTC) is to be headed by an Executive Chairman. Matters relating to administrations should be headed by a General manager (GM) who should be a Registered Town Planner (RTP). The corporation should have the following Departments: Planning, Data and Research, Maintenance, Administration, and Finance departments. Each of the Departments to be headed by an Assistant General manager (AGM).

The creation of this body should not be seen as a threat to the function of the Gombe state urban Development Board (GSUDB). The relationship should rather be seen as complementing just as what exist between the State Development Board and agencies that provided other urban support services such as NITEL, NEPA, WATER Corporation etc.

6.7.4. Functions Of GRTC

The Gombe Recreation and Tourism Corporation should be responsible for the following functions:

1. Publicity of recreation related matters
2. Coordination of activities on recreation by public, private and voluntary organizations.
3. Evolve appropriate standard for planning recreation activities in Gombe.
4. Protection of recreational facilities and open spaces.
5. Gathering of information on recreational needs of the people.
6. Making budgets for recreational facilities and activities.
7. Implementation of national and state policy on recreation.
8. Acquiring land and other recourses for recreational development.
9. Implementation of plans for recreation activities within Gombe urban area.
10. Liaison with both government and private organizations in issues relating to recreation programmes in Gombe.
11. Review and implement changes in recreational activities in Gombe.
12. Protection of the recreationists against hazards.
13. The provision of good sanitary facilities in recreation areas.

6.8.0 CONCLISION

Recreation was noted to be a vital force in our lives. The way recreation is used affects a culture as much as or more than the productive ‘ work of the culture. At one time or the other, each of us is a participant in some kind of recreational activities whether activity or passively as our taste and whims dictates.

The rapid growth of urban areas, increase in household income, intercultural mix, have cause some changes demand for recreational activities in Gombe town. This changes is expected to continue into the future. We saw in Gombe how some recreational activities are gradually being transformed to other forms of recreation.

As a result of these changes, the existing recreational facilities are grossly inadequate; this was confirmed by survey population and also measured against recreation planning standards.

There are many recreational activities that were found to be carried out in undesignated areas. Some were found to be changing and gradually giving way to other forms.

In an effort to provide recreational facilities in Gombe, many agencies are involved in the provision of the facilities. This results into an uncoordinated provision of the facilities. It is hereby suggested that one agency should be responsible for planning an implementation of recreational programmes.

There is need for recreation planning because of the changing and increasing demand of

facilities in Gombe town. The challenge is to plan and implement a total community recreation plan that can harness all the resources in the area. Proper recreation planning in our cities can play an important role in enhancing and acceptable quality of life. It can do much to extend areas of personal choice in every day life, to release individual aspirations and preferences, to cater for family and group needs and to provide a new cohesive force in community affairs. This of course is what recreation planning is all about.

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APPENDIX I

RECOMMENDED STANDARD OF PROVISION FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES PER POPULATION

INSTITUTIONS/IN DIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATIONS	RECREATION HALL	COMMUNITY PARKS	NEIGHBOUHOOD PLAY FIELDS	NEIGHBOUHOOD PLAYGROUND	CINEMA VIEWING CENTRE	CHILDREN PARK	SOURCE
Technical College Ibadan	0.8-1.2ha / 10,000-25000	0.8-1.6ha / 10,000-25000	0.4 / 5000-7000	0.8-1.2ha / 1000	0.4-0.8 / 25000-50000	-	A
National Recreation Association (USA)	-	-	1 / 10th of city developed area	-	-		B
National Play fields (Britain)	-	-	1.5ha / 1000	0.2ha / 1000p.p	-	1.5 / 1000	C
American Society of Planning Officials	-	0.81ha / 1000	4.0 – 8.0 / ¼ of the pop.	-	-		D
Zaria Master Plan (1979)	1.2 / 1000-25000	1.2 / 1000-25000	-	-	0.5 / 4000-6000		E
Abuja Master Plan (1979)	-	-	1.8ha / 3000-5000	-	0.8 / 3000-6000		F
Takun Master Plan	-	1.5ha / 10000-20000	1.5ha / 1000	0.25ha / 1000	0.5 / 2000-30000		G
R. O. Attah for MAkurdi	-	0.8 / 25-50000	1.2ha / 12000-15000	0.3ha / 4000	-		H
Adamu H. J. for Jalingo	2.5 / 100000-150000	2.5 / 25-5000	1.5 / 10-15000	1.5 / 10-15000	1.0 / 30-60000	2.0 / 30000-60000	I

A = Technical college Ibadan (1971) "manual for space standard for urban development in western states of Nigeria pp. 50 - 56

B = Technical college (1969) "Ibadan and environs: A study of recreation and entertainment facilities pp 18 - 21

C = Tandy C. (1975) Hand Book of urban landscapes p. 145

D = American society of planning officials

E = Zaria Master Plan (1979) pp 125 - 129

F = Abuja Master Plan (1979) pp 126 - 129

G = Takum Master Plan (1977)

H = R. O. Attah (1986) 'Planning for Recreational activities: A case study of Makurdi urban area'

I = Adamu H. J. (1999) Planning for Recreation In Jalingo.

APPENDIX II

DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING
FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN
AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA

PLANNING FOR RECREATIO IN GOMBE.

QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is purely for academic research purpose. Information given will be treated as highly private and confidential. I, therefore, solicit for your honest opinion on the issues raised. Thank you.

SECTION ONE: HOUSE HOLD QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Ward of Residence ……..
2. Age: ……..
3. Sex (a) Male (b) Female
4. Marital Status (a) Married (b) Single
5. No. Of Children: ……
6. Educational Level:- (a) primary school (b) WASC/Grade II (c) Diploma
   (d) Degree (e) Others (specify) ……
7. Occupation:-
   (a) Civil servant (b) Trader (c) Self employed (d) Industrial worker
   (e) Others (specify) …….
8. Income level per month:-
   (a) Less than N5, 000 (b) N6, 000-N10,000 (C) N20,000-N30,000
   (d) N40,000-N50,000 (e) above N60,000.
9. How do you spend your leisure time?
   (a) In social activities (b) In sporting activities (c) T. V/Video viewing
   (d) N15,000 and above
10. How much do you spend on leisure activities in a month?
    (a) N2,000-N3,000 (b) N4,000-N8,000 (c) N9,000-N15,000 (d) N15,000 and above
11. Which form of recreation do you prefer?
    (a) Traditional (b) Modern (c) both
12. How far is that place from your home?
    (a) Less than 1km (b) 1-3km (c) 4-7km above
13. How would you rate recreational facilities in Gombe
    (a) Adequate (b) Not adequate (c) Standard (d) Sub standard.
14. Have you noticed some changes in recreational activities over the years?
    (a) Yes (b) No
15. If yes to (14) above, what are the changes?
    (a) Traditional to modern (b) Modern to traditional (c) Active to passive
16. Which other recreational facilities would you want to be provided in Gombe?
    (a) Traditional recreational facilities (b) Modern recreational facilities
    (c) Both modern and traditional facilities.
17. Please comment freely on recreational facilities and activities in Gombe:
    …….
    …….

SECTION B: RECREATIONAL AREA INFORMATION

1. Name of recreational area: …….
2. When was it established?: ……..
3. Type of recreation provided
   (a) Park (b) Cinema (c) Stadium
   (d) Others (specify); ……..
4. When is this place open for visitors?
   (a) Daily (b) Weekend (c) Weekly (d) Monthly
   (e) Others)specify); ……...
5. No of visitors (per day, week, month etc) ……..
6. Capacity of facilities ……..
7. Ownership of facilities: ……..
   (a) Public (b) Commercial
8. How much do you charge per person per day? N: …….

SECTION C: PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Visitor's ward of residence: ……
2. Age: ……
3. Sex: ……
4. What is the distance of this place from your home?; …….
5. What is your assessment of this facility in terms of: Good, Fair, Bad.
   (i) Availability of equipment's
   (ii) Parking areas
   (iii) Physical attraction and maintenance of facilities.