

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation titled “Election Violence and Democracy in Nigeria: A Study of the 2011 and 2015 General Elections in Lagos State” is based on study undertaken by me in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, College of Leadership Development Studies, Covenant University, under the supervision of Professor Daniel Gberevbie.

The ideas and views of the project report are product of research conducted by me. Where the ideas and views of other authors have been expressed, they have been duly acknowledged.

KALU TONY OGECHI

(RESEARCHER)

.....
SIGNATURE AND DATE

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that this research project was written by KALU TONY OGECHI (16PAH01421) was supervised by me and submitted to the Department of Political Science and International Relations, College of Leadership Development Studies, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria.

Professor Daniel E. Gberevbie

Supervisor

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Signature and Date

Dr. Oluyemi Fayomi

Head of Department

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Signature and Date

External Examiner

.....

Signature and Date

DEDICATION

This thesis is first of all dedicated to God Almighty, the Father of my Lord Jesus Christ. Furthermore, this project is dedicated in honour of my parents, especially my adorable Mum Mrs Mary Emetu Kalu, who continuously prayed and supported me tirelessly during the course of my programme. May God continue to bless and strengthen you Mummy! To my Father chief Henry Emetu Kalu, I say thank you for your parental advice, love, support and discipline. Daddy you are amazing, and I love you Sir.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined election violence and democracy in Nigeria with focus on the 2011 and 2015 general elections in Lagos State. To achieve this objective, the study used primary source (interview) for data collection. A sample of two (2) electoral officers; two (2) Lagos State Executive Leaders each from the ruling All Progressive Congress (APC) and major opposition party the People's Democratic Party (PDP) were selected and interviewed at different locations in Lagos. The data obtained from the respondents were analysed. The study was anchored on the Frustration Aggression Theory by Dollard *et al* in understanding the rational for engaging in electoral violence. The study adopts a qualitative method based on historical research design. Data were gathered through primary (key informant interview) and secondary sources. The primary data were derived from oral interviews conducted physically with electoral officers of INEC and executive leaders of (APC) and (PDP). Three research questions were raised and answered, the results revealed that election violence was caused by many factors including; inadequate voter education, voters' bribery, rumour of rigging, among others. It was found that election violence had social, economic and political implications, which discourages both local and foreign investment in Lagos State. Thus, electoral violence has serious implications on the socio-economic development of Lagos State. Therefore, the study recommends among others that political leaders should play positive roles in building effective government through their constitutional duties and mandates.

Keyword: Violence, Aspirants, Democracy, Election, Electoral Violence, Lagos State, Nigeria.

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