

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

A CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVE

The need to bring about a better society and improve the living standard of citizens in a country continues to dominate public discussions in the contemporary world. As a result, public administration as a field of study in the management/social sciences has come

to assume the role of a catalyst for an improved society. This is achieved through the understanding and application of some basic concepts, such as: bureaucracy, models of decision making, public policy and the policy process, public financial management, personnel management, leadership, communications in organisations, the civil service, local government, administrative ethics and accountability, inter-governmental relations, public administrative law and development administration. Therefore, *“Public Administration: A Conceptual Perspective” (Second Edition)* is a *Book of Sixteen Chapters* that focus on the sub-discipline of public administration. The book is organised to give an understanding of the subject of public administration to students at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, academics, practitioners and interested members of the general public.

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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: A CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVE

DANIEL E. I. GBEREVBIÉ

2nd
Edition

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A CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVE

DANIEL E. I. GBEREVBIÉ

Public
Administration:
A Conceptual
Perspective

Second Edition

Daniel E. I. Gberevbie

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DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to ALMIGHTY GOD

&

Josephine Chinyere Oguike-Gberevbie, Marvellous Aghogho
Chidinma Ejiro, Rejoice Eghele Onyinye, Judah Favour Daniel and
Asher Testimony David

Also, to the memories of my parents – Mr Gabari Robinson
Gberevbie and Mrs Atatigho Mary Umukoro-Gberevbie

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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The general acceptance of the first edition of this book and the good report from students, academics and practitioners of public administration necessitated this second edition. In this new edition, additional chapter on development administration has now been included to assist the interested reader with the understanding of the concept of development administration as action-oriented field of study geared towards societal development.

The additional chapter in this second edition is a manifestation of the desire to meet the needs of students, academics and practitioners alike in their quest to understand the importance of development through development administration as a subfield of public administration. This second edition is put in place to address the needs of everyone interested in the subject of public administration and development of the society with a view to enhancing the living standard of citizens.

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PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

The complexity of societal problems and growing expectations of citizens for efficient and effective delivery of goods and services to improve the living standard of the people by the government have become a concern. This coupled with the inadequate resources to meet the ever-increasing day-to-day challenges facing the government and citizenry in the contemporary world have made it imperative for the understanding of the subject of public administration to be of utmost interest to everyone in the society. This is particularly true of developing countries in Africa, including Nigeria.

A proper understanding of the subject of public administration as a field of study in the management/social sciences and its invaluable contribution to nation-building is vital to students, academics and practitioners in the field of public administration. This is particularly relevant in the area of adequate knowledge to aid government officials in the formulation and implementation of public policies and programmes for political and economic growth in developing countries. As a result, there is need to have in one packaged textbook, the core areas of the subject of public administration for easy reference to guide students, scholars, practitioners and interested members of the general public to facilitate their understanding of the concept. This book entitled "Public Administration: A Conceptual Perspective" is, therefore, packaged to realise the above important goals.

To achieve the understanding of the subject of public administration by students, academics, practitioners and interested members of the general public, the following areas are discussed in this book: Chapter one addresses the concept of public administration, development of public administration as an academic field of study, scope and nature of public administration, differences and similarities between public and private (business) administration. Chapter two examines the approaches to the study of public administration. Chapter three

discusses the relationship between public administration and some other disciplines in the Social Sciences, Arts, Humanities and Business Management. Chapter four addresses bureaucracy and public administration. Chapter five examines models of decision making and public administration. Chapter six addresses public policy and the policy process. Chapter seven explores public financial management. Chapter eight discusses personnel management. Chapter nine examines leadership. Chapter ten discusses communications in organisations. Chapter eleven explores the civil service. Chapter twelve discusses local government. Chapter thirteen examines ethics and accountability in administration. Chapter fourteen discusses inter-governmental relations, and chapter fifteen addresses the public administrative law.

The book is, therefore, reasonably packaged with a view to giving a proper and easy understanding of what the subject of public administration is all about to students, scholars, practitioners and interested members of the general public.

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