

**ANOMALOUS STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS AND RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT IN LAGOS STATE, NIGERIA**

**OLANREWAJU, ADEKUNLE OLADIPUPO  
(CU021220015)**

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**BY**

**OLANREWAJU, ADEKUNLE OLADIPUPO  
(CU021220015)**

**B.Sc Political Science, Covenant University, Ota  
M.Sc Political Science, Covenant University, Ota**

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LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT STUDIES, COVENANT UNIVERSITY,  
OTA, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA**

**OCTOBER, 2022**

## **ACCEPTANCE**

This is to attest that this thesis is accepted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of a Ph.D degree in Public Administration in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, College of Leadership and Development Studies, Covenant University, Ota.

**Miss Adefunke F. Oyinloye**  
**(Secretary, School of Postgraduate Studies)**

**Signature and Date**

**Prof. Akan B. Williams**  
**(Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies)**

**Signature and Date**

## **DECLARATION**

I, **OLANREWAJU, ADEKUNLE OLADIPUPO, (CU021220015)**, declare that this research was carried out by me under the supervision of Professor Emmanuel R. Aiyede of the Department of Political Science, University of Ibadan, Oyo State and Dr. Segun Joshua of the Department of Political Science, Federal University, Lokoja, Kogi State. I attest that the thesis has not been presented either wholly or partly for the award of any degree elsewhere. All sources of data and scholarly information used in this thesis are duly acknowledged.

**OLANREWAJU, ADEKUNLE OLADIPUPO**

**Signature and Date**

## **CERTIFICATION**

We certify that this thesis titled “**ANOMALOUS STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN LAGOS STATE, NIGERIA**” is an original work carried out by **OLANREWAJU, ADEKUNLE OLADIPUPO, (CU021220015)**, in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, College of Leadership and Development Studies, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria, under the supervision of Professor Emmanuel R. Aiyede and Dr. Segun Joshua. We have examined and found the work acceptable for the award of a degree of Doctor of Public Administration.

**Prof. Emmanuel R. Aiyede**  
(Supervisor)

**Signature and Date**

**Dr. Segun Joshua**  
(Co-Supervisor)

**Signature and Date**

**Prof. Daniel E. Gberevbie**  
(Head of Department)

**Signature and Date**

**Prof. Nathaniel Umukoro**  
External Examiner

**Signature and Date**

**Prof. Akan B. Williams**  
(Dean, School of Post Graduate Studies)

**Signature and Date**

## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is dedicated to God Almighty, the merciful giver of all wisdom, my parents Elder Adesina and Deaconess Oluwatoyin Sodipo, and to my family for their love and support throughout the duration of this work.

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
ALGON	Association of Local Governments of Nigeria
APC	All Progressives Congress
ARDC	Association of Rural District Councils
CDA	Community Development Association
CDC	Community Development Council
CFRN	Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
DF	Degrees of freedom
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
IDI	In-depth Interview
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ICM	Ikeja Shopping Mall
IGR	Intergovernmental Relations
JAC	Joint Account Committee
LCC	Lagos City Council
LGAs	Local Government Areas
LGC	Local Government Councils
NALAG	National Association of Local Authorities Ghana
NULGE	Nigerian Union of Local Government Employees
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SJLGA	State Joint Local Government Account
ICPC	Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission
UBE	Universal Basic Education
UCAZ	Urban Councils Association of Zimbabwe

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## ABSTRACT

State-Local government relations is one of the most disputed subjects in Nigeria's Fourth Republic. The controversies are more complicated by the provisions of the 1999 Constitution that made the establishment, structure, composition, finance and functions of the local government a residual obligation of state governments. While the fundamental issues that have dominated the analyses of state-local government relations in Nigeria have concentrated on local government autonomy and fiscal relations between the local governments and state government, little is known about how the nature of state-local government relations affects rural development, particularly in terms of the provisions of physical infrastructural facilities. Thus, to fill this gap, this study examines state-local government relations in Lagos state within the purview of its effects on rural development which is one of the core functions of local governments. The study adopts the decentralisation and rural development theories, which are associated with the distribution of powers and functions amongst tiers of government and how the politics of vertical intergovernmental relations affects rural development efforts and expectations. To achieve its objectives, the study adopts the descriptive and analytical research designs. Qualitative data was collected through focus group discussions and in-depth interviews. The study also made use of secondary data to corroborate primary data and for literature review. The primary data obtained were analysed via thematic and content analysis. The results of the content analysis were presented using frequency distribution tables and simple percentages, while thematic analysis presented data under themes. The findings of this study support the existing narrative that local governments have not been effective agents of rural development in Lagos state but have been puppets of the state government. This is because the local and state governments in Lagos state relate within an hierarchical structure that is skewed in favour of the state government; such that exhibits supremacy of the state government, particularly in the distribution or utilization of funds and in the exercise of political powers. The inferiority of the local governments and their dependence on the state government has consequently necessitated a disconnect between the local governments and the people. Elected local government officials are no longer effectively accountable to the people; instead, the people look to the state government to meet their needs, leading to deficiencies in actualizing rural development. Thus, the study argues that healthy state-local governments' relations is germane to rural development. It recommends that to make the local governments an efficient third tier of government and the engine room for rural development in Lagos State, there is the need for the revision of the 1999 Constitution to grant more autonomy to local governments. It also recommends that cooperation between the state and local governments should not be based on party politicking that deprives non-ruling party wards or constituencies access to development.

***Keywords: Intergovernmental relations, State-local relations, rural, rural development, Lagos State***