



Clash of Civilizations in Nigeria: Possible Causes and Solutions

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This paper aims to explore the clash between Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria, which has been a source of tension and conflict in the country. The paper begins by providing an overview of the historical and cultural factors that have contributed to the clash between these two civilizations in Nigeria. It then examines the problems that have arisen as a result of this clash, including religious conflicts, social unrest, and political instability. Finally, the paper offers some potential solutions to these problems, including fostering dialogue and understanding between the two civilizations, promoting education and tolerance, and encouraging political and economic development. The paper concludes that while the clash between Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria presents significant challenges, there are also opportunities for meaningful dialogue and collaboration that can help build a more peaceful and prosperous future for the country.

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Abstract

This paper aims to explore the clash between Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria, which has been a source of tension and conflict in the country. The paper begins by providing an overview of the historical and cultural factors that have contributed to the clash between these two civilizations in Nigeria. It then examines the problems that have arisen as a result of this clash, including religious conflicts, social unrest, and political instability. Finally, the paper offers some potential solutions to these problems, including fostering dialogue and understanding between the two civilizations, promoting education and tolerance, and encouraging political and economic development. The paper concludes that while the clash between Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria presents significant challenges, there are also opportunities for meaningful dialogue and collaboration that can help build a more peaceful and prosperous future for the country.



I. Introduction

Nigeria, a country located in West Africa, is known for its cultural and religious diversity, with Islam and Christianity being the two major religions. While both religions have coexisted peacefully for many years, there have been instances of conflict between the Islamic and Western civilizations in Nigeria. This clash of civilizations has resulted in several problems, including religious and ethnic tensions, terrorism, and violence. In this context, it is important to understand the root causes of the clash and explore potential solutions to mitigate these problems. This essay will discuss the problems and solutions to the clash of Islamic and Western civilizations in Nigeria.

II. Possible Causes of Clash of Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria

The clash between Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria is a complex issue that has been ongoing for many years. Nigeria is a country that is home to both Christians and Muslims, and tensions between these two religious groups have often led to violence and conflict. One of the main issues that fuel the clash between Islamic and Western civilizations in Nigeria is the tension between traditional Islamic values and Western values. Many Nigerians who follow traditional Islamic values view Western values, such as individualism and secularism, as a threat to their way of life. They see Western culture as promoting immorality and undermining the family structure. On the other hand, many Nigerians who embrace Western values see traditional Islamic values as oppressive and outdated. They view Islamic culture as inhibiting progress and limiting individual freedom.

Another factor that contributes to the clash between Islamic and Western civilizations in Nigeria is political power. Nigeria has a history of political instability, and political leaders often use religious divisions to gain power and control. This has led to the manipulation of religious sentiments and the stoking of religious tensions for political gain.

The conflict between Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria has led to the rise of extremist groups, such as Boko Haram, which seek to impose strict Islamic law and reject Western values. These groups have been responsible for numerous violent attacks, including the kidnapping of hundreds of schoolgirls in 2014. Here are some of the possible causes:



Religious Intolerance: There is a high level of religious intolerance between the two civilizations, which has resulted in numerous conflicts, including the Boko Haram insurgency.

Economic Disparities: Economic disparities between different regions of Nigeria have fueled the religious conflict, as some areas that are predominantly Muslim feel marginalized and excluded from the economic progress of the country.

Lack of Education: A lack of education is a major issue that has contributed to the conflict, as people in some areas are easily manipulated and influenced by extremist ideologies due to their lack of education.

III. Solutions to the Clash of Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria

The clash of Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria, as earlier noted, has been a long-standing issue that has resulted in various conflicts and challenges for the country. This conflict is largely due to differences in culture, religion, and values between these two civilizations. It is a complex issue that requires a multifaceted approach to address. To address this issue, it is important to promote religious tolerance and understanding between different religious groups in Nigeria. Political leaders should also work to address the root causes of political instability and refrain from using religious divisions for political gain. Ultimately, the solution to the clash between Islamic and Western civilizations in Nigeria lies in finding a way for these two cultures to coexist peacefully and respect each other's differences. Here are some of the possible solutions to the issue:

Encouraging Dialogue: The Nigerian government needs to encourage dialogue between the two civilizations to reduce tension and promote mutual understanding.

Promoting Economic Development: The Nigerian government should focus on promoting economic development in all regions of the country to reduce economic disparities and promote social cohesion.

Improving Education: The Nigerian government should invest in education to provide opportunities for all citizens, especially in marginalized areas, to reduce extremism and promote tolerance.



Law Enforcement: The Nigerian government should ensure that law enforcement agencies are adequately equipped and trained to deal with the security challenges posed by the conflict.

Building Trust: The Nigerian government and civil society organizations should work together to build trust between the two civilizations and promote peaceful coexistence.

IV. Conclusion

In conclusion, the clash between Islamic and Western Civilizations in Nigeria has caused many problems, including religious conflicts, political instability, and social unrest. It is a complex issue that requires a multifaceted approach to address. It is a complex issue that requires a multifaceted approach to address. One of the most important steps is for the Nigerian government to promote and uphold religious tolerance, equality, and respect for all citizens, regardless of their beliefs. Interfaith dialogues, education, and media campaigns can also be used to foster understanding, promote peaceful coexistence, and address the root causes of conflicts. Ultimately, it is essential for all stakeholders, including religious leaders, civil society, and the international community, to work together to promote mutual understanding and respect between different cultures and religions, and to find sustainable solutions that will help Nigeria move towards a more peaceful and prosperous future. In other words, the government, civil society organizations, and religious leaders must work together to promote dialogue, economic development, education, law enforcement, and trust-building measures to reduce tension and promote peaceful coexistence.



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About the Author

Usman Al-amin, Ph.D. is a lecturer in the Department of History, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria. He received his B.A. and M.A. in social and intellectual history from the University of Maiduguri. Dr. Al-amin bagged his Ph.D. from the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, University of Hamburg. A specialist in the documentation and history of Arabic Literature, Sufi traditions, and Islamic manuscript cultures, his main fields of research include Islamic history, Sufism, and book history of Islamic manuscript cultures dealing with content, thematic, codicological, and paleographical analysis in the context of Nigerian social and intellectual history, in particular, the formative period up to the 20th century, and the historiography of Islamic sects in modern and contemporary Nigeria. He has collaborated on several international projects about Islamic manuscripts and recently carried out a research project on one of the Tarjamo Kanembu Qur'anic manuscripts attributed to the seventeenth-century Bornoan scholar Goni Musa. Dr. Al-amin's current research project focuses on the digitization of Islamic manuscripts and books across the Yobe/Borno axis in Nigeria. He has published extensively in journals and presented many academic papers at local and international conferences. In addition, he has been invited to research, write papers, and make presentations for several government functions and civil society fora.