



## ASSESSING THE ROLE OF THIRD-PARTIES INTERVENTION IN FARMER-HERDER CONFLICT IN KWARA STATE, NIGERIA

<sup>1</sup>Idowu, S. A., <sup>2</sup>Akinsola, G. O., <sup>2</sup>Tomori, R.

<sup>1</sup>Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin, Ilorin

<sup>2</sup>Department of Agricultural Economics, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ilorin, Ilorin  
PMB 1515, Kwara State Nigeria

**Corresponding Author's Email:** [akinsola.go@unilorin.edu.ng](mailto:akinsola.go@unilorin.edu.ng)

### ABSTRACT

The study assessed the role of third-parties intervention in farmer herder conflict in Kwara State, Nigeria. Purposive sampling was used to select 400 respondents. Thus, in-depth interviews and semi-structured questionnaires were used to elicit data from respondents. The collected data was subjected to descriptive (frequency counts and percentage) and Likert scale statistical analysis. The study revealed that the major causes of farmers-herders conflict were encroachment on farmland/cattle routes, criminality perpetrated by farmers and herders, and climate change's impact. The study identified the deployment of security operatives to the conflict zones peace mediation by community leaders. The findings reveal that third-party interventions led by government, traditional leaders, and civil society organizations have been largely ineffective in addressing the root causes of the conflict. While community-led mediation was perceived as fairly effective (48.7%), government peace committees (47.6% ineffective) and security interventions (59.3% ineffective) failed to de-escalate tensions. Litigation and relief distribution by NGOs also showed limited success. The study identifies open grazing, climate change, and criminal activities as major drivers of the conflict, with respondents highlighting the need for ranching, legislative reforms, and regular peacebuilding initiatives. The study concludes that third-party interventions have eased but not resolved the conflict, as underlying issues such as resource scarcity, ethnic tensions, and inadequate institutional frameworks remain unaddressed. Therefore, the study recommended that herders embrace ranches to separate farmlands from the grazing animals and, thus, eliminate the crisis.

**Keywords:** Conflict, Farmers, Herders, Conflict, Management

### INTRODUUCTION

Conflicts between pastoralists and farmers occur in several sub-Saharan African countries. Significant loss of lives and property has happened in many parts of Nigeria (Plateau, Kogi, Katsina, Taraba, Benue, Nasarawa, Adamawa, Gombe, Kebbi, Zamfara, and Sokoto States in the North; Oyo State in the South West; Abia State in the South East; Edo and Delta). Since independence from Britain in 1960, Nigeria has recorded a significant conflict: the civil (The Biafra War) and several intranational wars. Aliyu (2004) stated that conflicts in Nigeria are diverse and have been rapidly increasing since the civil war of 1967-1970. According to local authorities, this led to the expulsion of 700 pastoralists from Borno state in the northeast in May 2009 and some 2,000 from Plateau in April (IRIN, 2010). These conflicts are mainly attributable to the country's resource control and divergent value systems. Environmental scarcity, which is the primary factor that induces conflict, involves three main factors: the degradation and depletion of renewable resources, the increased consumption of such resources, and their uneven distribution (Homer-Dixon, 1996). Renewable resource scarcity can produce civil conflict, instability, significant and destabilizing population movements, aggravate racial, ethnic, or religious tensions, and incapacitate political and social institutions (Abass, 2012; Olabode and Ajibade, 2010; Adisa, 2012). Nigeria's necessity to provide food and raw materials for industry and export to meet ever-growing demands has led to both "intensification and extensification" of land use (Nyong & Fiki, 2005). Arable crop and cattle producers have not only intensified the use of their respective lands, but they have also been exploring other land frontiers for farming and grazing. Farmlands that are typically allowed to fallow for natural rejuvenation of the soil are fast disappearing, while lands that traditionally provide dry season grazing to pastoralists are



becoming shorter in supply (Gefu & Kolawole, 2002). This has heightened the frequency and intensity of competition among various land users. The Fulani herders of lower Sahel and Sudan Savannah are now found in the south (including the forest belt) in search of greener pasture for their herds (Oyesola, 2000; Ajuwon, 2004). Negedu (2005), while studying the constraints to cassava production in Kwara State, found that over 90% of the farmers interviewed indicated that their most significant production problem is cattle destruction of their farms. Herdsmen also identified conflicts arising from land use as the "most important" problem they face in their occupation (van't Hooft *et al.*, 2005). But the issue is not new - clashes between different groups of Fulani herders and farmers have killed thousands of people in Nigeria over the past two decades. In 2014, more than 1,200 people lost their lives, according to the Global Terrorism Index.

Kwara State in North Central Nigeria has witnessed severe conflict cases. Due to the seriousness of such conflicts, herders were prevented from entering or forced out of some areas of the State. The inability of the state security agencies to deal effectively with farmers' complaints has forced many of them to take the law into their own hands by attacking Fulani herders' cattle that stray into their fields. At other times, it has led to prolonged and unnecessary court cases between the farmers and Fulanis (Ismail, 2004). This has not only created an impediment to the survival of the host communities but has, for instance, led to crop farmers abandoning farming for lesser occupations like Okada riding and other artisan vocations. To this extent, the study seeks to ascertain the role of third-party intervention in farmers and herders' conflict in Kwara State and in facilitating its negative consequences. A broad-based definition of conflict has led to the development of two schools of thought. A conflict is constructive when people develop ways to satisfy the needs of all parties involved. Destructive conflict occurs when people resort to violence if they feel little empathy for others and are not able to identify non-violent ways of meeting their needs (Schirch, 2004). The position of scholars as to the meaning of conflict sees some conflict situations as dysfunctional (destructive) to human society and some as functional (constructive). The first school of thought contends that conflict is associated with adverse developments or "destructive conflict." Albert (2001) opined that destructive conflict is usually characterized by physical, psychological, or structural violence. Scholars who hold this view include Coser, Laue, Park *et al.* (1959) sees conflict as a struggle over values and claims to scarce status, power and resources in which the opponents aim to neutralize, injure, or eliminate their rivals. Coser's definition identifies the causes of conflicts as being struggles over people's identity, power, and resources. When conflict becomes violent between groups, it has many negative consequences. Park and Burgess lend credence to this conceptualization when they state that conflict is designed to resolve divergent dualism and achieve some unity, even if it is through the destruction of one of the conflict parties (Burgess, 1921, cited in UK Essay, 2014). The second school of thought does not see conflict always as a negative development but rather as a means to change. Moore (2005) noted that conflict is not necessarily destructive. It is perhaps a necessity in the evolution and development of human organizations. But when conflict degenerates into violent, destructive clashes, they become unhealthy and counter-productive. Albert (2001) stated that a conflict is positive when the parties constructively discuss it and amicable terms for settlement are reached. This School of thought is championed by Burton, Coser, Moore, Simmel, Ross, Wilson, and Hanna, among others. The first school of thought points to the fact that conflict gives rise to negative consequences. However, These views are incompatible with the second school of thought, which believes humankind can draw some positive outcome from conflict. Albelt (2001) defined intervention as a range of activities requested or imposed by external parties concerning an ongoing process between parties. Intervention assumes one of three forms: actions by the external nations in pursuit of policy objectives or favourable conditions to achieve those objectives, actions taken to uphold internationally accepted values or laws, or efforts to alter the dynamics or outcomes of a process underway. (Miller, 2005). The first type of intervention is widely understood as the unprovoked interference by one nation-state in the internal affairs of another. The second type of intervention, humanitarian intervention, is a tool available to the international community and is particularly encouraged where human suffering occurs at the hands of a host government or where the state system is unwilling to address such conditions. The third type of intervention is typically called



third-party intervention, in which an external party attempts to either influence a party (or parties) involved in conflict engagement, management, and resolution or seeks to manipulate any such processes already underway (Miller, 2005). Among the three interventions mentioned above, the study focuses on third-party intervention. As Moore rightly noted, third-party intervention is essential in handling a conflict. The responsibility of third-party intervention in a community conflict is to alter the power and social dynamics of the conflicted relationship by influencing the beliefs or behaviours of individual parties, by providing knowledge or information, or by using a more effective negotiation process and thereby helping the participant to settle contested issues (Moore, 1996). In a similar view, NSCDC's (2013) handbook on principles and practice of ADR for Peace practitioners, third-party intervention refers to a person or a group involved in a conflict to help disputing parties manage or resolve it. They are usually external to the dispute, with identity, motives, and competencies needed to play a helpful role in addressing the conflict. Thus, third-party intervention is an integral part of the process for resolving disputes. The manual further explained that the effectiveness of third parties in conflict largely depends on their impartiality and fairness to the parties involved.

### **The Causes of Farmers-Herders Conflict in Nigeria**

Major causes of the conflict, as observed, are that most times, the herders wander into the fields during the growing season while their herds eat or trample on the crops due to the herders' lack of attention or the cattle's stray movement, hence tension rise (Haro and Dayo 2005). Also, (Schama, 1996) concluded that crops, livestock, water resources, and other vegetal resources played critical roles in the development, maintenance, and projection of the socio-economic strength of a society. Another dimension of this conflict is its environmental impact on the society. Ecological degradation is said to have contributed enormously to the deterioration of ecosystem services.

Similarly, Tonah (2006) opined that the factors that account for the increasing farmer-herder conflicts include the southward movement of pastoral herds into the humid and sub-humid zones, promoted by the successful control of the menace posed by disease, the widespread availability of veterinary medicine and expansion of farming activities into areas that hitherto serve as pasture land. Though Tonah's account of the herders' pastures may not be exhaustive, the need for political and socio-economic trans-breathing among them also makes a reason for their movement. Economically, viable land has also been a significant cause of conflict between communities in Nigeria, especially between herders and crop farmers.

In a study by (Olabode and Ajibade, 2010) in the Guinea Savannah area of Kwara State, the study reported that out of about 150 households interviewed, 22 reported livestock losses, while eight households from both sides reported loss of human lives. Other studies, as observed by (Negedu, 2005; Micheal, 2010), have also indicated that stores, barns, residences, and household items were destroyed in many of the violent clashes. John (2014) studied the predicaments of the pastoralists and farmers, the true stories behind their conflicts, and how they can be resolved. His results show the existence of one-sided reporting by the media, research articles, and interested parties. The majority of those reports tend to highlight and report cases in which the pastoralists faulted farmers and tend to ignore the other side of the stories or even their losses (John, 2014). This appears to aggravate the situation and adds to the speculation and allegations of the pastoralist.

Other studies show farmers' encroachment on cattle routes is the real cause (Nformi *et al.*, 2014). Ethnic jingoists and politicians have been benefitting from these strives and, without doubt, have succeeded in creating a divide between the farmers and pastoralists, especially in less educated communities. Federal, State, Local Governments, and even community leaders become perplexed and wonder how these issues can be resolved.

Some researchers have linked this crisis to the theory of eco-violence, where environmental factors and exploitation of scarce resources lead to conflict and violence (Okoli and Atelhe, 2014). This may explain the dwindling grazing resources (land, pasture, etc.) and poor management of existing grazing reserves (Adisa, 2012) as guilty. The population growth rate of Nigeria per year is 3.2% (National Population Commission, 2012). Therefore, more and more people will continue to compete over land. Other researchers relate the causes of conflict to global climate change and the contending desertification and aridity that has reduced arable and grazing lands, forcing pastoralists to



move southwards in search of pasture for their livestock (Okoli et al., 2014; Odoh and Chigozie, 2012; Abbass, 2012). Climate changes, the migration further south, the growth of agro-pastoralism, the expansion of farming on pastures, the invasion of farmlands by cattle, assault on non-Fulani women by herders, blockage of stock routes and water points, freshwater scarcity, burning of rangelands, cattle theft, inadequate animal health care, and disease control, overgrazing on fallow lands, defecation on streams and roads by cattle, extensive sedentarisation, ineffective coping strategies, ethnic stereotyping, and the breakdown of conflict intervention mechanisms—these are usually identified by scholars as the root causes of such violence in rural areas (Folami 2009; Ofuoku and Isife 2009; Adisa and Adekunle 2010; Blench 2010; Odoh and Chigozie 2012; Adisa 2012; Audu 2013, 2014; Bello 2013; McGregor 2014). Climate change-induced rainfall shifting patterns/amounts and desertification reduce croplands, and farmers must follow these patterns, leading to overlap on grazing lands. The pastoralists also compete with large-scale agricultural schemes that narrow the grazing lands. Others include the gradual decline of social cohesion, ethnocentric and religious intolerance of sedentary farmers' leaders, and conflict of cultures (Abbass, 2012; Bello, 2013). Hence, it is essential to note that these conflicts directly impact the lives and livelihoods of those involved.

### **Third-Party Intervention in Farmers-Herdsman Conflict in Nigeria**

Farmers-herdsmen conflict is majorly managed through the intervention of government, traditional/community leaders and civil society organizations. Blench and Dendo (2003) revealed that the government's response to farmers-herdsmen conflicts is heavy-handed and reactive through policing and using the army. Where the complaints are relatively low, they hold meetings: committees sit and produce wordy resolutions on which little or no action is taken. However, there is usually a loss of equilibrium of power at the meetings. Local initiatives have been set up in many areas, typically of committees that include leaders of both the pastoral groups and other community leaders. Blench and Dendo (2003) observed that the court does not play any notable role in conflict management, as cases are usually settled before they reach that level.

Blench and Dendo 2003 further revealed that traditional rulers play the most notable role in conflict management informally and in arranging peace-building meetings. Still, their power in the community is highly alterable. Youth groups oppose them in some areas, while local government officials overthrow their power elsewhere. Ahmadu (2011) in his study states that there are traditional and modern approaches to managing farmer-herdsmen conflicts in the Lake Chad region. Ajuwon (2004) said that the shortcoming of conventional authorities is that their interest in these matters varies from village to village. Atang (2014) revealed that several Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have been active in the management of conflicts between farming communities and pastoralists in Nigeria. Several NGOs are still implementing development and conflict management projects bordering on the pastoralist-farmers conflict. Conflict, if not managed well, can quickly escalate into violence. Violence becomes inevitable when farmers and herders continuously compete over common needs such as land and water and perceive marginalization without cooperation on these needs or external mediation.

## **METHODOLOGY**

### **Study Area**

Kwara State is located at Latitude 7° 55' and 100° North, and its longitudes are 2° 20' East. It has a land area of 32,500 km sq made of Guinea Savannah vegetation to the South and Derived Savannah to the North. There is also a Fadama belt that stretches the length of the River Niger. Annual rainfall is between 1000-1500mm, while maximum average temperatures are between 30° and 35° Celsius (Kwara State Diary, 2007). The state is significant for food production in Nigeria because of its rich soil, which supports the cultivation of many crops. It has a cultivable land area of 2,447,250ha (Kwara State Planning Commission, 2004). Similarly, it has abundant livestock comprising cattle, goats and sheep.

### **Sampling Procedure**

A purposive sampling procedure was used to select respondents for the research. Kwara State is one of the states in Nigeria that have recorded a high incidence of farmer-herdsmen conflict. Ten of





the 16 LGAs in the State are associated with farmer-herdsmen conflict. Out of these 10, eight were randomly selected. Four hundred respondents were sampled, including farmers, herders, government officials, and community agents.

#### **Data Collection and Analysis**

The study adopted a mixed research design (qualitative and quantitative methods). Relevant data were collected with the aid of (8) In-depth Interview (IDI) and (6) Key Informant Interview (KII). The data collected was subjected to descriptive analysis, while the interviews were content analyzed.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Respondents**

The socio-economic features of the respondents are age, sex, tribe, occupation, education and marital status as presented in Table 1.

**Table 1:** Socio-Economic Distribution of the Respondents

Characteristics	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Age	15-24yrs	34	9.0
	25-34yrs	104	27.7
	35-44yrs	161	42.8
	45yrs and above	77	20.5
	Total	376	100.0
Sex	Male	252	67.0
	Female	124	33.0
	Total	376	100.0
Tribe	Fulani/Bororo	65	17.3
	Nupe	58	15.4
	Yoruba	158	42.0
	Baruba	53	14.1
	Others	42	11.2
	Total	376	100.0
Occupation	Farming	250	66.5
	Pastoralism	62	16.5
	Civil Service	34	9.0
	Others	30	8.0
	Total	376	100.0
Education	No Education	116	30.9
	Primary	136	36.2
	SSCE/OND	79	21.0
	Degree/HND	46	12
	Total	376	100.0
Marital Status	Married	314	83.5
	Single	53	14.1
	Divorced	9	2.4
	Total	376	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2023

The mean age of respondents is approximately 37 years, indicating that most were active and working-class. The gender distribution of the respondents shows that the majority (67.0%) were males. On the ethnic grouping of respondents, 17.3%, 15.4%, 42.0%, and 14.1% were Fulani/Bororo, Nupe, Yoruba, and Baruba, respectively. This shows that Kwara State is a multi-ethnic society. This result indicates that the diversity of ethnic grouping has the potential to elicit conflictual situations due to differing group needs. Also, the occupation distribution of the respondents shows that 66.5%, 16.5%,



and 9.0% were farmers, pastoralists, and civil servants, respectively. The information gathered on the educational level of respondents shows that 30.9% had no formal Education, 36.2% had a primary leaving certificate, 21.0% had SSCE/OND, and 12.0% were degree holders. The gender distribution, where males constitute 67.0% of respondents, reflects broader patterns observed in rural economies, where men are more engaged in farming and pastoralism, while women often undertake household-based activities.

The socio-economic characteristics of respondents in Kwara State reveal critical insights into the farmer-herder conflict dynamics. Ethnic diversity among respondents (17.3% Fulani/Bororo, 15.4% Nupe, 42.0% Yoruba, and 14.1% Baruba) underscores the multi-ethnic nature of Kwara State, a factor that John (2014), Bello (2013), and Abbass (2012) identify as exacerbating conflicts due to differing group needs and cultural differences. Occupation distribution, with 66.5% farmers and 16.5% pastoralists, reflects the primary stakeholders in the conflict, consistent with Tonah (2006), Adisa (2012), and Okoli et al. (2014), who identify competition over land and water resources as a key driver. The low educational levels of respondents (30.9% with no formal education and 36.2% with only primary education) support Adisa and Adekunle (2010) and Blench (2010), who argue that limited education hinders modern conflict resolution and increases susceptibility to ethnic and political manipulation. The high percentage of married respondents (83.5%) aligns with Folami (2009), who notes that married individuals are more likely to be directly involved in resource-based conflicts due to their responsibility to provide for their families. These socio-economic factors, combined with the critical role of crops, livestock, and water resources highlighted by Schama (1996) and the destruction of property and livelihoods noted by Negedu (2005) and Micheal (2010), collectively underscore the complex interplay of demographic, economic, and environmental factors driving the farmer-herder conflict in Kwara State.

**Table 2:** Respondents View on the Causes of Farmers-herdsmen Conflict

Issues in Farmers-Herdsmen Conflict	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
1. Climate change	SD	1	0.3
	D	6	1.6
	A	229	60.9
	SA	140	37.2
	Total	376	100.0
2. Open grazing	SD	1	0.3
	D	2	0.5
	A	129	34.3
	SA	244	64.9
	Total	376	100.0
3. Criminalities (killing, armed robbery, rape)	D	5	1.3
	A	38	10.1
	SA	333	88.6
	Total	376	100.0
4. Access to arable land	DK.	2	0.5
	SD	4	1.1
	D	92	24.5
	A	155	41.2
	SA	123	32.7
	Total	376	100.0

Source: Researcher fieldwork, 2023

Table 2 shows that 0.3% of the respondents strongly disagreed, while 1.6% disagreed. Whereas the majority of the respondents, 60.9%, agreed, while 37.2% strongly agreed that climate change causes farmers-herdsmen conflict.



Furthermore, Table 2 shows that 0.3% of the respondents strongly disagreed, while 0.5% disagreed. Meanwhile, 34.3% of the respondents agreed, while 64.9% strongly agreed that open grazing causes farmer-herdsmen conflict.

In line with the outcome of this result, a herder in Afon town in Asa Local Government Area of Kwara State explained thus: Open grazing, otherwise called nomadism/pastoralism practised by herders, is cheaper, low capital intensive, and requires little labour. Nomadism is an ancient practice and way of life of the Fulani man. It was believed to be handed down from generation to generation. Every male child of Fulani undergoes the process of nomadism during childhood. They learn the act and practice of moving with cattle at a very tender age and grow with it to adulthood. (IDI: Male: 38yrs: herder: 2023). Furthermore, Table 2 shows that 1.3% of the respondents disagreed, while 10.1% agreed. Meanwhile, 41.2% of the respondents agreed, while 32.7% of the respondents strongly agreed that criminality such as; killing, armed robbery, and rape cause farmers-herdsmen conflict.

**Table 3: Respondents' View on the Effectiveness of Third-party Interventions**

Variables	Responses	Frequency	Percentage
1. peace mediation by community leaders	Ineffective	86	22.9
	Fairly effective	183	48.7
	Effective	106	28.2
	Don't know	1	0.3
	Total	376	100.0
2. Peace committee established by the government	Ineffective	179	47.6
	Fairly effective	172	45.7
	Effective	19	5.1
	Don't know	6	1.6
	Total	376	100.0
3. Peacekeeping/enforcement intervention by security operatives	Ineffective	223	59.3
	Fairly effective	57	15.2
	Effective	60	16.0
	Don't know	36	9.6
	Total	376	100.0
4. Litigation (courts)	Ineffective	219	58.2
	Fairly effective	131	34.8
	Effective	22	5.9
	Don't know	4	1.1
	Total	376	100.0
5. Distribution of relief materials by Civil Society Organizations	Ineffective	88	23.4
	Fairly effective	172	45.7
	Effective	110	29.3
	Don't know	6	1.6
	Total	376	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2023

Table 3 shows that 22.9%, 48.7%, 28.2%, and 0.3% of the respondents indicated ineffective, reasonably effective, and practical don't know, respectively. Therefore, most respondents (48.7%) believe that peace mediation by community leaders reasonably effectively de-escalates the farmers-herdsmen conflict in Kwara State. Also, table 3 shows that 47.6%, 45.7%, 5.1% and 1.6% of the respondents indicated ineffective, reasonably effective, and effective don't know respectively.



Therefore, most of the respondents (47.6%) believe that the government's peace committee setup was ineffective in de-escalating the farmers-herdsmen conflict in Kwara State. Furthermore, table 3 shows that 59.3%, 15.2%, 16.0% and 9.6% of the respondents indicated ineffective, reasonably effective, and effective don't know respectively. Therefore, most respondents (59.3%) believe that peacekeeping/enforcement intervention was ineffective in de-escalating the farmers-herdsmen conflict in Kwara State. Likewise, table 3 shows that 58.2%, 34.8%, 5.9% and 1.1% of the respondents indicated ineffective, reasonably effective, and effective don't know respectively. Therefore, most respondents (58.2%) believe that litigation was ineffective in de-escalating the farmers-herdsmen conflict in Kwara State.

Also, table 3 shows that 23.4%, 45.7%, 29.3% and 1.6% of the respondents indicated ineffective, reasonably effective, and effective don't know respectively. Therefore, most respondents (45.7%) believe that distributing relief materials through civil society organizations reasonably effectively de-escalates the farmers-herdsmen conflict in Kwara State.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This study examined third-party intervention in the farmers-herders conflict in Kwara State. The study's findings revealed that the third-party intervention was weak and ineffective in addressing the needs and concerns of both parties. Hence, the parties resort to violence through self-help whenever one of the parties is aggrieved. This suggests that the intervention has not improved the relationship of both parties. The study concluded that third-party intervention in farmers-herders conflict has, though, eased but has not eliminated the crisis. The conflict largely remained unresolved because the root causes of the conflict had not been addressed. At the same time, the institutional frameworks have failed to prevent the reoccurrence of the conflict in Kwara State. Despite the third-party efforts to de-escalate the conflict, the disputing parties are still in the mood for revenge missions. The aggrieved parties were not prepared to allow peace reign as the conflict was still ongoing. The study, therefore, recommended that:

- i. Herdsmen should embrace ranches to prevent clashes with farmers. This will separate farmlands from the grazing animals and, thus, eliminate the crisis.
- ii. Regular peace meetings and mediation training centres should be established in the troubled areas of Kwara State to prevent the conflict from degenerating into violence.
- iii. Necessary legislative laws and legal frameworks should be put in place to prevent the reoccurrence of the conflict in Kwara State.

## **REFERENCES**

- Abass, I. (2012). No retreat no surrender: Conflict for survival between the Fulani pastoralist and farmers in Northern Nigeria. *European Scientific Journal*, **8**(1): 331–346.
- Adisa, R. S. (2012). Land use conflict between farmers and Fulani herdsmen: Implications for agricultural and rural development in Nigeria. In *Contemporary issues and practices*. Retrieved from <http://www.intechopen.com>
- Adisa, R. S., & Adekunle, O. A. (2010). Farmer-herdsmen conflicts: A factor analysis of socio-economic variables among arable crop farmers in North Central Nigeria. *Journal of Human Ecology*. Retrieved from [www.researchgate.net/publication/228350779](http://www.researchgate.net/publication/228350779)
- Ahmadu, H. J. (2011). *Farmer-herder conflict: Exploring the causes and management approaches in the Lake Chad region, Nigeria* (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). University of Utara, Malaysia.
- Albert, I. O. (2001). *Introduction to third-party intervention in community conflict*. Ibadan: John Archers Publishers Limited.
- Albert, I. O. (2001). *Building peace, advancing democracy: Experience with third-party interventions in Nigeria's conflict*. Ibadan: John Archers.
- Ajuwon, S. S. (2004). *Managing conflicts of interest in community development: A case study of Bauchi, Gombe, Kebbi, Kogi, and Imo States of Nigeria*.





- Aliyu, A. A. (2004). Conflicts in Nigeria. In A. D. Olabode, *Impact of Fulani-farmers' conflict on agricultural production* (Unpublished B.Sc. dissertation). University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria.
- Atang, J. (2014). *Management of herdsman-farmers conflicts in Nigeria*. Unpublished article, Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin.
- Audu, S. (2013). Conflicts among farmers and pastoralists in Northern Nigeria induced by freshwater scarcity. *Developing Country Studies*, **3**(12): 25–32.
- Audu, S. (2014). Freshwater scarcity: A threat to peaceful coexistence between farmers and pastoralists in Northern Nigeria. *International Journal of Development and Sustainability*, **3**(1): 242–251.
- Bell, C. (2000). *Peace agreements and human rights*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bello, A. (2013). Herdsmen and farmers conflicts in North-Eastern Nigeria: Causes, repercussions, and resolutions. *Academic Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, **2**(5): 129–139.
- Best, S. G. (2006). *Introduction to peace and conflict studies in West Africa*. Ibadan: Spectrum Books.
- Blench, R. (2010). *Conflict between pastoralists and cultivators in Nigeria: Review paper prepared for DFID, Nigeria*. Cambridge: Guest Road.
- Blench, R., & Dendo, M. (2003). The transformation of conflict between pastoralists and cultivators. *Journal of Africa*, **1**(1): 1–14.
- De Haan, C. (2002). *Nigeria Second Fadama Development Project (SFDP), project preparation mission report, livestock component*. Washington, DC: World Bank.
- Fiki, C., & Lee, B. (2004). Conflict generation, conflict management, and self-organizing capabilities in drought-prone rural communities in North-Eastern Nigeria: A case study of social development in Africa. *Journal of Social Development in Africa*, **19**(2): 25–48.
- Fisher, S. (2000). *Working with conflict: Skills and strategies for action*. London: Zed Books.
- Folami, O. (2009). Climate change and inter-ethnic conflict between Fulani herdsmen and host communities in Nigeria. *Paper presented at the Conference on Climate Change and Security*, Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters, Trondheim, Norway.
- Gefu, J. O., & Kolawole, A. (2002). Conflict in common property resource use: Experiences from an irrigation project. *Paper prepared for the 9th Conference of the International Association for the Study of Common Property*, Indiana.
- Haro, G. O., Doyo, G. J., & McPeak, J. G. (2005). Linkages between community, environmental, and conflict management: Experiences from Northern Kenya. *World Development*, **33**(2): 285–299.
- Homer-Dixon, T. (1996). Environmental scarcity and conflict. *Peace Magazine*. University of Toronto.
- IRIN. (2010). *Nigeria: Nomad-farmer clashes increase as pasture shrinks*. Retrieved from <http://www.irinnews.org>
- Ismail, I. (2004). Nomadic education and education for nomadic Fulani. Retrieved from <http://www.gamji.com/fulani7.htm>
- Iro, I. (2010). Grazing reserves development: A panacea to the intractable strife between farmers and herders. Retrieved from [www.gamji.com](http://www.gamji.com)
- John, E. (2014). The Fulani herdsman in Nigeria: Questions, challenges, allegations. Retrieved from <http://elnathanjohn.blogspot.com/2014/03/the-fulani-herdsman-in-nigeria>
- Kwara State Planning Commission. (2007). *State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (SEEDS) document*. Ilorin: Kwara State Government. Retrieved from <http://web.ng.undp.org/seeds.shtml>
- McGregor, A. (2014). Alleged connection between Boko Haram and Nigeria's Fulani herdsmen could spark a Nigerian civil war. *Terrorism Monitor*, **12**(10): 8–10.
- Michael, O. F. (2010). Climate change and inter-ethnic conflict between Fulani herdsmen and host communities in Nigeria. *Paper presented at the Conference on Climate Change and Security*, Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters, Trondheim, Norway.
- Miller, C. A. (2003). *A glossary of terms and concepts in peace and conflict studies*. Geneva: University for Peace.



- Mbombo, K. (2016). *Conflict theories: Clarification of basic concepts*. Unpublished lecture note, Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin, Ilorin.
- Moore, K. M. (2005). *Conflict, social capital, and managing resources: A West African case study*. Cambridge: CABI Publishing.
- Negedu, G. O. (2005). *Constraints to cassava production in Ilorin South LGA, Kwara State* (Unpublished B.A. project). Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, University of Ilorin, Nigeria.
- Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps. (2013). *A handbook on principles and practice of ADR for peace practitioners*.
- Nformi, M. I., et al. (2014). Effects of farmer-grazer conflicts on rural development: A socio-economic analysis. *Scholarly Journal of Agricultural Science*, 4(3): 113–120. Retrieved from <http://www.scholarly-journals.com/SJAS>
- Nyong, A., & Fiki, C. (2005). Drought-related conflicts, management, and resolution in the West African Sahel. *Human Security and Climate Change International Workshop*, Oslo: GECHS, CICERO, and PR20.
- Odoh, S. I., & Chilaka, F. (2012). Climate change and conflict in Nigeria: A theoretical and empirical examination of the worsening incidence of conflict between Fulani herdsman and farmers. *Oman Chapter of Arabian Journal of Business and Management Review*, 2(1): 110–124.
- Ofuoku, A. U., & Isife, B. I. (2009). Causes, effects, and resolution of farmers-nomadic cattle herders' conflict in Delta State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology*, 1(2): 47–54.
- Okoli, G. A., & Atelhe, A. C. (2014). Nomads against natives: A political ecology of herder/farmer conflicts in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. *American International Journal of Contemporary Research*, 4(2): 44 -52.
- Olabode, A. D., & Ajibade, L. T. (2010). Environment-induced conflict and sustainable development: A case of Fulani-farmers conflicts in Oke-Ero L.E.D.s, Kwara State. *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa*, 12(5): 289–266.
- Omojola, A. S., & Fasona, M. J. (2005). Climate change, human security, and communal clashes in Nigeria. *Paper presented at the International Workshop on Human Security and Climate Change*, Holmen Fjord Hotel, Oslo.
- Oyesola, D. B. (2000). *Training needs for improving income-generating activities of agro-pastoral women in Ogun State, Nigeria* (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). University of Ibadan, Nigeria.
- Schama, S. (1996). *Landscape and memory*. London: Harper Collins.
- Schirch, L. (2004). *The little book of strategic peacebuilding*. Intercourse, PA: Good Books.
- Tonah, S. (2006). Managing farmer-herder conflicts in Ghana's Volta Basin. *Ibadan Journal of Social Sciences*, 4(1): 33–45.
- Van't Hooft, K., Millar, D., & Django, S. (2005). Endogenous livestock development: Report from a workshop in Cameroon. *Campas Magazine*, 38–39.
- World Bank. (2003). *Agricultural knowledge and information system*. Retrieved from <http://wb/n0018worldbank.opendocument>