



## Impact of Integrating Western Education into Almajiri System of Education in Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria

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### ABSTRACT

*This study focused on the impact of integrating of western education into Almajiri system of education in Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria. Two research questions were formulated to guide this study. A survey research design involving the use of impact of integrating of western education into Almajiri system of education questionnaire which was face validated by three experts was used for the study. From the population of 280 registered Ulamas were sampled for the study using simple proportionate random sampling technique. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer research questions Reliability coefficient of the instrument was done using a test-re-test method and it yielded .85 using Cronbach alpha. Findings showed that integrating western education into Almajiri system of education would as an instrument for promoting environmentally sound suitable development and a method of alleviating poverty and political development. The study recommended among other things that the Bauchi State Ministry of Education in collaboration with Ministry of Health should organize seminar and workshop periodically to encourage western education and personal and environmental hygiene and the State Government need to improve the living condition of out-of-school children in the society by given them more access to education.*

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### INTRODUCTION

It is an undisputable fact that Education is significantly crucial to human, capital and social development; hence no government all over the world toils with the education and training of its citizens (Fajonyomi, 2007). Education is considered to be the backbone of development in every country, today there is no nation that can develop without the input of human resources. These human resources is harnessed through formal school setting theoretically and later be put into practice for nation building; education is considered as the vital instrument for development. It is considered as a tool for advancement in a changing situation and environments.

*Almajiri* system of education is a school known as *Makarantar Allo* or *Tsangaya*. Babajo (2017) opined that *tsangaya* is defined as an area or a place where *Al-Qur'an* education is

thought and which is generally characterized by the assembly of a conglomeration of children reciting the Holy Qur'an and instructions are carried out under a tree shade, etc, where the students are gathered for the purpose of learning Al-Quran. As western education is a formal system of education which emphasizes formal method of classroom instructions for all and sundry and is based on communication in writing, reading and numeric (Shehu, 2006). It is also define as an educational system that is characterize by the process of assimilation and learning of the customs and practices of western culture, religion, culture, and educational development in Nigeria.

Bello (2019) reiterates that the issue of *Almajiri* (street beggars) is becoming one of the contemporary social problems which has become a stamping block to development in Nigeria,



though several attempts were made by the government backed by elites especially in northern part of the country to at least curtail the problem. Shehu and Abdulrahman (2015) opined that the issue of the Almajiri has remained worrisome in the minds of the elites in northern Nigeria and the country as a whole. This is because the practice has become a source of embarrassment to the country and the region in particular. UNICEF annual report on Nigeria revealed that there are more than 9.5 million Almajiri children in Nigeria (Usman, 2019).

Nigerian constitution has clearly stated that education in primary and junior secondary schools is free and compulsory (1999 constitution, section 18 (3) a, and sector 2 (1). The child right act of (2003) came as the final resolution to the failure of parents to give their children the right to education as stated in article 15: every child has the right to free, compulsory and universal basic education and shall be the duty of the government in Nigeria to provide such education. Every parent or guardian shall ensure child or ward attends and complete (a) primary education; and (b) junior secondary education. Every parent, guardian or person who has the care or custody of a child who has completed his basic education, shall endeavor to send the child to a senior secondary school.

To reduce the number of children send to Almajiri, the Federal Government of Nigeria attempted to integrate western Education with Islamic education so as to transform the Almajiri into functional members of a noble society (Onitada, 2018). Another way of curtailing such problems was the Federal Government Commitment in accepting international programmes such as Education for All (EFA) and the succeeding Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to Khalid (2019) attempts made by Federal Government to integrate Almajiri education into western education gained momentum. Despite all these efforts put in place by Governments, it was observed that the menace of street begging and besieging people at public places by Almajiris is alarming and the issue of personal hygiene seems not to go unnoticed to every passerby. It is based on this, that this study is design to assess the impact of integrating of western education into almajiri

system of education in Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria.

### Statement of the Problem

As part of government effort to curtailed the social problem associated with Almajiri system, efforts were made among which was the integration of the traditional Islamic educational with the western education in some selected areas across the country where over N15 billion was budgeted for the programme. The impact of education cannot be underestimated in Nigeria; over the years, emphasis has been on general education and need to be integrated into Almajiri system of education. However, the situation has now been recognized by many scholars. According to Julius (2018), western education is a formidable tool for sustainable economic development. In the view of the above there is need from the society to equip Almajiri modern school leavers with saleable production skills in various technical and vocational areas. It is on this premise that the researcher is triggered to assess the need for integrating of western education into almajiri system of education in Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria as it will help the recipients to acquire skills and reduce unemployed youth through preparing individual for an employment and makes them more productive in various economic fields.

### Research Questions

The following research questions were raised to guide the conduct of the study:

1. What is the impact of Western Education on Almajiri system of education Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria?
2. What is the perception on the needs for integration of western education into Almajiri system of education in Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria.

### METHODOLOGY

Descriptive research design was used in the study. Descriptive research design was used for the study because the study used questionnaire for data collection. The area of the study was Katagum Local Government Area of Bauchi State. There was no sampling because the population was manageable. Questionnaire



was used for data collection. Three lecturers from faculty of Education, University of Jos, validated the instrument. Cronbach Alpha method was used in determining the internal consistency of the instrument and it yielded reliability co-efficient

of 0.92. All the questionnaires were retrieved showing 100% return rate. Data were analyzed using mean and standard deviation rating with a cut-off point of 2.50.

## RESULTS

**Table 1:** Impact of western education on Almajiri system of education in Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria

S/No.	Item Statement	Mean	Std. Dev.	Remark
1.	Western education is a tool for achieving self-reliance	3.97	0.92	Agreed
2.	Western education is an integral part of general education meant for preparing people into occupational fields and for effective participation in the world of work.	3.74	1.14	Agreed
3.	Western education is an instrument for individual into responsible citizenship	3.84	1.10	Agreed
4.	Western education is an instrument for promoting environmentally sound suitable development and a method of alleviating poverty	3.70	1.21	Agreed
5.	Western education trains an individual to become a job creator	3.85	1.06	Agreed
6.	Western education is a tool for reducing youth restiveness and controlling social vices in the society	3.83	1.09	Agreed
7.	Western education is equipping youths with competencies, skills, knowledge for occupations needed to become productive individuals in the society	3.78	1.18	Agreed

**Source:** Field survey, 2022

Result in Table 1 indicates that the mean value for each item was greater than the average rating point of 2.50 indicating that respondents agreed that western education has

impact on Almajiri system of education in Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria.

**Table 2:** Perception on the needs for integration of western education into Almajiri system of education in Katagum Local Government, Bauchi State, Nigeria

S/No.	Item Statement	Mean	Std. Dev.	Remark
1.	Education on occupational diversification	3.69	1.10	Agreed
2.	Education on hygienic measures	3.58	1.21	Agreed
3.	Education on vocational trades	3.98	0.95	Agreed
4.	Education on security matters	3.85	1.06	Agreed
5.	Education for promoting political and economic development	3.78	1.09	Agreed

**Source:** Field survey, 2022

Table 2 shows that the respondents have agreed with all the suggested items as being the perception on the needs for integration of western education into Almajiri system of education. That is, there is need for integrating

western education into Almajiri system of education.

## CONCLUSION

Integrating western education into Almajiri system of education would as an



instrument for promoting environmentally sound suitable development and a method of alleviating poverty and political development.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Bauchi State Ministry of Education in collaboration with Ministry of Health should organize seminar and workshop periodically to encourage western education and personal and environmental hygiene.
2. The State Government need to improve the living condition of out-of-school children in the society by given them more access to education.

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