



Sule lamido University: An appraisal of socio-economic and cultural development in kafin hausa community, Jigawa state, Nigeria

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Abstract

This article examines the social relations and economic development of Kafin Hausa community before and after the establishment of Sule Lamido University. The cultural orientation and university-community relationships and the role of the university in economic development are enormous. Community-university wide support in free education for girls, specialization, integration and diversification of businesses, influx of population and social changes are observed.

Keywords: economic, Kafin Hausa, Community-university, businesses, observed.

Introduction

No doubt that education served as an engine of social, cultural environmental as well as economic growth of any given individual and or society, according to (Blaike 2002) ^[1], proposes that education is the biggest sector that touches and contributes to the development and well-being of human and society.

Castel (2001) ^[4] summarizes the functions of university into four. Firstly “University have historically played a major role as ideological apparatus, expressing the ideological struggles present in all societies. Second they have always been mechanism of selection and socialization of dominate elites. Third, the generation of knowledge often seen as their most important function, is actually according to castles a relatively minor one with function of scientific research often assumed by specialized institute. Four the most traditional and today the most frequently emphasized function of university is the training of skilled labour force”.

League nations developed to developing countries discovered the role of education in any aspect of life; (Bruce, 1995) ^[2] Nigeria is not in exception a lot of universities have been established, right from the pre-colonial to post-colonial era. The worldwide view on knowledge economy signifies that knowledge is basic for economic development and integration (Bryant, 1990) Universities are considered to be the center of innovation and dissemination of knowledge (Coleman, 1987) ^[5] moreover, apart from being centers of education; universities often served other cultural relation with communities such as students week, drama week, environmental awareness which leads to the assimilation of new culture such as made of dressing, life style, identity and socialization (Ike, 1976, Miller, 1991) ^[6,9]

Rethinking and Rebuilding the Role of University in Community Development

It is imperative that citing a university in a particular community attract social and economic development. At the grass root level, university served as a channel in local economies and provides employment across the community (Lucas, 1988) ^[7]. However,

the local purchasing power and business integration of the community would be flowing vis-a-vis to the human capacity development and employment opportunities. However, Sule Lamido University has enormously engaged in the development of Kafin Hausa town where it is located and establishing good and commendable rapport with Kafin Hausa community and the stakeholders of the community.

Logically one would be begin of notice in purchase of local goods and service and mutual relationship between staff, student and the house agents where rent is applicable.

Educational orientation and enrolment among youths in Kafin Hausa community has increased tremendously as the case may be one will begin no notice the number of girls and boys enrolled into the university system as students which might not be possible if the university is not located in the Kafin Hausa community. The culture of the community signifies that young girls are married after secondary school education; in encouraging the Kafin Hausa community the university is given free education for girls enrolled into the university system as students there by encouraging them to pursue education. Junior staff of the university such as drivers, gardeners, cleaner e.t.c which are indigenes of the community were given chances to enroll into the university as students so as to improve their standard level of education in returned the Kafin Hausa community shows their appreciation by naming a street after the first vice chancellor of the university professor Abdullahi Ribado.

Re-Conceptualizing Community University Linkages and Cultural Reorientation

University, the center of learning and cultural reorientation perhaps no doubt that, the university brought several socio-cultural changes to the Kafin Hausa community. The students are from diverse location of Nigeria and outside Nigeria as well and the university staff also. Each is coming with different mode of dressing, dancing, music and drama. According to the survey conducted in Kafin Hausa community indicate that the local girls

are now losing their boyfriends to the university girls because of the difference in swagger, therefore the local girls are now imitating the university girls so as to compete and maintain their boyfriends and this encourage the community girls to pursue university education.

The exchange of cultural ideas and entertainment between students and the community is enormous, one can depict that during students week organized by the students' union government (SUG) of the university and called upon different local drummers, musicians for entertainment in the university campus and tradition horse riding from university through the community and pay homage to the district head and presents award for community services.

However, there are incidences of community-university inter marriage; in other ward marriage between university staff and the Kafin Hausa community girls and the marriage between female students and the indigence males of the Kafin Hausa community, this re-emphasises the mutual relationship and linkages between Sule Lamido University and the Kafin Hausa community.

The other side of the coin indicate that after citing the university there is increasing crime activities within the community such as burglary, smoking, fighting (specially over girlfriend) and specialized prostitution among others this amount to the influxes of population mingling with different culture and lack of understanding among youth.

The university students and Kafin Hausa community relationships take new dimension in assisting student's politics. The homogenous nature of the environment as well as the common language between the majority of the students and community members and the cordial friendship that exist, the contestants of various Students Union Government (SUG) offices sought support from elites, borrow cars and motor cycles for campaign this cordial relationship has great influence in the university students' politics.

The presence of Sule Lamido University has brought physical development in Kafin Hausa in terms of housing; the university reclaimed the local government houses and fixed them to accommodate staff as well as establishing and construction of university staff houses to overcome the accommodation difficulty and scarcity. Owing to that there is competition to build houses for rent to both university staff and students, this leads to the urban growth and expansion especially at the periphery and toward the location of the university, this competition increase the cost of land and make it expensive in the community.

The university community linkages have also seen in terms of university clinic patronization. The university clinic has specialist health personals which the community believed in, there by attending the university clinic for better medical care and at affordable price.

Sule Lamido University and the Local Economy

Prior to the citing of Sule Lamido University in Kafin Hausa, the influx of business was only seen on market day (Tuesday of every week) where people from various locations patronize the market, on normal days there was little business as the population of the community is about 100,000 (NPC, 2006). However the small scale industries and business were at the stage of poor patronization before coming of the university.

Few years after the inception of the university the Kafin Hausa community began to take new dimension in the local economy

orientation, there is increase in the cost of house rent where a single concrete room without air condition or fan cost ₦ 35,000 and single mud house cost about ₦ 15,000. Before coming of the university there was no issue of house renting in Kafin Hausa unless for the few other government officers such as police officers at minor prices less ₦ 10,000. However the other noticeable influx of business and high rate of patronization is seen in areas of provisions, where shop owners attested that number of customers has triple and the business is running smoothly and making profit to the event.

Other small scale business such as phone recharge card vendors, water vendors and saloon/barbers shops, indicate that the rate of customer's influx is high meaning that the rate of patronization is at peak now, not as the case may be before the university. The Kafin Hausa community is now witnessing the establishment of restaurants to cater the food demand of the population. The new restaurant takes new dimension cooking specialized food such as fried rice, rice and salad among other which is not possible obtained such kind food in any restaurant in the community before the university. However, the local restaurants are now changing from local food for the poor to a specialized food that can be eaten by all and Sundry. The building and organization of the restaurant are now changing from local setting "eat on mat" to a plastic chair and plastic table a little bit advance than before. The high demand of stationaries such as books, computer spare part printing paper, photocopy spare part e.t.c by the university, open a new market opportunities for Kafin Hausa community trader.

Filling stations, commercial motor cycle (okada) and mechanic business have also witnessed the influx of customers. As the case may be the university possesses its own vehicles, the principal offices, university busses, university generators, personal staff vehicle and student vehicle amount to the increase in fuel consumption in Kafin Hausa community and this lead to the emerging of new filling station in the community. The commercial motor cyclist confirmed that as at now they have more customers and most of the trip is from various students and staff accommodation to the university campus. Mechanics at their various garage when interviewed attested that the rate at customers have now increased owing to the increase in the number of vehicle in the community.

The other sector of the economy is cinema which witnessed regular attendant and large crowd especially during football match. The views when interviewed indicate that its more enjoyable watching football match at cinema than at home, they value the argument among themselves (viewers) and there is no light to watch the various football matches in their various accommodation/houses, fuelling generator is costly but cheaper viewing at the cinema. Commercial pharmacist were also attested that the number of customer per day have increased in buying over the counter drugs such as antimalarial and antibiotics among others.

Conclusion

The increase in population of Kafin Hausa community due to the establishment of Sule Lamido university, has positively influence the local economy social transformation among youth which plays a vital role in community development and orientation of human development through free education which encourage youth to engage in seeking for education so as to over-come life

challenges. Socialization between staff, student and the community signifies cordial relationship, transformation and economic integration at the expense of both university and the community.

Recommendation

1. Construction of enough hostel to accommodate students
2. Housing provision for university staff to avoid or reduce the renting of houses for security reasons.
3. Strengthening the university community relationship by fixing public lectures and orientation.
4. Inter university community sports to strengthening the social relationship between community youth and university student.
5. The university should engaged staff and students and in connecting with community stakeholders to engage in environment management and free planting campaign, so as to check the menace of environment degradation.

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