THE VALUES OF ART AND CULTURE; THEIR CHALLENGES TO THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY

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Abstract
Culture has to do within the elements that pinpoint a specific people way of life. Embedded in culture as a subdivision, is arts. And arts consists of many creative efforts and discipline. This shows that arts and culture are related. It is on the basis of this relationship that this study is based about the values of arts and culture in Nigeria. One of the objectives of the study is to examine the values of arts and culture. Another objective is to also look into the aspects of negligence of arts and culture. Also, the study aims at examining the need for the maintenance of culture and look into. The influence of Western education on our society. Finally, the study is purposed to reveal how arts and culture constitute the ethos of a society. The method of the study is descriptive in nature and the theoretical frame work is also interrelated in compassion other researchers idea but with some differences or uniqueness in giving ideas of solution to the aspect of negligence and bringing about maintenance of culture. The study also finds out that the federal government has already started making drastic moves about the issue's pertaining to arts and culture and the negligence in our society and government making laws governing arts and culture and our social artifacts in the society. Presently, the Government has brought back some of the artifacts looted during the 1897 expedition and also demanding that some of the artifacts should be brought back, on this note some devout end dedicated Nigerians who are making efforts to pass more information to the society by educating the society through the efforts of media power.

1.0 Introduction

This study is packaged in such a way as to touch the artistic value of arts and culture and the challenges faced by the developing society which needs an immediate attention in our society Nigeria.

One of the objectives of the study is also targeted at making our children and society know that our culture remains our culture and is passed from generation to generation.

Secondly, aim or objective of the study is to create an awareness of the kind of natural riches and vegetations we have in Nigeria coupled with rich cultural and ethnical endowment we are faced with, of which foreigners have already started exploiting our natural made wealth given to us by God almighty and how moves are been made by the Federal Government to get back some of our looted artifacts.

This write-up thirdly is aimed at seeing that our societal natural resources and cultural wealth are well exploited by we Nigeria indigenes and not by foreigners any longer, and stop living in the past world of negligence on our blessed and rich cultural heritage of which we are endowed with.

This write-up aims fourthly, bringing awareness to the society what the present stand of the federal government is all about in bringing Nigerians back to their former glory of rich arts and cultural heritage. The type of research is not a studio research work but a theoretical research write-up in the sense of other references will be made from other researchers view.

In this study the other works done by other researchers on similar write-up will be mentioned about. Like Archibong M. who wrote on Igbo-Ukwu Museum Tragedy. Layiwola P. resolution of cultural Artifacts which focused on the case of Benin. Just to mention about few.

The theoretical framework is purely based on the other researchers observations, art write-ups and making a way forward based on the present research done by the present researcher in this write-up the present stand of the Federal Government shows that an awareness by the government and the society as a whole is been carried out like Igbo-ukwu, Benin art, Ife art, Nok Art, Esie soap stone art and some other little ethnic groups in Nigeria springing up as to be recognized within their jurisdiction of arts and culture.

With this, federal government of Nigerian's intervention into the present issue of artifacts in Nigeria. Nigerians arts and culture are being resourcitated to greater height of awareness. Even the Federal Government made a strict law about our wild life preservation centres to be well taking care of and in conclusion bring Nigeria to what her natural vegetation and cultural heritage suppose to be that is having more value and recognition as a tourist country full of natural blessings and glory.

With the involvement of the Federal Government into the aspect of arts and culture of Nigeria heritage Nigeria is bound to grow to her greatest height this write-up aims at making a great significant role in the life of the society as a

whole, through arts expressing the mentality of our own age and culture for example, if a leader rises to power, no matter what kind of a man or woman he or she is, we find that some artists, poets, cartoonists and composers will be among the people who will either frown at him or flatter his pride with heroic studios epics and triumphant hymns by so doing we can make our nation a better place.

Our students who has got brand of improved, arts educational cultural up bringing, will have a cosmopolitan mind not limited but broad and provincial restructuring of his native environment and he will be able to understand the culture of other nations in other parts of the world, in terms of cultural similarities and dissimilarities.

And, generally for the Igbo's living in the Eastern part of Nigeria, particularly in Anambra, Enugu, Delta, Abia, Ebonyi and some parts of the Rivers the presentation and breaking of kola nut are unique, which is an aspect of the Igbo culture. The kolanut has been described as a "Nut of Unity" because the Yorubas' produce it, the Hausa's commercialize it and eat it, while the Igbo's revere it as sacred. There is an adage which say's "he who brings kola brings life". From this we can see that Africans have very rich culture which are highly observed and respected.

2.0 Literature Review

A society is known by her cultural identity of which is known and made of, example, the language we speak the religion we practice the nature of the work done or profession, all gives us an identity. "Culture" in its Latin term, from the verb "colere" meaning to cultivate to raise up or "nurse" some other authors or researchers made their own opinion or idea about arts and culture which means "Odinana and its more practical or functional aspect as. "Omenana" which can be translated either as "Custom" or "tradition" Bonachristus Umeogu (2000) emphasized on culture and tradition as totalization of Igbo knowledge, action, belief, arts and all. "Omenana) in the sense of 'custom' meaning the distinctive practical realization of the Igbo's way of life of preserving and transmitting the Igbo existential heritage amidst order and change from generation to generation.

On the other hand the researcher made emphasis that we can have a great knowledge of culture(s) and yet be completely ignorant of the culture of life, the culture of lived experience. One also be thoroughly immersed in the culture(s) of life but be extensively vacant of knowledge of culture which also show an aspect of negligence of understanding of Arts and culture.

Culture according to Bonachristus Umeogu (2000) is the substance that is the hypokeimenon of human existence to be ignorant of culture(s) is to be ignorant of one's life and being, and a hindrance to transferring the societal heritage from one generation to generation effectively.

Tylor (1891) which is captured in Encarta premium suite Microsoft co-operation, 2013 defines culture as that complex whole which includes knowledge belief, art law moral, customs and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as "member of society". Okafor (2001) maintains that "it is society that gives content, direction and meaning to our lives and we in turn in many ways reshape the society that we leave for the next generation and which bring about cultural elements. The cultural elements under examination include language, religion, art, law and music art, these elements are deeply enriching Nigerian society. So with the negligence of this elements will drastically affect the economy of Nigerian as a whole, C.O. Oliver Uche (2015) says that we need to rediscover our notable cultural norms values and virtues which abound in different areas of Nigeria. There is need to be identified harnessed, crafted and reinvigorated in order to locate our roots, have a new sense of pride, cultural identity and clean permanently the infections of inferiority complex, which made Nigerians find it difficult to hold contemptuously to their cultural heritage.

After reviewing the opinions of authors or researchers a veritable conclusion or inference their opinion was made in the sense suggesting that an abandonment or negligence in the aspect of arts and culture in our society will bring a complete hindrance and growth to the development and growth of the societal economy. So in accordance the area of Arts and Culture and tourism needs to be given more attention. Although not much has been written about the negligence of arts and culture in our society by most researchers but with this couple of research.

Generally, culture manifests and is recognized by those who share its view norms, elements and values. The way culture manifest and is recognized with any shared group is find in words, gesture arts and objectives and homes-past, present real or fictitious our cultures are indeed being subsumed for the so called Superior Societies of Europe and America. They are being neglected and demonized. For us understand to the extent of the negligence played by our people which brought a setback in the country's economy.

2.1 Empirical Review

Bonachristus Umeogu (2000) emphasized on culture and tradition as totalization of our culture, knowledge, action, belief arts and all. He termed it

to be :Omenana" which is distinctive, practical, realization of the social way of life of preserving and transmitting the Igbo existential heritage amidst order and change from generation to generation with this, it means our culture have come to stay for good. On the other hand, Tylor (1891) which is captured in Encarta premium suite Microsoft co-operation, 2013 defines culture as that complex whole which includes knowledge belief, art, law, moral, customs, and any other capabilities and habit acquired by under as "members of the society and if neglected will be disastrous to our society. So it is mandatory that our culture and tradition should continue rolling. Just like Umeogu (2000) emphasized as well that culture and tradition moves from generation to generation which should not be neglected or ignored.

Okafor (2001), also maintains that it is society that gives content, direction and meaning to our lives and we in turn in many ways reshape the society that we leave for the next generation. This shows that culture and arts contains a lot of very vital qualities that could not be described but embedded with the tradition of our society, this shows clearly well that the researchers focus of writing is productive, in the sense that more of the culture, tradition and art should be exploited the more. And to a greater height.

And C.O. Oliver Uche (2015) says that we need to discover our notable cultural norms, values and virtues which about in different parts of Nigeria that means trying to say we are rich in culturally and should be appreciated. (Tylor (1891) also made it clear that it is also a habit acquired by man in which makes him or her a member of a particular society so with this, the importance of culture cannot be over emphasized.

Nigeria culture plays an impact in art role, in lives of separate individuals and the society as a whole, culture helps to accumulates control and organize the human experience. It is basically what makes a person human. When a person becomes a member of the society, he or she will definitely acquire accumulated knowledge about language, symbols, values, norms, customs and traditions of that environment. In this country, individual usually become a part of one or more ethic groups in Nigeria.

3.0 Analysis of Data

The objectives of the study was also carried out.

Firstly, making our children and society know that our culture remains our culture and is passed from generation to another generation of which it has come to stay and be maintained by the same people living and dwelling in it, and this should be taught and inculcated in our school curriculum activities in the schools.

Secondly, to create an awareness of the kind of natural riches and vegetations we have in Nigeria coupled with rich cultural background. These are the special qualities we were naturally endowed with of which the European's now came to exploit us and that made the occurrence of 1897 Benin Expenditure which looted our beautiful works of arts and artifacts, it was an irony of history that the Benin bronze used for decoding FESTAC "77" was treasured not in Nigeria but in British Museum that the present and future generations of Nigeria must fly to London to see this bronze head, the work of their ancestors, what a humiliation?
This loot-age of our cultural heritage affected not only Benin, but also Yoruba land (the Ife bronze) and besides, the Igbo-ukwu art works and artifacts initially put into the Igbo-ukwu Museum in 1989 are not said to have been looted at unclear date (Archibong 2011).

Layiwola P. (2008), mentioned some interesting issue about the resolution of cultural Artifacts and bringing back the case of Benin looted artifacts. Importance of culture in Nigeria was also emphasized by Mary Ikande updated (2018) saying we should maintain our culture.

Thirdly, we as Africans or Nigerians should be at the forefront pushing our rich culture to be known by foreigners themselves admiring us and what we have as a society that is showing that we know what we have and we are not to be told about our natural endowment.

And fourthly, what the present stand of the federal government of Nigeria about our looted artifacts. Africans are seriously agitating for the return of cultural objects carted away from various parts of the continent to Europe. Adding a voice to this agitation with a recent intellectual proper implications involving the British Museum is a documenting film "crown fraud" which is scheduled for release soon. The film would have put the British Government in a very big mess or awkward position. Over 3,000 Benin artifacts of monumental cultural heritage held. The secret to the events that shaped the history of Benin, good number of works were ascertained by the Nigerian Government. The British museum allegedly holds 700 pieces, while the Ethnology museum in Berlin admitted has 580 pieces.
Couple with all these, objectives we should continue aiming at a good and wealthy cultural background and its challenges in Nigeria society as one we can tackle on our own.

4.0 Summary of Findings and Conclusion

From the observation made pertaining to the objectives derived awareness should be carried out and we Africans should show to the Europeans that we

know our value. Then the federal government helping to see that the looted items should be brought back and give back to we Africans with the help and assistance of the federal government of Nigeria headed by the Federal body of culture and tourism agitating for our artifacts of what is meant to be kept from generation to generation.

4.1 Summary of Findings

With the observation made from previous researchers, the findings made are clear view that our culture stands at a great risk, if attention is not given at a due time it could be hazardous and also educational value of our society has a lot to play with the artistical culture, custom and tradition of our society.

Federal government is also on the other hand agitating for the surrender of all the antiquities looted by the foreigners, if things are followed up amicably then the culture and tradition of our people remains from generation to generation.

4.2 Conclusion

With the situation of things in this present country, the interest of moving our rich cultural endowment forward is been too slow we need to wake up from our slumber and tackle our problems with much seriousness, our school arts curricular is not all that very effective, as the way it ought to be. Some schools don't even have tutors or educators' in the area of fine and applied arts and not even implemented along with the school curricular time table. If well registered with our schools our children who will later be leaders of tomorrow will be become proud of our rich cultural endowment and hold on to it, which means from generation to generation affairs. Why this research was carried out was to bring an awareness of what we have as a rich cultural society and be proud of what we have and secondly the federal government supporting in bringing the society as one. By making us to understand that we all have things in common to move the country ahead. And making sure that our countries artifact which was looted by the Europeans should be brought back for us to have, and enjoy our sweat. So this research will make a greater move by telling the federal government of Nigeria to put in more effort to save our cultural heritage and face the arts and cultural challenges in our society with a greater force.

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