

Recent trends and developments in Nigeria and around the world—globalisation, terrorism, democracy, corruption and the 'Rebranding Nigeria Project'—have, once again, placed the eternal subject of culture and its expressions in identity and leadership formulations on the front burner of intellectual discourse.

This book contains 24 well-researched, well-written and intellectually engaging chapters on culture, identity and leadership in Nigeria by some of the finest scholars in the theatre and culture industry. While some of the papers are deductive, analytical and exploratory within the diversified realm of culture, drama, theatre and performance, a few others are rooted in the epistemology of interdisciplinary dialogue and comparative analysis between democracy, politics, education, art, security and social change.

The rich and formidable array of scholars and the variety of perspectives they bring to bear on their subject(s) make *Culture, Identity and Leadership in Nigeria* a compelling read for students, scholars and stakeholders in the field of culture and its adjuncts of theatre and governance.

The book is edited by Emmanuel S. Dandaura, Head, Department of Theatre and Cultural Studies, Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nigeria and AbdulRasheed A. Adeoye, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Performing Arts, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria.

THEATRE/CULTURE

ISBN 978 84252 81 1



9 789788 425281



KRAFT BOOKS LIMITED

Culture, Identity and Leadership in Nigeria

Emmanuel Samu Dandaura
AbdulRasheed Abiodun Adeoye

A special publication of the
SOCIETY OF NIGERIA THEATRE ARTISTS (SONTA)
in honour of
Alhaji (Dr) Aliyu Akwe Doma, OON, FSONTA

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Editors

**Emmanuel Samu Dandaura
&
AbdulRasheed Abiodun Adeoye**

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KRAFT BOOKS LIMITED

Published by

Kraft Books Limited
6A Polytechnic Road, Sango, Ibadan
Box 22084, University of Ibadan Post Office
Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria
0803 348 2474, 0805 129 1191
E-mail: kraftbooks@yahoo.com

for

**SOCIETY OF NIGERIA THEATRE ARTISTS
(SONTA)**

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Adeoye, 2010

First published 2010

ISBN 978-978-8425-28-1

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First printing, August 2010

Dedication

This book is dedicated to Alhaji (Dr) Aliyu Akwe Doma, OON (SONTA Fellow & Trustee), the Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, Nigeria, in recognition of his outstanding achievements for advancing Nigeria's multicultural heritages locally and internationally.

Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge all the contributors to this book who, within short notice, abandoned their unending administrative assignments and other pressing matters to face the timeless rigours of scholarship. To those who have contributed immensely to the growth of the Society of Nigeria Theatre Artists (SONTA), thank you all.

Foreword

It is with the deepest sense and feelings of humility, joy, happiness and honour that I write this short preface to this historic book: *Culture, Identity and Leadership in Nigeria* which has been edited by two of my visionary, dynamic, and creative theatre and drama scholars and practitioners: Emmanuel Samu Dandaura and AbdulRasheed Abiodun Adeoye of the Departments of Theatre and Cultural Studies, Nasarawa State University, Keffi and Performing Arts, University of Ilorin, respectively.

Culture is the total way of behaviour of any human being or group of human beings within any given society. Culture is synonymous with life and living. It is the organism that propelled, propels and is propelling human life and the universe. His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, Alhaji (Dr) Aliyu Akwe Doma, OON, FSONTA (*Madauchin Doma*), in whose honour this book is written is a local, national, international, universal and global cultural icon and leader. He is an epitome, a peak of the finest qualities in leadership; a visionary, kind and gentleman who is generous in thoughts, feelings and actions towards his fellow human beings. He is an altruistic, transcendental and quintessential philosopher and leader who is beyond time and space. For putting this very rich and unique book together, I remain permanently grateful to SONTA, and our dear able and capable young professional colleagues in the field of theatre and drama, arts and culture who have carved and are carving new paths in culture: Professors Ahmed Yerima, Sam Ukala, Duro Oni, Egwugwu Illah, Jenkeri Zakari Okwori, Charity Angya, Barth Oshionebo, Oga Steve Abah, Irene Isoken Salami-Agunloye, Saint Gbilekaa; and Doctors Lanrele Bamidele, E.S. Dandaura, A.A. Adeoye, Tor Iorapuu, V.S. Dugga, Samuel Kafewo, Alex Asigbo, Jonathan M. Ayuba, Solomon Ikibe, E.M. Emielu, Doki A. Gowon, Rahila Gowon; and Messrs Obi Okoli and Reuben Embu.

This book, is a most befitting honour to the winner of the

coveted *SONTA Distinguished Leadership Award 2008* and the *Madauchin Doma*, Alhaji (Dr) Aliyu Akwe Doma, OON, FSONTA, a deeply respected Alago-Doma cultural icon and leader, a Nasarawa State cultural icon and leader, a Nigerian cultural icon and leader and a global cultural icon and leader; who has built the world with theatre and drama, tourism, arts and culture. I strongly recommend this book to all aspiring to be great leaders and critical stakeholders in our national development efforts.

Professor Shamsudeen O.O. Amali, OFR, FSONTA
 Vice-Chancellor, Nasarawa State University, Keffi
 SONTA Trustee and Chairman,
 SONTA Council of Trustees and Fellows

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