

Dedication

I dedicate this thesis to my late father, Malam Sa'idu Muhammad Nafada, who could not witness the completion of this doctoral degree which he fervently prayed for its success.

Acknowledgement

All praise is due to Allah (SWT) who created man in the best form, guided him through His Messengers and made all that is between the heavens and the earth subservient to him towards discharging his responsibility as Allah's servant and vicegerent on earth. May Peace and Blessings of Allah (SWT) be upon the unlettered Prophet, Muhammad b. 'Abdullah the Seal of the Prophets and Messengers, the teacher of the entire mankind?

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate the effects of regional diversity on mosque architecture of Nigeria's post-independence era with particular reference to Kano mosques. A historical survey was made on the evolution of mosque architecture right from its prototype structure based on the Masjid al-Nabawi in Madinah built in the year 622CE.

The research studied the foreign elements which were incorporated into the main mosque building. The research found that apart from minbar (pulpit) and mihrab (niche), the other main features of the mosque namely, the manarah (minaret) and qubbah (dome) were totally alien features. Both the dome and the minaret were originally Romano-Byzantine structures incorporated into the main mosque building at a much later period. The research discovered that both the Sasanian and Mughal influences took longer period before their complete incorporation into the mosque architecture.

Furthermore, the research identified increased Islamic architectural influences on other building structures besides mosque such as palaces, city gates and other public buildings in the country. The study also found urban development as a key factor in the rapid construction of mosques in urban Kano and its outskirts, in addition to the increase in affluence as a result of the oil boom in Nigeria. The research concludes with a discussion of the position of the mosque between its forms, on the one hand, and its functions, on the other. This is done against the background of over emphasis on the former over the latter in the contemporary Muslim world.

مستخلص البحث

تهدف الرسالة إلى بحث الآثار الإقليمية المتنوعة في عمارة المساجد (بدولة نيجيريا) بعد الإستقلال، مع الإشارة الخاصة إلى مساجد كانو. و (قد) قدم مسحا تاريخيا لتطور عمارة المساجد منذ هيكلها النموذجي الأول، الممثل بالمسجد النبوي بالمدينة والذي بنى في العام ٦٢٢م.

تناول البحث العناصر الأجنبية، والتي تم دمجها في مبنى المسجد الرئيسي. و بغض النظر عن المنبر والمحراب فقد عثرت الدراسة على بعض السمات الرئيسية في المساجد كالمنارة والقبّة، رغم أنها أجنبية تماما، و كانت من الهياكل الرومانية، والتي تم دمجها في المبنى الرئيسي للمسجد في الفترة الأخيرة. وكذلك كشف البحث عن أثر كل من الفرس الساسانيين و المغول بأنه قد أخذ مدة طويلة قبل إتمام عمارة المسجد. و إضافة إلى ذلك، فقد أظهر البحث تأثير العمارة الإسلامية في بعض المباني بجانب المساجد مثل القصور وأبواب المدينة والمباني العامة الأخرى في البلاد. وكما عثرت الدراسة على أن التنمية الحضرية عاملا رئيسا في سرعة بناء المساجد في كانو وضواحيها، إضافة إلى زيادة الوفرة. نتيجة الطفرة النفطية في الدولة (نيجيريا).

و تلخصت الدراسة في مناقشة دور المساجد بين هيكلها من جانب و وظائفها من جانب آخر. تم هذا ذبناء عن التركيز على أشكال المساجد اكثر من الجانب الوظائف في العالم الإسلامي المعاصر.

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Appendix II A Chronology of the Chief Imams of Kano City Mosque from 1805 to date.

A List of Abbreviations Used in the Work

1. A.H. After Hijrah (the migration of the Prophet S.A.W from Makkah to Madinah in the year 622CE)
2. A.S Alaihis Salam (may Allah be pleased with him)
3. C.E. Christian Era. This is in preference to AD which means either After Death or Anno Domini meaning the year of our Lord in Latin. In either case it is contradictory to the teachings of mainstream Islam. 'Isa (Jesus) A.S was neither killed nor crucified (Al Qur'an Surah Al-Nisa' 4:157) similarly, he was a Prophet(nabiyy) and not Lord (Rabb)(Al-Qur'an Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:117)
4. R.A. Ra□iyallahu 'Anhu, 'Anha, 'Anhuma, 'Anhum (May Allah be pleased with him, her, both, them respectively)
5. S.A.W Sallallahu 'AlaihiWasallam (peace and salutations of Allah be upon him)
6. S.W.TSubhanahuWaTa'ala (May He be exalted)