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EDITORIAL NOTE

JASSK is the acronym for Journal of Arts and Social Sciences, Kontagora. It is a maiden journal publication of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of Federal University of Education, Kontagora, Niger State.

It gives us great pleasure to present to you this 1st Volume of the Maiden Edition which contains scholarly articles covering areas from; Arts, Vocational, and Social sciences, and aspects of pedagogy and curriculum of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in general. The articles are thorough, well-articulated and scholarly.

The article **Leadership Styles and Service Delivery in the Nigerian Public Service** provides valuable insight into how leadership approaches influence efficiency, accountability, and productivity in the Nigerian public service. It offers practical recommendations for strengthening institutional performance through effective administrative leadership. The study **Impact of Digital Mentoring and Professional Development for Teachers in Osun State** highlights the growing importance of digital mentoring in enhancing teachers' professional competence and instructional effectiveness. Its findings underscore the need for continuous capacity building to meet the demands of twenty-first-century education. **Citizens' Political Participation as a Tool of Sustainable Development in Developing Democracies: The Nigerian Experience** examines the relationship between citizens' active participation and democratic sustainability in Nigeria. It contributes meaningfully to ongoing discussions on inclusive governance and national development. The article **Trends on Gender-Based Violence against Women (GBVAW) in Kotangora Emirate, Niger State, Nigeria** sheds light on the persistent challenge of gender-based violence and its implications for social justice and community development. It calls for stronger policy implementation and collective action to protect vulnerable groups, while **Artificial Intelligence Competency and Guidance Counselling as Predictors of Perceived National Development in FCE (Special)** explores the intersection of technological competence and guidance services in shaping perceptions of national development. It demonstrates the growing relevance of digital literacy and counselling in educational advancement. In the **Effects of Peer Tutoring and Social Skills Acquisition on Students' Learning Outcomes in Social Studies in Benue State, Nigeria**, the authors present convincing evidence on the effectiveness of peer tutoring in improving academic achievement and interpersonal skills. The findings reinforce the value of collaborative learning in classroom practice. **Village Voices and Ghost Coasts: Child-Agency and Anthropocene Fragility in Nigerian and Japanese Poetry** offers a thoughtful comparative literary analysis of childhood, environmental consciousness, and human vulnerability. It enriches contemporary literary scholarship through its cross-cultural perspective. The paper **Traditional Hunters and Modern Security: A Synergistic Approach for Nigeria National Security** explores the complementary roles of indigenous security structures and formal security agencies in addressing contemporary security challenges. It presents a timely perspective on community-based approaches to national security.

The article **The French Language: Contemporary Importance, Lucrativeness and Challenges towards Development of the Nation** examines the strategic value of the French language in education, diplomacy, commerce, and regional integration. It also identifies challenges requiring policy attention to maximize its national benefits. The study **Perceptions of Students and Lecturers on the Role of Artificial Intelligence in Students'**

Performance Evaluation in Higher Institutions in Kwara State provides balanced perspectives on the opportunities and concerns associated with the use of artificial intelligence in students' assessment. Its findings contribute to informed discussions on the future of educational evaluation.

Survival of the Fittest and the Paradigm Shift from African Traditional Religions to Christianity and Islam in Ile-Ife, Nigeria: The Way Forward critically examines the historical and social factors influencing religious transformation in Ile-Ife. It encourages constructive dialogue on cultural heritage, religious coexistence, and societal development.

The paper **The Role of Teachers in Curriculum Implementation in Nigeria: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward** emphasizes the indispensable role of teachers in translating curriculum objectives into meaningful classroom experiences. It identifies key implementation challenges while proposing practical strategies for educational improvement.

In the article **Transformation of the Teaching and Learning of Christian Religious Education through Artificial Intelligence Tools (AI) in Our Schools**, the author explores the emerging role of artificial intelligence in enriching the teaching and learning of Christian Religious Education. It demonstrates how thoughtful integration of digital tools can enhance instructional delivery while preserving the core values of the discipline.

Hoton Talauci A Cikin Rayuwar Matan Hausawa: Nazari Cikin Wasu Kagaggun Labaran Mata Marubuta examines how poverty is portrayed in selected Hausa fictional works written by women. It highlights the economic and social challenges faced by women and the ways they respond to hardship.

The paper **The Explicit Metaphor in Selected Poems of Ismail Ali Zain al-Abidin: A Rhetorical and Analytical Study** explores the use of clear metaphors in selected poems of Ismail Ali Zain al-Abidin. It explains how these literary devices enrich meaning and strengthen the poet's message, while **Maqasid Al-Shari'ah and the Objectives of Democracy: A Theological and Comparative Analysis of Their Foundations, Scope, and Irreconcilable Distinctions** compares the aims of Islamic law with the principles of democracy from a theological perspective. It identifies areas of difference and explains why the two systems are founded on distinct principles.

We see in the paper **An Analytical Exposition of the Relevance of Al Ghazali's Educational Philosophy to the Present Educational System** Al Ghazali's educational ideas and their relevance to modern teaching and learning. The paper also shows how his philosophy can support moral development and effective education today.

Role of Civil Society in Promoting Good Governance and Democratic Accountability in Nigeria examines how civil society organisations encourage transparency, public participation, and responsible leadership in Nigeria. It also considers their contribution to strengthening democratic institutions.

The article **Curriculum Reforms, Emerging Social Issues, and National Transformation in Nigeria: The Role of Social Studies and Civic Education** discusses how curriculum reforms can prepare learners to address current social challenges. It emphasises the importance of Social Studies and Civic Education in promoting responsible citizenship and national development.

The study **Gender Roles on Stage: An Examination of Some Selected Nigerian Children's Plays** analyses how gender roles are presented in selected Nigerian children's plays. It considers how these portrayals influence children's understanding of social expectations and relationships.

The Application of Artificial Intelligence in Teaching Geography Education in Federal Universities, Niger State examines the use of artificial intelligence to improve the teaching and learning of Geography in federal universities in Niger State. It highlights its potential to enhance classroom instruction and students' learning experiences.

The study **The Psychotheological Dimensions of Sartorial Behavior: An Analysis of Modesty, Self-Esteem, and Secular Acculturation among Christian Women in Nigeria** explores the relationship between dressing, religious beliefs, and personal identity among Christian women in Nigeria. It discusses how modesty, self-esteem, and changing social values

influence clothing choices. **Digital Transformation and Pedagogical Innovation in Creative Arts Education** looks at how digital technologies are reshaping the teaching of Creative Arts. It shows how new instructional approaches can improve creativity, practical skills, and students' engagement. The paper **State Capacity and Agricultural Productivity in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Role of Subsidy Programmes in Nigeria** investigates how government capacity and subsidy programmes influence agricultural productivity in Nigeria. It assesses the effectiveness of public support in improving food production and farmers' livelihoods. Finally, the study **The Geographies of Capital: State Politics and the Spatial Distribution of Foreign Direct Investment in Nigeria, 2000–2024** analyses how political and economic factors have influenced the distribution of foreign direct investment across Nigerian states between 2000 and 2024. It explains why some regions attract more investment than others. The article **The Supreme Court Judgement on Local Government Financial Autonomy in Nigeria: Implementation Challenges and Policy Implications**, looks at the Supreme Court's July 2024 ruling established direct funding for Nigeria's local governments to eliminate state interference and improve grassroots governance. It submits that persistent political resistance, constitutional ambiguities, and weak local capacity continue to hinder its full implementation. Driven by urbanization, this historical study **The Impact of British Colonial Economic Policies on the Development of Beef Market in Lagos, 1912-1960** examines how British colonial policies shaped the Lagos beef industry. Using primary archives and oral accounts, it highlights trade interactions, market adaptations, and regulatory challenges over time.

This maiden edition of the Journal of Arts and Social Sciences (JASSK) showcases a tapestry of arts and social sciences woven by a plethora of subjects pertinent and timely to 21st century discourse in the humanities. The Editorial Board proudly presents this issue with complete confidence, and is convinced that it will serve as an invaluable resource for scholars, researchers, and practitioners.

Dr. Hauwau Talatu Yusuf

Editor-in-Chief

NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Journal of Arts and Social Sciences, Kontagora is a journal publication of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of Federal University of Education, Kontagora, Niger State, published annually. Each article submitted for publication undergoes a blind-review process. Submission of article in the journal should be in conformity with the current APA reference style. The title of the paper, names of the author(s), the designations of the authors (s), functional email addresses and phone numbers of the authors(s) should reflect on the cover page of the paper. Soft copy of the paper should be sent to the journal email:jasskont@gmail.com. Each article to be submitted for publication must have an abstract of not more than two hundred and fifty (250) words. No article should be less than ten pages and must not exceed fifteen pages including references in Time New Roman Style, font 12 and 1.5 line spacing. Arabic articles 16pt Traditional Arabic Style.

CONTENTS

Editorial Board -----	i
Editorial Note -----	iii
Notes for Contributors -----	vi
Leadership Styles and Service Delivery in the Nigerian Public Service, Adebanjo, Ouwakemi Kikelomo -----	1
Impact of Digital Mentoring and Professional Development for Teachers in Osun State, Odunlami, Adedayo Adeniran, PhD -----	12
Citizens' Political Participation as a Tool of Sustainable Development in Developing Democracies: The Nigerian Experience, Otubanjo, TaofeekTaiyeola, Oderinde Olajide Damilola & Akanji, Oluyemisi Ajibola -----	27
Trends on Gender Based Violence against Women (GBVAW) In Kotangora Emirate, Niger State, Nigeria, Yusuf, Fatai Lateef & Associate Professor Aboyeji, Adeniyi Justus -----	37
Artificial Intelligence Competency and Guidance Counselling as Predictors of Perceived National Development in FCE (Special), Oyo, Samaila Hannatu -----	51
Effects of Peer Tutoring and Social Skills Acquisition on Students' Learning Outcomes in Social Studies in Benue State, Nigeria, AkohIhiabe Mercy & Atawodi Justina Ugbedeojio -----	62
Village Voices and Ghost Coasts: Child-Agency and Anthropocene Fragility in Nigerian and Japanese Poetry, Sunday OlaOluwagbamila Dawodu, PhD -----	70
Traditional Hunters and Modern Security: A Synergistic Approach for Nigeria National Security, Adewale, Adepoju Phd & Francis Kolade, Adeleke -----	81
The French Language: Contemporary Importance, Lucrativeness and Challenges towards Development of the Nation, Associate Professor Yekini Tokunbo.M. & Ademola Micheal -----	95

Perceptions of Students and Lecturers on the Role of Artificial Intelligence in Students' Performance Evaluation in Higher Institutions in Kwara State, Usman, Alhaji Aliyu, Ameen, Akeem & Nurudeen, Khadijat Buko -----	103
Survival of the Fittest and The Paradigm Shift from African Traditional Religions To Christianity and Islam in Ile Ife Nigeria, The Way Forward, Haruna Godwin Ojonemi, Akhaine Asabe Duna & Ochoechi Jerry -----	114
The Role of Teachers in Curriculum Implementation in Nigeria: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward, Babangida Yaki, PhD -----	120
Transformation of the Teaching and Learning of Christian Religious Education through Artificial Intelligence Tools (AI) In Our Schools, Anyebe Ada, PhD -----	134
HotonTalauci A CikinRayuwar Matan Hausawa: Nazari Cikin WasuKagaggun Labaran Mata Marubuta, HalimatuDogara Abbas -----	141
The Explicit Metaphor in Selected Poems of Ismail Ali Zain al-Abidin: A Rhetorical and Analytical Study, Habiba Muhammad Nayaya -----	159
Maqasid Al-Shari'ah and the Objectives of Democracy: A Theological and Comparative Analysis of Their Foundations, Scope, and Irreconcilable Distinctions, Saidu Muhammad & Siraj Muhammad Enagi -----	167
An Analytical Exposition of the Relevance of Al Ghazali's Educational Philosophy to the Present Educational System, Ishaq Abubakar Dauda, PhD, Dr. Hauwa'u Talatu Yusuf & AbubakarMuhammad Nasir-----	181
Role of Civil Society in Promoting Good Governance and Democratic Accountability in Nigeria, Yahaya Abubakar Sadiq -----	181
Curriculum Reforms, Emerging Social Issues, and National Transformation in Nigeria: The Role of Social Studies and Civic Education, Stephen Alfred Olotu, Shuaibu Godabe, PhD, Kabiru Likita & Okoro Arua Egwu -----	209
Gender Roles on Stage: An Examination of Some Selected Nigerian Children's Plays, Isah Bala Masuga & Dodo Joshua Garba -----	222
The Application of Artificial Intelligence in Teaching Geography Education in Federal Universities, Niger State, Iwalaiye Elizabeth Mayokun, PhD, Shu'aibu Dabo, PhD, Mohammed Baba Jibril, SuberuHabibat, Murjanatu Garba Ayawa, Abubakar Sani -----	229
The Psychotheological Dimensions of Sartorial Behavior: An Analysis of Modesty, Self-Esteem, and Secular Acculturation among Christian Women in Nigeria, Inusa Ada, PhD -----	238
Digital Transformation and Pedagogical Innovation in Creative Arts Education, Ogunshina Rhoda, PhD -----	246

State Capacity and Agricultural Productivity In Sub-Saharan Africa: The Role of Subsidy Programmes In Nigeria, Obukeni, Clifford Orona & Emeh, James Chukwudi -----	265
The Geographies of Capital: State Politics and the Spatial Distribution of Foreign Direct Investment in Nigeria, 2000-2024, Attah, Henry Attah, PhD, Muhammad Baba Jibril, Murjanatu Garba Ayawa & Umar Bashar -----	268
The Supreme Court Judgement on Local Government Financial Autonomy in Nigeria: Implementation Challenges and Policy Implications, Garba Fodio Phd& Abdullahi Musa Phd. -----	278
The Impact of British Colonial Economic Policies on the Development of Beef Market in Lagos, 1912-1960Lawal, Olawale Taofeeq, Afolabi, A.S & Alabi, Mohammed Oladimeji, Ph.D-----	291
Journal of Arts and Social Sciences, Kontagora (JASSK) Committee Members -----	300