

**An Assessment Of Local Government Performance On Rural Development In South West  
Nigeria (1999-2020)**

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**Certification**

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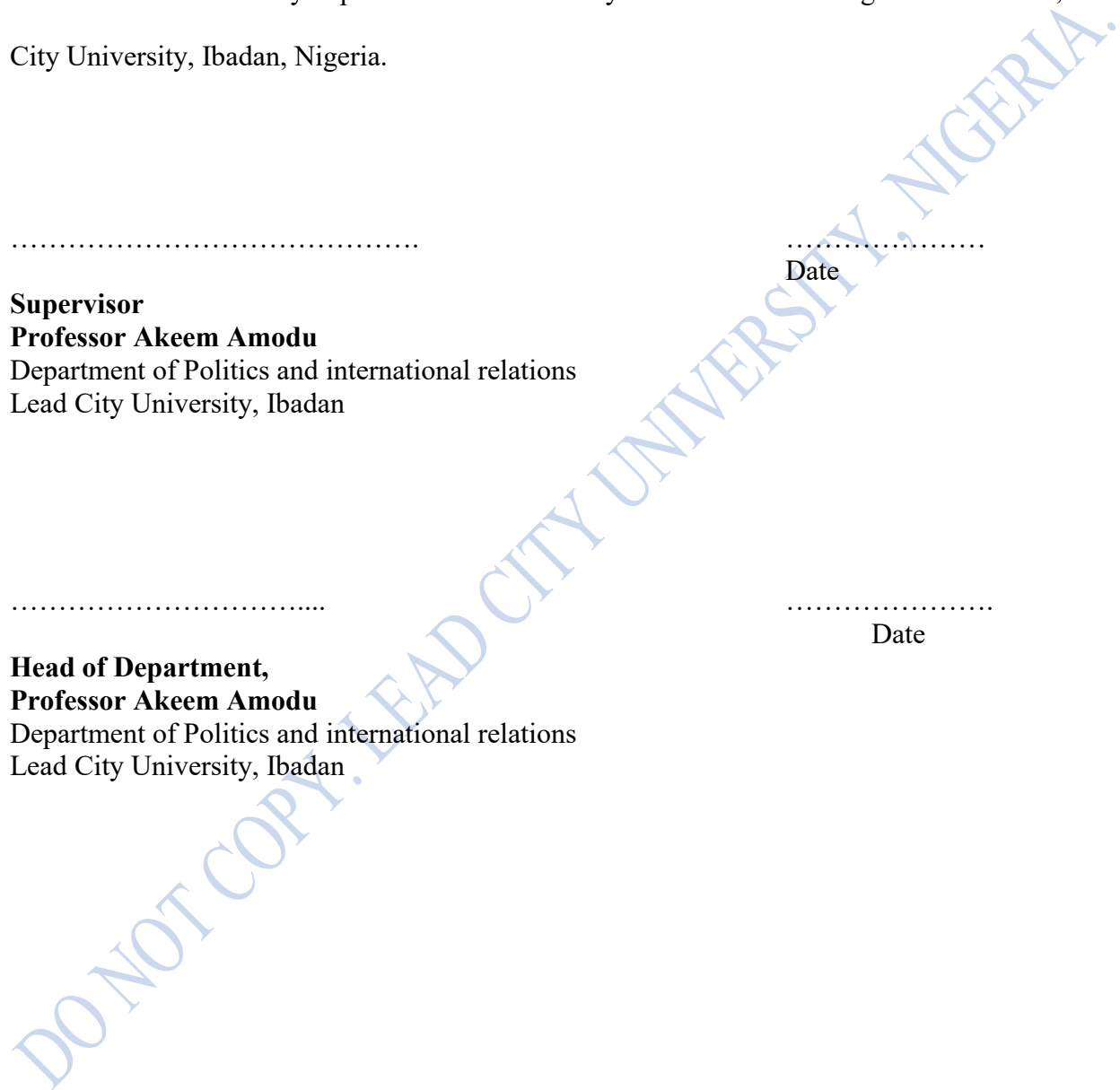
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### **Dedication**

I dedicate the work to the memory of my beloved father, Pa Johnson Olowookere Fadipe, and to my loving mother, Mama Titi Olowookere for her supportive and fatherly role.

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## Abstract

To a large extent, studies have revealed that some of what undermines the performance of local governments is factors such as corrupt practices of government officials in local governments, ineffective service delivery, poor infrastructural development and the likes. This study investigated the performance and rural development of local government areas in selected states in South West, Nigeria. The study made use of descriptive survey research design. Purposive sampling technique was applied to select 3 states out of the 6 states in south west, Nigeria. Six local government areas in Ondo and Ekiti states as well as 12 local government areas in Osunstate were surveyed. A sample size of 66 staff of local government areas in the selected states served as the respondents for this study. The study discovered that on a 4 point scale, financial autonomy of the selected states in this study was at an average level of 2.50. Also, the study discovered that on a 4 point scale, service delivery of local governments in selected states in south west, Nigeria was at an average level of 2.50. In terms of quality of funding, the average level of this factor was at an average level of 2.50. Corrupt practices among officials in the local governments studied was at a low level while implementation of projects had it that Ekiti state has the highest level of implementation of projects. This was seen from a level of 3.12 on a 4 point scale. The study concluded that out of all the factors that contributed to performance of local government areas in selected states in south west, Nigeria, only implementation of projects seem to be a contributing factor to their performance. The study recommended that both state and federal governments should hands from the administration of local government areas.

**Key words:** Performance, Rural development, Local government, South West, Governance

**Word Count:** 298

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