

## EDITORIAL

We are delighted to present the inaugural edition of *Eketē* with great pride and enthusiasm, representing the culmination of our collective efforts to establish a dynamic platform for disseminating cutting-edge research and advancing scholarly discourse. The name “Eketē,” derived from an Igbo word meaning ‘basket,’ symbolizes unity and collaboration, embodying our commitment to fostering multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research. Imagine *Eketē* as a guiding lighthouse for a global community of thinkers collaborating to address significant questions of our time.

Eketē is more than a journal; it is a lively space where scholarly conversations thrive. We invite you to engage with the thought-provoking articles in this volume. In the coauthored article “Economic decline and fragility of the Nigerian state, 2005-2022: Empirical investigation,” Dr Epiphania Uche Eziocha and Mary Chinyere Attah explore the link between economic decline indicators in Nigeria and the fragility of the nation. They emphasize the crucial role of human rights and the rule of law in shaping the country’s fragile state index, recommending a prioritized focus on these factors for the development of the Nigerian State.

Chukwu Iheanacho Egbe, Ibe Emmanuel Agwor, and Dr. John Ama Ibiam assess nutrient load in Unwana River, revealing elevated concentrations that exceed WHO drinking water standards, posing potential health risks. The article on “The Role of Surveyors in the Control of Earth Tremors” by Kelechi Ndunma Otah, Moses A. Emakoji, and Mary A. Okono explores the multifaceted role of surveyors in disaster risk management, emphasizing their expertise in land management, geodetic engineering, and the integration of surveying in remote sensing for effective disaster response.

Rosemary Okoronkwo and Anastasia N. Ike-Anayo highlight the significance of keyboarding as an essential 21st-century digital skill for undergraduates, emphasizing the necessity of incorporating keyboarding courses across disciplines and recommending well-equipped computer labs. In another study on leadership behaviors in tertiary institutions, Ignatius Amogechukwu Ufelle suggests the adoption of employee or relationship-oriented leadership styles for enhanced outcomes.

Dr. Christopher Ike Uhere scrutinizes the challenges and prospects of the 2023 elections in Nigeria, focusing on the transformative impact of the New Electoral Law, the pivotal role of youths and technology, and the importance of strict adherence to the law for the future progress of Nigeria.

Dr. Farouk Agha Uche challenges Eurocentric views on conflict resolution, presenting the Afikpo model as an alternative system of justice in South-East Nigeria, emphasizing a victim-centered approach, and recommending its study for potential adoption by government and private organizations.

These contributions highlight the significance of collaborative research and the transformative power of an interdisciplinary approach. *Eketē* celebrates learning and unity of minds in the dance of academic exploration. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all authors, reviewers, and editorial board members for their dedication, making this inaugural volume a resounding success. Moving forward, we remain committed to maintaining the highest standards of quality, integrity, and academic rigor, providing a vibrant space for scholarly exploration, open dialogue, and a culture of continuous learning and collaboration.

Happy Reading!

**Hilary A. Eke**

Eketē Editorial Board Secretary,  
30th August 2023