

A HISTORY ~~OF~~ CHRISTIANITY IN SOUTHERN KADUNA

AN ASSESSMENT OF CHRISTIAN MISSION WORK

FROM 1910-2009

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ABSTRACT

This essay is an attempt to uncover the History of Christianity in southern Kaduna. The reason for choosing this theme is based on the observation that more and more churches are being established or are springing everywhere in the area.

To achieve this, the researcher decided to look at the brief history of the entire state of Kaduna, before going to look at the history of Southern Kaduna and all the tribes and Languages found in the whole state and then in southern region of the state. I also go on to investigate how the missionary came and started the work and where they started. I look at the early mission stations, the first converts and the pioneers in these fields. I also went on to see the contributions of the missionary to the development of the area. The problems faced by these missionaries and many other things. To achieve these, the researcher consulted a lot of literature both in the libraries and outside, I also consulted some people on the field by interviewing them.

In conclusion, I look at what has been achieved as a result of mission work in southern Kaduna and what is happening presently in the area.

electricity, Banks, hospitals, Communications and so on. It has helped in developing or changing the spiritual lives of the people of the area from darkness to light from idolatry to the worship of the true living God. It also brought hope of salvation and eternal life for the lost: people of southern Kaduna.

Christianity has helped the region in redefining their political status, because as a result of educational enlightenment the people were able to react against the Hausa-Fulani rule and internal colonialism or domination. Through political consciousness and protests, which finally led to their independence from the Zaria Emirates. With education, the people are no longer neglected to the background as before; they are now contributing the highest Quota to the development of the state and even the nation at large. Even in overseas they are found to be very intelligent creative in whatever discipline they specialize in.

In future, I will like to examine or study the impact of Christianity on the spiritual life of the people of the area. And what are the possible ways that can be used in liberating the people from witch craft, cultism, rituals, stealing, abortion and other criminal and spiritual vices which have bedeviled the area recently.

5.2. CONCLUSION

We have seen what the Christian mission have done in southern Kaduna and we have seen their success and failures in the work. The work is still going on as more and more churches are now being established and more churches are coming into existence. This is because there is room for expansion as there is tolerance by the natives. The problems faced by the Christians before it was addressed by the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN). For example before there was a problem of marriage between Catholics and Protestants and other minor problems. Now the problem of

Muslims attending the same school with Christians has been solved. There are many structured and spiritual changes going as the areas are becoming urbanized.

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