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NIGERIAN BAPTISTS

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PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS

A DEGREE ESSAY

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CONCLUSION

The various dimension of Baptist participation have been examined alongside that of the christian in this essay. The primary focus is the building up of the Nigerian political community as the people of God with sense of righteousness, social justice probity and peaceful co-existence in a pluralistic country like Nigeria. We have taken into consideration that this focus may not be attainable unless a small group starts to inject such ideal of christianity into our body politics. This informed our picking of the Nigerian Baptists as a case study.

We must at this juncture know that christian participation in politics have not entirely failed the nation. Many christians have participated creditably. But our concern is that there is need for improvements especially at this time when there is a transition programme in focus. For all Nigerians, the challenge to work harder is a hard fact which we must face. God has a better ideal for us which we must strife to attain. We must know that the salvation of our country is in our own hand. We must remain here to salvage it together. We need a new realistic approach, a realistic expectations and a realistic attitude for our political processes. Within our present discussions, we have tried to set out modalities to advocate for a meaningful participation and political transformation. Such a political framework therefore need the support and commitment by all Baptists and christians. With God on our side and deep resolution to do the best for Nigeria, the will of God for our country will be attained.

For Baptists let us conclude here that two emphasis have been made. First is that our christian political witness must be firmly rooted in the individual life experiences of God through the transforming power of Christ and a political activism carried out in view of the cross of Jesus Christ. The second is that our political hope must be based on what God has accomplished in Jesus Christ. Within the context of the foregoing, our efforts as Baptists and christians must reflect the presence of the kingdom of God in Nigeria. Our words, actions, programmes must count as invitation to other christians to submit themselves to the Lordship of Christ and to others in the unbelieving community as channels of change of the socio political life of the country. The politics of Jesus is our model.