

Religion and Change Agenda in Nigeria

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The role of religion in human society has continued to engage the attention of both scholars and practitioners of religion on the one hand, the individual and the public on the other. Although the place of religion in social engineering has been constantly contested, religion and its resurgence in both positive and negative dimensions, have thrown back to the public sphere the need to interrogate further how religion can be managed for the betterment of the human society.

This has become imperative given the fact that religion theoretically and practically is known as an agent of change in the society religious abuse notwithstanding. Granted that change is a constant variable in society, religion has been identified as one key factor among others that instigates it.

Thus, in view of the Nigerian clamour for change whether in social, political, educational, cultural or family structures, patterns and institutions, we believe that religion has a role to play. The transformation or change mantra in Nigeria that has characterized political engineering and configuration has religious colouration to a greater or lesser extent. Consequently, this conference is poised to interrogate and evaluate the strings of religion as a possible veritable tool to advance the course of change agenda in Nigeria. It is in the light of this that, this association deems it fit to invite the general public particularly scholars and religious practitioners ranging from postgraduate students, scholars in universities, colleges of education, theological seminaries, Bible/Qur'an colleges and non-governmental organizations, religious functionaries and religious practitioners in the fields of sociology, ethics, politics, religion, philosophy, theology, and public life to other cognate disciplines to participate in the conference as a way of contributing to the sociological and ethical understanding of religion as a veritable tool to bring about the needed change in the Nigerian society.

Topics

1. Theoretical issues in religion and change agenda
2. Methodological patterns of change discourse in religions
3. Empirical evaluation of impact of religions on change agenda
4. Sociological conceptualizations of religions and change
5. Philosophical grounds for change
6. Legal issues in change, social change and religion
7. Ethical debate in religion and change agenda
8. History of change agenda in Nigeria
9. Causes and effects of change in Nigeria
10. Values, religion and social transformation
11. Religion, change and transformation mantra
12. Technology, religion and change agenda
13. Popular culture, religion and change
14. Civil society and change agenda
15. Politics, religion and change agenda
16. Language and change debate
17. Leadership, change and religion
18. Followership, change and religion
19. Town-gown concept of change agenda
20. Globalization and change agenda
21. Religious bodies and change
22. Religion, security and change

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