

Drawing: Veritable Channel to Sustainable National Development

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Abstract: *Environment is the whole sum of the external surrounding conditions within which an organism, a community or an object exists, Chima (2018). From the study, Nigeria in recent times seems a dumping site for terrorism, banditry including other security challenges across the country. The bestial-like situation impacts negatively on the general environment. Drawing may be considered an important phenomenon in the history and development of visual arts and architecture and provides a suitable playground for sustainable national development. Drawing as a medium of visual expression is highlighted to reflect its importance to humanity and advancement of knowledge, particularly, architecture, engineering and modern technology. Primary and secondary sources of data collation are used to achieve the objective of the study. The study reveals that drawing is a significant route to knowledge, innovative technology, creativity and others. These, however, took the study to conclusion and possible recommendations*

Keywords: *Drawing, sustainable National development*

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INTRODUCTION

Drawing may be regarded as an important phenomenon in the history and development of visual arts, building, Architecture, engineering, Estate management, Geography, urban and Regional planning including mathematics and others. Its relevance and efficacy to human and sustainable national development may not be over emphasized, particularly, for countries that are absolutely in dire need of sustainable national growth and development. However, despite the huge importance of drawing to the overall growth and development of man. Drawing, architecture, visual arts and others are neglected and relegated to the background in Nigeria, hence the study. However, the study observes that in Nigeria situation, No serious effort has been made and directed towards Drawing in terms of its creative professionalism and didactic functionalism in relation to the contemporary visual art situation in Nigeria Society as well as its relevance to the modern technology experience.

The study observes that misplacement of priority values, standard and discipline including brutality are some of the huge problems facing Nigeria today. There is no way in the word that Lack of values, standard and

discipline including brutality in Nigeria can produce sustainable growth and development in the society. These problems have further been magnified into bigger and problems. These problems seem incurable and may pave way for unfortunate but sad disintegration of Nigeria. Drastic measures appear inevitable at this point. Noting also, that Nigeria is at crossroad with the wave of insecurity, unemployment ethnic division, ritual/extra Judicial Killings, No respect for rule of law, education, human lives, as well as massive economic woes with huge mistrust among the people. These unfortunate but ugly trends impact negatively on the overall growth and development of the country.

In recent times, one discovers that drawing indeed architecture has not developed beyond thatched and brick houses, unlike the developed world where drawing, in fact, architecture may have grown to the level of glass, wood, installation, stones, rocks, including buildings beneath the seas, earth or soil as epitome of design technology, facilitated by drawing activities. These drawing, innovations in modern ecosystem or architecture attract tourism thereby developing the economies. The study observes that there is massive recycling of colonial

administrators' ideology and concepts without serious efforts to improve upon the existing ideals, ideas and policies from the colonial masters. In line with Aniakor (2012) view, the study is of the opinion that; *Western constitution of knowledge is always accepted as foundational to development issues in Africa, indeed, Nigeria, it's construction has global status; it's knowledge is an irreversible variant upon which all knowledge is based. The study shares the view that one of the problems facing Nigeria in recent times is the politics of postcoloniality, where Nigerians both at high and low echelon of social strata inadvertently surrender to the intellectual weight of western scientism, if not logocentrism as an ideal model for engaging issues of intellectualism and development of technology as well as creativity.*

Africa, indeed, Nigeria is carried away by western construction of knowledge and ideology. Much so, that anything, not connected to the western background is not accepted as proper or normal. The study is of the view that the west has no ontological claim to knowledge. However, one may consider the realistic option of developing and advancing new knowledge from one's immediate environment. One may be safe to suggest, that based on colonial and the politics of postcoloniality characterized by certificate oriented education policies, inadvertently imposed on the colonized by the colonial administrators, intellectually and ideological, by a systematic construction of new knowledge based on synthesis of collective ideas may be of high importance to Africa and Nigeria societies, because knowledge is power, knowledge may not be separated from a commodity of the academic marketplace.

Drawing, therefore, may be regarded as a systematic route to knowledge and could be projected to reflect its importance to humanity, particularly, architecture, visual arts, estate management, engineering technology and others. The primitive and prehistoric men explored drawing activities to the fullest advantage, resulting to the contemporary breakthrough in architecture and eco-design technology. All that is needed is to deconstruct and decolonize the western ideas and policies and find enabling environment for creativity and new knowledge to strive in Nigeria. Examples of drawing activities are as exemplified in figure 1-4.

There are different kinds of drawings available to humanity ranging from architectural drawings, engineering, visual arts, and other including animation. However, the study may not dwell much on the above, but on the importance of drawing as a veritable channel to sustainable development

DRAWING

Drawing may be seen as a two dimensional activity through which certain expressions could be achieved and accessed. It could also be seen as an idea, picture or images made by effective use of stories,

pencils, pen, pastel and other devices to achieve a desirable result on a two dimensional surface. Historically, drawing as an activity and a huge body of knowledge may not be completely divorced from effective existence of man, starting from prehistoric to modern times. Early men lived on caves and were predominantly hunters and developed certain survival strategies based on stone cracking and drawings on the cave walls. However, the study shares the view that these drawings on the cave walls by the prehistoric men are symbolic and performed some religious and social functions. Sometimes, one may be tempted to believe that the drawings were created within the context of religious and magical beliefs including social practices.

Drawing was part of their social process and served their purpose for survival and collective existence. It must be pointed out also that during the prehistoric times, drawing was sacred and was used in adorning their places of worships and Drawing was a strong medium of visual expression until the emergence of colonial and the politics of postcoloniality, when virtues, values, education metamorphosed into certificate oriented syndrome. So many virtues, value system, culture, history, traditional religion including drawing are relegated to the background and totally ignored in pursuit of western oriented values. Today, what is available is a huge and gigantic grammatical edifice constructed by non- grammatical experts which render the system unrealistic and counterproductive.

Drawing is an important component of visual arts, architecture, engineering, education and others which enhances creativity, imagination and technological breakthrough. It has an intrinsic and extrinsic perceptual appeal which has contributed to the growth and development of modern architecture, engineering and visual arts. As exemplified in figures

There are different drawing types as mentioned earlier, some of these drawing types include.

- I. Technical drawing
- II. Courtroom drawing
- III. Antomotive drawing
- IV. Sketch drawing
- V. Silhoutte drawing
- VI. Scientific illustrations
- VII. Cartoon drawing
- VIII. Figure drawing
- IX. Gesture drawing
- X. Line drawing
- XI. Perspective drawing
- XII. Photorealism and pointillism.

The study may not dwell so much on the full details of the above drawing types, but have to be mentioned for the purposes of clarity and comprehension.

Each of these drawing types contribute significantly, to the growth and development of man and society. Drawing is massively, a huge and monumental route to new knowledge and contributes significantly to the growth and development of innovative technology.

In the opinion of Nwogu (2015) citing Curtis (2006) the earliest discovery of drawings within the precincts of a cave, was in Altamira, Spain in 1879 by an archeologist (don Marcelino and his daughter Maria. The work was a drawing of a bison on the ceiling of the cave. He also cites another example of European cave drawing which is domiciled in the cave of Lascaux in France whose drawing represents Rhinoceros (Man and Bison) which dates 15,000 BCE. In view of this therefore, one may suggest that from Paleolithic, mesolithic and to the Neolithic eras, drawing is and was a significant dimension

on which the prehistoric age people lived and survived. In recent times, one may be safe to suggest that drawing as a body of knowledge could be utilized as a counter strategy to reshape, remold, remodel, strategize and rebuild a sustainable human and national development. The study, therefore situates drawing as inspirational metaphor that could inspire strategic remodeling of technology, economy, architecture, visual arts, estate management, urban and regional planning and others Examples.

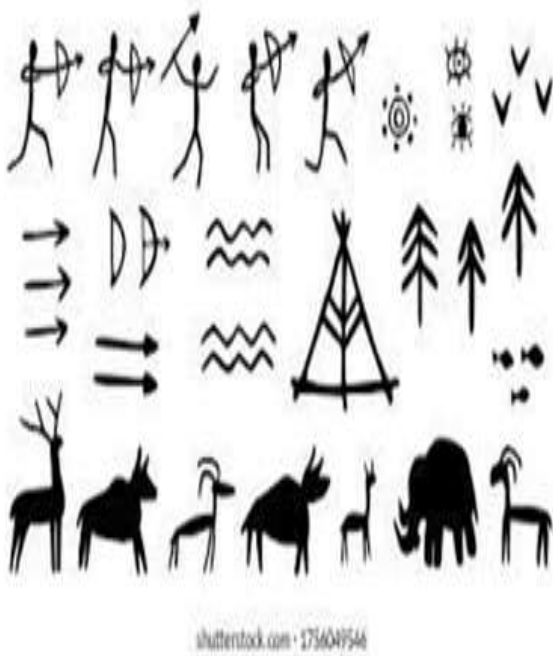


Figure 1: Cave Drawings, Artist–Unknown
Source: Opera news.com/ FB
Year: 2021



Figure 2: Cave Drawings, Artist–Unknown
Source: Opera news.com/ FB
Year: 2022

Drawing has significantly underscores Estate development and valuation, urban and regional planning Architecture, visual arts, as well as building technology in recent times. Lagos Abuja Port Harcourt, Enugu, Calabar, uyo, Abakalki examples. The study. Shares the view that; *from all the periods that have preceded this era, drawing offers most objective evidence one's has of man's power over the world drawing inspires imagination creativity and technological advancement which help in catalyzing job Nigeria is in dire need of today*

However, in support of these views, Daval (2010) points out that visual arts- drawing in contemporary times has embellished architecture which is exemplified by the quality and standard of architecture designs and structures including estate development and valuation

which are of national and international standards. However. Their celebrity now is such that it is easy to lose sight of what is really now and challenging in their achievements based on standard and quality of designs structures, buildings, planning including estate development and valuation all emanating from the help of effective drawing

The study is of the view that the present Nigeria Estate managers, urban and regional planners, Architects, Engineers, and visual artists have decisively extended the scope of drawing from what it was in the traditional and prehistoric eras to a more of dynamic and functional status.



Figure 3: Free Hand Drawing/Sketch, Artist–Unknown,
Source: Opera news.com/ FB
Year: 2021



Figure 4: Free Hand Drawing/Sketch, Artist–Unknown,
Source: Opera news.com/ FB..
Year: 2022

Drawing in no small way, has contributed to the development of human capacity thereby developing the society. One may submit also, that drawing has reshaped and remodeled visual arts, architecture, and engineering to a global status. These achievements are in terms of conceptual, formalistic as well as structural considerations of creative but functional designs in the wider society. The study shares the views that drawing is a huge platform on which visual arts, architecture, engineering urban and town planning, Estate management and valuation professionals could significantly align for effective contributions to sustainable development, as it may also encourage and influence competitive and healthy professionalism and professionalization in the core professional areas of environmental sciences.

One could agree with the study that from the achievements made through effective drawing and designs, the visual artists, architects including the estate managers, have created new images of man, renewed spatial setting and significance of public squares (structures), helped in sophisticated architectural designs and interiors, including facades and aesthetic motivated structures and buildings everywhere in the cities. However, through drawing, they have added glamour and fourth dimension to architecture, thereby, conveying a fresh perception of space and time.

In **conclusion**, drawing, if well managed, embraced, accommodated, projected in the forefront of creative dynasty, provides a suitable playground for worthy intellectualism and redemptive tool for advancement of human capacity as well as veritable channel to sustainable development.

Drawing appears silent but salient in capacity building, entrepreneurial as well as technological development



Figure 5: Free Hand Drawing/Sketch, Artist–Unknown,
Source: Opera news.com/ FB.
Year: 2021



Figure 6: Free Hand Drawing/Sketch, Artist–Unknown,
Source: Opera news.com/ FB.
Year: 2022



Figure 7: Free Hand Drawing/Design, Artist – Nnaji Henry (Dunk),
year: 2010

Recommendations

The study recommends that drawing as a discipline should be encouraged and included in school curricular from primary to tertiary education.

Drawing could be taken as a tool for understanding the world, and also a technique for transforming the world, therefore, should be encouraged.

Ikwuegbu (2010) supports the view that sustainable development may be achieved through creativity and imagination which are significant aspects of drawing.

Estate managers, Urban and regional planners, architects, engineers, visual artists and others must be encouraged to engage in free hand drawing as this will help develop them intellectually and professionally.

Nigeria education system should be remodeled and restructured to reflect vitality and importance of drawing as a veritable channel to sustainable creativity, imagination, human capacity, intellectual as well as national development.

Extraordinary rendition of Western values must be rejected and deported to pave way for a sustainable national value system, standard, discipline and indigenous technology which could be achieved through drawing activities. The history has to be rewritten to accommodate the new sought after knowledge and sustainable development. The right values and virtues should be vigorously pursued.

Nigeria society must adopt critical thinking approach to solving problems of global importance, paying priority attention to estate management, architecture, drawings, urban and regional planning, ecological research including ecosystem and eco-design policies to achieve a dependable solution to numerous problems facing the society.

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