Historical development of newspapers in Nigeria: a reflection on the present day newspaper industry

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In this presentation:

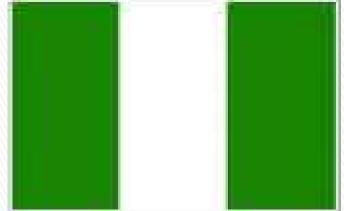
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- Newspapers today: a reflection of the past
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Introduction: My motivation

- To intimate conference participants with the development of newspapers in Nigeria as this may be a different experience to how journalism developed in New Zealand
- Newspaper development in Nigeria marked the development of journalism in the country.
- It is likely to give a different dimension into journalism scholarship beyond the framework of New Zealand.

Nigeria at a glance





2015: 183,523,432: 7th in the world

- > The most populous nation in Africa
- The most populous black nation in the world
- > 2.5% of the world population
- > 20% of the African population
- Colonised by the Britain
- Became independent in 1960
- Operates democratic system
- Operates capitalism economy
- Largest economy in Africa

The map and flag of Nigeria

Facts about Nigeria

Newspapers in Nigeria: The story



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Rev. Henry Townsend (1815 - 1886)

The first newspaper in Nigeria and Olumo Rock Abeokuta Nigeria

The phases of newspaper development

Phases of development	Years	Newspapers
The missionary phase: (By foreign Christians) The blank period	1859-1900 1867-1880	 Iwe Iroyin Uwana Efik Obupong Efik Anglon African The Lagos Times
Nationalist phase: (By Nigerian elites to advance) the course of national independence	1900-1960	 The Nigerian Chronicle The Nigerian Pioneer The West African Pilot Nigerian Daily Times The Nigerian Tribune
Post-Independent phase: (By Nigerian politicians and business class)	1960 till date	 The Morning Post Daily Sketch Nigerian Outlook New Nigeria The Nigerian Tribune The Punch Newspaper

Prominent figures in newspaper development in Nigeria

 Chief Obafemi Awolowo





Sir Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe



A journalist, publisher, lawyer and politician. He became the Premier of the old western region in1952

A journalist, publisher and politician. He became the first President of Nigeria in1963

Newspapers in the past

- An instrument of evangelism
- A means of literacy promotion
- A strong nationalist weapon and political apparatus
- A business enterprise
- Dominated by private individuals
- Most newspapers were concentrated in Lagos southwestern Nigeria

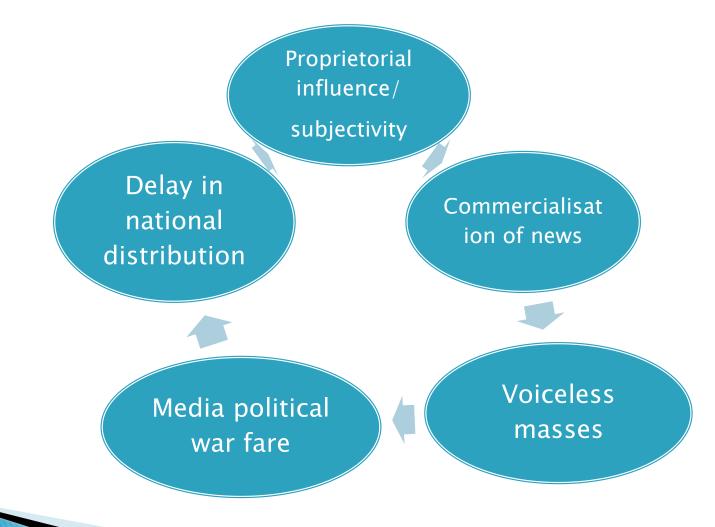
Unification of the roles of an editor and a publisher

Newspapers today in Nigeria

- Newspapers in Nigeria are published in tabloid format
- About 95 percent of Nigerian newspapers are published in Lagos, south-western Nigeria
- There are over 150 newspapers in Nigeria, most of which are regional and local. But there are over 20 national dailies in Nigeria
- Nigerian newspapers are dominated by private ownership
- They are very commercial in orientation and practice (business enterprise)

Most newspapers are vibrant political mouthpiece

Newspapers landscape and some implications



Thank you for your attention!



