

EXPOSITION OF ARCHITECTURAL SITES AND MONUMENTS AS PEARL OF TOURISM IN BAUCHI STATE, NIGERIA

***Waziri, S. Gumau**

Osunkunle Abdulmageed

*Department of Architectural Technology
Federal Polytechnic Bauchi, Bauchi State, Nigeria*

**E-mail: sanusiwaziri@rocketmail.com*

ABSTRACT

Nigeria is blessed with both human and natural resources. This review work exposes the various architectural sites and monuments in Bauchi state; Nigeria. Bauchi state is home to the Yankari Game Reserve, rock paintings at Geji and Shira, the state museum and among others. The study area under exposition further discusses tourism potential, architecture, population growth, preservation of cultural heritage and immense contribution to nation building. Hence, the contribution of this work can never be over emphasized as the results and recommendations are well relevant to professionals, tourists and future possibilities of explorations in the region.

Keywords: Exposition, architecture, tourism, monuments, professionals

INTRODUCTION

The economic melt down being experienced globally is forcing Government and private sector to look inward for more alternative source of generating revenue for the improvement of the life of its citizens. So, it is our ardent believe if the exposition of architectural sites and monuments is packaged well, it will boost the tourism industry of Bauchi State and generate more revenue. So, this paper will discuss the epitomic highlight on the geographical location of Bauchi state and its history, Architectural sites and monuments and finally conclude by a way of recommendation on the need to preserve these vital historic heritages. Exposition of architectural sites and monuments of Bauchi State as a pearl of tourism is essentially concerned with the turning out of an event at which people, businesses etc. show and sell their goods (exposition) as defined by Hornby (2006).

Tourism is one of the major targets of achieving this noble objective, so it is ardent belief that tourist to Bauchi State will find this delightfully missive handy in providing vital information on the variety of attraction and services patterning Architectural sites and monument. Attoe (1979) states that Architectural sites and monuments are developed outward from within, in harmony with the condition of its being, as construction occurs within the nature of materials. Elements of the building are integral organic means and reflect time, place and purpose. The proper scenario of the topic under discussion will be understood the more by studying the epitomic synergy of the geographical and historical background of Bauchi State in order to establish the basic symbiotic need of environmental friendly designs and what Architectre has to accomplished in the environment so as to acquire the basic procedure of what need to be done in order to safeguard our Architectural sites and

monuments (Farmer 1996). This paper is aimed at achieving the followings objectives: Exposition of Architectural Sites and Monuments of Bauchi state so as to serve as another source of revenue generation to the state through tourist activities; Preservation of this heritage for historical reason for generations to come.

METHODOLOGY

According to BASGD (2006) Bauchi State was created in 1976 from the then North Eastern State of Nigeria. According to the 2006 Census, the State has a population of four million, six hundred and seventy six thousand four hundred and sixty five (4,676,465). Bauchi State span two distinctive vegetation zones, namely the Sudan and Sahel Savannah. Since its creation in 1976 to date, the State has had fourteen (14) Chief Executive made up of ten Military Governors and four Civilian Governors. The people of Bauchi State are largely heterogeneous consisting of Hausa, Fulani, Sayawa, Zulawa, Jarawa, Badawa, etc. a total of not less than 55 ethnic groups. The most widely spoken languages are Hausa, Fulani and English. The State is predominantly Islamic but Christianity is widely practiced in some areas. The major occupation of the people is farming, Arts and Crafts. The design of the study is literature review. Site visitation and verbal interviews were also employed in order to arrive at desired positive result of Qualitative Analysis Technique in exposing and preserving our Architectural Sites and Monuments.

According to BASGD (2006) Bauchi State lies between 9.0° and 12.3° north of the equator, and 8.5° and 11° east of the Greenwich meridian. The state is bordered by eight States, Kano, Jigawa, Plateau to the West; Adamawa, Taraba, Yobe and Gombe to the North East; and Kaduna to the North West. The state covers a total land area of 549,260 Sq kilometers, about 5.3% of Nigeria's total land mass. The facts and additional information acquired through random sampling, investigations, and related literature reviews are carefully brought together using the Qualitative analysis technique. This analysis is based on sorting out by using Compare (general) and Contrast (specific views) of some raised issues as tabulated on Table II.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Culture and festivals: As a pre-dominantly Muslim State, religious festival is prominent and colourful and celebrated yearly. They are Ei-del Kabir and Eid-el fitr. They normally feature traditional Durbar. At present, the young and the old look forward to the Durbar gathering and once the time comes, a tourist will find it exciting and a worthwhile experience. Table 1 captures the name of festival, tribe, local government areas and period in which the festivity is carried out. This is meant to give a tourist a wider understanding of the concept of Architectural sites and monuments and their attributes which include the following key factor, shelter, arrangement and order of space and exposition of socio-cultural and economic aspiration of the people in an aesthetic and ethical manner as highlighted by (Mas'ud, 2006). Table 2 strategically shows how architectural, cultural, tourist and future possibilities based on Table, Maps, and Plates presented can be viewed for analysis. The result generated based on these factors are highly relevant, timely, and can be improved upon.

Architectural Sites and Monuments: Bauchi State has provided for visitors across the globe, America, Europe, Asia and beyond a fascinating haven of tourism since 1963 in form of Architectural sites and Monuments. This has given Bauchi State an enviable position and image as the centre stage and one of the fastest growing tourist havens in Africa and indeed the world. Below is the epitomic exposition of Architectural sites and Monuments which gives a true reflection of Fadamiro (1995) on landscape design input. The following plates show the various new and old Architectural sites in Bauchi State.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Since preservation of Architectural sites and Monuments will enhance the revenue base of Bauchi State by attracting tourist and preserving the historical heritage of the State, then there has to be a collaborative efforts by Government and non-Government organization in order to safe guard the major parameters raised in this study. In order to achieve a desired goal of conserving our architectural sites and monuments, all professionals in the building industry, tourism industry have to engage in massive awareness through public lectures, workshops, symposium in both print and electronic media on the need to conserve our architectural sites and monuments.

Climatologist, Ecologist and other Environmental experts have to be funded adequately in order to embark on research that will yield positive result and aid to conserve the heritage of our architectural sites and monuments especially as regard to climate change which has become a global issue. Enactment of legislation and enforcing them by constituted authority is of paramount important as far as the issues of oil exploration within the region are concerned.

Table 1: A Directory of Cultural Festivals in Bauchi State as documented

Name of festival	Tribe	L GA	Period
Rafuwa Cultural Festival	Pa'awa	Ningi	January
Zul Cultural Festival	Zulawa	Toro	January - April
Su (Fishing Festival)	Hauwawa	Shira	January
Afizere Cultural Festival	Jarawa	Toro	January - March
Fauwala Cultural Festival	Gumlawa	Alkaleri	March - April
Sharewa Cultural Festival	Kare-Kare	Darazo	August - September
Leng-la-Gwok	Jarawa	Tafawa Balewa	September
Shallang	Kare-Kare	Jama'are	September
Su (Fishing Festival)	Kare-Kare	Misau	September
Limzar Cultural Festival	Sayawa	Bogoro, T.Balewa	October
Makwi Cultural Festival	Kare-Kare	Dambam	December/January
Amayan Cultural Festival	Badawa	Zaki	December/January
Christmas Festival	Christians	AOS	25th December
Gerawa Cultural Festival	Gerawa	Bauchi	Occasional
Gunjir Cultural Festival	Zulawa	Bauchi	Occasional
Kurya	Hausawa	Ningi	Occasional
Ribina Cultural festival (Waza)	Ribinawa	Toro	Occasional
Sallah Festival	Muslims	AOS	Islamic Calendar
Ngat-Zar-Bajar	Bajar	Dass	Every five years

Source: Mohammed A.Y. Commissioner for Tourism and Culture (2004)

Table 2: Table showing the Qualitative Analysis of raised issues.

Raised Issues	Table	Contrast	Plates	Compare
Architectural Impacts	Some festivals are related typical housing pattern.	Nearness to some map features like rocks, river, influenced architecture.	Photograph shows typical Islamic and Northern architecture.	Architectural influence in festivals, geographical location and housing.
History and Culture	Routine festivals have been preserved.	There is unity in diversity.	Northern history and culture exhibited.	Preservation of Northern history and culture.
Tourist Rating Expected	Very relevant and interesting.	Strategically located and accessed.	Conceptual and unique pictures.	Highly rated in terms of uniqueness.
Future Possibilities	New discoveries and explorations.	More facilities develop sites.	Future expansion and modernization.	Discoveries, facilities and future expansion.



Fig 1: Location map of Bauchi State.

Source: The Pearl of Tourism in the Nigerian Sun. Vol. 001-2004

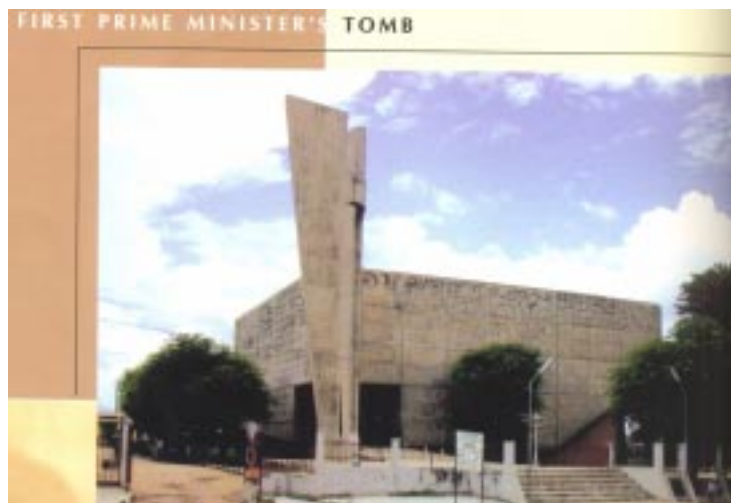


Fig. 2: Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Tomb.

Source: The Pearl of Tourism in the Nigerian Sun. Vol. 001-2004



Fig. 3: Emir of Bauchi's Palace.

Source: The Pearl of Tourism in the Nigerian Sun. Vol. 001-2004



Fig. 4: First European Settlement at Gadau.

Source: The Pearl of Tourism in the Nigerian Sun. Vol. 001-2004



Fig. 5: Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Memorial Stadium.

Source: The Pearl of Tourism in the Nigerian Sun. Vol. 001-2004

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