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APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CARETAKER COMMITTEES: AN ABERRATION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION IN NIGERIA

P. O. Oviasuyi & Lawrence Isiraojie,

Department Of Public Administration
Faculty Of Management Sciences
Ambrose Alli University
P. M. B. 14, Ekpoma

Abstract

The third tier of government which is closest to the grassroots has been hijacked and prevented from meeting up with its primary and major obligations. This paper examined the brief history of Caretaker Committees in Nigeria, as well as the causes/reasons for same. Also, the implication of the continued use of Caretaker Committees in Local Government Administration was identified. The paper recommends among others that the 8th National Assembly should as a matter of urgency legislate on granting full autonomy to the LGAs. The paper concludes that unless democratically elected individuals are allowed to run the affairs of LGAs, ineffectiveness, inefficiency, lack of popular participation by the local dwellers, electoral disenfranchisement, corruption, lack of accountability, transparency, developmental projects will continue to elude the third tier of government in Nigeria.

KEY WORDS: Local Government, Caretaker, Governance, Democracy