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A COURSE BOOK
OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES

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Edited by O.A.C. Anigbo

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INTRODUCTION:

The G.S. 103 Course Book directs the student along some paths leading to the home or the Citadel of the social sciences. It marks the streets and some landmarks in that city but hardly exhibits its treasures or cobwebs. It would therefore be self-deception to read the Book and claim a masterly knowledge of the Social Sciences. But, the ideal student can use it effectively for further incursion in that sea of fish where, whoever cares to deep in can take a catch. It is therefore not just recommended. It is a Book for the course.

The arrangement into parts provides a general framework for the reader. The opening chapter is an information on what the student should know about this country and the University of Nigeria. Part one touches on the Social Sciences generally and justifies the label. Part two which is on development is designed to show that society is dynamic. Part three captioned "Government" indicates the flow of direction between levels or human groups. Part four embodies some social elements influencing the behaviour of individuals and groups in their respective societies.

O.A.C. Anigbo
Editor.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The conceptualisation of the ideals of the Programme of General Studies in the production of the man power needs for the nation inspired the Governing Council of the University of Nigeria to give the Programme a befitting accommodation. The result is the new General Studies Building, which would for a long time to come solve the problem of space for the Division.

The new General Studies Building at the University of Nigeria is history writ large. It is a challenge to the staff of the four Units of the Division of General Studies who must now make all the efforts to translate into action the dreams of history by solving the other problems which have also characterised the General Studies Programme: the problem of relevancy and up-to-date coverage and effective communication of the contents of the programme. Various techniques have been applied to achieve this: Group lectures and handouts; Book of Readings and Seminars. These have their limitations and efforts towards the better are not relaxed.

The Social Science Course Book is a contribution. It is concise, current and up-to-date. But it draws largely from existing sources some of which are hereby acknowledged. Chapter one draws from a handout from the "Information and Public Relations Unit, Registrar Department, University of Nigeria, issued on Thursday, September 8, 1988. Chapter two in its original form was a lecture by Dr. C. Ebo. Chapters four, nine, ten, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, nineteen and twenty written by M. Ogbonna, Ada Mere, Dr. Eteng, T.U. Nwala, E.C. Amucheazi, H.A. Asobie, U.I. Ukwu and Emeka Okpara respectively draw from their contributions to Readings in Social Sciences: Issues in National Development edited by E.C. Amucheazi.

I seize this opportunity to thank the following contributors for their tasking and stimulating write-ups on their respective topics. They are Dr. Iffih, B.N., Senior Lecturer in Sociology/Anthropology, Rev. Fr. (Dr) Ekwunife A., Lecturer in Religion, Mr. Anyikwa, P.O., Lecturer, Division of General Studies, Mrs. Uzuegbunam, A.O., Lecturer, Division of General Studies, Mrs. Okeke, V.I., Lecturer, Division of General Studies,

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G.S. 103 (The Social Sciences)

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PART I

THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

CHAPTER ONE

FACTS WORTH NOTING

by O.A.C Anigbo

The University of Nigeria had its origin in the report of the International Panel on the Economic Development of Nigeria. The report, in discussing the educational situation, stated that Nigeria needed more college graduates and a wide range of University courses than existed at the time. It also recommended in the order that the foundation of Nigerian leadership shall be laid by the establishment of a full fledged University should be established in the Eastern Region without further delay. Such a University should not only be cultural, according to the classical concept of Universities, but should also be "vocational in its objective and Nigerian in its content."

The government of Eastern Region of Nigeria translated the recommendations into law in May, 1955. To implement this law, however, it took another five years of thought and discussions by several Nigerian leaders inspired particularly by the then Premier of Eastern Region — Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe. With independence and a foreign policy of non-alignment, it became easier for Nigeria to shop for ideas anywhere and to chart its own course. Thereby, the University was conceived as a result of Nigerian initiative... based upon the concept of service to problems and needs of Nigeria."

INAUGURATION:

The University of Nigeria was formally opened on **October 7, 1960**, as the climax to the Nigerian independence celebrations in the Eastern Region. Her Royal Highness, Princess Alexandra of Kent, representing Queen Elizabeth II of Britain at the Nigerian Independence celebrations, performed the opening ceremonies and laid the foundation stone of one of the University's early buildings.

CAMPUSES:

The main campus of the University is located on 505 hectares of nilly savanna in the town of Nsukka, about 80 kilometres north of Enugu.

PROGRAMMES:

One of the most attractive features of the programme of studies of the University of Nigeria is the General Studies Programme. The Division of General Studies is a Service Unit of the teaching arm of the University. It deals

with every aspect of knowledge — speculative and practical all geared towards producing a graduate who would not feign total ignorance of the doings of man.

As a service Unit, it is distinct from the Departments of the University. But it is also an integral part of the University because no student admitted to the University of Nigeria for its undergraduate programmes can graduate without being exposed to at least the fundamentals of one of the Units in the Division and must obtain at least a pass in the Unit at the examination held to mark the end of the programme.

Knowledge is power and not to acquaint oneself with the knowledge-bottled in the General Studies programme makes the culprit less powerful. There are four G.S. Courses: The G.S. 101, the Use of English, The G.S. 103, The Social Sciences, the G.S. 105, Natural Sciences and The G.S. 207, Humanities.

The G.S. 103 is a programme designed to introduce student majors in the sciences and other technically oriented disciplines to the basic ideas and techniques in the social sciences.

The scope of the course embraces the disciplines of Economics, Political Sciences, Psychology, Human Geography, Communication System and other related disciplines. These areas together circumscribe the core of the human sciences. They offer students whose areas are far removed from the core of those disciplines, a basic grounding in the concepts and process which are necessary for understanding the organization and functioning of human societies and forms that shape human behaviour within them.

G.S. 103 discusses the Igbo and the social processes. Special notes are taken of the variations in their culture especially the peculiarities of the Northern sub-culture — the home base of the main campus of the University of Nigeria.

NIGERIA:

The name Nigeria was applied to the whole territory as it is today in 1914 by Lord Lugard, the first Governor of the country but the history goes much further back than that. There were other names which referred to parts of the country and suggestive of definite historical experiences, levels of civilization and achievement. These are *Soudan* or *Nigrilia*, *Haussa States*, *Noro Empire*, *Niger Empire*.

IMPORTANT LANDMARKS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NIGERIA:
Lagos became a Crown Colony in 1862. In 1885, the British Government declared a Protectorate over the coast between Lagos and Rio del Rey. It was the banks of the Niger to its confluence with the Benue. In 1889, Frederick

Nigeria became a Protectorate of the Crown. In 1900: Nigeria was in three separate pieces: The Colony of Lagos, the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria and the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria. 1914 the Amalgamation and the application of the name Nigeria to the whole country. 1922: Legislative council was set up in Lagos to legislate for the Colony and the Southern Province. The council gave opportunity to some Southern intelligentsia to voice out their opinions against the colonial administration. For the North, the British officials sounded their opinions through meetings held annually with their Emirs and Chiefs. 1945: Revision of the 1922 constitution was put forward by the Governor, Sir Arthur Richards. In 1947, the Richards Constitution came into being. The constitution was basically unitary and concentrated power in the government at Lagos. In 1948: Sir John Macpherson replaced Arthur Richards as Governor. The ground became fertile for nationalism. In 1960: Nigeria became a new nation and with her independence came also the hope for greater unity or the fear of disintegration.

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