

# Comparative Analysis of Slums in Selected Cities of Osun State.

Adegbike Bashiru Adebisi<sup>1</sup> & Akinloye Kehinde Francis<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of History, University of Ilesa, Osun State

<sup>2</sup>Department of Geography, University of Ilesa, Ilesa Osun State

Kehinde\_akinloye@unilesa.edu.ng. 08034658113

**Abstract:** *The slum that were formed across Nigeria were not the same, they differ not only in origin but also in the physical outlook, size, characteristics and many more important level of deprivation. Also, improved water sanitation, sufficient living space, durable housing and secured tenure are used to identify and measure slum. All this ascertains on slum and associated parameters are expected to be subjected to assessment at a regular interval since slumification is a continuous process. It is on this note that this paper focuses on comparative analysis of slum in three selected cities. A total of 300 questionnaires were drawn from slum residents and city planners. Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used to analyze the data. The research work reveals the precarious situation of shelter, safe water situation, sanitation and living space. Using empirical and physical evidences. The picture is crystal clear that the slum areas in the cities show relationship not differences. Hence, the need for better accessibility to improved housing, safe water, tenure security, better infrastructures, urban services as well as provision of income generating activities for slum residents and environmental management was suggested to ameliorate the appalling condition of the slum dwellers in the cities*

**Keywords:** Slumification, living space, durable housing and secured tenure

## INTRODUCTION

The primary attraction of cities in modern Africa is that they offer hopes of tremendous employment opportunities as well as the glamour of a new and more exciting way of life. These expectations often lead many people to migrate from rural areas to the cities. This has met an increasing wide range in their size distribution, from the small town to the multi million city. Urbanization has several advantages at the same time, it also brings a number of challenges which stem from rural population influx into cities to find new lease of life. Cities are seriously pulling able body rural dwellers without been ready to accommodate them. According to Mabogunje, 1976 a prominent feature of most Africa Cities is the large proportion of slum or semi-slum housing conditions. The housing problem is logical extension of the rapid rate of growth of the urban population and the high level of unemployment. This provided by staying with relations in the cheap housing, characteristics of the low income residential areas of Africa cities. The result is an appalling and chaotic condition of overcrowding and high rate of deterioration of the existing housing supply resulting from overuse. The position is made more precarious by the low level of amenities available in most of these house. Most of them have piped water inside or outside the dwelling, no flush toilet, no electricity and sometimes no kitchen, very few of the cities have a central sewage system.

In Nigeria, the process of slumification accelerated after world-war II, the time coincides with era of oil discovery when the able bodied rural dwellers were pulled by the city life. The slums that were formed across the country were not the same, they differ not only in the origin, but also in the physical outlook. They were not also restricted to any particular section of our cities but also spread across the country. NISTER(2002) claimed that the slum in colonial headquarters are situated at the central areas of the cities with houses compacted, they lack planning and are highly polluted, typical examples are the slum areas in Benin and Ibadan, but Slum in Enugu is due to extension of city into the rural villages, the house were built with local materials in the same vain, slum in Kano are worst around major commercial areas, local materials (grasses) were used to construct shops, but also double as residential houses(Okoye 1990, Salau 2012).

## Statement of Problem:

The slum environment is the perfect breeding ground for a wide range of social problems. High unemployment often causes men to stay around the home growing increasingly frustrated with their pathetic situation and the worsening poverty. Cramped conditions mean that there is nowhere to go when tension rises, a factor that regularly lead to domestic violence. Sometimes the situation goes to the other homes/hired by the prospect of oblivion through alcohol or drug abuse. Once people develop such problems the prospect of finding work diminish. They fall deeper into poverty and the cycle continues. Its also increases urban vulnerability to all forms of social evil that breed in the slum. Slum and squatter settlements create a zone of terror and dread for the city people where almost all evils are found. (Asad, 2010). It also negates the expected neat, decent and will plan cities. It creates problem of sanitation civic amenities, their dweller brake pipe carrying water, they tap electricity illegally. The slum dwellers also constitute the bulk of illiterate, they also find it difficult to educate themselves and offspring. Therefore increasing the number of illiteracy level in the country.

Many studies have examined slum related issues but enough attention has not been given to comparative analysis of slums. Also, most of the existing studies concentrated on the major cities in Nigeria with the total neglect of medium ones. In addition, these studies has failed to investigate the historical attachment that residents has to the slum area in order to fill this gap in the literature, this study therefore compare slums in selected cities of Osun State.

### **Justification**

This study provide useful information on factors responsible for slum formation. This study also gives the formation of virile environmental strategy and implementation that can be of help to safeguard further slum development in the area. It also provide information on condition of housing and available infrastructural facilities in the areas which will guide the intervention of stakeholders in the implementation of relevant planning tool to mitigate the menace in the study areas and other areas of similar characteristics. Moreover, this study reveal the possible consequences of slum on dwellers and provide avenue to educate them on means to prevent the menace.

### **Objectives of the Study**

#### **Study Aim:**

The main aim of this study is to comparatively analyse slums in Osogbo, Ile-Ife and Ilesa in Osun State southwestern Nigeria with a view to providing a baseline data for urban planning in the study area and other area of similar characteristics.

The specific objectives study are to;

- i. investigate the residents historical attachment to slum areas.
- ii. compare the slum in the three selected cities .
- iii. explain factors responsible for slum formation in the area.

### **Literature Review**

The most striking characteristics of African cities is their capacity for rapid growth. This has meant an increasingly wide range in their size distribution, from the small town to the multi-million city. Hence, one of the primary attractions of cities in modern Africa is that they offer hopes of tremendous employment opportunities as well as the glamour of a new and more exciting way of life. These expectations often many people to migrate from rural areas to the cities (Mabogunje, 1976).

Rapid urbanization therefore, has several advantages but also brings a number of challenges many of which stem from rural population influx into cities to find new lease of ;life (Mtungila, 2016). Cities, the magnets of hope are seriously pulling able body rural dwellers without been ready to accommodate them. The presence of these migrants creates new problems in the cities or aggravates existing ones (Mabogunje 1976). The consequences of this, among others includes inadequate housing, urban poverty, food shortage, insecure tenure, decay in basic amenities, increased crime, overcrowding, high mortality rate, inequality and development of informal settlements. According to United Nation Habitat Report (2012), by 2030, an estimated 5 billion people will live in cities about 2 billion of them will live in slum, primarily in Africa and Asia. Lacking access to clean drinking water and working toilet surrounded by desperation and crime. A recent report says 327 million people lives in slum in a quarter of common wealth countries in (11 Africa, 2 in Asia and 1 in pacific) one or two out of three urban dwellers live in slum and many of these countries are urbanizing rapidly, (Ramesh, 2011).

The slum are huge, according to Davis (1972). The author of “planet of slum” 80% of Nigerians urban population or some 120 million people live in slum, the comparable number in India are 56% and 158.5 million many of these slum dwellers are squatter lacking legal right to the property they occupy. The housing problem is a logical extension of the rapid rate of growth of the urban population and the high level of unemployment. For thousands of immigrants flocking to the cities, shelter is always the major initial requirement. This is provided by staying with relations in the cheap housing, characteristics of the low income residential areas in African cities. The result is an appalling and chaotic condition of overcrowding and a high rate of deterioration of the existing housing supply resulting from overuse. The position is made more precarious by the low level of amenities available in most of these houses. Most of them have no piped water inside or outside the dwelling, no flush toilet, no electricity and sometimes no kitchen, very few of the cities have a central sewage system. In such circumstances, a prominent feature of most African cities is the large proportion of slum or semi-slum housing conditions. (Mabogunje, 1976).

The outlook and physical environment of slum in Nigeria differ and they suffer lack in these areas at various degrees according to a United Nations (Habitat Report, 2012).

- Poor structural quality and durable housing
- Poor access to portable water
- Sufficient living space
- Lack of adequate sanitation and
- Security of tenure.

Therefore, the picture that conjures up in our minds, when we talk about slum in Nigeria is that of a dirty, unhygienic cluster and impoverished shanties with lines of people crowding around a solitary municipal water tap, bowling babies literally left on street corners to fend for themselves and endless cries and found voices emanating from various corners. Most of them are engaged in living out their daily lives, always below the poverty line, by working as construction laborers, domestic helps beggars.

**Research Methodology**

The researches undertook a reconnaissance survey and appraised critically the environment of the study areas. The researcher made use of careful and unbiased field observation before and during data collection, structured question was carefully design, sets of questions to elicit the free opinions of the respondents i.e the slum dwellers in the cities, their neighbors and other stakeholders. Closed ended type of questionnaire was adopted with optional responses out of which the respondents are expected to choose. In addition oral interview was conducted. The researcher met the respondents one and one to sample their individual opinions on the matter under consideration, their free opinions were recorded. Secondary data sources were also used. These are previous research works and literature that have been compiled by various researchers in related fields and were consulted to buttress and compare the findings from this study.

Since there is no official map and data on the slum areas in the study areas and because the process of “slum formation” is a continuous one and that all slum areas in the cities are not at the same degree of slumification. The researchers therefore adopted five indices of slum according to UN Habitat definition of slum(2011). These are durable housing, sufficient living space, access to portable water, good sanitation and security tenure. Each of these indexes was assessed on a weighted index score of maximum of 10. Slum was then ranked in the basis of total weighted average score. Slum with least score in each of the cities which indicated worst condition was selected to form sample for the study

**Data Analysis and Discussion of Findings**

4.1 Socio - Economic Characteristics of the Respondents

The socio -economic characteristics of slum dwellers were analyzed under age, gender, marital status, educational level, average monthly income and occupation.

4.1: Age Distribution of the Respondent

Age (yrs)	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Less than 18	7	2.6	2.6
19-36	92	34.6	37.2
37-54	96	36.1	73.3
Above 55	71	26.7	100.0

To present the particular socio - economic characteristics in the study area, the study employed the age distribution of dependent population and active population as adopted by demographers and social statistician. The grouping starts from ages below 18 years, active age (18-35, 37-54 years) and 55 years and above. The age bracket of below 18 years and above 55 years forms the independent age groups while the active group form dependent age group.

Nevertheless 71.1% of households of slum areas sampled fall within the working, active or independent age group of between 19-36 years (34.6%) and 37-55 years (36.1%). It was also revealed that 26.7% of the respondents are above 55 years who are mostly dependents; It was revealed that this group of slum dwellers has lost greater part of their physical strength as a result to their exposure to energy sapping works at their early years. Only 2.6% of households are headed by teenagers, they are secondary school students whose parents are in suburb villages but they are in cities for better secondary education.

**Selected Slums and Their Associated Stream**

Osogbo		Ile-ife		Ilesa	
Slum	Stream	Slum	Stream	Slum	Stream
Sabo	Okooko	Ilare	Omiogbe	Paadi area	Ogburu
Obate	Obate	Oja ife	Omiogbe	Idasa Onikankan	Adeti
Oluode	Oleyo	Ayetoro	Omi oroto	Ikoti	Oora and Adeti

Almost all worst slum statistically selected at core city centered (CBD) therefore; they are centers of high population concentration, where human activities are on the high side, with its attendant challenges. The slum environment of the study area has certain peculiarity which are also common factors to the slums selected.

**Relief**

The relief of the slum is characterized by undulating low land with river valleys evident by the streams. Erosion flowing through these lowlands to the stream pass through the living spaces of the slums and their food are deposited along so, they create erosional features degrading the environment, the wash gradually the foundation of already old houses leading to collapse buildings and worsening the precarious situations

**Streams**

Streams are common features in all the worst slum areas statistically selected for the study which due to high rainfall overflow their banks and resulted in flooding destroying lives and properties in some part of slum areas especially Gbonmi (sabo) Osogbo, omi - ogbe (ayetoro/ajamopo), Ile - Ife

**Slum Area and Associated Market**

Osogbo		Ile-ife		Ilesa	
Slum	Market	Slum	Market	Slum	Market
Sabo	Sabo	Ilare	Oja tuntun	Paadi	Ereja
Oluode	Oluode	Oja ife	Oja ife	Idasa onikankan	Adeti
Obate	Oja oba	Ayetoro ajamopo	Oja ife	Ikoti	Atakunmosa

**I. commercial nature of the slum**

Since the slums are located at around central business district (CBD) of the cities. Garbage being generated on daily basis are high and the places are not covered by the cities sanitation services hence, the environment are not well kept. Pollution from all sources ensures: for example, traffic, industrial and domestic waste.

II. Slum areas selected serves as the residents of migrants who are majorly from northern part of the country (Hausa) for example, sabo ile - ife and Osogbo so is idasa - onikankan, Ilesa. Many of these migrants are Muslims and as a result of Islamic way of worship, more water is demanded and used, as a matter of fact, the central mosques of the cities are located within these worst slums: at Osogbo, it located at Oja - Oba at Ilesa, its rightly situated at Ereja roundabout while at ile - ife it is cited at Enuwa not far from Oja. The effects of demand for and use of water as regular as it is, cannot be ignored it not with its attendant effects on the environment.

**III.**

IV. As a result of characteristics like poor housing, unhygienic environment environment, flooding erosion and so on, the cost of accommodation and value of the landed properties are low, therefore making the neighbourhood affordable for the migrants and the poor

**Sources of Slum Dwellers and Properties Ownership**

ITEM	YES		NO	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Born here	138	51.9	128	48.1
Migration by job	126	47.4	140	52.6
Permanent resident	148	55.6	118	44.4
Owns Landed Property	139	152.3	127	47.7

**Ownership of Landed Property**

One of the major challenges of slum is related to tenure system and the fear of forceful eviction. The researcher therefore attempted to relate the slum areas under consideration to these challenges but in contrast ton the reviewed literature, 51% of then houses own the property by inheritance and they are permanent residents. The remaining 47% who are migrants majorly from northern states of Nigeria rented remaining apartments on a room-by-room basis on the ratio of 4-6 persons per these inhabitable rooms.

**Social Amenities**

The Slum areas are located at the city centers, they are integrated part of the cities but 60% of the house heads claimed that they are cut-off or sidelined when it comes to accessibility to social amenities. For instance, Osogbo city has pipe-borne water but the slum areas are not connected to it. Schools are located far away from slum areas, so are hospitals and so on. 28% of the respondents claimed they have access to road and electricity like other people in these cities.

**General Characteristics of Slum Areas**

Item	SA		A		D		SD	
	F	%	f	%	F	%	f	%
Satisfied with house condition	8	3.0	61	22.9	60	22.6	137	51.5
Satisfied with condition of environment	6	2.3	55	20.7	58	21.8	147	55.3
Immediate environment sufficiently spaced	9	3.4	61	22.9	136	51.1	60	22.6
Above three persons per room in the area	40	15.0	144	54.1	68	25.6	14	5.3
Good toilet facilities in the area	17	6.4	67	25.2	67	25.2	115	43.2
In the area people defecate in any available space	114	42.9	40	15.0	67	25.2	45	16.9
Area sometimes flooded during the rainy season	105	39.5	68	25.6	79	29.7	14	5.3
Adequate kitchen space	16	6.0	7.8	29.3	113	42.5	59	22.2
Access to affordable drinkable water	22	8.3	57	21.4	64	24.1	123	46.2
Malaria is rampant in the area	100	37.6	68	25.6	70	26.3	28	10.5
Children often die of sickness	38	14.3	116	43.6	85	32.0	27	10.2
There are good hospitals around	30	11.3	150	56.4	67	25.2	19	7.1
Hospital bills are affordable	16	6.0	62	23.3	44	16.5	144	54.1
Opt for self- medication or traditional help when sick	109	41.0	75	28.2	53	19.9	29	10.9
There is good security in the area	20	7.5	63	23.7	99	37.2	84	31.6
Houses in the area are often made of mud or brick	63	23.7	118	44.4	60	22.6	25	9.4
Houses in the area need major renovation	111	41.7	82	30.8	49	18.4	24	9.0
Some houses are made of plank and aluminium	13	4.9	77	28.9	150	56.4	26	9.8
This areas has good amenities	13	4.9	62	23.3	129	48.5	62	23.3

The table above concluded that 54% agreed that above 3 persons lives in a room, 51% disagree with the statement that immediate environment sufficiently spaced some houses are made of plank and aluminium. All these and others was revealed in the above table it showed the high level of slum in the study area.

**Conclusion**

Slum has existed with human settlements from time immemorial, whether in rural urban centers, developed or developing world with similar but different characteristics, impacts or degrees, seemingly more serious developing world than developed countries where people are poorer. The main trust of this study is to do a comparative analysis of slums in the three selected cities of Osun State, hence, looking at the empirical and physical evidences presented, the cities exhibited similarities or relationship; no differences in the nature and characteristics of the slum neighbourhood; they are all located at core city centers, the socio-economic status of the dweller are the same, they all lack adequate access to portable water, sufficient living space, good sanitation and decent housing; in fact all the houses are old and dilapidated needing urgent rehabilitation

According to Dung-Gwon and Oladosu (2004), policy thrust on slums should take into consideration their physical, social and economic characteristics. Arising from this study, immediate and longtime policy measures are recommended for careful consideration and implementation if the appalling condition in these slums areas are to be mitigated

**References**

Afolabi, F. I and Bankole B. O. (2013). Theory Triangulation, Domesticating Oral Geometry in the Social Sciences. Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti. A term paper presented at Faculty of Social Sciences. Januray, 2013.

Afolabi, M. A (2012). Integration Plan of Osun State Urban Development, Osogbo, Osun State Government Press.

Brien, O. et al, Demographic dynamics. Journal of Regional Studies. University of Sheffied, Vol. 4. (18-24)

Dung-Gwom J. Y. (2004). Characteristics of Planning Implication on Slum in Jos, Nigeria. Journal Environmental Sciences. Vol. 4 page 82-89.

Falade, R. I. (2012). Urban and City Profile: Lecture note delivered at the UN Habitat Day, Osun State. Osogbo, Nigeria

Mabogunje, A. L (1976). Cities and Africa Development University press Ibadan, Nigeria.

Mabogunje, A. L. (1981) Geography and Dilemma of Rural Development in Africa Geographical Annaler, Volume 63 no. 2 pp (73-86).

Okoye, O. T. (1999). The Residential Slum in Enugu, Illustration of an Aspect of our Urban Problems. Geographical Association of Nigeria, Zaria.

Salau, A. T. (1990). Cities and Development in the Third World. Enugu, ABC Publishers Enugu

UN, Habitat (1987). Global Report on Human Settlement London UK. Oxford.