

# Nigeria, Sovereignty, Authority, and Power

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# Regime types

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- 'Federal Constitutional Republic'

- Yar'adua administration (<http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2009/06/05/ten-steps-yar-adua-administration-can-immediately-take-improve-nigeria-s-poor-human->)

- Reformation of the national Police force.
- Address the Immediate Crisis and Root Causes of Violence in the Niger Delta
  - Investigate, arrest, and prosecute according to international fair trial standards state and local government officials in the Niger Delta who are responsible for embezzling public funds.
- Prosecute State Governors Who Embezzled Public Funds
  - Follow alongside fair prosecution for government officials.
  - Publicly address previous cover-ups
  - Amend the constitution to remove immunity from government officials.
- Make Nigeria's State and Local Governments More Transparent
  - Subject government to solid and clear audits.
  - Publish government funding numbers and sources.
- Empower Nigerians to Hold Their Government Accountable
  - Encourage Nigerian citizens to demand information be publicly released.
  - Enact a law that would demand the president's administration and state governments to make regular declarations on personal assets.

# Type of economic system

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## ■ Mixed Economy

- Privatized business
- Deregulation of trade
- Petroleum-based
- 7% GDP growth rate
- Member of the World Trade Organization
- Top agricultural country in Africa.

# State building, legitimacy, and stability

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- Military regimes ruled Nigeria until 1998 when Dictator Abacha was found dead under 'mysterious circumstances'.
- The Nigerian parliament was replaced recently by a presidential system in 1979.
- Nigerian Constitution
  - Divides power among the State governments.
  - Defines the mandate of the National Government.
  - Lists rights and reserved acts to promote 'cultural advancement'.

# Religion

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- Massive skirmishes in Nigerian villages between Christians and the Hausa-Fulani.
- Religion is a major power struggle in Nigeria. The country is essentially factionalized into three religious strongholds
  - Islam ~50%
  - Christianity ~48%
  - Indigenous African belief / non-religious ~2%

# Ideology

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- With age comes wisdom.
- Respect for their hierarchy of elders.
- Political discussion is a extremely big deal to Nigerians.
- Bribery isn't socially unacceptable.
- They take massive pride in their faith and religion.

# Governance and Accountability

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## ■ Judiciary

- Federal Court of Appeals
- Federal Supreme Court
- Shari'ah courts
- State Appeal and State trial courts

## ■ National Assembly of Nigeria

- Defines the political right of certain bodies that coordinate cultural protection.
- Bicameral legislature.
- Equal representation of states.
- Has a speaker of the house and president of Senate.