

Nigeria, Sovereignty, Authority, and Power

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Regime types

- '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

■ 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

■ 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.