



UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN, NIGERIA

INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND STRATEGIC STUDIES (IPSS)



A ONE-DAY ROUNDTABLE

In Honour of
Professor Alake Bolanle Awe

ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN CONTEMPORARY NIGERIA

JULY 28, 2016

Venue: Conference Centre, University of Ibadan | **Time:** 9:00am – 5:00pm

Gender-based violence is an umbrella term for any harm that is perpetrated against a person's will and that results from gender-related power inequalities in both public and private spheres. Though this problem is experienced by both the feminine and masculine gender, it is more peculiar to women and girls. To this extent, "gender based violence" is sometimes used interchangeably with the term "violence against women" (VAW) and occurs throughout the lifecycle of a woman and manifests physically, psychologically and structurally to include such objectionable human experiences as genital mutilation, forced marriage, humiliating widowhood rites, sexual violence, domestic violence, legal discrimination, socio-political and exploitation.

Recent media reports point in the direction of a dynamic change in the nature, impact and management of this problem in Nigeria. Whereas in the past, policy makers, activists and scholars responding to cases of gender based violence focused their attention on such common issues as wife battering, genital mutilation and unhealthy widowhood rites, the problem now includes escalating cases of sexual slavery, kidnapping of women and girls for a myriad of reasons; sexual violence in conflict situations, the use of girls as suicide bombers and the exploitation of young ladies by marketing firms. Though Nigeria claims to be globalizing, the treatments experienced by widows suggest a fast return to those culture and traditions of the past that are considered to be repugnant to natural justice.

Nigeria needs to find actionable solution to these problems. The starting point is to gain a better understanding of the issues. Why gender based violence and how does it manifest in different contexts? What efforts are being made to prevent and manage the problems and what are the existing best practices across the country?

The Institute for Peace and Strategic Studies (IPSS) of the University of Ibadan intends to organize a roundtable to discuss all of these issues in July 2016. This academic cum policy-relevant programme has two related objectives. The first is to generate debates leading to some actionable solutions to the problems and the second is to serve as a forum for celebrating Prof. Alake Bolanle Awe, the first Chairperson of the defunct Nigeria's National Women's Commission and the first female professor of History in Nigeria. Professor Awe committed her entire life to the prevention and management of the issues to be discussed at this one-day event. What more? She made a significant contribution to the structures leading to the establishment of the academic peace and conflict studies programme of the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, which now forms the nucleus of IPSS.

The following papers will be delivered at the Roundtable:

- * **Prof. Isaac O. Albert**, Director, Institute for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ibadan.
"ABDUCTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS"
- * **Dr. Temitope Abimbola Olaifa**, Department of Communication and General Studies, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta
"WHEN SPOUSES KILL THE PAST AND FUTURE"
- * **Barrister Chigozie C. Udemezue**, CEO and Founder, Healing Hearts Widows Support Inc. Enugu
"MANAGING DIFFICULT WIDOWHOOD SITUATIONS IN IGBOLAND"
- * **Dr. Alero Akeredolu**, Faculty of Law, UI
"COMPLICATIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF RAPE CASES IN NIGERIA"
- * **Prof. Patricia Donli**, University of Maiduguri/Executive Director, Gender Equality, Peace and Development Centre, Maiduguri
"GENDER BASED ISSUES IN THE BOKO HARAM CRISIS"

- * **Dr. Sharon Omotoso**, Gender Studies Programme, Institute of African Studies, UI
"A MORAL EXPOSITION OF GENDER(ED) RELIGIOUS VIOLENCE IN CONTEMPORARY NIGERIA"
- * **Dr. Naomi Akpan-Ita**, Founder/CEO Impact for Change, Lagos
"GENDER AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT IN NIGERIA"
- * **Dr. Omowumi Akin-Onigbinde**, Citizenship Education and Women Empowerment (CEWEN), Ibadan
"GENDER AND NIGERIAN POLITICS"
- * **Prof. Felicia Olaseinde Williams**, Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin
"EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE IN GENDER BASED VIOLENCE"
- * **Prof. Stella Olusola Odebode**, Gender Mainstreaming Office, Univ. of Ibadan
"MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN NIGERIA'S HIGHER EDUCATION: STRATEGIES AND OUTCOMES"
- * **Comrade Moshood Erubami**, President Nigeria Voters Assembly
"THE STRUGGLES FOR GENDER EMPOWERMENT IN CONTEMPORARY NIGERIA: AN ACTIVIST PERSPECTIVE"

Chairperson: Prof. Gbemisola Oke, DVC (Acad.), University of Ibadan

Host

Professor Isaac Olawale Albert, *fspsp*
Director, Institute for Peace & Strategic Studies

Chief Host

Prof. Abel Idowu Olayinka, *FAS*
Vice Chancellor, University of Ibadan