

## **OIL, LAND ALIENATION AND IMPOVERISHMENT IN THE NIGER DELTA, NIGERIA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The Nigerian state has earned huge revenues from the vast oil resources in the Niger Delta, since the advent of oil in 1956. However, despite the huge revenues, the Niger Delta remains an epicentre of pervasive poverty. The impoverish state of the region has been attributed in the main, to negative impacts of oil activities on the environment and their deleterious impacts on traditional means of livelihoods in the region. Thus, the impact of the land alienation through the Land Use Act on the Niger Delta has been given little attention. The paper interrogates the impacts of the Land Use Act and its application in the Niger Delta and the paper concludes that besides the issues of injustice, inherent in the Act, a nexus exists between the Land Use Act and poverty in the region. It recommends its immediate repeal.

**Keywords:** Oil, Land, Impoverishment, Niger Delta.