

**NIGERIA'S FEDERALISM AND STATE REORGANIZATION AND  
RESTRUCTURING: ATTEMPTS AT NATIONAL INTEGRATION THROUGH  
FRAGMENTATION**

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**ABSTRACT**

This study examines the notion that federalism, additional creation of states and adoption of the federal character principle in sharing national resources (at the federal, state and local government levels) among the various peoples that constitute the country, would or could engender unity, covariance and integration among the disparate Nigerian population. The study finds out that in spite of the fact that Nigeria has assumed a 36 state structure, from a 3 region structure in 1960 at independence, further agitations and demands for creation of additional states have not abated, so also is ethnic attachment and primordial sentiments among the lingua-cultural groups in the country. This is evidenced in the various ethno-religious conflicts that pervade the "nation".

**Keywords:** Federalism, State Creation, Ethnicity, National Integration, Federal Character.