

**The Nigeria Immigration Service and the
Challenges of Immigration (1986-2012)**

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this thesis work titled: The Nigeria Immigration Service and the Challenges of Immigration (1986-2012) submitted to the Department of Political Science, University of Lagos, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, (Ph.D) in Political Science was carried out by Ahamefule Chimeziri Nwachukwu.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the salvation of my soul.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I heartily acknowledge my Head of Department, Professor S. O. Akinboye who stood by me from the very beginning to date. Of very high acknowledgement are my supervisors Dr. D. K. Ologbenla who advised me on the choice of this topic and guided me from the beginning to the end and Dr. Akinyemi who never wasted time in correcting my works and stood by me to ensure that I succeeded. Dr. Otoh Ferdinand Dr. Emma Onah are worthy of high mention because they contributed immensely to my success. I acknowledge the moral and prayerful support of my wife Ify Carol Nwachukwu, my Daughter Fisayo Nwachukwu, my sons Tochi Nwachukwu and Chiazor Nwachukwu. I also highly acknowledge Mrs. Adeola Fatodu whom God used immensely to make the work easy for me.

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ABSTRACT

The upsurge in international migration involves not only the movement of people legally and illegally but also goods, capital and ideas across the geographical regions of the world. Globalization has facilitated the processes of international migration which has posed a major challenge to all security agencies charged with the responsibility of managing their countries' borders. State institutions must adjust their capacities to cope with the new realities. The Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) as the agency of government for managing immigration has been challenged by the increasing trends of immigration into the country. The basic problem is that cross border activities and crimes have over the years overwhelmed the control of the Nigeria Immigration Service. The work examines the challenges faced by the NIS in coping with the increasing immigration flows. For a good understanding of the work the institutional theory and migration theory have been used as theoretical framework. The study is conducted within the traditions of the qualitative research paradigm both in the collection and analysis of data. The procedures used were Key Informant Interview and Participant Observation. The findings were stated according to the research questions as follows: Social- economic, and political factors as well as environmental issues force immigrants into Nigeria; The nature of Nigeria's vast borders pose a migrations management challenge to the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS); Most of the equipment of the NIS need to be modernized to meet international standards; There are deficiencies in many areas of coordination and sharing of information between security agencies concerned with international migration management.

Based on these findings, the work has recommended among other things, an international security framework involving Nigerian border security agencies and those of other countries especially our neighboring states in fighting trans-border crimes.

Key words: International Migration, Nigeria Immigration Service, Immigration.

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