

**LIBRARY AS A TOOL FOR EFFECTIVE LEGISLATIVE PERFORMANCE: A
STUDY OF NIGERIA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

By:

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this dissertation titled **Library As A Tool For Effective Legislative Performance: A Study of Nigeria National Assembly (NASS)** presented by Oluwakemi Folake ADEYINKA (**PG/NLS/2015061**) has met the partial requirements for the award of the degree of Masters In Parliamentary Administration (MPD) of the National Institutes for Legislative and democratic Studies/University of Benin Edo State.

Dr. Usman Wali
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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation titled' Library as Tool for Effective Performance; A Study of the Nigeria National Assembly (NASS)' undertaken under the supervision of Dr. Usman Wali. It is my original work and no part of it has ever been presented in this or any other institution for the award of the same or any other degree. All consulted work are duly acknowledged through the references.

.....

Oluwakemi Folake ADEYINKA (Miss.)

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APPROVAL PAGE

This is to certify that this dissertation “*Library As A Tool For Effective Legislative Performance: A Study of Nigeria National Assembly (NASS)*” has been read and approved as having met the partial requirements for the award of the degree of Masters in Parliamentary Administration of the University of Benin/National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies and was approved for contribution to knowledge and literacy appreciation..

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DEDICATION

This work is first dedicated to God Almighty, for bestowing me with the strength, courage, and knowledge to write the project and to my supportive family.

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Glory be to God Almighty for giving me the privilege, grace and persistence, to pursue the Masters degree in Parliamentary Administration (MPD).

This dissertation is not a product of the author alone. Although my signature is appended on it, I could not have accomplished it without the support of some individuals whose efforts I need to recognize. While not directly involved in the production of the dissertation, my place of work the National Library of Nigeria stands out my appreciation for officially allowing me to embark on the study. I truly acknowledge that gesture.

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ABSTARCT

This study examined library as a tool for effective legislative performance using the Nigeria National Assembly (NASS) as a case study. The study was motivated by the desire to know the role the library played in the legislative process of Nigeria National Assembly. Accordingly three objectives were identified for the study namely: (i) to find out what a standard library for a legislature should be. (ii) To examine the standard of Nigeria National Assembly Library. (iii) To examine the usage of library for legislative process in Nigeria National Assembly. The study focused on Nigerian fourth republic 1999 - 2022. The justification for the study derived from the fact that legislative services can hardly succeed without research that can be facilitated by the existence of a library. Yet, after so many years of democratic practices, the Nigeria National Assembly is in deficit of a standard library that can support its activities. This called for investigation into library as a tool for effective performance in Nigeria National Assembly.

The study adopted a mixed research design, employed the stratified random sampling technique. Therefore, qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection were used. The respondents who provided the primary data were selected using stratified proportional random sampling. Which were reflected in the use of questionnaire, interview and content analysis. While, secondary data were taken from relevant sources and used in all relevant areas in the research work. Data gathered were analysed using frequencies and percentages.

With respect to objective one on what a standard legislative library should be, the study which reviewed various literatures on standard legislative libraries across the globe revealed

that legislative library should not only be a super structure but should have in-stock adequate, historical and current reference books as well as efficient internet services that will facilitate cross communication. With respect to objective two which was to examine the standard of the Nigeria National Assembly library, the study revealed, sadly, that the National Assembly did not possess the library that adequately matched its status as leading democratic institution in Africa. With respect to objective three, on the level of usage of the library for legislative processes, the study revealed that members/staff/aides of the National Assembly were aware of the existence of a mini library in the Assembly but 75% of the respondents were not patronizers of the library.

The conclusion of the study was that despite the importance of library in facilitating effective legislative performance, the Nigeria National Assembly in its over 22 years of the fourth republic did not have that supporting library infrastructure that could support its effective performance. It is therefore recommended that the National Assembly should endeavor to construct a befitting and well equipped library that will attract not only the immediate users but even external users. The National Assembly library should try to sensitize its primary stakeholders (legislators, aides & staff) on the importance of continues reading for effective legislative performance. The National Assembly library should seek collaboration with other standard international libraries to benefit from international best practices. The National Assembly should emphasize Knowledge Capital in all facets of its legislative practice as that would encourage parliamentarians as well as their staff and aides to patronize the library.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

This study is aimed to examine library as a tool for effective legislative performance: a study of National Assembly (NASS – 1999 to 2022). Members of Parliament (MPs, Legislators) are the treasury of power in modern democratic societies because they are the people elected into the legislative arm of the government; empowered by the constitution and saddled with the mandate to make laws, to represent the people and to checkmate possible excesses of the executive arm of government through their oversight functions. They constitute five mandates which include to: go and see in the parliament, hear, think, feel and speak for us people (citizenry). The legislature is an essential component of government, which is the system through which a country or state is governed. Such a system usually evolves from people's historical experience, culture, custom, or common practice.

Since ancient times, the communist system and pre-industrial society, the government had always been organized along these lines: the legislature, executives, and judiciary, their fusion or separation varies from one system to another or from one society to another. One thing is clear, whether the organs are fused or separated, every government or political system performs three important functions namely:

- i. Legislative: law-making, representation and checkmate possible excesses of executive via their oversight function;

- ii. Executive: implementation of the law and policies;
- iii. Judiciary: interpretation of the law.

The organ of government which this study is concerned with is the legislature. It is an important arm of government with constitutional rights to make laws, represent the citizenry and check and balance the activities of the executive arm of government. It lays down basic principles through lawmaking, which the executive has to use or apply in the implementation of laws, and which the judiciary has to use as its frame of reference in adjudicating cases related to these laws (Benney n.d.).

The importance of the legislature cannot be over emphasized. Without the legislators, it is impossible to have a functional democracy for they are the eyes, the ears, and the mouthpiece and they think for the people in a representative democracy. Writers often see the functions of the legislature as exclusively that of law-making, but in reality their functions extend beyond that. Other functions of the legislature include:

- i. Effective representation of their constituencies
- ii. Control of public funds and checking of the executive in order to forestall frivolous spending by the executive. This is done by scrutinizing the annual budget. Apart from the monetary issue there are other ways in which the legislature can act as watch dog over the executive, they make use of question time, a period during which ministers receive query from private members.
- iii. Political education for political awareness

- iv. Amendment of laws and the constitution in order to respond to the changes and adjust to new political ideas.
- v. Ratification of appointment made by the executive and they also ratify agreements and treaties that the executive wish to enter into (Akamere, 2013). In the light of the importance of the legislature that there can be no end to studies that will investigate their performance and relationship with other arms of government. This research work contains five chapters including the preliminary pages.

Information is a vital resource that affects all disciplines and all endeavors in life. It supports education, research, and development in all areas of existence. The main functions of a library are to accumulate information from various sources and to re-arrange, process, and disseminate them to satisfy the requirements of researchers within the right form and at the right time (Asogwa, Mmomelu, Daniel 2020). Information has become a very important element in life and society. It is a base of development. In a developing legislature like Nigeria, information in all areas of life needs to be collated to support legislators in the day-to-day decision-making process. The legislature needs adequate, up-to-date, and timely information as it can get, to aid its functions, to ensure consistency and synergy between both Houses and other levels of government. Adams, A. (8 May 1780) in her Letter to John Quincy in her quote argues that “learning is not attained by chance; it must be sought for with ardour and attended to with diligence”. Nisbet, Shucksmith and Nisbert (2017) also asserted that, “the most important learning is learning to learn. The most important knowledge is self-knowledge”.

Given these enormous responsibilities of the legislators and information as vital resources which can be accessed through the library as a treasure home of knowledge. It goes without saying that legislators have to be adequately competent to discharge such decision making responsibilities. Indeed, as the oversight persons of the executive, they should always be ahead of the executives in terms of reading and research and other forms of exposure locally and internationally. Little wonder therefore that we have such facilities as congressional library, parliamentary library etc. all over the world. Libraries therefore should, by default, be resource facilities for legislators. Yet to what extent do the legislators recognize this? To what extent do the legislators take advantage of this facility? These are concerns that should regularly be interrogated and this study represent of such interrogations.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The library as the cornerstone of research to acquire knowledge. It is to ensure the building of an informed and enlightened citizenry through the provision of information resources that are readily available and easily accessible. Parliamentary library is saddled with the responsibilities to acquire, process, organize, disseminate as well as provide links to information resources to all parliamentarian to achieve their constitutional mandate and in pursuit for progressive decision making. However, inadequate access to relevant and up to date information resources serves as challenges in accessing relevant and up to date information resources needed to make informed decisions and carry out legislative duties effectively.

In other words, the law-making complex cannot be said to be fully ready for use by the legislators without a standard and well-equipped library department, just as any university or educational institution cannot be said to have properly and academically taken off except a functional library is in place. Onaiwu (2014) stated that libraries are established in the House with the primary function of assisting and supporting the lawmakers to carry out their pyramid functions. The library as a tool for effective legislative performance is therefore of primary importance to legislators and their supporting staff in performing their numerous and diverse day to day functions.

In light of these views, In the process of carrying out of legislative duties, legislators are often faced with some challenges of getting timely, adequate, impartial, clear, accessible, relevant, and authoritative and, in some cases, confidential information resources in meeting their information needs. It has become a matter of academic interest to investigate what role the library has played in effective legislative performance in Nigeria National Assembly using the National Assembly as a case study. The terms ‘legislative’ and ‘parliamentary’ libraries may be construed as interchangeable in the context of these research work.

1.3 Research Questions

The research bordered the following inquisitions:

- i. What should a standard legislative library be?
- ii. What is the standard of the library of the Nigeria National Assembly?
- iii. What is the level of usage of library for legislative processin the Nigeria National Assembly?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of the study was the examination of library as a tool for effective legislative performance, studying the Nigeria National Assembly. The specific objectives were:

- i. To investigate out what a standard library for a legislature should be.
- ii. To investigate the standard of Nigeria's National Assembly Library.
- iii. To investigate the usage of library for legislative process in Nigeria's National Assembly.

1.5 Significance of the Study

Libraries are usually overlooked as important resources for legislative performance, especially in developing countries like Nigeria where these information and knowledge resources are limited. This work will be of great value to the legislators as it will enlighten them about the role of the library and the importance of up-to-date and accurate information provided by the library and other sources of information for effective, efficient and progressive law making, legislation and representation.

It will also showcase the importance of libraries to the lawmakers and aspire to engender enthusiasm in the lawmakers in the use of libraries to improve decision-making. The citizens will also benefit in the sense that complaints will be better presented which will ensure informed research based motions and bills to be well deliberated in the floor of the House on a sustained basis.

Finally, this study will contribute to the gap in knowledge in information management field and the need for a standard parliamentary library to support decision making process of lawmakers and legislative performance in Nigeria, it will widen the horizon of the need for standard libraries at all level of governance which will not only facilitates research but will demonstrate knowledge based history of parliamentary proceedings so as to assist government when designing a standard library for Houses of Assembly and researchers who wish to carry out further investigation on related studies.

1.6 Scope of the Study and Limitation of the Study

This study focused extensively on examining the library as a tool for effective legislative performance in the Nigeria National Assembly in delivering its legislative services (1999 – 2022) however the study also extends some glimpse into some prominent and outstanding libraries to draw some learning points such libraries include the Library of Congress in the United States of America and the Library of Commons in the United Kingdom etc.

The limitations of this study revolves around certain inevitable variables which includes the time factor, difficulty encounter in sourcing for information from the respondents, finance issues, gaining access into the national assembly complex, availability of some of the legislators, aides and staff in their offices to carry out a face-to-face interview due to their tight schedules and lack of access to classified or restricted materials.

1.7 Definition of Terms

Information Resources: Refers to both print and non-print materials that contain information.

Legislators: Refers to the persons who are elected to represent their individual constituencies.

Legislative Libraries: Refers to libraries attached to the respective State Houses of Assembly to cater for the information needs of the members of legislative House of assembly.

Legislature: the legislative body of a country or state.

Library: A Library is an organized environment to be with collection of published books, periodicals, audio visual materials, and staff who are able to provide and interpret the documents required to meet the information, research, and education, recreational and cultural needs of its. This is properly regarded as a treasury house of knowledge.

National Assembly: parliament consist of two houses - the constitution says the National Assembly is elected to represent the people and to ensure government by the people under the Constitution.

Parliament: A formal conference for the discussion of public affairs. An assemblage of nobility, clergy and commons called together by the British sovereign as the supreme legislative body in the United Kingdom.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter reviews relevant literature on the subject matter, covering conceptual, empirical and theoretical framework on the subject of library as a tool for legislative performance.

2.1 Conceptual Review

The legislature is a body of persons having the power to legislate specifically; an organized body having the constitutional authority to make laws for a country, state or political unit. Merriam – Webster (25 April 2023). Ajibola (2007) conceptualizes legislatures as “assemblies of elected representatives from geographically defined constituencies, with lawmaking functions in the governmental process”. In the same vein, Joel-Ikokoh (2009) identified two features that distinguish legislatures from other branches of government. She opines that legislatures have formal authority to pass laws, which are implemented and interpreted by the executive and judicial branches and their members normally are elected to represent various elements in the population. It is significant to note that legislatures vary in terms of composition, structure and role, from one democracy to the other. Strictly speaking, legislatures are divided into two types. They are the bicameral and the unicameral types. The unicameral legislature has only one chamber or house while the bicameral variation has two. The bicameral structures are made up of the Upper House and the Lower House. Some countries designate their Upper House as the Senate and the Lower House as the House of Representative. The powers, duties and functions of Nigerian legislature are well spelt out in the 1999 constitution. In section 41 of the 1999 constitution of the federal Republic of Nigeria provisions for the exercise of legislative powers by both the National Assembly.

Joel-Ikokoh (2009) describe the Legislative library services are services provided by a library attached to any legislative body. It provides direct library services to the state government, and provides archival and record management services, technical assistance, education, financial aid, and cooperative services. Within this framework the legislative library services provide priority information and research services to the members and staff of the legislature. Library and information services provide reference and research support to the general assembly and its staff as well as the legislative information to the public.

The library offers core services for learning and research. It plays the role of support to the legislative learning through the provision and control of information in print and other media, through assistance with its retrieval and through provision of facilities for its use; it gives the legislature an ability to gather information from primary and secondary sources of information to enhance their research work. It serves as access to scholarly literature and information held elsewhere. The library helps the legislature to be able to quote, paraphrase and summarise accurately and to also cite sources properly.

The legislators require a very good library to meet their information need and it is essential to establish a special library for lawmaker, that is, a legislative library with information and research service to help in meeting the information need of legislators in the course of performing their official duties. The term legislative library and information service is used to emphasize the fact that the work of the library is not limited to supplying books as many people think. A good library does many other things besides providing books either for borrow or use in the library. It also offers reference service (help people to find answers to questions especially by searching

publications), abstracting, indexing and review service to keep people aware of latest development in their fields. Legislative libraries are special libraries designed to offer prompt information service to lawmakers of all categories, lawmakers should be current in their knowledge, and have correct and up to-date fact concerning things, people, event throughout the world before they can formulate and execute sound policies and programmes and pass just law for the benefit of their people. It is essential for a legislative library to have the right books, journals and other materials. Clifford Ishola (2014)

Adewumi (2011) on the other hand, pointed out that, “Libraries and information centers are set up with the aim of selecting, acquiring, organizing and preserving information resources in order to make them available, easily and speedily to prospective users or patrons. This was on the other hand corroborated by Haruna and Oyelekan (2010) who recognize library resources as “those materials which enable libraries to carry out functions effectively. They are made up of books and other information bearing media.”

Libraries have played a very important role for research purpose. In fact, without adequate, quality and timely information, legislators and their support staff may not be able to achieve their desire of meeting their day to day information needs in carrying out their mandate. This was further confirmed by Popoola (2008) proved that:

“The materials possessed by a library, which may include books, periodicals and microfilms that contain recorded knowledge. The information resources could be printed which means the sources that contain information in a printed format as monographs, serials, technical reports, maps, directories, atlases, etc. the non-print materials include the sources of information which are

contained in a non-conventional format from which information is stored and retrieved through their relevant reading aids. This category includes Audio tapes and cassettes, photographic records, video cassettes, films, microfilms, computers and CD-ROMS”.

Therefore, since the mission of a legislative library is to support and provide timely and accurate information/data to guide the legislators in their day to day constitutional responsibilities. It is of importance for the National Assembly Library to house up-to-date information to gear the legislative arm of government so as to achieve its lawmaking, representation, oversight and ancillary functions.

2.2 Information Resources

The library information resources have been defined as those information bearing material both in printed and electronic formats, such as textbooks, journals, indexes, abstracts, newspapers, magazines, reports, CD-ROM databases, internet/E-mail, video tapes/cassettes, diskettes, magnetic disk, computers and micro films. The available information resources at Nigeria National Assembly Library can be found mostly on, e.g Books, Encyclopedias, Magazines, Databases, Newspapers, Library Catalog, and Internet. The online resources (e-Library) of the research institute of the National Assembly. National Institute of Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) cannot be overemphasized. Information need is an individual or a group’s desire to locate and obtain information to satisfy a conscious or unconscious need. Information need refers to individual user needs regarding information needed by each person. Information need is understood as evolving vague awareness of something from missing and as culminating in locating the information that contributes for understanding and meaning. (Doraswamy, 2017). Library

information resources are materials or information resources acquired by the library to meet the information needs of library patrons. In library, the information resources include physical resources such as books and online resources made via the e-library section.

2.3 Library

A building or room containing collections of books, periodicals, and sometimes films and recorded music for use or borrowing by the public or the members of an institution. This is properly regarded as a treasury of knowledge and the use of knowledge is a great part of civilization of any community. The library serves beyond just reading of books, some libraries are expected to conserve and preserve the local artifacts including oral literature. The libraries are also expected to collect books and journals published locally either in depth as national or official depositories or according to the specialization coverage of various libraries, particular libraries are expected to provide for the general conservation of recorded knowledge in the country, to store books and non-book materials in varying degree according to the capacity of the library and the totality of the nation's libraries, to have as much with the country as possible of the knowledge essential for reading, study and research. (O.O. Ogundipe 2017).

2.4 Parliamentary Libraries

The primary focus of the parliamentary library services is the provision of timely, authoritative, concise, and objective information to elected members of the legislature, in support of their legislative, oversight and representative functions. A brief illustration of what is expected from such services is when a newly elected or appointed parliamentarian have the need for information to carry out his/her functions. A newly elected or appointed parliamentarian,

especially one who had never held political office, may have a greater and more immediate need for information to navigate the first weeks in office. They are likely to want to quickly learn the legislative process and become familiar with current issues of legislative interest. If assigned to a specific committee, they may wish to get in-depth knowledge and briefings on the issues that will be brought before the committee. They will need information to respond to constituents who may now find it easier to contact their representatives. One of the major function of a parliamentary library may design programs specifically for new parliamentarians to introduce them to the library's services, as well as customized briefings and meeting.

Focused and well-delineated functional definition of 'parliamentary information needs' and the associated 'information provision' indeed, parliamentary libraries are often, technically, called 'legislative libraries thereby highlighting their commitment to serve by addressing the specificity of the process of the promulgation and enactment of laws and legally non-binding representative resolutions. Usually these libraries or library services comment on the legislation the potential of which is being explored, comment on the bills proposed and debated, reflect on the possible (likely) public reaction – or the reaction of specific interests groups – to the legislation under exploration, debate or scrutiny; provide reasoned evaluations of the relationship between the existing laws and the proposed ones, comment on the legal integrity of the particular jurisdiction's proposed bills, codes and statutes (this function itself is sometimes debated exactly on the grounds of the separation of powers – the pre-enactment review of bills in terms of their constitutionality stands in sharp conflict with the freedom of the parliament) collect and disseminate data, distribute more or less sophisticated primary information or meta-information

products that are of relevance when forecasting the potential impact of some proposed bill. MT Kėvišas. (2021).

This narrow and focused remit and purposes and aims of the Western legislative libraries or library-like service providers is established in greater or lesser detail in acts and normative texts of individual jurisdictions or in international guidelines (these are merely consultative and recommendatory in nature: ‘Guidelines for legislative libraries’ and ‘Guidelines for parliamentary research services’) MT Kėvišas. (2021).

Iwhiwhu (2011) established that, the Information needs of lawmakers are continuous and diverse. The essence however is that the information must be cogent, relevant and valid which will enable legislators to make sound decisions and analyze similar laws operating in different societies. Legislators need information to articulate the accepted principles, sentiments, beliefs and public opinions of the communities within a particular time, sharpen their discretion and increase their initiative in the process of law making.

Parliamentary Libraries are (also known under various terminologies such as federal libraries, legislative libraries, information resource centers, documentation centers, or reference services) enhance the research and information capacity of parliaments. As their histories show, however, some also came to consider their constituencies as lying beyond the confines of their parent legislature (Anghelescu, 2010).

Legislative Libraries are libraries that are established to provide information needs and services to members of the legislature and their staff. They are usually found in the legislative houses and other organizations that support the legislative functions. The legislature requires

unbiased, relevant, and timely information to be provided by the library. This is an important factor that permits legislators to satisfy people's expectation of them. For a legislator, independent judgment and commitment to national interest are vital, therefore accurate and timely information is key.

The concept of parliamentary library and information service is used to emphasize the fact that the work of the library is not limited to supplying books as many people think. A good library does many other functions aside from reading books or borrowing books or use of the library. It also offers reference service (help people to find answers to questions, especially by searching publications), abstracting, indexing, periodical, newspapers, subpoenas for court cases, government white papers, gazettes, laws of the federation, government rolling plans, and other important government documents of Nigeria and other countries and; review services to keep clients aware of the latest development in their various fields.

Rugambwa (2010) acknowledged that, "parliamentary libraries are expected to serve and promote democracy in their countries; play a crucial role in reorganizing, realigning, and reshaping information services and products to preserve and deepen our democracy."

Libraries in the parliaments are designed to give prompt information service to legislators at all levels. MPs should be current and knowledgeable and deserve to have access to timely, accurate information/data, concerning things, people, events in and around the world that will enable them to discharge their constitutional responsibilities of law making, representation and oversight. Libraries need to be well-equipped with the right books, journals, government documents, and other materials. The various categories of the library staff should also be well-equipped and there should be a proper administrative structure is established.

A library and a legislative research service should facilitate public access to government-building democracy and civil information concerning the government through society in the country through greater visibility of parliamentary institutions.

In the same vein, Egbe, Evbuomwan (2012) stated that the contribution of the library department to the lawmaking process is invaluable for it is the storehouse of knowledge of the legislative assembly. It should have a wide collection of reference books, journals, newspapers, and other reading materials collect, analyze and store statistical data on the program of public agency and make them available on demand. He adds that sadly, the legislative assembly in Nigeria hardly makes financial provisions for the procurement of books and materials for the library. He noted that Nigerians have poor reading habits but it is considered that legislators should be among the exceptions to this trend. He stressed that in a pluralistic society and as a player in the globalizing world they must refresh their memories, access timely information, make research and inquiries on their own. The legislators require a standard and befitting library to meet their information needs and it is important to establish a well-equipped library for MPs, a parliamentary library with timely and accurate information and research services to assist in meeting the information needs of legislators and their supporting staff in the course of performing their day to day functions.

Ottong and Nkebem (2014) observes that parliamentary libraries have a key role to play in meeting the information needs of parliamentarians, through the provision of crucial, and updated parliamentary information.

The parliamentary library as the base of any parliament, offering wide range of resources such as books, serials documents, government documents, official gazette, bills, white papers, laws of the federation, parliamentary drafts, database and bibliographies to anyone who is interested in legislative activities.

Parliamentary libraries play a special role in their nations and parliaments. Miller (2004, p.1) has noted that 'Information is important for the functioning of democratic legislatures'. Research is particularly important:

“Good research and information can improve the effectiveness of the legislature along several dimensions... First, research can improve decision making on specific policy issues faced by the legislature... At the next level, research can help improve the institutional dynamics within the legislature... At a political level, the use of high-quality information by the legislature can add to the perceived legitimacy of its actions in an increasingly technocratic era... At the constitutional level, research for the legislature can position it to play a more active role in the policy process of the nation”.
Robinson (2001:p.561)

2.5 Requirements of Standard Libraries

Ajibola (2007) noted that services that are obtainable from parliamentary libraries in Nigeria include:

1. General reference-Quick answers to brief questions.
2. Current affairs- (i) press cutting of local and foreign newspapers (ii) Recorded broadcasts, programs, etc.
3. Bibliographies- (a) by subjects at the request of law maker and may be specific on

subject. (b) (i) by subject on topical issues for general circulation (ii) to provide general list as background reading to an event.

4. Abstract - Article, etc. from journals, reviews give insight to the article.
5. Research- (i) An depth enquiry put by a member whether the answer is required orally or in writing; (ii) Briefing papers in connection with bills; (iii) Other topics of public, National and State assembly interest; (iv) Anticipatory work.

However Joel-Ikokoh (2009) outlined information services for parliamentarians to include the provision of Current Awareness Service (CAS), Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI), information dossiers, in-depth subject studies, traditional services, and library-use-instructions, materials for study and research and remote services to electronic database. Considering the nature of legislators and their activities, the recognition of wide range of services to be rendered to them by the legislative libraries became necessary. Sada (2012) acknowledged that, most parliamentary libraries are able to provide clipping services. This activity starts with a quick review of newspapers and periodicals to locate items of current interest, clipping and mounting them, and then distributing them to requesting members or to all members.

2.6 Performance Assessment

The Guideline on parliamentary libraries on performance assessment of the parliamentarians its states that; Although the library will wish to pay attention to things like the accuracy and presentation of the information it provides, there are particular factors to take account within the parliamentary context. Many of these flow from the high visibility of the clientele and the

problems likely to be created for them if they use inaccurate material, as well as the very tight timetables to which all parliamentarians work. They also need to be realistic about the facilities and resources at their disposal. Setting unachievable standards will almost certainly lead to disappointment, but Members may well be satisfied with a more basic service which achieves high standards of impartiality and accuracy. It is important that staff understand what is expected of them and it may be helpful to develop a set of ‘quality standards’ which provide a shared understanding of this. Developing quality standards is the first step in evaluating whether the parliamentary library is meeting its expected service goals. Performance assessment is a work in progress. Assessment can be performed in multiple ways, but data is normally compiled to measure key performance indicators (KPIs). For most organisations there is no such thing as the perfect set of KPIs. Indicators need to evolve as challenges and expectations change. Where there are few indicators in place it is usually better to start with a small number of effective KPIs and build these up gradually. Nevertheless, few organisations will be able to manage without any metrics for assessing their performance – whether the need is driven by service managers or those to whom the service is accountable. Finally, the concept of quality and performance in library and research service is intertwined with ethical standards in the provision of such service. Auditor General of British Columbia, (2010.)

2.7 Overview of Selected Standard Libraries

2.7.1 United States Library of Congress

In the United States, the Library of Congress (LC) was established by the Congress in 1800. After much of the original collection was destroyed during the War of 1812, Thomas Jefferson

sold to the Congress his personal library, consisting of 6,487 books to replace the loss. The year 2000 marked the bicentennial anniversary of the U.S. Library of Congress. To commemorate this historic occasion, a year-long celebration was developed to include projects, events, programs, publications, and acquisitions that would focus on “leaving a legacy for the future” (Tabb, Cole, Kinney, Underdue, 2003). A commemorative stamp and two commemorative coins were issued to honor the library.

Over the past two centuries, the library’s collections have grown both in size and importance and have diversified in formats and coverage. Today the LC is one of the largest and best-equipped libraries in the world, with nearly 142 million items that include more than 32 million cataloged books and other print materials in 470 languages; more than 62 million manuscripts; the largest rare book collection in North America; and the world’s largest collection of legal materials, films, maps, sheet music, and sound recordings (Library of Congress, n.d.).

The Library of Congress’s mission is to make its resources available and useful to the Congress and the American people and to sustain and preserve a universal collection of knowledge and creativity for future generations. Although it is open to the public, only legislators, Supreme Court justices, and other high-ranking government officials may check out books. Through the U.S. Copyright Office, the LC receives copies of every imprint registered in the country. The LC is the de facto national library and the national bibliographic center of the United States.

As an agency of the legislative branch of the U.S. government, the Library of Congress includes several internal divisions (or service units), among which is the Congressional Research Service (CRS) (Library of Congress).

The CRS's primary mission is researching inquiries made by members of Congress, their committees, and staff throughout the legislative process by providing comprehensive and reliable legislative assistance and analysis on a confidential and nonpartisan basis. Its staff of almost 900 employees includes lawyers, economists, reference librarians, and subject specialists in various disciplines who provide expert assistance on a wide range of subjects such as economics, social policy, science, defense, foreign relations, transportation, education, etc. (Tabb, Cole, Kinney, & Underdue, 2003). CRS reports are highly regarded as in-depth, accurate, objective, and timely, but as a matter of policy they are not made directly available to members of the public. The CRS as well as all of the other departments and services offered by the LC are featured in the Encyclopedia of the Library of Congress: for Congress, the Nation and the world (Cole & Aikin, 2004), a reference work dedicated to the bicentennial institution.

2.7.2. Canada

In Canada, the parliamentary library dates back to the 1790s, with the creation of the legislative libraries of Upper and Lower Canada. These two separate legislative libraries, each with its own collections, operated until the Canadas united to form the Province of Canada in 1841. The unified collection was destined to accompany the Legislature of the Province of Canada, which travelled for more than a decade between Kingston and Montreal, and then between Toronto and Quebec. This voyage ended in 1857 when Queen Victoria selected the capital of the new

Dominion of Canada; her choice, Ottawa, then also became the library's permanent home. The Library of Parliament as an institution was established in 1867, and its legislative basis was set out in 1871 under the Library of Parliament Act. In the 1985 Revised Statutes of Canada, the

Library of Parliament Act was consolidated into the Parliament of Canada Act. The legislative provisions have remained substantially unchanged over the years. Currently the Library of Parliament has two service delivery branches: the Parliamentary Research Branch (PRB), created in 1965 that provides research, analysis, and information services to members of Senate and the House of Commons as well as to parliamentary committees and associations; and the Information and Documentation Branch, which provides reference services to parliamentarians, their staff, and other authorized clients and the public (Landry, 2001). The PRB provides substantial assistance to members of the Senate and House of Commons as well as to parliamentary committees through its subject-matter specialists, including lawyers, economists, scientists, sociologists, and public-policy specialists. In addition to its role within government, the library also plays a public outreach role by providing information about Canada's Parliament to Canadians (Hillmer & Cheung-Gertler, 2010 reviewed by Anghelescu (2010).

2.7.3. The Library of Commons

Away from the United States, the largest library in the world is the British Library. It was established on 1 July 1973 (50 years ago) and is located in Euston Road, London. It is reputed to have been between 170 to 200 million items in its collection. These are 13,950,000 books, 824,101 serial titles, 351,116 manuscripts (single and volumes) 8,266,276 philatelic items, 4,347,505 cartographic items, 1,607,885 music scores and 6,000,000 sound recordings. The library which is open to anyone with a need to use its collections and services runs on a budget of £142 million.

The British Library is a major research library with items in many languages and in many formats, both print and digital: books, manuscripts, journals, newspapers, magazines, sound and

music recordings, videos, play-scripts, patents, databases, maps, stamps, prints, drawings.

Apart from the British Library, Britain, which practices the parliamentary system of government has a separate library for the House of Lords, Nigeria's equivalent of the Senate and the House of Commons, Nigeria's version of the House of Representatives. Compared to the National Assembly Library in Abuja, the House of Commons Library is the library and information resource of the lower house of the British Parliament. It was established in 1818, although its original 1828 construction was destroyed during the burning of Parliament in 1834. The library has adopted the phrase "Contributing to a well-informed democracy" as a summary of its role.

The library provides four core services to the House, members, and their staff: A confidential inquiry service for members and their staff covering all subjects of parliamentary interest. Some 19,200 substantive requests logged inquiries were received in 2010/11.

Library services including reading rooms, book loans, on-line resources, and reference collections. The library is one of the main common spaces of the Houses of Parliament; members use it for conversation, discussion, and relaxation as well as consulting information sources. Reading room facilities for members' staff are provided in the Derby Gate Library Training and guidance in the use of information, particularly online resources and library services.

The library is not open to the general public, though information about the history and work of the Commons can be supplied by the House of Commons Information Office. Arrangements are often made for members of the public who wish to use resources of the library not available elsewhere to have access to them in the Parliamentary Archives.

2.7.4. Nigeria National Assembly Library

Nigeria obtained independence from the British colonial in 1960. It was an outstanding achievement in the history of Nigeria. Though, the parliament has been in existence during the time of the colonial masters, when Nigeria was practicing the parliamentary system of government, Nigeria has been through stretched military coups and regime after her independence and was able to transit from military to civilian rule (democracy) in the year 1999 with a constitution in place which gives powers and mandates to the legislature to carry out its responsibilities.

The parliamentary library in the National Assembly complex is located just at the rear of the popular 'White House' the library stands alone in a separate bungalow after which the library was moved from its former building within the National Assembly Complex. A close look at the building reveals an old structure that was merely refurbished a long time ago. Books and journals are placed on shelves to serve the legislators and the National Assembly staff.

The most current materials are in the newspaper section which contained about 10 shelves where books of various disciplines are arranged. About 15 thousand materials existed in the following sections; United Kingdom; United States section; China section; World Bank section; Parliamentary publications; Women; Labor; Social Sciences; Education and Cultural Law; International Law; Laws of the Federation; Computer Studies; Literature; Psychology; and Political Science. The National Assembly Library does not have an online portal for bills and other legislative documents. I. Akeregha, (2020)

However, during the course of this research work, it has been of great challenge for the researcher to lay hands on hard copies or internet materials on the inception and history of Nigeria National Assembly Library.

In 2020 a Bill was enacted on National Assembly Library Trust Fund Bill. To establish the National Assembly Library Trust Fund for the purpose of research, provision of library equipment, and related facilities enhancing the research of legislators and staff of the National Assembly; and for related matters National Assembly Library Trust Fund Bill. (2020).

2.8. Empirical Review

This aspect of the study looked at literature that were empirically done based on the variables under review.

Rugambwa & Kintu (2013) in their work the role of Parliamentary Library and Research Resources in Supporting Parliamentarians to be well informed; the case of Uganda emphasized on the important role of Parliamentary library in building well – informed Legislatures. And that through innovative library and research resources, well informed Parliaments can be created, Joel-Ikokoh (2009) also talked on Use of Library and Information Services for Legislative Research. The paper looks at information as critical element in life, society and an inevitable aspect in the day to day management of legislators. Takami (2000) in his book states that library is the cornerstone of any parliament, offering a vast accumulation of resources such as books, serial document databases, and bibliographies.

Dickie (2017) cited Miko and Robinson (1994) who adapted the earlier typology of parliaments developed by Nelson Polsby, linking the information needs of parliament to the functional level of parliament. The result of the study reveals that parliamentarians need to be provided with the most common source of parliamentary information and that the range of tasks they can perform is a function of the resources that they have. Clifford (2014) on the Importance of Library to Lawmakers: Case Study of Edo State House of Assembly citing Big (2009) states that in Research and Information Services, Nigeria National Assembly reveals that the parliamentary library in Nigeria is small and grossly ill-stocked; Books in the library are not up to date. That there is no Internet facility, the staff are inadequate and poorly trained, and legislators hardly use the library.

2.9. Gap in Knowledge

This review has shown that library is of utmost importance to legislators, their staff and staff of the National Assembly. It has also shown that parliamentarians need information to improve their knowledge and in making decisions that could improve the quality of law making, representation and oversight functions. Members of Parliament therefore try to meet their information needs by utilizing the Library for timely, secure and accurate data. From this review, it is clear that the Nigeria National Assembly Library is not up to standard compared to few standard libraries reviewed around the globe.

Availability of information resources, could influence the effective performance of parliamentarians at all levels, their aides and staff of the National Assembly. Accessibility and ease of use of the library materials as at when needed are the most important attributes of effective

legislative performance. Library as a treasury house of knowledge has enhanced development in every sphere of life and Nigeria as a developing democracy does not have access to a standard and well equipped libraries, hence, Several studies on libraries has been carried out in the field of National Library, Law library, Medical Library, University Libraries, Parliamentary Libraries and more but it appears there is lack of emphasis on the manner in which the concept is related to the library as a tool for effective legislative performance of legislators of the Nigeria National Assembly. Need for information factors, such as standard of the Nigeria National Assembly, adequate, timely and easy accessibility of library resources, requirements, relevance, and preference have not been considered as crucial factors that can enhance or affect the quality decision making of parliamentarians and how it affect their performance.

A lot has been written with respect to the importance or even necessity of a library for an effective parliamentary performance. Yet at Nigeria National Assembly it has been established that the existing library is not only small but ill-stocked and rating far below standard. This study therefore, seek to investigate whether the absence of a standard library in the premises or within the reach of the legislators and legislative staff has affected their perception of the role of library as a tool for legislative performance. This is the main thrust of this study.

2.10 Theoretical Framework

Contemporary approaches to legislative management (Ferreira et al., 2016) favours strategic alliance of knowledge and intellectual capital (human, structural and relational capital) as the main sources for a sustainable legislative intellect. In an increasingly globalized world, the effectiveness of the legislature in her roles of representativeness, oversight and law-making

depends significantly on legislative organizational intelligence which is the result of information and knowledge systems they have; the skills of its employees (ie the legislative bureaucracy) and how they relate to its stakeholders (Durst and Edvardsson, 2012). The current pace of global evolution requires conception of unique ideas and solution driven legislations to drive the advancement of society.

This study thus adopted the *Strategic Knowledge Management (SKM) Theory* as the theoretical basis of the research. As a theory, SKM relates to the processes and infrastructures deployed to attain, create and share knowledge for formulating strategy and making strategic decisions (Zack, 2002). A knowledge strategy defines the overall approach an organization intends to take to align its knowledge resources and capabilities to the intellectual requirements of its strategy. A strategic attitude is necessary to achieve sustainable legislative functioning.

Strategic Knowledge Management (SKM) Theory

From a practical perspective, legislatures require effective knowledge management if they must perform their constitutionally mandated functions. Consequently, several legislatures across the world evolve means dynamically manage knowledge and innovation in legislative practice (Ferreira et al., 2015). Knowledge does matter, but the question is when, how and why? (Carayannis and Campbell, 2009). Today, knowledge matters further and in forms that are not always predictable or even controllable. Knowledge systems are so highly complex, dynamic and adaptive (Carayannis and Campbell, 2009).

Numerous views on knowledge are discussed in several different scientific areas, such as strategy, management, organization theory literature and philosophy. Different views on

knowledge lead to different conceptualizations of (strategic) knowledge management. Our starting point is knowledge as a strategic resource for effective legislative functioning. This is in accordance with the Organizational Strategy Theory, specifically the Resource-Based View (RBV) of Organizations.

This study refers to SKM as a capability pertaining to knowledge creation, knowledge organization and storage, knowledge transfer and knowledge applications which enhances the legislature's ability to gain and sustain effective legislative functioning (Davenport and Prusak, 1998; Ferreira et al., 2016; Heisig et al., 2016). A knowledge-based view of the legislature asserts that these resources and capabilities are knowledge-related and knowledge-intensive resources and capabilities (Grant, 1997).

Interrogating the role of knowledge management systems in legislative practice, some questions can be raised:

- What resources can be used to create, acquire and integrate knowledge in knowledge-intensive processes?
- How can knowledge-intensive processes be designed, redesigned and adapted to changing technological and market conditions?
- What resources and capabilities can be used to design the processes?

In this regard, a key aspect of the process of knowledge creation and innovation is the ability of the legislature to absorb external knowledge – absorptive capacity. Absorptive capacity has emerged as a concept that connects across the literature on dynamic capabilities and

organizational learning (Teece et al., 1997; Zollo and Winter, 2002). Absorptive capacity was defined by Cohen and Levinthal (1989, p. 569) as “the firm’s ability to identify, assimilate and exploit knowledge from the environment.”

Furthering efforts to analyze the multidimensional nature of the concept, Zahra and George (2002) visualize absorptive capacity as a set of dynamic capabilities through which companies acquire, assimilate, transform and apply to external information and therefore constitutes a pre-requirement needed to implement innovation processes. Absorptive capacity could enhance the legislature’s capabilities to facilitate knowledge exchange processes, which can increase innovative legislation (Patterson and Ambrosini, 2015) and delivery of governance goals (Zahra and George, 2002; Carayannis et al., 2016).

SKM considers the interaction between technological and intellectual resources essential for the legislature’s survival (Heisig et al., 2016). This interaction is based on the distinction between the “old world of legislation” and the “global knowledge networking.”

In the context of this study therefore, the Parliamentarian becomes the knowledge seeker and the library provides the avenue for seeking the knowledge. The Parliamentarian is not completely ignorant. His previous knowledge on a matter facilitate his search for new knowledge in the library and the cumulative of the old and new knowledge add up to his competence and facilitates effective parliamentary services.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter presented of the method adopted for execution of this study. This is discussed under the following subheads: Research Design; Population of the Study; Sample Techniques; Sources of Data; Study Location; Sampling size; Method of Data Collection and Analysis and; Administration of Questionnaire. Proportional stratified random sampling was adopted in data gathering. The concept of Client-Based Oral-response Survey, which is the research design for this study, is also brought to the fore in this chapter.

3.1 Research Design

The research typology adopted for this study is the survey design using well-structured questionnaires which helps to gather perspectives from a particular sample out of a wide range of population. Quantitative and qualitative data were generated through field survey research design. Qualitative method is predicated on the fact that library as a tool for effective legislative performance require a conscious approach that is best captured by the descriptive and analytical methods. The essence of this survey was to determine the roles that the National Assembly Library plays on the execution of the job of the National Assembly staff and the satisfaction they derive from the services of the National Assembly library.

Consequently, another client-based oral-response survey was carried out amongst the staff at the National Assembly library which is situated within the National Assembly Library complex (behind the Senate building) and other supporting staff of the parliamentarians. The essence of this client-based oral-response survey was to determine how often the parliamentarians, legislative staff and staff of the National Assembly visit the library for research

enquires. The survey is also aimed at assessing the level of satisfaction that they derive from the services of the National Assembly library. Each respondent was orally responded to in the questionnaire in Appendix 1.

It is worthy of mention that questionnaires were equally used in this study as it is of the study that hinged to the survey method. Indeed, questionnaires help researchers to gather quantitative data from a group of samples. Thus, in this study, each respondent responded to the questionnaire in Appendix 1. The questionnaire was designed in such a way that it captured critical areas such as the demography, statuses, roles/job descriptions and functions of the recipients whether as ordinary staff or as Senators or Honourable Members of the House of Representatives. It is important to mention that in order to meet up with the ethical requirements of the research, the consents of all recipients were sought before response surveys were conducted. Also, necessary permission was sought from relevant authorities and agencies.

3.2 Population of the Study

The population for this study was drawn from two chambers in the National Assembly Senate, House of representatives, staff of the National Assembly library and National Assembly staff and aides.

Table 3.2.1: Legislative Records

S/N	Names	Population
1.	Distinguished Senators	109
	Honourable Memebrs	360
	Library Staff in NASS	15
	National Assembly Staff	3330
	Total	3,814

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

3.3 Sampling Technique

The method used in the Selecting respondents for this study called non-proportional stratified random sampling techniques. This is a method of sampling that involves the division of a population into smaller group known as strata so that no significant group is left unrepresented and it gives a greater control over the sample. The choice of the technique was to ensure that members of the institution population are those that are well informed and have requisite knowledge of the subject matter and and this necessitate a conscious identification of the individuals with such unique characteristics.

3.4 Sources of Data

The study engaged both primary and secondary sources of data. The required primary data were collected directly from the sample under study through the use of a well-structured questionnaire and interviews. The secondary data were gathered from relevant text books, bulletins, magazines, journals, newspapers, articles, term papers, archival documents and materials from the internet on the subject matter of this research work.

3.5 Study Location

The study location is the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. National Assembly is a Bicameral Legislature established under Section 4 of the Nigerian Constitution. It consists of Senate with 109 members and House of Representative with 360 members. The National Assembly, like many other organs of the Federal Government, is based in Abuja.

3.6 Sample Size:

In an effort to get reliable data, stratified random sampling was selected and respondents were given questionnaires to complete. The sample of the study consists of 10 distinguish senators, 10 house of representative member, 50 legislative Aides and 50 staff of National assembly are selected from the sampling. By this process, the total number of respondent selected for sampling is 120. The number respondents are chosen using “non-proportional stratified ransom sampling”

3.7 Method of Data Collection and Analysis

i. Data Collection

The questionnaire which is the instrument for data collection was administered to the repondents by the researcher. The structured questionnaire developed was used for collecting information from the respondent. A total of 120 respondents out of total population were sampled.

ii. Method of Data Analysis:

The method used in this study for analysing the data is tabular method of presentation. The data was presented in tabular form and analyzed in chapter four. The data was anaylsed in accordance with the responses from the questionnaire administred.

3.8 Administration of Questionnaires

The questionnaires administred by the resaercher were one hundred and twenty but only ninety (90) were retured by the respondents and collected by the resaercher.

In studying the library as a tool for effective legislative performance, focus was placed on the National Assembly Library. The choice of the National Assembly Library was due to the

fact that it will avail us the opportunity of measuring the extent to which the library becomes a veritable tool for the effective performance of the 109 Senators, 360 Honourable Members of the House of Representatives, their staff, as well as the staff of the National Assembly.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter handled presentation, analysis, and discussion of data collected in the course of this study. Statistical analyses include frequency distribution, simple percentages and measures of central tendency. This chapter also contains the presentation of data in which the responses gotten from questionnaires are brought to the fore. Subsequently, all the data were analyzed, discussed and interpreted.

4.1 Demographical Characteristics of Respondents

Table 4.1.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	60	66%
Female	30	34%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.1.1 represents the gender of the respondents. The statistics shows that 60(66%) of the respondents were male while 30 (34%) were female.

Table 4.1.2: Age distribution of Respondents

Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)
25 – 35	20	23%
36 – 45	40	44%
46 – above	30	33%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.1.2 indicated the age bracket of the respondents. The statistics shows that 20(23%) of the respondents are between the age of 25 – 35, 40 (44%) of the respondents are between the age of 36 – 45 while 30 (33%) are between the 46 and above. Based on the statistics majority of the respondents are between 35 to 45 years of age.

Table 4.1.3: Occupational distribution of Respondents

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Distinguish Senators and Honorable	2	2%
Legislative Aides	18	20%
National Assembly Staff	70	78%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.1.3 shows the occupational distribution of respondents. The statistics shows that 2(2%) of the respondents are MPs, 18 (20%) of the respondents are legislative Aides, while 70 (78%) respondents are staff of National Assembly. Based on the statistics, majority of the respondents are staff of the National Assembly.

Table 4.1.4: Educational Background of Respondents

Level of Education	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Ordinary Diploma	12	14%
HND	21	23%
BSc. Degree	20	22%
Masters' Degree	30	33%
Doctorate Degree	7	8%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.1.4 shows the educational background of respondents. The statistics shows that 12(14%) of the respondents have Ordinary Diploma, 21 (23%) of the respondents have Higher National Diploma. 20 (22%) of the respondents have BSc. Degree, 30 (33%) of the respondents have Masters while 7 (8%) of the respondents has Doctorate Degree qualification.

4.2. Data Presentations and Analysis

Table 4.2.1: Does the Nigeria National Assembly has a library?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	70	78%
No	4	4%
I don't know	16	18%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.2.1 above shows respondents' opinion whether the Nigeria National Assembly has a library. The statistics shows that 70(78%) of the respondents said yes, 4 (4%) of the respondents said No, while 16(18%) of the respondents said they don't know if there is a library in the National Assembly complex.

Table 4.2.2: Do you think an institution of the status of the National Assembly should have a library?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	74	82%
No	16	18%
I don't know	-	-
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.2.2 the above shows respondents' opinion that on if they think an institution of the status of the National Assembly should have a library? The statistics shows that 74(82%) of the respondents said Yes, 16(18%) of the respondents said No.

Table 4.2.3: Do you consider the library in the National Assembly to be of standard?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	30	33%
No	58	65%
I don't know	2	2%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.2.3 the above shows respondents' opinion on if they consider the library in National Assembly to be of standard? The statistics shows that 30(33%) of the respondents said yes the library in the National Assembly is of standard, 58(65%) of the respondents said no the library in the national assembly is not of standard, while 2(2%) of the respondents said they don't know if it is of standard or not.

Table 4.2.4: Does your work in the National Assembly either as a legislator or a supporting staff require the services of the library?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	70	78%
No	4	4%
I don't know	16	18%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.2.4 the above shows opinion of respondents of their opinion on if their work in the National Assembly either as a legislator or a supporting staff require the services of the library? The statistics shows that 70(78%) of the respondents said yes, 4(4%) of the respondents' response was no, while 16 (18%) of the respondents were said they don't know.

Table 4.2.5: Would you say the library of the National Assembly as it is now has met your needs in discharging your legislative duties?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	3	3%
No	67	75%
I don't know	20	22%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.2.5 the above shows respondents' opinions on if the library of the National Assembly as it is now has met your needs in discharging your legislative duties? The statistics shows that 3 (3%) of the respondents agreed, 67 (75%) of the respondents have disagreed, while 20 (22%) of the respondents were undecided.

Tables 4.2.6: Did you as a legislator or legislative aide/staff have cause to visit another library in the course of your duty with a view to getting more information/fact?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	67	75%
No	23	25%
Not sure	-	-
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.2.6 the above shows respondents' opinions on – did you as a legislator or legislative aide/staff have cause to visit another library in the course of your duty with a view to getting more information/fact? The statistics shows that 67 (75%) of the respondents said Yes, 23 (25%) of the respondents said No.

Tables 4.2.7: Do you think the National Assembly, as it is now, requires a major upgrade?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	80	89%
No	10	11%
Not sure	-	-
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.2.7 the above shows respondents' opinions on if they think the National Assembly as it is now require a major upgrade? The statistics shows that 80(89%) of the respondents opined a Yes, while 10(11%) of the respondents said No.

Tables 4.2.8: Library plays a major role in effective legislative services?

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	69	77%
No	21	23%
Not sure	-	-
Total	90	100%

Source: Field Survey, January 2023

Table 4.2.8 the above shows respondents' opinions on if library plays a major role in effective legislative services? The statistics shows that 69 (77%) of the respondents said Yes, 21(23%) of the respondents said No.

4.3 Analysis of Data

The data gotten from the questionnaire were indeed eye-opening. The data exposed the fact that most of Nigeria's insurmountable security, infrastructure, economic and sustainable developmental problems are caused by the fact that the Senators and House of Representatives Members do not have access to accurate information, guide, advice and research output from the National Assembly library which could vehemently boost their legislative engineering process. Hence, the data showed that the foundation of most of Nigeria's problems can be tied to the low level of output from the National Assembly library.

Consequently, it is apparent that the respondents wished that National Assembly library is made functional and equipped according to the requisite international standards in such a way that it would provide the requisite roles that would significantly boost legislative engineering processes in their offices and in the Senate and the House of Representatives Chambers. In

addition to the above, the staff also wished that they would have a very equipped National Assembly library that would ease their jobs and significantly boost Nigeria's economy. This observation shows that the staff are not unaware of the significance of the parliamentary library as a tool for enhancing the legislative performance, and that they are hoping that the National Assembly Library will be prioritized in the country.

4.4 Discussions

Among other findings made in this study, this study has revealed the primary reason why Nigeria has not been able to adequately address and provide long-lasting solutions to recurring issues ranging from insecurity, infrastructure and economic challenges since 1999. This reason is largely based on an apparently non-existent, ill-equipped and non-role playing National Assembly library. The Senate and the House of Representatives should treat the need to upgrade the National Assembly library as very important and urgent.

Having studied the role of the library as a tool for effective legislative performance through the case study of NASS, Abuja between years 1999 and 2022, this researcher has been able to come up with a number of propositions. Through the responses of Senators, Honorable Members of the House of Representatives, their staff as well as the National Assembly staff to the questionnaire put across to them, it was revealed that:

In respect to objective one of this study, regarding what is expected as the standard of a legislative libraries across the globe. It is revealed that legislative library should not only be a super structure but should have such provision as adequate multi-dimensional books, newspapers and journals, effective internet services, inter-library loan services, access to full-text electronic

databases, printing and photocopy service and well trained personnel to manage the services. In the literature overview of standards library review, it shows the capacity of the Library of Congress in the United States of America as a parliamentary library and also serves as a De facto National Library of the United States of America. The overview of the parliamentary library of Canada and the Library of Commons in the United Kingdom.

Objective two of this study is to examine the standard of the Nigeria National Assembly Library. The researcher during the period of this research work, visited the Nigeria National Assembly Library. The result from the visit, oral interview and via questionnaires, compared with the overviews of standard libraries around the world on what a standard library should look like, its contents and requirements of a standard library entails as explained in review in chapter 2 of this study. It shows that the Nigeria National Assembly Library cannot be compared to what a standard library should be from all indications. The Nigeria National Assembly library is below standard of great parliamentary libraries around the world. Based on this finding it will be difficult for such library to attract readers.

Objective three is to examine the usage of library for legislative process in Nigeria's National Assembly. The National Assembly Library apparently has been non-existent between years 1999 and 2022; and that it has not played the requisite role that it should be playing since its establishment when compared to other parliamentary libraries such as the United Kingdom's House of Lords and House of Commons libraries and the Library of Congress in the United States of America. Consequently, the study further revealed that between years 1999 and 2022, the National Assembly has badly neglected the development of its library in such a way that it did not meet the statutory international standards of the House of Lords, House of Commons

libraries and the Library of Congress in the United States of America. This has resulted in the quasi nature of the National Assembly Library, and this has in turn, influenced the level of productivity of Senators, Honorable Members of the House of Representatives, their aides as well as the National Assembly staff. The fact that little or no attempt has been made by the National Assembly to furnish or improve on the National Assembly Library remains a sad reality that needs to be addressed, if the Nigerian parliament will experience significant changes.

Studying the library as a tool for effective legislative performance in the National Assembly, Dennis Argall, the then Head of the Australian Parliamentary Research Services, presented a paper in 1990 to the Australasian Political Studies Association conference. In his paper, Argall critically examined the role of the research service in advising members of Australia's Commonwealth Parliament. He further explained that the service was one of two major facets of what was then the Department of the Parliamentary Library, and it was designed to make it easier for Senators and Members to deal effectively and constructively with the demanding array of issues and tasks for which they require information and policy advice (Argall 1990, 1). Since Argall presented his paper, the Australian Parliamentary Library has undergone several significant changes. It is very important to note as well that Australians cannot have a responsible government unless their legislators have adequate parliamentary libraries. (Argall 1990, 1).

Consequent upon the above, suffice this to explain that since the Senate and the House of Representatives ignored the need for a requisite, well-equipped National Assembly Library since year 1999, the Senate and the House of Representatives have performed woefully ever since. This is actually a result that is expected because a parliamentary foundation that is not

intellectually firm cannot produce resounding and internationally recognizable results.

It is equally sad to note that the Senate and the House of Representatives did not understudy how the Library of Congress in the United States of America, the House of Lords and House of Commons libraries, and other prominent parliamentary libraries across the world which can serve as universal archetypes, have been the source of the success of their Senate, Congress, House of Lords and House of Commons for the past 200 years. With the over 200 year's success story of great parliamentary libraries around the world in their political and economic life, it suffices to declare that the universal, standard, well-equipped and legislative roles played by legislative libraries make them veritable tools required for effective performance in all legislatures on earth. Thus, the need to focus on the development of the National Assembly Library at a time like this is too significant to be ignored.

Consequently, there is also an urgent need for the National Assembly to partner with the House of Lords and House of Commons and the Library of Congress in the United States since we practice a presidential system of government which is designed after the model of the United States of America in relation to the establishment and equipping a Senate library and a House of Representatives library within the National Assembly complex. This collaboration will go a long way to help in the growth and development of the National Assembly Library. It will also give global recognition and necessary international backing to the National Assembly in general, while Senators, Honourable Members of the House of Representatives, their staff as well as the National Assembly staff will have access to a wide range of information that will enrich them at individual and collective levels. This will also help to make them vast in the process of law making, policy implementation, and so on. In no time, this researcher believes that should the

above be considered, it will bring a lot of positive changes to Senators, Honourable Members of the House of Representatives, their legislative Aides as well as the National Assembly staff.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

This chapter concluded the research report and it contained the summary of the research work, makes recommendation and inferences from the study. Critical pathways that can be followed in relation to how the National Assembly Library can be developed were also suggested in this chapter.

5.1 Summary of findings

The first chapter of this research examines the introductory parts of this study in which the background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, research questions, the significance of the study, the scope and limitations of the study and definition of terms. In the second chapter, issues relating to conceptual review, information resources, library, parliamentary libraries, requirements of standard libraries, performance assessment, overview of selected standard libraries, and theoretical framework are examined. The third chapter of the study examined the research methodology, with critical attention to the use of client-based oral-response surveys, use of questionnaire and content analysis to gather data for this study. The fourth chapter contains the data presentation, analysis of research findings and discussions, whereby the data collated through the use of questionnaire are interpreted and discussed. In this present chapter which is the last, attempt is made to bring all discussions to a wrap and to clearly spell out the findings and observations of the study. By so doing, critical suggestions on the strategies that can be adopted in building and developing the National Assembly Library are submitted in this chapter.

5.2 Recommendations

Premised on the research objectives and drawing from the analyses and discourses of the findings of the study, the following recommendations were proffered from the study:

The National Assembly Library should, as a matter of priority, devote resources to developing and maintaining a functional library for the Legislature.

The management of the Nigeria National Assembly should acquire modern library information and communication technologies, connected with the efficient internet network, to ensure world class access to up-to-date knowledge resources to enable the legislators, aides and staff have access to adequate information to carry out their important mandates. The Library should also continue to develop and deliver ongoing training of library personnel (both in-house and external) to improve the processes for dealing with requests that require input from multiple researchers; provide guidance on the negotiation of scope and deadlines where required; and to improve standards for responses.

The National Assembly Library should develop policies to sensitize and promote library utility amongst legislators, aides and staff of the use and importance of reading and continuous research for effective legislative performance.

National Assembly library should seek collaboration with other standard parliamentary libraries around the world like the Library of Congress in the United States America etc. to pull and integrate the legislature into a network of robust information resources and services so as to facilitate information sharing for the benefit of legislators and their staff .

Alluding to the Strategic Knowledge Management Theory which was adopted for this study, it is recommended that the National Assembly should emphasize knowledge capital in all facets of her legislative practice to ensure proactive, world class delivery of legislators' roles of representation, oversight and law-making. Overall, the democratic evolution of Nigeria would benefit more when the legislature is knowledge driven, and the library is the primary repository of knowledge for this purpose.

5.3 Conclusion

This study found that the National Assembly does not have a functional and international standard library which can play the requisite roles that would boost legislative engineering processes in the Senate and the House of Representatives. During the course of this study it was also gathered orally that the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies' e-library functions as the support library for the National Assembly. Observably, the Nigeria National Assembly does not in any way meet the standards of the House of Lords Library, House of Commons library or the Library of Congress in the United States of America. Suffice to suggest that the Senate and the House of Representatives need to acknowledge the fact that they seriously erred by not making sure that the National Assembly got a functional and well-equipped library since year 1999 to support their constitutional responsibilities for an effective legislative performance. Taking a cue from the Strategic Knowledge Management (SKM) Theory adopted by this study, it was recommended that the National Assembly emphasize knowledge capital in all facets of her legislative practice to ensure proactive, world class delivery of legislators' roles of representation, oversight and law-making to overcome the myriad of challenges (security, economic, structural and sustainable development challenges) confronting Nigeria. Overall, the

democratic evolution of Nigeria would benefit more when the legislature is knowledge driven, and the library is the primary repository of knowledge for this purpose.

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APEENDIX 1

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

Good day Sir / Ma. I am a student of the National Institute of Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) ; Masters In Parliamentary Administration; I am carrying out my Masters degree research work titled: "Library as a tool for effective legislative performance: A study of The Nigerian National Assembly.

This questionnaire is aimed at finding out whether the National Assembly Library has impacted positively on your job, or not. I also want you to commend, or discredit the services of the National Assembly Library. Please mention the shortcomings and suggest improvement strategies.

Participation in this study is voluntary. Your name shall not be mentioned in this survey. You have the right to withdraw or terminate your participation from the study. Your decision to withdraw or terminate your participation will not, in any way be used against you.

All the information that you provide will not be recorded and will be treated with utmost confidentiality and be used strictly for academic and research purposes.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and response.

Yours sincerely,

O.F. Adeyinka (Ms)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SECTION A

Background

1. Sex: Male Female
2. Age: 25 -35 36-45 45 and above
3. Occupation: Distinguish Senators and Honourable
- Legislative Aides
- National Assembly Staff

4. Educational Background:

- Ordinary Diploma
- HND
- Bsc. Degree
- Masters Degree
- Doctorate Degree

SECTION B

5. Does the Nigeria National Assembly have a library?

Yes No I don't know

6. Do you think an institution of the status of the National Assembly should have a library?

Yes No I don't know

7. Do you consider the library in National Assembly to be of standard?

Yes No I don't know

8. Does your work in the National Assembly either as a legislator or a supporting staff require the services of the library?

Yes No Not sure

9. Would you say the library of the National Assembly as it is now has met your needs in discharging your legislative duties?

Yes No I don't need the library

10. Did you as a legislator or legislative aide/staff have cause to visit another library in the course of your duty with a view to getting more information/fact?

Yes No Not sure

11. Do you think the National Assembly Library as it is now require a major upgrade?

Yes No Not sure

12. Library plays a major role in effective legislative services?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comment.....
.....
.....

Thank you very much for responding to my questions.