



**Research Paper**

**TITLE**

**AUTHOR**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Library plays a very vital role in the promotion and effective functioning of UBE programmed in the country. However the absence of functional library in schools has crippled the efficiency of UBE programmer as enunciated by successive governments in Nigeria. This study therefore evaluated the importance of functioning library in the promotion of UBE programmer in three senatorial districts of kogi states. Data were gathered from a sampled population of 200 respondents through questionnaire technique . A mixed method of sampling comprising both random and purposive sampling was adopted and data collected were analyzed using percentage and chi-square statistical method . from the findings , respondents concluded that library is used for promoting functional and effective U BA programmer . recommendations such as government and corporate individuals should endeavor to pool resources together so that they can build functional libraries that can raise the standard of U B A programmer not only in kogi state but in Nigeria in general are made .*

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

All over the world, libraries have been a veritable tool for the promotion and enhancement of education at all levels . Thus , the attempt to encourage every citizen in Nigeria to be educated and literate especially through the universal primary Education(UPE) which has metamorphosed into universal basic education (UBA) is therefore a welcome development (Enueme, 2000). It was this necessity of education among the citizens of this country that the then President, Olusegun Obasanjo launched the Universal Basic Education (UBA) in September, 1999. The principal aim has been to bring education within the reach of as many children as many children as possible , to help produce enlightened citizens and a literate labour force that can learn new skills with ease. The UBE programme is aimed at improving the system of education from early childhood to early adolescence and Junior Secondary School Level.

However, this UBE programme cannot be effectively promoted to meet the yearning of these children without functional libraries in our schools according to Attama (2004), this UBE programme will be difficult to accomplish without efficient library services. Nze et al (2006) has also posited that the absence of functional libraries in the school system will pose a hindrance to the effective implementation of UBE since library seeks to drive the efficient and effective implementation of the UBE programme. The school library which is concerned with the collection, processing and dissemination, storage and retrieval of information is indispensable for effective UBE programme. Library which is permanent store knowledge, a gold mine of wisdom and a beehive of UBE programme (Ibrahim, 2006). Also Kumar (2014) concluded that library is an establishment charged with the care of the collection of information, the duty of making them accessible to those who require their use and the task of collecting every person in the neighborhood into a habitual library user and seeker of information. This cannot be an exception for Junior Secondary Schools in Kogi State. Therefore, there should be school libraries in pre-primary, primary and secondary schools for those pupils who are seeking knowledge. Fayose (1995) in Edoka (2000) opines that school library is the part of a school where a collection of book, periodicals, magazines, newspapers films and film stripes, video tapes, recording of all types, slides, computers, pupils for learning ,recreational activities, personal interest and inter-personal relationships of children in school.

The above tends to underscore the relevance of school library in promoting functional and effective UBE programme and that without efficient school library UBE programme cannot be totally implemented.

### Statement of problem

In the past there has been partial or total absence of school library in school prior to the introduction of UBE programme. This is because most schools and government pay little or no attention to school libraries. In some schools, there are no physical buildings to house books or journals rather they are packed in a principal's office (Dike 2001). This scenario has therefore generated a lot of concern to all including government, academia and society at large and they concluded that something has gone wrong with the present school system. A past attempt at repositioning the school library has met a brick wall since most schools cried of paucity of funds. Others who managed to have a mini-library did so at having few text books packed in one corner at the principals office (Correa, 2007). The press has therefore consistently decried this situation and concluded that there won't be an effective implementation of BUE programme without a functional library. It is this gap that the study intends to fill by ensuring that Government put in place a functional and formidable school library system that will drive the implementation of an effective UBE system. This is because the absence of this will bring about a serious negative consequence and a near collapse of the entire UBE programme. Scholars, educationalists and philosophers such as Kinel (2002), Yoloye (2003) have lent credence to the above and felt that urgent steps should be taken to reposition UBE programme with a functional school library. This study therefore put forward the following questions; what is the role of school library in promoting functional and effective UBE programme. What are the problems confronting this programme?

### Theoretical Framework

This study adopts the utilitarian theory of Jeremy Bentham a British philosopher. According to him utility simple refers to the satisfaction a person gets in whatever he buys or is being done to him/her. But in the context of this study, it refers to the level of satisfaction that both students and teacher derive from a functional library that could guarantee effective academic performance by students. According to the proponent of this theory utilitarianism provides greatest happiness for the greatest number of people in pursuance of this theory the end users of the library which are the students and teachers might derive utility value from a functional library that could enhance the academic performance of the student and the teachers. Therefore this theory advocate that for utilitarian values to be upheld in the academic circle the happiness which ought to accrue to the student and teachers in the current UBE programmed must surely emanate from a functional and effective school library.

### Relevance of school libraries in UBE programme

The relevance of school libraries in UBE programme are discussed below:

- i. Total development of a child: service offered through school libraries will assist the learner in his physical mental emotional social moral and educational development with the learning situation within and outside school environment.
- ii. Preparation for wide reading habits for higher education through life: the school libraries provide programmes and information sources that will lead children to read wide, purposely and for delight, pleasure and for instruction. Learning involves four basic processes listening seeing doing and reading.
- iii. Achieving self actualization and realization: school library service prepare the user to be self-aware of his potential and how to utilize them through reading print and non-print materials in the library in order to lay a solid foundation for life which UBE programme believe in it (onwuka,2002).
- iv. Referral sources: school libraries provide referral service such as making adequate use of resource available to them within and outside the library through inter-library cooperation and selective dissemination of information. According to Asowa and Ekuweme (2007) this will help to cater for the learning needs of each person to develop a strong consciousness for education.
- v. Orientation In The Use Of Library: Adequate information on the use of library resources at early childhood will enable the user to acquire the skills in seeking and retrieving of information in my library throughout life. It also strengthens the interpersonal relationship among the users, librarian and other library staff (Dike, 2001).
- vi. Information Awareness: The provision of adequate information to the learners will expose them to various vocational choices in academic with their and aptitude. Enlightenment campaign on the importance of UBE through school library services will enhance the success of UBE.
- vii.

### Research Question

Do you think school library can promote efficient UBE programme in schools?

### Research Hypothesis

H<sub>0</sub> There is no significant relationship between school library and better academic performance in UBE programme

## Research Design

This study adopted the cross-sectional survey design which entails the study of a group of people by eliciting data from a segment of people which is considered to be representative of the entire population so that the researcher is the one to make generalization from the data collected.

## Population

The study population consists of the UBE schools in the three senatorial districts of Kogi State.

## Sampling Techniques

The study used mixed method. In this case simple random sampling method was used to select two UBE school from each of the zones making a total of six school out of the three senatorial zones. A purposive sampling technique was also used to select the sample size of 200 respondents as follows:

- i. Eastern senatorial zones; 60 students and 10 teachers, making a total of 670 respondents.
- ii. Central senatorial zone; 50 student and 13 teacher making a total of 63 respondent
- iii. Western senatorial zone; 55 students and 12 teacher making a total of 67 respondents

This was done to make the sample representative. The Eastern senatorial district has the highest number of respondents because of its population followed by the Western and last the Central Senatorial zone.

From the findings, there is a significant relationship between school library and better academic performance in UBE programme. This is because at 0.5 level of significance, (3.84) the computer value of  $x^2$  is greater than  $x^2$  on the table. The finding therefore reject the null hypothesis.

## II. DISCUSSION

The findings in table 1a indicate that library is indeed used as a tool for promoting functional and effective UBE programme. Apart from this there is clear evidence that the absence of functional library poses challenging to the operation of UBA programme.

## III. CONCLUSION

The following conclusions were drawn as the result of this findings in the study: that for an effective UBE programme to operate with good academic performance, a functional library is needed for the both staff and students. Apart from this, UBE programme contribute in a great measure to academic success of junior secondary school in Kogi state in particular and as in general.

## IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

Government and cooperate individual Endeavour to put resource so that they can build a functional library that can raise the students of UBE programme.

There is also a need for the schools operating UBE programme to improvise were students should be able to have access to the library in their own way.

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