



## **RECREATIONAL CENTRES PATRONAGE IN KANO METROPOLIS**

**Bashir Abba**

*abbabash331@gmail.com*

**Department of Physical and Health Education**  
**Sa'adatu Rimi College of Education Kumbotso, Kano**

### **ABSTRACT**

*The aim of this research is to appraise the patronage of recreational centres in Kano Metropolis, Nigeria. The broad objectives of the study are to identify the recreational centres in Kano metropolis, to establish the recreational centres patronage in Kano metropolis, to examine the implications of the findings on planning for recreation areas in Kano metropolis, to make appropriate recommendation for better recreational centres patronage in Kano metropolis. The study utilize primary data by means of questionnaire instrument. A total of 400 questionnaires were administered for the survey and samples of three recreational centres which include Gidan Makama Museum, Kano Zoological Garden and Kofar Mata Dye Pit as most popular attraction recreational centres in Kano Metropolis. In accordance with the objectives the study reveals that patronage of the centres are occasionally visited by patrons due to awareness of the recreation and economic status of the people because most of the people that visited the centres are upper class people. And beside that many people go for recreation as a result of historical and research purposes and also the recreational centres need to have good facilities and equipment, accessible road network and a good time management. The research recommends that since location of some recreational centres are not conducive for patrons due to distance, a transport model should be designed that can convey patrons at ease and at low cost to these centres. This will encourage most patrons to find time to go spend their leisure time in these centres. Recreation should be done at all times not seasonal or during festivals and other celebrations and also security has to be improved in the recreational centres.*

**Keywords: Recreation, Patronage, Recreational Centres.**

### **Introduction**

Man requires time every day to exist and work in order to earn a living. Beyond these purposes, his time is discretionary to spend as he wills. This is his leisure time. Most often man requires using this time in recreation as a means of improving his general health and social life. Burton (1971) noted that in the past, when cities had not received rapid urbanization and technological changes, recreation was looked upon as a moment of passing time. It is time that as urbanization increases so does the need for recreation. This is based primarily on man's biological need to retain some association with nature (outdoors) and man's psychological need for contrast in spatial surroundings and activities. Wealth and freedom avails people with more leisure time to seek recreational activities, however, facilities at the recreational environment are in limited supply. Recreation refreshes the mind and the body thus preparing people for intellectually and economically gainful work. There are three major functions which recreation performs these are relaxation, entertainment, personal and social development.

Recreation, as relaxation provides a respite from work, a period in which the individual can rest mentally and physically from the demands of work and other necessary activities; as entertainment, it provides an antidote to the body and repetition that are often involved in work, impersonal and domestic activities and in retirement. And as a means of personal and social development it serves to allow the individual to develop along lines which may contrast significantly with the often restrictive thoughts and action that work and other activities may permit. Therefore, recreation is a necessity for everyone, irrespective of age, sex, levels of education and income. In Nigeria, recreation has always been part of social life. The traditional cities were characterized by open spaces, like the market squares, the ceremonial squares and open spaces within the walled compounds, which were used for various recreation activities; the colonial era witnessed the introduction of modern recreation facilities like swimming pools and athletic fields.

Recreational and leisure are common terms used among elites and those in the field of physical Education, leisure and tour professionals. Today the advert of desire for better living has been commonly stated. Most health and education professionals are looking forward to seeing people engaging in activities that would help them spend their free time (leisure) wisely in such a way that would boost their physical, social and emotional health. A common phenomenon regarding recreation and leisure is appropriate decision for participation and choice of facilities and environment which may be attributed to socio-economic status, educational background and environment.

As a result of the growing population, Kano state is faced with serious recreational needs. Based on this, this thesis intends to investigate the factors affecting the patronage of recreational centres in Kano metropolis.

## **Statement of Research Problem**

Recreation is an essential part of human life and has many different forms which are shaped naturally by individual interests or by the surrounding social construction (McLean *et al.*, 2005). Recreational activities can be communal or solitary, active or passive, outdoors or indoors, healthy or harmful, and useful for society or detrimental (Thomas, 1970). The need to do something for recreation is an essential element of human biology and psychology. Recreational activities are often done for [enjoyment](#), [amusement](#), or [pleasure](#) and are considered to be [fun](#). (McLean *et al.*, 2005) Many recreational activities are organized, typically by public institutions, voluntary group-work agencies, private groups supported by membership fees, and commercial enterprises. Humans spend their time in [activities of daily living](#), [work](#), [sleep](#), social duties, and leisure, the latter time being free from prior commitments to physiologic or social needs, a prerequisite of recreation.

Recreation is a vital need in today's world, it is one of the greatest opportunities for self-expression, doing what one really wants to do and not what one is forced to do to earn a living. Therefore the factors underlying this research include the factor affecting the patronage of recreational centres. Kano metropolis has many recreational centres' which include the Kofar Mata dyeing pit, Kano Zoological garden, Gidan Makama Museum, and Gidan dan Hausa to mention but few. Recreational activities provides participants with benefits such as, personal fulfilment, health and fitness, fun and happiness, education, character development etc. In the light of the above sated benefits of recreation, individuals in Kano metropolis have been encouraged and motivated by both the government, private individuals and religious bodies to participate in recreation through the establishment of recreational centres and recreational events. Despite the encouragement, patronage of recreational centres is very low in Kano metropolis, hence the need in determining the factors responsible for patronage of recreational centres in the study area. Therefore this study seeks to identify the factors affecting the patronage of recreational centres in Kano metropolis.

## **Aim of the Study**

The aim of this study is to investigate the recreational centres patronage and factors determining it in Kano metropolis, with the view of making appropriate recommendations towards improving the patronage of recreational centres.

## **Objectives of the Study**

The specific objectives of the study are stated below as follows.

1. To identify the recreational centres in Kano metropolis.
2. To investigate the patronage at recreational centres in Kano metropolis.
3. To identify factors responsible for the patronage of recreational centres in Kano metropolis.
4. To explore the implications of the findings on planning for recreation areas in Kano metropolis.
5. To make appropriate recommendation for better recreational centres patronage in Kano metropolis.

## **Research Questions**

In this research work the following research questions are raised in order to investigate the patronage in recreational centres and factors determining it in Kano metropolis.

1. **What are the existing recreational centres in Kano metropolis?**
2. **What is the level and nature of patronage at recreational centres in Kano metropolis?**
3. **What factors influence the patronage of recreational centres in Kano metropolis?**
4. **What are the implications of the study's findings for planning recreation areas in Kano metropolis?**
5. **What recommendations can be made to improve patronage of recreational centres in Kano metropolis?**

## **Scope of the Study**

The scope of the study comprised only the functional recreational centres in Kano metropolis which include Dala, Municipal and Gwale as the most populous local government areas in Kano metropolis. And also the study includes the factors responsible for recreational centres patronage.

## **Limitation of the Study**

In this research work, the study was limited to more patronage centres as desired information could be obtained. In the field investigation, the research was also limited to respondents who patronized recreational facilities in Kano metropolis which include adults, teenagers and children.

## **Justification**

Recreation in Nigeria as a whole is generally low due to lack of sufficient leisure time and lack of habit to exercise or make out time for relaxation. The nature of involvement in recreation activities is haphazard, no fixed time or days for recreation and this is typical among adults. This low level of involvement in recreation activities by most adults in Nigeria is due to lack of adequate information on the implication of deficiency in recreational performance. And this is why most of the rate of high risk of health complications is on the increase in the country. It becomes imperative for this study to unravel the factors responsible for the low participation of adults in recreation activities in Kano metropolis. At the end the study will be able to serve as a guide in constructing viable policies for creating the needed environment for recreation that is, by providing recreation facilities in urban areas in Nigeria at large.

## Methodology

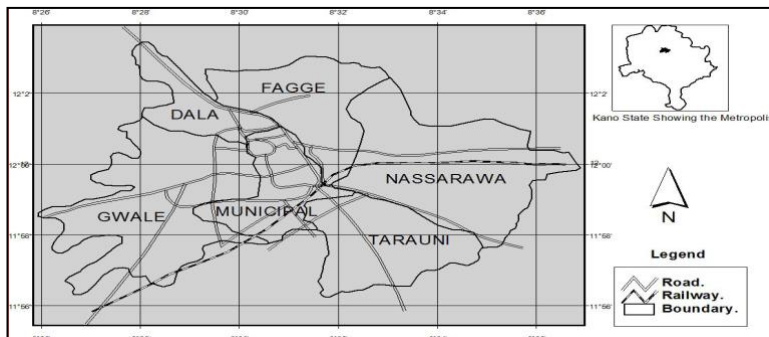
These are the methodological framework used in attaining the stated aims and objectives of the study: the research design, type and sources of data were examined along with the procedure employed in testing the research questions and accomplishing the study objectives. In particular, focus was on the study populations/sample frame and its characteristics, sampling technique chosen, and description of the choice of data collection instruments, questionnaire design, and methods of data measurement, analysis and presentation.

## Research Design

This section addressed the plan, structure and strategy of investigation of factors that influences the patronage by patrons in the recreational centres in Kano metropolis of Kano State. Therefore, descriptive survey method of data collection is used in order to measure the level of the patronage in the recreational centres.

## Research Study Area

Metropolitan Kano encompasses all the eight local governments of Dala, Fagge, Gwale, Municipal, Nassarawa, Tarauni, part of Kumbotso and Ungogo. It lies from Latitudes  $11^{\circ} 52'N$  to  $12^{\circ} 7'N$  and Longitudes  $8^{\circ} 22.5'E$  to  $8^{\circ} 47'E$  and is 1549ft. above sea level. Kano metropolis is bounded by Minjibir LGA on the North East and Gezawa LG. to the East. While Dawakin Kudu LG. to the South East, Madobi and Tofa LGA's to the South West and lastly, Dawakin Tofa LG. to the North West (Ahmed, 2010). The climate of Kano is typical dry and wet climate. Annual rainfall is about 850 – 870mm. The temperature is averagely warm to hot throughout the year at about  $27^{\circ}C$  (Olofin and Tanko, 2002).



**Fig 1: Showing locations of some selected recreational centres (6 Core LGA)**

## Data Needed and Data Collection

The study will be conducted using primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected using oral interview, field survey and structured questionnaire. The secondary data was obtained from existing literatures such as: journals, published and unpublished thesis, textbooks and related materials. The questionnaire was served to the participants, staffs and management of the recreation centres.

**TABLE 3.1: TYPES OF DATA NEEDED AND SOURCES**

Objectives	Data Required/Type	Data source	Method of Data Collection	Method of Data Analysis
To identify the recreational centres in Kano metropolis,	The location of recreational centres in Kano metropolis will be shown in the above map.	From a different geographical location in Kano metropolis.	Visitation of some selected recreational centres in Kano.	Descriptive survey method were used to analyse the data.
To investigate the level of patronage on recreational centres in Kano metropolis.	Information on the rate of patronage and the reasons behind the level of patronage.	Officials at Recreation centres and patrons.	Interview and Questionnaire were used to collect the data from the participant of the recreational centres.	Content analysis on percentage response from officials and patrons.
To identify factors responsible for the level of patronage on recreational centres in Kano metropolis.	Participants data on age, occupation, amount, available facilities, reason for the patronized recreation centre, distance to the centre and mode of transportation	Patrons	Questionnaire	Chi-square test
To explore the implications of the findings on planning for recreational areas in Kano metropolis	Analysis of the above collected data	Officials and participants in the recreation centres	Structured interview and questionnaire	Narrative summary analysis, tables and charts

*Source: Field survey 2014*

### Method of Data Collection

The data required for this research work were obtained from primary and secondary sources. The primary data were obtained through questionnaires and were complemented with reconnaissance survey of the recreational centres and the patrons of the centres without intruding into their activities and oral interviews of participants (adults) at the recreational centres who reside in Kano metropolis and officials of the recreational centres in the metropolis. Secondary data were obtained from textbooks, journals, newspaper, unpublished materials, research reports, maps and charts.

### Sample Size Determination

A number of models have been developed to estimate sample size from a given population size. In this research work, Yomens (2000) formula for determining sample size from a population is adopted and used. The population of the study area, given by the National population Commission is 2,163,225. Thence, Yomens (2000) formula is given as follows:

$$SS = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} \quad (3.1)$$

Where,

$SS$  is the sample size,  $N$  is the population size and  $e$  is the tolerable error in investigating the population.

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} SS &= \frac{9,401,288}{1 + 9,401,288(0.05)^2} \\ &= \frac{9,401,288}{3250000} \\ &= \end{aligned}$$

Hence, 400 questionnaires were distributed to the various participants in Kano Metropolis recreational centers listed in the research sample frame.

### Sample and Sampling Technique

The sample for this study is 400 patrons selected through availability sampling technique. Availability sampling is a procedure in which the researcher will use the subjects that are available during the data collection. The simple random sampling is adopted

for this research work. It is that method of drawing a portion (sample) of a population so that each member of the population has an equal chance of being selected. In other words, in a simple random sampling all possible samples of fixed size have the same probability of being selected (Osuala, 2001).

### Content of the Questionnaire

The designed questionnaire for this research work is sectionalized into two; Section A and Section B. Section A consist of bio-data and access to recreational facilities with questions regarding respondents' gender, occupational status, age, residing local government, educational level, amount paid to access recreational centre, if recreational facilities in the centres patronized by the respondents meet their recreational needs, the reason for choosing the recreational centre they patronize, distance travel to reach the recreational centre, mode of transportation to the recreational centres, the type of recreational centre the respondents engage in, what factor encourage the respondents to visit the recreational centre and what factor discourage visitation to the recreational centres.

### Data Analysis and Presentation

Data concerning demographic bio data was analysed using frequency distribution table with percentages. The first research question is answered using responses obtained from officials of the recreational centres in Kano metropolis and responses from patrons. The second research question is answered using Chi-square Test statistic so as to establish if there is a dependence of different factors (age, occupation, amount, available facilities, reason for the patronized recreation centre, distance to the centre and mode of transportation) on the level of patronage on recreational centres in Kano metropolis. Whereas, the third and fourth research questions are answered using the paired *t*-test statistic to examine patrons knowledge of recreation usefulness and perception on the recreation facilities in Kano metropolis. Also to examine if, patrons are satisfied with the facilities and the officials in Kano metropolis recreational centres.

### Results and Discussions

The results of finding this research in tabular form. Each table is described to give more meaning to the table.

### Results

The researcher will demonstrate the finding's by means of descriptive statistic before the analysis of the result.

Table 4.1 what is the level of recreational centres patronage in Kano metropolis?

**Table 4.1: I X<sup>2</sup> Results on Recreational Centres Level of Patronage**

Recreational Centres	Level of patronage		Total	Df	x <sup>2</sup> value	Prob.
	High	Low				
<b>G/Makama</b>						
F.O.	100	50	150	2	12.12	.002
F.E.	108.8	41.3				
<b>K/Mata</b>						
F.O.	30	20	50			
F.E.	36.3	13.8				
<b>Zoological Garden</b>						
F.O.	160	40	200			
F.E.	145.0	55.0				
<b>Total</b>	290	110	400	2	12.12	.002

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table I above shows the recreational centres' levels of patronage and revealed that 100 (25%) of the participants have high level of patronage to Gidan Makama Museum while 50 (12.5%) participants have low level of patronage. The data also indicated that 30 (5%) participants have low level of patronage. The data also revealed that 160 (40%) participants have high level of patronage to Kano Zoological garden while 40 (10%) have low level of patronage. From this table, it can be concluded that recreational centres in Kano have high level of patronage from the people  $\chi^2$  12.12 at 2, ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Table 4.2.1 II X<sup>2</sup> Demonstrate the raw data obtained by means of percentage**

$$X^2 = \frac{(\sum O - E)^2}{E}$$

Responses	Availability of Facilities	Percentages	Accessibility to Facilities	percentages	Availability of Time	percentages
<b>Adequate</b>	310	77.5	300	75	370	92.5

<b>Inadequate</b>	90	22.5	100	25	30	7.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field Survey, 2014**

Table II above on availability of facilities as a factor that determines their patronage to the centres reveals that 310 (77.5%) participants agree while 90(22.5%) participants disagree. On accessibility to the facility (i.e. location), 300 (75%) participants agree while, 100 (25%) disagree. On availability of time, 370 (92.5%) participants agree while 30 (7.5%) participants disagree. From the table above, it can be concluded that availability of facilities, accessibility to the facilities and availability of time are significant factors for people’s patronage to recreational centres in Kano Metropolis.

**Discussion of Findings**

Availability of recreational facilities the present funding on availability of recreational facilities as a factor for patronage of a centre frequency of 310 (77%) vs 90 (22.5%) and as it influences patronage to a particular centre  $\chi^2$  64.000 df 1,  $p < 0.005$  both indicated that availability of facilities is a factor that strongly influences one’s choice of a centre in Kano. This study agrees with that of Agimilua (2009) who works on Tourism participation, attraction, influences and key trends in Ekiti State, Nigeria, where 92% of the respondents agree that factors and their determining patronage to a recreational facilities, shelter, commerce, food and beverages facilities. The reason for similarities between these two studies could be due to setting i.e. both studies are conducted within Nigerian cities with people having similarities in their perception and practice of tourism and recreation.

## **Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations**

It can be recalled that the main aim of this research work is to investigate the patronage in recreational centres and factors determining it in Kano metropolis. In achieving this, five research questions and four hypothesis were raised to ascertain the level of patronage. Chi-square test was performed to determine the factors that influence patrons' patronage and simple frequency count percentages were used to determine the factors for patronage in the recreational centres in Kano metropolis.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the findings of this study, it is concluded that; availability of facilities, accessibility and time available for participation in recreation activities are factors for patronage in recreational centres in Kano metropolis. In conclusion, study on the level of patronage of recreational centres is essential for Nigeria in which Kano state is not an exception. This is because it will expose loop holes that need to be filled so as to revitalize recreation business and as well as tourism in Nigeria and Kano state in particular. However from the study it can be concluded that recreational centres in Kano metropolis need to have a modern facilities and equipment that will motivate patronage to recreational centres.

### **Recommendations**

In view of the findings of this study, the following recommendations are hereby made.

1. Recreation activities in recreational centres in Kano metropolis and Kano state entirely need to be remodelled so as to attract more patrons to patronize the centres. This can be done through incorporation and provision of modern recreation centre designs and working facilities.
2. Fee for accessing these facilities should not be at exorbitant rate so that patrons' patronage will increase.
3. Since location of some recreational centres are not conducive for patrons due to distance, a transport model should be designed that can convey patrons at ease and at low cost to these centres. This will encourage most patrons to find time to go spend their leisure time in these centres with no second thought.
4. Kano state ministry of Tourism and Culture should collaborate with other stakeholders into tourism and recreation business in the state on how to carryout public enlightenment on the importance of recreation and the need for visiting recreation centres.

## REFERENCES

Burton, L. T. (1971). *Experiments in Recreation Research*, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, Routledge, London.

McLean, D. D., Hurd, A. R., Rogers, N. B. (2005). *Kraus' Recreation and Leisure in Modern Society, 7th Edition*. Jones and Bartlett. P.1ff [ISBN 0-7637-0756-2](https://www.isbn-international.org/product/9780763707562).

Olofin, E. A. and Tanko, A. I. (2002). Some Aspect of Physical Geography of Kano Region and Related Human Responses. Hand Book for Students Field Trip, Geography Department Bayero University, Kano.

Osuala, E. C. (2001). *Introduction to Research Methodology, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*. Africana-FEP Publishers Limited, Onitsha-Nigeria.

Thomas S. Yukic (1970). *Fundamentals of Recreation, 2nd edition*. Harpers & Row, Library of Congress 70-88646