### Army in Politics: Military Intervention and Rule in Nigeria

Military coup d'etats and the military regimes which follow them are a feature especially of the countries in the Third World. Military interventions take place because there is no real moral constraint which prevent them. the Third World countries are regarded politically and socially weak. Political leaders incapacity, dishonesty or ethnic favouritism add to the occasioning of military interventions.

The main aim of this study is to analyse the conditions and reasons which most favour military intervention in politics. Also there is the analysis of the proper role of the military in relation to a country's government and the civilians. Here the military rule is regarded as it is not any form of a good governance. It thus causes political, and economical, instability.

The military has dominated Nigerian political arena longer than their civilian, democratically elected, counterparts. There has been a cycle of the military succeeding itself in Nigeria. Mostly Nigerian ethnic and religious diversity has caused the succeedings. It is very difficult to institutionalise authoritarian rule when there persist pluralistic conflicts that are factionalising the whole society. These continous conflicts also keep the Nigerian state off-balance.

Indeed, the scramble for political power by both the military and the civilians has been undoing of the country. This far no viable and integrative political or economic order has been established. Political violence is a continuous phenomena in Nigeria. In spite of this, Nigerians seem to remain deeply committed to the goal of democracy.

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