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从部族社会

到民族国家

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刘鸿武 等著

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从部族社会到民族国家

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A Survey of The National Development of Nigeria

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From Tribal Society to Nation-State: A Survey of The National Development of Nigeria

ABSTRACT

This is a case-study of Nigeria in the author's research in the African countries to the South of Sahara. Over three decades since they won independence, these countries have completed national integration and embarked on the course of developing an integrated modern nation-state from loose ethnical and tribal society by ending isolation or strife among the former aboriginal ethnical groups and tribes. The research goes further into the mode of Nigerian national integration and development, Nigerian strategies and policies to settle ethnical conflicts and the successes and failures.

The first part is a review of the traditional political system of pre-colonial Nigeria, slave trade, how Western powers carved up the Nigerian territory and the impact of Western rule over the growth of modern Nigeria. It analyses the feature of Nigerian de-colonization and mode of gaining independence, and also the influence of the mode of creation a new country and Western political legacy on Nigerian national unification. The political transformation from the early 60s, the First Republic, to 1999, the Third Republic setup by Obasanjo, the significant events, political reforms for civil govern-

ment and military government, changes of constitution and political party system, national unification policy and the construction of national culture are covered in this study. The author thinks the main achievement of Nigeria and other African countries on the 20th century is their de-colonization, national independence and the formation of their nation-states of modern type, which has laid the cornerstone for the economic and social development of Africa including Nigeria and promised Africa a bright future in the 21st century.

As theoretical studies, the research covers the history and the present reality of Nigeria, focusing on its cultural tradition and political progress as a modern country. It gives a comprehensive analysis of the complicated relationship between Nigerian tradition and modernity from the viewpoints of historical and cultural studies, political, sociological and anthropological theories.

Prof. Liu Hongwu is teaching courses of African and World history on Yunnan University. He is Deputy Director of Centre for International Relationship Studies of Yunnan University, a Council Member of Chinese Society of African Historical Studies and guest professor of Centre for African Studies of Peking University. He has issued a series of works and essays on African history, culture and current development. As a senior visiting scholar, he conducted two-year research during 1991-1992 in Lagos University of Nigeria, under the guidance of Nigerian Professor A. I. Asiwaju and E. J. Alango.

This study is sponsored by Humanity Studies Fund of National Education Commission of China. It is an important achievement in the research in African history, culture and political development by

Chinese scholars. It intends to provide new understanding of the socio-political economic development of modern Africa so as to contribute to Sino-African friendship and further cooperation.