

NIGERIAN JOURNALS A GROWTH AND PROFILE STUDY

F. Adetoun Ogunsheye¹

I wish to congratulate *The Nigerian Field* for the seventieth anniversary of its founding. It is a pleasure to note that a journal or periodical publication can exist for seventy years in Africa where the average life span of periodicals is estimated to be five years [Oyinloye 1999]. I also wish to thank the secretary of the planning committee for asking me to be part of the celebration activities. I feel honoured to have been asked.

African journal publishing has been given considerable attention by the knowledge communication professionals, i.e. librarians and publishers, in the closing decade of the twentieth century. Some organisations have been active in promoting the documentation of the intellectual products of scholars and scientists in the African continent, since the wind of change for independence blew in 1960. Three of these organisations have made significant contributions to the documentation of African books and periodicals. The first was the Standing Conference on Library Materials in Africa SCOLMA, established in 1962 by British librarians "to facilitate the acquisition and preservation of library materials needed for African studies and to assist in the recording and use of such materials". With funds from the Leverhulme Trust, they initiated the project which resulted in the SCOLMA Newsletter *Library Materials from Africa*, a union list of periodicals in British Libraries.

The ten year cumulation of these issues was published in Carole Travis and Miriam Alman, *Periodicals from Africa; A bibliography and Union list of Periodicals published in Africa*. Boston: G. K. Hall, 1977. This publication listed 17,000 titles for all of Africa except Egypt. It also provided the locations in 60 libraries in Britain. The geographic index listed 1,639 titles for Nigeria.

The publication was updated with the supplement: David Blake and Carole Travis, *Periodicals from Africa A bibliography and Union list of periodicals published in Africa. First Supplement*, Boston Mass.: G. K. Hall, 1984. This supplement carried additional 7,000 titles, 420 of which were listed under Nigeria

Hans M. Zell has been in the forefront of documentation of African publishing since 1970. *The African Book Publishing Record* has provided complete bibliographic coverage for materials on Africa on a quarterly basis since 1975.

¹F. Adetoun Ogunsheye was Professor & Head of Dept. of Library Studies, University of Ibadan 1972 - 1980

4 THE NIGERIAN FIELD

The latest addition to his effort on the documentation of African publishing is: Hans M. Zell & Cecile Lomer, *Publishing and book development in sub-Saharan Africa; an annotated bibliography*. London: Hans Zell Publishers, 1996. It is an annotated bibliography on books and serials publications. A significant section of this work is devoted to Nigeria and Nigerian writings on publishing.

The international based *Ulrich's Periodicals' Index* maintains an electronic database on the world's periodical literature. The download of the section on Nigeria yielded over 400 titles of Nigerian periodicals. The information provided on each periodical is worth mentioning. This database presented for each periodical includes ten to twenty field categories for identification and description of the scope and offerings of the journal as follows. For the journal *Abacus*, a mathematical quarterly it gives the following description:

ISBN	0001-3099
Title	Abacus
Publishing body	Mathematical Association of Nigeria
Country	Nigeria
Status	Active
Start year	1960
Frequency	annual
Document type	academic / scholarly
Media	Print
Language	Text in English
Price	₦5 subscription per year
Subject	Mathematics
Dewey	510
LC no.	QA1
CODEN	ABCSB6
Special features	Book reviews
Editor(s)	R.O. Obuche
Abstracting & indexing service; publisher / distributor information	Architectural Publications Index
CORPORATE AUTHOR	
Name:	Mathematical Association of Nigeria
General address	c/o Department of Education, University of Nigeria, Nsukka campus, Enugu state, Nigeria.

The offering for the same journal in the SCOLMA list is as follows:

Abacus, a mathematical quarterly; 1 (1), July 1960- Ministry of Education. X

There is no doubt that the offering in the Ulrich's list is the result of extensive research on

each periodical and this is what will be required of librarians for developing their own database of knowledge resources in future.

The data from both sources have been used in this study. It is note worthy to mention them at the beginning of this study and to acknowledge the roles of the staff of the School of Oriental and African Studies and The British Library in allowing their resources to be searched and materials downloaded. I am indebted to my friend of over fifty years standing, Dr Elaine Robson, who undertook to do the search for me in London, while I lay ill in Surrey. She procured the diskette of databases which my son in the Information Technology Industry reformatted for my Apple Macintosh computer. He also printed out hard copies for my study and analysis. My new iMac was also a gift from him. Thus through IT I was able to commence my study in the comfort of my room in Epsom, Surrey.

Ten years before Independence in Nigeria, the documentation of Nigerian publications, including periodicals, started in the University College, Ibadan, Library. John W. Harris, our first Librarian and father of Nigerian bibliography, laid the foundations for Nigeria's National Bibliography and put structures in place - depository laws and ordinance and regular publication of *Nigerian Publications*. There was even an original publication *Nigerian Periodicals Publication 1950-1955*, followed by continuing periodical listings in *Nigerian Publication*. This first bibliography of Nigerian periodicals listed 306 titles for Nigeria. John Harris writes:

The current list compiled by Mr. S.C. Nwoye, Assistant Librarian in charge of the University Library's Africana Section... gives the names of all Nigerian newspapers and periodicals received since the Ordinance came into force in April 1950. The term periodical is interpreted widely enough to include yearly publications such as annual reports of Government departments. [John Harris 1956]

Subsequent lists of current periodicals appeared in the annual list of *Nigerian publications*.

The Nigerian Publications Ordinance of 1950 was replaced by the Nigerian National Library Edict in 1970. The National Library of Nigeria by this Edict took over the responsibility for the compilation and publication of the *National Bibliography of Nigeria 1970-*.

Defining the Journal

The term journal itself constituted a problem. My first reaction was to limit my study to the corpus of Nigerian scholarly journals, which record current research through publication in printed media This would have limited me to the study of only 65 periodical titles listed in the Committee of University Librarians of Nigerian Universities project *Nigerian Periodicals Index*, headed by B.U. Nwafor. I however discovered that some scholarly journals had been produced under the title "magazine" in the past such as *Nigeria Magazine*. At the

international level, *The National Geographic Magazine* and others that are presenting information at the frontiers of knowledge are titled "magazine". Some periodicals with seemingly popular titles carry both scholarly papers and popular information. I noted that the corpus of sources I had acquired to study did not agree with my ideas on Nigerian journals. The SCOLMA list of *Periodicals from Africa 1977* and the *Supplement 1985* listed over one thousand titles. It included government gazettes, annual reports, library accession lists and monographic series, alongside alumni, school and college magazines, popular family magazines and newspapers. The *Ulrich's list of Periodicals* database with only 400 titles for Nigeria was more selective. It excluded school magazines and annual reports. I noted that they all avoided the use of the term journal. Their lists were titled *Periodicals from Africa* and *Ulrich's Periodicals Index* (subset Nigeria) respectively. UNESCO also refrained from using the term journal in its publications, preferring the words periodical or serial.

I decided to refer to the *Oxford Dictionary* and the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* for an acceptable definition. I was exposed to beautiful treatises and essays on the history and changes in use of the word journal and magazine. It became clear that the term journal had been used for daily records of events – diaries written by individuals. Ladies of leisure, governments and churches kept journals in the past. The word itself is derived from the Latin term meaning daily record. The meaning has changed from the daily, ephemeral records of the 17th century to records of government parliamentary transactions, marine and naval daily records, trade records, accounting records in book keeping, daily newspapers or commentaries on current events and daily record of news in the eighteenth century. By the 19th century, the term was used for the transactions of public bodies, organisations and even governments and was referred to as the public journal.

The advent of the magazine in the late seventeenth century, "also called periodical, a printed collection of texts (essays, articles, stories, poems) often illustrated, that is produced at regular intervals" [Encyclopaedia Britannica] as a medium of intellectual discourse, added to the confusion in the use of the terms journal and magazine. *The Tatler*, *The Spectator*, *The Gentleman's Magazine* that developed were highly rated as the best examples of intellectual discourse of the period. They were followed at the end of the century by specialised periodicals "devoted to particular fields of intellectual interest, such as archaeology, botany or philosophy". *The London Field* was such a journal. *The Nigerian Field* established in 1931, and whose seventieth anniversary we are now celebrating, was patterned after *The London Field* as a medium for publishing field observations of wild life, flora and culture [Joyce Lowe].

The history of *The Nigerian Field* is also scheduled for this celebration so I would not like to pre-empt that contribution. *The Nigerian Field* was sponsored by government civil servants, scholars and scientists, who wanted an outlet for their observations, findings and studies of the local environment and culture.



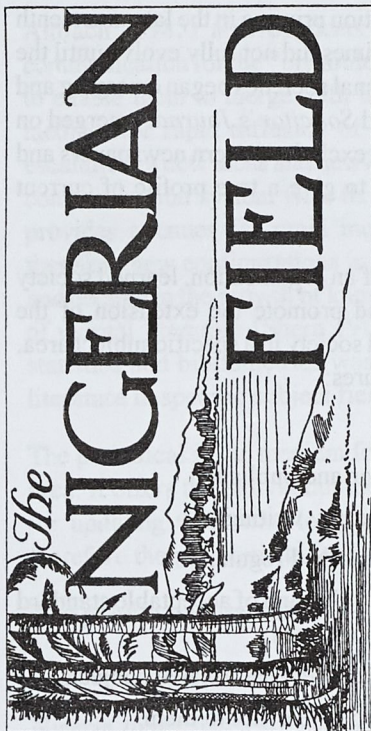
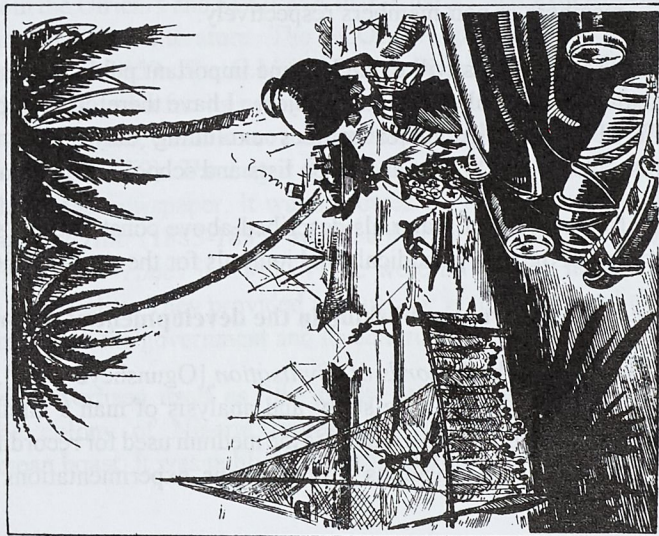
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The Journal of The Nigerian Field Society

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

YORUBA HUNTERS' SALUTES

BIRDS OF THE BENUE RIVER

SOME COMMON NIGERIAN REPTILES

PIERCED STONES OF THE GOLD COAST

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The popular magazine which we are familiar with in modern times did not develop until the introduction of modern printing methods and colour illustration printing in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The scholarly journals of modern times did not fully evolve until the nineteenth century, when the learned scientific and professional societies began emerging and *The Geographical Journal*, *The Lancet*, *The Engineer* and *Solicitor's Journal* emerged on the periodical publishing scene. I am therefore persuaded to exclude modern newspapers and school magazines, directories and library accession lists to give a true profile of current intellectual writing in Nigeria.

A scholarly journal can be defined as a serial publication of an organisation, learned society or institution, with set objectives to inform, educate, and promote the extension of the frontiers of knowledge and positive development of man and society in a specific subject area, field or activity. It must therefore have the following features:

- an editorial board with a named editor.
- an organisation that can be identified with it as sponsor and publisher.
- articles and reports of research findings or creative literary writing.
- conformity to a special regular format, printed and published regularly.
- refereed papers that are assessed and adjudged to be of value and of acceptable standard by reviewers, who are scholars or scientists in the subject area.
- reviews of books and reports published in the specific subject and related subjects.
- news and adverts of activities of its members or activities relevant to them.
- the intention of being a continuing serial publication.
- subscription rates to make available copies publicly on payment of dues or fees by members or non-members respectively.

These requirements will exclude some important publications that may constitute the only existing serial publication on a subject. I have therefore accepted the list and databases as offered by my two major sources excluding only daily newspapers, annual reports, prospectuses and library accession lists and school and popular magazines.

The four sources of materials described above constitute the sources for this study of the profile of Nigerian periodicals and journals for the period 1850 to 2000.

The role of journal publishing in the development of knowledge

In my study of the *Records of Civilisation* [Ogunsheye 1976], the periodical emerged as a significant medium for the study and analysis of man's intellectual products. This is not surprising because the periodical is the medium used for recording and disseminating the first thoughts, ideas, observations, investigations, experimentations and even activities of man in

modern times. That is why librarians designated them as primary source materials.

Altbach (1985) also confirms their role as "gatekeepers" of knowledge, a medium of communication for the "invisible college" which must also develop in Third World countries, to enable them to merge with their scholarly colleagues in the developed world. It is the medium for rapid diffusion of new knowledge. It is the medium that has promoted the escalation of new ideas and new knowledge witnessed in the twentieth century. The periodical communication system with its management agencies, indexing and abstracting services, provides avenues for rapid increase in scientific investigation and experimentation and therefore new configurations in the growth of knowledge and ideas. The studies of the rise and decline in the growth of knowledge and ideas have relied on the use and citation analysis of journal literature [Shera 1966, and Solla Price 1969]. The new discipline of literature statistics and bibliometrics was made possible by the availability of periodical or journal literature in specific subject fields [Donohue 1974 and Lawani 1975].

The periodical is the medium for ascertaining the current state of knowledge in any subject area. It offers the individual, the professional, the doctor, teacher, agriculturist, the medium for updating their knowledge and improving on their methods, skills and practice. It is therefore the prerequisite for modern research and the development of society.

The profile and growth of Nigerian periodicals

The earliest periodicals and journals

Nigeria today has a robust list of periodicals, magazines and journals, the largest in the African region. It is a record of the intellectual ferment that is, or was, taking place before the black out by the military regime as will be shown in the time graph of Nigerian journal literature publishing from both the Ulrich's and SCOLMA lists. Charts 1 and 2 (in Appendix II) represent the growth in periodical literature. The SCOLMA graph shows that the publishing of periodicals started in 1859. The C.M.S. Mission in Abeokuta published a newspaper *Iwe Irohin* (1859) in Yoruba for its new converts. The centre of publishing a decade later shifted to Lagos, the capital, where some indigenous efforts began in 1869, with the publication of *Iwe irohin Eko* (1869). *The Lagos Weekly Record* (1871) came on the scene as the first English language newspaper. It was followed by *The Lagos Observer* (1880), *The Eagle and Lagos Critic* (1883-1885) and *The Mirror* (1887). *The Lagos Weekly Record* became *The Lagos Times* in 1891. These were all weekly newspapers sponsored by the emerging Lagos élite. They provided avenues for giving news and airing political opinions and comments on the government and its activities.

The Lagos Weekly Record advertised itself as "the oldest established newspaper and advertising medium in the colony of Nigeria representing ADVANCED NATIVE OPINION" This was no mean boast. It was published every Saturday. The issue for Dec.

20, 1919 was covered with advertisements showing the activities of and services or goods provided by the local merchants – Alakija, Blaize, Doherty and the Cooperative Society. The editor was Thomas H. Jackson and the Assistant Editor was Ernest Ikoli. The Editorial for that day read as follows:

We understand that Ikoyi European township has been abandoned in favour of extension of present Lagos township. We have never thought much of the scheme of segregation, but if the White man must have his area segregated all to himself, which in the face of things is utter impossibility, we have no objection provided equal sanitary and other improvements are given to all.

There was another comment on having to wait hours for attention in the Post Office. A request was made for other post offices to be opened. There was club news as well as and comments on Chieftaincy affairs and even poetry!

ELEKO NURSERY RHYME,

BY

A HIDDEN ARM!

Who killed the contemptibles?

I, said the Lagos Weekly Record,

With my pen, ink and Record, I killed the contemptibles.

At least they were killed with pen and ink and paper, not with daggers and guns!

There was little development until the end of the century. Some further political developments took place with the advent of the Colonial government and its administrative machinery to buttress the commercial activities of the Royal Niger Company and those of the Christian Missions. The creation of the governments of Nigeria and the amalgamation of Northern and Southern Nigeria marked the beginning of periodical publishing by the Nigerian governments. Some nationalistic periodicals in the local languages began to appear. Thus we had *Akede Eko; Agborandun gbogbo omo ile Yoruba* (Lagos News: the one that takes to heart the problems of all the Yoruba, 1927) and prior to that *Eleti Ofẹ* (The one with sharp ears); with the addendum *A nju won ose wi lejo* (The matter of size is irrelevant, 1923). In English we had *African Echo Lagos* (1950) and *Ijebu National Voice* (1952) both sponsored or edited by J.J. Odufuwa.

Some colonial civil servants were beginning to take an interest in the local environment and culture between 1920 and 1950. Two important publications that qualify for our term journal are *The Nigerian Teacher* (1927-) and *The Nigerian Field* (1931-). *The Nigerian Teacher* (1933-) was originally published in 1927 as the *Bulletin of Educational Matters* “under the guiding hand of Mr. E.R. Swanston, who during his short time here did so much in so many ways for the cause of education in Southern Nigeria.” [Foreword, 1933]. The title was

changed to *The Nigerian Teacher* in order to reflect its true purpose which was to help teachers whereas the previous title suggested reports and correspondence from the Education Department. Later the title *Nigeria Magazine* which was on the spine of the first issue of *The Nigerian Teacher* was adopted to include a wider public that needed to be informed about its arts and culture. *Nigeria Magazine* was published by the Government printer. The current title is *Nigeria; a quarterly magazine of general interest*, which remained the journal for arts and culture, publishing observations and research findings on Nigerian art and culture before the advent of University Institutes of African Studies.

The other journal was *The Nigerian Field* (1931). Bridges, the originator of the Nigerian Field Society, was based in Eastern Nigeria. *Nigeria Magazine*, based in Lagos, was officially sponsored by the government and subsequently taken over by the Federal Ministry of Culture and Social Welfare. The Nigerian Field Society, on the other hand, remained a private organisation with members from different parts of Nigeria and Britain. Its journal, *The Nigerian Field*, was first printed in Britain, but has been printed in Ibadan, Nigeria since 1983. They are both journals containing articles reporting research observations. *Nigeria Magazine* tends to be more arts and culture oriented while *The Nigerian Field* shows a bias for the physical and biological environment. *The Nigerian Field* monograph series which ran from 1979-81 seems to be better known, receiving mention in Ulrich's list. *The Nigerian Field* itself seems to have eluded the attention of all compilers of the other bibliographies used in this study.

The West African Medical Journal (1927-38) is another journal publication of this period that should be mentioned. *A Select List of Nigerian Biomedical Journals 1927-2001* in the E. Latunde Odeku Medical Library compiled by Helga Faluwoye contains 106 titles, but only 22 medical journals are recorded on Ulrich's list (See Appendix I).

The Nigerian Government established native authorities in each of the provinces at the establishment of the Nigerian government. Each of these authorities put out periodical publications as a record of their activities and services for the development of the provinces. By 1955 we had a spate of these native authority weekly or monthly periodicals:

- *Egba Bulletin* (1941-) by the N. A., Education Office, Abeokuta.
- *Ife News* (1951) by the Ife Native Authority, Ile-Ife.
- *Ijebu Review* (1950-) by the District Office, Ijebu Ode.
- *Eastern Outlook* by the Eastern Nigeria Information Service, Enugu.

The first peak in the graph of Chart 2 in the fifties followed the establishment of the University College, Ibadan, in 1948 (See Appendix II). The establishment of more Universities and tertiary institutions, government research parastatals and research institutes stimulated the growth of research and development, and therefore learned journal publishing. In 1954 self-government was given to the West to be followed later by the East and North.

The handing over of the baton to local politicians and managers in 1960 further stimulated intellectual ferment and discussion on politics and development. Many more avenues for airing ideas and thought were required. An explosion in the publishing of periodicals, journals and magazines followed between 1960 and 1964. Some of the periodicals were sponsored by government departments and parastatals. West African Research Institutes were established in various subject areas, e.g. West African Institute for Oil Palm Research. They published the results of their research, adding to the number of periodicals during the period.

The emerging political parties and politicians were not left out. The various political parties published information and propaganda periodicals for their members. Thus we had the following:

- *The Action* by the Action Group 1954.
- *The Cock* by the National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons -NCNC

Between 1960 and 1983 many more tertiary institutions were created, and within them many learned societies. [Olokun, 1985]. The University insistence on research and publication for the promotion of academic staff encouraged the explosion in local journal publishing in the sixties. These learned societies launched their journals as media for the communication and dissemination of new knowledge. These developments in independent Nigeria culminated in the 1963/64 peak in periodical publication as reflected in both the Ulrich's and SCOLMA charts 1 & 2 of new publications by year. The downward slide which is recorded on chart 2 after 1967, culminating in an all time low during the late seventies, reflects the impoverishment of intellectual fervour during the oppressive army years and the deliberate destruction of educational institutions that had been put in place in Nigeria between 1954 and 1966.

The subject areas covered.

An analysis of the periodicals listed in the SCOLMA and Ulrich's bibliographies shows that all disciplines have been covered. Some disciplines are however better covered than others (See Appendix III for subject distribution for Nigerian periodicals in the Ulrich's data base). Most of the periodicals are in the social sciences. 109 periodicals are listed covering business and economics, politics, sociology and geography. There are also eleven law journals in addition to the 109 periodicals listed. Law was one of the earliest professions engaged in by the local élite, in their struggle for independence. The 46 periodicals of general interest are the magazines and newspapers which provided the medium for airing political opinion, comment on government policies, news of events and advertisements of commercial ventures. Education publications seem to emanate largely from the activities of government educational departments, first from the Native Authority Education Department in each of the provinces, the teachers, largely in the employment of the missions, and the Universities. Some of the earliest professional journals are in medicine, *The West African Medical Journal* starting in

1927.

In most universities, history was one of the most virile and popular disciplines for study and research. In the recent New National Policy, history has been relegated to an optional subject in our secondary school curriculum. This does not augur well for developing a sense of identity among the ethnic groups, or loyalty to the Nigerian nation. History however leads in the humanities with seventeen journals. Language and linguistics are fairly well covered with 13 periodicals. Yoruba continues to lead in indigenous language development with 8 periodical publications, compared with 4 and 3 in Hausa and Ibo respectively. This is not surprising. Yoruba periodicals have been a medium for learning since 1852 [Ogunsheye 2001].

The religious publications which started with the C.M.S. in 1855 have not abated There are now 12 Christian and 6 Islamic religious journals. The hard sciences and technology are also well covered. For the pure sciences, 10 journals are listed for Nigeria. Technology has received a boost in the latter half of the twentieth century with developments in the manufacturing, petroleum, and construction industries. The engineers, architects, technologists and Federal industrial research establishments are meeting the communication needs of professionals in these subject areas.

The record managers (i.e. librarians) are not left out of communication developments. There are 13 journals meeting their information needs. I still wish we had not disbanded the West African Library Association whose publication, *WALA News* (1954-1962), gave a stimulus to library development in the anglophone territories of West Africa.

The Fine Arts and Music do not seem to be adequately provided for in a nation, where dance, music and art are in the ascendant, especially at the local community level.

Olalokun listed learned journals for Nigeria, classifying them according to disciplines (See Appendix IV). It is a pleasure to be able to add a new journal for the visually handicapped.

Problems of journal publishing in Nigeria

The problem of journal publishing in the Third World has been exhaustively examined by Altbach (1985) and the Nigerian Librarians, Olalokun, Aina and Sadiq. Bozirno dealt extensively with Nigerian learned journals. The International Federation of Library Associations in its publication, *Survival Under Adverse Conditions; Proceedings of the African Library Science Journals Workshop*, edited by Michael Wise, 1994, dealt specifically with the problems for journals in the library and information science field. The findings of these studies are still true for Nigeria at the beginning of the new millennium.

The journals of Nigerian learned societies are still bedevilled with the problem of inadequate funding, and therefore have a short life span. The local associations, who are corporate

owners and publishers of the journals, have limited funds derived mainly from membership dues. It is therefore a credit to Nigerian Field Society members that its journal has continued to be published for seventy years. It will be fair to say its survival has been due to its ability to attract overseas subscribers, as well as the dedication of local members, who write papers and provide editorial service for the Society.

Nigerian learned journals need to meet international standards in the quality and presentation of their writings to become part of the scholars' and scientists' resource for extending the frontiers of knowledge. The problem of assessment and good editorial service is a handicap to their acceptability and existence. Many associations still have to rely on foreign assessors in spite of the more than 23 Nigerian universities. The problem of inadequate communications and the exorbitant cost of courier services slows down the process of production and makes the cost of publishing prohibitive. We still rely on the importation of paper and all printing materials. Many publishers, until recently, found it cheaper to have their books and periodicals printed abroad, even as far away as Asia, where materials are cheap and labour is skilled and efficient.

The marketing of the journals is also a problem. Many societies have neither the skill, nor the funds required to put in place an effective system for the sale and distribution of their products. It is regrettable that even *The Nigerian Field* was not well known, even in Nigeria. It was mentioned only in Olalokun's list of Nigerian learned journals. Only the monographic series got a mention in Ulrich's list.

The impact of information technology on journal publishing

At the beginning of this paper I took time to describe how, through the new information technology, I was able to acquire the materials I needed from abroad for this study. The irony of the situation is that there was no way I could have obtained the resources required for this study locally, although the materials were generated in Nigeria. In spite of the efforts of the University of Ibadan Library, the National Library of Nigeria and the laudable efforts of the Committee of University Librarians, we have no database from which I could have obtained information on the corpus of Nigerian journal literature at such short notice. The main resources which I used for this study were the SCOLMA and Ulrich's lists. The efforts of Nwafor to establish a regular Nigerian Periodicals Index can only come to fruition through the use of an electronic communication network between all our libraries and the creation of a shared database.

In modern times the journal has become the main medium of communication between scholars and scientists. Each article in a journal has become a bibliographic unit on demand even for on line access. The invisible college will require to have this made available on line. Nigerian libraries must be fully equipped with computers, IT facilities and Internet facilities to be able to join the world communication network.

Conclusion

In this paper, it is clear that a robust list of Nigeria's journal literature exists, reflecting a ferment of intellectual activity in all areas of knowledge. It was stimulated by government development programmes and the research and development in universities and institutes between 1948 and 1966. Nigerian journals, however, have had a precarious existence, dying and reviving according to the condition of their corporate authors. The average life span of a journal is estimated to be five years [Olalokun]. Learned societies in Nigeria have problems of funding. They rely on membership dues and donations which are often irregular and inadequate. The history of *The Nigerian Field* also reflects this. It still relies on foreign subscriptions to enable its publication to continue. Editorial and management skills are also in short supply.

The decline in output of periodical literature reflects the deprivation and oppression that the armed forces imposed on the Nigerian elite and political class from 1966-98. It has affected the academic community significantly. There was an onslaught on their psyche, self-confidence and wisdom in choice of career. When university professors were so poorly paid that they could not get the basic minimum requirements for a reasonable standard of living; when they could not be assured of electricity, when they had to fetch water from the dam before going to lectures, when they could not get books, equipment and materials to work with, when the learning environment deteriorated and they were forced to pretend that they were teaching their students effectively with handouts and imagined experiments, they became disoriented and cannot function creatively as scholars or scientists. Nigeria, as a result, suffered from a brain drain, from which she has not recovered.

For a people who are enterprising and vocal, the subject coverage of journal literature is only fair, compared with the rest of Africa. Even in the area of song and dance, where we seem to excel, there does not seem to be much rigorous study. Perhaps we only dance to drown our sorrows, using it as an escape from reality. The Nigerian élite need time to recover and renew themselves and if possible stop the brain drain. They need to bring back the wasted generation living on the fringe of society in developed countries, where security can be much better assured. I hope the next ten years will see that recovery of the intellectual community inside and outside the universities. True democracy is required to put in place a learning environment where knowledge and learning will thrive. When that happens, the decline in our journal literature will be replaced by a virile communication system that will link us with the rest of the world and enable us to participate effectively in sharing, and contributing to the world's knowledge database.

I again congratulate *The Nigerian Field* for its contribution to knowledge in Nigeria and even the world. I hope it will be recorded in the next issue of Ulrich's database and SCOLMA'S next supplement of *Periodicals from Africa*. Happy 70th Birthday Celebrations. Hoping that you may also celebrate your centenary and more.

Acknowledgement

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Journal Title	Frequency	Year
<i>Journal of Psychology</i>	Monthly	1971
<i>Journal of Education</i>	Every 2 months	A
<i>Journal of Health, Education and Research</i>	Quarterly	IR
<i>Journal of the Nigerian Library Association</i>	Continuing	
<i>African Journal of Psychiatry</i>	Legal	
<i>European Postings</i>	Legal	

APPENDIX I
E. LATUNDE ODEKU MEDICAL LIBRARY:
NIGERIAN BIOMEDICAL JOURNALS
a select list in chronological order, 1927-2001

compiled by Helga Faluwoye, B.A., M.L.S. (Ibadan), October 2001

This list is based on all Nigerian biomedical titles that the E. Latunde Odeku Medical Library receives or has ever received. It gives the date of first publication, place of publication and frequency (where known). Holding details are not included. The fact that a title is no more received in the Library does not always confirm that it has ceased publication. It appears, however, that not many of the titles have survived over the years. A few that had ceased publication were resuscitated after an interval, sometimes with a changed name. Titles that continue to be published regularly are marked with an asterisk. The criteria that contributed to long survival are financial support from a sponsoring agency, society or association, and editorial and managerial skills, among others.

This list shows that within the past almost 80 years, many attempts have been made to publish biomedical journal literature in Nigeria, both general and speciality titles. Some are student publications, such as *Dokita*.

When the Naira lost its value and it became more expensive to publish in international journals, the "publish or perish syndrome" obliged quite a number of authors to publish in local journals. This may explain the proliferation of new titles in the eighties and nineties. It has also been recognized that locally produced health information can be most valuable in this environment, since it is relevant to medical health problems within the country.

The problem used to be accessibility, since few publications were indexed internationally by the National Library of Medicine, U.S.A. through the Index Medicus, because of their lack of continuity. Now most of them are covered by the African Index Medicus (AIM), sponsored by the Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA) and supported by the WHO Regional Office in Africa. The African Index Medicus is already available on CD Rom.

Frequency

M	=	Monthly	SA	=	Twice a year
BM	=	Every 2 months	A	=	Annual
Q	=	Quarterly	IR	=	Irregular
*	=	Continuing			

* <i>West African Medical Journal</i> probably continued by: <i>West African Journal of Medicine</i>	1927-1938 1952-1975 1982-	London Lagos Lagos	Q BM Q
<i>West African Council of Medical Research Publications</i>	1954-1972	Lagos	
* <i>Dokita</i>	1960-	Ibadan	
* <i>Journal of the Nigerian Medical Association</i> continued by <i>Nigerian Medical Journal</i>	1964-1970 1971-	Lagos Lagos	Q Q
<i>Journal of the Society of Health of Nigeria</i>	1966-	Lagos	SA
<i>Medilag: Journal of the Medical Students' Association</i>	1967-	Lagos	IR
<i>Nigerian Medical Directory</i>	1967-	Lagos	A
<i>Nigerian Nurse</i>	1968-	Lagos	Q
Proceedings of the UCH Medical Society	1968/69-	Ibadan	IR
<i>Journal of the Nigerian Society of Physiotherapy</i>	1969-	Ibadan	A
<i>Medipharm</i>	1969	Lagos	Q
<i>Abumed: Journal of the Medical Students' Association, Ahmadu Bello University</i>	1970	Zaria	SA
<i>African Journal of Medical Sciences</i> , continued by: <i>African Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences</i>	1970-1973 1976-	Oxford Ibadan	Q Q
<i>Nigerian Journal of Pharmacy</i>	1970-	Lagos	Q
<i>African Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences</i>	1970-	Lagos	M
<i>Journal of Medical and Pharmaceutical Marketing</i>	1973-	Ibadan	BM
<i>Nigerian Journal of Paediatrics</i>	1974-	Ibadan	SA/ Q
<i>Nigerian Medical Journal</i> , continues: <i>Journal of the Nigerian Medical Association</i>	1971- 1964-1970	Lagos Lagos	Q Q
<i>African Journal of Psychiatry</i>	1975-	Lagos	Q
<i>Ibarapa Postings</i>	(6) 1975-	Ibadan	IR

<i>Journal of the Nigerian Association for Health Engineering</i>	1975-	Lagos	Q
<i>Medicom</i>	(3) 1975	Ibadan	IR
<i>Mediscope: Monthly Medical Newspaper</i>	1975-	Lagos	M
<i>Pharmacy Practice</i>	1975-	Lagos	Q
<i>*African Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences continuing African Journal of Medical Sciences</i>	1976-	Ibadan	Q
<i>West African Journal of Pharmacology and Drug Research</i>	(3) 1976-	Ikeja	SA
<i>*West African Journal of Surgery</i>	1976-	Lagos	Q
<i>Journal of Pharmaceutical and Medical Sciences</i>	1977-	Lagos	BM
<i>Ibadan Surgeon</i>	1977-	Ibadan	Q
<i>Journal of the Nigerian Association of Dental Students</i>	1977-	Ibadan	A
<i>Nigerian Behavioural Sciences Journal</i>	1978-	Ibadan	
<i>IFEMED: Journal of the Ife University Medical Students' Association</i>	1978-	Ile-Ife	SA
<i>Pulse</i>	1978	Lagos	M
<i>Journal of the Physiotherapy, Dept. of the Institute of Health, Ahmadu Bello University</i>	1979-	Zaria	
<i>Nigerian Journal of Medical Sciences</i>	1979-	Lagos	Q
<i>Pharmanews: Nigeria's Monthly Pharmaceutical Newspaper</i>	1979-	Lagos	Q
<i>Ibarapa Community Health Newsletter</i>	(n.23) 1980-	Ibadan	6/ year
<i>Nigerian Dental Journal</i>	1980-	Lagos	SA
<i>Nigerian Drug Index</i>	1981-	Lagos	A
<i>*Nigerian Journal of Nutritional Sciences</i>	1980-	Ibadan	SA

<i>*Nigerian Medical Practitioner</i>	1981-	Ikeja	M?
<i>Nigerian Pharmaceutical Directory</i>	1980/81	Lagos	
<i>Nigerian School Health Journal</i>	1980-	Ibadan	
<i>Tropical Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology</i>	1980-	Ikeja	Q
<i>African Annals of Medicine</i>	1981-	Lagos	A
<i>Department of Medicine Newsletter</i>	1981-	Ibadan	IR
<i>National Association of Resident Doctors of Nigeria (NARD)</i>	1981-	Ibadan	M
<i>Occasional Publications of the Department of Medicine</i>	1981-	Ibadan	IR
<i>Front-Line Doctor: News-sheet of the Faculty of General Medical Practice</i>	(7) 1982-	Lagos	Q
<i>*Nigeria Quarterly Journal of Hospitals Medicine probably continues West African Medical Journal</i>	1982	Lagos	Q
<i>African Journal of Clinical Microbiology</i>	1984-	Lagos	BM
<i>Mediconsult</i>	(22) 1984-	Ikeja	
<i>Pharmacy World: A Journal of Pharmaceutical Management, Practice and Programme</i>	1984-	Lagos	
<i>NIMR News</i>	1985-	Lagos	
<i>National Institute of Medical Research Report</i>	1985-	Lagos	A
<i>Healthcare</i>	1986-	Ikeja	M
<i>Immunization Monitor</i>	(2) 1986-	Lagos	
<i>West African Journal of Anatomy</i>	1986-	Ago-Iwoye	
<i>African Dental Journal</i>	(5) 1987-	Lagos	SA
<i>Medinews: Newsletter of the Nigerian Medical Association</i>	(4) 1987-	Lagos	BM
<i>Clinical Medicine</i>	1988-	Lagos	Q

<i>Clinical Pharmacy and Herbal Medicine</i>	(4) 1988-	Lagos	M
<i>Hospital Link</i>	(2) 1988-	Lagos	10/yr
<i>Journal of African Psychology</i>	1988-	Enugu	
<i>West African College of Nursing Journal</i>	1988-	Lagos	Q
<i>West African Pharmacy</i>	1988	Ibadan	Q
<i>African Journal of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care</i>	1989-	Benin	BM
<i>Guinea Worm Report</i>	(2) 1989-	Calabar	M
<i>Medicare</i>	(2) 1989-	Ikeja	M
<i>*Orient Journal of Medicine</i>	1989-	Enugu	Q
<i>Physiotherapy Pond: Journal of the Association of Physiotherapy Students (NAPS)</i>	1989-	Ibadan	
<i>Mediconsult West Africa</i>	(2) 1990-	Lagos	BM
<i>Health-Watch</i>	1991-	Lagos	M
<i>Medicine Today: A Journal of Diagnostic Treatment</i>	1991-	Lagos	M
<i>Health Team</i>	1993	Lagos	M
<i>Journal of Medical Laboratory Sciences</i>	(3) 1993-	Nnewi	A
<i>Medical Update</i>	1993	Lagos	BM
<i>NMA Newsletter</i>	(5) 1993-	Ibadan	Q
<i>*Nigerian Postgraduate Medical Journal</i>	1994-	Lagos	
<i>*African Journal of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care</i>	1995-	Lagos	SA
<i>Nigerian Journal of Health Education and Welfare of Special People</i>	1995-	Ibadan	SA
<i>Nigerian Journal of Health Planning Management</i>	1995-	Lagos	BM
<i>*Journal of the College of Medicine</i>	1996-	Enugu	SA
<i>Journal of Pharmaceutical Research and Development, NIPRD</i>	1996-	Abuja	

<i>Journal of School Health Education</i>	(3) 1996-	Ibadan	SA
<i>Nigerian Journal of General Practice</i>	1996-	Lagos	
<i>Social Work Horizon: Journal of Medical Social Work</i>	1996-	Ibadan	
<i>African Journal of Medical and Pharmaceutical Sciences (AJMPS)</i>	1997-		
* <i>African Journal of Reproductive Health</i>	1997-	Benin	BM
* <i>Nigerian Clinical Review: Frontliners in Medical Journalism</i>	1997-	Lagos	BM
<i>Nigerian Journal of Medical Research</i>	(2) 1998-		
* <i>Journal of the Nigerian Medical Rehabilitation Therapists (JNMRT)</i>	(3) 1998-		
<i>Sahel Medical Journal</i>	1998-	Zaria	BA
<i>Bulletin of the National Medical College of Nigeria</i>	(7) 1999-		
* <i>Mary Slessor Journal of Medicine</i>	(2) 1999-	Calabar	
<i>Nigerian Journal of Surgical Research</i>	1999-	Zaria	
<i>Nigerian Medical Rehabilitation Therapists' Bulletin</i>	(3) 1999-		
<i>African Journal of Clinical and Experimental Microbiology</i>	2000-	Ilorin	SA
<i>African Scientist</i>	2000-	Ilorin	
* <i>Archives of Ibadan Medicine: An International Journal of Medical Science</i>	2000-	Ibadan	SA?
<i>Meizik Journal</i>	(2) 2000-	Nnewi Enugu	
<i>WA Journal of Ultrasound</i>	2000-	Ilorin	
<i>Faculty of Clinical Sciences and Dentistry Newsletter</i>	2001-	Ibadan	
<i>Ibadan Surgeon: An International Journal of Medical Science</i>	(2) 2001-	Ibadan	

APPENDIX II
NEW PERIODICALS: ULRICH & SCOLMA

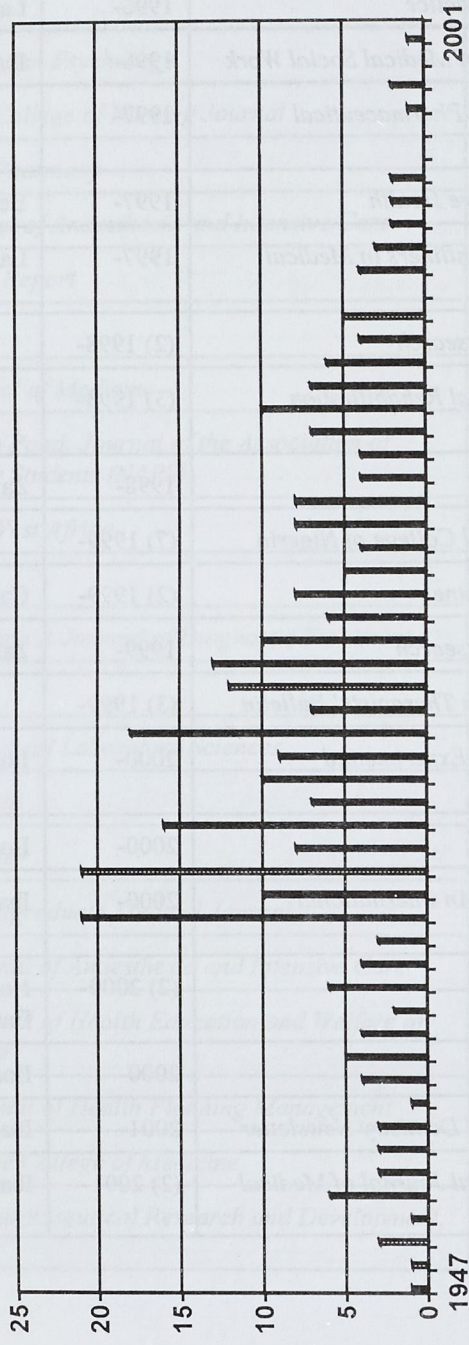


Chart 1: New journals appearing annually in Nigeria: ULRICH

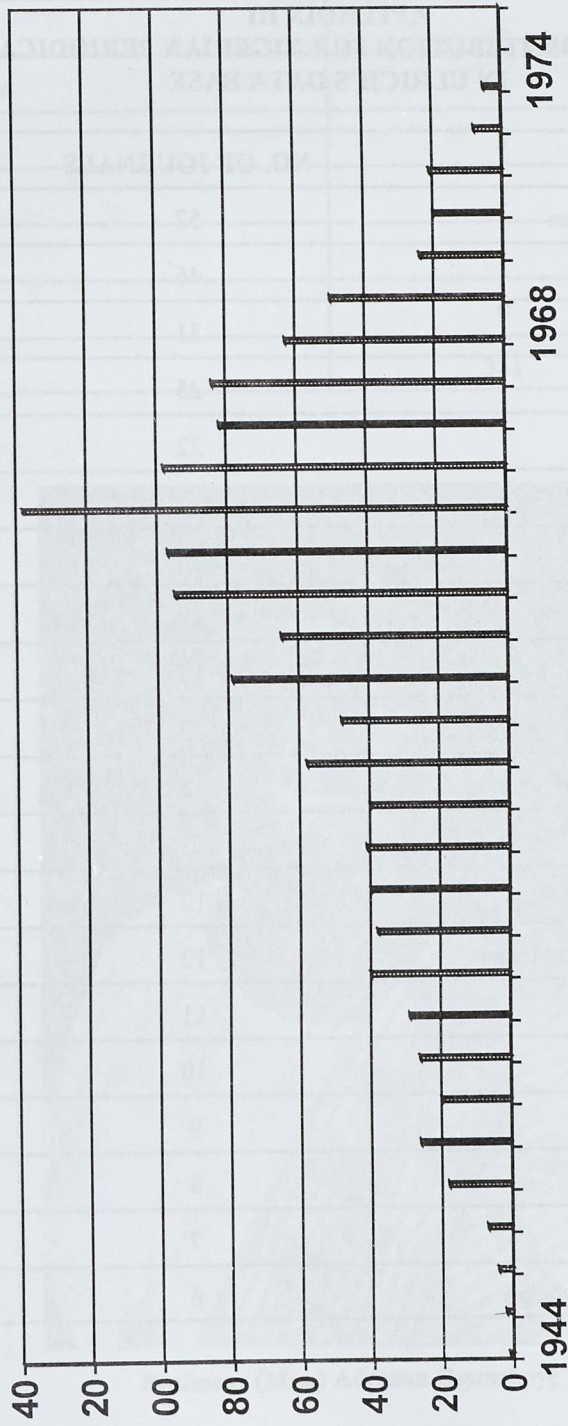


Chart 2: New journals appearing annually in Nigeria: SCOLMA

APPENDIX III
SUBJECT DISTRIBUTION FOR NIGERIAN PERIODICALS
IN ULRICH'S DATA BASE

SUBJECTS	NO. OF JOURNALS	(%)
Business and Economics	52	13.6
General Interest	46	12.1
Education	31	8.1
Politics	25	6.6
Medicine	22	5.8
Agriculture	21	5.5
Technology	20	5.2
Sociology	17	4.5
History	17	4.5
Geography	15	3.9
Library and Information Science	13	3.4
English Literature	13	3.4
Linguistics	12	3.1
Christian Religious Knowledge	12	3.1
Law	11	2.9
Science	10	2.6
Veterinary Medicine	9	2.4
Yoruba	8	2.1
Fine Arts	7	1.8
Islamic Religious Knowledge	6	1.6

Hausa	4	1.1
Mathematics	3	0.8
Igbo	3	0.8
Philosophy	2	0.5
Sport	1	0.3
Music	0	0
TOTAL	381	100



Professor (Mrs.) Adetoun Ogunshẹye

**APPENDIX IV
BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LEARNED JOURNALS
PUBLISHED IN NIGERIA 1932-1983**

S. Olajire Olalokun

EDUCATION

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. African Journal of Academic Librarianship, 1983- | Twice yearly |
| 2. African Journal of Educational Research 1974- | Twice yearly |
| 3. Bendel Library Journal 1978- | Twice yearly |
| 4. Education and Development 1981- | Twice yearly |
| 5. Kiabara 1978- | Twice yearly |
| 6. Lagos Librarian 1966- | Quarterly |
| 7. Nigerbiblios 1976- | Quarterly |
| 8. Nigerian Audiovisual Journal 1982- | Quarterly |
| 9. Nigerian Journal of Library and Information Studies 1983- | Twice yearly |
| 10. Nigerian Language Teacher 1978- | Twice yearly |
| 11. Nigerian Libraries 1963- | Quarterly |
| 12. Nigerian Library and Information Science Review 1983- | Twice yearly |
| 13. Nigerian Schoolmaster 1969- | Quarterly |
| 14. Review of Education 1971- | Twice yearly |
| 15. West African Journal of Education 1957- | Quarterly |
| 16. West African Journal of Educational and Vocational Measurement 1973- | Twice yearly |

HUMANITIES

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 17. African Journal of Philosophy 1972- | Twice yearly |
| 18. African Notes 1964- | Twice yearly |
| 19. Benin Review 1957- | Twice yearly |
| 20. Black Orpheus 1957- | Twice yearly |
| 21. Calabar Studies in Languages 1977- | Twice yearly |
| 22. Ibadan Review 1977- | Twice yearly |
| 23. Ife African Studies 1974- | Twice yearly |
| 24. Ife Studies in African Literature and Arts 1982- | Twice yearly |
| 25. Ikenga 1972- | Twice yearly |
| 26. Journal of the Historical Society of Nigeria 1956- | Twice yearly |
| 27. Journal of West African Languages 1964- | Twice yearly |
| 28. Nigeria Magazine 1932- | Quarterly |
| 29. Nigerian English Studies Association Journal 1957- | Twice yearly |
| 30. Nigerian Geographical Journal 1957- | Twice yearly |
| 31. Nigerian Journal of Islam 1970- | Twice yearly |

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 32. Nigerian Journal of Humanities 1977- | Irregular |
| 33. Nigerian Music Review 1977- | Twice yearly |
| 34. Odu: a Journal of West African Studies 1964 - | Twice yearly |
| 35. Ohafia Review 1982 - | Irregular |
| 36. Okike 1971- | Quarterly |
| 37. Orita, Ibadan Journal of Religious Studies 1967 - | Twice yearly |
| 38. Positive Review 1978- | Quarterly |
| 39. Tarikh 1965 - | Quarterly |
| 40. West African Journal of Archaeology 1971 - | Annual |
| 41. West African Journal of Modern Languages 1976 - | Annual |
| 42. Yoruba: Journal of Yoruba of Yoruba Studies 1973- | Annual |

LAW

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 43. The Advocate 1964- | Irregular |
| 44. The Attorney 1980- | Irregular |
| 45. The Barrister 1967- | Irregular |
| 46. Journal of Islamic and Comparative Law 1966- | Irregular |
| 47. Law in Society | |
| 48. The Lawyer 1966- | Twice yearly |
| 49. Maiduguri Law Journal 1980- | Irregular |
| 50. Nigerian Annual of International Law 1976- | Annual |
| 51. Nigerian Bar Journal 1958- | Twice yearly |
| 52. Nigerian Current Law Review 1982- | Quarterly |
| 53. Nigerian Journal of Contemporary Law 1970- | Twice yearly |
| 54. Nigerian Judicial Review 1976- | Irregular |
| 55. Nigerian Law Journal 1964- | Annual |
| 56. Nigerian Law Quarterly Review 1946- | Irregular |
| 57. Nigerian Lawyer's Quarterly 1964- | Quarterly |

SOCIAL SCIENCES

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 58. African Journal of Behavioural Sciences 1981- | Twice yearly |
| 59. Aman: Journal of Society and Environment 1981- | Twice yearly |
| 60. The Journal of Business and Social Studies 1977- | Twice Yearly |
| 61. Management in Nigeria 1965- | Monthly |
| 62. Nigerian Behavioural Sciences Journal 1978- | Quarterly |
| 63. Nigerian Business Review 1978- | Six times a year |
| 64. Nigerian Forum 1981- | Monthly |
| 65. Nigerian Institute of International Affairs 1971- | Monthly |
| 66. Nigerian Journal of Business Management 1977- | Twice yearly |
| 67. Nigerian Journal of Development Studies 1981- | Twice yearly |

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 68. Nigerian Journal of Economic and Social Studies 1960- | Quarterly |
| 69. Nigerian Journal of Financial Management 1982- | Twice yearly |
| 71. Nigerian Journal of Political Science 1979- | Twice yearly |
| 72. Nigerian Journal of Psychology 1976- | Annual |
| 73. Nigerian Journal of Public Affairs 1970- | Twice yearly |
| 74. Quarterly Journal of Administration 1966- | Quarterly |
| 75. Savanna, a Journal of the Environment and Social Sciences 1972- | Twice yearly |
| 76. West African Economic Journal 1980- | Twice yearly |
| 77. West African Journal of Sociology and Political Science | |

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 78. Abacus - Official Journal of Mathematics Association of Nigeria 1964- | Twice yearly |
| 79. Journal of the Nigerian Statistical Association 1978- | Irregular |
| 80. Journal of the Nigerian Statistical Association 1979- | Irregular |
| 81. Nigerian Engineer 1966- | Quarterly |
| 82. The Nigerian Field 1931- | Quarterly (now twice yearly) |
| 83. Nigerian Journal of Agricultural Sciences 1979- | Quarterly |
| 84. Nigerian Journal of Animal Production 1974- | Twice yearly |
| 85. Nigerian Journal of Engineering 1974- | Twice yearly |
| 86. Nigerian Journal of Engineering Technology 1979- | Quarterly |
| 87. Nigerian Journal of Entomology 1968- | Twice yearly |
| 88. Nigerian Journal of Forestry 1971- | Twice yearly |
| 89. Nigerian Journal of Medical Sciences 1979- | Quarterly |
| 90. Nigerian Journal of Microbiology 1981- | Twice yearly |
| 91. Nigerian Journal of Natural Sciences 1979- | Quarterly |
| 92. Nigerian Journal of Nutritional Sciences 1979- | Quarterly |
| 93. Nigerian Journal of Paediatrics 1974- | Quarterly |
| 94. Nigerian Journal of Pharmacy 1961- | Quarterly |
| 95. Nigerian Journal of Science 1966- | Twice yearly |
| 96. Nigerian Journal of Science and Technology 1981- | Twice yearly |
| 97. Nigerian Medical Journal 1982- | Quarterly |
| 98. Nigerian Mining and Geo-Sciences Society Journal 1963- | Annual |
| 99. Nigerian Society of Engineers 1977- | Annual |
| 100. NOMA, Institute of Agricultural Research Journal. Samaru 1978- | Quarterly |
| 101. West African Journal of Biological and Applied Chemistry 1957- | Quarterly |
| 102. West African Journal of Surgery 1976- | Twice yearly |
| 103. West African Medical Journal 1953- | Bi-Monthly |