

Research Article

Factors Affecting Provision of Library Services: A Survey of Rural Public Libraries in Northern Nigeria

Dr. P.Rajendran^{1*} and Abubakar Ladan²

¹University Librarian & Research Supervisor SRM Institute of Science and Technology Kattankulathur, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu, India

²Research Scholar, Dept. of Library and Information Science, SRM Institute of Science and Technology Kattankulathur, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu, India

³Senior Librarian, Umaru Musa Yar'adua University PMB 2218, Katsina, Nigeria

Article History

Received: 07.07.2020

Accepted: 20.07.2020

Published: 28.07.2020

Journal homepage:

<https://www.easpublisher.com/easjhcs>

Quick Response Code



Abstract: The paper focused on factor affecting provision of rural public library services in northern Nigeria. Survey research using questionnaire was used to collected data from the heads of rural public libraries under study. The findings of the study revealed that nearly to 60% of rural libraries have available reading tables and chairs. It also identified that 77.53 of the rural libraries have their own building but not built to suit as library which might affect the provision of effective and efficient library services. With regards to contribution of library resources and facilities towards the provision of library services, the findings disclosed that library staff ranked 1 with the WAM score of 4.27, followed by 'library collections' and 'library furniture' ranked the 2nd and 3rd place with score 3.49 and 3.46 while 'internet facilities' found the least facility with WAM score of 2.27 and ranked 17th. Regarding the factors affecting rural public libraries in the provision of library services, it was found that, out of 16 variables 'lack of proper meeting hall/room to host or organize community meetings' ranked 1st, 'lack of children materials and facilities' ranked 2nd and 'lack of governments' concern towards rural libraries ranked 3rd. The study concluded with the suggestions to address the factors affecting provision of rural public library services in northern Nigeria.

Keywords: public libraries, rural libraries, northern Nigeria, provision library services.

Copyright © 2020 The Author(s): This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0) which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium for non-commercial use provided the original author and source are credited.

INTRODUCTION

Rural communities of Nigeria largely depend on library and information centers as their sources of getting information resources and services. The role of public libraries in the provision of information resources and services to rural communities cannot be over emphasized. They have been described as organizations that improve person's knowledge, community building and empowerment by investing in people and communities rather than in technology alone. Public libraries improve the quality of community life. They are knowledge and information providers close to the communities. They are hub of community activities, training of illiterates and semi-literates, and place for independent learning. They also provide access to materials for social and recreational activities.

According to Oduagwu, Ndukaku and Oduagwu (2013) "public libraries provide support to the social, economic, educational, cultural and technological growth and development of society and

are considered as indispensable part of it". They should serve as centres that provide effective information services to rural communities. Therefore, by their nature and responsibilities, public libraries are pivots around which community activities revolve or, expected to revolve. They are fountain of information hence; they ensure information reaches every nook and corner of the community.

The provision of public library services to rural communities require adequate information resources, qualified staff, infrastructural facilities, policies, awareness and good understanding of library services, and adequate library working hours.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The library in a community provides a unique service that should be accessible to everyone. The primary purpose of a public or community library is to further democracy, equality and social justice, increase access to information, disseminate culture and knowledge, contribute to a meaningful and informative

leisure time, and act as a communal institution and a social meeting place. In another study by Miller (2014) stated that public libraries in Edinburgh, Scotland and Kobenhavns Biblioteker in Copenhagen, Denmark were actively engaged in facilitating or organizing meetings, providing an informal meeting place, establishing links between groups in the community, creating a conducive environment, and by fulfilling educational needs of the community. Hayes and Morris (2005) stated that leisure has been contested as a valid role of public libraries in UK, and this has been the major reason for the public's use of libraries. The authors emphasized the leisure role of public libraries in the UK. They further provided a historical overview of leisure reform, public library acts, and the great fiction debate, the popularization of libraries, the educational and information role and the recognition of the leisure function. Shrem (2012) is of the opinion that, public libraries serve as common meeting spaces for interest groups, students and businesses, they play an integral role in the assimilation of immigrants into communities and act as hub for job seekers. With political and fiscal support, enable public libraries to not sustain programs and opportunities, but also to expand and reach into communities throughout the United States.

In the African context, Aina (2014) reported that public library services in Africa include lending services, reference services, current awareness services, exhibition and displays, library publications, user education, information literacy program, inter-library loan services and document delivery, reservation service, provision of seating and study facilities, extension and outreach services, and rental of premises.

According to Ebiwolate (2010) public library services to rural areas of Niger Delta states Nigeria include bookmobile services, information and referral services, outreach programs, current awareness programs, selective and dissemination of information and library services to children. Public libraries also provide services to support culture and local business. Salman et al. (2014) described the information services rendered by public libraries in Nigeria as information services to support local business, economic and workforce development, reference materials on market trends and career development. Equally, Badawi (2009) believed that public libraries in Northern Nigeria are active in the Nigerian Library Association. They engage in social and professional activities such as children story telling competition, readership promotion campaign and hosting annual meeting of the association). In another study by Mohammed and Garaba (2018) stated that the services provided by public libraries in Northern Nigeria were predominantly traditional library services which include serial services, circulation services, lending services, children services and reference services. The other services include awareness campaigns on government issues, organizing

workshops and seminars, adult literacy programs, debates and competitions and extension services.

Takalkar and Devi (2001) described rural public libraries in India as traditional in nature and not well provided with resources and facilities to effectively meet the information needs of the rural communities. The authors concluded that the libraries in rural areas of India are in poor condition due to lack of adequate resources, financial and human. According to Sultana (2014) the problems facing rural library services in West Bengal include lack of programming services, deficiency of current materials, lack of staff, lack of electronic services etc. In their study on rural public libraries and digital inclusion issues, Real, B., Carlo, B. and Jaeger, P. T (2014) reported that rural libraries in the United States lag behind their urban and suburban counterparts in technology service offerings, but the full meaning and effect of such disparities is unclear. Equally in a study on availability of ICTs in public libraries in north central states of Nigeria, Bello and Salah (2014) found that public libraries in Northern Nigeria have either unsuccessful to provide them or they provided mainly for administrative use. Describing the status of ICT in Nigerian libraries, Achebe (2005) identified that low application of ICT and absence of its policy has been a serious challenge to their functionality. Equally, Anyelebechi and Udo- Anyanwu (2016) said that public library system in Nigeria today is characterized by poor status in ICT facilities.

Library building is a structure built as a place for storage of collections and community activities such as reading, learning, research, study, leisure, community meetings and events, and a community information hub Faulkner- Brown (1999). In a study by LRCN (2015) suggests that public library buildings should serve their communities for meetings, exhibitions and for cultural activities. In addition, the library building should provide adequate space for library collections, reader-seating space, spaces to house special collections and preparation areas for outreach activities, space for eating, coffee and relaxation, vehicle parking space and space for future expansion. Salman (2015) observed that most of the public library buildings in urban areas of Nigeria were conducive to their functions to a certain extent, but required upgrading or refurbishing in order to meet with a modern public library's requirements. Further, most of the rural library buildings were old and dilapidated, and usually not suitable for community library buildings.

Joy and Idowu (2014) mentioned the factors affecting public library services in Nigeria as lack of adequate facilities and inadequate/outdated collections. Emojoho (2005) found that Nigeria public libraries are performing poor in most aspects due to appalling resources. Equally, Muhammad (2019) identified the

barriers in the provision of public library services in rural areas of Nigeria as outdated collections, poor library locations, poor physical infrastructure, staffing, lack of library policies and lack of awareness of library services. The author suggested the need to provide adequate information resources and facilities, and to introduce new library services and programs in Nigerian public libraries.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To ascertain the services provided by rural public libraries in northern Nigeria.
2. To discover the available resources and facilities in rural public libraries under study.
3. To identify the contribution of the available resources and facilities towards the provision of rural public library services.
4. To discover the factors affecting rural public libraries in the provision of library services in northern Nigeria.

METHODOLOGY

The study used survey research method. All the heads of the 122 rural public libraries of northern Nigeria constituted the target population of this study. A total of 122 questionnaires were distributed, of which 89 were returned and discovered usable. Statistic analysis such as frequency distribution, percentage analysis and weight arithmetic mean WAM have been used to analyzed and interpret the data collected from the respondents.

FINDINGS

Table 1 shows that the distribution of rural public libraries in each state under three geopolitical zones of northern Nigeria. On the whole it is observed that out of 122 rural public libraries, north west zone has the highest number of libraries with 69 rural libraries followed by north east with 35 rural libraries and north central zone with 18 rural libraries. It is also noted that Sokoto and Kwara states do not have rural library in the states.

Table 1: Distribution of Rural Public Libraries in Northern Nigeria under Geopolitical Zones

Geopolitical Zones	States in Northern Nigeria	No. of Rural Public Libraries in each State of Northern Nigeria
North Central	Benue	8
	Kogi	3
	Kwara	-
	Nassarawa	2
	Niger	-
	Plateau	2
	FCT Abuja	3
North East	Adamawa	3
	Bauchi	1
	Gombe	11
	Yobe	11
	Taraba	1
	Borno	8
North West	Jigawa	14
	Kaduna	9
	Kano	18
	Katsina	22
	Kebbi	5
	Sokoto	-
	Zamfara	1
Total		122

Sources: survey data

The distribution of respondents by their educational qualifications is shown in table 2. The data reveals that majority of the respondents (75.28%) possessed qualification of Diploma either in Library

and Information Science or in other discipline. This is followed by (22.47%) who possessed qualification Bachelor’s Degree.

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents by Educational Qualifications

Qualification	Frequency	percentage
Senior School Certificate	2	2.25%
Diploma	67	75.28%
Bachelor’s Degree	20	22.47%
Master’s Degree	-	-
Total	89	100

Table 3: Quantum Library of Collections

Collections	Range	Frequency	Percentage
Books	Below 5000 Books	85	95.51%
	Between 5001 and10000 Books	4	4.49%
	Between 10001and 50000 Books	-	-
	Total	89	100
Journals	No Journals	1	1.12%
	Below 100 Journals	25	28.09%
	Between 100 and 999 Journals	60	67.42%
	Above 999 Journals	3	16.85%
	Total	89	100
E-Resources	No E-Resources	74	83.15%
	Below 1000 E-Resources	15	16.85%
	Above 1000 E-Resources	-	-
	Total	89	100

The quantum of collection in the rural public libraries of northern Nigeria is shown in table 2. Majority of the libraries (95.51%) are having collection

below 5000 volumes of books and only (4.49%) are having between 5001 and 10000 books.

Table 4: Quantum of Manpower in the Libraries

Description	Range	Frequency	Percentage
Librarians	Nil	69	77.53%
	One Librarian	20	22.47%
	Between 2 and 5 Librarians	-	-
	Total	89	100
Officers	Nil	-	-
	One Officer	2	2.25%
	Between 2 and 5 Officers	81	91.01%
	Between 6 and 10 Officers	6	6.74%
	Total	89	100
Supporting Staff	Nil	4	4.50%
	One Supporting Staff	17	19.10%
	Between 2 and 5 Supporting Staffs	68	76.40%
	Total	89	100

The quantum of manpower in the libraries under study is shown table in 4 It is sad to note that nearly to 80% of the Libraries do not have professional Librarian which is not reasonable since librarian plays a vital role in the provision of library services and in turn administration of the library. The Fifth Law of Library Science enunciated by Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, Father of

Library Science in India, which reads as “*Library is a growing organism*” do not fit to public library system in Northern Nigeria, since the staff position as well as collection in libraries are not growing and shows a poor picture. The success of libraries depends on functional collection and effective staff, but this is not seen in the libraries under study.

Table 5: Availability of Library Facilities

Facilities	Yes	percentage	No	percentage
Reading Tables and chairs	52	58.43%	37	41.57%
Computers	49	55.06%	40	44.94%
Internet facilities	23	25.84%	66	74.16%
Television	32	35.10%	57	64.04%
Photocopier/ Printer & Scanner	68	76.40%	21	23.60%
Electric power	34	38.20%	55	61.80%
Power Generator	21	23.60%	68	76.40%
Mobile library facilities	3	3.37%	86	96.63%

The availability of library facilities in the libraries is provided in table 5. While the provision of reading tables and meeting desks are available in almost all of the rural libraries. Some of the ICT based facilities such as computers; photo copier, printer and

scanner are available in majority of libraries. With regard to electricity, only 38.20% has electric power supply. However the provision of mobile library facilities is not seen in most of the libraries.

Table 6: Library Buildings

Description	Variables				percentage
		Yes	Percentage	No	
Own Building	Own building built as library	44	49.44%	45	50.56%
	Own building not built as library	20	22.47%	69	77.53%
	Rental building	27	30.37%	62	69.66%
Building Space	Accommodate the library collections	79	88.76%	10	11.24%
	Modernize the library services	44	49.44%	45	50.56%
	Provide required services	55	61.80%	34	38.20%
	Provide adequate work space	65	73.03%	24	26.10%
	Provide meeting/social programs	56	62.92%	33	37.07%
	Meet future expansion of the library	35	39.33%	54	60.65%
Library has	Meeting hall/room	27	30.37%	62	69.66%
	Open space for parking and open programs	77	86.52%	12	13.48%
	Canteen	43	48.32%	46	51.69%

Table 6 explains the extent of availability of library buildings and its facilities. The availability of library building can be seen under 3 different situations namely some libraries have their own building on the other hand, some though have building but not built to suit as a library and some function in rental buildings. On the whole it is observed from the table that, the

existing library building whether own or rental do not fulfil the functional requirements. More than 69% of the rural libraries do not have meeting hall/room facilities and other infrastructure. By and large the provision of library building for the public library system in Northern Nigeria is far from satisfactory.

Table 7: Library Services

Services	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage
	Reference Service	84	94.38%	5
Inter Library Loan	9	10.11%	80	89.89%
Books Lending service	43	48.31%	46	51.69%
Reprographic Service	53	59.55%	36	40.45%
Information Retrieval Service	72	80.90%	17	19.10%
Internet service	7	7.87%	82	92.14%
Children's service	88	98.88%	1	1.12%
Social activities	31	34.83%	58	65.17%
Outreach service	47	52.80%	42	47.19%
Exhibition and display	28	31.46%	61	68.54%

Generally public library provides a variety of services ranging from traditional to ICT based services. But the data provided in table 6 reflects a gloomy picture of public library system in northern Nigeria as far as the nature and types of information services are concerned. The internet service is not much provided in majority of libraries. Majority of the libraries (98.88) provide children services. It is very sad to note that inter library loan service is noticed in a few libraries (10.11%) provide this service. This kind of situation can be attributed to the lack of proper qualified staff availability and information resources provision.

The public library resources and facilities jointly contribute towards the provision of library services. In this study sixteen variables comprising of public library resources and facilities towards the provision of library services. The respondents' opinions in the survey from rural libraries in northern Nigeria have been analysed on Five Point Scaling Technique with parameters strongly agree, agree undecided, disagree and strongly disagree. The variables have been ranked based on WAM (Weighted Arithmetic Mean) value shown in the table 8:

Table 8: Weighted Arithmetic Mean Analyses for the Contribution of Available Resources and Facilities towards the Provision of Library Services

Code	Variables	SA	A	U	D	SD	WAM	RANK
Q1	Library staff	41	36	7	5	-	4.27	1
Q5	Library Collections	7	45	23	13	1	3.49	2
Q6	Library furniture	10	29	42	8	-	3.46	3
Q7	Toilet facilities	5	40	34	10	-	3.45	4
Q4	Open space and parking space	4	44	29	10	2	3.43	5
Q2	Library building and Meeting room/hall	9	28	28	24	-	3.25	6
Q15	Power generator set	4	30	42	8	5	3.22	7
Q3	Library canteen	3	31	35	18	2	3.17	8
Q8	Children's materials	2	30	33	22	2	3.09	9
Q16	Vehicle/ Mobile library Van	4	25	29	27	4	2.98	10
Q14	Cooling systems (fan/ACs)	4	22	31	29	3	2.94	11
Q10	Photocopier/scanner/printer	4	26	23	32	4	2.93	12
Q9	Computers	8	25	14	29	13	2.84	13
Q11	Electricity	3	8	38	33	7	2.63	14
Q112	Television set	2	11	28	39	9	2.53	15
Q13	Internet facilities	1	8	29	27	24	2.27	17

SA = Strongly Agree; A = Agree; U = Undecided; D = Disagree; SD = Strongly Disagree;

The table 8 shows that the contribution of available resources and facilities towards the provision of library services. The variable namely 'Library staff' is the high priority with the WAM score of 4.27 ranked 1st. 'Library collections' and 'Library furniture' are ranked 2nd and 3rd place with score of 3.49 and 3.46. It

was found that the least priority is identified as 'Internet facilities' with WAM score of 2.27 ranked in 17th place. Since the public libraries are located in rural area of Northern Nigeria, the internet facilities is not provided to users.

There are number of factors affecting the provision of rural public libraries in northern Nigeria. In this study sixteen variables comprising factors affecting rural public libraries in the provision of library services in northern Nigeria. The respondents' opinions in the

survey from libraries have been analysed on Five Point Scaling Technique with parameters strongly agree, agree undecided, disagree and strongly disagree. The variables have been ranked based on WAM (Weighted Arithmetic Mean) value shows in table 9:

Table 9: Weighted Arithmetic Mean Analysis for the factors affecting rural public libraries in the provision of library services in northern Nigeria

Code	Variables	SA	A	U	D	SD	WAM	RANK
Q1	Lack of proper meeting hall/room to host or organize community meetings	39	35	12	2	1	4.22	1
Q13	Lack of children's materials and facilities	29	48	8	4	-	4.15	2
Q8	Lack of governments' concern towards rural library	29	44	13	3	-	4.11	3
Q5	Lack of community awareness of library functions and services	24	50	13	2	-	4.08	4
Q10	Lack of library understanding and role to be played in the services and programs	25	47	16	1	-	4.08	4
Q7	Inadequate and out of date of library collections	24	50	12	3	-	4.07	5
Q15	Lack of library vehicles (mobile van) for outreach programs	24	48	15	2	-	4.06	6
Q11	Inadequate financial support for public libraries to provide resources and facilities	26	44	16	3	-	4.04	7
Q2	Non availability of open space for festival, social gatherings and parking spaces	17	57	13	1	1	3.99	8
Q4	Traditional library layout and un-conducive atmosphere of the library environment to provide library programs and activities	27	38	20	2	2	3.97	9
Q16	Inability of the library heads to adopt strategies for social activities	23	42	21	2	1	3.94	10
Q6	Inconvenience distance of the library from the community members	24	40	20	3	2	3.91	11
Q14	Lack of constant power supply to support library services and programs	20	48	14	7		3.91	11
Q3	Inadequate furniture for reading and meetings	22	42	17	8		3.88	12
Q9	Inadequate ICTs infrastructure and facilities for library services and programs	19	47	18	3	2	3.88	12
Q12	Limited library working days and working hours	11	46	29	3		3.73	13

SA = Strongly Agree; A = Agree; U = Undecided; D = Disagree; SD = Strongly Disagree;

Table 9 presents the factors affecting rural public libraries in the provision of library services in northern Nigeria. Here 16 variables are considered and out of 16 variables 'Lack of proper meeting hall/room to host or organize community meetings' is ranked 1st with the WAM score of 4.22. The variable namely 'Lack of children's materials and facilities' ranked in 2nd place with the score of 4.15. Lack of governments' concern towards rural library is in 3rd place with the WAM score is 4.11. 'Lack of community awareness of library functions' and 'services and Lack of library understanding and role to be played in the services and programs' ranked in 4th place with the score of 4.08 each. 'Limited library working days and working hours' is least value of 3.73 and ranked in 13th place.

DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

The findings of the study shown that majority (75.28%) of the heads of the rural public libraries in northern Nigeria do not have Bachelor's degree which revealed that those libraries are headed by Para professionals. Aina (2014) pointed out that the most important staff library is the professional librarians, supplemented by Para-professionals and other staff. Muhammed (2019) recommended that rural public libraries in Nigeria should be headed by professional librarians. The findings of the study revealed that nearly 80% of the rural public libraries in northern Nigeria lack adequate collections especially e-resources. The findings also identified that nearly to 60% of the rural

libraries in Nigeria have available reading tables and chairs. With regards to ICT facilities and mobile library facilities, the findings revealed that almost all the libraries lack those facilities. This finding supports the view of Anyelebechi and Udo- Anyanwu (2016) which found that public library system in Nigeria today is characterized by poor status in ICT facilities.

Findings of the study revealed that 77.53% of rural public libraries of northern Nigeria have their own building but not built to suit as library which might affect the provision of effective and efficient library services. This finding proved the Salma (2015) study, who stated that most of the rural library buildings in Nigeria were not suitable for community library buildings. It was also found that nearly to 70% of the libraries do not have meeting room/hall to organize or host community meetings. Also the findings for this study indicated that rural public libraries in northern Nigeria do not provide internet services. This might be due to lack of electric power supply or lack of internet facilities. Also the study found that 89.89% of the rural libraries do not provide inter library loan services. This might be either due to outdated collections or inadequate collections. The findings also revealed that 68.54% of the libraries do not provide exhibition/display services. Joy and Idowu (2014) mentioned the factors affecting public library services in Nigeria as lack of adequate facilities and inadequate/outdated collections.

With regards to contribution of library resources and facilities towards the provision of library services, the findings disclosed that library staff ranked 1 with the WAM score of 4.27, followed by 'library collections' and 'library furniture' ranked the 2nd and 3rd place with score 3.49 and 3.46 while 'internet facilities' found the least facility with WAM score of 2.27 and ranked 17th. Regarding the factors affecting rural public libraries in the provision of library services, it was found that, out of 16 variables 'lack of proper meeting hall/room to host or organize community meetings' ranked 1st, 'lack of children materials and facilities' ranked 2nd and 'lack of governments' concern towards rural libraries ranked 3rd. Limited library working days/hours is the least value of 3.73 and ranked in 13 place. Ladan and Rajendran (2020) identified the barriers in the provision of public library services in rural areas of Nigeria as outdated collections, poor library locations, poor physical infrastructure, staffing, lack of library policies and lack of awareness of library services. The authors suggested the need to provide adequate information resources and facilities, and to introduce new library services and programs in Nigerian public libraries.

SUGGESTIONS

Based on the findings of the study, we put forwards the following suggestions which the rural

public libraries in northern Nigeria can venture in the provision of library services:

1. The findings of this study reveal inadequate and lack of professional librarians in most of the rural libraries in northern Nigeria. Therefore, adequate and qualified staff should be employed for effective service delivery.
2. In view of the existing public library buildings in Northern Nigeria, it is suggested that building design should contribute to the dignity of each user and promote a diverse yet interconnected community. Aesthetics, usability, opportunities for social connection and individual privacy, personal autonomy, and the overall user experience are significant factors of success. Building design should promote health and comfort by considering environmental conditions including light, acoustics, movement and ergonomics.
3. Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria should design a policy or guideline on the provision of public libraries in Nigeria. Government should carry out a need assessment on the infrastructural deficiency of rural libraries and information centres with a view of developing strategies to renovate and out libraries back into use.
4. Considering challenges of rural public libraries in northern Nigeria, it is recommended that fund allocation for these libraries should increase; government should provide adequate funding to rural public libraries for acquisition of resources and running its services.

CONCLUSION

To improve public library services in Nigeria, there is need for the governments, be it federal, state or local governments, to put more attention on public libraries by establishing more libraries especially at rural areas. The existing ones should be provided with necessary resources and facilities for better service delivery. Community leaders, stakeholders, community members and friends of library should come together to support the public library services. Librarians also should collaborate with other libraries such as special and academic libraries, library schools and library associations for the better future of the library services.

REFERENCES

1. Achebe, N. E. (2005). The Status of ICT in Nigerian Public Libraries, *Coal City Libraries*, 2 (1&2): 12-32.
2. Aina, L. O. (2014). *Library and Information Science Text for Africa*, Ibadan: Third world information services Limited.
3. Anyalebechi, L.I., & Udo-Anyanwu, A. (2016). Public Library Services and the Attainment of the Social Well Being of Users in Enugu State, *Journal of Policy and Development Studies*, 10 (1).

4. Badawi, G. (2009). *Public Library Services and the Information Needs of Women in Northern Nigeria*, *Samaru Journal of Information Studies*, 9 (2), 1-7.
5. Bello, S.O., & Salah, H.O. (2014). Availability of ICTs in Public Libraries in North Central States of Nigeria, *African Journal Online*, 11(1), 2014. Retrieved from <http://sajlis.journals.ac.za/pub/article/view/1639>.
6. Ebiwolate, P.B. (2010). Nigeria Public Library Service to Rural Areas: Libraries in Niger Delta States, *Library Philosophy and Practice*, 365. Retrieved from <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac>
7. Emojorho, D. (2005). Public Library and Nation Building: The Nigerian Experience, *Library Management* 26 (3): 123-129.
8. Faulkner- Brown, H. (1999). Some thoughts on the design of major library buildings. In: Intelligent Library Buildings: Marie-Françoise Bisbrouck and M. Chauveinc (eds). Proceedings of the 10th seminar of the IFLA Section on Library Buildings and Equipment, Saur, pp. 9-31.
9. Hayes, E., & Morris, A. (2005). Leisure role of Public Libraries: A historical Perspective, *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*, 37 (2), 75-79.
10. Joy, I. I., & Idowu, A. I. (2014). Utilization and User Satisfaction of Public Library Services in South- West, Nigeria in the 21st Century: A survey. *International Journal of Library Science*, 3(1), 1-6.
11. Ladan, A., RaJendran, P. An Investigation into the Challenges and Opportunities in the Social Capital Creation by Public Libraries in Northern Nigeria: Cluster Analysis, *International Journal of Research in Library Science*. 6 (1), 1-10.
12. Librarians' Registration Council of Nigeria. (2015b). Standard and Guidelines for Public Libraries in Nigeria. [Online]. Retrieved from [http://nppl.ir/wp-content/uploads/41.- Minimum-Standards-for-public-libraries-in-Nigeria.pdf](http://nppl.ir/wp-content/uploads/41.-Minimum-Standards-for-public-libraries-in-Nigeria.pdf)
13. Miller, J. (2014). A Comparative Study of Public Libraries in Edinburgh and Copenhagen and Their Potential for Social Capital Creation, *International Journal of Libraries and Information Studies*, 64 (4), 316-324. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1515/libri-2014-0025>
14. Mohammad, B. B., & Garaba, F. (2018). Rural Dwellers and Public Libraries in the North Western Zone of Nigeria, *Mousain South Africa Journal of Information Studies*, 36 (1), 1-22. <https://upjournals.co.za/index.php/LIS/article/view/4658>
15. Mohammed, B.B. (2019). Provision of Public Library Services to Meet the Information Needs of Rural Dwellers in the North-Western Zone of Nigeria, PhD Thesis, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.
16. Oduagwu, E., Ndukaku, C. F., & Oduagwu, M. C. (2013). Lobbying and Advocacy for Improved Public Library and Information Services in Nigeria, in *Compendium of Nigerian Library Association (NLA) Conference*, held at Calabar. 9th-4th June, 2013.
17. Real, B., Carlo, B., & Jaeger, P. T. (2014) Rural Public Libraries and Digital Inclusion Issues, *Information Technology and Libraries*.
18. Salman, A. (2015). Issues and Challenges in the Provision and Utilization of Public Library Services in Nigeria, Ph.D. thesis, Dept of information studies, University of Zululand, South Africa, 2015.
19. Salman, A. A., Moster, B. J., & Musgwiari, T. (2014). Issues and Trends in the Provision of Public Library Services in Nigeria: A Literature Survey," *Journal of Balkan Library union* 2(1), 38-44.
20. Shrem, J. (2012). Public Libraries Informational Brief: Impact of Public Libraries on Students and Lifelong Learners, New York: Comprehensive Centre.
21. Sultana, R. (2014). Library services: Lesson from Five Rural Public Libraries in West Bengal, *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention*, 3(10) 27-30.
22. Takalkar, S. A., & Devi, T. R. (2001). Rural Libraries- A Comparative Study in Four States of India, *Public Library Quarterly*, 19:3, 43-55, DOI: 10.1300/J118v19n03_07.