



Nigerian Politics and Women Political Mobilizers in Nigeria; A Case Study of Argungu Local Government

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Abstract

The participation of some socio-demographic groups in Nigerian politics is hampered due to the marginalization and dominance of other groups. Despite their contribution to development of nation. The study was carried out using quantitative method. A total of 110 Questionnaires was distributed to 11 wards in Argungu local government. The aim of this study is to evaluate how effective women political mobilizers are at influencing participation of women in Argungu. This study investigated role of female political mobilizers in electioneering campaigns. The studies also identify the benefits of women as political mobilizers after a successful election. In addition, the study has identified the challenges faced by female political mobilizers during and after electioneering campaign. The studies also develop a method for identifying the factors preventing women from political participation in Argungu Local Government. The results reveals that women political mobilizers played a vital role in mobilization of women in political participation and also benefits from electioneering campaign. Even though they face challenges such as low level of education, stigmatisation, lack of fund among others. The paper recommended political education through public enlightenment improves quality of education, look for more channel to acquire fund. In principle, the outcome of this research will serve as a baseline for policy formulation in Kebbi State and Nigeria.

I. INTRODUCTION

Women are builders and pillar of the family, they are also agents of social values of the society and change are best achieved through women, full community development will not be achieved without their cooperation and effective involvement. (Omoruyi, 2008). A Chinese saying

observes that “women hold up half the sky”. It is important to understand that, women participation and contribution to development of a nation is immeasurable even through Nigerian women are relegated they have also displayed demonstrated competence in managing public affairs in Nigeria. Asposited by Fasugba (2000) that women engaged in activities and jobs that are regarded as the men’s job they struggle side by side with their men counterparts. Women in Nigeria are facing challenges which militates against politics ranging from first republic till today even though there is changes in fourth republic more women were involved in politics as in both elective and appointive position and also women were included in electioneering process for mobilization.

In Nigeria, studies show that women political participation in politics is low even though political parties in Nigeria use women political mobilizers to campaign for them. Political party seems to be an agent that gives an opportunity for citizens to fully participate in politics. They influence every action of government. Even with this, women still face challenges in party system. Even though political parties use women political mobilizers as a tool for mobilization of women in Nigerian politics. These women are use during electioneering process.

Women have contributed to the social and political development globally. Their involvement in politics might not be strong, but their participation in politics globally is progressing. This is hard work of women political mobilizers, women groups, United Nation and other international bodies. In Africa and some developing countries in the world few women were actively involved in politics more especially in top government positions. Their involvement remains largely on political mobilization and in voting. Women still



experience discrimination in relation to their participation in politics. This contradicts the rules of democracy which entails government through free and Fair election active participation of both men and women, rule of law protection of human right among others Diamond (1996) assert that a highly inclusive level of political participation in the selection of political leaders through regular and fair elections, such that no major adult (social) group is excluded" Questions were raised on why the role of women is insignificance in Nigerian politics. Studies have been carried out on why women are not fully participating in politics or on factors militating against participation of women in Nigerian politics. Researchers refuse to look at women political mobilizers as a form of participation in Nigerian politics. Women have been contributing greatly to political development of various nations globally. There political involvement might not be visible enough but current women activities in the form of political mobilization has increased tremendously which result in the increase of women participation in Nigerian politics.

The population of Nigerian women is significant, in Nigeria, they accounted for nearly fifty percent in terms of population. So therefore, whatever influences participation of women in Nigeria need to be identified. The role of the women political mobilizers cannot be over emphasized. They play a vital role in the process of mobilization. They mobilize women to participate in Nigerian politics. The activities of women political mobilizers are seen right from grass root even though they experience challenges in the course of their mobilization.

The role played by women in socio political development globally cannot be neglected even though their contribution is overlooked. As was observed by Tamale (2000) that preference of male politics history writing makes it very rare to see the contribution of women in the past in African societies. Nevertheless, Stuart 1989, Agoras 1990, are in the support that African women as political actors played an important role even before colonization. Even though there is still inequality in social status among men and women, still women played an important role and wielded powers economically and politically. In African societies Schmiat(1991) asserted that women were fully engaged in both reproductive and productive activities.

Participation in politics involves not only Political participation derives from the freedom of speech assemble and associations, the ability to take part in the public affairs an ability to register as a

candidate, or to be elected and hold political office at local, state or federal government. It also involves mobilization of individuals to participate in politics. Political parties served as most important institutions influence participation of women in politics despite the fact that women were used as mobilizers and voter's catchers more especially at the grass root. In many countries political parties determine which candidates should be nominated and elected and which issue achieves national important. The role of women in political parties is of great importance more especially during electioneering process, women are used to enter houses in other to mobilize their fellow women to come out to vote during election. They also mobilize women to register during registration exercise. The role of women in political parties is therefore a key determinant of their prefects. Government and international bodies willing to promote the participation of women in elections justifiable tends to focus more on political parties.

Activities of women political mobilizers play a crucial role in shaping the behaviour of voter in election. The way women political mobilizers Portray women, how they deal with issue with utmost concern to women has major effect on women participation in an election. They can facilitate women's participation in politics both as voters and as candidates. Political parties use women political mobilizers to convey messages to people in the form of propaganda. Propaganda has become more common and powerful in political context in the world especially in African countries. It refers to certain efforts sponsored by government, political group, individuals or candidate e.t.c to mobilize and convert interests, corona (2011) posited that election propaganda aim at making a given candidates known, or even a party that has been recently created seeking to position itself. It does not intend to just inform but rather aim primarily at influencing the target evidence which is the masses. Therefore, the role played by women political mobilizers in Nigerian politics cannot be neglected and needs to be investigated.

This research is set to investigate the role of women political mobilizers in influencing women to participate in Nigerian politics, the study is also aim at understanding the placement of women political mobilizers as well as challenges face by women political mobilizers and factors influences women participation in politics with particular reference to Argungu Local Government Kebbi State, Nigeria.

THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK



This study is associated with mobilization theory. Several theories can provide valuable framework in conceptualizing political mobilization which includes resource mobilization theory. It is a theory that process resources from the resource provider, using different channels to execute an organizational goal. It is a theory that is applied in the study of social movements like women group and assert that the process of social movements depends on resources which include time, money, skills, etc. and the ability to use them. It concerns is on acquiring the needed resources in a timely, cost-effective manner. Advocates of Resource mobilization argues that when to have the right type of resource at the right price at the right time and make the right use of acquired resources determines the success of a movement. The theory emphasize on the ability of members to acquire resources and to mobilize people in fulfilling the organizational goals. Resource mobilization sees social movement as institutions that are created for a reason and has members with the aim of taking political action. In terms of this research the movement goals are to mobilize people to participate in politics effectively and social actors are the women political mobilizers.

According to resource mobilization theory, a core, professional group in a social movement organization works towards bringing money, supporters, attention of the media, alliances with those in power, and refining the organizational structure. The theory revolves around the central notion of how messages of social change are spread from person to person and from group to group. The conditions needed for a social movement are the notion that grievances shared by multiple individuals and organizations, ideologies about social causes and how to go about reducing those grievances. The theory assumes that individuals are rational: individuals weigh the costs and the benefits of movement participation and act only if the benefits outweigh the costs. When movement goals take the form of public goods, the free rider dilemma must be taken into consideration.

Social movements are goal-oriented, but organization is more important than resources. Organization means the interactions and relations between social movement organizations (SMOs) and other organizations (other SMOs, businesses, governments, etc.). The organization's infrastructure efficiency is a key resource in itself.

Resource mobilization theory can be divided into two camps: John D. McCarthy and Mayer Zald are the originators and major advocates of the

classic entrepreneurial (economic) version of the theory, and Charles Tilly and Doug Mc Adam are proponents of the political version of resource mobilization called political process theory. The entrepreneurial model explains collective action as a result of economic factors and organization theory. It argues that grievances are not sufficient to explain creation of social movements. Instead, access to and control over resources is the crucial factor. The laws of supply and demand explain the flow of resources to and from the movements and that individual actions or the lack thereof is accounted for by rational choice theory. The political model focuses on the political struggle, instead of economic factors.

This theory is adopted to this study as its basic assumptions highlighted the importance of resources to any form of mobilization in particular to this research of women Political mobilization. It explains well on how a movement could adhere successfully. It stands as a framework to this research as mobilization in Africa and Nigeria in particular took different dimensions more especially in terms of financial resources. In essence virtually all the resources categories by the advocates of resource mobilization are useful for women political mobilizers. Even though women political mobilizers in Nigeria face some challenges as far as resources are concerned.

II. EMPIRICAL REVIEW

Literatures examine issues of Nigerian politics and political mobilization. Many Empirical studies have shown that there is a relationship between Nigeria's politics and political mobilization.

Monica (2019) assesses the role played by women groups in participation of women and economic development in Osun State, Nigeria. The study used primary data to solicit information and from women groups. The findings of the study revealed that women's groups lack political agenda, and high level illiteracy exist in women and most of them are unaware of national and international gender equality law. The study also indicated that the current role played by women's groups in grassroots is not adequate in mobilizing more women's participation in politics. The study suggests that more empowerment programmes especially in the decision making area and political participation should be improved at women's groups in the grassroots level by stakeholders as a matter of urgency.

Adekoya, Akintayo and Adegoke (2015) examine the role of radio in the mobilization of



women towards political participation in Ogun State, Nigeria. The study used survey design and questionnaire was administered for data collection. The data revealed that there is possible relationship between radio and participation of women in politics and can serve as important agent for development of women in politics. The study recommended that the radio as a strong agent of mobilization should be utilized more in motivating women towards effective participation of politics, radio should be effectively serve as a tool for Grassroots enlightenment, more efforts should be made on the part of government in preventing violence before and during election that occur during political period.

Shehu Yusuf (2015) conducted a research on mobilization of women in politics. Interview was used as a tool for collection of data. The study reveals that women political mobilizers benefits from mobilization. The achievement includes appointment of women into public offices and leadership position where women were made permanent secretaries, ministers, women directors, commissioners, special assistant, advisers and members of government board. The findings revealed that women were used as mobilizers for grassroots support. The study revealed that problems of women political mobilizers include financial problem, illiteracy, religious prejudice, cultural bias such as women self-image and self-esteem.

Nworie (2019) examine the impact of salt FM radio on political mobilization of the people of Ezza North local government in Ebonyi state. Survey method was used for the study. The study used combination of purposive and random sampling technique to get a sample of 100 respondents from five communities of Ezza north local government. Questionnaire was used for data collection. Findings revealed that radio mobilization programme have shape the choice of people in political participation. The study reveals that there is an average exposure rate of respondent of these programs. Going by these findings, the research recommended that allocation of funds should be increased by government ministry of information and communication so as to enable radio stations carryout more effective programmes on mobilization.

Tanushere (2019) conducted a research in 2019 titled how women mobilize women into politics; A natural experiment in India. The researcher used natural experimental gender quota reservations in Delhi the researcher used survey and qualitative data. The researcher focuses on 3 electoral circles, 2007, 2012 and 2017. The

researcher conducted interview to councilors, politicians, party officials and party workers. It also draws on qualitative evidence from several year of field study on party organization that was conducted in Delhi from 2015 to 2019. The researcher came up with the following findings; that female representation is positively related to women's political knowledge and participation, seeing women in politics motivates psychologically and inspires women to get into politics, women representation has mobilization effects, in constituencies with women politicians, women campaign workers are reconvinced which mobilizes women's involvement in politics. Female representation reduces political gender gap, female representation opens up a way for future women candidacy that women in reserved constituency than men to be targeted in house to house campaign, that women who are included into lower level roles influence the process of grassroots mobilization. Women receive more mobilizing effort than men in places where women contest. The researcher concluded that female representation is a channel which gender gaps are reduced.

Catherine (2018) conducted research on women how mobilizes women; candidates' strategies for winning the presidency in Latin America. The researcher analyze approximately 1000 newspaper articles on Delhi and Brazil and came up with the following findings: that women candidates sought to cultivate a core constituency of women on the basis of gender identity by applying three common tactics. They met with women in their campaign that have gendered experience as mother or victims of sexism, and established a shared identity to credibly pro women reforms. That male candidate used their spouses or prominent women to mobilize women voters by recruiting spouse's politicians from their political parties who were charged for speaking about gender issues and depleting association of sexism, that presidential campaigns have positive relationship with the quality of political representation which has mobilization effect.

Santas, Asemah and Jumbo (2020) conducted a research on Mass media and mobilization of women for political participation during the 2011 Gubernatorial election in Lafia Nasarawa state, Nigeria survey research method was used for the study, while questionnaire was used to solicit information from the respondent of 385 women in Lafia. The researchers finding indicates that 40.3% of women were well exposed to media messages geared toward mobilization than to participate in election 37.7% of the respondent



affirmed that they received political message via radio, 51.9 indicated that they participated to a great extent in the election. Finding further indicates that 88.4% of the respondents were of the opinion that mass media did not protect or give enough coverage women contestant during election. The research also finds out that the mass media used women programmes as role model to influence women to participate in politics. In line with these women should be encouraged by stake holder in the society to venture into politics. Government and civil society organizations should propose a law to ensure that the media do not discriminate against women who contest for election.

Ugwu and Orida (2018) conducts a research on problem militating against the affective mobilization of women to participate in community development in Enugu north senatorial district of Enugu State Nigeria. Survey research was used. The researcher used questionnaire to sample population. The researcher came up with the following that the problem affecting the effective women mobilization to participate in community development includes economic, political education and socio-cultural problem base on these findings. The study recommended that, efforts should be made to mobilize women to fully participate in community development. Workshops, seminars and campaigns should be organized on women participation in community development. Community survey design was used. The findings revealed that women in Unumba should be given free education for effective mobilization.

Isola (2019) examined women participation in politics and grassroots democratic sustainability in Osun State, Nigeria (2010 - 2015). Survey research design was adopted. Information was collected through questionnaire and unstructured interview. The result revealed that women involved in participation in politics in Osun State are low compared to their male counter parts thus they make great stride. It was found that representation of women at two level of involvement in the period under study was 50 women or 20.5% of the group while male representation was 244 or 79.5%. Findings reveals that the under representation in Osun State was because of social cultured factors. The funding reveals that the sustainably of democracy at the grass root level is yet to be sustained. The research suggested that there is a need for local polices to end discrimination of women and form of action to enrich in the law of the land. The research also recommends the support of women's association. Kapingur

Courageous and Kapingur (2019) conducted a research examining the factors affecting woman participation in politics in SADC region. Data was obtained from economist inelegant unit index of democracy and World Bank. The study employs panel data yearly. That covers all SADC countries. The findings reveal that government, political participation, government functioning, political culture, the over political participation have a possible relationship with women participation in politics. The result revealed that civil liberties, human development Index, electoral process and phirahsm have a negative relationship with women participation in politics. The study suggested that the government of the SADC region engage political players' especially politicians ensure active involvement and appointment of more women in their political structure.

Saratu (2015) conducted a research on gender differences in mobilization collected action on 6 villages in northern Nigeria. It was a field work research. The research used interview to solicit information. The research revealed that, the nature of collective action in the entire village is in two categories voluntary work for community development that was done through community base association and self-help cooperation through friendship (Gayya) as well as Dan groups. Differences in pattern of participation in collective action identified among men and women and in villages. The researcher recommended that there is need for effective process for collective action with collaboration between men's and women's group. Also the study suggests that policy law makers and development organizations in northern Nigeria must pay more attention to social context in order to understand the power and gender structure and the rules and norms which shape social behaviour and which may determine the types of social capital men and women access.

Fedalis (2020) assesses the status of participation of women in politics as citizens and holders of position in Niger Delta. The study used INEC report, civil society consultation, focus group discussion and key informant interviews across the study locations in collection of data. The key findings of this study revealed that women's visibility in politics is most heavily as voters. They are targeted for votes buying by political parties which are highly prevalent in Niger Delta. Fewer votes are made on the basis of candidates' credentials and polices. Another finding was that voter education is increasing. However, in remote areas of Niger Delta are not well reached by these initiatives which lead to low turnout of voters and



higher likelihood votes being manipulated. This is lack of solidarity between female politicians and women in communities.

Base on the empirical review carried out by the researchers, the researcher draws a research gap upon which revealed that most of these empirical researches do not focus much attention directly on women political mobilizers. For example, most of the researchers focus on media as an agent of political mobilization. This research intends to go directly to women political mobilizers from the grass root in which these women meet with their fellow women face to face to mobilize them to participate in politics. Women political mobilizers played a vital role in women political mobilization in Nigeria. The role of women political mobilization cannot be over emphasizing to the extent it cannot be neglected. In Nigeria, each and every party has a woman leader. These women leaders played a vital role in women political mobilization in Nigerian politics. Role of these women is significant and therefore need to be investigated. Moreover, apart from women leaders there are women group, Religious group, tribal group, and women holding appointive or elective position, women politicians which play a key role in women political mobilization. The efforts made by these women need to be investigated.

Also there is a need to understand the level of political mobilization in Argungu Local Government. Base on the empirical research drawn from the empirical review, the research identity a gap on the level of women political mobilization in Argungu Local Government. The research intends to fill this gap through investigation. The research need to understand the level of women mobilization in Argungu Local Government. The researcher need to ascertain women political mobilization is at high peak or not. If women are aware of their political duty or not, if women are exposé to politics or not, if the level of political participation is significant or not. Also, realized that the researcher identity a gap on benefit of women political mobilizers. Most of the empirical researches do not focus much on the benefits of women political mobilizers before and after election. This research intends to fill that gap by investigating the benefits derived by women political mobilizers in Argungu Local Government. Before and after election.

The researcher also identifies a gap on the challenges face by women political mobilizers in Argungu Local Government. Base on the empirical review, the researchers focuses on challenges of participation of women in politics, based on voting or to be voted for base on position giving to women

after electioneering process. The researcher intends to identity the challenges face by women political mobilizers in Kebbi state. The challenges face in their mobilization process.

III. MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study focus on the Nigerian politics and women political mobilizers with particular reference to Argungu local government, Kebbi State. The aim of this section is to explore the methodology used in this research. The section is aim at exploring the procedures used to identify select process and analyze information about women political mobilizers and Nigerian politics. This section comprises, description of the study area, research deigns, population of the study, sample and sampling techniques, instrument, methods of data collection, and methods of data analysis.

STUDY AREA

Argungu local government area is situated in Kebbi state, Northwest Nigeria. Argungu is also an emirate and comprises of a number of towns and villages which include Alwasa, Argungu, Felande, Gotomo, Gulma, Lailaba, Sauwa, and Tungarzazzagawa. The Argungu LGA has an estimated population of 142,921 inhabitants with a vast majority of this number being members of the Hausa and Fulani ethnic divisions. Islam is the commonly practiced religion in Argungu LGA with the Hausa and Ffulde languages spoken extensively within the area. Argungu LGA is home to the internationally acclaimed Argungu Fishing festival which draws thousands of participants from all over the country and beyond. Popular landmarks in Argungu LGA include the General Hospital and the Grand Fishing Hotel.

Argungu LGA has two distinct seasons which are the rainy and dry seasons. The dry seasons feature extremely hot weather with the average temperature of the area estimated at 34 degrees centigrade. The average humidity of the area is put at 24 percent while the landscape is characterized by dry, arid plains with a litter of hills and other elevations. Agriculture is an important feature of the economic life of Argungu LGA with the area famed for the cultivation of crops such as tobacco, groundnut, rice, sorghum, and millet. Fishing is another important aspect of the economic life of Argungu LGA while trade is also popular in the area with markets such as the Argungu Central Market offering a plethora of commodities. The Argungu Emirate was founded in the year 1808



while the British colonialists invaded the town in the year 1902.

IV. METHODS

Research design

This research intended to study the Nigerian politics and women political mobilizer in Argungu local government. This aim requires quantitative approach whereby data is generated from a large sample. Therefore, the study adopted descriptive research design. The study used questionnaires which were answered by women ward leaders, women politicians, leaders of the women's group or association and women holding elective or appointive position in Argungu local government. The purpose of this basic descriptive research is to obtain information on women political mobilizers and Nigerian politics, so as to understand their perspectives on political mobilization in relation to women participation in Nigerian politics.

The researcher adopted quantitative method simply because the population of the targeted population is large in number. Each ward has 2 or three ward leaders in some cases. I.e. looking at each party has a ward leader in every ward so as women politicians, leaders of women's group and

women holding elective and appointive position. So therefore, the researcher found it appropriate to administer questionnaire to them.

POPULATION OF THE STUDY

The population of the study comprised all the women political mobilizer in Argungu local government. Argungu local government has 11 wards which include, Alwasa/ Gotomo, Dikko, Felende, Galadima, Gulma, Gwazange/Kisawa/ UnguwarQyaga, Kokani north, Kokni south, Lailaba, Sauwa/ Kaura Sani, TungaZazagawa/ Rumbuki/ Sarkawa. The total population of this study is 969. Any type of research is based on purpose clarified the subject of the research directly or indirectly. On which group the result of the study is applied or for which group the findings can be generalized is clarified by purpose of the research. Such group is known as population in research. (Shukla, 2020) it is seen as the set or group of all units on which the result of the research is to be applied. Population refers to set of all units which possess variable characteristics under study and for which result of the study can be generalized (Shukla, 2020). The detail of the population is presented in Table 3.1

Table 3.1: Population of the Study

WARDS	Ward Leaders	Appointive Position	Elective Position	Women Association	Women Politicians	TOTAL
1 KOKANI NORTH	3	1	0	17	104	125
2 KOKANI SOUTH	3	0	0	21	88	112
3 GALADIMA	3	1	0	52	113	169
4 DIKKO	3	0	0	48	93	144
5 ALWASA/GOTOMO	3	1	0	33	39	76
6 GULMA	3	0	0	27	23	53
7 FELENDE	3	0	0	14	20	37
8 LAILABA	3	0	0	27	43	73
9 SAUWA/KAURA SANI	3	0	0	30	34	67
10 GWAZANGE/ KISAWA/U	3	0	0	42	30	75
11 TUNGAR ZAZAGAWA	3	0	0	16	19	38
TOTAL	33	3	0	327	606	969

Source: Field data

SAMPLE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUES

The sample size for the study comprised both the ward leaders, leaders of women's associations or group and women holding elective and appointive position, as well as women

politicians. About 10% of the total population i.e 110 participants were chosen to participate in the study. The selected participants were involved in this research through answering a questionnaire.

Judgment or purposive sampling was employed. Judgment or purposive sampling can also



be called as subjective selective sampling. This sampling technique was employed simply because the research has a target of certain characteristics. The researcher selected women who have relationship with political mobilization and whom can best suit to answer the research questions which will help the researcher to generalize. This technique relies on the wishes of the individual who conduct their search when selecting who to participate. Researchers may select a sample to suit their objectives, or specifically select individuals with needed characteristics.

The participant women in this study had a wide variety of educational backgrounds and experiences. Their educational qualifications ranged from SSCE to Postgraduate studies. The age of the women ranges from 18 – 60+ years, with political experience averaging from 4 – 30 years. About 81% of all the women were less than 50 years of age. This gives an indication that women political mobilizers are generally middle aged.

INSTRUMENTS

A closed-ended questionnaire was used for data collection for this study. This questionnaire was developed by the researcher and structured in subscale. The questionnaire was tagged as women political mobilizers questionnaire (WPMQ). The items on women political mobilizers questionnaire (WPMQ) was structure into two sections A and B. Section A comprised demographic information on educational level, experience, age, marital status and

position. Section B contained five sub-scales, each with items that were closed-ended and were rated using a 5-point Likert scale of strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree and strongly disagree. The WPMQ was content validated by three experts in political science, after content validation some items were dropped because they appeared ambiguous to the validators. The WPMQ was found to have a reliability coefficient of 0.8 and above using Cronbach alpha.

METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

The data for the study were collected through the administration of the women political mobilizers questionnaire (WPMQ) with the help of three trained research assistants. They assisted in the administration and retrieval of the WPMQ which lasted between three to four weeks.

DATA ANALYSIS

Quantitative data methods were used in the analysis of the data. The quantitative data obtained was analysed using descriptive statistics. Descriptive analysis of the research questions was presented in tables and interpretation was offered.

V. RESULT PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

Below are the tables that show the response of 110 respondents from 11 wards in Argungu local government in respect of women political mobilization in Argungu local government.

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents by Level of Education (N=110)

Level of Education	Frequency	Percentage
Primary Education	35	31.8%
Secondary Education	47	42.7%
NCE/ Diploma	15	13.6%
HND/Degree	10	9.9%
Postgraduate	0	0%
Others	3	2.0%
Total	110	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2022

The table 2 above shows that most of the respondent were secondary school holders which account for 42.7% followed by primary education holders with 31.8%, NCE/Diploma holders with 13.16% and HND/Degree holders which account for 9.9%. This finding is in conformity with the findings of Monica (2019) which reveals that there is high illiteracy in women political mobilizers.

Marital Status of women political mobilizers is another demographic feature which the study looked. Table 2 shows the distribution of respondents by Marital Status where the study shows that most of the respondents were widows which account for 33.6%, followed by divorce with 23.6%, married 22.7% and single 20.0%.



Table 2: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status (N=110)

Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage
Married	25	22.7%
Single	22	20.0%
Divorce	26	23.6%
Widow	37	33.6%
Total	110	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 3 presented the Distribution of Respondents by Position. The results revealed that most of the respondents were politicians whom accounted for 45.5%, women holding elective position 15.5%, women holding appointive position 14.5%, leaders of women group or association 13.4% and ward leaders 10.9%.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents by Position (N=110)

Position	Frequency	Percentage
Ward Leader	12	10.9%
Politician	50	45.5%
Women Holding Appointive Position	16	14.5%
Women Holding Elective Position	17	15.5%
Leaders of Women Group or Association	15	13.6%
Total	110	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 4 below shows the distribution of respondents by age. From the information gathered on age distribution, it shows that majority of the respondent were between the age of 40-49 with 36.4% only few were between the ages of 60 and above which account for 3.6%.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents by Age (in Years) (N=110)

Age (in Years)	Frequency	Percentage
18-29	25	22.7%
30-39	25	22.7%
40-49	40	36.4%
50-59	16	14.5%
60 and above	04	3.6%
Total	110	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2022

In this analysis, the five-point Likert scale was considered. strongly disagree=1, Disagree=2, Neutral=3 Agree=4 and strongly agree=5. The results in Table 5 revealed that the mean scores for the majority of the items were within the agreed

level of 4 points. This shows that the women political mobilizers influencing women participation in politics. But the respondents were neutral with regards to influencing women to stand as political aspirant since the mean scores lie within the neutral.

Table 5 Mean and standard deviation scores for level of women political mobilizers in influencing women participation in politics

s/n	Item	N	Mean	Std.
	women Political Mobilizers Influence Women to Votes	110	4.45	3.95
	Women Political Mobilizers Shape Voters Interest.	110	4.43	3.96
	Women Political Mobilizers Educate Women on How to Vote.	110	4.65	4.15
	Women Political Mobilizers Influences Women to Stand as Political Aspirant	110	3.91	3.46

Source: Field survey, 2022

Table 6 presented the results of role of women political mobilizers during political rally or election.



Table 6 Mean and standard deviation scores of role of women political mobilizers

s/n	Item	N	Mean	Std.
	Women Political Mobilizers Gather Women to Campaign for Party or Candidate	110	4.26	3.85
	Women Political Mobilizers Distribute Goods such as Soap, Wrappers, Tea Shirts, Caps, e.t.c to Influence People to Participate in Election.	110	4.48	3.99
	Women Political Mobilizers Distribute Money to Influence Women to Participate in Election.	110	4.36	3.88
	Women Political Mobilizers ask for favour for People to Participate in Election.	110	4.48	3.99

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 6 above indicates the mean scores obtained for all were greater than 4.0. This revealed that all the Women Political Mobilizers generally agreed they play role before and during the election. Because the mean scores match to the agreed level in the five-point Likert scale used. This implies that Women Political Mobilizers appears to have the greatest influence on educating women to

participate in politics. This is in line with the study of Adekoya, Akintoya and Adegoke (2015) on the role of radio in the mobilization of women towards political participation is in conformity with this research on educating women to participate in politics. Table 7 presented the benefits derived by women political mobilizers before and after electioneering process.

Table 7 Mean and standard deviation for the benefits derived by women political mobilizers before and after electioneering process

S/N	Item	N	Mean	Std.
13	Women Political Mobilizers Benefits Financially During the Election Process	110	4.15	3.77
14	Women Political Mobilizers are Given Appointive Position after Election.	110	2.90	2.71
15	Women Political Mobilizers are only used when the Need Arises thus seen as Voter Catcher and Dumped after Successful Electioneering Campaign	110	3.65	3.37
16	Women Political Mobilizers Engage in Cordial Relationship with the Government after Election	110	2.95	2.76

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 7 presents mean scores for the benefits derived by women political mobilizers before and after electioneering process. The table shows that the respondents have agreed that they financially benefited during election process as the mean score is within the agree level. However, it was observed that the result revealed that Women Political Mobilizers disagreed that they were given appointive position after election and engage in cordial relationship with the government after election. All the respondents remained neutral that

they were dumped after electioneering process as the mean score is at neutral level on the five point likert scale. The study was not in conformity with Shehu Yusuf's study on mobilization of women in politics in which the study reveals that women political mobilizers benefits on the appointment of women in political process. Table 8 presents the mean and standard deviation scores for the challenges of Women Political Mobilizers in Mobilization Process.

Table 8 Mean and standard deviation for challenges of Women Political Mobilizers in Mobilization Process

S/N	Item	N	Mean	Std.
19	Lack of Fund is One of Challenges of Women Political Mobilizers.	110	4.30	3.96
20	Low Level of Education is a Challenge Against Political Mobilization	110	4.53	4.06
21	Stigmatization Serves as a Challenge for Political Mobilization	110	4.56	4.08
22	Lack of Strong Women Association in Argungu Local Government is a Challenge Against Women Political Mobilization	110	4.41	3.93



Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 8 above indicates that all the Women Political Mobilizers have generally agreed that lack of fund, low level of education, stigmatisation, lack of strong women association were challenges of women political mobilizers. Since the mean scores tally to the agreed level in the five-point Likert scale

used. Table 9 presents the mean and standard deviation scores for the challenges of Women Political Participation in Kebbi State. Table 9 below presents the Mean and standard deviation for challenges of women political participation in Kebbi State.

Table 9 Mean and standard deviation for challenges of women political participation in Kebbi State

S/N	Item	N	Mean	Std.
20	Patriarchy is a Challenge Against Women Political Participation in Kebbi State	110	4.49	4.02
25	Stigmatization is a Challenge Against Women Participation in Politics.	110	4.59	4.10
26	Lack of Fund is a Challenge Against Women Participation in Politics	110	4.60	4.13
27	Cultural Barriers is a Challenge Against Women Participation in Politics	110	4.26	3.85

Source: Field Survey, 2022

The above table 9 shows that all the respondent agreed that patriarchy, stigmatization, lack of fund, cultural barrier, religion, low level of education, political violence were challenges of women political participation in Argungu Local government.

VI. DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS

Going by the findings of this research, it reveals that most of the women that participate in the mobilization process were not highly educated. This shows that the level of education is not high and this affects mobilization process. Base on the findings, it is revealed that most of the women that mobilize women were widows and divorcée. This concludes that married women do not want to participate in mobilization due to religious and cultural barriers. The study indicated that most of political mobilizers are politicians and most of the political mobilizers were youth. This study observed that the level of women political mobilization is high as all of the respondent strongly agreed that women political mobilizers influence as well as shape the behavior of women towards political participation that is why individual and political parties cannot do well without women.

However, women political mobilizers played a vital role in electioneering process which include among others house to house campaign, distribution of goods and money, they Lovy as well as persuade women to participate in an election. Going by the findings of this research it is revealed that Even though women political mobilizers benefits financially during election, they are used as voter catchers and dumped after election. They also face challenges which include low level of

education, lack of fund, stigmatisation, cultural barrier, religion barrier, political violence are problems that militate against mobilization process in Argungu local government.

VII. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, politics in Argungu Local government cannot go well without women, the research reveals that politicians use women during electioneering process. Women play a vital role in Nigerian politics; they were use as voter's catchers even though it is revealed that they were dumped after election. Despite the enormous role played by women political mobilizers in mobilizing women to participate in politics, there exist constraints limiting their effectiveness which include lack of fund, low level of education, stigmatisation, cultural and religious barriers. Therefore, there is need for stake holders and general public to work on these constrains to look at good side of women political mobilization which would raise the participation of women in Argungu local government politics and Nigeria at large.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

On the basis of findings of this study the researcher came up with the following recommendations

1. There is need for the women political mobilizers to put more efforts to have more educated women so as to have effective mobilization.
2. There is a need for political education and awareness through adult education, media which will reduce the level of stigmatisation and cultural barrier towards women political mobilizers.



3. There is a need to have well defined women organization with political agenda and coordination in order to have a meaningful mobilization exercise.

4. There is a need for government and stakeholders to arrange for more channels in acquiring funds for mobilization.

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