

OLADIMEJI SAMUEL ANIMASHAUN

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy,

University of Abuja, Gwagwalada, Abuja, Nigeria

2019-2023

- CGPA: 4.24/5.00
- Upper Second Class Honours

RESEARCH INTERESTS / RESEARCH PROFILE

My main research focus is at the intersection of democracy and African philosophy. I've explored how colonial legacies disrupted indigenous accountability mechanisms in African governance, leading to patterns often mislabeled as inherent "neo-patrimonialism." Rather than viewing these as cultural defects, I argue for reviving communal oversight and principle-based authority rooted in precolonial traditions to restore legitimacy. I've also examined Kwasi Wiredu's consensual democracy as a promising alternative to the adversarial majoritarianism that fuels ethnic tensions and instability in postcolonial West Africa. Additionally, I've analyzed anger's dual role in democratic participation: as a catalyst for resistance and accountability, yet a potential source of polarization and corrosion when unmanaged, with African philosophical emphases on harmony offering ways to channel it constructively.

Looking ahead, my prospective work will deepen these lines of inquiry. I'll continue testing Wiredu's consensual model for adaptability in modern, multi-ethnic contexts—exploring possible hybridizations with contemporary institutions while preserving its core commitment to genuine agreement over competition. I'll also expand on the emotional dimensions of democracy, particularly how African relational ethics (ubuntu-like ideas, communal balance) can help theorize the constructive handling of anger, hope, and other affects in participation. The broader aim is to contribute decolonized alternatives to political theory—models of democracy that start from African experiences and concepts rather than imported frameworks—toward more inclusive, stable, and culturally resonant governance on the continent.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Philosophy, University of Abuja, Gwagwalada, Abuja, 2021-2023

- Performed literature reviews and bibliographic searches on African philosophy, political theory, and decolonial topics, using university library resources and digital academic databases to support faculty projects and publications.

- ⑩ Prepared lecture notes, seminar handouts, and exam materials for undergraduate courses in African philosophy, ethics, and logic.
- ⑩ Coordinated departmental seminar series and reading groups by scheduling events, preparing reading lists, and moderating student-faculty discussions.
- ⑩ Collected and summarized data for faculty research, including key texts in postcolonial African political philosophy and transcription of seminar/interview recordings.
- ⑩ Proofread and edited drafts of journal articles and conference papers, developing skills in academic writing, critical feedback, and precise argumentation.
- ⑩ Maintained research files, updated departmental reading resources, and assisted with student advising on philosophy topics

AREAS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- ⑩ **Political Philosophy** — Democratic theory, justice, legitimacy, power, communitarianism, postcolonial thought, consensual democracy (e.g., Kwasi Wiredu), adversarialism vs. consensus, decolonial governance critiques.
- ⑩ **African Philosophy** — Communalism, relational ethics (ubuntu), indigenous epistemologies, decolonial critiques, precolonial accountability systems, key thinkers (Wiredu, Fanon), African political thought.
- ⑩ **Metaphysics** — Ontology, existence, substance, identity, free will, relational/communal metaphysics in African traditions.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructional Support / Teaching Assistant Equivalent,

Department of Philosophy, University of Abuja, Gwagwalada, Abuja, Nigeria 2021–2023

- Supported delivery of undergraduate courses in African Philosophy, Ethics, Logic, and Political Theory (e.g., PHIL-equivalent introductory and intermediate levels): prepared lecture notes, seminar materials, exam questions, and facilitated small-group discussions/reading groups on topics like indigenous African thought, communal ethics, democratic legitimacy, and decolonial critiques.
- Conducted peer tutoring and study sessions for 10–20 junior students per semester, focusing on critical thinking, argumentation, and concept clarification; received positive informal feedback from faculty and students for clear, supportive instruction.

Peer Tutor and Study Group Facilitator,

Department of Philosophy, University of Abuja, Gwagwalada, Abuja, Nigeria 2019–2023

- Led informal tutoring and study groups for undergraduate peers in core courses such as Logic, Introduction to Ethics, African Philosophy, and Metaphysics: emphasized relational ontologies, justice theories, indigenous epistemologies, and basic formal reasoning.
- Helped improve student performance and confidence through approachable explanations and group problem-solving; recognized by faculty for effective peer mentoring and contribution to departmental learning environment.

AWARDS / DISTINCTIONS

- ⑩ **Graduated with Second Class Honours (Upper Division) – Ranked Top 5 in Graduating Class** Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, University of Abuja, Gwagwalada, Abuja 2023 Earned an Upper Second Class Honours degree, placing in the top 5 of the class despite working multiple part-time jobs and supporting family responsibilities from Abuja.
- ⑩ **Departmental Certificate of Outstanding Academic Performance** Department of Philosophy, University of Abuja 2020 Awarded for exceptional results across core courses in African philosophy, political theory, logic, and ethics; recognized by faculty for intellectual engagement and peer mentorship.
- ⑩ **Best Philosophy Essay Award (Undergraduate Category)** Department of Philosophy, University of Abuja 2019 Received first prize in the departmental essay competition for an original paper exploring indigenous African concepts of community and justice, demonstrating early strength in decolonial and political philosophy.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS / ORGANIZATIONS

- ⑩ **Philosophers Association of Nigeria (PAN)**
Member, 2024– Present
The official professional association for philosophers in Nigeria and the diaspora, dedicated to promoting philosophical research, education, and collaboration. Membership connects scholars across institutions, supports conferences, publications, and outreach. As an emerging scholar focused on African philosophy and political theory, this affiliation keeps me engaged with national debates and opportunities in the discipline.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT / SERVICE

- ⑩ **Undergraduate Student Mentor and Peer Tutor**, Department of Philosophy, University of Abuja (2019–2021) Provided informal academic support to junior students in courses like African philosophy, logic, and ethics; organized small study groups during exam

periods to help improve performance and retention, especially for those facing financial or personal challenges.

- ⑩ **Active Member, Philosophy Departmental Seminar Organizing Committee**, University of Abuja (2019–2021) Assisted in planning and hosting weekly seminars and reading groups; coordinated student presentations, invited guest speakers, and facilitated discussions on topics in political theory and African thought, fostering intellectual community within the department.
- ⑩ **Volunteer Tutor and Community Outreach Participant**, Local Community Initiatives, Lagos (2021–present, intermittent) Offered free after-school tutoring in critical thinking and basic philosophy/logic to secondary school students in underserved Lagos communities; participated in local education drives promoting access to higher education for indigent youth, reflecting my belief in education as a tool for breaking poverty cycles.
- ⑩ **Research Assistant with Administrative Duties**, Department of Philosophy, University of Abuja (2021–2023) Beyond research support, coordinated seminar logistics, maintained departmental reading resources, and advised undergraduate students on course selection and philosophy-related inquiries, contributing to smooth departmental operations.
- ⑩ **Current Role in Educational Administration and Student Support**, Dabitos College, Lagos (2025–present) Support day-to-day school operations, mentor students on academic and personal development, and contribute to initiatives focused on character building, creativity, and leadership—aligning with the school's mission of raising future leaders with excellence and integrity in a resource-constrained environment.

PUBLICATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / ABSTRACTS

- ⑩ **From Adversarialism to Agreement: A Philosophical Appraisal of Kwasi Wiredu's Consensual Democracy as a Framework for Post-Colonial West African Stability** Oladimeji Animashaun 2026. Working paper (archived on PhilArchive/PhilPapers). <https://philpapers.org/rec/ANIFAT> *Qualitative philosophical analysis arguing for Wiredu's consensus-based model over adversarial majoritarianism to address political instability in postcolonial West Africa.*
- ⑩ **Anger as both Catalyst and Corrosive in Democratic Participation** Oladimeji Animashaun 2026. Working paper (archived on PhilArchive/PhilPapers). <https://philpapers.org/rec/ANIAAB> *Examines anger's paradoxical role in democratic engagement—driving mobilization and justice demands while risking polarization—with guidance from African relational philosophies.*
- ⑩ **A Decolonial Critique of Neo-Patrimonialism and the Revival of Indigenous Accountability in African Governance** Oladimeji Animashaun 2026. Working paper (archived on PhilArchive/PhilPapers). <https://philarchive.org/rec/ANIADC> *Challenges*

Eurocentric attributions of governance issues to inherent flaws; advocates reviving precolonial communal accountability for culturally legitimate African governance.

REFERENCES

⑩ **Professor. Tunde Akande** Professor / Head , Department of Philosophy University of Abuja, Gwagwalada, Abuja, Nigeria

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Supervising professor and primary academic mentor during my Research Assistant role (2021–2023); guided my engagement with African philosophy and political theory.

⑩ **Usman Lawal** Researcher / Archaeologist & Heritage Specialist University of Pavia (Dipartimento di studi umanistici) / The Memory and Identity Centre, Pavia, Italy

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Collaborator on research/project involving indigenous knowledge systems, cultural memory, or decolonial heritage approaches; provided international perspective and mentorship in interdisciplinary humanistic studies.

⑩ **Peter Kingsley** Principal Dabitos College , Lagos, Nigeria

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Current employer; supervisor in professional/educational setting, able to speak to my work ethic, organizational skills, and commitment to education and intellectual pursuits.