

AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE PERFORMANCE OF DUTSE (NIGERIA) AS A GROWTH CENTRE OF JIGAWA STATE

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The study area, Jigawa state has an economy that is largely characterized by informal sector activities with agriculture as the major economic activity. Most of the population engage in subsistence farming and animal husbandry while trade and commerce are undertaken on the small and medium scale. With this peculiarity, efforts to transform the economy such as the establishment of Dutse International Airport, Federal University, and some other capital projects have been put in place. Despite this, the economy has been noted to remain relatively unimproved. Considering the redundancy in the state economic development, this research work attempts an investigative analysis of the performance of the capital city (Dutse) as the propelling force for the state economic emancipation. This has been attempted by probing some key elements of the growth centre in a purely spatial dimension. The categorical impacts of the state capital in the region were investigated. This includes direct, indirect and induced effects. The particular issues of interest to the research are population movement, (migration and commuting), industrial linkages/interference, labour recruitment, and shopping patterns. In order to carry out the research, a scientific approach was adopted to find the answer to the following questions:

- i. To what extent does the growth centre attract migration within the state.
- ii. To what extent does such migration originate beyond a commuting range of the growth centre?
- iii. To what degree do firms in the growth centre make use of materials within the region?
- iv. To what extent do employees in the growth centre spend their income within the region in the purchase of materials and services for their use?

Three distinct types of questionnaires were administered. Each of the types was administered on different category of respondents. The categories of the respondents were the city's dwellers, the industrialists, and their employees. This was done in order to effectively gather the primary data required for the various aspects of the study. Arising from the above, a total number of one thousand and twenty (1020) questionnaires were administered out of which nine hundred and twenty –seven (927) were retrieved and analyzed. Descriptive analysis was adopted

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while the findings was presented in chart and tabular forms. Among some other key findings, the study reveals that more than half of the industrialists' employees (labour) were from Dutse Capital (the growth centre). This reduces the economic impacts of the growth centre on some other settlements within the region in term of the spendings that could emanate from the employees of the industrialists. It was also discovered that the unstable government administrative policy has brought about an irregular rate of influx of the masses to the growth centre over time. The regional movement discontinuity has implication for regional growth. Some vibrant settlements such as Kano and Mai'adua play the role intervening opportunity for the industrialists in sourcing for raw materials. This has notably reduced the effectiveness of economic vibrancy within the region.

Keywords: growth centre, industrial linkage, population movement, region, trickle-down effect