

Review of: "The Past In The Present Carnage In North Central Nigeria: The Role Of Collective Memory On Conflict Persistence"

Jaco Beyers¹

¹ University of Pretoria

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Reviewer: Jaco Beyers

The author must be congratulated on a well-written and well-researched article. In this article the author attempts to contribute to the debate on eco-violence by utilising Rational Choice theory and Symbolic Political Theory. The author uses recent and relevant sources and compiles logical and coherent arguments. The use of local sources from Nigeria is especially commendable. The conclusion and solution the author comes to and suggests, is valid.

The author may consider to add to the definition of the concept of eco-violence as the definition provided in the *Introduction* is very vague and relies on the author's own interpretation of the concept. An understanding of the concept will benefit from adding a broader perspective on the definition as other scholars view the concept.

The reference to Dan Fodio in the opening sentences of the article is already a clue as to the religious dimension within which the debate is embedded. The author takes social-political and religious elements in consideration when creating a solution to the problem of eco-violence.

The article provides a good historical overview of the origin of conflict in Nigeria. This is good to have the context from which the author is arguing and provides the collective memory stakeholders in Nigeria are dealing with.

The author must be commended for suggesting a solution to the ongoing eco-violence in the Middle Belt of Nigeria. The combination of a cognitive and emotional process is unique and can contribute towards reaching peace in the region. The model the author suggests can serve as a model for violence in other parts of the world.