

In defence of

HISTORY

A Journal of Centre for Research, Information and Documentation (CENTRID)

DH NO. 1

August 1998

TO THE FUTURE

A memo on transition to democracy

PERSONAL

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Introducing CENTRID

CENTRID is the acronym for Centre for Research, Information and Documentation. Although registered in 1992 and formally opened in May 1996, CENTRID is a product of conscious preparation dating back to 1973.

CENTRID is an institution for popular, public and functional education: popular in the sense that this education is neither sectarian nor elitist; public in the sense that it is neither secret nor covert; and functional in the sense that CENTRID's educational project is neither esoteric nor abstract, but is aimed at enhancing the perception of the imperatives of ameliorating the human condition in Nigeria, Africa and beyond.

The core of CENTRID is the Research Library located in CENTRID's current headquarters at No. 90B Goldie Street, Calabar. The facilities and services of this library are available to the general public at no cost to them, that is, FREE. Like the air which we all breathe and rain which falls on all of us, CENTRID's Research Library is a free offer to humanity as a whole.

CENTRID maintains and systematically builds up a stock of books, pamphlets, documents, papers, manuscripts, journals, magazines and newspapers (and cuttings from them), study notes and communications of historical, political, scientific, economic, social and cultural importance.

To be able to continue to maintain, build up and renew its research and information services, CENTRID may engage in educational and academic programmes and activities which are humanistic, but not commercial, not profit-making and not exploitative.

CENTRID is committed to defending and promoting the interests and aspirations of 5 oppressed and exploited segments of the Nigerian, and African, society, namely: Women, Workers, Peasants and Lower Middle Classes, Youths, and Minority Nationalities (or Ethnic Groups). Beyond that, CENTRID is committed to defending and promoting the interests and aspirations of the Nigerian nation, the African continent, the people of African descent and the underdeveloped segments and nations of the world.

CENTRID is non-sectarian and will not be involved in any sectarian activity - as this will be incompatible with its humanist philosophy. It is non-partisan in the sense that it is not affiliated, and will not affiliate, to any political organisation, movement, party or group. In particular, CENTRID and its projects will not be involved in the organisation or execution of any political action, partisan or not.

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