HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION IN NIGERIA: FROM RHETORIC TO PRAGMATIC AGENDA

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ABSTRACT

In an apparent endorsement of the global efforts towards the promotion and protection of human rights in Nigeria, Nigeria has subscribed to all the major international human rights instruments and established firm institutional infrastructure for the promotion of human rights. Against the foregoing background, this article examines the reality of human rights promotion and protection in Nigeria. It specifically appraises the extent to which the National Action Plan developed by Nigeria to ensure effective human rights promotion has achieved that purpose. It argues that all the efforts have remained in the realm of mere rhetoric, as the impressive record of codification has not been matched with actual practice. Consequently, it advocates a pragmatic approach towards the promotion and protection of human rights in Nigeria.

Keywords: Human Rights, Social Welfare, Governance, Laws, Nigeria