



SJHR VOLUME 6 NUMBER 1 (2016) 57-79

ISSN 2045-8398 (Print)

ISSN 2045-8517 (Online)

Publishers: Sacha & Diamond, England

www.sachajournals.com

Current Cumulative Impact Factor: 33.0



HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE IN NIGERIA

AYENI Augustine, M. (Ph.D)

Faculty of Law, Ambrose Alli University,
Ekpoma, Edo State, Nigeria

ABSTRACT

This work discusses various human rights Instruments fashioned out legally for the protection of the right to life in Nigeria. It takes off with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 as amended coupled inter alia with some fundamental provisions of the Nigeria Criminal Code, Penal Code, international instruments with some Protocols and supported with relevant decided cases where necessary. It also discusses extra – judicial killings and state murder in the guise of state security. It includes with the finding that most of the barbaric practices cited hereto, have been abolished in many global civilized democracies. It dwells extensively on section 34 of the Nigeria 1999 Constitution which makes provisions for the respect for the right of dignity of human person, both as a prisoner or free man. It holds that Nigeria security operatives and government have an important role to play in this regard. Further, it posits that law courts in all global jurisdictions have never failed to pronounce on, and vehemently condemns man's inhumanity to man under whatever guise. The implementation the paper draws the curtain, is a joint responsibility.

Keywords: Constitution, Right to life, Nigeria.