

Status of Wildlife Conservation in Developing Countries

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Status of Wildlife Conservation in Developing Countries

- Wildlife - Animals that inhabit wild lands, minimally disturbed or, well managed fields.
- Developing Countries refer to
 - New, 'independent' states emerging from colonial rule in early 1960s
 - Post-war Europe that was technically poor in the late 1950s
 - Today, the term is derogatory, implying badly administered, backward nations
 - i.e., nations that inspire insults of technically and materially stable states, e.g., Recent Trump's slur

Five segments for present talk

- The inspiration for wildlife conservation
- Imperativeness for conservation
- The status of wildlife conservation
- The prime prerequisite for achieving natural conservation and everything else
- How can I help?

The inspiration for wildlife conservation to an intelligent creation I

- The intellectual foundation of any civilization is divine; whether acknowledged or denied
- The first of all lessons was on wildlife and environment
 - Knowledge and the yearn to learning given to man
- The essence of that FIRST LESSONS was for stewardship of natural resources (for man's survival) . Qur'an: Baqra, 30, 21

وَإِذْ قَالَ رَبُّكَ لِلْمَلَأِكَةِ إِنِّي جَاعِلٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ خَلِيفَةً

وَعَلَّمَ آدَمَ الْأَسْمَاءَ كُلَّهَا ثُمَّ عَرَضَهُمْ عَلَى الْمَلَأِكَةِ

The inspiration for wildlife conservation to an intelligent creation - II

- Our effort in good stewardship of earth is a major assessment component at the hereafter
 - Ignorance may not be an excuse
- Direct benefit here on earth
- A legacy for generations unborn

Imperativeness for conservation-I

- Some reflections
 - No living thing on earth needs human
 - It was all there before man
 - All life forms can do better without human
 - Man is entirely dependent on the environment
 - Vegetation needs wildlife, and vice versa
 - Crop systems can not sustain the earth
 - We do not know the critical threshold for earth's life; we must be carefull

Imperativeness for conservation II

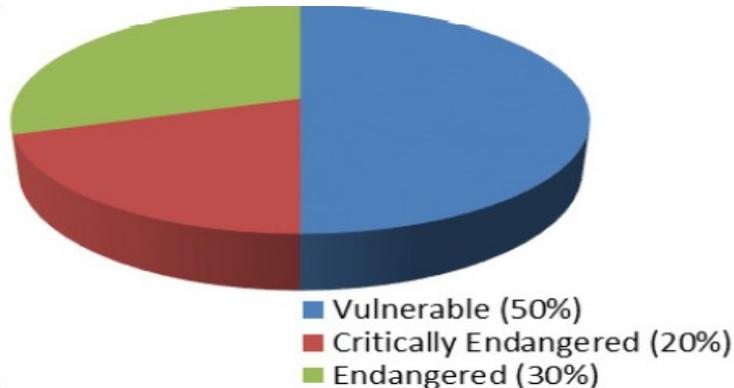
- The demise of Falgore, a key watershed, will be catastrophic for Kano
 - It is all for us; care for the wild, and we are safe
- A single fruit tree might supports 41 species of birds, not counting other animals
- 71% of cancer drugs are inspired by vegetation
- Every organism does have an ecological function that supports the local ecosystem; and the earth system

The status of wildlife conservation - I

- The status of wildlife conservation in developing countries
 - Topic suggests comparative discourse
- Fair to say that the overall status is appalling; with some exceptions
- There has been major efforts in eastern Africa; with doubtful sustainability for the future
 - Human population pressure
 - Unstable politics; even for Kenya at present

The status of wildlife conservation - II

- For Nigeria the status of human is horrendous
 - How many people died, were kidnapped or, starved during last week?
 - How would you expect better for wildlife?
- Here is the picture from
 - Idowu, M.A & O. A. Morenikeji. 2015. Wild Fauna Conservation in Nigeria. *Environ. & Nat. Res.* 5,3:1927-0496



We have abandoned reason; are merciless to each other, and to forest and wildlife

- Money is it all; its all that matters: sniffing, drooling and grabbing at its crudest level
- How could we be merciful to wildlife when we have abandoned true faith; abandoned science; and practice witchcraft
- Humans and wildlife are kidnapped for magical purposes – the lowest state of human underdevelopment
- You could hack down 100 trees, and would not answer to any body – disaster from local government reform
- The locals outside Abuja killed a hippo; nobody blinked
- The vulture fetches N70,000 a piece for its value for magic;
 - it is really worth more than a N70, 000 trillion!
 - No?
 - Why don't you create your own vulture!

The prime requisite for achieving wildlife conservation and everything else

- Is competent, purposeful, responsible and sustainable governance
 - There is no nation without these ingredients - justice, competency and purpose - *Sultan Bello*
- It is why other countries are ahead of us
 - A forest or wildlife officer in US is not smarter than his counterpart in Nigeria; he just got a better governed place to work

Where is the hope? How can I help? (I)

- You can create a wildlife habitat even in your home
 - Better plant indigenous tree species
- With groups like the committee that organized this activities
 - see to it that FUD becomes a wildlife park
- Our Ulama are highly educated
 - They can drive change; involve them
 - You can help end the misuse of agrochemicals and soft plastic or, learn to use them better.

Where is the hope? How can I help? (II)

- An urging to the VC, FUD., Prof. Batulu Mukhtar
- For reward and legacy
 - Can make FUD a wildlife habitat/park; seek and develop a management plan – on all related issues
 - Seek protective federal law to safeguard park for next 300 years. Our legislators are at hand to help; must use them
 - Prohibit hunting, wood harvest, etc., campus-wide, at least during first five years of plan execution
 - Create targets and goals, e.g., return field to its former state in 1940s, with a modern flavor
 - Recruit school pupils, communities, and educate and engage them.
 - Cultivate environmental education in campus and community

Where is the hope? How can I help? (II)

To everyone here

- For reward and legacy
 - Create a wildlife habitat
 - Build an advocate and financial support group
 - Demand and work for **order, justice and good governance**

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