



## Effect of Dangote Foundation Social Feeding Programme on Al-Majiri Formal School Attendance

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**Abstract:** This study's aim was to examine the effect of Dangote Foundation social feeding programme on Al-Majiri formal school attendance. Survey research design was adopted in this study. To determine the sample size of the population, 260 Al-Majiri were selected from the population as in accordance with research advisor. But due to the nature of the study the researcher utilized only 50 students. However, Proportionate sampling techniques was also used. Findings show that, 19.6 % of the respondents have strongly agreed that Dangote Foundation Social Feeding programme reduces late coming in formal school. The result indicates that the level of Dangote Foundation Social Feeding Programme is high in increasing Al-Majiri enrollment in formal education in Kano. The study concludes that Dangote Foundation Social Feeding Programme has significant effect on Al-Majiri formal school attendance; Al-Majiri social feeding programme remained a great socio-economic challenge which is taking a new dimension with corporate support from Dangote Foundation. Tertiary institutions should be encouraged and supported to carry out researches for the improvement of Al-Majiri social feeding programme. Governments should enact appropriate legislation encouraging feeding programmes for Al-Majiri schools

**Key words:** Al-Majiri, Dangote foundation, formal school attendance, social feeding programme

### 1.0 Introduction

Dangote foundation which is the CSR arm of Dangote Group of Company was founded in 1997 to embark on CSR activities in Nigeria. The foundation is responsible for contributing over \$100 million to improve the lives of many Nigerians and international communities. The primary aim of the foundation according to the foundation's site is to reduce the number of lives lost due to malnutrition and disease. The president of the foundation is the Africa's richest man, Alhaji Aliko Dangote. Dangote Foundation is the largest private Foundation in sub-Saharan Africa focusing on helping the less privileged of the society. Over the years, the foundation touches the life of many people in Kano state.

Through Support of Children in Qur'anic Schools Dangote Foundation constructed boreholes in strategic Al-Majiri schools in the state to solve the acute water shortage being experienced in those schools, and thousands of Al-Majiri relied heavily on social feeding of the Foundation being carried out by Hajiya Mariya Sunusi, mother of Alhaji Aliko Dangote. Currently the Foundation constructed blood bank at Murtala Muhammad specialist Hospital and handed it over to the hospital management. Thus, this study's aim was to examine the effect of Dangote Foundation social feeding programme on Al-Majiri formal school attendance.

## **2.0 Synthesis of Literature Review**

According to the study carried out by Harande and Abubakar in 2014 conducted at Sabon Gari in Kaduna state entitled “The practice of Al-Majiri: prospect and socio-medical challenges in Northern part of Nigeria”, has found that majority of the students in Al-Majiri schools leave their home between the age of 8-14 and very few were 15 years and above. Using questionnaire as instrument of data collection the study concluded that majority of Al-Majiri come from poor and large families.

Similarly, Harande and Abubakar (2004) revealed that the students of Al-Majiri school do not have formal education and most of them spend their time begging for food to eat where hunger and tiredness were found to be major complaint of the respondents. Furthermore the study found that, Al-Majiri lacks access to water and bathroom in their schools; hence taking bath remained different to them. The study also revealed that, Al-Majiri gets clothes from begging and most of them have few clothes and most of them are living and sleeping on floor and mats in small congested rooms with a population of more than fifteen Al-Majiri in the room with capacity of 4-7 individuals.

Goodluck and Juliana (n.d.), critically studied the role of library in provision of formal education to Al-Majiri concluded that without western education, children are denied the opportunity to develop their full potentials and play productive roles in the society. They argued that, libraries are important educational agencies that can help foster and improve Al-Majiri education. However, the language variable was not part of this study in which concentrations are all in English language despite of the great advantages of mother tongue in learning process.

On the whole note, it is clear that there is need for another study on Al-Majiri in Northern Nigeria particularly in Kano state where the concentration is high to ascertain the current corporate effort in solving the socio-economic problems of the system. As seen from the reviewed works, some studies were belated that need review while others ignored the corporate contribution in their measurement. At best, most of the studies were methodologically appropriate but focus on only correlation between CSR and Financial Performance of organisations, ignoring corporate performance, responsibilities and roles in developing countries like Nigeria. Based on these gaps therefore, this work remains relevant to provide insight into the contribution of Dangote Foundation Social Feeding Programme and its effects on Al-Majiri Formal School Attendance.

## **3.0 Methodology**

### **3.1 Research Design**

Survey research design was adopted in this study. Survey Method according to the Onodugu, Uguwuonah, Ebinne (2010) is a research method of which sole aim is to examine the current opinions, behaviors and other characteristics of a group of people. It is an investigation into what currently exists in an area, at the time of the research, in their natural setting. Usually, it is with the data gathered that judgment and improvements about such a group can be realized (p.10).

### **3.2 Population of the study**

The population of the study consisted students of registered Model Tsangaya primary schools in

Kano state with total population of 1200 Al-Majiri according to the Kano state Qur’anic and Islamiyya Schools Management Board statistics report of 2014.

### 3.3 Sample determination

To determine the sample size of the population, 260 Al-Majiri were selected from the population as in accordance with research advisor. But due to the nature of the study the researcher utilized only 50 students. However, Proportionate sampling techniques was also used. The formula below helps the researcher to determine the proportion of the sample size:-

$$PSS = \frac{TS}{TP} \times SS$$

Where, **PSS** = Proportion of Sample size.

**TS** = Total Population (of a school).

**TP** = Total Population (of the study).

**SS** = Sample Size (as recommended by Research Advisors (2006)).

**Table 3.1:** Sample Size Determination

S/N	Name of Schools	Senatorial district	Population	Sample size
1	Dandinshe Model Tsangaya Primary School	Kano-Central	100	20
5	Gaya Model Tsangaya Primary School	Kano-South	150	30
				50

### 3.4 Data collection Instruments

Data for this study were collected from both primary and secondary sources. Questionnaire was used to collect primary data while journals and other available related material was also used to collect secondary data.

## 4.0 Results and Discussion

### 4.1 Data Analysis

The results obtained from the data collected in this study related to students’ responses to the statement contained in the instruments administered on them. The presentation of the result has been in accordance with the research questions stated earlier. Percentage and frequency count were used for data analysis.

**Table 4.1:** Mean and standard deviation of the questionnaire

To what extent does Dangote Foundation Social Feeding Programme encourages Al-Majiri in formal school attendance?	N	Mean	S.D
Dangote Foundation Social Feeding reduces my late coming in formal school	50	2.64	0.98
Dangote Foundation Social Feeding reduces my absenteeism in formal school	50	2.68	1.09
Dangote Foundation Social Feeding reduces my truancy from formal school	50	2.92	1.06
Dangote Foundation Social Feeding promotes my punctuality in formal school	50	2.80	0.75

#### 4.2 Research Question

To what extent does Dangote Foundation Social Feeding Programme encourages Al-Majiri in formal school attendance?

To answer this research question item 7 from the questionnaire was used as follows.

**Table 4.2:** Research Question

S/N	Questions Items	Responses							
		Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
	Dangote Foundation Social Feeding reduces my late coming in formal school	10	19.6	20	39.2	12	23.5	8	15.7
	Dangote Foundation Social Feeding reduces my absenteeism in formal school	13	25.5	19	37.3	7	13.7	11	21.6
	Dangote Foundation Social Feeding reduces my truancy from formal school	10	19.6	2	3.9	12	23.5	8	13.7
	Dangote Foundation Social Feeding promotes my punctuality in formal school	6	11.8	32	62.7	8	15.7	4	7.8

Interpretation

Findings from the table above show that, 19.6 % of the respondents have strongly agreed that Dangote Foundation Social Feeding programme reduces late coming in formal school, 39.2% of the respondents have agreed with the view while 23.5% and 15.7% of the respondents have disagree and strongly disagree respectively.

The result from the view that Dangote Foundation Social Feeding reduces absenteeism in formal school shows that, 25.5% of the respondents have strongly agreed, 37.3% of the respondents have agreed, while 13.7% and 21.6% of the respondents have disagree and strongly disagree respectively.

It was also found that 19.6% of the respondents were found by the study to strongly agreed that Dangote Foundation Social Feeding reduces truancy from formal school where 3.9% of the respondents have agreed, while 23.5% and 13.7 % of the respondents have disagree and strongly disagree.

11.8% of the respondents have strongly agreed that Social Feeding of Dangote Foundation promotes punctuality in formal school, and 62.7% of the respondents have agreed while 15.7% and 7.8% of the respondents have disagree and strongly disagree that Dangote Foundation Social Feeding promotes punctuality in formal school respectively. The result indicates that the level of Dangote Foundation Social Feeding Programme is high in increasing Al-Majiri enrollment in formal education in Kano.

## 5.0 Conclusion and Recommendations

### 5.1 Conclusion

The study concludes that, Dangote Foundation's Social Feeding Programme has significant effect on Al-Majiri formal school attendance. This research therefore found Al-Majiri social feeding programme remained a great socio-economic challenge which is taking a new dimension with corporate support from Dangote Foundation.

### 5.2 Recommendations

The following recommendations are proposed:

1. Tertiary institutions should be encouraged and supported to carry out researches for the improvement of Al-Majiri social feeding programme.
2. Governments should enact appropriate legislation encouraging feeding programmes for Al-Majiri schools

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