

**A BELIEVER’S HAND-GUIDE FOR CONTRIBUTING TO
MAKE A BETTER NIGERIA FOR ALL NIGERIANS**



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INTRODUCTION

In the name of Allah, the Creator, the True, the Light, the Holy, the Guide. Perfect Peace and Blessings be upon Muhammad (SAW) and his household, along with those who thread his path.

This hand-guide is an attempt to provide the tool available to Muslims, to enable our utmost positive impact in solving our collective problems in Nigeria. If Muslims will be this active, Nigeria will no doubt begin to chart a new, relieving course. With our Christian brethren who are not essentially different in identity, Nigeria will have no choice but to transform in a maximum of eight years.

This is supported by **a companion for a learner of Allah's names, One introduction to Islam and Zikr Du'a materials.**

They complete the sets of materials relating to Tauhid, those relating to Leadership, those relating to Character, and those relating to Marriage and the Family.

My modest commitment has turned out, by the special grace of Allah, to provide an understanding of **our problems, the solution and this tool, to enable Muslims in particular to turn different from what we are now. It is not a question of saints among us, it is what our collective means and makes of Nigeria in general.**

May Allah aid our best intentions and sincere efforts to serve ourselves according to **His pleasure.**

Muhammad Saidu Jimada
No 33, Sapele Crescent,
Barnawa GRA,
Kaduna.
25th August, 2025.

OUR NIGERIA

We consist of Muslims, Christians and Traditional believers. Gracefully, these character of identities can be found in majority of the States across the country.

This is what we have agreed for ourselves.

None of the identities accepts that any other has lesser right to respect or existence.

Our constitution therefore provides for freedom of religion and association but prohibits the exclusive adoption of one, for any state. This means that regardless of the identity or identities of the majority members of a state, which can reasonably and sensibly drive the affairs of the state, it must neither exclude the minorities nor impose anything upon them that is harmful. And this is to enable covering those inside and those outside, who are free to come and even remain inside.

This means that the members can conveniently live together without caring about their identities. This character of identity is rooted in the freedom of religion that is entrenched. This is because religion is a personal and sociological permit.

With either of the pathways, growth and expansion is inevitable.

For example, if in a state with majority members of Muslims establish an Islamic oriented bank, non-Muslims cannot be barred from its services. This is why Christians are strong customers of such banks. And Muslims are not prohibited from participating in the services of common commercial banks. But since independence, Nigeria is just beginning to have Islamic oriented banks whereas common commercial banks have been expanding.

For example, Muslims have Shariah Courts to at least approach for adjudication on civil matters **like customary and magistrate courts**. But they are least attended by Muslims; and non-Muslims almost never approach them when they have dispute with Muslims. Muslims are therefore the careless double losers. If Muslims begin to attend Shariah Courts and non-Muslims experience satisfactory resolution between them, it is better for the identity of Muslims.

For example, the leadership of this country has consistently been by Muslims and Christians who have scriptures for Guidance. But shamelessly this country has been drifting away from collective security, welfare and prosperity. This is essentially because of their **bankruptcy and hypocrisy in their declared identity. Identity goes along with discipline. It is abnormal to have a certificate in English and not speaking the language.**

Nigeria has no meaning, with just the landscape **without the people**. What we make of it collectively by individual inputs is what makes it. And our individual persons make meaning only with **identity characteristics**. All the cries about kidnapping, thuggery, drug addiction to corruption are dividends of **identity indiscipline or carelessness**. It is therefore foolhardy, diversionary and dangerous, to **think, believe, deal with them in isolation of identity knowledge and discipline, and expect any real positive results.**

THE SUBTLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BELIEVERS AND ALLAH

For each (such person) there are (angels) in succession, before and behind him: They guard him by command of Allah. Allah does not change a people's lot unless they change what is in their hearts. But when (once) Allah willeth a people's punishment, there can be no turning it back, nor will they find, besides Him, any to protect. **13:11.**

Contributory tears and criticisms by Muslims who feel pained, hurt, disappointed by the leadership history of this country are **in themselves really meaningless, without a living faith.**

Muslims in Nigeria **must for that reason know that we each have full responsibility for our choices because we each have the freedom and the option of being driven by the Qur'an and Sunnah. If our beliefs and faith are ignored for driving our discipline, it is entirely our business. We cannot abandon our beliefs or be selective and expect better or more than the Rahma of Allah for ALL.** He has nothing to lose with our disobedience or self-deceit. Does He not provide for all?

There is no moving creature on earth but its sustenance dependeth on Allah: He knoweth the time and place of its definite abode and its temporary deposit: All is in a clear Record. **11:6.**

How many are the creatures that carry not their own sustenance? It is Allah who feeds (both) them and you: for He hears and knows (all things). **29:60.**

It is a **blessing** for Muslims who are Nigerians to be citizens. The differences are trials that can be responded to for positive livelihood and spiritual development. The Christians cannot be different. For example, for a Muslim who has the option of going to Shariah Court in attending to his challenge, he is **more in trial** than the one who has no choice because it is given (in Muslim countries) for him to go to without option. Whereas Muslims have the careless choice to even ignore the opportunity, they have to strive more to keep away from great sins that connect to others, because the suspended sanctions for the hereafter should be more deterring. These will apply to embezzlement of public funds, adultery, murder, apostasy and returning, playing the identity of a Muslim along with Christianity or even fraternity, etc.

OUR CHOSEN BINDING LIFESTYLE

We have all together chosen **Democracy** as the legal common ruling terms.

It is **not illegal** for either Muslims or Christians to practice. This is because **it takes whatever form a people make of it**. This is why the United States that we often claim to be our reference is not typically the same with ours. We had earlier claimed to be copying Britain. But both the so called presidential and parliamentary styles and ours are called democracies.

What is **most critical for all citizens** is that in our collective lifestyle, **some of us are entrusted with varying authority and powers to serve to enable our collective security, welfare and prosperity. And the most critical are the Bureaucracy and Political Offices.**

For entry into the Bureaucracy, there is **not** supposed to be discrimination on any basis other than qualifications, age, character and possibly some cognate experience. At the state level, the permissible bias will be belonging to the state, either by birth or length of residence. The tribal or religious identity of the person are not critical. At the federal level, being a citizen of Nigeria is the bias. The **intervening principle of quota or federal character is not meant to be permanent, and should have been overcome IF THE SERVICES RESULTS HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY THE DISCIPLINE OF BEING NIGERIAN OR OF A PARTICULAR STATE. And we should be approaching abandoning even the state bias, if collective discipline drivers make positive collective impact.**

This has been difficult and growing more difficult because the elements of **sponsorship, exchange and financial payments have eaten deep into determining suitability for entry**. It is impossible to run a faceless or neutral machinery for collective results, by **self-serving cultured operatives**. Not even the regimental services are exempt.

For assuming political offices, in addition to the basic qualifications like into the bureaucracy, every such person, will be by either election or appointment by the elected. And the standard structures and processes that apply here are, **the relevant electoral body, membership of a registered political party, electoral mandate, campaigns, etc.** Our leaders become after being milled through all of these, **but yet our conditions are degenerating.**

This is simply because like the Bureaucracy has betrayed its independence because of **identity indiscipline, an ignorant or careless polity cannot generate political parties, register and present flag bearers, conduct campaigns, elections or adjudicate on differences without corruption, without abuses, without betrayals, without crisis.** The rot is therefore across the Bureaucracy, Politicians and the general society.

Our democracy entrusts a selection of us (accordingly) to perform these noble roles. Whatever we make of the institutions, structures, processes, **is dependent upon our total abilities.** In the case of Nigeria, **we have been failing and paying for it. We will continue to fail unless and until we become identity alive.**

We really have **no justification to cry or complain about all the problems we are facing because those we claim to be copying from are far better off than us.** Our increasing copying and submission have not helped us.

They have their peculiar collective identity discipline, which they are struggling to build and keep. Do we not appreciate that with financial corruption, the anti-graft agencies are falling further and further behind? The additional funding and equipping of security agencies have not overcome insecurity in real experience? The radical increase in revenue and budgets have not reflected in the general livelihood of the citizens? Manifestos have not meant anything different other than statistics? And both the Bureaucracy and Political Offices have been expanding.

WHAT WE MUST NOT EXPECT, FROM THE PRESENT IDENTITY CARELESS LIFESTYLE

That the federal and state governments will stop taking more loans, when they can get it.

That we shall understand and be satisfied with what they claim to have done with our collective resources.

That government can check devastating intrusions like COVID vaccines, 5G, Industrial farming, Genetically Modified Objects like seedlings, meat etc.

That the Bureaucracy will start transforming because of increase in wages.

That more training, additional hands, consultancies and funding will raise performance to the level of expenditure.

That the historically discredited leaders will give way to perceived possibly better members.

That the political rulers will evaluate the criticisms of the opposition and act on them.

That the opposition will cease from using utmost means to discredit the political leadership.

That the Educational and Health systems will improve.

That infrastructure development will be at accountable costs.

That the recovery and loss of jurisdiction to terrorists will cease.

That rapes, murders, assassinations will drop.

That the coming elections will be more responsible and acceptable.

That Tinubu can replay Jonathan.

That any succeeding government by the present strong opposition parties will not be worse than Tinubu.

That less people will be out of jobs, out of housing, out of schooling.

That any set of political leaders can reverse the state and course of affairs.

That any real successes will not be either by chance, luck or at unreasonable costs.

That the explanations for our challenges that have been failing us will begin to serve us without our individual **identity discipline** transformation.

THE SHAME OF MUSLIMS

Ye are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong, and believing in Allah. **3:110.**

But our majority has not helped our collective better, because we are essentially part of making the mess.

Is it the Qur'an that we do not have? Is it the Sunnah of Rasul (SAW) or his *sirah* that all of us do not know? Is it scholars that we do not have? Is it the canons or remembrance that we do not know or practice? **Why then are we contributing more to the dysfunction, degeneration and corruption of Nigeria and worse of in our wellbeing? Has striving like the others or competing with them made us like them or better Muslims?**

WHAT IS THE TOTAL EXPLANATION THAT IS THE SOLUTION?

Allah does not change a people's lot unless they change what is in their hearts. **13:11.**

Therefore, if indeed we believe in Allah, who is **all-able** and we truly trust that we can get out of the self-inflicted quagmire, **we must return to Him.**

For the benefit of the doubt, we have failed in the opportunity of easier transformation, where **our leaders outside and inside the government will remind our collective leaders in the Bureaucracy and Political Offices, to return to Allah. We are greater witnesses of seeing them together happily close with common prosperity. The proof of this is that those who are committed to reminding them are not given access to the leaders or except those defending them.**

We therefore do not have listening collective leaders, who trust in Allah that can make the Rahma of Allah return to covering us, **beyond what is available to even unbelievers. This is not our deserve. If we were to have a Muslim President, Governor, Chairman, Minister, Commissioner, Commander, Chief Executive, Directors, etc. who have wholly learnt or listened and acted on Guidance, our lot would have been much better. Indeed, if a president will sincerely believe and ask for forgiveness with humility and return to Guidance, it would have been easier.**

But they are often ignorant, hypocritical and arrogant. With similar culture of the leaders down the ladder, we are only victims of our mandate.

And both Islam and our constitution are against revolution. Indeed, history has proven that civility is superior, more humane and lasting, in matters of relationships.

Moreover, any civil and responsible transformation must not be coloured with the exclusion of any citizen. This is why we have Courts and Correctional homes. But with political betrayers, we giving the mandate are the first to question ourselves, if indeed we have done the right things. In our case, the polity is the producer of its kind. Hence, the leaders are opportunistic to the pervasive errors and the resources entrusted to them.

THE NECESSARY FOUNDATION REQUIREMENT

Every individual along with the help of one another and especially the leaders, must seek to **know the Allah that we pronounce belief and faith in.**

Those truly fear Allah, among His Servants, who have knowledge: for Allah is Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving. **35:28.**

Allah may not be **rightly** loved or feared without knowledge of **Him.**

It is then compulsory for us to rekindle and revive seeking to know Allah. Not as an academic process, but **for keeping with Him**, because He is Loving, most Beneficent and most Merciful. For that reason, recanting His Names and Attributes is fine but **not sufficient. And He can be known personally for whoever cares, over and above knowing Him through others.**

Every Muslim and the Ummah must do its utmost to **achieve this to above eighty-nine percent before three calendar months to 2027 general elections.**

THE NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS FOR A MUSLIM CITIZENSHIP

Against a rote learning and knowledge of Allah, everyone needs to strive to **know Him to feel personal connection with Him. This is the collection that makes an Ummah.** This is what differentiates an unconscious Ummah from a living one. The best reference is when Satan was asked why he was hesitant to disrupt the Salat of a believer. He said, **he feared that the knowledgeable who was sleeping beside the worshipper may wake up and correct the wrong he may mislead the worshipper to commit.** Knowledge therefore is of no benefit if there is no ability to put it into positive use.

When My servants ask thee concerning Me, I am indeed close (to them): I listen to the prayer of every suppliant when he calleth on Me: Let them also, with a will, listen to My call, and believe in Me: that they may walk in the right way. **2:186.**

Consequently, the learning and knowledge is required to be accompanied with the discipline of obedience. That is listening with **will to His Guidance. Believing in Allah, is acting on the Guidance. He will then preferably respond with walking the believer in the right way. Because He is closer to the believer than his jugular vein.** This is because the purpose of creating him is to worship Allah, who has **no needs and fulfils all needs.**

This is what will definitely make the believers, embodiments of the **straight Path.** And we shall begin to see, hear, feel, taste and impact **as Allah pleases, because the final decision is always His.** This is how we can best qualify to contribute to the making of **a serving leadership as Allah pleases and they will be more entitled to our goodly prayers and the support of Allah, as against our curses.**

Then the mean concept of **it is our turn, that is inevitably self-serving will be helped.** Rotational nominations will become possibly harmless. Muslim-Christian or Muslim-Muslim ticket will be **equally serving because none of the believing leaders will be non-performing and be a clear hypocrite or a dead ignorant, who is blind, deaf and dumb to Guidance.** How can any of such kinds of **members or leaders serve us as envisaged in our constitution?**

THE COMBINED NECESSARY PURPOSES OF PURSUING THESE QUALIFICATIONS

The first is that a Muslim cannot be **safe** unless he can live and die as a Muslim. O ye who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam. **2:102.**

We should be most grateful to Allah, to be Muslims and to be Nigerians.

The second is that the first is not possible without collective security, welfare and prosperity. In other words, the safety is a **livelihood challenge**. This is not abnormal or inconsistent with Islam, because our religion is a living one.

Or do ye think that ye shall enter the Garden (of bliss) without such (trials) as came to those who passed away before you? They encountered suffering and adversity, and were so shaken in spirit that even the Messenger and those of faith who were with him cried: “When (will come) the help of Allah?” Ah! Verily, the help of Allah is (always) near! **2:214**.

The third is that we have chosen for our **collective safety, welfare and prosperity, the means of democracy, with terms that are not anti-Islam. Most critical is the fact that no state shall adopt a religion, but religious freedom and prosperity are protected. This definition of secularism is intelligently applicable to us and meaningful.** Our full and utmost participation is therefore our **right and responsibility**. Anyone who chooses to stay away is only self-undoing, and the number of such individuals make a negative build up to the **value** their identity would have added to the process. Islam recognizes and respects leadership. But it has to be right and only full participation can possibly make the difference.

O ye who believe! Obey Allah, and obey the Messenger, and those charged with authority among you. If ye differ in anything among yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger, if ye do believe in Allah and the Last Day: That is best, and most suitable for final determination. **4:59**.

The fourth is that **our elections and mandate is designed to last for four years and a possible renewal for another four years. This is for Political leaders. For members of the Bureaucracy and services, it is for a regular minimum duration of thirty-five years or more.** This reveals the gravity of **ignoring full and responsible participation in the electoral process, for a leadership that**

is capable of transforming the decadent Bureaucracy that is its only necessary tool for operating.

Those who choose to be careless, if they are Muslims, and what could have been positive turns out to be negative, their weight of sins is akin to abandoning the battlefield in jihad. The anger of Allah will hang on them.

THE BENEFITS OF USING THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES

The first is that **every and all Muslims already in the Bureaucracy and services will begin to positively adjust to make their inputs impact on transforming their jurisdiction for a better larger Nigeria.** If the Muslims in the oil sector will transform to seek the pleasure of Allah, the impact can reduce the stink. And with no different culture of Christians, the leadership attention will be saved from necessary probes.

The chain of costs in providing Nigeria with power will be checked and reduced. The private sector that is really dependent upon the breath of the public sector will also adjust.

Secondly, the collection of the citizens in the formal and informal sectors **in responsible electioneering process, will produce a better set of representatives, because even the politicians will be driven by the same qualifications and purposes.**

THE SPECIFIC DUTIES OF EVERY MUSLIM, FOR A BETTER COLLECTIVE NIGERIA

The **new basis** will be that every Muslim will be committed to **whatever is consistent with Guidance in whatever position and role required of him.** This for instance cancels or checks having a Muslim in drugs and thuggery. As a registered member of a political party and **as a delegate or executive member, a**

Muslim will not allow himself to be **bought by any political rascal, to enable his bearing their flag for any mandate.**

The justification for this is simple.

On the Day that Allah will raise them all up (again) and show them the Truth (and meaning) of their conduct. Allah has reckoned its (value), though they may have forgotten it, for Allah is Witness to all things. **58:6.**

On that Day will men proceed in companies sorted out, to be shown the deeds that they (had done). Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good, see it! And anyone who has done an atom's weight of evil, shall see it. **99:6-8.**

Active and responsible participation in the political process for generating the leadership of our country at all levels is the **modern new form of minor jihad, that is not less necessary than the physical one ordered by Allah.** Any Muslim who does anything that will lead to non-participation is **akin to hiding from performing the jihad.** This is because every single failure or refusal is a possible loss to enabling the right leadership to come up. Because of the multiplayer effect, it can place a weight of unimaginable sins on this kind of Muslim, in the event a wrong leadership comes up. This can be measured by the harm that can be done, over a period of four or eight years.

This logically means that **no Muslim of qualifying age that is sane and eligible to vote will either not register, sell out his voting card, partake in any disruptive activity of the process.** It also means that all electoral laws will be obeyed. Examples are the timing and transferring to a new station for eligibility.

THE COMMON QUALIFICATIONS FOR LOOKING OUT FOR CANDIDATES TO BE CONSIDERED

Every Muslim must know that he is going to contribute in producing a leadership that will represent him **by protecting his identity.** The qualification for this is

not tribe. As a result, he should be on alert against inclination without evaluation. Another qualification is not religion. This is because non-Muslims have equal rights to seek leadership in this country. And even in a Muslim country assessment is obligatory before selection. It is not location or region. This is because a suitable candidate can come from another region. The only task here is to find out about the person from objective sources. Therefore, membership of any group, like school or courses mates, profession, etc. are **not enough.**

Like the Muslim whose real identity is defined by his character of obedience to Allah, that makes him a universal creature and safe to anybody, this is the basic qualification to be sought for, in considering a suitable choice. For any fellow Muslim, non-Muslim citizen, fellow tribesman, non-tribesman, fellow professional, a member of another profession, etc., IT IS CHARACTER IN LIVELIHOOD ACCORDING TO HIS IDENTITY THAT MATTERS. And where a non-Muslim like a Christian is the candidate of consideration, his canonical discipline will not be of much interest. For a Muslim candidate it will not be compromised.

The nature and scope of this character template for evaluation is **the major sins, as defined by Allah and His Messenger (SAW).** While obvious ones are like **Worshipping Allah along with another thing (strictly for Muslims), hanging Murder history, Adultery, Gambling, Drug (illicit) dealings, Rape, Prostitution, Audacity, Theft, Forgery, Abuse of Trust, etc.,** the investigation should cover deductions from his lived public life history along with his social livelihood history. There should be consistency. Knowledge from both his friends and foes will be important. And the strength of the elements of **HYPOCRISY** should be the guide. These include **Telling lies, Not keeping Promises, Betrayal of Trust and Quarrelsomeness.** The negatives should be deterring.

PREPARING FOR EVERY GENERAL ELECTIONS

Equipped with the knowledge and discipline of Guidance, which gives every Muslim good and favourable access to Allah, **this is the right and best time to start pleading with Allah to guide us and replace His enemies with those He will be more pleased with.** This is because His pleasure should be our pleasure. Indeed, we are in the present state because we have long ignored Him and our devices have not helped us at all.

The coming elections should be akin to the day of Judgement for ourselves. It will be too late and foolhardy to ask that Allah reverse the time for us, when INEC gives go-ahead to partisan activities, **especially because we have been actively part of the problems formation.**

We then **should not be asking in isolation of Istigfar.**

By the special grace of Allah, we shall **witness His response, by the commencement of colour changing with politicians and political parties.** They will be adjusting against **continuation or being succeeded by people with nominal identities or rascals.** This is because bad and evil people can transform. **And it is best if it is done voluntarily.**

This will be the **test of our sincere du'as.**

Then when willing flag bearers present themselves, the party members and delegates will be **foremost**, as well as the polity **in asking for the Guidance of Allah to support those that will meet His pleasure.**

This will be by **Istikhara. This is the immediate serious challenge of the Ummah.** The practice of Istikhara is a strong and regular tradition in Islam. It

follows du'a. While it is for every important activity to be undertaken, du'a is for **EVERYTHING**. These are the required weapons for transforming Nigeria for our own general good, by the special grace of Allah. If you do not know it, it is bad enough.

Every Muslim will do this for deciding on the specific candidate to vote for. This is extremely critical because the provisions for determining the election to Offices is designed to meet above average scope of acceptance. This is where the principle of minimum number of votes and the spread comes in. **It means that if a reasonably high percentage of the voters are dissatisfied with the presentation of rascal candidates, and the minimum is not achieved because majority of the voters are negative elements, that are not unexpected in every large society, the process will have to be repeated.** This is cheaper than engaging rascals bearing the anger of Allah.

Then the casting of specific votes, that will be required of every citizen. **Every Muslim, embodying knowledge of Allah and the discipline of submission; the du'a for the pleasure of Allah in getting us out of the clutches of our Satanic grips; and the guidance of Istikhara, will go and cast his vote, In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful.** Allah who is all-Able, will protect the process against every contrary plans, because He is the best of planners.

Then we shall be patient with the will or pleasure of Allah.