

Parochial View of Religion: A Major Hindrance to Peaceful Coexistence in Nigerian Society

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Abstract : This paper examines the relationship between parochial religiosity and peaceful coexistence in Nigeria. Parochial views, characterized by exclusive interpretations and dogmatic adherence to one's faith, are identified as a significant obstacle to interreligious harmony and social cohesion. Using a mixed-methods approach, the paper investigates how parochial religiosity fosters intergroup tensions, undermines inclusive governance, and hinders constructive dialogue. The parochial religiosity significantly hinders peaceful coexistence in Nigerian society. This research contributes to the ongoing discourse on religion, conflict, and peace building, emphasizing the urgency of addressing parochial religiosity as a major obstacle to harmonious coexistence in multi-religious states in general and Nigerian society in particular.

Keywords : parochial religiosity, peaceful coexistence, Nigerian society, interfaith relations, religious conflicts

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