# Carnival Fiesta and Socio-economic development of Calabar Metropolis, Nigeria

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**ABSTRACT:** Purpose- This study examines the relationship between Calabar carnival fiesta and the socioeconomic development of Calabar metropolis in Cross River State, Nigeria.

**Design/methodology/approach-** The approach adopted in this study was survey method which employed structured questionnaires, which were administered to 1495 respondents. Data elicited from respondents were analyzed using simple percentage and Pearson product moment correlation.

**Findings** - The study reveals that Calabar carnival fiesta significantly influence the development of infrastructural facilities, level of poverty, standard of living of the people in terms of clean and healthy environment and the sexual behaviour of the people in Calabar Metropolis.

**Practical implications** –Some of the recommendations are, that, a blue print on Calabar carnival fiesta be expanded to include other parts of Cross River State.

**Originality/value-** This research work is the first empirical work to assess the impact of Calabar carnival fiesta on the socio-economic development of Calabar Metropolis. Empirical evidence from the field provides an insight that could assist in redesigning tourism blue print in Cross River State.

**KEYWORDS**: Carnival fiesta, socio-economic development and Calabar Metropolis.

# I. INTRODUCTION

The history of governments all over the world is that of setting agenda for socio-economic development. The imperative of such development efforts by government accounts for the various socio-economic policies and programmes that are being implemented at different levels of government. The institutionalization of the Calabar carnival fiesta as an essential aspect of cultural tourism in Cross River States seems ordinarily as well intended on the part of government, especially, when it is hope that the project will deliver dividends of socio-economic development to the people of Cross River State and beyond.

However, the temptation to view the carnival with suspicion may not be unfounded considering that, most government projects aimed at providing the basic necessities of life in the past have almost failed to impact positively on the people; thus, leading to colossal waste of public funds. Since the inception of the Calabar carnival fiesta, the government of Cross River State has continued to spend huge sums of tax payers' money that runs into millions of naira on the carnival annually. The argument on the part of government to justify the expenditure on the carnival is often that, Cross River State has been a backward state in all indices of socio-economic development. Thus, the carnival fiesta as an important aspect of cultural tourism provides a viable alternative for the enhancement of the socio-economic base of the state.

There is no doubt that, Calabar Metropolis and indeed Cross River State has experienced a wave of socio-economic development in recent past, as evident in the new road network, portable drinking water, street lighting, TINAPA project, Marina and Obudu Ranch Resorts, cement industries etc. But whether such socio-economic development can be attributed to the Calabar carnival fiesta or otherwise, remain a matter of conjecture. This study therefore, seeks to investigate the relationship between the carnival fiesta and the overall socio-economic development of Cross River State with particular respect to the present state of infrastructural facilities, the level of poverty interms of income generation, the standard of living of the people in areas of clean and healthy environment, and the level of sexual behaviour of the people during the carnival.

# II. STUDY AREA

Calabar Metropolis, the capital of Cross River State of Nigeria is located at the southern extreme of the habitable land of Calabar River (Ushie, 2009). It lies approximately between latitude 04<sup>0</sup>58 north of the equator and longitude 08<sup>0</sup>58 east of the Greenwich meridian. The population of Calabar according to 2006 national population census is estimated at 328,877 with a density of 980 persons per square kilometer (Agba, Nkpoyen & Ushie, 2010). The Metropolis lies within a tropical region with well-marked rainy and dry seasons. The wet

season starts from May and spans to October while the dry season starts from November to April (Ekiji, Nwosu & Agba, 2011)

Calabar Metropolis is a large urban center in Cross River State and for administrative convenience; it is divided into two local government areas viz: Calabar Municipality and Calabar South Local Government Area. Historically, Calabar is the settlement of the *Efiks, Quas* and *Efuts* (Effiong – Fuller, 1996); but because of migration occasioned by socio-economic activities, Calabar metropolis is today a cosmopolitan society with mixed bag of people from different cultural backgrounds. Economically, Calabar is a seaport, an airport town, a market for agro-produce from the hinterlands and home of many industrial outlets.

Calabar Metropolis is traditionally divided into chiefs and councils for administrative convenience. Calabar Municipal has the following chiefs and councils: *Big Qua Clan, Mbakoko, Nyahasang, Ediba, Ikot Omin* and *Akim Clan*, while Calabar South has the following chiefs, and councils *Efut, Ekondo, Mbukpa Odionka, Atakpa Clan, Uwanse* and *Efut Abua* (Ushie, 2009). These councils have unique cultural outfits that spiced up the Calabar carnival fiesta. They include masquerades such as *Ekpe, Tinkoriko, Edem Obon, Offiom Inyang, Agaba*, and *Nnabo*. Other cultural groups include *Abang* dancers, *Ekonibi, Akata, Nyoro* and *Okpo Ntaha Ekpat*. These cultural groups move from one street to the other to entertain people during Christmas festivals and this has metamorphosed into the Calabar carnival fiesta, courtesy of Cross River State Government (Agba, Ikoh, Bassey & Ushie, 2010).

## III. LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Socio-economic development

The term socio-economic development has variously been conceptualized by different scholars and there seems to be no consensus on a common definition of the term. Hence, it has always been viewed in terms of wealth, health, education, output, infrastructure etc. Todaro (1998) posit that socio-economic development means improvement in the quality of human life, including rise in income, job, creation, consumption habits, education, health status, infrastructure among others. Similarly Smith and Rees (1998) view socio-economic development as sustainable increase in living standards. It implies increase in per capital income, better education and health as well as environmental protection.

Socio-economic development entails the creation of wealth for all citizens within the diverse layers of society. It includes the redistribution of wealth so that all people have equitable access and potential of enhancing their quality of life, (Abbot, 2003). This implies that, for meaningful socio-economic development to be recorded, all facets of the society must feel its impact; they should be affected in one way or the other especially having access to improved quality of life.

Socio-economic development is the process by which a society improves the economic, political and social well-being of its citizens/people (Arthur & Sheffrin, 2003). It is the transformation of society, a movement from traditional relations to more modern ways (Stigliltz, 1999). It entails remarkable improvement in the people's lifestyle, through improved education, incomes, skills acquisition, and employment.

Socio-economic development refers to sustainable transformation in all ramifications that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the aspirations and needs of the future generations (Dyllick & Hockerts, 2002). It implies resolving the conflict between the various competing goals, and it includes the simultaneous pursuit of economic prosperity, environmental quality and social equality with the resultant effect being investment in social infrastructure and human capital development (Hasna, 2007).

# IV. CARNIVAL AND POVERTY REDUCTION

Impact studies try to establish a link between mega events and their socio-economic effect on host communities. Studies by Burnett and Hollander (2007), on mega events in Brazil revealed that sport events are capable of boosting economy by providing opportunities for increased infrastructural development and employment opportunities. Similarly Saayman, Saayman and Du Plessis (2005) observed that major events in arts, culture and sport are often defined in terms of their potential positive impacts. In this sense, they conceptualized such mega events as planned occurrences of limited duration which have an extra-ordinary impact and the capacity to improve living standards and economy of host communities.

The socio-economic benefits of cultural festival in the East Midlands were also reported by Allen and Shaw, 2000. Their study which was the first comprehensive research of festivals in the East Midlands centred on eleven (11) festivals, reflecting on the range of events that took place throughout the region, considering expenditure (costs) and income generated (benefits). The study revealed that money spent by visitors and audiences contributed about 7 million pounds to the economy of each of the community hosting the eleven (11) festivals (Allen & Shaw, 2000). It further revealed that money spent by audiences generated up to 4.1 million pounds as additional income for the regional economy, which provided additional jobs in the study areas.

Downing (2003) argues that culture and tourism events in Scotland promote socio-economic development of host communities. He observe that Ceolas week-long music festival in South Vist Island Community, with a population of over 4,000 does boost socio-economic development of the area. Another study of event cited by Downing (2003) was the Highlands festival which showcases world arts activities and a range of cultural events similar to those of Calabar carnival festival. The result showed that in 1977, about 68,000 people who attended the festival spent over 4.5 million pounds in the area, boosting the economy and creating job opportunities.

## V. CARNIVAL AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Meaningful and sustainable development is not achievable without basic infrastructure (Wallsten, 2001; Attah, 2010). Infrastructure here entails structural elements of an economy which involves social engineering that facilitate the flow of goods and services and stimulate growth and development in other sectors of society. It includes the provision of public services such as water, energy, communication, transportation, health, education and facilities for emergency response.

Carnival festival activities promote tourism; as a result, enhances the development of facilities to boost the tourism industry and accommodate visitors during the events (Gibson, Watt, Warmsley & Cornell, 2005). According to Humphreys and Plumber (1995), cultural events should be critically considered because existing evidences suggest that strengthening of the cultural sector creates economic assets that can be harnessed for community growth and development.

Receipts from cultural event contribute significantly to investment which could trigger structural development of the economy for instance in Slovak Republic infrastructural development in cities, municipalities and region are attributed to cultural festival in that part of the world (Slovak Republic Reports on the Impact of Culture on Tourism, 2008). Similarly, Keith (2005) observed that Caribbean festivals have been pivotal to the development of infrastructural facilities. According to Attah (2010:33) "it is obvious that cultural events such as carnival fiesta have the potential to precipitate the provision of infrastructural facilities for environmental development in society".

## VI. CARNIVAL AND SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR

Art, culture and tourism are events that draw people from different locations of the world together, men and women alike. In countries where carnival fiestas are prevalent, prostitution seems to be at its peak, as indicated by several studies (Attah, 2010). According to Deron (2007), sex tourism and immoral sexual behaviour is high in countries where carnival jamborees exist. He observes that in Trinidad and Tobago during the carnival fiesta, a lot of people (beautiful girls and young men) enjoyed music; drink in night clubs, hotels and brothel and same indulged in sexual acts for economic gains and social pleasure.

According to Macon-Steele (2008), the peak of child prostitution in Brazil is during carnival. Kugel (2009) posit that carnival goes with sexual excesses. It is a worldly festival which leads both men and women into prostitution. As such it is a festival that influences people to do evil. Williams (2009) posit that the idea of street jams as carnival is to promote social and commercial growth. He whoever, warn that we must be careful not to allow the glamour of the borrowed culture to obscure the beauty of our inimitable and valuable style of culture, because it might obliterate and destroy our value system.

Henrigue (1995) observes that prostitution has become a serious problem the world over, due to economic factor such as poverty and unemployment. The ugly tradition is fast gaining grounds due to the introduction of sex tourism industry which emerged in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century as a controversial aspect of western tourism and globalization, and is typically undertaken internationally by tourists from wealthier countries. Kevin (2008) argues that three out of every four men between the ages of 20-50 who has visited Asia, Africa and North America has paid for sex. Attah (2010) therefore posit that, the sexual behavior of Cross Riverian could likely be endangered due to the internationalization of the Calabar carnival fiesta.

## VII. THEORETICAL CONSIDERATION

This study adopted Lea 1995 Functional and Political Economic theories. These theories capture the place of tourism in the development of the third world economies. The functional approach according to Britton (1981), and as amplified by Mathieson and Wall (1982), is an analytical approach to the complex issues of tourism. It sees tourism as an activity or a process which can be broken down into three main sub-divisions. The first he called the dynamic phase which deals with the movement of tourists to and fro the destination. The second phase is the static element which focuses on the 'stay' of the tourist and the third is the economic, physical and social environment of his destination. The functional approach looks at tourism as an interconnected process or a system with inputs and outputs, links and feedback mechanisms. The functional view pays little or no attention to issues of economic exploitation and inequalities preferring rather to focus

attention on how to provide a description of the attributes of the industry in term of the tourists, their destination and various impacts.

On the other hand, the political economy approach clearly states that tourism perpetuates many existing inequalities despite its considerable benefits to poor countries (Lea, 1995). Unlike the functional approach, the political economy approach probes beneath the mere surface characterization of the industry. The theory view tourism as emanating from the desire of the affluent middle classes in metropolitan countries to travel abroad. It contends that companies such as airlines, tour guides which have emerged to service the tourism industry have organized themselves in a manner to best exploit demand. It sees nothing economically or socially beneficial in engaging in tourism. It views tourism as an extension of imperialism and a reflection of patterns of trading links and spheres of influence which must have been established over time.

The political economic theory therefore dwells heavily on the structural inequalities in World Trade and suggests that international tourism is most unlikely to favour poor countries. This is in addition to the fear that tourism exposes the third world to the worst examples of exploitation especially when essential segments of the industry are taken over by foreigners. The political economy approach gives room for the assessment of the relationship between tourism and economic development (Lea, 1995).

## VIII. METHOD

The research design adopted in this study was survey. In survey research, data are collected from a sample of the population to discover the relative incidence, distribution, and interrelations of sociological and psychological variables. Kerlinger (1986) explains that, this type of research usually focuses on people, the vital facts of people and their beliefs, opinions, attitudes, motivations and behaviour. Attempting to shed light on this explanation, Isangedighi, Joshua, Asim and Ekuri (2004) described survey research as being directed towards determining the nature of a situation, as it exists at the time of investigation. Survey research allows for the objective description of existing phenomenon.

The population of the study comprises all the residents of Calabar Metropolis who are age 18 years and above. The population of Calabar Metropolis according to 2006 census is approximately 328,877 people. Stratified sampling procedure was adopted in selecting subjects for the study. The target area was clustered first into the two local government areas (Calabar Municipality and Calabar South) and next into the various council wards and finally according to gender. The selection of the sample in each cluster involved probability proportional to size of the population (PPSP), that is, the larger the population the higher the sample was drawn from it. After the clustering of the research area, the researcher adopted accidental sampling method in selecting the subjects for the study. A total of 1,495 respondents were selected for the study, 736 (49.2%) were males and 759 (50.8%) were females. The distribution of respondents shows that 780 participants were selected from Calabar Municipality with twelve (12) council wards and 715 from Calabar South with eleven (11) council wards.

The instrument that was used for this study was a four point Likert scale questionnaire with 34 items. The questionnaire was made up of three sections (A,B and C). Section A provides demographic information of respondents. Section B was designed to elicit information on the perceptions of the respondents concerning the carnival fiesta and section C was designed to elicit information on the impact of the fiesta on the socio-economic development of Calabar Metropolis.

Preparing the data for statistical analysis, the questionnaires retrieved were screened to ensure that they were properly completed. All questionnaires not duly completed were dropped. The 1,495 authenticated questionnaires were coded for analysis; the coding schedule used appears inTable 1.

## Table 1 here.

Elicited data were also coded for various responses on the four point Likert scale questionnaire as shown in Table II,

Where SA- Strongly Agree

- A Agree
- D Disagree and
- SA Strongly Disagree

Table II:	Coding of varia	ables
Response option	Position	Negative
SA	4	1
Α	3	2
D	2	3
SD	1	4

As shown in Table II, positive response to a positive question was ranked the highest (4) that is Strongly Agree (SA).while negative response to negative answer received the highest score of (4) for Strongly Disagree (SD). Other scores follow the same sequence or order

#### Findings

#### Socio-demographic characteristics of respondents

Data for analyses involving all the discrete variables were obtained through questionnaires. Descriptive data summarizes for sex, age, educational qualification and occupation of participants are presented in Table III.

Table III: So	cio-demog	graphic characteris	ticsrespondents	
Variable	Frequer	icy	Percentage (%)	
a. Distribution of responder				
Males		743		49.1
Females	761		50.9	
Total		1495		100.0
b. Distribution of responder	nts by age			
Below 18 years	527		35.3	
18 - 30 years		639		42.7
31 - 40 years		111		7.4
41 - 50 years		209		14.0
51 years and above	9		0.6	
Total		1495		100.0
c. Distribution of responder	nts by echu	cational qualificati	ion	
No primary education	188		12.6	
Primary education	413		27.6	
Secondary education	492		32.9	
Tertiary education	402		26.9	
Total		1495		100.0
d. Distribution of responder	nts by occu	ipation		
Student/unemployed	304	-	20.3	
Politician	265		17.7	
Civil servant		384		25.7
Trading	202		13.5	
Other business	340		22.8	
Total		1495		100.0
e. Distribution of responder	nts by num	ber of times respo	ondent attended carniva	1
Never	-	370		25.1
Once		440		29.4
More than once	680		45.5	
Total		1495		100.0
Source: Field work 2010				

Source:Field work 2010

Results in Tables III show that 734 (49.1%) of the respondents were males while 761 (50.9%) were females. In the age category 527 (35.3%) of the respondents were below 18 years, 639 (42.7%) were between 18-30 years of age; 111 (7.4%) were between 31 - 40 years of age, 209 (14.0%) were between 41 - 50 years, while the rest of them were 51 years and above. About 188 (12.6%) of the respondents have no primary education; 413 (27.7%) attended primary school, 492 (32.9%) have secondary education while 402 (26.9%) have tertiary education. Classification according to occupation showed that civil servants attended the carnival more than other categories of respondents.

## Hypothesis-by-hypothesis presentation of results

#### Hypothesis one

There is no significant relationship between Calabar carnival fiesta and the level of poverty reduction in terms of income generation. This hypothesis was tested using Pearson Product Moment Correlation. Result of the analysis in Table IV show that the calculated r-value of 0.11 was greater than the critical r-value of 0.06 at .05 level of significance with 1493 degree of freedom. This means that, there is a significant relationship between the Calabar carnival fiesta and the level of income generation in Calabar Metropolis.

	ofin	come generation			-
Variables	Σx	$\sum x^2$			
		∑xy		r	t
	$\Sigma Y$	$\Sigma Y^2$			
Calabar camival fiesta (x)49560	1670464	934134	0.11	0.06	
Level of poverty interms of					
Income generation	28090 5554	674			

The significant r-value of  $0.11^*$  implies that, there is positive relationship between the carnival fiesta and income generated during the carnival by those who indulge in business related activities. This invariably means that, the carnival fiesta provides an atmosphere for business related activities to thrive.

#### Hypothesis two

There is no significant difference between Calabar carnival fiesta and the development of infrastructural facilities in Calabar Metropolis. This hypothesis was tested using Pearson product moment correlation. Result of the analysis in Table V show that the calculated r-value of 0.19 is greater than the critical r-value of 0.06at .05 level of significance with 1493 degree of freedom.

Table V: Pearson's correlation of the relationship between Calabar camival fiesta and development of

infrastructural facilities (N=1495)						
Variables	Σx	$\sum x^2$	<b>5</b>	-		
	ΣY	$\Sigma Y^2$	∑xy	I	L	
Calabar Camival Fiesta (x)	49560	1670404	937363	0.19 0.06		
Development of infrastructural facilities(y) 28129	555373					

Significant at .05 level; df = 1493; critical r = 0.06

This means that there is a positive relationship between Calabar carnival fiesta and the development of infrastructural facilities in Calabar Metropolis. It implies that, the carnival fiesta motivates or gingers the government of Cross River State to provide necessary infrastructure to support the carnival more than it would ordinarily. It suffices to say that carnival fiesta is therefore a precipitating factor to the provision of infrastructure in Calabar Metropolis more than ever before.

## Hypothesis three

Calabar carnival fiesta does not significantly influence the standard of living of the people in terms of clean and healthy environment in Calabar Metropolis. The hypothesis was tested using Pearson product moment correlation. Result of the analysis in Table VI shows that, the calculated r-value of 0.15 is greater than the critical r-value of 0.06 at .05 level of significance with 1493 degree of freedom.

This means that, there is a positive relationship between Calabar carnival fiesta and the standard of living of the people interms of clean and healthy environment. This implies that, the present of the carnival fiesta necessitate government commitment to ensuring the cleanliness of the environment for healthy living of the guests and the citizens during and after the carnival.

standard of living of individuals in terms of health (N=1495)						
Variables	Σx	$\sum x^2$				
	$\Sigma Y$	$\sum Xy$ $\sum Y^2$	r	t		
Calabar camival fiesta (x)49560	1670464	961549 0.15	0.06			
Standard of living in terms of health(y)	28881 586075	5				

Table VI: Pearson product moment correlation of the relationship between Calabar camival fiesta and the
standard of living of individuals in terms of health (N=1495)

Significant at .05 df = 1493; critical r = 0.06

## Hypothesis four

Calabar carnival fiesta does not significantly relate to sexual behaviour of people during the carnival. This hypothesis was tested using Pearson product moment correlation. Result of the analysis as depicted in Table VII revealed that, the calculated r-value of 0.32 is greater than the critical r-value of 0.06 at .05 level of significance with 1493 degree of freedom. This implies that, there is a significant relationship between Calabar carnival fiesta and the sexual behaviour of people during the carnival. Meaning, that, the carnival fiesta influences people who participate in the carnival mostly and those who are caught in the euphoria of the carnival to elicit sexual behavioural tendencies that are contrary to good sexual conduct.

Table VII: Pearson product moment correlation of the relationship between Calabar camival fiesta and the
convial behaviour of poople

sexual behaviour of people						
Variables	Σx	$\sum x^2$				
			∑xy		r	t
	$\Sigma Y$	$\Sigma Y^2$				
Calabar Camival Fiesta (x)	49560	1670464968277	0.32	0.06		
Sexual behaviour of						
People during the carnival(y)	28962	584892				

Significant at .05 df = 1493; critical r = 0.06

## IX. DISCUSSION

The findings of this study revealed that, Calabar carnival fiesta as an essential component of tourism development in Calabar Metropolis is capable of driving the socio-economic development of the state; granted that, it is given adequate publicity and funding. The overall results of data analysis for each variable of socio-economic development matched against the carnival fiesta showed a positive relationship to support the fact that, a well managed cultural tourism hold the potential of boosting the economic base of a state or nation. For instance, the finding of this study shows that there is a significant relationship between the Calabar carnival fiesta and the level of poverty reduction, in terms of income generation in Calabar Metropolis.

This finding is sequel to the fact that during the carnival period, Calabar Metropolis usually becomes bloated with people due to the influx of visitors and tourists from within and outside the country. These visitors in their course of stay in Calabar Metropolis spend huge sum of money on accommodation, food, transportation and other necessaries; this in turns provide short term business opportunities in the Metropolis.

The opportunity to make some income during Calabar carnival fiesta agrees with these findings of Anderson and Nurich (2002) in a study on arts, culture and sport development impact on the Edinburgh's festival, which revealed that such festivals lead to the generation of additional income. Their study revealed that 126 million pounds income was generated in addition to supporting an estimated 2,777 full time jobs in Edinburg and Lottian. Following such huge Edinburg success in such event; it is all the more convincing that, the results of findings in this study are true and indeed reliable and supports investment in cultural related events.

This study also revealed that there is a significant relationship between Calabar carnival fiesta and the development of infrastructural facilities in Calabar Metropolis. Since the inception of Calabar carnival festival in 2000 as an aspect of cultural tourism in Cross River State, infrastructural developments have received greater attention. This obviously led to the development of tourism facilities in the state like the Obudu Ranch Resort, the Afi Mountain Bridge, TINAPA Business Resort, Marina Resort, rural and intensified urban electrification, and extensive roads construction among others.

Calabar carnival fiesta relates to the socio-economic development of Calabar Metropolis and indeed the state through the provision of basic infrastructural facilities in order to ensure the attainment of the objectives for which carnival fiesta was created. According to Morrison (2006), investment in tourism events influence infrastructural development, which act as a potential boost for the economy and the revitalization of community arts centers that will assists the sector attain its objectives. Similarly, Spring (2003) observe that cultural fiesta could influence development and the generation of projects such as, new facilities, that will enhance tourism, and guarantee a new lease of life for the host communities

Participant also observed that Calabar carnival fiesta significantly improved their standard of living interms of clean and healthy environment. Calabar Metropolis in recent times is rated the cleanest city in Nigeria. This achievement was motivated by the states frantic effort to enhance tourism development which the Calabar carnival fiesta is a major component, vested with the potentials of propelling socio-economic development. Undoubtedly, the Calabar carnival fiesta is a major factor in the transformation of the state into a clean and healthy environment, conducive for all classes of people to dwell. This finding corroborates the assertion of Spring (2003) who posit the mega events such as carnivalfiesta could lead to socio-economic transformation of host communities and status elevation of such communities interms of cleanliness and healthy environment.

Furthermore, it was evident in the study that Calabar carnival fiesta influences the sexual behaviour of the people during the festive period. The high influx of people into Calabar Metropolis encouraged late night fun and all forms of sexual activities. This corroborates Palermo and Khalip (2006) who observed that in Riode Jeneiro - Brazil, Trinidad and Tobago where the carnival culture was borrowed, prostitution has become a way of life during the carnival. Major streets were usually lined up by female prostitutes who advertised themselves to men. Calabar carnival is fast taking the shape of Rio de Jeneior – Brazil, Trinidad and Tobago, as people with immoral behaviour are likely to travel from different state of the federation and outside the country to Calabar for purpose of catching fund as well as make economic gains.

## X. CONCLUSION

The study indicates that some essential components of cultural tourism such as carnival fiesta hold the potentials of boosting the socio-economic development of Calabar Metropolis in particular and Cross River State in general. The study revealed that Calabar carnival fiesta significantly relates to poverty reduction, infrastructural development, and improved standard of living in terms of clean and healthy environment. The study revealed that Calabar carnival fiesta encourages immoral sexual behaviour during the carnival, inspite of this; the study revealed that the carnival provides opportunities for businesses to thrive thereby promoting supplementary income generating activities and could also stimulate other aspects of socio-economic development in Calabar Metropolis.

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S/N	Variable	Code	
1.	Serial number	00001-1495	1-4
2	Calabar camival fiesta	items 1-10, section B	
		of the questionnaire	5
3.	Poverty reduction	items 11-16, section	6
4.	Development of	items 17-22 section C	
	infrastructural facilities	of the questionnaire	7
5.	Living standard of the	23-28, section C	
	People	of the questionnaire	8
6.	Level of sexual behaviour	items 29-34, section C	
	of the people	of the questionnaire	9

Table 1: Coding schedule for the research variables in the study