

Land Tenure System in Ekiti State, Nigeria

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SUMMARY

Land is a very significant property and is one thing that man could not do without. It is the major determinant factor for the existence of man, plants and animals. For instance, Simpson (1976) says that Land is the source of all materials wealth, from it we get everything that we use or value, whether it be food, clothing, fuel, shelter, metal or precious stones. We live on the land and from the land, and to the land our bodies or ashes are committed when we die. This paper examines the illegal roles of the family chiefs and the obas (kings) on the native land in Ekiti State. It is true there are rules governing owning of land in Nigeria and Ekiti State in particular, these rules are mere “paper tigers” that cannot bite. Traditional chiefs and obas allocate lands without following the existing government regulations made for holding land. As a result of this, industrial and economical development are negatively affected .