

REVIEW
of the official reviewer for dissertation work
Yakasai Bashir Aliyu on the theme «he Role of Tribal Relations in the System of Public Administration in Nigeria» presented for the
degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty «8D03104-Political Science».

№	Criteria	Eligibility (one of the options must be checked)	Justification of the position of the official reviewer
1.	The topic of the thesis (as of the date of its approval) corresponds to the directions of development of science and/or state programs	1.1 Compliance with priority areas of science development or government programs: 1) The thesis was completed within the framework of a project or target program financed from the state budget (indicate the name and number of the project or program) 2) The thesis was completed within the framework of another state program (indicate the name of the program) 3) The dissertation corresponds to the priority direction of the development of science, approved by the Higher Scientific and Technical Commission under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan (indicate the direction)	The dissertation addresses a critical area of political science by examining how tribal affiliations shape governance and public administration in a pluralistic society like Nigeria. This aligns with priority areas focused on state-building, institutional efficiency, and conflict management.
2.	Importance for science	The work makes /does not make a significant contribution to science, and its importance is well disclosed/not disclosed	The study provides a uniquely balanced, pan-ethnic dataset and an original analytical model of trust in public administration. It significantly advances the understanding of consociationalism and prebendalism within modern governance structures.
3.	The principle of independence	Self-reliance level: 1) High; 2) Medium; 3) Low; 4) No independence	The doctoral student independently employed a complex mixed-methods approach, conducting a cross-sectional survey of 600 respondents across six states, alongside ethnographic observations and a detailed case study of the 2023 presidential election.
4.	The principle of inner unity	4.1 Justification of the relevance of the thesis:	The relevance of the thesis is highly

		1) Justified; 2) Partially justified; 3) Not justified.	justified, as it addresses how tribalism has profound implications for Nigeria's political and administrative systems. The study investigates how tribal relations continue to influence the distribution of resources, political appointments, and the functioning of public institutions despite the country's formal commitment to national unity. The research is motivated by the critical need to understand how these dynamics contribute to public sector inefficiency and corruption.
		4.2 The content of the thesis reflects the topic of the thesis: 1) Reflects; 2) Partially reflects; 3) Does not reflect	The content perfectly reflects the topic. The dissertation systematically covers the theoretical study of Nigerian tribes and public administration history in the first chapter. It then provides a detailed case study of the 2023 Presidential election to highlight the practical manifestation of tribal relations. Finally, it analyzes the core role of tribal relations within the public administration system, supported by empirical survey data and ethnographic observations.
		4.3. The purpose and objectives correspond to the topic of the thesis: 1) correspond; 2) partially correspond; 3) do not correspond	The purpose and objectives fully correspond to the topic. The primary aim is to critically assess the role of tribal relations in shaping the functioning and outcomes of Nigeria's public administration. This aim is logically divided into specific objectives, including examining historical evolution, analyzing the influence on recruitment and resource distribution,

			and exploring implications for national integration. These objectives directly align with the overarching theme of proposing strategies for mitigating negative impacts.
		4.4 All sections and provisions of the thesis are logically interconnected: 1) completely interconnected; 2) the interconnection is partial; 3) there is no interconnection	All sections and provisions are completely interconnected. Chapter one establishes the theoretical and contextual foundation regarding the Nigerian public administration system and tribal history. Chapter two seamlessly transitions to examining these concepts through a modern political case study. Chapter three builds upon this framework by focusing on empirical analysis, leading to a methodology and results section that directly tests the study's stated hypotheses.
		4.5 The new solutions (principles, methods) proposed by the author are reasoned and evaluated in comparison with the known solutions: 1) there is a critical analysis; 2) partial analysis; 3) the analysis does not represent one's own opinions, but quotes from other authors 4) the analysis is absent.	The new solutions and recommendations proposed are well-reasoned and evaluated. The author bases their proposed strategies on rigorous statistical findings, such as the demonstration that the Federal Character Impact is a statistically significant positive predictor of public trust. The recommendations, which include balancing the Federal Character Principle with meritocracy and decentralizing implementation, are directly evaluated against the empirical data gathered from the cross-regional survey.
5.	Scientific novelty principle	5.1 Are the scientific results and provisions new? 1) completely new; 2) partially new (25-75% are new);	The scientific results and provisions are partially new. While the foundational concepts explored in the thesis, such as

		3) not new (less than 25% are new)	prebendalism, consociationalism, and the Federal Character Principle, are well-established in Nigerian political science literature, the author successfully applies these existing theoretical frameworks to a novel empirical dataset. The inclusion of the 2023 Presidential election case study and a contemporary cross-regional survey of 600 respondents introduces fresh, original data, making the synthesis new, even though it is grounded in established theoretical traditions.
		5.2 Are the dissertation findings new? 1) completely new; 2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The core findings of the dissertation are partially new. The general conclusion that tribalism negatively impacts administrative efficiency and resource allocation corroborates numerous previous historical and political studies on Nigeria. However, the specific statistical findings—particularly the evidence demonstrating that perceived ethno-regional fairness is a stronger predictor of public trust than actual service delivery efficiency—represent a genuinely novel empirical contribution to the ongoing discourse on administrative legitimacy.
		5.3 Technical, technological, economic or management decisions are new and reasonable: 1) completely new; 2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The proposed management and administrative decisions are partially new. Recommendations such as recalibrating the Federal Character Principle to better integrate meritocracy and improving decentralized governance are persistent themes in Nigerian public policy reform debates. Nevertheless,

			these solutions are highly reasonable because the author provides a fresh, evidence-based justification for them. By directly linking these familiar administrative reforms to the newly gathered quantitative survey data, the author updates and strengthens existing policy recommendations.
6.	The validity of the main findings	All main conclusions ~~are~~ /are not based on scientifically significant evidence or well-grounded (for qualitative research and areas of training in the arts and humanities)	The findings are highly robust, supported by advanced diagnostic tools such as Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) analysis, residual normality testing, and Harman's single-factor test, ruling out common-method bias.
7.	The main provisions for the defense	It is necessary to answer the following questions for each provision separately: 7.1 Is the provition proven? 1) proven; 2) rather proven; 3) rather not proven; 4) not proven 5) in its current wording, it is impossible to verify whether the statement has been proven. 7.2 Is it trivial? 1) yes; 2) no 3) in its current wording, it is impossible to verify whether the statement is trivial. 7.3 Is it new? 1) yes; 2) no 3) in its current wording, it is impossible to verify the novelty of the statement. 7.4 Application level:	Provision 1. The provision is proven (7.1 – proven), not trivial (7.2 – no), but does not constitute an independent scientific novelty (7.3 – no), as it primarily reflects the coherence and methodological quality of the study. The application level is medium (7.4 – medium). The provision is substantiated in the author’s publications (7.5 – yes). Provision 2. The provision is proven (7.1 – proven) and not trivial (7.2 – no), as it demonstrates the methodological rigor and replicability of the research. It does not represent a novel scientific result per se (7.3 – no). The application level is wide (7.4 – wide). The provision is reflected in the publications (7.5 – yes). Provision 3. The provision is proven (7.1 – proven), not trivial (7.2 – no), and contains a new scientific result (7.3 – yes), revealing a significant relationship

		1) narrow; 2) medium; 3) wide 4) in its current wording, it is impossible to determine the scope of application of the statement. 7.5 Is it proven in the article? 1) yes; 2) no 3) in its current wording, it is impossible to verify whether the statement has been proven in the article.	between Federal Character Impact and public trust. The application level is wide (7.4 – wide). The findings are presented in the author’s publications (7.5 – yes). Provision 4. The provision is proven (7.1 – proven), not trivial (7.2 – no), and demonstrates scientific novelty through its interdisciplinary analysis of Nigeria’s administrative development (7.3 – yes). The application level is wide (7.4 – wide). The provision is reflected in the publications (7.5 – yes). Provision 5. The provision is proven (7.1 – proven) and not trivial (7.2 – no), as it ensures transparency and verifiability of the research. However, it does not constitute a new scientific result (7.3 – no). The application level is medium (7.4 – medium). The provision is supported in the publications (7.5 – yes). Provision 6. The provision is proven (7.1 – proven), not trivial (7.2 – no), and confirms the originality of the dissertation findings through peer-reviewed publications (7.3 – yes). The application level is wide (7.4 – wide). The results have been published and validated in scholarly articles (7.5 – yes).
8.	The principle of reliability Reliability of sources and information provided	8.1 Choice of methodology - is justified or the methodology is described in sufficient detail 1) yes; 2) no	The choice of methodology is thoroughly justified and described in excellent detail. The author clearly articulates the rationale for employing a mixed-methods approach. The

			quantitative component, specifically the multi-stage sampling technique used to survey 600 respondents across six diverse states, is transparently documented, ensuring high methodological validity and replicability for socio-political research.
		8.2 The results of the thesis were obtained using modern methods of scientific research and methods of processing and interpreting data using computer technologies: 1) yes; 2) no	The results were obtained using highly modern scientific and statistical methods. The doctoral student effectively utilized advanced computer technologies and statistical software (e.g., SPSS) to process the quantitative data. The application of regression models, Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) analysis, and modern diagnostic tests allowed for a precise, objective, and technologically sound interpretation of the complex dataset.
		8.3 Theoretical conclusions, models, identified relationships and patterns have been proven and confirmed by experimental research (for areas of training in pedagogical sciences, the results have been proven on the basis of a pedagogical experiment): 1) yes; 2) no	The theoretical conclusions and identified socio-political patterns have been conclusively proven through robust empirical research. The foundational theoretical models—such as the impact of prebendalism and the Federal Character Principle on administrative efficiency—are directly confirmed by the quantitative data and statistical relationships derived from the comprehensive cross-regional survey.
		8.4 Important statements are confirmed / partially confirmed / not confirmed by references to current and reliable scientific literature	All important statements, conceptual frameworks, and historical claims are firmly confirmed by extensive references to current, peer-reviewed, and reliable scientific literature. The author consistently grounds their original

			arguments and hypotheses in globally recognized scholarship concerning consociationalism, public administration reforms, and Nigerian political history.
		8.5 Used literature sources are sufficient /not sufficient for a literature review	The literature sources utilized are entirely sufficient for a comprehensive and critical literature review. The bibliography encompasses a broad, diverse, and up-to-date range of academic materials. By covering historical documents, modern institutional theories, and recent political analyses, the sources provide a profound and exhaustive theoretical foundation for the dissertation.
9	Practical value principle	9.1 The thesis has theoretical value: 1) yes; 2) no	The dissertation possesses significant theoretical value by systematically integrating the concepts of prebendalism, consociationalism, and traditional tribalism into a cohesive analytical framework. By applying this synthesis to the specific context of the Nigerian public administration system, the author enriches the theoretical discourse on how informal ethno-regional networks operate alongside and often supersede formal bureaucratic structures in post-colonial states.
		9.2 The thesis is of practical importance and there is a high probability of applying the results obtained in practice: 1) yes; 2) no	The practical importance of this research is highly evident. The empirical demonstration that public trust is heavily dependent on the perceived fairness of the Federal Character Principle provides actionable insights for state-building. The findings can be directly utilized by Nigerian policymakers, public service

			commissions, and international governance bodies to design targeted administrative reforms, optimize resource distribution, and improve the meritocratic recruitment process within the civil service.
		9.3 Are the practice suggestions new? 1) completely new; 2) partially new (25-75% are new); 3) not new (less than 25% are new)	The practical suggestions formulated by the author are partially new. Broad recommendations regarding the need for meritocracy, anti-corruption measures, and decentralization are well-established themes in Nigerian public policy debates. However, the specific, data-driven strategies proposed for recalibrating the Federal Character Principle—directly informed by the fresh empirical survey and the contemporary context of the 2023 elections—offer novel, highly relevant, and updated mechanisms for administrative reform.
10.	The quality of writing and design	Academic writing quality: 1) high; 2) average; 3) below average; 4) low.	The dissertation is written with thematic breadth and analytical depth, showcasing an interdisciplinary command of history, institutional theory, and political science. The inclusion of exhaustive appendices ensures high transparency and replicability.
11.	Notes on a thesis		The work is remarkably thorough. Any minor notes are strictly editorial and do not diminish the immense scientific value of the research presented.
12.	Scientific level of the doctoral student's articles on the topic of research (in case of defense of the dissertation in the form of a		he doctoral student has demonstrated a very high scientific level, with the main provisions published in nine articles, including two publications in highly-

	series of articles, the official reviewers comment on the scientific level of each article of the doctoral student on the topic of research)		ranked SCOPUS-indexed journals (Q1).
13.	Decision of the official reviewer (pursuant to paragraph 28 of the present Model Regulations)		Based on the high degree of scientific novelty, robust methodological design, and significant contributions to the field of political science, the dissertation fully meets the requirements. The candidate Yakasai Bashir Aliyu deserves the award of the PhD degree in the specialty 8D03104 Political Science.

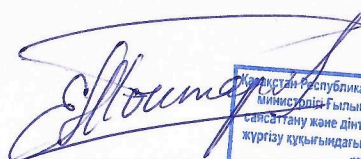
In reviews, official reviewers indicate one of the following solutions:

- 1) to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD);
- 2) send the thesis for revision (except for cases of thesis defense in the form of a series of articles);
- 3) refuse to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

Copies of the reviews of the official reviewers are handed over to the doctoral student no later than 5 (five) working days before the defense of the thesis.

Official Reviewer:

Institute of Philosophy, Political Science and Religious Studies under the Science Committee of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, PhD
(place of work, academic title)


(signature)

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Республики Казахстан

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