

HISTORY OF THE NIGERIAN MASS MEDIA

INTRODUCTION

What is today's known as mass media in Nigeria came chronologically i.e from one stage to the other, from one technological advancement to the other, from one regime or government or the other. There is no doubt about the fact that print media pioneers and ushers the emergence of mass media in Nigeria. However, despite the disagreements among earlier scholars, researchers and media experts on how and when the press began in Nigeria, yet most of the scholars and experts agreed that Nigerian's first newspaper was *Iwe-Iroyin* fun Awon Egba (the Newspaper for the Egba People) floated by Reverend Henry Townsend in Abeokuta in 1859 (Lawal, 2014:1). The newspaper was published in Yoruba language with its English supplement came in March 1860, although it was mainly a Christian evangelical paper (Aliagan, 2006: 16).

From the humble beginning of the print journalism in 1859, different newspapers and magazines have emerged; later the nation witnessed another development of electronic media particularly the radio services through British Broadcasting Corporation Rediffusion in 1932 among other growth in the broadcast media up till date (Oyekanmi, 2018:12).

This piece shall holistically examine the history of mass media in Nigeria particularly the broadcast media with emphasis on the radio and television respectively from 1932 till today.

1.1 DEFINITION OF MASS MEDIA

One of the concepts in mass communication and journalism that has many definitions, though pointing to the same direction is the concept of "*Mass Media*". Different scholars in Nigeria and all over the world have seen it from different angles especially from their cultural, political, technological and social contexts. For the purpose of this piece, few credible and scholarly definitions of mass media will be considered to give clear focus on what Mass Media are and do.

Mass media is considered to be an umbrella term used for all means of communication to a wider and larger audience residing in different geographical locations.

Mass media is a plural of mass medium which can be described as technology that can be used to pass information to a large audience that are usually distance from the sources of the message often through the radio and television (simultaneous media) and partially or non-simultaneous media (newspaper and magazine). Although, many scholars believe that the internet is inclusive whereas many also disagree, but I think is inclusive because, the internet has the characteristic of simultaneous delivery of message e.g live streaming, live video conferencing, etc and non-simultaneous at the same time e.g watching podcast, blog posts etc.

Lawal (2004:2) defines mass media as a means or channels through which messages or information are transferred or disseminate to a wider and larger heterogeneous audience who are residing in a diverse location. Also, mass media organization is described as that produce news or entertainment content and distribute that content to a large number of geographically separated people through a technologically based medium (David, 2005:182).

The term mass media simply translates to the modern means of giving news, opinion, education and entertainment to large numbers of people, especially through radio, television, newspapers, magazines and films.

Isamuko, (2011) writes that news is distributed in Nigeria through print and electronic media. These include radio, television, newspaper and magazine.

McQuail, (2000) describes mass media as a means of communication that operates on a large scale, reaching and involving virtually everyone in a society to a greater or lesser degree.

Buttressing the above assertion, Daramola (2005:95) opines that “the mass media are very powerful socializing agent. The mass media are mainly newspapers, magazines, radios,

televisions and movies they are impersonal sources and they reach large, heterogeneous and widely dispersed audiences.

1.2 FORMS OF MASS MEDIA

There are basically two broad categories of mass media according to Andrew and Oloruntola (2009:18) cited in Daramola, (2005) but emergence of internet has given room for more platforms such as the Internet (Adeniran, 2017:1)

- a. Broadcast Media: Radio and television
- b. Print Media: Newspaper, Magazine and Book
- c. Internet (Social media, email, live streaming, podcast etc)

However, for the purpose of this write up, efforts will be dwelled on the electronic media otherwise called broadcast media which are radio and television. Broadcasting is believed to be the act of transmitting programmes or signals intended to be received by the public through radio, television, or similar means (Encyclopedia of American, 2005:1).

Onabajo, (2000:1) defines broadcasting as the transmission of information through radio waves from a radio or television station, to the audience in far and near places, through their receivers, which help in decoding such information.

Folarin (2000:35) defines broadcasting as the planned provision of information, education and entertainment to a large and heterogeneous audience through two major media of mass communication. i.e the radio or television.

In a more encompassing definition, broadcasting can be described as a process of transmitting information, idea, culture, opinion, news to a large and wide heterogeneous and anonymous audience residing in a diverse geographical location simultaneously (almost

simultaneous) using a medium of mass communication (radio, television or internet) with an option of immediate or delayed feedback (Alao and Olayinka, 2017).

1.2.1 Definition of Radio

Radio station is a company or an organisation where the technicians, newscasters, presenters, DJ, director, reporters work with a precise responsibility for the overall interest of the company in order to deliver information, enlightenment and entertainment to the company audience (d'Ecclesia, 2013).

Radio broadcasting can be defined as the wireless transmission of information, message and ideas via radio waves to a large and wide heterogeneous audience simultaneously. Radio broadcasting means using radio waves in sending information to a large and anonymous audience who listen to the transmission messages through a radio set.

To put it in a more succinct way, radio broadcasting is the transmission of programs sport, news, documentary, drama, musicals, opinions, interview, etc to a larger and wider anonymous audience who receives the signals simultaneously in their respective locations via a receiver. In short, radio signals can either be analog or digital. The earlier radio stations in Nigeria were transmitting on Short Wave (SW) Amplitude Modulation (AM) and later Frequency Modulator (F.M)

1.2.2 Definition of Television

Television is a medium of mass communication; combining audio and visual signals in sending information from a station through a wireless means to the receiving set of the audience in a diverse location simultaneously.

Television is a system for converting visual images (with sound) into electrical signals, transmitting them by radio or other means, and displaying them electronically on a screen. It is also a device with a screen for receiving television signals (Oyekanmi, 2008:12).

1.3 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF RADIO IN NIGERIA

In order to effectively explore the history of radio in Nigeria, radio history can be better expounded under the below subheadings:

- a. Rediffuion Era
- b. Nigerian Broadcasting Service (NBS)
- c. Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC)
- d. Regional Broadcasting Stations (RBC)
- e. Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN)
- f. 1992 Broadcasting Media Deregulation Viz A Vis Radio And Television
- g. Digitization and Online Radio Proliferations etc.
- i. Radio Diffusion Service (RDS)**

The journey of what is known today as broadcast stations in Nigeria with over 200 radio stations and over 100 television channels began in 1932 as an experiment, when the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), began to rediffuse programmes and activities from BBC to other British colony which Lagos Nigeria is one of them. The service is called Radio Distribution Services (RDS). The Colonial Government then saddled Posts and Telegraphs Department with the responsibility to extend, maintain and connect many cities in Nigeria by working out plan, strategies and techniques for the distribution of the British Empire Broadcasting service programmes to many cities and this marked the beginning of broadcast media and it was the new media at that time (Alao and Olayinka, 2017:16).

However, in 1936, radio finally debut through the distribution of programmes originating from the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in London, as part of it overseas services. The arrangement was referred to as *Rediffusion*, this arrangement is similar to this modern day cable service or radio networking service. This relay system of the BBC was replicated in mainly English speaking countries across the globe and succeeded in taking BBC news and programmes to many parts of the world. Radio distribution Services were opened in Kano, Abeokuta, Port-Harcourt, Ijebu Ode, Enugu, Jos, Calabar and Kaduna which allowed Nigerians to listen to the British Broadcasting Corporation's foreign radio service over loudspeakers stationed in strategic locations. This expansion has made the number of subscribers to grow daily (Laaro, 2004).

The colonial government contemplated the idea of a broadcasting system that would cover the West African colonies and the task was given to two BBC consultants, F.A. W Byron and L.W Turner. The following are the objectives of the first *Rediffusion* as highlighted by Laaro, (2004:7).

- ✓ To develop links between Great Britain and English-speaking people throughout the world;
- ✓ To propagate the British way of life, particularly in the empire and;
- ✓ To keep British citizens outside Britain informed about happenings back home.
- ✓ To build enough African audience in order to boost their propaganda programmes
- ✓ To serve their colonies and dominion in Anglophone Africa.
- ✓ Promote the indigenous Vernaculars

The adoption and use of vernacular for the BBC programmes especially in the news did not have any connection to reflect the socio-political, cultural and economy of the colonies rather to make the illiterate audience who could not understand the message in Queen Language to

grasp the messages because the contents were translated in verbatim of the English versions. The criticism of the Rediffusion that it does not have local input and as a result, Nigerian Broadcasting Service (NBS) was born.

ii. Nigerian Broadcasting Service (NBS)

Having experienced the success of Rediffusion Service, the British government later established radio stations by integrating all the Radio Distribution Services in the country after the Turner-Bryon Report, Nigerian Broadcasting Service (NBS) was born on June 1, 1952 and commissioned by Sir. John McPherson who was the then, Colonial Governor. This time, the radio was wireless.

Onabajo (2000) posits that at the inception of Nigerian Broadcasting Service (NBS), British Broadcast Corporation (BBC) programmes dominated the Nigerian airwave, efforts were also made to produce programmes that the local population could relate to. There were programmes and news in three main Nigerian Languages, Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa as well as in many dialects.

However, the NBS soon became the target of criticism, based on the dominance of BBC programmes in its broadcasts, and for what critics described as lack of the Nigerian orientation. The BBC augmented Nigeria's efforts by providing all the needed training and technical equipment. In fact BBC's T. W. Charmes became first Director-General of NBS, while his counterpart, J. W. Murray, was the Chief Engineer (Alao an Olayinka, 2017:16).

iii. Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC)

Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation was launched on April 1, 1957, by an Act of parliament as a result of the opinions and criticism of Nigerians that NBS is a megaphone and extension of information department of the colonial government. It was equally criticized as tool

of propaganda. The radio was used to suppress, distort and misrepresented facts about events and personalities in the country. The agitation and criticism later got to the Federal House of Parliament and Alhaji Dauda Adegbenro moved a motion calling on government to set up a corporation that will take over the activities of the NBS (Laaro, 2004:8) cited in Uche (1989). Majority of the parliamentarians supported the motion and a bill was sponsored on August 23 1954 but was not passed until April 1957 which ushered the birth of the Nigeria Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) which seems to be the first of its kind under the British colony. Laaro, (2004:8) in Uche (1989) highlighted new role for the new Corporation in the Act, which included but not limited to the right:

- ✓ To provide as a public service, independent and impartial broadcasting services by means of wireless telegraph and by television for general reception within Nigeria;
- ✓ To provide an External Service for general reception, in countries and places outside the country; and to ensure that the services which it provides, when considered as a whole, reflect the culture, characteristics, affairs and opinions of the people of each region, or part of the Federation.
- ✓ To provide prejudicial presentation of ministerial speeches from various political parties that seek to express divergent views on controversial matter.
- ✓ Other role include but not limited to political broadcast, broadcast religious services, broadcast entertainment services.

iv. Regional Broadcasting Stations (RBC)

it should be recalled that during the 1953 constitution matter, the colonial Governor General MacPherson, in the course of defending the constitution matters over the radio of the then National Broadcasting Service (NBS), accused Chief Obafemi Awolowo the then Premier

of the Western Region of Nigeria of being unfaithful. Chief Obafemi Awolowo therefore, requested for equal chance to pass his opinion to the people as a way of making clarifications on the allegation leveled against him by the Governor General but he was denied access to the National Broadcasting Service (NBS), in view of this, people now realized that the station (NBS) that suppose operate as impartial and unbiased was doing the opposite, leading to the protest that the station should operate as a public property rather than government instrument.

It should be emphasized that the inability of the Premier of the Western Region of Nigeria, Chief Obafemi Awolowo to have access to NBS radio lead him to sought for alternative especially to prevent such incident in the future. Thus, Western Nigerian Broadcasting Service (WNBS) was established as a response to what NBS did to him. It should be recalled again that at this time, three regional governments have been created i.e the Western, Northern and Eastern regions respectively (Laaro, 2004).

To be precise, on October 31 1959, the Western Nigerian Broadcasting Service (WNBS) was floated by the Government of Western Region of Nigeria led by Chief Awolowo and the new corporation began with television broadcasting which was the first of its kind in the whole of Africa. The new corporation was headed by Mr. Olapade Obisesan as its pioneer Chairman. WNTV was based in Ibadan and on May, 1960, it established its radio station arm.

The mandate of WNBS, according to Chief Obafemi Awolowo, then Premier of the Western Region, was to serve as teachers, entertainers and stimuli to all and to transform Nigeria into a modern and prosperous nation (Maureen, 2012:3).

The Eastern and the Northern Regional Premiers quickly copied the initiative of the Western Region, with the establishment of the Eastern Nigeria Broadcasting Service (ENBS) and the Broadcasting Company of Northern Nigeria (BCNN) in 1960 and 1962 respectively. This

development brought healthy rivalry among the region as they were competing in terms of programmes and promotion of their regional core values this which ended government at the central broadcast media monopoly and hegemony (Oyekanmi, 2008).

There is no doubt about the fact that the three regional broadcasting arms were political motivated than any other reasons which later became obvious that the motivation can never foster national unity and peace especially for a nation that just attained her political independence. The government at the central realized this and believe that something must be done to curtail the excesses of the regional broadcast stations, otherwise it will be suicidal (Laaro, 2004).

The broadcast stations quickly became instruments in the hands of the owners because “*he who pays the piper dictates the turns*”. The regional government that established the stations had turned the stations to the extension of their ministry of information and instrument for political propaganda that even within their regions, the station only loyal to the party in power as there was no balance and objective reports regards national events again (Oketunmbi, 2006:12).

Right from inception, it was clear that the three regional stations were mainly instruments for promoting the views of their proprietors. Each station designed programmes to project the political interests of its owner (Laaro, 2004).

v. Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN)

The Decree 24 of 1977 which created Nigeria Television Authority (NTA), also transformed the radio service into autonomous body known as the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN) with station identification name is *Radio Nigeria*. FRCN is also headed by director general who is responsible to a board of directors appointed by Federal Government, the director general assistance by team of directors otherwise known as Central Management

Community (CFC). FRCN is embarking on expansion program similar to NTA arrangement as more FRCN stations are springing up across the country and today we have at least one FRCN station in at least a state across the federation. It is considered to have the largest radio network in Africa (Laaro, 2004).

By 1978, the Nigeria Broadcasting Corporation and the Broadcasting Corporation of Northern Nigeria (BCNN) fused to become the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN) with the slogan “Uplifting the People and Uniting the Nation”. Initially, FRCN transmits with medium wave service and later short wave while in 2007, FRCN started FM transmitting.

vi. 1992 Broadcasting Media Deregulation Viz A Vis Radio And Television

One of the hot chapters in the history of the Nigeria broadcasting is the privatization and deregulation of the sector. Broadcasting media was monopolized and solely controlled by the government (State and Federal Government) until it was deregulated through Decree No. 38 of 1992 under the military regime of General Ibrahim Babangida. This gave rise to the proliferation of private radio and television stations for the first time.

The hallmark of the privatization and deregulation of the broadcasting media in Nigeria include the following as put by (Ajibulu, 2013).

- i. This development has brought healthy rivalry and competition in the broadcast industry especially in terms of given the public alternative channel to voice their opinions, views and perception on matters especially issue of public and national interest.
- ii. Initially, radios and televisions only promote the views of the government that owns them. The government broadcast media are full of government says, according to government etc.

- iii. Government broadcast media never see anything bad about government programmes and policies, as a result they don't criticize government.
- iv. As more private radios and televisions surface in Nigeria, more jobs are created for the unemployed youths as presenters, broadcasters, marketers, engineers, administrators etc.
- v. It also provides the public with multiple channels i.e more radio and more television stations.
- vi. The deregulation of broadcasting sector has equally brought about new approaches to the political coverage and analysis.
- vii. It has created watchdog for the people in power through constructive criticism.
- viii. The present of private broadcasting stations forced various media to compete uniquely with quality and objective programmes
- ix. Another contribution of the deregulation is that it brings more creativity and innovation to the broadcast industry.

Similarly, the deregulation of the broadcast media also led to the establishment of a broadcast regulatory body, the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) with the power to regulate the entire broadcast industry in Nigeria, both public and private (Ajibulu, 2013).

However, DAAR Communications, owners of Africa Independent Television (AIT) and Raypower Radio started first private broadcasting on September 1, 1994. It began full commercial broadcast operations on its high profile radio channel with the call sign, RayPower 100.5, the first private independent radio station in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. While AIT, Channel 21, followed as the first private television station in the country on December 6, 1996. Ever since then, the numbers of registered radio and television stations have

continued to increase. For the purpose of this piece, few of the radio and television channels will be highlight and briefly explained.

As at 2017, there are over 200 radio stations in Nigeria with at least a federal radio station, a private radio station and a state radio in most of the 36 state across the federation. Similarly, television stations can also boast of over 100 channels (NBC, 2017). Some of the radio stations are:

103.5 - Harmony FM FRCN (Radio Nigeria), Idofian, Kwara State

612.8 - Radio Kwara, Ilorin (www.radiokwara.com)

95.1 - Wazobia FM, Lagos

96.9 - Cool FM, Lagos

100.5 - RayPower FM, Alagbado, Lagos

107.5 - Radio Lagos, Ikeja (Also of Eko FM)

95.7 - ABC FM, Yola

101.5 - Fombina FM Yola

88.1 - Broadcasting Corporation, Umuahia

103.5 - Pace Setter FM, Amakanma old Umuahia

103.9 - Love FM, Aguiyi Ironsi layout, Umuahia

95.7 - FM Gotel Yola

101.1 - Planet FM, Akwa Ibom

104.5 - Atlantic FM, Uyo

90.5 - AKBC, Uyo

88.5 - Anambra Broadcasting Service, Awka

91.5 - Blaze FM, Oraifite

95.7 - Ray Power FM, Bauchi

95.5 - Royal FM, Yenagoa

102.5 - Ray Power FM, Elebele, Yenagoa

95.0 - Radio Benue, Makurdi

94.5 - Harvest FM, Makurdi

94.5 BRTV Borno Radio Maiduguri

102.5 Peace FM (FRCN), Maiduguri

104.5 Cross River Broadcasting Corporation (CRBC)

95.9 Hit FM, Calabar

93.1 - Quest FM, Ughelli-Patani Road, Ogor

97.9 - Ray power FM, Oghara

97.9 - Voice of Delta Radio, Asaba

98.1 - Salt FM, Abakaliki

101.5 - Unity FM, Abakaliki

95.775 - Edo Broadcasting Service, Aduwawa

105.5 - RayPower FM, Ikhuen Niro, Benin city.

100.5 - Progress FM (FRCN), Ado Ekiti

91.5FM - Golden voice of Ekiti (BSES)...

89.9FM - Voice FM, Ado-Ekiti

92.9 - Coal City FM (FRCN), Enugu

828 - Radio Nigeria 1 Enugu Enugu

91.9 MHz - Gombe (GMC) FM

103.5 MHz - Jewel (FRCN) FM, Gombe

94.4 - Orient FM, Owerri. (Broadcasting Corporation)

100.5 - Heartland FM, Owerri.

93.5 - FM Andaza, Jigawa

99.5 - Freedom Radio, Dutse

92.9 - Freedom Radio FM, Kaduna

96.1 - Supreme FM, Kaduna (FRCN)

93.1 - Arewa FM.

103.5 -Pyramid FM (FRCN)

104.5 - Radio Nigeria Companion FM, Katsina (FRCN)

106.5 - Ray Power FM, Katsina

95.5 - Kebbi State Radio, Birnin kebbi

103.5 - Equity FM, Birnin Kebbi

94.0 - Confluence FM, Lokoja

95.5 - Grace FM, Lokoja

101.5 - Prime FM (FRCN), Kogi state

97.1 - Nasarawa Broadcasting Service (Lafia)

102.5 - Precious FM (Lafia,FRCN)

100.5 - Power FM, Bida - FRCN

90.5 - Victory FM, Minna

94.1 - Rainbow FM, Ogun state

94.5 - Paramount FM, FRCN, Abeokuta

90.5 - OGBC FM, Abeokuta

88.9 - Adaba FM, Ilara-Mokin via Akure

102.5 - Positive FM (FRCN), Akure

94.5 - Orange FM, Akure

91.7 - Rave FM, Oroki Estate, Osogbo

95.5 - Gold FM, Iloko-Ijesa road, Ilesa. (FRCN)

103.1 - Uniq FM, Ara Station, Okesa, Ilesa

104.5 - Living Spring FM, Ile-Awiye, Oke Baale, Osogbo.

93.5 - Premier FM (FRCN), Dugbe, Ibadan

105.5 - Splash FM, Felele, Ibadan

90.5 - Peace FM, Jos

101.5 - Highland FM, Jos (FRCN)

95.9 - Cool FM

98.5 - Treasure FM (FRCN)

94.1 - Wazobia FM

99.5 - Freedom FM, Sokoto

101.5 - Royal FM, Sokoto

90.6 - TSBS Taraba radio Jalingo

104.5 - Gift FM Jalingo

89.5 FM pride of the Sahel Damaturu

102.5 Pride FM Gusau

ii. Digitization and Online Radio Proliferations etc.

Advancement in technology over the last decade has changed the face of all human activities including human communication and interaction. The media convergence being experience now through the internet has made digitalization and networking of media contents a necessity in order to achieve better and effective quality audio, quality audio-visual, and reaching more people in remote locations (Olayinka, 2015:1).

Similarly, before the advent of digitalization or digital media content, media organizations rely heavily on the usage of analogue equipment such as analogue camera microphone, console and other analogue devices which made production, processing and distribution of media content analogue

Until they are being replaced with digital cameras that use (USB, HDMI, SD card, harddrive etc) which now make the production and post-production easier, effective and sharable to different platforms from disc, memory card, to PC, DVD playback and to the recent uploading on internet platforms (Youtube, Instagram and email) and other microblog and social media platform. (Olayinka, 2015:1).

Also, before the move to digitization, majority of the people can only access between 1-3 channels but now with the move to digitalise all broadcast media, Nigerians can access more channels. For instance, cable television like DSTV, StarTime, GOTV and other digital terrestrial decoders enables more than 70 channels with access to local and foreign channels even in remote locations through either a dish or indoor decoder (Everest, 2013:2).

The digital television transition refers to the shift from analog broadcasting to digital broadcasting. Many countries of the world have recognized the huge benefit which digital broadcasting offers and are making a huge effort to shift from analog broadcasting to digital

broadcasting. Everest, (2013:2) stressed that transition from analog to digital broadcasting involves changing the transmission signals as well as making sure that members of the public buy high definition television sets and get rid of standard definition television sets. Digital terrestrial television such as cable, satellite, telecoms, is characterized by reduced use of spectrum and more capacity than analogue, better-quality picture, and lower operating costs for broadcast and transmission after the initial upgrade costs. A terrestrial implementation of digital television technology uses aerial broadcasts to a conventional antenna (or aerial) instead of a satellite dish or cable connection.

Ben, Abiodun, Fola and Akintunde (2012:2) write that the transition to digital broadcasting will mark the end of free television programmes. However, this is not the case. While some television set may be affected by the change, others will not for example, television sets that receive cable and satellite signals will still receive signals from digital transmission. However, television sets that receive analog signals via antenna (these antennas have analog tuners) will be out of place in the digital era.

Digitization programme in Nigeria commenced in Abuja on June 3, 2008, following a meeting of stake holders in the broadcast industry where forum under scored the need for Nigeria to embrace the new technology, so that the country would not be turned into a dumping ground for obsolete analog equipment (Olayinka, 2015:7).

It should be recalled that Nigeria has failed to meet its first deadline of June 17, 2012 to switch over to digital broadcasting, when in 2006 the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) announced June 17, 2015 as the final switch off date for analogue broadcasting, many felt 10 years was long enough for the Nigerian broadcast industry to transit to digital terrestrial broadcasting. Also, stakeholders in the Nigerian broadcast industry adopted June 17, 2012 as the

nation's switchover date. This date was approved by the late President Umaru Yar'Adua. By the approval, June 17, 2012 became Nigeria's official switch off date.

The Netherlands became the first country to transit to digital broadcasting, just a year after the policy was announced. Other countries that followed closely are Andorra, Finland, Sweden, Switzerland Denmark, Germany, Isle of Man, and Norway. Many other countries have joined the lead (Ismail, 2015).

Again for the third time, Nigeria had failed to meet up with the deadline for digital switch over slated for June 17 2017 after it earlier failed in June 17, 2017 and June 17 2015. Nigeria has failed again in June 17 2017.

Historical Overview of Television Broadcasting in Nigeria

The event of 1953 in which Chief Obafemi Awolowo was accused of unfaithfulness, by the colonial Governor General, Macpherson was the impetus that led to the establishment of Western Nigeria Broadcasting Service. Instead of establishing an organization to provide radio services only, the west government went for higher technology of broadcasting communication yet unknown to, not just to Nigeria but, the whole of African that is the television service (Uche, 1989). By October 31,1959, the first television signal ever, not only in Nigeria but in the whole of African, was sent over the airwaves,(as it happened in the evolution of radio broadcasting, the order of initiative and development followed the same pattern).

Unlike its radio counterpart which its establishment was informed largely by colonial masters' need for information dissemination, television was conceived as education resources. This was the reason advanced by the WNTS in the West and ENTV in the East (Laaro 2004:11) in (Uche, 1989) comments thus:

“The potential ability of television to enhance educational objectives at both primary (grade) and secondary (high) school levels and adult education became the overriding factor for the establishment of the Western Nigeria Television....”

This objective remained paramount in programming of the earlier television service, but it was soon abandoned due largely to lack of financial backing and lack of required personnel. Thus, the hope of making television a “surrogate teacher” was dimmed if not dashed.

Television service has its own twist of fate. In 1975, the Federal Government took over television service throughout the country. Unlike, the NBS which has a kind of radio network controlled by the Federal Government, television was under the various regions that established them. The Federal Government gave reasons for its actions:

- i. To prevent their (TV stations) proliferation at the expense of the tax payers
- ii. To enable the Federal government to effectively participate in the country’s mass media
- iii. To supplement Federal government giant programmes on mass education.

This enviable objective was not in any way achieved, rather, what was experienced was the Invasion of the country’s airwaves by the foreign programmes. It was an era when the bulk of the nation’s youth, particularly the elite siblings became exposed to western cartoon, wrestling, comedies, musicals and other western cultural values and norms that have less relevance to the country’s socio-cultural values of the country.

From 1959 when the first television station in Nigeria began in Africa through the early 70s about for television station with fuel in operations in each of the four political region but they could transmit in the first television station that rout from is all saints operated are transmitted colour was a temporary plateau television station now known as NTA Jos the city of Jos is also the place where NTA is having his training school the television college the college is

now available to traveling Tafawa Balewa University Bauchi around degree programs in the respect of television broadcasting and journalism in general (Laaro, 2004).

ii. NTA and Overview

Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) was inaugurated in 1977, it is owned by government and in charge of television broadcasting in Nigeria. Today, it is considered to be the largest TV network in Africa with stations in all states in Nigeria. NTA was formally known as Nigerian Television (NTV). It started in 1976 when the then Nigerian military authority took over all regional television stations in 1976 and it became the authentic voice of the Nigerian government (NTA, 2018).

Similarly, on March 1962 Radio-Television Kaduna / Radio Kaduna Television (RKTV) was established. It was based in Kaduna and was operated by the Broadcasting Company of Northern Nigeria. RKTV also provided coverage for the central northern states. Later in 1977 it was re-branded NTV-Kaduna (Uche, 1989).

In April 1962, the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) was established; it was a federal government-owned service. Based in the city of Lagos it broadcast to the south western states. In 1972 MidWest TV was established in Port Harcourt. This was run by the state government in Benin. In 1974, Benue-Plateau Television Corporation (BPTV) was established and was based in Jos. It was the first television station to launch regular/permanent colour broadcasts in Africa. The colour test transmissions commenced 1 October 1975. BPTV was re-branded as NTV-Jos and from May 1977 all the state television broadcasters named above were merged and re-branded Nigerian Television (NTV) and are now owned by Nigerian Television Authority (NTA, 2013).

NTA has maintained a systematic growth through the years from 12 Stations at inception in 1977. NTA as of today, boasts of about 100 stations, with presence in every State Capital and almost Senatorial Districts.

In 2010, NTA entered a partnership with Startimes International in the area of Terrestrial Digital Transmission to fast track the graduation to Digital Broadcasting ahead of the 2015 global deadline given by the International Telecommunications Union for all Television transmission in the world to digitize (NTA, 2013).

The partnership is also for the purpose of increasing the revenue base of the Authority. There are currently NTA News 24, NTA Sports 24, NTA Knowledge, NTA Hausa, NTA Igbo, NTA Yoruba and NTA Entertainment, NTA Sport etc on NTA/Startimes bouquets. NTA/Startimes is a subscription-pay TV that uses a decoder for access to its signal.

Similarly, below are list of some television stations in Nigeria as offered by Folarin, Damilare, Lilian, Oloruntoba, and Okhiade (2014). This list covers NTA channels, state channels and some private channels. Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) is now available in all the 36 States of the Federation with over 100 channels including nine Network Centres

S/N	COMPANY'S NAME	FREQUENCY	ADDRESS	YEAR LICENCE GRANTED
1	NTA CHANNEL 6, ABA	187.75 MHz	Television House, Ikot Ikpene Road, Ogbor Hill, PMB 7126, Aba	1964
2	NTA	43MHz	Enugu/Abakaliki	2000

	ABAKALIKI		Highway, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State	
3	NTA CHANNEL 12 ABEOKUTA	224.25 MHz Channel 12 VHF	Oke-Egunya, P.M.B. 2190, Abeokuta, Ogun State	
4	NTA ABUJA	567.25 MHz Channel 5	Old Parade Ground, Opp. Radio House, Area 10, Garki P.M.B. 55, Garki Abuja	1982
5	NTA PLUS	471 MHz Channel 21	Old Parade Ground Area 11, Garki, P.M.B. 55, Garki, Abuja	2001
6	NTA ADO- EKITI	Channel 5	Television House, Bola Ige Drive, by New Iyin/Ilare Road, Oke Ila, Ado Ekiti	2003
7	NTA AKURE	Channel 11	Oba-Ile Akure	1979

		VHF	P.M.B. 794	
8	NTA ASABA	Channel II VHF	Okpanan Road, By State Secretariat Asaba, Delta State p.M.B. 5083, Asaba, Delta State	2000
9	NTA AUCHI	–	Non Operational	–
10	NTA AWKA	UHF Channel 5	KM 1, Enugu Agidi Road, Awka	2003
11	NTA, BAUCHI	208 Mhz	Television House, Maiduguri Road, Bauchi, P.M.B. 0146, Bauchi	1977
12	NTA BENIN	189.25 MH3 Channel 7 VHF 194.75 Mh3	West Circular Road, P.M.B. 1117, Benin City, Edo State	1972
13	NIGERIA TELEVISION AUTHORITY CALABAR	203.25 – 208.75 MHz VHF Channel 9	Murtala Muhammed Highway, Calabar	–

14	NTA DAMATURU	Y175.25 Mhz, S179.75 Mhz	Television Village, P.M.B. 1021, Potiskum Road, Damaturu, Yobe State.	2000
15	NTA DUTSE	Channel 10	Sani Abacha Way, Dutse Jigawa	1997
16	NTA ENUGU ZONAL NETWORK CENTRE	8 VHF	Television House, Independence Layout PMB 1530, Enugu	1960
17	NTA GOMBE	Channel 5, MHz 175.25	KM 8, Bauchi Road, Gombe, P.M.B. 0129, Gombe State	04/09/2003
18	NTA GUSAU	Channel 9 VHF 522	NTA Gusau, Zaria Road, P.O.Box 1108, Samaru Road, Gusau	2001
19	NTA IBADAN	108.25 MHz Channel 7 VHF Band III	P.O.Box 1460, Agodi, Ibadan, Oyo State	1959
20	NTA IJEBU-	814.25 MHz	Erunmu road,	28/2/2003

	ODE	Channel 63 UHF	GRA, Ijebu-Ode, Ogun State	
21	NTA IKARE		Non Operational	
22	NTA ILE-IFE	622.25 MHz Channel 39 UHF	NTA, Oke Oloyinbo, Mokuro Road, Off More, P.M.B. 5510, Ile Ife	2003
23	NTA IRUEKPEN	Channel 45 UHF	NTA Iruokpen, Ireken, Edo State	2001
24	NTA JALINGO	182 MHz	Television House Mountain Jalingo, P.M.B. 1102, Jalingo	1994
25	NTA, JOS	189.25Mhz video, 194.75Mhz Audio	Yakubu Gowon Way, P.M.B. 2134, Jos	1973
26	NTA KADUNA	CHANNEL 4 & 6	No. 7, yakubu Gowon Way, Kaduna	1976
27	NTA KANO	175.25 Mhz, 180.75 Mhz	Television House, Bompai Road,	1976

			Kano	
28	NTA KATSINA	5 KW Channel 8	Television House, Steel Rolling Mills, Junctions Along Katsina Dutsima Rd., Katsina	1988
29	NTA KEBBI STATE	Channel 39 UHF, 619.25 MHz	NTA Birnin Kebbi, Jega Road Kalgo Kebbi State	2000
30	NTA 2 CHANNEL 5	175.25 MHz	Ahmadu Bello Way Victoria Island Lagos	1980
31	NTA LAGOS	210.25 Mhz	Tejuoso – Sulere, Lagos	1977
32	NTA MAIDUGURI	Channel 10	Damboa Road, P.M.B. 1487, Maiduguri	15/1/1977
33	NTA MAKURDI	210.25 Mhz	Ahmadu Bello Way, Old GRA, P.M.B. 1020441, Makurdi	1978
34	NTA	175.25 MHz	P.M.B. 3005, Oja	

	OGBOMOSHO	Channel 5 VHF	Titun, Ogbomosho, Oyo State	
35	NTA OKITIPUPA	–	Non Operational	–
36	NTA OSOGBO	702.25 MHz Channel 49 UHF	NTA Oke- Pupa/Abere Along Gbongan Road, Osogbo	11/01/2000
37	NTA Owerri	UHF Channel 12	New Owerri Road, Near Concord Hotel, Owerri	2003
38	NTA OYO	606.25 MHz Channel 37 UHF	NTA Oyo, Oke- Apitipiti, P.O.Box 252, Oyo	27/1/2003
39	NIGERIA TELEVISION AUTHORITY (NTA) P/HARCOURT	210.25 MHz Sound 215.75 Mhz	NTA Choba Road, P.M.B. 5797, P/Harcourt	Dec-74
40	TREASURE FM P/HARCOURT	98.5 MHz FM	NTA Choba Road, P.M.B.	–

			5797, P/Harcourt	
41	NTA SAKI	224.25 MHz Channel 12 VHF	P.O.Box 383, Oke-Ado, Saki Oyo State	–
42	NTA SAPELE	–	Sapele-Benin Expressway, By Amuke Roundabout	–
43	NTA SOKOTO	62.75 MHz, 185 MHz	Garba Mohammed Road, PMB 2351, Sokoto	1975
44	NTA UMUAHIA	741 Mhz	Kilometer 123, Enugu/Port Harcourt Expressway	2001
45	NIGERIA TELEVISION AUTHORITY UYO	224.25 MHz Channel 12 VHF	Aka Etinan Road, P.M.B. 1188, Uyo	1992
46	NTA WARRI	–	Non Operational	–
47	NIGERIA TELEVISION	–	Azikoro Road Ekiki, Yenagoa	–

	AUTHORITY YENAGOA			
48	NTA YOLA	Channel 8	No. 43, Ahmadu Bello Way P.M.B 2197 Yola Adamawa State	1978

ALL OF SOME STATE RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS

Below are few radio and television channels of state government

STATE OWNED	STATE/ADDRESS	FREQUENCY	YEAR
Adamawa TV Corporation (ABC)	Yola		
Akwa-Ibom Broadcasting Corporation TV (AKBC)	Uyo	45 UHF	1996
Anambra State Broadcasting Corporation (ABS)	Awka	27 UHF, 39 UHF	Oct 26, 1994
Bauchi State TV (BATV)	Bauchi	66 UHF	3 July 1996
Bayelsa State Broadcasting TV	Azikoko Road, Ekeki- Yenagoa	25 UHF	May 29, 1998
Benue TV	Makurdi	38 UHF	Sept 15, 2003
Borno Television Corporation (BTC)	Shehu Laminu Way, Maiduguri	38 UHF	March 10, 1995

Broadcasting Corporation of Abia State TV (BCA)	Umuahia		April 22, 2001
Broadcasting Corporation of Oyo State TV (BCOS)	Ile-Akade, PMB 01, Ibadan	28 UHF	July 3, 1996
Cross River State Broadcasting Corporation (CRBC)	Calabar	27 UHF	.03-Jul-96
Delta Broadcasting Service Tv Voice of Delta	Off Okpanam Road, Asaba – Delta State	31 UHF	Oct 26, 1994
EBONYI CABLE STATION TV	Abakaliki	UHF 70, 72, 74	Oct 25, 1999
Edo State Broadcasting Corporation TV	Benin	55 UHF	March 10, 1995
Enugu Broadcasting Service TV	Enugu	UHF 50	Feb 12, 2004
LAGOS STATE TV	Ikeja Lagos		Jan 01, 2000

iv. Deregulation of Television Stations in Nigeria

One of the hot chapters in the history of the Nigeria broadcasting is the privatization and deregulation of the sector. Broadcasting media was monopolized and solely controlled by the government until it was deregulated through Decree No. 38 of 1992 under the military regime of Ibrahim Babangida. This gave rise to the proliferation of private radio and television stations including online radio today (Alao and Olayinka, 2017: 22).

Similarly, the deregulation of the broadcast media also led to the establishment of a broadcast regulatory body, the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC). However, DAAR Communications, owners of Africa Independent Television (AIT) and Raypower Radio started broadcasting on September 1, 1994. It began full commercial broadcast operations on its high profile radio channel with the call sign, Raypower 100.5, the first private independent radio station in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. AIT, Channel 21, followed as the first private television station in the country on December 6, 1996. Other stations are Channels, TVC, Unique FM, Galaxy TV, STV etc (Daar, 2013).

PRIVATE OWNED	STATE/ADDRESS	FREQUENCY	YEAR
AIT	1, Ladi Lawal Drive, Kpaduma, Hill	UHF 21	1994
Channels Television	376, Ikorodu Road, Krestal Laurel House	UHF 39	
DBN TV	The Dream Centre, Durosinmi Etti Drive, Lekki Phase 1	VHF 32	
Galaxy Television	25 Community Road Allen Avenue	UHF 27	
Independent Television	Business Address: Glass House, Airport Road, Benin City	UHF 25	
MITV CH	MITV Plaza Obafemi Awolowo Way Alausa Secretariat	UHF 43	
Silverbird TV	Business Address: Lekki Beach	UHF 23	
TV Continental	19 Alade Lola Street, Ikosi-Ketu,		

Some other television Channels mostly available on Cable Television are highlighted below

PeoplesTV

Peoples Television is a 24-hours news channel based in Abuja. The station is news-oriented especially from the viewers' point of views. PTV transmits on StarTimes across Nigeria on channel 120 and NIGCOMSAT 1R'satellite to 52 countries of the world.

Core TV News

Core TV News is a 24-hour free-to-air, cable news channel, its viewers cut across Nigeria state, Africa and some part of Europe. It also be watched on through live streaming.

Wazobia TV and CoolTV

Wazobia TV is regarded is indigenous television channel because it uses the three main local languages in Nigeria i.e Yoruba, Hausa and Igbo while its contents is mostly presented in Pidgin English which is a mixture of local languages and English language making it an informal. Wasobia television and cool tv was launched on startimes on October 1st 2014 with CoolTV viewed on channel 195 whereas WazobiaTV is viewed on channel 196 respectively

Commercialization of Broadcasting Station in Nigeria

Laaro, (2014) narrates that the history of allowing sponsored messages or advertisement over the airwaves of Nigerian television or radio was replete with disagreement between professionals and the government department. The parliamentarian Act which established the NBS conceived it as a public corporation, which was modeled the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), a non-commercial public service.

But the reality of the enormous cause of funding broadcasting forced the administrators of radio stations to ask the government to allow it go commercial especially because of the criticism from the public that most of the television and radio stations in Nigeria operated as a

propaganda tools in the hands of government that owns them 'he who pays the piper dictates the tune' calling for the autonomy of the stations. In November 1960, the NBS Act was amended; it allowed the NBS to accept advertisement. Later, this Act was referred by the Murtala/Obasanjo military administration. That government argues that permission to go commercial might affect the policies and orientation of the management (Laaro, 2014:13) in Uche (1987:55).

However, another military regime, the Babangida administration with different orientation to the administration of public institutions that allows the Federal Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN), the offspring of NBC, to generate its fund through commercial programming this marks the beginning of a policy disposition which later led to deregulation of the broadcasting industry.

Laaro, (2014:13) stressed that, all along, the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) had been interested on how to accept advertisement. Equally, the state broadcasting station began argument in their separation from their holder with commercial income. All along the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) allowed to accept advertisement. Equally, the state broadcasting stations have been augmenting their subventions from their owners with commercial incomes and marks the genesis of commercialization in radio and television stations in Nigeria.

MEDIA SERVICE AGENCIES IN NIGERIA

Below are other media that provide news services to the public as agency such as NAN.

News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)

“No one knows Nigeria like NAN”, this is the slogan/tag used often by the News Agency of Nigeria. NAN is regarded as Nigeria's face just like the Reuters and Associated Press etc. NAN was set up by the Decree 19 of 1976 while NAN started full operation on October 2nd 1978

with the core objective of providing news service to the subscribers in Nigeria. NAN is available across the 36 states of Nigeria, anywhere and always where the news is. News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) offers news for broadcasting media, newspapers, magazines and even professional bloggers in Nigeria (NAN, 2018).

However, advancement in technology especially in this era has made it possible for the NAN to send news contents to subscribers and users via emails while others log-in to NAN news portal “*newsroom.nan.ng*” to pick the needed news and pictures. The official website of NAN (www.nan.ng) was launched precisely on August 8, 2016, to enable the agency to provide news and other current affairs to substantial numbers of audience anywhere in Nigeria. NAN covers stories on general news, entertainment, sports, politics, lifestyle and metro (NAN, 2018).

Today, NAN can boast of over 500 editorial staff nationwide and at least a correspondent in New York. It produces more than 200 stories on a daily basis, while it also collaborates with other international news agency such as Reuters and Xinhua News Agencies among others. Currently, Malam Yusuf Zango is the Editor-In-Chief of the Agency while Mr. Bayo Onanuga, a seasoned and veteran editor and magazine publisher is the CEO of the agency, who was appointed by President Muhammadu Buhari in May 2016 (NAN, 2018).

The Voice of Nigeria

The Voice of Nigeria (VON) is regarded as the official voice of Nigeria government in the international community just like the Voice of America, BBC World Service by the British government, Radio Moscow by Russia, DW is totally funded by German, Press TV by the Iranian Government; CCTV by China, the Qatar government owned Aljazeera TV. They channels are used for politics, economy, social cultural and for international diplomacy (Akintayo and Akinreti, 2016).

The Voice of Nigeria (VON) is expected to serve as an external broadcasting service otherwise known as international broadcasting with the objective to promote indigenous cultural values through its news and programmes broadcast using Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba and Fulfulde languages. VON was founded in 1961, the Voice of Nigeria started as External Service of the then Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation (now Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria). It was Then Prime Minister Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa commissioned the service (Akintayo and Akinreti, 2016).

What was tagged under-report or bias reportage of Africa and Nigeria in particular among other development warranted the establishment of the external broadcasting to serve as authoritative source of information about Nigeria, African and the black situation to the entire world.

It should be called that when the VON first started, it could not transmit beyond West Africa shore and the transmission could not last longer than two hours daily because of the limited power of the transmitter (10 kW HF transmitter), it should be stressed again, that the broadcasting languages at that time was mainly English and French languages (NBC, 2018)

However, In 1963 VON broadcast hours extended to about six hours when it commissioned five prototype RCA 100 kW transmitters. Since then, more efforts to ensure more transmitting hours and reach more countries were put in top gear, and as a result, five Brown Boveri transmitters with antennae system were installed in 1989.

Similarly, on 5th January 1990 the Voice of Nigeria became independence entity when it was separated from the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria by Decree No. 15 of 14th May, 1991 (Laaro, 2004). The Decree empowered VON to broadcast external news bulletins and programmes for and on behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria. Currently, the director

general of the radio is Mallam Abubakar B. Jijiwa (NBC, 2018). In 1996 another three state-of-the-art 250 kW Thomcast AG transmitters were commissioned to boost the transmission capacity and reach of VON programmes to the world.

The administrative headquarters of VON is in Abuja, whereas, VON transmitting station is situated at Ikorodu in Lagos State. Also, the News and Programmes are generated from the two ends i.e from Lagos and Abuja. Equally, in the year 2012, Voice of Nigeria commissioned another state of the art transmitting station at Lugbe, Abuja. The Corporate Vision and Missions of VON are highlighted below as culled from (NBC, 2018).

- i. To become the international radio broadcasting station of first choice for anyone interested in Nigeria and Africa.
- i. Reflecting Nigerian and African perspective in its broadcast, winning and sustaining the attention, respect and goodwill of listeners worldwide particularly Nigerians and Africans in the Diaspora.
- ii. Making Nigeria's voice to be heard more positively in the shaping of our world

BROADCASTING REGULATION BODIES IN NIGERIA

For the purpose of this paper, NBC, BON, NUJ, TON, SABI, SOBON and CEFASORO shall be discussed briefly.

National Broadcasting Commission (NBC)

The National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) is a federal government regulatory body that is saddled with the responsibility to regulate broadcast media (federal, state and private broadcast media) in Nigeria. The Commission was inaugurated on August 24, 1992 through Decree 38, the Decree was later amended and now known as National Broadcasting Commission Laws of the Federation 2004, CAP N11. The commission was set up to enable the deregulation

and privatization of broadcast media to yield success by issuing license, monitoring stations, given guidelines, sanctioning stations and ensuring compliance of stations with national policies (NBC, 2018)

The Pioneer Director General of NBC was Dr. A. Tom Adaba. Also, in July 1999, the second Director General, Mallam Nasir Danladi Bako was appointed. He was succeeded in 2002 by Dr. Silas Babajiya Yisa while Mr. M. 'Bayo Atoyebi was appointed as Acting NBC between August 2006 and March 2007. Similarly, Engr. Yomi Bolarinwa was appointed as NBC Director General in March 2007 and Mr Emeka Nkem Mba was appointed as NBC on May 9th 2013. Also, Ms. Alheri Saidu, the Secretary to the Commission acted as the NBC acting DG until Mallam Is'haq Modibbo Kawu was appointed Director General on May 25, 2016 in a substantive capacity (NBC, 2018).

The commission is boost of over 476 permanent staff; 10 Zonal Offices and 24 State Offices, the Commission has the mandate to manage the broadcast industry and ensure that the people's right to quality broadcasting is assured.

The following are the main statutory role of the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC):

1. The Commission advice the federal government on various matters regards the broadcast media in Nigeria, including carrying out scientific research methods to gather data, analyze trends in line with the dynamism of the industry and advise government accordingly.
2. The commission also oversees applications for the establishment of broadcast stations such as television, radio, direct satellite broadcast, cable tv service, and any other electronic broadcasting media.

3. The Commission defines standards in all aspects of broadcasting such as monitoring and regulating broadcast media environment to make the environment healthy for the growth and investment
4. Working with other stakeholders to ensure the digitization of broadcasting media among others (NBC, 2018)

Broadcasting Organisations of Nigeria (BON)

The first seed of the Broadcasting Organisation of Nigeria (BON) was sowed in 1973 as a collision umbrella body for the public and private broadcasting stations in Nigeria. BON is an independent association covering public, private, commercial, community broadcasting media including the new media channels in Nigeria (BON, 2018). It was on record ever that shortly after FESTAC '77 the association was no longer seeing in action as it was no longer running until 7 years later when the then Minister of Information, Tony Momoh challenged the stakeholders in 1987 during a workshop on the role of broadcasting..

However, to that affects, a six man committee was set up and saddled with the responsibility to resuscitate the BON, as a result of the committee efforts BON was born again on August 11, 1988 in Abuja Federal Capital Territory.

It should be emphasized that before the second coming of BON, there existed some media organisations such as Chief Executives of Federal and State on Radio Organisation (EFASORO), Television Organisation of Nigeria (TON), and State Owned Broadcasting Organisation of Nigeria (S O B O N). This association merged under the BON and made it easy for the rebirth of BON. Today, BON is one of the biggest associations of electronic media practitioners in Nigeria with membership from over 250 television, radio, cable and new media across the length and breadth of the country (BON, 2018).

Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ)

Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) came into existence on March 15th 1955 in Lagos as a Labour Union body. NUJ is one of the many groups that were founded to champion the struggle for Nigeria Independence in 1960. Although, the many of the earlier members were not media professional, this is evidence as one of the founding fathers of the Union, late Chief Olu Oyesanya who spearheaded its formation was then an Information Officer in the Department of Information under the colonial Government (NUJ, 2017)

Meanwhile, when the Union held his second meeting some officers were elected to ship the Union and give the Union the needed impetus to achieve success particular after the constitution of the Union had been ratified. The two main principal officers that were elected were the late Mobolaji Odunewu as the first Nigerian Chief Information Officer as the President and late Chief Olu Oyesanya as the Union Secretary. Since then, the Union has continued to move from one stage of struggle to the other (NUJ, 2017)

The expansion of the union from then became rapid as more states were created. There was awareness among members so much that where ever they found themselves, they will quickly organize themselves to form a council of the union. By 1966, there were 12 state councils. The union now operates 37 state councils, each headed by a Chairman , Secretary and other officials, six zones, each headed by a Vice President and Zonal Secretary 740 chapels(in house unions in media organisations) and has affiliate bodies like Nigeria Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ), Nigerian Guild of Editors and the Sports Writers Association of Nigeria (SWAN). The National Secretariat of the union is located in Abuja. Before the 1977 amendments and the appointment of fulltime national secretary, the union operated a mobile secretariat whereby the secretariat was located where the Secretary resided.

Today, the NUJ apart from serving as the Trade Union for journalist and other media practitioners, it has also afforded journalists to push forward some demand often from government should as joining hands with other stakeholders in seeking freedom of information.

The official NUJ National Secretariat is at Plot 131, Cadastral Zone, Sector Center A, Jahi District, off Mabushi Ultra Modern Market Road, near Father's church, before Next Cash & Carry Abuja. Nigeria. The mission and vision statement is that journalism entails a high degree of public trust. To earn and maintain this trust, it is morally imperative for every journalist and every news medium to observe the highest professional and ethical standards (NUJ, 2017)

CONCLUSION

It is safe to conclude at this juncture that, the 86 years journey of broadcasting media in Nigeria has not only yield results but has seriously changed and redefined the socio-economic, cultural and political landscape in the country. Again, the broadcasting step of 1932 made it possible for Nigeria to be among the league of nation talking and debating digitization of broadcasting media. Also, from just an office in Lagos in 1932, over 200 television channels and over 200 radio stations apart from online radio and television are now competing and providing alternative channels and programmes to the Nigeria. It has created lots of jobs, business and strengthen the nations independence and politics entirely as people can free own and operate any kind of broadcast stations provided it does not cause arm to the national and public interests.

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