The Role of Interdisciplinary Approach in African Historical Reconstruction In Ekpeye

By
Anyike, Nkechi Joel
Department of History and Diplomatic Studies
Faculty of Humanities, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria joelanyikenkechi@gmail.com
07035042613
&
Kingdom E. Orji
Department of History and Diplomatic Studies
Faculty of Humanities, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria

Abstract

The role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye is one of great importance because of its application and usefulness to reconstruct the pact human population of the people of Ekpeye ethnic nationality for today and future utility. This study engages the changes and challenges in Ekpeyean historiography and how the progress made in the field of History can be ascertained. While there have been discussions on the changes and challenges with historical practice in Nigeria, albeit Africa, this work brings another dimension by adding some points that were hitherto not discussed in the literature on Ekpeye historiography. The work also seeks to create an understanding that colonial historiography is being addressed through less confrontational and political means. Nationalism has always been in the face of imperialist historiography. It began with cultural rationalism in the 19th and early 20th century by individuals such as Samuel Johnson, Mojola Agbebi, etc and then transferred to political nationalism after the Second World War. Here, the likes of Obafemi Awolowo, Nnamdi Azikiwe and others played very vital robe during the period of political nationalism. This study not only tries to breed further understanding in Ekpeye historiography and the practice of Ekpeyean historians, but also seeks to suggest how History can further its progress as a field, for academics and scholars for the next

generations of historians, and national development of Ekpeye ethnic nation and beyond. Thus, this research adopts the pragmatic theory and applies the historical methodology in its style and usage of sources. Accordingly, the researcher was guided by certain objectives as outlined herein below. First, I have to identify the role of interdisciplinary approach in Ekpeye to include the innovative and creative solutions to the challenges of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction, holistic approach to learning, etc. Indeed, the paper is divided into compartments as outlined herein above with emphasis on the introduction, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, methodology, conceptual review (literature survey), theoretical framework and the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye which is the bedrock or mainstream of the subject matter. Apparently, under the sub-headings the section is further sub-divided into various sub-units as stated herein-above for the purpose of clarity and brevity, hence the compartmentalization of the study. Part I comprises subtopics such as Abstract, introduction, statement the problem, objectives of the study, methodology, conceptual review, theoretical framework, while part 2 centres on the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. Then, this sub-section is further delineated into sub-units such as the meaning of interdisciplinary approach, the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction: The case study of Ekpeye, the challenges of interdisciplinary approach in African historical research, the impact/importance of interdisciplinary, the merits and demerits of interdisciplinary approach, the benefits of the approach, summary, conclusions and crucial recommendations.

Keywords: Interdisciplinary approach, historical reconstruction, chronology, role, Ekpeye ethnic, nation.

Introduction

The task of historical reconstruction involves crafting a casual ethology for a specific event for set of events. In this context, the work is centered on the role of interdisciplinary approach in Africa historical reconstruction: The case study of Ekpeye:

Frankly, of the many tasks undertaken in historical reconstruction, one is striking both in its scope and the research difficulties it faces: the reconstruction of the deep

past. Such reconstruction provides the resources to successfully explain puzzling extant traces, from oral traditions, often in the absence of written records in ancient Ekpeye society and the loss of memory on the part of informant(s) about what precisely happened in the far past.

Nevertheless, the task of historical reconstruction using interdisciplinary approach in Africa offers the scholar(s) the opportunity to delve into Ekpeye history to provide both chronology and a history. The chronology identifies the temporal sequences of events, whereas the history identifies the casual links and processes connecting events across time (Amini-Philips: 1998).

This work (seminar paper) focus on the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. As it were, the paper is divided into six compartments, namely, the meaning of interdisciplinary approach in history, the challenges of interdisciplinary approach, the impact or importance of interdisciplinary approach in Ekpeye historical reconstruction, the benefits of the interdisciplinary approach, the merits and demerits of the research system.

Thus, by this approach, the outcome or result of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction as applicable in Ekpeye historical past, remained an important utility in its usage of the methodology; its usefulness in the process of data collection, interpretation of data and analysis of data thus eliminating certain research challenges envisaged by Ekpeyean historians or scholars in the task of reconstructing the past human population of the people of Ekpeye ethnic nationality beginning from the prehistoric dispensation to the post-colonial era of our history.

Statement of the Problem

The principal focus of this research work is on the role of interdisciplinary approach in historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. The Statement problem outlined herein below introduces the major issues of the investigation, which is an unsettling intellectual challenge encountered by the researcher. Therefore, what we intend to uncover as regards the subject matter include the following: -

i). What could be necessary for the application of interdisciplinary approach to African historical studies as it affects Ekpeye historical past. ii). How does

the role of interdisciplinary approach affect the writing of Ekpeye history from the ancient period to the contemporary epoch.

iii). To what extent have the various research methods of the diverse disciplines and viewpoints of the numerous scholars/researchers/writers influenced or encouraged historians or better still, students of history to adopt and use these distinct methodology(ies) in reconstructing the past human activities of the people, past and present for future utility.

v). What is the rationale for using these methods of interdisciplinary approach or cross-disciplinarity measures in Ekpeye historical reconstruction of the past activities.

vi). How possible is the application of interdisciplinary approach the major yardstick for re-thinking, creativity and acquisition of broader and deeper knowledge or skills on the subject area.

Taken all in all, the problems would be researchable into so as to ascertain facts about the holistic investigation but comprehensive objective historical Reconstruction in Ekpeye.

Objectives of the Study

There is of course the desire about the general modernization of ideas, theories, factors and mechanism of the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye.

Indeed, a good number of scholars or historians in Ekpeye are being influenced in one way or the other. For brevity, the purpose of this study was to determine the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction as it affects Ekpeye history. It is vital therefore to say that the study implies the desire to uncover the diverse methods influenced the writing of Ekpeye history from the ancient period to the present.

Specifically, the study will investigate the methodology utilized by various historians or scholars in the reconstruction of the past human activities which includes the research process and documentation using diverse research methods of other disciplines like sociology, anthropology, political science, ethnography, etc in writing the histories of the people of Ekpeye in Rivers State of Nigeria.

Furthermore, the study will also identify the challenges of the use of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. This of course refers to the demerits emanating from the usage or application of the diverse research methods, by scholars of history in the sphere of data collection, interpretation and analysis of data.

Again and again, it is noteworthy to mention that a third objective of the study is not unconnected with the vision to proffer or make recommendations arising from the challenges hereinunder mentioned with particular reference to the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. The challenges are numerous and therefore, calls for thorough study in order to provide measures to mitigate them – it is an attempt to put a lucid comprehension of the study.

Methodology

An interdisciplinary approach to research involves the integration of knowledge from two or more academic disciplines into one activity. In this perspective, admittedly, an interdisciplinary approach to historical writing simply implies that the author or researcher is using more than one field of study to conduct research and answer a research question. For example, an environmental historian might combine biology or medicine with history when writing about an event from the past, or an economic historian combines methodologies in writing the economic history of Ekpeye.

Accordingly, the methodology used in this study under-review include primary and secondary evidences or sources and as well the social science technique research tools that are compatible or applicable in the course of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. Let us at this juncture elucidate on the various methods employed by the researcher in this regard.

First, the researcher makes judicious use of the primary source of history in the course of the study under examination. This is to stating the obvious that oral traditions as a source of history is of great relevance as regards the methods utilized. Thus, the researcher embarks on field trips to some communities in Ekpeye land, whereby he carefully visited some local historians and interviewed

them, village after -village; equips himself with broader and deeper knowledge of how interdisciplinary approach or cross-disciplinarity provides added vista to African historical reconstruction of Ekpeye past human activities. In this sense, he conducted oral interviews and thus obtained useful information with which he collated the data, interpret and analyzesame in order to achieve the objectives of the study. Of importance, the researcher visited the seven Kingdoms in Ekpeyeland. - Akoh, Ehuda, Igbudaya, Ubie, Ugbobi, Upata and Orlukwo, respectively. The data collected so far offer useful input in the process of investigation, recording, interpretation, analysis and documentation - the names of the interviewees are listed on the Table of Oral Interview (Oral testimony by Chief ECHENDU ISAAC 10/3/2025).

Apart from the information obtained from oral traditions, the researcher equally makes use of secondary source of history - the written records i.e. books, journals, magazines, e-learning through WhatsApp or internet browsing, etc. for greater acquisition of knowledge, skills and trends on the subject matter. Indeed, as cited in this paper the opinions of these authors put together, is undisputably pivotal and seamless. Thus, it enriched the researcher's understanding of the role ofinterdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. Evidently, some of the books used are subject of literature reviews or conceptual framework, hence they provide tremendous impact on the subject under examination, Jones: (2009).

Besides, the researcher also utilizes the methods and interdisciplinary approach in African historical inquiry and recording/writing of the history of Ekpeye per se.
In other words, the cross-disciplinarity - possibly of social science, education or otherwise, played very vital role in realization of the objectives of the study. All things being equal, the application of the research methods in the fields of sociology, ethnography, Anthropology, political science and other disciplines put together, formed the core of the interdisciplinary approach.

Once again, it is noteworthy to mention that the researcher went further to use elearning or internet browsing in obtaining very useful information on the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. In reality, the researcher obtained certain information through Goggle

(www.researchgate.net) and thus obtained profound important information on the subject matter, hence the holistic approach in inter-play as herein stated.

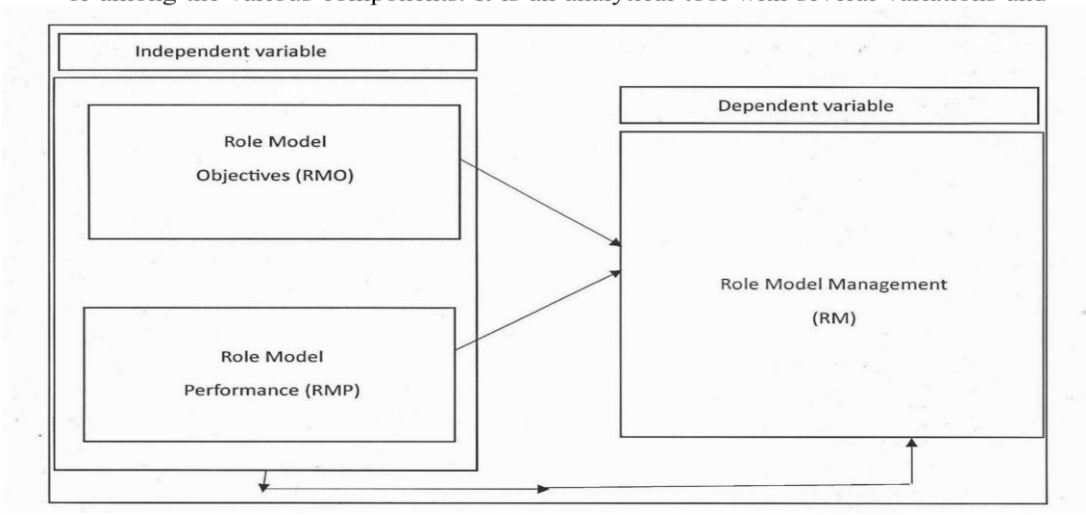
Therefore, the Motivational Theory of Role Modelling as the name suggests, elucidates on the manner in which the power of role models can be harnessed to increase the role of disciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in

CONCEPTUAL REVIEW

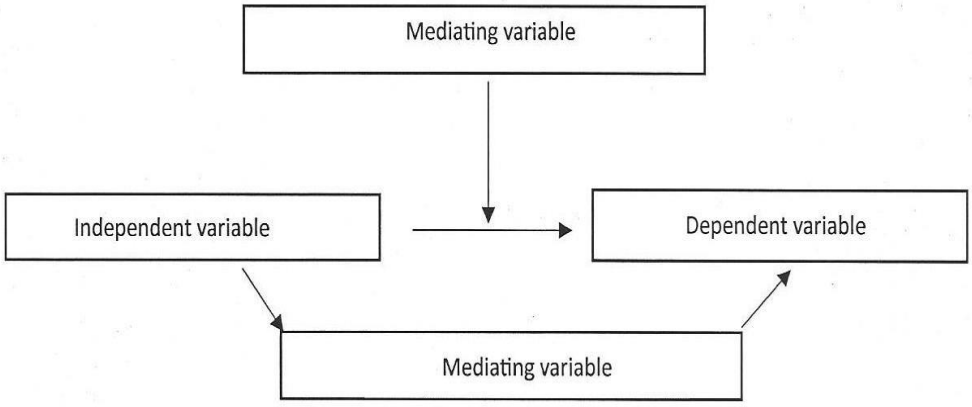
In this context, conceptual framework or review simply refers to a design or road map of planning and organizing a study of monitoring the direction of the research work and conceptualizing the overall targets of the research (Olorunisola, 2000). Once again, it means a graphical illustration of variables dissipating inter-relations between

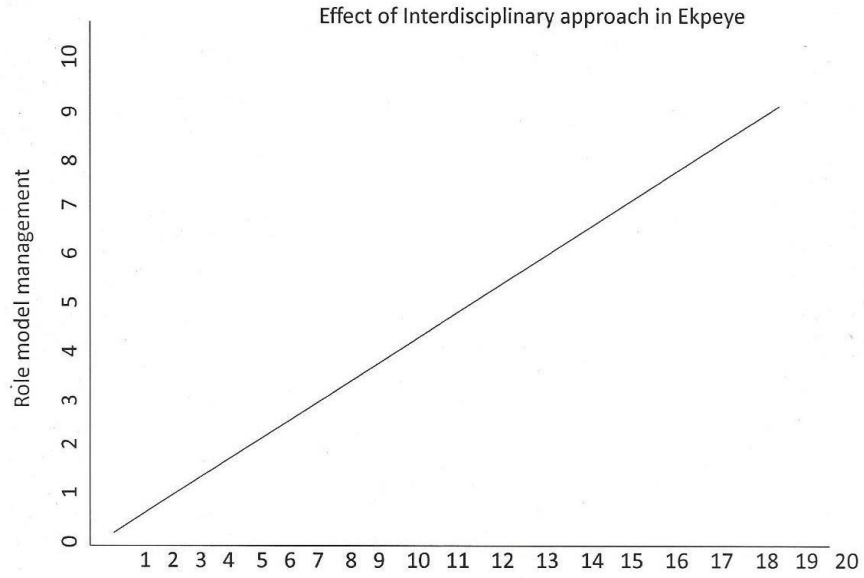
Figure 1: Researcher's Conceptual Role Model

or among the various components. It is an analytical tool with several variations and



Therefore, the Motivational Theory of Role Modelling as the name suggests, elucidates on the manner in which the power of role models can be harnessed to increase the role of disciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. It is to reinforce researchers or scholars' motivation across different field areas based on existing goals, inspire them to perform optimally and facilitate their adoption of new goals to achieve efficiency and research objectives.





Conceptual Framework

Figure 1.2: Conceptual Framework

Figure 1.3: Conceptual Framework

But the graph looks distinct when we determine the role of effectiveness in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye moderator of 120. A researcher with this ability "IQ" will achieve a reliable corss-disciplinarity after careful study and application.

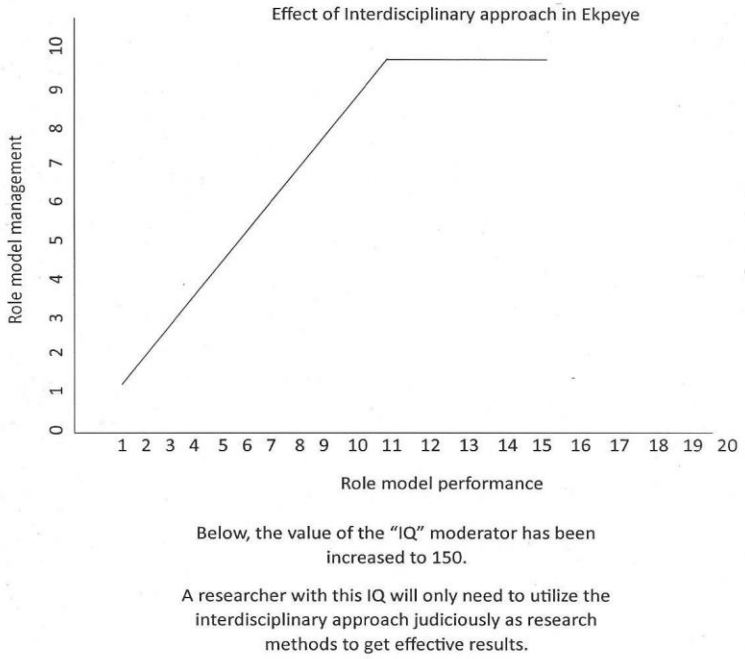


Figure 1.4: Conceptual Framework

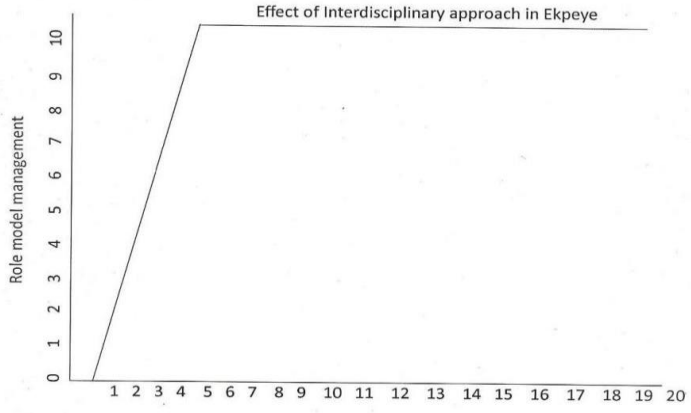
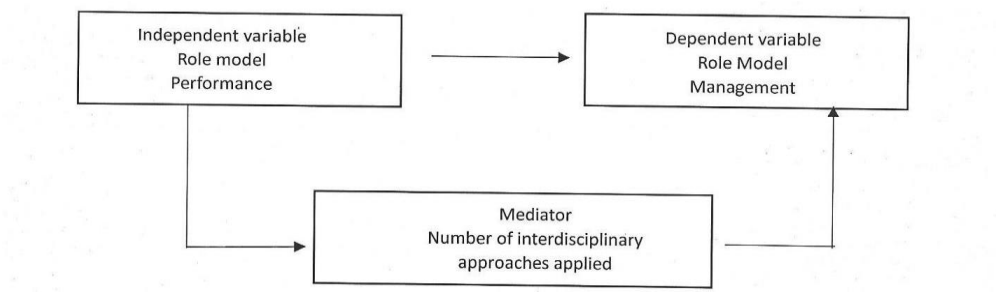


Figure 1.5: Conceptual Framework

Role Model Performance

Here, we see the modernity variables does indeed change the cause-and-effect relationship between two variables. By adding the mediating variable, we link the



independent and dependent variables, allowing the relationship between them to be better explained. Thus, we demonstrate the conceptual framework with a modulating variable in the diagram below.

Figure 1.6: Conceptual Framework

In this instance, the mediator assists to explain why using interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in leads to a better research outcome. The more interdisciplinarity a researcher or student adopts, the more research problems solved, the higher the researcher/student's effectiveness achieved in the historical research findings.

Theoretical Framework

Theories are statement of invariant relationship among measurable phenomenon with a view to explaining comprehending forecasts, and controlling such phenomenon. Also, theories predict and explain the properties of the phenomenon. Hence, theoretical framework to this study will undoubtedly premise on the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction: The Case Study of Ekpeye. Therefore, the following theories from the focus of our examination here.

a) Role Theory?

This is the theory that exposed and explains individual (i.e. researchers') character or attitude and functioning in an organization or workplace. According to Kalin (1979), he opins that roles have intricate or vital values as determinants of boundaries flows from individuals in the organization. In this sphere, the role theory tells us how the researcher(s) as individuals behaves and functions in his/her place of work (organization / community), determining the boundaries between them and the performance of these duties and as well when research

investigation through information sharing process is needful and channel in interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction of past human population in Ekpeyeland.

Obviously, the implications of the individuals in this context, will certainly determine the level or degree of impact on academic growth and development of the selected disciplines based on the said topic under review.

The Role of Interdisciplinary Approach in African Historical Reconstruction in Ekpeye:

Meaning/Definition:

Interdisciplinary Approach

Interdisciplinary approach involves combining multiple academic disciplines or fields of study to gain a more comprehensive understanding of a subject or issue. This approach recognizes that complex problems often require insights and methods from multiple fields.

Historical Reconstruction

Historical Reconstruction is the process of recreating the past through the analysis and interpretation of historical data, such as documents, artifacts, and oral traditions. This approach aims to provide an accurate and nuanced understanding of past events, people, and cultures.

Ekpeye People

The Ekpeye people are an ethnic group in the Orashi basin in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. They have a rich cultural heritage and a complex history that spans centuries. Studying the Ekpeye people can provide insights into the history and culture of the region. The Ekpeye Language belongs to the Igbiod group of languages, though it is the most distinct language among the group of languages.

African History

African history refers to the study of the past events, cultures, and societies of the African continent. It encompasses a broad range of topics including the ancient civilizations, colonialism, independence movements, and contemporary issues.

Archaeology

Archaeology is the study of past human cultures through the recovery, analysis, and interpretation of material remains, such as artifacts, architecture, and cultural landscapes. Archaeology provides a unique perspective on the past and can be used to study cultures and societies that existed before written records.

Linguistics

Linguistics is the study of language, including its structure, use, and evolution. In the context of historical reconstruction, linguistics can be used to study the language and linguistic relationships of past societies such as the Ekpeye ethnic nationality.

Nigeria

Nigeria is a country located in West Africa, with a diverse population and a complex history. Studying Nigeria can provide insights into the history, culture and politics of the region.

The Role of Interdisciplinary Approach Determined

Understanding the concept of interdisciplinary approach in this study on a guide post to determine the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye. In this perspective, we intend to state that the role of interdisciplinary approach occupies pivotal position in African historical reconstruction of human past activities, ancient and modern histories of the people of Ekpeye ethnic nationality. The roles therefore have been examined to include the following as outlined here under:

First, interdisciplinary approach involves considering different opinions, comparing and contrasting them, it is self-cultivation and critical thinking, evaluating perspectives and topics along diverse subjects' areas which are of immense motivation to explore new interests (Holley: 2019).

Second, interdisciplinary approach calls for people with innovative and creative solutions to come and work together as a team and therefore, the problems card needs we face as society can no longer be solved by traditional, unidimensional ways of reasoning

Third, it enhances the ability of re-thinking education and re-building how we learn, hence scholars or researchers from distinct disciplines are able to create re-solutionary method to empower tomorrow in the youths in our society like young growing adults in Ekpeyeland, albeit students in the tertiary institutions with clear vision and passion for academic excellence and prowess. Because new times require new approaches, it thus makes us believe in learning by doing, learning by living and learning by designing, with an interdisciplinary approach at the core of everything is possible and realistic. (Epstein: 2019).

Fourth, interdisciplinary approach offers a holistic approach to learning wherefore, the idea of combining multiple disciplines to achieve one common goal of purpose is essentially imperative and fundamental in African historical reconstruction of past human activities. For instance, an Ekpeyean historian writing on the history of Ekpeye Political History uses both historical and social science research methodologies in realization of the set goal. In this case, the use of oral traditions and empirical analytical tools are clear manifestation of interdisciplinary approach at work. (Cronje: 2020).

Therefore, the role of interdisciplinary approach as used or outlined hereinabove have proven that its essence, both in theory and practice occupies pivotal position in African historical reconstruction of our past human to this day, its role cannot be over-emphasized.

The Challenges of Interdisciplinary Approach in African Historical Reconstruction:

For clarity, interdisciplinary approach has some challenges and as a matter of fact, we consider the following factors as disciplinarity. Obviously, the issue of oral tradition as a source creates a lot lamina in comprehending Africa in the manner we understand Roman or Ottoman history. This is very clear that interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye is faced with the weakness of oral sourced (Chief Boma Agi at Ochigba, 12/3/25).

In addition, communication barriers also poses certain challenges because there is no effective communication between researchers from different discipline. These pragmatic barriers to interdisciplinary research include the difficulties of

organizing meetings, develop of a common language and knowledge, and understanding the task at hand. Furthermore, the causes of critical health problems are many and varied complicating the essential task by deciding on the face of the group (Oral testimony by Chief Reason Olimini at Ikata 10/3/25).

Also, securing adequate support can be a barrier to researches. In this context, evaluation and recognition bring about delay unwillingness to give financial succour as many academic institutions and funding agencies still favour traditional, discipline specific research. As a result of this, researchers engaged in interdisciplinary may scramble to receive recognition, tenure funding for their efforts (www.researchgate.net).

The Impact/Importance of Interdisciplinary Approach on African Historical Research Methodology: The Ekpeye Example

This subsection examines the impact / importance of interdisciplinary approach with particular reference to Ekpeye society. To say this, in my own view, it means the effects, result, outcome or aftermath of an action on the usage and application of certain indices such as the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction as a means of writing the history of a people like Ekpeye ethnic nation.

In Ekpeye society, there are various forms of preservation and customs in traditional Ekpeye society since the ancient period. Some of these mechanisms include the following namely, folklore, proverbs, tales, riddles, jokes, fixedlore through libation, oral tradition, etc. With these the traditions and customs can be recorded and narrated or transmitted verbally from generation to generation (Oral Testimony by High Chief Tony Vincent Ijere at Odioku community 07/03/2025). Thus, it enhances the preservation and promotion of Ekpeye rich cultural heritage by the use of diverse methods of reconstructing the past human activities in Ekpeyeland (ibid).

Therefore, the under mentioned points some of the impact of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye as the utility of interdisciplinary approach in African per historical reconstruction as observed in Ekpeye per se. They are as follows: -

a) The utility of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction as observed in Ekpeye has broadened and deepens the study of Ekpeye history by integrating insights from multiple fields of study. For example, Dr. Amini-Philips a renounce Ekpeyean historian do not only utilize research methodology in writing the history of Ekpeye using oral traditions, but has equally adopted social and scientific research methods in his book titled "Establishing A Chronology for Ekpeye History" (Amini-Philips: 1998). The success of his research approach is not unconnected with the application of interdisciplinary approach in Ekpeye historical reconstruction thereby explores diverse measures to achieve his goals thereof.

b) The study of history today has become more interesting than ever before, in fact, it has equally progressed from primitive or traditional setting to encompass greater momentum using different research methods of other disciplines as means of reconstructing the past human activities for today and future utility. Accordingly, the introduction of Information Communication Technology (ICT) to historical studies has influenced its approach with ease and sophistication. This method is indeed an added vista and this makes the study of history more encompassing, passionate and encouraging with the use of scientific tools like ICT equipment i.e. computers, handsets, video, taperecorder, etc hence it provides or allows for live coverage and recording of event development; it enhances speedy work and accuracy, it is less burdensome, saves time and thus make historical studies more interesting. Once again, the use of ICT in the process of data collection in Ekpeye historical reconstruction helps Ekpeyean historians to live up to date with their counterparts in other parts of Nigeria, Africa and the world at large (Anyike, 2005).

c) The interdisciplinary approach leads to a deeper learning and understanding and ultimately resonate interdisciplinary thought and comprehension, which can be beneficial in the workplace. It enhances a relationship by building knowledge that can allow for deeper understanding and thus highlights the patterns that are common between distinct subjects.

d) When we consider interdisciplinary learning (and teaching), we are working across boundaries of knowledge and creating new knowledge

from various sources. In this perspective, C.P. Snow famously talked of "two cultures in the sciences and art with a gulf of mutant incomprehension (Snow, 1965) between the two. Thus, it offers cross-disciplinary to address a problem which evades study from a single epistemological standpoint. For example, sociologists borrowed the tools of ethnography from anthropologists in order to develop knowledge and understanding about the behaviour of tribes within mainstream societies. Similarly, historians equally borrowed the tools of archaeology in order to reconstruct the past human activities where oral traditions cannot provide information that occurred in the remote or far past due to loss of memory on the part of the informant(s) and, or accurate date of events through the use of excavation of buried human remains and carbon dating method (C14) in Africa (Oral testimony by Elder Pa Edwin Ekparam Owotor at Ahoada 17/3/2025).

e) The interdisciplinary approach helps students get motivated as they have vested interest in pursuing topics that are interesting to them. As a result, the content is often rooted in life experiences, giving an authentic purpose for learning and connecting it to a real-world context.

f) Essentially, it enables students cover topics in more depth because they are considering the many and varied perspectives from which a topic can be explored (Oral testimony by Comrade Bob Peter at Ihuaba 17/3/2025).

g) It promotes worthwhile topics of research which can fall in the spaces between the traditional disciplines.

h) It enhances transferable skills of critical thinking, synthesis and research which can be developed and are applicable to future learning experiences.

i) Interdisciplinary knowledge and application. disciplines can lead to greater creativity.

j) It provides an opportunity for scholars, students. researchers to exploring topics across a range of subject boundaries thus motivate them to pursue new knowledge in different subject areas.

k) It gives room for critical thinking or skills that are useful, as students look across disciplinary boundaries to consider other standpoints and also begin to compare and contrast concepts across subject areas. Interdisciplinary approach equally empowers students begin to

consolidate learning by synthesizing ideas from many perspectives and consider an alternative way of acquiring knowledge (KI- -Zesbo 1981).

The Merits and Demerits of Interdisciplinary Approach in African Historical Reconstruction:

To begin with a clear understanding of the merits and demerits

Merits:

i). Facilitates an active exchange of knowledge: -

In reality, interdisciplinary research enables active knowledge and concept sharing between academics and researchers across different disciplines. Arguably, researchers gain fresh skills by working collaboratively and pooling their human knowledge, skills and attitudes together and as well creative solutions and innovative breakthroughs that would not have been possible through traditional, convention of discipline-specific approaches, realistic and achievable.

ii). Addresses complex global challenges:

Interestingly, interdisciplinary research can address real-world problems that require a multidisciplinary approach. For example, the looming threat that climate change poses to the world needs to be remedied by experts across distant domains, including environmental sciences, geology, economics, politics, etc. This measure is critical to look into the impact of climate change and to mitigate its dysfunctional outcomes on natural reservice, agricultural production and life on our planet, generally speaking.

iii). Leads to the creation of new scientific feels: -

Basically, researchers can help in identifying global issues and developing blueprint scientific disciplines by collaborating with teams up of experts in a variety of subject areas. necessary and imperative in other so that scholars in offer subject can inspire the development of completely new fields of inquiry explore previously uncharted territory. Notably, the discipline. for example, integrates computer science and biology to provide innovative, new systems for studying biological date.

Demerits:

One obvious disadvantage of interdisciplinary research approach is the phenomenon to find a common ground between researchers across field as they may have distinct ways of thinking and distinct approaches to problem solving.

Apart from this, interdisciplinary research is capital or resource intensive, time consuming, research and placement of discipline perspective interest on the other and thus could evoke protracted debate and disagreement for adoption of whose opinion is better or not. This is due to the fact that researchers will typically need to spend more time and energy getting to know their various backgrounds and gaining a basic understanding about other disciplines, fact, it makes interdisciplinary research cumbersome to bear and can lead to project delay (Jones: 2009).

The Benefits of the Approach:

In this context, the benefits of the research are numerous and tremendous.
Succinctly, we intend to present the following as classic benefits thereof:

i). It enhances research quality, which can lead to more rigorous research by bringing together diverse range of methodologies, data sources and analytical tools.

ii). It helps to ensure that research findings are more robust and can be applied in a variety of contexts.

iii). With the proper training of personnel, such approach brings about collaboration that can be established and potentially result in better patient care, reduced cost, expedited delivery of patient information and improve quality.

iv). It boasts teamwork and effective communication among students and faculty from various disciplines.

Summary, Conclusion, and Recommendations:

Summary of Findings: -

This section involves the discussions or summary of the role of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction of Ekpeye. Thus, the study is determining the relative importance. of different research methodologies across different disciplines. Therefore, the paper outlines meaning of interdisciplinary

approach, its role, the impact/ importance, the challenges and the merits and demerits of the various research methods used by scholars from different field areas in the course of interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye.

As Akpala (1958) stated the objective of every research study is accomplished at the last chapter of summary, conclusion and recommendations, the suggestion made for further studies is pivotal and imperative.

Conclusion

It will be completely out of place not to conclude any research study, taking into cognizance the words of V. Vroom (1970) that opinions, conclusion is one best way of doing. the shortest possible time. Therefore, the researcher wishes to conclude this research study by stating that:

1. Interdisciplinary approach in African historical reconstruction in Ekpeye is one of immense importance not just in Ekpeye ethnic nation, but generally to all localities or nations in Africa as a whole.
2. The role of interdisciplinary approach offers scholars or researchers the opportunity to exchange ideas, knowledge, skill and attitudes by way of learning new topics drawn from different fields areas as shown in the study. For example, an environmental historian adopts new scientific research approach in writing the history of Ekpeye climate change and the impact of oil and gout exploration and production.
3. The challenges as outlined posed great barriers to the use of interdisciplinary approach, somehow as streamlined therein before. Therefore, these challenges are numerous but can be overcome if there is effective organization and implementation of interdisciplinary research in African historical past as seen in Ekpeye. The expectations in that efforts made should be address to mitigate their shortcomings, albeit disadvantages.
4. Interdisciplinary approach is a holistic method that allows different scholars, researchers and experts from different disciplines to come together by collaborating and sharing innovative and creative ideas; the re-thinking and resolutionary mechanism put together, is worthwhile,

encouraging motivational insights to promoter greater and deeper seasoning, hence for a common goal.

Recommendations:

In this sphere, the researcher makes the following recommendations outlined below:

1. In Africa, interdisciplinary approach has the potentials to offer more nuanced analysis of multifaceted problems, it is worthwhile to encourage and initiate better ways to the existing protocols.
2. The interdisciplinary approach should address the role of the guidance counsellor in fostering it in order to achieve the desired goals.
3. The need to have successful interdisciplinary research that requires proactive efforts by researchers, institutions, fenders, and publishers.
4. To foster interdisciplinary culture, authors, scholars, researchers, institutions, funders and publisher, should give everyone freedom to work and think across disciplinary borders.
5. Institutions of higher learning partners should seek to notify and drive the intellectualisation of African language for use in the powerful, social, political and economic domains.
6. It is vital to create opportunities to bring researches together for effectiveness and efficiency.
7. The universities, colleges, and polytechnics and research institutions should provide sufficient incentives to boast the morale of researchers on regular basis. These recommendations, if heed will boost efficacy, efficiency and productivity.

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Oral Source: Table of Oral Interview

S/N	NAME OF INTERVIWER	NAME OF INTERVIEWEE	DATE OF INTERVIEW	SEX	AGE	PLACE OF INTERVIEW
1.	ANYIKE, NKECHI J.	High Chief E. Isaac	07/03/2025	M	63	Odiabidi
2.	"	High Chief R. Ogimini	07/03/2025	M	75	Ikata
3.	"	Dr. (Mrs) I. Uwame	07/03/2025	F	53	Odiabidi
4.	"	High Chief T.V. Ijere	07/03/2025	M	72	Odioku
5.	"	High Chief Boma Agi	10/03/2025	M	65	Ochigba
6.	"	Mrs. Matilda Solomon	12/03/2025	F	69	Odiereke-Ubie
7.	"	Chief Chisanim Alabi	12/03/2025	M	61	Odiereke-Ubie
8.	"	Elder Pa. E.E. Owotor	17/03/2025	M	101	Ahoada
9.	"	Mr. Arelechi Abraham	17/03/2025	M	55	Ogbodo
10.	"	Comr. Bob Peter	17/03/2025	M	53	Ihuaba