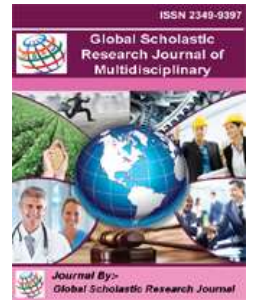




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**A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF THEORIES RELATING TO THE ORIGIN
OF THE SHUWA ARABS OF BORNO**

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Abstract

One of the perplexing problems facing students of African history is the origin of peoples. In tracing their origins, many Nigerian ethnic groups such as the Yoruba, Hausa, Kanuri, Jukun, to mention a few, claim to have originated from the east, either from Egypt or Arabia. The Shuwa Arabs are one of such groups. This paper attempts a preliminary investigation into this phenomenon. It observes that while it is difficult to ascertain or verily these claims of origin for the rest of the Nigerian peoples, it makes a relatively clear case for the Shuwa as there are historical, linguistic and cultural evidences in support of the Shuwa claim of origin from the east.

Keywords: Preliminary, Investigation, Theories, Origin, Shuwa Arabs, Borno

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