

**POVERTY AND HEALTH CARE; THE ROLE OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE IN EKITI  
STATE: A CASE STUDY OF ILEJEMEJE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

**BY**

**AKOMOLEDE LUCAS ADEREMI**

**MATRIC NO: 06/0906**

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED**

**IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT, UNIVERSITY OF  
AGRICULTURE, ABEOKUTA.**

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT  
COLLEGE OF ENVIROMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, UNIVERSITY OF  
AGRICULTURE ABEOKUTA, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA.**

Supervisor: Dr. J.A.O. Soaga

**JUNE, 2011.**

## ABSTRACT

This study was carried out in Ilejemeje Local Government area in Ekiti state , to identify the medicinal plants used for treatment of various ailment to alleviate poverty in the area, six communities were selected at random , the communities which includes: iye-Ekiti, Ijesha modu-Ekiti, Ewu-Ekiti, Ipere-Ekiti, Iludun-Ekiti, and Edaoniyo Ekiti. The method adopted involved the use of structural questionnaires were administered with 120% valid rate return stratified sampling method was adopted. The communities were divided into strata and from each community; the people in each community were randomly selected in each community to get the respondents. The result from the field survey showed that on the marital status, the majority of the respondent are married with 78.3%, single 9.2%, divorce 4.2%, widow on 8.3%, also on the ethnic group of the respondents, it showed that the majority of the people are Yoruba, this is because the field survey was actually carried out in Yoruba dominating environment and also that Yoruba people are traditional bound i.e. they value their culture , the gender on the respondent are male with 64%, female 35.8% and this simply indicates that the male are usually involved in the hard labour in order to cater for their household, also on education level , respondents with non-formal secondary education which is the highest, the other s had the least number of respondents with 5.8%. This means that the respondents are fairly educated and also the majority of the respondents are farmers which actually aid the use of medicinal plants as alternative means of treatment of their health.

On poverty indicator, the survey indicated that majority of the respondents are poor and they live below their income, World Bank standard US \$1.25 (154 x \$1.25). The poverty line using income level approach was 2741, the poverty line calculated indicated that majority of the respondents were poor using World Bank standard of \$1.25 per day per household as art 2010, since the result of the field survey had shown that there is existence of poverty within the local government (Ilejemeje), therefore it is understood that the people in the area depends greatly on the forest resource and exploitation of various forest produce for sustainability and remedy to different ailments. The study further recommended that there is need for local capacity for translation of externally generated information from the various available source; radio, journal, and internet into the local dialect and also access to regular updates of reliable health information from varieties of source and fully mobilized to know the importance of natural resources in their environment as well as the economic development of the state.