

**PUBLIC ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTION TOWARDS SNAKE BITE IN ABEOKUTA
METROPOLIS**

BY

BY SOWALE, OLUWADAMILARE SAMUEL

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Supervisor: Dr. O.A. Akintunde

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ABSTRACT

Public attitude and perception towards a snakes in Abeokuta were investigate, the significance of this study was to unravel hidden secrets of snakes resources in relation to abundance and distribution. A total of (7) unmutilated individual snake species belonging to (4) families, multistage sampling technique were adopted to select 100 respondents within Abeokuta metropolis, percentage population distribution of snakes in the study area showed that family Colubridae had the highest occurrence (8.1%) followed by atractaspidae (45%). The least abundant family according to the respondents' perspective was viperidae (34%). In Abeokuta North, Mole Snake (*Atractaspis corpulenta*) had the highest percentage occurrence of (32%) in the dry/wet season while spitting cobra with percentage of (22%) had the highest in Abeokuta South. The least occurrence was black tree snake (*thrasops occidentalis*) with total percentage of (8%) and (4%) during wet/dry season. The diversity indices revealed that Abeokuta North was more diversified (0.012244) than Abeokuta South (0.0171429).

Perception of respondents within the study area indicted that snakes are going into extinction due to human activities (table 8) Government efforts at biodiversity conservation should incorporates domestication.