

Preface

Since the inception of civilian rule in 1999, the provisions of the constitution have been tested in various aspects before the courts. There are, however, still some areas best left to conjecture until courts pronounce on them. This book is a revised merger of both volumes 1 and 2 of *Constitutional Law in Nigeria* previously published. It deals with the various principles of constitutional law and fundamental human rights as contained in the 1999 constitution, though frequent references are made to previous Nigerian constitutions so as to highlight the various changes over a period of time. References are made to what obtains in foreign jurisdictions on a comparative basis, especially where there has been little or no pronouncement of the courts on the matter, or where the position is different from what obtains in Nigerian. The book is primarily aimed at students of constitutional law and human rights, but is also useful for human right practitioners. It spans twenty chapters, which attempts, as much as possible, to deal with all the major issues in the constitution. In relation to the discussion on fundamental rights, it must be borne in mind that respect for these rights is an international obligation on Nigerians and the Nigerian government, and that the rights that pertain to Nigerians is not limited to those contained in the constitution but also the African charter on human and peoples rights, and other international human rights instruments.

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