

## **PAINTING: PROVIDING VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL MANPOWER NEEDS FOR RELIANCE**

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### **Abstract**

*This paper will assess the relevance of painting as an aspect of Fine Art on the issues bordering on the national emancipation of self-reliance through the practice of painting as a vocational and technical manpower needs, in aid reducing the level of unemployment and poverty in the*

*Country. In this perspective, Honby (2000:841) defines painting as "... the act of putting paints or colours together onto the surface of an object or wall in terms of creating an aesthetic and utilitarian end product." In this view, Nigeria has gained prominent qualitative and quantitative development in visual art in the area of painting since the inception of self-government. Little has been known, explained and brought to the door step of many Nigerians in providing small and large scale of livelihood trade as an access to the promotion of people's sociocultural and economic civilization in aid of meeting certain daily business activities in order to eliminate the devilish hand of poverty in our Country. In order to display the relevance of painting to the development of self-reliance in eradicating poverty in our Country, it is necessary to state the various types of painting and the materials needed, in which many Nigerians can engage in order to earn their living; life painting, still life painting, mural painting, collage painting and mixed media painting to mention but a few. These listed types of painting can be executed with the following materials; oil paints, acrylic, pastel, water colours, crayons unwanted materials like used papers, oil paints, acrylic, off cut cloth materials, clay, beads, glue or gum, match sticks and sand. This paper will highlight the nature of painting; explain the concept of vocational and technical man power needs. It will conclude with the benefits of painting as the needs for reliance that Nigerians could organize poverty alleviation programs within and outside the Country.*

**Key words:** self reliance, manpower needs, poverty emancipation, ends, painters, quantitative aesthetic, utilitarian, sociocultural, alleviation, trade and colours.

## **Introduction**

The essence of this paper is to discuss the contributions of painting to the development of vocational and technical manpower needs for the eradication of poverty in terms of self-reliance among many Nigerians. Little has been known about this aspect of fine art that has presented many great people in terms of eradicating poverty in their own era; Pablo Picasso, Aina Onabolu, M. Monent, Paul, Z. Yusuf Grillo, Abiodun Olaku among others. They were mentioned in order to discuss painting, painters and what they provide for the promotion of vocational and technical manpower needs in our Country.

According to Mainold, (2006:50)

The idea of painting and its practices normally give ways and divine opportunities for many people for the means of providing vocational and technical awareness in terms of engaging the citizens with certain trade of empowerment to avoid the trace of idle hands in aid of self-reliance for national emancipation.

During the period of many trade-fairs, the display of visual arts products in all ramifications of specialization portrayed an event of major significant in art. It supplies answers to the aspiring nature of many Nigerians for an avenue for exhibition for sponsorship and recognition of planning for national emancipation in getting rid of poverty in our Country. But reverse is the case for many Nigerians to engage

themselves in practicing one of the aspects of visual arts. Painting takes the heading focus due to its usefulness, simplicity and marketability. Many Nigerians have forgotten the act that, trade is part of man.

Adeyemi, (2005) proclaims that,

Nobody can truly progress spiritually, socially, culturally and economically without the corresponding manipulation and the development of his hand and brain. This concept of self-development in terms of vocational and technical manpower in the area of engaging in certain trade will enhance progressive achievement in life activities.

The fact stated by Adeyemi signifies that many people are purposely denying themselves the opportunity of giving visual training to their hands and brains instead, they are waiting for government employment and total empowerment. Following the attitude and the policies of the government of this era of our time, which do not pay considerable attention to the welfare of the citizens of the country, which broadly calls for all round vocational and technical training possible in all aspects of hands and brains' training and manipulation.

Therefore, this paper out-lines the significance that many Nigerians could have been deriving from engaging in painting as a vocational and technical training in terms of national emancipation for self-reliance in honor of the entire citizens of our Country and world at large.

Data for this paper were collected through library sources, interviews were conducted with forty people besides five

artists precisely painters from Auchi Polytechnic, Nnamdi Azikiwe University and Federal University of Benin, respectively. Twenty respondents were of the view that all the tiers of government have the best intention to emancipate the people of the country to have the divine concept of self-reliance in aid of eliminating poverty.

Twenty besides the five painters were of the opinion that government and the citizens do not know the actual way or step to take in emancipating the people from poverty. It was added that the government and the people have sidetracked the visual art forms from the means of emancipation. As result of this, the level of poverty is increasing day by day in Nigeria and the world at large.

The result shows that 40% of the respondents affirmed that, government has a good plan to eradicate poverty out of Nigerians while the remaining 60% of both the citizens and the artists interviewed, blamed the eradicating poverty. It is believed that this paper will define the right chances and ways in which poverty can be eradicated in order to arise the interest of the government and the citizens for purpose of knowing and understanding the significance of painting as an aspect of visual arts in providing vocational and technical manpower needs for self-reliance.

### **The Nature of Painting**

Painting is the technique of applying colours or paintings in terms of pigment on a flat surface, either paper, canvas, board, wall or object. Painting is highly important in the life of man because it records and keeps events and statements in visual forms irrespective of the materials and style used.

According to Gregg (1997: 99)

It is not a gift from the gods neither men, what complicates the concept is the ability to display inner feeling which does not involve the idea of memorizing almighty theory in terms of a lot of rules and techniques before painting what will pull the interest of the art lover.

Painting as a multifunctional phenomenon of movement relates to the people the processes of manipulating the community from idle hand of joblessness to self-reliance of vocational visual engagement.

Newman Thelma, )1974:65;

The term painting as an aspect of Fine is a divine means of expressing the sociocultural and economic tendencies of the people's commercial situation in order to meet their yearning aspirations. Painting is expensive because it is capable of evoking response of its viewers or individual expensive works and ideas are ternary, amazing and wished irrespective of their types, styles and the media used.

The visual painters can express their ideology and reliefs in good governance, optical economic perspective and commercial emancipation in terms of social development through vocational and technical manpower needs for self-reliance. This task can be accomplished through the use of medium like; waste materials like broken bottles, match-sticks, off cut cloth and paper materials, water colours, glue, oil paints, emotion paints, pastel different kinds and types, pen

and ink, canvas, wall and other objects forms to mention but few. The mentioned media can be used to create the following aspects of painting; mixed media painting, still life painting, life painting, and scape and sea scape painting, advance painting, mural painting and pictorial composition either in realism, abstract or semi-abstract. The given plates a-i shows the list of different types of painting and materials with a divine style.

Source: Department of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Benin,

Style: Squiggle-ism

Key:

a: still life painting (Acrylic on paper) Poly-chrome

b: Life painting (Oil paint on paper) Monochrome

c: Compositional painting (Acrylic on paper) Abstract (poly-chrome)

d/e: Land scape painting (Acrylic on canvas) Polychromies

f: Imaginative compositional painting (Acrylic on canvas) Polychromies

g: Pictorial compositional painting (Oil pastel on paper board) Polychromies

h: Seascape painting (Acrylic on paper) outdoor

i: Landscape painting (Pastel on paper) Polychromies

The multifunctional painting as an aspect of Fine Art is a means of expression in social, culture and economic in term of commercial situation in order to meet the yearning aspiration of the populace.

Painting is expressive and expensive in nature. As said by Adeyemi (2005:45) he stresses further that;

It is capable of evoking response of its viewers or the individual expressive paintings are ternary, dramatic, amazing and wished irrespective of their types, styles and the media used

This is possible, if given the attention and cognizance to take part in poverty elimination. The visual painters can express their ideologies and beliefs in good governance, optical economic and commercial emancipation in terms of social development through vocational and technical manpower needs for self-reliance. This new task can be accomplished through the used medium like waste materials (broken) bottles, match-sticks, off cut paper and cloth, water colours, oil paints. Emotion points, paste of different kinds and types, pen and ink papers canvas, wall and other object to mention but few.

It will be highly advisable for the Nigerian government to follow the legacy land by some developed countries like Japan and United State of America (U.S.A) that have established different commissions for the three major aspects of fine art painting, sculpture and architecture for the emancipation of poverty among the youths and the citizens at large.



## **The concept of Vocational and Technical Manpower Need for Self-Reliance**

In the concept of human terminology, vocation and technical have different meanings with the goal of planting selves' development among people as said by Maminold (2005:80)

Vocational and technical manpower is two in one body skill Acquisition and program which is essential for the development of common values, attitudes, understanding and goal in terms of skill and re-skill needed by everyone to live in order to emancipate poverty as a way of self-reliance.

Going by maminold's statement, it is pediment to define vocation "as divine qualities which give one a particular lawful job or work in order to be self-dependent in the other hand technical is an aspect of" vocation which leads to the acquisition of practical and applied skills as well as basic scientific knowledge in becoming master in the choice of job work taken in earning one's livelihood.

According to Hornby (2001: 1230:1335).

Vocation a as concept, connects with the skills and knowledge that you need to have in order to do a particular job or work and technical is a concept that connects with the skill needed for a particular job especially in sport and Art.

Most importantly vocational and technical man power can be acquired or imparted in two way Inductive and Deductive ways as said by Maminold (2005:20).

*Inductive way is a means of reasoning which centers on induction that is designed to provide skillful knowledge of future behaviors activities which are the elements of reassuring that deal with general law of a thing to a divine concept in order to make good use of mind and hands (from known to unknown). Besides, deductive of vocational and technical is a means of acquiring skills that is now basically involved the act of using reasoning by deducing conclusion reached from general laws to a particular case of a given idea. As a result of this, the nature of human behavior can respond to the concept of vocational and technical manpower need's if is properly measured. This means that "people cannot do without certain trades as an element of VOTECH or change an act of it suit own idiosyncratic nature.*

In respect of this, in achieving the prospects of painting as a means of providing vocation and technical manpower needs for national emancipation for self-reliance, the following types of vocational and technical training in painting programs should be considered in Nigeria and the world at large.

**Apprenticeship:** This falls under one of the popular method of vocation and technical education in Nigeria and the world at large, which deals with the procedure by which people acquire the basic skills and training needed for advancement in occupation. "Mater

painters who serve as the instructors are needed to monitor such people in order to propagate effective and meaningful training.” (Maminold Harround, 2005: 20). Such an apprentice can be seen or assigned to different painters (Artists) in our popular places of poverty alleviation program by government. (Federal. State and Local).

**On the Job Training:** This is another method of vocation and technical education training popularly used by various industries and business centers. It is normally carried out by the employer in order to equip the (workers) trainers on how to go about the working system.

The contemporary art work in the aspect of paintings have both utilitarian (commercial) and aesthetic concept of vocational and technical manpower needs irrespective of the types of the painting such as land scale painting, sea scale painting figure painting, mixed media painting, pictorial painting either in realistic or abstract forms.

### **Painting as the Means of Providing Man Power needs for Self-Reliance**

The society of Nigeria Artists (S.N.A), and visual artists especially the Association of Nigerian Painters (A.N,P) if given the opportunity to partner with all zonal poverty alleviation programs centers in the Federal, State and the Local Levels both in the private organization and with the government owned body, would have in action the means of new tactics of re-awaken the people and the government, the painters in strengthening the mind and spiritual well-being of

many Nigerians against poverty through the works of painting. Their inclusion in the programs would have assisted in making the entire population feel prove of themselves through mind and hands manipulation in the areas of displaying colours concept and materials on a given surface most importantly, the act of painting and the painters would have provided visual abilities to promote the well-being of the nations. For as well as creating social and economic forces, which Nigeria's rich assets can set in motion through vocational and technical man power needs of self-reliance. If given the opportunity of being included in the poverty alleviation programs.

The Nigeria painters would have been ensuring the propagation of resurgence and promotion of Nigeria economic growth and well participating in the development of national economic re-circling through painting as a means of vocation and technical emancipating poverty if painting can be given the opportunity to partner with the poverty alleviation programs.

The participation of painting as an aspect of visual representation of fine art will provide means for vocation and technical manpower needs, as a way of assisting to the present nation's economic values as it affects people in the widest concept.

Moreover, it would have aided the growth awareness for poverty alleviation in terms of economic heritage. This will inform and give may Nigerians the opportunity in creating and maintaining jobs for the unemployed Nigerians both graduates and the illiterates. In the widest focus, it will prove

the reality of the adage which says “an idle hand is the devil’s workshop”

## **Conclusion and Recommendation**

This paper states firmly that the involvement of painting and the painters in programs relating to poverty alleviation for the sake of manpower needs to national importance, will go a marathon ways in alleviating poverty in the midst of many Nigerians and the world at large.

This is said to be so, because being part of national poverty alleviation programs, will allow government to know what is going on; the latest innovation and developments in painting as an art form, new ideas in nation’s poverty alleviation programs as it affects the common people of Nigeria and the world at large. Besides many trends that are going on continuously in Nigeria as a developing nation will be affirmed and practically made used.

This paper finds that the involvement of painting and the painters in poverty alleviation programs management is highly important. This informs that if painting is basically involved in all national programs; Federal, State, Local Level of poverty alleviation programs will be of high meaningful level of development in terms of emancipating poverty. At this junction, one can recommend that the involvement of painting as a booster for national emancipation in the area of poverty alleviation be accorded priority attention in line with national developmental programs at all levels of government. Formation of strength for socioeconomic and poverty alleviation programs will go a long ways in propagating the members and the ability of visual painters who are to be

parties to the successful implementation of the government policy on Arts and poverty alleviation programs.

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