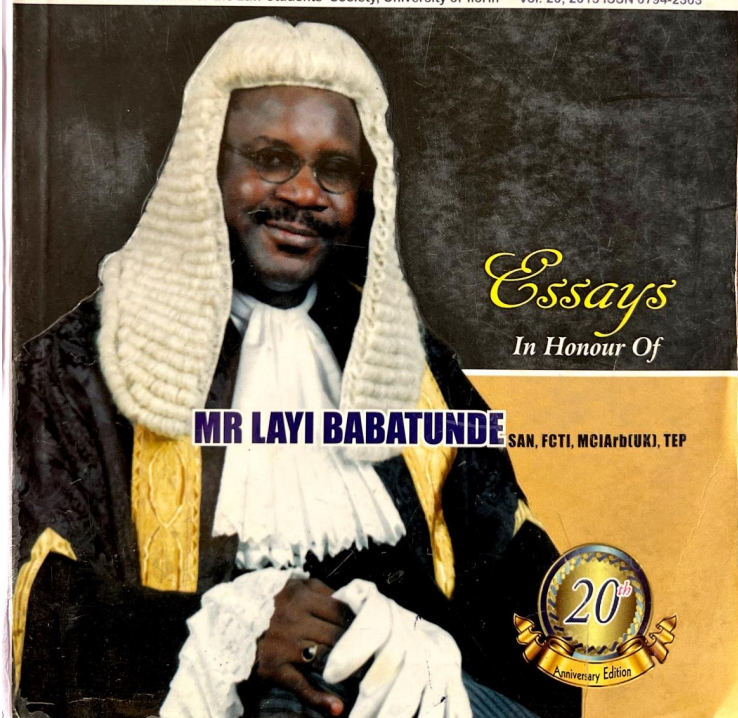
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THE EFFECT OF COLONIALISM ON THE INDIGENOUS LEGAL SYSTEM

By N.A.O IJAIYA*

ABSTRACT

If there could be any aspect of life that is to be described as being the most adversely affected by the colonial rule in the Nigeria political system, it might be the administration of justice. The adopted indirect rule system ushered in contradictory systems of adjudication: the Native court, i.e. Shari'ah system, customary court and the British type of court i.e. Common Law System. They are contradictory systems because the philosophy, aims and objectives underlining each of them are not the same. Hence, the orientation of their adjudication as judges or the administrations of justice are fundamentally different from one another.[845] This observation has been rightly made by Sir Ahmadu Bello, Sardauna of Sokoto in one of his autobiography.