

GOMBE SAVANNAH


**JOURNAL OF LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND
COMMUNICATION STUDIES (GOSAJOLLCOS)**



**DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES
AND LINGUISTICS
GOMBE STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Volume 6 Number 2 & 3
DECEMBER, 2025**



Savannah Journal of Language, Literature and Communication Studies (SAJOLLCOS)
Vol. 6 No. 2 & 3: December, 2025 —  ISSN: 2787-0286 & 2811-2261 (Online & Print)

**SAVANNAH JOURNAL OF LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND COMMUNICATION
STUDIES (SAJOLLCOS)**

**DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS,
GOMBE STATE UNIVERSITY**



VOLUME 6, NO. 2 & 3, DECEMBER 2025

ISSN: ONLINE: 2811-2261, PRINT: 2787-0286

**A Publication of Department of Languages and Linguistics
Gombe State University, Gombe State**

Copyright © 2025 SAVANNAH JOURNAL OF LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND
COMMUNICATION STUDIES
(SAJOLLCOS) Gombe State University, Gombe State. Volume 6, No. 2 & 3 December, 2025.



© Department of Languages and Linguistics, 2025
Gombe State University,
Tudun-wada Jauro Abare, Gombe -
Nigeria.

All rights reserved.

No part or whole of this Journal is allowed to be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, without prior permission of the Copyright owner.

ISSN: 2787-0286 Print & 2811-2261 Online

Printed in Nigeria @Six-Sweet Printers and Publishers

GSU, Gombe, Gombe State.

Phone No: +2348039511789

E-mail: alameenalfira@gmail.com

The Journal

Gombe Savannah Journal of Language, Literature and Communication Studies (GOSAJOLLCOS) is a peer-reviewed journal of the Department of English, Gombe State University. The journal is committed to the development of communication arts through researches in Language, Linguistics, Literature, Theatre Arts, Cultural Studies, Creative Arts, Media and Communication Studies. It has both print and online versions. The Editorial board hereby calls for thoroughly researched papers and articles on the subject areas already mentioned. Submissions of papers are accepted all year round but publication is expected to be done in May/June annually. All manuscripts should be accompanied with the sum of ten thousand (**₦10,000**) naira only. On acceptance of any manuscript, contributors will pay the sum of twenty five thousand (25,000) naira only as publication fee.



Editorial Committee

Dr. Abubakar Mohammed Gombe	Editor-in-chief
Dr. Leah I. Jalo	Editor
Dr. Fatima Shuaibu Gara	Member
Fatima M. Gurama	Member
Mohammad Abubakar Musa	Editorial Secretary

Advisory Board

Professor Saleh Abdu	Department of English, Federal University Kashere
Professor Emmanuel S. Dandaura University	Department of Theatre and Cultural Studies, Nasarawa State
Professor Muhammad Dahiru State University	Department of Languages, Yobe
Professor A. S. Abdulsalam	Department of Linguistics and Nigerian Languages, University of Ilorin
Professor E. U. Ahidjo	Department of English, University of Jos
Professor Nahum Upah Butari	Department of English and Drama, Kaduna State University
Professor Nesta Alu	Department of English, University of Jos

Editorial Policy

Savannah Journal of Languages, Literature and Communication Studies is Produced by the department of English and Literary Studies, Gombe State University, Gombe Nigeria. It invites scholarly and well researched articles on any topic related to language, literary and communication studies. Authors of article(s) should adhere to the following requirements:

- Manuscript(s) should be double spaced on A4 paper with 12 points, Times New Roman.
- Manuscript(s) length should not exceed 5000 words, including titles, references and/or notes.



- Abstract(s) should not be more than 250 words, followed by four to five keywords.
- Manuscript(s) sent to SAJOLLCOS must be original and previously unpublished.
- Manuscript(s) should adopt either the APA 7th edition or MLA 8th edition format
- Title(s) and subtitles should conform to the adopted referencing style.
- Manuscript(s) would be subjected to editing and peer reviews prior to acceptance and publication.
- Author(s) should provide a bio-data of not more than three sentences at the end of their paper stating their rank, affiliation, research interest and email address.
- All Manuscript(s) for consideration should be accompanied with non-refundable sum of ₦10,000.00 assessment fee.
- On acceptance of any manuscript, author(s) will pay the publication fee of ₦25,000.00
- Creative work publication fee of ₦5,000.00
- All editorial correspondences should be directed to:

The editor,

Savannah Journal of Language, Literary and Communication Studies, Department of Languages and Linguistics,

Gombe State University, Gombe.

Email: sajolcos@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.gombesavannahjournal.com>

For further enquiries, please contact: Editor-in-Chief

SAJOLLCOS, HOD's Office,

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Gombe State University, Gombe sajolcos@gsu.edu.ng,

C/o: amgombe2@gsu.edu.ng



LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Abubakar Abba Kaka (PhD)

Department of Languages and Linguistics,
University of Maiduguri
kakaabba31@gmail.com
08029166358

Musa Sabo

Department of General Studies, Federal
Polytechnic Damaturu, Yobe State
Musasabo36@gmail.com
0802276676

Emmanuel Bunduga Tyogema

Department of Languages and Linguistics,
Gombe State University, Gombe
emmanueltyogema@gmail.com
08060970565

Fatima Bukar Abba

07064198834
bukarsaliha@gmail.com

Bashir Uba Ibrahim, Ph.D.

Department of English and Literary
Studies, Sule Lamido University Kafin
Hausa

Nasiru Musa

Department of General Studies Federal
College of Horticulture
Dadin Kowa, Gombe State.
nasirugona@gmail.com
07035892599

Juliet, David Aluke

Department of Languages and Linguistics
Gombe State University
maxambari@gmail.com
08036141429

Dr. Sammani Hassan Hussain

Department of Arabic, Federal
University of Kasherer, Gombe
hassansammani84@gmail.com

Hafsat Ado Ahmad

Department of English and Linguistics,
Federal University Dutse, Jigawa State.
hafsatahmad24@gmail.com

Dr Takim Ajom Okongor

Department of English and Linguistics,
Federal University Dutse, Jigawa State.
08037945071
takimajomokongor@gmail.com

Bunmi Balogun-Oguns

Department of English and Literary
Studies, Federal University Lokoja
Bunmi.balogun@fulokoja.edu.ng
08169096071

Ladan Nujir

Department of English, Faculty of Arts
and Social Sciences, Gombe State
University

Patience Haye Dakup

Department of Language and Linguistics,
Gombe State University, Gombe State
patiencegakup05@gmail.com
08066512889

Vera Anap Aaron

Department of English, University of
Jos, Jos Nigeria.
aaronv@unijos.edu.ng

Sandra K. J. Simon

Department of English, University of Jos,
Jos, Nigeria.
sandrakjsimon@gmail.com



Samuel Edem

Department of English, Nigeria Police
Academy, Wudil Kano
dmsamuel19@gmail.com

Fatima Bawa

Defence Industries Corporation of Nigeria,
Kaduna State
fatimabawa@ymail.com
08036434451

Fatima Muhammad Mansur

Gombe State Ministry of Education,
Gombe State
fatimamuhhammadmansur@gmail.com
07036928762

Hadiza Musa Amshi

Yobe State University, Yobe State
Hadizaamshi2@gmail.com

Dr Takim Ajom Okongor

Department of English and Linguistics, Faculty
of Arts and Social Sciences,
Federal University Dutse, Jigawa State.
08037945071

Hafsat Ado Ahmad

Department of English and Linguistics,
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences,
Federal University Dutse, Jigawa State.
hafsatahmad24@gmail.com

Adamu Yusuf Fari

Ayfari763@gmail.com
Department of Languages and Linguistics
Gombe State University
08140103030;

Hadiza Musa Amshi

Hadizaamshi2@gmail.com
Department of Languages and Linguistics
Gombe State University

Amos, Michael

amos22367@gmail.com
Modibbo Adama University, Yola

Kabiru Zubairu

kabeeruzubairu@gmail.com
08149396464

Prof. Audee T. Giwa

Department of English and Drama,
Faculty of Arts, Kaduna State University,
Kaduna.
[08036000928, audee436@gmail.com]

Amina Nasiru Haruna

Department of English and Drama,
Faculty of Arts, Kaduna State University,
Kaduna.
08033334218, aminasaj158@gmail.com

Naomi ALU

Department of Languages and Literary
Studies, Babcock University
Ilishan Remo, Ogun State
alu0003@pg.babcock.edu.ng
+234 903 376 9496

Ngozi Gift OKATA

Department of Languages and Literary
Studies, Babcock University
Ilishan Remo, Ogun State
okatag@babcock.edu.ng
+234 806 375 9800

Prof Bulus Wayar

Department of Language and Linguistics,
Gombe State University
buluswayar@yahoo.com
0906 561 7731



Kabiru Zubairu

Department of Language and Linguistics,
Gombe State University
kabeeruzubairu@gmail.com
08149396464

Ibrahim Bala Kanti

Department of English and Drama,
Faculty of Arts, Kaduna State University
ibrahimbkanti@kasu.edu.ng

Musa sabo

musasabo36@gmail.com
08022766769

Hannatu Fibemi Makka

English Unit
School of Management Science and
Technology, Federal Polytechnic Bali,
Taraba State
hannatufemakka@gmail.com

Habibu Sule

Department of General Studies, Abubakar
Tatari Ali Polytechnic, Bauchi
habibusule@gmail.com
08035430572

Nkeiruka Esther Gordons

Department of General Studies, Abubakar
Tatari Ali Polytechnic, Bauchi
nkeirukagordons@gmail.com
08128887914

Muhammad Dayyib Auwal, PhD

Department of Nigerian Languages,
Northwest University, Kano
tayyibtayyibabba@gmail.com
+23408037340691

Yusuf Ahmed Gwarzo, PhD

Department of Nigerian Languages,
Northwest University, Kano
aygwarzo@yumsuk.edu.ng
+23408068028076

Bilkisu Abubakar Arabi

Department of Languages and Linguistics,
Gombe State University
bilkisuarabi7@gsu.edu.ng
07037713059

Professor Maureen Amaka Azuike

University of Jos
08037032322

Professor Jeff Godwin Doki

University of Jos
dokijeff@yahoo.com
+2348034529344

Lamido Muhammad Tukur

PG24/PHD/LANG/1004
Department of Languages and Linguistics,
Gombe State University
08036535202
lamiid@live.com

Adi Shimoudi Jonathan

Department of English and Literary
Studies, Federal University Wukari,
Taraba State, Nigeria.
Phone No.: 08038569967
Email: shimoudijonathan@gmail.com &
adis@fuwukari.edu.ng

**Rasika Shiranthi Samanmalee
Somasundara**

Department of Languages and Linguistics,
Gombe State University
rshiranthi@gsu.edu.ng/rshiranthi@gmail.com
+2347036178704

Abba kuka

kakaabba31@gmail.com
08029166358



Khadijah Saleh Abdu

Department of Language and Linguistics,
Gombe State University
ummi25th@gsu.edu
07063122584

مختار منصور محمد

جامعة سعاد زنغر، ولاية بوتني - نيجيريا
mmmuhammad@sazu.edu.ng
08062688078/09075556767

Dr. Aminu Suleiman

School for Continuing Education,
Department of English Education
Adamawa State Polytechnic, Yola
08034821236

Bello Alim Babi

School for Administrative and Business
Studies, Department of General Studies
Adamawa State Polytechnic, Yola
alimbabi@gmail.com
08039470634

Muhammad Umar

Department of Religious Studies, Faculty
of Arts and Social Sciences. Gombe State
University
abuannas1973@gmail.com
+2347036826684

Ismail Bala

ibgarba@gmail.com
08065380091



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Effect of Home-Model on the Spoken English of the Nigerian Child Bunmi Balogun-Oguns	1-14
Phonological Variation of English Loanwords in Duala Dictionary Abubakar Abba Kaka (PhD) and Musa Sabo	15-30
Societal Revitalisation: A Post-Colonial Reading of Tor Iorapuu's <i>April 1421</i> Emmanuel Bunduga Tyogema	31-39
Female Empowerment and Liberation of the Mind in Aiwanose Odafen's <i>Tomorrow I Become a Woman</i> Fatima Bukar Abba	40-50
Language Shift, Maintenance and Death in Hadejia Emirate: A Sociolinguistic Survey Bashir Uba Ibrahim, Ph.D.	51-68
Literary Exploration of Forced Marriage: a Postcolonial Feminist Analysis of Zulu Sofola's <i>Wedlock of the Gods</i> and Ola Rotimi's <i>our Husband has Gone Mad Again</i> Ladan Nujir	69-80
Poverty as Offspring of Corruption: An Analysis of Leadership Failure and Militancy in <i>Night Rain</i> by Chris Anyokwu Patience Haye Dakup	81-92
Oral Prose Narratives in Green: An Ecocritical Reading of Mwaghavul Folktales Vera Anap Aaron And Sandra K. J. Simon	93-106
Language and Hate Discourse: A Pragmatic Investigation of Sam Omasetye's' <i>From Don to Done'</i> : Samuel Edem	107-127
Artificial Intelligence In Islamic Media and Da'Wah: Opportunities, Ethical Challenges and the Role of Maqasid Al-Shariah Muhammad Umar	128-145
Phonologic al Variation of English Loanwords in Duala Dictionary Abba kuka and Musa Sabo	146-163
A contrastive analysis of kanuri and Kurama language sound system Dr. Sammani Hassan Hussain	164-183



- Analysis of Move Operation in Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun***
Hafsat Ado Ahmad and Dr Takim Ajom Okongor **184-202**
- Linguistic Choices and Process Types in Governor Inuwa Yahaya's Inaugural Speech**
Adamu Yusuf Fari, Hadiza Musa Amshi, and Amos, Michael **203- 214**
- Creativity in Students' Slang Usage**
Nasiru Musa and Juliet David Aluke **215-225**
- Logico-Semantic Relations in Abubakar Othman's Palm of Time: Systemic Functional Analysis**
Fatima Bawa, Fatima Muhammad Mansur and Hadiza Musa Amshi **226-235**
- Narrative Discourse Analysis of Qur'an and Hadith Using Labov and Waletzky (1972) Schema**
Kabiru Zubairu **236-252**
- Examining Lacanian Ideation of Patriarchy in Lola Shoneyin's *the Secret Lives of Baba Segi's Wives***
Prof. Audee T. Giwa and Amina Nasiru Haruna **253-262**
- Pragmatic Implicatures of Animal Metaphors in Selected Nigerian Pidgin English Proverbs**
Naomi ALU and Ngozi Gift OKATA **263-280**
- Comparative Analysis Of Stylistic Deviation Of Social Roles Register In Terrorism Discourse: A Case Study Of Joe Biden's And Sanusi Lamido Sanusi's CNN Interviews**
Prof Bulus Wayar and Kabiru Zubairu **281-291**
- Exploring The Concept of Hybridity and Mimicry in William Shakespeare's *The Tempest***
Khadijah Saleh Abdu **292-302**
- Womanist Perspectives on Female Struggle and Survival in Razinat T. Mohammed's Habiba and Other Stories**
Hannatu Fibemi Makka and Ibrahim Bala Kanti **303-312**
- ظاهرة الموازنة في التراث العربي والنيجيري: دراسة وصفية**
مختار منصور محمد **313-330**
- A Linguistic Stylistic Analysis of the Inaugural and Independence Day Speeches of General Ibrahim Babangida and President Muhammadu Buhari: A Comparative Approach**
Habibu Sule and Nkeiruka Esther Gordons **331-341**



An Analysis of Urhobo Language Meronyms

Muhammad Dayyib Auwal, PhD and Yusuf Ahmed Gwarzo, PhD 342-351

Authorial Pessimism in Northern Nigerian Female Character Portrayal: A Study of Razinat T. Mohammed's Habiba

Bilkisu Abubakar Arabi, Professor Maureen Amaka Azuike, and Professor Jeff Godwin Doki 352-370

Exploring The Island's History, Cultural Heritage And Aftermaths of Colonialism in Michael Ondaatje's Anil's Ghost

Rasika Shiranthi Samanmalee Somasundara and Professor Jeff Godwin Doki 371-389

Pragmatic Strategies, Politeness Forms, and Power Relations in Conflict Talk: A Linguistic Analysis of the "I Am Not a Fool, Sir" Interaction in Nigerian Institutional Discourse.

Lamido Muhammad Tukur 390-396

A Pragmatic Analysis of Politeness In Nasir El-Rufai's Speech and Social Media Users' Responses: Polite Language as a Tool for Social Inclusion and Sustainable Development

Adi Shimoudi Jonathan 397-414

Rhetorical Patterns in Political News Reporting: A Corpus-Driven Genre and Discourse Analysis of Nigerian Newspapers

Bello Alim Babi And Dr. Aminu Suleiman 415-428

A Review of: *The Songs of a Bard* by A. I. Sabo (Lagos: Something for Everybody Ventures, 2021, 49 pages)

Ismail Bala 429-433

A Review of: *Songs of Silence*

Abdullahi Ismaila 434-437



A Review of
***The Songs of a Bard* by A. I. Sabo (Lagos: Something for Everybody
Ventures, 2021, 49 pages)**

Ismail Bala
ibgarba@gmail.com
08065380091

The advent of social media has a positive influence on the development of literature and cultural activities generally. Others would argue in the same vein that social media has also watered down the quality of the literary outputs it has helped to produce, just as it propelled mediocre writers into the peak of popularity (for example, Rapi Kaur). As part of the opportunities and the democratisation of the arts which the internet has fostered, there is also the development of writers' collectives and networks which leverage the ubiquity and availability of social networks to bring together disparate writers, creatives and readers for the love of the arts. The absence of publishing outlets and the general lack of creative opportunity and infrastructure, as well as the cultural miasma in northern Nigeria has benefitted greatly from the internet with the founding of the #PoeticWednesday initiative by Salim Yunusa. The Collective curates poetry every Wednesday on its Facebook page and later on ventured into other social media outlets with a number of literary events such as readings, book chats and author meet and greet sessions. Also, the collective mentors writers by linking up-and-coming writers with more

established ones as their mentors to develop their craft and hone their writing skills

One of the products of such a mentorship initiative is Ahmed Isa Sabo (stylised as A.I. Sabo), a poet, entrepreneur and student unionist. Having served his apprenticeship diligently, and publishing many poems collected in the book under review in many journals and anthologies. Sabo has now published his debut collection, *The Songs of a Bard*. The book contains 38 poems of varying lengths and styles, divided into 3 unequal sections. The first untitled section contains three poems, the magnum opus of the collection, "The Songs of Birds" and two short poems. The longer "Songs of Birds" running into 5 and a half pages is the centre of the book and arguably the most accomplished of all the poems in the collection. The poem starts as an elegy with the poet inquiring from his grandma about the whereabouts of his father:

When I
learned the language of cobwebs,
Crevices
homing lizards on muddy walls,
A flame
imprisoned in the glass-ring of lamp
And a
thatched mattress in grandpa's room;



Then I
inquired of her a thousand times
“Lala, where
is my father?”

To the
heavens she said he has gone (p.1).

Then the poet moves poignantly to two of his lost friends: Ahmad and Mukhtar, who as the poet’s soul mates were “nothing but ambassadors of love”. As time moves on, so is the elegiac progression, “like fleeting clouds so were our vanishing days/ As spider spins fibers, fate spun her shroud/To sow our eldest soul mate, Auwal”.

From here, the poem takes on a different tone different from the earlier established elegiac mood to one reminiscing about love and favours from the poet’s friends who also departed this world:

Through a territory
of hate and love I roamed

My angel, Sani
inebriated me with the wine of love

Later I was drunk and
he departed in a box of sand.

My skull squeaked
with fierce desperation

And deafened by the
squawk of sparrows.

My angel, Babayo
nourished me like a soft flower;

This was deflowered
by a spear of fate

For Lala vanished
with particle of dust,

My tongue enjoyed
the sweetness of life’s mahogany;

I wandered like a
forlorn lamb in the gloomy ring of
life (p.2).

In haunting, melancholic lyricism, the poem moves on, lamenting the passing of the poet’s kith and kin such as Khadija (the “infant angel of beauty”) and narrates the life struggle of the poet amidst difficulty and how he eventually overcame the vicissitudes of life and its challenges and later on graduating from the English Department of Yobe State University. The section concludes with 2 short, epigraphic poems on time and hope.

The next section titled “Dust”, the shortest of the three sections contains 12 poems mostly Haikus and epigraphic beauties. One notable feature of the poems collected here is the domination of despondent tone and tenor: the poems are about grief and despair (both personal and communal), but they are not (like most recent poetry books in Nigeria) inundated by the thematic mode they are written in. In addition, the poems are more overtly “political”, and topical and are the sort one could call the “state of the nation” poems. The following poems stand out from the section: “A Sphere of Despair”, “That Time Shall Come” with its memorable refrain and its evocation of hope and the longer “Reflection”.

The longer poems not just in the sophomore section but in the rest of the book are more accomplished and successful than the shorter, braver ones. “Reflection” proves that. It is for one, a meditation on history and the effect of time on historical personalities and empires as well as the belief of the poet in the oneness of God in the face of current irreligious fervour all around him.



The other notable poems are “The Tears of a Broken Land” and “The Night of Doom” each of which laments the state of the Nigerian state and the efficacious condition it presently finds itself in.

The concluding, metapoetic and aptly titled section, “Words-Worth” mostly contains a sequence of love poems and metapoems, again of varying length and styles. Like the previous sections, the longer more tend to be the most technical and successful. The stand-out poem here is: “Unsaid Poetry” which reminds me of Richard Ali’s “The Anguish and Vigilance of Things” (2019), as well as John Keats’s famous line: “Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard are sweeter”. The poem unfolds like a photo negative being developed into a poetic vignette, freezing some fleeting moments, concretizing them not just as mental pictures but as verbal icons. There are also two further elegies here in the section: “Tears for Mukhtar” and “Adieu”. The first is for the eponymous Mukhtar, a childhood friend of the poet. The poem reminisces about their time together, recalling their childhood adventures and ending with a note of sadness:

I
 mingle with your dreams

Recollecting your ambitions
 as spoken

Fond
 memories all left for me to hold

You
 left me lone and desolate, Mukhtar
 (p30).

The second elegy, “Adieu” is also about a coursemate of the poet, Muhammad. Together with the poet, they envisioned a future: “We’d talk of building dreams, tall dreams” (p.31). But he left too soon before the realisation of those beautiful dreams they had:

You
 have set with the sun,
 So
 soon and left us

With
 uncompleted buildings of dreams
 Like a
 project in the hands of a bad
 contractor

But
 unlike smokes, memories of you
 never will fade

And
 so shall you live in my poems (p.31).

The poem ends with a promise of immortality conferred on the subject in a poetic move similar to that of the famous Shakespearian sonnet (Sonnet 18) where the beloved whose beauty would eventually fade has immortality thrust upon her because the poet has written about her, for which she will forever be remembered.

“To My Beloved” is an epistolary love poem which ends with the bon mot:

If my medals
 and combat attires
 Come to you
 as this letter—my last words,
 Tell my
 unborn baby to forgive me



with sexual ecstasy and romantic exuberance we associate with young poets coming into their own poetic adventure. Though the three sections of the book may not have necessarily be written with any circle or sequence in mind, the poems in each of the sections “cohere” and “conspire” to tell a composite poetic story, one in which the disparate personas, themes and subjects serve as both culture-bound, geographically identifiable agents, and more significantly as universal trope which any reader anywhere could relate with. This in itself is quite a feat for a young poet to achieve. Unlike many recent Nigerian poetry collections where certain

words and turn of phrases (such as the body, grief, for example) saturate the poetry and render whatever excellence such books may have had hollow, the present collection with its modest offering and heightened ambition has indeed surpassed expectation for its deft handling of the subject of death, grief and love, but also for its technical accomplishment largely unexpected of a debutant poet. The language is even in its complexity and simplicity, the images are clear, and the tropological resources deployed are in tandem with the poetic ambitions of the poet. I look forward to the next collection of the poet, knowing fully the promise such a book holds.