# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>i–iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgement</td>
<td>v–vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Abbreviation</td>
<td>vii–x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter One</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Background to the Study:</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Aim of the Study</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Research Questions</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Human Rights as a Cause of Action</td>
<td>6-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Justification</td>
<td>10-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 Methodology</td>
<td>12-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7 Limitation</td>
<td>15-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8 Thesis Structure</td>
<td>16-18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter Two

Historical and Legal Framework of Nigeria’s Oil Industry

2.1 Introduction

2.2 Historical Background

2.2.1 The Niger Delta Region

2.3 The Legal Framework of Nigeria’s Oil Industry

2.4 State Participation in Oil Industry Operations

2.4.1 State Participation in Nigeria’s Oil Industry

2.4.2 Method of Participation

2.5 Ownership of Petroleum Resources

2.5.1 Nigerian Federalism, Ownership and Distribution of Petroleum Revenues

2.5.2 The NNPC

2.5.3 The Inspectorate Division (now DPR)

2.5.4 The New Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) as affects the NNPC and DPR

2.5.4.1 Objectives of the Bill

2.5.4.2 The National Petroleum Directorate (NPD)

2.5.4.3 Petroleum Inspectorate Commission

2.5.4.4 Petroleum Product and Distribution Authority (PPDA)

2.5.4.5 National Petroleum Company of Nigeria (NAPCON)

2.5.4.6 The National Petroleum Assets Management Agency
2.5.4.7 The National Petroleum Research Centre 56-57
2.5.4.8 The National Energy Council 57
2.5.4.9 Comments on the PIB 57-62
2.6 The Environmental Protection Agencies 62-63
2.6.1 National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) 63-64
2.6.2 National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) 64-65
2.7 Conclusion 66-69

Chapter Three

Current Mechanisms for Seeking Redress for Oil Pollution Injuries in Nigeria
3.1 Introduction 70-73
3.2 The Common Law 74-75
3.2.1 Trespass to Land 75-76
3.2.2 Negligence 77-80
3.2.3 Nuisance 81-85
3.2.4 Strict Liability - The rule in Rylands v. Fletcher 85-91
3.2.5 Observations on common law tort actions 91-100
3.3 Foreign Litigation 100-101
3.3.1 The Alien Torts Claims Act (ATCA) 1789 101-106
3.3.2 The ATCA and Environmental Litigation 106-108
3.3.3 Nigerian Cases: Wiwa v. Royal Dutch Petroleum Co. and
### 3.3.4 Observations on Foreign Litigation

3.4 Conclusion

## Chapter Four

**The Right to a Clean Environment – A Conceptual Framework**

4.1 Introduction

4.2 Background

4.3 Overview of the Concept of Human Rights

4.3.1 Historical Context of Human Rights

4.3.2 Human Rights in the Modern Context

4.4 Generations of Human Rights

4.4.1 The Right to a Clean Environment – A Working Definition

4.4.2 Origin of the Right to a Clean Environment

4.4.3 Meaning of the Right to a Clean Environment

4.4.4 The Nature of the Right to a Clean Environment

4.4.5 The Scope of the Right to a Clean Environment

4.5 Recognition of the Right to a Clean Environment

4.5.1 International Recognition

4.5.1.1 Duty to Protect, Respect and provide Access

4.5.2 Recognition at the Regional level

4.5.2.1 Europe

4.5.2.2 The Right to Information
4.5.2.3 Right to Participate 162
4.5.2.4 Right of Access to Justice (or Court) 162-164
4.5.3 Latin America 164-166
4.5.4 Africa 166-172
4.5.5 Recognition at the National level 172-176
4.6 Conclusion 177-179

Chapter Five
The Right to a Clean Environment under Nigerian Law
5.1 Introduction 180-181

Part 1 - Substantive Right to a Clean Environment
5.2 The Duty to Protect the Environment 182-183
5.2.1 The Provisions of section 20 183-184
5.2.1.1 Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy 184-186
5.2.1.2 Etymology of Directive Principles 186-188
5.2.1.3 Justiciability of Chapter II Provisions 188-195
5.3 Right to a clean environment under Article 24 of the African Charter, 1981 196-197
5.3.1 Article 24 and analysis of Gbemre’s case 197-200
5.3.2 Comments on the Gbemre decision 200-205
5.4 Right to a Clean Environment through existing civil and political rights 205-207
5.4.1 Right to Life 207-211
5.4.2 Right to Property 211-217
5.4.3 Right to privacy of citizens and their homes 217-219

Part 2 – Procedural Aspects of The Right to Clean Environment

5.5.1 Introduction 220-221
5.5.2 Procedural Rights under Nigerian law 221-223
5.5.3 The Right to Information 223-226
5.5.4 Right of Participation 226-228
5.5.5 Right of Access to Justice (or Court) 228-230
5.6 Conclusion 230-233

Chapter Six

Enforcement of the Right to a Clean Environment: Opportunities and Challenges

6.1 Introduction 234
6.2 Challenges 235-236
6.2.1 Locus Standi 236-241
6.2.2 Procedural Impediment 241-243
6.2.3 Judicial Timidity, Incompetence and Corruption 243-245
6.2.4 Executive Lawlessness 245-246
6.2.5 Lack of Effective Enforcement Mechanism 246-247
6.3 Opportunities 247
6.3.1 The Fundamental Rights (Enforcement Procedure) Rules, 2009 247-248
6.3.1.1 Expansive and Purposive Interpretation 248-249

6.3.1.2 Respect for Municipal, Regional and International Bills of Right 249-251

6.3.1.3 Consequential Orders which may be just and expedient 251-253

6.3.1.4 Access to Justice to all classes 253-256

6.3.1.5 Public Interest Litigation 256-258

6.3.1.6 Advancement of democracy, good governance and human rights and culture 258-261

6.3.1.7 Priority given to Human Rights actions 261-262

6.3.1.8 Other Salient Provisions of the Rules 262-264

6.4 Conclusion 264-266

**Chapter Seven**

**Summary and Conclusion**

7.1 Summary of General Conclusion 267-278

7.2 Findings of the Research 278-281

7.3 Specific Recommendations 281-283

7.4 General Recommendation 283

7.5 Future Research 284

Bibliography 285-324