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**NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY**

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**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**MASTER’S PROGRAM**

**MASTER’S THESIS**

**AMNESTY FOR STABILITY IN OIL REVENUE: TRENDS OF THE NIGER DELTA CONFLICT**

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**ABTRACT**

The tittle of this thesis is “Amnesty for Stability in Oil Revenue: Trends of the Niger Delta Conflict”. It’s a research thesis. The thesis focuses on analysis concerning the Niger Delta Conflict. The analysis in this academic paper are intended to find the nature and causes of unrest, armed confrontation and the different arguments of parties involved in the Niger Delta conflict; these differences which undermines the socio-economic stability and survival of the region, and Nigeria’s political future. In my discussions, I will analyze the ethnic, economic, environmental, political and other factors which are some of the main underlying elements, contributing to the Niger Delta conflict, particularly the ongoing amnesty program and the importance of oil revenue to the Nigerian government. Postmodern arguments will also be used to analyze the conflict, given facts that contemporary international relations theories see conflicts from different perspectives. Above all, the ongoing amnesty program and process will also be discussed and solution based arguments will be recommended as preferable alternatives for sustainable peace in the region.

The Niger Delta, which has been able to sustain an history of cultural development and economic survival through fishery, farming and hunting, also scores remarkable peace and co-existence between communities, ethnic groups and kingdoms except, the wars against slave trade and cultural protection against the ‘European Imperialists’ in the 18th and 19th centuries. However, conflict became a phenomenon from the beginning of large scale oil exploration in the 1980s, though the apocalypses of the Niger Delta conflict, predates oil exploration activities in the region.

**Keywords:** Niger Delta, postmodern, contemporary, conflict, unrest, armed confrontation, stability, socio-economic, environmental, political, history, cultural development, fishery, farming, hunting, ethnic groups, wars, slave trade, kingdoms, European Imperialists.

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**PHILIP ROBINSON EBIOTUBO ORUS MARCH, 2013**

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**ABBREVIATIONS**

**AD:** Alliance for Democracy

**AG:** Action Group

**APP:** All People’s Party

**BORO:** Major Isaac Jasper Adaka Boro

**COR:** Calabar Ogoja Rivers

**ECOWAS:** Economic Community of West African States

**EU:** European Union

**FCDA:** Federal Capital Development Authority

**FCT:** Federal Capital Territory

**FDI:** Foreign Direct Investment

**GNPP:** Greater Nigerian People’s Party

**IYC:** Ijaw Youths Council

**LGA:** Local Government Area

**LNG:** Liquefied Natural Gas

**MEND:** Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta

**MOSOP:** Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People

**NCNC:** National Council of Nigeria and Cameroon; National Convention of Nigeria Citizens

**NDDC:** Niger Delta Development Commission

**NDC:** Niger Delta Congress

**NDPVF:** Niger Delta People’s Volunteer Force

**NDV:** Niger Delta Vigilante

**NDVF:** Niger Delta Volunteer Force

**NNPC:** Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation

**NPC:** Northern People’s Congress

**NPP:** Nigerian People’s Party

**NPN:** National Party of Nigeria

**OPEC:** Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries

**PDP:** Peoples Democratic Party

**PCASED:** Program for the Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development

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**PRP:** People’s Redemption Party

**UK:** United Kingdom

**UN:** United Nations

**UPN:** Unity Party of Nigeria

**USA:** United States of America

