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# WOO FOREST IN KAIAMA: PHILOSOPHY, SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION

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**ABSTRACT:** The reliance of human beings on natural resources found in the environment, especially the overconsumption of these resources, has become a burning issue. This paper seeks to highlight major environmental problems, their causes and effects; it takes into consideration the notion of environmental preservation, and its importance. It further investigates the Woo forest that belongs to the Kaiama people of Bayelsa State, and the implication of the preserved forest on the people. The study adopted empirical, expository, and analytical methods. The study revealed that the forest areas that are preserved in Bayelsa State are only but few, which is causing more harm to the environment as the environment continues to diminish, and flora and fauna are at risk of extinction. It therefore recommends that more areas of land should be protected through preservation and people should be enlightened and educated about the importance of environmental preservation. The people and the government should take part in measures that will safeguard the environment, and avoid activities that will lead to deterioration of the natural environment. This will lead to a healthy environment for plants, animals, and humans and the improvement of the ozone layer and climate change for the survival of man.

**KEYWORDS:** Ecosystem. Environment, Nature, Preservation, Woo forest.

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#### INTRODUCTION

Man, as an inhabitant of the Earth, is inextricably connected to nature. This interaction has been incessant ever since human beings first came into existence. The reliance of human beings on natural resources to meet insatiable primary and secondary needs cannot be over emphasized. In the prehistoric period, the survival instinct of man led him to engage in hunting and gathering so he could have food to eat; then came the era of agriculture which has only been reformed intermittently but still continues to exist. This study employs empirical, expository and analytical methods to reach a conclusion.

Man has continually utilized nature's resources for his interest. Forests, soils, rivers, oceans, and other natural resources found in the environment supply us with food to eat, water needed for human survival and plants growth, adequate oxygen, clothes we wear, and shelter to live in. Natural gas and oil, which are extracted from underground, are used to make fuel for electricity and transportation. Trees are used as wood and also to make books. The overuse of these resources is spurred by factors like overpopulation, and the intensification of human civilization which birthed economic growth, urbanization, transportation, rising energy use, agricultural advancement through the use of machinery like tractors, and fertilizers, etc. This over consumption in turn leads to diminution in natural resources and deterioration of the environment, a rising level in the possibility of endangered species and wildlife extinction, and other key environmental issues. "The National Academy of Sciences reports that human activities are causing significant and unusually swift changes in earth's environment and that relatively small changes can have quite large effects" (Barcalow, 358). The effects of these issues are to be taken into consideration because of their harmful nature to man, plants, animals, and all ecosystems. For example, deforestation contaminates the air by depleting oxygen and releasing significant volumes of carbon dioxide, further accelerating atmospheric overheating and temperature change. It also gives rise to flooding, land degradation, biodiversity decline, and several other problems. Another example is hunting and fishing. Hunting without caution will decrease the population of certain animals, as well as fishing. Activities like these lead to more species in danger of extinction.

The need for adequate preservation of the environment is of paramount importance. Most countries in the world including Nigeria have begun to exhibit proneness towards preservation and conservation methods. Nigeria has employed a series of stratagems in an attempt to curb environmental problems and protect its natural environment. These tactics include the setting up of national parks, and the ratification of laws that protect flora and fauna. However, the Nigerian environment is not preserved because the protected areas are few, and also there are limited measures taken to ensure adherence to rules pertaining to protected areas. The study tries to explain the relationship between the Woo forest that belongs to the Kaiama people of Bayelsa State, and preservation of the environment. Education on and sensitization of the causal factors and effects of environmental problems should not be taken for granted.

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#### **Environment**

Etymologically, environment is a derivative of the French word 'environ' which means surrounded. Thus, the environment refers to our surroundings, and has a direct influence on us. There are two major types of environment: the artificial environment and the natural environment. The artificial environment is a creation of humans to meet their needs; it comprises everything in our surroundings that is made by man including buildings, towns, cities, monuments, gardens, roads, industries, bridges, etc. The natural environment comprises everything in our surroundings that is not made by man; they exist naturally without the intrusion of human beings. The natural environment is classified into four different spheres: biosphere, atmosphere lithosphere, and hydrosphere. Biosphere is derived from the Greek word "bio" which means life. Also called the living world, the biosphere is the part of the earth where life naturally exists. Sustenance of life is made possible through it as a result of the combination of air, soil (land), and water in its confined zone. Atmosphere originates from the Greek word "Atmos" meaning vapour. It consists of the total layers of gases or air, dust and vapour that envelop the earth. Earth's atmosphere is mainly made of nitrogen and oxygen. It protects us from harmful rays of sun. Lithosphere is derived from the Greek word, "lithos", which means rocky. It is the hard or solid outer layer of the earth which comprises crust, minerals, clay, and rocks. It has several natural features on Earth's surface, or landforms which include canyons, basins, plateaus, mountains, valleys, plains, hills, etc. These features have been discovered across the continents and on the seabed. Our continents rest on the lithosphere. The lithosphere is important because our forests and waters sit on it. Human and animal settlement is not ruled out as well. The word hydrosphere is derived from the Greek word "hydro" which means water. It is the sum total of water on, above, and below earth. It consists of various bodies of water which are extensively divided into two: fresh water bodies and salt or saline water bodies. Fresh water bodies include rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, springs, lakes, glaciers, reservoirs, wetlands and groundwater. Salt water bodies include seas and oceans. All living organisms need the hydrosphere; humans, plants and animals rely on water for their survival. It also serves as an abode for many plants and animals (aquatic).

The environment is a gift from nature to mankind. Man's reasoning ability and upright posture are advantages over other species that are in existence. This stimulates the constant utilization of the natural environment for his interest. Man has primary and secondary needs that are insatiable; resources from the environment have been used to satisfy these needs. The primary needs are needed for survival and protection. It is impossible to survive without them, and they include oxygen (air), food, water, shelter, healthcare, and clothing. Oxygen is gotten from the air around us, and it aids respiration, growth, and reproduction. Man gets food from plants, trees, roots, crops, and aquatic and terrestrial animals. Water for boreholes, wells and springs is gotten from groundwater; water from rivers is used to irrigate crops; oceans and seas provide us with salt, and they are responsible for a considerable amount of production of oxygen. Overall, water is used for drinking, preparing food, bathing, building, washing plates and clothes, generating electricity, etc. Trees are used to make herbs, books, wood, charcoal furniture, medicines, and also food. Palm oil is made from the fruits of the oil palm tree, and the fruits of the cocoa tree provide us with cocoa and chocolate. Wood gotten from trees is also used for the construction of buildings, bridges, boats, ships, furniture, etc. Trees safeguard the environment from flooding and soil erosion. Plants and animals are used for food, medicine, clothing, and fuel; we get food from plants, and meat from animals; natural fiber for clothing is made from plant fiber and animal fibre; fossil fuels from plants natural oil and gas, provide

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us with fuel which is used for electricity and transportation. These fossil fuels are extracted from the lithosphere, and parts of the biosphere.

## **Biodiversity and Ecosystem**

Biodiversity is biological diversity. It refers to all species, genes and ecosystems that exist on earth. The full meaning of ecosystems is ecological system. Ecology is the study of all ecosystems in the environment. An ecosystem is the combination of living organisms, including plants, animals, and other species in a particular area, and the interrelationship between them and their physical environment. There is an interaction between the biotic and abiotic components. The biotic components are living things like plants and animals, while the abiotic components are non-living things like air, water, sunlight, soil, etc. There are two types of ecosystems: Aquatic ecosystem and terrestrial ecosystem. Aquatic ecosystems exist in water, while terrestrial ecosystems exist on land. Aquatic ecosystems are freshwater and marine ecosystems. Terrestrial ecosystems include forest, grassland, desert, tundra, etc. The types of forests are tropical rain forest, boreal, and temperate. Tropical rainforests are evergreen forests that are very wet, warm, hot and humid, and with a consistent climate. They are habitats for monkeys, jaguars, lemurs, reptiles and amphibians, etc. Trees found in these areas include, oil palm, dika, avocado, coconut, banana, plantain, grapefruit, timber, mahogany, fig, etc. Crops that survive include yams, potatoes, cassava, corn, sugarcane, tomato, etc.

There is also the prevalence of food chains in an ecosystem. Food chain refers to a community of organisms that are connected because one group of organisms eats lower organisms in the community to get nutrients and energy. For example, grass uses sunlight to generate its own food. A locust eats the grass. A chicken eats the locust. A fox eats the chicken. Plants like grass will also get nutrients from decomposers formed from the decaying fox after it dies. This is a particular food chain. Grass is food to many other animals; locusts can eat other crops and plants, not only grass. Chickens, in turn, also eat other plants and animals. Foxes do not only eat chicken but also other plants and animals do. Each of these biotic factors can be part of many food chains. For example, man eats plants and even chickens. All these overlying and intertwined food chains combine to form a food web.

#### **Environmental Problems**

Environmental problems are issues that arise, most fundamentally, when human interference on the environment brings about harm and natural imbalance. These environmental crises make us susceptible to natural disasters that affect the present generation, and will most likely affect future generations if drastic measures are not taken to control them. They include environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity, global warming and climate change, pollution, resource depletion, ozone layer depletion, deforestation, ocean acidification, etc. The major causal factor of environmental problems is man. "In manufacturing products, generating energy, growing food, and transporting people and things, highly industrialized societies spew a variety of harmful substances into the air, water, and soil" (Barcalow 358). The repercussions of man's activities are evident in these problems. Overpopulation, the quest for economic growth, and human civilization, which incite overconsumption and excess usage, are major causal factors which spur the increased reliance of humans on natural resources. The causes and effects of these problems are deeply interrelated such that one cause can lead to many problems thereby leading to further deterioration of the environment. Environmental degradation is a decline in quality and quantity of the natural environment. It is caused by social

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and economic factors such as overpopulation, exploitation of resources, poverty, urbanization, pollution, catastrophic agricultural practices, rise in energy consumption, and deforestation. Degradation results in loss of biological diversity including wildlife extinction, pollution, global warming, climate change, and human health problems. Overpopulation is a situation whereby the number of people in a specific environment outweighs the holding capacity of that environment and its resources.

Deforestation is the decrease in forest areas through the deliberate clearing of trees in large areas of forest land for human constructions and agricultural and economic purposes. Forest area can be cleared for human settlement, and also building of infrastructure like roads, refineries, railways, airports, etc. Agricultural purposes, which are also economic, include clearing land for crops, and livestock. Economic purposes include the practice of logging to make furniture, books and other sorts of paper, firewood, and charcoal. Deforestation contaminates the air by depleting oxygen and releasing significant volumes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. An increase in carbon dioxide leads to climate change, global warming, and ocean acidification. Burning fossil fuels also increases carbon dioxide in the air. Deforestation also leads to drought and a decrease in ground water level, which in turn leads to desertification, soil erosion and degradation. It could cause a displacement in food chains which will further cause loss of biodiversity. Loss of biodiversity means a decline of biological diversity. It is the reduction or loss of species in a particular area, and the global extinction of certain species. "Roughly 90 percent of the species that ever existed on earth since life emerged ... are now extinct" (Barcalow 360). It is prompted by human activities like excess fishing, hunting, and crop consumption. It is also caused by climate change and global warming which are mostly caused by human activities. Pollution could also lead to it. Biodiversity loss results in a decrease in the productivity and quality of an ecosystem. Food chains will be disrupted, and some species and organisms will likely go into extinction. Global warming refers to the intense heating of Earth's surface. Climate change denotes long-lasting alterations in weather patterns and temperature conditions. It causes forest degradation, drought, and warming and rising sea levels. It leads to climate change. Climate change is also hazardous to human health; water and food become contaminated, and it brings about diseases that affect the respiratory system and heart.

Pollution is an environmental problem that refers to the unpleasant condition of the natural environment being contaminated through the release of damaging substances. It is an aftereffect of human activities that "occurs when some part of the environment is degraded or spoiled by the presence of an excess of alien material" (Belshaw, 16). There are mainly three types of pollution: air pollution, water pollution, and land pollution. Industrial activities are the major causes of air, water and land pollution. They include burning fossil fuels like oil, and natural gas. Agricultural activities like setting crop stubble ablaze, using intensive machines, fertilizers, fungicides and pesticides lead to pollution. Burning of garbage in open air, and throwing wastes into saline and fresh water bodies can cause pollution. Pollution leads to damaged trees and crops, ocean acidification, global warming, ozone layer depletion and soil degradation.

Ocean acidification is another environmental problem that occurs when carbon dioxide gas in the atmosphere gets into the ocean. It leads to food web disruption, extinction and loss of aquatic life, and affects human health negatively.

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As stated above, these problems are intertwined such that one problem leads to another. Some problems are effects on their own, while different environmental problems might have similar effects. Environmental problems occur when the environment is no longer safe for plants, animals, fishes, and other genes, species and organisms. Food webs and chains are interrupted, the soil is prone to erosion and degradation, and animals have to look for a better habitat because of a reduced population and prospective harm.

#### **Environmental Preservation**

Environmental preservation is the total protection and restriction of the environment and its natural resources from human consumption and interference. It involves setting aside part or even the entire natural environment, forest, for example, from the detrimental aftermath of human activities. Subsumed under environmental preservation, biotic and abiotic, and terrestrial and marine ecosystems should remain in their original, unsoiled and unpolluted form.

Preservation is not to be confused with conservation of the environment as they are distinct though sometimes used interchangeably.

Conservation of natural biotas and ecosystem does not imply no use by humans whatsoever, although this may sometimes be temporarily expedient in a management program to allow a certain species to recover its members. Rather, the aim of conservation is to manage or regulate use so that it does not exceed the capacity of the species or system to renew itself (Richard T. Wright & Dorothy I. Boorse, 164).

Conservation is capable of being carried out sustainably and when sustainability is adopted as a principle, conservation has a well-defined goal. In trying to discuss about the distinction between conservation and preservation, Richard and Boorse make it clear thus:

Preservation is often confused with conservation. The objective of the preservation of species and ecosystems is to ensure their continuity, regardless of their potential utility. Effective preservation often precludes making use of the species or ecosystems in question. For example, it is impossible to maintain old-growth (virgin) forest and at the same time harvest the trees. Thus, a second-growth forest can be conserved (trees can be cut, but at a rate that allows the forest to recover), but an old-growth forest must be preserved (it must not be cut down at all) (164).

Again, in some cases, conservation and preservation come into conflict, e.g., the Mariqui monkey of Brazil was once thought to require virgin forest, leading to a concern for protecting such forests for the sake of the species. But recent research has shown that the monkeys actually do better in second-growth forests which support a greater range of vegetation on which the monkeys feed (Richard & Boorse, 164).

Indefinite preservation of the virgin forest would lead to a decline in the population of the Mariqui monkey, a seriously endangered species. Thus, conservation of the forests is essential for the preservation of this new world monkey (Richard & Boorse, 164).

As processes of environmental protection, preservation protects the environment by prohibiting harmful human activities like hunting, mining, logging, and fishing, while conservation protects the environment by advocating for selected and fair use of natural resources. Preservation is basically concerned with areas that are still in their pristine form; these areas

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can be accessed by humans but only admired for their natural beauty and intrinsic value. We should understand that "preservation is desired for things that should be saved, not for later use, but just because it is good that they continue to exist, either for essentially aesthetic reasons, or in relation to their scientific interest" (Belshaw, 17). Conservation, on the other hand, is focused on sustainable use of nature's resources to meet man's needs whilst reserving resources for future generations. Preservationists believe in not touching land and resources at all. If a forest is preserved, farming, fishing, hunting and logging is prohibited, but if a river, sea or forest is conserved, you can fish, farm or hunt, but limitedly. While fishing, you can use a hook and not a net, and you will not take many fishes at once. While logging in a conserved forest, you will only cut down mature trees and leave the smaller ones to grow. The need for preservation is essential because "once land is changed from its original state through any number of forms of development, it can never be returned to that state" (Chandler & Graham, 26). In most countries, there are laws guiding conservation and preservation such that even in a conserved forest, you are not allowed to do activities without permission and approval.

Preservation is important because it protects the environment from harmful human activities. It keeps habitats intact and reduces the risk of wildlife extinction. Food chains and food webs are almost uninterrupted. Species, genes, and organisms as well as aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems remain undamaged. This enables the environment to be passed down to future generations in a form almost like the original.

#### **Location and Environment of Kaiama**

Kaiama is a small town in Bayelsa State. It is located in western Ijaw, latitude 5.11869° and longitude 6.3021°. It is the headquarters of Kolokuma/Opokuma Local Government Area, one of the eight local government areas in Bayelsa State which is a state in the South-South geopolitical zone of Nigeria. Originally, the town was called Ekpeinbiri. The founder of Kaiama and his extended family were at Igbedi creek known as Agadagbabou before migrating to settle at the present day Kaiama. This creek from opposite the town of Sabagreia in Kolokuma/Opokuma runs and bifurcates through River Nun until it joins at Sagbama, a town cum local government in Bayelsa State. Ekpeinbiri was named after Ekpein, son of Egbe. Egbe originally migrated from the Mein Clan which is in the present day Sagbama, and settled among the Kolokuma people. After some time, Egbe was recognized and given an administrative unit called "Dani". Egbe Dani became the name of the administrative unit.

History passed down has it that a man from Kaiama, then Ekpeinbiri, once sold a live crocodile to a man from Nembe in Bayelsa. The man saw the crocodile and paid for it thinking it was dead, as claimed by the man from Kaiama. When the Nembe man got to the the river bank, the crocodile swam into the water. The Nembe people then likened the town to a tortoise, which is known to be cunningly wise, hence the name Ikagi-ama meaning tortoise town. This name was short lived by the colonialists who found it difficult to pronounce the name. This was how the name Kaiama came about and has remained till date.

Kaiama is located in the middle of a tropical rainforest. It has a swampy soil. The major occupation of the indigenous people of Kaiama was farming, but after the creation of Bayelsa State in 1996, which also saw the creation of the Kolokuma/Opokuma Local Government Area on the same day, attention shifted to civil service jobs. Though they still farm, the majority of people who do large scale farming are from Anambra State in Nigeria. Kaiama people are

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mostly interested in having farms where they plant cassavas, yams, plantains, egg plants, potatoes, and pepper.

## **The Woo Forest**

It is pertinent to note that there are massive land areas owned by towns that are in the forests. Kaiama is not an exception. Most of these forests are owned by families and shared among members only for agricultural purposes. One of these forests is Forest Time which is at the opposite side of the town after crossing its river. But the most notable is the Woo Forest. This forest is located at Igbedi creek that bifurcates through River Nun. There are trees, plants, animals, streams, rivers, and species of different kinds in that forest. But the fascinating thing is that it is preserved. The first settlers of the town claimed the land area automatically. After that, they combined and brought a man who is thought to be great in controlling spiritual forces to set up a shrine in a small area of the forest. There were two reasons for setting up this shrine: the first was to protect the forest area and the town against foreign aggression, and the second was to neutralize charms and bad influences brought into the town by wicked sorcerers. To fortify the shrine, the spiritualist made the rule that women should not be allowed to enter that forest, not for any reason. And men are not allowed to do anything there: no farming or fishing, no cutting of trees, and no hunting. But there are exceptions to fishing which only occurs once in a long time—only when a new king is coronated. This fishing is only done by men. The current king, H.R.H. Jerry Okon Burutolu, was coronated over 20 years ago. This means that no fishing activity has taken pace there in a long while. Sometimes, people who are not aware get into it by mistake and might do little activities there, but they are cleansed afterwards, though this rarely happens.

## Woo Forest in Kaiama: Philosophy, Security and Environmental Preservation

Woo forest serves as the Spiritual Defense Headquarter for the planning and execution of the defense of the people of Kaiama spiritually. Through the shrine with its spirits stationed or garrisoned at Woo forest, the community and its inhabitants are secured from spiritual attacks as well as physical attacks. This is because before enemies would attack the community, the spirits who had no boundaries in their area of existence and life would see them coming first before the Kaiama people. So they would exercise their security powers on the enemy forces by neutralizing them either physically or spiritually. With this being done, the citizens and the community of Kaiama at large is secured.

That apart, the presence of the shrine of protection at the Woo forest demonstrates that the Kaiama people are peace loving who abhor war; they are not belligerent people in nature. And since they are peace loving, they are also lovers of development at both individual and community levels. And with the shrine in the forest, that is, the forest symbolizes the shrine, it discourages the citizens from harming one another. Citizens are not allowed to nurse evil thought against one another for good neighborliness, family fraternity, communal growth and development. By this, the shrine in the Woo forest and the forest tries to regulate the moral standard of the people. This makes sure that the citizens have high regard and moral standard in terms of the dignity and sanctity of man. Here, the spiritual entities and their world control the worldly entities and their world. It shows that the spiritual world is superior to the material or mundane world of man. By this relationship and perception of man about the spirits, the Kaiama people had great trust, confidence and reliance on the capacity and capability of the spirits regarding their spiritual vigilance and protection for the survival of the people. The

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Kaiama people surrendered their rights of protection, defense, evil, destruction and harmonious living to the gods/spirits in the Woo forest.

Further, little did the Kaiama people know that the Woo forest has now become a reservoir for species preservation and conservation for future generations for extinction. The different species of plants and animals in the forest now serve as sources of food and raw materials for man's survival. The preservation and conservation of plants and animals species in the forest is as a result of the fact that the forest is highly sacred, revered and treated as a no-go area for citizens arbitrarily, so all plants and animals in this forest are left undisturbed. They grow and produce tremendously in leaps and bounds. Any disturbance in the form of fishing, farming, hunting and so on of any form attracts the wrath of the gods on any such citizen or person. Any activities performed by any person must receive the approval of the gods in the forest stationed in the shrine through the community elders, chief priests and the paramount ruler. And this is done sometimes once in a century or once in a generation, especially during the coronation of a new king of the community. The fish in the pond is killed once in a century or sometimes in generations depending on the life span of the reigning king. The occasional fishing of the pond shows that the people have the attitude of preserving and conserving the different species of fishes from extinction, to avoid making them endangered species. And they encourage communal living and the survival, well-being and welfare of all citizens through communal fishing.

The Woo forest also serves as a reservoir for medicinal plants, animals and other living and nonliving things which add value to the life and survival of man in the environment on earth. And this is usually harnessed by the indigenous medical practitioners.

Related to the above, the Woo forest serves as recreational and aesthetic scenery for the people of Kaiama and the general public who find time to visit the forest since it is just across the community.

Besides, the Kaiama people as a result of the sacredness of the Woo forest indirectly practice afforestation, which is necessary for the good of man and nature's survival. With afforestation being practiced as a result of the Woo forest, the plants and animals as well as other living and non-living species in the forest are preserved for the improvement of the ecosystem and the habitat. The improvement of the ecosystems and habitat, which is the biodiversity in the environment, indirectly leads to the replenishment and improvement of the depleted ozone layer, and environmental pollution by the activities of man in industrialization and modern technology. This essentially leads to the improvement of the environment and climate change for the survival of man and its surroundings on earth. The Woo forest is of security importance, ethical significance, social relevance, and economic and environmental values.

The Woo forest is of inestimable value to the people of Bayelsa State, and Kaiama in particular. This is because the forest is preserved through traditional values. "Forests and the billions of trees that compose them are considered 'the lungs of the world.' This is because they convert carbon dioxide into oxygen which humans and other creatures need in order to live" (Chandler & Graham, 40). Woo forest is not an exception as it produces enough oxygen for its environs. All species, genes and organisms in the Woo forest still exist. Both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems are not endangered or threatened to go into extinction. The air in the forest remains purified because the trees are intact, and there is no burning of fossil fuels and other activities that can cause pollution. Food webs are intact. There is no cutting of trees to cause soil erosion

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or too much carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere. "The rainforests also affect the patterns of rainfall and protect the soil from erosion" (Barcalow, 360). The natural resources in the forest are not for human consumption; hence, there is no exploitation of these resources. The forest can help to reduce the effect of global warming and climate change.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Environmental preservation has been neglected in Nigeria. This has led to severe problems like global warming, ocean acidification, wildlife extinction, loss of biodiversity, soil erosion and environmental degradation. It also impacts human health negatively because water and crops get contaminated and hazardous, oxygen we breathe in is unpurified because of pollution, and other key issues. To curb these issues, we have to preserve the environment either by enforcing laws or through traditional values.

The preservation of the environment involves the total restriction of the environment and its resources from human interference. Like the Woo forest in Kaiama, the government and other communities should preserve more large forest areas, and even fresh and saline water bodies. The citizens of the country should be enlightened about the benefits of a preserved environment, and the disadvantages of an unreserved environment, through lectures and teachings in schools, through campaigns and symposia, and through the media like radio stations, TV stations and social media. If people become conscious of these, and hear about it everywhere they go, it becomes easier for the environment to be preserved. The expansion of preserved lands, forests and water bodies will lead to a healthy natural environment free from contamination, almost like its original form.

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