

# Unveiling the Uncommon Legacy of Hajiya Gambo Sawaba: A Trailblazing Icon in Nigeria's History

In the annals of Nigerian history, the name Hajiya Gambo Sawaba stands tall as a beacon of resilience, determination, and unwavering advocacy for social justice. Her life and work embody the indomitable spirit of a woman who defied societal norms, challenged oppressive systems, and paved the way for generations to come. This article delves into the remarkable legacy of Hajiya Gambo Sawaba, shedding light on her extraordinary contributions to the Nigerian independence movement, women's rights, and the promotion of education and equality.

## Early Life and Activism

Hajiya Gambo Sawaba was born in 1912 in Zaria, Northern Nigeria, into a prominent Fulani family. From a young age, she displayed a keen interest in social issues and a deep sense of compassion for the marginalized. In the 1940s, she joined the Northern Elements Progressive Union (NEPU), a political party advocating for the rights of the people of Northern Nigeria.



## Hajiya Gambo Sawaba (Nigeria Heritage Series)

by John Adoga

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2678 KB

Print length : 24 pages

Lending : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

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As a member of NEPU, Sawaba fearlessly spoke out against colonial rule and the oppressive policies of the British authorities. She mobilized women and organized protests demanding equal opportunities, education, and the right to vote. Her activism made her a target of the colonial authorities, who arrested and imprisoned her on multiple occasions.

## **Advocate for Women's Rights**

Hajiya Gambo Sawaba is widely recognized as a trailblazing champion of women's rights in Nigeria. She founded the Women's Improvement Association in 1949, a platform through which she advocated for the education of girls, an end to child marriage, and the participation of women in political and economic life.



Hajiya Gambo Sawaba with women activists

Sawaba's unwavering advocacy for women's rights made her a symbol of hope and inspiration for women across the country. She challenged traditional gender roles and fought for the right of women to own property, receive an education, and have a voice in their communities.

## **Independence Movement and Political Career**

Hajiya Gambo Sawaba played a pivotal role in the Nigerian independence movement. She was a member of the Northern People's Congress (NPC), a political party founded by Sir Ahmadu Bello. Sawaba actively campaigned for independence and the creation of a unified and prosperous Nigeria.



After independence in 1960, Sawaba was elected to the Federal House of Representatives, becoming one of the first women to serve in the Nigerian Parliament. As a parliamentarian, she continued to advocate for the rights of women, the poor, and the marginalized.

### **Legacy and Impact**

Hajiya Gambo Sawaba's legacy continues to inspire and empower generations of Nigerians. She is remembered as a tireless advocate for justice, equality, and the advancement of women's rights. Her pioneering work paved the way for increased political participation of women, the

expansion of educational opportunities for girls, and the recognition of women's rights as human rights.

The book "Hajiya Gambo Sawaba: Nigeria Heritage Series" offers a comprehensive and captivating account of her extraordinary life and work. Through interviews, archival research, and personal anecdotes, the book paints a vivid picture of Sawaba's unwavering determination, her challenges, and her lasting impact on Nigerian society.

Hajiya Gambo Sawaba's legacy is a testament to the transformative power of one individual's determination to challenge injustice and promote social change. Her life and work serve as an inspiration to all who believe in the possibility of a better and more just world. Through her unwavering advocacy and pioneering spirit, Hajiya Gambo Sawaba played a pivotal role in shaping the destiny of Nigeria and empowering countless others to stand up for their beliefs.



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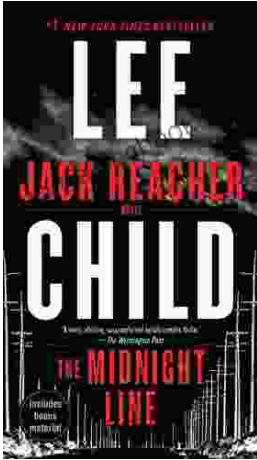
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