

## **Mubarak Tukur Abstract**

The participation of women in peacebuilding in Northern Nigeria has been underrated and understudied, despite their unsung contribution. This study sought to examine and historicise the role that women played in building peace in Northern Nigeria since the 1950s. The study was guided by four objectives namely: tracing the role of women's peacebuilding activism in Northern Nigeria from 1952-1979; exploring women's peacebuilding initiatives in religious and tribal conflicts in Northern Nigeria, 1980 – 2018; interrogating women's peacebuilding initiatives in the Boko Haram conflict, land contestations and the Zaria massacre in 2015. Finally, the study analysed the role of women's Inter-faith peacebuilding in Northern Nigeria, 1992-2018. The study was conducted in Borno, Kano, Kaduna, Plateau and Taraba States of Northern Nigeria and it used a qualitative approach, largely drawing on interviews and documentary analysis. Anchored in causal and feminist peace theories, the study shows that women actively participated in peacebuilding and, as such, they should not be regarded as helpless victims of conflict. They became pillars of conflict resolutions and assumed peace advocacy roles. The study recommends more participation and engagement of women in peacebuilding activities in a way to addressing conflicts in Northern Nigeria and beyond.