

EMIR MUHAMMADU DIKKO IN THE SERVICE OF BRITISH COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION AND KATSINA CITY OF NORTHERN NIGERIA, 1907–1944AD

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Abstract

Following the British conquest of Northern Nigerian polities, there was the installation/appointment of indigenous traditional rulers in service of British colonial administration and their indigenous communities, of which Katsina Emirate, was not an exception. Therefore, this paper, using historical methodology that include primary and secondary sources, analyses the role of Emir Muhammadu Dikko (1907–1944 AD) as an outstanding figure in colonial services and his people. The paper posits that the Emir's 37 years of administration in Katsina Emirate brought transformation, which made him one of the most progressive Emirs in Northern Nigeria. To achieve this, he departmentalized the Native Authority into education, medical department, works, agriculture, veterinary, police, and prison. More so, he was the first to establish Native Treasury in the Northern Provinces and ensure adequate spread of Western education, especially with the establishment of Katsina College, which became a breeding ground for elites and politicians in Northern Nigeria. Other areas of development include and health care services, electricity, and water supply for the development of Katsina Emirate, which made Katsina city one of the urban centres of attraction, and one of the

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political hubs Northern Nigerian politics, with so many Katsina indigenes occupying sensitive positions during and after the British rule in Nigeria. Further to this, the Emir Dikko was the first Emir to visit England. The paper concludes that the outstanding performance of the Emir Dikko contributed in making Katsina the centre of education, civil service and hospitality.

Keywords: *Colonialism, Katsina Emirate, Emir Muhammadu Dikko.*

Introduction

Katsina city is located between an upland area of Latitude 12⁰ 5' and 13⁰ 22' North and Longitude 7⁰ 33' and 9⁰ 22' East, in the extreme northern plains of Hausaland, north of Nigeria. It is situated 96 miles (about 172 kilometers) north of Kano metropolis and also shares boundaries with Sokoto and the French Sahara-Niger Republic (Max Lock Survey Group, 1978 & Shehu, 2007). For centuries before the advent of British colonial administration in 1903, Katsina had been under the leadership of quite a number of traditional rulers. Being the administrative headquarters of Katsina Kingdom (C.1500–1803AD) and later Katsina Emirate (1804–1903 AD), the city was renowned as the center of Islamic scholarship, trade, and commerce, especially from the 16th to 18th centuries. Many scholars who wrote on Katsina City, Katsina Kingdom, and Emirate attest to the fact that Katsina City experienced a great and significant transformation owing to the rise of Emir Muhammadu Dikko in the early part of the 20th century, who turned out to be a British loyalist and a passionate man for the progressives of his people (Abdu'Allah, 2009 & Lugga, 2004). This ample opportunity given to him by the colonialists and the people of

Katsina was not given the attention it deserved by most researchers, which created a vacuum in literature on Katsina history. Dikko's long rule ended on January 29, 1944, at the age of 80. On May 19, 1944, his son Emir Usman Nagogo was sworn in as Katsina's tenth emir, succeeding him. It is against this backdrop that this paper examines the roles of Emir Muhammadu Dikko in the service of British colonial administration between 1907 and 1944.

The British Conquest of Katsina City

The city of Katsina was a densely inhabited community in the eighteenth century, having incorporated migrant groups with a variety of occupational interests prior to colonial domination. It also experienced the penetration of Islamic scholars and travelers, who made significant contributions to its expansion (Usman, 1981). Indeed, Henry Barth observed the city's demography during his 1854 visit and noted that it was densely populated, with a circuit spanning 13 to 14 English miles (Barth, 1965). But on March 19, 1903, colonial forces invaded and took control of the area, establishing a large number of administrative structures, jails, and communication channels. This further quickened Katsina's administrative and physical development and caused a significant shift in the city's population demography (Shehu, 1989). For instance, according to the colonial census survey, the city had 15,215 residents in 1926; 27,831 residents in 1931; 31,699 residents in 1940; 36,423 residents in 1944; 37,262 residents in 1946; and 52,672 residents in 1952. These figures represent a diverse range of ethnic, and linguistic backgrounds (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2009) and indicated the population of the city was steadily increasing (NAK/KATPROF/NA W44-Population Statistics).

Additionally, while the city was a part of Kano Province, Oliver - the first administrator who was a Third-Class Resident - took over as the divisional administrative headquarters of Katsina City. The city was thus put under Zaria Province in 1924. Consequently, after Katsina and Daura Emirates merged in 1934, it came under the jurisdiction of

Katsina Province. Since then, Nash (1933–1935) has been appointed as the first Resident Officer. He was followed in this role by C.C. Feisty (1935–1937), R.L. Payne (1937–1943), H.B. Leonards (1943–1947), D.C. Fletcher (1948), R.B.L. Maiden (1949–1953), R.H. Maddox (1953–1955), J.H.D. Stapleton (1956), T.F.C. Hopkins (1957–1958), and Rev. Hunt (1958–1960) (Shehu, 2012). When Dikko was the Emir, Katsina city benefited from modern infrastructure and urban amenities. These provisions brought modern development which resulted in the physical expansion of the city and prospered to the extent that it began to attract migrant communities from the southern part of colonial Nigeria as clerks, typists, and drivers in the Native Authority and in commercial firms (Shehu, 2012).

Emir Dikko in the Service of British Colonial Administration and Katsina City

On January 25, 1907, Muhammadu Dikko was installed as the Emir of Katsina by Acting High Commissioner, William Wallace. He was seen as a collaborator for the British administration and a loyalist who obeyed and cooperated with the British in order to secure a position of authority (Hull, 1968). In fact, Sir Herbert Richmond Palmer, the British Resident in Katsina, so much appreciates Dikko, who turns out to be a collaborator in the context of Lugard's system of indirect rule (Hull, 1968). As such, Dikko became the eyes and ears of the British and was always ready to report any irregularities to them. There is indeed no doubt that Dikko's tenure provided a peaceful atmosphere for the success of the British indirect rule system in Katsina Province. Besides, his installation was an important watershed in the history of Katsina City that marked the beginning of the Native Authority in the province (NAK/PROF/ – Katsina Monthly Reports, 1905–1907).

Picture 1
His Royal Highness the Emir of Katsina Emirate
Late Alhaji Muhammadu Dikko KBE, CBE (1907–1944)



Source: Yari, L. (2007). *Muhammadu Dikko and His Times*. Summit Book. 188-198. i.

Further to these, Dikko was one of the progressive emirs who travelled much, having made pilgrimages to Mecca and visiting England on five occasions (*Alhaji Muhammadu Nalado Magaji, Kano State Jiya Da Yau A. D. 999*). He was honoured with the C.B.E. and the Kings Medal for African Chief (Ochonu, 2020; Heaton, 2023 & Lugga, 2006). By 1912, Dikko had stabilized himself in his office. He also demonstrated that he was not going to be a lackey of the British Colonial Government. As a matter of fact, in 1911, a British Administrative Officer confirmed that Dikko possessed a set of attributes that made him an excellent fit for his role as the Emir. He described Dikko as perceptive, wise, and who quickly understands situations. Emir Dikko speedily ascertained the purpose of any suggestions presented to him, and consistently demonstrated a high degree of willingness to accept them. Diko was so brave that he would make his opinions on issues known; even if they were not in line with the interests of the colonial government. This

allows the residents to address any question that comes up, either administrative or not, knowing with certainty that Dikko would be ready for action (NAK/KATPROF – Katsina Division, Native Chief Confidential Report, 1951).

The appointment of Dikko, who was Durbin Katsina (1884–1906), was not without resistance from the Katsina King Makers and the Dallazawa Royal Family partly because Dikko was from the Sullabawa Family (Fulani Clan). As a way of protest and to show their serious resentment against the installation of Dikko by the British in 1907, those from the western part of Katsina city that were populated by the Dallazawa—members and supporters of the deposed dynasty—placed their caps on the forehead that signifies *ba ta zauna ba*, meaning the emirship of Dikko had not settled. So, for Dikko to deal with syndrome and to maintain his emirship, he diplomatically employed the policy of inviting people to settle in Katsina city, especially near the Emirs Palace (Memmi, 1974). This policy led to the emergence of new wards and accelerated the pace of urbanization in Katsina city, as noted in the subsequent discussion.

It is noteworthy that Dikko was one of the richest and most influential emirs in northern Nigeria. He was the most travelled Emir of his contemporaries, and his disposition brought great transformation to Katsina city (Akpen, 2020). In fact, in 1921, the British took him to London, Cairo, and Ghana. As such, he was inspired by what he saw. After returning, he embarked on developmental projects in Katsina city and Katsina Province as a whole (Akpen, 2020).

It should be noted that the colonialists paid close attention to the Dikko Native Authority System since its inception. For instance, in 1908, the British created departments for administrative convenience. One of the departments established in the city was the Native Authority Treasury (*Bai-el-mal*) in 1908 (Akpen, 2020). Thus, by 1928, under the Emir Dikko, Katsina Native Authority situated in Katsina City had 14

departments, namely: Taxation and General Departments, Prisons, Native Courts, Roads, Forestry, Police, Health, Agriculture, Works, Education, Social Welfare, Water Supply, Treasury, and Veterinary. The heads of these departments were mostly of royal background (1975). However, an important impact of the establishment of these modern structures was that they accelerated urban development in the city. Table 1 below presents the list of the heads and the department as well.

Table 1: Katsina Native Authority Offices and their Heads as at 1928

S/No.	Department	Heads
1	Taxation and General Administration	Waziri Haruna
2	Prisons	Yari Hassan
3	Native Courts	Alkali Dalhatu
4	Roads	Sarkin Hanya Mallam Bature
5	Forestry	Sarkin Dawa Umaru
6	Police	Usman Nagogo – became Emir in 1944
7	Health	Galadima Asibit Usman Liman
8	Agriculture	Madawakin Gona Abu Duwan
9	Works	Waziri Ayyuka Mallam Kampas
10	Education	Sarkin Malamai Alhaji Balarabe
11	Social Welfare	Sarkin Tsafta
12	Water Supply	Riyoji
13	Treasury	Mutawalle Umaru

14	Veterinary	Wakilin Sarkin Shanu
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Source: Lugga, S.A. (1993). *The Great Province*. Lugga Press. 78-84
Therefore, in each of the aforementioned departments, Dikko played a key role in the development and, equally, the transformation of Katsina city, which later became the administrative headquarters of Katsina State on September 23, 1987.

Education and Political Impact

Dikko had a passion for politics and education and interacted with the Western part of the world. Consequently, he played an important role in the political participation of Katsina City and the spread of Western education through the establishment of various schools, which eventually led to the graduation of so many modern elites who participated in the politics and governance of what later became Nigeria on October 1, 1960. For example, the establishment of Katsina College in 1921 (commissioned in 1922) was able to bring together Nigerians irrespective of political affiliation, religion, and language or creed (Kurfi, 2011). This school became a breeding ground for many prominent Northern Nigerians who held high political positions in the history of Nigeria (Paden, 1986; NAK/KATPROF/2073–Katsina Division Annual Report, 1930 & Kankia, n.d.). For example, Sir Ahmadu Bello – Premier of Northern Nigeria and Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa – Prime Minister of Nigeria during the first Republic (1960–1966) and then General Yakubu Gowon – Military Head of State (1966–1975) (Paden, 1986).

According to Paden, the establishment of the school was crucial to the growth of literature, politics, the civil service, and education in general (Falola & Genova, 2009). Coupled with that, the presence of the school increased the ethnic composition as well as the demography some

wards like Kofar Keke, Rufukka, Makera, Kofar Sauri, Galadunchi, and Yammawa, as people constructed residential houses or rented ones (Shehu, 2012). On the political scene, Dikko made Katsina City a major key player in the party politics of what became Nigeria as a country (Wycliff, 2021). This was because quite a number of Katsina people, such as late Alhaji Isa Kaita and Alhaji Musa Yar'adua, from the aristocratic class, blossomed in the political scene by joining the Northern People's Congress (NPC), which was the dominant political party in the Northern Region of Nigeria (Paden, 1986 & Kwanashe, 2002). It is interesting to note that these people were among the early settlers in wards established by Dikko between 1906 and 1907 (Crowder, 1978).

Health Care Services and Development

Considering the significance of modern healthcare services, Dikko ensured that modern medicines for patients and healthcare equipment for the diagnosis of diseases were provided in Katsina city (Yari, 2007). He ensured that Katsina people were trained as nurses, midwives, medical doctors, and community health workers, which consequently led to awareness on personal hygiene and causes of illness/diseases. Besides the establishment of Provincial General Hospital, in 1927, Dikko contributed in the establishment of the first pharmacy school (Medical School) in Northern Nigeria called Medical Class, built in Katsina city near the famous Katsina College (Lugga, 2004). It was in this school that the first set of Northerner "pharmacists" were trained. This school was later moved to Zaria in 1930 as "Pharmacy School" and later made part of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

Agricultural and Economic Impact

Agriculture was the major bases of the economy of Katsina Emirate. Consequently, Dikko ensured that Katsina Middle School in the city served as centre for taking samples of average rainfall, whose results

significantly enhanced and supported groundnut production, cotton, and pepper, which were the main cash crops produced in Katsina city (Yari, 2007). See Table 2 which presents the rain sample taken at Katsina Middle School, 1936–1946. Beyond that, Dikko contributed in making Katsina people to be trained as Agricultural Extension Officers and Field Supervisors. This made them to have the technical know-how on the use of modern farming tools, application of modern fertilizer, pesticides, and insecticides, new seedlings, and also a modern system of farming that was different from the traditional method usually adopted prior to the advent of British colonial administration in Katsina city (Yari, 2007).

Table 2: Rain sample taken at Katsina Middle School in Katsina metropolis, 1936–1946

Year	Days of Rainfall	Inches
1936	48	26.57
1937	41	32.98
1938	62	32.86
1939	71	34.04
1940	60	25.73
1941	57	23.50
1942	59	25.50
1943	54	31.83
1944	48	18.32 (Queried)
1945	71	36.78
1946	69	29.75
Average, excluding 1944 = 29.90		

Source: NAK/KATPROF/3813–Katsina General Information, 1947–1949.

As a consequence of Western education under Dikko, the first Agricultural Research Centre (the Cotton Improvement Centre) in Northern Nigeria was set up, even though not in Katsina city but at Daudawa near Funtua, and later moved to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. Thus, several plants and crops such as mango, sugar cane, neem, wheat, were equally introduced in Katsina city between 1920 and 1940. Forestry and irrigation centres were also set up at Katsina city amongst others places in Katsina Province (Kurfi, 2011 & Lugga, 2004). In the field of livestock development, under Dikko, the first veterinary clinic in Northern Nigeria was built at Madoji, near the old Katsina Government House, in 1922. This clinic later spread to other parts of northern Nigerian cities (Lugga, 2004). Consequently, Alhaji (Dr.) Abu Mawashi – a Katsina indigene was to become the first northern veterinary doctor in 1951 (Kurfi, 2011).

With regards to the livestock/animal husbandry, under Dikko, cattle which was the main source of *Jangali* amounted to £14,445 in 1910. Although few years later, 190,500 cattle perished from disease. To check the menace of the disease, Dikko in collaboration with the British organized several campaigns under the supervision of a British veterinary doctor and graduates of Western education in Katsina City (Veterinary *Malams*), immunized about 50,000 (Hull, 1968 & NAK/KATPROFSNP/17/4 32072–Katsina Province Annual Report, 1939).

Furthermore, Dikko ensured that veterinary offices were opened in markets, especially where large transactions on animals were carried out. He also posted veterinary *Malams* to animal diseases. These people also played the role of inspecting hides and skins in order to ensure quality. As such in 1939, the finest clinic laboratory in Nigeria with stabling and stores was completed in the center of Katsina city. This made The Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to award Dikko a Silver Medal for his personal efforts for the welfare of animals and promoting the general use of a tender type of European bit for

horses instead of native one (Kagara, 1951 & NAK/KATPROF/–A Letter, 1937).

Treasury and Record-Keeping

In the area of treasury, Katsina city of the colonial Katsina Province, under Dikko, led the other Northern Nigerian provinces in the establishment of solid revenue generation and utilization. According to Sir W. Wallace and Mr. H. R. Palmer, who were Colonial Officers in Northern Nigeria, Emirs were at that time given 25% of the collected revenue as personal emoluments, while the British kept the balance (NAK/KATPROF/SNP 17/K.20176 – History of Katsina, H. R. Palmer). However, Dikko—suggested that the 25% share should be kept for the use of the Emirate instead of the Emir alone. His suggestion was accepted, and Emirs were allotted salaries along with their subordinates, while the balance was kept for social services. That gave rise to the establishment of the first treasury in Northern Nigeria near the Emir's Palace in Katsina city in 1907. This treasury became a model and a training ground for other Emirates like Daura, Zazzau (Zaria), Kano, Bauchi, Sokoto, Borno, Adamawa, etc. (NAK/KATPROF/SNP/10/214/1913 – Kano Province). Subsequently, Katsina city became a centre for the development of colonial taxation policies as well as a training ground for balancing the Islamic and Western education systems of taxation and record-keeping. More so, many more graduates of Western schools were employed in this office (NAK/KATPROF/SNP/10/214/1913 – Kano Province).

Judiciary

In the case of the judiciary, it was under the auspices of Dikko – who appointed/installed District Alkali with the consultation of Chief Alkali and the blessings of British Administrative Officer in 1905 that Alkali received a regular salary and enjoyed the respect of Talakawa (commoners) (Hull, 1968). Under this phase of development, District Alkali were also responsible to the Chief Alkali, who could also examine or hear cases from their courts (NAK/KANPROF/SNP/134/1913 – Kano Province Annual Report, 1912). As such by 1913, there was a marked increase in the court's revenue of £3034 against the previous year's, which was £1744 (NAK/KATPROF/1813 – Katsina Division Annual Report, 1907). Thus, the major sources of court income were fees, fines, and death duties. Similarly, in 1907, the Judicial Council was established with Dikko presiding it. The council had 5 members, including Chief Alkali, and 3 leaders. This replaced the Emir's Court established during Emir Yero, which became a vehicle for his injustice ((NAK/KATPROF/1813). Consequently, under Dikko, the council also served as an Appeal Court from the Court of Chief Alkali. In fact, there was a clear division of jurisdiction between the Council and the Court of Alkali (NAK/KATPROF/1813).

With all the efficient legal facilities, by the first quarter of 1925, the courts had 1,859 criminal cases and 41 civil cases (Hull, 1968). As attested by Hull, the judicial system was highly strengthened during Dikko's time through the upholding of the Islamic and customary laws. By the 1930s, the Katsina Emirate had 2 grade "A" courts, namely the Emir's Judicial Council and the Court of Chief Alkali, 15 grade B courts in the districts, 1 grade "C," and a grade "D" court that dealt with minor cases in Katsina town's market (Hull, 1968). Consequently, in 1937, the Roman Script Courts enabled the colonial administrative officer to examine the records easily (NAK/KANPROF/SNP/17/30876 – Kano Province Annual Report, 1938).

Sport

Sport was another key area in which Dikko contributed to the development of Katsina city. In fact, the city became centre of polo game since its introduction after the return of Dikko from England in 1921. Thus, Captain Sheriden from England coached the Katsina players who were mostly children of Dikko. That is why the game was initially dominated by the aristocratic class from the beginning. Katsina city became the centre of polo game in Nigeria. In fact, this game promoted healthy living and relaxation exercise among the people of Katsina (Shehu, 2012).

Migration and Settlement

During the reign of Emir Dikko, Katsina city witnessed migration and settlement of migrant communities from the northern and southern parts of colonial Nigeria, especially the Igbo and Yoruba, who came to enjoy the employment opportunities in the colonial Native Authority hospitals, schools, as well as mission stations, where they worked as typists, drivers, stewards, educators, and teachers, while some served as agents of colonial firms like United African Company (UAC) and PZ (Wycliff, 2017). Thus, the immigration of these communities gave birth to settlements like Sabon Layi, which was a new layout within the walled city of Katsina. In fact, it was a mix settlement for Katsina people as well as immigrants from northern and southern Nigeria such as the Igbo, Yoruba, Nupe, and Niger Republic nationals. This settlement differed from other colonial stranger quarters (Sabon Gari) as obtained in Kano and Zaria. This further intensified the relationship between Katsina and non-Katsina people (Wycliff, 2018).

More so, Dikko, in his diplomatic policy, invited people to settle in Katsina city, especially near the palace and its environs (Saulawa, 1977 & Shehu, 2012). Consequently, through this policy, there was the

emergence of new wards (Unguwowi) such as Saulawa (1906), Yaranchi and Yari (1907), and then Madawaki (1948) (Mamman, 2011 & Nabata, 2006).

Further to this, in 1939, in response to the growing population in Katsina city as a result of immigration, Dikko developed a new type of administration in the ward system. For example, the wards in Katsina metropolis were decentralized into two major divisions, with each under a Wakili (representative) (Abdu'Allah, 2009 & Shehu, 2012). In each division, some wards were under the control of wardheads (Masu Unguwa) responsible for the Waikili. These divisions were Wakilin Kudu and Wakilin Gabas. Subsequently, in 1943, following the increase in migration into Katsina city, the number of Wakili increased from 2 to 4. The new ones added were Wakilin Yamma and Wakilin Arewa. By 1951, all four ward offices were completed (Wycliff, 2016).

Roads, electricity, and water supply

Road, electricity and water supply are the key impetus in the transformation of urban centres to big cities. Though the roads were not constructed by the British in a real sense to develop or meet Africa's needs (Rodney, 1968), their construction had directly or indirectly facilitated the movement of people as well as gave Katsina city a modern outlook of that era. For example, earliest roads built in Katsina city under Dikko's administration was the one that linked Kofar-Durbi to the Residency, which was about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile (1 kilometer). This was followed by 2 kilometers roads from the western side of the city linking Kofar Guga to the Army Barracks (NAK/KATPROF/1797 – 1905).

Similarly, in 1909, the outcome of Dikko's meetings with District Heads and Colonial Resident Officer of Katsina Province led to construction of goods roads for the promotion of trade and interaction between towns in Katsina Divisions (NAK/KATPROF/1836, 1909). For example, by 1915, Katsina-Kano, Katsina-Masaya, Katsina-Daura, and Katsina-Ruma roads were constructed and in good condition. This

involved widening of dangerous narrow sections and improvement of the surface, as well as the construction of culverts in various places. Kofar-Kaura gate of Katsina city was demolished and rebuilt to take two lines of motor traffic and one of foot traffic (NAK/KATPROF/ – Katsina Province Annual Report, 1928–1929).

Furthermore, in 1933, the Katsina-Mani roads were completed (NAK/KATPROF – Katsina Province Annual Report, 1933). Therefore, the construction of the roads under the Dikko administration had indeed boosted the movement of people, goods, and services both within and outside Katsina city, to the extent that wealthy people like Alhaji Abu Kyari, Danbinta, Alhaji Abba Saude, and Alhaji Barmo provided vehicles for long-distance trade to as far as Lagos, Onitsha, and the Niger Republic (Shehu, 2012). This possibly prompted the arrival of more colonial companies and firms like London and Kano, John Holt, and Amburzin, who exchanged bicycles and soap for indigenous goods like leather and groundnut.

With regards to electricity which was highly essential for a successful viable productivity. Emir Dikko using the exposure acquired influenced colonial government in establishing electricity for not only the benefit of European officials but his people. The provision of the electricity had tremendous impact on improving the quality of life and services in Katsina city. In fact, between 1928 and 1940, electricity undertakings were set up in Northern Nigeria by the Colonial Central Authority, the Native Authority, and private companies (Akpen, 2006). In Katsina Province, the Native Authority undertook the responsibility of providing electricity to Katsina city. Consequently, in 1933, Katsina Electricity was commissioned, consisting of a 55-KW diesel engine set up to lighten the city with about 320 consumers. With high demand for electricity supply owing to population growth and the establishment of

institutions in the city, the electricity units generated rose from 106 in 1952 to 469 in 1957, and by 1960 they had risen to 693 (Shehu, 2012). In terms of water is which was necessity in life and in most production, it received serious attention under Dikko. In fact, there was improvement in the water supply in Katsina city, especially in 1937 under the Water Section of the Geological Department. During that period, about 15 wells were sunk and investigated to determine the possibilities of water supply for the city (NAK/KATPROF/ – Katsina Province Annual Report, 1937). In fact, by 1957 Katsina urban water supply project had made more great impact owing to the legacy left by Dikko administration (Shehu, 2012).

Conclusion

The installation of Muhammadu Dikko as the Emir of Katsina (1907–1944) was an important watershed in the history of Katsina metropolis as his period that marked the beginning of the Native Authority System in Katsina Emirate as well as the physical expansion of Katsina metropolis, ranging from social amenities like water, roads, communication, electricity, and health care services. Emir Muhammadu Dikko was a historical figure in the British colonial administration and the transformation of Katsina city into a modern centre of urbanization. Besides, his era laid the foundation for the colonial medical and health care services, agriculture, the judiciary, and the native police and judiciary. It is indeed true that Dikko's tenure provided a peaceful atmosphere for the success of the British administration in Katsina city and the emirate. This was followed by demographic changes, which added to the cosmopolitan nature of the city owing to the migration of various ethnic nationality from different parts of colonial Nigeria and Niger Republic.

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