

**Jibrin Ibrahim** is the Director of CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY & DEVELOPMENT, a regional research, advocacy and training non-governmental organisation for West Africa. Previously, from 2000 to 2006, he was Nigeria Country Director of Global Rights. Dr Ibrahim who is Nigerian is also active in civil society organisations and has over thirty years of active engagement with civil society. He is presently serving on the Electoral Reform Committee established by President Umaru Yar Adua. He was the National Convenor of the Citizen's Forum for Constitutional Reform, a coalition of Ninety non-governmental organisations seeking to reform the 1999 Nigerian Constitution. Dr Ibrahim is an academic who holds a PhD in Political Science from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Bordeaux, France. His areas of specialization are democratisation, political economy of poverty reduction, comparative federalism and religious and ethnic identities. Before joining Global Rights, he was a director of research at the Centre for Research and Documentation, Kano, Nigeria. He was previously an Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria.

He has also had Visiting Professorships at the Institute of Federalism, University of Fribourg, Switzerland and the Department of Political Science of the University of Toronto, Canada. He has numerous publications among which are: with Amina Salihu (Eds) Feminism or Mal Feminism? The Lives and Times of Women in Nigeria, Centre for Research and Documentation, Kano, 2007, Nigeria's 2007 Elections: The Fitful Path to Democratic Citizenship United States Institute for Peace Special Report no. 182, January 2007, Transforming Elections into Opportunities for Political Choice in West Africa, Nordic Africa Institute Electronic Paper, Uppsala, 2006, with Sam Egwu (Eds) Nigeria Elections 2007: Defending the People's Mandate, Global Rights, Abuja, 2005, with Sam Egwu (Eds) Nigeria's Electoral Geography and the Path to Free and Fair Elections, Electoral Reform Network, Abuja, 2005, with Otiye Igbuzor (Eds) A Citizens' Approach to Making a People's Constitution in Nigeria, Citizens' Forum for Constitutional Reform, Lagos, 2005, *Federalism and Decentralisation in Africa*, University of Fribourg, Fribourg 1999, *The Expansion of Democratic Space in Nigeria*, CODESRIA, Dakar 1997 and *Democratisation Processes in Africa*, CODESRIA, Dakar, 1995.

Jibrin Ibrahim joined the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) as its Director in February 2006. Since its inception in 1997, CDD has mobilised global opinion on questions of democratic development and generated continuing dialogues on alternative routes to democratic governance in West Africa. The Centre has emerged as a leading intellectual resource for policy oriented scholarship on democratisation, improved economic governance, human security and development in Africa and a ready reference point for informed analysis and capacity building in West Africa. From the smallest of beginnings, CDD has grown to reach across the region and up to the higher echelons of power and influence. It has gone into critical sectors of communities and constituencies, through its vibrant networks and practical outputs.

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