

## "The Mass Media And The Judiciary As Synergies For Democratic Practice In N

The media in most jurisdictions have been recognized as the Fourth Estate of the Realm of a democratic set up. This nomenclature became apt as a result of the position that has been accorded them in most constitutions and that is why the freedom of the media has over the years, been recognized as an integral part of freedom of expression which is an essential element in a democratic set up. The media have been given the task of watchdogs for the society by holding the government accountable to its people as well as being channels for the dissemination of information, views and opinions. The judiciary as the Third Arm of government is charged with the responsibility of ensuring that actions taken by all are legally conducted in line with the laws of the land. The role played by the judiciary cannot be overemphasized as it ensures that anarchy and lawlessness are prevented and in their place, orderliness and respect for obedience to the laws are enhanced. From time, the media in trying to fulfill their roles of information dissemination have been hampered by man constraints n terms of getting an enabling environment and to some extent, some of these laws inhibit the freedom of expression. In spite of these constraints which are legal and which give credence to the fact that there is no absolute freedom anywhere, there is an assumption that for the purpose of good governance and workable democracy, there exists a synergy between the media and the judiciary. It is therefore the view of this paper that both the media and judiciary. I is therefore the view of this enhancing democratic governance especially in Nigeria. In taking this stance, the paper wishes to examine the dynamics and pragmatics of the media and the judiciary and marshal out how both can harmonise and make democracy in Nigeria operate effectively.