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**STREET- BEGGING IN CITIES: UNVEILING THE GLOBAL SITUATIONS AND
ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED**

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Abstract

Street-Begging is one of the serious environmental and socio-economic urban problems, which appear to have defied solutions, particularly in the developing countries of the world. In this paper it is viewed that different facets of the problem need to be considered before it can be adequately addressed. It is against that backdrop that the paper attempts to unveil the cultural, socio-political and socio-economic correlates of begging in cities, particularly of developing countries. The paper starts by examining the concept and issue of begging across the globe, and with illustrations and explorations of Islamic and Christian scriptures, socio-economic issues, and composite concept of culture (with Nigerian example) it establishes the impacts of the different factors of religion, culture, polity, and socio-economic realities on begging. The paper sees poverty and other socio-economic factors as central issues in addressing the problem of begging in cities. It identifies or rather, generates certain constructs, and hypotheses, which may provide a suitable platform for more empirical studies on the phenomenon.

Key Words: Beggin, Culture, Religion, Socio-economy
