

# Zamfara State

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**Zamfara State** is a state in northwestern Nigeria. Its capital is Gusau and its Governor is Mahmud Shinkafi, a former member of the All Nigeria People's Party (ANPP), now a member the People's Democratic Party (PDP). Until 1996 the area was part of Sokoto State.

Zamfara is peopled by Hausa and Fulani peoples. Major groups of people include the Zamfarawa mainly peopling Anka, Gummi, Bukkuyum and Talata Mafara Local Governments areas. Gobirawa peopled Shinkafi Local Government. Gobirawa actually migrated from the Gobir Kingdom. Burmawa are found in Bakura and Fulani peopled Bungudu, Maradun, Gusau and are scattered all over the State. In Tsafe, Bungudu and Maru Local Governments are mainly Katsinawa, Garewawa and Hadejawa. While Alibawa peopled Kaura Namoda and Zurmi.


Although the people of Zamfara have over the years struggled to have autonomy, it was not until 1996 that the then Military Administration of the Late General Sani Abacha created Zamfara State out of Sokoto State. With an area of 38,418 Square kilometres, It is bordered in the North by Niger republic, to the South by Kaduna State. In the east it is bordered by Katsina State and to the West by Sokoto and Niger States. It has a population of 2,069,373 according to the 1991 census and constitutes of fourteen local government areas.

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## History

The area today called Zamfara state was one of the old Hausa city-states like Kano, Katsina, Gobir, Kabi and Zazzau. It extends up to the bend of River Rima to the north west and River Ka in the south west. Zamfara Kingdom was established in the 11th century and flourished up to 16th century as a city-state. Its capital has shifted with the fortunes of the kingdom from place to place like Dutsi and

<b>Zamfara State</b> State nickname: Farming is Our Pride	
<b>Location</b>	
	
<b>Statistics</b>	
<b>Governor (List)</b>	Mahmud Shinkafi (PDP)
<b>Date Created</b>	1 October 1996
<b>Capital</b>	Gusau
<b>Area</b>	39,762 km <sup>2</sup> Ranked 7th
<b>Population</b> 1991 Census 2005 est.	Ranked 23rd N/A 3,602,356 <i>3.6m</i>
<b>GDP (PPP)</b> -Total -Per Capita	2007 (estimate) \$4.12 billion <sup>[1]</sup> \$1,237 <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>ISO 3166-2</b>	NG-ZA

Birnin Zamfara. In the first half of the 18th century, its then capital Birnin Zamfara, was destroyed by the Gobir Kingdom and a new capital was established in Anka by the second half of the 19th century. Zamfara had many centers of commerce and scholarship that attracted many scholars like the Yandoto city. It became part of the Sokoto Caliphate after the 1804 jihad by Usman dan Fodio. In fact, Usman Danfodiyo settled in Sabon Gari where Sarkin Zamfara Abarshi had already established a garrison headquarters during the early days of his Jihad as a base from where fought Gobir and Kabi.

At the wake of British colonialism, the emerging town of Gusau became an important commercial and administrative center with road and rail networks passing through it. With the creation of States during the Gowon Administration, Zamfara Kingdom became part of the then North West State and latter Sokoto State.

## Climate

The climate of Zamfara is warm tropical with temperature rising up to 38°C between March to May. Rainy season starts in late May to September while the cold season known as Harmattan lasts from December to February.

## Local Government Areas

- Anka
- Bakura
- Birnin Magaji/Kiyaw
- Bukkuyum
- Bungudu
- Chafe
- Gummi
- Gusau
- Kaura Namoda
- Maradun
- Maru
- Shinkafi
- Talata Mafara
- Zurmi

## Demographics

Zamfara State is mainly populated by Hausa and Fulani people, with some members of Gwari, Kamuku, Kambari, Dukawa, Bussawa and Zabarma ethnic communities. [1] Others include the Igbo, Yoruba, Kanuri, Nupe and Tiv.

The state capital is an important commercial center with a heterogeneous population of people from all over Nigeria. As in all major towns in Nigeria, all the major towns in Zamfara have a large population of other peoples from different parts of Nigeria.

## Economy

Agriculture is the most important occupation of the people of the state, hence its slogan "farming is our pride".

## Religion

Islam is the principal and major religion of the state. Zamfara was the first state in Nigeria to introduce sharia law. 12°10′N 6°15′E﻿ / ﻿12.167°N 6.250°E﻿ / 12.167; 6.250

## Language

English is the official language of the state. Other main languages spoken in Zamfara are Hausa, Fulfulde and Arabic.

## Populations

The population of Zamfara based on their 1991 census is 2.069 million people.

## References

- ↑ *^ a b* "C-GIDD (Canback Global Income Distribution Database)". Canback Dangel. http://www.cgidd.com. Retrieved 2008-08-20.

## See also

- States of Nigeria

## External links

- Official website of Zamfara State
- Nigerian Post Office- with map of LGAs of the state

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Categories: States of Nigeria | Zamfara State | States and territories established in 1996

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→ Potential  
→ 100 million/day

## X GASUA

- Skills Acquisition Centre
- Zellek
- Investment in Agriculture
- Exploitation of Mineral resources designed to grow the IGR potentials of the State
- Housing, Roads connecting communities
- Unity Schools & Women Empowerment
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