

Original Research Article

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Comparative Analysis of Food Composition and Mineral Element Levels of Two Locally Prepared Foods in Jigawa State Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

The use of cereal grains as sources of food for man is well known. Different food products are obtained from grains based on the processing technique and the type of cereal employed. Although the causes of malnutrition are many and diverse, inadequate intake of foods and essential nutrients is a major contributory factor and yet this subject is poorly researched in many developing countries including Nigeria. This research was conducted in Jigawa State Nigeria. Were a total of 1,500 questionnaires were administered and 1,250 retrieved. Based on the analysed questionnaires, two representative samples of traditional foods which include Tuwon Masara (white maize) and Danwake were collected and transported to the laboratory for chemical food composition and mineral elements analysis. Standard procedures of AOAC were used to determine the carbohydrate content, crude protein, crude fat, ash, moisture content, total fiber, energy (kcal), glycosides, oxalate, phytate, tannin, total phenol as well as some micro and macro elements. From the result obtained, Tuwon masara was found to have a high percentage of both chemical food composition and mineral elements than Danwake. With respect to standard by Recommended Dietary Allowance (DRA) of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), both foods have high chemical food composition but lower mineral element levels. This may be attributed to lack of standard procedure on the actual amount of nutrients for the

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Introduction

In recent years, consumers have shown an increased interest and demand for traditional foods as they are often perceived as having specific sensory characteristics and being of higher quality. European Food Information Resource (EuroFIR) defined traditional foods as a food of specific feature or features, which

distinguish it clearly from other similar products of the same category in terms of the use of 'traditional ingredients' (raw materials or primary products) or 'traditional composition' or 'traditional type of production and processing method' (Trichopoulou *et al.*, 2007). Humans require more than 22 mineral elements, which can all be supplied by an appropriate diet. However,

the diets of populations subsisting on cereals, or inhabiting regions where soil mineral imbalances occur, often lack Fe, Zn, Ca, Mg, Cu, I or Se. Some are required in large amounts, but others, such as Fe, Zn, Cu, I and Se, are required in trace amounts because higher concentrations can be harmful (Grusak and Cakmak, 2005). Ultimately, these mineral elements enter the food chain through plants while some essential mineral elements, such as K and Na, occur solely as soluble inorganic ions in plants. The mineral elements most frequently lacking in human diets are Fe, Zn and I, although other elements, such as Ca, Mg, Cu and Se, can be deficient in the diets of some populations (White and Broadley, 2005). These deficiencies are caused by diets characterized by high intakes of staple foods but low intakes of vegetables, fruits, and animal and fish products, which are rich sources of minerals.

The use of cereal grains as sources of food for man is well known. Different food products are obtained from grains based on the processing technique and the type of cereal employed. Developed countries utilize up to 80% of their available cereals as animal feed. The trend is different in African countries where traditional human foods are based on millet, maize and rice. Legumes are, in most cases, supplemented to complement proteins in some of the preparations. Some traditional foods in Nigeria made from cereals include Tuwo, Danwake Ogi, Kunu, Burukutu and Pito (Okafor, 1983). Tuwo and Danwake are some of the most commonly used cereal food produced from maize and millet respectively.

They are some of the most common foods used by the people of northern Nigeria and some other parts of the country (Gaffa *et al.* 2002). Lack of standard procedure for the processing of these local foods may lead to malnutrition which can be brought about by the inadequacy or over-consumption of one or

more of the essential nutrients necessary for survival, growth and reproduction, as well as productivity at work (UNICEF, 2009). Micronutrient malnutrition greatly increases mortality and morbidity rates, diminishes cognitive abilities of children and lowers their educational attainment, reduces labor productivity, stagnates national development efforts, contributes to continued high population growth rates and reduces the livelihood and quality of life for all those affected (Welch and Graham, 1999). Although the causes of malnutrition are many and diverse, inadequate intake of foods and essential nutrients is a major contributory factor and yet this subject is poorly researched in many developing countries including Nigeria (Kikafunda *et al.*, 2006). As such, this research will provide a comparative study of food composition and mineral element levels of two traditional foods consumed in Jigawa State Nigeria which may help not only to identify the nutritional status of local diets, but may also lead to effective strategies being developed for the purpose of enhancing the nutrient composition of these traditional diets (Welch and Graham, 2002).

Study area

Jigawa State is in the North western part of Nigeria between latitudes 11.00°N to 13.00°N and longitudes 8.00°E to 10.15°E and has a total population of 4,348,649 inhabitants (NPC, 2006). About 80 per cent of the population is found in the rural areas and predominately farmers and Muslims. The socio-cultural situation in Jigawa State could be described as homogeneous: it is mostly populated by Hausa/Fulani, who can be found in all parts of the State.

Sample size and sample collection

A mixed questionnaire (open and closed) in both local language (Hausa) and English were

used as an instrument for data collection. A clustered sampling method was strictly adhered to, in which the whole Jigawa state was divided into three clusters based on the three senatorial districts of the state. A total of 1,500 questionnaires were administered to the population of 4,348,649 (500 to each senatorial district) in which 1,250 were returned. Based on the filled questionnaires, two representative samples of traditional foods which include *Tuwon Masara* and *Danwake* were selected, collected and transported to the laboratory for chemical food composition analysis.

Food composition

Food composition of locally prepared *Tuwon masara* (maize) with *Kuka* (baobab leaves) soup and *Danwake*. For *Tuwon masara*, ingredients include maize (*Masara*), baobab leaves (*kuka*), African locust bean seeds (*daddawa*) and meat. *Danwake* have ingredients such as beans (*wake*), Groundnut oil, Guinea corn (*dawa*), pepper, baobab leaves (*kuka*), potash and cassava. For comparison purposes, standard quantity of some nutritional contents and mineral element levels of the recipes from Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations were presented.

Chemical analyses

Standard procedures of AOAC were used to determine the carbohydrate content, crude protein, crude fat, ash, moisture content, total fiber, energy (kcal), glycosides, oxalate, phytate, tannin and total phenol as well as all the mineral elements (AOAC, 1990). Energy value was calculated using the Atwater's conversion factors. Minerals were determined by a Zeeman Polarized Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer, Hitachi Model 180-80, and Ion Chromatographic Analyzer ICA model IC 100 (Spackman and Stein, 1958). All reagents for the analysis of food are of

analytical grade according to the specification of the manufacturers

Statistical analysis

Results were expressed as mean \pm standard deviation. The difference between groups of each parameter was determined using the t-test and statistical significance were claimed at $P < 0.05$.

Results and Discussion

The proximate nutrient composition of most prepared local diet called white maize (*Tuwon masara*) and its recipes as well as their corresponding mineral elements are presented in Table 1 and 2. The results indicated that total carbohydrate, crude protein, fiber, fat, moisture and energy values are higher than what is recommended by Dietary Recommended Allowance value (DRA). Other recipes such as tannin, glycosidase, ash content, total phenol, oxalate and phytate indicate a high value from most prepared food (*Tuwon masara*) collected from selected sites than the one prepared in the laboratory. From table 2, certain important mineral elements such as magnesium (Mg), manganese (Mn), iron (Fe), lead (Pb), Potassium (K), Calcium (Ca), Copper (Cu), Cobalt (Cb) and other mineral elements were analysed.

Table 3 shows the percentage Proximate and Anti Nutritional Content of Recipe for Moderately Selected Diet (*Danwake* Served with Groundnut Oil and Pepper) in (g/100g) and the percentage proximate consumed in Jigawa State, Nigeria. From this table, it was also observed that there is a high percentage of carbohydrate, crude protein, fiber, fat, moisture and energy values than the prepared food in the laboratory (Table 4) as well as what is recommended by Dietary Recommended Allowance value (DRA) in Table 5.

Table.1 Percentage (g/100g) proximate and Anti-Nutritional Contents of Recipe for Tuwon Masara (white maize) Served with Kuka Soup Consumed in Jigawa State, Nigeria

Parameters Sample	Carbohydrate	C/P	C/Fat	C/F	Moisture	Ash	Energy (kcal)	C. glycosides (mg/100g)	Oxalate (mg/100g)	Phytate	Tannin	T/P
Maize (white)	84.0300	8.4778	0.2764	0.3617	6.5000	0.2542	372.1667	0.1250	3.2633	1.1951	0.1602	14.6849
	± 1.4042	± 1.2945	± 0.0022	± 0.0823	± 0.2236	± 0.0340	± 0.9458	± 0.0010	± 0.1050	± 0.0177	± 0.0049	± 1.4585
Baobab	63.0754	17.6889	0.2762	10.4975	6.3333	2.2296	325.6667	0.4220	7.8833	1.6089	0.5059	36.8128
	± 2.7174	± 2.3411	± 0.0054	± 0.7862	± 0.4216	± 0.0187	± 3.1269	± 0.0130	± 0.0883	± 0.0496	± 0.0066	± 1.0375
Potash	17.4949	1.6722	0.2969	0.6142	6.3333	73.7385	79.3405	0.1130	0.9900	0.4061	0.0281	0.3364
	± 0.1083	± 0.0717	± 0.0120	± 0.0266	± 0.3333	± 0.2955	± 0.8280	± 0.0000	± 0.0942	± 0.0310	± 0.0038	± 0.0213
Onion	72.6134	4.1222	0.3056	11.8175	10.6667	0.7079	309.8333	0.5340	45.7600	2.8155	0.3783	10.3760
	± 1.3581	± 0.2144	± 0.0139	± 1.4136	± 0.2108	± 0.0305	± 5.6179	± 0.0040	± 0.8271	± 0.1947	± 0.0187	± 0.5955
Daddawa	41.8349	30.6833	0.2702	14.9725	11.0000	1.2057	292.5000	0.1680	22.2200	1.1448	0.3478	16.1065
	± 5.4149	± 5.4435	± 0.0012	± 0.1905	± 0.0000	± 0.0351	± 1.1475	± 0.0020	± 1.0303	± 0.0272	± 0.0135	± 0.0288
Meat	30.4242	57.4333	0.2784	3.3071	7.5714	0.8998	363.3333	0.1490	9.1300	0.3558	0.0978	15.2998
	± 6.9736	± 9.2501	± 0.0101	± 2.7349	± 0.4286	± 0.1018	± 0.8028	± 0.0010	± 0.3150	± 0.0285	± 0.0075	± 0.1255
Hot pepper	54.0580	4.0600	0.2949	33.1200	6.8000	1.6671	236.6667	0.1970	30.4700	1.6437	0.4230	19.5647
	± 0.4917	± 0.5351	± 0.0122	± 0.1420	± 0.2000	± 0.0132	± 1.5635	± 0.0130	± 0.8814	± 0.0202	± 0.0162	± 0.9893
Total for white maize	363.5299	124.1377	1.9982	74.6505	55.2047	80.7028	1979.5072	1.7080	119.7166	9.4731	1.9411	113.1811
	± 18.4682	± 19.1504	± 0.0570	± 5.3761	± 1.8179	± 0.5288	± 14.0324	± 0.0340	± 3.3413	± 0.3689	± 0.0712	± 4.2564

KEY: Values are mean ± SE, n = 6, key: C/P= Crude Protein, C/Fat=Crude fat, C/F=crude fiber and c/glycosides: cyanogenic glycosides, T/P=Total phenol

Table.2 Level of Mineral Elements ($\mu\text{g/g}$) in the Recipes for *TuwonMasara* (white maize) with *Kuka Soup*) Consumed in Jigawa State Nigeria

Sample	Se	Zn	Cd	Ni	Cu	Pb	Co	Mn	Cr	Ca	Mg	Fe	Ag	K
Maize (white)	0.4789	0.6520	BDL	0.0784	0.0842	BDL	BDL	0.1791	0.0178	4.2105	28.9455	0.9123	0.0155	72.6225
	±	±		±	±			±	±	±	±	±	±	±
	0.0131	0.0325		0.0064	0.0205			0.0314	0.0003	0.1996	0.3434	0.0555	0.0004	0.3642
Boabab	0.5063	1.5439	BDL	0.1493	0.1434	BDL	BDL	1.0082	0.0704	661.2982	57.0838	10.8880	0.0133	65.5710
	±	±		±	±			±	±	±	±	±	±	±
	0.0456	0.0921		0.0070	0.0151			0.1392	0.0035	2.8376	5.1297	1.3322	0.0013	0.6966
Potash	0.0000	4.0928	BDL	0.2138	0.0761	BDL	BDL	4.8105	0.5120	408.5240	174.2628	132.1742	0.0018	BDL
	±	±		±	±			±	±	±	±	±	±	
	0.0000	0.0921		0.0335	0.0057			0.0440	0.0495	4.3509	0.4290	1.3203	0.0006	
Onion	1.5199	0.6497	BDL	0.2853	0.1377	BDL	BDL	0.2888	0.0227	181.8690	24.9952	2.1493	BDL	61.3767
	±	±		±	±			±	±	±	±	±		±
	0.3354	0.1107		0.0436	0.0317			0.0760	0.0034	6.3246	1.3774	0.5728		0.4773
Daddawa	0.5012	2.1836	BDL	0.1657	0.5613	BDL	BDL	3.4098	0.0698	631.9311	90.4148	17.5518	0.0085	95.0195
	±	±		±	±			±	±	±	±	±	±	±
	0.3016	0.0486		0.0087	0.0373			0.2351	0.0042	8.4463	1.1103	1.8713	0.0032	1.2124
Meat	0.1646	2.9572	BDL	0.0762	0.1590	BDL	BDL	0.0475	0.0187	301.0400	28.3320	3.5587	0.0103	125.2333
	±	±		±	±			±	±	±	±	±	±	±
	0.0544	0.2436		0.0064	0.0444			0.0052	0.0004	5.8093	0.3789	0.3362	0.0009	0.4598
Hot pepper	0.3036	0.5492	BDL	0.4742	0.2856	BDL	BDL	0.5089	0.0525	146.3503	51.8990	5.7959	0.0060	BDL
	±	±		±	±			±	±	±	±	±	±	
	0.0420	0.0546		0.0589	0.0286			0.0392	0.0075	6.3335	3.5832	0.7722	0.0018	
Water	0.6535	0.0698	0.0139	0.1382	0.0469	BDL	BDL	0.0318	0.0590	30.6490	6.7720	1.3908	0.0055	41.0318
	±	±	±	±	±			±	±	±	±	±	±	±
	0.0367	0.0036	0.0059	0.0833	0.0041			0.0038	0.0039	0.8918	0.9311	0.1275	0.0006	4.6184
Total for white maize	4.1280	12.6982	0.0139	1.5811	1.4942	BDL	BDL	10.2846	0.8229	2365.8721	462.7051	174.4210	0.0609	460.8548
	±	±	±	±	±			±	±	±	±	±	±	±
	0.8288	0.7961	0.0059	0.2578	0.1874			0.5739	0.0727	35.1936	13.2830	6.2880	0.0088	7.8287

Values are mean \pm SE, n=6, BDL= Below Detection Limit

Table.3 Percentage (g/100g) proximate and anti-nutritional content of recipe for danwake served with groundnut oil and pepper consumed in Jigawa state

Parameters Sample	Carbohydrate	C/P	C/Fat	C/F	Moisture	Ash	Energy (kcal)	C. Glycosides (mg/100g)	Oxalate (mg/100g)	Phytate	Tannin	T/P
Guinea corn	84.7872	7.3889	0.2761	0.5142	6.8333	0.3336	371.3333	0.122	4.0333	1.4774	0.1492	5.5221
	± 0.9806	± 0.9614	± 0.0057	± 0.0057	± 0.1667	± 0.1667	± 0.3333	± 0.001	± 0.1940	± 0.0622	± 0.0007	± 0.2387
Cassava	90.1854	1.1278	0.2747	0.4975	7.3333	0.5479	367.6667	0.133	2.9700	0.2823	0.1535	4.9696
	± 0.1846	± 0.1746	± 0.0027	± 0.0312	± 0.2108	± 0.0290	± 0.5578	± 0.001	± 0.2028	± 0.0202	± 0.0011	± 0.9829
Beans	29.7399	61.0944	0.2774	1.3517	6.8333	0.8366	366.0000	0.124	7.0400	0.7812	0.3348	3.7275
	± 3.4482	± 3.3616	± 0.0020	± 0.2952	± 0.1667	± 0.0664	± 1.2383	± 0.000	± 0.2664	± 0.0279	± 0.0112	± 0.3659
Baobab	63.0745	17.6889	0.2762	10.4975	6.3333	2.2296	325.6667	0.422	7.8833	1.6089	0.5059	36.8128
	± 2.7174	± 2.3411	± 0.0054	± 0.7862	± 0.4216	± 0.0187	± 3.1269	± 0.013	± 0.0883	± 0.0496	± 0.0066	± 1.0375
Pepper	42.6425	16.7222	0.3118	33.0267	4.5000	2.8802	240.3333	0.246	17.7100	1.4194	0.2909	22.4932
	± 1.8415	± 1.5344	± 0.0156	± 1.0431	± 0.2236	± 0.5887	± 3.252	± 0.006	± 0.2588	± 0.0430	± 0.0046	± 1.5294
Potash	17.4949	1.6772	0.2969	0.6142	6.3333	73.7385	79.3405	0.113	0.9900	0.4061	0.0281	0.3364
	± 0.1083	± 0.0717	± 0.0120	± 0.0266	± 0.3333	± 0.2955	± 0.8280	± 0.000	± 0.0942	± 0.0310	± 0.0038	± 0.0213
Total	327.9244	105.6944	1.7131	46.5018	38.1665	80.5664	1750.3405	1.1610	40.6266	5.9753	1.4624	73.8616
	± 9.2806	± 8.4448	± 0.1838	± 2.2258	± 1.5227	± 1.0341	± 9.3366	± 0.0210	± 1.1045	± 0.2339	± 0.0280	± 4.1757

Values are mean ± SE, n=6

Key: C/P= crude protein, c/fat=crude fat, c/f=total fiber, c/glycosides= Cyanogenic glycosides, T/P= Total phenol

Table.4 Level of mineral elements ($\mu\text{g/g}$) of recipe for Danwake with groundnut oil and pepper) consumed in Jigawa state, Nigeria

Sample	Se	Zn	Cd	Ni	Cu	Pb	Co	Mn	Cr	Ca	Mg	Fe	Ag	K
Guinea corn	0.2841	0.6090	BDL	0.0600	0.1122	BDL	BDL	0.4881	0.0341	8.6530	38.3393	4.4325	0.0132	73.9953
	\pm 0.0134	\pm 0.0201		\pm 0.0068	\pm 0.0038			\pm 0.0065	\pm 0.0014	\pm 0.6564	\pm 0.3157	\pm 0.2537	\pm 0.0002	\pm 1.3073
Cassava	0.5762	0.3137	0.0019	0.0702	0.1190	BDL	BDL	0.2497	0.0343	18.6892	23.6612	0.7903	0.0150	BDL
	\pm 0.0578	\pm 0.0285	\pm 0.0009	\pm 0.0046	\pm 0.0048			\pm 0.0169	\pm 0.0076	\pm 1.5371	\pm 1.9141	\pm 0.1381	\pm 0.0006	
Beans	0.5711	0.9820	BDL	0.2887	0.3214	BDL	BDL	0.7374	0.0463	23.9507	55.8790	3.3378	0.0134	BDL
	\pm 0.0103	\pm 0.0444		\pm 0.0044	\pm 0.0035			\pm 0.0184	\pm 0.0098	\pm 0.9008	\pm 2.3520	\pm 0.0436	\pm 0.0006	
Boabab	0.5063	1.5439	BDL	0.1493	0.1434	BDL	BDL	1.0082	0.0704	661.2982	57.0838	10.8880	0.0133	65.5710
	\pm 0.0456	\pm 0.2086		\pm 0.0070	\pm 0.0151			\pm 0.1392	\pm 0.0035	\pm 2.8376	\pm 5.1297	\pm 1.3322	\pm 0.0013	\pm 0.6966
Pepper	0.5776	0.4435	BDL	0.1150	0.3488	BDL	BDL	0.4943	0.0385	29.3460	42.8410	6.3045	0.0100	BDL
	\pm 0.0557	\pm 0.0377		\pm 0.0027	\pm 0.0306			\pm 0.0014	\pm 0.0004	\pm 2.6748	\pm 1.7607	\pm 0.1697	\pm 0.0000	
Potash	BDL	4.0928	BDL	0.2138	0.0761	BDL	BDL	4.8105	0.5120	408.5240	174.2628	132.1742	0.0018	BDL
		\pm 0.0921		\pm 0.0335	\pm 0.0057			\pm 0.0440	\pm 0.0495	\pm 4.3509	\pm 0.4290	\pm 1.3203	\pm 0.0006	
Water	0.6535	0.0698	0.0139	0.1382	0.0469	BDL	BDL	0.0318	0.0590	30.6490	6.7720	1.3908	0.0055	41.0318
	\pm 0.0367	\pm 0.0036	\pm 0.0059	\pm 0.0833	\pm 0.0041			\pm 0.0038	\pm 0.0039	\pm 0.8918	\pm 0.9311	\pm 0.1275	\pm 0.0006	\pm 4.6184
Total	3.1688	8.0547	0.0158	1.0352	1.1678	BDL	BDL	7.8200	0.7946	1181.1101	398.8391	159.3181	0.0723	180.5981
	\pm 0.2195	\pm 0.4350	\pm 0.0068	\pm 0.4230	\pm 0.0676			\pm 0.2302	\pm 0.0761	\pm 13.8494	\pm 12.8323	\pm 3.3851	\pm 0.0039	\pm 6.6223

Key: Values are mean \pm SE, n=6, BDL=BelowDetection Limit

Table.5 Compares the percentage (g/100g) total proximate and Anti Nutritional Content of Tuwon masara and Danwake Diets Consumed in Jigawa State, Nigeria

Parameters Sample	Carbo hydrate	C/P	C/Fat	C/F	Moisture	Ash	Energy (kcal)	C. Glycosides (mg/100g)	Oxalate (mg/100g)	Phytate	Tannin
Total for white maize	363.5299	124.1377	1.9982	74.6505	55.2047	80.7028	1979.50	1.7080	119.7166	9.4731	1.9411
	± 18.4682	± 19.1504	± 0.0570	± 5.3761	± 1.8179	± 0.5288	± 14.032	± 0.0340	± 3.3413	± 0.3689	± 0.0712
Total for Danwake with groundnut oil	327.9244	105.6944	1.7131	46.5018	38.1665	80.5664	1750.340	1.1610	40.6266	5.9753	1.4624
	± 9.2806	± 8.4448	± 0.1838	± 2.2258	± 1.5227	± 1.0341	± 9.3366	± 0.0210	± 1.1045	± 0.2339	± 0.0280
RDA(g/d) FAO recommendation	60-120	3.5	1.5-31.0	19-38	0.7-3.8	0.8	139-354	NS	NS	NS	NS

Key: C/p= crude protein, C/F=crude fiber, T/P=total phenol, NS=Not Stated

Table.6 Compares the level of mineral elements (µg/g) for the prepared selected diet (Tuwon masara and Danwake) consumed in Jigawa state, Nigeria

Sample	Se	Zn	Cd	Ni	Cu	Pb	Co	Mn	Cr	Ca	Mg	Fe	Ag	K
Total for white maize	4.1280	12.6982	0.0139	1.5811	1.4942	BDL	BDL	10.2846	0.8229	2365.87	462.7051	174.4210	0.0609	460.8548
	± 0.8288	± 0.7961	± 0.0059	± 0.2578	± 0.1874			± 0.5739	± 0.0727	± 35.19	± 13.2830	± 6.2880	± 0.0088	± 7.8287
Total for Danwake	3.1688	8.0547	0.0158	1.0352	1.1678	BDL	BDL	7.8200	0.7946	1181.11	398.8391	159.3181	0.0723	180.5981
	± 0.2195	± 0.4350	± 0.0068	± 0.4230	± 0.0676			± 0.2302	± 0.0761	± 13.84	± 12.8323	± 3.3851	± 0.0039	± 6.6223
FAO Recommendation (µg/g)	6000	500	NS	NS	70	NS	NS	1800-2300	25-36	12000	33000	1200	NS	117000

Key: BDL=Below Detection Limit, NS=Not Stated

Table 4 is the mineral element content ($\mu\text{g/g}$) of recipe for *Danwake* served with Groundnut Oil and pepper consumed in Jigawa State, Nigeria. Mineral elements analysed includes magnesium (Mg), manganese (Mn), iron (Fe), lead (Pb), Potassium (K) Calcium (Ca), Cupper (Cu), Cobalt (Co), Nickel (Ni), Cadmium (Cd), Zinc (Zn), selenium (Se), Chromium (Cr) and Argon (Ar).

Table 5 is the comparison of total percentage (g/100g) proximate and Anti Nutritional Content of the two selected diets consumed in Jigawa State, Nigeria. The result indicates a high percentage of all the chemical compositions in Tuwon masara as compared to *Danwake*. The result also indicates that these two local foods have high chemical composition than the standard set by FAO.

Table 6 compared the level of Mineral Elements ($\mu\text{g/g}$) in the Recipes of the selected diet (*Tuwon Masara with Kuka Soup* and *Danwake*) Consumed in Jigawa State Nigeria. Content of some micro and macro elements such as magnesium (Mg), manganese (Mn), iron (Fe), lead (Pb), Potassium (K) Calcium (Ca), Cupper (Cu), Cobalt (Co), Nickel (Ni), Cadmium (Cd), Zinc (Zn), selenium (Se), Chromium (Cr) and Argon (Ar) from these two local foods were compared with Dietary Recommended Allowance (DRA) as explain by Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nation (FAO, 2010) standard.

Discussion

From this study, it was found that tuwon masara have more number of recipes which consist of white maize, baobab, potash, meat, onion, daddawa and hot pepper as compared to *Danwake* that consist of Guinea corn, cassava, potash, baobab and pepper as shown in table 1 and 2. Differences in recipes from these two traditional foods may proved a clear understanding that tuwon masara had high

total proximate and anti-nutrient content of all parameters tested which includes carbohydrate, crude protein, crude fat, fiber, moisture, ash, energy, oxalates, cyanogenic glycosides, total phenol and tannin as compared to *Danwake* as indicated in table 5. These same of food prepared locally had high contents examined compared to Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) standard set aside by Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nation. These high contents in the diet can be attributed to procreate addition of recipes before, during and after processing which lead to micronutrient content of plant-based diets as reported by (Nnam, 2002; Mariam, 2005; Temple *et al.*, 1996).

A diets consisting of cereals and legumes mixed with some animal protein source, have been reported to be sufficiently high in amino acids to meet RNI's (Recommended Nutrient Intakes) (FAO/WHO 1998). In table 2 for instance, tuwon masara contained 10 of the 13 mineral elements tested with only water having some amount of Cd while Pb and Co are below detection limit (BDL) in any of the recipes. For *Danwake*, similar situation occurred were Pb and Co are not detected from all the recipes tested but Cd and K are also only detected in some recipes which include water and cassava for Cd and Guinea corn, baobab and water for K respectively. Even though micronutrients are needed in very small quantities, they have tremendous impact on human health and wellbeing. Insufficient dietary intakes of these nutrients impair the functions of the brain, the immune and reproductive systems and energy metabolism. These deficiencies result in learning disabilities, reduced work capacity, serious illnesses, and death (Welch and Graham, 2002).

Differences in proximate and anti-nutritional contents of these two local foods can be seen

in table 5 were tuwon masara had a high amount of all the nutrients in the recipes tested as compared to Danwake. Both local foods have high proximate contents as compared to standard in the Recommended Dietary Allowance set by FAO. The quality of these local foods may be affected by their high moisture contents.

Temple et al (1996) state that high moisture content in foods encourages microbial growth. This is necessary looking at the fact that local foods in Nigeria are prepared in high quantities and are normally kept for some time. It is in our view that local food be prepared in a small quantity and use at that particular time so as to avoid prolonged storage which in turn allow growth of pathogenic microbial flora (Mariam, 2005). The high fat contents of these local diets that are lower than RDA standard disagree with recommendations of FAO/WHO (1998) that groundnut or vegetable oils are included in all foods, which will not only increase the energy density, but also be a transport vehicle for fat soluble vitamins.

With regards to mineral element contents, it was observed that Tuwon masara have high amount of all the micro and macro elements tested in this study with some mineral elements below detection limit. Compared to standard of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nation, the mineral elements are found to be very small in quantity. Combs and Welch (1998) stated that, micronutrient deficiency may greatly increase mortality and morbidity rates, diminishes cognitive abilities of children and lowers their educational attainment. Therefore, an effort is needed to boost the quantity of mineral elements in local foods which is necessary as low mineral elements in foods may lower proper functioning and malnutrition as mentioned above.

In conclusion, this study revealed that these two local foods (*Tuwon masara and Danwake*) processed in Jigawa state Nigeria can meet some required nutrients for consumption since these nutritional contents are higher than the maximum requirements set aside by Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and as such did not make a balanced diet. However, low micro and macro element contents in all the foods as compared to the RDA standard may lead to malnutrition. Therefore, fortification with appropriate micronutrients or micronutrient-dense foodstuffs is necessary.

This research recommends that, proper methods on the amount of recipes that may contain high mineral elements will ultimately improve the quality of food there by preventing food related diseases like diabetes, obesity and malnutrition. This is believed to be a practical food-based approach aimed at combating the problem of malnutrition among Jigawa state populace in particular and Nigeria at large. Further study is in locally processed food is necessary so as to address the anti-nutritional factors, as well as the bioavailability of macro and micronutrients in an effort to provide food containing all the available nutrients in a balance proportion.

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