Analysis of Water Quality Using Physicochemical Parameters of Boreholes Water Taken from Areas Around Dala Hills, Northwestern Nigeria

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Abstract: Drinking water quality is of fundamental importance to human physiology and the durability of humanity depends very much on its availability. The present research was conducted purposely to assess the quality of ground water from areas located around Dala hills. Five samples were collected from Rijiya Biyu (D₁), Kantudu (D₂), Makwalla (D₃) Kabawa (D₄) and Dala (D₅) for physicochemical analysis. The physico-chemical parameters analyzed are pH, electrical conductivity, temperature, turbidity, colour, odour, total suspended solid (TSS), Suspended solids (SS), Total dissolved solids (TDS), Calcium, magnesium, chloride, Total Hardness, Alkalinity and free CO₂. The result obtained shows that the water studied has a mean value of 1.6 NTU for turbidity, 8.14 for pH, 1512.2 μ S/cm for electrical conductivity, 845mg/L for total dissolved solids. Total suspended solids has a mean value of 845mg/L, Suspended solids 0.00mg/L, Temperature 28.2°C, colour 5 Hazen, total hardness 149.96mg/L, alkalinity 51.4mg/L, chloride 31.08mg/L free CO₂ 72mg/L, Calcium 62.37 mg/L and 92.99 mg/L for magnesium. As the result indicated all the physicochemical parameters are within the recommended levels set by World Health Organization (WHO) and Nigerian Standard for Drinking Water Quality (NSDWQ) except for conductivities at all the samples site, and magnesium at D₁, D₂, and D₃.

Keywords: Dala Hills, Water Quality, Contamination, Suspended Solid, Total Hardness

1. Introduction

Water is extremely essential for survival of all living organisms. The quality of water is vital concern for mankind since it is directly linked with human welfare. The ground water is believed to be comparatively much clean and free from pollution than surface water [1]. Groundwater is the main source of water supply in most rural communities in Africa. It has good microbiological and biological properties in general as such requires minimal treatment [2]. The determination of groundwater quality for human consumption is important for the wellbeing of the consumers due to population, growth. According to [3] groundwater

quality depends to some extent, on its chemical composition which may be affected by natural anthropogenic factors. It was reported by [4] that, the rate of discharge of pollutants into the environments, which ultimately find their way into the water bodies is higher than the rate of purification [4] and could be due to rapid urbanization, industrialization, population growth as well as geological factors [4].

Groundwater is the main source of water used for domestic and agricultural purposes in Dala. The water supply for domestic and agricultural purposes in the study area is directly sourced from groundwater without any chemical treatment and the fear of pollution has become a cause for major concern [7].

This research is aimed at assessing the physicochemical

parameters in ground water samples from five sampling point around Dala hills in Dala Local Government Area of Kano State to examined the quality of physicochemical parameters and to compare with the Standards for Drinking Water of WHO and NSDWQ.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Description Area

Dala hill is a hill located in Dala. It has 534 meters (1,753 feet) high. [5]. There are steps on the hill which has 999 footsteps. Dala is densely populated local government area and is located in the northwest part of the Kano metropolis. It lies between $12^{\circ}01'N$ and $8^{\circ}29'E$ it has an area of 19km^2 and a population of 418,777 at the 2006 census. It is thus the largest local government area in Nigeria [6].

2.2. Sampling Techniques

Five samples of borehole water were collected from Rijiya biyu, Kantudu, Makwalla, Kabawa and Dala around Dala hills, Dala local government of Kano state using clean new polyethylene plastic containers which were covered with Black polyethylene bags to prevent growth of Algae [4]. The pH, temperature and conductivity, were determined immediately after sampling and the sample was stored at a temperature below $4^{\circ}C$, this is to prevent the growth of microorganisms as reported by [4].

2.3. Physicochemical Analysis

2.3.1. Electrical Conductivity Measurement

Conductivities of the water samples were measured using a digital conductivity meter (HARCH Model) [4]. The meter was switched on and then standardized using 0.1N KCl at $25^{\circ}C$. The electrode was then immersed into the water sample and conductivity reading of each sample was recorded [4].

2.3.2. pH Measurement

The pH was measured using a digital pH meter (HARCH SENSION) [4]. The meter was switched on and was allowed to warm for 5 minutes. It was then standardized with a buffer solution. The meter was then immediately introduced into the water sample and measurement was taking after a stable reading was taken. The electrode was then rinsed with deionized water before taken another measurement [4].

2.3.3. Turbidity Measurement

The turbidities of the water samples were measured using a digital turbidity meter (2100AN HARCH Model). The meter was standardized with a clean deionized water, and this

was introduce into the water samples. The turbidity reading of each sample was then recorded [4].

2.3.4. Determination of Total Dissolved Solid

The total dissolved solid was determined using a Conductivity meter, the programme menu of the Conductivity meter was switched to total dissolved solid, 100cm^3 of the sample was measured into the beaker and the electrode was introduced into the sample. The results of total dissolved solid were displayed and recorded [4]. Similarly, gravimetric method was also used to determine the Total Dissolved Solid by evaporation in an oven at $200^{\circ}C$ for 2 hrs. This is to ascertain the accuracy of the above mentioned method by comparing the two results no significant difference was recorded only that it has more time consuming as reported by [4].

2.3.5. Determination of Total Hardness

10cm^3 of water sample was pipetted into a conical flask. 1cm^3 of buffer solution (NH_4Cl) of $\text{pH} = 10$ and 3 drops of Erichrome black T indicator were added to the flask. The mixture was then titrated with 0.01M EDTA (ethyl diammine tetra acetic acid) until the color changed from wine red to blue. The procedure was repeated two more times to obtain the average titer value [4].

2.3.6. Determination of Alkalinity

100cm^3 of Sample was taken followed by 2-3 drops of phenolphthalein indicator and the color change was observed followed by titrating with 0.1N HCl until the color changed from pink to colorless [4].

2.3.7. Chloride Content

It was determined by Mohr's method using silver nitrate as titrant and potassium chromate solution as indicator [7].

2.3.8. Calcium Hardness

Calcium hardness was determined using EDTA method with murexide (ammonium purpate) as indicator [7].

2.3.9. Temperature

The temperatures of the samples were measured at the point of collection using mercury in glass thermometer [7].

3. Result

The result of various physicochemical parameters recorded during present study at all the five sampling are presented in Table 1 below. The results obtained were analyzed and compared with the World Health Organization (WHO) and Nigerian standard for drinking water quality (NSDWQ).

Table 1. Result of Physicochemical Analysis.

S/N	Parameter	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
	Turbidity (NTU)	0.00	4.00	1.00	2.00	1.00
	pH	8.00	8.20	8.10	8.40	8.00
	EC ($\mu\text{S}/\text{Cm}$)	1545.00	1669.00	1278.00	1178.00	1891.00
	TDS (mg/l)	764	842	1060	618	941

S/N	Parameter	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
	SS (mg/l)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TSS (mg/l)	764	842	1060	618	941
	Temperature (°C)	28.4	27.2	26.7	26.7	27.0
	Odour (-)	Unobj	Unobj	Unobj	Unobj	Unobj
	Colour (Hazen)	5	5	5	5	5
	TH (mg/l)	134.67	179.57	179.68	125.69	130.19
	Alkalinity (mg/l)	54.00	53.50	55.50	43.00	51.00
	Chloride (mg/l)	23.19	23.15	31.07	34.55	42.44
	Free CO ₂ (mg/l)	36.00	96.00	98.00	36.00	94.00
	Calcium (mg/l)	32.45	50.47	41.46	100.94	86.52
	Magnesium (mg/l)	11.22	129.10	138.22	51.75	43.67

4. Discussion

The pH values of groundwater range from 8.00-8.40 and falls within the WHO and NSDWQ permissible limit of 6.5-8.6. Hundred percent of analyzed samples have pH values higher 7.0. The TH values ranged from 130.19-179.68mg/L. based on [4, 8] classification, all the samples fall under the “moderate hard” class. The highest values was observed at D₃ and the lowest at D₅. The EC values range from 1178.00-1891.00 μ S/cm. High EC values was observed at point D₅ indicating the presence of high amount of dissolved inorganic substances in ionized form in water. The TDS values lie above the WHO and NSDWQ limits. The values varies from 618-1060mg/L and high value was recorded at sampling point D₃ and lowest at D₄. In present study average value of total alkalinity varied from minimum of 43mg/L at D₄ to a maximum of 55.50mg/L at D₃, and were found within the permissible limit of 100mg/L prescribed by [9, 10]. The high alkalinity value indicates the presence of weak and strong base such as carbonates, bicarbonates and hydroxides in the water body. The concentrations of chloride varied between 23.15-42.44 mg/L with minimum at D₂ and maximum at D₅ [9, 10]. According to [9, 10], the prescribed permissible limit of chloride is 250mg/L. Chloride concentrations in all the sampling point are within the prescribed limit.

The turbidity level in all the sample sites determined showed that they are within the recommended level of 5NTU [10] as shown in table 1. The turbidity values of the study area ranged between 0.00-4.00NTU with high value at D₂ and lowest at D₁. The result shows temperature range between 26.7-28.4°C. The colour of all the samples was found to be 5 hazen and fall within the permissible limit set by [10].

The calcium values for the samples analyzed ranged from 32.45-100.94mg/l. the general acceptable limit of calcium in water is usually 75 mg/l whereas it's maximum permissible limit is 300mg/L [10]. The highest value was recorded at D₄, and lowest at D₁. In the present study, the result shows that the magnesium in water samples varied between 43.67-138.22mg/L. The minimum acceptable limit of Magnesium in water is 50mg/L. 60% of the sample are above the recommended limit. The value of free CO₂ ranges from 36.00-98.00mg/L, The maximum value of 98.00 and

minimum value 36.00 were recorded at D₃ and D₁, D₄ respectively. The result from the analysis shows that TSS values range from 618.00-1060.00mg/L. The high values was recorded at D₃ and D₄ has the lower value.

5. Conclusion

Contamination of groundwater has severe implications for public health, particularly in small communities and developing countries where groundwater is the only source of drinking water [11]. Conformation with physicochemical standard is of special interest because of the capacity of water to spread diseases within a large population. From the observation and results it can be concluded that the different studied parameters such as pH, temperature, TDS, colour, turbidity, alkalinity, free CO₂, TH, TSS, odour, SS, and concentration of chloride and calcium were found to be within the permissible limit recommended by World Health Organization (WHO) and Nigerian Standard for Drinking Water Quality (NSDWQ), except for conductivities at all the samples site, and magnesium at D₁, D₂, and D₃.

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