

### Chapter 1 : Queen Amina of Zazzau ,Warrior Entrepreneur, Prominent Nigerian, Nigeria Personality Profile

*Queen Amina (also known as Queen Aminatu), was the elder daughter of Queen Bakwa Turunku, the founder of the Zazzau Kingdom in Some scholars date Queen Amina's reign to about , as heir apparent after the death of her mother.*

Queen Amina of Zazzau Queen Amina was said to be born around the year , in the Zazzau province of modern day Nigeria. She would begin learning how to rule a kingdom as a toddler attending state meetings with her grandfather learning all she could. By the time Amina was sixteen her mother became the Queen of Zazzau and she began learning the responsibilities of a queen from her mother. During the reign of Karama Amina was becoming a legend in the Zazzau military, she became a wealthy warrior and the leader of the Zazzau Calvary. During her reign one of her goals was to expand the trade routes of the Zazzau Kingdom to ensure safe trading grounds for her people. She was able to strengthen and expand the borders of the Zazzau Kingdom down to the Atlantic coast. As a military leader she would lead armies of 20, soldiers and more into battle against her enemies to expand the trade routes. The results of her victories would often be the founding of new cities that became a part of her kingdom. It is even said that after battles Amina would take a lover for the night from the nation she defeated. After her night with the soldier she would have him killed. It is also said that she never married for fear of losing power. Amina was able to expand her kingdom and her legend by soundly defeating her enemies and establishing new cities and territories for her people. She was able to acquire the largest amount of territory of any ruler in that area, before or after her reign. In Amina died but she was never forgotten, she is remembered today in Nigeria as Amina, daughter of Nikatau, woman as capable as a man. The Zazzau Kingdom came to power after the fall of the Songhai Empire; although Amina was the 24th Habe of the Zazzau Kingdom she is the one who helped the kingdom reached its apex. Queen Amina of Zazzau, we proudly stand on your Shoulders. Amina of Zazzau Quiz: What was the name of the empire that ruled the area of Nigeria prior to the Zazzau Kingdom? At what age did Queen Amina began learning to become a queen? Queen Amina would attend state meeting with her uncle as a toddler? Amina could not become the leader of the Calvary because she was a woman? Click here to join my On the Shoulders of Giants mailing list!!!!

*Amina (also Aminatu; d. ) was a Hausa warrior queen of Zazzau (now Zaria), in what is now in the north-west region of Nigeria. She is the subject of many legends, but is believed by historians to have been a real ruler.*

African feminist ancestors Commonly known as the warrior queen, Queen Amina of Zaria was the first woman to become the Sarauniya queen in a male-dominated society. She expanded the territory of the Hausa people of north Africa to its largest borders in history. Much of what is known of Queen Amina is based on information related in the Kano Chronicles. Other details are pulled from the oral traditions of Nigeria. As a result, the memory of Queen Amina has assumed legendary proportions in her native Hausaland and beyond. Eventually, the entire state of Zazzau was renamed Zaria, which is now a province in present-day Nigeria. She lived approximately years prior to the establishment of the Sokoto Caliphate federation that governed Nigeria during the period of British colonial rule following the Islamic jihad holy war that overtook the region in the 19th century. She was born to the ruler, Bakwa of Turunku, who lived in the city state of Zazzau. The family was wealthy as a result of trading in imported metals, cloth, cola, salt, horses and imported metals. This led to her eventually emerging as a leader of the Zazzau cavalry, during which time she accumulated great wealth and numerous military accolades. Upon the death of her brother after a 10 year rule, Amina had matured into a fierce warrior and earned the respect of the Zazzau military, so she was able to assume the reign of the kingdom. Women could even oust men who were not performing their duties effectively. The rise and fall of the powerful and more dominant Songhai people, and the resulting competition for control of trade routes, incited continual warring among the Hausa people and their neighbouring settlements during the 15th and 16th centuries. For the rest of her [34 year] reign, she continued to fight and expand her kingdom to [its] greatest in history. Amina brought unheard-of wealth to the land; one description cites a tribute payment of 40 eunuchs and 10, kola nuts. Because her people were talented metal workers, Amina introduced metal armour, including iron helmets and chain mail, to her army. Many of these walls remain in existence to this day. Walling was a vitally important consideration in the development of African urban life. Walls gave definition to settlements and prevented uncontrollable sprawl. They also provided psychological and physical security. In unstable times, they afforded protection against theft or destruction and in peacetime, they controlled entry and exit. The walls constructed by Queen Amina of Zaria not only protected Hausa markets from external threats emanating from the south, but also became an enduring testimony to her glorious reign. According to legend, Amina refused to marry and instead took a temporary husband from the legions of vanquished foes after every battle. Today, her memory represents the spirit and strength of womanhood. Where they were prevented from being openly active, women used loopholes inherent in their social structures to gain and maintain some level of power. This changed to a large extent with the advent of Islam and, later, British colonial rule, causing women to suffer important setbacks.

**Chapter 3 : Hausa Hero And Warrior QUEEN AMINA OF ZARIA Full History,(pictures) - TIN Magazine**

*About Amina, Queen of Zazzau Amina's mother, Bakwa of Turunka, was the founding ruler of Zazzau as a kingdom, one of many Hausa city-kingdoms involved in trade. The collapse of the Songhai empire left a gap in power that these city-states filled.*

ABOUT Amina of Zaria commonly known as the warrior queen, expanded the territory of the Hausa people of north Africa to the largest borders in history. More than years later, the legend of her became the model for a television series about a fictional warrior princess, called Xena. Amina was the warrior queen of Zazzau now Zaria. She is known also as Amina Sarauniya Zazzau. She lived approximately years prior to the establishment of the Sokoto-Caliphate federation that governed Nigeria during the period of British colonial rule following the Islamic jihad holy war that overtook the region in the nineteenth century. According to most accounts, Queen Amina ruled for 34 years at the turn of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Her domain of Zazzau, a city-state of Hausaland, was eventually renamed to Zaria and is the capital of the present-day emirate of Kaduna in Nigeria. Although many details of her life remain largely in dispute among historians, the fact that she existed is a matter of general acceptance, and she is presumed to have been a Moslem ruler. Much of what is known of Queen Amina is based on information related in the Kano Chronicles, a translation by Muhammed Bellow of pre-colonial African tradition based in part on anonymous Hausa writings. Other details were pulled from the oral traditions of Nigeria. As a result, the memory of Queen Amina assumed legendary proportions in her native Hausaland and beyond. The extent of her military prowess and her performance in battle was augmented by lore and remains unclear. The reign of Amina occurred at a time when the city-state of Zazzau was situated at the crossroad of three major trade corridors of northern Africa, connecting the region of the Sahara with the remote markets of the southern forest lands and the western Sudan. It was the rise and fall of the powerful and more dominant Songhai var. Songhay people and the resulting competition for control of trade routes that incited continual warring among the Hausa people and the neighboring settlements during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. It was not until later that a ruling arrangement between the Hausa and the Fulani people ultimately brought a lasting peace to the region and survived into the colonial era of the nineteenth century. She is believed to have been the granddaughter of King Zazzau Nohir. Speculation suggests that she was born sometime during his reign, around This theory lends credence to the belief that Amina ruled Zazzau at the end of the sixteenth century. The citizens of Hausaland at that time displayed advanced skills in the industrial arts of tanning, weaving, and metalworkingâ€”in contrast to the inhabitants of the neighboring territories and surrounding cultures, where agriculture remained the dominant activity. The Hausa social hierarchy, as a result, was bound less rigidly in the social standings of tradition, which were based on hereditary factors. Amina was born the eldest of three royal siblings. She was 16 years old when her noble parent, the powerful Bakwa of Turunku var. Barkwa Turunda , inherited the throne of Zazzau. Although the reign of Bakwa was known for peace and prosperity, the history of the Hausa people was nonetheless characterized by military campaigns for the purpose of increasing commerce. During the years between Hausaland was, in fact, fraught with warring parties. These descended into neighboring territories that were inhabited by the Jukun and the Nupe to the south, in an effort to control trade and to expand the Hausa communities into more desirable environs. The Hausa, in turn, were conquered intermittently during those years by various other peoples. The Mali, Fulani, and Bornu were among the aggressors in these clashes. During the reign of Bakwa, the teenaged Amina occupied herself in honing her battle skills, under the guidance of the soldiers of the Zazzau military. Although Karama was the younger of the two, it was the male heir who took precedence in ascending the throne. The third sibling, a sister named Zaria, eventually fled the region. By the time that Amina assumed the throne, following the death of her brother in the tenth year of his rule, she had matured into a fierce warrior and had earned the respect of the Zazzau military. Amina, in fact, established her dominance as the head of the Zazzau cavalry even before she came to rule the city-state. She stood in command of an immense military band and personally led the cavalry of Zazzau through an ongoing series of campaigns, waging battle continually throughout the course of

her sovereignty. She spent the duration of her year reign in military aggression. Although the military campaigns of Amina were characterized as efforts to ensure safe passage for Zazzau and other Hausa traders throughout the Saharan region, the practice proved effective in significantly expanding the limits of Zazzau territory to the largest boundaries before and since. The Nigerian Renaissance- Feminism, Social Media and How to Reshape Nigeria According to all indications, she came to dominate much of the region known as Hausaland and beyond, throughout an area called Kasashen Bauchi, prior to the settlement of the so-called Gwandarawa Hausas of Kano in the mid s. Kasashen Bauchi in modern terms comprises the middle belt of Nigeria. At one time, Amina dominated the entire area, along with the associated trade routes connecting the western Sudan with Egypt on the east and Mali in the north. In keeping with the custom of the times, she collected tributes of kola nuts and male slaves from her subject cities. Also, as was the custom of the Hausa people, Amina built walls around the encampments of the territories that she conquered. Some of the walls survived into modern times; thus her legacy remained entrenched in both the culture and landscape of her native Hausa city-states. Others, however, have credited Amina with the introduction of metal armor, including the iron helmets and chain mail. It has been further suggested that she was responsible for the introduction of the new armor to the Hausa city-state of Kano. Regardless of its origin, the innovation of protective armor arrived in Hausaland during the era of Amina. Some historians have credited Amina with originating the Hausa practice of building the military encampments behind fortress walls. Additionally, a distinctive series of walls wind throughout the countryside in the vicinities of the ancient city-states of Hausaland. Foreign visitors who traveled to Africa during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries collected many of the historical accounts of those times. Other information was garnered from the oral traditions of the descendants of the early Hausa people. Ajayi and Michael Crowder suggested that Amina lived in the fifteenth century rather than the sixteenth century. The chronicles, which are believed to portray the history of Africa with some accuracy, date Amina back to the time of Sarki king Dauda whose father was believed to have ruled from until Ajayi suggested that Hausaland suffered desperately from severe aggression from Songhai to the west during the sixteenth century, and it may be unlikely that the expansionist policies of Amina prevailed at such a difficult time. Likewise reports that Amina collected tribute from Bornu may be improbable in the context of the sixteenth century, as Zaria and many other Hausa city-states had, by that time, fallen to the control of Songhai and had suffered further aggression from Bornu to the east. Such domination by Songhai and Bornu, if depicted with accuracy, preclude the possibility that the Hausa achieved extensive domination during the reign of Amina, if indeed she lived at the end of the sixteenth century. The dearth of facts combined with the significance of the conquests of Amina have defined a legendary persona for the warrior queen of Nigeria. According to oral tradition, Amina took a new husband from the legions of vanquished foes after every battle. After spending one night with the Zazzau queen, each man was slain. Additionally, it is common belief that Amina died during a military campaign at Atagara near Bida in Nigeria. In the twentieth century the memory of Amina came to represent the spirit and strength of womanhood. For her exploits she earned the epithet of Amina, Yar Bakwa ta san rana Amina, daughter of Nikatau, a woman as capable as a man.

**Chapter 4 : Queen Amina Of Zazzau by Wale Ogunyemi**

*Queen Amina of Zazzau was born around in the province of Zazzau, in modern-day Nigeria. Zazzau refers to the Zaria emirate which is a traditional state with headquarters in the city of Zaria in Kaduna state in Nigeria.*

It was the rise and fall of the powerful and more dominant Songhai var. Songhay people and the resulting competition for control of trade routes that incited continual warring among the Hausa people and the neighboring settlements during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. It was not until later that a ruling arrangement between the Hausa and the Fulani people ultimately brought a lasting peace to the region and survived into the colonial era of the nineteenth century. Amina was the twenty-fourth habe, as the rulers of Zazzau were called and she is believed to have been the granddaughter of King Zazzau Nohir. She was the elder daughter of Bakwa of Turunku. In she became the heir apparent Magajiya to her mother. With the title came responsibility for a ward in the city where she convened daily councils with other officials and around this time She also began training with the cavalry. The Hausa social hierarchy, as a result, was bound less rigidly in the social standings of tradition, which were based on hereditary factors. Although Karama was the younger of the two, it was the male heir who took precedence in ascending the throne. Their sister, Zariya, fled the region and little is known about her. Under her brother King Karama, she served in the military in different capacity. And as a result, she emerged as leader of the Zazzau cavalry. Many accolades, great wealth, and increased power resulted from her numerous military achievements. In she became the undisputed ruler of Zazzau when her brother Karama died after a ten-year rule, and at the time of his death, Princess Amina had matured into a fierce warrior, Distinguished as a soldier and an empire builder, and had earned the respect of the Zazzau military hence it was easy for her to assumed the reign of the kingdom. Queen Amina Queen Amina was a great military strategist; the Calvary-trained queen Amina led her first military charge a few months after assuming power. For the rest of her 34 year reign, she continued to fight and expand her kingdom to the greatest in history. The objective for initiating so many battles was to make neighbouring rulers her vassal and permit her traders safe passage. Because her people were talented metal workers, Amina introduced metal armor, including iron helmets and chain mail, to her army. She built walled forts as area garrisons to consolidate the territory conquered after each campaign. Later, towns and villages sprung up within these protective barriers. Some of these forts still stand today and also she is credited with popularizing the earthen city wall fortifications, which became characteristic of all Hausa city-states. Queen Amina subdued the whole area between Zazzau and the Niger and Benue rivers, absorbing the Nupe and Kwararafa states. According to all indications, she came to dominate much of the region known as Hausaland and beyond, throughout an area called Kasashen Bauchi, prior to the settlement of the so-called Gwandarawa Hausas of Kano in the mid s. Kasashen Bauchi in modern terms comprises the middle belt of Nigeria. The Kano Chronicle , an important Hausa history, says: The Sarkin Nupe [i. According to the Sankore Institute of Islamic “ African Studies International , a non-profit, non-political educational institution, reporting on this region of the Hausa: These seven regions witnessed many unusual and strange events. The first to establish government among them, as it has been claimed, was Amina, the daughter of the Amir of Zakzak. She made military assaults upon these lands until she proclaimed herself over them by force. The lands of Katsina and Kano were forced to hand over levy to her. She also made incursions into the lands of Bauchi until she reached the Atlantic Ocean to the south and west. She died in a place called Attaagar. It was for this reason that the kingdom of Zakzak was the most extensive among the kingdoms of Hausa, since Bauchi included many regions. More recent oral tradition has a series of lively stories about the queen, and these have found their way into popular culture. Amina was a fierce warrior and loved fighting. As a child, her grandmother Marka, the favorite wife of her grandfather Sarkin Nohir, once caught her holding a dagger. Amina holding the dagger did not shock Marka, rather it was that Amina held it exactly as a warrior would. As an adult, she refused to marry for the fear of losing power. She helped Zazzau Zaria become the center of trade and to gain more land. Her mother, Bakwa, died when Amina was 36 years old, leaving her to rule over Zaria. She was also said to have taken a lover from among the conquered people after each battle, and to have killed or castrated him in the morning following their night

together. Legend also decrees she died during a military campaign at Atagara near Bida in Nigeria. While another story is been told about a rich, wise, and cunning Arabian trader who heard about the queen and made his way to her, with his wealth and influence he was able to make his way with her and made love to her and then he left swiftly in the middle of the night immediately after they made love while she was exhausted and still asleep, and with the help of his inside men in her palace he made his way out and never returned. But whatever the legends of her may be; whether she died in battle or just disappeared, Queen Amina will forever be remembered as a strong, brave and courageous black woman. Her exploits earned her the moniker Amina, daughter of Nikatau, a woman as capable as a man. Her legendary escapades made her the model for the television series Xena Warrior Princess. Today, her memory represents the spirit and strength of womanhood. Africa Heritages claims no credits to none of the images used in this write up.

**Chapter 5 : Zazzau - Wikipedia**

*Queen Amina of Zazzau. Queen Amina was said to be born around the year , in the Zazzau province of modern day Nigeria. She was the daughter of Queen Bakwa the Habe (Ruler) of the Zazzau kingdom, after the reign of Amina's Grandfather Habe Zazzau Nohir.*

Queen of Zazzau now Zaria , the warrior queen, 12 votes so far Email Print Amina of Zaria , commonly known as the warrior queen, expanded the territory of the Hausa people of north Africa to the largest borders in history. More than years later, the legend of her persona became the model for a television series about a fictional warrior princess, called Xena. Amina was the warrior queen of Zazzau now Zaria. She is known also as Amina Sarauniya Zazzau. She lived approximately years prior to the establishment of the Sokoto-Caliphate federation that governed Nigeria during the period of British colonial rule following the Islamic jihad holy war that overtook the region in the nineteenth century. According to most accounts, Queen Amina ruled for 34 years at the turn of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Her domain of Zazzau, a city-state of Hausaland, was eventually renamed to Zaria and is the capital of the present-day emirate of Kaduna in Nigeria. Although many details of her life remain largely in dispute among historians, the fact that she existed is a matter of general acceptance, and she is presumed to have been a Moslem ruler. Much of what is known of Queen Amina is based on information related in the Kano Chronicles, a translation by Muhammed Bellow of pre-colonial African tradition based in part on anonymous Hausa writings. Other details were pulled from the oral traditions of Nigeria. As a result, the memory of Queen Amina assumed legendary proportions in her native Hausaland and beyond. The extent of her military prowess and her performance in battle was augmented by lore and remains unclear. The reign of Amina occurred at a time when the city-state of Zazzau was situated at the crossroad of three major trade corridors of northern Africa, connecting the region of the Sahara with the remote markets of the southern forest lands and the western Sudan. It was the rise and fall of the powerful and more dominant Songhai var. Songhay people and the resulting competition for control of trade routes that incited continual warring among the Hausa people and the neighboring settlements during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. It was not until later that a ruling arrangement between the Hausa and the Fulani people ultimately brought a lasting peace to the region and survived into the colonial era of the nineteenth century. Amina was the twenty-fourth habe, as the rulers of Zazzau were called. She is believed to have been the granddaughter of King Zazzau Nohir. Speculation suggests that she was born sometime during his reign, around This theory lends credence to the belief that Amina ruled Zazzau at the end of the sixteenth century. The citizens of Hausaland at that time displayed advanced skills in the industrial arts of tanning, weaving, and metalworkingâ€”in contrast to the inhabitants of the neighboring territories and surrounding cultures, where agriculture remained the dominant activity. The Hausa social hierarchy, as a result, was bound less rigidly in the social standings of tradition, which were based on hereditary factors. Amina was born the eldest of three royal siblings. She was 16 years old when her noble parent, the powerful Bakwa of Turunku var. Barkwa Turunda , inherited the throne of Zazzau. Although the reign of Bakwa was known for peace and prosperity, the history of the Hausa people was nonetheless characterized by military campaigns for the purpose of increasing commerce. During the years between Hausaland was, in fact, fraught with warring parties. These descended into neighboring territories that were inhabited by the Jukun and the Nupe to the south, in an effort to control trade and to expand the Hausa communities into more desirable environs. The Hausa, in turn, were conquered intermittently during those years by various other peoples. The Mali, Fulani, and Bornu were among the aggressors in these clashes. During the reign of Bakwa, the teenaged Amina occupied herself in honing her battle skills, under the guidance of the soldiers of the Zazzau military. Although Karama was the younger of the two, it was the male heir who took precedence in ascending the throne. The third sibling, a sister named Zaria, eventually fled the region. By the time that Amina assumed the throne, following the death of her brother in the tenth year of his rule, she had matured into a fierce warrior and had earned the respect of the Zazzau military. Amina, in fact, established her dominance as the head of the Zazzau cavalry even before she came to rule the city-state. Within three months of inheriting the throne,

Queen Amina embarked on what was to be the first in an ongoing series of military engagements associated with her rule. She stood in command of an immense military band and personally led the cavalry of Zazzau through an ongoing series of campaigns, waging battle continually throughout the course of her sovereignty. She spent the duration of her year reign in military aggression. Although the military campaigns of Amina were characterized as efforts to ensure safe passage for Zazzau and other Hausa traders throughout the Saharan region, the practice proved effective in significantly expanding the limits of Zazzau territory to the largest boundaries before and since. McEwan quoted the Kano Chronicles, which stated that Amina, "conquered all the towns as far as Kwararafa [to the north] and Nupe [in the south]. Kasashen Bauchi in modern terms comprises the middle belt of Nigeria. At one time, Amina dominated the entire area, along with the associated trade routes connecting the western Sudan with Egypt on the east and Mali in the north. In keeping with the custom of the times, she collected tributes of kola nuts and male slaves from her subject cities. Also, as was the custom of the Hausa people, Amina built walls around the encampments of the territories that she conquered. Some of the walls survived into modern times; thus her legacy remained entrenched in both the culture and landscape of her native Hausa city-states. Others, however, have credited Amina with the introduction of metal armor, including the iron helmets and chain mail. It has been further suggested that she was responsible for the introduction of the new armor to the Hausa city-state of Kano. Regardless of its origin, the innovation of protective armor arrived in Hausaland during the era of Amina. Some historians have credited Amina with originating the Hausa practice of building the military encampments behind fortress walls. Additionally, a distinctive series of walls wind throughout the countryside in the vicinities of the ancient city-states of Hausaland. Information about the history of Hausaland during the era of Amina is sketchy. Foreign visitors who traveled to Africa during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries collected many of the historical accounts of those times. Other information was garnered from the oral traditions of the descendants of the early Hausa people. Ajayi and Michael Crowder suggested that Amina lived in the fifteenth century rather than the sixteenth century. The chronicles, which are believed to portray the history of Africa with some accuracy, date Amina back to the time of Sarki king Dauda whose father was believed to have ruled from until Ajayi suggested that Hausaland suffered desperately from severe aggression from Songhai to the west during the sixteenth century, and it may be unlikely that the expansionist policies of Amina prevailed at such a difficult time. Likewise reports that Amina collected tribute from Bornu may be improbable in the context of the sixteenth century, as Zaria and many other Hausa city-states had, by that time, fallen to the control of Songhai and had suffered further aggression from Bornu to the east. Such domination by Songhai and Bornu, if depicted with accuracy, preclude the possibility that the Hausa achieved extensive domination during the reign of Amina, if indeed she lived at the end of the sixteenth century. The dearth of facts combined with the significance of the conquests of Amina have defined a legendary persona for the warrior queen of Nigeria. According to oral tradition, Amina took a new husband from the legions of vanquished foes after every battle. After spending one night with the Zazzau queen, each man was slain. Additionally, it is common belief that Amina died during a military campaign at Atagara near Bida in Nigeria. In the twentieth century the memory of Amina came to represent the spirit and strength of womanhood. For her exploits she earned the epithet of Amina, Yar Bakwa ta san rana Amina, daughter of Nikatau, a woman as capable as a man. Africa from Early Times to , edited by P. McEwan, Oxford University Press,

### Chapter 6 : 6 Fascinating Facts About Queen Amina of Zazzau! | Lipstick Alley

*Queen Amina's achievement was the closest that any ruler had ever come in bringing the region now known as Northern Nigeria under a single authority and Zaria (aka Birnin Zaria) was named after Queen Amina's younger sister Zariya, and is where the Royal Palace of the Zazzau kingdom reside even up till today.*

The Editor Interview , Movie 2 comments Queen Amina reigned for 34 years, she was in command of an intensely dedicated military band, and she led the Calvary of Zazzau, she was to be feared and remains one of the most dreaded figures of the 16th Century. At the time she reigned, issues relating to gender were not contended. Women thrived in powerful positions, controlled trades and ruled empires. Women earned positions on merit. Today, women are getting militarily aggressive because the tables have turned and gender determines position in our society. What would happen if we had the ability to pick the historical female heroine Amina and plant her in our present world? The gender equality conversation will take a new dimension. Most of the historical heroines that existed decades before us fought with the aim of living in a society that was enjoyable for their sake and for their people. Queen Amina expanded the territory of the Hausa people of North Africa to the largest borders in Africa. There are history books that have detailed her legacy, books that have chronicled her life and yet only deep researchers have concrete details on the life of Amina. Our primary aim is to change lives and any other thing that comes after that is a pat on the back. Films made with indigenous languages have their audience, they hardly appeal to people that are from a different ethnic group. Musicians thrive when they use their local dialect but that is music. Making a film is more complex; it is an art form that requires more, for movies it is not about the appealing beats or the rhythm as it is in Nigeria. For a film to receive critical acclaim and commercial success there is the narrative that should communicate with the audience, astounding dialogue, compelling performances and the exuberant visuals that as viewers we insist on. Amina has an inspirational story and inspiration is universal. Very little has been written or said about the female historical figures that fought for what they believed in and we have a good number of those, from Emotan to Idia of Benin Kingdom, Inikpi of the Igala land, Moremi and the very famous Fumilayo Kuti they have all thrived in the most difficult situations. Their stories are important and they should be immortalised with important films that mark a turning point in our cinemas. The rising and raw female talent tasked with the intensity of the role of Amina is someone the director insists on keeping anonymous until we get the first film trailer; she scaled through a rigorous audition process to get the role and then went through an intense training process to transform to Amina. She did not only dedicate her time to the movie for the sake of the recognition that is to come but the intensity of the story which she hungrily wants the audience to connect to, the intention is to make sure that people leave the theatre feeling a rough yet timely connection to the heroine Amina. The Bank of Industry has played a pivotal role in the growth of Nollywood. The film is presently in post-production in Canada to be transferred to Germany soon. It is slated for a mid release and while some sites have pitched the budget as N50 million, the director argues this. The budget is far ahead of this figure. Such films will help us to understand our past and definitely where we are headed. Many more spectators are attracted to the detailed costuming and the elaborate set design that was used even during the audition process.

**Chapter 7 : Queen Amina of Zazzau: Di first powerful Nigerian woman - BBC News Pidgin**

*Commonly known as the warrior queen, Queen Amina of Zaria was the first woman to become the Sarauniya (queen) in a male-dominated society. She expanded the territory of the Hausa people of north Africa to its largest borders in history.*

Queen Amina of Zazzau: This medieval African kingdom was located in the region now known as the Kaduna State in the north-central region of Nigeria, capital at the modern city of Zaria. Queen Amina is also mentioned in the Kano Chronicle , a well-regarded and detailed history of the city of Kano and the surrounding Hausa people. It was composed in the late 19th century and incorporated earlier oral histories before the Fulani jihad of . It included king-lists of the various Hausa kingdoms. Known as a great military strategist, the cavalry-trained Queen Amina fought many wars that expanded this southern-most Hausa kingdom. According to the Sankore Institute of Islamic - African Studies International , a non-profit, non-political educational institution, reporting on this region of the Hausa: These seven regions witnessed many unusual and strange events. The first to establish government among them, as it has been claimed, was Amina, the daughter of the Amir of Zakzak. She made military assaults upon these lands until she proclaimed herself over them by force. The lands of Katsina and Kano were forced to hand over levy to her. She also made incursions into the lands of Bauchi until she reached the Atlantic Ocean to the south and west. She died in a place called Attaagar. It was for this reason that the kingdom of Zakzak was the most extensive among the kingdoms of Hausa, since Bauchi included many regions. Here, it appears that Zakzak is Zazzau, and the reference is to Queen Amina. Public sculpture of the warrior Queen Amina in Nigeria Queen Amina is a legend among the Hausa people for her military exploits. She controlled the trade routes in the region, erecting a network of commerce within the great earthen walls that surrounded Hausa cities within her dominion. According to the Kano Chronicle, she conquered as far as Nupe and Kwarafa, ruling for 34 years. Commemorative stamp of Queen of Amina of Zaria. By , the region was captured by the Fulani during the Fulani jihad. By , Frederick Lugard led British forces and captured Zaria as a protectorate state. This is the same year that it is reported that Zaria sought British protection against slave raids from the Kontagora region. After a Zaria magaji representative murdered the British Captain Moloney in at Keffi, the British stripped the emirate of most of its vassal states. Gate to the palace of the emir of Zazzau Zaria city was originally surrounded by walls built by Queen Amina, but those walls have since been removed. The above shown entrance is to the palace of the Emir of Zazzau. The emir counsels over a region larger than the city of Zaria. Despite the rise of the nation-states in Africa, the emirs exert significant power within the region and represents the continuation of the traditional leadership of the historical kingdom-states. Zaria is home to Ahmadu Bello University, the largest university in Nigeria and the second largest university on the African continent.

**Chapter 8 : Queen Amina of Zaria - African Feminist Forum**

*Amina was born around in Zaria, a province of today's Nigeria. She was the daughter of Bakwa of Turunku. Their family's wealth was derived from the trade of leather goods, cloth, kola, salt, horses and imported metals. When Bakwa died in , the crown of Zazzua passed to Amina's younger.*

She was the daughter of Bakwa of Turunku. This medieval African kingdom was located in the region now known as the Kaduna State in the north-central region of Nigeria, capital at the modern city of Zaria. Amina chose to hone her military skills from the warriors of the Zazzau military. As a result, she emerged as leader of the Zazzua cavalry. Many accolades, great wealth, and increased power resulted from her numerous military achievements. According to the history she was a contemporary of Muhammad Dauda, who ruled from 1538, and Amina conquered as far as Nupe and Kwarafa, collected tribute from far and wide and ruled for 34 years. A number of scholars accept this information and date her reign to the early to mid 16th century. By 1591, the region was captured by the Fulani during the Fulani jihad. By 1803, Frederick Lugard led British forces and captured Zaria as a protectorate state. This is the same year that it is reported that Zaria sought British protection against slave raids from the Kontagora region. After a Zaria magaji representative murdered the British Captain Moloney in at Keffi, the British stripped the emirate of most of its vassal states. Legend also decrees she died during a military campaign at Atagara near Bida in Nigeria. Her exploits earned her the moniker Amina, daughter of Nikatau, a woman as capable as a man. Her legendary escapades made her the model for the television series Xena Warrior Princess. Today, her memory represents the spirit and strength of womanhood. Amina led her first military charge a few months after assuming power. For the rest of her 34 year reign, she continued to fight and expand her kingdom to the greatest in history. The objective for initiating so many battles was to make neighbouring rulers her vassal and permit her traders safe passage. Because her people were talented metal workers, Amina introduced metal armor, including iron helmets and chain mail, to her army. She controlled the trade routes in the region, erecting a network of commerce within the great earthen walls that surrounded Hausa cities within her dominion. According to the Kano Chronicle, she conquered as far as Nupe and Kwarafa, ruling for 34 years. To her credit, she fortified each of her military camps with an earthen wall. Later, towns and villages sprung up within these protective barriers. Instead, she took a temporary husband from the legions of vanquished foes after every battle. After spending one night together, she would condemn him death in the morning in order to prevent him from ever speaking about his sexual encounter with the queen.

Chapter 9 : Queen Amina of Zazzau Kingdom – AFRICA’S WARRIOR PRINCESS – Africa Herita

*On the Shoulders of Giants: Amina Queen of Zazzau Amina was able to expand her kingdom and her legend by soundly defeating her enemies and establishing new cities and territories for her people.*

By adminwvr on October 6, In she became the heir apparent Magajiya to her mother. With the title came responsibility for a ward in the city where she convened daily councils with other officials. She also began training in the cavalry. In she became the undisputed ruler of Zazzau. Distinguished as a soldier and an empire builder, she led campaigns within months of becoming ruler. She built walled forts as area garrisons to consolidate the territory conquered after each campaign. Some of these forts still stand today. She is credited with popularising the earthen city wall fortifications, which became characteristic of all Hausa city-states since then. Amina subdued the whole area between Zazzau and the Niger and Benue rivers, absorbing the Nupe and Kwararafa states. The Kano Chronicle, an important Hausa history, says: The Sarkin Nupe [i. The southern expansion provided large supplies of slave labour. Moreover, Zazzau came to control the trade route from Gwanja and began to benefit from the trade previously enjoyed only by Kano and Katsina, two other Hausa city-states. Queen Bakwa Turunku of the Hausa city-state of Zazzau ruled c. Zaria city, however, dates back to Bakwa Turunku founded it after conquering Kufena. Apparently Turunku, her previous capital, lacked sufficient sources of water to support the growing needs of her commercial centre. She probably founded the royal palace of Zaria, which remains an impressive structure to this day. Dr Dmochowski, an architectural authority, says of it: