

**THE EFFECT OF INSECURITY ON NATIONAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

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**A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND
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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project was carried out by TEMILOLUWA HEPHZIBAH OGUNBIYI of the Department of History and International studies in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor Degree (BA) in International Studies and Diplomacy, the University of Benin, Benin City.

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Date

Date

DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to Almighty God for his guidance, and for giving me the strength to write this project. Also, to my parents, who have been my supports from the beginning.

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My sincere appreciation goes to God almighty for his sustaining grace that kept me throughout my study time in the University of Benin.

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CHAPTER ONE

BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

Introduction

Insecurity in Nigeria has reached an alarming proportion affecting various facets of our national life. Lives are lost on daily basis, population depleted, businesses on the ropes, investments are nose-diving, multinational companies shutting down and vacating the country, unemployment soaring and the populace in fears. Clearly, insecurity poses a threat to governance and economic growth in Nigeria. Nigeria has experienced certain level of insecurity right from independence in 1960, however, the level of insecurity in Nigeria has increased drastically over the years, since the exit of the military from the political scene and the enthronement of democracy in Nigeria about twenty-four years ago, Nigeria has witnessed an unparalleled security challenges that have put Nigerians and foreigners on their toes. More particularly, since 2007, the state of insecurity in the country has assumed an alarming dimension as a result of the activities of different elements. Such activities include militancy in the South-South region, kidnapping in the South-East, violent armed robbery, political assassination, ritual killings and more recently, suicide bombings in some parts of the Northern region especially North-East.¹ Other recent insecurity challenges includes: cyber-crimes, attacks by unknown gunmen, banditry, kidnapping, Herders-Farmers clashes, COVID-19 pandemic etc.

Insecurity is seen as the total opposite of security and has been defined by various scholars in different ways. Some people would take it to mean absence of safety or presence of danger; hazard; uncertainty; want of confidence; doubtful; inadequately guarded or protected; lacking stability; troubled; lack of protection and safety.² It should be noted that the plain reality of poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, bad governance, religion crisis, tribal dispute, porous nature of our borders, proliferation of arms, non-compliance with the rule of law, which have resulted in violence and antisocial activities which threatens the security of the State.³ These activities includes insurgency, kidnapping, banditry, siphoning of public funds, political thuggery, destruction of infrastructural facilities, militancy and the effects of these activities are: underdevelopment, poverty, hunger, death, youth restiveness, extortion, scarcity of goods and services, state of emergency, fear, etc. Therefore, this study focuses on the alarming increase of insecurity and the effect this problem poses on Nigeria's economy.⁴

National security threat has become a major issue for the government and has prompted huge allocation of the national budget to ensure security. In order to ameliorate the incidence of crime, the federal government has embarked on criminalization of terrorism by passing the Anti-Terrorism Act in 2011, fundamental surveillance as well as investigation of criminal related offences, heightening of physical security measures around the country aimed at deterring or disrupting potential attacks, strengthening of security agencies through the

provision of security facilities and the development and broadcast of security tips through mass media.⁵ Despite these efforts, the level of insecurity in the country is still high. In addition, Nigeria has consistently ranked low in the Global Peace Index (GPI, 2021) signifying a worsened state of insecurity in the country. With the lingering security challenges and the inability of the security apparatus of the government to guarantee safety and security in the country, the question that bothers everyone in Nigeria today is; "can there be security?" "Is security of lives and properties achievable?"

The government at all levels has not done enough by not confronting frontally the situation head on and dealing with it decisively, others have argued that the situation has a political undertone or inclination calculated to serve the interest of certain political gods, who have been dissatisfied and disgruntled about the political manifestations in the country.⁶

Economic Development on the other hand is the creation of wealth from which community benefits are realized.

It is more than job programme, it is an investment in growing the economy and enhancing the prosperity and quality of life for all residents.

One cannot conceptualize economic development without first invoking economic growth.

This is because economic growth is one aspect of the process of economic development.⁷ Therefore, economic growth is the increasing capacity to satisfy the needs and wants of the economy overtime. It is conventionally measured as the percentage rate of increase in real gross domestic product, or real GDP.⁸

It should be noted that, security is an essential prerequisite for true and lasting economic growth in a country. Therefore, the economic security of Nigeria is intricately linked to its national security. The epidemic proportion of criminality and violence in the country has consequences on the economic growth and development of the country.

Scholars have identified strong links between security and development since the cold war ended on the 26 December, 1991. They argued that development cannot be achieved in any nation where there are conflicts, crisis and war. There is a consensus in the literature that security and development are two different and inseparable concepts that affect each other, and this has naturally triggered debates on security-development nexus.

Insecurity is one of the major reasons for Nigerians unattractiveness for inward foreign investment in the last five years, amongst other factors such as policy dysfunctions, including multiple exchange rates of the Central Bank of Nigeria. Poor transport infrastructure, unreliable grid-electricity supply (which exacerbates high operating costs), inefficient judicial system, and unreliable alternative

dispute resolution mechanisms are some of the other factors accounting for the decline in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows into the country.⁹

On the impact of insecurity on the economy, the productive aspect of most manufacturing business depends largely on the availability and regular supply of raw materials for production. Insecurity has cut off the supply of such raw materials, hence jeopardizing production activities. Besides this, insecurity affects marketing of finished product as there is a continuous exodus from areas of insecurity. There is also an increase in security spending as most business organizations operating in Nigeria spend a lot in maintaining private security outfits.

The destruction of their business building, property and equipment is tantamount to loss of capital which has ruined many businesses in Nigeria. Thus, security is critical for the nation's development and its absence means that economic growth and development cannot be achieved.¹⁰

Aim and Objectives

The aim of this project work is to examine the nexus between insecurity and national economic development in Nigeria. While the objectives of the study are to:

1. To investigate the causes of insecurity are in Nigeria and examine if the level of economic underdevelopment in the country over the years is connected to the level of insecurity.
2. To identify the insecurity challenges that has bedeviled the Nigerian economy since independence.
3. To enumerate the possible ways of handling the Nigerian insecurity problems and the effect it poses in the country's economic growth and development.

Scope of the Study

The study seeks to cover the effect of insecurity challenges on economic growth and development from 1960 till date and suggest possible ways of handling the situation.

Methodology

The methodology adopted for this research work is historical method analysis using qualitative research methodology. In the process of research for this work, relevant information was gathered from primary such as Newspapers and secondary sources and it relied solely on close reading of published and unpublished works, documents, Journals, articles, edited works including media and online sources. These sources were critically analyzed and documented in line with historical narratives and helped to provide data for an historical analysis on the study of the effects of insecurity on national economic development.

Literature Review

It is important at this juncture to review some relevant published works to support the facts in this project work. This review summarizes and analyses works that exist on the effect of insecurity on national economic development and most of this literature consist of articles and journals and other scholar writings which serve as a framework in understanding the concept of insecurity and its effect on national economic growth and development.

Insecurity and its effect on national economic development has attracted the attention of various scholars and academics as regards their views and opinion on the intercourse between insecurity and economic development. This review is concerned with the existing views and perception of such scholars concerning the subject matter.

The first work here is that of Bandyopadhyay, Sandler and Younas (2014) investigating the impact of terrorism on national economic growth and development of 78 developing countries from 1980-2013. They conclude that domestic terrorism has a negative and significant impact on GDP which they used to capture the level of economic development in their study.¹¹

Another appreciable work is the work of Achumba (2013). In his work on "Security Challenge in Nigeria and the Implications on Business Activities and Sustainable Development". He observed that the porous frontiers of the country,

where inflows of persons and arms are largely untracked have aided militancy and criminality in Nigeria. The report by World Bank (2014) on Conflict, Security and Development reveals that about 1.5 billion people live in countries affected by political and criminal violence, which has exacerbated human misery, and disrupted development. Consequently, more proactive initiatives regarding tackling menace of insecurity are needed in Nigeria since security is central to development, and the national transformation agenda of the current administration may not be achieved if there is no solution to the menace of insecurity ravaging the country.¹²

Babatunde (2013) showed that national insecurity results to organized crime on trade union activities of essential workers capable of destabilizing or endangering life and property which eventually retards national economic development in the country.¹³

Another notable work is that of Stewart (2004), he analyzed the effect of conflict and insecurity on national economic development for twenty five countries between 1960-1995 and found that national economic growth and development was almost always affected, agricultural sector was badly hit, exports were negative, production fell, there was a shift from international to domestic markets, imports went up dominated by military expenditure and essential consumption goods, usually leading to a shortage of foreign exchange for economic inputs.,

consumption per head fell, government revenue as a share of GDP mostly fell and foreign and private investments including government investment fell. This was further corroborated in SIPRI yearbook 2015, where they observed that threats to security can have socioeconomic roots, including contests over natural resources, spill-over effects of environmental degradation, economic and social inequalities, economic and political migration, natural disasters, among others.¹⁴

Chineme (2019) also examined the effect of insecurity management on the Nigerian economy (2016-2019), seeks to determine the effect of insecurity challenges on the Nigerian Economy and Development. The finding showed that insecurity challenges have negative and significant effect on the Nigerian economy and development. He recommended that federal and state governments should continue to reinforce efforts in the fight against insurgency so that a safe environment will be created and activities will be carried out without any fear of uncertainty.¹⁵

Lastly, the work of Usman (2020) examined the impacts of insecurity challenges on economic development in Nigeria as He critically examined how political insecurity undermined the development of Nigeria. He explained the concepts of political insecurity, development, and how they are intertwined. He further examined the causes of political insecurity and its challenges to development of Nigeria. He adopted secondary data as its methodological approach. The study

reveals that injustices, leadership failure as a result of bad governance, and political deprivation are responsible for the political insecurity which is a challenge to development in Nigeria.¹⁶

Chapterization

This research work will be subdivided into chapters to enhance easy understanding and proper organization of the study. It will span through five chapters:

Chapter One: Background to the study

This chapter is a reflection of the introductory aspects of the research which in turn encompasses background to the study, aim and objectives of the study, scope of the study, the methodology of the study, as well as a review of related literature.

Chapter Two: Insecurity causes and Challenges in Nigeria.

The second chapter of this study focuses on highlighting the causes of insecurity and how these causes have metamorphosed into insecurity challenges in Nigeria over the years.

Chapter Three: The Effect of Insecurity On the Economy of Nigeria

This chapter identifies and analyses the effect of insecurity challenges on Nigeria's economic growth and development since independence.

Chapter Four: Possible and Effective method of handling Insecurity issues in Nigeria.

This chapter suggests some possible, attainable and effective solutions to insecurity challenges in Nigeria which affects the level of economic growth and development of the country.

Chapter Five: Conclusion

Chapter five wraps up the research work by giving the summary of findings, recommendations and conclusion.

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CHAPTER TWO

CAUSES AND CHALLENGES OF INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

Concept of Insecurity

The concept of insecurity is not alien to societies, as it has existed even in the primitive societies of the world. To be able to give an all-encompassing definition of insecurity, it is important we have a brief look at what security is. The social contract in which the people willingly surrender their right to the government who oversees the survival of all is necessitated by the need for security. With the end of the cold war, there have been attempt to shift conceptualization of security from a static centric perspective to a broader view that places premium on individuals, in which human security that embodies elements of national security, human rights and national development remain major barometer for explaining the concept.¹

At the heart of this work is an attempt to explicitly examine the concept of security from the level of the states to societies to individuals, and from military to non-military issues.² The security of a nation hangs on two important pillars which are;

1. The maintenance and protection of the socio-economic order in the case of internal and external threats.

2. The promotion of a preferred international order, which minimizes the threat to core values and interests, as well as domestic order³

Security is an all-encompassing condition which suggests that a territory must be secured by a network of armed forces; that the sovereignty of the state must be guaranteed by a democratic and patriotic government, which in turn must be protected by the military-police and the people themselves; that the people must not only be secured from external attacks but also from devastating consequences of internal upheavals such as unemployment, hunger, starvation, diseases, ignorance, homelessness, environmental degradation and pollution cum socio-economic injustices.

Nigeria's security should be based on a holistic view which sees the citizens as the primary beneficiaries of every security and developmental deliverable that the state can offer.⁴ Nigeria's security will involve efforts to strengthen the capacity of the Federal Republic of Nigeria so it can advance its interests and objectives to contain internal and external aggressions, control crime, eliminate corruption, enhance genuine development, progress and growth and improve the welfare and quality of life of every citizen.

The absence of security is insecurity, which can be seen as the absence of security as discussed above.⁵

The common description of insecurity is uncertainty, hazard, danger, want of safety, want of confidence, state of doubt, inadequately guarded and protected, lack of protection and being unsafe, instability and others. The common descriptors outlined above point to a condition where there exists a vulnerability to harm, loss of life, property or livelihood. To them insecurity is state of not knowing, a lack of control, and the inability to take defensive actions against forces that portend danger or harm to an individual or group, or that make them vulnerable.⁶

Causes of Insecurity in Nigeria

Insecurity in Nigeria can be attributed to many factors. Which are as follows:

Introduction of unwelcomed policies:- Nigeria is yet to get a leader who will make policies that majority of her citizens embrace and support. More often than not, policies are fobbed off people despite their opposition and disapproval. One of such policies was the removal of fuel subsidy and deregulation of the downstream sector of the economy on January 1, 2012 by the President Goodluck Jonathan led government, against people's interest that led to opposition and protest. This unpopular policy culminated into mass protest, crisis and violent demonstrations as the youths engaged the police in a fight and the police threw missiles which led to the use of live bullets by the security agents. The security agents using live bullets caused the death of Mustafa Muyideen in Ilorin, Kwara

state and another person was killed in Lokoja, Kogi state while many others sustained injuries in the violent demonstration that followed the removal of fuel subsidy.⁷

Bad Governance: unpopular policies and bad governance have always been a major cause of insecurity in Nigeria. In 2020, there was a protest against a section of the Nigerian police force known as SARS (Special Anti-Robbery Squad) and the inconsiderate policies of government by the Nigerian youths. The protest ended up in shatters causing the death of police officers, youths and others. There was destruction of property and businesses, followed by the discovery of hidden palliatives. Most of the policies of the government are economically unfriendly to the people.

Corruption: - This is one social vice that is the bane of development of Nigeria despite her huge human, natural and material resources. Corruption constitutes a ruin on the economy of any nation as this is the reason most governments in the world do not treat issues of corruption with kid gloves. In Nigeria, corruption seems to have defied solutions despite the measures and campaign against it. Though, government has set up agencies like Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC) as well as an enabling Act, but there is lack of political will to fight corruption. The global anti-corruption watchdog,

Transparency International ranked Nigeria 143 out of 182 countries in its 2011 Corruption Perceptions Index. Conversion of public funds to personal use remains pervasive. A recent report from the Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) showed that a government official was caught hiding #2 billion cash in his house, so what does one say to that able bodied man or young adults, may be of Northern or Southern stock who is unsheltered, sleeping in the street, sleeping inside broken down vehicles and could still dance to a good music in the day time, and at night could become a part of an insurrection group with law enforcement officers as a collective or representational target, unfortunately. What do you say to such a person?⁸

Unemployment - In Nigeria today, unemployment is soaring very high because critical infrastructure like roads, constant power and water supply needed to create jobs is not put in place by the government despite promises made to fix them. It is impenitent to note that, with the high rate of youth unemployment, all manner of crimes such as the activities of Boko Haram, kidnapping and other vices were to be expected. There is a serious economic violence on the people that is why those with violent intentions can easily employ them. That is why religious organizations that addresses the youths get large followers.⁹ Besides, the official rate released by the National Bureau for Statistics (NBS) puts unemployment at about 24 percent even though many unemployed Nigerians are yet to register with the government. Also, In 2022, the unemployment rate in Nigeria is estimated to

reach 33 percent. This figure was projected to at 32.5 percent in the preceding year. Chronological data show that the unemployment rate in Nigeria rose constantly in the past years. In the fourth quarter of 2020, over 33 percent of the labor force was unemployed, according to the Nigerian methodology.

Furthermore, armed robbery, Kidnapping, gangsterism and other vices are related to the high rate of unemployment in the country and across the states. No country can afford to have millions of unemployed youths. This army of the unemployed would become a nuisance to the society. It is a time bomb that must be diffused. It is sad and disheartening to see sound graduates of engineering, physics, mathematics being unemployed for about eight years after graduation from even our first generation universities or to see them selling recharge cards. This type of disguised unemployment is not healthy for the economy.¹⁰

Poverty: - This is a social problem occasioned by unemployment and lack of empowerment. In other words, as unemployment rate increases, poverty level also rises. Poverty, despite decades of military rule by leaders from the north, coupled with a lack of formal education has driven the regions exploding youth population toward extremism. New government statistics released showed that in Nigeria's North West and North East regions besieged by Islamic insurgents, about 75 percent of the people live in poverty. Also, in a recent report of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Nigeria's poverty profile 2010 shows that at least

112.6 million of Nigerians or 69 percent of the country's population are living below the poverty level. In the report by the Statistician-General of Nigeria, the highest poverty areas are within the north-west and north-east geopolitical zones.¹¹

Religion diversity: - It is an undeniable fact that religion division is one major cause of unrest and violence Crisis in Nigeria. Religious fanaticism and extremism have been among the major cause of insecurity in Nigeria. The previous and recent incidences of attack on churches and Christian communities in Northern part of the country by Muslim extremist have rendered several states in the north unsafe for life and properties. The damage of these extremists have caused can be seen in the following words. Religion has unleashed on mankind...it has left in its wake, a heavy toll of destroyed these attacks have lead to loss of lives and wanton destruction of property and businesses. It includes bombing of commercial centers and market, which practically demoralizes economic growth in such areas. Religious violence has been responsible for the collapse of one political order or the other throughout history. It has given rise to assassination of various Heads of States or Government in recent times. One of the most recent is the attack on 5 June 2022, a mass shooting and bomb attack occurred at a Catholic church in the city of Owo in Ondo State, Nigeria. At least 40 people were killed, with the highest estimates being around 80. Some in the

federal government of Nigeria suspect the Islamic State – West Africa Province of carrying out the massacre.

External influence: Since the terrorist attack on the United States of America in September, 2001 by Late Osama Bin Laden led Al Qaeda Network, terrorist groups have sprung up and spread across the length and breadth of the world, including Nigeria. Abu Qaqa, the spokesman of Boko Haram told Vanguard newspaper in November, 2011 that Al-Queda assists Boko Haram and any Muslim group struggling to establish an Islamic state. Abus statement was corroborated by General Azazi who pointed out that many members of Boko Haram had received training in Afghanistan, Yemen, Pakistan, Somalia, Chad, Mauritania and Algeria. Besides, General Ham, the most senior America officer who specializes on Africa said that there is a strong tie between Boko Haram and Al-shabab.¹²

The recent terrorist attacks in different parts of the country especially North-East have shown that there is infiltration from outside Nigeria. The membership of the Boko Haram sect transcends beyond Nigeria to include Niger Republic, Chad, Mali and some North African countries.¹³ Similarly, Boko Haram was receiving tactical support from foreign elements. This is evident in the type of weapons that were captured from members and from the expertise that they have displayed in

the preparation of improved explosive devices. These are pointers to the fact that there is foreign involvement in the terrorism in Nigeria.¹⁴

Inequality and Uneven Development: The increasing inequality and uneven development in the country are helping to fuel insecurity activities. "You can't just have this level of inequality persist. That's what's fueling all this stuff". These were the words of Clinton, who appeared along with Cherie Blair, the wife of former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, at This Day Awards, an annual ceremony hosted by Nigerian Newspaper, Magnate Nduka Obeigbena. It is almost impossible to cure a problem based on violence with violence. Similarly, at the 52nd Independence anniversary lecture titled Nigeria: security, Development and National Transformation in Abuja, former Ghanaian President Kuffour said naturally, Imbalanced development that involves horizontal inequalities is an important source of conflict and that is costing Nigeria the opportunity to be the giant nation that it can and should be.¹⁵

Insecurity Challenges on Nigerian Economy

Insecurity caused by the factors discussed above have manifested in different ways and have metamorphosed into insecurity challenges which have plagued Nigerians and the Nigerian economy since independence.

The Nigeria security challenges have manifested itself in various dimensions such as economic, social, political and religious dimensions. Embedded in this

dimensions are its presentations in the form of militancy, kidnapping, armed robbery political crises, arms proliferation, piracy, tribal crises and ethno-religious conflicts. These challenges pose as threat to Nigerians and the economy of the country.

Insecurity in Nigeria manifest in ways such as;

The Boko Haram Insurgency

Boko Haram is one of the major security challenge that has bedeviled the Nigerian state since 2002. It is a controversial Nigerian militant Islamist sect whose major aim is to impose Sharia law or its radical interpretation of Islam on the northern states of Nigeria and to the other part of the country. The word *Boko* is a Hausa word meaning western otherwise non-islamic education; and the Arabic word *Haram* figuratively means sin or literally something forbidden. The group is not only opposed to western Education, but also western culture and modern science. The ambiguous goal of the group became evident when they kicked against the scientific opinion that the earth is spherical in shape and another scientific opinion that rain comes from water evaporated by the sun.

As it was reported on the BBC News Africa in 2010, the group promotes a radical form of Islam which makes it haram or forbidden for Muslims to take part in any political or social activities in the society. This includes voting in election, wearing of shirts and trousers or receiving secular education. The killing of the

founder and leader of the group, Ustaz Muhammed Yusuf in 2009 turned the group into a killing machine that has put pain to the economic development of the Northern geopolitical zone. The group is believed to have a link with Al-Qaeda and have succeeded in causing serious security breach in the Northern part of Nigeria. The activities of this group which ranges from guerilla warfare to suicide bombing has not only paralyzed economic and social activities within this region, but also made Nigeria unsafe for investment and tourism. ¹⁶

In recognition of this, the President declared a state of emergency in June 2013 to give the security agents permission to use maximum force to quell the uprising. The state of emergency seems to have achieved the desired result with flashes of violence in the first two months, but the renewed hostility from the last two weeks of September, 2013, especially the attack on the College of Agriculture in Yobe State that left 50 people dead and many injured had dealt a blow to the earlier recorded successes of the operation. Boko Haram seems to be a destructive political tool with a cosmetic pretension of being religious. The bombing of the Nigeria Police Force Headquarters in Abuja on June 16th, 2011, the U.N house in Abuja on August 26th, 2011, and other high profile killings attest to this assertion. Nigerian citizens are at the receiving end of the Boko Haram malady, lot of lives have been lost, families destroyed and displaced, businesses, companies and industries paralyzed. The kidnapping of the chibok girls in 2014 and other

subsequent attacks on schools, churches and markets have effects on the economy and standard of living of Nigerians.

Organized Criminal Gangs

Exploiting a security vacuum, recently criminal gangs have emerged in North West Nigeria, described as unknown gunmen or bandits, who have been behind a surge of kidnappings for ransom targeting boarding schools, high rank personality, and clergymen. In the last five years, the North West has experienced the greatest concentration of kidnappings in Nigeria. The ransoms collected through these mass abductions have become a means of business for these criminal gangs. Mass kidnappings in Zamfara, Niger, and Katsina states have emulated 2014s infamous kidnapping of the Chibok schoolgirls by Boko Haram.

In Zamfara State, where the North Wests armed gang problem originated, rival groups raid and clash over the artisanal gold mines that have proliferated in the past decade. The gangs control of the state's gold rush has attracted many impoverished and unemployed young men to join their ranks. These gangs are known to hideout in the Sububu and Dansadau forests in Zamfara and to smuggle arms across the border from Niger. Zamfaras government has estimated that 10,000 so-called bandits are spread between 40 camps in the state.

In addition, On 28 March 2022, an Abuja–Kaduna train was attacked in Katari, Kaduna State, Nigeria. In response, the Nigeria Railway Corporation briefly

halted operations along the route. The incident occurred in the broader context of the Nigerian bandit conflict, and took place two days after a bandit raid at Kaduna Airport, in which two personnel from the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) were slain and several other workers were kidnapped. The Nigerian railway corporation suspended operations on the route on the 29th of March. The activities of this organized criminal groups continues to threaten the lives of Nigerians and the economy of the country. The destruction of infrastructural facilities by miscreants impedes economic growth and development in the country.

Farmer-Herder Conflict

Since the return to democracy in 1999, Nigeria has been grappling with diverse security challenges, chief among them are insurgency, election violence, kidnapping and most recently, the herder-farmer conflicts among others. The north central states of Benue, Plateau and Nasarawa and other states have experienced conflicts that led to thousands of deaths and displacements as a result of clashes between pastoralists (herders) and local farmers in several communities. In January 2018 alone, Amnesty International reports indicate that 168 people were killed as a result of herdsmen-farmer clashes.¹⁷

The Farmer-Herder crisis began to gain momentum since 2018, causing great havoc and setback to agricultural sector and the economy of the country.

Nigeria's Middle Belt has been struck recently by a spike in farmer-herder violence, which in 2018 was six times deadlier than the Boko Haram insurgency, killing more than 2,000 people according to the International Crisis Group. There has been series of continuous attacks on farmers on their farmlands, resulting into killings, destruction of farm produce, theft of livestock and so on. The conflict has underlying economic and environmental reasons; it has also acquired religious and ethnic dimensions. The course of such conflict were destruction of crops, contamination of streams by cattle, zero grazing of land, disregard for local traditional authorities, female harassment, harassment of nomads by host communities youths, indiscriminate bush burning, defecation of cattle on roads, cattle rustling, and straying of cattle.

The movement of herdsmen and subsequent clashes with farmers and host communities in recent times has heightened insecurity in Nigeria, particularly in the North Central region and by extension in other parts of the country. The driving force of the clashes is the competition for available resources, especially grazing land. It seems that the government has abandoned the grazing reserve system created by the Northern region government in 1965. Then, the government created over 417 grazing reserves in the north. Under the grazing reserve system, government provided space, water and vaccinations for the livestock while the herdsmen paid taxes to the government in return. However, the discovery of oil and subsequent exploration and export made Nigeria an oil economy, particularly

in the 1970s and 1980s. Subsequently, the grazing reserve system was abandoned due to the neglect of the agricultural sector as the mainstay of the country's economy.

Consequently, grazing reserves which were under a neglected agricultural sector could not be sustained. It received little or no attention from succeeding administrations. As a fallback, herdsmen began to resort back to their traditional and seasonal grazing routes which had been interrupted or interfered with by industrialization, urbanization, demographic and other natural factors. This then led to clashes and conflict with farmers and host communities. These conflicts have been on the increase in recent times and now constitute one of the major threats to Nigerian national security.

Niger Delta Crisis

The genesis of the Niger Delta crisis can be traced to the disenchantment that arose between the representative of some Niger Delta minority ethnic groups and the multi-national oil corporation operating in their land over the exploitation of their God given treasure without adequate compensation. This scenario precipitated ethnic and political unrest that permeated every facet of the Niger Delta even to the time of enthronement of democracy in 1999. The sole aim of this agitation was to control their God given resources. At the centre of the Niger Delta agitation is the issue of resource control. The competition for oil wealth in

the region gave rise to agitations, violence and subsequent extra-judicial killing of Ken Saro-Wiwa and the nine Ogoni leaders by the Abacha regime.¹⁸

This extra-judicial killing of the Ogoni leaders by the Abacha regime received wide spread condemnation from both within Nigeria and by the international community and laid the foundation for the wave of insecurity that engulf the entire region. The inability of the government particularly during the military era to address the root causes of the agitations (environmental problems, poverty, unemployment, lack of basic amenities, etc.) in the Niger Delta region, resulted in the spawning of ethnic militias of the Niger Delta origin leading to the militarization of nearly the entire region.¹⁹ The government of Nigeria in recognizing that the insecurity situation in the Niger Delta region is as a result of government inability to provide the region with the basic social amenities, has established some institutions or agencies to help ameliorate the hardship faced by the people of the region. Some of this agencies are; Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and the Oil Mineral Producing Areas Development Commission.

Despite the effort of government in this direction, the security situation in the region worsen with the emergence of more agitating groups like the Niger Delta Vigilante (NDV) led by Ateke Tom and the Niger Delta Peoples Volunteer Force led by Mujahid Dokunbo-Asari. The two groups operated with strong affiliation

to the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta. These groups purportedly joined the struggle to address the injustice by the Federal Government against the region and this move exacerbated the security problems not only in the region, but also in the entire nation. In addition to this known groups, there are more than one hundred other smaller militias operating in the Niger Delta region that are made up of disaffected young men from the various cities and town within the Niger Delta region. Considering the loss of revenue and lives as a result of the insecurity of life and property posed by the activities of the militias, the Federal Government under President Umaru YarAdua proposed amnesty for the militias operating within the region and after acceptance of the proposal, he granted amnesty and unconditional pardon to the militants in the region in October 2009. The amnesty programme reduced the rate of militancy in the region and the incessant kidnapping which was one of the product of the militancy in the Niger Delta eventually spilled over into some states in the South-East geopolitical zone of the country.

Kidnapping and Banditry

Another significant security challenge facing Nigeria today is the rampant increase of kidnap cases and Banditry, especially on Nigeria highways. The level of kidnapping and Banditry became more alarming in 2021, as there's a very high rate of kidnapping all over the country. Lots of kidnap cases have been recorded

in 2021 rating from school children, businessmen, important personality and even ordinary citizens.

Kidnapping can be defined as the act of abducting somebody and keeping him/her as prisoner in order to get a ransom for his/her release.

Since April 2014 after the Boko Haram terrorists abducted 276 schoolgirls from their dormitories in Chibok, Borno State, mass kidnapping for ransom has gradually, become the order of the day in Nigeria.

Findings by Sunday Vanguard show that the country has witnessed staggering 111 kidnapping incidents in the last eight months, that is, from January to mid-August, 2021.

The total figure represents confirmed cases by the police and eye witnesses accounts eventually reported by the media.

Sunday Vanguard learned that many other unreported incidents may have taken place, especially in Niger, Zamfara, Sokoto, and Katsina states (North-West and North-Central) where banditry is raging. Thus, the sum total may well be above 111 if all cases were captured.

The highest number of kidnap cases (27), was recorded in February with 605 victims. This was closely followed by July (23) and January (21) with 327 and 284 victims respectively. The situation was made worse due to alleged breakdown of security architecture in the country especially in the North-West and North-East.

Security experts say the inability of the Federal Government, through the security agencies, to stem the development has led to a surge in kidnapping and banditry. According to Experts, armed bandits have taken advantage of weak security presence to continue their reign of terror on schools, villages and highways.

It should be noted that the criminal act of kidnapping is not limited to the North; it spreads all over the country. This dangerous trend of kidnapping is also a spill-over of the Niger Delta crises which got rooted in the South-East states of Nigeria because of its economic attraction to the many unemployed youths within the region. The hold of the black economy was more in Abia and Imo states where prominent people of the area were the target of the perpetrators of the heinous crime. The reserved army of unemployed youth, which were used as political thugs in the 2007 general election, had readily made available the tools for the black business. These thugs diverted the guns given to them by politician and the skills they acquired in political thuggery into the business of kidnapping after the election. These thugs were abandoned after the election without adequate compensation, and to make the matter worse, the guns given to them for the purpose of the election were never retrieved from them.

Prominent indigenes and business men in these areas were the target of the kidnapers. Attempt was once made at kidnapping the Governor of Abia State, Chief Theodore Orji in 2008, but this was foiled by security agencies. With an

attempt at kidnapping the Governor, other indigenes and business men has no option than to be jittery, which led them into relocating most of their businesses out of the state to neighboring states like Enugu and Anambra. Other targets of this black business were; traditional rulers, school children and Christians leaders. This case of kidnapping school children was so touching that commercial Banks in the areas closed down for several days to protest the ugly trend.

The government has made several attempts at stopping the crime in the area and this can be seen in the deployment of soldiers on the invitations of the various state governors, through direct intensive attacks by the military on the various hideout used by the kidnappers, the menace of the crime has reduced in the South-East states. As the government seems to be achieving successes in some states, the criminals keep relocating to other states to continue with their black business. The second and third quarter of 2013 in Edo State witnessed upsurge in this criminal activities of kidnapping with people assuming Edo State to be the new headquarters of the black economy

Political Assassination

Insecurity situation that is associated with the fundamental human rights of the electorates as well as freedom from systematic torture, ill treatment and coercion are termed political insecurity. Since 1999, politics in Nigeria has been characterized by violence and election related assassinations. Some of such cases are the assassination of the former Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice Chief Bola Ige on the 23rd of December, 2001, the assassination of the national Vice Chairman for the south-south of All Nigeria Peoples Party Chief Harry Marshall on March 5th 2003 and the former Nigerian Bar Association Chairman, Onitsha Branch, Barnabas Igwe and wife were gruesomely murdered on September 1st, 2002. Others are the assassination of Engr. Funsho Williams and Dr. Ayodeji Daramola former gubernatorial candidates of PDP in Lagos and Ekiti State respectively, who suffers the same fate of political assassination in Nigeria since 1999.²⁰ In 2012, a serving Senator from Plateau State, Senator Dantong Gyang Daylop, the minority leader of the Plateau State House of Assembly, Hon. Gyang Fulani were gruesomely murdered while many were left injured during a funeral in Plateau State by unidentified gunmen.²¹

Incessant political violence in Nigeria could be attributed to over-zealousness and desperation by political gladiators to win elections or remain in office at all costs. A good example is a statement credited to former President Olusegun

Obasanjo that the 2007 general elections would be a do or die affair. Such remark does not only endanger political developments but also connotes a violent call for everyone to augment the political arsenals for contest.

Election protest and Violence

Electoral violence has always been part of the political process. It is a means of showing grievances which on the long run culminate into the destruction of life and property. Violence or the threat of violence during elections is a universal phenomenon. Individuals and groups throughout history have, in one form or another, resorted to electoral violence as a tactic of political action to achieve some political gains. Nigeria as a nation has had her own fair share of violence before, during and after the elections. The protest that followed the annulment of the June 12, 1993 presidential election, the general condemnation and protest that follows the 1999, 2003 and 2007 general election and the 2011 post presidential election crises that erupted in the Northern part of Nigeria which led to the loss of precious lives and properties worth millions of naira. The implication of this scenario is a breakdown of law and order which has dire consequences for sustainable economic development of Nigeria.

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CHAPTER THREE
EFFECT OF INSECURITY ON NATIONAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Insecurity of a nation has collateral impact on every other developmental index, making security an essential prerequisite for true and lasting economic growth and some of the salient consequences of insecurity include; discourage investor, Brain drain i.e migration of human resources to other countries, Inflation, Dependence on import. It has also made Nigerian economy a consuming economy rather than a producing economy. Other effects are;

1. Interruption of economic activities: with pervasive insecurity comes internal displacement of people and the crippling of economic activities in the worst affected areas. Virtual death has been witnessed in the North - Eastern states of the country due to Boko- Haram insurgency over the last decade. Agricultural produce in Benue and North central states have been badly affected by Herdsmen-Farmers clashes. Insecurity in these states has created internal refugees in refugee camps who are not able to contribute to economic activities.

2. Extermination of Consumer Confidence: Protracted insecurity, as it has been in Nigeria in recent years, can depress a consumer's confidence, which will reduce consumer's spending and also affect businesses who due to insecurity put off investments decisions and can slow down growth of economy in Nigeria.¹

3. Decrement in Foreign Investment (FDI): the amplification of news coverage on insecurity in a nation like Nigeria makes things look worse to outsiders than they really are. Foreign investors' confidence worsens especially as the strategies of the government to tackle the menace are weak and ineffective.

According to the United Nation Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), FDI flows to Nigeria averaged \$5.3 billion annually from 2005-2007. However, UNCTAD data shows FDI to Nigeria averaged \$3.3 billion from 2015-2019, a period that has been marked by heightened and widespread insecurity in the country. Insecurity is one of the major reasons for Nigerias unattractiveness for inward foreign investment in the last five years, amongst other factors such as policy dysfunctions including multiple exchange rates of Central Bank of Nigeria.

4. Distorted Incentives: there are a lot of people in high places that financially benefit from the insecurity. For such people, it become their goal to maintain status quo rather than encourage an improvement. There is now a massive industry around insecurity in Nigeria not aimed at providing support effort to providing more security.

Hostage negotiation is now a booming career as a member of a family is kidnapped and security agencies put the family in contact with hostage negotiators who are paid to not only negotiate downward the massive ransoms demanded by hostage takers but also to help deliver the ransoms demanded. Many

high ranked official of the security agencies also corruptly enrich themselves through security related procurements²

In any nation with security challenges, governance and economic growth are threatened. The current insecurity situation of Nigeria is deplorable as lives are lost on daily basis, businesses are in comatose, people are displaced, and investments are constrained, while people live in fear amid abject poverty due to low productivity and rising unemployment. Bombings especially in the Northern part of Nigeria have posed serious challenges and threat to the peace and stability of Nigeria macroeconomic environment³

At this juncture, it's sacrosanct to examine the direct effect some outstanding insecurity challenges have on the Nigeria's Economy; such as; Endsar, Boko Haram insurgency, incessant kidnapping, Farmer/Herder clashes among others.

Aftermath of ENDSARS Protest on the Nigerian Economy

Amnesty International indicted Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) as being responsible for human rights abuse, cruelty, degrading treatment of Nigerians in their custody and other widespread torture and documented about 82 cases of abuses and extrajudicial killings by SARS, a figure which is probably conservative at its best. ⁴

A nationwide movement and a global phenomenon was sparked following footage of alleged SARS officers shooting a young Nigerian and driving off in his car

emerged on 3rd October 2020 on the social media, which led to nationwide protests led by young Nigerians have started in several cities on the 7th October, 2020. The protests were peaceful but the Nigerian Police Force began throwing teargas and shooting at unarmed protesters and the outcome was serious injuries and death of some protesters in several cities across the country.⁵

The major demand of the protest was the disbanding of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) due to its continued extrajudicial executions and extortion and a long record of abuses and demand for good and accountable governance in the country.

Production activities, supply chains, reduced demand for non-essential goods, posed security challenges and reduced revenue across all sectors of the economy were disrupted by lock-downs due to the Covid-19 pandemic which made recovery for many businesses sluggish and for those that source their raw materials or products from abroad, the border closure policy and the restriction on foreign exchange made their recovery tougher. The economic cost of the looting spree that engulfed Nigeria in the last week of October as a result of negative consequences of ENDSARS protest compounded these problems. Food costs, already higher than normal due to government policies, were worsened by the destruction of storage houses and warehouses. In addition to these damaged

warehouses, commercial property such as bank ATMs and restaurants were vandalized.⁶

The effect of the ENDSARS protest on the Nigerian economy, is enormous and unattractive as it attracts downgrades by rating agencies, as the crisis was able to roll back gradual progress being made in economic recovery. Mutiu Yekeen, Head of Corporate Communications, Primero Transport Services (PTS) Ltd, owners of BRT Buses, said the company lost over N100 million in six days resulting from the protest, which has had the nations economic capital ravaged. Garba Kurfi, Managing Director at APT Securities and Funds Limited, in a note to Business A.M., said there will be some economic impacts from the protest, especially from the closure of the economic nerve centre (Lagos) of Nigeria for over three days, is a great loss. He noted Lagos controls about 50 per cent of the Nigerian economy and this will be a great loss as this will affect all flight's take-off and landing, which centres around Lagos, as well as other economic activities that have to be postponed signaling a huge loss to the economy. The impacts are many because most other parts of the country are linked to Lagos in one way or the other.⁷

The Impact of Banditry and Kidnapping on the Nigeria's Economy

One of such problems bedeviling economic growth of Nigeria is kidnappings and banditry, which has turned into a social problem affecting virtually every member of the Nigerian society in one way or the other.

Kidnapping is difficult to define with precision, as it varies from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. In any case, it is seen as the forceful seizure, taking away and unlawful detention of a person against his/her will. It is a common law offence and the key part is that, it is an unwanted act on the part of the victim. It is a restriction of someone else's liberty which violates the provision of freedom of movement as enshrined in the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, where every other law takes its cue from.⁸

Banditry is defined as prevalence of armed robbery or violent crime involving the use of force, or threat to that effect, to intimidate a person with the intent to rob, rape or kill. Banditry is a crime against persons. It has been a common genre of crime, as well as cause violence in contemporary societies.

Unemployment is one reason why kidnapping and banditry in Nigeria as the widely acknowledged adage, which says that an idle man is the devil's workshop says. There are uncountable able-bodied men and women in Nigeria roaming the streets in search of non-existing jobs and out of frustration together with mounting responsibilities to tackle many idle young persons have ventured into criminal

activities of which kidnapping are not an exemption. A graduate who is unable to secure a job is psychologically bereft of other means of survival. Such situation the young person could develop a negative attitude towards society and attribute his failure to that society.⁹

Every action in life has a consequence thus, kidnapping and banditry activities, also comes with its corresponding consequences, which unfortunately largely affect third party such as the victims and the society at large. Some of the effects of banditry and kidnapping include;

Psychological stress and trauma of the victims of kidnapping and banditry which usually leaves a negative psychological effect, especially in children and in most cases leads to depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Atmosphere of fear and general distrust in societies where the incidence of kidnapping is high, tending to limit people's lives and actions which translates to reduced economic activities.

The high rate of kidnapping and banditry in certain area of the country has made such area high risk zone for foreigners scaring away foreign investors from investing in that region, as can be seen in the northern part of Nigeria where Boko Haram and banditry is operating everywhere.¹⁰

Effects of Corruption on Economic Development of Nigeria

Corruption is an effort to secure wealth or power through illegal means for the purpose of private gain at public expense or misuse of public power for private benefit. Corruption has co-existed with human society for as long as time has been in existence and poses itself as one of the problems in many of the worlds developing economies with devastating consequences. Corruption as a phenomenon, is a global problem, and exists in varying degrees in different countries as it is not only found in democratic and dictatorial politics, but also in feudal, capitalist and socialist economies. Christian, Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist cultures are equally bedeviled by corruption.¹¹

Corruption is a plague, a disease, spreading itself throughout developing nations, and the world needs to inoculate these nations against this infection Corruption is a tool of evil wielded by the wealthy and powerful of developing nations in order to make themselves richer, and even more powerful. These are the only people benefited by this disease. The lower classes in developing nations are hard hit by the excessive bribes and loss of infrastructure.¹²

Corruption increases the cost of running businesses, distorts public expenditures, and deters foreign investment. It also hampers tax collection and undermining the enforcement of important regulation creating loss of tax revenues and monetary problems leading to adverse budgetary consequences which is likely to produce

certain composition of capital flows that makes a country more vulnerable to shifts in international investors' sentiments and expectations. In addition, corruption has an adverse effect on human development, and increases the cost of basic social services.

Corruption has had severe negative consequences on economic growth and development of Nigeria. Even where improper conduct, such as fraud and bribery, does not directly involve government, the public effects are severe. Corruption has adversely affected governance and the larger social structure. It has crippled the state's ability to deliver for its citizen's enjoyment of even the minimum social and economic rights, including health and education. This generally leads to a retardation of economic development and to the deterioration of whatever public infrastructure has been put in place.¹³

Corruption which is equal to monopoly plus discretion, minus accountability has serious impediment to sustainable development especially in developing countries. It has stolen the wealth of resource-rich nations like Nigeria thereby making people to be trapped in poverty. Even while thinking of some firms/people as if better off through payment of a bribe by most people, the overall effect of corruption on economic development still remains negative. The more corrupt a country is, the slower its economic growth rate. Corruption is a stigma that

destroys the reputation of affected country. It lowers investment thereby lowering economic growth of the country.¹⁴

The effects of insecurity on economic development cannot be overemphasized. The Farmer/Herder clashes also contributed to food scarcity and therefore leading to food product hike. There is a low agricultural production due to the displacement of farmers and rural dwellers whose major occupation is farming. The level of exportation of agricultural products have reduced drastically while importation has increased leading to high product price. Nigeria is a monocrop nation whose major means of survival is agricultural production and crude oil. The activities of the Niger-delta militant in the South and unknown gunmen attacks in the North have direct effect on Nigerian and the country's economy.

Furthermore, transportation of goods and services across the country has become a herculean task, due to the high rate of banditry and kidnapping coupled with the attacks of unknown gunmen. Traders, businessmen and investors are greatly threatened by the activities of these elements. Hijacking of goods truck, accidents, destruction of warehouses, unsecured roads among others have contributed to economic depression in Nigeria.

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CHAPTER FOUR

METHODS ADOPTED BY RELEVANT AUTHORITIES IN RESOLVING INSECURITY CHALLENGES IN NIGERIA

Insecurity in Nigeria poses a threat to life and properties, encumbers activities, and dissuades both local and foreign investors, all of which deter a country's social and economic growth and development. Since the Nigeria gained political independence in 1960, we have been experiencing rising insecurity challenges in Nigeria with the most recent, assuming a dangerous dimension that even threatens the Nigerian state's economic life.¹

Abrogating these challenges should be Nigerian government number one priority at all levels because the nation cannot achieve any significant development when insecurity and terrorism is the other of the day in the country.²

There is need for proactive approach in resolving security issues and threats by modern methods of intelligence gathering and sharing intelligence, preparation, logistics, encouragement, and the implementation of advanced technology to address security challenges. Nigeria is currently battling with security related crises which has defied all possible solutions, ranging from efforts of the law enforcement agents and the millions annually budgeted by the government as security votes.³

The instruments of internal security in Nigeria are agencies equipped with the responsibility of internal security. These instruments can be divided into two

categories namely the coercive and non-coercive with coercive being the armed forces (the Army, Navy and air force and the Nigerian police force) and non-coercive including agencies whose activities must of necessity not attract public attention such as State Security Service (SSS), the Custom and Exercise Department, the Immigration Department, the Nigerian Prison Service, the Federal and State Fire Service, the Security Unit of Cabinet Office, the Judiciary, Civil Defense and the Federal Road Safety Corps Marshal and some established by some state government in South East, West and South-South⁴

Function of the above agencies is distorted by political usage and shortage of funds though the military is capable but its scope of operation is to protect the integrity of the nation's territory. The public perception of their role has hardly changed as it is evident that their training is inadequate thus leading to their poorly equipped to combat the insecurities in the Nation, not forgetting that the society is still hostile.⁵

In order to address insecurity challenges the causes of insecurity must be addressed first. Corruption, which is one of the causes of insecurity in Nigeria, should be dealt with within the government at all levels and the military sector also. The armed forces should be properly remunerated. The army and police is the major instrument used by the government to counter insurgent actions and violence insecurity activities, therefore, they should be properly trained especially

in current military tactical skill. New inventions and sophisticated technology which pertains to the military should be adopted.

In addition, orientation of the armed forces on coercive and non-coercive force should be constantly embarked upon. Proper and more modern way of security management networking as adopted by some advance state of the world may be adopted. Modern and state of the art equipment weapons and logistics are provided the armed forces and other security agencies. More funding and proper management of such funds be instituted in all governmental and private security agencies. There is the urgent need for the government to address and tackle the issue of poverty, hunger, quality education, population growth, and crime, underdevelopment corruptions in the private and public institutions. The appointed elected or nominated political leaders should apply good governance and accountability while in office and those found guilty of deviancy be prosecuted and banned from office.⁶

It is pertinent to note that overcoming insecurity challenges in Nigeria is everyone's responsibility, every sector, organization and individual has a role part to play. The following steps are suggested as possible solutions to security threats:

The Government Role

Fundamental responsibility of any government is to ensure the security of lives and properties and safety of her citizens. Good governance is key to ensuring security as at it aims at:

Promoting and sustaining holistic and integrated human development, enabling people lead clean, descent, happy and autonomous lives and encouraging better service delivery and improved accountability, and in delivering better services, governing bodies and individuals must always act in the public interest at all times which is consistent with legislation and government policies, avoiding self-interest⁷

The Role of Religious Organizations

Religions have been a major cause of security breach in Nigeria therefore religion should be aimed at suing for and ensuring peace. Christians and Muslims are expected to be examples of peace. Maintenance of a relationship with God, express a common language and altar of service becomes commitment to quality service delivery.⁸

The Role of Corporate Organizations and Individuals

Corporate governance and corporate organizations can ensure the effective functioning of their organizations. Organizations that ensure good governance

give back to the community by ensuring that the interest of all stakeholders is taken care of.⁹

There is need to revive and reinforce moral values and virtue ethics in the country, so that Nigerians, small and old, can begin to imbibe these virtues to guide their conduct, behavior and social relations with others. To start with, government carries a moral burden to lead by example by providing moral leadership that eschews evil, corruption, vices, inequity, injustice and wickedness, which will compel the people to model the character of their leaders and vice versa.

Like-wise the democratic system must begin to deliver the needed social goods so as to improve the standard of living of Nigerians and improve the standard of living of many citizens from the state of absolute poverty to which they have been subjected for a long while.¹⁰

There is need to identify the moral values and ethical virtues that should guide the conduct and behaviour of Nigerians and these values should be built on the respect for human life, the regard for human dignity and the right to life, liberty and security of the people; the freedom of worship, religion, thought and conscience; and the freedom of opinion.¹¹

Fourth, there should be a codification of the moral values and virtues the government and Nigerian peoples subscribe to for the good of the larger society.

Fifth, government should plug all the holes through which scarce resources are

been siphoned so as to free resources for national development and equipping of the military to fulfill its functions. Lastly, there is need for a national conversation or dialogue where Nigerians can release their pent-up anger and frustration against the state and fashion out the blueprint for the engagement of all the component units that make up Nigeria.¹²

The government should explore the following recommendations in providing lasting solutions to the menace of insecurity in Nigeria:

- a. The government should adopt Community Policing within each divisional police headquarters for effective management of insecurity.¹³
- b. The government should improve the Nigerian economy through the provision of basic social, economic, and physical infrastructure for business and industrial developments.
- c. They should totally overhaul the security structure and apparatus through the improvement of the training of security officers, sufficient training in modern security methodologies, the provision of modern equipment and increased remuneration, good service conditions, and convenient after-service arrangements, etc.
- d. The government should increase people's living standards by building more centers of entrepreneurship across the nation.

- e. The government should create more job opportunities for the teaming unemployed youths, as a strategy to gainfully engage them and prevent a situation where they are made willing instruments in the hands of mischief makers.
- f. The governments should promote good governance, transparency and accountability as a strategy to reassure the citizens that the government is doing enough to improve the living conditions as well as the security situations in the country.

The permanent solution to the Boko Haram insurgency as suggested must be based on good governance which can address squarely the issues of social injustice, economic inequality, political marginalization and alienation among the population, corruption, and abject poverty, mass illiteracy, unemployment, etc. Democratic institutions and structures in the country must be strengthened to ensure judicious use of national resources towards improving the living conditions of the masses as this is the surest way of diffusing the insecurity storm.¹⁴

Nigeria should put measures in place to support employment generation industrialization to absorb the huge population of the unemployed youths and a significant percentage of the country's resources should be channeled into massive investment in agriculture leading to commercialization of Agriculture to achieve food security and provide employment; and to address the deepening

poverty and despair. Until and unless Nigeria addresses these challenges, it will literally be chasing shadows in the war against Boko Haram insurgency.

More so, the government must pursue growth with its policies such as establishing Community Policing within each divisional police headquarters for effective management of insecurity, creating an economy with appropriate social, economic, and physical infrastructure for business and industrial growth, ultimate improvement of training of security officers, with sufficient training in modern security methodologies, provision of state-of-the-art equipment and appropriate remuneration, good service conditions, and convenient after-service arrangements, boosting people's living standards by establishing more centers of entrepreneurship across the nation, most notably in the North and North East, creating more job opportunities for the youths leading to abstinence crimes, barring of Politicians who use thugs from politics for life with Governments promoting good governance, openness, accountability through the use of print and digital media, and inform the public through conferences, seminars, and NGOs.¹⁵

There should be an open dialogue among Nigerians cutting across all ethnic groups in order to negotiate and proffer ways of living together harmoniously so that Nigeria would be able to overcome its security challenges.¹⁶

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CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION

Summary of Findings

This work under sees the relevant issue of insecurity in Nigeria and its effect on economic growth and development of Nigeria. The incessant rise in Insecurity and retrogression in the economic development of Nigeria call for a concern among researchers and policy makers over the years. However, maintenance of internal security still remains the greatest challenges facing Nigeria today. Since the past decade or more, Nigeria has witnessed an unparalleled security challenges spawned by the activities of militants in the South-South region, kidnapers in the south east, violent armed robbery in most parts of the country, political assassination, ritual killings, Boko Haram insurgency and more recently activities of unknown gunmen in some parts of the northern region especially North East.

These social menaces, when put together impinge on the security of lives and property of both Nigerian citizens and foreigners living or those even trying to invest in the country. To ensure economic development in Nigeria therefore, various measures of curbing insecurity must be adopted, including preventive community policing, human development centered growth perspective, equitable distribution of resources as well as channeling of resources to frontline sectors of the economy among others. These social menace triggers off a worrisome sense of

insecurity that challenges Nigeria's efforts towards national economic development and consequently its vision. It also scares the attraction of foreign investment and their contributions to economic development in Nigeria.

Insecurity affects economic growth by drying-out investments, increases unemployment and dwindles government revenue, amongst others.

The security of a nation hangs on two important pillars which are;

1. The maintenance and protection of the socio-economic order in the case of internal and external threat
2. The promotion of a preferred international order, which minimizes the threat to core values and interests, as well as domestic order.

There is need for proactive approach in resolving security issues and threats by modern methods of intelligence gathering and sharing intelligence, preparation, logistics, encouragement, and the implementation of advanced technology to address security challenges. Also, all citizens must be ready to expose every security threat to the country. There is need for throughout investigation of the channel through which terrorists access weapons and such channel must be firmly blocked.

Furthermore, good governance is key to ensuring security as it aims at promoting and sustaining holistic and integrated human development, enabling people lead clean, decent, happy and autonomous lives and encouraging better

service delivery and improved accountability, and in delivering better services, governing bodies and individuals must always act in the public interest at all times which is consistent with legislation and government policies, avoiding self-interest.

Government carries a moral burden to lead by example by providing moral leadership that eschews evil, corruption, vices, inequity, injustice and wickedness, which will compel the people to model the character of their leaders and vice versa.

Democratic system must begin to deliver the needed social goods so as to improve the standard of living of Nigerians and improve the standard of living of many citizens from the state of absolute poverty to which they have been subjected for a long time by putting measures in place to support employment generation industrialization to absorb the huge population of the unemployed youths and a significant percentage of the country's resources should be channeled into massive investment in agriculture leading to commercialization of Agriculture to achieve food security and provide employment; and to address the deepening poverty and despair.

Government should know that it is recommended that if insecurity will be a thing of the past in Nigeria, true democracy must be localized with good governance that addresses the socio-economic and political roots such as absolute and dehumanizing poverty, engrossing corruption, bad leadership, electoral fraud, social injustice, and resources allocation inequalities on which extremist ideologies thrive making citizens vulnerable to the enticement of being weapons of social vices leading to insecurity.

Also Government can improve on information technology by installing CCTVs to monitor illegal immigrants, arms and ammunition into the country, tackling unemployment by all levels of government, security agencies shunning bribery and other corrupt acts with good remuneration and Life assurance scheme for them.

Civil societies also should wake up to their responsibilities of raising public awareness as to moral ethics required of citizens and lobbying for concrete change or in helping to initiate and carry out a process of reforming national integrity.

In all, the danger of insecurity cannot be over emphasized. When a nation is saddled with the problem of insecurity every other plan are stalled.

Nigeria as a country with a population of over one and fifty million people cannot allow insecurity to derail her political and economic development plans. The country's economic growth is being threatened. Recently, we have experienced

increased in violence activities in Nigeria which has claimed several lives and properties, thwarted businesses, destroyed economic facilities. There is therefore urgent need to tackle it before it makes the country ungovernable.

Security is an integral part of human existence and sustenance and is a situation in which citizens are free from any threats to their life and means of livelihood, safe from bodily harm, diseases, unemployment, and human rights violations wherever they may find themselves within a sovereign nation. The effect of insecurity on the citizens and the nations economy and governance is negative and brings about underdevelopment thus the need for Nigeria to seek a lasting solution to its insecurity challenges quickly before the complete collapse of the Nation's economy.

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