

Insecurity and National Growth: A Study of Insurgency in Nigeria, 2010-2021.

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ABSTRACT

Insecurity has developed into an unending challenges that security personnel in Nigeria appear incapable of controlling in light of its numerous manifestations, such as bombing, kidnapping, property destruction, and instilling terror, to name a few. As a result, this paper addresses the causes and consequences of Nigeria's increasing insecurity as a threat to human existence and economic growth in Nigeria, as well as government measures to promote peace. Secondary method of informationgathering was employed such as academic journals, newspaper, magazine, etc.The paper discovered that the shift of power from Northern hegemony to the South-South minority geopolitical zone is currently at the top of the list of issues that motivated the groups and individuals to act against the state's interests. Additional points of contention include the high rate of unemployment and poverty, elite exploitation of ethnic and religious divisions, corruption, a weak security system, a porous border, marginalization and inequality within the country, as well as inadequate administration and leadership, all of which contribute to insecurity, the data indicates. As a result, the study suggests that overcoming these obstacles ought to be Nigeria's primary concern at all stages, as it would be difficult for any country to achieve major growth with the present security challenges. Authorities must be effective in identifying security issues as well as dangers by employing modern techniques of information collection and sharing, planning, coordination, encouraging, and the use of innovative technology to meet security threats.

Keywords: Security, Insecurity, National Growth.

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I. Introduction

Security of life and property is critical for any society's survival and prosperity. Thus, one of the fundamental human rights of citizens in any state is the right to security, which is why it is continuously specified in practically all sovereign states' constitutions, including Nigeria. Meanwhile, government is responsible for efficiently providing security within a certain societal framework. Security is the foundation of human existence; without it, national growth which include, social, economic, and political success are impossible. Each state struggles to maintain and strengthen its essential values with the goal of enabling people to live in a free and protected environment consistent with their shared universal principles while safeguarding their national interests, identity, and sovereignty (Nasiru, 2020; Charas, 2015).

Increased insecurity is on the verge of becoming a part of Nigeria's heritage, since no day has passed without an act of insecurity. Although insecurity is not a new situation in Nigeria, insecurity in Nigeria dates back to the early years of military rule, most especially during the 1966 coup. The importation of large quantities of arms into the country for the use of the military during the civil war further trigged insecurity in Nigeria. Meanwhile, contemporary insecurity in Nigeria started in 2002, intensified and expanded to other parts from 2009-2021, withBoko-Haram, Fulani herdsmen, ethnic militia and Bandits being the major insecurity dimensions

The country has assumed unprecedented dimension since Goodluck Jonathan was confirmed as President in February 2010 following the death of President Yar'adua. At the moment, hardly a day goes by without hearing a horrific story about some sort of security breach. Regrettably, ordinary residents and the country's economic prosperity have been disproportionately affected by the wanton destruction of lives and properties, which has spread throughout everyregion in Nigeria; in the North East is occasioned by activities of

Boko Haram and Islamic state of west Africa province; in the North central is triggered by Herder and farmer crisis; in the North West is resulted from activity of Fulani Bandits; in South East resulted from secession agitation of IPOB, in South/South occasioned by agitation for Resource control by MEND; and in the South West resulted from agitation for Restructuring by OPC and Ritual killing. Residents of these areas now sleep with one eye open. The sequence of bombings and assassinations in the north; kidnappings for ransom and armed robbery attacks in the south; political and economic assassinations; as well as banditry, has led to loss of so many lives and properties as well as created a humanitarian crisis as millions, including women and children internal displaced persons now settled in makeshift camps scattered allover the countries while have become refugees in Neighbouring states. Worse yet, the government, which is typically tasked with the security of life and property, appearincapable of handling the situation. (Nasiru, 2020; Emmanuel & Emily, 2019).

Thus, it seems that the feeling of relative deprivation expressed in different quarters of the country, by different civil societies groups which complained of either political or economic marginalization has throw up agitation and armed insurgencies. The alarming security situation in the country has prompt this paper to ask the following questions: what is the cause of the Nigeria ever growing insecurity? What are the solutions? It is at this backdrop that this paper set out to examine the causes, effects and solution to the Nigeria security problem, while utilizing secondary sources of data collection such as diplomatic reports, magazines, academic journals, newspapers report, books and internet sources.

Conceptual Clarification

Diverse researchers from throughout the world have advanced divergent perspectives on the concept of security. According to Rothschild (1995:12), security is an impenetrable concept that means different things to different people depending on their time and place of origin. "Security refers to the protection of ordinary street dwellers from harm and danger. Individual safety is critical, as is the state's stability. As Nasiru correctly observed, in line with Zabadi's observation, "unless an individual can be certain of his substantial safety, all other considerations are meaningless" (Nasiru, 2020; Zabadi, 2011). Additionally, without security, it will be difficult for individuals within a state to participate in productive activities. On the contrary, without security, the state is doomed to encounter immense complexity as it strives to advance both its human development and the general well-being of the populace (Imobighe, 200).

Security is broadly defined as the process of mitigating the threat to cherished values. It is viewed as a situation that develops as a result of the development of mechanisms for protecting individuals, information, and property against violent groups (Onifade, 2013). It refers to a state of affairs in which individuals can move freely inside a specific location or beyond without fear for their lives or property, both real and imagined. A situation in which citizens can sleep soundly with both eyes closed. The protection of people's lives and property in a community appears to be the essential reason for the existence of a government, as evidenced by numerous social contract theorists (Hobbes, Locke, and Montesquieu). Further, the United Nations Development Programme (1994) defines human security as the protection against concealed and cruel disruptions of daily operations in homes, offices, and communities. That is, security is the state of being protected and safe from danger; it may also refer to protection from ongoing dangers such as hunger, infection, and oppression. In addition, human security is the protection of important parts of human life in a way that helps people be free and be more productive.

Human security entails freedom from desire, pain, and fear, as well as the ability to behave appropriately without hindrance. Additionally, it provides a guarantee of future well-being and safety. From a sociopolitical perspective, security is defined as the capacity to pursue legitimate political and social aspirations. That is, security is sociopolitical in nature; without it, there can be no political stability and thus no social activities (Williams, 2008).According to Palme (1992), there is a connection between security and survival. According to him, security is a necessary condition for human survival. Thus, security is synonymous with independence from danger, worry, and doubt, to name a few. Security can be defined as the lack of existing or possible danger, injury, or anxiety. However, security may not be defined as the absence of danger, but rather as the capacity to respond to these threats with the necessary skill. (Nwagboso 2012).

Security is the absence of threat, as it is the present of peace, protection, contentment, and the safety of human and physical resources, as well as the absence of crisis. It refers to any planned steps used to protect residents and property against the actions of violent individuals or organizations. In other words, it is a situation in which a favourable climate is created in which people in a state can go about their ordinary daily activities without fear of being threatened either by the government or by their own property. As a result, security encompasses all methods for the defense of human life as well as the protection of material resources in the state that are in opposition to all types of hostility or violent behavior (Otto and Ukpere, 2012).

Insecurity

Insecurity is the polar opposite of what we consider to be security. Numerous individuals might define insecurity as the absence of safety or the presence of a threat, risk; doubt; lack of trust; inadequate security or protection; lack of steadiness; feeling uneasy and unsafe (Nasiru, 2020; Achumba et al, 2013). Insecurity breeds distrust, causes fear, distress, demoralization, a loss of focus, anxiety, and a loss of human values. It is the state of being exposed to danger, fear, molestation, and abuse, to name a few. As the term implies, insecurity can be viewed as a threat to the federation as it frequently justifies armaments and nuclear weapons combat to defend the state (Adebanjoko&Ugwuoke, 2014). Insecurity is the state of being insecure or unstable, or a state of mind characterized by self-doubt and defenselessness. It could be a direct result of adverse childhood experiences, frightening encounters, oppression, or personality doubts. Security vigilance may be poorly planned in comparison to observable objective security (Encarta Dictionary, 2009).

Dimension of Insecurity and Security Disintegration in Nigeria

The issue of Nigeria's deplorable security condition has continued to bother all residents as it becomes increasingly clear that the government cannot truly guarantee their safety and security of life and property. The nation's security agents tasked with the responsibility of defending life and property, including the police force, state security agencies, the army, immigration, and prison service, have all failed miserably in their duties. As a result of the complexity of the security situation in Nigeria, it is impossible to precisely classify the patterns of insecurity (Williams, 2013).

No doubt, Nigeria is under a severe internal security threat as the threat has political, economic, and social dimensions. Each of these dimensions has critically affected the stability of the nation and can be traced to the activities of Boko-Haram, Fulani-herdsmen, Bandits, and ethnic militias. The conduct of these sects appears to be the major factor of threat in the country.

Table 1: Dimensions and Nature of insecurity in Nigeria

S/N	Dimensions of Insecurity	Nature of Insecurity
1	Boko Haram	Terrorism
2	Ethnic Militia	Secessionist agitations/Resource Control
3	Fulani Herdsmen	Farmers' Agitations
4	Banditry	Cattle rustling and armed robbery

Source: Compiled by the researcher, 2021

These are the numerous groups that have painted a comprehensive picture of a state in peril; these various groups have held the Nigerian nation hostage. During each of these distinct periods, the groups ruled, and the nation's security agencies were unable to deal with them or quell their illegal behavior with superior firepower. The government has always found a way to resolve disputes with these organizations. Each time the government made a deal with these illegal groups, it became weaker, and other groups began to demand commitments from the government through violent means. Governments in rent-seeking countries have always tried to buy peace, but they have always ended up with graveyard peace, like in the Niger Delta where former militants have become top-level government contractors, emergency crude oil refiners in the creeks, or kidnap merchants despite an amnesty program that costs billions of Naira each year (Agomuo, 2013; Nasiru, 2020).

Insecurity manifests itself in a variety of ways in Nigeria. For instance, in the South-West geopolitical zone, armed robbery is prevalent, particularly in cities such as Lagos, Ibadan, Akure, and Abeokuta; in the South-South and South-East geopolitical zones, which are the nation's oil bastions, kidnapping is rampant, agitations for self-determination are widespread, and activities affect residents of all ages and walks of life; and in the North, the merciless Boko Haram has been a thorn in the flesh of Nigerians for some time; since they first struck in Borno State in 2009, over 4000 people, both Nigerians and expatriates, have been killed in violent deadly attacks against Christian churches, police, a few mosques, military installations, and Western-style educational institutions with innocent students and even children. Additionally, they have carried out a series of lethal and costly bombing campaigns throughout the country, including the bombing of the country's independence anniversary, the bombing of the United Nations office in Abuja, the bombing of the Abuja Police Headquarters, and the bombing of a military base in Kaduna, among other bombings (Edukugho, 2012; Egbewole, 2013). Below are tables that shows the attacks related to insecurity in Nigeria between 2010 to 2021

Table 2: Attacks related to Boko Haram in Nigeria between 2010-2021

S/N	Date of Attack	State	Casualties	Perpetrator
1	Mar-Dec 2010	Plateau, Bauchi, Abuja	Killed over 390 persons, 72 injured and freed 1421 prisons	Boko Haram
2	Jan-Dec, 2011	Borno, Abuja, Kaduna, Yobe, Niger, Maiduguri, Plateau, Bauchi	428 persons killed and several wounded	Boko Haram
3	Jan-Dec, 2012	Jos, Adamawa, Kano, Kaduna, Abuja, Plateau, Bauchi, Kogi, Benue	393 persons killed and scores of people wounded	Boko Haram
4	Feb-Dec, 2013	Kano, Benue, Borno, Damaturu, Maiduguri	464 people killed and several injured	Boko Haram
5	Jan-Dec, 2014	Maiduguri, Yobe, Benue, Kogi, Borno, Kano	365 people killed	Boko Haram
6	Jan-Dec, 2015	Borno, Yobe, Kano, Abuja, Maiduguru, Benue, Kwara,	4718 persons confirmed dead, 1900 injured	Boko Haram
7	Jan-Dec, 2016	Nasarawa, Taraba, Adamawa, Borno, Benue,	232 persons killed and 2000 injured	Boko Haram
8	Jan-Dec, 2017	Benue, Niger, Kaduna, Taraba, Maiduguri, Nasarawa, Borno	59 persons killed and 145 injured	Boko Haram
9	Jan-Dec, 2018	Benue, Plateau, Adamawa, Nasarawa, Kaduna, Taraba,	108 people killed	Boko Haram
10	Jan-Dec, 2019	Plateau, Benue, Borno, Zamfara, Kaduna, Jigawa, Taraba, Katsine, Sokoto, Niger, Maiduguri	106 persons killed and several wounded	Boko Haram
11	Jan-Dec, 2020	Borno, Katsina, Kaduna, Maiduguri, Jigawa	509 killed and 55 wounded	Boko Haram
12	Jan-Dec, 2021	Borno,	10 persons killed and 47 injured	Boko Haram

Source: Compiled by the researcher from various sources, Olugbode, 2018; Brock, 2011; Obi, 2015; Abiodun, 2016; Onuoha, 2014; Agbu, Musa and Zhema, 2020; Ikenga&Efebeh, 2013; Oli, Ibekwe, Nwankwo & Ignatius, 2017; Ekhomu, 2020; Davidson, 2019; Duru, 2019; Akinkuotu & Folarin, 2020; Vanguard, June 1, 2021; The Guardian, December, 2021; Vanguard, August 25, 2021;

Table 3: Attacks related to Fulani Herdsmen in Nigeria between 2010-2021

S/N	Date of Attack	State	Casualties	Perpetrator
1	June-Dec, 2012	Jos, Abuja, Edo, Plateau, Bauchi, Benue	279 persons killed and farms destroyed	Fulani Herdsmen
2	Feb-Dec, 2013	Kano, Benue, Borno, Maiduguri	703 people killed	Fulani Herdsmen
3	May-Dec, 2014	Benue	25 people killed	Fulani Herdsmen
4	Jan-Dec, 2015	Yobe, Edo, Delta State, Plateau, Nasarawa, Anambra, Kogi, Ogun, Benue, Kwara,	244 persons killed	Fulani Herdsmen
5	Jan-Dec, 2016	Nasarawa, Taraba, Adamawa, Benue, Enugu, Delta,	1050 people killed	Fulani Herdsmen
6	Jan-Dec, 2017	Benue, Delta, Kaduna, Taraba, Nasarawa, Borno, Rivers, Cross River	1014 persons killed	Fulani Herdsmen
7	Jan-Dec, 2018	Benue, Plateau, Adamawa, Kaduna,	1014 people killed	Fulani Herdsmen
8	Jan-Dec, 2019	Plateau, Benue, Kaduna, Rivers Jigawa, Katsine, Sokoto, Maiduguri	481 persons killed	Fulani Herdsmen
9	Jan-Dec, 2020	Borno and Delta	156 persons killed	Fulani Herdsmen
10	Jan-Dec, 2021	Ebonyi, Oyo State, Plateau	148 persons killed	Fulani Herdsmen

Source: Compiled by the researcher from various sources.;Abiodun, 2016;Godwin, 2014; Oli, Ibekwe, Nwankwo & Ignatius, 2017; Ekhomu, 2020; Haruna, 2018,Christopher, 2018;Ososanya, 2019;Vanguard, June 1, 2021; 2021; The Guardian, December, 2021; Vanguard, August 25, 2021

Table 4: Attacks related to Bandits in Nigeria between 2010-2021

S/N	Date of Attack	State	Casualties	Perpetrator
1	May-Dec, 2018	Kaduna and Zamfara	84 people killed	Bandits
2	April-Dec, 2019	Jigawa, Katsina, Sokoto, Zamfara, Maiduguri	209 persons killed	Bandits
3	Feb-Dec, 2020	Kastina, Kaduna and Jigawa	263people killed	Bandits
4	Feb-Dec, 2021	Oyo State, Kano, Jos, Zamfara, Kaduna, Niger, Sokoto	814 persons killed	Bandits

Source: Compiled by the researcher from various sources,Olugbode, 2018;Davidson, 2019;Brimah & Shittu, 2020Vanguard, June 1, 2021; Channels Television, July 6, 2021; The Guardian, December, 2021; Vanguard, August 25, 2021; Channels Television July 9, 2021

Table 5: Kidnapping statistics between 2014-2021

Regions	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
North-Central	16	28	44	48	53	230	615	944
North-East	278	517	40	174	315	192	394	213
North-West	6	8	70	42	385	599	1451	1407
South-East	11	18	10	11	19	27	88	79
South-South	36	70	136	151	163	273	203	142
South-West	13	29	59	70	63	87	121	171
Total	360	670	359	496	999	1392	2872	2956

Source: Compiled by the researcher from various sources,UN 15 May 2014; The Economist, 2014; CLEEN Foundation 10 July 2014; Kabir YusufJune 22, 2021.

The Consequences of Insecurity on the wellbeing of the citizens and Economic Growth

Although it is difficult to quantify the cost of the widespread of insecurity in Nigeria in monetary or real terms, it is evident to observers that Nigerians have been forced to expend tremendous amounts of human and material resources as a result of the situation. Securing one's own safety and well-being is critical to the survival and well-being of any human being. This is in accordance with Coupland (2007) observation that insecurity has a far-reaching impact on people's lives and well-being, and that the government must be conscious of its obligation to ensure security for this reason alone. When people's safety is ensured, they have the freedom, both physically and emotionally, to go on with the business of developing their lives without fear of harassment or violent death, which allows them to achieve greater success. As a result, in order to achieve a condition of total physical, mental, and social well-being, security is required (Meddings, 2001). Without security, there can be no stable society; instead, there will be widespread fear and risk of violent death.

Human security and health are linked because insecurity causes a breakdown in health-care delivery, which has a knock-on effect on people's well-being (Mori, Meddings and Bettcher, 2004). Fear, coercion, displacement, and deprivation of essential daily requirements such as drinking water, food, and health care are all related repercussions of insecurity. Food, nutrition, clean drinking water, cleanliness, sanitation, and housing are all aspects of human security that can only be obtained through peace. Displaced communities, for example, are vulnerable to a number of health problems and have a high death rate. This is mostly due to their lack of access to food, safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, and opportunities for self-sufficiency. In such communities, malnutrition, overcrowding, and a lack of sanitation frequently combine to favour the emergence of transmissible disease outbreaks. Children and the elderly are frequently the population segments most vulnerable to such deaths. As a result, good health can be achieved as part of human security when the essential prerequisites of peace and prosperity are realized (Meddings, *ibid*; Ghobarah, Huth& Russett, 2004; Mori, et al.,2004; Bhadelia, 2005).

Furthermore, instability can stymie the healthcare system because such institutions are frequently destroyed, leaving individuals without a venue to seek treatment. In addition, governments spend more money

battling rebels and less money on health care, resulting in deteriorating health infrastructure (Dodge, 1990). Medical supplies and equipment become scarce in this situation, and competent doctors and nurses flee to more stable locations, spreading contagious diseases. A recent example is the situation of health workers who were sent to immunize children against polio and who died while carrying out their duty in various locations in northern Nigeria. As a result of the health workers' decision to stay away for their own safety, immunisation activities were put on hold. Citizens have also lost key body organs such as noses, ears, and eyes as a result of the bombs, making them dependents. Due to the loss of family, breadwinners, and significant properties or means of livelihood, some have had their hands or legs amputated, while others have suffered from other ailments such as high blood pressure and shock. Furthermore, many individuals are living in constant terror as a result of security deterioration, while others are essentially "living dead" with no hope for the future after losing everything in the prevailing insecurity (Adegbami, 2013; Nasiru, 2020).

In terms of the economic impact of insecurity, the productive side of most industrial businesses is heavily reliant on the availability and consistency of raw materials for production. Insecurity has disrupted the supply of such basic materials, putting production in jeopardy. In addition, insecurity has an impact on finished product marketing because there is a constant migration from insecure locations. There has also been an increase in security costs since most businesses operating in Nigeria invest heavily in private security. The destruction of their business structures, buildings, and equipment equates to a loss of capital, which has wrecked a number of Nigerian firms. Also is the relocation of some foreign investors to other neighbouring countries like Ghana, among others. Security is vital for a country's development, and its absence means that economic growth and progress are impossible to attain (Adegbami, 2013; Achumba, Ighomereho and Akpor- Robaro, 2013).

Causes of Insecurity

Nigeria has undeniable great potential because of its vast population, vibrant workforce, booming economy, abundant natural resources, various raw materials, massive oil reserves, and intellectual endowments. Despite these manifestations of greatness, Nigeria remains a developing country that is feverishly attempting to establish itself among the comity of nations due to the persistent insurgency and insecurity that have harmed the country's development and growth. Some internal identified causes of insecurity in Nigeria include:

Political factor

The unexpected transition of power from Northern hegemony to a minority geopolitical zone in the South-South owing to President Yar'adua's death may be related to the country's high level of instability. That is, the death of President Yar'adua led to a significant shift in the political landscape of Nigeria, with authority shifting from the north to the south-south. Additionally, there are numerous economic-related assassinations throughout the country, posing a threat to the economy, as well; there is the issue of supremacy, as well as the over-ambition of politicians who promote the acquisition of artillery in order to defend their unjustified political desires (Egbewole, 2013).

Unemployment and Poverty factor

It is a reality that unemployment contributes to poverty, and that extreme poverty contributes to crime, which contributes to insecurity. Poverty is seen as a circumstance in which people live below a defined standard of living, hence classifying and identifying individuals and nations as poor. While unemployment is described as a state in which individuals are not engaged in meaningful jobs and are in need of basic necessities, Each year, tertiary institutions graduate a large number of students who are tragically put into the labor market with little prospect of employment. Many grow dissatisfied in their attempt to keep their mind and body together and commit violent and criminal acts such as lucrative kidnapping, militancy, and armed robbery. Others have been the victims of terrorists and have become immediately radicalized. Previous governments haven't been able to put in place policies that would have cut unemployment and poverty rates, which have led to a lot of insecurity in Nigeria (Adagba, 2012; Nwagbosa, 2012; Aliyu, 1998).

Corruption factor

Nonetheless, corruption has contributed significantly to government failure and systemic infrastructural breakdown in Nigeria, resulting in widespread insecurity. Nigeria's state of insecurity is clearly the product of government failure, which can be traced back to pervasive corruption. Corruption is ineffective not because money and profits are distributed unequally or because participants' motivations are questionable, but because it privatizes significant parts of public life, circumventing representation, discussion, and decision-making procedures. Corruption is to blame for Nigeria's tremendous unemployment, for the fact that young people and entrepreneurs lack access to energy to run their enterprises, and for the fact that many firms fail. Nigeria's insecurity is primarily caused by unemployment and deprivation. Corruption contributes to Nigeria's instability by generating unemployment and poverty. According to Charas (2014), previous governments, both military

and democratic, tried to focus attention on good governance, fiscal responsibility, transparency, and accountability through a number of different ways. These include the Murtala Mohammed Administration Code of Conduct, the Ethical Revolution of the Shehu Shagari Civil Administration, General Muhammadu's War Against Indiscipline and Corruption in 1984, and General Ibrahim Babangi's War Against Corruption in 1985(Nasiru, 2020).

Elite exploitation of Ethnicity and Religious Differences

It is important to note that perhaps the nation's various ethnic compositions are not in and of themselves a source of instability in Nigeria; rather, religious and political leaders throughout the country occasionally exploit ethnic feelings to advance their own selfish interests. The elites use people's minds in this way to sow distrust and hatred among various ethnic groups and among the country's major religions, which contribute to Nigeria's insecurity. In a multiethnic country like Nigeria, the relationship should be amicable, free of mutual suspicion, fear, and a proclivity for violent confrontation between members of one ethnic or religious group and another. Adagba et al (2012) and Achumba et al (2013) both argued that control of finite resources, such as fuel, land, economies, and traditional and political offices, resulted in mass deaths and property devastation in communities around the country. Additionally, Nigeria's diverse ethnic groups highlight neglect, racism, dominance, abuse, victimization, injustice, marginalization, nepotism, and intolerance. This frequently results in ethnic warfare and religious strife (Nwagbosa, 2012).

Bad governance and poor Leadership factor

The fact remains that Nigeria's core source of insecurity throughout history. Any government, regardless of location, is charged with the primary responsibility of providing fundamental services such as water, power, a well-maintained road network, high-quality education, and general infrastructure. Ironically, these fundamental needs are not met in Nigeria, and the populace as a whole is frustrated and disheartened. Demoralization and fury are logically conducive to violence and general insecurity. In Nigeria, the paucity of these essential services is embarrassingly not due to a lack of finances, but rather to corruption at the top levels of the leadership structure. A fact that Hazen and Horner (2007) say is true, in which the majority of people in an affluent country are poor.

It is obviously a monumental undertaking to assume responsibility for the management of such communities or societies in a multi-ethnic and religious country like Nigeria, given the nation's current state of democratic governance. To this end, believing that ineffective leadership has exacerbated uncertainty and contributed to insecurity not just in the north, but throughout Nigeria, may not be an unjustified assertion. A variety of violent cultures entered the country after the entrance of the third and fourth republics in 1999 and 2009, respectively, less than a decade after the previous military invasion (Charas&Mbaya, 2014).

Marginalization/Inequalities factor

Nigeria's present leadership has been heavily criticized for ethnic imbalance and the marginalization of certain portions of the country in terms of basic infrastructural provision, all of which have significantly harmed Nigeria's security (Nwadiakor, 2011). At the moment, significant political positions have been allocated to people of Northern origin, while the South-East has been left out in the cold. That may account for the agitation for the Biafra Republic and the strong Shi'a group known as the Islamic Movement of Nigeria (IMN), as well as various security breaches that occurred in the aftermath of the agitation. Furthermore, it is self-evident that Nigeria's life prospects are quite dissimilar. The vast majority of the population feels deprivation, oppression, and marginalization, which has resulted in unhappiness and hopelessness, particularly among the youth. These young people are now using any legal or illegal means necessary to express their frustration with the status of affairs. As a result, uncertainty is developing (Onuoha, 2011).

Porous border

As a result of Nigeria's insecure borders, where human movements are mostly untraceable, the country has experienced an increase in instability. As a result of Nigeria's porous borders, there is an uncontrolled entry of small arms and light weapons into the country, which has facilitated militancy and criminal activity in the country. Nigeria is home to more than 70 percent of the approximately 8 million illegal firearms that have been used to exacerbate the security situation. In addition, the porous condition of both Nigeria's borders has contributed to an uncontrollable influx of migrants, primarily young people, from nearby countries such as the Republic of Niger, Chad, and the Republic of Benin, who are held responsible for some of the insecurity-promoting crime activities in Nigeria, as well as some of the insecurity-promoting criminal activities in Nigeria (Adeola &Olayemi, 2012; Edeko, 2011).

Weak Security factor

Nigeria's security system is widely regarded as deficient in terms of manpower and equipment. Armed officers are inadequately trained and compensated. As a result, the expertise required to address contemporary security concerns is unavailable. Security personnel's commitment to Nigeria's mission of maintaining overall safety is equally concerning. This ineffective security system can be attributed to a variety of causes, such as corruption, insufficient budget for police and other security organizations, an absence of adequate equipment, bad health of safety workers, and limited staff. Nigeria is mostly under police jurisdiction, which explains in part why the Nigerian Police Force has been unable to effectively combat crime, corruption, and insecurity in the country. According to Olorisakin (2008), Nigeria's police population ratio is 1:450, which is lower than the United Nations norm. This means that Nigeria is grossly under policed as a country, which may explain the police's incapacity to effectively combat crime and security threats. Numerous soldiers battling the insurgency in the country's northeast have been ambushed on several occasions, and many have been killed by Boko Haram insurgents as a result of intelligence supplied to them by those tasked with fighting them. Again, large quantities of money set aside for the acquisition of weaponry were embezzled and misappropriated, or obsolete equipment was purchased, and the perpetrators went unpunished. In other instances, firearms were intended to be discovered in the possession of insurgents by Nigerian forces. Additionally, the report notes a lack of collaboration amongst the Security Agencies. Recently, the example of three soldiers who killed three police officers in Taraba State and injured others while on official duty to arrest a kidnapping kingpin, as well as a soldier who shot a Mopol in Maiduguri, exemplified Nigeria's weakened security structure.

Governmental Efforts to Address the Threat of Insecurity and the Promotion of Peace

The administration has made a number of attempts to put an end to the threat of insecurity in the country. One of these is the establishment of the Joint Task Force (JTF), a security organization with the sole purpose of putting a stop to the actions of robbers, ethnic militias, kidnapers, and terrorists. Furthermore, in the Niger-Delta region, the government has maintained the amnesty grant offered to former militants by the late Yar'adua's and Jonathan's governments as well as established rehabilitation programs to help them rebuild their lives. The establishment of a number of extra-ministerial bodies, such as the Oil Mineral Producing Area Development Commission (OMPADEC), the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), technical committees, the Ministry of the Niger Delta, and the National Council of the Niger Delta (NCND), has been established by the federal government (Adegbami, 2013). Furthermore, are the procurement of arms from the international community and the strengthening of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF).

II. Conclusion

Security challenges in Nigeria endanger lives and properties, stifle corporate activity, and hinder both domestic and foreign investors, all of which stifle and retard a nation's growth which includes, the social, and economic progress and development. Nigeria has been suffering from an increase in insecurity since the country obtained independence in 1960. Recently, mounting insecurity has taken on a serious dimension, threatening the Nigerian state and its continuous existence.

Thus, the study recommends that eliminating security obstacles should be Nigeria's top priority at all levels, as the country cannot accomplish considerable growth in the face of insecurity like terrorism, bandits, among others. Governments must take a proactive approach to resolving security concerns and threats by utilizing current techniques of intelligence collection and sharing preparedness, logistics, and encouragement, as well as the adoption of new technologies to address security challenges. Again, the way out of insecurity is for the government to promote growth through its policies. The creation that we are addressing here entails the following: the establishment of community policing within each divisional police headquarters for the purpose of effectively managing insecurity; the establishment of an economy with adequate social, economic, and physical infrastructure to support business and industrial growth; and the establishment of a security apparatus that will ultimately improve security officer training, including adequate training in modern security methodologies.

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