



EFFECTS OF BOKO HARAM ACTIVITIES ON NIGERIA'S NATIONAL SECURITY 2009-2016

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Abstract

Terrorism in any environment constitutes threat to lives and properties, hinders economic activities, and discourages local and foreign investors, and in turn, retards human and economic development of that nation.

Key words: Boko Haram, Terrorism, Insurgency, National Security.

Boko Haram activities no doubt, have retarded national development and by extension national security. The broad objective of the paper is to examine the effects of Boko Haram activities on Nigeria's national security.

The study utilized secondary method of data collection. As a framework of analysis, the research utilized frustration aggression theory. The study found that poor governance and leadership failure on the part of the government is arguably seen as one of the major factors associated with the challenges of insurgency in Nigeria. The fact that the majority of Nigerians are economically disadvantaged, socially subordinated and politically vulnerable somehow reinforces the nexus between the current outbreaks of insurgency and poor governance. To this end,

INTRODUCTION

One of the most notable features of the world today is the preponderance of a variety of conflicts and crisis that have given rise to serious security issues around the globe. Nigeria is not an exception. The worldwide warning of coming danger of violence regards no borders or boundaries. At the moment, the country is bedeviled and enmeshed in what has come to be known as the threat of Boko Haram Insurgency. The return to democracy in Nigeria in May, 1999 brought hopes of development and political stability to the most populous nation in Africa, but the last decade in Nigeria has experienced an increase in violent conflicts and criminality, which undermines those expectations. Ajayi (2012) stated that violent and criminality have come in the form of armed robbery, kidnapping, drug trafficking, arms smuggling, human trafficking and militancy, among other acts of criminality that undermine national security.

Internal security has been significantly undercut by violent activities of civilian-

this study recommends a credible leadership that is capable of addressing the material condition of the citizenry is the surest way to surmounting the challenges of incessant outbreak of insurgency in Nigeria. Government should be consistent in rewarding public good leadership displayed by individuals who distinguished themselves by serving the nation faithfully, committed and upheld the

tenet of integrity by way of reinforcing positive modeling in our national life thereby promoting positive nationalism and patriotism resulting to national transformation that leads to positive change which will continually place the nation on the path and track of greatness. And such should be adopted as a way of life and our national culture devoid of ethnic, religious and sectional sentiments as well promote

Human Rights. A review of Nigeria's national security policy is strongly advocated. Nigeria's national security policy should be made to be capable of identifying security problems, deciding on what measures to adopt in order to address the problems, assessing if the measures are effective or not, as well as monitoring the implementation of internal measures.

In-arms against the Nigerian State. Onuoha (2012) observed that these have included radicalized religious and regional youth groups, prominent among which are the movement for Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), O'Odun Peoples' Congress (OPC), the Arewa People's Congress (APC), Bakassi Boys, Egbesu Boys, the Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), and more recently, Boko Haram, Ansaru, 'Kala-Kato', and Ombatse, among others (Onuoha, 2012).

The rise of these groups has had significant influence on the numbers of ethnic and religious conflicts Nigeria has witnessed. The exact number of ethno-religious conflicts that have occurred in the country is not known due to lack of adequate statistics and records on the subject-matter. However, Onuoha has maintained that about 40% of ethno-religious crisis has occurred in Nigeria's Fourth Republic. There has particularly been an increase between 2012 and 2014 in the occurrences of terrorist attacks in the country with government's insignificant success in curbing the menace (Onuoha, 2012). Lummo (2016) opines that although overwhelmed by the situation, the immediate past administration of former President Goodluck Jonathan which seemed to have exhausted available options on how best to tackle the crises, found it extremely difficult to admit that it was losing the war against the dreaded Islamic sect. It is obvious that since President Muhammadu Buhari took over the mantle of leadership, the Nigerian Armed Forces were better motivated in terms of incentives and they were kitted with the right arms and ammunitions such that the deadly sect has been sufficiently degraded. The difficulty in admitting failure to protect the lives and property of its citizens makes it even more difficult for decision makers to re-assess or reappraise the situation by looking inwards to understand the true nature of what the country faces.

Lamuno (2016) opines that the acts of terrorism and insecurity witnessed between 2000 and the first quarter of 2015 was under siege from serious domestic insurrection that threatens its national security. But the reverse has been the case since the present administration assumed powers in May 29, 2015. Ntamu stated that the Nigerian state presently is confronted with terrorizations coming from the insurgent -Boko Haram.

Shehu in his study observed that there was a growing suspicion among Nigerians about the real identity and motive of Boko haram sect. Most Muslims see it as an extension of Maitatsine sect

which came into existence, mainly in 1945 to transport turmoil to Islam as it was confirmed that Maitatsine was not a Muslim until his death, while a reasonable number of Christians see it as an attempt to Islamize Nigeria while some are indifferent (Shehu, 2014). No matter their identity and what they represent, Boko Haram insurgency has threatened Nigeria's national security with series of attacks, killings, and destruction of properties. Blanchard further observed that in 2009, the activities of Boko Haram had transformed from a local peace militia into a violence group, after government attacked the members of the group in some major cities of northern Nigeria, which led to five days violent clashes between the group members and the Nigerian forces which resulted into the killing of the sect leader, Muhammad Yusuf in Maiduguri and more than 700 other people (Blanchard, 2014).

Security of Nigerian people is a paramount responsibility that government must not fail to ensure. Some commentators did not mince words when they raised the opinion that security is a condition where our most cherished values and beliefs, welfare and well-being as a nation and people are lastingly protected (Mangold, 1990). Nwozor views Nigeria's security management from the dimension of pro-realist orientation that deploys forces to combat attacks for the survival of the state. Nwozor pressed on that internationally and domestically the issue of security is on the front burner irrespective of the regime (Nwozor, 2013). If it is so, has Nigerian state achieve the apparatus of National security as observed in the advanced countries? It is against this background that the present study explores the phenomenon of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria, its adverse effects on nationhood and security. The paper is divided into seven sections with the introduction as first. The second section focuses on conceptual clarification; the third is the theoretical framework, fourth section is the effects of Boko Haram insurgency on Nigeria's National Security, while the fifth section examines the challenges associated with the fight against Boko Haram activities in Nigeria. The sixth and last section is the conclusion and recommendations.

CONCEPTUAL REVIEW

Boko Haram

Boko Haram is a group of Islamic fundamentalist with the aim of establishing an Islamic state in Nigeria. The group self acclaimed name is *Jamā'at Ahl al-Sunnah li-l-Da'wah wa-l-Jihād's* (group for the preaching of Sunnah and Struggle), the public and the media referred to them as Boko Haram (Murtada, 2013). The group came to the limelight when in 2003 it attacked police and government formations in Kanamma and Geidam towns in the north eastern state of Yobe. It is a fanatical sectarian group whose views run contrary to that of the majority Nigerian Muslims (Pham, 2012).

The group holds that democracy conflicts with Islamic injunctions; Western education as anti-Islamic and rejection of working under any government institutions (Murtada, 2013). The group membership is largely known drawn from disillusioned youths, unemployed graduates, and former *almajiris* in Northern Nigeria (Shola, 2015). The porosity of Nigeria's borders has allowed the group unfettered access to conceal and successfully traffic small and light weapons across and within Nigeria (Onuoha, 2013). The group has successfully raided police and army formations in the past as a means of sourcing arms to carry on their activities.

Some theories have been advanced to explain the genesis of the group. These theories can be understood from internal and external perspectives. Internal theories on Boko Haram centres on socio-economic factors and differences in religious orientation across the Nigerian society, while

external theories explain Boko Haram as a response to the rise of Islamic Jihadist movement across the globe occasioned by the US war on terror (Golwa & Alozieuwa, 2012). The group has grown from a largely small group of adherents to a large sophisticated group with a possible connection to the Al-Qaida networks (Gourley 2012).

Boko Haram essentially has so far employed two tactics. The first method focused on small groups and individualized terror occasioned, drive-by shootings, local terror and assassinations. The second method is massive concerted attacks with the use of motorcycles and trucks to attack targets population. This involves massacring the population and sometimes kidnappings of women and children (Cook, 2014).

The group in its decisive desire to entrench an Islamic state in Northern Nigeria has carried countless attacks. For instance, in January 2015 the group carried one of its deadliest attacks in Baga killing at least 2000 civilians and burned the entire town. The attacks approximately led 20,000 people flee their homes to neighbouring countries of Niger, Chad and Cameroon (Alexander, 2016). Boko Haram at the beginning of its violent attacks targeted mainly security forces and politicians; however, the group later on expanded its attacks to include civilian spaces such as schools, churches and markets.

Since the gradual incarnation of the Boko Haram sect into a terrorist group in Nigeria, the country has witnessed unimaginable loss of lives and properties that have attracted the attention of the international community.

National Security

The term "security" may be looked at as a state of being protected from danger or tension. For a nation, security presupposes conditions of peace, stability, order and progress. National security has been perceived in different ways, each of which shows significant variable underlying ideals. National security is the protection of nation from danger of breaking up. Ray (1987) sees national security as the desire and capacity for self-defense. Ochoche (1998) opines that national security focuses on the amassment of military armament, personnel and expenditure. The above definition sees National security to have changed overtime. It has expanded to include international economics, long term goals of national development and reconciliation, which are very vital for the security of any nation. With this approach, Asad (2007) stated that national security cannot be narrowed down to exclusively military term. Socio economic and cultural aspects, problems of development and modernization, and national integration should be deemed important in considering what national security entails. In our view, that national security is much more than territorial defense and should focus on the physical, social and psychological equality of life of a society and its members both in the domestic setting and within the large regional and global system. According to Mathew (1989), Global development now suggests the need for another analogous broadening definition of national security to include resources, environmental and demographic issues.

This paper argues that national security question involves a lot of variables. It practically and religiously touches on all facet of human existence. It touches on health matters. It encompasses psychological security as well as arms security. A number of variables may expose a nation to danger. To that extent, national security may also be viewed as a multidimensional and continuum process which aim is to safeguard national values and aspiration. Suffice it to say that the most sacrosanct values of any sovereign state is its survival, self-preservation, and self-

perpetuation. A state that is capable of protecting her citizens from harm equally enjoys immense capacity for enviable development and peaceful coexistence.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This paper adopts frustration-aggression theory which researchers believe provided a detailed explanation for the emergence of insurgence groups in Nigeria. The theory was propounded and developed by John Dollard and his research associates initially developed in 1939 and has been expanded and modified by school like Leonard Berlowitz (1962) and Audrey Yales (1962). The theory properly created the analogy used within this research to explain the dynamics of insurgency activities.

According to Dollard (1939) he explained that it seems to be that most common explanation for violent behaviour stemmed from inability to fulfill needs. In attempts to explain aggression, scholars points to the difference between what people feel they want or deserve to what they actually get the “want get-ratio” (Teocrabends, 1969) and difference between “expected need satisfaction” and actual need satisfaction (Davies, 1962). When expectation does not meet attainment the tendency is for people to confront those hold responsible for frustrating their ambitions. Therefore, frustration aggression provides that aggression is not just undertaking as a natural reaction or instinct as realist and biological theorist assumes but that is the outcome of frustration and that is in a situation where the desire of an individual is denied either directly or by the indirectly consequence of the way the society is structured, the feeling of disappointment may lead such a person to express his anger through violence that will be directed those he holds responsible or people who are directly or indirect related to them (Akwen, 2016).

Buttressing this claim, Anifowase (2003), states that “given the requisites conditions, individuals or groups who feel frustrated in the attainment of their desires and demands, often react by directing aggressive behaviour at what is perceived as being responsible for depriving or thwarting those desires, as a substitute”. He further submits that “it is not utter lack but unfulfilled hopes and expectationsthat engender violent conflict” (Anifowose, 2003 cited in Ikyase & Egberi, 2015).

This theory is relevant to this study in view of the fact that the proliferation of insurgencies and ethnic militias in the country could have resulted in some instances from the inability of asylum seekers in Nigeria who migrated from their countries following the presence of economic hardship, unemployment and crisis etc. prevalent in their state, with high hopes to meet certain favorability in the country, can lead to their frustration when reaching the country realized that their hopes and expectations are not readily available.

In Nigeria, approximately 75 percent of citizens live below one dollar per day. Schools are unfinanced and the standard of education is so poor that graduates are often unfit for employment. The worst of it all is the Nigerian government poor responses to the desire on economic and security conditions which has fuelled resentment, making many young men vulnerable to insurgency recruiters.

Effects of Boko Haram Insurgency on Nigeria’s National Security

It is no longer news that in recent time Nigeria has been bogged down with challenging security issues championed by the Boko Haram insurgency. According to Anyadike, the changing dynamic of the operations and tactics of the group confused many scholars and analysts. Its initial campaign of violence targeting security personnel and their formations have now expanded to

include civilians, non-governmental targets and the entire Nigeria populace (Anyadike, 2013). Adebayo posits that Boko haram insurgency and insecurity, especially internal insecurity is not a problem that is unique to Nigeria (Adebayo, 2013). However, the effects of Boko Haram insurgency on Nigeria's national security include the following:

a) It Subverts National Integration

Conflicts in Nigeria is as old as the nation itself, but the frequency and the toll on human lives and properties of recent conflicts by the militant sect Boko Haram and all it represents make them more challenging to address. Even though, the activities of the sect Boko Haram began in the North-Eastern part of Nigeria and escalates to the other Northern states. The impact of the crisis for national integration cut across the geopolitical zones in the country. The threats posed by the group recently are undermining the existence of Nigeria as one political entity. It reduces socio-cultural and economic differences or inequalities and strengthens national unity and solidarity, which is not imposed by any authority. People share ideas, value and emotional bonds. It is feeling of unity within diversity. National identity is supreme (Babalola & Ayuba, 2015).

b) It Diverts Human and Material Resources

Anyadike argued that Boko haram insurgent activities increased the cost of doing business for the private sector and providing public services in Nigeria. Resources that would have otherwise been invested in increasing output, fund, education, health and other welfare programs are diverted to crime control and prevention (Anyadike, 2013). According to This Day Newspaper, key allocation of funds in the 2013 budget include: Critical infrastructure (including power, works, transport, aviation, gas pipeline, and Federal Capital Territory) - ₦497billion; human capital development (i.e education and health)- ₦705 billion; and agriculture/water resources -₦175billion. Also over ₦950 billion was allocated for national security purposes, comprised of ₦320 billion for the Police, ₦364 billion for the Armed Forces, ₦115 billion for the office of the NSA, and ₦154 billion for the Ministry of the Interior (This Day, 2013).

Daily Sun reported that between 2011 -2015 the office of the national security adviser got a capital allocation of 240 billion while the ministry of defense got 206billion this made the allocation of the office of the chief security adviser higher than that of the entire ministry which includes the army, navy and air force (Daily Sun, 2016). Premium Times reported that in recent years, the ministry of defense has refused to make its spending public, making it difficult to track down the nation's investments on the military and allied agencies. The absence of disclosure, backed by laws and practice effectively makes the security sector the most prone contract inflation and ineffective service delivery said Seember Nyager, executive director of public and private development center, but the outcome has not yielded any achievement (Premium Times, 2015).

c) It drives out foreign direct investment

According to Mbachu & Yesufu, the biggest threat to security today in Nigeria is its deepening economic crisis which could be further compounded by Boko Haram terrorist activities. No sensible investor will want to invest in a country that is held hostage by terrorist activities on a daily bases (Dauda, 2017). Kidnappings, Political assassinations, killing and ethno religious violence are serious disincentives to both

local and foreign investments. Without a sound economic base, maintaining the police, the military and other security agencies becomes very difficult if not impossible. There is hardly doubt in the fact that the economy is the structure on which all other super structures like security, religion, education, among others are built (Mbachu, 2013a). Sunday Trust reported that for most of the north, the ongoing insurgency has had a significant negative impact on the regional economy. Lebanese and Indian expatriates who have established businesses in Kano going back decades have relocated to Abuja and the south. A good number have left the country altogether. Hotels, banks and other business sectors have witnessed significant reductions in their activities. The border towns that have thrived on trade with neighboring countries have also seen their businesses curtailed because of increasing restrictions on cross-border traffic. In Kano alone, an estimated 126 industries have recently closed down (Sunday Trust, 2012). Another trend is the massive movement of southerners from the north, many of them SME operators and professionals. Boko Haram insurgency and terrorism is a bad signal to foreign investors. Economic experts have described former President Goodluck Jonathan's economic reform as an effort that may yield no results due to the insecurity in Nigeria (Onuoha, 2014).

Some experts believe there are no criteria to qualify the loss to the economy. Ameh posits that many children have died, and many have become orphans due to Boko Haram onslaught that killed their parents and guardians, while such children continue to suffer deprivation. Many families have been scattered, and their ambitions cut short (Ameh, 2016). In terms of properties, Adebayo observed that the scenes of each bomb blast present a scenario of massive waste and destruction. As such, some have concluded that any figure that is thrown up from any source may be a scratch on the surface (Adebayo, 2014).

The fear caused by the 'Boko Haram' bombings in particular has made most foreign investors, who usually featured at the annual Lagos Trade Fair to show case their products to stay away and even those who came, had heavy security network around them. It would be recall that the decline in investment had been lately generally attributed to the increasing rate of insecurity in the country, as well as infrastructural decay. According to the UNCTAD report, FDI flows to Nigeria fell to \$6.1 billion (933.3billion in 2010, a decline of about 29 percent from the \$8.65billion (1.33 trillion) realized in 2009 fiscal year (Adebayo, 2014). Also, statistics obtained from the 2010 annual reports by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) showed that the total foreign capital inflow into the Nigerian economy in 2010 was \$5.99 billion. The record showed that FDI represented about 78.1percent drop from \$3.31 billion in 2009 (Okereocha, 2012).

d) It has tarnished the image of Nigeria

Onuoha noted that the growing campaign of violence by the Boko Haram, not only poses a serious threat to internal security in Nigeria, but have threatened regional stability in West Africa as a whole (Onuoha, 2014). Since the violence re-emergence of Boko Haram in 2009 the attacks and suicide bombings carried out by the group was increasing beyond the national boundary. The attack drew the attention of the international community about the threats of the sect that is now beyond the national issue. Plouch observed that Boko Haram attacks since 2011 have featured Improvised Explosive

Devices (IEDs), car bombs, periodical suicide bombing. The members of the group cause a great deal of damages and unpleasant moments to the people by continuing burning and destroying the communities using arms and arsons (Plouch, 2012). Nicholas contributed that subsequently, the United Nations Committee on al-Qaeda sanction blacklisted the group on 22 May, 2014. The United listing entry describes Boko Haram as an affiliate of Al-Qaeda and organisation of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) (Nicholas, 2014).

Challenges of Tackling Boko Haram Activities in Nigeria

The challenges of Boko Haram activities in Nigeria are diverse. These include porous borders, political instability within the sub region, and lack of commitment by foreign powers and military weapon holding. Others include Poverty, amorphous nature of insurgency and dearth of technical intelligence.

a) Porous Borders

The nature of Nigeria's border is an issue promoting the activities of insurgents that are detrimental to national security. Nigeria has about 83 land border control points with the prominent ones being Seme, Idi-Iroko, Ilela, Gamboru-Ngala, Banki, Jidia and Ilang. However, most of these land borders are unmarked, largely unmanned and without buffer zones. Some of the reasons adduced to the porous nature of the Nigerian borders among others are insufficient equipment and lack of manpower. The inability of Nigeria to effectively secure her borders encourages free movement of insurgents across borders which is inimical to national security. It is a common knowledge that terrorist all over the world operates across international boundaries. In Nigeria, insurgents' activities are most pronounced around our borders with contiguous countries such as Cameroon; Chad and Niger. To this end, the FG could consider providing helicopters to security agencies with a view to carrying out air patrols around her along common borders with neighboring countries to checkmate the activities of insurgents along the border line (Hammes, 2004).

b) Political Instability within the Sub-region

Countries in the sub-region have been among the most politically unstable in Africa. Nigeria is the most populous and the richest in West Africa, in terms of economy which explains the reason why crisis in neighboring countries such as Libya and Mali split over to Nigeria. This in so many ways has badly affected Nigeria in the areas of illegal influx of aliens used as machineries by the terrorist groups. Also, most of the weapons in the hands of the insurgents are those from the crisis prone sub-regions which were brought into the country through our porous borders. This challenge has remained a factor of importance to Nigeria's national security (Kantiok, 2014).

c) Lack of Commitment by Foreign Powers

In Nigeria, however it is believed that there are several other ways in which regional and international actors can contribute meaningfully to those efforts. Countries like Egypt, France, Pakistan and US have extensive experience confronting the threat of domestic terrorism. These countries could lend to Nigeria some expertise and specialized skills needed to combat Boko Haram.

Given the underlying grievances and conditions that have contributed to the rise of Boko Haram and other extremist groups, regional and international actors can help Nigeria with judicial systems reforms, provision of non-lethal equipment and training as well as helping security forces to be more precise in their use of force. Additional area of assistance could focus on combating regional and global trafficking networks and thwarting AQIM's attempts to gain influence in Northern Nigeria. The international community must also ensure that Boko Haram is unable to draw financial support from sympathizers across the globe.

d) Military Weapon Holding

It is almost consistent that lapses such as breakdown of major equipment are observed at the end of every encounter with insurgents. This has portrayed Nigerian security forces as incapable technically and operationally of dealing with the Boko Haram menace. The constant breakdown of these equipment shows that these equipment are obsolete and need replacement. It is therefore imperative for the FG to make more desperate efforts in providing the necessary logistics support to the troops to enhance its operational capacity to address the menace (Lummo, 2016).

e) Poverty

Poverty is a product of bad governance. Governance in Nigeria is characterized by corruption and mismanagement which brought about extreme poverty amongst the population and high rates of illiteracy and unemployment. The high rate of illiteracy makes it easy for large proportions of the populace to be brainwashed by unscrupulous elements who find it easy to fan the embers of intolerance amongst youths are easily recruited by militant sects and ethnic militias for nefarious purposes. In addition, these youths find it difficult to escape the vicious cycle of crime and violence that comes with poverty. Insurgents groups such as the Boko Haram Sect could continue to exploit the huge reservoir of hungry youths to strengthen its ideology. There is need for the government at all levels to address the socio-economic situation of the country with a view to creating job opportunities for the unemployed youths in the society (Martins, 2013).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The discourse on Boko Haram insurgency clearly revealed that Nigeria is confronted with security challenges. This is made manifest in the Boko Haram murderous campaigns against securities, government institutions, religious cleric and members of the general public. The escalation of violence, with increasing attacks, suicide bombing and kidnapping prevailed the failure of government to curtail, the crisis; the paper has revealed how the group transformed from a local salafis militia into a regional terrorist group, with linkages and support from other Islamic insurgent in Africalike Al Qaeda in the land of Islamic Magreb (AQIM) and Al-Shabab. The sect becomes a threat to Nigerian national security. Insurgency and terrorism has been identified as the act of aggression resulted from some sort of frustration and revenge. The activities of Boko Haram insurgency was infuriated as a result of the extrajudicial killings by the Nigerian Police Force.

The insurgent activities of the sect in the North Eastern Nigeria have negatively influenced the Nation's development which gained the international attention of ECOWAS (Economic

Community of West African States), AU (African Union), UN(United Nations) among others for the purpose of stabilizing the nation's state in terms of restoring human rights, economic, security, peace, and development not only in Nigeria but Africa and the world at large. The international nations and organization employed various methods, strategies in checkmating the activities of the groups through the mechanisms of the ECOWAS, AU, and the United Nations General Assembly adoption of counter-insurgency and fight against corruption.

The operational strategy used by these international and local activities has brought the activities of Boko Haram to a reasonable control. Corruption has been identified as one of the major factor that affects unequal distribution of resources in the nation's state thereby, denying the majority of the citizens access to basic physiological needs as their welfare. This had led to unemployment, low standard of living, poor academic performance, low standard of education, rising number of school dropouts, social injustices and increasing crime rates, until corruption is addressed and brought to its halt, it will be scarce to experience any meaningful economic and social development that will results to National security as stipulated in the Nigerian constitution. Lastly, corruption has been identified as one of the drivers for the emancipation of the insurgent groups.

Based on the premise of these findings, the following recommendations are made to address the activities of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria.

- i) A review of Nigeria's national security policy is strong advocated. Nigeria's national security policy should be made to be capable of identifying security problems, deciding on what measures to adopt in order to address the problems, assessing if the measures are effective or not, as well as monitoring the implementation of internal measures.
- ii) Bad governance and leadership failure on the part of the government is arguably seen as one of the major factors associated with the challenges of insurgency in Nigeria. The fact that the majority of Nigerians are economically disadvantaged, socially subordinate and politically vulnerable somehow reinforces the nexus between the current outbreaks of insurgency and bad government. To this end, a credible leadership that is capable of addressing the material condition of the citizenry is the surest way to surmounting the challenges of incessant outbreak of insurgency in Nigeria.
- iii) Enhanced criminal intelligence by the security agencies, cooperation and intelligence sharing by the different intelligence agencies will enhance effectiveness of these security outfits.
- iv) Mechanism for conflict mediation and resolution and also an alternative dispute resolution should be put in place to encourage peaceful coexistence. This will enhance citizen's security and increase internal stability and peace.
- v) Border patrols and regulation of the influx of immigrants into the country curtail the activities of the Boko Haram insurgent group.
- vi) To effectively combat Boko haram insurgency, there is need to empower security agencies with sophisticated weapons and installation of high surveillance technologies in the nation's borders.

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