

BOKO Haram: Its Effects on Socio-Political and Economic Development of North-East Nigeria (A Case Study of Borno State)

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Abstract- Nigeria has been facing different forms of security challenges within its territory for over fifty years of existence as a sovereign nation. However, beginning from 1999 when the military which has presided over the affairs of the country in most of these years transferred political powers to a democratically elected government to date, the situation has continue to deteriorate. Prominent among the cause of the worsening security situation in the country is the activities of the Boko Haram insurgent group in the north eastern part of the country. The group which publicly emerged in 2002 has now become a major source of security threat to Nigeria's internal stability and international community through its indiscriminate attacks on security forces, civilians, and destroying public and private buildings including places of worships worth billions of Naira. This study revealed that Boko Haram insurgency has created so much backwardness, hatred, national disintegration and lack of trust in Nigeria. There is also imposition of Sharia law in some Northern States of Nigeria, this brand of Sharia is opposed by the Boko Haram insurgents and it has affected former President Goodluck Jonathan's transformational agenda because the money meant for other developmental programmes is channeled to settle and reconstruct projects damaged by Boko Haram insurgency. The government should take adequate measures to shut down all the sect's training camps completely for the nation to start experiencing peace, national unity, security, development and progress towards a better society.

Keywords: Boko Haram, Effects, Socio-Political, Economic Development, North-East Nigeria, Borno State

I. INTRODUCTION

Nigeria has been facing different forms of security challenges within its over fifty years of existence as a sovereign nation. However, beginning from 1999 when the military which has presided over the affairs of the country in most of these years transferred political powers to a democratically elected government to date, the situation has continue to deteriorate. Prominent among the cause of the worsening security situation in the country is the activities of the Boko Haram insurgent group in the north eastern part of the country. The group which publicly emerged in 2002 has now become a major source of security threat to Nigeria's internal stability and international community through its indiscriminate attacks on security forces, civilians, and destroying public and private buildings including places of worships worth billions of Naira.

Democratic government was installed in Nigeria in 1999 after more than 16 years of military dictatorship. The aspiration of the populace was that with the coming of civilian government the dividends of democracy will spread to all nooks and crannies of Nigeria. However, their hopes

have been dashed by the recent events in Nigeria. Fifteen years after civilian rule, the country's security situation is pathetic that nobody in the country is safe from the attacks of terrorists, kidnappers, armed gangs and militants. Electoral and communal violence has also compounded the security situation that has made Nigeria unsafe for residence. The activities of the dreaded Islamic terrorist group, Boko Haram have been a great concern to the Nigerian government and the international community. Boko Haram has killed more than 10,000 citizens despite the security measures taken by the Federal Government of Nigeria to checkmate the heinous crime of the sect against humanity. It was in the light of the failure of the government counter-terrorism drive that made youths in the North-East part of the country to form a youth anti-terrorism movement called Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) to complement the effort of the government counter-terrorism strategy.

Alozieuwa cited by Anyadike "the challenge posed by Boko Haram in Nigeria is not only about the viciousness of either its terror campaigns or the sect's avowed mission to impose strict Islamic law on the country, but about the confusion regarding the exact cause(s) of the violence"[1]. A lot of

factors have been attributed to the cause of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria such as socio-political, economic and religious factors. However, posit that the high-rate of poverty in Nigeria has made the youths enlisted in the ranks of Boko Haram foot soldiers which have elongated the conflict since 2009[2]. Most of the activities of the sect are concentrated in the North-East of Nigeria.

Despite the state of emergency that was declared by the Federal Government, the killings, bombings and kidnappings by Boko Haram continued unabated. The activities of Boko Haram sect have led to economic, social and psychological implications in Nigeria. The purpose of this study is to unravel the obstacle to socio-political and economic development caused by Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria.

It is no longer news that the activities of the Boko Haram and other similar political or religious sects have often led to loss of property, lives, and even the breakdown of law and order, peace and security in the Nigerian society at large. It has been observed that a lot of attacks have been made in many states, which include even the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. What puzzles most observers is the fact that most of these attacks are not carried out by suicide bombers, yet the culprits often get away unharmed. This leaves a big question mark in our security agencies as regards to their duty in the protection of lives and property, to combat this menace which is eating deep into the Nigerian society today. Boko Haram insurgency do not have any advantage, instead it is a vicious and nefarious act carried out by individuals for their selfish desires, the motivating factor being to control the religious and political power.

However, it is the above stated problems that instigated the researcher into investigating on the topic "Boko Haram and its Effects on Socio-political and Economic Development of North-East Nigeria."(A Case Study of Borno State North-East Nigeria)

Therefore this paper is sub-divided into the following. Introduction, Objectives of the Study, Significance of the Study, Scope of the Study, Literature Review, Historical Background of Boko Haram, Theoretical Framework, The Effects of Boko Haram on Social-economic Development, The Effects of Boko Haram on Political Development, The Effects of Boko Haram on the Setting, Conclusion, Recommendations.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objective of this paper is to examine the challenges posed by Boko Haram insurgency and its effects on socio-political and economic development of North-East Nigeria other objectives includes;

- To assess the nature of Boko Haram insurgency
- To examine the remote causes of Boko Haram
- To evaluate the socio-economic and political implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria
- To assess the ways in which citizens can help to fight Boko Haram insurgency
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III. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

There are many reasons why this research is useful. The paper would be of great importance to students and lecturers in practice to carry out further research in the same area. It will help the government to solve some likely problems they may encounter in terms of terrorism and counter terrorism in Nigeria. Also, the research will act as a guide to the government in their quest to quell the problems associated with security, ethnic and political or religious crises in Nigeria.

IV. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The researcher encountered some constraints in the course of the research. There is shortage of finance as no government or organization is sponsoring it. Time constraint as time is our greatest enemy, the researcher managed to complete the work within the available means and time at his disposal. Moreover, the fact that Boko Haram problem is ongoing made the work much more difficult than expected.

V. LITERATURE REVIEW

The history of insurgency groups like the current Boko Haram is as old as that of humanity. Thus, for long human society has been confronted with problem of threats emanating from domestic insurgent groups whose major language of sending messages of disagreement is violence. According to Paul since the end of Second World War in 1945, insurgency has been the most frequent form of global conflict resulting in loss of lives and property in addition to creating a sense of fear and psychological trauma to the people [3]. Thus, all insurgent groups beginning with the early ones like the Hukbalahap of the Philippines, the Spanish Eustakadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA), Sendero Luminoso ('Shining Path') of Peru, Hezbollah of Lebanon, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam of Sri Lanka, the Kurdish Nationalism of the PartiyaKarkeren Kurdistan, the Palastinian Hamas, the Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA). Front de- liberation du Quebec (FLQ) of Canada, the Movimieto de Liberation National - Tupamaros (MLN-T) of Uruguay, etc. to the contemporary Al-Qaeda inspired groups such as Boko Haram, Talibans, An- Sarudeens, Islamic States of Iraq and the Levants (ISIL) etc. share the same characteristics. Furthermore, all insurgent groups are related to terrorist groups, [4].

As a result of their shared relationship with terrorist groups, some conflict scholars have been prompted to label insurgents as terrorists over the years. However, Stozier, said a US army department publication on tactics in counterterrorism explains that even though terrorism and insurgency share some characteristics, they are not the same [4,5]. One of the most common characteristics shared by terrorist and insurgent groups according to US Publication supra is the use of force or guerilla tactics in achieving their objectives [4]. On the other hand, the major distinction among them is in the aspect of scope and magnitude of violence. For instance, while the terrorist group rarely realizes political change on its own, insurgents always aimed at effecting change in the existing political status quo through arms or violence. Thus, while reviewing the activities of the famous Mao Tse-tung insurgent group on guerilla war, Hammes concluded that despite the passage of time, significant part of his basic observations on insurgency are still valid. For example, insurgency is a form of political and not a military struggle [6]. This is because insurgency is not amenable to a purely military solution without recourse to some level of brutality which is not acceptable to the western world.

Despite the shared characteristics between insurgency and terrorist groups, Hoffman and Crenshaw are of the opinions that, the two are not the same. For them, the phrase terrorist is a pejorative term which is usually used against one's enemies and opponents [7].

Similarly, Jenkins states that the application of the term conveys message of moral judgment instead of conveying an idea towards understanding the personality [8]. In addition, Weinberg, Pedahzur, and Hirsch-Hoefler, Robertson and Ellis, explains that the term terrorist is now an essentially contested concept whose meaning has become a subject of continuous dispute without resolution [9]. In the same vein, Gupta explained that the term terrorism which was coined during the French revolution of 1789 has continued to be a source of confusion, contradiction, and controversy [10]. Meaning a different thing to different people as the cliché goes, "one man's terrorist is another man's hero". Thus, Robertson and Ellis asserts that, although majority of scholars are in complete agreement that terrorism is the most prominent global security challenge in the 21st century, few of them have come to agree on a universal definition of the term or what exactly is meant by terrorism [9].

Furthermore, Robertson and Ellis supra explained that virtually people who are labeled as terrorist usually do not agree that they are terrorists instead they choose to be addressed as freedom fighters, guerillas, or mujahiddeens. Explaining the difficulties associated with definition of the term terrorism, Schmid and Jongman (1988) states that there was no single uniformity among the 109 definitions made by government institutions, academicians, and think tanks they

reviewed [10]. However, Gupta is of the position that despite the shortcomings of each definition, going through the 109 lists of definitions reveals that words such as violence, civilian, non-state actors and political appears to be consistent. For example, the US State Department defines terrorism as "politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by sub-national group or clandestine agents, usually intended to influence an audience. Thus, they concluded that there is nothing to be defined precisely as terrorism instead "it is a label of convenience that we attribute to the activities of which we do not approve" [10]. Therefore, terrorism in a wider perspective according to Gupta Supra is "politically motivated violent attacks by non-state actors" [10].

On the other hand, in his work; *Insurgency and Terrorism* O'Neil states that: Insurgency is a struggle between non-ruling group and the ruling authorities in which the non-ruling group consciously uses political resources (e.g., organizational expertise, propaganda, and demonstrations) and violence to destroy, reformulate, or sustain the basis of one or more aspects of politics, 1990, p. 13)[11].

Although there are different types of insurgency, Gompert and Gordon contends that they can be understood by looking at their goal, tactics, size, region, duration, international significance as well as the type of regime which they seek to change [12]. Thus, philosophically while classical insurgent groups were concerned with how to expel invaders away from their defined territory with the ultimate aim of taking over the reign of political power, on the other hand contemporary insurgencies are aimed at replacing the existing social order [12]. In addition, unlike their predecessors, contemporary insurgent groups are constantly characterized by dynamism leading to changes in their structures and methods of operations [13].

VI. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF BOKO HARAM

Boko Haram (Western Education is forbidden) is a media coinage. The actual name of the movement is Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad, better known by its media name Boko Haram, is a jihadist terrorist organization based in the north-east of Nigeria. It is an Islamist movement which strongly opposes man-made laws. Founded by Mohammed Yusuf in 2002, the organization is a Muslim sect that seeks to abolish the secular system of government and establish Sharia Law in the country. The movement, whose name in the Hausa language, Boko Haram, translates as "Western education is sacrilege" or "a sin" is responsible for more than 1,000 killings in Nigeria [14]. Though the group first became known internationally following sectarian violence in Nigeria in 2009, it does not have a clear structure or evident chain of command. It has, however, been severally alleged that the group has links

with several terrorist networks such as Al-Qaeda, Hezbollah, Taliban etc. Recently Boko Haram pledges its allegiance to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levants. (ISIL) and the ISIL have accepted the Boko Haram's pledge of allegiance. The ISIL has released a tape, a spokesperson who describe himself as Mohammed al-Adnani says "we announce to you the good news of the expansion of the caliphate to West Africa because the caliph has accepted the allegiance of our brothers of the Sunni group for preaching and the jihad"; British Broadcasting Corporation [15].

The group adopted Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad as its official name which translates into 'People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad'. Boko Haram is an indigenous Salafist group which only turned itself into a Salafist Jihadist group in 2009. It propagates that not only interaction with the Western World is forbidden, but it is also against the Muslim establishment and the government of Nigeria. The group publicly extols its ideology despite the fact that its founder and former leader late Muhammad Yusuf was himself a highly educated man who lived a lavish life style and drove a Mercedes Benz [16].

The group was founded by Mohammed Yusuf in 2002 in the city of Maiduguri with the aim of establishing a Sharia government in Borno State under former Governor Ali Modu Sheriff. He established a religious complex that included a mosque and a school where many poor families from across Nigeria and from neighbouring countries enrolled their children. The centre had ulterior political goals and soon it was also working as a recruiting ground for future jihadists to fight the state. The group includes members who come from neighbouring Chad and Niger and speak only Arabic. In 2004 the complex was relocated to Yusuf's home state of Yobe in the village of Kanamma near the Niger Republic border.

Yusuf was able to recruit membership from numerous unemployed youths, whose situation has made them become dissatisfied with the state. Late Yusuf also took advantage of the irresponsible leadership at all levels of government, unemployment, poverty, corruption and insecurity. As he points out such failures, citing verses of Quran and the saying of the prophet, the youth see him as the leader that will indeed deliver them from malevolence to the Promised Land. Many Nigerians are hungry for progress and an improvement in their lives, but northern Nigerians feel this need most acutely. Life in Nigeria for many is tough, but across the North, life is grim. Child mortality is over 200 deaths per 1000 live births, leading to lower life expectancy. Educational standards are just as bad. Literacy in the far north is 35 percent as opposed to 77 percent in the rest of the country. Seventy-seven percent of women in the far north have no formal education, compared to only 17 percent in the rest of the country. The violent uprisings in Nigeria are

ultimately due to "the fallout of frustration with corruption and the attendant social malaise of poverty and unemployment" [18].

The members of the group do not interact with the local Muslim population and have carried out assassinations in the past of anyone who criticizes it, including Muslim clerics. In a 2009 BBC interview, Muhammad Yusuf, then leader of the group, rejected scientific explanation for natural phenomena, such as the sun evaporating water being the cause of rain, Darwinian evolution, and the Earth being a sphere if it runs contrary to the teachings of Allah". Before his death, Yusuf reiterated the group's objective of changing the current education system and rejecting democracy. In the wake of the 2009 crackdown on its members and its subsequent re-emergence, the growing frequency and geographical range of attacks attributed to Boko Haram have led some political and religious leaders in the north to the conclusion that the group has now expanded beyond its original religious composition to include not only Islamic militants, but criminal elements and disgruntled politicians as well. When the government came into action, several members of the group were arrested in Bauchi, sparking deadly clashes with Nigerian security forces which led to the deaths of an estimated 700 people. During the fight with the security forces, Boko Haram fighters reportedly used fuel-laden motorcycles and bows with poisoned arrows to attack the police station. The group's founder and then leader Mohammed Yusuf was also killed during this time while still in police custody. After the killing of Mohammed Yusuf, the group carried out its first terrorist attack in Borno in January 2010. It resulted in the killing of four people. Since then, the violence has only escalated in terms of both frequency and intensity [16].

Following the death of Yusuf, a man later known as Abubakar Shekau took control of the group. By mid April, 2012, the group was responsible for over 1000 deaths. According to the Borno State Governor, Kashim Shettima "Boko Haram has become a franchise that anyone can buy into. It is something like a Bermuda Triangle," [19].

The Boko Haram onslaught in the Northern part of the country employs the use of suicide bombing, outright shooting and abduction in its activities. This has led to loss of many lives and property.

VII. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The heterogeneous character of the Nigerian state with its deepening cleavages of cultural, ethnic, linguistic and religious differences which generates varied identities that sometime leads to mutual suspicion, distrust or conflicts. In fact, the plural nature of Nigeria is very unique in Africa and beyond with over 250 ethnic groups and more than 400 languages spoken. Essentially, the religious divide as well as

the positions of religion under the Nigerian state impede democratic governance and give way to conflicts based on the manipulation of it's by the Nigerian elites.

The thrust of the theoretical frameworks of analysis used in this paper are pluralist and frustration/aggression theory. According to the pluralist view of the state, the state is to be reduced to the position of equality with other permanent groups like the family, the mosque the church, the trade union and the club etc. The various permanent groups within the society have a definite and distinct place to fill in the life of man.

A plural state according to Hsiao is one in which there exist no single authority that is all competent and comprehensive, no unified system of law, no centralized organ of administration and no general political will [20]. The Nigerian state falls under this conception for instance with Shari'ah law in practice in some Northern state and this may contradict the Nigerian states and secular position on so many issues that Islam may permits.

Ultimately, a plural society is not unity but unity in diversity. As man owns allegiance to other organisations and associations, his total allegiance is not and cannot be towards the state the reason is that some of these groups existed even before the modern state, Durkheim who argued that religion performs the function of identity to its believers who they are? What they are? And what the purpose of their life is?

On the other hand the frustration/aggression theory was formed on the basis of the psychological man. The assumption is that, the denials of certain needs and aspirations will make an individual or group to behave out rightly hostile to people or the state [21]. The theory assumes human nature is competitive rather than cooperative private rather than public, intentional rather than voluntary and society exists inside rather than outside. Hence, bad leadership, occasion by injustice, corruption, poverty and illiteracy will push individual or groups to challenge the existing social order under which they live.

VIII. THE EFFECTS OF BOKO HARAM ON SOCIAL-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

During the colonial era, Nigerians lived in peace with one another; this is because the colonial masters merged under the hegemonies suzerainty of colonial masters. The social background of Nigerians then can be surely said to be peaceful until the exit of the colonial masters when things started falling apart, the people of Nigeria faced one another with serious enmity, hatred and they did not want to see one another again [22]. The social background of Nigeria turned from peaceful to chaos which finally gave birth to a cankerworm that ate deep into the very fabric of Nigerian social system. The implication here is that to attain social

development in Nigeria became impossible because the people living in the northern parts are no longer in unity.

The effects of Boko Haram crisis on the social development is that it creates more hatred between social groups in the north which would have united together to form a social conscious society. Also it increases lacuna in the interactions of social groups. A member of a social group might join the Boko Haram sect, and this will cause a very big problem, because the person that joined might reveal the secret of the social group.

According to Imam education is very vital in attaining social development [23]. The nation has been striving to put in place amenities for the purpose of elevating the educational standard of the country. This is, however, hampered by incessant closure of schools and institutions in the northern parts of the country. Many schools had been burnt down while many were forced to close down for months like University of Maiduguri, Adamawa State University and Federal Polytechnic Mubi which in effect made the interaction of innocent youths impossible and created a very bad opportunity for parents of different ethnic groups to withdraw their children from school. The education of innocent youths was equally disrupted under tumultuous situation created by the Boko Haram sect, as many were forced to migrate from the crisis area and this migration took two patterns temporary and permanent migration. Those who migrated on temporary basis came back after several weeks or months; however, those who opted for permanent migration were mostly indigenes who suffered losses and felt their continued stay in the crises areas is like casting one's life into prediction. The fear of Boko Haram now becomes the beginning of safety. The resultant factor is that the Boko Haram group directly or indirectly has contributed towards the disruption of social activity in the country.

IX. THE EFFECTS OF BOKO HARAM ON POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

Nigeria is a country that is grappling with issues of development since its independence to date. The country is rated among the developing nations of the world with recent score card of being the fastest growing economy in Africa. Furthermore, Nigeria is a country with low per capita income, high unemployment rate, low human capital development, poor income, infrastructural decay and many other developmental challenges. Nevertheless, since 1999 the civilian administration has been making frantic efforts to revamp the economy and increase infrastructural and human capital development. The administration of former President Goodluck Jonathan in the midst of stiff opposition by political opponents and terrorist groups was making headway in Airports remodeling, university repositioning, agriculture, commerce and industry, railway reorganization and upgrade, seaports and roads rehabilitation and

reconstruction, and employment generation. On the contrary, the activities of Boko Haram insurgency have been a major catalyst of underdevelopment in Nigeria. Education is a panacea for national development across the world. There is no society that does not give adequate attention to her educational growth and development. Apart from the paltry budgetary allocation by the government, the Boko Haram insurgency has been an obstacle to educational development in Nigeria. By implication, Boko Haram translates to war against western education especially in northern Nigeria. In Borno state the attacks had destroyed over 882 classrooms as of August 2013, in Yobe state all schools were shutdown from June to September 2013. On 6 March 2014, the Federal Government closed five Federal Colleges (Unity Schools) in Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states, ordering their estimated 10,000 students to relocate to other schools [24]. Parents fearing attacks have withdrawn thousands of children from schools.

It is an undeniable fact that a nation that witnesses crisis almost on daily basis could not be said to be politically stable. The Boko Haram insurgency, which dichotomized the country's Police Forces, was said to have been responsible for the outbreak of the Abuja Police Headquarter bombing leaving six (6) people dead including Police Officers and civilians. In essence Boko Haram insurgency breeds unstable government which is very crucial to sustainable political development; [24]. The implication of the Boko Haram insurgency on political development is that Igbos were sidelined in the political scene, since after independence no Igbo man has become President of Nigeria and this created a wide gap between the Igbos and the northerners in the political system, the northerners now wants to monopolize power because they believed that the west is a corrupting influence in governance [25].

The Boko Haram insurgency affects former President Jonathan's transformational agenda. During the electioneering campaign of Goodluck Jonathan, he promised to transform and give Nigeria a new and clear sense of focus if elected as President. He said he has a transformational agenda for the country. To this end, on his inauguration as Nigeria's President, he named his administration as a transformational administration. While unfolding his transformational agenda, he indicated specific areas that will receive transformational attention. These areas include infrastructural development, quality healthcare system, agriculture, education, job creation, electricity and transportation, etc. He assured Nigerians of his administration's readiness to transform the country. And when he was finally inaugurated, the journey to transformation began; a violent group in the North-east that was not interested in the journey came up and decided to be a cog in the wheel of the journey. They started truncating the advancement of the journey by unleashing terror and causing instability in the country with the obvious intention

of diverting attention from the transformational agenda of the President. This, to a very large extent, has worked very well for this violent group. They have successfully diverted the attention of not just the President but also of other people on the transformational journey.

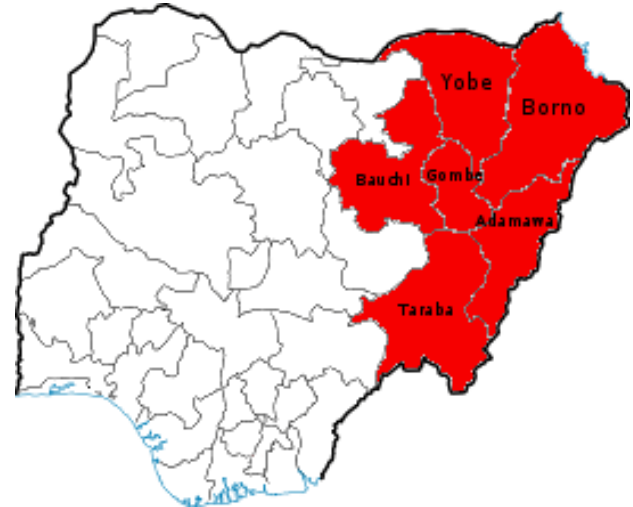


Fig.1 Map of Nigeria Showing Northeastern States

X. THE EFFECTS OF BOKO HARAM ON THE SETTING

The emission of air occasioned by the bomb blast carrying toxic substance pollutes the air and makes it unsafe for human and animals to breathe. The air pollution also results in global warming which retards plants development and causes hotness of the weather. Instances abound where at the time of the bombing, the atmosphere was covered with smoke and motorists and passersby find so difficult to find their way. This has resulted to multiple accidents when people struggle to run for their dear life; [26]. Added to the above is noise pollution. There are indications that people become deafened as a result of bomb blast. The noise created by the blast use to be so much that those who were at close range were seriously affected and it has been discovered that they get deafened by it or get shattered or dumb as a result of the shock occasioned by the loud sound.

In Nigeria, since the inception of the Boko Haram menace, there has been a phenomenal increase in the volume and range of solid wastes generated as a result of rubbles created from bomb blasts. These solid wastes generated from bomb blast and how to manage them have become a major issue in Nigerian Urban Cities especially the Northern part of the country where these bomb blasts constantly occur solid waste management is a major public health issue, a vital factor affecting the quality of the environment and will be harmful to man's comfort; [26]. It is on this note that the researcher therefore recommends the avoidance of pollution by not directly or indirectly altering the physical, biological

and thermal properties of any part of the environment by allowing such refuse to accumulate in excessive or dangerous amount or to create a condition, which is hazardous to public health and safety or welfare of animals.

Bombing, as we all know is a chemical component which when explode causes a big damage to crops growth. The bomb contains mixture of particles that is very harmful to crops and so retards crops growth or even terminated the live s of the crops. The carbon mono-oxide (Co) which comes out from the flame of exploded bomb can leads to crop death and also such a crop or fruits cannot be eaten again by human beings because it has been contaminated with chemicals coming out from the flames of the bomb and also places like these cannot grow crops or fruits again thereby reducing the agricultural productivity and can as well cause a big economic loss to the people. Plants and animals are essential components of living things. Plants can serve man in many ways like provision of shelter, prevention of rays of sun directly towards man, and so on. When a bomb explodes, these plants life span is terminated leading to loss of all the economic and natural benefits man drive from these plants. Man and animals as well are directly affected by these bombing activities. It has been on record that more than one thousand human lives have been lost due to menace of this Boko Haram. This even makes the places unlivable by man, putting man’s life in jeopardy and as well reducing the productive capacity of man.

Soil is the outmost part of the earth. It is a layer that serves man in many ways. It is on these soils that man cultivates his agricultural produces; build his houses, roads and even water supply. This soil contains numerous nutrients and minerals that enrich agricultural crops and also make food production easier. When this nutrients and minerals of the soil are affected by the bombing activities, the chemical substance of these bomb damages these minerals and this makes cultivation of agricultural produce difficult. The implication is that man will have less food, and unclean water supply, since the mixture of water and this chemical substance makes the water undrinkable.

Festinger. L. and David Katz said, “No method is better than the theory which is tested. According to him a theory is a set of interrelated construct (concepts) definitions and prepositions that present a systematic view of a phenomenon.

The theory that will be used in the analysis of this work is the “Relative Deprivation”, which has to do with frustration and rising expectation. The most outstanding scholars of this theory are W.G Runciman, Stack, John Braithwaite and Ted Gurr [27]. The theory of relative deprivation is one of the most popular behavioural explanatory frameworks in the study of violence. The central thesis of this framework is that aggression is always a consequence of discontent of a

kind. Relative deprivation is defined as a perceived discrepancy between man’s (group) value expectation and value capabilities conditions of life, which people believe they are rightfully entitled to while value capability are the goals and conditions they think they are capable of obtaining and maintaining given the social means available to them [27].

This is related to frustration aggression model of analysis. Consequently Gurr argued that relative deprivation is a necessary condition for violence. The idea of relative deprivation has been used either to measure fairness, inequality, or social hostility or aggression. In applying this theory to the research work, it could be deduced that violence that is occurring in the Northern part of the country is as a result of frustration due to the fact that the Boko Haram sect feel deprived by the federal government by not implementing Sharia law. The Boko Haram sects made up of the Youths in the Northern part of Nigeria are bombing Churches, Mosque, Police Stations, and United nations Building etc. Furthermore, using the relative deprivation theory, it could be seen that the Boko Haram sect have no other means of attaining their goal, the sect sees violence or conflict as a last resort in achieving their aims and objectives. This they do by bombing government establishment and churches. This theory has been used to explain further political and religious crisis in the Northern part of Nigeria, which has resulted in series of political and religious violence in the North due to the fact that the Boko Haram sect feel deprived.



Fi.2 Map of Nigeria showing where Boko-Haram most active

XI. CONCLUSION

The major causes of Boko Haram insurgency originate from political and religious factors; the struggle for political power, imposition of Sharia law, power rotation, etc. therefore is a recipe for crisis to occur, when people from different background are living together. Conflict is inevitable in as much as the political and religious forces cause tension between groups with competing interest. The overall implication of the Boko Haram insurgency on the socio-economic and political development in Nigeria is civil disturbances, which led to civil unrest and destabilizing the nation such that the national security was tempered with by killing the residents in the Northern parts of Nigeria. The Boko Haram insurgency brings about hatred and enmity among the ethnic groups and the nation at large.

This paper has discussed critically and analytically the effects of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria, examining the causes and solution to this crisis. It is the view of the researchers that if the government can checkmate corruption in the military and other security outfits in the country and buying sophisticated weapons to crack down hard on the Boko Haram insurgents, it will indeed save a lot of lives and property. Most of the members of the Boko Haram are operating from the neighboring Cameroon, Niger Republic and Chad, through Nigeria's relation with these states, the Multi-National Joint Task Force (MNJTF) has been formed, but more efforts are needed in partnership to find out and close down any training camp which the terrorist are operating from. This also include the investigation within the country, of terrorist training camps operated by the Boko Haram sect. The government should take adequate measures to shut it down completely. The nation will experience political and religious peace when this is done. Nigeria will begin to enjoy more dividends of democracy if these measures are taken seriously towards making her a better place to live.

XII. RECOMMENDATIONS

Having examined all the findings and especially the reasons and rationale for Boko Haram terrorist activities and its implication on the Nigerian society, we therefore take into consideration the recent events in the country. The contemporary issues facing the northern part of the country and its implication on the development of the country, especially its political economy and recommend the following for the effective resolution of the Boko Haram insurgency, as its dislodgment will encourage rapid development in the country.

a) The government should not adopt the Niger Delta solution, by granting amnesty to the Boko Haram because the sect is not ready for any negotiation; they are fighting for a cause they are willing to die for it. It is either one is with them or against them. Muslims and Christians alike are all not safe. In the case of

Niger Delta, we know the different militant leaders, the government knew where to find them, and they made their request straight forward.

- b) Government should provide funds, upgrade its intelligence gathering gadgets. Sometimes one wonders what the Department of State Services (DSS) is doing with the billions of naira spent on them on training both at home and abroad. It was easy for Osama Bin Laden to evade America's intelligence for so long because he decided to deny himself the luxury of technology. He rejected phones and the use of internet. But from what we know so far, these Boko Haram people enjoy all these technological packs with impunity knowing that our intelligence gathering technique is so archaic that our security agencies only believe in totting guns around government officials. If only the government and the security officials have the needed facility to intercept mails and many other electronic gadgets, their work would be greatly enhanced.
- c) Again to overcome the menace of Boko Haram in the country, the government should do whatever it takes to find out how this movement is funded and who are their sponsors? More counter-insurgency measures should be adopted in tackling the menace of Boko Haram.
- d) Government most forgets the fact that the Boko Haram insurgency is an ideological one. Considering this, researcher recommends that the government in an effort to resolve the Boko Haram insurgency should sensitize the people on the ills of anti-westernization. This is because even if these sect members are going to be part of the society again, they have to go through a system of de-radicalization to change their views about the world.
- e) Since it is widely believed that one of the major causes of the sectarian crisis in Nigeria is due to neglect of the government by not providing some basic necessities of life such as employment, formal education the government should rise up and address the pressing issues which concerns the youth. As it is believed that the "idle man is the devil's workshop". If these youths are gainfully employed, the risk of joining in anti-government activities will be greatly reduced.
- f) That there should be general security overhaul in the areas of recruitments, equipping the combatants with modern security gazettes, improve intelligence gathering, establish a security data-base, intensify border patrol, avoid inter-agency rivalry, and to ensure better working conditions for the security forces.
- g) That government should ensure speedily dispensation of justice to all suspects detain by the security agencies. Moreover, a reform in the criminal justice

system of Nigeria to avoid human rights violation of detainees.

- h) That government should design an economic package for the North/Eastern Nigeria States plagued by the Boko Haram insurgency to address the problem of un-employment, poverty and other humanitarian crisis.
- i) That payment of compensation to all innocent victims of the conflict.
- j) Ensure good governance at all levels of government in Nigeria
- k) Military offensive to deal with the insurgency as last option.
- l) Government should encourage community efforts in facing the insurgent's e.g. civilian, JTF in Maiduguri Borno state.
- m) That government should carefully study the role of religion under the Nigerian state.

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