EFFECT OF INSECURITY ON EDUCATION, ECONOMY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: NIGERIA PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract
This study examined the effects of insecurity on economy, education and social development in Nigeria. Security refers to the presence of peace, safety, happiness and the protection of human and physical resources. Insecurity is a state of being subjected to fear, threat, danger, molestation, intimidation, harassment etc in all aspect. In developing nation like Nigeria poverty and ignorance are fertilizers for insurgency anywhere and in any age. When they combine and cloak themselves in religious, ethnic or other partisan robes, they become ready incendiary for the most brutal and reckless of violence. Terrorism and counter terrorism measures have multiple restrictions on peoples’ lives and their access to basic services and protection, causing serious threat to their physical health and emotional/psychologically disturbed. In recent times, however, millions of school children in Nigeria are caught up in conflicts that result to insecurity not only of their school attendance but to their lives and property. Insecurity is characterized with destruction of business building, properties and equipment which is indistinguishable from loss of capital which has ruined many businesses in Nigeria. Although the cost of the prevalent insecurity in Nigeria is difficult to measure in monetary or real terms, however it is clear to observers that it has cost Nigerians enormous human and material resources. It is recommended that government should rise to its expectations and control all acts of insurgency, and employment opportunities should be created that will engage productive youths of the state.

Keywords: Insurgency, Security, Boko Haram, Education, Economy and Effects

Introduction
Education is built around the goal of improving the social life and other institutions that make up the society. It is against this background that Uba and Ngozi (2017) attest that education today must have the effect of making it possible for a country a steady supply of highly creative citizens who help to improve the living conditions of the general citizenry, and to solve the existential problems that are thrown from time to time. Notwithstanding it also serves the interests of other sectors of the economy and as such an instrument for change and development and a potent tool for addressing social problems such as the present state of insecurity in Nigeria. This is because education in all its ramifications aims at creating consciousness in the minds of the recipients and also equips them with skills for solving lifelong problems. It is in this regards that Adegbesan (2011) affirmed that people and nations are what they are because of the nature and types of education they have been exposed to. It is a candid opinion that the level development of any
nation depends to a large extent on the quality and level of education it attained. It is undisputable fact that in any education system, peace and tranquility is an antidote for a successful teaching and learning. In recent times, however, hundreds of school children in the eastern states of Nigeria are caught up in conflicts that result to insecurity not only of their school attendance but to their lives and property, and also economic activities: Schools burnt, students and teachers attacked and many killed, business activities distracted, shops and malls burnt, social activities distracted. These acts have posed serious challenges to development and systems in North-Eastern part of Nigeria.

Terrorism is globally becoming a household word as there is no nation that is completely absolved from its effect. Globalization has significantly influenced the spate of terrorism as the event in one part of the globe has direct or an indirect effect on others.

Insecurity
Insecurity, in a general term, refers to a state of being subjected to fear, threat, danger, molestation, intimidation, harassment etc in all aspect. For example, insecurity can be conceived as threats to the state which often accounted for the race for arms and nuclear weapons to defend the state (Ajodo- Adebanjoko & Ugwuoke, 2014). However, Agomuo (2013) commented on the nature of insecurity in Nigeria that at different times in the past that, insecurity has held the Nigerian nation to ransom. For example, Boko-Haram held the region into ransom and reined the nation’s security agencies useless at one point or the other. Lamenting the level of security deterioration in the North, Nadabo (2013) ―today, it is news of a bomb blast. Yesterday, it was a suicide bombing, tomorrow; it may be an assassination and the day after, mass murder.

Every day in Nigeria, the news seems to get from bad to worse, as the security situation deteriorates further and further” It is in relation to this trends that Falana (2013) blamed the government for allowing things to get out of control before declaring the state of emergency. He asked the government to "stop shedding crocodile tears over insecurity". He therefore suggested that; the Federal Government should equip the security personnel before getting them deployed to fight against insecurity in the country rather than shedding crocodile tears for the victims of insecurity. He further observed that the conditions of less-equipped policemen and soldiers, who were being deployed to fight terrorists that were armed with more sophisticated weapons is more worrisome.

Terrorism
It is however difficult to evolve a single definition for the term “terrorism”. The difficulty emanates from the lack of consensus or unified perspective among nations or scholars as to what could be regarded as terrorist act. Hence, terrorism has been described variously as both a tactic and strategy; a crime and a holy duty; a justified reaction to oppression and inexcusable abomination since it is a function of whose point of view is being represented (http://www.terrorism-research.com/). Literally, terrorism is viewed as violence perpetrated by individuals within or outside the government circle that is specifically directed against civilian or government institutions as a way of calling attention to perceived real or imaginary injustices in a clandestine manner. This definition captures Boko-Haram sect as a domestic terrorist organisation. The challenges posed by Boko-Haram sect on the security of lives and property in
Nigeria and the implications on corporate existence of Nigeria as well as its image internationally is beyond imagination.

**Causes of Insecurity in Nigeria**
The fear of insecurity in Nigeria is on the increase and this has been compounded by the rising waves of terrorism since the country returned to democratic rule in 1999 (Ali 2013). Violent crime has a root and history in Nigeria, and could be traced back to the period from 1960 to 1970. At independence in 1960 a federal structure was imposed on Nigeria by the British. Unfortunately, the federal structure bequeathed to Nigeria at independence did not conform to tenets of federalism as a system of government where two levels of government exist each sovereign in its own whims and caprices (Ewetan, 2011). Since independence, the demand for true federalism, fiscal and political restructuring by different ethnic nationalities in Nigeria has not abated. These agitations have contributed to violent rebellious reactions by aggrieved ethnic groups in the country, endangering the security, unity, and corporate existence of Nigeria as one country. Causes of terrorism, militant, kidnapping, cattle rustle etc. in developing nation like Nigeria is enormous. Poverty and Ignorance are fertilizers for insurgency when they combine and cloak themselves in religious, ethnic or other partisan robes; they become ready incendiary for the most brutal and reckless of violence. Nweze (2004) identified some factors enhancing insecurity in Nigeria to include among others things: poor leadership, ethno-religious crises, socio-economic inequalities, small arms and ammunition trafficking, rural-urban migration and external influence among others.

**Ethno-Religious Conflicts:** Ethno-religious conflict is a situation in which the relationship between members of one ethnic or religious and another of such group in a multiethnic and multi-religious society is characterized by lack of cordiality, mutual suspicion and fear, and a tendency towards violent confrontation (Achumba, Ighomereho & Akpor-Robaro, 2013). The frequent and persistent ethnic conflicts and religious clashes between the two dominant religions (Islam and Christianity) is a major security challenge that confronts Nigeria. Since independence, Nigeria appears to have been bedevilled with ethno-religious conflicts. There are ethno-religious conflicts in all parts of Nigeria and these have emerged as a result of new and particularistic forms of political consciousness and identity often structured around ethno-religious identities (Ibrahim & Igbuzor, 2002). Ethno-religious violence is also traceable to the inability of Nigerian leaders to tackle development challenges, and distribute state resources equitably. Other causes are accusation, and allegation of neglect, oppression, domination, exploitation, victimization, discrimination, marginalization, nepotism and bigotry.

**Politically Based Violence:** Eme and Onyishi (2011) sited that Nigeria has a long history of politically based violence since the collapse of the first republic on January 14, 1966, and the incursion of the military into governance that same date. The electoral politics in Nigeria right from 1960s till date have been characterized with violent conflicts, political thuggery, assassinations, and arson. He added that politicians in Nigerian do not accommodate dialogue, negotiation and consensus. Political contests are characterized by desperation, and violent struggle for political power among politicians. Recurring political violence in Nigeria could be attributed to over-zealousness and desperation of political gladiators to win elections or remain in office at all cost. These misadventures have often been catastrophic leading to decimation of innocent lives, disruption of economic activities, and the destruction of properties among others.
Systemic and Political Corruption: This is a twin evil and hydra-headed monster that has held the Nigerian state captive. This has contributed to government failure and breakdown of institutional infrastructures. The state of insecurity in Nigeria is greatly a function of government failure, traceable to systemic and political corruption. It has added another dimension of violent conflicts which has eroded national values. Corruption is bad not because money and benefits change hands, and not because of the motives of participants, but because it privatizes valuable aspects of public life, bypassing processes of representation, debate, and choice. It has been described as cancer militating against Nigeria’s development, because corruption deeply threatens the fabric of the Nigeria society (Nwanegbo & Odigbo, 2013).

Economic-Based Violence: It is also referred to as “political economy of violence”. Eme and Onyishi (2011) observed that, in recent writings in the mass media, much emphasis were laid on the role of resources in generating conflict which is a major cause of economic-based violence across the globe and across political divide. Cries of resource control and revenue sharing regularly rent the air between proponents and opponents also leading to violent agitations among the contending actors and between the state and proponents. The Niger-Delta crisis in Nigeria presents a classic case of this violent struggle that has been on since the end of the Nigerian civil war in 1970. Eme and Onyishi (2011) said these violent agitations have claimed many lives of Nigerians and foreigners, military and Para-military personnel, and properties.

Pervasive Material Inequalities and Unfairness: A major factor that contributes to insecurity in Nigeria is the growing awareness of inequalities, and disparities in life chances which lead to violent reactions by a large number of people. There is a general perception of marginalization by a section of the people in areas of government development policies, political patronage, and these are triggers of disaffection, resentment, and revolt (Achumba, et al., 2013). The incessant strikes by labour, professional groups and demonstrations by civil society groups are mainly due to pervasive material inequalities and unfairness. Their agitations are aimed at drawing public sympathy for their struggle for just and fair treatment by the government.

Unemployment: Unemployment is defined as when people are not engaged in meaningful work and are lacking the basic necessities of life. Many Nigerian youths have become preys to terrorists and are easily radicalized. In the Niger Delta region for instance, unemployed youths were the ones employed in the armed conflicts between Multinational Oil Companies and militants while many of such youths are members of the Boko-Haram sect. Adegbami (2013) opined that, idle mind; they say is the devil workshop so as the rate of unemployment continues to raise, so also the wave of crimes and its attendant effects. Odumakin (2012) with 60 million unemployed youths, Nigeria will have no peace. The success of Boko-Haram leadership in luring the youths with money which majority of them is unemployed. Although, the job they took is bad, yet they still took it.

Poverty: Another cause of insecurity is the poverty, which is a multidimensional phenomenon. Poverty is characterized by lack of enough to feed and clothe a family, not having a school or clinic to go to; not having the land on which to grow one’s food or a job to earn one’s living, not having access to credit. It means insecurity, powerlessness and exclusion of individuals, households and communities. In view of these they may join any violence groups as majority of them are ill informed politically, socially, religiously, economically etc. As a result, most of the arm robbers, terrorist groups, Boko-Haram members particularly so the foot soldiers came from poor masses; Ford (2007) quoted by Adebayo (2014) stated that; Poverty has been linked to high crime rates, especially in the Niger Delta region where there is a sharp contrast between the rich
and the poor. The masses cause social unrest because the wealth gotten from their territory does not get to them.

Organized Violent Groups: Emeka (2011) opined that the emergence of ethnic and militia groups in Nigeria with most of them termed to be violent and terrorist groups. Among these groups he stated were; the Ogoni Youth, Niger Delta Volunteer Force, Odua People Congress, Arewa Youth Consultative forum, Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra, Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People, Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta, Ijaw Youth Council, Egbesu Boys of Africa, Niger Delta Vigilante, Isoko National Youth Movement, etc. these according to Emeka set the stage for terrorist violence in Nigeria. For example the militants in the Niger Delta, who adopted terrorist tactics to fight the government, Maitatsine religious crises in Kano in 1980, 1983 in Maiduguri, Yola and Gombe. Today, we see the emergence of the Boko Haram Movement which started in Borno and Yobe states. The group later, due to their criminality and terrorist activities termed as one of the deadly terrorist organization ever witnessed by the western world and was alleged to be off shot of Al-Qaeda (Nweze (2004)

Weak Judiciary: Yahaya (2012) posits that the general expectation has always been that the judiciary should function in such a manner as to mitigate, if not eliminate the problem. But unfortunately, for the sake of money many judges comprised. The idea of punishment is to serve as a deterrent; but on the contrary many of the criminals find their way and thereby continue their criminalities and other terrorist activities. Jang (2012) cited in Yahaya (2012) observed that the increasing impunity and dare devilry of sundry criminals particularly terrorists and thieves especially of public funds are enhanced by the weakness of Nigeria’s legal system. Justice and the rule of law do not just depend on the law that is our customs, statutes and the constitution among others, but on the impartiality, astuteness and nobility of the judicial officers who have taken the oath to do justice. Considering trends in our judicial system in Nigeria, it is clearly noticeable that the Nigerian judicial system is weak and encourages criminality as many of the criminals could find their way home even after being arrested and prosecuted.

Weak Security System: This is a major contributory factor to the level of insecurity in Nigeria, and this can be attributed to a number of factors which include inadequate funding of the police and other security agencies, lack of modern equipment both in weaponry and training, poor welfare of security personnel, and inadequate personnel (Achumba et al. 2013). According to Olonisakin (2008) the police-population ratio in Nigeria is 1:450 which falls below the standard set by the United Nations. The implication of this is that Nigeria is grossly under policed and this partly explains the inability of the Nigerian Police Force to effectively combat crimes and criminality in the country.

Porous Borders: Achumba et al. (2013) observe that the porous frontiers of the country, where individual movements are largely untracked have contributed to the level of insecurity in Nigeria. As a result of the porous borders there is an unchecked inflow of Small Arms and Light Weapons into the country which has aided militancy and criminality in Nigeria (Hazan and Horner, 2007). Also, the porosity of the Nigerian borders has aided the uncontrollable influx of migrants, mainly young men, from neighboring countries such as Republic of Niger, Chad and Republic of Benin responsible for some of the criminal acts (Adeola and Oluyemi, 2012).

Government Policy: Okereke, (2012) observed and concluded that: It seems that government policies are built on sand and not on a solid foundation because many of those issues that led to the Nigerian Civil wars are still prevalent more than fifty years after the war ended. We cannot
afford reinforcing a mistake! It’s high time we redefined and re-negotiated the terms and conditions of our existence.

**Effects of Insecurity on Education**

In any education system, peace and tranquility is an antidote for a successful teaching and learning. In recent times, however, millions of school children in Nigeria are caught up in conflicts that result to insecurity not only of their school attendance but to their lives and property (Abdullahi &Terhemba, 2014). Borno State in particular started experiencing the global trend of insurgency from 2009. Boko Haram has destroyed so many promising youths who would have been future leaders of this nation tomorrow, who would have contributed meaningfully to the growth of education in Nigeria and the world at large.

**School Dropout:** It is not news that Boko Haram abducted more than 200 school girls in Nigeria highlights new focus by Islamism on education. Boko Haram evil activities have forced the intending business educators as well as so many children in the northern part of the country out of school. Survey by both the print and electronic media indicates that over 85% of the school children in Borno State do not attend school due to insecurity in the state (Bwala, 2012).

**Non Supervision of Academic Activities:** Teaching and learning processes cannot be properly conducted in an unsafe school environment as most education officers in the region were currently out of their states for safety. This means that, inspectors of basic education programme can not conduct termly inspection to ascertain the level of development on basic schools education programme in the affected area(s).

**Many Students and Teachers losse their Life:** On 17th September, 2014 Boko Haram equally attached Federal College of Education Kano killing several of the students when two Boko Haram suicide bombers interred into the lecture hall and bombed himself and the students and the lecturer in the hall (Ruquyyatu, 2013). Attacks by Boko Haram and other similar groups in Nigeria is a threat to education. It is in light of the above that Okpaga, Chijioke and Innocent (2012) observe that Nigeria as a nation must make concerted efforts to raise the educational attainment of all its youths who are the leaders of tomorrow especially those that are deprived of regular school attendance because of insecurity and conflicts. The hope for the country seems to be grim if children cannot go to school.

**Affect School Enrolment:** In areas where there are crisis the number of school enrolment will always be on decline. No student who survived this attacked would like to go back to that school having considered the psychological effects having remembered the number of classmates, friends and lecturers/teachers that were killed during attacks. As a result of insecurity, school enrolment in north eastern states of Nigeria has gone down by 28 percent more than any other region in the country (Bwala, 2012).

**Exodus of Good Brains (Teachers):** Another fall-out from the ceaseless attacks on the government institutions, including education, is the loss of trained teachers who are either maimed, killed or prefers to give schools a wide berth as a result of the indiscriminate attacks on them by Boko Haram operative, who attack schools at random (Okoli & Iortyer, 2014). In the crises areas everybody runs for his/her dear live. Many teachers have to relocate to place where peace is relatively stable and in such cases a lot of good brains leave. Borno and Yobe, in the north and some state in the militant zones has over the years experienced mass exodus of teachers, school administrators simply the environment has not been safe, therefore leaving the learning institutions with just a few teachers that have no alternative than to stay behind.
Poor Academic Performance: Academic activities are disrupted intermittently as a result of sporadic attacks on educational facilities. The Boko Haram attacks also culminate in poor student’s academic performance because learning is characterized by threat in the school environment of the north, whereas it is an accomplished fact that learning thrives mostly in an environment devoid of threat. Oftentimes schools in crises areas hardly run full semester programme. Schools are closed any time there is security threat and sometimes exams are conducted based on the few topics covered, teachers hardly teach enough to cover all course content. In fact, curfew and checkpoint closures disrupted children’s access to education. This has contributed to poor academic performance; and it is evident that poor school (academic) performance has been a key factor in encouraging young people to join militant.

Inadequate School Facilities: Schools in Borno State have been experiencing serious problem prior to the insurgency, there are shortage of classes for teaching and learning, shortage of instructional materials and teachers (NUT, 2007). Many schools in Borno State were turned to be houses for Boko Haram, others were turn to be factories for producing improvised explosive devices (IED). Bombing and shooting by Boko Haram insurgents destroy school facilities which were grossly inadequate in the first instance. This portends grave consequences for effective teaching and learning which becomes hampered by inadequacy of educational facilities.

Poor Funding of Education: The ripple effects of Boko Haram insurgency has led to a situation in which expenditure on education has increasingly dwindled over the years. This is occasioned by the pressing need to allocate more funds to security, to the detriment of other sectors of the economy, education inclusive.(In 2017, less than 10 percent of the budget was allocated to education. This still falls short of the United Nations prescription of 26 percent). Education is considered as the most dynamic factor that stimulates all round development of a nation as such should not compete for resources; awfully government spending on education is far below UNESCO recommendation of 26% of the total budget.

Effect of Insecurity on Social Development
Terrorism and counter terrorism measures have multiple restrictions on peoples lives and their access to basic services and protection, causing serious threat to their physical health and emotional/psychologically disturbed. There are links between human security and health as insecurity leads to the collapse in the health care delivery which has concomitant effect on the people’s well being (Mori, Meddings & Bettcher, 2004). There are also the associated effects of insecurity which include fear, coercion, displacement and deprivation of basic daily needs such as drinking-water, food and health care. Human security entails access to food, nutrition, clean drinking water, hygiene and sanitation and housing which could only be got through peace. Also, the series of bombings has cost citizens vital organs of their body such as noses, ears, and eyes turning them into dependants. Some have had their hands or legs amputated, while others have incurred different forms of ailment such as high blood pressure, shock, due to the loss of relatives, breadwinners and valuable properties or means of livelihood. Besides many people due to security are living in perpetual fear while some are practically ‘living deterioration deads’ with no hope for the future having lost everything in the pervading insecurity. The use of rape and sexual violence as a war tactic- and the impunity affordable to perpetrators poses a particular risk to girls in conflict zones. Risk of sexual violence increases dramatically with the increased presence of fighting forces and the breakdown of law and order.
Effects of Insecurity on the Economy

Business activities cannot be conducted in an environment where the security of life and property is at stake. Thus, security is critical for the nation’s development and its absence of security means that economic growth and development cannot be achieved (Achumba, et al., 2013). Indeed, the productive aspect of most manufacturing business depends largely on the availability and regular supply of raw materials for production. Insecurity often times cut off supply of such raw materials hence, jeopardizing production activities. Equally, insecurity affects marketing of finished product as there is a continuous exodus from areas of insecurity. Insecurity is characterized with destruction of business building, properties and equipment which is indistinguishable from loss of capital which has ruined many businesses in Nigeria. It is worthy note that insecurity is a risk factor which business owners and managers try to avoid when they relocate their businesses to a safer business environment. It was not a surprise when many businessmen/women and manufacturing companies relocate from the North east in recent times to other peaceful parts of the country (Nwagboso, 2012).

Many of the Igbos and Yorubas from Southern Nigeria who are engaged in various businesses in Northern Nigeria have had to return to their home states to avoid the violence orchestrated by the terrorist group Boko Haram. Thus the Boko Haram insurgency which begun in Maiduguri, Borno State, in 2009, has badly affected the economy of the North as major consumer goods and the companies which produce these consumer goods have withdrawn from the region. A good example are the telecommunication companies which have been forced to close down as their telecommunication apparatuses were repeatedly destroyed; media houses were equally attacked as well as having some of their staff killed; banks too were not spared from the destruction as some branches of the banks were attacked and robbed. Thus the resources which could have been used in strengthening the infrastructural amenities are increasingly being diverted to fund the security system, thereby constituting a drain on the nation resources (Nwagboso, 2012). Oil production per day has also drastically declined as a result of kidnappings of oil workers in the region. Besides, the wave of kidnapping in some parts of Nigeria has forced investors, businessmen and manufacturing companies to relocate to other peaceful cities in Nigeria or even to leave the country entirely. In Aba for example, the Nigeria Breweries Limited (NBL), Seven-Up PLC, UNILEVER PLC, Paterson Zochonis (PZ) PLC relocated to Enugu largely due to constant kidnapping of their expatriate staff (Nwagboso, 2012). Thus the decline in foreign investment in Nigeria as a result of insecurity when combined with the effects of global economic showdown has caused the closing down of tens of thousands of factories in Nigeria.

Conclusion

The unabated attacks by the Boko Haram sect had occasioned untold hardship on Nigerian people especially in the northern region of the country. It has also succeeded in destabilizing economic, social, political, religious and cultural lives of the people. In short the intractable problem has led to the categorization of Nigeria as a failing state. Government effort so far to solve the problem through military containment has proved abortive. Although government spokesmen claim that the war on terror is gradually being won, the nation waits with bated breath to enjoy the peace that goes along with victory over Boko Haram. Although the cost of the prevalent insecurity in Nigeria is difficult to measure in monetary or real terms, however it is clear to observers that it has cost Nigerians enormous human and material resources. Security plays a crucial role in the
existence and sustenance of human being. In this wise Coupland (2007) observed that insecurity has a far reaching impact on people’s lives and well-being and for this singular reason the government has to be alive to its responsibility of guaranteeing security. When people’s security are guaranteed, it gives them the freedom, physically and mentally to get on with the business of building their lives without fear of molestation or violent death. Thus, to experience a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being security is essential (Meddings, 2001), without security, there can be no stable society rather there will be prevalent fear and danger from violent death.

Suggestions
1. The religious leaders should be properly enlightened, to play active role in preaching against the senseless attacks perpetrated by the insurgent group.
2. Employment opportunities school be created by government to engage youths in productive activities that will earn them a living.
3. The judiciary system in Nigeria should rise to their responsibilities
4. Corruption should be treated with all seriousness, and those involve should be prosecuted
5. Proactive measures should be taken when there is a sign of security threat.

References


