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CORRUPTION AND INSURGENCY IN NIGERIA: THE BANE OF NIGERIA'S EXPERIENCE

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Abstract

The paper examines the socioeconomic consequences of insurgency, armed banditry, and corruption in Nigeria. The country as a nation-state faces a grievous socioeconomic and security peril from within. The threat has social, economic, political, and environmental dimensions at a more general level. Each of these factors has had a significant impact on the nation's economic peace and stability, consequently ushering in an atmosphere of misery and devastation. The pitiful state of affairs is attributable to the actions of ethnic militia forces, ethnic and religious conflicts, poverty, terrorism, armed robbery, corruption, and the destruction of the economy. The ineffectiveness of the government's efforts to eradicate the menaces was distinguished by the high cost of purchasing equipment for the fight against insurgents. Unfathomable amounts of lives and property have been lost as a result of various security and economic problems. Since the advent of democracy in 2009, Nigeria has witnessed unparalleled and continuous killings, kidnappings, and property destruction on an unprecedented level at the hands of terrorists, particularly Boko Haram, armed bandits, and ethnic and religious militias. Despite the government's efforts, the conflict is not over; rather, it is intensifying in certain regions of Nigeria. However, the paper maintains that corruption is one of the primary causes of the emergence and persistence of insurgency in Nigeria. However, both corruption and insurgency have had severe effects on the socioeconomic and political development of Nigeria. The paper concludes that the twin ills have contributed to poor growth and development of the economy, an unstable political environment, a greater sense of insecurity in the country, and underdevelopment, among others. In light of the foregoing, reducing corruption as a means of achieving a lasting solution to insurgency requires, among other things, strengthening present anti-corruption agencies, efficient implementation of good governance and dividends of democracy to the people, an efficient system for poverty reduction through youth skills acquisition centers, the creation of employment opportunities, the improvement of infrastructure and fundamental human necessities, and above all the fear of God.

Keywords: corruption, insurgency, security and insecurity

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Introduction

Nigeria has lately been identified as one of the worst nations in Africa, seeing a significant uptick in insurgency, acts of terrorism, and crimes against humanity and public infrastructure. Undoubtedly, this event had a significant impact on the nation sometimes referred to as the "giant" of Africa. The culmination of these issues occurred with the creation of many organizations, operating under a multitude of names, within the Niger Delta area. These gangs only targeted the infrastructure and staff of oil businesses in the region, while also engaging in the abduction and kidnapping of foreign workers. The implementation of the Amnesty initiatives by the Federal Government in 2009 resulted in a significant decrease in the violent actions carried out by militants in the region. In addition to the aforementioned, an additional faction known as Jama'atulahlul Sunna Lidda'awati Wal Jihad (Boko Haram) emerged as a formidable adversary in the northeast region of Nigeria as of 2009.

It is widely acknowledged that Nigeria has experienced a significant increase in insurgency and a disturbing frequency of terrorist strikes since 2009, rendering it one of the most feared locations globally. The Boko Haram terrorist organization demonstrated more intensity compared to the Niger Delta militancy by employing the lethal tactic of suicide bombing, a hitherto unfamiliar method within the nation at large, therefore establishing its presence on the world's terrorist landscape. The Nigerian state is currently confronted with security issues stemming from the terrorist actions of a particular organization. These operations have resulted in the loss of numerous lives, including policemen, soldiers, and civilians, as well as the destruction of property valued at billions of naira. This represents a significant recent addition to the security challenges facing the Nigerian state. As is well observed, the primary objective of an insurgency is to contest the authority of the established government, either by seeking control over all or a specific sector of its territory or by compelling political concessions in the distribution of political power. This phenomenon is exemplified by the insurgency led by Boko Haram. The operations of the sect since 2009 have been deemed a significant security concern for the nation, rendering Northern Nigeria, particularly the North East region where their activities are prevalent, the most perilous area to reside within the country (Akinbi, 2015). The aforementioned group has been held accountable for causing several fatalities among the Nigerian population and significant destruction of valuable assets. According to Tijani (2015), there is a contention that the Boko Haram insurgency, spanning from 2009 to 2015, has resulted in a death toll exceeding 30,000 individuals and extensive destruction of properties valued in the billions of naira. Various explanations have been put out in existing scholarly literature on the causal elements contributing to insecurity, such as the Boko Haram insurgency in Northern Nigeria. The insurgency in Nigeria has resulted in a significant rise in insecurity, which has become a matter of great national and international concern. This heightened insecurity has led to various consequences, including political instability, increased migration, brain drain, capital flight, reduced inflow of Foreign Direct Investment, and hindered national development. These outcomes have had negative implications for the overall progress and advancement of the country.Nkwede and Abah (2016).

Corruption has consistently emerged as a prevalent and enduring motif within the cultural and historical context of humanity. The presence of political systems and their manifestations may be observed in both emerging and mature democracies. The impact of corruption exhibits varying degrees of severity, with particularly pronounced consequences observed in developing nations

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characterized by limited economic resources, fragile political institutions, and inadequate oversight mechanisms (Igiebor, 2019, p. 493). Within the context of Nigeria, corruption has become deeply ingrained and institutionalized within the government and among high-ranking public officials. The perception of the nation in the global community has been significantly tarnished as a result of the monstrous entity.

Corruption has emerged as a pervasive issue that hinders the development and economic growth of the country, particularly in areas like educational institutions, healthcare, and infrastructure. The current security challenges, including,Boko Haram, Niger Delta militia, conflicts between farmers and herders, ethno-ethnic conflicts, abduction, armed banditry, and others, have been linked to the pervasive issue of corruption. The pervasive issue of corruption in Nigeria has been identified as a significant factor contributing to the persistent state of insecurity. This has led to extensive loss of life and damage to property, reaching unprecedented levels inside the nation.

Both corruption and insurgency have significant impacts on the socio-economic well-being of Nigerians. The funds allocated for social welfare programs intended to benefit the impoverished population have been subject to embezzlement, misappropriation, and mismanagement. This has exacerbated the existing issues of deteriorating infrastructure, insufficient healthcare services, declining educational quality, inadequate transportation networks, a rise in internally displaced persons, widespread economic hardship, unemployment, and a lack of essential amenities including food, water, and electricity. The absence of these basic necessities hinders any potential for meaningful development.

Methodology

The study utilized the historical technique of research and analysis. The data for this study were obtained from documenting secondary sources. The study adopts a descriptive approach, as it expands upon the available literature about increasing security risks in the country.

Theoretical Perspectives on Corruption in Nigeria

Realist researchers such as Christopher Layne, Stephen Walt, Kenneth Waltz, and Robert J. Art argue that corruption exists as a prevalent phenomenon in the actual world. Regardless of personal agreement, their objective is to identify and delineate the patterns of corrupt conduct. Thisgroup of scholars consistently endeavors to elucidate the behaviors that are seen as corrupt. Contrary to other perspectives, Nominalist scholars such as William Van, Orman Quine, and John Buridan adopt a relative stance towards corruption behaviors. Rather than delineating specific features of corrupt behavior and defining it based on its characteristics, they prioritize the examination of the structural environments in which corruption takes place and the dynamics through which corruption arises (Jiang, 2017). The subsequent sections present the methodologies employed in the examination of Realist and Nominalist ideas, as outlined by Jiang (2017). There exist several approaches to the Realist Theory.

1) The initial perspective is a moral viewpoint, which represents the most ancient school of thought on corruption. In accordance with this particular strategy, it is imperative to establish a collective comprehension of the regulations in order to preserve societal harmony and foster public trust. Any activities that deviate from societal norms are commonly perceived as immoral or negative, and this includes acts of corruption. Therefore, scholars engage in the process of comparing potentially corrupt behavior

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against an established moral norm in order to ascertain its corrupt nature (Williams, 2000, as quoted in Jiang, 2017, p. 21).

2) The second approach might be characterized as the legalist perspective. Adherents of the realist worldview consistently endeavor to provide standards by which corrupt behavior may be identified. The Moralist School employs moral principles as the primary criterion, whereas the Legalist School accepts the legal framework as the principal benchmark. According to Bryce (1921, as cited in Jiang, 2017), corruption can be defined as the utilization of monetary resources to achieve personal objectives through political methods that are considered criminal or at the very least unlawful. This is done by influencing individuals entrusted with public responsibilities to violate their duties and misuse their assigned functions. The definition proposed by this method is characterized by its directness: determining whether an individual is corrupt or not entails evaluating their actions in relation to legal standards. If an individual's actions are in violation of the law, they can be considered corrupt; conversely, if their actions are within the bounds of the law, they can be deemed clean, regardless of the moral or ethical implications of their behavior.
3) The third method within realist theory is characterized by a focus on public office. According to Williams (1999 as referenced in Jiang, 2017), during the period from the 1960s to the 1980s, the prevailing understanding of corruption was mostly based on a legally generated perspective known as the public office definition. In addition to statutory provisions, researchers introduce additional criteria related to the nature of the position in order to ascertain instances of corrupt conduct, therefore addressing the limitations inherent in legal definitions. However, Nye (1967, as referenced by Jiang, 2017, p. 21) presented the definition of corruption from a public-office-centric perspective.

   Corruption refers to actions that depart from the prescribed responsibilities of a publicposition due to personal interests, such as financial or social benefits, or actions that contravene regulations prohibiting the exertion of certain forms of self-serving influence. This includes behaviors such as bribery, which involves the use of rewards to manipulate the judgment of an individual in a position of trust. Additionally, nepotism refers to the granting of favors based on familial relationships rather than merit. Lastly, misappropriation refers to the unlawful use of public resources for personal gain.
4) The fourth strategy is oriented around the public interest. The aforementioned three techniques, previously stated, operate under the implicit premise that the morals, rules, or standards being considered are generally recognized and serve the collective interests of society as a whole. It is widely acknowledged that the establishment of morality, laws, and norms is predominantly determined by the ruling group, which inherently stands in opposition to the ruled class. The concept of corruption, as it pertains to the public interest, was well elucidated by Friedrich (1966, as referenced in Jiang, 2017, p. 21). This theoretical framework is applicable in understanding the situation in Nigeria, as described above.

Theoretical Underpinnings On Security

Relative Deprivation Theory

This theory may be classified as a middle-range current theory within the field of social sciences since it is closely associated with the concepts of poverty and social segregation. The theory may

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be traced back to ancient Greece and is mostly linked with Gurr (1970). Hence, taking inspiration from Aristotle's premise that revolution is propelled by a subjective perception or sentiment of inequity, rather than an objective assessment. According to Gurr (1970), rather than employing a comprehensive measure of inadequacy, a discrepancy between anticipated and realized levels of well-being leads to collaborative discontent. Hence, it may be argued that the primary underlying cause of the human propensity for violence is the frustration-aggression mechanism. The experience of rage resulting from frustration serves as a motivating factor that predisposes individuals towards aggressive behavior, irrespective of the specific means employed. The concept of relative deprivation refers to the psychological and emotional pressure that arises when there is a discrepancy between the perceived expectations of individuals or groups about the fulfillment of shared values, and the actual reality of their satisfaction. This incongruity can lead to the manifestation of violent behavior among human beings. Supporting this theory, Runciman (1966), as cited in Obah-Akpowoghaha (2013), provides a definition for the concept of "relative" deprivation. According to Runciman, relative deprivation occurs when individual A perceives a lack of object X. This perception is based on the following conditions: individual A does not possess X, individual A desires to possess X, individual A is aware of others who possess X, and individual A believes that obtaining X is feasible (p. 70). The theoretical framework demonstrates a strong correlation between systemic failure or structural deficiencies within a particular society and the emergence of dissatisfaction and aggressiveness, which subsequently contribute to criminal behavior and acts of violence. In the present-day context of Nigeria, there is a discernible manifestation of systemic failure in the form of a significant prevalence of unemployment among both those with tertiary education and those without. Individuals may experience frustration leading them to join criminal gangs as a means of self-preservation and fulfilling societal responsibilities, such as marriage, providing for their children's education, supporting dependents, and participating in community initiatives. The theoretical framework of relative derivation theory sheds light on the phenomenon of highly skilled graduates who find themselves in positions of underemployment as temporary or part-time employees. Observing those who possess similar qualities achieving superior outcomes, such as higher earnings and a higher quality of living, can potentially contribute to feelings of dissatisfaction, which in turn may manifest as aggressiveness and result in the commission of violent crimes. Certain individuals may choose to express their displeasure by engaging in absenteeism and vandalizing the property of those organizations. The hypothesis holds relevance in the context of insecurity in Nigeria, as it posits that the presence of dissatisfaction stemming from issues like as hunger, poverty, and unemployment among the educated population in the nation contributes to this phenomenon.

The Concept ofCorruption

According to a study conducted by Transparency International (TI) in 2018, as mentioned in Igiebor (2019, p. 494). According to Yelwa (2011), as cited in Ibrahim (2014, p. 2), corruption can be understood as a multi-dimensional phenomenon that has been conceptualized in various ways. In the context of the public sector, corruption refers to the misuse of power by public officials for personal gain while carrying out their official responsibilities. This encompasses a range of practices including fraud, bribery, embezzlement, favoritism, extortion, dishonesty, and unethical actions aimed at achieving personal objectives. The aforementioned definition highlights that corruption involves deviating from what is considered correct or pure. It encompasses the illicit

acquisition of employment, contracts, status, power, money, financial/material resources, or psychological satisfaction through immoral or illegal means such as robbery, fraud, abuse of office, bribery, and similar activities (Adababiri& Okolie, 2018, p. 43).

Factors Contributing to Corruption in Nigeria

Numerous factors contribute to the prevalence of corrupt practices in Nigeria. These factors encompass various ethno-linguistic disparities, socio-cultural dynamics, and political variables. It is evident that these factors play a significant role in perpetuating the endemic nature of corruption in Nigeria.

Ajie&Wokekoro (2012) cited in Adagbabiri& Okolie (2018, p. 45) outlined the following reasons for promoting corruption in the country: the prevalence of soft state and unaccountable leadership, weak institutions of government and informal structure, the incursion of politics into the administration, dysfunctional legal system, the lack of a clear sense of national commitment and national attention, lack of probity, openness, and accountability, the failure of social and governmental compliance mechanisms, the great disparity in the distribution of resources, low wages and poor working conditions, with little incentives and rewards for efficient results, widespread poverty and culture, and weird value. Ngwube& Okoli (2013, p. 97-98) noted that "the reasons for corruption, in Nigeria varies from non-conformity to religious beliefs, ideals imparted to our society, concepts, and ideas foreign to our society, ethnicity that facilitates favoritism and nepotism, a poor legal structure that is honored in breech rather than the observance. Other causes of corruption are poverty, illiteracy, get-richmania, statism, an incorrect attitude to public property, lack of a welfare system that cushions the impact of unemployment, retirement, large families, and a quest for double standards of power, and low level of patriotism." It is significant in itself; it seems that poverty is the single most important factor that encourages the broad distribution of the country's illicit financial inducements to give and take bribes. Okolie (2013, p. 99)Moreover, the societal perception of recognition of wealthy individuals is also another cause of corruption in the country. People respect those who are rich irrespective of the source of wealth. Poverty is also responsible for corruption especially when

Insurgency

According to Nwala (2013), insurgency can be understood as a political movement that aims to achieve specific objectives and political goals, such as rejecting an established authority and seeking to establish a new territory. Nwala also suggests that various factors contribute to the emergence and proliferation of insurgency and other security challenges. These factors include injustice, the illegitimacy of the ruling regime, a desire for freedom and self-determination, poverty, ideological influences (such as religious, ethnic, and political factors), and the militarization of society resulting from prolonged military rule.

The act of insurgency transitions into an act of terrorism when insurgents purposefully employ indiscriminate violence or the use of force with the intention of instilling fear, causing harm, or taking lives. This is achieved through targeted attacks on vulnerable civilians and their possessions, or through actions that disrupt the social, political, and economic stability of a nation or its constituent parts (Ladan, 2012).

According to Bintube (2015), the insurgency in North-East Nigeria may be attributed to socioeconomic issues, including poverty, unemployment, and inadequate governance resulting from a lack of effective leadership, corruption, deceit, and injustice.

Throughout the political history of Nigeria, several organizations have surfaced at different junctures, employing diverse insurgent methods and adopting distinct forms. One notable example is the Movement for theEmancipation of Ogoniand theMovement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND),Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), along with its associated individuals.The Niger Delta Avengers (NDA) operating in the South-South and South-East regions, together with the Boko Haram group in the region of North East of the country

Abimbola and Adesote (2012) argue that national development is crucial for enhancing the quality of life for individuals inside a nation and ensuring their overall welfare.Governments at the county or national level endeavor to enhance the social welfare of its citizens by the implementation of various measures, including the provision of social services.Amenities such as high-quality education, access to safe drinking water, well-developed infrastructure, reliable medical services, and other essential facilities. (p. 83), the concept of "progress" encompasses the production of increased quantities and improved quality of food for consumption, as well as the provision of enhanced living accommodations.Enhanced transportation infrastructure, high-quality education, and increased public awareness (Balogun (1972) and Nkwede (2017),

The Concept of Security and Insecurity

The idea of security and insecurity has been subject to several scholarly perspectives. Adagbabiri and Okolie (2018, p. 48) define security as the state of being liberated from peril or potential harm. Security can be defined as the capacity of a nation or an individual to safeguard and protect itself, its cherished values, and its legitimate interests, while also striving to enhance well-being. Various manifestations of security exist. Insecurity, as described by Ewetan (2014, p. 43), refers to the absence of safety, the presence of danger, hazards, uncertainty, and a lack of defense and protection. The United Nations Development Programme (1994), as cited in Adagbabiri and Okolie (2018, p. 48), characterizes security as a state of secure and safe vulnerability, encompassing protection from persistent threats such as poverty, disease, and repression. Insecurity, therefore, represents a state of being threatened or endangered.

Factors Contributing to the Prolonged State of Insecurity in Nigeria

Numerous factors have been put out with regard to the underlying causes of insecurity in Nigeria. The causes contributing to instances of insecurity, as elaborated upon here, are not exclusive to Nigeria but may also be applicable to other regions globally. High-handedness is a prevailing issue within the Nigerian context. Nigerians tend to perceive themselves as enterprising individuals, prioritizing personal financial gain regardless of the means employed. Ethnicity and corruption have been identified as contributing factors to the prevalence of insecurity. Moreover, the existing structure for the administration of justice fails to effectively address the challenge of combating insecurity. In circumstances of severe offenses, offenders who are not completely acquitted may receive lenient punishments. Poverty and the widespread availability of small guns have also been attributed as contributing factors in Nigeria. In Nigeria, around 70 percent of the population resides in conditions characterized by extreme poverty.

Corruption andtheLingering Insecurity Challenges In Nigeria

The problem of insecurity and corruption in Nigeria is commonly referred to as "twin Evils" and represents complex and pervasive challenges that have significantly impeded the progress of the

nation. These factors have resulted in the destabilization of political regimes and the deterioration of organizational frameworks. The persistent insecurity problem in Nigeria may be attributed to the inadequacies of the administration, which are closely tied to instances of political and systemic corruption. The institutional capacity of governance is undermined due to the neglect of processes, the diversion of resources, and the practice of promoting officials without considering their performance (Adagbabiri& Okolie, 2018, p. 52). The correlation between poverty and insecurity is quite evident, particularly among the younger population.

In the northeastern region, there exists a segment of the population that has been deprived of options and opportunities to attend higher-quality educational institutions, access healthcare facilities, secure housing, engage in basic social interactions, and actively participate in societal affairs. Consequently, individuals from this marginalized group often seek out affiliations with various organizations that are willing to address their needs. As a consequence, a significant proportion of armed robbers, terrorist groups, and kidnappers originate from the impoverished masses (Tella, 2015).

The alleged diversion of monies intended for the procurement of weaponry and ammunition for Nigerian soldiers engaged in combat against the Boko Haram insurgency, with claims that such funds were instead distributed among politicians and utilized for their political campaigns during the last general elections, is a matter of great concern. In spite of the military's grievances over their inferior equipment in comparison to the militants, the insurgency thrived significantly and rapidly. According to Nwankwo (2016), the current investigation conducted by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) into the notorious diversion of armament funds may be considered one of the most significant instances of corruption in Nigeria.

The aforementioned situation suggests that corruption in Nigeria has resulted in the loss of valuable lives and property. Several junior army commanders faced court-martial proceedings due to their decision to abstain from engaging with the insurgents, a stance that can be perceived as justifiable considering the limited availability of weaponry. Additionally, this factor contributed to a decrease in the troops' morale in addressing the issue of insurgency in Nigeria at that time period.

There is substantial evidence to support the claim that corruption in Nigeria has been a significant contributing factor to a multitude of instances of political violence. These instances encompass a wide range of events, including military coups, counter-coups, ethno-religious conflicts, and insurgency. Similarly, the modern political instability witnessed in Nigeria, stemming from factors such as Niger Delta militancy and the Boko Haram insurgency, is often attributed to corruption. Consequently, these factors have eroded the foundations of democracy, effective governance, adherence to legal principles, socio-economic and political progress, the stability of democratic systems, and the unity of the nation.

The coexisting challenges of poverty and unemployment present a convenient opportunity for the recruitment of young individuals to engage in activities like as abduction, banditry, ethnic and religious militia involvement, and insurgency, among other illicit pursuits.

According to Shehu (2011), as cited in Adagbabiri and Okolie (2016, p. 53), the Niger Delta region serves as a vivid illustration of how corruption in Nigeria exacerbates the socio-economic exclusion experienced by the youth, thereby fueling their resilience. Corruption has significantly weakened the security sector in Nigeria, with the Nigerian police being identified as one of the most corrupt public institutions in the country. As stated by Odia (2016, p. 330), security agencies encounter various challenges that hinder their ability to effectively fulfill their duties and responsibilities in

safeguarding national security. These challenges encompass insufficient manpower in terms of both quality and quantity, outdated equipment, absence of political determination, leadership issues, and corruption.

According to Ladan-Baki (2014, p. 296), it is argued that the security risks faced by a nation encompass a range of challenges, such as low-level civil disturbance, large-scale war, armed rebellion, and terrorism. The security dangers discussed can target both individuals residing inside a certain jurisdiction and the many governmental institutions and critical infrastructure within that jurisdiction. Foreign powers have the capacity to pose a security threat to a nation by engaging in or supporting acts of terrorism or insurrection, even in the absence of a formal declaration of war. Several persistent security challenges in Nigeria encompass herdsmen assaults, terrorism, abduction, armed robbery, young unemployment, illicit bunkering, climate change, porous borders, and corruption. Therefore, a nation with a large population is plagued by issues of instability and war. The presence of effective leadership is crucial for fostering development since the absence of such leadership would hinder progress. In turn, the absence of development would compromise the overall security situation in Nigeria. Corruption continues to provide a significant obstacle to the persistence of security concerns in Nigeria. The correlation between insecurity and corruption is not implausible. Corruption serves as a catalyst for poverty, crime, and subsequently insecurity. The persistent attacks on government institutions and employees may be seen as a direct consequence of this corruption.The proposition posits that corruption has a significant role in the development and progression of the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria, (Adetoro: 2012b, Bintube 2015, Nkwede 2013, and Odo,2015a;Tella, 2015).

According to Adesoji (2010), Boko Haram is an Islamic sect that holds the belief that political power in Northern Nigeria has been usurped by a faction of corrupt politicians. In light of this, several experts share the belief that the insurgency perpetrated by the Boko Haram group may be attributed to the pervasive corruption within Nigerian culture, particularly in the Northern area (Eyieyien, 2012; Walker, 2012). These experts stated that the government's inability to effectively address corruption and provide a favorable economic climate has led to widespread disillusionment, prompting individuals to seek other support systems such as ethnic, religious, civic, or communal groups, some of which may exhibit hostility towards the state.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on the preceding discussion on corruption and the persistent state of insecurity in Nigeria, it is evident that the issue of insecurity remains a significant and enduring obstacle for the nation, even six decades following its attainment of independence. Corruption has been identified as the primary catalyst for the prevailing state of instability in Nigeria. The phenomenon commonly referred to as "corruption" has resulted in an unprecedented degree of poverty, crime, and subsequently, insecurity. The adverse impact of corruption and instability on Nigeria's worldwide reputation surpasses that of any other occurrence, from a social perspective. Hence, the presence of corruption and insecurity in Nigeria poses significant challenges to its growth, necessitating their eradication to enable the nation to properly fulfill its position as a prominent African nation. The responsibility of addressing insecurity and corruption in Nigeria should not just rest upon the government but rather necessitates the collaboration of every Nigerian citizen. It is imperative that the government and citizens work together to combat these detrimental forces that are undermining the nation. Nevertheless, it is imperative for the Nigerian government to address the

pressing issues of food insecurity, unemployment, poverty, and social inequality in order to mitigate the prevailing levels of insecurity.

In order to effectively address the aforementioned concerns at the national level, the study proposes the following recommendations:

The endeavor to combat corruption necessitates a focus on moral principles and a fervent commitment, rather than being influenced by biased judgments and personal animosity inside the political sphere. Moreover, it is insufficient for the anti-corruption authorities, namely the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), to solely address the pervasive issue of corruption. These devices serve as mechanical tools designed to eliminate instances of corruption. These gadgets might potentially be classified as short-term in nature. A potential option for consideration is the development of a plan with a long-term perspective. The current system needs transformation and must make way for the emerging paradigm. There is a pressing need for a transformation in the attitudes exhibited by politicians in Nigeria. The values inherent in human existence necessitate adaptation and evolution. The concept of private property must no longer serve as the emblem of social standing and authority. The establishment of a socialist society, which espouses principles of economic equality, equity, and fairness, necessitates the displacement of a society driven by material acquisition. If there is an attempt to modify social views about the arrangement of private property, it is likely that widespread corruption will be eliminated.

- Cooperation with governmental and non-governmental entities. The Nigerian police should establish collaborative partnerships with various security agencies, including the Armed Forces, State Security Service (SSS), Immigration and Customs Services, The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), the Commission for Economic and Financial Crimes (EFCC), the National Intelligence Agency (NIA), the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), and other relevant entities.

-Once governance structures are created, they have a life of their own. Hence, it is imperative to exert collective efforts in order to establish these organizations on a solid ethical foundation and instill enduring moral education and virtues in their operators. This will enable the transmission of fairness, transparency, and public service accountability to subsequent generations. This has the potential to address the decline of governmental organizations and entities, particularly oversight institutions like the judiciary, law enforcement, and anti-corruption groups.

-One essential measure aimed at bolstering the nation's preparedness to combat various forms of insecurity is the undertaking of preparatory actions and acquisition of resources to address potential threats that have not yet manifested.

-Exchange of information and its relationship to community policing. The responsibility for ensuring security should be shared by all individuals. Therefore, it is imperative for people and groups to engage in coordinated efforts in order to safeguard both lives and properties.

-Continuous monitoring and observation. This pertains to the implementation of preventative measures, the coordination of integrated surveillance activities, and the mobilization of well-trained and accountable security personnel.

- Adopting a governmental approach to enhance national security. In essence, it is imperative that all tiers of government (namely, local, state, and federal) lend their assistance to the national security apparatus in its efforts to address and mitigate threats to public safety.

-The provision of advanced weaponry to our security officers would significantly contribute to the resolution of the persistent security challenges within the nation.

-Improving contemporary security training via exposure to current concerns can effectively mitigate the security issues afflicting our nation.

-The eradication of corruption on economic grounds can be significantly facilitated by the provision of appropriate conditions of service. These conditions include ensuring healthy home and office environments, offering adequate salaries and attractive pension benefits, providing better promotion opportunities, implementing periodic increases in dearness allowance to counteract the rising price index, facilitating opportunities for mobility, and demonstrating adequate regard for integrity and conscientious work.

-The eradication of corruption and insurgency necessitates substantial endeavors by the government, its public officials and institutions, as well as the broader populace. It is imperative for the Federal Government to consistently prioritize the reinforcement of institutions such as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), and Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB), among others. This is crucial in order to guarantee the expeditious and robust prosecution of those involved in corrupt practices. The appointment of leaders for these anti-corruption institutions should prioritize individuals who possess the appropriate qualifications, demonstrate selflessness, exhibit unwavering integrity, and possess an indisputable character. This selection criteria is crucial in order to facilitate the effective prosecution of individuals involved in corruption, facilitate the recovery of embezzled monies, and ultimately put a stop to the misappropriation of public funds.

The government at various levels should prioritize the implementation of effective strategies to address poverty, create employment opportunities, develop infrastructure, and meet basic human needs such as affordable housing, food, clean water, and quality education. This is crucial in order to effectively tackle the prevailing issue of insecurity in Nigeria.

-The establishment of skills acquisition centers around the nation is proposed by the federal, state, and municipal governments with the aim of providing training to young individuals in many vocational fields. Individuals who have successfully finished the training program will be provided with a token as a means to initiate their respective trades.

-The implementation of dedicated anti-corruption courts in Nigeria is significantly overdue since it would effectively alleviate the strain on the existing judicial system. Similarly, the issue of corruption, reliance, and intervention inside the Nigerian court in recent times is a matter of great concern. Hence, it is crucial and opportune to ensure the purification of the judicial body.

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