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SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF BOKO HARAM INSURGENCY IN MADAGALI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF ADAMAWA STATE

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Abstract

In the aftermath of the 11th-September 2001 terrorist attack in the United States (US), terrorism has increasingly become a new dimension of warfare and a security issue, globally and in Africa. The incessant bombings and gun attacks in Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa State by the Boko Haram fundamentalists have become a recurring and disturbing decimal in Nigeria's security environment. Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa State seems to be a hotbed of insurgent activities. Despite all the security measures undertaken by the country since the inception of the sect, violent attacks have escalated in terms of both frequency and intensity in Madagali LGA of Adamawa State. This paper attempts a critical analysis of the socio-economic implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa State. Given the seemingly irreducible place of Boko Haram activities in Madagali Local Government Area, this paper argues and concludes that, there are negative socio-economic implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Madagali LGA. This owed to the fact that many people become homeless, helpless, their farm products have been destroyed, and the insurgency slows down business activities in the local government.

Key Words:
Insurgency, Boko Haram, Security, Socio-Economic, Madagali.

Introduction

Insurgency is an evolving global issue and is among the most complicated and demanding security challenges in the world. In the aftermath of the 11th-September 2001 terrorist attack in the United States (US), terrorism has increasingly become a new dimension of warfare and a security issue, globally and in Africa. The fight against

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insurgency in the contemporary world has been a global challenge, especially the endless war in Afghanistan (Wosu & Destiny, 2014).

The democratic system of government was officially restored in Nigeria in 1999 after more than 20 years of military dictatorship which is the Fourth Republic. The aspiration of the populace was that the civilian government will endorse a structure of improvement to all nooks and crannies of Nigeria (Awojobi, 2014). However, their hopes have been dashed by the incessant insurgencies in Nigeria, the incessant killings and insurgencies in the country have left civilian rule clueless, which has made the security situation in the country pathetic and unbearable for the people.

The incessant bombings and gun attacks in Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa State by the Boko Haram fundamentalists have become a recurring and disturbing decimal in Nigeria's security environment. For instance, commercial banks have been forced to review their operational hours to begin from 9.00 am to 12.00 pm as against the normal operational period of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, this is a part of efforts by these financial institutions to safeguard their business premises. Under this operational arrangement, bank customers especially traders, find it very difficult to deposit their daily proceeds in the banks due to the limited banking operational hours that are no longer in their favour (Muhammed, 2015). The Madagali LGA of Adamawa State witnessed a total of 35 attacks by Boko Haram in 2014 resulting in the loss of 27 lives and hundreds of households displaced (Ignatius, 2018).

The economic activities in Madagali LGA have been shattered by Boko Haram insurgencies such as food production, livelihood, the inflow of food, and other items from other states. The security situation in Madagali LGA gives the fact that most farmers cannot transport their farm produce from rural to urban areas due to the high risk of insecurity. The growing insecurity in the state has seriously affected the socio-economic condition such that many people including businessmen are fleeing to more peaceful environments in other parts of the country. More so, the prices of foodstuffs have been affected as a result of the Boko Haram insurgency (Ovaga, 2012).

Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa State seems to be a hotbed of insurgent activities. Despite all the security measures undertaken by the country since the inception of the sect, violent attacks have escalated in terms of both frequency and intensity in Madagali LGA of Adamawa State (European Centre for Research and Development, 2013). Most researches have been conducted on the activities of Boko Haram insurgency looking at its economic implications, but most of this research is centred on Borno and Yobe States. It has been gathered that no or little attention has been given to the socio-economic implications of Boko Haram activities in Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa State, and it is a known fact that economy is primary whereby any other sector depends on to flourish. It is therefore on this note that this paper is written.

Our argument is made and presented in subsequent parts of this paper which is divided into six sections thus: first is the introductory section, the second and third comprised conceptual framework and theoretical framework respectively. The fourth segment is on the research methodology, while the fifth dwells on data presentation and analysis. The final section of the paper concludes and recommends.

Conceptual Clarification

Certain concepts are used in a way they fit to this paper, which may be different from the ordinary dictionary meaning for an operational understanding. For instance, the term insurgency conjures often widely disparate interpretations, suffering at the hands of both experts and pundits. Commonly accepted meanings remain elusive, with predictable confusion. Insurgency continues to be used interchangeably, and imprecisely, with irregular warfare, unconventional warfare, revolutionary warfare, guerrilla warfare and even terrorism. Insurgents, similarly, have been called guerrillas, terrorists, revolutionaries, extremists, and irregulars (Moore, 2007, p.1).

The term insurgency is a protracted military-political activity that is directed at completely or partially controlling the resources of the country through the use of irregular military forces and illegal political organization. These activities are propaganda, guerrilla warfare, and recruitment which are designed to weaken government control and legitimacy while increasing insurgent control and legitimacy. The common denominator of most insurgent groups is their desire to control a particular area (Osah & Amakihe, 2014, p.32).

Also an insurgency can be seen as a rebellion against authority when those taking part in the rebellion are not recognized as belligerents or lawful combatants. It is best defined as an organized movement aimed at the overthrow or destruction of a constituted government through the use of subversion, espionage, terrorism and armed conflict. The United States Department of Defence (2007) (cited by Folarin & Oviasogie, n.d.) defines it as organized movement that has the aim of overthrowing a constituted government through subversive means and armed conflict.

Meanwhile, scholars agreed that security is a 'contested concept'. There is a consensus that it implies freedom from threats to core values (for both individuals and group) but there is a major disagreement about whether the main focus of enquiry should be on 'individual', 'national', or 'international' security (Baylis & Smith, 2001, p.300). Some security experts argued that the concept of security has always been associated with the safety and survival of the state and its citizens from harm or destruction or from dangerous threats. This conception generally holds that the state is the only institution with the primary responsibility and power for the safety of its territory and its people (Zabadi, 2005, p.3).

Security is often viewed in terms of the basic survival, welfare, and protection of the state existing in an international system characterized by self-help (Viotti & Kauppi, 2009, p.15).

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As Mbachu (2009), argues, security is all about national interest and involves "the sum total of actions and measures, including legislative and operational procedures, adopted to ensure peace, stability and the general well-being of a nation and its citizens." Security is the freedom from danger or threat to a nation's ability to protect and develop itself, promote its cherished values and legitimate interest, and enhance the well-being of its people. Thus, security is the freedom from or the absence of those tendencies which could undermine internal cohesion and the corporate existence of a nation and its ability to maintain its vital institutions for the promotion of its core values and property (Oche, 2001).

Theoretical Framework

The paper adopted Structural Functional theory. Structural functionalism is a macro-level theory that sees society as an interconnected system with each part having a different function but working together. In fact, ministry of justice, military institution and ministry of education are structures established in a state to control and checkmate a society. The major contributors, are Herbert Spencer and Robert Merton. They described the society as each part is obliged to function appropriately as requested.

The structural functional theory is also often referred to as structural functional approach or structural functionalist perspective, as they all aim to explain certain phenomena in society. Social order is based on norms and values that individuals follow to feel like a part of a larger group, such as society. Norms are rules or expectations that are socially enforced, such as not stealing from your neighbor or how to behave at a dinner party. Values are principals of desirability, such as honesty or integrity.

Durkheim is one of the founders of structural functionalism. Durkheim rejected reductionist arguments. He instead focused on social facts, social structures, cultural norms, and values, all of which he argued are external to the individual. Durkheim's (1893) study of suicide defined the four types of suicide and supported his theory that changes in non-material social facts cause differences in suicide rates. He is also best known for his macro-level views of the relationship between social reality and the individual level. Emile Durkheim is a sociologist who played a significant part in the development of structural functionalism.

According to Durkheim (1893), society to be analyzed in terms of functions. Society is a system of interrelated parts where one part needs to function with the other. These parts make up the whole of society. If one part changes, definitely it will have an impact on society as a whole. For example, the state provides public education for children. The family of the children pays taxes, which the state uses for public education. The children who learn from public education go on to become law-abiding and working citizens, who pay taxes to support the state. The state provides public education for children. But if there's a disruption or disequilibrium in the system then perhaps the system is faulty, and

the children drop out and become criminals or terrorists. The system adjusts to improve education and attempts to rehabilitate (through jail or other means) the criminals for them to become law-abiding and taxpaying citizens.

Durkheim (1893), viewed crime and delinquent behavior as normal and necessary occurrences in the social system. He proposed that crime led to reactions from society about the crime. These shared reactions were used to create common consensuses of what individuals felt were moral and ethical norms by which to abide. These commonly held norms and values led to boundaries and rules for society. The terms structural and functional analysis is used in a great variety of approaches (Cancain, 1968; Merton, 1968). Durkheim also asserts that society is a verse in its complexity of interrelated and interdependent parts that work together to ensure full functionality and stability. The terms structural and functional analysis is used in a great variety of approaches (Cancain, 1968; Merton, 1968).

All social institutions, such as schools and their structures influence human beings. Individuals need social structures and those forces, such belonging, affect the individual's behavior. The structural functional theory however suits this paper which gave a descriptive analysis to the study. The socio-economic impact inhibited or caused by Boko Haram, is as a result of a failed structure in the state. This has affected the socio economic impact and development of the citizens.

Research Methodology

Data for this paper were collected in Madagali LGA of Adamawa State. The paper focused more on qualitative data analysis and strategy on how data information is collected. The paper utilised both primary and secondary data for collecting data. While primary data were generated through Key Informant Interview (KII) and Focus Group Discussion (FGD), secondary data were collected through existing literature such as textbooks, scholarly journals, online resources, archival materials, Newspapers and Magazines, and official statistics among others.

The study conducted ten KII with respondents drawn from teachers, business men, women, farmers and residents. The study further conducted one FGD which was made up of 8 participants.

The Disastrous Nature of Boko Haram Insurgency and its Socio-Economic Implications in Madagali LGA

Madagali LGA is among the affected Local Government areas in Adamawa State. In a credible and reliable data by interviewees and FGD participants, the disastrous nature of Boko Haram has affected a lot of activities in Madagali LGA. Boko Haram insurgency has not only led to closure or abandonment of peoples business activities within Madagali, but also led to migration of people from Madagali LGA as well as led to reduction of patronage of products (Awortu, 2015). The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), 2010 Annual

Report showed that the Boko Haram insurgency in Adamawa state has been clearly reflected in the atrocities committed as several other economic indicators have shown, and apart from destroying religious places like Churches and Mosques, the insurgency also destroyed commercial places like banks, markets, agencies, and companies (Orhero, 2015).

According to an interview with one of the respondents:

> Boko Haram has burned down houses and market places in Madagali LGA. Food items such as vegetables, rice, grains and other items are no longer available for people to buy due to the insurgency. So many youth now, are found with one crime or the other, because they cannot afford to fend for themselves (Interview, 2022).

Looking at the reports on Boko Haram in Madagali, another interviewee said:

> There are a lot of setbacks caused by the Boko Haram insurgency. One of the setbacks in a small community called "mijo", market was attacked there about 20-30 people were killed instantly" people have been displaced internally. I and my colleagues were affected due to the heavy attacks in Madagali (Interview, 2022).

A participant in the FGD confirmed:

> Livestock production is affected; people cannot afford to buy meat, so the meat consumption has dropped drastically. Rearing of livestock is part of the lifestyle of the people of Madagali LGA. Some farmers use them for festivity such as "Yawal festival". There is celebration we used for twins, virtually every household rear animals for consumption purpose. Boko Haram insurgency also has led to the low patronage of livestock in the market, especially people from the south, who cannot travel down to Madagali LGA due to the insurgency (FGD, 2022)

A key informant added that:

> The condition of education in the affected areas has affected many children. Children are not allowed to go back to school because of the conditional situation around the Madagali LGA. All schools at Madagali are closed, so children go to school in neighbouring communities (Interview, 2022).

A respondent added that:

> Boko Haram once captured 95% of the verse land used for farming in Madagali. This however has affected the agricultural production in the state. Also, other social

> amenities have been affected such as schools, hospitals, events centres, markets, police stations. Out of 103 LEA primary schools only 40 is currently active or functioning (Interview, 2022).

It was also observed by another respondent that:

> Before the menace of Boko Haram Insurgency, people had other sources of income providing for their daily living, but since the destruction started a lot of hard works were destroyed such as farmers, in particular, finding it difficult to farm on their lands. The people of Madagali can hardly eat three square meals a day due to the impact and destruction. Many people had fled the community migrating to other neighbouring states. More than 2000 people were killed in 2014 since the invasion of the Boko Haram insurgency. Young men and women were mostly killed during the time of insurgency. Young girls are raped and kidnapped as a result of the insurgency (Interview, 2022).

However, to further buttress on the above, Onuoha (2013), asserts that, in review of the incessant attacks showered in Madagali LGA, many people are psychologically affected in one way or the other. Lives and properties are destroyed without a second thought. In many cases to understand how Boko Haram insurgency threatens security, it is pertinent to provide a background of its evolution. It is not clear when Boko Haram was created. A common account of the group's origin traces it back to 2002, when Muhammed Yusuf, a charismatic preacher, became its leader. In accordance of the Nigerian's intelligence community, however, its true historical roots go back to 1995, when Abubakar Lawan established the group in Maiduguri, Borno State.

According to Alozieuwa (2012) as cited by Anyadike (2014) "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 Islamic law on the country, but about the confusion regarding the exact cause(s) of the violence". A lot of factors have been attributed to the cause of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria such as socioeconomic, political and religious factors. However, Onuoha (2014), posits that the high-rate of poverty in Nigeria has made the youths enlisted in the ranks of Boko Haram foot soldiers which has elongate the conflict since 2009. 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 of Boko Haram continue unabated. The activities of Boko Haram sect have led to economic, social and psychological implications in the North-East Nigeria where the sect has a strong presence.

According to a participant of FGD:

> The Boko Haram has overpowered us, to the extent that, we can't fight back due to their large sophisticated weapons. Even the army that we placed all our hopes on

> sometimes find it difficult to confront them. It has affected the people of Madagali LGA. It has really impoverished our people, because most of the victims have fled to other neighbouring states, and some live in IDP camps suffering from sexual violence and other abuses. Some cannot even regain themselves back to announce their economic potentials. Majority of the civil servants cannot even do something meaningful with the little salary to fend for the family. Fish production has been affected; sometimes individuals buy them and sell in the market. Today those former fish farmers are nowhere to be found due to attacks (FGD, 2022).

Rape and Kidnapping form parts of Boko Haram strategies (modus operandi). The sect uses both methods as weapons of war. On April 15, 2014, Boko Haram attacked public and private schools including market places within Madagali. The effort to secure and protect these places in Madagali LGA has remained elusive despite the intervention of the international community. The special assistant to the president on media, Dr. Doyin Okupe while being interviewed on the Cable Network Television (CNN) in New York confirmed that the Nigerian government knew where terrorist is situated. This statement was also corroborated that of the Late Chief of Defence Staff, Air Marshal Alex Badeh who was the first government officials to confirm the location of this terrorists group. If the government has located their camps why are they not being arrested? The sect is on kidnapping rampage, they continue to kidnap and most of their victims are women. Aside kidnapping, some of the women they kidnap are sexually abused and in some scenarios, foot soldiers of Boko Haram forcefully married some of these women to satisfy their sexual orgy. The raping of women around the surrounding villages has made some of the women to flee their homes to neighbouring Chad republic.

Horwood (2004) in his study Perpetrators and Motivation: Understanding Rape and Sexual Violence in War sees sexual violence and rape as an instrument in a war in order to punish, intimidate, destabilize and to drive people away from their land.

According to an interviewee:

> The insurgency in Madagali started early 2014. On the 15th December 2014, both men and women were affected on that faithful day. Over 300 people were massacred on the 15th December 2014. Young people between the age range of 20-39 were mostly affected, young teenagers from 15-20, were rarely harmed except accidentally killed in a massive attack. From 70 and above were also rarely harmed during the attack (Interview, 2022).

It was also maintained by another interviewee that:

> The economic development is very poor. Everyone is afraid to come up with a new business idea. Many people are scared to come to the market to buy and sell because

> of bomb blasts. There is low patronage or production of spices such as onions, tomatoes, pepper and garlic. Mostly the production of grains is badly affected; visitors who normally come to buy are no longer interested because of the Boko Haram Insurgency (Interview, 2022).

To further buttress on the interviews, from the conducted FGD, a participant notes that a lot of the villagers or settlers of Madagali LGA, are suffering from trauma and unimaginable disaster that took place. Lives were taken without proper investigation during the occurrence of the incidence.

Furthermore, in spite of the natural and mineral resources with which the state is endowed with, coupled with numerous governmental policies and programs to foster peaceful co-existence among multi-ethno-religious entities which makes up Nigeria, Madagali LGA in Adamawa State have virtually become a battle field where incessant ethno-religious and political crises are staged. The implications of the crises on economic development, is that the instruments which is supposed to be used for sustainable development is conversely being used for destruction and vandalising purpose (Muhammed, 20015).

According to an interview granted by one of the respondents:

> Food production has been stopped; this however affected the movement of food items across the local government area. Most businessmen and women cannot have direct contact with local farmers to buy and sell their food items such as tomatoes, onions, and okra etc. (Interview, 2022).

An interviewee added by saying:

> Commercial vehicles cannot travel within Madagali. Commercial passengers also were advised not to be found within the hours of 5-6pm as a result of insecurity in the environment. Visitors from neighbouring villages can no longer continue with their local businesses in that environment. Commercial banks in Madagali have not been operating for period of time, the only form of transaction is done through POS, and this method of transaction is used as a means of exploitation (Interview, 2022).

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Another respondent asserts that: "Parents began to withdraw their children from schools due to the heavy attacks. He gave an estimate that out of 103 LEA primary schools located in Madagali only a few are functioning at the time being" (Interview, 2022).

In his view, a respondent added by saying: "Due to this problem of insurgency in Madagali, all 103 primary schools were closed. 27 junior secondary schools were closed, however they are only a few schools which were able to be revived by the government" (Interview, 2022).

It was observed in an interview that:

> Children find it difficult to go back to school, even though the attacks have reduced to their minimal level. From 2014 to 2018 school children cannot continue with school activities as usual due to the impact of the attacks. The teacher's social living was affected during this crisis. Teachers could no longer earn salaries to continue with their daily lives, due to the effect of the attacks by Boko Haram Insurgency (Interview, 2022).

In addition to the above regarding educational sector, are respondent stated that:

> The people of Madagali have been battling and struggling to send their children back to schools since the invasion of Boko Haram in the community. Afterwards, parents began sending their children to schools in neighbouring communities. All 103 primary schools were closed. 27 junior secondary schools were closed, hypothetically they are only a few schools which were able to be revived by the government (Interview, 2022).

It was further added by another respondent that:

> The educational system in Madagali LGA has been shattered since the beginning of the Boko Haram insurgency. A lot of children have lost contact with school activities. School buildings have been destroyed, teachers and principals at some schools were asked to withdraw from schools which made them jobless (Interview, 2022).

Conclusion and Recommendations

Insurgency is an evolving global issue and is among the most complicated and demanding security challenges in the world. In the aftermath of the 11th-September 2001 terrorist attack in the United States (US), terrorism has increasingly become a new dimension of

warfare and a security issue, globally and in Africa. The incessant bombings and gun attacks in Madagali Local Government Area of Adamawa State by the Boko Haram fundamentalists have become a recurring and disturbing decimal in Nigeria's security environment as a result of poor educational background and unemployment.

Based on the findings from the field work, this paper concludes that there are negative socio-economic implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Madagali LGA. This owed to the fact that many people became homeless, helpless, their farm products have been destroyed, and the insurgency slows down business activities in the local government.

In line with all these therefore, the paper suggests the following recommendations:

i. Local industry should be able to attract foreign investment which will create more enabling environment for both local and foreign business to strive.
ii. Deployment of more security agencies in Madagali LGA to protect the lives and properties
iii. The Nigeria security agencies should be more proactive and adopt a more encompassing security measures which can be put in place in order to restore people's confidence and to get them to go back to business in a secure environment.
iv. Civilian JTF has assisted immensely in curbing the insurgency in Adamawa state. Therefore, the government should employ or engage the CJTF by training them and engage them permanently to join the existing security forces.
v. The government need to improve in the approach of gathering, processing and effective use of intelligence within Madagali and affected places in Adamawa state.

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APPENDIX I
LIST OF KEY INFORMANTS THAT WERE INTERVIEWED

S/N	Names	Sex	Occupation	Location/ Site	Date/Time of Interview
1	Bugi Tumba	Male	Business Man	Shuwa/ Respondents shop centre	20/02/2022, 04:27pm
2	Anthony Duwa	Male	Civil Servant/Savanah Company	Shuwa/ Respondents resident	20/02/2022, 03:46pm
3	John Yamue	Male	Teacher	Shuwa/ Respondents resident	20/02/2022, 03:33pm
4	Ruth James	Female	Caritas of Nigeria/NGO	Shuwa/ Respondents resident	20/02/2022, 02:52pm
5	Patrick Yamue	Male	Civil Servant	Shuwa/ Respondents resident	20/02/2022, 12:00pm
6	Ibrahim Muhammed	Male	Director of Social Mobilisation	Shuwa/ Respondents place of work	20/02/2022, 11:00am
7	Chinda Bulama	Male	Business man	Shuwa/ Respondents shop centre	19/02/2022, 09:33am
8	Zandayu Samuel	Male	Civil Servant (Science and Technology)	Shuwa/ Telephone	18/02/2022, 1:30pm
9	Ibrahim Vandi	Male	Farmer	Shuwar/ Respondents resident	19/02/2022, 08:41am
10	Maxwell Mrdecai	Male	Former Principal GSS. Grugudum	Shuwa/ Telephone	18/02/2022, 10:00am

Source: Field Survey, 2022

APPENDIX II
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION

S/N	Participants	Sex	Location/Site	Date/Time of FGD
1	Stephen Blessing	Female	Wurongayandi, Madagali LGA	24/02/2022/ 10:15am
2	Daniel Chama	Male		
3	Joseph Kwada	Male		
4	Ijagla Ayuba	Male		
5	Ruth Ayuba	Female		
6	Paul Emmanuel	Male		
7	Luka Denis	Male		
8	Buhari Wandada	Male		

Source: Field Survey, 2022