



BOKO-HARAM INSURGENCE: THE IMPLICATIONS ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN POTISKUM, YOBE STATE, NIGERIA

Adamu Idris Gimba and Idowu, Oluwafemi Amos

Department of Sociology, Nigeria Police Academy, Wudil Kano State, Department of Sociology, Nigeria Police Academy, Wudil Kano State. Email: idowuoluwafemi@polac.edu.ng.

ABSTRACT

Boko-Haram insurgency in Nigeria has created a lot of tensions that engenders the citizens with violence and promotes terrorism. Boko-Haram insurgency is conceived as a crime which is economically, politically and/or religiously motivated and it employs tactics to perpetrate its nefarious activities majorly in the North-East Nigeria. The activities of Boko-Haram have a lot of severe effects on the citizens in the country. Therefore, this study examines Boko-Haram insurgency and its socio-economic implications in Potiskum L.G.A, Yobe State, Nigeria. Literatures pertinent to the study were reviewed with theoretical explanations. This explorative study employed both quantitative (survey with the aid of questionnaire) and qualitative (in-depth interview) methods to source for raw data from 350 residents of Potiskum L.G.A, Yobe State, Nigeria. The findings of the study revealed that: Boko-Haram have negative effects on socio-economic and political development in Potiskum L.G.A, Yobe State, Nigeria. Over-whelming majority (87.4%) of the respondents agreed that it has adverse effects in the society on their socio-economic and political development. Finally, the study recommended that Nigerian government and Non-Governmental Organizations should come to the aid of the victims and residence of Potiskum in Yobe State in order to restore their relative peace and lost glory as well as their good living. This will help to alleviate the terrible conditions. Adequate education and job opportunities should be provided for the youths. Nigerian government in conjunction with the foreign nations should put sincere control to Boko-Haram activities in Nigeria.

Key words: Development, Implication, Insurgence, Socio-economic, Terrorism.

Introduction

The security of Nigeria has been under threat due to the activities and insurgency of Boko-Haram for years now. The activities of Boko-Haram have so much adverse effects on the socio-political and economic development of Nigerians. Since 2009 Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State has been under attacks by Boko-Haram organization, which has affected the socio-economic, security and political activities of the State. The insurgency in Potiskum has drastically reduced government's performance in the affected areas, and poses serious security challenges in the sense that people are being denied the choice of exercising their natural freedom of movement, work and leisure due to fear of attack from Boko-Haram organization. In some parts of Potiskum the Boko-Haram group engaged in frequent bomb

attacks, vandalization of properties and other violent activities as well as brutalized attacks terrorizing other innocent citizens.

Many socio-economic activities in Potiskum Local Government Area have been affected by the activities of the Boko-Haram insurgency, such as closure of some government offices, shops, schools, clinics, markets, banks and displacement of people from their homes. Some shops have been taken over by Boko-Haram organization who have made it their base, forcing the business owners to either relocate or abandon it totally. Small businesses that use to thrive in the night like Tea selling, restaurants and so on, are no longer operating as a result of the security situation. Banks can no longer travel to local government council to pay salaries due to frequent attacks along the way, staff of the local council have to



come down to the state capital for their salaries which is very risky. Schools were turned to Internally Displacement Persons (IDPs) Camps and movements were restricted. The activities of Boko-Haram organization threatens some university graduates who were to serve the nation under the scheme of National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) with the scare of being posted to Potiskum Local Government Area. The threat posed by Boko-Haram organization can also be attested to the internally displacement of people, especially Damaturu and Maiduguri.

The growing insecurity in the Potiskum Local Government Area has seriously affected the socio-economic condition of businessmen fleeing to more peaceful environment in the other parts of the country such as Kasuwan Hatti and Kasuwan Shanu. More so, the prices of foodstuffs have increased astronomically following the drastic fall in the transportation of the foodstuffs from Potiskum to the other part of the country where they are greatly consumed. This is because the traders from the part of the country find it unsafe to travel to the state where they are sold.

Insurgency escalates by hindering the success of government and public organizations, school activities, business activities and livelihood of people were affected. Also, thousands of people were killed, many abducted and others internally displaced by the insurgents thereby rendering the affected people vagrant and unemployed. A major factor associated with under-development is that it discourages both local and foreign investments, reduces the quality of life, destroys human and social capital, damages relationship between citizens and the States, thus under-mining democracy, rule of law and the ability to promote development in Nigeria. Boko-Haram insurgency has created widespread insecurity in Potiskum Local Government Area, increased tensions between various ethnic communities, interrupted development activities, frightened off investors, and generated concerns to the North-East States and Nigeria as a whole. They have been responsible for near daily attacks in Yobe State.

Although, the on-going threat of especially

terrorism of Boko-Haram in Northern Nigeria has elicited numerous publications, there is yet to be a more constructive analysis that adequately accounts for the effect on the socio-economic impact of insurgency. Therefore, the thrust of this study is the examination of Boko-Haram insurgence and its socio-economic implications on the development of Potiskum Local Government Area in Yobe State, Nigeria.

Insecurity in Nigeria

Security entails improvement in the socio-economic, health, environmental and physical conditions of the people; protecting the dominant values, ideology and way of life of the state from threats and forestalling any form of socio-economic, political or religious assault on the state. The necessity for security necessitated the social contract in which people willingly surrender their rights to an organ called “Government” who oversees the safety and survival of its subjects (Idowu and Famuyiwa, 2016). It is the condition of feeling safe from harm or danger; the defence, protection and preservation of core values and the absence of threats to acquired values. Insecurity is a direct opposite of this condition. It is the feeling of fear, anxiety, uncertainty, poverty, injustice, unemployment and unrest in the polity. Insecurity, terrorism, conflicts and violence are caused by the high poverty rate in most societies (Gur, 1970 and Burton, 1997).

To say that security challenge is the main issue threatening the survival of Nigeria is saying the obvious. In the last few years, the security situation in Nigeria has taken the turn for the worse. Bombing, killing, mass murder, abduction, kidnapping and other crimes against humanity are on the increase in the country. The news of bomb explosions with indiscriminate killing by unknown gunmen is daily making the headlines of print and electronic media both domestic and international. Security therefore seems to have virtually collapsed as crimes become permanent fixture of daily life in Nigeria (Onanuga, 2013); while the state seems to “watch with a sense of helplessness, fear, foreboding and paralysis” (Jibrin, 2014: 51).



Since Nigeria returned to democracy in 1999, her socio-political life has been characterized by one violent, crisis or the other. Thousands of life and unquantifiable properties have been lost to ethno-religious crises, post-election crises and politically motivated assassination. However, the recent horror of Boko-Haram insurgency, terrorism, looting, abduction and kidnapping has added another dimension to the country's security history. The contemporary experience of Nigeria is unprecedented. Widespread insecurity leading to wanton destruction of life and properties is threatening her socio-economic and political development and its sustainability. The Boko-Haram insurgency mostly in the North-East, West and Central of Nigeria; unprovoked killing by Fulani herdsmen in the North-Central; unabated settler and indigene feuds in Plateau; kidnapping for rituals in the South-West; kidnapping for ransom in the South-East and South-South; the threat of the Niger-Delta militancy in the South-South and other "banditry in several parts of Nigeria have cemented the country's place in the global hall of infamy" (Oluphunda, 2014).

The alarming security situation in the country is seen by majority as a manifestation of the various ills of mal-governance in the states. It is believed that the government which has, as one of its fundamental bases of existence, the protection of lives and property is displaying inadequacies in combating the various crimes and acts of terrorism ravaging the country (Onanuga, 2013). The government's response to the spate of insecurity is seen by many as worrisome and condemnable. Thus, poor governance, as manifested in the lack of responsive political leadership, poor institutionalization of democratic governance, endemic institutional corruption among others are believed to have led to the intensification of violence and terrorism which is threatening the corporate existence of Nigeria.

Implications of Boko-Haram Activities in Potiskum, Yobe State Nigeria

Aside the human cost in the Boko-Haram insurgency, the atrocities of the sect have socio-economic implications especially in the North-

East where Boko-Haram has dominance. The economic, social and psychological costs of the insurgency cannot be quantified. Some of these implications of Boko-Haram are as follow:

- i. **The Effect of Boko-Haram on Socio-Economic Development in Nigeria:** Boko-Haram has made a mockery of peace and socio-economic activities in Nigeria, and threat to National security. Commercial activities in the North-East have been reduced because of the unprecedented attacks by the sect. Banks, markets and shops do not open regularly due to the fear of the coordinated attacks from Boko-Haram. According to Okereocha (2012) human capital and investors drain is hampering economic development in the North East this is due to the attacks on banks, markets, parks and government departments. The attacks on these commercial areas have led to the migration of people to other parts of the country. Shiklam (2012) posits that:

The Maiduguri Monday Market said to be the biggest market in the city is reported to have been seriously affected as hundreds of shop owners, especially Southerners are said to have closed their businesses and left the troubled city. About half of the 10,000 shops and stalls in the market were said to have been abandoned by traders who have fled the city.

The persistent attacks by Boko-Haram in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States have a severe impact on the economic lives of people living in these areas. Working duration of most commercial banks in the affected areas hit by Boko-Haram bombings has been reduced from eight hours to three hours (Mohammed, 2012). "In Maiduguri, Borno State, where the sect originated, the frequent bombings and clashes between Boko-Haram and the security agents have weighed down seriously on the commercial and businesses activities in the city as many



businesses have reportedly crumbled while many people have fled the State” (Shiklam, 2012).

According to Obaremi (2014) “Economic affairs in the North is already depleting due to a massive departure of people and financial institutions from the Northern region. But if the government delays in the implementing comprehensive plans to tackle insecurity from its roots, then not only will the Northern region be economic desolation, the country as a whole risk losing billions of dollars in foreign direct investment”. The business activities of telecom operators have not been left out from the attacks of Boko-Haram. For instance, some telecom masts belong to some major mobile telephone operators were destroyed by Boko-Haram and the banning of telephone services by the military affected the income generation of some of the mobile phone operators.

ii. The Effect of Boko-Haram on Education in Nigeria: Education is worst hit by the Boko

Haram activities. Apart from the fact that the fight is directly against western education as pre-empted which is widely practiced in Nigeria, in which schools established in every nook and cranny of the country, western education has remained the bedrock of human and capital developments in Nigeria. The constant threat posed by Boko-Haram which started in 2009 undermines efforts at improving education in the region. The sect have carried out several attacks and issued threats to schools in the North. In some of these attacks, teachers were killed or injured and structure razed. On the 24th of February, 2014, gunmen linked to Boko-Haram attacked Federal Government College Buni-Yadi in Yobe State. Several pupils and teachers were killed. Also in September 2013, a school of Agriculture in Yobe State was also attacked at night by the Boko-Haram and more than sixty students were killed (Vanguard, 2013). These are

among the several attacks on schools by the Boko-Haram.

Attendance to school is dependent on the encouragement from parents, readiness of the child, provision of school materials, distance to school and above all the security of the child. Boko-Haram has become a threat to most parents and pupils/students in Nigeria. There are series of cases of bombing and burning of schools, churches and houses in the Northern part of Nigeria. Boko-Haram evil activities have forced the educators as well as so many children in the Northern part of the country out of school. Because of the security challenges, many children from Borno, Yobe and Adamawa do not go to school again. This is a disaster not only to the affected States, but Nigeria at large. It is on the sad note that most secondary schools in Borno state where those 200 girls were kidnapped have closed. Statistics reveals that over 14 schools have been burnt down in Maiduguri the state capital of Borno state of Nigeria forcing over 7,000 children out of schools (European Center for Research and Development, 2013).

iii. The Effect of Boko-Haram on Cultural Heritage in Nigeria: Just as the economic implications of Boko-Haram atrocities cannot be quantified, the social costs are enormous. The church, school, market, clinic and mosque are potential targets of Boko-Haram. Christians are afraid to go and worship in the church on Sundays due to the fear of being attacked by the sect. Same for the Muslims faithful who abandon their worshiping centers because of Boko-Haram attacks. The markets have become deserted.

The National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) that was created by the government after the end of Nigerian civil war to foster unity among Nigeria is under threat due to Boko-Haram attacks. The NYSC directorate posted 4,171 corps members to Adamawa state, 1,041 of the corps members have to



abandon their national duty due to the precarious security situation (Ovaga (n.d.). Some parents from the South of the country have protested vehemently against the posting of their children to the North-East. Aside the socio-economic implications, the human cost is more worrisome, more than 20,000 have been killed, a lot of people have been maimed and women have been kidnapped and raped these have left the family of the dead, the injured, the raped and the kidnapped in agony. In a nutshell, most of the family members of Boko-Haram victims are going through a traumatized period. Many have left their homes and over 650 thousand Nigerians have been displaced according to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) cited by Oladayo (2014).

Furthermore, Idowu and Famuyiwa (2016) added some of the effects of the activities of the sect (Boko-Haram) in Nigeria as follow:

- iv. **Threat to Life and Property:** As stated by Egburonu, Nini and Mordi (2012), the experience of Miss Agnes Agwuocha, a 17 years old student of Bayaro University, Kano captures the State of palpable fear as she lamented that:

We afraid of Boko-Haram, Daddy and Mummy keep awake all night in case the attackers decide to invade our home; they would lock all the doors tightly, pray all night and ask us to sleep. But we never can foretell, we do not know what will happen next. They said we will soon go home, so we are waiting (Alao, Atere and Alao, 2012: 10; Famuyiwa, 2014).

This led to mass exodus of people who value their lives from the Northern part of Nigeria back to their home towns. Terrorism is highly unpredictable as it hurts the peace and the social equilibrium of a community (Cinoglu and Ozeren, (n.d): 52). The scourge of Boko-Haram has brought about

food insecurity in Nigeria. Hence, Okoli and Lortyer (2014) state that, the repercussions of the sectarian violence as well as government's counter-violence on the livelihood conditions of the affected states have been disastrous. Thereby, the security volatility there, normal productive, agricultural and commercial activities have often been constrained. The enforcement of curfews and state of emergency rule has restricted movement and communications in a manner that hampered economic activities. The human capital has been drastically reduced as the able-bodies are either displaced or killed in the attacks.

- v. **Threat to National Security:** According to Olanrewaju (2015), the bigger and most the pressing challenge now facing Nigeria is the destructive Boko-Haram insurgency in the North-East of Nigeria that has claimed thousands of lives. Regrettably, this is disturbing the national security of Nigeria. The sect has continued to pose serious security threat to the Nigerian State, many people have lost their lives; children have become orphans and many women widowed by the unscrupulous and incessant killings perpetrated by this group. Boko-Haram constitutes a threat to Nigerian's national security. The security agencies are being restructured to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in tackling the terror (Kelechi, 2012: 51).

- vi. **Threat to National Unity:** The group is driven by a sinister political ambition of some groups who are already setting various ethnic groups against each other. The activities of the sect have given rise to threat and counter threat by some ethnic nationalities. Consequently, Nigeria who has been living peacefully outside their regions are now becoming increasingly apprehensive of their safety in their place of abode. There have been reprisal attacks from the different ethnics against one another in the unity of the country as nobody knows who is among the terrorists. This



propels threats to the unity of the country as nobody knows who is who among the terrorists.

vii. Threat to Development: It is an established fact that development cannot take place in an atmosphere of insecurity. The unabated operations of the Boko-Haram are already impacting negatively on the economy of Nigeria. Foreign investors are scared of investing in Nigeria due to insecurity. This may have negative implications on the transformation agenda of the Federal government and economic development. This has also increased the rate of unemployment in the country and it makes youths restiveness and they now make crime a profitable venture. It has led to undue migration. No investor will like to invest where it is not secured. Every issue about investment is also anchored on security. The economic damage in Nigeria due to Boko-Haram attacks is unquantifiable.

viii. Possible Religious Violence: The activities of Boko-Haram have also caused lots dissatisfaction between the adherents of the two major religions in Nigeria. Christian and Muslim consequently relate with each other with suspicion. It may therefore not be incorrect to state that the suspicions have heightened religious tension in the country. The insecurity also has the tendency to reed religious unrest, because of the multiple attacks on churches and mosques. Even, no one can claim that the attackers are either Muslim or Christians, but relate with each other suspiciously.

ix. Loss of Confidence in the Security Agencies: The incessant attacks being carried out by Boko-Haram tend to present security agents as inept of particular concern are the series of attacks on the Nigeria Army Barracks, Divisional Police Stations, Police headquarters, Nigeria Prisons and so on. This may son lead to a growing perception that the agencies are

week and therefore incapable of protecting citizens of the country. This may further cripple the trust and confidence of citizenry to the security agencies.

x. Threat to Democracy: The series of attacks being carried out by Boko-Haram may embolden other groups to take up arms whenever they have any grievance against the Government, instead of using the appropriate channel to express themselves. Some groups or individuals who are criminal in nature may also seize the opportunity to unleash mayhem on innocent citizens; this may in turn put more pressure on all the arms of Government, bringing about anarchy, which may impact negatively on our nascent democracy.

xi. It Weakens People's Motivation to Conform: Individuals in the society constantly and regularly need encouragement to engage in conformity. For offering their conformities, individual also expects protection, peace, predictability and so on in return from government. If society fails to offer those expected prices, the individuals will start questioning even the very base of the society. And society will face difficulties producing building blocks of good systems.

Theoretical Explanations

There is no absolute single theory that can explain all sorts of criminal act including terrorism. Therefore, the following theories were employed in this study as theoretical explanations of Boko-Haram insurgence in Nigeria.

Social Learning Theory

The late Edwin H. Sutherland is widely recognized as the most important criminologist of the 20th century. Sutherland is known for pioneering sociological studies of professional theft and white-collar crime. He is the best known for formulating a general sociological theory of crime and delinquency, the "differential association" theory. Sutherland asserted that, behavioral principles are not limited to learning



but are fundamental principles of performance that account for: the acquisition, maintenance, and modification of human behaviour. Social learning theory offers an explanation of crime and deviance that embraces variables that operate both to motivate and control criminal behaviour, both to promote and undermine conformity. The probability of criminal or conforming behaviour occurring is a function of the balance of these influences on behaviour operative in one's learning history, at a given time, or in a given situation (Akers and Sellers, 2013).

Akers and Sellers further argued that the basic assumption in social learning theory is that the same learning process in a context of social structure, interaction and situation, produces both conforming and deviant behavior. The difference lies in the direction of the balance of influences on behaviour. The probability that persons will engage in criminal and deviant behaviour is increased and the probability of their conforming to the norm is decreased when they differentially associate with others who commit criminal behaviour and espouse divinations favorable to it.

Social Learning Theory is related to the study of Boko-Haram in the sense that Boko-Haram, like other social behaviour is learned in the environment where it is being practiced more frequently and is learned through a process of association. The theory concentrates much on how people learn to become the likes of Boko-Haram; while placing less emphasis on the 'why' and 'how' they learned in this case 'Boko-Haram'. Furthermore, contact with intimate sub-group members of the Boko-Haram exposes their preference to go against societal expectations rather than conform to such expectations which makes a neutral member of the society join the Boko-Haram sub-group. Sutherland (1939) believes that the amount of time one spends with such groups also enhances one chances of becoming a member (as in the driving force behind the Boko-Haram) by imitating and gradually assimilating their philosophical ideas.

Sutherland was salient of how to learn the following kind of anti-social behaviour that were

defined as criminal behaviour as classical social tripodal insurgency model advanced. A significant number of people who attend the Boko-Haram preaching (Da'awa) are in support of their dominant role and increasing in number by the day as seen in the frequent attendance of curious people to Boko-Haram gatherings. Sutherland (1939) argues that such movements draw some members of the society who eventually adopt the beliefs of the sub-group through interaction with primary groups of the like-minds i.e. friends and peer groups.

Terrorists in Nigeria learned from other terrorist groups elsewhere such as: Al-Qaeda, ISIS, ISIL and so on. Their mode of operation is the same driven by their ideology and made possible by learning through socialization. Beginning with the basic processes, it is obvious that many Nigerians see cases of terrorism and abductions every day in many parts of the country today. The Boko-Haram sects have killed countless number of people and destroyed properties belonging to individuals and the authority. Therefore, the perpetrations of what they have learnt through global terrorism which are: Killings, maiming, kidnapping, destruction of properties, stealing and so on, which invariable affects socio-economic development (Akinfala, 2005).

Learning the Boko-Haram ideology involves learning the 'techniques', 'motives', and 'attitudes', which conform to the sub-culture 'values system'. A person becomes a Boko-Haram member because of what the theory believes are 'excesses in definition favourable to violation of laws and orders, over definition unfavourable to violation of law and order of the society'. Again, the process of learning potential Boko-Haram activity, the theory suggests, is by association with their members and involves all it could take in any other learning process. Observational learning is most effective when observers are motivated to enact the modeled behaviour. Human motivation may depend on whether you encounter a situation in which you believe that the response is likely to lead to favourable consequences for you.



Social Disorganization Theory

Social disorganization had its root in the Chicago school and the work of several of its most important members: W. I. Thomas, Frederick Thrasher, and Clifford Shaw and his associates. Prominent in the work of all of the early Chicago criminologists was the idea of social control. Like Durkheim, these theorists believed that it was the absence or failure of controls that explained deviant behaviour (Hagan, 1987). However, Social Disorganization and Ecological Theory are developed in the same large network of researches. According to Idowu (2019), the theory gives sociological explanation on why people deviate and what are the problems associated to deviance. Idowu further stated that, the theory has its origins in the study of ecology which is the examination of relations between an organism and its environment.

The theory of urban ecology viewed the city as analogous to the natural ecological communities of plants and animals (Park, Burgess, and McKenzie, 1928). The residential, commercial, and industrial pattern of urban settlement was described as developing an ecological pattern of concentric zones that spread from the center toward the outermost edge of the city. Directly adjacent to the commercial and business core of the city was a "zone in transition," which was changing from residential to commercial. It was in this area that the highest rates of delinquency were found.

According to Akers and Sellers (2013), this transition zone was characterized by physical decay, poor housing, incomplete and broken families, high rates of illegitimate births, and unstable, heterogeneous population. The residents were at the bottom end of the socio-economic scale, with low income, education, and occupation. In addition to high rate of delinquency, this area had high official rates of adult crime, drug addiction, alcoholism, prostitution, and mental illness. All these forms of deviance and lawlessness were interpreted as the outcome of social disorganization within this urban area. The Chicago sociologists emphasized that residents in this area were not biologically or

psychologically abnormal. Rather, their crime and deviance were simple the normal responses of normal people to abnormal social conditions (Akers and Sellers, 2013). Akers and Sellers (2013) further stated that the rates of delinquency in the lower class neighborhoods were highest near the inner city and decreased outwardly toward the more affluent. The theory simply states that, "traditions of criminality are transmitted through successive generations of the same zone in the same way language, roles and attitudes are transmitted".

Social disorganization theory is related to the study of Boko-Haram in the sense that the group (Boko-Haram) live affects their persistence in breaking laws and orders. In sociological parlance, the society is further classified as lower rate area and higher rate area. Irrespective of individual positions on the strata of social inequality, the theory argued that once a person lives where the Boko-Haram converge and go about their attacks one may likely learn to become one of them. They mostly informally practice their ideological beliefs and values, and this value system usually dominates the lower class including some middle class and they have a conventional value system of law and order practiced within a formalized framework. A person's physical and social environments are primarily responsible for the behavioural choices that person makes. In particular, a neighbourhood that has fraying social structures is more likely to have high crime rates. Such a neighbourhood may have poor schools, vacant and vandalized buildings, high unemployment, and mix of commercial and residential property. There are also institutions that support their activities and have conflicting moral value systems, and an enabling environment also favours them to continue to breed more members.

Methodology

This study focuses on the Boko-Haram Insurgence: the Implications on Socio-Economic Development in Potiskum, Yobe State, Nigeria. This explorative and descriptive research designed adopted both quantitative and qualitative methods of research. The research



adopted survey and it employs exploratory research method. It used questionnaires and In-depth Interview (IDI) to elicit first-hand-information from the residents of Potiskum Local Government area of Yobe State, Nigeria. The research design is analytical and descriptive in nature. The study involved 350 respondents (indigene and non-indigene) which were purposively, clusterly, simple randomly and systematically selected from Ondo State, Nigeria. The quantitative data collected through questionnaires were sorted, organized, cleaned, coded, computed and processed with the aid of Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) version 21.0 as tool of analysis to process the data. Descriptive statistics was employed to summarize and interpret the data. Qualitative method of data analysis was employed to analyze and present the qualitative data. Both the qualitative and quantitative methods of data analysis were used as complement and support to each other.

Results and Discussion

The data collected from the field were analyzed, interpreted and presented as follows:

Table 1: Adverse Effects of Boko-Haram Activities on the Socio-Economic Development

Responses	Frequency	Percentage %
Yes	306	87.4
No	44	12.6
Total	350	100

The above table 1 shows that, 87.4% of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram have adverse effects on the socio-economic development in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. On the other hand, 12.6% of the respondents did not believe that the activities of Boko-Haram have adverse effects on the socio-economic development in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. Ovaga (n.d) asserts that under situation of Boko Haram, the economy of the North-East have been seriously affected, foreign citizens who contribute large quota to the development of the North-East vis a vis their economic activities are sent back to their countries of origin. A respondent from an in-depth interview also revealed that:

Boko-Haram activities in Potiskum led to the destruction of lives and properties to make its worsened, the insurgents activities in Potiskum have affected business, making people abandoning closure of banks and government parastatals (IDI, Community Leaders, May, 2018).

Table 2: Socio-Economic Effects of Boko-Haram in Potiskum LGA, Yobe State

Socio-economic variables	Frequency (%)		Total
	Yes	No	
Education system	344 (98.3%)	6 (1.7%)	350 (100)
Business activities	332 (94.9%)	18 (5.1%)	350 (100)
Social activities	326 (93.1%)	24 (6.9%)	350 (100)
Employment status	306 (87.4%)	44 (12.6%)	350 (100)
Disruption of political system	266 (76.0%)	84 (24.0%)	350 (100)
Destruction of Government properties	330 (94.3%)	20 (5.7%)	350 (100)
Promotion of insecurity	320 (91.4%)	30 (8.6%)	350 (100)
Killing of people (loss of lives)	346 (98.9%)	4 (1.1%)	350 (100)
Abduction of the innocent people	318 (90.9%)	32 (9.1%)	350 (100)
Destruction of personal properties	344 (98.3%)	6 (1.7%)	350 (100)

A closer examination of table 4.7 above shows that 98.3% respondents of the total sample size believe that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on educational system in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State while 1.7% respondents disbelieve that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on educational system in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. 94.9% of the respondents also believe that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on business activities in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State; while 5.1% of the respondents were not of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on business activities in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. Notably in Nigeria, Boko-Haram has become a threat to most parents and pupils/students in Nigeria. There are series bombing and burning of schools, market and houses in the Northern part of Nigeria. European Center for Research and Development (2013) learned that over 10 schools have been burnt down in Potiskum LGA forcing over 7,000 children out of schools.

With the reference to social activities in Potiskum LGA, Yobe State, 93.1% of the respondents agreed that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on social activities; while 6.9% of the respondents disagreed that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on social activities. Also,



87.4% of the respondents were of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on employment status in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State and 12.6% of the respondents had a contrary opinion. This implies that the majority of the respondents were of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on social activities and employment status in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. This study further learned that the church, school, market, clinic and mosque are potential targets of Boko-Haram. Attacks on these social places have prevented people from going to these places. (Ovaga (n.d.) revealed that some parents from the South of the country have protested vehemently against the posting of their children to the North-East Nigeria for National Youth Service Corps (NYSC).

A further finding shows that, 76% of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on political system in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State while 24% of the respondents disbelieve that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on political system in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. Besides that, 94.3% of the respondents agreed that government properties were destroyed as a result of Boko-Haram activities in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. 5.7% of the respondents disagreed that government properties were destroyed as a result of Boko-Haram activities in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. This indicates majority of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram have effect on both political system and government properties in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. Hence Idowu and Famuyiwa (2016) assert that, Boko-Haram have destroyed many government properties, institutions and displayed or killed many individuals.

As well, 91.4% of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram promote insecurity in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State; while 8.6% of the respondents did not believe that the activities of Boko-Haram promote insecurity in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State.

Also, 98.9% of the respondents were of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram cause the death of many people in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State while 1.1% of the respondent's opinion differs. A study of Human Rights Watch cited by Adetumbi (2014: 16) revealed that, more than 700 people have been killed in 40 separate attacks by the Boko-Haram insurgents in 2014 alone. The implication here is that serious security challenge of terrorists and insurgents with their dastardly incessant killings, destruction and abduction in Nigeria.

Also, 90.9% of the respondents agreed that Boko-Haram abduct innocent people in Potiskum LGA, Yobe State. On the other hand, 9.1% of the respondents disagreed that Boko-Haram abduct innocent people in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. In addition, 98.3% of the respondents believe that personal properties are damaged and destroyed as a result of Boko-Haram activities in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State; while 1.7% of the respondents disbelieve that personal properties were damaged and destroyed as a result of Boko-Haram activities in Potiskum Local Government Area, Yobe State. It is obvious that kidnapping forms part of Boko-Haram strategies. For instance, on February 19th, 2014, Boko-Haram attacked a government girls' college in Dapchi, Yobe State and kidnapped over 100 female students (Vanguard, 2013).

Table 3: Boko-Haram Activities are Threat in Nigeria

Areas of Threat in the Country	Frequency (%)		Total
	Yes	No	
Threat to national security	320 (91.4%)	30 (8.6%)	350 (100)
Threat to national integration	308 (88.0%)	42 (12.0%)	350 (100)
Threat to life and property	322 (92.0%)	28 (8.0%)	350 (100)
Threat to the Religion practice	312 (89.1%)	38 (10.9%)	350 (100)
Threat to cultural practice	288 (82.3%)	62 (17.7%)	350 (100)
Threat to social-economic development	302 (86.3%)	48 (13.7%)	350 (100)
Threat to Nigeria democracy system	282 (80.6%)	68 (19.4%)	350 (100)
Threat to education development	330 (94.3%)	20 (5.7%)	350 (100)
Threat to economic activities	320 (91.4%)	30 (8.6%)	350 (100)
Threat to confidence of people in government	282 (80.6%)	68 (19.4%)	350 (100)

A closer examination of table 4.8 above shows that 91.4% respondents of the total sample size believe that the activities of Boko-Haram is a threat to national security while 8.6% respondents did not believe that the activities of Boko-Haram is a threat to national security. This shows that the



greater percentage of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram is a threat to national security. And then, 88% of the respondents were of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to national integration. On the other hand, 12% of the respondents were not of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to national integration. This implies that the majority of the respondents were of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to national integration.

Further studies of Olanrewaju (2015) observed that, the bigger and most the pressing challenge now facing Nigeria is the destructive Boko-Haram insurgency in the North-East of Nigeria that has claimed hundreds, if not thousands of lives. The sect has continued to pose serious security threat to the Nigerian State, many people have lost their lives; children have become orphans and many women widowed by the unscrupulous and incessant killings perpetrated by this group. Boko-Haram constitutes a threat to Nigerian's national security (Idowu and Famuyiwa, 2016).

Moreover, 92% of the respondents agreed that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to life and property in Nigeria while 8% of the respondents disagreed that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to life and property in Nigeria. Also, 89.1% of the respondents viewed the activities of Boko-Haram as a threat to the religion practice in Nigeria. On the other hand, 10.9% of the respondents had a contrary opinion. To further this study Idowu and Famuyiwa (2016) stated that, the activities of Boko-Haram have also caused lots dissatisfaction between the adherents of the two major religions in Nigeria. Christian and Muslim consequently relate with each other with suspicion. Also, the insecurity has the tendency to reed religious unrest, because of the multiple attacks on churches and mosques.

Besides, the study of the table 4.16 revealed that, 82.3% of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram is a threat to cultural practice in Potiskum Nigeria, 17.7% of the respondents disbelieve that the activities of Boko-

Haram is a threat to cultural practice in Nigeria. Furthermore, 86.3% respondents of the total sample size agreed that the activities of Boko-Haram are a threat to socio-economic development while 13.7% respondents disagreed that the activities of Boko-Haram is a threat to socio-economic development in Nigeria. Idowu and Famuyiwa (2016) posited that, it is an established fact that development cannot take place in an atmosphere of insecurity. The unabated operations of the Boko-Haram are already impacting negatively on the economy of Nigeria.

In addition, 80.6% of the respondents were of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to Nigerian democracy system. On the other hand, 19.4% of the respondents were not of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to Nigerian democracy system. Besides, that, 94.3% of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram is a threat to educational development in Nigeria and 5.1% of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram is not a threat to educational development in Nigeria. This implies that the majority of the respondents believe that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to democracy and educational development. As stated by a respondent from an in-depth interview that:

Boko-Haram is a threat to education in the State through kidnapping of school girls, killing of students and teachers, its increase or compound the issues of poverty it increases the rate of illiteracy and school dropout in Potiskum LGA. From June to September 2013 in the whole of the State including Potiskum were closed and parent have withdrawn their children from schools especially with the recent abduction of Dapchi school girls, though they were released, the incident continues to cripple education in the State already among the educationally backward in the country (IDI, Community Leaders, May, 2018).

Furthermore, 91.4% of the respondents agreed that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to



economic activities in Nigeria. On the other hand, 8.6% of the respondents disagreed that the activities of Boko-Haram is a threat to economic activities in Nigeria. This implies that the majority of the respondent agreed that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to economic activities e in Nigeria. A respondent from an in-depth interview revealed that:

Boko-Haram is a threat to the people of Potiskum Local Government Area, because many people lost their life, which leads to the economic meltdown in the town. This led to so many factors that promote high standard of living among the society. The price of food increases because the demand is high and shortage of supply (IDI, Community Leaders, May, 2018).

80.6% of the respondents were of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to confidence of people in government while 19.4% of the respondents had a contrary opinion. This indicates that majority of the respondents were of the opinion that the activities of Boko-Haram is a threat to confidence of people in government. Obviously, the incessant attacks being carried out by Boko-Haram tend to present security agents as inept of particular concern are the series of attacks on the Nigeria Army Barracks, Divisional Police Stations, Police headquarters, Nigeria Prisons and so on.

Furthermore, the study found that there a lot of challenges facing the Nigerian army and other law enforcement agencies in controlling the menace of Boko-Haram insurgence in Nigeria. In an open-ended question in the questionnaire and the in-depth interview, the respondents revealed that, the challenges are many and they revealed thus:

There is hand of many people working under the government of the country. This may be due to the political gain and some other reasons. And the allowance of the security agencies is not given to them because of the high level of corruption in the country (Open-ended question Responses, May, 2018).

This is due to systemic corruption ravaging the Nigerian socio-political system. Pervasive corruption undermines the government's fight against insurgency. Despite the fact that the Nigerian government has one of sub-Saharan Africa's largest security budgets with \$5.8 billion dedicated to security in 2014 budget (The Nation, 2014: 3), yet corruption prevents supplies of basic equipments such as bullets and transport and communication facilities from reaching the Joint Task Force (JTF) (Ross, 2014).

In addition, in an in-depth interview, a respondent also revealed that:

The soldiers no longer have confidence with the government due to lack of ammunitions and arms provided to them by the government. the weapons used by Boko-Haram members are heavier than the military weapons (IDI, community leaders, May, 2018).

Hence, Idowu and Famuyiwa (2016) stated that, it is evidently clear that there are many small weapons and light arms unlawfully in circulation. The availability of these arsenals in the hands of miscreants has indeed emboldened them in their nefarious activities at, the detriment of the Nigerians and Nigeria Armed Forces. The inability of Nigeria government to control the proliferation of arms and ammunition into the country is great danger to her internal security.

In addition, in the In-Depth Interviews (IDI) with the community leaders further confirmed the foregoing as it was gathered that, the porosity of boarders in Nigeria is another challenge in controlling Boko-Haram in Nigeria. Thus:

Nigerian boarders are very poor. Boko-Haram weapons are not made in Nigeria (local) but they are brought from other countries with the support of some other international terrorist like ISIS (IDI, community leaders, May, 2018).

This study corroborates the view of Idowu and Famuyiwa (2016) that, it is an established fact that Nigeria's boarders are porous. Consequently, illegally aliens have easy access to the country. The implication here is that; the porosity of the



boarders gives a safe passage to those international terrorist to carry out their activities in Nigeria. Muhammad Yusuf, the late Boko-Haram leader is said to have received various forms of support from Al-Qaeda which includes sums of money, a 10seater bus and loud speakers; the former leader is suspected to have links with the Nigerian Taliban while the latter was also accused of recruiting, sponsoring and transporting 14 members of a militia group to a camp in Mauritania for training in combat and terrorism (Ompidan, 2007).

Conclusion

This study concluded that, Boko-Haram insurgence has adverse effects on the socio-economic and political development of Yobe State and Nigeria at large in which the following places were affected: educational system, business activities, social activities, employment status, political system and others to mention few. Consequently, the activities of Boko-Haram are threat to national development in Nigeria.

Recommendations

Based on the major findings of the study and the conclusions drawn, the following recommendations were suggested in order to curb and/or minimize the effects of Boko-Haram insurgence in Nigeria:

- i. The government of Nigeria should rehabilitate places destroyed by Boko-Haram such as: schools, markets, houses, mosques, churches and so on under strict supervision of Federal and State Government.
- ii. The Nigerian government should encourage farming and other skilled labour in order to develop those areas that are affected through vocational training and to ensure that they are effective and sufficient. This will also invariably reduce the level of unemployment and reduction in anti-social activities in the area.
- iii. The Nigerian government should create job opportunities for the youths in the country. Government and the rich people in the society should help the poor and empower

the youths.

- iv. The Nigerian government should provide adequate fund and relief material to the victims of Boko-Haram in Nigeria. The provision of the needed and necessary materials such as: clothes, accommodation, medical (drugs) should be adequate. The funds should go to the appropriate people (victims).
- v. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) should support the Nigerian government to control the menace of Boko-Haram in the country. The NGOs should liaise with the local government authorities and the traditional rulers in order to educate people about terrorism and its implications.
- vi. Parents should adequately socialize and train their children to engage in positive (pro-societal) activities that will better their life and the society at large. It is only when the children are attached to the family, involved in the pro-societal activities, committed to the societal norms and share the belief in the norms and values of the society that Boko-Haram and other unwholesome activities will be reduced to the barest minimum in Nigeria.

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