ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

A CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF THE ROLE OF PRESIDENT MUHAMMADU BUHARI'S GOVERNMENT IN THE GLOBAL FIGHT TO REMEDY CORONA-VIRUS EPIDEMIOLOGY

Chinyere Christian Emedo, Ph.D.

Department of Philosophy Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka Email: cc.emedo@unizik.edu.ng; Phone: 08037724040

Abstract

The quest to safeguard the life and properties of the people prompted the establishment of the systems of government across the globe. Change says Heraclitus, the Ionian philosopher, is the order of existence. It's this change which thrives on the complementarity of the positivity and negativities of life that caused the present global experience of the horrific torment of covid-19 pestilence, which the governments of the diverse countries of the world have been inexhaustibly exploring for remedy. Human life is worth more than what it takes to preserve it. This poses the questions, does the government of Nigeria concur to the above stated ideological expression? Does she accord value to the life of her citizens? What has the government of Nigeria done to save the life of Nigerians in the global fight to remedy the malignant morbus of Corona-virus? Using the appraisal method of philosophical inquiry in this context, we discovered that the present government of Nigeria is all round corrupt and far behind other countries of the world in terms of security outfit, progress and development. She is incapable of providing good health services to her citizens, even economic security in the country is zero, Nigerians however, are dying out of hunger and ill-health. The present government of Nigeria is self-centered, dishonest and untrustworthy, even in this global fight to save the lives of the people, the present government of Nigeria is busy hoarding money and palliatives. In fact, the present government of Nigeria is a failure.

Keywords: Government, Nigeria, Epidemiology, Corona-Virus, Covid-19.

Introduction

The security of life and properties of the people, no doubt, is the primary objective for which systems of government were established across the globe. Thomas Hobbes, as cited in Lawrence Burns (1987), explicitly concurred to this saying, "government emerged as a result of the recluse and filthy nature of the human

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

beings which led to brutality and survival of the fittest." Life and properties in this contest reflect all round human needs such as standard with health security which reckons standard hospital that are equipped with physico-therapeutic facilities and well trained human workforce to manage them for the public good. Following suit is the economic security that revolves around all the needs to make human life and society vibrant such as, erecting a good means to set up farms and industries to strengthen and satisfy human workforce for the stability and development of the society. Man, to Aristotle (1837), "cannot philosophize with an empty stomach. Human being needs food, water, health and other imponderable factors to survive." Vicissitude, according to Heraclitus (2019), "is the order of existence, hence, there is a strong permanence in the means of change." There is presently the global experience of the horrific torments of corona-virus epidemic. This, however, is not the only epidemic that has attacked mankind. Event repeats itself, thus history is endless. The first pandemic or epidemic that had attacked mankind was the Justinian Plague which was diagnosed by Max Plank in the Eastern Roman Empire during the reign of Emperor Justinian the1st around 541Ad. Other pandemics include the Spanish flu which exited between1918-1920; HIV/AIDS pandemic which started in 1981etc. Different countries of the world have inexhaustibly explored diverse means to eradicate, if not completely, but, at least, reduce the disease pestilence drastically. The case of corona-virus (i.e the Covid-19), is not distinct from the ones enumerated above. This contagious disease started towards the end of the year 2019 that is why it was tagged and abbreviated as Covid-19. This virus lingered and reached its climax of turbulence in the year 2020. Corona-virus killed people in thousands and millions across the globe. Though, the statistical survey shows that some countries like, America, Italy, England, France, Brazil and some Asian countries like China and India, recorded dense population of death victims of this pestilence than other countries of the world. . The cases of Covid-19 pandemic, however, were less severe in African countries like Nigeria. The government leaderships of the world have been running helter-skelter, exploring tireless means to provide remedy to this problem. The questions in this context are; what have the African leaders, especially the present Nigeria government done to find solution to this problem? African countries like Madagascar, Cameroun etc, were said to have proffered solution to corona-virus using their home made herbs. Then, what has Nigeria government done to call these virus crises to rest? The present Nigeria government is a "scam". Though, the intent of the paper is to appraise her contributions as to safeguard the health and economic securities of Nigerians in the global war against corona-virus pestilence. Thus, our discourse generally, shall centre on the

AKU: AN AFRICAN JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 *A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies*

conceptual analysis of the key concepts that constitute the topic of the paper namely; government, Nigeria, epidemiology, Corona-virus/ Covid-19 pandemic etc. We shall discuss the roles of the incumbent government of Nigeria in the global fight to remedy covid-19 pandemic. The final discourse shall centre on the appraisal and conclusion.

The Conceptual Analysis of the Keywords in the Research

It is an uncontestable fact that concepts cannot boast of a consensual definition. Yet, the unquenchable quest to approach distinctively their various definitions by philosophers cannot be denied, because, undefined concepts might be thwarted to the detriments of the proper apprehension of the context in which they were intended. Ezeugwu and Chinweuba (2018:29) concurred to this saying, "unexplained concepts are largely the misnomers that obstruct the apprehension and knowledge. But a well explained concepts, set up the limits and point to the meanings inherent in the terms. With that being said, it becomes an irrefutable need to analyze the key concepts that constitute the topic of this paper viz; government, Nigeria, epidemiology and corona-virus.

Government

Apart from the etymological meaning of government, we shall approach its other meanings in three dimensions viz; government as a field of study, government as an institution of the state and government as an art of governance.

The concept government, according to Kaider and Donald (2014)),"is etymologically derived from the two Latin words viz; governor – meaning "to control" and mentis-meaning "mind". Government therefore, is literally translated as, "to control the mind."

1. Government as a Course of Study

Government could be studied both in the primary, secondary and post-secondary schools. Government in the primary schools is studied as Civic Education, in secondary schools, it is studied as Government and in the post-secondary (tertiary) institutions, it is studied as political science.

2. Government as an Institution of State

Government as an institution of state is a machinery established by the people, to organize, drive their affairs and administer its various functions and duties for

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

their good welfare. Government reflects the relationship between the leaders and the led through social contract business. The contract, however, involves all the activities whereby the led (citizens) via electoral suffrage, consensually will out and entrust their sovereign powers to few group of people from amongst themselves, to steer the affairs of the state, see to their welfare and control their behaviours. Human being according to Rousseau, "is born free but, is everywhere in Chain." Human beings, however, established government and government in turn welds its power to curb the excesses of the human behaviour. Every society needs a government to control it, otherwise, the entire world will turn to anarchists' state as depicted by Hobbes. Every government of a state is constituted of three organs viz;

- a. The Legislature The statutory law making body.
- b. The Executive or Administrative body -They formulate, execute and implement law and policies.
- c. The Judiciary –They interpret laws in case of any confusion amongst the legislature, executives and the public.

3. Government as an Art of Governance

Government here, is synonymously related to governance. Government according to Dibie (2017), "is referred to as an art of governance, it is a body vested with supreme power to control the affairs of the state." The supreme power of the state lies in the hands of government thus, giving it the authority to make and enforce laws and implement policies as well. The government can also punish any member of the State that breaks the law. The government of every society, however, operates and proffers efficient administration via the help of the principle of separation of power. Government as the machinery that drives the affairs of the country is classified into three tiers to enable its impacts reach to all the nooks and crannies of the country. The three tiers of government include; the Federal government, the State government and the Local government. Each of these tiers of government is constituted of the legislature – the law making body, the executive or administrative body and the judiciary.

The Legislature

This is the law making body. It is known in the Federal level as "The National Assembly," in the state or regional level, it is called "the House of Assembly,"

AKU: AN AFRICAN JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 *A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies*

while in the local level, and it is called "the local government Legislative council." The people that form these arms of government are chosen from amongst the people themselves to represent them. The legislators indirectly, are the eyes, legs, ears, hands and mouths of their various wards and constituencies both at the Local, Regional/State and Federal levels of the government of every society. Their main functions, however, is to enact laws. The laws enacted by the National Assemblies are called "Statutory Laws", in the State/Regional House Assemblies, they are known as "Edicts", while in the Local Government Councils, they are called, "by laws". Legislators, therefore, are the watch dogs to the executive arm of government etc.

The Executive Arm of Government

This is the arm of governments that enforce and implement the laws and policies enacted by the legislators. They are the administrative or working machinery of the government. This organ of government comprises of the civil service and public service commissions

Civil Service Commission

The civil service is a body or department in the executive organ of government whose duty is to assist the executive in the planning and implementation of government policies. The civil service is divided into various ministries like, Ministry of Finance, Agriculture, Works and Housing, Education, Information, Aviation, Defence, Immigration, Women Affairs etc. The political heads and chief executive officers of ministries at the Federal level of government are called the Ministers, at the States level are known as Commissioners, and at the Local government level, they are called as Supervisors. Permanent Secretaries, however, are the heads and accounting officers of various Federal ministries, States commissions and departments if it is at the local government level.

Public Service Corporations

The executive agents here include the Army and Police Forces as well as the Para-Military forces such as the Civil Defence, and Road Safety Corps, Custom services to mention but a few. Public service is different from civil service in terms of condition of service. A worker in the civil service is called "a civil servant" while a police man for example is a public servant. The groups of people that constitute

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

both legislative and executive arms of government assume their offices via periodic elections, appointments or hereditary succession.

Judiciary / Court System

This arm of government according to Montesquieu (2012),"is the body that interprets laws to both the executive, legislature and the public in case of any confusion." The judiciary does not undergo periodic election to assume its seat. The judiciary, though is appointed by the President via the approval of the legislature, is independent and impartial. They protect the rule of law as well as the fundamental and legal rights of the people etc.

Forms of Government

No matter the difficulty in defining government, it is so ingrained in our culture and, thus, becomes so much a part of our everyday life that, most of us, when asked, cannot give a good interpretation of the actual concept. Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary (2006) defines government in three ways,"(1) the group of people who control and make decisions for the country. (2) a particular system used for controlling the state. (3) The process or manner of controlling the state." Harold Damarriow (2017), conceives government as the body that is primarily responsible for making public policy for the entrie society. He also conceives government as, "the steering mechanism in a given society, and also the body that makes policies that keeps a particular society heading in the right direction." Government according to William Dobe (2013),"is an institution that regulates the relationship amongst the members of a given state and outsiders, it could be conceived as the body that has the authority to make decisions for state, and enables it to meet up the set goals and maintain order." Having been through with the various definitions of government, the author maintains that, "Whether government is referred to as the system or institutions in operation, the group of people in charge, or the process in use, it is holistically, the authority that sets rules for a society, helps its members to relate to one another within the state and the external bodies, and keeps running the state smoothly, securely and peacefully." There are however, about 200 systems of government that are practiced all over the world. Amongst them, according to Plato are: Aristocracy, Democracy, Theocracy, Monarchy, Democracy, Oligarchy etc. Amongst these forms of government, Nigeria is practicing the one called democracy.

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Nigeria

Nigeria as a country came into existence through the amalgamation of the then separate Northern and Southern Protectorates by Flora Shaw, the mistress to Sir, Friedrich Lord Lugard in 1914. Nigeria was under British colonization and leadership till the year 1960, when she regained her autonomy. Nigeria became a Democratic/Republican state in the year 1963, when the first civilian election was conducted between the then political parties of N.C.N.C and NPC, in which Nnamdi Azikiwe emerged as the first civilian President of Nigeria, under N.C.N.C party platform. The country Nigeria, since independent has been under the control of the two systems of government viz; the Democracy and Military systems of The inefficient and inappropriate behaviours government. of the Civilian/Democratic government leadership, however, prompted the forceful overthrown of government by the Juntas via coup d'état. The military takeover of the Nigeria government, after the Nigeria and Biafra civil war, started in1975, with General Gowan as the first Nigeria Military Head of state. The post Nigeria/Biafra war military regime covers the periods of 1975 and 1979, 1983 and 1993. In 1993, Nigerians experienced the epileptic civilian election as was champion by General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, the Military Head of State. Other periods of the military rule in Nigeria included that of General Sani Abacha's regime from 1995-1997 and that of the General Abdulsalam's leadership, that cleared ground for the coming of the democratic/civilian leadership in the 29thMay, 1999. The post independent Democratic/Civilian government, started from 1979 (the Nigeria's 2nd Republic), when Shehu Shagari became the President of Nigeria under the auspices of NPN party. Following this, was the annulled Presidential election in 1993 (the 3rd Republic), masterminded by General Babangida, the Nigeria's Military Head of State. The last, was the incumbent Democratic/Civilian government (the 4th Republic) which started from President Olusegun Obasanjo, to President Umaru, Musa Yar'adua, to President Goodluck Ebere Jonathan and, lasted up till the present Muhammadu Buhari's regime which is the focal point of this paper.

Epidemiology

Our approach to the meaning of epidemiology in this context shall focus on its etymological and literal conceptions. We shall look at the branches and the diverse aspects to which epidemiological discourses are channeled, with examples. We, shall, however, outline the primary features characterizing epidemiology. We shall look at both the objectives, merits and demerits of epidemiology. Lastly, we

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

shall discuss briefly, who the epidemiologists are as well as the functions they exhibit.

Etymological Definition of Epidemiology

Epidemiology, Lcii and Fang (2020) said is, "derived from the Greek words: epimeaning - "upon", "among", and demos- meaning "people" or "district", and logos- meaning "word "or "study". Epidemiology therefore, is literally translated as, "the study of how diseases attack people, district or community and, how such diseases are cured." Epidemiology, however, is an analytical discourse of the distribution, patterns and determinants of health and disease conditions in a defined population. Nutter, Jr. and F. W. (1999) defined epidemiology as, "the method applied to find the causes of health issues, and their outcomes in a population of people in a given society. Stressing further, they said, in epidemiology activities, the patient is the community and individuals are perceived collectively." Epidemiology is the scientific, systematic, and data driven study of the distribution pattern, and the determinants (i.e the causes and risk factors) of health-related states and events (not just diseases) in a specified population, such as neighborhood, school, state, city, country or worldwide. Epidemiology is made up of three components otherwise known as "epidemiological triangle". This, however, Includes, "the agent", "the host" and "the environment".

Branches/Aspects of Epidemiological study

Epidemiology as a complex term, has many branches such as human epidemiology. This comprises of the cancer epidemiology, cardiovascular epidemiology, clinical epidemiology to mention but just a few. Epidemiological study often times, is carried out in animals and plants. That of animals, is called the veterinary epidemiology or epi-zoology. While that of plantsis called epibotany. Other branches of epidemiology included, environmental epidemiology, occupational epidemiology, epidemiology of aging, and genetic epidemiology. Genetic aspect of epidemiology included the study of the causation of diseases and how they are being transmitted to other spices or areas, out-brake investigation, disease surveillance to mention but a few. However, the enumerated aspects of epidemiological studies, are narrowed down only to (three) major types namely; cohort studies, case control and cross sectional studies. Epidemiological studies could be observational and experimental based on exposed-identical and unexposed same disease cases.

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Objectives/Purpose of Epidemiology

R. M. Merril (2010,) defines and States the purpose and objectives of epidemiology as follows, epidemiology is, "the study of how often diseases occur in different groups of people and why." The purpose of epidemiology, he states, include:

1. To plan evaluation strategies.

2. To prevent illness by using study guide.

3. To know how to manage patients in whom the disease has already developed.

- 4 To identify the etiology or cause of the disease
- 2. To determine the extent of disease
- 3. To study the progression of disease.

Characteristics of epidemiology

In an epidemiological study, the following features must set affront, namely:

- 1. Design of study; the study pattern must be stated and designed.
- 2. Population; that which is to be studied must surface to mind and public.
- 3. Exposure; the study must be made publicly.

4. Outcome; the results and findings must be exposed to the public via Social Medias.

5. Effect size; the effect size of the disease studied must be made known publicly.

Principles of Epidemiology

Epidemiology as a public health oriented discipline is scientific, systematic and data-driven by nature. It focuses on the principles of "distribution", "determinants", "health-related states or events", "specified population" and "application" to carry out its functions.

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Distribution Principle

This counts on the frequency and pattern of health occurrence in a population. Frequency accounts on how often, the disease occurs and its relationship to the community or population. Pattern reflects on the health event, the time-period, places of occurrence and the number of persons effected and not effected. The time here, could normally be seasonal, daily, weekly, hourly etc. This principle, however, is explicitly called" descriptive epidemiology".

Determinant

This is all about looking for the causal factors that influence the occurrence of disease and other health-related events. Epidemiologists believed that diseases do not occur randomly in a population, rather, there must be risk factors behind it, which must have started from a particular individual or area. In this scenario, epidemiologists apply analytic mechanism of discourse to ascertain the "whys" and "hows?' of such cases. Epidemiologists use these interrogative words to examine whether groups with diverse rates of diseases differ in their demographic features, genetic/immunologic constituents, behaviours, social exposures, or other potential risk factors.

Health-Related States or Events

Epidemiology originally focuses mainly on epidemics of contagious diseases, but subsequently expanded to tackle endemic contagious diseases and non-contagious infectious diseases in a population.

Specified Populations

Epidemiologists (indirect health-care officers) and clinicians (direct health-care providers), somehow, share relational features both in concerns with occurrence and control of diseases. They differ greatly on how they conceive patients. As a clinician is concerned with the health of an individual patient, epidemiologist is concerned with the health of the population of community people. Thus, the clinician patients are "individual", while, the epidemiologist's patient is the community. The responsibilities of the two differ when faced with a person with illness. For instance, when a mescals patient is presented to hospital, both will focus on establishing correct diagnosis. As the clinician focuses on treating individuals, an epidemiologist focuses as well, on exploring the cause of the illness

AKU: AN AFRICAN JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 *A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies*

and how the illness has been exposed, the number of persons that may have the tendency of being infected in the future, as the disease spreads in the community and how to intervene to prevent additional spread of the illness and recurrences.

Epidemiologists

Questions may ask who epidemiologists are? Are Epidemiologists medical doctors? Do they operate in hospitals as medical doctors do? Where are their areas of coverage etc.? Epidemiology, according to Tiwari (2003),"is the area of health care that deals with the incidence, distribution, and possible control of diseases, illnesses and other factors relating to health. "Epidemiologists, however, are health professionals in the medical field. Like the security force that detects crime, they are "disease detectives". Epidemiologist could obtain the following degrees: MD, Ph.D, DPH (Doctor of Public Health), MPH (Master of Public Health), RN. Etc. These, however, cannot make him to become a medical doctor. Though, an epidemiologist could be a doctor of medicine, due to his areas of coverage in medical education, yet, his type of doctor, is a doctor of health. Epidemiologists work in offices and laboratories, usually in the health departments for states and local government areas, in colleges, universities and in hospitals. In conclusion, an epidemiologist differs from a pure medical doctor, especially in their objects of studies and attendance. The object of study and care of epidemiologist is community while that of a pure medical doctor is based on individual.

Functions of Epidemiologists

The functions of epidemiologist are many but we will outline just a few like:

- 1. Carrying out data analysis and finding conclusions.
- 2. Creating a plan of action for potential threats of diseases.
- 3. Making reports by detailing the potential threat of diseases
- 4. Offering presentations to policy makers.
- 5. Communicating with policy makers on public health matters.
- 6. Managing multiple health projects at once.
- 7. Helping to ensure that there are no outbreaks of any disease.
- 8. Involving in critical thinking on how to save public life in case of an outbreak of any epidemic etc.

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022

A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Merits and Demerits of Epidemiology

Anything that has benefits also has limitations or risks. Thus epidemiology's advantages and disadvantages are as follows:

- 1. Incidence can be directly calculated.
- 2. Direct estimation of the relative risk.
- 3. More than one result of the risk factor can be studied.
- 4. Temporal association of the exposure with the outcome can be seen etc.

Before we start the historical study of Covid-19 pandemic, we will first of all look at the different angles and names of outbreaks which epidemiologist study. The outbreaks include: Endemics, Epidemics, and Pandemics. When will an outbreak termed endemic, epidemic or pandemic? Do epidemics synonymously relate to pandemics?

Infectious diseases could spread by both bacterial and viral agents that are ever present in society. Usually, infected cases are present in numbers below an expected threshold. Once in a while, there may be an outbreak that is, a new strain or new disease that has a significant impact at either a local or global level. These, however, are classified as follows.

Endemic

This describes a disease that is present permanently in a particular region or population e.g malaria in African Society.

Epidemics

These involved an outbreak of diseases that affect many people at one time and can spread via one or several communities.

Pandemics

Pandemics could be perceived as epidemics at its extreme level. The term describes when the spread of a disease becomes worldwide. The typical example is the presentCovid-19 pandemic that is tormenting the entire world populace. From the

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 *A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies*

explanation so far, one would understand that Covid-19 is tagged a pandemic because the outbreak is worldwide.

Corona-virus / Covid-19 Pandemic

Corona-virus is derived from the latin word Corona meaning "halo" or "crown". It refers to as," the crown – like projections on the pathogen's surface." Coronavirus is not new; it has existed as far back as 8,000 BCE, although some models have traced it as early as 55 million years or more, implying long term evolution with bats and avian species. Corona-virus is of many classes, some are common in birds and animals like cattle and camels. Researchers first identified the coronavirus infection in birds in 1937. Corona-virus according to Gordis (2020),"is responsible for a type of bronchitis in birds, and has the potentials to devastate poultry stocks." Coron-virus transmission from animals to humans has been on rare cases. Researchers, however, discovered corona-virus infection on humans around 1960s. The case can occur at any time of the year, especially during winter and early spring seasons. The symptoms of this infectious disease on humans were first identified on the noses of people with common cold.

Types of Corona-Virus

Corona-virus as said within the text did not just pop up recently. Corona-virus is a parent with large family of viruses that have been around for a long period. Many of them can cause diverse illnesses, starting from mild cough to severe respiratory illnesses both in animals and in humans. Our interest in this research is on human corona-virus. This malignant human disease is divided into four subgroupings, namely, "alpha", "beta", "gamma" and "delta". Though seven of these viruses can infect people viz;

- 1). 229E (alpha)
- 2). NL63 (alpha)
- 3). OC43 (Beta)
- 4) HKUL (beta)
- 5). MERS-Cov, abeta virus that causes middle East respiratory syndrome.
- 6). SARS-Cov, a beta virus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome.
- 7) SARS-Cov 2, which causes Covid-19

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Amongst the above seven outlined types of corona-viruses, our area of discourse shall be on Covid-19. Covid-19 is tagged a pandemic, why is it a pandemic? This, however, will lead us to the history of Covid-19 pandemic.

Historical Trace of Covid-19 Pandemic

Here, we will discourse the origin of covid-19, its causes symptoms, means of transmission and remedy. Corona-virus disease 2019 (Covid-19) is an illness caused by a novel corona-virus named "severe acute respiratory syndrome of corona-virus 2 (SARS-Cov-2; formerly called 2019-nCov). This was first identified between outbreaks of respiratory illness cases in the Wuhan city, Hubei Province, China. What prompted the name Covid-19 is because; the illness was reported first to the World Health Organization (WHO) towards the end of the year, precisely on December 31ST 2019.

On January 30th, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the Covid-19 outbreak a world-wide health emergency, and on the 11th March, 2020, the W.H.O declared Covid-19 a world-wide pandemic. When a disease which people are not immune to, spreads across large regions or globe, it becomes a pandemic.

Causes/Modes of Transmission of Covid-19

Covid-19 disease has not been definitely linked to a particular animal. But researchers believed that, it was contracted from bats to other animals either snakes or pangolins and then transmitted to humans as was first taken place in the open food market in Wuhan City of China. Covid-19 disease virulent was caused by the severe acute respiratory virus strain (SARS Cov-2). The modes of transmission of covid-19 disease include;

1. Contact with animals

For the virus to be transmitted from animals to humans, such a person must have come into close contact with the animal that has the infection.

2. Person to person contact

Once the virus develops in people, it can be transmitted from person to person via respiratory droplets. This is a technical name for the wet stuff that moves via the air when you exhale, cough, sneeze or talk. The viral material hangs out in these droplets can be inhaled into the respiratory

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

tract that is, a person's wind pipe or lungs, from which the virus can head to an infection.

3. Human Contact with Object

It is possible that one can contact covid-19 disease when touched one's mouth, nose or eyes after touching a surface or object that has the virus on it.

4. Transmission through Airborne

This could be contacted via airborne transmission of small infectious particles that may linger in the air from minutes to hours.

Symptoms of Covid-19 Corona-virus

People generally, must have in one way or the other been infected with covid-19 disease in their life time. Some of the infections might be mild, while some might be severe. The onus of everything about this virus is that it is deadlier than other types of Corona-virus. The symptoms of covid-19 however, include the most common and the less common symptoms such as:

Most Common Symptoms of Covid-19 Disease

- 1. Dry Cough
- 2. Fever
- 3. Tiredness

Less Common Symptoms of Covid-19 Disease

- 1. Aches and pains
- 2. Sore Throat
- 3. Diarrhea
- 4. Conjunctivitis
- 5. Lost of Taste and Smell
- 6. Rash on the skin or Discolouration of fingers.

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Remedy/Prevention of Covid-19 Disease

Researchers have been exploring for a permanent cure to covid-19 virulent. About 185 countries of the world were infected by this murbus corpus. But 10 countries out these, recorded the highest cases of it. Despite all the tireless struggles to reach a final solution to the viral covid-19, no permanent cure has been achieved; instead, it is only the preventive measures were of help. With the preventive measures attached, much mortality is recorded, while much more relieves and cures are achieved. Some countries, however, recorded death fatalities than others, for example, United State of America accounted about 30,845,915 cases with death casualties of 556,915. Italy, China, India and Brazil accounted about 13 million victims, with 336,93 deaths. The spread of this virus could be curtailed and controlled through the following measures:

- 1. **Wearing of Facial Mask:** This will deter further contaminations from the already infected victims to non-infected ones. The calibers of people that are prone to easy contract of this disease include aged people as from 60years and above, children below 2years, unconscious and seriously sick patients who are able to remove the mask etc.
- 2. **Hygiene Keeping:** Hands must be continuously washed with disinfectants, soap, water and alcohol based sanitizer.
- 3. **Avoid Touching Sensitive Parts of the Body:** Nose, mouth and eyes should not be touched when hands are not washed.
- 4. **Disposing used tissues:** Dispose used tissues properly and wash hands immediately after you cough or sneezing. Try to cough and sneeze into elbows especially when close to people who don't have face mask etc.
- 5. **Clearing Surfaces:** Clean and disinfect all the objects through which viruses could be transmitted. Such common objects include; tables, door handles or robs, counters, fossils, phones, keyboards, television remotes, light switches etc. These, however, should be cleaned with water, soap and a house disinfectant.
- 6. **Symptoms Monitoring:** One should be aware of any changes in their bodies. Covid-19 symptoms such as difficult breathing, muscle and body pains, cough, loss of taste and smell, sore throat, a new cough fever, fatigue, nausea or vomiting and diarrhea, must be regularly checked.

AKU: AN AFRICAN JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 *A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies*

7. **Social Distancing:** Apart from wearing of facial masks, a good social distancing should be maintained. Social and physical distancing says Lois Zoppi (2021),"refers to the practice of maintaining 6 feet or a 2-meter gap between oneself and other people outside your home. If a person fails sick at home, everybody living with such persons should keep a distance from the victim at all times."

According to C.D.C (2020),"distancing is specifically important for those who are at the high-risk of contracting the disease, such as the people over 60years and those with existing medical conditions that could to lead to serious complications if they contract covid-19,"

8. **Report to Health Care Centre:** The earlier the case of a covid-19 patient is reported to the health care centre, the earlier the treatment of such patient and also the deterrent to the chances of others being infected. Thus, the nurses and doctors that attend to the victims must endeavor to adopt the preventive measures too.

Covid-19 Pandemic in Nigeria

Questions erupting from these sub topics are: When and how did Covid-19 virulent came into Nigeria? Is Nigeria amongst the most Covid-19 affected countries of the world? What efforts does the Nigeria government play as to guarantee the health and economic securities of Nigerians in the global fight to remedy Covid-19 pestilent?

Covid-19 pandemic is the worldwide communicable disease that erupted towards the end of the year 2019. This was caused by SAR -Cov-2 (i.e the severe acute respiratory syndrome of corona-virus 2). The case of this disease was first confirmed in Nigeria on the 27th February 2020 through an Italian citizen that tasted positive as was confirmed by the N. C D.C official in Lagos State. The second case was also confirmed via a Nigeria citizen from Ewekoro town in Ogun State who was said to have come in contact with the Italian visitor.

Promises to Ensure Nigerians' Health and Economic Security

Federal government of Nigeria assured Nigerians of a better protection of health and economy in the face of this deadly scourge. In order to keep to her words, the government went as fast as possible to place surveillance at the five Nigeria international airports at Enugu, Kano, Rivers, Lagos and FCT Abuja. The

AKU: AN AFRICAN JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022

A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

government, via the channel of N.C.D.C, announced her ever readiness to control the disease. They set up diverse measures to fight Covid-19 such as the placement of surveillance as said before, lockdown syndrome, social distancing, Use of facial mask, hand washing, reporting of victim's case, hospitalizing the infected patients to N.C.D.C camps etc.

With regards to the question of whether Nigeria is amongst the most Covid-19 affected countries of the world, it's quite obvious that Nigeria recorded the cases of the virus, but not too severe as to compare with countries like, France, Britain, Brazil, Italy, China, United States of America, India etc. The Statistical study of the spread of Covid-19 in Nigeria shows that, only 3 States out of the 36 States of the country first recorded the highest victims of the disease bite. Lagos State, for instance, recorded about 10,510 cases with 128 confirmed deaths. Abuja (FCT), counted up to 1,870 with 33 confirmed deaths and, Ogun State, also, counted 1,380 cases with 12 confirmed deaths. These States, however, recorded about 54% of the total number of the confirmed cases with 29% of death counts from the infection. The writer strictly laments on the overt corruption rate in Nigeria. The truth, she said, is that, it's not every State of Nigeria experienced the menace of this communicable disease. The case of Corona-virus in the country and the idea of proffering remedy to it were politicized by our Federal and State leaderships. Other States that were statistically stated to have experienced the virulent were: Borno, Jigawa, Bauchi, Sokoto Gombe, and Kastina from the north: Oyo, Edo and Delta from West: Imo, Ebonyi, and Anambra from South respectively. The question is: Were the claims of being amongst the disease infected States by the governors of these listed States true? Some governors of these States, falsely claimed to have recorded the attack of the disease, some even went extra mile by forcefully catching and quarantining healthy people that were going on their normal daily duties via their established agencies, claiming they were victims of Covid-19, all was to make sure that they obtained huge amount of money that were donated for solution to the disease by diverse world organizations, Ngos and Nigeria philanthropists.

The roles of the Present Nigeria Government to Remedy the Covid-19 Problem

Federal government of Nigeria established up diverse measures via established agencies to contain the economic and health securities of Nigerians in the face of Covid-19 crisis in the country. The agencies, included: The Federal Ministry of Humanitarian affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development (FMHADMSD): The Small and Medium Enterprises Scheme (SEMs): National

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Social Register (NSR) to mention but a few. The listed agencies, however, were the channels via which the government of Nigeria intended to reach out generally to the citizens to accomplish her promises. The promises included: the distribution of #20,000 amongst 3.6 million poor and vulnerable Nigeria citizens, lending of loans of 0.3 million naira at a very lower interest percentage rate to help the business men and farmers: Sharing of the Central Bank of Nigeria Stimulus Package of 3 million naira to all poor families that are infected by Covid-19 crisis. Federal government also promised her citizens of food assistance etc. This provokes further questions on how the government accomplished the promises it made? This, however, will lead us to conclusion with emphasis on how the incumbent government utilizes the grants and aids that were given to enable her fulfill her promises the citizens.

Conclusion

At the wake of the Covid-19 virulent, Federal government of Nigeria, promised her citizens of 100% effort to attend to their health, food and economic needs. Thus, she estimated about \$330 million for procurement of medical equipment, personal protective equipment, drugs as well as food to maintain life in the face of Covid-19. Our leaderships obtained a lot aids from both the private, bilateral and multilateral institutions. For instance, The Nigeria State Oil Company, pledged, \$30 million to our government. The European Union (EU), contributed 50 million Euro. The Central Bank of Nigeria, through an invitation of The Coalition against Covid-19 disease (CACOVID), raise over \$72million for the procurement of food materials and medical facilities, while, International Monetary Fund (IMF) organization approved \$3.4billion emergency support to Nigeria to contain the whole lots of economic impact of Covid-19. Despite all these varieties of supportive funds, Nigeria government also borrowed up to \$3.34billion from the domestic market for funding budget etc. The said monies, however, were believed to have been shared to all the 36 states governors for proper utilization, to facilitate the Covid-19 control and remedy. This further provokes the questions about how the governors utilized the monies and whether the monies reached the people they were meant for. The answer to the questions, in broad letter is, "NO". It's quite obvious that about 75% or more of Nigerians did not benefit from the said monies. Our leaderships siphoned all the monies into their personal accounts. For example, the #20,000 promises to poor/ vulnerable/ Nigerians, wasn't fulfilled. The #2.6million mapped out to help the most affected Covid-19 families, did reach them. The proposed #3.6million for helping business men and farmers didn't reach

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

any of them. The incumbent government of Nigeria, from the upper level down to the local level is mischievous, greed, dishonest, and self-centered. They placed a long lasting lockdown to the markets all over the country, and promised to help out people by supplying them food, but were unable to fulfill it. Many of the state governors hoarded the food items, and used them to service their party members. So many lives, apart from the covid-turbulence, were lost. Example of this was the life lost incidence that happened in Anambra State around September, 2020 when the hungry masses stormed the ware houses that were fully packed with bags of rice and cartons of indomie noodles. The incumbent government of Nigeria, played shabby and incompetent roles in saving the people in the face of covid - 19 pandemic. Igbo used to say, "Mmadu, ekwesighi ichu okuko awa n'ubochi Eke. Eme ngwa ngwa, a'gbanahu odachi (a stich in time, saves nine). The incumbent government's incompetence in tackling public health problems became obvious in 2017, when the country failed the WHO's Joint External Evaluation (JEE) on IHR core capacity (the collaborative multy - sector efforts) to assess Nigeria's capacity to detect, prevent and respond to public health issues. For example, during the JEE indicators test on the diverse countries capacity to detect public risks through the real - time surveillance and laboratory capability of Nigeria to test diseases, Nigeria scored only 2.6. Out of the 15 JEE indicators test on the capability of Nigeria to prevent biological, chemical or radiation health risks, Nigeria scored only 1.9. In terms of response category, Nigeria scored 1.5 across 20 indicators. This by implication portrayed the country's inability to repress sudden health problems. This, however, exposes the incumbent leader's weaknesses to clamp down on the current covid19 infection crisis. This is evidently clear when Nigeria's health agency was able to produce only 2,500 covid19 test samples, which they claimed to be due deficiencies in human resources, testing kits cum laboratories, as well as case definition which by nature prioritized symptomatic cases and their contacts. Nigeria scored zero in terms of positive response to covid19 treatment. Relating to the 30th June, 2020's covid19 sampling test, the present government, via the public health agency (CDC), was able to produce only 138,462 patients out of the population of about 200 million people. In terms of health facilities, knocked belly on the floor, no standard hospital and human work force. Our government procured only 350 ventilation kits and 550 ICU beds for such a large population of people. What a careless, shameless, and unremorseful leadership? The incumbent government is a failure. She was unable to provide her citizens the life, health, economic and food securities they needed in face of covid19 and post covid19 morbus corpus.

ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022 A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

REFERENCES

- Lawrence Burns, in Thomas Hobbes' (1987), "History of Political Philosophy (Eds): Leo Strains and Joseph Cropsey, Chicago: Chicago Press..
- Aristotlis, Opara (1837), Complete Work of Aristotle (Ed) A.I., Bakker Clarendon Press.
- Graham Daniel, W (2019), "Heraclitus Encyclopedia of Philosophy"'.
- Ezeugwu, J.U., & Chinweuba, G.E (2018), The Supreme Being in Igbo Thought", : A Reappraisal", *Philosophia e -.journal for Philosophy & Culture*, 2018, p.29.
- Kaider-Markel & Donald, P (2024), "The Oxford Handbook of State & Local Government.
- Rousseau J.J., in Cranston, M (1997), "The Solitary Self", Jean Jaques Rousseau in Exile and Adversity, Chicago Press, p 104. Dibie, Josephine Dibie (2017),"Analysis of Government Leadership in Sub-Saharan African. The Authors Licence: Aosis, p.148.
- Montesquieu, C.L (2012), The Spirit of Law, Book ii, Chapter 6 of the Constitution of England, Archived at University of Virginia Library Center.
- Merriam, Webster (2006), Webster's New *Encyclopedia Dictionary*. Springfield, M.A., Federal Street Press.
- Harold, Damarrio (2017),"Explain the Term Government, Janeesakusussrl Publications.
- William J. Dobe (2013),"The Dictator Learning Curve, inside the Calobal Battle for Democracy, Anchor ISBN 978-030747553.
- Lcii K, Fang, YY., etal(2020), Characteristics of Novel Corona-virus", Cases in Tertiary Hospital in Humbei Province, University Medical Journal (Eng).
- Nutter Jr., F. W (1999), Understanding the Inte-Relationship between Botanical, Human and Veterinary Epidemiology: The Ys & RS of it all "Ecosystem Health", p.33.
- Nutter Jr., F.W (1999), Understanding the Inter-relationship between Botanical, Human and Veterinary Epidemiology. The Ys & Rs of it all, "Ecosystem Health", p.65.
- Merril, Ray .M (2010), "Historic Development in Epidemiology", Jones & Bartlett Publishing Company, p.22.
- Tiwari, P (2003), Epidemiology Made Easy, New Delhi: Jaypee Brothers, pp.12-30.

AKU: AN AFRICAN JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH ISSN: 26814-0761 (Print) 2814-0753 (e). Vol. 3 No. 1. 2022

A Publication of the Association for the Promotion of African Studies

Gordis, L (2014), "Epidemiology" 5th(Ed), Philadelphia: P.A., Elsever Saunders Publications Ltd, p.45.

Osalario, Louis Zoppi (2021), "Faz Exame De Covid-19" E. M. Casa.

Centre for Disease Control and Preventions (Archived, 17th June, 2020), "Symptoms of Corona-virus", p. 47.