

THE IMPACTS AND POSSIBLE WAYS OF MANAGING CORRUPTION AND INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

This paper scrutinized corruption and problem of insecurity in Nigeria. Nigeria is a country with potentials for greatness; a large population comprising of a dynamic workforce, a growing economy, natural resources, raw materials and oil deposits which make her the largest exporter of crude oil in Africa. Despite these indices for greatness, fifty-nine year plus after independence Nigeria is yet to find her feet among the community of nations as insurgency continues to take its toll on the country and make life insecure and miserable for the ordinary Nigerian citizens. Corruption is a major cause or causes of conflicts, insecurity and backwardness which continued to be seen as an enormous challenge to the development of the country. There was a period in Nigeria when security, peace and tranquility were the priority of the government, during this period one could sleep with two eye closed without thinking of the unknown to occur . Those were the days Nigeria stood tall among African Nations with the reference title of "Giant of Africa" owing to its large population, economy and corruption in its minimal but today, Nigeria is living on past glory. Presently, security tension in Nigerian is associated with Nigeria historical development. Nigeria originated from British colonial rule and took it with the merging of Southern protectorate and Northern protectorate in 1914. It's first threat to peace and tranquility after independence from 1966 to 1970, the beginning of struggle for peace. Nigeria experienced numerous military coups and long periods of uncivilized, autocratic and brutish military rule from 1966 until 1999 when democratic civilian government was established. This study adopted psychoanalytical Theory and rational choice theory. The study used a descriptive survey research design. Primary and Secondary source of data collection were used to gather information for this study, for primary sources, oral interviews and questionnaires, while journals, textbooks and newspapers were used as secondary sources. The study used SPSS to analyze the data collected. This paper investigated the issues of corruption and insecurity in Nigeria and the negative effects of the insecurity and corruption to the development of the country. The findings according to Transparency International Statistics,2020, showed that Nigeria is the number146 out of the 180 countries of the world with the highest

corrupt practice index it was also ascertained that corruption is a major cause of insecurity in the country. However, it is recommended that the Nigerian Government should establish a special court for the speedy trial of individuals accused of corrupt practices, capital punishments is also canvassed .And finally, government should give top priority to management of corruption than eradication of corruption in its change agenda.

Keywords: Corruption, Insecurity, management, Nigeria.

Introduction

Recently, Nigeria has been entangle in a firebox of corruption and insecurity leading to scores of deaths of innocent civilians, foreigners, some members of the nation's security personnel, elected officials and many government workers. The corruption and insecurity challenge has assumed formidable dimensions forcing the country's political and economic managers and, indeed the entire nation, to rue the loss of their loved ones, investments and absence of safety in most parts of the country. The number of corruptions vary, but include bribery, extortion, cronyism, nepotism, parochialism, patronage, influence peddling, graft, and embezzlement. Corruption may facilitate criminal enterprise such as drug trafficking, money laundering, and Human trafficking, though it is not restricted to these activities. And these have increasingly become the regular signature that characterizes life in Nigeria since 1990 (John & Nzeni, 2015).It is a strong position of this paper that eradication of the two cankerworm is not the best approach in tackling the phenomenon, but adequate management of the problem is strongly canvassed ,if strictly adhered to will witness maximum cooperation and see Nigeria in no distance time as a corrupt free Nation.

Government has tried everything from "force-for-force" to carrot-and-stick approach to diplomacy but the problem seems to rise with greater monstrosity like the proverbial phoenix. There has also been strong advocacy for a multistakeholder intervention to the insecurity question rather than lean on military options alone (Shina & Urim, 2014; Open Society, 2012; Ujomu, 2001), but the problem has defied the present medication it is getting. This may not be unconnected with the increasing ethnic hate, religious bigotry, political rivalry and a growing population of disgruntled citizens in the country who feel that they have been short-changed and given very limited or no access to the common patrimony.

Corruption is a major cause or causes of insecurity and backwardness which continued to be seen as an enormous challenge to the development of the country. It's first threat to peace and tranquility after independence from 1966 to 1970, the beginning of struggle for peace. Nigeria experienced numerous military coups and long periods of uncivilized and autocratic military rule from 1966 until 1999 when democratic civilian government was established. All this military interventions in politics were as result of corrupt and insecure nature of the country during the civilian era.

Egwu (2001) had made this observation when he argued that the primordial tendencies of various ethnic groups towards violence, the perennial eruption of various ethnic militias and the preponderant religious fundamentalism in place, given expression to by some sections of the dominant religious establishments in Nigeria, have inevitably aggravated the scale and propensity of insecurity and widened its scope in various ramifications

Not only has the continued state of insecurity threatened the very fabric of national integration in the country and created the ecology of fear, disquiet and anxiety, it has also meted a deadly blow or what Imhonopi & Urim (2012) call "spectral bite" to industrial development. The destruction of the badly needed infrastructure has taken the country many years backwards. The government has continued to trudge on in the face of this daring challenge and has continued to evolve strategies to contain or douse this conflagration. Meanwhile, academic writers, social researchers, scholars, security experts and consultants have also not rested in making diverse recommendations and probable solutions to address this national blight. In this paper, focus is on examining the contributions moral values and virtues can make in tackling insecurity in Nigeria. According to Faith(2013) corruption is a social phenomenon which manifests its self in various human actions such as dishonesty, selfishness ,embezzlement ,moral degeneration ,bribery ,instability and covetousness. Corruption is also the abuse of public office for private gain.It is however, a well known fact that corruption breeds insecurity if not properly checked and monitored.

Conceptual Clarifications

Corruption

Corruption in Nigeria is not exclusively preserved for politicians, civil servants, and captains of industry. Among the common people there is an instinctive

honing of stealing skills. One should stop thinking people suddenly become corrupt when they join the government. However having been tutored and mentored on petty stealing probably from a tender age, Nigerians naturally explode when they occupy positions of authority at any level either in private or public sector. They join the bandwagon of selfish leaders after suddenly finding themselves in the corridor of power. Rather than use their positions to repair its ills; they conform to the enrichment craze. In other words corruption is defined as the involvement in illegal, dishonest, or wicked behavior which is destructive of the moral fabric of society. To some people corruption is the conscious and will plan act by a person or group of persons to appropriate by unlawful means the wealth of another person or group of persons.

The concept corruption like many other concepts in social sciences has no settled meaning. This means that there is no straight backed definition, or generally accepted, or encompassing definition for the term corruption. However, certain definitional attempts have been proffered by different scholars. Although, there is often difficulties in defining it, because it means not only different things to different people, and even to the same people different things at different times, but also sanctions usually are attached to corrupt practices which hides them and gives them subtle forms. Thus, some people see corruption as a conscious and well planned act by a person or group of persons to appropriate by unlawful means the wealth of another person or According Akuje, (2009), corruption is a phenomenon so difficult to define, yet it percolates every structure of the society. It affects the military as well as it soils the hands of the civilians He went further to define corruption as follows ;When we use our position in society to secure certain advantages jumping a queue, being waved off at the checkpoint or making others bend the rules to accommodate our demands ... by whatever means even if it is just 'thank you' our action however innocent, however well-intentional, however unthreatening to others, has corrupted a system or a convention or some rules and regulations in application. In this regard, even whatever form of seasonal gifts, free air tickets, lunch or dinner kola is no longer exempted, since these are likely to influence future courses of action and transactions the giver or receiver is thus corrupting protocol or breaching some rules and regulations in Nigeria society. According to Ibietan (2013:43), corruption can also be classified based on the arena it occurs namely: Political, Economic, Bureaucratic, Judicial and Moral; Political corruption may manifest in activities connected with elections and succession, taking the form of manipulating people and institutions to retain power or office. Economic

corruption could assume the subversion of institutional regulations and circumventing procedures to get unmerited advantage. Bureaucratic corruption goes beyond obtaining pecuniary benefits. It includes cronyism, favouritism, nepotism, and associated ills that warrant merit to be slaughtered on the altar of mediocrity in recruitment, promotion and motivation of employees as necessary planks upon which personnel administration rests and offer cardinal explanations for low productivity, inefficiency and poor service delivery in the public sector. Judicial corruption implies perversion of justice, compromising attitudinal disposition of law enforcement agents/agencies, Sundry ills and avoidable human errors in the administration of justice. Moral corruption entails committing morally reprehensible acts deliberately and on a sustained basis. Corruption is a major problem of Nigeria.

Management

Management is the life giving element of any organization. Henri, (1991) Management is conduct of affairs of business, moving towards its objective through a continuous process of improvement and optimization of resources". Koontz, (2013) "Management is the process of designing and maintaining an environment in which individuals, working together in groups, efficiently accomplish selected aims". Follett (2008) "Management is the art of getting things done through people. Terry, (2000) Management is a process consisting of planning, organizing, actuating and controlling, performed to determine and accomplish the objectives by use of people and resources and for Hissom(2009), Management is the organizational process that includes strategic planning, setting objectives, managing resources, deploying the human and financial assets needed to achieve objectives, and measuring results. Management also includes recording and storing facts and information for later use or for others within the organization. Management functions are not limited to managers and supervisors

Insecurity

Conversely, insecurity is the antithesis of security and has attracted such common descriptors as want of safety, danger, hazard, uncertainty, want of confidence, state of doubt, inadequately guarded or protected, instability, trouble, lack of protection and being unsafe, and others (Achumba, Ighomereho & Akpor-Robaro, 2013). Achumba et al (2013) argue further that these common descriptors point to a condition where there exists a vulnerability to harm, loss of life, property or livelihood. Insecurity just as security is seen also in diverse

ways. Some people would take it to mean absence of safety or presence of danger; hazard; uncertainty; want of confidence; doubtful; inadequately guarded or protected; lacking stability; troubled; lack of protection and unsafe. Insecurity can make one to lose confidence, be afraid, unsettled, oppressed, lose focus, and be devastated and lose one's humanness.

Therefore, they consider insecurity to be a state of not knowing, a lack of control, and the inability to take defensive action against forces that portend harm or danger to an individual or group, or that make them vulnerable. For Beland (2005), insecurity is the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection. It refers to lack or inadequate freedom from danger. This definition reflects physical insecurity which is the most visible form of insecurity, and it feeds into many other forms of insecurity such as economic security and social security. In this paper, insecurity is conceived as a situation where human and national security of a state is compromised by internal or external forces or interests exacerbated by the former's weak or poor economic, military and/or human resource development conditions.

Insecurity is a state of being subject to danger or threat. Insecurity on the other hand, is the antithesis of security (Agbekaku et al). However, because of the very many ways in which insecurity has been described in association with the various ways in which it affects individuals. Some of the common descriptors of insecurity include: wants to safety, danger, hazard, uncertainty; want to confidence; doubtful; inadequately guarded or protected; lacking stability; troubled; lack protection and unsafe, to mention few. All of these have been used by different people to define the concept of insecurity. These different descriptors however run into a common reference to a state of vulnerability to harm and loss of life, property or livelihood. According to Agbekaku et al. (2016), the insecurity situation in the country has led to many wondered why Nigeria has not returned to the state of nature where, according Thomas Hobbes, life was solitary, nasty, brutish and short. Igbodalo (2012), have pervasively argued that insecurity in a given state not only affect the growth and survival of democracy but also lead to high level of poverty, unemployment, high rate of crimes, poor standard of education, high rate of illiteracy, poor infrastructural development, poor state of health facilities among others. (Ighodalo, 2012). Pointed out that effects of insecurity are manifested in increasing poverty, diseases, unemployment, poor medical care, poor housing facilities, lack of portable water, epileptic power supply, lack of access to power and resources by minority groups and their exclusion from policy making. (Ake, 2000). To have

security thus, means to be safe, secured, protected and enjoy peace of life. That is, the state of being or feeling secure, freedom from fear, anxiety, danger, doubt, something that gives or assures safety, tranquility, certainty, protection and safeguard.

Theoretical Framework

This research anchors on the psychoanalytic theory and Rational choice theory. The psychoanalytic theory was propounded by Sigmund Freud (1981). He postulates that human life is controlled by two categories of instincts - the life instinct is associated with creativity, achievement and other positive things of life. On the other hand, death instinct is associated with aggression, hostility, destruction, deceit and even war. Going by Freud, crime resides in the instinctual drive of an individual. Therefore corruption resides in the id as a component of human personality. The irrational impulses of the id propel humans to engage in corruption because at this point they may feel highly insecure in the prevalence economic situation in a country. Only individual with strong superego can minimize their rate of corrupt practices in an entrusted government and private establishments. On the other hand when people feel insecure as a result of their inability to meet their financial and social obligation, they may become frustrated, aggressive and hostile. People who find themselves in this situation may resort to criminal behavior, such as deceit, duping, armed robbery, kidnapping and killing.

Rational choice theory adopts a utilitarian belief that humans are reasoning actors who weigh means and ends, costs and benefits, in order to make a rational choice.

Adam Smith-,who proposed the idea of an invisible hand moving markets in the mid-1770's usually gets credit as the father of rational choice theory. In criminology, the rational choice theory views man as a reasoning actor who weighs means and ends, cost and benefits, and makes a rational choice. foundation of rational choice theory is behavioral choices, that includes the choice of the person to engage in criminal activity based on intent/premeditation and that the possible benefits outweigh The Rational choice theory the risk.(Mccarthy,2014).

Corruption and Insecurity Nexus

Fifty-four years after independence, insecurity continues to pose a challenge to Nigeria. At the root of this is corruption. Corruption remains one of the greatest challenges to security in the country. The connection between corruption and insecurity is not far-fetched. Corruption fans the embers of poverty, crimes and by extension insecurity. For instance, armed robbery, cultism, terrorism, disease, unemployment and other factors which lead to insecurity are directly or indirectly related to corruption (Dike 2005). The advent of militancy, kidnapping and terrorism in Nigeria can be traced to corruption. In the Niger Delta region where militancy first occurred, it was championed by political thugs who were initially recruited by corrupt politicians prior to elections in the region. These thugs who became idle after the elections had no other job but found one in the form of militancy which eventually metamorphosed into bombing of oil installations and kidnapping of foreign oil workers for ransom. Despite amnesty granted to the militants leading to the sheathing of sword, kidnapping for ransom or rituals spread across the country and till date many find it a 'lucrative' business. The same is also true of the NorthEast of the country where the Boko Haram sect continues to make life insecure for citizens. Like their predecessors, Niger Delta militants, many of the sect members were once political thugs. Political corruption is one of the major causes of poverty. Despite its oil wealth and abundant resources, owing to corruption, Nigeria remains one of the poorest countries in the world with many Nigerians living below the poverty line. According to a recent World Bank report (2005), Nigeria is one of the poorest countries in the world. This poverty status of the country results from the fact that selfish individuals divert funds needed for development into their pockets while the masses are left in abject poverty. Such funds no doubt could have been used to better the lot of the citizenry. It is on record that more than \$400 billion was stolen from the treasury by Nigeria's leaders between 1960 and 1999 while the country's GDP per capita fell from US \$1,010.00 in the early 1980s to US \$300.00 in 1999 (Okaduwa 2007). When people are frustrated because their needs are unmet they may resort to conflict as a way of expressing their frustration. This is in line with the saying that a hungry man is an angry man. In the Niger Delta region cited earlier on, embezzlement of funds by past officials of the state such as former Governors and local government Chairmen have robbed their respective states and local government areas of the needed funds for development purpose. In addition, the middlemen men between the community and the Multinational Oil Companies diverted the compensation meant for the

various communities to their private use while the people were left aggrieved as a result of environmental degradation and poverty. This twin factor contributed to militancy in the area. The poverty level and educational backwardness in the North East Zone of the country is also said to be one of the contributory factors to the conflicts in the area. In the case of unemployment, when people are not engaged in meaningful work and are lacking the basic necessities of life, they bring attention to their plight by engaging in destructive behaviour at the slightest provocation. There is a common saying that 'an idle mind (hand) is the devil's workshop'. Nigeria is made up of jobless youths who are ready to do anything, even engage in criminal activities as a way of engaging themselves if nobody does. These Jobless youths resort to armed robbery, electoral violence, assassinations, kidnapping, and rituals as a way of making a living. This is why according to political activist Odumakin (2012), with 60 million unemployed youths, Nigeria have no peace. While we are not oblivious of the fact that there are other reasons why people engage in criminal activities, we cannot rule out the fact that activities resulting from unemployment are indirect consequences of corruption. Corruption leads to unemployment, unemployment to conflicts and conflicts to insecurity. Many Nigerian youths have become preys to terrorists and are easily radicalized. In the Niger Delta region for instance, unemployed youths were the ones employed in the armed conflicts between Multinational Oil Companies and militants while many of such youths are members of the Boko Haram sect. Furthermore, criminal and corrupt elements in the country use their ill-gotten wealth to sponsor acts inimical to the security of the country. For instance, corrupt politicians use state money or money they have embezzled to sponsor political thugs in different parts of the country

Consequently the result of their tested, trusted and sincere leadership styles gave birth to a peaceful "one Nigeria" and this was celebrated as the Nigeria flag of green white - green was hoisted and the Union Jack lowered appropriately to the admiration of all Nigerians. In the turn of events, the Nigerian leaders defended the emotional integrity of Nigeria with full restoration and preservation of cultural values to the best of their ability, agility and professionalism. It is on the annals of history that these skillful or adept politicians maintained absolute self-respect and genuinely protected the oneness of this country through good governance. To this end, there is the need for our current politicians and leaders to emulate their ideas, desist from corrupt practices, and shun ethnic tendencies that are capable of scuttling the peaceful co-existence of this nation. It is flabbergasting that in the 21st century where there are a large number of

leadership models to emulate; politicians and administrators continue to settle scores in the old fashioned, Stone Age way (Nwamaka, 2015). It is worthy of note to state that corruption in its entirety breeds insecurity, because when funds that are meant for the benefits of the poor masses are being siphoned, embezzled and fraudulently taking away by those in authority could lead to state of anarchy and lugubrious situations where lives will be short and brutish. Issues of insecurity is a global phenomenon that have eaten deep into our fabrics. Nigeria specifically, it ranges from political, economic, religious and environmental security of lives and properties of the citizenry. However, it is also disheartening and important to state that insecurity in Nigeria is not only as a result of unemployment, poor policies and irregular criminal justice systems, but as a result of corruption, embezzlement, misrepresentation and all other fraudulent acts that are capable of undermining the integrity of the country.

Examinations of the causes of corruption and insecurity in Nigeria

Many reasons have been put forward as probable causes of corruption and insecurity in Nigeria. This includes the following:

Cultural Factors: The unethical culture of get-rich quick, ostentatious living, low civic culture and weird value system of the society caused corruption in Nigeria. Dike (2003.) cited in Alimi & Isiramen (2016), described the situation has deteriorated culture and weak value system of the society, and in view of the less developed culture, it is difficult to have corrupt-free society. Honestly, hard work, altruism and patriotism are difficult to come by; because the culture has legalise illegality (Alayomi, 2013). Vaulting ambition of get-rich quick of the society causes the prevalence of corrupt practices. Excessive avarice, urge for a shortcut to wealth by the general public, the absence of a strong sense of national commitment and dolling out of chieftaincy titles of corrupt officials by traditional rulers, are contributory factors to pervasive corruption in Nigeria (Alimi & Isiramen, 2016:301).

The factors responsible for incidences of insecurity as discussed below are not peculiar to Nigeria alone but may apply to other parts of the world. According to Otto & Ukpere (2012), insecurity is a result of malignant environment dominated by man's insensitivity to man. Many people in authority take advantage of their positions to force down policies that impoverish the masses is so much as it benefits them and a few others. High handedness is also another problem whereby Nigerians see themselves as adventures with the business called Nigeria and so are concerned mainly with how much enters their pockets no matter how

that happens. Ethnicity and corruption are also causes of insecurity. Also, the justice delivery system does not encourage the fight against insecurity. Offenders of grievous cases may get very light sentences where they are not completely let go. Poverty and proliferations of small arms have also been blamed in Nigeria. About 70% of the population lives in poverty. This predisposes the poor to violence which is fueled by the ease of access of small arms. The importation of weapons by developing countries has risen dramatically (Otto & Ukpere, 2012:6763).

Weak Penal Institutions: The police, court systems and administrative tribunals and panels contributed to the endemic, systemic and pandemic corruption, because the institutions are also culpable of corruption. They have been caught severally on charges of collusion, hence, no power to punish powerful individuals who looted the treasury (Aghayere & Alimi, 2009) cited in Alimi & Isiramen (2016:301). The formal and informal institutional systems are severely weakened by corrupt practices, it becomes harder to implement and enforce laws and policies that could ensure transparency and accountability.

Ngwube & Okoli (2013) revealed that the causes of corruption in Nigeria ranges from “non-conformity to religious tenets, imparted values ideas and ideas alien to our culture, ethnicity which encourages favouritism and nepotism, a weak legal system which is honoured in the breach than observance. Other causes of corruption are: poverty, illiteracy, get-rich mania, static, and wrong attitude to public property, absence of a welfare scheme which cushions effect of unemployment, retirement, large families, and quest for power, double standards and low level of patriotism”. These are important in themselves; it does appear that poverty is the most import single factor that promotes the wide spread of giving and taking bribes i.e illegal financial inducements in the country.

Ujomu (2001), also identified, another cause of insecurity in the nation as the intolerance existing among the various ethno-cultural and religious groups in the country mainly due to elite manipulation and greater deprivation and frustration within the society. This has consequently led to an increase in inter-tribal and communal clashes and violence. Eme & Onyishi (2011), identified the causes of insecurity in Nigeria as; improper funding of the police and other security agencies, non-payment of the allowances and salaries of these security agencies. Monetization of the labour market which have cause lots of unemployed graduates to go through a lot of mental torture in the process of security jobs:

gross party indiscipline and infighting among political gladiators, poor welfare of the police, military and paramilitary personnel, with lack of adequate working tools, and inadequate personnel.

Government poor Attitude to crime control

To Ajah (2009) in the work of Faith (2013) government poor attitude to crime control is another reason while violent crimes have remained on the increase in Nigeria, noting that Nigeria has not been blessed with good leaders who are more committed to fight crime by ensuring that full weight of the law are employed on law offenders. They went further to assert that our government no longer pays attention to the primary functions of providing security, neither do they listen to the plight of the poor masses. The above assertions is a contradiction of social contract theory of state, where individuals soiled their rights believing that same will be protected by the State.

How Corruption and Insecurity can be managed than being eradicated.

Restoration of indigenous values and institutions: Nigerian indigenous values and systems were for the most part debunked by first, the missionaries, and then the colonialists in a much more forceful manner. Indigenous solutions to corruption and insecurity must once again be explored followed by the rediscovery of indigenous systems of administration. Rwanda has successfully done the latter through the Gacaca, Abunzi, Umuganda, Umudugudu and other indigenous systems. The above is by no means a call for Nigeria Christians and Muslims to revert to African traditional religion as is often perceived whenever the indigenous is mentioned. Far from it. The merging of Nigeria's social, cultural, and moral values with its religion was the handiwork of some over-zealous missionaries and racist colonialists. Nigerians have come of age to separate between religion and other causes and to realize that one can be fully functioning in his chosen religion and still abide by several positively rewarding indigenous Nigerian values.

Formal, Informal and non-formal Education: The greatest vehicle for cultural transmission towards a transformation of prevailing social paradigm is education. In its formal form, the curriculum of learning across Nigerian must be overhauled to make for real mental and intellectual independence. In its non-formal manifestation, conferences, workshops, camps, and other non-formal learningsituations must be widely utilized to re-educate citizens on the fact that real living occurs only when individuals have sound moral values, or at least,

consistently and seriously aspire to it. Informally, the media will be mobilized as a crucial element of mass mobilization towards an appreciation of the Nigeria's authentic social, cultural and economic environment.

Religion as a nation building institution: Nigerians listen to their spiritual leaders, much more than they do to politicians and policy makers. The pulpit ought to be mobilized as a knowledge and faith-based platform for reaching the souls of Nigerians and in directing them towards nation-building.

- **Promotion of the "African" nation state:** For the past 50 years, Nigerians have been struggling in vain to assimilate the artificially imposed colonial boundaries. It is time to promote the greater African nation-state and de-emphasize the cosmetic divisions that is filled with antagonistic ethnic groups.

- Nigerians must be encouraged, motivated and facilitated to travel widely across the continent in order to overcome the ethnic animosities that was ignited by colonialism, established by the post colonial tussle for power among ruling elites, and strengthened by geographic claustrophobia.

- **Strengthening of anti-graft institutions:** Strong anti-graft institutions are necessity across Nigeria state, as in any other part of the world. Governments across Nigeria should appoint credible and determined individuals who may even be nationals of other African countries, to take up the fight against corruption in the high and low places. A strengthened judiciary is a necessity in this respect.

The need for the establishment of anti-corruption and security agency court that will take charge of all criminal cases against corrupt politicians and administrators.

The EFCC need leadership that commands legitimacy, which will enable them to assert their independence and build the integrity with its rank and file. EFCC should be empowered and grant absolute autonomy in handling cases relating to corruption.

Economic growth: Poverty breeds vice. Nigeria government should embark on not just the deceptive increment in Gross Domestic Product, but real development in terms of standard of living. Health, education, food security, and infrastructural growth must be given prominence.

Research Design

The research design for this study is content analyses of data obtained from Transparency International and the Mo Ibrahim Foundation. Transparency International is an international non-governmental anti-corruption watch-dog. The organization uses Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) to reflect the perceived levels of corruption in the public sector. The CPI gathers data from sources that span the last three years and ranges from between ten (highly clean) and zero (highly corrupt). This implies that, the closer a country's CPI is to ten (10) the more transparent the country is. Conversely, the closer a country's CPI is to zero (0), the more corrupt the country is. Transparency International uses the perception of knowledgeable respondents, local and expatriate residents, business elites, scholars and country analysis in arriving at the CPI. The CPI is a better measure of the level of corruption than the country's ranking. The ranking only shows a country's position among others and not the level of (TI 2002).

The Mo Ibrahim Foundation is a reputable non-governmental and African-Centered concerned with promoting and rewarding good governance in Africa. The organisation's Ibrahim Index of African Governance is relevant, up to date and one of the most reliable indexes of African Governance. One of the components used by the foundation is safety and rule of law which is measured in percentages. The data obtained from the two organizations will be presented in tables and analysed using averages and percentages. With the aid of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) at 95% level of significance that is 5% (.05%) margin of error.

Results and Discussion

The independent and dependent variables as contained are corruption and insecurity respectively. Data on these variables as obtained from and Mo Ibrahim Foundation from 2010 - 2019 are presented and analyzed in tables 1

The Level of Corruption in Nigeria

Transparency International CPI represents the rate of transparency in the public sector. It ranges from 0 - 10 which for the purpose of this study, is converted to percentages. The percentages of the CPIs are also deducted from 100 to arrive at the percentages on the level of corruption in Nigeria as presented in table 1 and 2.

Table 1. Transparency international corruption perception index and ranking for Nigeria 2011 – 2020

Year	CPI	Transparency (%)	No. of Countries Covered	of Ranking	Corruption (%)	Ranking
2011	1.0	10	91	90	90	2
2012	1.6	16	102	101	84	2
2013	1.4	14	133	132	86	2
2014	1.6	16	145	144	84	2
2015	1.9	19	158	152	81	6
2016	2.2	22	163	142	78	21
2017	2.2	22	179	147	78	32
2018	2.7	27	180	121	73	59
2019	2.5	25	180	130	75	50
2020	2.4	24	180	146	76	44

Source: Adapted from Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index 2010 – 2019

The data in table 1 indicates that the level of corruption for the decade has been high. This range from 90% in 2010 to the lowest of 73% in 2019, the average, and rate of corruption for the period is 80.5% which is very high. Conversely, the country recorded poor scores in transparency. The highest score in transparency was 27% in 2017 and lowest in 2019 with only 10%. This is a very poor performance in transparency. The country's ranking shows that Nigeria has been among the six most corrupt countries between 2010 – 2014. Though the country's ranking improved from 2016 to 2019, it does not indicate a reduction in the level of corruption. It only shows that more corrupt countries were included in the survey.

Rate of Insecurity in Nigeria

The major components of insecurity are physical or potential threats to the personal safety of the citizens, the extent of social unrest, political persecution, violent crimes and human trafficking. It also include the extent of government

involvement in armed conflicts, cross border tension, domestic armed conflicts and number of displaced people. The extent of insecurity among fifty three African countries is presented table 2.

Table 2. Nigeria’s scores and ranking in insecurity 2010/2019

Year	Score o n Security(%)	Security Ranking	Score re n ity (%)	Insecurity Ranki ng
2010	43	43	57	10
2011	42	43	58	10
2012	42	43	58	10
2013	41	45	59	8
2014	43	43	57	10
2015	42	44	58	9
2016	44	43	56	10
2017	47	36	53	17
2018	44	-	56	-
2019	46	36	54	17

Source: Adapted from Mo Ibrahim Foundation; Ibrahim Index of African Governance 2010_2019

Since the Mo Ibrahim Foundation presents only the country’s scores on safety and security, Nigeria’s scores and rankings in insecurity were arrived at by subtracting the later from the former. The ranking in insecurity is arrived at by subtracting Nigeria’s ranking in safety and security from the total of fifty three countries covered by the survey. The data indicates higher scores and rankings in insecurity in Nigeria as compared to security scores and rankings. The rate of insecurity was highest in 2014 followed by 2013 and 2014. Nigeria was the eight(8th) most insecure country in Africa in 2014. The average rate of insecurity in Nigeria for the period 2010 - 2019 is 56.6% as compared to 43.3% for security.

Conclusion

The insecurity and corruption in Nigeria has become a formidable challenge for the Nigerian government and peoples. The governance challenges facing the polity have trickled into the society, resulting in moral decadence. The growing dissatisfaction, discomfort and distress within the larger society coupled with the unbaiting official corruption, high unemployment rate, economic crisis, pauperization of the masses, decaying infrastructure and a futile national integration project have heated up the socio-political environment. Corruption has made Nigeria a sleeping giant and has done more damage to the country than anything else we can think of, if we consider that it is directly or indirectly at the root of every evil. Corruption encourages kleptocracy, breeds poverty, unemployment and contributes to as well as exacerbates conflicts. Insecurity in the country results from conflicts and non-conflict sources. Corruption and insecurity are therefore twin problems of development in Nigeria. While corruption is the result of various factors ranging from political, social to economic, insecurity is mainly the offshoot of corruption. The effects of corruption and insecurity on Nigeria's socio-political and economic development are myriad. Corruption and insecurity therefore pose a serious development challenge to the nation as they threaten the existence of Nigeria as a nation. Since corruption gives rise to insecurity, there is need to first manage corruption. If this is done, insecurity would be dealt a lethal blow. In this regard, the following are recommended: Improvement in the standard of living of the people is necessary if the fight is to be won.

Recommendations

This paper therefore, recommended the following as a means of combating the negative impacts of corruption and insecurity in Nigeria socio political economy;

1. Nigerian Government should establish a special court for the speedy trial of individuals accused of corrupt practices, capital punishments is also canvassed. Judiciary should anchor their judgment on the bases of meritocracy than on the ground of technicalities of law as witnessed in the cases of prominent and influential political juggernauts in the country
2. Government should give top priority to management of corruption than eradication of corruption in its change agenda.

3. Good governance, transparency, accountability and the rule of law are necessary if the fight against corruption and by extension insecurity is to be achieved, also, Nepotism ,Favorism ,Godfatherism and Ethnocentric believe in appointment of individuals that would hold any political offices should estopped.
4. Law enforcement agents should be equipped adequately to deal with the problem of terrorism and our military personnel should be on attacking side than defensive side in the war against terrorism in Nigeria.
5. Corruption and insecurity need to be managed properly for Nigeria to be able to effectively play its role as the giant of Africa and a force to be reckoned with globally.
6. Management of corruption and insecurity in Nigeria is a task that should not be left to the government alone; all hands must therefore be on deck if the country is to be purged of this twin evil.
7. Finally, proliferation of arms and ammunitions, armed conflicts, terrorism, ethno- religious crisis, kidnapping, political assassination and other violent crimes have become a reoccurring phenmenon in Nigerian social relations, Government at all level should as a matter of urgency regulate and legislate on the above issues so as to foster fast management and curtailing the negative impact of corruption and insecurity in Nigeria.

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