

Evaluating The Effect of Boko Haram Insurgency on Education and Students of Polytechnics in Northeast Nigeria

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Abstract:

The main objective of this research is to Evaluate the effect of the Boko Haram Insurgency on Education on Students of tertiary institutions which affects their performance in northeast Nigeria. The study examined the effect of the Boko Haram insurgency on education in some selected tertiary institution in northeastern states of Nigeria. The primary data will be sourced through the circulation of 500 survey forms to the affected institutions in the region this will include some affected Polytechnics and Universities all from northeastern Nigeria. Descriptive analysis was used either qualitative or quantitative, the research adopt qualitative analysis so as to verbally summarise the information generated for secondary data in the research, and the primary data chi-square X^2 was implemented to analysed the Data. Human capital investment was affected by school enrolment, school attendance, and school infrastructure which is seriously affected by the Boko Haram insurgency. It is extreme religious beliefs, unemployment, and illiteracy that contributed to the emergence of the Boko Haram insurgency. Boko Haram insurgency indirectly and significantly affects human capital investment through school enrolments, school attendance, and school infrastructure due to fear in minds of students and their parents. The lack of modern facilities installed to detect the availed of Boko Haram on the campus is the major effect and lack of security personnel in all the institutions in the region. Therefore government should provide employment opportunities for the citizens and encourages self-reliance in programs such as entrepreneurship, and agricultural borrower's schemes. Free education to grow the learning percentage of every citizen, and government should be in persistent discourse with Boko Haram religious leaders (Muslims) to find a lasting solution to this problem.

Keywords: *Education, Institutions, Insurgency, Human Capitals Investment, Boko Haram, and Students.*

1 INTRODUCTION

Every society across the globe has its peculiar problems and challenges and Nigeria is no exception. Today, insecurity is one of the greatest problems bedeviling various countries to varying degrees. Contemporary discussions on Nigeria are almost inevitably replete with issues surrounding militancy, insurgency, and terrorism, due to the linkages with economic, social, political, and governance activities, with spiraling effects on regional and international relations (Adewumi, 2014). It is worth noting that over the years, different sets of groups had risen in Nigeria with real militancy approaches in prosecuting their objectives. Notable among these groups are the Oodua People's Congress (OPC) within Yorubas, Bakassi Boys and Movement for Actualization of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) among Igbos, Niger-Delta Militant in the South-South as well as the Boko Haram in the North-East. Boko Haram has been in existence right from the 1980s but only started to draw attention in 2002. It is on record that these particular groups have been operating under the name Shabaab Muslim Youth Organization with Mallam Lawal as the leader since 1995 but the leadership of the group shifted to Mallam Mohammed Yusuf when Mallam Lawal left Nigeria. Ekanem, et.al (2012).

The emergence of the Boko Haram insurgency has introduced a terrorist dimension hitherto unknown in the criminal space of Nigeria. A Series of bombings have been carried out by the sect in the North-East as well as taking hostage of innocent citizens including over 300 students in Chibok 2014 and 200 Dapchi in 2018 respectively. This has raised both international and national concerns which had also led to a campaign by civil societies called the Bring back our girls' campaign.

The problem of insecurity which used to be one of the lowest in the hierarchy of social problems facing the country seems to have assumed an alarming proportion since the end of the Nigerian civil war in 1970. During the pre-colonial and colonial eras, insecurity was merely handled by the Federal Government using the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Nigeria Police Force. The magnitude of insecurity in Nigeria has become so grave that the Army, Police Force, Air Force, Directorate of State Security, etc. have all been drafted into maintaining internal security. Even at that, the military which is saddled with the responsibility of defending the territorial boundaries of the country sometimes flees out of the country to neighboring Cameroun in fear of the insurgency and This has led to fear among the populace as security of lives and property can no longer be guaranteed.

Since 1999, when the country returned to democratic rule, there has been an upsurge in violent activities in Nigeria with the Boko Haram insurgency being at the forefront. The Boko Haram sect has become a threat to

both internal and international security as their activities have now stretched beyond Nigeria to her neighbors. With consistent violent attacks on security forces, civilians, churches and mosques, farms, media houses, schools as well as international bodies such as the United Nations building in Abuja 2011, it has further compounded several challenges already faced by the nation, particularly in the Northeast. The Boko Haram insurgency poses a threat to national security, however, it should be noted that the concept of national security, in the post-cold war era, has gone beyond securing the lives and properties of the people through the protection of the territorial integrity of the state against threats of external aggressors to encompass the protection of citizens from the threats of diseases, hunger, unemployment, violation of human rights, displacements and shelter problems, conflict, political repression and environmental degradation, Adedoyin (2013) hence, human security. Boko Haram's violent activity which has intensified in recent times has largely undermined human security. Gilbert (2014), since the insurgency began, there have been over 20,000 deaths and 8000 persons maimed. Food insecurity has further worsened as farmers have fled their farms in fear of being attacked especially in the northern region which is the country's main food-growing region.

Insecurity may also trigger long-term consequences in the region, as Nigeria serves as Africa's largest supplier of staples cereals (USAID, 2014). The health sector has also received its own share as the numbers of injured persons are increasing with little or no facilities to cater for them as well as health workers abandoning their posts in fear of being killed. The killings and abduction of school children and college students by the sect have forced the closures of schools indefinitely and the withdrawal of children and wards by parents from schools still operating, therefore denying them access to education. There are inadequate shelters for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and yet, the number of IDPs is increasing this affects policies of the government and also retards development, a threat to the economic, political, and social security of a nation, and a major factor associated with underdevelopment; because it reduces the quality of life, destroys human and social capital, damaged relationship between citizens and the states, undermining democracy, rule of law and the ability of the country to promote development. However, apart from the loss of lives and properties the atrocities of the sect have socio-economic implications. The economic, social, and psychological costs of the insurgency cannot be quantified. Commercial activities in the areas have been reduced because of the unprecedented attacks by the sect. Banks, markets, and shops do not open regularly due to the fear of coordinated attacks from the Boko haram

The Maiduguri Monday Market said to be the biggest in the city is reported to have been seriously affected as hundreds of shop owners, are said to have closed their businesses and left the troubled city. The working duration of most commercial banks in the affected areas has been reduced from eight hours to three hours. Apart from the migration of people who have business in the northeast to other parts of Nigeria, foreign nationals of Chad, Cameroun, and Niger are being repatriated to their home countries for what the government of Nigeria said to constitute the members of Boko Haram. Definitely, those who have business in cities like Maiduguri, Yobe, Taraba, Bauchi, Gombe, and Adamawa will form part of those that are sent homes which will actually affect their institutions and the economic activities in these cities. The never-ending attacks by Boko Haram in Borno, Yobe Adamawa states they have extended to Gombe, Bauchi, and Taraba respectively have a severe impact on the students and economic lives of people living in these areas. From the foregoing, it becomes increasingly difficult for school activities to thrive under the present security threats that have enveloped fear in the minds of students and parents in the northeast region.

Statement of the problem

Terrorism has imposed a new strategic climate on the present global system by making every human a potential victim of its various forms. Hardly a day passes without news of some acts of terrorism in one or another trouble spot on our planet. Car bomb, suicide bombing, hostage taking, kidnapping, or assassination by an aggrieved person or persons is being carried out frequently. The point is that we are now living in a world that is constantly being traumatized by continuous attacks by a terrorist. As a result, no one any longer feels completely safe whether at home, at work, walking along on the streets, or traveling regardless students on the campus are not saved.

Some years back Nigeria could easily be described as the worst period of unprecedented terror-related violence and a general state of insecurity in which thousands of innocent Nigerians have lost their precious lives and property, especially in Northeastern Nigeria. Because of the increasing spate of bomb attacks targeted at churches Mosques, government institutions, Business centers, and other flashpoints in the North East by armed Boko Haram, most Nigerians are now apprehensive and fearful of the unknown.

The rise of terrorism in Nigeria has implications for peace, stability, economic development, and overall national security, unity, and cooperative existence of the country. Bamidele (2012) argued that almost every day television broadcasts, shows, newspapers, magazines, and internet websites run and re-run pictures of

dramatic acts of violence carried out by this ferocious sect. Most worrisome is the fact that despite the world being aware of all sorts of activities to address the problem, terrorism has not abated in any significant manner Imobighe, (2007). Therefore, It is gradually creating an impression to citizens and the international community that the country is no longer safe for investment and other economic activities, especially in Adamawa, Taraba, Gombe, Borno, Yobe, and Bauchi states that constitute the Northeast States of Nigeria.

More also, research on the Boko Haram insurgency has been largely on schools, Human Security, and psychological effects on the people in the Northeast. Adeoye Afolabi (2015), Nneka Sophie Amalu (2015), (Oladunjoye Patrick, Omemu Felix 2013), Usman Solomon Ayegba (2015). There is inadequate empirical evidence investigating Boko Haram insurgency on the Evaluating impact of Boko Haram on education students in the tertiary institution, especially in the Northeast.

Objectives of the Research

The specific objectives for this research are: -

- i. To examine, whether the Boko Haram crisis threat to the School activities of North-eastern Nigerians.
- ii. To determine whether the military option is the possible solution to tackling the menace.
- iii. To examine the factors that lead to the emergence of Boko Haram in North East

Research question

In light of the above, this study will be guided by the following research questions.

- i. Does the Boko Haram crisis a threat to the Students of the northeast?
- ii. Is the military option the possible solution to tackling the menace?
- iii. What is the factor that leads to the appearance of the Boko-Haram insurgency?

II. BRIEF LITERATURE REVIEW

Insurgency

There are divergent views and opinions about insurgency by different Scholars and theorists. While some of these views are closely related, others are not so related but contain common elements and this still makes the subject technically difficult. Perhaps, the insurgency is best understood by first considering what it is not.

Liolio, (2013) stated that insurgency is not terrorism or conventional war, though they share some similarities such as the use of force, or guerrilla tactics to achieve an end which is often political. Basically, the difference between insurgency and terrorism lies in the scope and magnitude of violence. While for instance, terrorism rarely brings about political change on its own, insurgency attempts to bring about change through the force of arms. Similarly, terrorists often apply a wide range of damages when compared to insurgents. On the other hand, conventional war involves adversaries more or less symmetric in equipment or training; insurgency involves adversaries that are asymmetric and weak.

Traditionally, insurgencies seek to overthrow an existing order with one that is commensurate with their political, economic, ideological, or religious goals (Gompert and Gordon, 2008). Moreover, Kilcullen (2006) revealed that insurgency is a struggle to control a contested political space between a state and a group of states or occupying powers and one or more popularly based non-state challengers the author also tries to draw a line between classical and contemporary insurgencies thus: while the latter seeks to replace the existing order, the former sometimes strive for the expulsion of foreign invaders from their territory or seek to fill an existing power vacuum. Therefore, insurgency connotes an internal uprising often outside the confines of state's laws and it is often characterized by social-economic and political goals as well as military or guerrilla tactics. Put differently, it is a protracted struggle carefully and methodically carried out to achieve certain goals with the eventual aim of replacing the existing power structure.

Terrorism

The term 'terrorism' was coined from the word terror derived from the Latin verb "terrare" meaning 'to frighten'. In modern times, it has been adopted to mean a wide range of deployment of force largely targeted at the civilian population by disgruntled elements within the society to direct the attention of the government to the plight of militants or to force a change of government. Regardless of the problem associated with the definition, certain attributes of terrorism manifest in bombings, assassinations, armed assaults, kidnappings, hostage situations, and hijackings. Groups like (Tamil Tigers, Taliban, Boko Haram, etc.) activities are what we define as terrorism. The involvement of America in Vietnam, Iraq, Pakistan, Libya, and Egypt among others was seen as a terrorist act. In addition, Reich (1998) revealed a strategy of resistance to the modern state, terrorism emerged some half-century after the French revolution, when the term originated as a description of the state regime of terror. Moreover, Johnson, (2011), claimed that Boko Haram is not the first

Islamic fundamentalist sect in Nigeria to adopt violence as a weapon of operation. In the 1970s and 1980s, one Buba Marwa, which was widely acknowledged as dangerous to the peace and stability of the nation formed the sect that was known as Maitatsine. He instigated riots in the country which resulted in the deaths of thousands of people as this explains why some analysts view Boko- Haram as an extension of the Maitatsine riots. "Boko-Haram" was derived from Hausa and Arabic words. "Boko" in Hausa means "western education" and "Haram" an Arabic word means "sin" (Obinna, 2011 and Sani, 2011).

Furthermore, Boko Haram insurgents have been severally called terrorists in many quarters.

The Boko Haram terrorist scourge in contemporary national relations creates a public atmosphere of anxiety and it has undermined confidence in the government. The terrorists 'unpredictability and apparent randomness make it virtually impossible for the government to protect all potential victims. The public demand for protections that the state cannot give frustrated the people then usually demand the government to make concessions to stop the attacks or protect their citizens, which automatically has implications for citizens' loyalty to their government and when citizen's loyalty to their government is in doubt, then national stability is threatened.

Boko- Haram Ideology

For the past years, the Nigerian government has demonstrated clearly that it is fighting the war against the Boko Haram insurgency without a clear understanding of the sect's worldview. For a sect that morphed from a mere group of bandits to a group with international reach and armed with sophisticated weapons, it is imperative to understand its ideology. Boko Haram was founded as a Sunni Islamic fundamentalist sect advocating a strict form of Sharia law. It developed into a Salafist-Jihadist group in 2009, influenced, perhaps by the Wahhabi movement (Blanchard 2014). Members of the sect believe that their interpretation of the Quran is the 'true' Islam. Also, they are convinced that this 'true' Islam is holistic and embraces all aspects of Muslim life in preparation for eternity.

The sect's main grudge against the Nigerian state is that the existing socio-economic condition is both wrong and repressive. Primarily, it is wrong according to this perspective because it does not correspond to Islamic principles. Thus, to get rid of this condition of repression and wrongdoing, Boko Haram seeks to establish an Islamic state. They want to return Islam to what they view as the interpretation of first-generation Muslims. This is a direct reference to the classical era of the caliphate. Arguably, the Caliphate represents one

of the longest political institutions in human history. Though its lifespan started in 622 (right after the death of Mohammed) it was abolished by Mustafa Kemal in 1924 (Idowu-Fearon 2015). A critical turning point, however, in the Sunni revivalist approach to state management found its vent in Ayatollah Khomeini-led Revolution in Iran in 1979. Like other Islamists, a common shared pride and nostalgia for the restoration of the Caliphate represents a general claim, irrespective of their sectarian membership (Ray 2004).

Furthermore, the need to 'rid' Nigeria of immoral and imperial Western domination and influences through the adoption of an Islamic path forms its basic objective. Therefore, to Boko Haram, the solution to this problem lies in an embrace of Islamic teaching and an understanding that all 'true' Muslims compose a single cohesive community and must work together to resist the encroachment of corrupt Western influences. As such, any Muslim that works contrary to this dictum is classed with 'unbelievers'. To realize this goal, the group intends to leave no stone unturned.

Boko Haram also established external linkages with ideologically – driven Islamic terrorist groups in Somalia, the Islamic Maghreb, and possibly, as recent well-informed reports widely quoted by the international press indicate the Pakistan/Afghanistan axis which is acknowledged to be the global headquarters of terrorism (Phillip, 2012; Gilbert, 2014). While affiliating itself with the Islamic State (ISIS) on March 7, 2015, Boko Haram has at the same time not distanced itself from Al Qaeda (Ostebo, 2015). Its major operations since that time can be divided into the following attack categories: the security forces; banks and markets; beer drinkers and hotels, card-players, restaurants, etc. schools at all levels; attacks on churches as well as selected mosques; and targeted assassinations involving political figures and prominent Islamic clerics who challenged the sect activities. While the major methodologies of drive-by shootings and bombings from motorcycles have not changed, the group has demonstrated in its incarnation a considerable range, carrying out operations in North-East, North-West, and several states in North-central and Abuja city (Cook, 2011).

Most dramatic has been the transition of Boko Haram toward the use of suicide attacks, a rare asset, starting with the attack on the police General Headquarters in Abuja on June 16, 2011, and then culminating with the attack on the United Nations headquarters, also in Abuja, on August 26, 2011. Boko Haram members at times disguise themselves as soldiers in uniform or as women in a veil or as religious preachers to carry out attacks or escape security forces. The threat female bombers pose is another dimension to the evolving tactics of the sect... (Ejiofor2015). The sect recruits abduct and train teenage girls and youths for suicide missions.

The 276 female students that were abducted on April 15, 2014, from the Government Secondary School in the town of Chibok in Borno State and other massive abductions in parts of northern states have come to symbolize an insurgency that doesn't need a large footprint to terrorize a population. Notably, Boko Haram adherents are young, able-bodied, and unemployed with no prospect of hope on the horizon. Increasingly, their sermons were taking the form of liberation theology, commenting on the ills, injustice, and inequalities, prevalent in their immediate environment.

The effect of Boko Haram Activities on educational Improvement in Northeastern Nigeria:

Historically, each region in Nigeria complements the other. What the North lacks in access to the sea, the South provides. The north wields 78 percent of Nigeria's land which supports most of Nigeria's agriculture (food, cash crops, and livestock). The South-West's terrain supports both domestic and international commerce and provides an import/export route. While the South-South and some parts of the South-East wield Nigeria's oil wealth (*Business Day*, 2012).

Overall, the uprising hurts any nation's economic system. Anybody or anything in the world has never benefited from the insurgency. In Nigeria, for example, merely mentioning insurgency without specifically mentioning the activities of Boko Haram's militant group is insufficient. The Nigerian government is now fighting terrorism and uprising, and this group has been accused of numerous human rights cases of abuse against civilians (Mukhtar, 2017). The Boko Haram group has been identified as one of the aspects that enabled various levels of destruction of numerous economic activities, including the destruction of school institutions in most parts of the North East. As a result, schools throughout the region have been closed.

According to Odinkalu (2014), school closures have far-reaching consequences, including the termination of many students' education and the denial of the opportunity to further their education. When schools are closed, students lose interest in studying, which has a long-term negative impact on both students and society's leaders. Regarding a series of attacks by Islamic militants in areas with the highest illiteracy rates in the country, 85 schools in Borno state were closed, affecting nearly 120,000 students, according to a report published by the Guardian (2014). Furthermore, over 500 schoolgirls were kidnapped in 2014 and 2018. According to the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA), in July 2015, members of the Nigerian House of Representatives expressed deep concern that schools in the three states of Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa, Taraba, Bauchi and Gombe particularly those in the hinterland, had been closed for three

years, denying scores of young people access to education, and passed a motion calling on the Federal Government to reopen schools. In particular, the uprising hurts any nation's economy and society.

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According to a study published in the Guardian (2014), "since the beginning of 2012, over 70 instructors and over 1200 school children have been killed, with some also being injured; 70 schools have been burned, and more than 66 others have been forced to close." Many students were forced to leave school in Yobe, Bauchi, Gombe, Taraba, Adamawa, and Borno states, among others. According to the United Nations, in response to school attacks, teachers have quit their jobs and fled the affected areas, or possibly the entire country (Brendan, 2010). Boko Haram assassinated three teachers in Borno state on March 18, 2012, and another three teachers at Grange II elementary school in Maiduguri in 2013, affecting the emotional stability of others. The insecurity caused by the Boko Haram sect's constant attacks and fighting in Borno and other parts of the Northeast has caused many parents to send their children away or leave the state, causing their educational progression to be disrupted, as has been the case since 2012.

Boko Haram's nine-year onslaught on northeastern Nigeria has had a devastating impact on children's access to and quality of education in the most affected states. According to their report, the government estimates that approximately 14.3 million children are not attending school in Nigeria's northern region, with the number of out-of-school children in the northeastern region increasing dramatically between 2015 and 2021. Their efforts have also led to the demise of many schools, causing the affected states to close schools and colleges for an extended period. The group is considered a threat to national security as a result of the numerous damage incurred by the group in each incident (Mukhtar, 2017). According to an Awortu (2015) Guardian

investigation, the Boko Haram sect raided Borno in July 2010 and destroyed approximately 1000 classrooms, prompting authorities to close schools in Yobe state from June to September 2013. Some many studies, including one by Ugwumba and Odom (2015), have found that school infrastructure and facility damage and damage have significant negative consequences for academic development and have the potential to reduce access to education for many children in the Northeastern states of Borno, Yobe, Bauchi, Taraba, Gombe, and Adamawa. This is because when schools are destroyed, not only are the classrooms destroyed, but also all of the teaching materials, equipment, and school records, leaving children and have nowhere to learn.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology adopted for a particular study depends largely on the nature of the research involved. For the purpose of this study, the survey research method will be adopted because of its versatility and practicability in identifying the present conditions and pointing to the present needs of Students.

Location of the Research study

This study will cover the activities of Boko Haram insurgency in the northern part of Nigeria but more emphasis will be made on the north-eastern part of the country which comprises Borno state, Yobe state, Adamawa state, Bauchi state, Gombe state, and Taraba state. The research work had a challenge in data collection because most of the people interviewed were reluctant to give information on Boko-Haram. Also, there was difficulty in accessing some areas in the northeast to get information from the people on how it affects their business.

Method of data analysis

The method of data analysis used for this study the descriptive analysis. Descriptive analysis can be qualitative or quantitative, the study uses qualitative analysis to verbally summarise the information generated for secondary data in the research, and the primary data chi-square X^2 was used to analyze the Data.

$$X^2 = \sum \frac{(O_f - E_f)^2}{E_f}$$

$$\sum E_f$$

IV. DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

Table 4.1 Questionnaire response rate

Institutions	Number of Administered	No. Of valid returned	No. Of invalid returned
Collage of Education Yola	55	45	10
University of Maiduguri	75	65	10
Collage of Education Gombe	70	61	09
ATBU Bauchi	45	36	09
Federal Poly Damaturu	65	51	14
Federal Poly Balli Taraba	65	48	17
Yobe State University	60	54	06
Federal Poly Bauchi	65	60	05
Total	500	420	80

Source: field survey, 2023

TABLE4.3: The operation of Boko Haram insurgency in the North-East has crippled secondary school activities.

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE	CUMMULATIVE PERCENTAGE
STRONGLY AGREED	150	26	26
AGREED	220	50	76
UNDECIDED	20	9	85
DISAGREED	11	7	92
STRONGLY DISAGREED	19	8	100%
TOTAL	420	100%	

Source: Field Survey, 2023.

From table1 above, analysis shown that 26% strongly agreed and 50% agreed to give the combination of 76% of the respondents support the fact that the operation of Boko Haram in the North-Eastern Nigeria has crippled the secondary school activities in the Area. However, 9% are undecided, 7% disagreed while 8% strongly

disagreed respectively. This implies that majority of the respondents are of the opinion that Boko Haram insurgency has crippled secondary school activities in the North-Eastern Nigeria.

TABLE4.4: Boko Haram crisis added fear to Students in North-Eastern Nigeria

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE	CUMMULATIVE PERCENTAGE
STRONGLY AGREED	90	21	21
AGREED	220	53	74
UNDECIDED	20	5	79
DISAGREED	50	13	92
STRONGLY DISAGREED	40	8	100%
TOTAL	420	100%	

Source: Field survey, 2023.

Analysis from table 2 above, agreed that Boko Haram crisis has added fear to students in the North-Eastern Nigeria as shown strongly agreed 21% and agreed 53%. While 5% of the respondents are undecided, 13% of the respondents disagreed and 8% are strongly disagreed to the perception respectively. This implies that majority of the respondents are of the opinion that Boko Haram insurgency has injected fear to the students mind in their individual area.

TABLE4.5: Boko Haram insurgency have hindered students of Tertiary institution activities in North-Eastern Nigeria

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE	CUMMULATIVE PERCENTAGE
STRONGLY AGREED	200	47	47
AGREED	158	38	85
UNDECIDED	08	2	87
DISAGREED	48	12	98-
STRONGLY DISAGREED	06	1	100%
TOTAL	420	100%	

Source: Field survey, 2023.

Analysis of the respondents in table 3 shows that 47% and 38% strongly agreed and agreed that Boko Haram insurgency have hindered secondary school activities in North-Eastern Nigeria, while 12% and 1% disagreed and strongly disagreed to the fact that Boko Haram activities have hindered students of tertiary institution activities in the area and 2% are undecided respectively. This shown that majority of the respondents believes that Boko Haram has hindered students of tertiary institution activities in North-Eastern Nigeria.

V. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:

Conclusion:

Insecurity challenge has postured by the fundamentalist group, Boko Haram, has heightened serious fears among students and Nigerian populace. The trend has led to incessant suicide bombings and all sorts of attacks in the northern parts of the country with little or no provocation. Consequently, lives and property are lost, business ventures and school have remained closed especially in the north. Most regrettably, the neighboring students has been relocating in large numbers to their states of origin to avoid losing their lives in the hands of the sect. It was discovered from the study that the normalcy has started coming up in some bokao haram state , the federal government intervention of security personal.. Alternatively, the federal government should embrace dialogue approach, especially now that the fundamentalist group has declared its readiness to dialogue with the federal government (Akhain, 2012:51), but this can only be effective if the dissenting group within the government cycle, who are ever ready to sabotage the strategy, are fished out, dislodged and prosecuted accordingly.

Recommendation:

1. There are allegations against some high placed personalities in Northern Nigeria over their hidden agenda in providing financial support to Boko Haram religious sect. According to Ifijeh (2011:19), Senator Ali Ndume and Late Ambassador Saidu Pindar were believed to be some of the greatest financiers to the sect. This is in addition to the established case against a judge with the Kano State judiciary that his call log showed that he actually had links with the religious sect, Boko Haram. Considering the above, the federal government should regard these persons as terrorists, who aid and assist terrorism in Nigeria, and therefore should be arrested and prosecuted accordingly to serve as a deterrent to others who are yet to be exposed.

2. Federal government should be reminded of the fact that the members of Boko Haram comprise the children of the less privileged people who were unable to have access to western education owing to financial in capabilities of their parents, and therefore, the products of long years of neglect and economic slavery. To reduce the incidents of violence and insecurity resulting from reactions of the aggrieved and frustrated people of the downtrodden from the north, all the governments from the crisis-ridden areas should focus on investing more in education to tackle the issues of illiteracy and economic backwardness. In this regard, the Governors from the areas concerned should introduce free and compulsory education particularly to the “Almajiris.”

3. The federal government had in many occasions declared state of emergencies in some northern states that were seriously devastated by the Boko Haram insurgency. Unfortunately, this strategy was of no effect as the members were not domiciled in a particular area. Alternatively, the federal government should invite the northern state Governors and security agencies as well as the leaders of the sect, who are known to claim responsibilities for the most attacks, for a dialogue. In this indulgence, the amnesty approach employed in the Niger – Delta region can be useful.

4. The multi-ethnic nature of this country is regarded as one of the major challenges facing the security situation in this country. This condition has obviously generated a lot of primordial feelings and sentiments among Nigerian populace. It is on this premise that Oditia (2012:17), reminded every Nigerian that this country belongs to all of us and each person has a responsibility not just the security agents. In this respect, Nigerians should not fold their hands indefinitely waiting for the government to tackle the incessant bombings and gun attacks alone. If a dialogue approach fails, the government should provide enabling environment and adequate tools to trained security agents to perform, while the public provides reliable information on the whereabouts of the sect’s members, who are residing in the midst of the people.

5. Considering the level of security consciousness in this country, one may be constrained to state that Nigeria is not yet ready to tackle the issue of Boko Haram insurgency in the north. It is pertinent to remind Nigerians that after 9/11 disaster in United States all important public facilities have been well guarded with modern technological gadgets capable of detecting and preventing bomb blasts. It is not out of place if Nigeria should borrow a leaf from these advanced countries by ensuring that all the various security agencies are put on red alert and ensure that all sensitive public facilities are properly guarded with modern technological gadgets capable of detecting and preventing bomb blasts institution.

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