

## Effect of Insurgency on Socio-Economic and Political Development of Yobe State, Nigeria

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### Abstract

*This article examines the effects of insurgency on the economic and political development of Yobe states of Nigeria. Indeed, one of the major issues affecting the North-Eastern states is the presence of Boko Haram insurgency, which is directly or indirectly affecting the lives, properties of the resident of the states. Boko Haram insurgency has continually posed a serious threat to the corporate existence and unity of the state. This article investigates the origin, causes, and effect of Boko Haram on socio-economic and political development of the area under study. The method used in obtaining the relevant data is the secondary source of data, in this case data were obtained from documentaries such as journals, articles, magazines, reports, newspapers, thesis and books. The study found that the activities of the insurgent groups are negatively affecting the economic and political development of the state, which has made many youth and the business men unemployed and unsheltered. To support the argument the researcher adopted Structural Violence Theory, this theory was propounded by Johan Galtung in 1969. The research recommends that the government should provide the youth and the affected business men with different skills acquisition programmes to discourage and or prevent them from redundancy; the government should in addition encourage and support religious leaders to preach peace, and tolerance in the state, to restrain the youth from all form of criminal activities. It should ensure and strictly enforce laws and order to control the activities of all citizens across the state.*

**Keywords:** Boko Haram; Development; Insurgency; Political; Socio-economic

### Introduction

Insecurity in Nigerian context has drawn the attention of African states, Nigeria been the giant of Africa blessed with both human and material resource, in addition to the significant role it plays in the continental and global affairs. However, Nigeria as a nation is characterized surrounded with porous borders which makes the penetration of outsiders from neighboring countries very easy, because of this many intruder find it easy to move in and out of the country at their will. This give room some bad element to move in and outside of the nation. Indeed, Boko commenced their activities in 1995 under the leadership of Abubakar Lawan as Taliban before they change to Boko Haram. Taliban or Boko Haram came in and established their bases with the help of some citizens. After establishing their base in in the Northeastern part of the country, they mobilized the youth to join the group and later start killing the government officials, especially security personnel and then extended to general public in the north-Eastern states, especially Borno and Yobe states. These two states were the most economically affected state by the Boko Haram insurgency and many other attendant problems. And all these was as a result of porous borders, and the negligence of the security agencies in discharging their responsibility of proper enforcement of laws, managing and controlling conflicts and people's movement at the points of entry and exit. Thus, insecurity became a daily recurring problem, especially in the North-Eastern part of the country, specifically, Borno, Yobe and Adamawa, and like in many other African states–Niger, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, where the citizens have no security of lives and property.

However, border control is significant for the protection of national security. Therefore, study by Spencer (2007), expressed that “*the border is the first line of defense against violence and the last line of a country's regional integrity*”. Surely, Boko Haram insurgency in northern part of the country (particularly the northeast region) has been worsened because of porous borders with Cameroon (1,690 kilometers) in the east, Niger (1,497 kilometers) in the north, Benin (773 kilometers) in the west, and Chad (87

kilometers) in the northeast. Most of these border areas are either hilly or in the rainforest. Regardless of their physical nature, a common feature of the nation's borders is its porosity (Onuoha, 2013).

A study by Onuoha (2013), revealed that Nigeria's border problem is connected to the colonial history, however, Nigeria porosity has been aggravated by the disappointment of the colonial administrations for inappropriately designed and managed these boundaries right from the beginning. To support the above opinion Okumu (2010), disclosed that *"the high level of insecurity on African borders is largely due to the way they are administered and managed by the securities attached to the borders, and how colonialists drew them"*. In line with this, Nigerian boundaries are recognized for the inadequate security and law enforcement officers. Even the few that are positioned at the border are poorly skilled with insufficient and obsolete equipment, the worse part of it is that, sometimes they are poorly paid. He further disclosed that most border town have for long been deserted by the government, making it problematic for government to influence their location to restrict illegal cross-border events.

Nigeria has seen ruthless hostility and huge assault from the terrorist group called Boko Haram from 2009, which is certainly the most blood-thirsty and damaging, both in term of demonic violence, mindless cruelty and obvious defiance to the principles of peace and stability. They gave a free rein to terror and fear in the minds of every Nigerian. There is the nasty demolition of government belongings, the bombing of Mosques, churches and other public places, killing of prominent persons, burning of primary, secondary and tertiary institutions prompted by irregular shelling of innocent peoples (Oladunjoye & Omemu 2013).

Many Nigerians and others from bordering states look up to a period when this insurgency would be overwhelmed, and normalcy restored, specifically in the affecting states. Though, in life generally, one problem may lead to a pack up of some others and solving same may bring an individual or a state face with some other problems which are characteristic of this Boko Haram insurgency. Thus, the utmost concern to most security conscious and some Nigerians is the forthcoming of Nigeria's national security in the post Boko Haram period bearing in mind the massive harm done by the insurgency and some effects that will surely drop down. But some other Nigerians and a section of Nigerian influential leaders do not seem to forecast, take into cognizance and consider the likely important effects on future of Nigeria and Nigeria's wellbeing, and lives such as family households, social backgrounds, education, housing, business, economy, politics, leadership and religious section (Shehu 2018).

In the north-eastern region of Nigeria more than 1,500 individuals have been murdered in 2014 (Amnesty International, 2014). This made People live in an environment of distress and anxiety, susceptible to attack from insurgent's groups on the one hand and human rights abuses at the other hands of the state's security forces which are deployed to protect them. Based on this background, the current strength of the hostility and the group of the conflicting actors, Amnesty International studies the condition to be a non-international armed conflict. According to them at least half of the victims of the insurgent are citizens, killed in attacks by Boko Haram group. While more than 600 persons, mostly previous detainees, were murdered by the security forces. After the attacked of the Military Barracks in Maiduguri metropolis on 14 March 2014 by the insurgent's group. These killings amounted to criminalities against the general public and war crimes area (Amnesty International, 2014).

### **Problem Statement**

Nigeria is one of the nations with the maximum rates of internal ethno religious and common conflict's in the world (Shehu, 2018). From 2009 to date, Boko Haram insurgency has entered and overwhelmed the North-East states of Nigeria, particularly Borno, Yobe, Adamawa, and some other parts of the Lake Chad Region – Difa, Niger Republic, distant Northern Cameroon and Chad, exiled millions of people around those areas, twisted tens of thousands of females and children to upset widows and orphans, while villages, towns, markets, households, educational facilities, and establishments, have been partially or entirely damaged, demolished and abandoned. Levels of unemployment and poverty among the Nigerians in the northern states have intensified. Many business enterprises have distorted, numerous wealthy and reputable persons have been twisted to immigrants and or beggars. Mainland and global industries in the region has crippled (Shehu, 2018). It is known that the economic and political development of any nation is based on the conducive atmosphere of the nation that will encourage the people to be innovative,

enterprising, productive and potential in carrying out their day to day activities. Therefore, the progress and development of the economic and political activities of any country depend on the security of lives and properties of the citizens. Unfortunately, with the emergence of Boko Haram insurgency in the North-Eastern part of Nigeria, there is a serious setback to the economic and political progress and development. Boko Haram has become a very strong force, because of established linkages, affiliations and relations with some international terrorist groups. The links of Boko Haram with other international terrorist organizations has made it so strong and sophisticated that it brought about an insurgency in the North-Eastern States. The activities of the insurgent group and the announcement of insurgency in the state has affected the state economy, this has created a wide gap on the state economy and the individuals that need to be filled by restoration of peace in the affected area. The civilian government failed to overcome the Boko Haram activities, and because of this, the federal government of Nigeria was forced to declare state of emergency on the North-Eastern states of the country, these include: Adamawa, Borno and Yobe state respectively. The activities of the Boko Haram and the announcement of the insurgency have negatively affected the economy, education and political development of the states and by extension, the political and economic growth and development of the entire country. This has by extension created a wide vacuum in the economic and educational development of the states. Given this, the article examines the effects of Boko Haram on the social, economic, education and political development of Yobe state.

### **Objectives of the Study**

1. The paper examined the origin of Boko Haram insurgency in Yobe state.
2. The study investigated the effect of Boko Haram on the socio-economic and political development of state.
3. The paper explores why government failed to curtail the activities of the insurgent group.

### **Origin and Background of Boko Haram**

Boko Haram started as Sahaba group in 1995 under the leadership of Abubakar Lawan who later left Nigeria to further his education in the University of Medina. After he left, the elders of the group gave the mantle of the leadership to Mohammed Yusuf who was young and versatile. Upon acceptance of the group headship he instantly changed the doctrine of the group and abandoned the original idea, he then came up with a new ideology of Boko Haram (Shehu, 2012). Mohammed Yusuf was born in Jakusko local government area of Yobe State. He was a student of Sheik Ja'afar Mohammed Adam, the prominent and highly influential Islamic scholar who was shot dead in Kano by gunmen while leading the dawn prayers in his mosque on the eve of 2007 general elections. Though, Yusuf had cut off his relationship with Sheik Ja'afar before his death in 2007 (Dauda, 2014).

Based on the above argument it is understood that Boko Haram was founded by an Islamic cleric called Mohammed Yusuf in the year 2002 in the ancient city of Maiduguri purposely to propagate Sharia law in the state under the then leadership of Governor Ali Modu Sheriff. He started by establishing a religions complex, which included a mosque and an Al-Majiri School where many children of poor from across the country and from neighboring countries were enrolled into school (Shehu, 2012).

This Islamic sect started as a domestic-based movement for preaching and propagation of Islamic activities, but later changed into Boko Haram. The words Boko Haram is the combination of the Hausa and Arabic words - *Boko* (derived from book) and in Hausa means 'Western education' and '*Haram*' in Arabic word means 'prohibited' or 'unIslamic'. This two words English/Hausa 'Boko/book' and the Arabic 'Haram' became coined to Boko Haram, which means "*Western education is prohibited*" Islamically (Ajayi, 2012 & Ogbonna, 2011).

Boko Haram is a Sunni Islamist group, seeking that full and strict Sharia (Islamic law) be imposed and enforced on the Northern part of Nigeria, but in a distinct Islamic state, not within the Nigeria entity, as contradictory to the existing partial and selective Sharia law practiced within the provisions of Nigerian Constitution. A study by (Olaniyi, 2011 and Idowu, 2013) showcased that the Boko Haram group sees the existing of the present Sharia law as inadequate and incomplete. As such they decided to implement their own system of sharia that is contrary to the constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria.

## Literature Review/Conceptualization

### Boko Haram

Boko Haram is the insurgent Islamic group which, has since 2009 been in confrontation with Nigerian authorities to secede from the Nigerian entity and establish an independent Islamic State, especially in the North-Eastern part of Nigeria; the activities of which led to violence against the government and the people across the northeastern region. Those affected are includes the security agencies, Muslim and Christian Clerics as well as the general public. The insurgents use various tactics as a conventional war, guerilla, ambush, kidnapping, and demand for ransom on kidnapped persons (Ali, Zakuan, & Zaki, 2018).

According to Tukur (2015), Insurgency *“is a means of expressing a long and deeper exclusion and marginalization, people react over social and environmental harms imposed by the people or government”*. This reaction comes in many forms among which include rebellion and insurgency.

### Insurgency/Insurgents

The word insurgent refers to *“any rebel group that are involved in any sort of violent with the intention of taking over a territory from the government to establish another but separates one, usually, the government in power in response also fights back to make sure that it protects its entity, the lives and property of its citizens, in addition to political and socio-economic interests of the state (Roberts & Timothy, 2009).”*

### Effects of Boko Haram Insurgency on Nigeria’s Political and Economic Development

The northern political economy has been affected because of the unnecessary attack and killings of innocent life in the region, as a result of this, on 14 May 2013, President Goodluck Jonathan declared a state of emergency in Yobe State along with some neighboring state, which include Borno and Adamawa State, because of the activities of the terrorist network group (MNCH2, 2018).

Since the violence started in 2009, thousands of fighters have also been killed in clashes between security forces and Boko Haram members across different locations in north-eastern Nigeria. Since 2012, thousands of people have died in military custody in Borno and Yobe states. Hundreds more have been victims of enforced disappearances and thousands have been subjected to acts of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment in military and police custody in north-eastern Nigeria (Amnesty International, 2014).

Over the years and since 2009, there have been a series of both coordinated and other attacks by the Boko Haram insurgents on the Nigerian authorities, especially security agencies, public buildings, private properties, markets, churches and mosques, as well as the public which claimed tens of thousands of lives of many Nigerians and properties worth billions of Naira. These have directly and indirectly affected the economic and the political development of the Nigerian states. In the recent years, Boko Haram has brought not only violence among the people but also heightened the hostility, mutual suspicion and ethno-religious tension, which Nigeria is already embroiled in (Alanamu, 2005 & Ajayi, 2011).

These economic effects of the insurgency on Nigeria and Nigerians can be observed from two different viewpoints: the effects on the Nigerian economy, and individual residents, particularly Yobe State. It is observed that Boko Haram activities has affected and crippled the socio-economic and political activities of any place they spread their limbs. Which led to the massive migration of people from their residents to other part of the nation as refugees (Dauda, 2014 & Ajayi, 2011).

Borno, being the neighboring State and the epicenter of the Boko Haram activities, the economic situation of the state has also affected seriously by the insurgent group. Study by Dauda, (2014) opined that the activities of the insurgent group has crippled the north-eastern states socially, economically and politically. This is because thousands of the residents were killed by the insurgents and other circumstances related to it. He then explained that the activities of the sect group have led to the closure and abandonment of individual business in all the affected states. The negative activities of the sect group forced numerous people across the state to migrate to some neighboring state and countries to seek for refuge. This have drastically affected the state economy because most of the resident of the affected State are farmers and were not able to farm and produce what to feet own and disposed to the

community. It is also understood that sometimes the Boko Haram sect poison some farm product and sent it to other part of the nation in order to killed the individuals, because of this many people insisted not to buy some farm product that are mostly produced in the northern part of the country, this has affected the people producing such type of the product and the economy of the state. They further extended their bad attitude by poisoning of water bodies and wells in the affected areas this also contributed in killing individuals and their domestic animals (Dauda, 2014 & Mohammed, 2012).

However, it is discovered that 97 percent of businesses and political activities were been destructively affected by the security problem. Most of them had to close their shops or places of business, retrench their workers, and others had to cut down in the number of hours of operation because of the insecurity problems. For instance, all the banks were forced to review their operational time to commence from 9.00am to 12.00-noon aa against the normal operation time of 8.00am to 4.00pm (Dauda, 2014 & Mohammed, 2012).

In a related argument Mohammed (2012), added that this time review was part of efforts of the financial institutions to safeguard and protect their business, employees as well as their customers. With the new review, some customers find it very difficult to deposit or withdraw money for their daily business. For instance, some businessmen especially the traders must keep their money in their shops because of the insecurity and the fair of a night attack by the people of the underworld.

More so, there were frequent suicide bomb explosions almost on daily basis, and cases of shop burglary and thefts have affected the state. The increased state of insecurity in the northeastern part of the country has extremely affected the political and economic condition of all the affected states in the region, because of this many people including businessmen have fled to other neighboring states or southern parts of the country in search of safety and means of livelihood (Ali et al., 2018; Dauda, 2014).

From the available information NEMA, (2014), unveiled that Nigeria accounts for about 13% of Africa's people internally displaced by conflict and widespread ferocity as of January 2011. In short, between October 2010 and October 2011, NEMA gave account for a total of 377701 IDPs in Nigeria. As at 2013 alone, 470500 persons were displaced in Nigeria and that was the third highest in the world as at that time.

Report by NEMA (2014), revealed that, north east region is the region with the maximum number of IDPs adding to 11,360 in the first quarter of 2012 and with the third highest number of forced movement of internally displaced persons (IDPs) (about 22% or 82,000, North-West with 31% or 116,207 and North-Central with 42.4% or 162,281 out of 377701). This increase was due to identity-based conflicts such as ethno-religious and political violence and conflicts clashes among the religious militia/armed group and government forces. Henceforth, within this period of reporting, the North accounted for 95% of IDPs in Nigeria.

In a related view Badiora (2017) and Cauldewood (2014), mourned that all IDPs are living in a dangerous condition not only in the Nigeria society but in other parts of the World where there are crises. IDPs encounter a variety of intimidations and threats to their physical safety, health, and deprivation of basic quality of life. It is noted that, there are numerous cases of sexual attacks. And many cases of communicable diseases. Besides, there have been fairly a few epidemics of infectious sicknesses related to unfortunate types of food, protection, security, water, and sanitation as well as shelter.

However, Badiora (2017) and Cauldewood (2014), revealed that as at the commencement of 2014, it is understood that, approximately 86000 children under five years of age have been hospitalizing for the treatment for plain serious undernourishment and several diseases related with sanitation and water. He further added that there are several complaints on physical health and clinical mental health as well as environmental complications. All these are significant matters that has contributed seriously to the life and health of the IDPs in their respective camps, this have a negative consequence for the future well-being of Nigerians and Nigeria.

**Table 1: Some Attacks in Yobe State from 2009-2018**

S/No.	DATE	Town	Type of Attack
1.	July 2009	Potiskum	Divisional Police Office was attacked, three police officers and one Fire Service officer killed.
2.	March 30/2011	Damaturu	A bomb explosion in Damaturu injured one police.
3.	November 4/2011	Damaturu	150 people were killed in Damaturu.
4.	November 27/2011	Geidam	Seven people killed.
5.	November 2011	Yobe	Coordinated bombing and shooting attacks on police facilities in Potiskum and Damaturu in Yobe state, 150 reported the death.
6.	November 2011	Yobe	Coordinated bombing and shooting attacks on police facilities in Potiskum and Damaturu in Yobe state, 150 reported the death.
7.	2/3/2012	Potiskum	Potiskum cattle market attacked over a hundred business men and women killed; over seventy sustained grave injuries; more than eighty cattle shot dead.
8.	February 17/ 2012	Geidam	Two people killed in Geidam
9.	December 25/2012	Potiskum	Some Christians killed in Potiskum in a church.
10.	June 17/2013	Damaturu	Seven students and two teachers killed in GSS Damaturu
11.	July 6/2013	Mamudo	Forty-one children and one teacher killed in Govt. Sec. Sch. Mamudo
12.	September 29, 2013	Gujba	Forty students killed and 150 injured at the college of Agric Gujba
13.	Octorber29/2014	Damaturu	One hundred and twenty-eight people killed (ninety-five militants, twenty-three soldiers, eight policemen and two civilians)
14.	February 25/2014	Buni Yadi	Many students of Fed. Govt. Coll. Buni Yadi killed
15.	May 27/2014	Buni Yadi	Forty-nine security personnel and nine civilians killed.
16.	December 1/2014	Damaturu	The whole Damaturu town attacked. Many militaries, paramilitary and civilian killed.
17.	February 19/2018	Dapchi	110 students abducted from GGSSS Dapchi.
18.	March 21/2018	Dapchi	110 abducted Dapchi girls 105 safely returned by the insurgent abductors; 5 reported dead as a result of stampede during the abduction.

**Sources:** (Akinbi, 2015, Shariq & Mohammed, 2016; Ali, Umaru, Adamu, 2018; Dailytrust, 2018 & Ajayi, 2011).

The above list of the numerous occurrences by the insurgent's group in 2018 is limitless. because they have unchecked anxiety and fear in the minds of the individuals living in the north-eastern parts of the nation, in so doing upsetting every part of their economic and social life. This uncertainty has run to huge relocation from such affected parts to other parts of the nation which is believed to be less susceptible to the insurgent attacks. Though the present administration is seriously working to curtail the situation.

#### **Effects of Insecurity on the Political Economy**

According to Cauldewood (2014), Boko Haram activities has affected the nation economy. Especially in the north-eastern states, which have always been far from Nigeria's positive economic growth. Indeed, he then disclosed that the number of Nigerians living in poverty has amplified 55 percent in the previous era. As a result of the effects of Boko Haram in the country which has affected all business settings in the northern region and Yobe state. Before, the country has been one of the largest beneficiaries of foreign direct investment in the region, with inward flows jumping 28 percent to hit \$21 billion last year. *"The impact of Boko Haram on the Nigerian economy is localized for now, but the instability has had an effect on the agricultural products from the north and has severely reduced cross-border trade with Cameroon, Chad, and Niger."* the report says. Boko Haram insurgents have killed many parents which resulted in large number orphaned children and widows. However, it is noted that 60% of all the individuals in the internally displaced camps (IDC) was established as a result of Boko Haram insurgency are females and children.

For instance, in Potiskum town alone the insurgents have killed many people on individual bases, those killed includes; Principle GDSS Potiskum in person Malam Musa Gambo Damazai, Allaramma

Dangubana, Lamba Hamza, Allaramma Malam Mustapha filin Allah, Bawa Dungus, Ado Jespa, two children of Gwajin district head, eleven people were slaughtered in Dumbulwa village closed to Potiskum town among those slaughtered in Dumbulwa include the chief Imam and the village head, one Ibo business tycoon known as MC was also shot to death, one house member representing Nangere local government, a businessman Alhaji Ibrahim and one staff of FCE (T) The activities of the insurgent's group also extended to the killing of some medical expatriate in Potiskum town. This has affected the lives of the general populace in Potiskum local government and the state. This insurgency has made many people orphans and immigrant (Ali, Zakuan & Ahmad, 2018 & Cauldewood (2014).

However, 60% of all the children in the(IDPs) camps are orphans and such children face environmental, medical, economic and socio-psychological challenges as a result.(Zastrow & Ashman, 2010:204 & Ali, Zakuan & Ahmad, 2018), observed that, these orphans and the widows suffer from physical and mental health care services (unattended), educationally ignored, without proper and usual life management, face housing threats, lack proper household and basic personal and sanitation, face social and attachment difficulties, lack basic nutrition, encounter cognitive and academic deficits and also have emotional and behavioural problems. One other potential threat of the Boko Haram period is the existence of abandoned children in the affected states and neighbouring countries.

### **Effect of Insurgency on Education**

A study by White & White (1980:62) observed that education is the bedrock upon which human life is built and developed. The significance of education, particularly that of children cannot be over stressed because it is the fundamental basis of the future security of states and societies as every state/society needs children to obtain and advance some services essential at the maturity age, which can be accomplished through the education process of making changes. Similarly, Mayeux, & Cillessen (2008), noted that most of a child's social change takes place in the schools (classroom) and through interaction with fellow students in the schools while an infant, a child puts the planned thought in founding social values in schools. To attain good and quality education, there is a need for effective and conducive school atmosphere to be put in place. In a related development Zastrow & Ashman (2010:196), added that, school environment help in promoting academic matters, proper classroom supervision, advanced and interesting prospectus, discipline and capability to work as a team.

This coincided with the view of Davie and Butler & Goldstein (1972), that sequence of changes, specifically negative ones are likely to loom, children, sensitivity of security and such have consequences for their sensitive and social changes and where and when such changes involve education, the children progress is educationally affected. Education plays a vital role in the life and future of immigrants to build their livings, protect and defend themselves from use.

For instance, Waller (2017) noted that *“Education is the foundation of society; without it, development is very difficult,”* says Margee Ensign, the president of the American University of Nigeria. *“I don't think that many in the international community understand the dimension of the problems here in the northeast.”*

As stated above education is the bedrock of development. But unfortunately, many tertiary and secondary schools were affected by the insurgent which led to the closure of the schools on 17/June 2013 Seven students and two teachers were killed in GSS Damaturu, these schools were closed. And many parents withdraw their children from the school because of the insecurity in the states. On 06/July 2013 Forty-one children and one teacher were killed in govt. Sec. Sch. Mamudo. This also led to the closure of the school for some months, and many students were removed from the school by their parents. On 29/ sept, 2013 Forty students killed and 150 injured at the college of Agric Gujba, so also Fed. Government. College. Buni Yadi Many Students Were killed on February 25/2014. From the available information education aspect is seriously affected by the insurgent. Which by extension affected the economy of the state (White & White, 1980; Waller, 2017; Goodluck and Juliana, 2014).

Based on the above submissions it is understood that Boko Haram has seriously affected education in the state. This is because low levels of education and literacy in Nigeria's North East have been aggravated by the Boko Haram insurgency. The group has beset teachers and schools, with more than 910 schools destroyed between 2009 and 2015, and 1,500 forced to close. In addition, government security forces

have also used schools for military purposes, further reducing children's right to education (Chatham 2016 & James 2012 & Waller, 2017) . This is in line with the assertions of structural violence theory, which stressed on equal distribution of social amenities in the society.

### **Methodology**

This study is qualitative in nature. The study is based on a systematic review of related literature and an expressive examination of literature. This paper is not empirical rather a conceptual paper aimed at identifying the origin, causes, and effect of Boko Haram activities on socio-economic development of Yobe state. The sources used in obtaining the available and related literatures were through secondary sources of data collection. In this case relevant articles, journals, newspapers, books, and reports on Boko Haram were consulted and used in getting the relevant information (Creswell 2009 & Othman, 2018).

### **Theoretical Framework**

Boko Haram insurgency has been explored in many academic types of research/studies on Boko Haram insurgent group in Nigeria which includes, Jihadism and theocratic Islamic states theories class theory of terrorism (Shariq and Mohammed, 2016; Dauda, 2014; Tukur, & Fausat, 2015).

The factors that gave birth to Boko Haram were not specified by the researchers as it relates to Boko Haram's revolution through relationships with international terrorism and Nigeria's security agencies; this study primarily investigated the Boko Haram insurgents from the problem perspective. Even though structural violence and religious terrorism theories are not grounded theories, they can be used in analyzing the insurgent group phenomenon as stated above.

### **Structural Violence Theory**

For the purpose of the study the researcher adopted Structural Violence Theory, the believes of this theory is that most of the people that involved them self in violence is as a result of inequality or injustice in distribution of goods and services among the general public. The postulation of the theory is on equality and justice in distribution of the national resources among all the citizens.

This Theory, maintains that violent activities may be curbed, controlled or sanctioned in any given society if the national resources are equally distributed. However, the theory emphasized that people are denied some important social amenities, such as education, water supply, electricity road health and other related services, which are enjoyed by few individuals in the society. This unequal distribution of the social amenities may easily distract some individual and make them to react negatively by violating law and order in the society which at the end may lead to violence, insecurity, and insurgency in the state. The theory believes that those individuals deprived of the social services are bound to react through violent activities. Therefore, non-provision of the social amenities or uneven distribution of the available resources by the authorities may lead to, structural violence in the society Galtung (1996). He then claimed that:

*There is violence structurally when some groups of people supposedly have access to many social amenities in the country much more than others along with many more rights and many more opportunities in the areas of economic, social and political systems that are in the societies, countries or the world at large.*

In a similar opinion Burton (1997) explained that if the government fails to provide its citizens with the needed social amenities, it will lead to conflict amongst the general populace, which will lead to violence in the state. Furthermore, Burton (1997) lamented that poor economic conditions are factors that generate disobedient in the society. These acts are precise as a result of dissatisfaction with roles and performance of the state authorities to meet up with the yearning and aspirations of the people, resulting to the eventual and violent reaction by the people in the society (Faleti, 2006:51). Some proponents of the theory such as Dougherty and Pfaltzgrate (1990:266) stressed that violence emerges as a result of aggression-frustration, which sees frustration as an agent of aggression, which would eventually metamorphosed into societal violence.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the activities of Boko Haram have cost Nigeria a lot in terms of human, material and financial losses. The Nigerian government has responded with diverse actions to deteriorate or overcome



the insurgent's group, of which military crackdown is the most prominent. Boko Haram has become a menace to the entire country. Their actions have crippled the socio-economic life of the whole public, especially at the northern region Oladunjoye and Omemu (2013), observed that the doings of the insurgent's group have slammed the image of Nigeria and have hindered the mission of attaining Millennium Development Goals (MDG'S) as well as vision 2020. This paper concludes that Boko Haram insurgency in the North-Eastern region of Nigeria, and some parts of neighbouring nations such as Cameroon, Chad, and Niger Republics and has crippled education, social, economic, religious and several societal activities as well as security. Numerous families have become destitute, family relation wrecked, many people have become disturbed widows and orphans, many business tycoons have become immigrants and mendicants, all industries have closed and distorted, employment deteriorated, villages and towns devastated, many lives were lost in addition to those permanently debilitated and disturbed, abandoned children. Boko Haram has put a serious fear in the mind of those left in the northern part of the country. Particularly those in Borno, Yobe state, and neighbouring countries. This is because many people lost their lives and property. All the Business places, schools, and shops were closed for a certain period. Boko Haram has succeeded in destabilizing the economy and the political development of northern Nigeria especially Borno and Yobe, and imparting fear and hatred among the people who have been living in peace and harmony for many years.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the above assertions on the Boko Haram, there is a need for a strategy which will address these acts of violence which reassures the Northern population that there is a plan to ensure their security of lives and properties.

The government should train and deploy enough security personnel at the borders to manage and control the illegal movement, to avoid unnecessary penetration of individuals.

The security forces should target the extremist and perpetrators of violence in a way that does not inflict civilian casualties or damage properties and violent human rights.

There is a need for the multi-dimensional approach. The government should develop the political will to expose and prosecute the high calibre individuals both within and outside the government, who has been linked with the militant group. This will demoralize the terrorist group and will serve as a deterrent to other negative minded individuals who might be nursing similar ambition in the future.

The federal government should create employment opportunities to employ the youth in the nation, to minimize the large number of graduates roaming the street in search of a job where there is none. People should be employed, food security should be assured, and house hold income should be improving.

The federal government should post security personnel to safeguard all places of education.

Government should provide free bus for children in the urban and rural areas to take them to and from school under tight security.

Federal and affected States governments should instantly begin the rebuilding of all demolished institutions and provide essential teaching and learning equipment.

Special rehabilitation and trauma centres should be established, specifically for women and children who have had terrible knowledge during the insurgency acts. Trauma-exposed persons should be given special psychological briefing action to stop and comprise likely post-traumatic tension and illness (PSTD).

There must be Justice and Equity in the society. A normal society attains normalcy by upholding law and justice, equity in all spheres of human endeavour. Equitable distribution of wealth means the direction of resource to priority areas with a view of regenerating benefit.

All the religious leaders should preach peace this is because religion is a very sensitive issue in Nigeria, hence every government tends to tread with absolute caution when dealing with it.

The duty of government is to protect and defend the sanctity of her citizens irrespective of tribal/religious inclination.

The government should give more legal powers to existing recognized religious bodies/legal institutions to regulate the activities of preachers.

The Almajiri's are to be man and control by the government in northern Nigeria in order not to fall into the hands of scrupulous politicians who easily buy them off to achieve their selfish political will.

The federal government should embark on reorientation campaign to change the attitude thinking and behaviour of youth.

The state government should joint hand with the federal government and civilian joint task force to provide tight security in the state and the nation in general.

All the affected economic areas should be reconstructed by the government and provide the affected individual with soft loans to restart the business.

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