

# Post-Boko Haram Insurgency and Trafficking of IDPS in the Northeastern Nigeria: Consequences and Solutions

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## ABSTRACT

This article is designed to investigate the consequences and solutions of the trafficking of IDPs in the post-Boko Haram period in the North-eastern Nigeria. The specific objectives of the study are: to determine the extent of human trafficking among IDPs in the North-eastern Nigeria; to find out if Boko Haram insurgency has increased human trafficking; to examine the consequences of human trafficking among Boko Haram driven IDPs in the study area; and to provide the possible solutions to human trafficking of IDPs. The article found out that the extent of human trafficking among IDPs is high in the study area and Boko Haram insurgency has contributed to that. The consequences of human trafficking among Boko Haram driven IDPs includes: the involvement of some IDPs into Boko Haram through human trafficking; sex slavery due to human trafficking; human trafficking reduces the chances of their liberation from IDPs status; dehumanisation and engagement of the IDPs into baby factory; assault and even murder, bonded slavery; and other psychological consequences like insomnia, lack of trust to strangers and post-traumatic stress disorder, etc. As the possible solutions to human trafficking of IDPs in the North-eastern Nigeria, therefore; Boko Haram insurgency should be fought to prevent trafficking of IDPs, there should be special intervention for the IDPs as safety net; there should be synergy between law enforcement agencies in fighting human trafficking; community participation, community policing and contribution of neighbouring states

**KEYWORDS:** *Boko Haram; Human trafficking; IDPs; North-eastern Nigeria*

## INTRODUCTION

Human trafficking is regarded as the modern-day slavery, because it looks like ancient system of slavery. It is generally acknowledged, that most of the ancient societies were based on slave labour. In antiquity, the dominant class was an urban citizenry which drew its wealth from the countryside, in which slave labour was preponderant. Because slaves were acquired largely through conquest, every citizen was threatened by the prospect of servitude. With the advent of Industrial Revolution in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, capitalism gave new look to the slavery phenomenon. The expansion of capitalism and increasing world population displaced large numbers of people from subsistence agriculture and other means of support in many regions. Great disparities between rich and poor nations drive people across state boundaries in search of jobs and improved living conditions.

Rural population are attracted to city and, with the need to work in cities' factories in their minds, they have no option but to submit themselves to the exploitative tendency of the factory owners. The plight of the rural families in that period also influences migration of one or household member(s) to the cities. Consequently, rapid urbanization has also exacerbated human trafficking and forced labour because the rural poor families that migrated to the cities could no longer grow their own crops to consume or to barter with other resources-lack of available subsistence alternatives for the family also force the family to indulge in involuntary servitude, including sending or handing over their children to a wealthy family.

Human trafficking involves transportation or transfer of victims, exploitation, harbouring persons with the force or coercion, abuse of natural rights. As a commodity or other means of production, the slave is regarded as 'a thing', rather than 'human'. Both human trafficking and slavery are polar opposites of freedom. Clarifying more on the similarity of slavery and human trafficking, three conditions, according to Patterson (1982), are definitive of slavery. Careful look at these conditions will convince an observer of trafficking in human being (THB) that what the world is witnessing today is the reincarnation of ancient slavery system. First condition is that, slaves suffer perpetual domination enforced ultimately by violence. The permanent subjugation of slaves is predicated on the capacity of masters to coerce them physically. Second, slaves are alienated from biological parents or all family ties and their claims of birth are entirely nullified. They inherit no protection or privilege from their ancestors, and they cannot convey protection or privilege to their descendants. Third, slaves are denied honor, whereas masters are socially exalted. Trafficking in humans and slavery also rely on compulsion. Slave systems depend ultimately on physical coercion to force slaves to work for masters, although cultural, ideological, and economic pressures typically augment physical force (James & Heiliger, 2000).

Increased incidence of human trafficking in Nigeria has made it one of the major problems that threatens national development (Idang, 2013). In fact, trafficking in persons is

**How to cite this paper:** Dr. Bukar Jamri "Post-Boko Haram Insurgency and Trafficking of IDPS in the Northeastern Nigeria: Consequences and Solutions"

Published in  
International Journal  
of Trend in Scientific  
Research and  
Development (ijtsrd),  
ISSN: 2456-6470,  
Volume-5 | Issue-4,  
June 2021, pp.517-  
528,

URL:  
[www.ijtsrd.com/papers/ijtsrd42359.pdf](http://www.ijtsrd.com/papers/ijtsrd42359.pdf)



IJTSRD42359

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the third largest crime after economic fraud and the drug trade, in Nigeria (Olagbegi, Aminu, Akiode, Zacharia, Ezakwem, & Menkiti, 2006). While human, drugs and arms trafficking are more prevalent in the southern parts of the country, the Northern region experience is perhaps more disturbing because, cutting across the three northern geopolitical zones, Chigorizim (2012) notes that, there are destabilising issues of indigene/settler internecine conflicts, ethno-religious conflicts and religious insurgency led by an extremist group formally known as *Jama'atu Ahlis Sunnah Lidda'awati wal-Jihad* and popularly known as *Boko Haram*. The group is notorious that it is difficult to investigate security challenges in northern Nigeria or Nigeria in general without casting an eye over the activity of this group. Insurgent activities are usually associated with organized crime, such as human trafficking. Thus, most of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) across the Northeast and other parts of Nigeria were once victims of human trafficking. For example, the most popular incidence is the abduction of about 300 girls in a secondary school in Chibok, Borno State. As the *Boko Haram* begins to be subverted, its departure is marked by sharp increase in slave trade, especially among the IDPs. Left without choice, these IDPs are forced to engage in several inhuman activities in the hands of some merciless members of their host communities. They are subjected forced sex slavery, forced labor, and transported from the IDPs camps to other parts of Nigeria for such inhuman activities.

The activities of the *Boko Haram* involved humanitarian crimes which transcend kidnapping, hostage-taking, and trafficking in humans (the Chibok girls abduction takes the form of all the three violent crimes). The activities of the *Boko Haram* also culminated in wanton destruction of lives and properties. Ojate states, since the group's first armed confrontation with the Nigerian security forces in 2009, death toll by the *Boko Haram* insurgency is about 15,000 (Ojate, 2015).

In view of the above, this research is designed to investigate the rise of human trafficking in the period following *Boko Haram* reign of insurgent terrorism in the Northeastern Nigeria. The objectives of the study are:

1. To determine the extent of human trafficking among IDPs in the North-eastern Nigeria
2. To find out if *Boko Haram* insurgency has increased human trafficking in the North-eastern Nigeria
3. To examine the consequences of human trafficking among *Boko Haram* driven IDPs in the North-eastern Nigeria
4. To provide the possible solutions to human trafficking of IDPs in the North-eastern Nigeria.

## Literature Review

### Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is generally understood to refer to the process through which individuals are placed or maintained in an exploitative situation for economic gain (United Nations, 2014), however, insurgency and terrorism are associated with human trafficking. Ordinarily, *human trafficking* is seen as forceful transnational movement with someone. This definition has dual faults. First, it turns a blind eye on the movement of young people, and adult alike, by the traffickers through seduction or deception that the victims would work in a legal industry but end up in sex industry or some kind of work beyond the victims' capacity and physical strength. Second, the definition also failed to capture the

wider meaning of human trafficking as to involve the cross-border (international) movement, internal movement, and even agreeing to receive service of underage persons voluntarily or forcefully, or recruitment of adult in illegal businesses in a city situated organised crime family.

According to United Nations (2014), trafficking can occur within a country or may involve movement across borders. Women, men and children are trafficked for a range of purposes, including forced and exploitative labour in factories, farms and private households, sexual exploitation, and forced marriage. Trafficking affects all regions and most countries of the world (United Nations, 2014). This research sees *human trafficking* "as illegal practice involving moving away with someone (adult or young and male or female victim) through the use seduction, coercion or both with the aim of exploiting the victim". From the above working definition, human trafficking knows no distance geographic movement, age or gender. In as much as there is an element of deception or force, and the ultimate goal of the person who moves away with the victim is to exploit him/her in form of fraudulent activities, forced labour, sex slave, etc. that act is referred to as human trafficking. The paper will also review some scholarly and professional conceptions of human trafficking and related concepts, such as human smuggling and organised crime into critical review.

The first internationally agreed upon definition of trafficking is embodied in the *UN Protocol*. The term 'trafficking in persons' in the *Protocol* involves three elements: (a) recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons; (b) the use of improper means, such as force, abduction, fraud or deception; and (c) the objective of exploitation, such as sexual exploitation, forced labour, servitude or slavery (Kangaspunta, 2003). UN Protocol developed definition in order to prevent, suppress, and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, supplementing the UN Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime of the year, 2000 (UNESCO, 2006).

The above definition incorporates all that can be perceived as human trafficking and its cognate concepts, such as modern slavery, sex slavery, people smuggling, and so on. However, Interpol (as cited in Holmes, 2010) draws a useful definitional distinction between people smuggling and human trafficking. The former, according to Holmes (Holmes, 2010), is distinct from the later insofar as the people smuggling simply refers to as procurement of illegal entry into a country of which the individual is neither a citizen nor a permanent resident, for financial or material gain, while the later involves the exploitation of human beings as migrants, often for the purposes of forced labour and sexual service.

According to Rahman (2011), human trafficking is organised around five participants. In the first category, there are migrant victims who are trafficked and transported. The second participants are the traffickers that recruit and transport victims. In most cases, they take charge of finances by paying for all transportation costs. Third category involves the buyers who (despite that they do not have any pre-existing relationships with the victim) claim ownership of possession of the victim(s) in the human trafficking market. Holmes (2010) opines that, organised crime, corruption and terrorism are entwined. But this paper took a rather logical stance in linking these tripartite social

problems as it would suggest that, while corruption can serve the dual purposes of breeding and thriving organised crime, the organised crime is a mother to the twin infractions of human trafficking and terrorism (Holmes, 2010b). Human trafficking is, of course, associated with other forms of organised crimes taking place in the context of terrorism, insurgency and cultism (Reports on Human Rights issues in Nigeria, 2005). There are complementarities between terrorism and human trafficking in Nigeria. Terrorist groups like Boko Haram are operating as organised cartels, though they claim to fight for religious cause. In addition, other criminal syndicates have found opportunity to attack banks in the guise of being members of the *Boko Haram* sect. As complements to the International Protocol, there are some indigenous legal connotations of the term "human trafficking". The Lagos State of Nigeria Official Gazette defined trafficker as any person who;

1) deals or trades in, purchases, sells, transfers or takes any person in order that such person should be held or treated as a slave or in servitude; (2) places or receives any person's personal service as a pledge or security for debt if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied towards the redemption of the pledge or liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined; (3) participates in any institution or practice by which a woman without the right to refuse, is promised or given in marriage on payment of a consideration in money or in kind to her parents, guardian, family or any other person or group.

### Types of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking takes place in various forms and dimensions. This has contributed in difficulty for experts to come up with a unified definition of the concept. Hence, systematic typology of human trafficking can to some degree help in understanding the problem. Yet, there is no guaranty for ultimate solution even if we resort to types and forms of the human trafficking. This is because some of the types and forms do overlap. In addition, some typologies do not exhaust all the elements and characteristics of human trafficking. For instance, Interpol (2015) identified four types of human trafficking: trafficking in women for sexual exploitation, trafficking for forced labour, commercial sexual exploitation of children in tourism, and trafficking in organs. The Interpol typology ignored some forms of human trafficking, thus US Department of State (2009) identified more types, namely: forced labour, bonded labour, debt bondage among migrant labourers, involuntary domestic servitude, forced child labour, child soldiers, and sex trafficking. Because the US Department of State made attempt to capture more forms of human trafficking, this study adopted the US Department's typology.

### Consequences of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking has some pecuniary advantage to the traffickers, but it has many negative consequences on the victims. Sex trafficking, for instance, has devastating consequences for the victims, including long-lasting physical and psychological trauma, disease like HIV/ AIDS and other STI (sexually transmitted infections), involvement in drug addiction, unwanted pregnancy, malnutrition, social ostracism, and possible death (US Department of State, 2009). The cartels are dangerous because their agents can harass, intimidate and even kill their victims or their relatives overseas. Reports on Human Rights issues in Nigeria (2005) narrated a recent case from Italy in which

someone presumably connected to trafficking agents had killed the sister of a victim of trafficking.

On additional dangers of human trafficking on women and girls, Bloom (2008) also observes that, trafficking displaces and permanently alters the lives of thousands of girls and young women each year, many of whom are sold into sexual slavery. Many of these victims of human trafficking are experiencing multiple human rights violations and are therefore prone to trauma. According to IACP, trauma by victims of trafficking is "expressed differently by each person, ranging from intense expression of feelings, such as anger or fear to a lack of emotion of flat effect" (IACP, 2006: 10).

Foreign migrants, usually women, are recruited from less developed countries in South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa, and Latin America to work as domestic servants and caretakers in more developed locations like the Gulf States, the Levant, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Europe, and the United States. But many of these places do not provide domestic servants the same legal protections that they provide for foreign workers in other sectors. Without protections, foreign domestic workers may have fewer options for seeking help when faced with their employer's threat of or use of force. If they are confined to a home, either through physical restraint or through the confiscation of identity and travel documents, they may find it very difficult to reach out to NGOs or public authorities for assistance due to lack of awareness and fear of their employers (US Department of State, 2009).

This high degree of vulnerability calls for a vigorous law enforcement and victim protection response when domestic servants are found in conditions of involuntary servitude in a home. Those domestic servants who choose to escape from abusive employers are sometimes termed "runaways" and seen as criminals, though they should be considered as possible victims of trafficking. Although it is impossible to accurately calculate the number of children involved in armed forces and groups, the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers estimates that there are many tens of thousands of children exploited in conflict. Child soldiers exist in all regions of the world. According to the UN, 57 armed groups and forces were using children in 2007, up from 40 in 2006. Many children are abducted to be used as combatants. Others are made unlawfully to work as porters, cooks, guards, servants, messengers, or spies. Young girls are forced to marry or have sex with male combatants. Both male and female child soldiers are often sexually abused and are at high risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases.

Some children have been forced to commit atrocities against their families and communities. Child soldiers are often killed or wounded, and survivors suffer multiple traumas and psychological scarring. Their personal development is irreparably damaged, and their home communities often reject them when they return. Child soldiering is a global phenomenon. The problem is most critical in Africa and Asia, but armed groups in conflict areas elsewhere also use children unlawfully. All nations must work together with international organizations and NGOs to take urgent action to disarm, demobilize, and reintegrate unlawful child soldiers.

### Solutions to IDPs Trafficking in the Northeastern Nigeria

First of all, the rule of law should be the main instrument for fighting human trafficking of any kind. Irrespective of the



form of human trafficking emanating terrorism, insurgency or mainstream organized criminal syndicates, the act bears the same connotation: human right violation. Thus, there should be a legal policy that can address the problem. However, other agencies also have a stake in war on human trafficking. This called for multidimensional approach towards combating human trafficking in Nigeria and the world at large. In other words, to fight human trafficking and its attendant problem, it is important that families, communities and super- and supra-governments agencies come up with effective measures for a lasting solution.

The first broadly supported international statement on the subject of human rights is enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1949), which was approved by the U.N. General Assembly on 10 December 1948. Sociologists might give this document critical attention. There followed thirty articles that can be summarized as follows:

1. "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights..."
2. All are entitled "...without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status..."
3. "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and the security of person."
4. "No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms."
5. "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."
6. "Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law."
7. "All are equal before the law and...equal protection before the law" (Borgatta, 2000).

Fighting social problems like human trafficking is very difficult in poverty-stricken countries like Nigeria, but not entirely impossible. Again, because multiple factors seem to be the reasons behind the perpetuation of the problem, this research assumes that no single approach can serve as an effective panacea. For instance, if illiteracy or ignorance is assumed to be a cause, critical observer might ask: why are female graduates from some parts of Nigeria moving abroad for illegal commercial sex? (Ibrahim & Mukhtar, 2016). The European Commission (EC), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and other international organisations such as IOM International Organization for Migration (IOM) and International Labour Organization (ILO) have been at the forefront of collating global and regional data on human trafficking and slavery.

Prior to 2003, there was no anti-human trafficking law in Nigeria. This is why it can be said that the lack of appropriate legislation to punish offenders constituted a major challenge in the fight against human trafficking. However, with the enactment of the trafficking in persons (prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act in Nigeria, it is indeed possible to say that significant progress has been made in the war against human trafficking in the country. But behind the application of laws as punishments or restraints to human trafficking, there is a more serious question that

points to the fact that human trafficking is a moral problem. Morality, as we know it, takes precedence over law and is itself the standard for law. It is obvious that, human rights are rooted in natural law. That is why law and morality have some manifest and latent mutual reinforcements.

Law is at the service of morality and dares not contradict morality without ipso facto ceasing to be law and losing its right to be obeyed. This serves to illustrate the point that human trafficking is first and foremost a moral problem that can be better evaluated and solved through ethical or moral solutions (Idang, 2013). In the interim, Idang (2013) reports that the police and the courts resorted to using some portions of the country's penal code. This is why, sometimes, some human traffickers were charged with forgery (forging of travelling documents) or abduction as the case may be. But these offences look really mild and do not arouse the attention and seriousness they should get when we are made to know that they are cases of human trafficking.

### Methodology

**Research Design:** The study is descriptive research design. It will describe the extent of human trafficking among IDPs in the aftermath of Boko Haram insurgency in the Northeastern Nigeria, as well as describe the sufferings these victims of trafficking in the hands of the perpetrators.

**Population:** The study population will include boys, girls, men and women of 14 years and above in the Northeastern Nigeria, especially those residing in the IDPs camps. The target population of the study will be many IDPs, few political and traditional leaders, law enforcement agents (Police, NSCDC, DSS, NAPTIP, etc), representatives of NGOs and CSOs.

**Sample Size and Sampling Technique:** The sample size for the study will be 495 respondents. Out of the total sample, 480 are respondents for quantitative data and 15 are respondents for qualitative data. The sampling technique will be multi-stage sampling technique. In the first stage, purposive sampling technique will be used to select the three (3) most affected State Governments out of the six (6) States that make up the region-Yobe, Borno, Adamawa, Gombe, Bauchi and Taraba States. These affected States are Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States. In the second stage, four Local Government Areas will be selected from each State using simple random sampling, which will give 12 LGAs.

In the third stage, 1 IDPs camp will be selected from each Local Government Area (LGA) using the same method adopted in the second stage, which will give 12 camps. In the fourth stage, 40 (20 males, 20 females) respondents will be selected using convenient sampling technique. Each of these IDPs, one female respondent will be randomly selected, who will then administer a questionnaire. The total number of respondents for quantitative data will be  $12 \times 40 = 480$ .

Purposive sampling technique will also be used to select 10 IDPs to collect qualitative data, using FGD (one session) and 5 in-depth interviews (IDI) with 10 key informants, such as political leaders, traditional leaders, law enforcements, and representatives of NGOs and CSOs. The total number of respondents for the qualitative data will be  $10 + 5 = 15$  respondents. The sum total sample for the study therefore is  $480 + 15 = 495$ .

**Source of Data:** The data collection will be sourced from primary and secondary data. The primary data will be both qualitative and quantitative. Hence questionnaire guides,

focus group discussions (FGDs) and IDIs will be employed. The secondary data will be generated from text-books, news papers, journal articles, magazines, conference proceedings, etc.

**Data Collecting Instruments:** the instruments of data collection will be questionnaires, interviews and FGD.

Literature/desk review will also be used in conceptual and theoretical framework.

**Method of Data Analysis:** the study will adopt mixed method in analyzing the data collected. This is because the questionnaire guides can only be analysed using the quantitative technique and the FGD will best be analysed using qualitative method.

## Results and Discussions

The instruments employed for the data collection were questionnaires, in-depth interview (IDIs) and FGD. The data collected using questionnaire guides were presented in tabular form and being interpreted first, and complemented with qualitative responses gathered from the IDIs and FGD. For the quantitative data, a total of 480 questionnaires were administered to the respondents but only 326 questionnaires were retrieved. Thus, the analysis is based on the 326 questionnaires and by extension the 5 IDIs and 1 FGD conducted.

### Section A: Socio-Economic and Demographic Information of the Respondents

This section deals with the socio-economic and demographic information of the respondents.

**Table 1.1: Gender Distribution of the Respondents**

S/N	Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Male	281	86.2
2.	Female	45	13.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 1.1 presents the gender distribution of the respondents, out of which 86.2 percent were male respondents and the minority (13.8%) were females. This indicates that majority of the respondents were males.

**Table 1.2: Age of the Respondents**

S/N	Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	18- 27	37	11.3
2.	28 - 37	58	17.8
3.	38 - 47	112	34.4
4.	48 - 57	58	17.8
5.	58-above	34	10.4
5.	51 and above	27	8.3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 1.2 is the age distribution of the respondents, which shows that 24.9 percent of the total sample is below 20 years, 28.4 percent is between 20 and 30 years, 20.1 percent between 31 and 40 years, 11.5 percent is from 41 to 50 years, and 15.1 percent involves those from 51 years of age and above.

**Table 1.3: Marital Status of the Respondents**

S/N	Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Single	71	21.8
2.	Married	142	43.5
3.	Divorced	15	4.6
4.	Widowed	98	30.1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 1.3 is the marital status of the respondents, where singles constitute 21.8 percent; married 43.5 percent, divorced for 4.6 percent, and widowed 30.1 percent. Therefore, majority of the sampled respondents are married, but the large number of the widowed indicated that there were many cases of murder in the study during the reign Boko Haram terror.

**Table 1.4: Educational Attainment of the Respondents**

S/N	Education	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Primary school	43	13.2
2.	Secondary school	105	32.2
3.	Tertiary	97	29.8
4.	Others	81	24.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 1.4 presents the distribution of the educational attainment of the respondents. Respondents with primary school education constitute 13.2 percent; those with secondary school qualification accounted for 32.2 percent; respondents with tertiary education constitute 29.8 percent; and those with other educational attainment, such as non-formal education and vocational training represent 24.8 percent.

**Table 1.5: Occupation of the Respondents**

S/N	Occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
1.	Business man(woman)	79	24.2
2.	Civil servant	96	29.4
3.	Student	69	21.2
4.	Political leader	24	7.4
5.	Law enforcement	42	12.9
6.	Community leader	16	4.9
<b>Total</b>		<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 1.5 shows the occupational distribution of the respondents, where civil servants constitute the majority accounting for 29.4 percent, followed by students (21.2%). Community leaders constitute the minority (4.9%).

**Table 1.6: Income Distribution of the Respondents**

S/N	Income	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Less than N10,000	24	7.4
2.	N10,000-N19,999	51	15.6
3.	N20,000-N29,999	66	20.3
4.	N30,000-N39,999	92	28.2
5.	N40,000-above	93	28.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 1.6 is the distribution of the respondents' monthly income. Respondents earning Less than N10,000 constitute 10.1 percent; those earning between N10,000 and N19,999 represent 14.223.8%; those earning N20,000 to N29,999 represent 18.4 percent; those earning N30,000 to N39,999 constitute 22.9 percent; and those earning N40,000 and above per month are the majority (34.4%).

## Section B: The Extent of Human Trafficking Among IDPs in the North-Eastern Nigeria

This section deals with the extent of human trafficking amongst IDPs in the North-Eastern Nigeria. It also raised questions on the respondents' awareness of the rising cases of human trafficking and the prevalence of the human trafficking in the area.

**Table 2.1: Whether Respondent was Aware of the Rising Cases of Human Trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria**

S/N	Occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
1.	Yes	219	67.2
2.	No	104	31.9
3.	No response	03	0.9
<b>Total</b>		<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 2.1 presents respondents' awareness of the rising cases of human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria. Majority of the respondents (67.2%) reported that they are aware of the rising cases of human trafficking, while 31.9 percent were not aware and 0.9 percent did not respond. In line with the above responses, a female FGD respondent stated that:

The fact that IDPs are becoming trafficked persons is obvious because sometimes it is difficult to differentiate the IDPs from the trafficked persons... To cut it short most people are aware of the trend in the north-eastern Nigeria. (FGD with a male respondent, 2021).

**Table 2.2: The Prevalence of Human Trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria Today**

S/N	Occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
1.	Very high	98	30.1
2.	High	151	46.3
3.	Low	61	18.7
4.	Very Low	15	4.6
5.	I don't know	01	0.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 2.2 shows the prevalence of human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria at the time of the study. Majority of the respondents (46.3%) reported that the prevalence of human trafficking is high in the North-Eastern, while minority (4.6%) reported that it is very low. This indicates that the prevalence is high. A male IDI respondent stated that:

The prevalence of human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria is high as the trend is on the increase, but the main cause is not only Boko Haram. Since before the emergence of Boko Haram, our women are going to Saudi Arabia for services like housemaids. Some of them were and are still manipulated and deceived to go and work with freedom, but we have many incidences of bating and even merciless killings of the housemaids and the stories of women that are sold as slaves in Libya. (IDI with a male respondent, 2021).

**Table 2.3: The Extent to which IDPs Become Victims of Human Trafficking Compared with Host Communities**

S/N	Occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
1.	Very high	98	31.1
2.	High	151	46.3
3.	Low	61	18.7
4.	Very Low	15	4.6
5.	I don't know	01	0.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 2.3 presents the extent to which IDPs become victims of human trafficking compared with host communities, like the prevalence, where majority (46.7%) reported that the extent to which IDPs become victims of human trafficking is high compared with host communities and minority.

### Section C: Boko Haram Insurgency and Increase in Human Trafficking

This section deals with the role played by Boko Haram insurgency in the increase in Human Trafficking

**Table 3.1: Whether Boko Haram has Contributed to the Increase in Human Trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria**

S/N	Occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
1.	Yes	314	96.3
2.	No	12	3.7
3.	No response	00	0.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 3.1 presents data on whether Boko Haram has contributed to the increase in human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria, where majority of the respondents (96.3%) have the opinion that Boko Haram has contributed to the increase in human trafficking in the area, while minority (3.7%) reported that the group did not contributed to the increase in human trafficking. A male IDI respondent also mentioned that:

Boko Haram has contributed to the increase in abductions and kidnapping of school boys and girls, like the case of Chibok secondary school girls and boys secondary school in Dapchi. These boys and girls if abducted are ending up in activities that are similar to the fate of the victims of human trafficking. (IDI with a male respondent, 2021).

#### A male FGD respondent also mentioned that:

The role played by Boko Haram in the increase in human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria, are many. Firstly, the abductions of secondary school students have rendered many youths victims of human trafficking. Secondly, by forcefully sending people out of their towns and villages, they are automatically subjects susceptible to human trafficking. Thirdly, the Boko Haram itself might have been involved in trafficking of their victims of abductions. (FGD with a male respondent, 2021).

**Table 3.2: Means through Boko Haram Contributed to the Increase in Human Trafficking**

S/N	Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
A.	Because the Boko Haram abducted and trafficked their hostages	183	56.1
B.	Boko Haram abducts and traffics IDPs	41	12.6
C.	The IDPs have no option but to work for human traffickers	97	29.8
D.	Boko Haram collaborates with human traffickers	05	1.5
<b>Total</b>			

Source: Survey, 2021

Table 3.2 presents the means through Boko Haram contributed to the increase in human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria, where majority of the respondents (56.1%) reported that Boko Haram contributed to the increase in human trafficking because the Boko Haram abducted and trafficked their hostages, while minority (1.5%) reported that Boko Haram collaborates with human traffickers.

**Table 3.3: Whether Human Trafficking has Increased in the Period of Subsiding Attacks by Boko Haram in the North-Eastern Nigeria**

S/N	Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
a.	Strongly agree	64	19.6
b.	Agree	71	21.8
c.	Undecided	03	0.9
d.	Disagree	101	31.0
e.	Strongly disagree	87	26.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2020

Table 3.3 presents a Likert scale on the statement "human trafficking has increased in the period of subsiding attacks by Boko Haram in the North-Eastern Nigeria, where majority of the respondents (31.0) disagreed that human trafficking has increased in the period of subsiding attacks by Boko Haram in the study area, while a slight minority (19.6) strongly that human trafficking has increased in the period of subsiding attacks by Boko Haram in the study area.



**Section D: The Consequences of Human Trafficking among Boko Haram Driven IDPs**

This section deals with the consequences of human trafficking amongst Boko Haram IDPs that were as a result of Boko Haram.

**Table 4.0: Whether there are Some Noticeable Consequences of Human Trafficking on IDPs**

S/N	Occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
1.	Yes	325	99.7
2.	No	00	0.0
3.	No response	01	0.3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2020

Table 4.0 presents data on whether there are some noticeable consequences of human trafficking on IDPs, where almost all of the respondents (99.7%) reported that some noticeable consequences of human trafficking on IDPs.

**Table 4.2: The Consequences of Human Trafficking on IDPs**

S/N	The Consequences of Human Trafficking on IDPs	Total	
		Yes	No
A	Some IDPs can join Boko Haram through human trafficking	324(99.4%)	2(0.6%)
B	The female IDPs are ending up in sex slavery due to human trafficking	298(91.4%)	28(8.6%)
C	It reduces the chances of their liberation from IDPs status	295(90.5%)	31(9.5%)
D	Others, specify	107(32.8%)	219(67.2%)

Table 4.2 presents data the consequences of human trafficking on IDPs. Majority of the respondents (99.4%) reported that some IDPs can join Boko Haram through human trafficking, while 0.6 percent reported that they cannot; majority of the respondents (91.4%) reported that the female IDPs are ending up in sex slavery due to human trafficking, while minority (8.6%) reported that they will not end in sex slavery; majority of the respondents (90.5%) reported that human trafficking reduces the chances of their liberation from IDPs status, while minority (9.5%) reported that it does not. Minority of the respondents (32.8%) reported other consequences, which include dehumanisation and engagement of the IDPs into baby factory as a result of human trafficking.

**In addition to the above quantitative data, a female IDI respondent made the following remark, thus:**

The consequences of human trafficking are many...Apart from the social effects, such as involvement of the victim into forced commercial sex and sexual slavery, suffering from assault, and bonded slavery; there are psychological consequences, such as insomnia, lack of trust to strangers and post-traumatic stress disorder... (IDI with a female respondent, 2021).

The finding is in agreement with the report of US Department of State (2009) which identified many forms of human trafficking, including forced labour, bonded labour, debt bondage among migrant labourers, involuntary domestic servitude, forced child labour, child soldiers, and sex trafficking.

**Table 4.3: Whether Human Trafficking can Lead to the Murder of the Victims**

S/N	Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
a.	Strongly agree	177	54.3
b.	Agree	136	41.7
c.	Undecided	00	0.0
d.	Disagree	08	2.5
e.	Strongly disagree	05	1.5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2020

Table 4.3 presents data on whether human trafficking can lead to the murder of the victims, where majority (54.3%) strongly agreed that human trafficking can lead to the murder of the victims, while minority (1.5%) strongly disagreed that human trafficking can lead to the murder of the victims.

**Section E: The Possible Solutions to Human Trafficking of IDPs in the North-East**

This sections deals with the possible solutions to trafficking of IDPs.

**Table 5.1: Whether There Possible Solutions to Trafficking of IDPs**

S/N	Occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
1.	Yes	319	97.9
2.	No	07	2.1
3.	No response	00	0.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2020

Table 5.1 presents data on whether there are possible solutions to trafficking of IDPs, where majority of the sampled respondents (97.9%) reported that there are possible solutions to trafficking of IDPs, while minority (2.1%) reported that there are not.



**Table 5.2: The Possible Solutions to Trafficking of IDPs in the North-Eastern Nigeria**

S/N	The Possible to Trafficking of IDPs in the North-Eastern Nigeria	Total	
		Yes	No
A	Boko Haram insurgency should be fought to prevent trafficking of IDPs	321(98.5%)	05(1.5%)
B	There should be special intervention for the IDPs as safety net	301(92.3%)	25(7.7%)
C	Synergy between law enforcement agencies in fighting human trafficking	325(99.7%)	01(0.3%)
D	Others, specify	222(68.1%)	104(31.9%)

Table 5.2 presents the possible solutions to trafficking of IDPs in the north-eastern Nigeria. Majority of the sampled respondents (98.5%) reported that Boko Haram insurgency should be fought to prevent trafficking of IDPs, while minority (1.5%) reported that that is not solution. Majority of the sampled respondents (92.3%) suggested that there should be special intervention for the IDPs as safety net, while minority (7.7%) reported that that is not solution. Majority of the sampled respondents (99.7%) suggested that there should be synergy between law enforcement agencies in fighting human trafficking, while minority (0.3%) did not see it as the solution. Other solutions like community participation, community policing and contribution of neighbouring states have been suggested by 68.1 percent of the respondents, while minority (38.1%) did not give any other solutions to trafficking of IDPs in the north-eastern Nigeria.

In line with the above responses, an IDI respondent suggested that:

The problem of trafficking of IDPs in the north-eastern Nigeria is connected to many things, not only Boko Haram. Therefore, its solution should be made taking into cognisance the various underlying factors that lead to trafficking of IDPs, such as poverty, unemployment, poor security apparatus and weak criminal justice. (IDI with a male respondent, 2021).

The finding is in concord with that of Ibrahim & Mukhtar (2016) human trafficking including sex labour, and sex slavery are difficult to be addressed in Nigeria because they are influenced by different factors.

**Table 5.3: Whether Emphasis on IDPs by NAPTIP can Help Fight Trafficking of IDPs in the North-Eastern Nigeria**

S/N	Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
a.	Strongly agree	214	65.6
b.	Agree	111	34.0
c.	Undecided	00	0.0
d.	Disagree	01	0.4
e.	Strongly disagree	00	0.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Survey, 2020

Table 5.3: Emphasis on IDPs by NAPTIP can help fight trafficking of IDPs in the north-eastern Nigeria, where majority of the respondents (65.6%) strongly agree that emphasis on IDPs by NAPTIP can help fight trafficking of IDPs in the region, while tiny minority (0.4%) disagreed that emphasis on IDPs by NAPTIP can help fight trafficking of IDPs.

### Conclusion

The article investigated the rise of human trafficking in the period following *Boko Haram* reign of insurgent terrorism in the Northeastern Nigeria. In conclusion, the extent of human trafficking among IDPs in the North-eastern Nigeria is high in the study area and Boko Haram insurgency has increased human trafficking in the study area. The consequences of human trafficking among Boko Haram driven IDPs are many. Some of these consequences includes: the tendencies that the IDPs can join Boko Haram through human trafficking; the female IDPs are ending up in sex slavery due to human trafficking; human trafficking reduces the chances of their liberation from IDPs status; dehumanisation and engagement of the IDPs into baby factory; assault and even murder, bonded slavery; and other psychological consequences like insomnia, lack of trust to strangers and post-traumatic stress disorder, etc. As the possible solutions to human trafficking of IDPs in the North-eastern Nigeria, therefore; Boko Haram insurgency should be fought to prevent trafficking of IDPs, there should be special intervention for the IDPs as safety net; there should be synergy between law enforcement agencies in fighting human trafficking; community participation, community policing and contribution of neighbouring states.

### Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are suggested in order to

1. Haram insurgency should be fought to successfully prevent trafficking of IDPs in the north-eastern Nigeria;
2. There should be special intervention for the IDPs by the Government and NGOs because it will provide a safety net, and give the IDPs the courage to resist the temptations of the human traffickers;
3. There should be synergy between law enforcement agencies in fighting human trafficking. Lack of mutual support and intelligence sharing between the various security agencies is the reason why human trafficking has not been addressed;
4. Community participation and community policing are central to a successful policing in practice in our contemporary democratic states. Both should be adopted to tackle human trafficking in the north-eastern Nigeria;
5. Nigeria Government should collaborate with the neighbouring states because of border control against human traffickers;
6. Anti-human trafficking agencies like NAPTIP should extend their focus from only human trafficking perpetrated by organised criminal syndicates to include human trafficking on IDPs.

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### Acknowledgement

The author wishes to acknowledge the contribution of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for funding the research

### APPENDIX I

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY YOBE STATE UNIVERSITY QUESTIONNAIRE GUIDE FOR THE PUBLIC

### Respondent's Consent

Dear Sir/Ma,

I am an academic staff in the above named Department and institution. I am conducting research on the topic: **POST-BOKO HARAM INSURGENCY AND TRAFFICKING OF IDPs IN THE NORTHEASTERN NIGERIA: CONSEQUENCES AND SOLUTIONS**. To gather the opinion of the general public on the subject matter within Yobe State, I am soliciting for your cooperation to kindly fill this questionnaire. Your participation to answer the set of questions is voluntary. I assure you that the information given will strictly be used for academic purpose, adhering to all the principle guiding research ethics.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**Dr. Bukar Jamri**

**Instruction:** Tick (✓) the option as appropriate.

### Section A: Socio-Economic and Demographic Information of the Respondents

1. Gender  
A. Male ( ) B. Female ( )
2. Age  
A. 18-27 ( ) B. 28-37 ( ) C. 38-47 ( ) D. 48-57 ( ) E. 58 and above ( )
3. Marital status  
A. Single ( ) B. Married ( ) C. Divorced D. Widowed ( )
4. Educational attainment  
A. Primary ( ) B. Secondary ( ) C. Tertiary ( ) D. Others.....
5. Occupational Status  
A. Business man(woman) ( ) B. Civil servant ( ) C. Student ( ) D. Political leader ( ) E. Law enforcement ( ) F. Community leader ( ) Others.....
6. Monthly Income  
A. Less than N10,000 ( ) B. N10,000-N19,999 ( ) C. N20,000-N29,999 ( ) D. N30,000-N39, 999 E. N40,000-above ( )

### Section B: The Extent of Human Trafficking Among IDPs in the North-Eastern Nigeria

7. Are you aware of the rising cases of human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria?  
a. Yes ( ) b. No ( )
8. How prevalent is human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria today?  
a. Very high ( )  
b. High ( )  
c. Low ( )  
d. Very low ( )  
e. I don't know ( )
9. To what extent do IDPs falling victims of the human trafficking compared with their host communities?  
a. Very high ( )  
b. High ( )  
c. Low ( )  
d. Very low ( )  
e. I don't know ( )

### Section C: Boko Haram Insurgency and Increase in Human Trafficking

10. In your opinion, do you think Boko Haram has contributed to the increase in human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria?  
a. Yes ( ) b. No ( )



11. If Q10 is Yes, how did Boko Haram contributed to the increase in human trafficking in the North-Eastern Nigeria?
- Because the Boko Haram abducted and trafficked their hostages ( )
  - Boko Haram abducts and traffics IDPs ( )
  - The IDPs have no option but to work for human traffickers ( )
  - Boko Haram collaborates with human traffickers ( )
12. Human trafficking has increased in the period of subsiding attacks by Boko Haram in the North-Eastern Nigeria
- Strongly agree ( )
  - Agree ( )
  - Undecided ( )
  - Disagree ( )
  - Strongly disagree ( )

#### Section D: The Consequences of Human Trafficking among Boko Haram Driven IDPs

13. Do you think there are some noticeable consequences of human trafficking on IDPs?
- Yes ( ) b. No ( )
14. If Q13 is yes, what are the consequences of human trafficking on IDPs?

S/N	Response	Yes	No
A	Some IDPs can join Boko Haram through human trafficking		
B	The female IDPs are ending up in sex slavery due to human trafficking		
C	Human trafficking reduces the chances of their liberation from IDPs status		
D	Others, specify		

15. Human trafficking can lead to the murder of the victims.
- Strongly agree ( )
  - Agree ( )
  - Undecided ( )
  - Disagree ( )
  - Strongly disagree ( )

#### Section E: The Possible Solutions to Human Trafficking of IDPs in the North-East

16. Are there possible solutions to trafficking of IDPs?
- Yes ( ) b. No ( )
17. If Q16 is Yes, what are the possible to trafficking of IDPs in the north-eastern Nigeria?

S/N	Response	Yes	No
A	Boko Haram insurgency should be fought to prevent trafficking of IDPs		
B	There should be special intervention for the IDPs as safety net		
C	Synergy between law enforcement agencies in fighting human trafficking		
D	Others, specify		

18. Emphasis on IDPs by NAPTIP can help fight trafficking of IDPs in the north-eastern Nigeria.
- Strongly agree ( )
  - Agree ( )
  - Undecided ( )
  - Disagree ( )
  - Strongly disagree ( )