An Appraisal of the Scope and Implications of Terrorism and Security Challenges in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

Terrorism and insurgency across the world have remained challenging phenomena demanding meaningful responses from governments, international communities and agencies. Terrorism has taken the centre stage of our national discuss in Nigeria because of the untold hardship and damages it has brought on the nation and its international partners. The global malady has brought about series of social and economic dislocations including destruction to lives and property. The government of the Nigerian federation has staged a tough fight against terrorism for over a decade without finding a lasting solution to the nightmare. This study is a content analysis that relied on available extant literature to appraise terrorism and the security challenges it has created for Nigeria. The study found that Nigeria has witnessed all sorts of violent activities that claimed lives and properties before and after independence but the emergence of Boko Haram, Islamic State in West Africa, banditry and militant Fulani Herdsmen have led to rising security challenges that have spread to all parts and regions of the country. These terrorists have made the country a hub of various forms of terrorist attacks which include suicide bombing, car bombing, lunching of rocket propelled grenades, assassinations, abductions and rape. In this orgy of evil adventure that has taken place in public squares, government buildings and installations, churches and mosques, schools, bridges, police stations, military barracks and installations as well as market squares and prisons where they free inmates, particularly their members incarcerated. In the fight against terrorism in Nigeria, the government have expended unquantifiable volume of resources and used all forms arsenal in a bid to curb this menace. This study therefore recommends that a definite policy framework for combating terrorism be set up and also the government initiates a regional partnership in West African in the fight against terrorism. This will help to destroy their strongholds in the country with weak military strength. Effective community and state policing should also be set up to ensure that immigrants who are suspected terrorists are nabbed early enough and prosecuted.

KEYWORDS: Terrorism, Security Challenges, Boko Haram, Islamic State West Africa, Banditry and Militant Fulani Herdsmen

1. INTRODUCTION

Terrorism has remained a global tale of woe, threatening the peace and existence of nations. The term has been variously defined by agencies directly associated with government and governments themselves. Most of the definitions in use are systematically biased as they excluded state actors and the government from the acts of terrorism. The United Nations, The Arab Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism, UN Security Council Resolution 1566 (2004), European Union, United Kingdom, United States, FBI, U.S. Army Manual, Department of Defense Dictionary of Military Terms, State Terrorism; all excluded government and state actors from committing the act of terrorism[1].

The contentious definitions of terrorism have made the term complex and emotive. It is complex because it combines so many different aspects of human

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[1]https://dema.az.gov/sites/default/files/Publications/AR-Terrorism%20Definitions-BORUNDA.pdf

experience, including subjects such as politics, psychology, philosophy, military strategy, and history, to name a few. Terrorism is also emotive both because experiences of terrorist acts arouse tremendous feelings, and because those who see terrorists as justified often have strong feelings concerning the rightness of the use of violence[2]. Conceptually, terrorism has to do with coercion whether it is coming from state actors or non-state actors. Therefore, terrorism can be broadly understood as a method of coercion that utilizes or threatens to utilize violence in order to spread fear and thereby attain political or ideological goals. According to the United Nations, contemporary terrorist violence is thus distinguished in law from "ordinary" violence by the classic terrorist "triangle": A attacks B, to convince or coerce C to change its position regarding some action or policy desired by A. The attack spreads fear as the violence is directed, unexpectedly, against innocent victims, which in turn puts pressure on third parties such as governments to change their policy or position. Contemporary terrorists utilize many forms of violence, and indiscriminately target civilians, military facilities and State officials among others[3].

In Nigeria, as in most other countries, there was no definite existing legislation before the anti-terrorism Act, that has been enacted to specifically address both national and international terrorism and until the event of September 11, 2001 terrorism remained a term without legal significance rather it was merely a convenient way of alluding to activities, whether of state or individuals, widely disapproved of and in which either the methods used are unlawful, or the targets protected, or both[4]. Today, countries are beginning to enact legislations on terrorism but with significant variations as to the minimum requirements that should be included to depict an act of terrorism[5]. Nigeria became conscious of terrorists and their activities with the emergence of "Boko Haram".

Although, the country has witnessed all sorts of violent activities that claimed lives and properties before and after independence but the emergence of "Boko Haram" and their terrorist activities in the Northern part of the country in 2009 drew the attention of Nigerian government and the International Community towards the menace of terrorism[6]. The progressive destructive activities of "Boko Haram" made the US Department of States to designate them as terrorist organization in November, 2013[7]. Boko Haram which is a Hausa term for "Western education is forbidden"- is an Islamic sect whose ideology and philosophy is based on a fundamentalist Sunni Islam, that officially calls itself "Jama'atul Alhul Sunnah Lidda'wati wal Jihad" which means "people committed to the propagation of the Prophet's teachings and Jihad; and their intent is to establish an Islamic state in Nigeria and cleanse the country of any and all Western influence[8,9]. In an effort to concretise Islamic state in Nigeria, Boko Haram has claimed responsibility for series of bombing, massacres, shooting, and abductions in different parts of the country. Notable among these is the car bomb blast on Workers day in Abuja which claimed the lives of 19 people at the bus station. Also, there was the abduction and kidnapping of over 250 Chibok school girls on 15 April 2014[10].

2. Terrorism and security challenges in Nigeria

Terrorism in Nigeria was orchestrated by widespread activities of the Boko Haram, Islamic State in West Africa, banditry and militant Fulani Herdsmen. Consequently, criminal activities of these nefarious groups have created untold security challenges in Nigeria more predominantly in the North Eastern part of the country. These terrorists have made the country a hub of various forms of terrorist attacks which includes: suicide bombing, car bombing, lunching of rocket propelled grenades, assassinations, abductions

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[2] International Terrorism: Definitions, Causes, and Responses. Education Program (202) 429-3854www.usip.org

[3] United Nations, Vienna, 2018. Introduction to international terrorism. Education for justice, university module series, Counter-Terrorism.

[4] Walter, Christian/Voneky, Silja/Roben, Volker/Schorkopf, Frank (eds.), Terrorism as a Challenge for National and International Law: Security versus Liberty?, Berlin/ Heidelberg(Springer 2003).

[5] Walter, Christian/Voneky, Silja/Roben, Volker/Schorkopf, Frank (eds.), Terrorism as a Challenge for National and International Law: Security versus Liberty?, Berlin/ Heidelberg(Springer 2003).

[6] S.A. Adedire, M. Ake, & O. Olowojolu (2016). *Combating terrorism and insurgency in Nigeria: An international collaboration against Boko Haram.* Fountain University Journal of Management and Social Sciences: 5(1) Special Edition, 67 – 74.

[7] J. Omede & A.A. Omede (2015). *Terrorism and Insecurity in Nigeria: Moral, Values and Religious Education as Panaceas.* Journal of Education and Practice, 6(11), 120-126.

[8] M. Uzochukwu (2014). *Challenges in Nigeria and solutions on how to resolve them.* Politics and Social Issues,*22(4)*, 122-135.

[9] J J.F. Forest (2012). *Confronting the terrorism of Boko Haram in Nigeria.* JSOU Report 12-5 Joint Special Operations University 7701 Tampa Point Boulevard. MacDill AFB FL 33621. https://jsou.socom.mil.

[10] Supra, note7.

and kidnapping, disguising and hijacking also attacking public squares, government buildings and installations, churches and mosques, schools, bridges, Police stations, military barracks and installations as well as market squares and prisons to free inmates particularly their members incarcerated[11]. The terrorist activities of Boko Haram, Islamic State in West Africa, bandits and militant Fulani Herdsmen have led to the rising security challenges that have spread to all parts and regions of the country. In the North Eastern Nigeria, available statistics show that about 350,000 people have been killed. An estimated 3 million people were displaced in the Lake Chad Basin and more than 310,000 estimated Nigerians made refugees since 2009[12].

Apart from the nefarious activities of the Boko Haram set, militant Fulani Herdsmen have repeatedly unleashed their terror on farming communities in the North Central and Southern part of Nigeria. In 2014, groups of heavily armed Fulani herdsmen reportedly killed more than 100 villagers in Kaduna State, 69 villagers in Katsina State, and 37 villagers in Benue State in separate attacks. These large casualty counts per attack remain high, as over 100 people were killed in clashes in Southern Kaduna in one incident alone in early 2017[13]. The violence between herdsmen and farmers has displaced more than 100,000 people in Benue and Enugu States and left them under the care of relatives or in makeshift Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps while many are still struggling to rebuild their lives[14]. In April, 2016, the Fulani herdsmen attacked Ukpabi Nimbo in Uzo-Uwani, Enugu state killing 40 defenseless people[15].

In April 25 2016, Ndiagu Attakwu, Akegbe Community in Nkanu-West LGA, Enugu State, herdsmen entered the heart of the community and a woman sounded a gong, after which the cows scattered: the herdsmen gathered the herds and left, only to return in the night and raided the village. 8 persons were murdered, including a catholic church seminarian and a pregnant woman whose stomach was cut open. Also houses were destroyed. In August 25, 2016, in Ndiagu Attakwu Akegbe community in Nkanu West LGA one person was killed, a seminarian, and 5 others were also injured. In November 25, 2016 in Nimbo Community of Uzo-Uwani LGA, Enugu state, there was a reprisal attack left 8 persons dead (7 men and 1 woman). In March 14, 2018, in Umuobasikwu, Ozuitem community in Bende LGA, Abia State a clash between herdsmen and the people of Umuobasikwu left 1 person dead and several others injured. In March 12, 2018, in Enyanwu Igwe Village in Igbeagu Community, Izzi LGA Ebonyi State, herdsmen attacked villagers for no known reason, 4 persons were killed, economic trees and other properties were destroyed[16]. The Aku Town and Environs in Igbo Etiti Local Government Area of Enugu State is also under the threat of imminent attack of the Fulani herdsmen if not put under check[17]. The Ohaji/Egbema community, Owerri Municipal/North/West, Mbaitolu, Ngor-Okpala, Oguta, Aboh Mbaise and Ehime-Mbano all in Imo State have all had terrific experiences of the Fulani herdsmen attack[18]. Another significant terrorist activities are that of the unknown gunmen in the South East Nigeria. They have caused the region a lot of socioeconomic damages and even the destruction of properties and human lives. On the 6thof May 2021, the police in Anambra state confirmed the killing of two of its personnel by "Unknown Gunmen" who attacked and razed the Divisional Police Station in Obosi, Idemili North Local Government Area of the state.

From Friday the 7th of May to Sunday the 9th of May, 2021, 13 Policemen in Akwa Ibom and Rivers States lost their lives in separate attacks – the culprits "Unknown Gunmen". On the 17th of May 2021, "Unknown Gunmen" attacked the village of Nasko in Magama Local Government Area of Niger State. During the attack, at least two soldiers were killed and one Chinese national kidnapped. On the 3rd of June 2021, seven persons under the name "Unknown Gunmen" invaded the Orji area in Owerri and its environs and allegedly killed three persons in different locations. These are just recent attacks, crimes and murders that cut across different regions and are being perpetrated by a seemingly faceless

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[11] Supra, note 8.

A.   [12] Global Conflict Tracker, December 30, 2021.

[13] S. A. Idowu (2016). Farmers-Herdsmen conflict and its implication on food security in Kwara State, Nigeria. *JPSD, 2(1),* 58-74.

[14] J. P. Okoro (2018). Herdsmen/farmers conflict and its effects on socio-economic development in Nigeria. *Journal of Peace, Security, and Development*, 4(1), 143-158.

[15] O. D Nwankwo., P. R. Ike, P. K. Officha, Y. V. Obi & A. E. Peters (2019). Psychosocial implications of Fulani herdsmen religio-organizational terrorism in eastern Nigeria (Biafra). *British Journal of Psychology Research*, 7(3), 14-27.

[16] J. P. Okoro (2018). *Herdsmen/farmers conflict and its effects on socio-economic development in Nigeria.* Journal of Peace, Security, and Development, 4(1), 143-158.

[17] D.C Amadi & A. I. Amadi, (2017). *The Fulani Herdsmen Attack On Aku Town and Environs: The Roadmap to the Challenges.* IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science, 22(6), 1-6.

[18] The Fund for Peace (2014). Conflict Bulletin: Imo State. Patterns and Trends, 2012-2014.

group of people popularly labeled as "Unknown Gunmen. Although the media, sometimes, tag them bandits or terrorists, apparently security agents seem to be reluctant in providing the true identity of these culprits or apprehending them. Hence, the onslaughts have continued unabated and the marauders, most often escape without capture[19]. These terrorist attacks have heightened tensions and insecurity in Nigeria and they have continued to assume a frightening dimension. Other activities that have heightened insecurity in Nigeria also include human and drug trafficking, porous borders that allow infiltration of illegal aliens, arms and ammunitions, ethno-religious conflicts, political based violence and economic based violence. These life threatening activities frustrate economic and technological transformation keeping Nigeria in a perpetual state of economic dependence, loss of productive human resources and general apathy and discontentment. Unless this situation is checked and reversed, Nigeria will remain dependent and underdeveloped perpetually.

It is a fact known beyond argument that terrorism impacts negatively on community and national development. At the micro level, it is known that wherever there is threat to lives, people engaged in productive activities such as farming, fishing, extractive industry activities and others that see them outside their homes do not go out to do those activities for fear of being attacked. It is a fact that the violent activities of Boko Haram and Fulani Herdsmen have reduced farming and other economic activities considerably in the Northern part of the country. The present food shortages and skyrocketing prices of food in Nigeria has its direct bearing on the violent activities of insurgents and herdsmen. On the macroeconomic level, terrorism and foreign investment go divergent with each other. No investor would want to invest his money in a country devoid of peace and security. In studying the co-relationship between insecurity and Foreign Direct Investment (F.D.I), Jelilov et al. (2008)[20] adopted Correlation and Ordinary Least Square (OLS) to investigate the effect of insecurity and investment on Nigerian economy from 2007-2017 and findings show that there is negative relationship and significant effect between FDI and Nigeria terrorism index. Similarly, Owolabi and Ayenakin (2015)[21] researched insecurity and FDI (2003-2012) using OLS and findings reveal a negative relationship between FDI and insecurity.

Equally, Hussain et. al (2014),[22] made the same finding and recommended that strong policy stance must be taken on the issue of insecurity in Nigeria so as to attract more FDI.

3. Fight against Terrorism

Nigeria's long-standing security challenges continued in 2019 and 2020 and have been described as stemming from militant Islamists predominantly active in the North-East Region moving into North-Western states; violence related to armed bandits and criminal violence in the North-West and North-Central Regions and street gangs in the South-West Region; conflict between farmers and herders mainly in the Middle Belt but increasingly moving to Southern states; communal and ethnic clashes in the North-Central Region and increasingly in the southern states; Biafra separatists agitations in the South-East Region and crude oil militants in Southern Nigeria, particularly the Niger Delta. Election-related violence mainly occurred throughout January to March 2019[23]. In the fight against terrorism in Nigeria, the government have used all forms arsenal to combat terrorism. Among the machineries for combating terrorism in Nigeria are: The Nigeria Police Force (NPF), The Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS), Nigerian Armed Forces, Nigerian Intelligence Service, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Special forces/counter-terrorism [which include Multi-National Joint Task Force, Self-defence militias and Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF)] and the Nigeria Armed Forces[24]. All of these security architecture work at various levels to ensure that terrorism is wiped out of Nigeria. They battle to quell various forms of violence including the Boko Haram conflict in the North-East Region and increasingly in the North-West and North-Central Regions; Criminal violence and banditry in the North-West Region and the Niger Delta; Inter-communal/ethnic clashes; Farmers and herders (also referred to as pastoralists) conflict in the North-West and North-East Regions, as well as in the Middle Belt zone (North-Central Region), and increasingly in Southern Nigeria; Criminal, gang and oil-related

[19] H. Musawa (2021). *Unknown gunmen.* https://www.thecable.ng/unknown-gunmen
[20] Cited in A Owolobi, insecurity and foreign direct investment in Nigeria August 2015 www.researchgate.net.
[21] Cited in A Owolobi, supra, note 20.

[22]Cited in A Owolobi, supra, note 20.
[23] European Asylum Support Office (2021). Nigeria security situation country of origin information report June 2021
[24] The civilian J.T.F operate mostly in the North Eastern part of Nigeria where the terrain gives the terrorists who are mostly indigenes engaged in unconventional warfare advantage over the Nigeria Armed Forces engaged in conventional warfare. The j.t.f, consisting of hunters and youths from the locality employ their knowledge of the terrain in their collaboration with the Armed Forces to an advantage.

violence in the Niger Delta; Unrest in the former Biafra state (now South-East and South-South Regions); Protests that turn violent; Violence due to cults (also referred to as confraternities or secret societies), particularly in the South-West and South-South Regions; and Election-related violence Post-election violence and the fear of it breaking out has led to loss of lives and serious internal population displacements, to an extent that Nigerians became refugees in their own country [25].

4. Empirical Evidence on Terrorism

In a study carried out by Olaniyi and Kelikume (2019) to examine the Impact of Poverty, Unemployment, Inequality, Corruption and Poor Governance on Niger Delta Militancy, Boko Haram Terrorism and Fulani Herdsmen Attacks in Nigeria using Global Terrorism Database (2017) and a content analysis of extant literature. It was revealed that poverty, unemployment, inequality, corruption and poor governance were significant causes of Niger Delta militancy, Boko Haram terrorism and Fulani herdsmen attacks in Nigeria. In line with theories of deprivation, the study found that the various deprivations in the country led to violence and conflicts in the form of Niger Delta militancy, Boko Haram terrorism and Fulani herdsmen attacks. Thus, violence was a result of the prevailing unpleasant socio-material conditions pertaining to survival, economic deprivation, structural inequities, environmental degradation and governance deficits [26]. It is the view of the author that these factors have persisted over the years and succeeded in reducing majority of the citizenry to beggars and scavengers in a country very much endowed with resources. The accumulated impact of corruption, nepotism, massive looting of public funds, deliberate neglect of education and human capital development as well as deliberate political suppression of parts of was what gave vent in the form of violent activities. The author found support in the work of other scholars. For instance, Ajayi and Nwogwugwu (2014), examined the ability of security agencies to meet emerging challenges and evaluates the capability of political leadership to pro-actively tackle threats to national security. The paper relied on secondary data comprising relevant published books, scholarly peer-reviewed journal articles, newspaper articles, and materials downloaded from the internet. It adopts frustration-aggression, political economy and game theories as major theoretical constructs. These theories are used as platform to build a treatise for a pro-active preventive approach to Nigeria's national security.

The paper argues that Nigeria's approach to national security has been archaic, pedestrian and at variance with emerging trends across the globe; leading to the need for a new dimension that will be current, pro-active and preventive. The paper concludes that this new perspective must be anchored on delivery of good governance by political leadership across the country and the ability of government to provide deterrent measures towards breach of national security. Those who contravene national security either directly or through proxy must be made to face the full wrath of the law regardless of their social status [27].

Omede and Omede (2015) examined terrorism and insecurity in Nigeria and posited moral values and religious education as panaceas. The study discusses the central role that security plays in the development of nations for which Nigeria cannot be an exception. It argued that terrorism and insecurity in Nigeria are retarding the economic and technological advancement of the nation. Many Nigerians live every day in tensions and suspicion. Many productive lives have been lost, available ones are displaced and live in constant fears and pain of the loss of loved ones. Foreign investors are scared away from Nigeria. The nation's educational institutions are not spared either as institutions of learning are equally points of targets and attacks of terrorists and other hoodlums. Terrorism and insecurity are symptoms of poor moral, values and religious education. The study posits that the possible causes of insecurity in Nigeria such as bad governance, corruption, graduate unemployment, among others pointed out by other writers were highlighted. It also queries false values, bad morality and misleading or inadequate religious education as cardinal causative factors [28].

Adedire, Ake and Olowojolu (2016) investigated combating terrorism and insurgency in Nigeria: an international collaboration against Boko Haram. The study argued that poverty, unemployment, weak institutional structure, corruption, proliferation of

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[25] O. Nnoli, Communal Conflict and population Displacement in Nigeria: A Research Report (Enugu, Nigeria: Pan African Centre For Research, 2003).

[26] E. Olaniyi & I. Kelikume (2019). The Impact of Poverty, Unemployment, Inequality, Corruption and Poor Governance on Niger Delta Militancy, Boko Haram Terrorism and Fulani Herdsmen Attacks in Nigeria. International Journal of Management, Economics and Social Sciences, 8(2), 58 – 80.

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[27] F. Ajayi & N. Nwogwugwu, (2014). *From militancy to terrorism*: Need for a fresh perspective to Nigeria's national security. IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science, 19(10),1-7.

[28] Supra, note 7.

weapons of war and religious factor are the major causes of terrorism and insurgency. The study examined the attempts made by Nigerian government as well as international actors towards curbing the menace of terrorism and insurgency. Such domestic measures include the deployment of troops to the affected areas, joint task force by the neighbouring countries, declaration of state of emergency and encouragement of public and media to provide intelligence support. The international actors use economic sanctions to punish the state sponsors of terrorism, the deployment of security assets abroad, the monitoring of the expanding scope and diversity of facilitation networks[29].

Imhonopi and Urim examined the Spectre of Terrorism and Nigeria's Industrial Development: a Multi-stakeholder Imperative. The study posits that the effect of terrorist activities such as suicide bombings, kidnappings, destruction of lives, public infrastructure, private and entrepreneurial investments, the climate of fear, panic and confusion and a heated and ungovernable polity has continued to make Nigeria an unsuitable bride for foreign investments. The study argued that tackling Boko Haram-styled terrorism and any form of terrorism in Nigeria goes beyond the resources and capabilities of government and its agencies. The hydra-headed terror monster, with its international allies and financing, requires more commitment, resources and support from many more stakeholders including government and its security agencies but extending to regional bodies, the international community, civil society, business community and faith organizations[30].

Obarisiagbon and Akintoye carried out a study that examined security Crisis in Nigeria: The Law Enforcement Agents as Panacea using a quantitative technique which involved the use of questionnaire to gather data from 831 respondents in Benin metropolis and this was analysed with the use of the simple percentage and inferential statistics. The study revealed that ethno-religious conflicts, weak security and judicial system, unemployment, poverty, porous borders, lopsided development and marginalization were some of the predisposing factors in insecurity in Nigeria[31].

Attoh examined Boko Haram and the challenges of internal security in Nigeria. The study takes a look at why insecurity remains a major challenge in Nigeria despite numerous efforts by the government to ensure the security of lives and property. It interrogates the phenomenon of Boko-haram and the myriad of challenges it poses to internal security in Nigeria. It analyzes the implications of terrorism which range from economic crises to political instability and above all food insecurity resulting in poverty and over two million internally displaced persons especially in the North-east of Nigeria. The study posited that Boko-haram insurgence has a spill-over effect to the countries in the West African sub-region (ECOWAS) thus enlarging the scope of insecurity. The study argued that the phenomenon of Boko-haram is as a result of the failure of the social contract and the absence of the process for conflict resolution in the post-colonial state[32].

This work would not be concluded without stating that Nigeria's security problems seems to be avoidable. The Boko Haram problem would have been nipped in the board if all the stakeholders of the Nigerian project had acted in concert. At the beginning of the problem, the opposition party then predominantly in the northern part of the country labelled the onslaught of the military on the group as an attack on Northern Nigeria for which the will drag the sitting President of the federation then and his top Military commanders to the International al Criminal Court for war crimes. Equally, the emergence of banditry that has ravaged the north western part of Nigeria is not without link to politics and the presidential election contested in Nigeria in 2015. We have since engaged the bandits as if they were our friends and brothers until recently when we began to realise the existential threat posed by the said degraded specie of humans.

Implications of terrorism for Nigeria's socio-economic development

Terrorism and insecurity are disincentives to national development. Every investor shows some measure of concern for the security of his investment. It is only in an atmosphere of peace that one can carry out production or trade. Since the commencement of the present security crisis in Nigeria.

5. Conclusion.
In the final analysis, this study has analysed the ramifications of terrorism in Nigeria, including its

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[29] Supra, note 6.

[30] D. Imhonopi & E.M Urim (2016). *The spectre of terrorism and Nigeria's industrial development: a multi-stakeholder imperative.* African Journal of Criminology and Justice Studies, .9(1), 20-40.

[31] E.I. Obarisiagbon & E.O. Akintoye (2019). *Insecurity Crisis in Nigeria: The Law Enforcement Agents a Panacea?* Journal of Sociology and Social Work, 7(1), 44-51.

[32] F, Attoh (2018). *Boko Haram and The Challenges of Internal Security in Nigeria.* Advances in Social Sciences Research Journal, 5(2), 124-137.

origin, scope and implications for the security of Nigeria and the country's development. Terrorism was hitherto given less attention than it deserves. Since the September 11 incident in America and other such dastardly terrorist acts of stupendous dimensions, all countries including Nigeria are now coming up with definite legislation that specifically address internal terrorism. Available statistics from extant literature revealed that terrorism in Nigeria was midwifed by widespread activities of the Boko Haram, Islamic State West Africa, banditry and militant Fulani Herdsmen which have created untold security challenges in all regions of the country. In the fight against terrorism in Nigeria, the government have used all forms arsenal to combat terrorism but no lasting solution has been attained.

The blame for the thriving terrorism in the Nigerian nation can be rightly situated at the door steps of the Nigerian state which treated the Boko Haram problems with kid gloves at its inception for reasons best known to the government. Until the activities of the group exploded out of proportion, the government was still willing to treat the group as mere sick children. This is also the situation with the Fulani Herdsmen terrorist group which although ranked as the fought deadliest terror group in the4 world, are not classified as a terror group in the country, in spite of the numerous mind-bugling atrocities of the Fulani Herdsmen, the government of the Nigerian state has not found any reason to brand the group a terrorist organization with its attendant consequences. Many reasons have been attributed to the hide and seek game existing between the Fulani herdsmen and the Federal Government of Nigeria led by and dominated heavily Fulani irredentists. Chief among the accusations against the government is that it is part of the conspiracy by the Fulani to dominate other ethnic groups in Nigeria and institute a Fulani oligarchy. If this is true by any means, then the end of the security situation in Nigeria may not be anywhere in sight as the said tacit support from the government to the Fulani Herdsmen in a multi ethnic society like Nigeria may explain the birth of agitations by almost all the other ethnic groups in the country who justify their own militant agitation as movements to defend themselves and their lands from the ravenous attacks of murderous Fulani Militia.

6. Recommendation.

This study, therefore recommends that the government should determine what it wants for the country that would be capable of passing a signal that it is encouraging one ethnic group to use violence to dominate the other ethnic groups. Government should also initiate and commit itself more to regional partnerships in West African in the fight against terrorism. This will help to destroy their strongholds in the country and others with weak military strength. Effective community and state policing should also be set up to ensure that immigrants who are suspected terrorists are nabbed and prosecuted early enough before the form a large group and gather strength to unleash attacks on communities. It is equally pertinent to restate the co-relationship between good governance and an orderly state. The spate of corruption in the governance of the Nigerian state is an encouragement to anarchy.

It has been stated now and again that many public officers in Nigeria, even in the Senate are sponsors of terrorism. If that is so, it can be seen that plugging the loopholes of corruption in public life would save the country a lot from the security challenges presently bedeviling it. It is believed also that the purported arrangement or consideration by the government of Nigeria to grant amnesty to 'Repentant Boko Haram militants' would further escalate Boko Haram activities in Nigeria. It will serve as an invitation to person whose fear of possible consequences have deterred them form joining the group to do so. If Western nations are indignant to their nationals that received ISIS indoctrination, why on earth should Nigeria contemplate to feed deadly Boko Haram elements with golden spoons simply because they feigned repentance.

Insecurity and foreign direct investment in Nigeria.