

Challenges of Leadership and Good Governance In Nigeria

Hassan Yerima

*Department of General Studies Education
Umar Suleiman College of Education Gashua, Yobe State, Nigeria*

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ABSTRACT

This paper is aimed at examining the challenges of leadership and good governance in Nigeria in the light of historical and contemporary period and advanced some propositions that will go along way in ensuring political, social and economic development. The paper utilises (a simple methodology of literature review). It establishes that, the challenges of leadership and good governance in north eastern Nigeria include among others; corruption, poverty and unemployment, inadequate infrastructures, disrespect of the rules of law, lack of transparency and accountability in governance, ineffective implementation of public policies and laws, Ethnic and religious intolerance, inadequate security, mismanagement of public funds, budget constraint etc which pose serious threat to national development. The paper ends with conclusion and made recommendations that will enhance effective leadership and good governance. The research would be the library base documents.

Keywords: Development, leadership, good governance, challenges.

I. INTRODUCTION

The socio-economic and political development of every country depends largely on the ability of its leadership to facilitate, entrench and sustain good governance. Essentially, good governance is a function of committed, patriotic, and discipline leadership. It is logically unbelievable and appealing that despite the long years of independence, Nigeria the so called "giant" of Africa is still battling with the problem of good governance. The crap of leaders that have attained leadership position since independence had in one way or the other lack vision. Most of them have been engrossed with corruption and political bickering leading to the enthronement of maladministration and mismanagement of public resources and consequently economic setback,

subject poverty, hunger, illiteracy and unemployment as a national heritage. (Onibende, A. 2007).

Significantly, Nigeria is among the nations of the world endowed with natural and valuable resources that are capable of improving the socio-economic status and living standard of its citizenry. But the reverse has always been the case. In view of this ugly trend, one begins to wonder the kind of giant Nigeria is bearing in Africa and many people attributed the problem to failure of leadership in the country.

It is against this background, that this paper examines some of the challenges facing Nigerian leadership and good governance from 2007-2017 with the view of providing alternative method and style of leadership that will ensure sustainable development of Nigeria.

Conceptual Clarification Leadership

The Nigerian fundamental approach to leadership is challenging in nature. The primary goal of assuming leadership position is in most cases self-enrichment, whereas Nigerian leaders have the power to educate, inspire and provide the people with the resource to advocate the cause they believe in. But they failed in their responsibilities to lead by example. In every country, it is the responsibility of the leadership to protect the political, social and economic interest of the citizens. Leading a country to fully involved, making and finding solutions to its problems, like ensuring stability in the polity and guiding the society to prosperity. But a large number of political leaders of Nigeria lack the vision, mission and the character to effectively govern the state and deal with crumbling economy. They do not have a clear understanding of their responsibilities as some of them are insensitive to people sufferings. Nigerians are tired of complaining to those who are leading without listen to them. As Bell & Smith

(2002) opined, “leaders can point many reasons why they aren’t good listeners, but none of these reasons excuse them from obligation...to listen.” Leaders who listen are however known to respond well to criticisms and crises, build more loyalty and increase the moral and their followers. Listening is a way of showing that a leader cares about the led particularly in the era of democracy. Experience shows that the world leading democracies are what they are today because their leaders are innovative and always searching for solutions to the social, political and economic problems.(Chinua Achebe, 1988) concluded that, “Nigeria’s problem is poor leadership”.And evidence on ground has consistently shown that he is correct.

Leadership is an intervening variable in modern governable societies as it increases or decreases the rate of crises, depending on policy decision and implementation. (Samuel, 2006). Leadership is also viewed as the qualitative and quantitative governance, meaning a leadership style, approach and policy that have delivered ample (quantitative) dividends or blessings.Olu, A.O. (2008) defined leadership as service, a selfless servant who is preoccupied with the task assigned to him and delivers as expected or negatively unexpected. That means a leader is an extra ordinary performer who is result oriented, collectivist intelligent and committed in finding a solution to the concerns/problems of mankind. More importantly, for a person to be a leader, he/she must possess inbuilt mechanisms/qualities which include being responsible, diligent, selfless, sacrifice, honest, integrity, sound thinker, godly, and visionary. The above listed qualities if possessed by Nigerian leaders will definitely enhance good governance and development (Obayon, 2005). According to Ukaebu (2010).Leadership is a bundle attribute of including knowledge, vision, courage, imagination, determination, transparency, decisiveness, motivation, patriotism and nationalism, deployed, by occupants of strategic position to lead their citizens and or followers towards profound and positive societal transformation. Profound society change requires extraordinary leadership exemplified policies actions. Leadership is defined as the process by which a leader and his/her followers interact with one another so that the leader can influence his followers towards the achievement of goals and objectives (Mullins, 1997).

Good Governance

Governance generally means making decision and exercising power over people either in towns/villages, state, countries, institutional both

national and international. Therefore,the World Bank worldwide governance indicators report (2011) viewed good governance from six dimensions which include: voice and accountability, political stability and absence of violence, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law, and control of corruption. The United Nations Economic Global Programme Against Corruption (UNGPAC 2012) identified eight characteristic of good governance which include among others are: participation, rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, consensus oriented, equity and inclusiveness, effectiveness and efficiency and accountability.

The United Nation Development Programme (UNDP, 1997) described good governance as a measure that defines the process and structures that guide political and socioeconomic relationship, while adopting these eight elements as part of the good governance to include “strategic vision” which is the leadership quality. The UNDP suggest that leaders and the public should have a broad and long term perspectives of good governance and human development, together with a sense of what is needed for such development.

However, good governance implies a situation where majority say is respected, where government strives in all its policies and actions to provide better life for the majority, where social inequalities were minimised, where all stakeholders respect the rule of law and where the conduct of government or organisational business is transparent and accountability is institutionalised (Abubakar, 2008).

Nigeria’s Vision 2020 Document viewed Good governance as accountability in all ramifications. It also means the rule of law and unfettered judiciary, that freedom of expression and choice in political association, it also means transparency, equity and honesty in public office.

Development

There is no consensus among the scholars on what constitute development of a country. Dudley seers (1977) viewed development by raising a crucial question on what has happened to poverty. What has happened to unemployment? And what has happened to inequality? If the three indices decline from high levels,then beyond doubt there has been period of development for the society concerned.If one or two of these indices is growing worse, it will be difficult to call it as development even if the per capital income has double. According to Todaro, (1975)sees development as multi-dimensional process

involving major changes in social structure, popular attitude and national institution as well as the acceleration of economic growth and eradication of absolute poverty.

Methodology

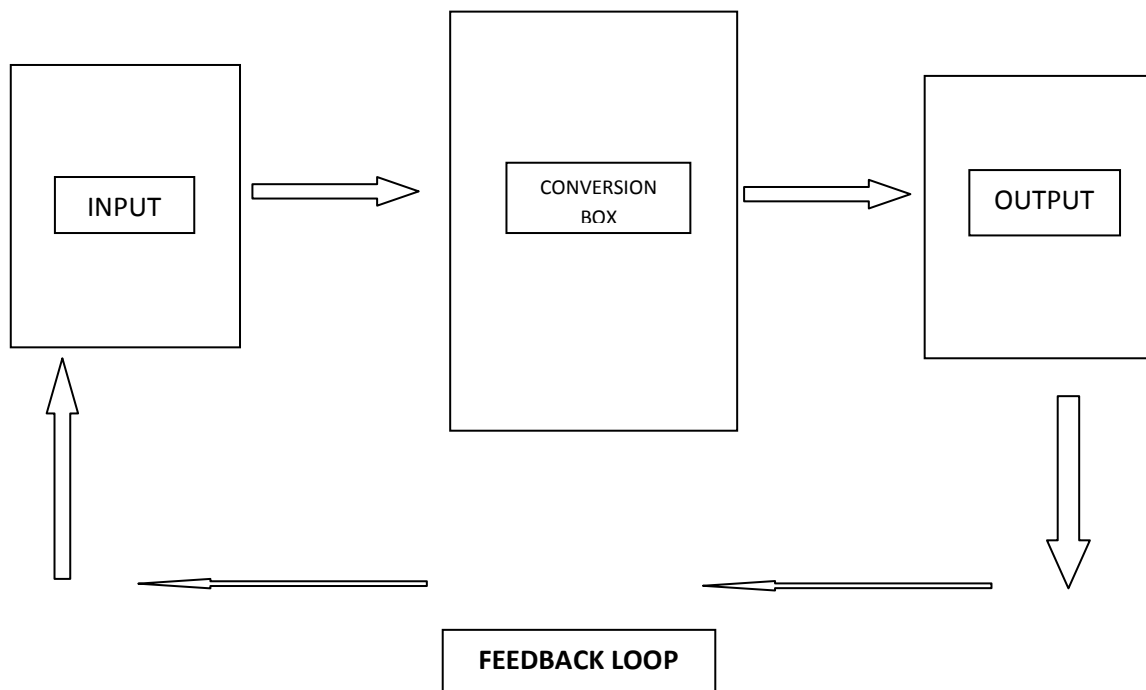
For the purpose of this work, the secondary method of data collection was adopted to gather the relevant literatures needed to undertake this study such as: internet source, newspapers, magazine, pamphlet, journal, text books.

Theoretical Framework

Systems theory is adopted as a theoretical guide for this paper, because it is a multidisciplinary approach in understanding the operation of the system where there are two or several actor's that are essentially components of the whole. By this, we mean a series of statement about the relationship among independent variables in which changes in one variables is accompanied or followed by changes in other variables or combination of variables. The application of system theory particularly under the current democratic dispensation cannot be over

emphasised. This is because it address the issues of interdependence, dependency and interaction of variables typified by political position (leadership), sound management of economy, strong judicial system, education , participation, rule of law, sustainable growth and development, peace and security among othervariables. If the leadership of a nation state ensure a perfect interaction of the variables, the task of good governance and development would have made easy and the course of integrating parts of polity would have been achieve.

David Easton, (1970) postulated that the system theory is based on the idea of political life as a boundary of maintaining set of interaction embedded and surrounded by social system which constantly influence it. Easton contended that political actions can be differentiated from other kinds of interaction by orientation towards the authoritative allocation of values of society. This values being constitutional guarantee, leadership, gender, strong judicial system as well as consensus and dialogue of other elements that defines good governance.



In this scheme, the principal inputs are the demands and support. The major output is the decision allocating the system benefits being a dialogue of elements that explains good governance. The feedback system sends reaction to

the policies into input for further processing, the cycle continues again.

It is in view of this work, that contending issues in good governance are component of whole (the nation state) which the system theory seeks to address in order to integrate every citizen of the

nation. The fact is that the interdependence and interaction of variables such as leadership, political process, strong judicial system, sound management economy, rule of law, sustainable growth and development, peace and security among others not necessarily in order; is likely to evolve good governance. This is so because change in one variable is likely to be accompanied by changes in other variables.

Challenges of Leadership and Good Governance in North Eastern Nigeria

It is very crucial at this juncture to clearly examine some of the fundamental challenges of leadership and good governance in north eastern Nigeria which could be seen as follows:

1. **Corruption:** One of the major obstacles that have consistently thwarted our national progress and the actualization of good governance in Nigeria is the issue of corruption. Corruption literally means destroying the purity of something. By this, we mean (to take something that does not belong to you in a way that is wrong or illegal). The Oxford Advanced Learner Dictionary defines corruption as dishonest or illegal behaviour especially those in authority or the act of making somebody change from moral to immoral standard of behaviour. The World Bank (1997) define corruption as abuse of power or due process for private benefit which thrives when economic policies are poorly designed, education level or standard is low, civil society participation is weak, public sector management is poor and accountability of public institutions are weak.

As it is today, there is virtually no sector in Nigeria that is free from the cancer of corruption. The accusation of corruption against high level political and bureaucratic leadership in 1966 accused the political class of corruption in 1975 the military itself accused its own leadership and the bureaucratic leadership of corruption. Since then every regime that came on board accused its predecessor of corruption. However, no time in Nigerians history as the issue of top level corruption seriously poses a challenge to the survival of the country like 1999-2007, it was the period that witnessed tremendous increase in oil revenue and unprecedented rise in poverty (70% by 1990-NEEDS NPC 2007).

Nigeria sadly, cannot avoid the tag of being one of the most corrupt countries in the world, even the president Goodluck Jonathan who should be leading the fight against corruption, goes on air to pontificate that “what many call

corruption in Nigeria is not corruption but mere stealing”. What many Nigerians did not understand and ask, is whether the redefinition of corruption is acceptable and legal to steal (Global Transparency International Report 2013).

Literature on corruption alludes to three kinds of corruption- first, petty (administrative or bureaucratic) corruption an example of which is the #20 police constable collect from commercial vehicles at check points, secondly, Grand corruption on the other hand refers to the significant theft or diversion of state resources like \$20 billion that the former Central Bank Governor exposed and the senate finance committee tried hard to justify or cover up. The third type is the “state capture” which is essentially influence peddling such as when relations or friends of a senior political office holder “help process” tax or import duty waivers (Pickey, R. 2008)

However, another way to classify corruption is a categorisation into political and economic form of phenomenon. Issues like bureaucratic and electoral malfeasance would come under political corruption. While things like bribery, fraud, embezzlement and extortion fall under economic corruption. It is vividly understood that our nation suffers from every kind of corruption from whatever classification. (Ujo, A.1995)

Nigeria is ranked at number 152 corrupt country in the world, in other words sixth most corrupt country globally by transparency international index in 2007 (UNESCO NO.001 may 2007). And in the year 2013 Nigeria is ranked at 142 corrupt countries in the world and in 2014 it ranked at number 139 most corrupt nation all over the world by transparency international agency. (World Bank Report, 2014). Nigeria possesses vast oil reserve of about 35 billion barrels and oil infrastructure that includes more than 600 oil fields and pumping station, an estimated annual oil income of 38 to 53 billion dollars (UNESCO, 2007), yet rampant corruption prevents this wealth from being distributed fairly and for the greater good of society.

However, According to Human Right Watch (2017), the endemic nature of corruption in Nigeria has led to the loss of 380 billion US\$ between the independence and 1999. Also the Global Financial Initiative Report dated on (January 2011), estimated that 130 billion US\$ worth of illicit financial flows occurred between 2000 and 2008. Adding this number to the loss of nearly 7 billion US\$ to the fuel subsidy racket alone plus the persistent leakages from the federation account that the central bank of Nigeria had shown

without any doubt brings our national loss due to corruption to something in the region of 600 billion US\$ from independence to end of 2013. Recently, a reputable global investment bank estimated that monthly leakage (theft) of official oil revenues in Nigeria averaged 1.2 billion US\$ monthly throughout 2014.

Therefore, corruption in Nigeria seriously affects the capacity of the public sector to carry out its constitutional responsibilities and services delivery, level of investment, taxation, business development and even the efficacy of the judiciary by enabling those that do nothing productive to be wealthy, it encourages exhibition of conspicuous consumption and destruction of the link between the hard work and success in the society and above all undermines the democratic system that tends to provide and ensure effective leadership, good governance and development. (Miller, and Rudnik, 2008).

2. The Challenge of Poverty and Unemployment

The greatest challenge facing north east Nigeria today is how to channel wealth from the oil and gas industry so as to achieve socioeconomic development. Why does the greatest oil producer in sub-Saharan Africa have the world largest concentration of poor people? Why does half of the country population live below poverty line? Nigeria scores below the sub-Saharan average on several socioeconomic indicators, including GNI per-capita of US\$620 in 2007, infant mortality, access to an improved water supply and life expectancy. World Bank Report (2008). Nigeria is unlikely to meet the millennium development goals (MDGs) which poverty is among the goals. Similarly, the country is having difficulty in delivering social services such as portable water, education, health, electricity, security for lives and property, energy and is unable to manage rapid and uncontrollable urbanisation or provide effective intra and inter urban transportation. Nigeria is among the top 20 countries in the world with widest gap between the rich and poor (World Bank Report, 2009).

Today, two thirds of Nigeria's population subsist on less than a dollar per day (UNESCO Report, 2007). Moreover, 54% are said to be living in extreme poverty, while the percentage of underweight children was 30%. Similarly, 45% of the Nigerians population is said to be unemployed. (MDGs information kit 2008). Widespread poverty and unemployment pose a serious challenge to Nigeria's leadership and good governance development because it results to high increase in criminal incidence such as armed robbery,

burglary, fraud, cultism, rituals, murder, etc. Despite the size of the police force and other security agents to handle the above listed problems but remained unresolved (Sa'ad A.M, 1994). Similarly, social issues that put a question mark on the survival of the country such as ethnic and religious crisis, political thuggery and electoral crimes are all attributed to poverty and unemployment among other factors (Namadi, et al, 2003). Social crimes such as drug abuse, prostitution, delinquency and break down of moral values are all seen as the consequences of poverty and unemployment among others.

3. Dependency on Oil and Conflict over Resources

Federalism is lauded for the survival of Nigerian nation state, the over-reliance on oil and by extension dependency on the centre posed a serious challenge to the leadership of the Federation and development. Therefore, federalism according to Harver and Bather (1970) is a political system in which ordinary powers of sovereignty are distributed among the different bodies of the states. The independent states coordinate with one another in devolution of power. K.C Whear as quoted by Dipo Kolowale, (2008) in his article, "how to attain true federalism" views it as a situation by which the central and component state governments constitutionally are not subordinated to one another, but coordinated with one another.

What made Nigerian federalism today a challenge is because the country presently is a federation of an excessively strong central government supposedly partnered by ridiculously weak thirty six states with a federal capital territory supported by obviously ineffective seven hundred and seventy four local governments. Federalism from the beginning was chosen by the British colonial administrators to be the political system of an independent Nigeria. The introduction of the 1954 Lyttleton constitution saw the adoption of federal arrangement of three regions: North, East and West with a central government. The North emerged to be twice than the two regions both in landmass and population. This arrangement gave the North an advantage of having the largest number of seats in the parliament and had control of the centre. The structure created along ethnic distribution pitched the three dominant tribes into life and death struggle to control power at the centre. This arrangement created the North versus South dichotomy, ethnicity and regional rivalry that eventually led to the collapse of the first Republic. In 1967, the military in an attempt to allay the fear of domination reduce ethnic rivalry and regional dichotomy broke up the four regions and replaced them with twelve states structure.

4. National Consciousness and the Danger of Ethnic Conflict and Religious Fundamentalism

The issue/ building of national consciousness and engraving it in the minds of citizens is sine-qua-non to the survival of any nation. However, the danger posed by ethnic nationalism and growing wave of religious fundamentalism is not only stalling movement towards national consciousness, but is threatening the continued existence of Nigeria as a corporate entity. The origin of ethnic nationalism and the conflict in Nigerians social and political life could be traced back to the 1914 amalgamation, when different communities were integrated and brought together under a single political control.

Jega, A.M (2000) blames the Nigerians ruling class for perpetuating ethnic nationalism to achieve selfish ends on the growing wave of religious fundamentalism. Kukah, H.M, (1999) blames the attitudes of the missionaries of both Islam and Christianity of sowing the seeds of subsequent politicisation of these religions in Nigeria. However, with return to the civil rule in 1999, ethnic nationalism took a new dimension, the creation of ethnic based organisations such as Oduduwa People's Congress(OPC), Egbesu boys, Movement for the Sovereign State of Biafra(MOSSOB), Movement for the Emancipation of Niger Delta(MEND),etc led to riots and killings and arson on the basis of ethnic hatred. Similarly the creation of regional and ethnic based organisation such as the Arewa Consultative Forum(ACF), Afenifere and Ohanaze whose aims are to promote and protect ethnic agenda, interest and whose membership is drawn from the cream of ruling class, reflected a new threat to ethnic nationalism and the danger it poses on Nigerian governance.

Azeez, A. (2010:509) pointed out that what made religious fundamentalism a potent threat to Nigerian existence is inter-faith and intra-sect conflict. The conflict that exist today between the orthodox and the new Islamic sect and the major inter-faith conflict between Islam and Christian that in recent times led to violence and loss of lives have created a feeling of mutual distrust, fear and hatred. Today the Nigerian populace are polarised over the issue of religion. Nigerians give religious meaning to issue such as government appointments, contracts, and even school admissions. This phenomenon is an obstacle to building of national consciousness, integration and unity which are sine-quo-non to the success of Nigerian governance.

5. Ineffective Implementation of Public Policies and Laws

Ineffective implementation of public policies and laws and policy reversal pose serious challenges to the governance. However, public policy is simply be defined as what government choose to do or not to do. For example, Nigeria at times of formulated very good policies but when it comes to the implementation is always a problem. Due to lack of good and visionary leadership that will ensure the policy has been executed, lack of money to implement the project. Nigeria has not live up to her obligations under several international conventions that she has signed and rectified. Connected to this is the low capacity of the institutions to meet their statutory mandates, this is a question of skills and attitude.

However, in respect of macroeconomic challenges policy inconsistency and greed are among the causes of ineffective economy. (Gana, J. 2005). Every administration that comes into board takes on new policy initiative instead of building on the previous ones. Nigeria have toyed a series of ineffective and poorly implemented policies. For instance, the chief economic adviser to Obasanjo, Charles Oludo institute National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS), which was centrally focus on wealth creation and employment, poverty reduction and guide value reorientation. But NEEDS failed to achieve its objective due to one reasons or the other. The late Umar Musa Yar'adua administration (inherited by Jonathan) dumped NEEDS and adopted the vision 2020 and the seven point agenda (Daily Trust February, 2009). The vision 2020 is the unrealistic aspiration of the administration to transform Nigerian into first 20 largest global economies by the year 2020. These programme that now appear dead gulped huge sum of money, which could have been used to resolve some of the social, economic and political challenging facing the nation.

6. Infrastructural and Institutional Challenges

Any person familiar with Nigeria would agree that one of the major challenges facing the economy are social infrastructure and institutions, such as bad roads, erratic power supply, limited access to portable water, basic health, effective regulatory agencies and much more. And the plethora of policies in the society is ineffective due to broken institution and dilapidated infrastructure (Hoff, 2003).

Building a vibrant economy or restoring growth to a sluggish economy requires resources to ensure long term growth and prosperity to Nigeria. Therefore, resources should be used wisely, invest in advanced technology and rebuild the institution

to strengthen the economy to the power of productivity (Bomgbes, .A. April 2005. Dike, January, 2006).

7. Value Reorientation and Attitudinal Issues

Nigeria faces the challenge of reversing the value and attitudinal practices carried over from the military history. The attitude of our people to live in their old shadow, Nigerian leaders seem to be satisfied with what they have been able to achieve be it in corrupt, bad or getting worse because of their “zero” or defeatist mentality. The situation is not getting better but rather gets worse in Nigeria. It is the same mentality that our rulers exhibit when it comes to the issue of formulating policies to change the fortune of economy. Therefore, effort should be made to include issues such as promoting transparency and accountability in governance system, tackling implementation problems and policy reversal. Key among these is stemming corruption and attendant practices of graft, bribery and nepotism. Compounding these is high level of apathy among members of the public regarding the ability of the leadership to deliver on promises.

8. Challenge of Democratisation, Rule of Law, Social Justice, Free, Fair and Credible Elections.

The challenge of democratisation process which raised the issue of rule law, social justice, free, fair and credible election from the beginning of Nigeria as an independent to date constitute obstacles to good governance and national development.

Abraham Lincon described democracy as the government of the people, by the people and for the people; it has become the most popular form of government in the world. Lincons memorable definition suggested three key elements. It is of the people meaning that, is a government by consent deriving its legitimacy from the people, by the people means that the people participate extensively in governmental processes and for the people because it seek to realise the common welfare of the people and safe guard the right of individuals and stress the idea of rule of law. Several attempts were made to democratise Nigeria among others are the pre-independence epoch which was done by the British in the preparation to grant independence to the country, the second attempt were made by the military in 1976, the third attempt were also made by the military in 1985, the fourth and the last attempt to democratise Nigeria is the present epoch which began in 1999. Many scholars have advanced

reasons for the failure of democratic processes in Nigeria.

Thomas Hobbs, (1887) pointed out that the military is there to fill the political vacuum created by civilian leaders who would not formulate the political rules of the game for the benefit of the country and play them accordingly. Hobbes idea is a true reflection of what happened in Nigeria during the first and second republic, the politicians refused to play the rule of politics which brought about crises leading to the breakdown of law and order in all part of the country and corruption had reached an unprecedented level in the country.

The immediate consequence of the failure of democratisation in Nigeria was military. The military on seizing power suspend the constitution and by implication the rule of law, the social, political, economic and legal rights of citizens was jettison. Secondly, instability became the future of the polity. Frequent changes in government led to frequent changes in policies and direction. The challenge facing Nigeria today is how to entrench and sustained democratic culture and principles that will promote good governance. Election have always been problematic in Nigeria especially under democratic dispensation because it is characterised by violence, rigging, falsification of result mostly by the party in power, this scenario could be observed in the 1964, 1983, 2003, 2007, 2011 general elections which led to collapse of the first, second and destroyed the legitimacy of the fourth republic.

Lack of application of rule of law: The Nigeria leaders do not have respect to the rule of law especially the judicial decision. This hampers the judiciary to effectively discharge their duties, the political executive still undermine the independence of the judiciary through patronage appointments and the judicial administration is characterised by weak enforcement capacity.

9. Absence of Accountability and Transparency:

There is complete absence of transparency and accountability in Nigerian leadership. A government will only be accountable when its leaders (both elected and appointed) are always responsive to the demands of the governed, and independent of the judiciary constitute key mechanism for enforcing accountability.

10. The Security Challenges: one of the contemporary issues that is threatening the continued existence and development of Nigeria is insecurity for lives and property, since the inception of democratic governance in 1999, the federal government of Nigeria has done little, if not nothing, to improve on human rights and protection

of its citizen's life and property as one of their cardinal responsibilities. Instead they turn to be a threat to the wellbeing and corporate existence of their citizens as part of their mandate and statutory responsibility as contained in the constitution. For instance, bloody sectarian clashes claimed hundreds of lives in late 2008 and 2009, while the government failed to investigate, much less hold accountable, members of the security forces implicated in numerous incidents of extra judicial killings, torture, and extortion, (HRW, 2010). The government's amnesty for militants in the Niger Delta failed to address the root causes of the violence. The government demonstrated a lack of political will to reform the police, who were again implicated in numerous extra judicial killings of persons in custody, torture of criminal suspects, and wide spread corruption. On July 30, 2009, the police in the northern city of Maiduguri brazenly executed the Boko Haram leader Mohammed Yusuf in police custody, the following day his father-in-law Baba Mohammed and a former state government official suspected of funding Boko Haram, Buji Foi, were also reportedly killed in police custody. The government promised to promptly investigate these killings, but to no avail (HRW 2010). In November 2008 the police and military were credibly implicated in more than 130 unlawful killings while responding to the election related violence in Jos. The government has still not held members of the security forces accountable for past crimes, including the massacre of more than 200 people by the military in Benue state in 2001 and military's complete destruction of the town of Odi in Bayelsa state in 1999 (Suleiman, 2011). Inter communal, political, and sectarian violence have claimed the lives of more than 13,500 people during the past decade in Nigeria. Nigerian politicians continue to manipulate ethnic and religious tensions by sponsoring violence for personal political gain, wide spread poverty and poor governance have created an environment where militant groups can thrive. Violent clashes in July between government security forces and a militant Islamist group in northern Nigeria known as Boko Haram left at least 800 dead. In November 2008 more than 700 people were killed during two days Christian Muslim sectarian clashes following a disputed local government election in the central city of Jos. (Suleiman, 2011)

On the 21st of December, 2014 over 500 people were killed by Boko Haram and the burning of the whole market in Geidam local government area of Yobe State. Kano bomb blast in central mosque on 23 November, 2014 led to the loss of over 300 people. On 9th January, 2015 more than

2000 thousand people were killed in Baga local government area of Borno State and over 3,300.00 houses were burned in the same area. (HRW Report, 2015).

11. Budget Constraints

One of the fundamental challenges facing Nigerian leadership and governance is the inability of the government to release the needed fund/money for effective implementation of proposed programme and project for the citizens

II. CONCLUSION

Nigerians socio-economic and political challenges have remained perpetually unresolved and this cast a glaring light on the inadequacy or incompetency "Home Breed leadership". To address the challenges of leadership and good governance enumerated above, Nigeria needs a leader who can adopt progressive social policies and values that tame bribery and corruption, nepotism, favouritism, tribalism and other obstacles to national development. And this requires capacity building, Nigeria become an economic power house and command the attention of the international community only if one can give proper attention to education, technological development, learn to reward hardwork and creativity, ensure constant power supply and provide high quality of good and service.

The importance of good governance is not lost on the Nigerian people, despite the disappointment of past administration, the trend of ruling class and in particular the leadership seeing itself above the law is an impediment for rule of law to prevail. The increased abuses in public office have weakened the security situation in the country, intensified poverty are manifestation of crises of good governance. To address and redress the crises and ensure good, transparent and accountable leadership, the effort of any responsive and responsible government is to reform socio-political and economic order and indeed mobilise the population to support and enhance democratic values. The continuation of power in the hands of few, which gradually results to collapse of the rule of law have alienated masses from participation in government and their capacity to oversight function and recall, this is the basis of good governance.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were made on how to ensure effective leadership and good governance in Nigeria at large:

1. Government should improve its infrastructures, educational system, and power and communication

sector to create more employment opportunities to the teaming youth unemployed.

2. There is need for the legislative and constitutional review to assess the country constitution and amend it where necessary to avoid contradictions.

3. Government should provide adequate and sophisticated weapons to strengthen the security agents infighting of insurgency, kidnaping and banditry activities in the country.

4. Government should creating an enabling environment for true democratic principles to allowed free, fair and credible competition to enhance good governance in the country.

5. The anti-corruption agencies such as the Economic Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) and Independent Corrupt Practice and other Related Offence Commission (ICPC) must not only made to function independently of government apparatus but must have the capacity to institute and effectively execute sanction without recourse to the personality involved.

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