Distinction between Traditional Security and Modern Security: A Conceptual Discourse

Ugo C. Okolie[*]

[1] Department of Political Science,Faculty of the Social Sciences
Delta State University, Abraka, Nigeria

Corresponding Author: ugookolie3@gmail.com

Abstract

This paper examines the differences between traditional security and modern or human security. The paper also peeps into the spate and dimensions of insecurity in Nigeria. The paper adopted qualitative research design and draws its argument basically from secondary data which include journal articles, textbooks and internet sources. The technique of content analysis was applied to analyze the data collected which helped us to make interpretations coherently. The paper concludes that the more fundamental basis for security lies in freedom from poverty, disease, hunger, arbitrary power, joblessness and ignorance. A country that invests heavily on modern or human security may not have to spend much efforts and money in fighting crimes like armed robbery, kidnapping, human trafficking, political motivated assassination, bombing, herdsmen militancy, student unrest, vociferous separatist agitations and other forms of violent crimes. Therefore, this paper recommends among others that government in developing nations especially Nigeria should intensify effort in eradicating poverty, disease, hunger and ignorance through sustainable development programmes.
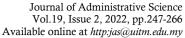
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INTRODUCTION

The foundation for security was laid by Lewis Fry Richardson in his seminar book title *Mathematical Psychology of War* published in 1919. Quincy Wright during the World War II advanced security studies further with his *Magnum Opus* published in 1942 title *A Study of War.* During this era, security was basically concerned with the study of wars. However, the field changed focus and began to flourish between 1950s and 1960s, especially during the cold war era when it attracted civilian strategists, many of who were working in research institutes and department in university, who changed the focus of the discipline from the study of war to the study of military power and nature of nuclear weapons. This was responsible for why national security of a state was defined as state security sustained through amassment of military weapons. For example, Morgenthau Hans in his famous book titled *Politics among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace,* published in 1960 perceived 'national security' in terms of the state ability to main her territorial integrity and its institutions. The militaristic definitions of security (tradition security) during this epoch was epitomized in the cold war conflict between the United States of America (USA) and

USSR as the two nations amassed weapons in a military competition for supremacy (Dunn, 2009). Hence, the emphasis is on the building of arms and ammunitions to the detriment of the basic necessities of life for the citizens.

However, in 1968, the emphasis on security turned away from a militarized perspective and toward programs for sustainable development that aim to eradicate things like poverty, disease, hunger, and unemployment. "Security is not military hardware, though it may include it; security is not a military force, though it may involve it; security is not traditional military activity, though it may encompass it," warned McNamara (1968:149) of the United States and other countries that base their security on military might. Without development, there can be no security because security is development. Any society that strives for adequate military security (tradition security) in the face of a severe food shortage, population growth, low levels of productivity and per capita income, limited technological advancement, inadequate and insufficient public utilities, and a persistent unemployment issue has a false sense of security (modern or human security). To support this assertion, Nwolise (1985:68) cautioned that "a country may have the best armed forces in terms of training and equipment, the most effective police force, the most effective customs men, the most active secret service agents, and the best quality prisons, and yet be the most insecure nation in the world as a result of defence and security problems from within bad government, alienated and suffering masses, ignorance, hunger, unemployment, or even act of terrorism." Therefore, security is primarily a human concern rather than a state one because it is people, not the other way around, who make up the state.

In light of the aforementioned context, this paper compares and contrasts traditional security with contemporary (human) security. The scope and extent of insecurity in Nigeria are also explored in the research. Since 1999, the Nigerian state has faced a number of security issues, including marauding herdsmen militancy, the resurgence of Niger Delta militancy, armed robberies, kidnapping for ransom, human trafficking, loud separatist agitations, the Boko Haram insurgency, and other forms of violence crimes. These issues are posing threats to the country's survival, security, and stability.
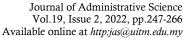
CONCEPTUAL AND ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

Every other societal value is meaningless without safety and survival, which is what security represents. According to Soroos (1997:236), security is "the assurance people have that they will continue to enjoy those things that are most important to their survival and well-being". Security in the view of Adebayo, 2011 cited in Ighodalo (2012:165), refers to "a measure that ensures peaceful co-existence and development at large". In this perspective to development, public policies are directed at solving challenges of hunger, poverty, education, disease, medical care, environment safety and unemployment. Where there is security, there is likely to be absence of fear, threat, anxiety, tension and apprehension over loss of life, liberty, property, goals and values among others. Thus, the concept of security connotes freedom from danger, fear, war, turmoil, violence, hostility and any other event that can cause uneasiness to humans and nation (Saheed, 2007).

Imobighe (2001:39-40) justified the importance of security to humans and nation when he posits that "without security, the state is bound to experience great difficulty in harnessing its human and material resources towards meaning development and the promotion of the general well-being of the people". Therefore, it is clear that security is vital for development in any human collectivity.

Traditional Security

Traditional security revolves around national security, which is seen as the state of military preparedness to defend a country against external threats. It refers to a realist construct of security in which the referent object of security is the state. Under the traditional security approach, security was seen as protection from invasion; executed during proxy conflicts using technical and military capacities. The prevalence of this theorem reached a peak during the Cold War. For almost half a century, major world powers entrusted the security of their nation to a balance of power among states. In this sense, international stability relied on the premise that if state security is maintained, then the security of citizens will necessarily follow (Bajpai, 2000 cited in Ndubuisi, 2017). In the view of Adibe, 1994 cited in Ndubuisi (2017:57), traditional security is "about the possession by a state a level of military capability, sufficient to avert the danger of having to sacrifice core values, it wishes to avoid war, and is able, if challenged to maintain them by victory in such war". Similarly, Kegley, 2007 cited in
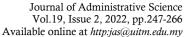
Nkwede and Alegu (2018:86), sees traditional security as 'a country's capacity to resist external or internal threats to its physical survival or core values". In the context of this paper, traditional security is conceptual as the capacity of the coercive apparatus of the state to defend territorial integrity, uphold sovereignty, ensure peace and stability as well as pursue armed conflicts.

However, the end of the Cold War in 1990s marked a paradigm and fundamental department from the traditional security or state-centric (military capacity of state) approach to modern (human) security or people-centered approach. Evidently, the need to jettison the traditional conception of security and embrace the people-centered or individual-centered approach owes largely to the admixture and convergence of various factors including the failure of liberal state building through the instruments of the Washington consensus, increasing number of internal violent conflicts in African, East Europe and Asia, the increasingly-rapid pace of globalization, the exponential rise in the propagation and consolidation of democracy and the incapacity of the neoliberal development models to catalyze economic growth in the developing nations or systematically deal with the effects of complex emerging threats such as HIV/AIDS, insurgency, terrorism and climate change (Okolie & Nnamai, 2017:93:94). Thus, traditional or state-centered interpretation of national security was criticize for failure to account for or explain the emerging non-military sources of threat to security at the individual, regional, state and international levels. Thus, it can be argued that approach the question of security from a state or military angle is detective. The more enduring factors for national security lies in eradicating hunger, poverty, diseases, acute youth unemployment, ignorance, poor medical care, poor housing facilities among others.

Modern (Human) Security

In the aftermath of the cold war, threats such as poverty, diseases, acute unemployment, natural disasters, terrorism and insurgency among others consequently altered the way security is conceptualized. Thus, security is now conceptualized from the human-centric perspective. The modern or human security dimension focuses on improving the existential conditions of citizens of a nation by mitigating and/or preventing threats to safety, survival and well-being of the citizens as well as ensuring the corporate existence of the state. In the 1994 United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) report, the idea of human security was natured, popularized and prioritized as a dynamic and practical policy agenda for addressing widespread and cross-cutting threats facing the human beings. In this report, the UNDP evolved a New Dimensions of Human Security characterizing the terms as "a child who did not die,
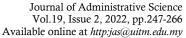
aids that does not spread, a job that was not cut, an ethnic tension that did not explode in violence and a dissident who was not silenced as well as stating that human security is universal, its components independent, based upon preventing rather than reactionary measures, intrinsically people-centered (United Nations, 1994:22-24).

Modern (Human) security involves protecting the citizens from natural disasters, hunger, poverty, diseases, acute unemployment, and arbitrary powers among others. Human security according to Ndubuisi (2017:58), refers to "the degree to which the welfare of individuals is protected and advanced". Modern security holds that a people-centered view of security is necessary for regional, national and international stability. Thus, without the security of humans, regional security, national security and global security will be difficult to achieve. Therefore, modern security is specific to national security; this implies that other gamut of security such as food security, social security, job security, environmental security, cultural security, economic security, spiritual security, health security and political security are subsumed into national security. According to UNDP (1994):25), "the scope of global or human security should be broadened to include threats in seven areas such as food security, economic security, health security, community security, political security, environment security and personal security".

Food security connotes accessibility to basic nutrition and regular food supply. Economic security deals with insured basic income and employment, and access to social safety net. Health security include issues such as access to safe water, living in a safe environment, access to safe and affordable family planning and basic support during pregnancy and delivery, prevention from HIV/AIDS and other deadly diseases, and to have basic knowledge to live a health life. Community security is the conservation of traditional and cultures, languages and common held values. It also includes abolishment of ethnic discrimination, prevention of ethnic conflicts and protection of indigenous people. Political security deals with the protection of human rights and well-being of all people, abolishment of political detention, imprisonment, and systematic ill treatment, and protection against people from state repression such as freedom of press, speech, and voting. Environment security include issues such as prevention from water pollution, air pollution, deforestation, irrigated land conservation, prevention from natural hazards such floods, earthquakes, cyclones, droughts, etc. Finally, personal security aims to protect people from physical violence, whether from state or external states, from violent individuals and sub-state actors, from

domestic abuse or from predatory adults (UNDP, 199; Okolie&Nnamani, 2017; Orhero 2020). From the foregoing, it is clear that human-centered security guarantees regional, national and global security. If these seven dimensions of human's security are carefully applied, the threats of insecurity will no longer have its grip on the national security.

National Security

Human security is not an attack on national security, but a complimentary view to national security. Peterside (2018:854) defines national security as "the freedom from actual and potential threats to national life that may arise as a result of human actions or inactions, or from disaster such as flood, earthquake, famine, drought, disease and other natural calamitous events resulting in death, human suffering and material damage". Similarly, Onuoha (2008:105), views national security as "the capacity of a state to promote the pursuit and realization of the fundamental needs and vital interest of man and society, and to protect them from threats which may be economic, social, environmental, political, military or epidemiological in nature". According to Okodolor (2004:311), national security is "both qualitative and dynamic in nature. In its qualitative sense, it encapsulates the unending drive of the state for improvement in the well-being of citizens as well as the protection of lives, property and resources belonging to the state. It is dynamic in the sense that, its broad contours change with the emergence of new threats or the transformation of old threats arising from within or outside its territory". Thus, as the economic, social, military, political, epidemiological and environmental causes of threats change so does the national security posture of a nation changes.
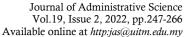
The emphasis on national security according to Orhero (2020:478), stems from three fundamental convictions. That is, "the sanctity and inviolability of human life, the universality and dignity of human life and the existential imperative of the value of individual safety in a world full of multifarious threats". Therefore, national security is rooted in three basic instincts of self-preservation, self-extension and self-fulfillment. Also, given the qualitative and dynamic nature of national security, a country is secure to the extent that the ruling class is able to anticipate, recognize and respond effectively to the multifarious threats, leveraging the available national resources to ensure the safety of life and property of the citizenry and guarantee the integrity of its strategic assets and values, both within and outside its territory.

The Trends and Dimensions of Insecurity in Nigeria

The undemanding of national security is reflected in the cardinal guidance and policy documents in Nigeria. For instance, the 1999 constitution as amended stated in section 14 (1) that "the security and welfare of the people shall be a primary purpose of government" (Federal Republic of Nigeria Constitution, 1999:48). Similarly, the National Defence Policy (2006:2) sees national security as "the preservation of the welfare and safety of Nigerians at home and abroad and the protection of the sovereignty of the country and the integrity of its assets". Notwithstanding, everyone expected that the return of Nigeria to democratic rule in 1999 would bring the desired change it needs for the polity. On the contrary, Nigeria is still left behind in this sphere of human development. This has made many people to still hold doubts on whether development is achievable under the present democratic dispensation due to the spate of insecurity, high rate of corruption, abject poverty, acute youth unemployment to mention but a few despite the rise in oil revenue. Thus, the faulty development policies pursued since 1960 "have left the Nigerian people pauperized and decimated and the failure of the political elites to play by the rule of the game of party politics brings the country close to the state of the nature" (Ighodalo, 2012:169). These are manifested in increasing poverty, poor medical care, diseases, poor housing facilities, youth unemployment and under-employment, lack of access to power and resources by minority groups and their exclusion from policy-making, epileptic power supply, bad roads among others. More than ever before, the country's security has come under threats. Indeed, the climate of fear pervades the country as politics of impunity pervade the polity. Never before has the nation's security being so stretched in peace time. Yet, the threat to national security is not unconnected with mobilization of religious sentiments, injustices and politics of impunity which dominate the body polity.

This paper observed with grave concern the rising spare of insecurity across the length and breadth of the country, notably the Niger Delta avengers, herdsmen militancy, kidnapping and abduction for ransom, armed robbery, ethno-religious conflicts, human trafficking, secret cult, Biafra agitation, student unrest, Boko Haram insurgency and other forms of violent crimes. In supporting the foregoing, Tandu and Etta (2018:116) observed that "the string that holds Nigeria together is getting slimmer by the day with the conflicting justapositioning of ethnic groups on issues that concern the survival of the nation. With the present strength of ethnic militias to fight the course of their kinsmen against perceived outsides, Nigeria could be sunk within a twinkling of

253

an eye. Examples, the herdsmen Militias in the Northern states, the MASSOB in the South-East, the Oodua People Congress in the South-West, Boko Haram Insurgency in the North-East and ever-aggressive Niger Delta Militias in the South-South region". The climax of these security threats is the Boko Haram which has assumed dangerous dimension since 2009. "The inhuman activities of the sect have unsettled the Nigerian state to the extent that ample time and socio-economic cum political resources that ought to have been channeled to the development of the entire country is being wasted on various efforts geared towards checkmating and possibly annihilating the insurgency in the North-East geopolitical zone of Nigerian" (Iheanacho, 2018:218). It is true that North-East is the epicenter of Boko Haram attacks on churches and government institutions through suicide bombing but its impact has affect the whole country which poses a serious challenge to our national development.

The spate of insecurity in the North-East part of Nigeria has their links to the disputed presidential elections in 2011. The aftermath of the 2011, 2015and 2019 general elections continue to pose major threat to the political and socio-economic development of the nation. While insecurity of lives and properties are rife in the polity, the economy remains on its keels with abject poverty as a recurring decimal among the citizens. Some of the dimensions of insecurity in Nigeria are briefly explained as follows:

Herdsmen Terrorism

The ongoing and seemingly unsolvable periodic conflicts between cattle herders and farmers in various sections of the nation, particularly in the wetland areas of the middle belt and the North East of Nigeria, are one of Nigeria's biggest security challenges today. Following Nigeria's history, violent confrontations between sedentary agrarian communities in the central and southern zones and nomadic herders from northern Nigeria have lasted for decades and are currently escalating in numerous dimensions, endangering the security and prosperity of the nation (Brimoh, 2021). In Nigeria's Middle Belt (Plateau, Benue, Taraba, Adamawa, Nasarawa, and Southern Kaduna States) as well as the South-East, armed herdsmen have been terrorizing communities, especially farming areas. Since 2013, they have traveled from the Middle Belt to Nigeria's Eastern and Southern regions. Farmers/herders disputes are how some academics describe the threat (Li, 2018). Armed herders have abducted, murdered, raped, burned down farming villages and their property, and seized their land for grazing purposes ever since they first appeared. Additionally, the States have lost money as a result of their efforts, which have also jeopardized national unity, diverted

funds intended for the upkeep of IDP camps, lost human resources, and damaged the nation's reputation abroad.
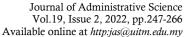
The disputes between farmers and herders have become more complicated as a result of the continuous and expanding civilian access to, and use of, small guns and light weapons. Herders in possession of military equipment have continued to be detained by law enforcement officials and the military, and some of them have even admitted to belonging to the terrorist organization Boko-Haram. According to a report by the Vanguard 2018, a commander of one of the military operations in northern Nigeria claimed that forces ambushed about 40 herdsmen; some of them were equipped with AK-47 assault rifles, and nearly 3,000 cattle in the Kwatan Gyemu hamlet in Benue state. According to the commander, "troops confronted the armed herdsmen, who retreated using cows as shields. While some of the ranchers fled into the nearby bushes wounded by gunfire, several of the cows were slaughtered (Nwogu, Ezeala, Tommy & Sijuade, 2022). In a related article, Punch (2016) reported that the Nigeria Police had declared a "war" on herders who were armed, stating that this action had become necessary "in light of allegations that Fulani herdsmen use dangerous weapons such as AK47 and other guns whenever they are embroiled in violent clashes with farmers over grazing areas for their cattle."

Ethno-Religious Conflicts

Ethno-religious disputes are another instance of insecurity in Nigeria, in a similar vein. And in a multi-ethnic and multi-religious community, this ethno-religious conflict arises when social ties between members of one ethnic or religious group and another are marked by dread, mutual suspicion, a lack of cordiality, and a propensity for violent confrontations to settle differences. As it relates to the distribution of scarce chieftaincy titles, resources, land, power, local government councils, control of markets, and the expansion of religious regions, these disputes have also focused on who gets what and how in the state (Abiodun, 2020).

Boko-Haram Insurgency

Since 2003, Nigeria has faced a number of security issues, chief among them the terrorism of Boko-Haram and the brutality of armed herders throughout the entire nation's North-Eastern area. Over the years, these two parties' actions/activities have

been carried out with impunity, leaving a path of murder, blood, wailing, and ruin. This negatively affects the social, political, and economic development and stability of not just their immediate victims but also the entire Northern area and all of Nigeria. Some African nations, like Niger, Chad, and Cameroon, who share borders with Nigeria, are affected by these instances. While Boko-violent Haram's acts, which pose a threat to the country's security and stability, first came to the public's attention in Yobe State in December 2003 (Abubakar, 2012), violent attacks by armed herders have been on the rise in Nigeria. When a gang of Islamic extremists known as the "Nigerian Taliban" formed settlements in Kanama, along the banks of the River Kumadugu-Yobe, and in a forest close to Gaidam, that is when Boko-activities Haram's began (Enor, Magor & Ekpo, 2019).

The Boko Haram members engaged in open conflict with security personnel in areas including Kanama, Geidam, Babangida, Dapchi, and Damaturu as a result of their operations in their immediate vicinity. Members of the Sect, for instance, focused their attention on Lamisula, Gomboru, and Damasak police stations, the Nigeria Prison Service, and the State headquarters of the police in Maiduguri. According to Mohammed (2014), the Nigerian security forces' 2009 suppression of the Movement and the brutal and grisly execution of its leadership marked the beginning of the third phase of the Boko Haram Movement. Following this event, Movement members dispersed, regrouped, and reemerged in 2010 with a ferocious vengeance mentality. They attacked politicians and security personnel connected to the All Nigerian People's Party (ANPP) administration in power in Borno State as well as perceived opponents. In June and August of 2011, respectively, they also turned to bombing prominent Abuja targets such the Nigerian Police Headquarters and the UN Offices. According to Shuaibu, Saleh, and Shehu (2015), the violent resurgence of the group in 2010 gave rise to new tactics, such as suicide bombing, kidnapping, and assaults on Islamic clerics, mosques, and churches around the nation.
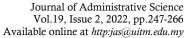
Members of the Movement got more militant as the military onslaught against them grew more severe. They turn to more desperate measures that they had previously despised, such as setting school buildings on fire, attacking telecommunication base stations, murdering and kidnapping foreigners, killing opponents rather than shooting them, assassinating health officials at routine vaccination clinics, and randomly shooting students and teachers in schools. Boko-Haram thereby instilled anxiety and fear in the minds of Nigerians between 2010 and 2022, especially in the North-Eastern section of the country. Every area of the people's political, economic, and social lives was impacted by this development (Agbu, Musa & Zhema, 2020).

Armed Robbery

In the modern Nigerian society, armed robbery is a pervasive social issue that has a detrimental impact on many people's lives and social interactions. It entails theft, which involves the use of force, violence, or threats of violence. Armed robbery is as old as mankind, and it exists in all communities that are currently known both developed and underdeveloped. However, there are variations from society to society as well as occasionally, from rigorous enforcement to none. Since the end of the nation's civil war in 1970, the societal issue of armed robbery has impeded the advancement of Nigerian society. In reaction to this dangerous situation, General Yakubu Gawan's military government in Nigeria issued the first-ever decree against armed robbery in Nigeria in 1970, which suggested and mandated the death by firing squad. The number, size, and quality of the police force, courts, and prisons all increased as a result. The goal of several campaigns and programs like operation sweep, operation scorpion, operation flush, etc. conducted by Nigeria's successive governments has been to lessen the operations of armed robbers. Despite all of these precautions, armed robberies are becoming more common. Nigeria's working population shrinks as a result of armed robbers killing and shooting people, particularly young people. Naturally, this resulted in the loss of human resources (affects human resources). To help the security agents stop robberies, resources that would have been utilized to boost the growth of other economic sectors are also allocated to security. The decline in the rate or level of development is another important effect of armed robbery. People in Nigeria live in continual anxiety due to the high prevalence of armed robberies and the frequent robberies that occur there. As a result, many foreign investors are reluctant to put their money in businesses that would provide jobs for millions of unemployed Nigerians. As a result, the growth of Nigerian society is slowed.

Kidnappings

The Niger Delta's tensions, conflicts, and bloodshed have long been linked to Nigeria's history of abduction. And in practically all regions of the country, the problem of kidnapping defined as the act of kidnapping someone and holding them as a prisoner in order to demand a ransom for their release took on a new dimension with a completely new economic attraction. In spite of this, the issue is currently flourishing in Nigeria's South-South, South-West, South-East, North-West, and other locations where well-known individuals and even the impoverished in the states become easy targets. In

Nigeria, ransom payments for the release of kidnapped people range from N1 million to N25 million (Abiodun, 2020). Consequently, this illegal activity is now a simple way to make money.
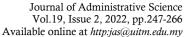
The Causes of Insecurity in Nigeria

According to Onifade, Imhonopi, and Urim (2013:73), there are nine factors that contribute to insecurity in Nigeria, including "lack of institutional capacity leading to government failure, the gaping chasm of inequality and absence of fairness and justice, ethno-religious conflicts, alienation from the government, a weak and underfunded military establishment, interagency rivalry, the failure to prosecute those who commit acts of violence in Nigeria, and immediate and proximate factors". Similarly, Ewetan and Eurhie(2014:42) grouped "the causes of insecurity in Nigeria into internal and external causes. However, they however focused on the internal security which they identified the causes to include suspicion and distrust among various ethnic groups and among the major religions, inability of Nigerian political elites to tackle development challenges, distribution of state resources equitably, over-zealousness and desperation of political gladiators to win elections or remain in office at all cost, government failure, traceable systemic and political corruption, crises of resources control and revenue sharing, inadequate funding of the police and other security agencies, lack of modern equipment both in weaponry and training, poor welfare of security personnel and inadequate personnel, and porous borders". The main causes include:

Leadership Factor

The Nigerian state hasn't had the benefit of being run by good leaders for a while now because the majority of political leaders are in government for financial gain. Sadly, these political leaders frequently use the money they have stolen to oppress the populace and to train thugs and hooligans who become thieves or commit other crimes after being abandoned by the politicians after elections. This poses a serious threat to the country's security.

Factor of Job Racketeering

In Nigeria today, jobs are for sale and only available to the highest bidders. Since many times a large sum of money has been taken from job searchers without providing them with the promised employment, these individuals have continued to suffer significant losses. Recent job applicants, for instance, were urged to pay a
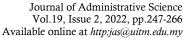
specific amount of money into predetermined bank accounts or cash to some people who claimed to be advisors for the Corps in order to complete an online application for recruitment into the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC). Regarding job fraud, Mrs. Rose Uzoma, the former Comptroller-General of Immigration (CGI), was fired due to allegations of job fraud in the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS). This has highlighted the dubious transactions that permeate recruiting processes in Nigerian Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs). The recruitment issue, according to reports, was exposed when a House of Representatives Committee looked into the CGI for conducting a hiring process without as usual informing the public. The irregularities that permeate employment at the Nigerian Immigration Services, Nigerian Customs Service, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, and other Ministries, Departments, and Agencies in Nigeria have been noted with dismay by the Senate Committees on Federal Character and Inter-governmental Affairs.

Unemployment

It is said that the idle hand is the devil's workshop, therefore as unemployment rates grow, so do the waves of crime and their effects. According to Omoyibo and Akpomera (2012), the Nigerian Bureau of Statistics (NBS) estimates that the country's unemployment rate is currently 23.9% and rising. Now that they are unemployed, these folks support themselves by taking part in criminal activities including kidnapping, robbery, bunkering, and other crimes.

Political Factors

The sudden transition in power following President Yar'adua's death from the northern hegemony to the South-South geopolitical zone may be related to the high level of unrest. That is, the northern claim to political dominance in Nigeria was altered as a result of President Yar'Adua's passing. A careful political arrangement was upset when Yar'Adua passed away and Goodluck Jonathan won the presidency because the North-South agreement on the rotation of the presidency within the People's Democratic Party (PDP) was rejected. Assassinations committed for political reasons are another sort of insecurity. Along with this, there is ongoing animosity between political leaders, even those from the same party, and animosity between the ruling party and the opposition. Additionally, there have been a number of murders that have an economic theme around the country, endangering the health of the economy. Additionally, there is

the political power play and excessive ambition of politicians who knowingly support the purchase of weapons in order to further their excessive political ambition (Egbewole, 2013).

Porous Borders

Nigeria's porous borders, where individual movements are largely unreported, are one important direct cause that has increased instability in the nation. Nigeria's porous borders have major security repercussions for the nation. Due to Nigeria's open borders and inadequate security system, weapons from other nations can enter the country with ease. Militant groups and criminal organizations now have easy access to weaponry thanks to the growth of small arms and light weapons and their availability. Over 70% of the estimated 8 million illegal firearms in West Africa are thought to be located in Nigeria. Additionally, the porousness of Nigeria's borders has allowed an unwarranted influx of migrants from nearby nations including the Republic of Niger, Chad, and the Republic of Benin. These immigrants, who are primarily young men, are some of the criminals in the nation.

Weak Security System

This is the outcome of insufficient government security forces' training and firepower. In addition to this, security officers also exhibit terrible attitudes and behaviors. Security staff frequently lacks the knowledge and tools necessary to manage certain security issues in a way that prevents them from happening. And even when these do exist, some employees are easily seduced by their own interests to serve their people rather than the country and are easily swayed by ethnic, religious, or community emotion. As a result, instead of serving as national watchdogs, defending national interests and values, and preventing harm from criminals, they soon turn into government saboteurs by promoting insecurity by either leaking crucial security information or helping criminals obtain weapons or get away from the reach of the law.

Other possible causes include escalating poverty, inadequate infrastructure, a high rate of illiteracy (particularly in northern Nigeria), social upheaval brought on by rural-urban migration and the erosion of societal norms, unrest in the community, and the incompetent security personnel tasked with ensuring the safety of the populace. The aforementioned indicates that Nigeria's national security is no longer a new concern for the country. The Northern part of Nigeria has been dealing with security issues for almost two decades (from 2003 to 2020), which has hampered the growth and unity of
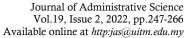
not only that area, but also Nigeria as a whole. To counter this threat of insecurity, the government has made a number of attempts. One of these is the launch of the Joint Task Force (JTF), a security organization with the sole purpose of suppressing the actions of robbers, ethnic militias, kidnappers, and terrorists. Additionally, the Niger-Delta government has established rehabilitation programmes for the former militants as well as offered them amnesty. The Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), Technical Committees, Ministry of the Niger Delta, and the National Council of Niger Delta(NCND) are just a few of the extra-ministerial organizations that the government has established.

Distinction between Traditional Security and Modern (Human) Security

The emphasis of traditional security is on the building of arms and ammunitions while modern (human) security emphasis is on freedom from unseen forces which include but not limited to freedom from hunger, poverty, diseases, weak economy, unemployment, underemployment, arbitrary power and ignorance. Alkire, 2003 cited in Ndubuisi (2017:59), posits that "approaching the question of security from a state or militaristic angle is defective but modern or human security is deliberately protective. It recognizes that people and communities are fatally threatened by events well beyond their control such as financial crisis, violent conflict, AIDs, terrorist attack, chronic destitution, population and the danger of earthquake. The human (Modern) security approach urges institutions to offer protection which is institutionalized, not episodic; responsive, not rigid and preventive not reactive". In this way, people will face inevitable downturns with security. For instance, the damage and death from an earthquake can be minimized by putting in place earthquake resistant building, early warning systems can reduce the effects of famine and the impoverishing effects of a financial crisis can be mitigated if counter-measures are put in place in advance.

Buzan (1990) argues that major events in human history changed the concentration of the focus of security away from military power (traditional security). These events include collapse of the USSR in 1989 without war, bombing of American World Trade Centre and Pentagon by some unarmed angry Arab youths in what is referred to today as 9/11 attack, terror attack against the United Kingdom in 2002 and the prevalence of civil wars as a result of power struggle, poverty, injustice, hunger, ignorance, etc. Thus, human or modern security according UNTFHS, 2009 cited in Ndubuisi (2017:59), "aims to address complex situations of insecurity through
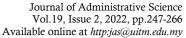
collaborative, responsive and sustainable measures that are people-centered, multi-sectional, comprehensive and prevention-orientated". Thus, the protection of the people was all too often neglected by an over-attention on the state. By allowing key issues to fall through the cracks, traditional security failed at its primary objective - the protection of individuals and empowerment of people and societies.

In addition, as part of the colonial legacies in African and Nigerian in particular, security tends to assume the militarists approach (traditional security) to the detriment of the basic necessities of life for the citizens. The wave of insecurities in the country prompted federal government of Nigeria to make huge and 2016 budgets. In 2016, the Nigeria police force recruited 10,000 men into the police force to provide adequate security for the country. In the same year, the Nigerian military strength was estimated to be 88,000 with a fire power of 363 tanks, 680 towed of artillery, more than 1400 armoured fighting vehicles, 96 coastal defence crafts, 36 helicopters and 51 coastal defence crafts. Moreso, the Nigerian military engages in yearly recruitment of direct short service offices (Ndubuisi, 2017). Regrettably, in spite of the federal government huge expenditure on the military and her fire power, increase in the staff strength of the Nigerian police force in 2016 and 2019, and individuals and communities' levies to the private security arrangements, the incidence of insecurity in country is still on the increase. Therefore, fortifying the security walls with the best security professional and weapon arsenals are not effective approaches in fighting the threats of insurgency, terrorism, kidnapping, armed robbery, human trafficking, ethno-religious conflicts to human existence.

Theoretical Framework

Although there are a number of theories that might be acceptable for a discourse on nature, the Natural state theory gives us a heuristic tool for exploring the major topics of this essay. Aristotle developed the theory, which was popularized by Jowett in 1885, Rose in 1937, and Coplestone in 1946. According to the notion, the state developed in order to meet people' requirements because humans are unable to adequately meet their basic wants. The quote from Aristotle in Zarri (1948:1) asserts that the state must serve a purpose, and that purpose is the highest good of man. This highest good was captured as pursuit of happiness by Aristotle. He described happiness as central to human existence and a necessary goal to be pursued. Another definition of the highest good of man is "a life of virtue and contemplation" (Zarri, 1948:1). Sabine and Thorson (1973) proposed that in order to fulfill one's basic needs, a person must be

aware of his or her potential for growth as well as any available options for achieving those needs.

Political elites in post-independence countries have done everything but produce. They have managed politics and the economy in a wasteful and corrupt manner, with a distributive rather than a constructive focus. Thus, it is not surprising that there are risks to human security given the nature of the nation's political leaders. This is not unrelated to the division among political leaders, who lack the hegemony and discipline necessary to foster political and socioeconomic progress, denying the populace access to resources necessary for survival. There is no denying that the impoverished, the unemployed, and the underemployed, who are primarily young people, would become a raw material for security threats given the high prevalence of acute unemployment and the profile of extreme poverty in the country. This is based on the proverb that says an angry guy is a hungry man. Consequently, it is not surprising that Nigeria has numerous insecurity issues. The majority of these security issues "emerged partly as a result of multiple socio-economic injustices, including but not limited to marginalization, social inequality, political exclusion, corruption, economic deprivation, and unequal allocation and distribution of state resources," claim Anina (2016:4) and Yagboyeju and Akinola (2019:3).

Therefore, security involves tackling the extreme and material poverty of Nigerians. This is due to the fact that poverty in Nigeria fosters a high prevalence of state instability that borders on armed robberies, the gap between indigenous people and settlers, kidnappings, ethno-religious conflicts, kidnapping, human trafficking, and other criminal activities (Okolie, Onema& Bassey, 2019).

RESEARCH METHODS

This paper used a qualitative research design and primarily relies on secondary data from sources including journal papers, books, and the internet to support its claims. The data was analyzed using the content analysis method, which enabled us to produce logical interpretations.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Because of egregious violations of human rights, mass evictions of civilians, the AIDS pandemic, terrorism, drug and arms trafficking, and environmental disasters pose a direct threat to people, security should be considered beyond the production of weapons and ammunition. This occurrence of insecurities that endanger human life, undermine human dignity, expose men and women to sickness and pestilence uncertainty, or subject vulnerable people to sudden poverty as a result of economic downturns necessitates a special focus on the risks of unexpected deprivation. The government's commitment to supply the necessities of life, such as work, consistent energy, competent medical care, inexpensive housing, adequate roads, and food security, among other things, shows that residents of a nation with effective development policies enjoy a high standard of living. At such a situation, national security may be in danger.

In conclusion, the most fundamental foundation for security is not the development of a formidable military defense and weapon arsenals at the expense of the inhabitants' basic needs of life, but rather the freedom from poverty, diseases, hunger, arbitrary power, unemployment, and ignorance. All Nigerians are still plagued by a paranoid sense of insecurity as it is becoming increasingly clear to them that the government cannot adequately ensure the protection of people's lives and property. The police, state security agencies, the military, immigration, and prison service are just a few of the state security agents tasked with ensuring the safety of people and property, and they have all behaved appallingly in the course of their jobs. Because of the complexity of Nigeria's level of insecurity, it is impossible to correctly classify its trends. Unquestionably, security is a precondition for human well-being, a nation's unity, economic progress, and political stability. Peace, safety, enjoyment, and the preservation of both physical and human resources are all aspects of security. Every threat to human security also poses a health risk, which has a negative impact on a person's physical, psychological, and overall well-being. As a result, we observe that lack of security is linked to diseases, a low life expectancy, a poor quality of life, and even death. Given the foregoing, this paper suggests the following:

1. Government should intensify effort in eradicating poverty, diseases, hunger and ignorance through sustainable development programmes. That is, public policies should be directed at solving challenges of poverty, diseases, hunger, environmental safety, unemployment, education, medical care/facilities rather than making huge allocation yearly for the purchase of weapon of warfare.

2. Nigeria government should look beyond the traditional security approach that does not bring peace and political stability by given priority to welfare programmes as a prerequisite for national security.

3. Upliftment of the human conditions and addressing the breeding grounds of threats to security such as bad governance, human rights violation and poverty is a desideratum to put an end to the security challenges plaguing the Nigerian state.

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Author contributions

The author is the main and corresponding author.

Conflict of interest

No conflict of interest associated to this publication.