

## Implications of 'Boko Haram' Terrorism on National Development in Nigeria: A Critical Review

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### Abstract

*The Boko Haram insurgency has lately introduced a terrorist dimension into the crime space in Nigeria. The trademarks of the Boko Haram are wanton destruction of lives and property with reckless abandon, through bombings, abduction and slaughtering of human beings like rams, especially in Northern Nigeria. This has created palpable fear and sense of insecurity in the polity. It is a fact that the development of any country in the world is dependent on many factors, which may fast-track or retards its growth, among which security is central. Security of lives and property plays a major role in the development of any country, as investors in any economy want to be assured of the safety of their investments. Since the risk of doing business increases when there is insecurity in the polity, investors who are to facilitate industrial growth and employment generation, try as much as possible to avoid such an unfavourable business environment. Also, combating a scourge like Boko Haram necessarily involves a significant drain on the nation's material and human resources. This paper studies the impact of terrorism as championed by Boko Haram, on sustainable national development in Nigeria. The study proffers that government as a matter of priority must do everything possible to put an end to Boko Haram terrorism, and also reduce youths' unemployment to the barest minimum to forestall further easy recruitment into terrorist and other criminal gangs. Security agencies should be effectively motivated and mobilized as critical stakeholders. The study was anchored on the System theory as propounded by Ludwig von Bertalanffy theory.*

**Keywords:** Boko Haram, Sustainable National Development, Insecurity, Terrorism, Security Agencies.

### 1. Introduction

Issues bordering on national security are very critical for the material progress of any polity. This assertion is against the backdrop of the truism that sustainable development is a function of an enabling environment. Many variables would be examined in this regard. Hutchful (2002) opines that pivotal to the survival of any society is its law and order which are predicated on national security. Insecurity leaves in its wake tales of woe which the country and its citizens have had to contend with over the years. Every society across the globe has its peculiar problems and challenges. Nigeria is not an exception. As a developing country, she faces her own share of social, political, economic and cultural problems which has in no small measure affected the well-being of the populace (Adebayo, 2013a).

With a population of about 165 million, Nigeria is Africa's largest country in terms of demographic size. With a GDP of US\$415 billion, it is the second largest economy after South Africa. Nigeria holds the record for being the largest oil producer on the continent and the sixth in OPEC. The country is well endowed with petroleum, gas and yet-untapped mineral resources. Its agricultural potentials are considerable, although the country remains a net importer of food. Over the last decade, growth has averaged 7.4% and is projected to be 6.9% by year's end 2012 (ADB, 2012).

Political, economic and social insecurity of a country encompasses all development goals and issues being the root of the issue and the solution. Addressing issues of insecurity is crucial in order to execute successful development projects. As a goal, it is believed that every country should aspire to reach a point of security by protecting its citizens from structural violence, crime, and social insecurity. Indeed, without the safety of citizens, all plans for development, whether economic, political or social, will fail. Insecurity is a phenomenon that is bedeviling various countries across the globe in varying degrees as it affects policies and development. Any nation striving towards development must reduce the frequency of crime to the barest minimum. In recent years in Nigeria, there has been an upsurge in the frequency of crime committed. The problem of insecurity which used to be one of the lowest in the hierarchy of social problems facing the country seems to have assumed alarming proportions since the end of the Nigerian civil war which ended in 1970. During the pre-colonial and colonial era, insecurity was merely handled by the Federal Government utilizing the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Nigeria Police Force. The magnitude of insecurity in Nigeria has become so grave that the Army,

Police Force, Air Force, Directorate of State Security etc have all been drafted into maintaining internal security. This has led to palpable fear among the populace as security of lives and properties can no longer be guaranteed. The phenomenon of crime has impacted negatively on the economic, social and political life of the nation over time (Adebayo, 2013b).

The emergence of Boko Haram insurgency has introduced a terrorist dimension, hitherto unknown, into the criminal space in Nigeria. Series of bombings have been carried out by the sect, as well as taking hostage of innocent citizens. Even the United Nations Building in Abuja was not spared in the bombing spree. In rich as well as poor countries, terrorism exerts a heavy toll on national economies. It is inevitable that the economic impact of terrorism would be more felt in unsophisticated mono-cultural low-income economies than they would be felt in highly advanced, diversified industrial economies. Therefore, the continued rise in insecurity in the country, if not checked, may result in greater investor apathy for the country and resulting in low inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and would make institutional investors look for other stable economies to invest their money. On the state of the country, when people feel insecure, their appetite to invest, to buy or rent from the product of investment reduces; and that is why all over the world, any country that radiates an environment of insecurity naturally repels investment initiatives from both the international community and its own local investors. Hence, crime is a threat to the economic, political and social security of a nation and a major factor associated with underdevelopment; because it discourages both local and foreign investments, reduces the quality of life, destroys human and social capital, damages relationship between citizens and the states, thus undermining democracy, rule of law and the ability of the country to promote development (Adebayo, 2013b).

Over the few years, Boko Haram has created widespread insecurity across northern Nigeria, increased tensions between various ethnic communities, interrupted development activities, frightened off investors, and generated concerns among Nigeria's northern neighbours. They have been responsible for near daily attacks in Borno and Yobe states and they were behind the January 20 attack in Kano that killed nearly 200 people and three major attacks in Abuja, including the bombing of the UN headquarters in August 2012. Boko Haram's attacks on churches and mosques are particularly disturbing because they are intended to inflame religious tensions and upset the nation's social cohesion (Eme, et. al, 2012).

## 2. Origin of 'Boko Haram' as a Terrorist Group in Nigeria

*Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad*, better known by its Hausa name Boko Haram, is a jihadist terrorist organization based in the northeast of Nigeria. It is an Islamist movement which strongly opposes man-made laws. Founded by Mohammed Yusuf in 2002, the organisation is a Muslim sect that seeks to abolish the secular system of government and establish Sharia Law in the country. The movement, whose name in the Hausa language, *Boko Haram*, translates as "Western education is sacrilege" or "a sin" is divided into three factions, and in 2011, was responsible for more than 1000 killings in Nigeria (Eme, et. al, 2012). Though the group first became known internationally following sectarian violence in Nigeria in 2009, it does not have a clear structure or evident chain of command. It has, however, been severally alleged that the group has links with several terrorist networks such as Al-Qaeda, Hezbolla, Taliban etc. The group adopted *Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad* as its official name which translates into 'People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad'. Boko Haram is an indigenous Salafist group which only turned itself into a Salafist Jihadist group in 2009. It propagates that not only interaction with the Western World is forbidden, but it is also against the Muslim establishment and the government of Nigeria. The group publicly extols its ideology despite the fact that its founder and former leader Muhammad Yusuf was himself a highly educated man who lived a lavish life and drove a Mercedes Benz (Bartollota, 2013; Eme & Ibietan, 2012).

The group was founded by Mohammed Yusuf in 2002 in the city of Maiduguri with the aim of establishing a Shari'a government in Borno State under former Governor Ali Modu Sheriff. He established a religious complex that included a mosque and a school where many poor families from across Nigeria and from neighbouring countries enrolled their children. The centre had ulterior political goals and soon it was also working as a recruiting ground for future jihadists to fight the state. The group includes members who come from neighbouring Chad and Niger and speak only Arabic. In 2004 the complex was relocated to Yusuf's home state of Yobe in the village Kanamma near the Niger Republic border.

Yusuf was able to recruit membership from numerous unemployed youths, whose situation has made them become dissatisfied with the state. Late Yusuf also took advantage of the irresponsible leadership of all levels of government, unemployment, poverty, corruption and insecurity. And as he points out such failures, citing verses of Quran and the saying of the prophet, the youth see him as the leader that will indeed deliver them from malevolence to the promises land. Many Nigerians are hungry for progress and an improvement in their lives, but northern Nigerians feel this need most acutely. Life in Nigeria for many is tough, but across the North, life is grim. A UN study shows that poverty in

the 12 most northern states is nearly twice that of the rest of the country. The health indicators reflect this. Children in the far north are almost four times as likely to be malnourished. Child mortality is over 200 deaths per 1000 live births, leading to lower life expectancy. Educational standards are just as bad. Literacy in the far north is 35 percent as opposed to 77 percent in the rest of the country. Seventy-seven percent of women in the far north have no formal education, compared to only 17 percent in the rest of the country. In northern Nigeria, primary school attendance is only 41 percent, while youth unemployment is extremely high. All of this contributes to joblessness and a deepening cycle of poverty (Carson, 2012). In the same vein, Abdulkarim Mohammed, a researcher on Boko Haram, added that violent uprisings in Nigeria are ultimately due to "the fallout of frustration with corruption and the attendant social malaise of poverty and unemployment" (Cook, 2011).

The members of the group do not interact with the local Muslim population and have carried out assassinations in the past of anyone who criticizes it, including Muslim clerics. In a 2009 BBC interview, Muhammad Yusuf, then leader of the group, rejected scientific explanation for natural phenomena, such as the sun evaporating water being the cause of rain, Darwinian evolution, and the Earth being a sphere if it runs contrary to the teachings of Allah". Before his death, Yusuf reiterated the group's objective of changing the current education system and rejecting democracy. In the wake of the 2009 crackdown on its members and its subsequent re-emergence, the growing frequency and geographical range of attacks attributed to Boko Haram have led some political and religious leaders in the north to the conclusion that the group has now expanded beyond its original religious composition to include not only Islamic militants, but criminal elements and disgruntled politicians as well. The group conducted its operations more or less peacefully during the first seven years of its existence. That changed in 2009 when the Nigerian government launched an investigation into the group's activities following reports that its members were arming themselves. Prior to that, the government reportedly repeatedly ignored warnings about the increasingly militant character of the organisation, including that of a military officer. When the government came into action, several members of the group were arrested in Bauchi, sparking deadly clashes with Nigerian security forces which led to the deaths of an estimated 700 people. During the fight with the security forces, Boko Haram fighters reportedly used fuel-laden motorcycles and bows with poison arrows to attack a police station. The group's founder and then leader Mohammed Yusuf was also killed during this time while still in police custody. After Yusuf's killing, a new leader emerged whose identity was not known at the time. After the killing of Mohammed Yusuf, the group carried out its first terrorist attack in Borno in January 2010. It resulted in the killing of four people. Since then, the violence has only escalated in terms of both frequency and intensity (Eme & Ibieta, 2012).

Following the death of Yusuf, a man later known as Abubakar Shekau took control of the group. Authorities had previously believed that Shekau died during the violence in 2009. By mid April, 2012, the group was responsible for over 1000 deaths. According to the Borno State Governor Kashim Shettima "Boko Haram has become a franchise that anyone can buy into. It is something like a Bermuda Triangle," (Baiyewa, 2013).

The Boko Haram onslaught in the Northern part of the country employs the use of suicide bombing, outright shooting and abduction in its activities. This has led to loss of many lives and property.

### **3. Boko Haram and Youths' Unemployment in Nigeria**

Unemployment rate in Nigeria has continued to be on the increase despite the abundant human and natural resources available in the country. Chronic youths' unemployment is evident in Nigeria (Adebayo, 2013a). Unemployment has become a major problem tormenting the lives of Nigerian youths and this poses a serious risk to the Nigerian society. The phenomenon of youth unemployment is devastating to both the individual and the society as a whole both psychologically and economically. The magnitude of the danger which youth unemployment poses to the society is better understood when, according to Awogbenle and Iwuamadi (2010), that over 64 million youths are unemployed and 1.6 million are under-employed. Unemployment causes frustration, dejection, desperation and dependency on family members and friends who also have their own problems to contend with. This precarious situation has left the youths in a vicious cycle of poverty that daily erodes their confidence and bright future (Adebayo, 2013a).

The magnitude and expansion of poverty in Nigeria and the threat it poses makes it one of the biggest challenges in the nation today. The rate of poverty in Nigeria has worsened since the late 1990s, to the extent that the country is now considered as one of the twenty poorest countries of the world (Adebayo, 2013c). The frustration and desperation that daily torments the unemployed creates a fertile ground for crime to thrive. In recent times, there have been notable adverse social, economic and political developments in Nigeria, a consequence of youth unemployment and under-employment, particularly exemplified by increasing militancy, violent crimes, kidnapping, restiveness and political instability (Ajufu, 2013). The scariest undertone of Nigeria's socio-economic underachievement, by far, is the steady rise in youth crime, nurtured in a climate of increasing national income and the simultaneous failure of employment-generation

and poverty alleviation programmes. Armed insurgency and terrorism culminating in wanton destruction of lives and property by Boko Haram extremists in the Northern part of the country are now competing for space in international headlines. The season of discontent has special ramifications for a nation with unemployed millions, and the net effect has been a tragic precipitation of violent crimes: assault, burglary, extortion and kidnapping etc. Decades of social and political turmoil has helped turn the strategically located African nation into an established junction for international drug smugglers (Osalar, 2010). Other highlights of Nigeria's prolific crime syndicates are economic fraud usually in the form of innovative internet schemes, money laundering and racketeering. Furthermore, Adejumo and Tayo-Olajubulu (2009) contended that unemployment has been identified as the major cause of social vices like armed robbery, destitution, prostitution, political thuggery, kidnapping and many more. What holds true for Nigeria and most other nations of equivalent human development indicators is the fact that crime is often a means of survival.

The youths are one of the greatest assets a nation could possibly possess. The National Youth Development Policy (2001) asserts that the youths are the foundation of a society; their energies, inventiveness, character and orientation define the pattern of development and security of a nation. Through their creative talents and labour power, a nation makes giant strides. The youths are a particular segment of the national population that is sensitive, energetic, active and the most productive phase of life of citizens. The youths are also the most volatile when their energies are misdirected or channelled into wrong endeavours.

Consequently, youth unemployment poses a great threat to the country's stability and development, and if not checkmated on time, it may lead to disastrous consequences for the nation. Desperation can drive the unemployed youths into living outside the law in order to survive and as a means of expressing dissatisfaction at the apparent neglect of their very existence. This situation has afforded the Boko Haram sect the luxury of easy recruitment of young people into their fold.

#### **4. Boko Haram Insurgency and Its Implications on National Development**

No nation can afford to treat with levity the security of its territorial integrity and of its people. Indeed every aspect of human endeavour, be it health, environmental, food, economy, political, social and physiological etc, stands to be greatly affected by the state of security or insecurity of that nation. It is no longer news that in recent time, Nigeria has been bugged down with challenging security issues championed by the Boko Haram insurgency. Terrorism and insecurity, especially internal insecurity is not a problem that is unique to Nigeria. The US, the UK and many other countries, face the challenges of insecurity within their borders on a daily basis (Adejumo, 2012). The difference between them and Nigeria is how they manage the threats; how knowledgeable and prepared they are; how they deploy resources against the threats; how effective they are; how patriotic and united these people are against threats of insecurity.

The costs of crime are tangible and intangible, economic or social, direct or indirect, physical or psychological, individual or community. In fact, it is from the cost that the consequences of crime are derived. The cost of crime can be incurred as a result of actual experience of criminal activities, when there is physical injury, when properties are stolen, damaged or destroyed. As a consequence of the prevalence of crime in society, the demographic composition may be altered through mass movement of people from crime-prone areas to areas perceived to be relatively crime-free. This can also lead to brain-drain and other socio-economic problems.

The Boko Haram insurgents have been severally called terrorists in many quarters. According to the United States Department of Defence, terrorism is "the calculated use of unlawful violence or threat of unlawful violence to inculcate fear; intended to coerce or to intimidate governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious or ideological". Inherent in this definition are the three key elements of violence, fear, and intimidation. All three elements coalesce in instigating terror in the victims or those at the receiving end. The American Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), on its part, defines terrorism as "the unlawful use of force and violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives". The U.S. State Department, on the other hand, understands it as the deployment of "premeditated politically-motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by sub-national groups or clandestine agents, usually intended to influence an audience.

Recently, Nigeria was ranked in 14th in the list of the most failed states in the world out of the 177 countries considered in the ranking by the Fund for Peace, an American independent non-profit research and educational organisation that works to prevent violent conflicts and promote sustainable security in the world. When the pillar of national security is weak, the structure quivers and sends sensations to the occupiers and potential occupiers of such structures. This is the case with the Nigerian entity, where insecurity and unrelenting violence by several groups in the country have continued to pose a threat to the nation's economy and investments.

In the wake of the crisis in the country, many international agencies and countries began to issue travel warnings to their citizens about the dangers involved in travelling and doing business in some parts of the country. Precisely, the United States warned American citizens of the risks of coming to Nigeria, with particular emphasis to Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Rivers, Abia, Edo, Imo, Jos, Bauchi, Gombe, Yobe and Borno states; and the Gulf of Guinea (Carson, 2012), and this has grave consequences for the development of the country.

Terrorism has always had huge financial implications and burden to the affected country. For example, it has been estimated that the city of New York alone lost US\$21 billion as a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. With the establishment of the Homeland Security, the US Government now has to spend a whopping US\$500 billion on security alone. Globally, it has also been calculated that world GDP decreased by a whopping US\$3.6 trillion in 2002 as a direct and indirect consequence of terrorist activities in 2001. This amount can be put in perspective when we realise it amounts to a third of the GDP of the United States and exceeds the combined GDP of Argentina, Italy and Britain. Another area of economic cost relates to the impact of terrorism on international trade supply chains, i.e. the sequence of steps that global suppliers of goods take to get products from one area to another (Mailafia, 2013). In a similar way, the budget of N921.91 billion earmarked to combat terrorism in Nigeria in the year 2012 alone, could have been deployed to development programmes that the nation desperately need.

Apart from the economic and monetary costs associated with terrorism, there are also social and psychological costs. Terrorism erodes inter-communal trust and destroys the reservoir of social capital that is so vital to building harmonious societies and pooling together community energies for national development. The attendant proliferation of small arms and the militarization of society results in a vicious cycle of violence which hampers national cohesion and stability. The long-term impact of such violence on cities and regions is best exemplified by the impoverishment that has affected Kaduna and Jos. Kaduna used to be one of the most prosperous cities in Nigeria. It was in many ways the industrial hub of the North, a cosmopolitan city with over a dozen textile firms and prosperous trading companies. The Kaduna of today is a tragically divided city in which Muslims live predominantly in the North and Christians predominantly in the South. All the textiles companies have shut down and most investors have packed up their businesses. The Jos Plateau is following a similar trend, as it loses its cosmopolitanism and local economies are destroyed. The tragedy is that the collapse of local economies and the erosion of social capital reinforce a downward spiral of further impoverishment, which in itself sows the seeds of further conflict.

For most of the north, the ongoing insurgency has had a significant negative impact on the regional economy. Lebanese and Indian expatriates who have established businesses in Kano going back decades have relocated to Abuja and the south. A good number have left the country altogether. Hotels, banks and other business sectors have witnessed significant reductions in their activities. The border towns that have thrived on trade with neighbouring countries have also seen their businesses curtailed because of increasing restrictions on cross-border traffic. In Kano alone, an estimated 126 industries have recently closed down (Sunday Trust, 2012). Another trend is the massive movement of southerners from the north, many of them SME operators and professionals.

Boko Haram insurgency and terrorism is a bad signal to foreign investors. Economic experts have described President Goodluck Jonathan's economic reform as an effort that may yield no results due to the insecurity in Nigeria. They also said the only problems with the nation's economy were insecurity and mismanagement. A professor in the Department of Economics of the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Dr. Usman Mutaka, who spoke to *SUNDAY PUNCH* recently on the telephone, said even if Jonathan had gone to Switzerland for the World Economic Forum, it would have yielded no result. He said, The president was in Australia for a similar summit with about 500 delegates and he has done nothing. He also went to France with about 300 delegates but there was no tangible result. The issue of investment is also about the issue of security. No investor will come to invest in Nigeria with the current security challenge (Baiyewu, 2012).

Some experts believe there are no criteria to quantify the loss to the economy. Many children have died, and many have been become orphans due to the Boko Haram onslaught that killed their parents and guardians, while such children continue to suffer deprivation. Many families have been scattered, and their ambitions cut short. In terms of properties, the scenes of each bomb blast present a scenario of massive waste and destruction. As such, some have concluded that any figure that is thrown up from any source may be a scratch on the surface.

The HWR report with its scary figures revealed that, in 2011 alone, 'Boko Haram' struck 115 times and killed 550 people. Within the first three weeks of the year 2012, the sect killed 250 people with the deadliest being the coordinated bombings in the ancient city of Kano, which claimed 185 lives. A few weeks later, another 12 people were killed in a shoot-out between the Joint Task Force (JTF) and members of the sect in Maiduguri, Borno State. On Sunday, February 26, suicide bombers hit a Church in Jos, killing four persons, with another four in a reprisal attack, and destroying 38 vehicles. In the night of the same day, gunmen attacked Shuwa Divisional Police Station in Madagali local government

area of Adamawa State, killing three policemen on guard. The number continues to add on a daily basis (Eme & Ibetan, 2012).

For a cause that is neither war nor natural disaster, the nation, according to a recent report by the Human Rights Watch (HRW), lost more than 935 of its human capital between 2009 and 2012. In terms of finance and investment, though direct and indirect losses are unquantifiable, a World Investment Report (WIR) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), estimated that the domestic economy lost a whopping N1.33 trillion Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), owing to the activities of terrorists going by the name 'Boko Haram' (Okereocha, 2012).

The quest for rapid industrialization of Nigeria, necessary for development, suffers setbacks globally because every time the bombs explode, electronic media such as CNN, Associated Press, BBC, Sahara reporters, Channels, Reuters and others quickly flash them to every part of the world. Even though the activities of Boko Haram is more restricted to the Northern part of the country, the entire nation suffers the global impact because those outside Nigeria believes that the calamity is all over Nigeria, hence, creating fear in the heart of prospective foreign investors. In the same way, Nigerian prospective investors are hearing all these things. The bombings create fears such that whoever plans to come and invest will draw back. Prospective investors receive the news in such a way that they think the entire country is on fire.

In his own view, the Minister of Information, Mr. Labaran Maku, said terrorism in places like Kano, which serves as the commercial nerve-centre of not only the North, but neighbouring countries like Chad, Niger Republic and Northern Cameroon, is destroying the Northern economy. *According to him, "The attack on Kano is so significant because the city has always been the commercial centre of Western Sudan for the past 500 years, ever before the evolution of Nigeria. So, when you destabilize peace in Kano you threaten the foundation of economic and social well-being of the northern region,"* (Suleiman, 2012). Also affected he added, is the multi-billion naira Kano Textile Market, otherwise known as the Kanti-Kwari Market. It is reputed to be one of the oldest and biggest textile markets in the Sub-Sahara Africa. Also the huge textile industry, and many other businesses in Kano have suffered great decline.

The fear caused by the 'Boko Haram' bombings in particular has made most foreign investors, who usually featured at the annual Lagos Trade Fair to show case their products to stay away and even those who came, had heavy security network around them. It would be recalled that the decline in investment had been lately generally attributed to the increasing rate of insecurity in the country, as well as infrastructural decay. According to the UNCTAD report, FDI flows to Nigeria fell to \$6.1 billion (N933.3billion) in 2010, a decline of about 29 per cent from the \$8.65 billion (N1.33 trillion) realized in 2009 fiscal year. Also, statistics obtained from the 2010 annual report by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) showed that the total foreign capital inflow into the Nigerian economy in 2010 was \$5.99 billion. The record showed that FDI represented about 78.1 per cent drop from \$3.31 billion in 2009 (Okereocha, 2012).

Manufacturers in Nigeria are totally devastated by the growing level of insecurity in the country. Insecurity at the level of armed robbery and kidnapping was increasingly becoming worrisome to them but with the emergence of terrorism, which has become a growing phenomenon in the North, manufacturers are unable to cope and cannot sustain the prevailing conventional marketing channel dynamics. Consequently, the sales volumes of most manufacturers have dropped drastically. As the goods produced by these manufacturers are no longer sold out because of the shrinking market size, they have decided to produce less to cut their losses. If they had continued to produce the same volume and are unable to distribute widely across the country, as was the case before the hostility, they would end up piling up unsold stocks in their warehouses. For products that have expiry date, they would run into serious losses. The implication of reduced level of production is reduced earnings for the manufacturing companies concerned, increased costs of production in view of the overhead, which remains constant; and drop in capacity utilisation. If the status quo remains for a longer period of time, the companies' revenue would fall drastically, affecting its profitability. At the end of the financial year, the companies, especially those quoted in the stock market, would be unable to declare dividends. When the fortunes of the companies continue to drop, shareholders would become restless and may begin to call for drastic actions against the helpless management team. The workforce would be threatened with the attendant labour agitations. The bleeding of the manufacturing companies is usually unsustainable. To stay alive, the companies would eventually resort to retrenchment. And if the loss situation with resultant overheads persists, then the company may close down its operations.

Most manufacturers in Nigeria have expressed their frustration at the state of insecurity in the country. They want increasing demand for their goods and services to enable them provide more quality jobs to the teeming unemployed youth population in Nigeria. They also want to be a part of the efforts to improve the living standards of the Nigerian citizens. They explained that businesses thrive better when peace reigns in a country. They desire that peace reigns not only for their benefits but for the benefit of the entire population as industrialization and economic development and growth bring about wealth creation, employment and prosperity for all. The manufacturers that seem to be worst hit by the

hostility are those involved in the fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) sub-sector. They belong to the Foods, Beverages and Tobacco Sectoral group of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN). They include but not limited to manufacturers of beer, soft drinks and carbonated water, flour, tea, coffee and other beverages, dairy products, fruit juice, biscuits and bakery products, animal feeds, sugar, vegetable and edible oil, poultry products, wines and spirits, cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery. Another group that is also badly affected by the effects of the hostility are the Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals sectoral group made up of manufacturers of paints, vanishes and allied products; manufacturers of pharmaceuticals, industrial, medical and special gases, soaps and detergents, toiletries and cosmetics, agrochemicals, basic industrial chemicals, petroleum products and so on. Members of the non-metallic mineral products sectoral group are equally badly affected and these include manufacturers of cement, glass, ceramics, asbestos, school chalks and crayon to name a few. These companies have continued to suffer consistent decline in fortunes.

Due to insecurity and other factors in Nigeria, the capacity of the manufacturing sector to absorb youths into its workforce has been hampered by the continuous decline in the sector, thereby further increasing the number of people available for criminality. In 2009, over 837 factories have collapsed and closed shops. About half of the remaining operating firms have been classified as "ailing", a situation that poses serious threat to the survival of the manufacturing sector in the country in the next few years (Okafor, 2011). According to a survey carried out as part of its membership operational audit in January 2010 by the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), the 837 figure represents the cumulative aggregate of firms that have shut down operations in 2009 across the country. The MAN survey usually covers five manufacturing enclaves into which the country is divided in terms of manufacturing activities. These include the Lagos, northern, southeast, southwest and south-south areas. The report of the survey showed that in 2009, a total number of 176 firms became terminally ill and collapsed in the northern area, comprising the Kano and Kaduna manufacturing axis. In the southeast area, which is comprised of Anambra, Enugu, Imo and Abia states, a total number of 178 companies closed shops during the period. While in the south-south area, which comprised of Rivers, cross River and Akwa Ibom states, 46 companies shut down operations before December 2009. According to the survey, the southwest area, which comprised of Oyo, Ogun, Osun, Ondo, Ekiti, Kogi and Kwara states, lost 225 companies during the year. It said that the Lagos area covering Ikeja, Apapa, Ikorodu and other industrial divisions in the state, followed closely with 214 manufacturing firms closing shop before the end of 2009 (Maiyak, 2010; Okafor, 2008; Okafor, 2011). Many of these firms have severally cited insecurity, vandalization of equipment and sabotage, epileptic power supply, among other reasons. This number is likely to increase if the crime rate and terrorism goes on further unabated.

Terrorism increases the cost of doing business for the private sector and providing public services. Resources that would have otherwise been invested in increasing output, fund education, health and other welfare programmes are diverted to crime control and prevention. According to the Nigeria's Finance Minister, Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, key allocation of funds in the 2013 budget include: Critical infrastructure (including power, works, transport, aviation, gas pipelines, and Federal Capital Territory) – N497 billion; human capital development (i.e. education and health) – N705 billion; and agriculture/water resources – N175 billion. Also over N950 billion for was allocated for national security purposes, comprised of N320 billion for the Police, N364 billion for the Armed Forces, N115 billion for the Office of the NSA, and N154 billion for the Ministry of the Interior (This Day, 2013). A situation where the funds allocated to security alone is almost equal to funds allocated to education, health and critical infrastructure combined in a fiscal year, as is the case with Nigeria, is detrimental to national development. The development of a society largely depends on the rate of crime. If the crime rate is high, it could scare away or discourage investors (Adebayo, 2013a).

## 5. Theoretical Framework

This study was anchored on Ludwig von Bertalanffy's Systems Theory.

## 6. Ludwig von Bertalanffy's Systems Theory

This study is anchored on the Systems Theory as propounded by Ludwig von Bertalanffy. Systems theory is the interdisciplinary study of systems in general, with the goal of elucidating principles that can be applied to all types of systems at all nesting levels in all fields of research. The term originates from Bertalanffy's General System Theory (GST) and is used in later efforts in other fields, such as the action theory of Talcott Parsons and the social systems theory of Niklas Luhmann. In this context the word *systems* is used to refer specifically to self-regulating systems, i.e. that are self-correcting through feedback. Self-regulating systems are found in nature, including the physiological systems of our body, in local and global ecosystems, and in climate—and in human learning processes (Von Bertalanffy, 1968).

As a transdisciplinary, interdisciplinary and multiperspectival domain, the area brings together principles and

concepts from ontology, philosophy of science, physics, computer science, biology, and engineering as well as geography, sociology, political science, psychotherapy (within family systems therapy) and economics among others. Systems theory thus serves as a bridge for interdisciplinary dialogue between autonomous areas of study as well as within the area of systems science itself. Systems theory became the name used by early investigators for the interdependence of relationships created in organizations by defining a new way of thinking about science and scientific paradigms. System in this frame of reference is composed of regularly interacting or interrelating groups of activities.

The systems view is a world-view that is based on the discipline of System Inquiry. Central to systems inquiry is the concept of SYSTEM. In the most general sense, system means a configuration of parts connected and joined together by a web of relationships. The Primer group defines system as a family of relationships among the members acting as a whole. Von Bertalanffy (1968) defined system as "elements in standing relationship" (Von Bertalanffy, 1968). The systems view was based on several fundamental ideas. First, all phenomena can be viewed as a web of relationships among elements, or a system. Second, all systems, whether electrical, biological, or social, have common patterns, behaviors, and properties that can be understood and used to develop greater insight into the behavior of complex phenomena and to move closer toward a unity of the sciences. This is different from conventional models that center on individuals, structures, departments and units separate in part from the whole, instead of recognizing the interdependence between groups of individuals, structures and processes that enable an organization to function. Societies are recognized as comprising of complex social systems and separating the parts from the whole reduces the overall effectiveness of organizations (Stichweh, 2011). The relationship between organizations and their environments became recognized as the foremost source of complexity and interdependence. In most cases, the whole has properties that cannot be known from analysis of the constituent elements in isolation.

The Systems theory explains the interconnection or nexus between security and development. Systems theory defines the regular interaction or interrelation between groups of activities in the society, as any occurrence in a sector of the society positively or negatively affects other sectors of the society. The sense of insecurity occurs when there is wanton destruction of lives and property, incessant armed robbery incidents, increase in kidnapping resulting in ransom or death, or both, armed insurgency such as the Boko Haram menace etc. This leads to a saturation of the society with anguish, fear and trepidation. In a society where insecurity abounds, the pace of development suffers a great setback. This is because development is a product of several activities in the society. Activities such as industrialization and technological advancement which accelerate development and the deployment of funds to development ventures are hampered in a state of insecurity. Sustainable development can only occur in a reasonably secure and peaceful environment. Industrialization has to do with serious investments in fixed machinery, labour, intensive capital and entrepreneurship. Investment, by its very nature, is risky. Insecurity in the system not only increases the risk, but also discourages prospective investors, increases the cost of doing business and leads to imminent closure of existing industries.

## **7. Recommendations and Conclusion**

It is a fact of history that development thrives in a peaceful environment. Consequently, all hands must be on deck to ensure peace and stamp out the Boko Haram terrorism, as it is inimical to sustainable national development. It is quite evident that Nigeria has not fared well in her quest for industrial and technological breakthrough since independence, and this has forced the nation to rely on importation for virtually everything, and terrorism will only worsen the situation the more. The realization that virtually all the countries that have become economically strong and stable, with a high living standard for its people, have attained substantial level of industrialization, has made it important for the government and people of Nigeria to be concerned about the low level of industrialization of the country and make concerted efforts towards arresting the downward trend. Consequently, government at all levels would need to ensure security of lives and property in order to create the necessary enabling environment for investment and industrial growth. Insecurity is inimical to industrialization.

Boko Haram terrorism and its cousins such as armed robbery, assassination, kidnapping, which has created palpable fear and grave sense of insecurity in the polity and undermines the country's growth and development, should be tackled with all seriousness by the government. Security agencies must be empowered, motivated and adequately mobilized to combat criminality and insecurity to the barest minimum. Also, effective legislation that will adequately punish offenders and deter potential criminals must be put in place. A situation where criminals are offered amnesty and put on bumper payroll will not only undermine state security, but also encourage more people to take into criminality with the expectation of amnesty and consequent monthly salary from the government, just for being repentant criminals. An example of this is the Niger Delta Amnesty Programme and the offer of amnesty to Boko Haram insurgents.

Intelligence gathering by the security agencies should be intensified, as this will nip many of the security problems confronting the nation in the bud. Also, border patrol should be enhanced and there should be a proper and efficient regulation of the influx of immigrants or aliens, in order to forestall their recruitment into the criminal gangs.

Government should embark on veritable poverty alleviation programmes that will impact positively on the lives of the people. The physical, social and psychological quality of life of a society and its members both in domestic setting and within the larger regional and global system will give the citizens a deeper sense of patriotism. Accordingly, national security policy must include the capacity to provide the citizens with social, economic and political conditions conducive to happiness and relative prosperity. Thus, tranquility and well-being of a society are necessary components of national security.

The evil of youth unemployment should be seriously looked into by the government. Employment generation for the teeming population should be more aggressively pursued as a matter of priority by government at all levels. If more youths are employed, it automatically depletes the army of youths available for recruitment into various criminal activities. From all indications, the reduction of youth unemployment will translate into reduction in crime, and engender sustainable national development. The youths are an important part of the society, who should be encouraged to channel their energies to national development by being positively engaged in the system, and discouraged from activities that could be detrimental to the growth of the country. Therefore, every action taking towards youth employment is an action towards crime reduction as well as promoting national development.

Government at all levels must eschew corruption in the fight against criminality and insecurity. The Billions of Naira voted for security both at State and Federal levels for inexplicable reasons are not made available to combat these problems. Meanwhile citizens continued to pay their taxes and fulfilled other obligations to the Government of the day amid this state of insecurity, fear and siege (Oshio, 2009). There must be sincerity on the part of government functionaries to ensure judicious use of funds meant for security of lives and property.

Government must look into the Almajiri system in the North. It should be reformed in order to make the children in the system useful to themselves and the society. To this end, education must be aggressively pursued and made compulsory for the children.

It is contention of this study, that the Boko Haram terrorism gives bad publicity to the country, shrinks the market size, discourages investors, further depletes national funds available for development, discourages investments and reduces FDIs that should have come into the country and stifles development. Consequently, if Boko Haram insurgency is adequately checkmated, and security of lives and property is guaranteed in every part of the country, rapid development, which is much needed at this stage of the nation's existence, will have an enabling environment to occur.

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