

# The impact of inadequate governance on security in Nigeria: the approach of Police Force Command Abuja.

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## The impact of inadequate governance on security in Nigeria: the approach of Police Force Command Abuja.

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### ABSTRACT

This study looked at the relationship between Nigeria's ongoing insecurity and poor governance. The article makes the theoretical case that the injustice, corruption, and self-serving leadership of Nigeria's leadership class are to blame for the country's current security problems. Ethnic, communal, religious, and resource-related conflicts have persisted throughout most of Nigeria since the country's restoration to democracy in 1999, following nearly three decades of military administration. This is made worse by the leadership's apparent inability to solve important national concerns like reducing poverty, creating jobs, allocating resources, developing infrastructure, etc. Accordingly, the study concludes that Although it is a huge task, combating insecurity in Nigeria is not insurmountable. Nigerians must therefore come together, and the ruling class must become fully committed to combating insecurity and forging a strong political will.

**Keywords:** development, insecurity, Intervention Mechanisms, bad governance, security, and leadership.

### 1. Overview

Nigeria is a member of the "global village" in the present globalization wave. Nigeria exhibits a contradiction in that despite being the ninth largest crude oil exporter and possessing abundant natural and human resources, over 59% of its people live below the poverty line. According to the World Bank (2014), 100 million Nigerians are among the approximately 170 million people who live in poverty. Undoubtedly, corruption and injustice are the root causes of human suffering. This is due to the self-serving and egotistical logic of the Nigerian political leadership class (Ogbeidi, 2022).

While combating poverty by government action is an essential component of security measures, a more urgent problem that may call for immediate action is a lack of life security. Based on current events, the Nigerian government has been very concerned about the threat to national security in recent years. Nigeria has recently seen a variety of unrest, including bombings, political mayhem, kidnappings of people, and terrorism (Ogunleye et al. 2021). This presents a problem for the US government's security support and subsequent requests for information regarding the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria from surrounding African states (Niger, Benin, Chad, and Cameroon). Foreign security aid, especially from the US, is equated with a "security invasion" since Nigerians' public responses show that they do not believe that the US is acting benevolently. Though the notion that certain countries are responsible for Nigeria's predicament is spreading, it is no longer true that the country is controlled by other countries by force; rather, it is a free-will option Ajiteru, (2021).

According to Adebayo (2023), security and crime have a deep historical connection in Nigeria, especially in recent times. As a result, the nation's few patriotic residents have struggled for decent government, sustained democracy, and progress. In a similar spirit, Omede (2022) concurred that the cause of unrest, violence, and other social vices where youth are leading the way due to poor leadership, youth unemployment, and poverty. Because "brutal condition breeds brutal behavior," systemic collapse caused by weak governance would therefore give a framework for empirical investigation for explaining the underlying reasons for insecurity in Nigeria rather than attributing them to uncorrelated elements (Currie, 2015:160). Because of these circumstances, crime and other social vices are commonplace in the nation. For instance, unemployment among young people in Nigeria seems to be the main contributing factor to violence (Ajaegbu, 2022). According to Sulaiman, (2018), unemployment is typically accompanied by poverty. The underlying truth is that poverty and terrorism are related because poverty fosters feelings of helplessness, annoyance, and terror tendencies Abalaka, (2023).

Therefore, despite ignoring the real causes of Nigeria's ongoing insecurity, this study will look at how bad governance contributes to the country's ongoing insecurity. The Nigerian government's role in creating insecurity: the Police Force Command Abuja's approach.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

Bad Government high-level jobs in Insecurity in Nigeria today are a result of their determination to face and overcome significant obstacles in their way, some of which are too serious to handle and others of which are less significant. Just a few instances are the government's fight against poverty as a crucial component of security measures; another urgent issue that may require immediate interventionist organizational politics and corporate cultures/traditions. Women encounter many obstacles as they go up the business ladder (Evertson and Nesbitt, 2024). They are doomed to fail due to a few issues like slow upward growth, poor government support for their quest of job insecurity in Nigeria, and so on. Large-scale challenges, assessments, and personnel trials are a few instances of these circumstances. Lack of suitable education is one of the biggest obstacles to Bad Government since it keeps individuals from obtaining employment in the public and commercial sectors where they may face instability. The police force in Nigeria is mandated to labor in the informal sector, earning meager wages to subsidize the government's mismanagement and instability (FIDA, 2021).

### **1.3 Inquiries for Research**

The following research questions served as the study's guidelines:

1. How much has the Nigeria Police Force Command experienced insecurity as a result of bad governance?
2. How much has the Nigeria Police Force Command experienced insecurity as a result of bad governance?
3. How much has the Nigeria Police Force Command's bad governance that leads to insecurity been impacted by policies and practices?
4. What are the elements of the Nigeria Police Force Command's bad governance that lead to insecurity?

### **1.4 The Study's Objectives**

This study's objective is to objectively investigate <sup>5</sup>the relationship between poor governance and insecurity in Nigeria. It does this by analyzing the Nigeria Police Force Command from an Abuja viewpoint.

The following goals are intended to be accomplished by this study:

1. Look at To what degree the Nigeria Police Force Command experiences insecurity as a result of poor governance.
2. Determine whether the government is accountable The Nigeria Police Force Command is experiencing insecurity as a result of poor governance.
3. Determine which procedures and policies support The Effect of Bad Government Creating Insecurity in the Nigeria Police Force Command.
4. Ascertain the elements supporting The Nigeria Police Force Command's experience with insecurity as a result of poor governance.

### **1.5 Hypotheses for Research**

Ho: The Nigerian Police Force Command's insecurity and bad governance don't significantly correlate, do they?

Ho: Is there no discernible connection between the Nigeria Police Force Command's insecurity and bad governance?

### **1.6 Importance of the Research**

This gender study The Outcome of Poor Governance Resulting in Unrest in Nigeria Police Force Command will be crucial for:

1. The study will assist the Nigeria Police Force Command in providing beneficial government policies that are embraced for meaningful rather than symbolic reasons, resulting in actual changes to the organization's structure and behavior.
2. government in Work: Female employees will be able to reconcile their work and government obligations, giving them more time to focus on their office work and, consequently, reducing stress-related problems, including feeling as though they don't have enough time.
3. Researchers: The research will function as a guide for future use, potentially assisting in the mapping out of new courses on how Nigeria's insecurity is caused by bad governance. To maintain the ability of the other insecurity, the research will further demonstrate the amount

of bad government as an attachment of insecurity and the impact on the government Ajiteru, (2021).

4. Makers of Policy: The report will provide a guide for policymakers as they create measures to support citizens who are balancing their obligations to the government and the threat of insecurity in Nigeria Sulaiman, (2018).

### **1.7 The Study's Scope**

This study's focus is on Abuja Police Command and how poor governance contributes to insecurity in Nigeria. The entire police force and members of the Abuja Police Command are among the targeted individuals. This study will look at the elements that contribute to the difficulties caused by Bad Government Resulting in Insecurity in Nigeria, and then provide a workable and efficient plan of action to address the issues Abalaka, (2023).

## **2. The Literature Review**

This presents a problem for the US government's security support and subsequent requests for information regarding the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria from surrounding African states (Niger, Benin, Chad, and Cameroon). Foreign security aid, especially from the US, is equated with a "security invasion" since Nigerians' public responses show that they do not believe that the US is acting benevolently. Though the notion that certain countries are responsible for Nigeria's predicament is spreading, it is no longer true that the country is controlled by other countries by force; rather, it is a free-will option Ajiteru, (2021).

According to Adebayo (2023), security and crime have a deep historical connection in Nigeria, especially in recent times. As a result, the nation's few patriotic residents have struggled for decent government, sustained democracy, and progress. In a similar spirit, Omede (2022) concurred that the cause of unrest, violence, and other social vices where youth are leading the way due to poor leadership, youth unemployment, and poverty. Because "brutal condition breeds brutal behavior," systemic collapse caused by weak governance would therefore give a framework for empirical investigation for explaining the underlying reasons for insecurity in Nigeria rather than attributing them to uncorrelated elements (Currie, 2015:160). Because of these circumstances, crime and other social vices are commonplace in the nation. For instance, unemployment among young people in Nigeria seems to be the main

contributing factor to violence (Ajaegbu, 2022). According to Sulaiman, (2018), unemployment is typically accompanied by poverty. The underlying truth is that poverty and terrorism are related because poverty fosters feelings of helplessness, annoyance, and terror tendencies Abalaka, (2023).

### 3. Theoretical Frame work

#### 3.1. Conceptual Problems: Poor Governance, Insecurity, and Security

The definition of the term "security" is not universally accepted by those who define it. For the sake of this essay, security is broadly defined as the state of being content, feeling safe, protected from harm from the outside, and exposed to danger in one's surroundings. The concept of security is complicated, encompassing both the protection of intricate human needs and the avoidance of anything that can provide a risk or annoyance to any individual or group within the community. Consequently, Political security, regional and global security, national security, state security, community security, and domestic security are all included in the typology of security. The term "security" was defined by Hassan (2024:10 as reported in Mukhtar, Muhammed & Sani, 2016) as follows: Enhancing people's socioeconomic, health, environmental, and physical circumstances; shielding the state's prevailing ideals, ideology, and way of life from challenges; and preventing any kind of socioeconomic, political, or religious attack on the state are all components of security Sulaiman, (2018).

To complement the paper's message, it is worthwhile to clarify national security for the sake of this. National security, as described by Dambazau (2021), is the culmination of the security interests of all people, communities, ethnic groups, political entities, and institutions that live inside the borders of a country, such as Nigeria. Conversely, insecurity is a danger to national security, personal security, and environmental security. It's a state that can jeopardize the country's ability to sustain its essential institutions for the advancement of its fundamental values and the sociopolitical goals of the populace, as well as its corporate existence and internal cohesion. Therefore, to be insecure is to perceive or experience a threat to one's life or property, as well as an environment that makes it difficult for individuals to pursue their rightful interests within society. Robert Okah (2024) says that insecurity is the personification of any absence of security, including freedom, happiness, and serenity.

### 4. Government



There has been debate among political science researchers and management specialists about attempts to define governance broadly and political sociologists, especially about the term's application. However, it is generally acknowledged to be "the people's management of society, or the exercise of authority to manage a nation's affairs and resources" (Simonis, 2014). An element that beautifies or embellishes government is good governance. Surendra Munshi, referenced in the United Nations Economic and Social.

According to the Council (2016), good governance denotes a responsible, transparent, and participatory approach to governance that operates on the tenets of legitimacy, efficiency, and consensus. Its goal is to advance the rights of individual citizens and the public interest, signifying the political will to ensure the material well-being of society and sustainable development that balances social justiceAjiteru, (2021). Conversely, poor governance is the antithesis of effective governance. It is the inability to lead with proficiency, effectiveness, and competence. Bad leadership is defined as any lack of openness, responsibility, legitimacy, justice, selflessness, and fair play. Additionally, in terms of development, poor governance is defined as leadership lacking the ability to reform. Considering this, Sobhan (2018:13) contended:

<sup>8</sup> The fundamental thesis regarding the function of governance in development is that weak governance results from the state's successive failures to a) project a developmental vision; b) show that it is committed to realizing this vision by implementing policies and programs and adjusting its allocation priorities accordingly; and c) build the capacity to carry out its obligations. This covers the managerial and technical political and technical ability to raise the required support in the governmental and civil society spheres to bring the idea to fruition Abalaka, (2023).

Although visionary leaders are extremely uncommon in Nigeria, the nation's instability is partly a result of other poor leadership techniques. Among other things, the country's high rates of injustice and corruption are some of the main causes of the ongoing insecurity Ajiteru, (2021).

## **5. Responsibility for Security and Governance**



Every society's top priority should be security. It is also a crucial part of sustainable development and good governance. However, over time, Nigeria has seen a decrease in the safety of people and their belongings (Radda and Dumbulum, 2021). Twenty years ago, the military of Nigeria was regarded as a driving force behind stability in West Africa. Due to the Islamist radical youth in the northeast, which are killing thousands of people and turning the area into a terror zone, it is currently fighting to reestablish stability within its boundaries. The United States designated the Nigerian organizations Boko Haram and Ansaru in November 2013.

"Foreign Terrorist Organizations" in the States and as "Global Terrorists with Special Designation" (Persson, 2024). The military services of Nigeria have suffered due to inadequate funding for training, poor equipment maintenance, and a decline in collaboration with Western forces. After analyzing Nigeria's position, Radda (2018) said that since there is a legally binding agreement between the government and the people, the government is the only entity tasked with ensuring the welfare of the populace Sulaiman, (2018).

The fundamentals of governance are to raise the population's standard of living in general. To put it more precisely, governments are established to provide citizens with security, safety, and an improved quality of life. They also have the exclusive right to use force as a tool for promoting the common good, which lends them legitimacy. There is a social compact between the government and the governed, and those living under a legitimate government have consented to grant it the authority to monitor state actions to promote and defend their rights. They are not giving up their rights in and of themselves (Radda 2018:6).

It appears that the aforementioned argument aligns with the utilitarian viewpoint. Among the early proponents of the social contract theory, Thomas Hobbes maintained that the legitimacy of the state stems from the approval of the governed. The government is illegitimate and subjects have no moral duty to obey it if agreement is not freely granted. In exchange for the state serving their interests, people voluntarily cede their inherent freedom to it. The right to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness are these interests, or natural rights. According to Pojman (2023), governance is cooperative entrepreneurship that makes it possible for us to live better than we could in an uncoordinated social setting.

The question is whether Nigeria's government is an example of a well-coordinated structure that can improve citizens' rights. This is a result of common people negotiating to live in harmony, free from fear of being victims of their cunning overlords. The nation is currently in disarray. The problem of insecurity is the norm, and rather than taking the required actions to address it, the authorities are allowing it to continue to further their political goals. Not only do innocent people lose their lives, but they are also detained, tortured, and used as scapegoats for the horrific acts that another offender has perpetrated Sulaiman, (2018).

## 6. Conceptual justification

Social structure and anomie theory are two related theories that will be used to give a theoretical framework of analysis for this study. The study faces a conundrum when attempting to connect the social structure with anomie theory: should it discuss insecurity or crime? The hypothesis can be applied to any phenomenon to explain Nigerian insecurity, as it stems from norms or crimes against the law committed by rebels or criminals. Omotor (2019) contended that there isn't a single, well-defined theory of crime that pertains to human behavior and is specifically illustrated in the social science philosophy.

Nonetheless, Omotor (2019) concurred that the anomie theory is an implicit allusion that connects criminal activity to society's dysfunction. Emile (1893, 1897, referenced in Omotor, 2019) is credited with discovering anomie. He observed that during periods of rapid societal upheaval, deviation is unavoidable and anomie is prevalent. Emile (1897) defined anomie as a morally unregulated state resulting from a breakdown in either the amoral standards or the social regulations. Therefore, in a community without well-defined norms to direct its members, individuals find it challenging to adapt to life's shifting circumstances Ajiteru, (2021).

4  
Later, Merton (1938) expanded on the idea, claiming that excessive expectations placed on members of society encourage crime and deviance. Merton's contributions are highly praised. According to Lee and Newby (2015), any meaningful analysis of contemporary literature on anomie must start with Merton's work, and the current state of unheard-of violence brought on by the Boko Haram insurgency is sufficient to qualify it as "anomic." Although Merton's 1938 theory of anomie did not specifically address criminality, it did highlight the possibility that inequality could emerge because of the way society is set up Abalaka, (2023).

According to Merton (1968, referenced in Lee and Newby, 2015), all societies have two general types of moral obligations to their members, according to Merton. First, they set culturally acceptable benchmarks, like financial achievement, which people are urged to pursue. Secondly, they delineate specific sanctioned methods or "institutionalized means" (like "hard work") to accomplish these objectives, implicitly criticizing alternative illicit means of attainment, like cheating. A well-functioning society should not have tension or disagreement between its institutionalized means and its goals. According to Merton, stress is what drives certain individuals within a society to turn to deviance or illegitimacy Sulaiman, (2018).

When people accept society's objectives and use sanctioned methods to achieve them, they are more inclined to conform. But what happens if there are no acceptable ways to succeed? People may innovate in response to the tension between cultural goals and the limited means by which they can be achieved, as defined by Merton. Innovation is the application of non-traditional methods to a traditional objective. Ritualism is another option available to those without legal methods of achieving achievement; Merton characterized ritualism as following norms almost compulsively. While there is little success in doing this, there is a certain amount of dignity. Another reaction to a lack of chances is relativism. Retrenchment is the turning away from both acceptable ends and acceptable methods; relativists essentially "drop out" of society Abalaka, (2023). Among them are several drug and alcohol addicts, as well as homeless individuals. Ultimately, rebellion is not just about opposing established methods and objectives; it's also about promoting an alternative system. Rather than failing out Rebels create a new system, enacting their ideals as political terrorists, religious fanatics, or revolutionaries, in contrast to relativists who try to escape society (Macionis, 2019).

Nigeria is currently dealing with an insurgency that is being carried out by Boko Haram, an extremist organization that views its movement as Islamic. Boko Haram's operations pose a security threat to the entire nation. The Boko Haram insurgency will benefit most from rebellion out of all five of Merton's modes of adaptation because the group's violent tendencies are linked to injustice, poor governance, unemployment among the hordes of young people, and poverty (Nyong, 2023).

Unemployed youths in Nigeria are using ethnic bias to promote insecurity of lives and properties. Rich natural resource abundance increases the incentives for influential members of society to annex regions or the whole state to restrict access to priceless resources. This kind of development leads to civil unrest. The underprivileged are always encouraged to organize rebel organizations and engage in hostilities over plentiful quantities of precious natural resources Sulaiman, (2018).

## 7. Nigeria's Poor Governance and Insecurity

In an ideal democratic government, political leadership plays a major role in guiding leaders and policymakers with positive attitudes, motivation, dispositions, and habits in the right direction. It must be a leadership whose commitment to the cause is complete and unselfish enough to inspire public trust, and whose sincerity of intent is transparent enough to persuade individuals to adopt the desired pattern of conduct. However, Nigerians feel disheartened because what appears in theory to be disengaged from the reality they observe in action. Nigeria is ranked 41st out of 52 countries in the Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG), below nations like Mali (ranked 27th), where foreign intervention was judged required to keep the peace (Persson, 2024).

According to Mgbeke (2019), leadership or governance must put its principles into practice. According to Persson (2024), a survey conducted in 2012 by Afro Barometer revealed that 70% of participants believed Nigeria was moving in the wrong way. The only development Nigeria can be proud of is its fast population increase, which can spur development provided it occurs in conjunction with other factors like political stability, economic security or "capital accumulation," fair play, and technological prowess. Feelings of estrangement and Desperation, hopelessness, and social alienation can make someone or a group more likely to take part in the fight against the state government. Finding out what the expectations of these people and groups are and trying to find a way to negotiate with them is the best course of action for political leaders when widespread frustrations spread throughout the populace and there is a sense that people are not receiving what they deserve Sulaiman, (2018).

According to poverty metrics, poverty is pervasive in Nigeria. According to the World Population Data Sheet from 2005, 91% of Nigerians made less than \$2 per day. Subsequent research conducted by USAID (2006) revealed that about 60% of Nigerians are living in extreme poverty. 2014 According to Marie-Nelly, the director of the World Bank for Nigeria,

100 million Nigerians are impoverished. Dr. Kim, the president of the Bank, classified the nation as one of the world's most impoverished nations in the same year (CFR, 2014). This demonstrates Nigeria's incapacity to gather its resources and turn them into something worthwhile for the good of the people. According to research, young people without jobs are disproportionately more likely to commit crimes and be victims of violence (Ajaegbu, 2022). The rising wealth disparity has an impact on society through a rise in violent crime.

For Nigerian young, of whom 95% are projected to be jobless, things have been particularly hard. These numbers merely serve to reinforce the idea that rapid growth rates have been ineffective to address the deeply ingrained macroeconomic shortcomings in Nigeria that resulted from decades of mismanagement, conflict, and ineffective government (Adebayo, 2023). As a result, the youth are using violent agitations as a deliberate or unconscious form of protest.

Nigerians have increasingly experienced institutional collapse, elite disorientation, gaps in the distribution of resources rationally, poor internal control systems, and inefficient administrative procedures since the country's independence in 1960. Because there is no strong leader to steer the country toward wealth, all these factors have made the situation worse and have contributed to corruption at every level of government (Mgbeke, 2009). Corruption is to blame for several societal issues, including high rates of illiteracy, short life expectancy, sickness, squalor, hunger and malnutrition, violence, and social unrest in underdeveloped countries like Nigeria (Radda, 2012).

The government is using a lot of military force to eliminate the threat posed by Boko Haram in the nation, but the best course of action is clearly to restore peace and security in the afflicted areas through well-coordinated strategies, education, and decent governance. According to the International Crisis Group (2014), social dissatisfaction, persistent economic hardship, rising inequality, and poor governance all contribute to the emergence of radical extremist organizations in Nigeria Ajiteru, (2021).

## **8. Reasons For Poor Leadership**

### **a. Absence of voice and accountability**



3 When governing bodies disregard the opinions of the people they are in charge of and are unable to accept accountability for their actions, bad governance is the result. By discounting the opinions of leaders, their opinions are no longer heard or taken into consideration by the ruling group. Democratic administrations place a strong emphasis on accountability to make sure the general public is informed about events and knows what to do if something goes wrong. In turn, mistrust between the two sides is bred by a lack of accountability, which results in instability Ajiteru, (2021). Due to uncertainty and doubt, the parties' relationship is unfavorable.

### **B. Underdevelopment of politics**

3 Political power has been shaped in the framework of the global economic and political systems through interactions with the wealthier "core" countries, which are primarily responsible for the political underdevelopment that permeates the majority of the "South." State leaders' under dependence on the people is a major contributing factor to political underdevelopment. Regarding formal Organizational characteristics developing nations are comparable. The main cause of the large variations in state-society relationship patterns is the difference in state functioning Ajiteru, (2021).

### **C. Corruption**

3 It's common knowledge that poor governance and corruption go hand in hand. Corruption can occur in a variety of contexts, including the political and business spheres. Corrosion can happen in various ways. When there is a crime within a governing body, officials prioritize themselves over the interests of others, which results in poor governance Sulaiman, (2018). Crime affects law enforcement agencies like the police as well as social services like health and education in developing nations Abalaka, (2023).

## **9. Consequences Of Incompetent Leadership**

The effects of poor governance are far-reaching and do not stop at the circumstances in which it takes place:

- i. Not working state



ii. inadequate expansion of the economy

iii. Corruption

## 10. Policy Ramifications

Although extremely difficult, combating insecurity in Nigeria is not unachievable. First and foremost, any country can achieve peace in large measure by implementing sound government. There shouldn't be and community), vigilantism, intelligence-led policing, and zero-tolerance enforcement must be promoted to improve security Sulaiman, (2018).

As stated under <sup>5</sup>the rule of law, "nobody is above the law." There <sup>1</sup>are claims that a few well-known Nigerian politicians are complicit in the actions of Boko Haram. The criminal justice system will look into and confirm the claims, then start the process of checking impunity (one of the main demands made by Boko Haram) by finishing the prosecution of the police officers who are accused of killing Mohammed Yusuf outside of court. Additionally, the criminal justice system will look into and prosecute any crimes that are purportedly committed by the government, which must prioritize maintaining national security by increasing spending on surveillance and intelligence. Government representatives, business people, and the state security services will all be involved and working against any uneasiness for all Nigerians, as the present upsurge is akin to a calamity, with every individual standing in danger of falling prey to its threat. Thus, it is the duty of all Nigerians (the ruling elite and their people) to combat insecurity in the country Sulaiman, (2018). This does not imply that every Nigerian should behave like an army or provide security; rather, it simply implies that everyone in Nigeria needs to be aware of their surroundings. Furthermore, a range of contemporary formal and informal policing concepts, include community policing (which entails police commitment), assiduously to bring about security in Nigeria Ajiteru, (2021).

Becoming brothers' keepers through unity is another action that will benefit Nigerians in this time of insecurity. In 1970, Obafemi Awolowo, a nationalist from Nigeria, stated that "so that our unity may endure, we must labor after objectives and ideals that are noble, elevating and capable benefiting the vast majority of our people." Sir Ahmadu Bello, the first premier of

Nigeria, also suggested that "burying our differences and that the correct approach is not to try to bury our differences but understand those differences" as a solution to the country's unity problems (quoted in Mgbeke, 2009:11).

To disarm, radicalism, and reintegrate Islamists, collaborate with northern political, traditional, and religious elites.militants; maintain the development of regional security ties and networks on a bilateral and multinational level; Nigeria's international allies will step up mixed patrols at the country's borders to stop the movement of criminals and armed groups, as their freedom to cross borders seriously harms neighboring countries like Cameroon and Niger; and share and exchange intelligence information more frequently. Additionally, those who belong to Boko Haram and other terrorist groups who feel that they have not received justice should know that they are a part of the solution. For the sake of the survival of the nation, the innocent citizens, and their families, they must accept a peaceful resolution Abalaka, (2023).

#### **11. Methodology:**

Significant violence has resulted from the widespread rallies in Nigeria against poor governance and economic hardship. The effects of rising costs of living on people's livelihoods have not been lessened by government solutions to the economic problems that communities face. Potential threats to national stability are posed by the civil protests, which are a reflection of growing tensions, widespread dissatisfaction, and a collapsing social compact between the state and its people. But the government's reaction, which included using force and cracking down on nonviolent protestors, goes against fundamental democratic values like the freedom of speech and the right to peaceful assembly. Democracy depends on these fundamental rights because they allow people to hold elected officials responsible for their deeds Sulaiman, (2018).

Protests have revealed long-standing problems within the social and economic the nation. In addition to causing significant property damage and disrupting educational and economic activity, the violence and unrest that have been linked to the situation have raised worries about public safety, especially in locations where key roadways and commercial centers have been damaged or blocked. For example, trade and transportation have been negatively

impacted by the blockade of the Abuja-Kaduna route in Suleja and the burning of automobiles along the Abuja-Keffi highway in Nasarawa State Sulaiman, (2018).

The federal government, several civic organizations, state governors from a range of political backgrounds, opinion leaders, and traditional leaders have all taken proactive steps to try and defuse the unrest, but the protests have persisted and in some cases have turned violent across the state lines. They weaken public confidence in institutions, violate basic democratic rights, draw criticism from across the globe, and impede the the supremacy of law. Maintaining democratic ideals and promoting a stable and just society depends on addressing these abuses and guaranteeing respect for human rights Ajiteru, (2021).

There is variation in the responses around the nation to these protests. Many officials in the northern regions have endorsed the protests, seeing in them a call for necessary reforms as well as a manifestation of deep-seated national discontent. They saw the protests as an acceptable means of expressing public disapproval of the structural problems afflicting the country Sulaiman, (2018).

By contrast, youth groups in the Niger Delta region have shown greater skepticism. They have questioned the reasons for the protests, speculating that they might be influenced by other factors or that they might not adequately address the particular issues of their area. These IEDs were planted by alleged terrorists from Boko Haram, as well as unlawful acts carried out by gangs of thugs who sought to take control of the demonstrations and destroy vital infrastructure and properties across the states. The government had to endeavor to mitigate the prevailing turmoil, tackle the underlying reasons behind the demonstrations, and reestablish stability and confidence within the nation Ajiteru, (2021).

## **12. Intervention Mechanisms:**

i. To prevent additional breakdowns in peace and security, the states of Borno, Yobe, Nasarawa, Kano, Katsina, and Jigawa implemented curfews on August 1, 2024.

ii. The Federal Government has delivered 740 bags of rice to all <sup>10</sup>36 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to alleviate the consequences of food inflation and economic hardship, with a focus on the most vulnerable segments of society.

iii. In an attempt to ease Nigerians' financial hardships, the administration of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu formally signed the <sup>12</sup> new national minimum wage bill into law on July 29, 2024.

Iv. All units have been placed on red alert by the Inspector General of Police (IGP) to prevent additional breakdowns in law and order.

### **13. Remedies for poor leadership**

#### **1. Transparency**

I. Candidates for public office must declare all of their assets and income.

Ii. application of the research conducted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the standards and code framework

iii. All papers about legislation and parliamentary voting, as well as any political contributions made to political parties, must be made public.

Iv. Laws about governing domains, including business, politics, and so forth, are distinct.

### **14. Dealing with corruption**

There are new organizations and laws introduced.

Ii. Targeting vulnerable services is important.

Iii. Community-based change services

iv. Legislation that facilitates the collection of bribes ought to be removed.

V. Increase the amount of objective criteria used to decide if a service qualifies for reimbursement.

Vi. Use computers to communicate with government officials less frequently.

## 15. Conclusion

This research explores the relationship between insurgencies and other forms of insecurity in Nigeria and poor leadership. But the nation's vulnerability shouldn't be attributed to poor leadership alone. These two main components are also responsible for other aspects that appear to assume intervening variables (such as religious radicalism and/or indoctrination of youth with harmful ideologies, ethnicity, and unification problems). These factors also provide room for further issues to arise. Nigerians must band together to combat this threat, and their leaders must pledge to act in the best interests of the greatest number of people. The Middle Belt has long been plagued by intercommunal conflicts; the emergence of the Bakassi Boys, MOSOP, MEND, OPC, MASSOB, and the extremist theological views of Boko-Haram are all signs that something is amiss Sulaiman, (2018).

## 17. Limitation

a. Proactive action by the federal government is necessary to reduce hostilities and deal with the underlying problems. establishing communication with protest organizers and offering guarantees to allay their worries.

b. To safeguard vital infrastructure, guarantee public safety, and stop criminal elements from taking advantage of protests, the federal and state governments should increase security and public safety by sending out more staff.

C. The federal and state governments should start and support initiatives to strengthen government responsiveness to citizen needs, boost transparency, and improve governance. Local authorities should also support these initiatives.

d.To promote community engagement projects that aim to establish mutual trust and understanding between citizens and government institutions, the Federal and State governments ought to work in conjunction with traditional rulers and community leaders.

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