Volume 20 Issue 44
Originally issued as B11

Global Journal of Management and Business Research: B
Economics and Commerce
Volume 20 Issue 11 Version 1.0 Year 2020
Type: Double Blind Peer Reviewed International Research Journal
Publisher: Global Journals
Online ISSN: 2249-4588 & Print ISSN: 0975-5853

The Insinuations of Boko Haram Insurgency in North-Eastern Nigeria and a Volte-Face Solution

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GJMBR-B Classification: *JEL Code: M20*



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The Insinuations of Boko Haram Insurgency in North-Eastern Nigeria and a Volte-Face Solution

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Keywords: insurgency, boko haram, insecurity, terrorism and national security.

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I. Introduction

The state of insecurity engendered by Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria, especially in the North-Eastern part of the country is quite bothersome, discouraging and upsetting. Boko Haram sect attacks are acts of terrorism which have resulted in the killing of a countless number of innocent people and wanton destruction of properties that worth billions of naira. The sect carries out shooting, bombing, maiming, rapping, adoption of innocent girls and women, kidnappings, and looting of communities that were peaceful and quiet. Initially the attacks were directed are Christians and Christian communities, but were later carried incessantly.

Insurgency is a global problem as no nation is completely absolved from its effect. Hence, Rourke (2008) observed that war, terrorism and other forms of transnational political violence are in many ways more threatening today than ever before as civilian casualty has been on the increase. It is, however, difficult to evolve a single definition for the term "insurgency. The difficulty emanates from the lack of consensus or unified perspective among nations or scholars as to what could be regarded as a terrorist act.

Unexpectedly, there arose a disorder of a serious religious dimension in the country. The dangerous trend in insecurity came with the emergence of Boko Haram, the Muslim fundamentalist sect, bombing and attacking everything within reach. The Boko Haram insurgency began in 2009 according to BBC News (2016) when the jihadist rebel group known as Boko Haram started an armed rebellion against the government of Nigeria and was further strengthened by the article published by Adama, (2009). In 2012, tensions within Boko Haram resulted in the gradual split of the group between a Salafist conservative faction led by Abu Usmatul al-Ansari, and the more dominant, violent faction led by Abubakar Shekau. By 2015, part of the group split into al-Qaeda affiliated Ansaru, and Shekau's faction became ISIL's West Africa branch. In 2013, over 1,000 people died as a result of the sect's atrocities. The violence escalated dramatically in 2014, with 10,849 deaths (John, 2014; Channel 4 News, 2014; Christian Post, 2015; Monica, 2015). In 2014, the insurgency spread to neighbouring Cameroon, Chad, and Niger thus becoming a major regional conflict. In

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2015, a coalition offensive launched by the government forced Boko Haram to retreat into the Sambisa Forest.

The insurgency took place within the context of long-standing issues of religious violence between Nigeria's Muslim and Christian communities. Boko Haram has been called the world's deadliest terrorist group, in terms of the number of people it has killed. Its attacks are targeted at individuals and government officials, with the Military, whereas in the Southern Nigeria we have the militants who are actually fighting for their inalienable rights of resource control to develop their Niger Delta that has been so bastardly neglected for years as was tagged by Abomaye-Nimenibo et al (2018).

The swamp of the Niger Delta region is particularly blessed with crude oil in commercial quantity that was first discovered in Nigeria at Oloibiri, in present day Bayelsa State. Crude oil from the Niger Delta has been the lifeblood of Nigeria's economic wealth. About 2.6 million barrels of crude is taken daily from the region, and this accrues millions of Dollars daily to the federation account of Nigeria (Ejibunu, 2007: 9-20). However, the unquantifiable proceeds from this crude oil is what the Nigerian government uses to build up its infrastructures in terms of dual carriage roads constructed across the country, building extravagant and gigantic physical structures and institutions in Abuja and other parts of the nation, etc. Regardless of the fact that crude oil is tapped in the Niger Delta region is used to sustain the Nigerian economy yet, neither were Niger Delta people, and the region developed (Kimiebi, 2010, Abomaye-Nimenibo, 2018).

What borders most Nigerians is why the insurgency in the North-eastern Nigeria that has no black gold or mineral resources of tangible quantity and sums of money experience such militancy and insurgence? Such a mind bogging question should spur every right-thinking Scholar to pick up his pen and paper to study and pen down the activities, the reasons behind such insurgency and proffer solutions, hence this study forms part of the scholarly community to find time to study.

According to reports, multiple explosions went off one after the other in places like Kano, in the usual manner of attacks by the members of Boko Haram sect in Maiduguri, Damaturu, Potiskum, Gombe, Abuja and Madalla in Niger State (Okpanga, Ugwu and Eme, 2012). They attacked government institutions and later expanded to churches thereby inflicting terror and destruction on innocent people. The suicide bombing of the United Nations Secretariat in Abuja on August 26, 2011, did not happen long after a similar attack on the Nigeria Police Force Headquarters on June 16. Boko Haram otherwise called "Western education is sin," claimed responsibilities for these and other series of bomb blasts and attacks. It is observed that the sect concentrated its attacks in the northern parts of the country. From the foregoing, it becomes increasingly difficult for socio-economic activities to thrive under the present security threats that have enveloped the north. This is evident in the continuous relocation of Igbo businessmen from the north to another more peaceful environment. Also, the Yoruba people are equally returning to Lagos and Ibadan (Egbemode, 2012).

a) Statement of the Problem

Since 2009 when Boko Haram initially started its insurgency and over 10,000 people have been killed by Boko Haram. Most of the operations of the sect are concentrated in the North-East of Nigeria. The sect has used unsuspecting attacks on communities, killing innocent people, kidnapping, looting and raping of women as a weapon of war. The poor are the most vulnerable victims of the atrocities committed by the sect, and the implications of the sect's insurgency fall on the ordinary Nigerians. The purpose of this study is to examine the implications of the sect in the North-East of Nigeria where the sect's operations are predominant.

b) Objectives of the Study

The study aims to examine Insurgency of Boko-Haram sect in North-Eastern Nigeria, its implications and to proffer a volte-face solution. In more specific terms, it is intended to achieve the following objectives:

i. To examine the social and economic implications of Boko Haram insurgency.
ii. To evaluate its operations in North-East Nigeria.
iii. To make recommendations for the way out of the sect's insurgency.

c) Research Questions

The study is guided by the following research questions:

i. What is the genesis of Boko Haram insurgency in the North East of Nigeria?
ii. What are the implications of the Boko-Haram insurgency in the North East in particular and Nigeria in general?

d) Statement of Hypothesis

i. The genesis of Boko Haram in the North East of Nigeria does not stem from unemployment.
ii. There are no implications of Boko Haram insurgency in the North East in particular and Nigeria in general?

e) Significance of the Study

The study will be vital to the government, security prevalence, and the general public. It will also contribute to the knowledge of the implications of Boko Haram insurgency in the areas of socioeconomic wellbeing and the security of Nigeria. Furthermore, the study will generate a theory regarding the implications of Boko Haram insurgency in North-East Nigeria.

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II. Literature Review

a) The Origin of Insurgent Group in North-Eastern Nigeria

Currently, the nation is witnessing a high spate of insecurity, especially in northeastern Nigeria by a group of insurgents called "The Jama'atu Ahlus-Sunnahlidda Awati Wal-Jihad" popularly known as Boko Haram. This group was founded in 2001 in 'Maiduguri' the capital city of Borno State, North-eastern Nigeria by Mohammed Yusuf the pioneer leader and originator of Boko Haram group. The name Boko Haram is a Hausa statement, which upon translated into English mean "Western education is forbidden". This group is opposed to everything that has a link to Western education; its ideologies, and systems. Additionally, "Boko" in the Hausa language means western education, and "Haram" is the Arabic language which means "forbidden". Boko Haram group opposes western education and also western culture. In 2004, it moved to Yobe State where it set up a base. This base was used to attack nearby police outposts, burning schools with a vow that the war will continue as long as the political and educational system was not changed. The Boko Haram group want the Sharia Law to be applied all over the country and this will be difficult for the government of Nigeria to comply with. They vowed that they would rather have a separate Islamic state carved out of Nigeria where they can practice their religion unhindered.

The emergence of Boko Haram insurgency has introduced a terrorist dimension, hitherto unknown, and spread it into the criminal planetary in Nigeria. Series of bombings have been carried out by the sect, as well as taking hostage of innocent citizens. In rich as well as poor countries, terrorism exerts a heavy toll on national economies. The economic impact of terrorism would inevitably 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 terrorism activities in Nigeria, if not checked, may result in greater investor apathy for the country and resulting in a 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 project of investment reduces. Hence, an insurgency 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, the damaged relationship between citizens and the states, thus undermining democracy, rule of law and the ability of the country to promote development.

Certainly, in an attempt to dislodge the group of its remote settlement, Mohammed Yusuf the leader of the Boko Haram group was arrested and later died in the custody in 2009. Adeyemi (2014) stated that from that 2009 following the assumption of a new leadership headed by Abubakar Shekau, the insurgent group continued to unleash violence and began what can best be described as the "soft target" capturing of border towns close to the Republic of Cameroon, Chad and Niger, killing the unarmed patriotic civilian population of North-eastern states in Nigeria, forcefully abduction of female students from hostels and other girls of school age, kidnapping of women, frequent suicide bombing and sporadic shooting in public places.

b) Conceptual Framework

In this section, concepts central to the discourse, such as insurgency, terrorism, security and the state are briefly discussed.

Insurgency: Insurgency is an ambiguous concept. The United States Department of Defence (2007) defined it as an organized movement that has the aim of overthrowing a constituted government through subversive means and armed conflict (Hellesen, 2008). This definition suggests that insurgent groups employ unlawful means towards achieving an end, which could be political, religious, social or even ideological.

Terrorism: According to Ekaterina (2008), terrorism is a sort of violence that uses one-sided violent approach against civilians. It also engages uneven violent confrontation against a stronger adversary, which could be a state or a group of states. Chomsky (2001) defined terrorism as "the use of coercive means aimed at populations to achieve political, religious or even other aims".

Militancy: The act of aggressive combatants coming together as militants to use destructive force to achieve their aims. The word militancy is a derivative of the word militant (Abomaye-Nimenibo et al (2018).

Militant: The New Oxford Dictionary of English (2001) defines a militant as a person who is combatant and aggressive in support of a political or social cause and typically favouring extreme, violent or confrontational methods. The 6th edition of the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defined militant as using or willing to use force or strong pressure to achieve his aims specially to achieve social or political change (Abomaye-Nimenibo et al (2018).

Economy: An economy is an area of the production, distribution, or trade, and consumption of goods and services by different agents in a given geographical location. It is the relationship between production, trade, and supply of money in a particular country or region (Abomaye-Nimenibo et al (2018).

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Security: Security is a state of being safe and the absence of fear, anxiety, danger, poverty and oppression. It is the preservation of core values and the absence of threats to these values (Alli, 2010).

State: For Max Weber, the state is an essential political union that has a centralized government that maintains a monopoly of the legitimate use of force within a certain territory (Shaw, 2003).

c) The Boko Haram Challenge

The Boko Haram issue started as an insignificant agitation of an Islamic sect with a strange commitment to non-conformist standards of social organization in Muslim-dominated Bauchi and Borno states. It began in Bauchi State on July 26, 2009, and since that time, the group has extended its activities to other Northern states as well as to other parts of Nigeria. Unlike the militants in the Niger Delta that were driven by purely economic goals, Boko Haram is driven by proclivity in religious conviction, political aspirations and social practice. Specifically, its ultimate goal is to make Nigeria an Islamic State and uphold only the laws as set out in the Koran (Walker, 2012). This group believes Islam detests western civilisation and that western education is blasphemous. Literally, "Boko Haram" means 'western education is a sin" or "forbidden".

Going by its alleged creation and sponsorship by a famous politician in Borno State in the early 2000s and its socio-religious outlook and agenda, Boko Haram is thus an Islamist insurgent group that arose from political, social and religious discontent within the Nigerian State (Adesoji, 2011). The recruits of the sect are mostly youths from the northern parts of Nigeria that are dissatisfied with the economic, political and social status quo. They include unemployed youth, stark illiterates, and refugees from neighbouring African countries. Thus, the sect explores the social-economic negativities of the country to recruit and radicalize its members (Nicoll, 2011).

Eso (2011) observed that the push factor of recourse to terrorism in the bid to influence public policy is beyond sectarianism. He buttresses this by arguing that most of the attacks of the sect have been focused at the state and its institutions, plus the civilian populations. It has launched attacks on military institutions such as military barracks, police stations (including the Force Headquarters in Abuja); and have also swooped on educational institutions at all levels, government establishments, places of worship (both churches and mosques) and have assassinated key political figures, statesmen and religious leaders that oppose their philosophy. The strategies have included kidnapping, targeted killing, assassination, suicide bombing, bombing with Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), VBIEDS, ambush and sporadic shootings.

In their analysis, Ogbonnaya and Ehigiamusoe (2013) averred that the attack launched on the United Nations Office in Abuja in 2011 gave the militant group a face similar to that of the Al-Qaeda's. Locally, the sect is referred to as the 'Nigerian Taliban' due to the gravity and tenacity of its operations. More importantly is the strong link the group has with other transnational extremist groups, including Al-Shabab and Al-Qaeda. Crucial aspects of their relations with other transnational militant groups include training, funding, strategic knowledge on planning and tactical attacks and activities, ideological influence and human power resources (Ogbonnaya, Ufiem and Ehigiamusoe, 2013).

The rest of Nigeria has, however, come to realise that the terror group is indeed a threat to the security, sovereignty and stability of the Nigerian State and not just the North. Some scholars capture the profundity of the challenge the Nigerian State faces when they argued that, the state is regarded as the enemy, not just by Boko Haram, but by several Nigerians and groups, each attacking it with as much ferocity as Boko Haram's bombs, using whatever means they have at their disposal; politicians entrusted to protect our common patrimony steal the country blind, law enforcement officers see or hear no evil at a slight inducement, government workers drag their feet and refuse to give their best while revelling in moonlighting, organized labour, inducing university lecturers in public institutions go on indefinite strikes on a whim while journalists accept 'brown envelops' to turn truth on its head or become uncritical champions of a selected anti-Nigerian state identity. What all these groups have in common with Boko Haram is that they believe that the premise on which they act is justifiable and that the Nigerian state is unfair to them, if not an outright enemy (Cited in Uzodike and Maiangwa, 2012).

The implications of Boko Haram's operations include the slowdown of the country's economic growth and development, worsened unemployment, food scarcity due to the inability of traders to transport food from the North to the South and verse versa, due to insecurity reasons, has dented Nigeria's public image, brought increased fear and a false sense of security, recourse to self-help by people and citizens on most occasions such as the emergence of "Civilian JTF in Borno", loss of life and damage to properties, and so forth (Alao, Atere and Alao, 2012). In a bid to address the menace of terrorism, the Federal Government engaged development partners, including the United States (US), European Union (EU) and

Israel, to step-up the war against terror. Nigeria also got proposals of assistance from Britain, Canada, China, France, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the UN, to assist locate the over 234 abducted Chibok secondary school girls in Borno State.

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d) Theoretical Framework

This study used Conspiracy Theory and Poverty Theory to analyse the effects of the insurgency on Nation-building in Nigeria.

e) Conspiracy Theory

Conspiracy theory according to Merriam Webster is an explanatory proposition that accuses two or more persons, a group or an organization of having caused or covered up through secret planning and deliberate action, an illegal or harmful event or situation. The first use of conspiracy theory was in 1909 by David Leoa Chandler in his book "The Jefferson conspiracies". Ever since, many American and non-American authors have made use of the theory to explain or analyse some social issues. Some of these scholars include; Rebecca Moore, Clare Birchall, John George, Michael Barkun, Jessie Walker etc. Conspiracy theorists believe that events occur as a result of a secret plot by exceptionally powerful and cunning conspirators to achieve a malevolent end.

Walker (2013) developed five (5) basic kinds of conspiracy theories to include enemy outside, the enemy within, enemy above, enemy below and benevolent conspiracies. The issue of insurgency in Nigeria is shrouded in secrecy. This is because many people in high places are sympathetic to the course of the Boko Haram sects. Information within the government circles is leaked to this group. Even the military is involved in this conspiracy, as their performance towards the fight against insurgency leaves much to be desired. For over two hundred (200) girls to be kidnapped in a place where there is a state of emergency is an aberration. More importantly, the politics involved in their release is another pointer to some manipulations. The unending blame game, as well as the politics of the arms purchase; and the docile attitudes of Nigerian neighbours make the choice of this theory relevant.

f) Poverty Theory

The Poverty Theory can be used to explain one of the major causes of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria. According to Liolio (2012), the successful recruitment of the people into the group depends on the nature of the economic and poverty level in the area. Mostly, insurgent group gained members by claiming their struggle is for the people and that they would provide a basic necessity for the general population if supported.

The insurgents may succeed if such society is embedded by poverty, illiteracy, ineptitude, corruption, discrimination to modernization and globalization, which create artificial poverty to many underdeveloped countries, and such countries would become recruitment target of the terrorists. Liolio further stated that, it is significant to know that the root causes of the insurgency often relate to a long cloudy set of problems culminating into uncontrolled grievances and exploding violence. Such problems are socioeconomic and political, that is why insurgencies are more rampant in underdeveloped countries or those engulfed by corrupt regime, ethnicity, social prejudices religion and disparities in the distribution of resources or even lack of it.

III. Method of Study

a) Research Design

The study looks at Insurgency of Boko Haram in the North East of Nigeria and its implications. This involved gathering data on the subject matter, located in a geographical area in which a survey is most appropriate. Since the research was based on responses from the sampled population, who are representatives of the larger population, the survey design is inferential in nature. According to Best (2006), inferential statistical analysis involves the process of sampling and the selection of a small group that is assumed to be related to a larger group population from which it is drawn.

b) Sampling Technique

Sampling was done through the use of simple random sampling, using the hat and draw method. There were similarities in various parts and/or streets of the city in terms of music, mode of dressing and worship. A total of 120 subjects were used for this study.

c) Sample

One hundred and twenty (100) subjects were used for this study. Twelve persons each across ten (10) major streets in the city of Maiduguri were selected. Both adult (men/women) and youths were deemed appropriate for this study because they were directly involved from inception.

d) Data Collection Procedure

Data for this study was obtained from two sources; primary and secondary sources. The primary source was the structured questionnaire, while the secondary sources include the library, internet, e-book, journals, etc. A questionnaire is an instrument comprising carefully designed questions for respondents to answer. This questionnaire is one in which items for response has already been structured for respondents to tick (y) the blank space of their desired option. A total of one hundred and twenty (120) questionnaires were distributed to the target population in Maiduguri by one (1) of our students from Borno State, the questionnaires were to seek the implication of Boko Haram insurgent in Nigeria. One hundred (100) copies were duly completed and returned to the researchers.

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e) Scale of Measurement

The Chi-Test was used to test the validity of the hypothesis which formula is stated below as:

$$X^2 = \frac{\Sigma \text{ fo-fe}^2}{\text{fe}}$$

Where
X^2 = Chi-Square Test
Fo = Observed frequency
Fe = Expected frequency
Σ = Summation

f) Test of Hypotheses

Hypothesis One

The workings of the hypothesis are presented thus:

Ho: The genesis of Boko Haram in the North East of Nigeria does not stem from unemployment.
Hi: The genesis of Boko Haram in the North East of Nigeria stems from unemployment.

The hypothesis was tested based on data collected from the questionnaire; respondents' views on whether the genesis of Boko Haram insurgence in the North East of Nigeria stems from unemployment. To establish the validity of the hypothesis, Chi-Square analysis was applied to determine the degree of association.
The Chi-square statistic is given as:

$$X^2 = \frac{\Sigma \text{ fo-fe}^2}{\text{fe}}$$

Where: Fo = Observed frequency
Fe = Expected frequency
Σ = Summation

Decision Rule:

Accept Ho: If the computed x2 value is less than the critical value and reject Hi.

Accept Hi: If the computed x2 value is greater than the critical value and reject Ho.

Table 1: Chi-Square Contingent Table

Fo	Fe	Fo-Fe	$(Fo-Fe)^2$	$\left[\frac{Fo-Fe}{Fe}\right]^2$
45	25	20	400	16
25	25	0	0	0
0	25	-25	625	25
25	25	0	0	0
100	**100**			**41**

Given df = (r-l) (c-l)
R = Number of rows
C = Number of columns
Df = (4-1) (2-1)
= (3) (1)
Df = 3

At three (3) degrees of freedom with a 0.05 significance level, the table value of chi-square is 7.81. The calculated Chi-Square as seen in Table 1 is 41. Since the calculated value is greater than the tabulated value, it therefore follows that, the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative accepted. This means that the genesis of Boko Haram in North-Eastern Nigeria stems from unemployment, idleness, illiteracy and underdevelopment of the state.

Hypothesis Two

The workings of the hypothesis are presented thus:

Ho: There are no implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria.

Hi: There are implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria.

Testing the hypothesis was based on data collected from the questionnaire; respondents' views on whether there are implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria. To establish the validity of the hypothesis, Chi-Square analysis was applied to determine the degree of association.
The Chi-square statistics are given as:

$$X^2 = \frac{\Sigma \text{ fo-fe}^2}{\text{fe}}$$

Where: Fo = Observed frequency
Fe = Expected frequency
Σ = Summation

Decision Rule

Accept Ho: If the computed x2 value is less than the critical value and reject Hi.

Accept Hi: If the computed x2 value is greater than the critical value and reject Ho.

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Table 2: Chi-Square Contingent Table

Fo	Fe	Fo-Fe	$(Fo-Fe)^2$	$\left[\frac{Fo-Fe}{Fe}\right]^2$
70	25	45	2025	81
20	25	-5	25	1
8	25	-17	285	11.4
2	25	-23	529	21.16
100	**100**			**115**

Given df = (r-l) (c-l)
R = Number of rows
C = Number of columns
Df = (4-1) (2-1)
= (3) (1)
Df = 3

At three (3) degrees of freedom with a 0.05 significance level, the table value of chi-square is 7.81. The calculated Chi-Square as seen in Table 2 is 115. Since the calculated value is greater than the tabulated value, it therefore means that the null hypothesis should be rejected and the alternative accepted. By rejecting the null hypothesis and acceptance of the alternate invariably implies that there are implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria of a very high magnitude, which includes showdown of the country's economy and development, worsened employment, food scarcity, dented Nigeria's public image, increased fear and a false sense of security, loss of lives and damage to properties as well as the sect's ulterior motives to Islamize Nigeria.

IV. Discussion of Findings

This section presents the major findings of the stated hypotheses in our study. The result of the first hypothesis revealed that the genesis of Boko Haram in the North East of Nigeria stems from unemployment. The findings of this hypothesis are in line with the position of Danjibo (2009). He maintained that majority of the followers who are members of the Boko Haram sect led by late Malam Mohammed Yusuf were largely illiterates who engaged in petty trading, school dropouts and school leavers without jobs.

The result of the second hypothesis showed that there are implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria. Apart from massive killings through the use of bombs and various explosive devices as well as wanton destruction of properties of both governments and individuals, the bandits insist on Islamizing the country. This goes further to align with Walker (2012) assertion which states that "…the ultimate goal of Boko Haram is to make Nigeria an Islamic State and uphold only the laws as set out in the Koran". This also implies that the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will be set aside to enable the sect's law to be entrenched if the envisaged effort materializes. Then Nigeria ceases to be a country with freedom of worship. The reasons and aspirations of the Boko Haran sect is an elephant project to complete, which invariable calls for UN resolution to dismantle the hilarious amalgamation work done by the British Governor-General Sir, Lord Frederick Lugard in 1914.

V. Conclusion and Recommendations

a) Conclusion

The core drive of this paper is to disclose that the Boko Haram insurgency hurts all forms of security of the Nigerian citizens. Undoubtedly, Boko Haram insurgency is, therefore, a threat to national security in Nigeria.

Based on the result and findings of the study, the following conclusions were reached, that:

i. The genesis of Boko Haram insurgence in North East of Nigeria stems from unemployment, poverty and underdevelopment in total agreement with the findings of Abomaye-Nimenibo, 2015, and 2018; Abomaye-Nimenibo et al, 2017).
ii. There are implications of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria to include retarded growth, insecurity, low investment, and dwindling economy.

VI. Recommendation

This section offers recommendations tailored towards finding a lasting solution to the challenge posed by Boko Haram in the country. The following recommendations were made:

i. The government should dialogue with the sect through their religious leaders.
ii. The Joint Task Force should intensify efforts in intelligence gathering, effective surveillance, security strategies through international collaboration to achieve result-oriented combat with the sect.
iii. The government should of necessity address poverty and provide employment opportunities and take proactive approach to reduce crime rate in the country.

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iv. Legislation on punitive measures should be put in place with a political will for effective, not selected and unbiased administration of justice.
v. The outcome of the National Conference of the Goodluck Jonathan administration be implemented without delay or in the alternative call for a fresh Confab or plebiscite.

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