



NIGERIA POLICE FORCE AND THE CHALLENGES OF PEACE AND INSECURITY PHENOMENON IN NIGERIA, 2003-2016

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ABSTRACT

This paper was aim at identify the Causes and effects of insecurity in Nigeria and the challenges of attaining peaceful society as well the relevance of the Nigerian police force from 2003-2016 in managing, preventing crimes and provision of sustainable peace in Nigeria. It is on this premise that the study bases its emphasis on the Nigerian police force to appraise and ascertain efforts and limitation encountered in providing adequate security to Nigerians. The subject matter is both timely and pivotal in this era when Nigeria's image and the issue of peace and insecurity become a phenomenon of discussion internationally and locally due to the pervasive nature of insecurity being experienced in the North East zone in states like Borno, Yobe and Adamawa as well as issues of conflict between Herdsmen and farmers in places like Benue, Kaduna and Zamfara State. This problem of insecurity and lack of sustainable peace has affected the conduct of good governance in the country. The study however, focuses on the causes and effect of insecurity in Nigeria, factors that have inhibited the Nigerian police force in performing its statutory functions and steps to be made to the enhancement of peace and security in Nigeria as well as making the Nigeria police force more responsive to her duties. This work also gave a chronological historical antecedent of insecurity in Nigeria. It also delves into the purview of the history, structure, mission and vision of the Nigerian police force. Moreover, the study revealed that the relevance of the Nigerian police force in relation to the peace and security of the country is incapacitated by the inability of the government to address root causes of insecurity and proffer solution to these root causes. This is manifested in the inequality and high rate of poverty and unemployment currently experienced in the country even since the return of democracy in 1999. The study recommended for Nigeria as a country to attained a level of secured and peaceful society we must restructure our security formations through proper training of Nigeria police officers, good welfare package to the force, provision of modern security equipment and fighting corruption in both security sector and the entire governance process.

Keywords: Security, Police Force, Crime Control and Bad Governance.

INTRODUCTION

Insecurity on the other hand, is the antithesis of security which is the concept of insecurity. It has been ascribed different interpretations in association with the various ways which it affects Individuals in particular and society in general. Some of the common descriptors of insecurity include: want of safety; danger; hazard; uncertainty; want of confidence; doubtful; inadequately guarded or protected; lacking stability; troubled; lack of protection; and unsafe, to mention a few. All of these have been used by different people to define the concept of insecurity. These different descriptors, however, run into a common reference to a state of vulnerability to harm and loss of life, property or livelihood. Beland (2005) defined insecurity as “the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection.” It refers to lack or inadequate freedom from danger.

In the same token, Oshodi (2011) argues that one sure way of tackling the insecurity situation in Nigeria is to accord the field of psychology a pride of place in policy formulation and implementation to promote national cohesion and integration.

However it can be clearly stated that Nigeria has remained more insecure especially during and after the April 2011 presidential elections and has suffered more than ever in history, a battery of ethno-religious-political crises, taking the shape of bomb blasts sponsored by the Boko Haram religious sect. The unparalleled spate of terrorism, kidnappings and other violent crimes is to say the least, alarming. Religious leaders, churches, mosques etc are not spared in this onslaught. There is no gainsaying the fact that Nigeria is at a cross-road and gradually drifting towards a failed state if this insecurity trend continues.

According to Bavier, a writer who is a frequent visitor to the northern region, told CNN that the:

Federal government has completely lost control of the north-east, despite deploying thousands of troops and establishing a Joint Task Force. Now, he says, it looks like this insurgency has broken out of the north-east". And what's worrying, he says, is that there's "not a whole lot of visible effort from the federal government to calm things down (Lister, 2012:14).

From the aforementioned one can posit that Nigeria has witnessed an unprecedented level of insecurity. Inter and intra-communal and ethnic clashes, ethno religious violence, armed robbery, assassination, murder, gender-based violence, and bomb explosion have been on the increase leading to enormous loss of life and property and a general atmosphere of siege and social tension for the populace (Ibrahim, 2002:2). Furthermore in 2009 to 2015 over 53,000 souls both military and civilians have been lost in the purported "holy" crusade; this have further paralyzed government plans in mapping out an efficient strategy in combating insecurity. Despite soaring security budget, insecurity still pervades the country.

Consequently, Insecurity has taken various forms in different parts of the country. In the South-West, armed robbers have taken over, while in the North, cross-border bandits operate with the ease. However in the South-South there are rampant cases of kidnapping. Also the incessant wave of crime and armed robbery attacks, all point to the fact that insecurity is fast becoming a norm in Nigeria and have somewhat suddenly become attractive to certain individuals in seeking to resolve issues that could have ordinarily been settled through due process. The end-products lead to the decimation of innocent lives, disruption of economic activities, and destruction of properties among others.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In an interview with Guardian Newspaper in United Kingdom, marking late Prof. Chinua Achebe's 80th Birthday, he was quoted as saying, "Nigeria is on the brink of a precipice" and that "we urgently have to face up to our responsibilities before it is too late".

Accordingly, Ogebe (2014) observed that the current problems facing Nigeria is not the only rising incidence in crimes, but also the gradual shift in the categories of crimes committed from less serious to a more serious and heinous crimes of violence. This poses a great challenge to the police as well as raises questions of the police accountability and effectiveness.

The Nigerian police have been highly criticized for its inability to stem the rising tide of crimes in Nigeria because of series of endemic problems in recruitment, training and discipline and lack expertise in specialized fields. Corruption and dishonesty is also widespread in the police force thereby engendering a low level of public confidence by the public, leading to failure to report crimes, and tendencies to resort to self-help by the public. Ash (1971) observed that perhaps the police performance has been entirely dissatisfactory because there is confusion concerning what police men actually do on the job and what they reasonably can be expected to do to achieve a more effective police force. The range of services that police provide are vast and crime prevention account for only 20 to 30 percent of police work. In many cities today police work often seem to consist mainly of reaction to emergencies. It sometimes appears that the original emphasis on crime prevention has been lost (Awake, 2000). This has greatly accounted for the alarming rate of crimes in the country.

Corroborating the aforementioned, a total of sixteen (16) policemen were arrested of recent in Gusau, the Zamfara State capital by the Inspector General of Police Anti-robbery Squad for allegedly releasing Police weapons and ammunition to armed robbers terrorizing people of the state. The affected police officers are from various ranks, especially Inspectors and Sergeants attached to Zamfara State Police Command. In the same vein, the squad arrested a retired military officer based in Gusau who specialized in selling ammunition and other sophisticated weapons meant for the security personnel in the state to armed robbers and people of Plateau and Kaduna States.

Subsequently, Aside from the bad eggs in the Nigerian police force, the poor welfare of the police, military and paramilitary personnel, with lack of adequate working tools, inadequate personnel is another factor that promotes insecurity in Nigeria. Olonisakin (2008:20) captures this when he posited that the police-Population ratio in Nigeria is 1:450. At a minimum, citizens ought to have easy access to the police and feel safer as a result of the protection they offer. Yet Nigeria has failed to meet the standard set by the United Nations for effective policing.

Today the incidence of police brutality, corruption, violence murder and abuse of power has punctuated almost every aspect of the society. Armed robbery in Nigeria operate almost freely in the society, using deadly weapons without being challenged and detected by the police and where the police are fully informed, they give flimsy excuse that they do not have weapons to fight armed robbers. Even the ordinary man on the street who is expected to be supportive of the police often have serious misgiving when confronted with the massive mutual aids granted to the criminals by the police force. Apart from the aforementioned, Incidence of shooting of innocent people in retaliation to policing policies has also constituted a serious problem that has impeded police efforts in crime prevention in Nigeria.

Research have shown that most of police work is taken up in responding to crime after it has taken place and the police force do not have the resources to intervene in the circumstances which lead to crimes being committed. The traditional approaches to crime prevention also do little to address the causes of crime. They assume that the high rate of crime is inevitable and that the public must endeavor to defend itself against it.

According to Egburonu (2012:20)

We are afraid of Boko Haram. Daddy and Mummy keep awake all night in case the attackers decide to invade our home. They would lock all the doors tightly, pray all Night and ask us to sleep. But we never can, for we don't know what will happen next... They said we would soon go home, so we are waiting

That was how Miss Agnes Agwuocha, a 17-Year old student in Kano, described the terror she and the members of her family have been passing through since the terrorist group had given the affected non indigenes a mere three-day ultimatum, and since after the expiration, had followed it up with pockets of attacks and killings in Yobe, Niger, and Borno states. But though these previous Boko Haram attacks in several cities across the north have affected mainly Igbos and other Christians and southerners.

Research Questions

The research paper therefore intends to find out answers to the following problems identified as follows:

- i. What are the causes and effects of insecurity in Nigeria?
- ii. Is the Nigerian police force equipped and properly empowered to provide peace and security to Nigerians?

iii. What are the factors that have protected the Nigerian police force in performing its statutory functions?

iv. Is the Nigerian police force relevant in combating insecurity in Nigeria?

v. What are the steps to be made to enhance greater security and peace in Nigeria and to make the Nigeria police force more responsive to her duties?

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of this study are:

i. To find out the specific causes and fundamental effects of Insecurity in Nigeria.

ii. To ascertain the extent to which Nigerian Police force is equipped and empowered to provide security to Nigerians.

iii. To identify the challenges that has inhibited the Nigerian police in performing its statutory functions.

iv. To explore the relevance of the Nigerian police force in combating insecurity in Nigeria.

v. To seek out solutions to insecurity in Nigeria and suggest measures that can be made to better the Nigerian police force.

Security as a concept.

Security is a very important issue in the survival of any Nation. Without adequate security of lives and property, the system will be rife with lawlessness, chaos and eventual disintegration. This is why security is considered as a dynamic condition, which involves the relative ability of a state to counter threats to its core values and interests. The security so concerned with by states, is multifarious. It might be military, economic, ideological or cultural.

Accordingly, the security for any state embodies a notion of order, or of the conditions necessary to maintain the smooth functioning and reproduction of an existing society. According to McGrew (1988:101), the security of a nation is predicated on two central pillars. On one hand, it entails the maintenance and protection of the socio-economic order in the face of internal and external threat. On the other, it entails the promotion of a preferred international order, which minimize the threat to core values and interests, as well as to the domestic order.

In a similar manner, Nwolise (2006:352) explained that security is an all-encompassing holistic concept which implies that the territory must be secured by a network of armed forces: that the sovereignty of the state must be guaranteed by a democratic and patriotic government,

which in turn must be protected by the military, police and the people themselves, the people must not only be secured from external attacks but also from devastating consequences of internal upheavals, unemployment, hunger, starvation, diseases, ignorance, homelessness, environmental degradation, pollution and socio-economic injustices.

Furthermore, the primary objective of Nigeria's national security is to advance her interest and objectives to contain instability, control crime, eliminate corruption, enhance genuine development progress and growth, and improve the welfare and wellbeing and quality of life of every citizen.

The second aspect of the nation's national security entails the preservation of the safety of Nigerians at home and abroad and the protection of the sovereignty of the country's integrity and its interests. Also the concept of Internal security duties are generally related to activities which takes place as protest against the actions of government and non-government bodies, religious intolerance, political thuggery and agitations which are likely to overstretch the resources of the police and other law enforcement agencies.

Similarly, the enforcement of internal security duties have seen the Army establishing various units like the joint task force in the Niger Delta and deploying troops to flashpoints to douse conflicts in these areas. The crises in these troubled areas no doubt are manifestations of agitations and discontent exhibited by various groups due to government policies of deprivation, marginalization and social injustice – a situation, which has created avenues for “crises of legitimacy; the struggle for ascendancy between sub-national and national loyalties, which, tend to open the floodgates of irredentists and separatist claims” (Omosho, 2004:18).

Security challenges and the Jonathan administration, 2007-2015

In Nigeria, the achievement of desired level of internal security particularly from 2007 - 2013 was elusive. The above period witnessed the proliferation of different militia groups that posed serious security threats to the Nigerian government. Thus, such unwholesome behaviors which not only affected economic activities in many parts of Nigeria have also resulted in loss of numerous lives and property of the Nigerian citizens. This pathetic situation is critically examined under four case studies:

i. The Niger-Delta Crisis

Conflict in the Niger-Delta arose in the early 1990s due to tensions between the foreign oil corporations and some Niger Delta's minority ethnic groups who felt they were being exploited, particularly the Ogonis and the Ijaws (Osungade, 2008). Thus, ethnic and political unrest continued in the region throughout the

1990s and persisted despite the enthronement of democracy in 1999. However, competition for oil wealth in the region gave rise to agitations, violence and subsequent extra-judicial killing of Ken Saro-Wiwa and nine Ogoni leaders by Abacha's regime (Ogbodo, 2010:1). This action by Abacha's administration was condemned not only by many Nigerians, but also the international community. Consequently, the international community expressed her anger by imposing several sanctions on Nigeria during this period. Thus, the inability of the government particularly during the military era to address the root causes of the agitation (environmental problems, poverty, unemployment, lack of basic amenities, etc.), in the Niger Delta region, resulted in proliferation of ethnic groups causing the militarization of nearly the entire region by ethnic militia groups. Consequently, the government established some institutions or agencies to douse the tension in the area. This includes the Oil Mineral Producing Areas Development Commission (OMPADEC), Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and Ministry of Niger Delta (MND). In spite of these intervention regimes, the conflicts and insecurity in the Niger Delta region persisted. To arrest the challenges of insecurity in the Niger Delta, the Federal Government of Nigeria applied minimal force in a bid to ensure that these militias drop their arms and end their hostilities against the government and the people of the area. In August 2008, the federal government launched a massive military crackdown on militants (Amaizu, 2008:11). Thus, military patrolled waters, hunted for militants, searched all civilian boats for weapons, and raided numerous hideouts. Also, on May 15, 2009 a military operation undertaken by a Joint Task Force (JTF) was put in place by the federal government against MEND and their affiliates in the Niger Delta region (Onoyume, 2008:5). These actions by the federal government were in response to the activities of the militia groups which adversely affected both the residents of the area and the Nigerian economy (Onuorah, 2009:2). Paradoxically, rather than the measures put in place by the federal government to address the challenges of insecurity in the Niger Delta, the situation led to incessant kidnapping of not only the foreign oil workers, but also the indigenes and residents of the region. Hence, on June, 2009, the Nigerian Government under the leadership of Late President Umaru Yar'adua, announced the granting of Amnesty and unconditional pardon to militants in the Niger Delta region (Rotimi, 2009).

ii. Kidnapping in the South-East Zone of Nigeria

Kidnapping as a social problem is the act of illegally taking somebody away and keeping him as a prisoner in order to get money or something in return for releasing him. The history of kidnapping in the South-East zone of Nigeria could be traced to hostilities, conflicts and violence in the Niger Delta region. In the South-East zone, especially in Abia and Imo States, kidnapping activities were mainly targeted at prominent indigenes and residents of these states. This situation was pervasive shortly after the 2007 general elections in Nigeria. This is partly because, the youths that were used as political thugs by politicians during the 2007 general elections in these states subsequently engaged in kidnapping as means of livelihood after the elections. Indeed, confession by those apprehended indicated that some politicians in these states supplied guns to youths for the purpose of rigging the 2007 general elections. Unfortunately these guns were not retrieved at the end of the elections. Consequently, kidnapping later turned to profitable business mostly among the youths in Abia, Imo, Ebonyi and other states in the zone. Thus, the increasing rate of kidnapping activities in Abia State, particularly in Aba metropolis, resulted in several foiled attempts to kidnap the Abia State Governor, Chief Theodore Orji in 2008 (Nwogu, 2008). Thus, from 2007 to 2010, several prominent men in Aba and its environs were kidnapped for ransom. This adversely affected the economy of Abia State as many businessmen and manufacturing companies relocated to other states like Enugu and Anambra. Worse still, people were kidnapped while attending church services and village meetings (Ajani, 2010). To address the spate of kidnapping in the South-East zone particularly in Abia state, the federal government deployed soldiers to Aba metropolis and its environs. This bold step taken by the government is put in clear perspective by Okoli (2009) who states that:

Governor Theodore Orji of Abia State formally invited the Army to the State to assist in the fight against crime and criminals, especially kidnappers. Their Governor said the menace of kidnapping seemed to have overwhelmed the police...

The action of the government in response to kidnapping, no doubt, minimized the reported cases of the menace, especially in Aba and its environs. This was partly as a result of intensive attacks launched by the army at the hideout of kidnappers in Ukwa West Local Government Area of Abia State (Sampson, 2010).

iii. Jos crisis

The Jos crisis is another internal security threat to Nigeria which some observers have described as sectarian violence. This pathetic situation which took a radical dimension from 1999 has been a complex one.

According to Oladoyinbo (2010):

the crisis in Jos, Plateau State is a very complex one... it is tribal, religious and social...we discovered that politics is the major cause of some of these crises that erupted in that part of the country... there is no need for some people to use all means to dominate others or use people to subjugate others...the government in Nigeria has no courage...the government is not the solution but rather the problem...the government knows those behind all these riots, those importing arms into this country...

Thus, the Jos crisis has claimed numerous lives of Nigerians and property worth millions of naira. However, the Jos crisis has resulted to several attacks on Christians by Muslims. Indeed, from 2007 - 2010, over 10,000 Christians were slaughtered during the Jos crisis. In 2010 crisis for instance, about 500 Christians lost their lives (Oladoyinbo, 2010: 15). Precisely, the Jos crisis has resulted in unimaginable confrontation, killings, bombings and other forms of violence. Many observers have argued that the root cause of the crisis was the inordinate desire by Muslims to forcefully convert Christians in the area as Muslim Faithful's, others assert that the root causes of Jos crisis are culture and land disputes. Thus, whatever the argument over the remote causes of frequent crisis in Jos may be, the fact remains that it is one of the greatest internal security threats to corporate existence of Nigeria. Also, available evidence has shown that the crisis in Jos which has been fought on sectarian lines may be traced to 'sour relationship' between the Christian and Muslim communities in the area. This is crucial because as Human Right Watch Report argues:

...Jos lies on the border between Nigeria's Muslim majority North and Christian majority South. Access to land resources is often determined by whether one is a native or 'indigene'... Jos is historically Christian city... Settlers are most often Muslims from the North... (Human Right Report, July 10, 2010).

iv. Boko Haram Crisis

Another major security challenge in Nigeria which has adversely affected the Nigerian economy is the activities of Boko Haram group. Etymologically, the term 'Boko Haram' is derived from Hausa word 'Boko' meaning 'Animist', western, otherwise non-islamic education; and the Arabic word Haram figuratively meaning 'sin' or literally, 'forbidden' (Olugbode, 2010). The Boko Haram is a controversial Nigerian Militant Islamist group that seeks the imposition of Sharia law in the northern states of Nigeria. Ideologically, the group opposes not only western education, but western culture and modern science (Dunia, 2010). Historically, the Boko Haram group was founded in 2002 in Maiduguri by Utaz Mohammed Yusuf. In 2004, it moved to Kanama in Yobe state, where it set up a base called 'Afghanistan', used to attack nearby police stations and killing police officers (Awowole-Browne, 2010). However, the founder of the group, Mohammed Yusuf was hostile to democracy and secular education system; this is why the activities of the Boko Haram group constitute serious security challenges in the contemporary Nigerian state.

V. Herdsmen and Farmers Conflicts

Since 2015 , the crisis between herdsmen and farmers become a predominant insecurity issues in many states in Nigeria more especially the Benue , Zamfara, Kaduna and some part of Nasarawa State , resulting to killing of many peoples in the affected states and destroying of Farm land and its product worth about over 5 billion Naira (Awolowo-Brown , 2010) The problem of herdsmen and farmers has become a persistent phenomenon of insecurity in these current days where lives of many peoples are at risk in Zamfara State and Katsina as result of attacks lunched by militant to either farmers or local resident in the above affected states.

The Jonathan administration's response to threats of Insecurity in Nigeria

President Jonathan administration has taken certain measures to make Nigeria a more secure place for peace and development to thrive. The government responded by taking several measures which can aptly be described as a “carrots and stick” approach but, which have also generated a lot of debate within the country. Initial government response was predominantly the use of physical force that was later expanded to include a combination of verbal admonitions and warnings; moral persuasion; deployment of troops to flashpoints where the protesters are domiciled; the inauguration of committees and panels to investigate the causes of the threats and proffer necessary solutions and; the passage of a bill in to tackle terrorist activities. Thus In

showing concern over the threats, President Jonathan in his broadcast to the nation remarked that the time has come for the country to review its national security policy as well as the functions and operations of the various security agencies therein. To further show his seriousness President Jonathan emphasized that the culprits and other perpetrators, “noMatter how remotely connected to these incidents, must be brought to justice” (President Jonathan’s May 29th 2011 inauguration speech Broadcast to the nation), (<http://www.peoplesdailyonline.com>).President Jonathan in his address the nation (National Broadcast April 21, 2011).

Justified his action to use force against the perpetrators viz:

I have authorized the security agencies to use all lawful means, including justifiable force to end all acts of violence... I have directed that all perpetrators of these dastardly acts... and all those who continue to breach the peace and stability of this nation be apprehended and made to face the full wrath of the law.

Furthermore, the government has also embarked on an intensive training of her security personnel especially police officers under the special-anti-terrorism squad. Consequently to ensure the effectiveness of the police, the government embarked on the acquisition and distribution of bulletproof and armored vehicles to various police commands.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE NIGERIAN POLICE FORCE

Matters of safety and security are topical issues in today’s Nigeria. Life has become precarious in our country, that is why when matters of security becomes an issue of discuss, the Nigerian police is mentioned because of her constitutional role as the body setup to maintain internal security within Nigeria territorial borders. The Nigeria Police Force is designated by Section 194 of the 1979 constitution as the national police of Nigeria with exclusive jurisdiction throughout the country. The Nigeria's police began with a thirty-member consular guard formed in Lagos Colony in 1861. In 1879 a total of 1,200-member armed paramilitary Hausa Constabulary was formed. In 1896 the Lagos Police was established. A similar force, the Niger Coast Constabulary, was formed in Calabar in 1894 under the newly proclaimed Niger Coast Protectorate. In the north, the Royal Niger Company set up the Royal Niger Company Constabulary in 1888 with headquarters at Lokoja. When the protectorates of Northern and Southern Nigeria were proclaimed in the early 1900s, part of the Royal Niger Company

Constabulary became the Northern Nigeria Police, and part of the Niger Coast Constabulary became the Southern Nigeria Police. Northern and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated in 1914, but their police forces were not merged until 1930, forming the NPF, headquartered in Lagos. During the colonial period, most police were associated with local governments (native authorities). In the 1960s, under the First Republic, these forces were first regionalized and then nationalized (source: www.npf.gov.ng)

The Nigerian Police Force performed conventional police functions and was responsible for internal security generally; for supporting the prison, immigration, and customs services; and for performing military duties within or outside Nigeria as directed. Plans were announced in mid-1980 to expand the force to 200,000. By 1983, according to the federal budget, the strength of the NPF was almost 152,000 and there were more than 1,300 police stations nationwide. Police officers were not usually armed but were issued weapons when required for specific missions or circumstances. They were often deployed throughout the country, but in 1989 Babangida announced that a larger number of officers would be posted to their native areas to facilitate police- community relations (source: www.npf.gov.ng)

Furthermore, the structure of the Nigeria Police Force is provided for in section 214 (2) (a) and 215(2) of the 1999 Constitution. These sections provide inter area, SECTION 214(2) (a):- “Subject to the provisions of this constitution the Nigeria Police shall be organized and Administered in accordance with such provisions as many be prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly

SECTION 215 (2) “The Nigeria Police Force shall be under the Command of the Inspector-General of Police and any contingents of the Nigeria Police Force stationed in a state shall; subject to the authority of the Inspector-General of Police, be under the command of Commissioner of Police of that state” (source: www.npf.gov.ng)

From the provisions above, three different structures in the Police Force can be identified. These are:-

- a. Command (Authority) Structure.

- b. Administration structure and

- c. Organization structure

These structures are patterned to meet the constitutional expectations of the Police, to perform effectively the duties assigned to it.

A) Command (authority) structure

The Command structure, also referred to as authority structure, of the Police Force is predicted on the regimental nature of the Force and conducted along the Force badges of ranks. Thus, in accordance with section 215(2) of the 1999 Constitution, section 6 of the Police Act, 1990 laws provide that “the Force shall be commanded by the Inspector-General of Police”. This simply means that orders, directives and instructions to perform or carry out the duties with which the Police is carried, flows from the Inspector-General of Police, through the chain of Command, to any Officer positioned to implement such order. Disobedience or failure to carry out such instruction, directive or order, attract punitive sanctions. According to Section 7 (1) of the Police Act, the next in the line to the Inspector General of Police, is the Deputy Inspector General of Police. Though this rank is not specially mentioned in the Constitution, it has legal backing, because the Police Act is a law made by the National Assembly in accordance with the constitution. According to section 7(1) of the Police Act, the Deputy Inspector General of Police is the second in Command of the Force and shall so act for him in the Inspector-General’s absence. Section 5 of the Act makes room for as many DIGs as the Nigeria Police Council considers appropriate. Every other rank below the IG, takes order of Command from him, in the performance of their lawful duties. (Source: www.npf.gov.ng)

The Office of the Assistant Inspector-General of Police is provided for by section 5 and 8 of the Police Act. He shall act for the Inspector-General of Police in the event of the absence of the Inspector-General of Police and Deputy Inspector-General of Police. Section 5 of the Police Act, in accordance with the provisions of section 215 (2), of the Nigeria Constitution, provides for the Office and rank of a Commissioner of Police who shall be in Control of contingents of the Police Force stationed in a State. He is subject however, to the command of the Inspector-General of Police or who-so-ever acts for him, in his absence. Every other rank in the Force is legally provided for by section 5 of the Police Act. The Command structure of the Nigeria Police can be presented in the order of hierarchy.

Command (authority) structure

1, The Inspector-General of Police

2, The Deputy Inspector-General of Police

- 3, The Asst. Inspector-General of Police
- 4, The Commissioner of Police (In-charge of contingents in a state)
- 5, The Deputy Commissioner of Police
- 6, The Asst. Commissioner of Police
- 7, The Chief Superintendent of Police
- 8, The Superintendent of Police
- 9, The Deputy Superintendent of Police
- 10, The Asst. Superintendent of Police
- 11, The Inspector of Police
- 12, Sergeant Major
- 13, Sergeant
- 14, Corporal
- 15, Constable

(Source: www.npf.gov.ng)

B) Administrative structure

The Nigeria Police is administratively structured and divided into seven (7) departments: 'A' – 'G' with each department charged with peculiar duties. Though their duties are inter-woven, they are distinguishable.

1. 'A' Department: - Administration

- Direction, supervision and co-ordination of the various department within the Directorate; Standardization of policies and procedure of administration and finance of the Force;
- Periodical review of all standing force Orders, Regulations and other relevant instruments;
- Maintenance of Force discipline by directing and reviewing relevant policies and instructions;
- Convening of conference of the Directors, Zonal Police Commanders (Z.P.Cs) and the Command Commissioner of Police with the Inspector-General of Police;
- Planning, administration and monitoring of the budget and finances of the Force;
- Organization, planning and supervision of Research programmes, Management Information;
 - Collating data for and publication of Annual Police Report:
 - Convening the Force Tenders' Board; and Planning and Administration of welfare schemes, e.g., Medical;
 - Laison, co-ordination and interaction with other Directorates of the Nigeria Police Force, (Source: www.npf.gov.ng)

2. 'B' Department: - Operation

- Planning and organizing internal security measures and monitoring the execution of such security measures in time of emergency;
- Direction and co-ordination of Force policies on crime prevention;
- Utilization of Force Animals
- Formulation of Force policies on traffic control;
- Planning coordinating and monitoring of the Force communication network;
- Reviewing and formulating policies on tactical operation schemes for crime control and prevention;
- Periodical inspections of various units for effective implementation of the operational policies of the Police;
- Planning and coordinating joint operation;

- Formulating policies, planning and management of incidents such as disturbance, riots, national disasters, elections, suppression of insurrections and trade union disputes or conflicts;
- Formulation and implementation of policies on antiterrorism;
- Liaison, coordination and interaction with other Directorates of the Nigeria Police Force;
- Preparation of annual budget for the Directorate. (Source:www.npf.gov.ng)

3. 'C' Department: - logistics and supply

- Purchase of stores, clothing and Accoutrement;
- Planning of building programmes;
- Construction and maintenance of Police Buildings and quarters:

- Arrangement of Board of Survey and Disposal of unserviceable/Boarded vehicles, equipment etc.
- Determination of costs of all equipment, e.g. vehicles, planes, Helicopters; Wireless equipment, Bomb Disposal equipment, Force Animals, Arms & Ammunition and other riot equipment, Boats, Medical, Stationers, Spare parts, Printing equipment;
- Responsibility for the procurement of all technical equipment. Aircraft, Wireless, Medical, Armaments, Transport etc, clothing and accoutrements, Stationers and office equipment;
- Responsibility for the allocation and distribution of the equipment procured for the various Police Commands and Directorates;
- Organization and direction Board of survey;

- Responsibility for the planning and execution of building projects and accommodation;
- Erection and supervision of the maintenance Barracks, quarters, office buildings and equipment;

➤ Preparation of annual budget for the Directorate;

➤ Liaison, coordination and interaction with other Directions of the Nigeria Police Force.

4. 'D' Department: - investigation and intelligence

➤ Criminal Investigations b. Interpol c. Antiquities d. Crime Prevention Policies e. Narcotics f. Forensic Matters g. Crime Records h. Prosecution i. Criminal Intelligence;

5. 'E' Department: - training and command

➤ Formulation and implementation of supervision of Force Training policy

➤ Supervision and coordination of the activities of the Police and Police Staff Colleges

➤ Liaison with Police and Civilian Institution of higher learning at home and abroad for effective interchange of ideas;

➤ Establishment of effective staff development programme;

➤ Formulation training, research to keep pace with modern thought in the field of training, staff development and equipment;

- Formulating a uniform standard of training in all in all Police Colleges/Training Schools;
- Preparation of annual budget for the Directorate;
- Liaison coordination and interaction with other Directorates in the Nigeria Police Force;

6. 'F' Department

- Research; b. Planning c. Inspectorate Division; d. Management Information; e. Organization and Method

7. 'G' Department (ICT)

As it is known globally, technology plays significant role in modern law enforcement to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of the agencies. Thus, it is imperative for modern law enforcement agency to have the capability to manage electronic databases and communication systems as global crime has become more sophisticated.

8. Office of the force secretary

- a. Promotion and appointment of Superior Police Officers;
- b. Deployment of Superior Police Officers;
- c. Records of Superior Police Officers;
- d. Discipline of Superior Police Officers;
- e. Police Council meeting;
- f. Inter-Ministerial matter; and
- g. Promotion Boards

C. Organizational structure

The Nigerian police Force is further structured in line with the geo-political structure of the Country, with provisions for supervisory formations. The structure formation enables Police operational of the internal Territory of Nigeria. The organizational structure of the Police Force is represented as shown below:

- Force Headquarters.
- Zonal Headquarters

- State Commands Headquarters
- Divisional Police Headquarters
- Police Station
- Police Post
- Village Police Post

By this nature, the Police Operational crime fighting function is felt by the populace. The relevance of the structuring of the Police to the defence and internal security of the nation can be appreciated by the totality of Police role in internal security. The whole weight of the powers and duties of the Police are spread on the balance of these structures. A periodic assessment and review of these structures to determine their relevance in the scheme of the nation's defence mechanism has remained a traditional exercise in the Force, in order to catch-up with current global policing strategies as prescribed in international defence policies. (Source: www.npf.gov.ng)

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT OF THE NIGERIAN POLICE FORCE

Mission Statement

1. To make Nigeria safer and more secured for economic development and growth; to create a safe and secured environment for everyone living in Nigeria.
2. To partner with other relevant Security Agencies and the public in gathering, collating and sharing of information and intelligence with the intention of ensuring the safety and security of the country;
3. To participate in efforts to address the root causes of crime while ensuring that any criminal act is investigated so as to bring the criminals to justice in a fair and professional manner.
4. Working together with people irrespective of religious, political, social or economic affiliations. (Source: www.npf.gov.ng)

Vision statement

- A. Deliver quality police service that is accessible to the generality of the people;
- B. Build a lasting trust in the police by members of the public;
- C. Protect and uphold the rights of persons, to be impartial and respectful in the performance of Police duties;
- D. Continuously evaluate and improve Police services;
- E. Provide equal opportunities for career developments for all members of the force;
- F. Cooperate with all relevant government Agencies and other stakeholders.
- G. Liaise with the Ministry of Police Affairs and the Police Service Commission to formulate and implement policies for the effective policing of Nigeria. (Source: www.npf.gov.ng)

Code of conduct and professional standards for police officers

To achieve the Mission and Visions illustrated above, it is expedient to formulate a Code of Conduct for all Police officers employed into the Service of the Nigeria Police Force. The code will be regarded as an accountability code that will apply to all officers (irrespective of rank) and will reflect International conventions for Law Enforcement Agents, the provisions of sections 353-368 of Part XV of the Police Act (cap 359) and other relevant Force Orders as well as Public Service Rules. However, the purpose of having a code of conduct is to provide all members for the Nigeria Police Force with a set of guiding principles and standards of behavior while on or off-duty. It is intended to be used by Police officers in determining what is right and proper in all their actions. The code should set an outline which every member of the Force can easily understand. It will enable Policemen to know what type of conduct by a Police officer is right and what is wrong. The code will encompass the following:

Primary Responsibilities of a Police Officer – A police officer acts as an official representative of government who is required and trusted to work within the law. The officer's powers and duties are conferred by statute. The fundamental duties of a police officer include serving the community, safeguarding lives and property, protecting the innocent, keeping the peace and ensuring the rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.

Performance of duties as a police officer – a police officer shall perform all duties impartially, without favor of affection or ill will and without regard to status, sex, race, religion, political belief or aspiration. All citizens will be treated equally with courtesy, consideration and dignity. Officers will never allow personal feelings, animosities or friendships to influence official conduct. Laws will be enforced appropriately and courteously and in carrying out their responsibilities, officers will strive to obtain maximum cooperation from the public. They will conduct themselves both in appearance and composure, in such a manner as to inspire confidence and respect for the position of public trust they hold.

Discretion - a Police officer will use responsibly, the discretion vested in his position and exercise it within the law.

Use of Force – a police officer will never employ unnecessary force or violence and will use only such force in discharge of duty, as is reasonable in all circumstances. The use of force should be used only after discussion, negotiation and persuasion have been found to be inappropriate or ineffective. While the use of force is occasionally unavoidable, every police officer will refrain from unnecessary infliction of pain or suffering and will never engage in cruel, degrading or inhuman treatment of any person.

Confidentiality – Whatever a police officer sees, hears or learns which is of a confidential nature, will be kept secret unless the performance of duty or legal provision requires otherwise. Members of the public have a right to security and privacy, and information obtained about them must not be improperly divulged

Integrity – a police officer will not engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will an officer condone such acts by other police officers. The public demands that the integrity of police officers be above reproach. Police officers must therefore, avoid any conduct that might compromise integrity and that undercut the confidence reposed by the public, in the Police. Officers will refuse to accept any gifts, presents, subscriptions, favours, gratuities or promises that could be interpreted as seeking to cause the officer to refrain from performing official responsibilities honestly and within the law. Police officers must not receive private

or special advantage from their official status. Respect from the public cannot be bought; it can only be earned and cultivated.

Cooperation with other Police Officers and Agencies – Police officers will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice. An officer or agency may be one among many organizations that may provide law enforcement services to a jurisdiction. It is imperative that a police officer assists colleagues fully and completely with respect and consideration at all times;

Personal Professional Capabilities - Police Officers will be responsible for their own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve their level of knowledge and competence. Through study and experience, a police officer can acquire the high level of knowledge and competence that is essential for the efficient and effective performance of duty. The acquisition of knowledge is a never ending process of personal and professional development that should be pursued constantly. (Source: www.npf.gov.ng)

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

For the purpose of this work, the theoretical framework of analysis of this work is the theory of class struggle by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, which was first expressed literally in the Communist Manifesto Of 1848.

Accordingly, Marx in his communist manifesto declared that:

The history of all existing society is the history of class struggles. Freeman and Slave, patrician and plebeian, lord and serf, guild-master and journey man, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to one another carry on uninterrupted now hidden now open fight, a fight that each time ended either in a revolutionary reconstitution of society at large, or in the common ruin of the contending classes (Bhatia,1978:291).

The struggles for the control of material values in the process of production have given rise to the emergence of two main classes in the society. Though classes are formed at the level of production, the struggle between different classes revolve around the organization of power as they seek to dominate one another (Nnoli: 2003). The dominant class emerges to protect and guard a particular mode of production and mediate and moderate inter-class and intra-class struggles in order to maintain stability.

Karl Marx in volume III of Capital, defined class in the following words:

The owners merely of labour power, owners of capital and landowners, whose respective sources of income are wages, labourers, capitalists and landowners constitute the three big classes of modern Society based upon the capitalist mode of production (See Shivji, 1976:5)

Similarly, Lenin has also seen classes as:

Large groups of people differing from each other by the place they occupy in the historically determined system of social production, by their relation (in some cases fixed and formulated in law) to the means of production by their role in the social organization of labour, and consequently by the dimensions and mode of acquiring the share of social wealth of which they dispose. (See Nnoli, 2003:167)

The concept of class is essentially about ownership or non-ownership of the means of production. Ownership here includes both the control and appropriation of surplus value generated by the society. Thus, the surplus-labour is unpaid labour appropriated by employers in the form of work-time and outputs, on the basis that employers own and supply the means of production worked with. Consequently, for any division of labour to produce classes, one social group must control and appropriate the labour of another.

According to Karl Marx, bourgeoisie is meant to be the class of modern capitalists, owners of the means of social production and employers of wage labour. While proletariat is the class of modern wage labourers who, having no means of production of their own, are reduced to selling their labour power in order to live, this is why the interest of the owners of the means of production (capitalist) is at variance with the interest of the non-owners of the means of production (wage labourer), for instance the interest of the owners of a factory (capitalist) is to maximize profit but this is countered by the worker's interest or demand for higher wages. Thus class relations are therefore contradictory (Nnoli, 2003:40). There is the notion of class-in-itself and class-for-itself. In the former, members of the group, play a similar role in the production process, but are not aware or conscious of their common interest. In the latter group, the member

are not only aware that they share similar role in the production process but are also conscious of their common interest and are prepared to defend such interests whenever occasions demand.

Application of the theory

The struggle among social classes for the control of state power has been the propelling force in the development of many societies including Nigeria. However, the basis of the struggle between the two classes is the control of the state so as to determine social policies especially the authoritative allocation of values and scarce resources. This is why the Nigerian state has become a volatile state with several security challenges. While the oppressed class agitates for a new social order that ensure fairly equitable distribution of resources, the bourgeois (the federal government, multinational oil companies, and the rich) class preoccupies itself with maintaining their class advantage, by extension the structural inequality which has led to the insecurity currently faced by Nigeria.

According to Karl Marx and some keen observers, the current insecurity is as a result of so many issues, but most importantly, is the unwillingness of the ruling class to willingly surrender power (in other words not prepared to commit class suicide), Thus this have constituted a major cause of insecurity in Nigeria because some sects and groups are discontented with the ruling class, thereby leading them to engage in intense struggle and violence. Thus such agitations and struggles have resulted in class conflicts and insecurity in Nigeria. Accordingly, Karl Marx opined that the class struggle may lead to the overthrow of the ruling class or compel it to embark on reforms such as increase in wages, welfare, bonuses, political liberties, democratic participation in industrial affairs etc. (Bangura 1985:39). Consequently, whether or not this will be the case in Nigeria, it is left for time to tell.

Method of data collection

The data used in the study were collected from the primary and secondary sources of data collection. The structured questionnaire was based on one major sampling technique, which is the stratified random sampling technique. In analyzing the data collected for this research, the use tables were employed. The information tallied, arranged and grouped in simple percentage and was carefully explained. Similarly In the course of this study, the researcher conducted the research in three LGA's in namely Nasarawa, Bichi and Rano from the 3 senatorial district in Kano state respectively with an estimated population of 2.7 Million people's based on 2006 census which constitute the population of study; however 120 people were selected as the sample size. Given the selected sample size, the breakdown is as follows:

Table 1;

CATEGORY	NO REPRESENTED	PERCENTAGE%
Police officers	60	50%
Academics	10	8.3%
Traditional Leaders	15	12.5%
Community Security formations	35	29.1%
	120	100%

Source: field work 2018

A Total of 120 respondents are selected to make up the total percentage of respondents. The number of police officers who made their contributions are 60 respondents (50%). While respondents from the academics which includes lecturers from Bayero University, Kano, Kano Polytechnic and Maitama Sule University constituted 10 persons (8.3%) which is the highest. While traditional leaders has 15 respondents with 12.5%, the other community members has 35 respondent with 29.1%.

QUESTION 1: Is the current insecurity in Nigeria on the high side?

TABLE 2

Responses	No. of Responses	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	89	74.1%
Agree	19	15.8%
Undecided	12	10%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly Disagree	0	0%
Total	120	100%
Source: field work 2018		

The above table 2. Has indicate the level of insecurity with 89 respondents making 74.1% of the total respondents.

QUESTION 2: The Nigeria police force is effective in tackling the insecurity in Nigeria

TABLE 3

Responses	No. of Responses	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	3	2.5%
Agree	5	4.1%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	30	25%
Strongly Disagree	82	68.3%
Total	120	100%

Source: field work 2018.

The above table 3, has shown us the level of in effectiveness of Nigeria police in tackling insecurity with 82 respondents with 68.3% indicating poor performance of the Nigeria police in promoting peace in the society.

QUESTION 3: The Nigerian police force is empowered with necessary crime fighting equipment

TABLE 4.

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agreed	0	0%
Agreed	0	0%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	100	83.3%

Strongly disagree	20	16.7%
Total	120	100%

Source: field work: 2018

Table 4, has shown us the nature of Nigeria police of not having a working equipment to fight or prevent crime with 83.3% strongly disagree with the availability of police equipment to fight crimes.

QUESTION 4: Insecurity is aggravated by the high level of poverty and unemployment situation in Nigeria

TABLE 5

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	90	75%
Agree	20	16.6%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	10	8.3%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
Total	120	100%

Source: field work 2018.

Table 5: has indicated to us poverty and unemployment are some of the reasons that promote crime in Nigeria with 75% of respondents.

QUESTION 5: The provision of social security programme for the poor and the unemployed will reduce the scourge of insecurity in Nigeria.

TABLE 6

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	120	100%
Agree	0	0%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
Total	100	100%

Source: field work 2018:

The above table 6, has agreed social security program has 100% can reduce the level of insecurity in Nigeria.

QUESTION 6: The Nigerian government is doing its best in providing necessary crime fighting equipment to the Nigerian police

TABLE 7

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	0	0%
Agree	10	3.8%
Undecided	2	1.6%
Disagree	30	25%
Strongly disagree	78	65%
Total	120	100%

Source: field work 2018

The above table 7, has shown the government of Nigeria is not providing the needed equipment to fight crime in the country with almost 78% strongly disagree.

QUESTION 7: Does insecurity affect the socio-economic growth of Nigeria?

TABLE 8.

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	100	80%
Agree	20	20%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
Total	120	100

Source: field work 2018

The above table 8, has indicated the nature of insecurity may easily affect the economic growth in the country with 80 % respondents.

QUESTION 8: Will insecurity reduce if the Nigerian police become effective?

TABLE 9.

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	120	100%
Agree	0	0%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
Total	120	100%

Source: field work 2018:

The above table 9, has indicated the insecurity in Nigeria can easily be managed if the police are very effective in discharging their duties.

QUESTION 9: Can the Nigerian police compete favourable in terms of effectiveness with other police of other developing countries?

TABLE 9;

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	0	17.3%
Agree	10	8.3%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	80	67%
Strongly disagree	30	25%
Total	120	100%

Source: field work 2018;

The above table 9, has shown us Nigeria police cannot be compared with Police in the developed countries like USA and UK in terms of equipment's and mode of operations in fighting insecurity.

QUESTION 9: Is recruitment, placement and promotion in the Nigerian police by merit?

TABLE 10.

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Undecided	10	8.3%
Disagree	20	17%
Strongly disagree	90	75%
Total	120	100

Source: field work
2018

The above table 10, has shown most of the recruitment and promotion of Nigeria Police are not by merit but by consideration of some aspect of corruption and Godfathers with 75% rating of poor conduct.

QUESTION 10: The Nigerian police is equipped with adequate forensic and other investigative tools for investigating crimes.

TABLE 11

Responses	No. of Responses	Percentage (%)
Strongly agree	0	0%
Agree	0	0%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	100	83%
Strongly Disagree	20	17%
Total	120	100%

Source: Field work 2018

The above table 11, has indicated to us the Nigeria Police does not have forensic investigation tools and skills from the officers of the Nigeria Police Force with 83% disagree.

QUESTION 11: There is no comprehensive and sustainable welfare policy for the average Nigerian police.

TABLE 12

Responses	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly agreed	100	83%
Agreed	20	17%
Undecided	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%
Strongly disagree	0	0%
Total	120	100%

Source : Field work 2018.

The above table 12, has shown to us their poor welfare package for the Nigeria Police that render their services very poor and in effective.

Major Key findings

The major key finding of this paper are the problems affecting the Nigerian police force which resulted to the inability of Nigeria Police to effectively perform its duty of preventing crimes. This basic dilemma stems from the fact crime fighting needs skills, clear, and unequivocal command, the inability to adhere to the criminal laws and procedures, insulations from political pressures, investigating control over the community and unquestioned honesty (James 1967). Furthermore, other challenges include the following:

- (a) Inadequate manpower that can prevent the crime in various Nigerian communities;
- (b) Inadequate funding, to address police needs;

- (c) Poor crimes and operational information management including inaccurate recording and collation, poor storage and retrieval, inadequate analysis and infrequent publications of criminal statistics.
- (d) Poor remunerations and unimpressive conditions of service;
- (e) Inadequate initial and on-the job training. Deficient or obsolete syllabus which places too much emphasis on law enforcement and order maintenance without adequate liberal and broad training that can illuminate the nature and source of law and criminality;

- (f) Poor resource management;
- (g) Inadequate logistics, arms and ammunition, uniforms and accoutrements, telecommunications and transportation facilities in terms of quality and quantity;
- (h) Inadequate office and residential accommodation;
- (i) Inhuman conditions under which suspects are held in Police cells;
- (j) Un-hygienic working environment;
- (k) Limited contacts or relationship with citizens outside law enforcement and order maintenance functions;
- (l) Indiscipline, involvement in crimes or collusion with criminals;
- (m) Lack of integrity; Absurd attitudinal chemistry (must change);
- (n) Perversion of the course of justice (i.e. procuring or supplying false evidence, tampering with exhibits and false accusations);
- (o) Poor knowledge of law and disregard for human rights;
- (p) Corruption and extortion. Reiner (2000)

This is why the spate of kidnapping, armed robbery and terrorism, Boko Haram Crisis and conflict between herdsmen and farmers have overtime persisted in Nigeria. Consequently, virtually all the state police commands rely on the assistance of state governments for the provision of vehicles, communications and necessary logistics, thus the personnel of the police do not have necessary logistics to work with in all the states of the country because there are no sufficient vehicles to perform its statutory duties of protection of life and property, maintenance of law and order, apprehension of offenders and enforcement of all laws with which the force is directly charged with. These have constituted a serious bane on the overall organizational effectiveness of the Nigerian police force and have also undermine the relevance of the police force in adequately policing Nigerians.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The statutory duties of the Nigerian police force as spelt out in section 194(2)(b) of the 1979 constitution as enacted in section 4 of the police act 1967 as amended by act no 23 of 1979 and 1999 Constitution has charges the police among other duties, the duty of investigation,

prevention and detection of crime. As a basic general duty of the Nigerian police, prevention of crimes and provision of security appears to be a simple expression applied to its real sense, thus prevention of crime is fostered by good and efficient crime investigation and detective ability and actions, the prompt apprehension and prosecution of offenders, produces repressive and deterrent effects on habitual or potential offenders (membere, 1978). Crime prevention therefore presents to the police officer perhaps the greatest challenge which may confront him in the performance of his duties. The inability of the police to effectively tackle insecurity in Nigeria is traceable to low funding of the force, inadequate logistics, poor motivation and remuneration, lack of modern communication facilities and crime fighting equipment, inadequate and deplorable barrack accommodation, indifference, corruption, police brutality and lack of public support. Added to this, the image of the Nigerian police has been seriously damaged with the public knowledge that high ranking police officers are involved in abating and aiding crimes in Nigeria, thus the issues of crime should not be left to the police alone such factor like motivation, good working conditions inadequate crime fighting facilities, good salaries and logistics are positively related to reducing insecurity in Nigeria.

Accordingly Gbenga and Augoye (2011), perceive the cause of insecurity has been as a result of the malignant environment dominated by man's insensitivity to man, thus many people in authority take advantage of their positions to force down policies that impoverish 'the many' in so much as it benefits them and a few others.

Furthermore, the inability of the managers of Nigeria's security apparatus to address the country's security challenges raises yet another critical question on the preparedness of Nigeria to attain desired political, social and economic heights in the year 2020. It further poses serious threats to the peace, unity and corporate existence of Nigeria as a sovereign state. Therefore, addressing the security challenges in Nigeria ultimately requires not only the causes of threats but also a critical evaluation of the performance of security agencies in handling the security situation in Nigeria and effectiveness of the security agencies in Nigeria to perform their statutory responsibilities.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our paper study on the Causes and effects of insecurity in Nigeria: The challenges and relevance of the Nigerian police force to promote peace and manage insecurity has shown that the Nigerian police though statutorily empowered to fight insecurity, has been highly limited by Inadequate manpower in terms of quantity and quality; Inadequate funding, Poor crimes and operational information management including inaccurate recording and

collation, poor storage and retrieval, inadequate analysis and infrequent publications of criminal statistics, Poor remunerations and Un-hygienic working environment. Even with these various limitations, the Nigerian police force has also made some effort in redeeming her image in some instances, but it is crystal clear that its operations were affected and rendered incredible by the spate of pervasive kidnapping and the boko haram criminality, which saw the army coming in to act on what is statutorily within the purview of the Nigerian police force.

One can conclude that the relevance of the Nigerian police force in relation to the security of the country can be questioned and is incapacitated by the inability of the government to address root causes of insecurity in different parts of the country and design an appropriate measures that would manage the issue of various types of insecurity in the country.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The paper has recommended the following suggestions that would help to strength the policing structure for them to effectively perform their duties of crime management and prevention in Nigeria:

- i. The act of policing should not be left in the hands of the Nigerian police force alone. States and other organs like the traditional institution, the clergy and civil organizations should be actively involved in the issue of societal security.
- ii. The Police Force should be well equipped to perform its functions well and in compliance with the rule of law.
- iii. Presently, the police are highly and visibly subservient to the rich and powerful politicians. Policies should be put in place to withdraw police men attached to these politicians.
- iv. Sensitization exercise should be taken as a priority in addressing relationship that exists between the public and personnel of the Nigerian police force.
- v. As a matter of urgency, police personnel who are no longer productive as well as those who are corrupt should be retrenched and more skilled youths be injected into the system.
- vi. Provision of modern equipment to the Nigeria Police that can help them in crime prevention and control.
- vii. Design a good welfare package that would address the needs of officers of Nigeria police in term of remuneration, health care service provision and housing system.
- viii. The recruitment and promotions in Nigeria Police should be based on merit to promote the integrity of Nigeria Police.

Finally, President Muhammad Buhari has a duty to restore security and maintain the peace and unity of Nigeria as one country. He should borrow a leaf from the strategy his predecessor, Late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, who used different strategy to deal with the

Nigeria Delta Insurgency. He should seek out competent persons and set up new security strategies frame work that would deal with the current pockets of attacks in Borno , Yobe, Zamfara, Plateau, Benue and Kaduna Crisis.

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