

TERRORISM IN NIGERIA: ITS NATURE AND IMPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

The discourse of the paper focuses on terrorism in Nigeria, its nature and implication for development. Nigeria has been engulfed terrorists crises over a decade ago leaving a cloud of fear over the nation which the present administration tried to suppress without remarkable success. The paper succinctly analyses the concept of terrorism, examines the baneful issues necessitating terrorism in Nigeria, and identifies the nature of the terrorists fight and the implication it holds against development. The paper reveals the background issues propelling terrorism in Nigeria which borders on race supremacy, resulting in the ethnic cleansing which has been sweeping across the North Eastern part of the country, it gave a clear understanding of the principle on which the nation was founded as contained in its coat of arms portraying Nigeria as a destined nation under God. It recommends some policy measures which when adopted would make the nation safe for all and hasten the implementation of the anticipated development.

Key words: terrorism, terrorists, development, government, violence, policy, administration, Organization,

INTRODUCTION

Never in history has Nigeria experienced terrorists' threat as in the present day and as encompassing as it is currently going on. Some years back, the ripples of terrorists was being felt in Nigeria through several bombings unleashed on the Nigerian citizens at different locations. The terrorists' activities seem to have varied with time. Terrorism as can be seen in the country has, as it were, a nature that can be explicated in theory. Acts of terrorism have taken place in different parts of the world with some nations being classified as "rogue nations" for sponsoring terrorism. In history, Nigeria is not known to be one of the classified as enclave of terrorism. That was in the past. There seems to be a rapid development in the phenomenon since 2008. At present terrorism is gradually taking a strong hold in present day Nigeria. Terrorism is a term used to describe the act of violence against humans whether it is carried out in the developed or underdeveloped societies of the world. Terrorism is a specific set of actions; the primary intent is to produce fear and alarm that may serve a variety of purposes (Jenkins, 1981). Terrorism as an act of clandestine behaviour, are illegally waged no matter who is involved as long as it is

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against the society in order to cause panic and fear and eventual surrender by the perceived target. According to Obi (2001), terrorism is the use of unlawful, illegal and violent means by a small group of people, usually motivated by an ideology which is political, racial, religious or anarchistic. There are classes of terrorism such as "criminal terrorism", "psychological terrorism", "enforcement terrorism", "agitation terrorism", etc, however it is germane to explicate on two main ones which border on "circumstantial" and "mainstream". Circumstantial terrorists tend to represent those who are forced into violence due to lack of opportunity or normal channels of expressing grievance or negotiate to redress perceived grievances. Such groups resort to violence out of necessity and would not fall into the class of mainstream terrorists. These include the liberation movements, those resisting foreign occupation or local oppression and those involved in the struggle for self-determination.

The mainstream terrorists could be seen as those groups who are in the extreme of not accepting or prepared to utilize the available channels to negotiate to redress perceived grievance but prefer the coercive actions against the opponents to submit through indiscriminate use of untoward violence (Imobighe, 2006). Arising from the unwholesome, nefarious, and unethical behaviour, many lives and property have been decimated in Nigeria a sort of renaissance of the dark ages. One wonders why an individual or group of individuals would be so inhuman as to destroy human lives and property in a wilful manner and with impunity in the country.

In view of the above, the following pertinent questions were raised:

- What is terrorism?
- Are there baneful issues triggering terrorism in Nigeria?
- What is the nature of terrorism in Nigeria?
- What are its implications for development?

This paper sets to examine terrorism in Nigeria, its nature and implication for development with the objectives state below:

- To succinctly analyze the concept of terrorism;
- To examine the baneful issues triggering terrorism in Nigeria;
- To identify the nature of terrorist fight in Nigeria; and
- To critically look at the implication of terrorism on development.

CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS

Emiko (2003) viewed terrorism as a symbolic protest against the status quo both domestically and internationally than of a serious attempt to overthrow the existing legal or political order. What is cardinal in this definition is that terrorism is seen as a protest against existing pattern in a society not necessarily an attempt to overthrow legal or political order. Kofi (2005) defines terrorism as any action that is

intended to cause death or serious bodily harm to civilians or non-combatants, with the purpose of intimidating a population or compelling a government or international organization to do something or not to do something. This definition presupposes that an act of terrorism could be used as a protest to propel an action domestically or internationally. Kofi Annan's definition was hastily done due to the prevailing circumstances in the Security Council in an attempt to fill gap that exist within the Security Council for lack of acceptable working definition of the concept. However, the definition by Smith in 1988 apparently supplied the kernel of terrorism by looking left and right to capture what terrorism entails. His definition runs thus:

Terrorism is an anxiety – inspiring method of repeated violent action, employed by (semi) clandestine individual, group or state actors, for idiosyncratic, criminal or political reasons, whereby in contrast to assassination – the direct targets of violence are not the main targets. The immediate human victims of violence are generally chosen randomly (target of opportunity) or selectively (representative or symbolic targets) from a target population, and serve as message generators. Threat – and violence – based communication process between terrorists (organization), implied – victims, and main targets are used to manipulate the main target (audience(s)), turning it into a target of terror, a target of demands, or a target of attention, depending on whether intimidation, coercion, or propaganda is primarily sought.

This definition is popular in which there seems to be academic consensus because it covers a wider ground than that of Kofi Annan. One would have expected that the definition by Smith suffices to attract acceptance and adoption by the United Nations' Security Council (UNSC). In this respect, therefore, Alika (2016) sees terrorism as an action stemming from perceived grievances in which violence is applied as a means to express that grievances directed against the state or population resulting in the death or bodily harm, and resulting in permanent damage to the individual. Although some definitions of the concept of terrorism have been attempted, the term terrorism has been a conflictual issue amongst intellectuals as to what constitute terrorism. The argument has been that of two schools of thought. One school has argued that those fighting for liberation from dictatorship government cannot be classified as terrorist in their struggle. Another has argued that any form of violence unleashed or directed against the masses without provocation and which contravenes the boundary frontier, is an act of terrorism (Alika, 2004). As a matter of fact, nobody knows what action could breed terrorism. Terrorism serves different ends. Negative terrorism sustain cruel social structures while positive terrorism in the form of armed struggles against forces of racism and

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colonialism serves a real historical tool to reshape human structure that promote terrorist violence and mass terror (NIIA, 1977:175). Therefore terrorism as a phenomenon hinges on social and political issues. There is a possibility that where there is no equity, equality, justice and fairness in the distribution of resources and infrastructure for development, terrorism could thrive. Sometimes, terrorism may be reactionary. Given the difficulty in understanding the apparent paradox, one of the most worrisome developments in Nigeria today is terrorism which has become a national calamity bedevilling the nation and eventual debates. Thus, those involved in terrorist acts do not see their action as an act of terrorism. They call it "struggle against evil".

Nigeria has been embroiled and disturbed following the emergence of terrorists' activities in recent decade and it is not without political and ethnical undertone. What we are witnessing in Nigeria today, is the issue of power and legitimacy which has continue to pose the greatest challenge to the country. Certain part of the country are laying claim to power and legitimacy to govern the country which at the same time employing the element of terrorism on the other part. At the moment, those who have understood the trend but refused to say it as such have tended to take the term terrorism as something that can be casually tossed around as to mean or equal to rebellion, street fight, civil strife, etc. Terrorism in actual sense is the systematic use of coercive intimidation usually to serve political ends. It is used to create and exploit a climate of fear among a wider target group than the immediate victims of violence and to publicise a cause as well as to coerce a target to acceding to the terrorists aims (Wilkinson 2000:12-13). The 2005 United Kingdom's Prevention of Terrorism Act defined terrorism as the use of violence force for political goals and include the use of violence force for the purpose of putting the public or community in fear. Every act of violence either gets people wounded or gets people killed unexpectedly. Then panic and fear becomes the result amongst the public or the community. Terrorism may be used on its own or as part of a wider unconstitutional war. It can be used by the desperate, by state as a tool of domestic policy such as experienced in Europe between 1792-1795 reign of terror (Peacock, 1976:45).

There are two types of terrorism that may require differentiation.

1. The terrorist regime;
2. The siege of terror.

In differentiating between terrorist regime and siege of terror, though both suffer restraints of rationality within their bounds, they both operate with political motivations. To the two, terror is a weapon to achieve political power, also religious

power? The terrorist, guerrilla, etc) and to maintain political power (that is police state). The actual or main differentiation between the two types of terrorism is legitimacy. Terrorist regime will generally justify its actions within the state structure, but for siege terrorism, there can be justification for its action within the state structure. Looking for the roots of terrorism in theory may be difficult, particularly when it concerns legitimacy. Hannah Arendt (1969) has argued that to every government power is the essence, not violence. Power needs no justification, being inherent in the very existence of political communities; what it does need is legitimacy. She further argued that violence can be justifiable, but is never will be legitimate. Its justification loses in plausibility the farther its intended end recedes into the future." There is a Lesson to learn from Arendt's argument. No matter how violence may be justified, it never will be legitimate to be acceptable to a civilized society. A terrorist regime may be justified in its actions in order to be able to effect a positive change leading to development. However, an impotent and unstable state on the other hand, may also be seen to foster the growth of terrorist organizations and the terrorist mentality. Terror causes pains and damage to public property; endangers the lives of the public and often deal with arms and ammunition for the commission of any of these offences in any state (Qureshi, 1976; Imobighe and Eguavoen, 2006).

THE BANEFUL ISSUES

Long time ago, a leader of a part of the country had envisaged and articulated the ultimate right to control and harness the resources of the other part of the country for their gains and development. Succinctly put it had the policy of "fetching water from the South to water the desert in the North." The history of Boko Haram started in about 2007/2008 when the late President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua and Goodluck Ebele Jonathan won the election under the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), ticket to the state house at Abuja. There was discontentment here and there, skirmishes by the opposing party with the belief it was all stage managed giving victory to the other party. The group called "Boko Haram" may have been systematically created to disrupt the administration under Goodluck Jonathan when the then President Umaru Yar'Adua passed away. Jonathan managed to survive his tenure when he became the present of Nigeria. He finally relinquished power to those who were bent on making the country ungovernable for him. Then, of course, power shifted to the North as they have argued that they were still in charge even though Yar'Adua had died. Their argument was not against Jonathan being in the same party with Late Yar' Adua but because he was a Southerner taking over from the late president. Constitutionally, the right thing was done, a vice president taking over at the demise of the president as provided for in Chapter IV, Section

146(1). But there was still dissatisfaction and resentment among the opposing forces. It is axiomatic to state that Boko Haram was created initially by some Northern governors in Nigeria as “thugs” with guns put in their hands with the aim of harassing their opponents in the North. During the time, they “Boko Haram” group was the governors’ “darling” and eating and drinking together as they were readily available to them for assignment until when they fell out of romance. They regrouped and gave the name “Boko Haram” which stands for “Western Education is Bad” or simply “Book is Bad”. Their regroup was at the instance and assistance of trans-border and transnational terrorist group such as the Al-Qaeda group once headed by the late Osama bin Laden. They also collaborated with some other groups in East Africa. Since then Boko Haram became a dreadful monster difficult to control in the country. Even those who created them have been having a nightmare for the incessant killings here and there and may have, perhaps been paying some clandestine group to save their own heads.

There is adage which forbids you throwing the stone into the market because you do not know on whose head the stone will land; it may be your mother, brother, sister, or anyone of your close relations. Market is a place where people go freely to buy and to sell. It is no use throwing in the stone. Somebody may have encouraged the throwing of the stone. Boko Haram terrorist activities have been escalating and have also become a source of worry to all and sundry even in Nigeria and beyond. They have been responsible for the burning down of private residential houses, churches and mosques, destruction of public institutions, killing and maiming thousands of innocent citizens in the North East of Nigeria. Those who set up and trained the dreaded group to their personal benefits are now crying against the group because what they are seeing has gone beyond expectation because the “lion is let out of the thicket” now ravaging the country. Chinua Achebe once wrote a novel wherein contains the following words: “Things Fall Apart, the Centre cannot hold, the falcon cannot bear the falconer, mere anarchy is loosed upon the world” but it is Nigeria now. The Boko Haram terrorist groups have long changed their tactics and targeted public places and closing down businesses, schools, etc thereby bringing down the economic activities of the various states which are now counting losses (Bulama, 2015). The sect had long joined or linked with the dreaded multinational terror group Islamic State for Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and Al-Shabab training the Boko Haram members to change their tactics and strategies of operation from killing, maiming, and burning residential houses to over running places, annex it and declaring them territorial conquest for the establishment of “Islamic Caliphate” which crosses the Nigerian and Cameroonian borders (Emewu, 2014).

According to Igbinosun (1995:71) a Caliphate is a system of administration which is similar to that which the Holy Prophet Muhammed founded in Mecca. The head of such administration is usually a religious leader and the law which governs everyone under such a system was the Sharia. There is no iota of doubt that the establishment of such government would have far reaching implication for the country already built on a fragile foundation. As a matter of fact, the very serious implication of the development would mean that caliphate as a government would be run as a "country" within a country with geographical boundary and its own social, judicial and political administrative machinery (Igbinosun, 1995). The above submission informed the agenda of ethnic cleansing in the North East in preparation for such move. That also may have informed the idea for colony in other states of the federation. It is no surprise for such has been planned long time ago even before or since independence in 1960 and hence the various moves to actualise it. What the terrorist group operating in Nigeria, especially in the North East, seem to be saying to the general public in essence of their action, is that they reserve the right to carry on the ethnic cleaning in the communities involved, especially in those areas claimed to be caliphate seat, the core North such as Borno, Sokoto, Kano, etc and hence it is going on unabated. Behind the move are some influential and powerful personalities sponsoring them. For this reason, perhaps, the fight against insurgency in Nigeria may take a longer time except by divine intervention.

THE NATURE OF TERRORISTS FIGHT IN NIGERIA

As a start, the crises in Nigeria can be explained variously. It is possible to trace it back to the period of amalgamation of North and South by the colonial British in 1914 and the consequence of the forced merging of the peoples of different cultures into one geographical entity now called Nigeria. It is also possible to trace it to be division of Nigeria into three unequal regions putting the North in a perpetually advantageous position vis-a-vis the South. It is also possible and arguably that the military intervention in politics in 1966 and the subsequent crisis that gripped the country till 1970, lay in the events of 1964-1966 (Orobator, 1996:17). Perhaps this was the beginning of the hatching of the unwanted bird. At the moment, Nigeria seems to be under siege of two terrorist groups. First, Boko Haram while the second, is Fulani Herdsmen terrorist crises. We have been in the discourse of the first – Boko Haram, whose activities now appear to be in low ebb. But while the first appears to be experiencing gradual decline in its activities, the muster of Herdsmen as they are often called, reared its head in the scene. The menace of herdsmen is even more dreadful than the Boko Haram because Boko Haram restricted itself to or concentrated its activities in particular area of operation especially in the North East retreating to Sambisa Forest all the while. They were

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not everywhere in the country. Herdsmen have infiltrated into all the nooks and crannies of the country. While Boko Haram terrorists operate clandestinely, the Fulani herdsmen parade themselves about with sophisticated weapons of their choice said to be more superior to that of the police which by law is supposed to maintain law and order in a given society. Herdsmen have enveloped themselves in different states of the Federation not only with the sole aim of rearing or grazing cattle, but the tendency to conquer the people of the area they are found in a grand style. They raped even pregnant women in the forest, they kill local farmers in their farms, and they operate as armed robbers at various locations, extorting money from people while leaving their cattle behind in secluded places. Their activities have become a national outcry with federal government taking no known concrete action to arrest the ugly development. There has been much silence over the several killings by herdsmen in the country. They have become a great threat to the entire nation making the country very unsafe for the citizens and they would be foreign investors. In such a situation one wonders how the country can forge ahead toward development. Their activities are scaring and no stranger or foreign businessmen that are required to come into the country to invest in core sectors of the economy will be able to do so because they are not sure of safety environment to do their business.

It would appear that the incessant murders experienced all over the country is state sponsored like the days of Robespierre in Europe. All those who opposed the activities of herdsmen in the country, have been variously attacked and their property destroyed; some have had their people killed and houses burnt down with nothing happening to the culprits. All these seem to suggest that the state may have sponsored or have hands in the activities of the herdsmen killers all over the country. In Europe of 1791-1995 or there about, the state waged war of terror against all those who dare to oppose its policies through its agents. The terror extended all over France in those period resulting the death of many (Peacock, 1976). Nigeria should not plunge itself into such darkness. This is the more reason why the federal government should be proactive to take the necessary measures for safe guarding lives and property of Nigerian citizens. This not being done, then what is happening will mean an attempt to overrun the country through the terrorist herdsmen siege and take over the land by force.

RACE – SUPREMACY

Another issue to note in the nature of the terrorists fight in Nigeria is race supremacy. A part of the country is laying claim to supremacy over the others in the same country they have existed. It is the thesis of those laying claim to supremacy

that they are the ruling class and that they have the supreme right to rule the country. To those who held this view, other citizens working in their areas are being seen or regarded as expatriates, that is, foreigners. It is only in Nigeria bonafide citizens working in certain part of Nigeria are called or regarded as a foreigner in his/her country. When we begin to see other citizens of this country as foreigners or expatriates, it then means that the country is not one. Take for instance; when "IBB", General Babangida, was head of State, he introduced a policy measure to control birth by pegging birth at four children for every couple. While that policy measure was upheld and succeeded in Southern part of Nigeria, the same was disregarded in Northern Nigeria, it failed. Such policy was meant for the benefit of the entire country. The terrorist fight in Nigeria has a semblance of the apartheid in the old South Africa when there was race supremacy; the white minority see themselves as being of superior race over the black majority in their home land. Expatriate policy and race supremacy once existed there. Our concern here is the issue of race supremacy in the same country when we are supposed to maintain citizenship of the same country. Germany during Adolf Hitler's time lay claim to race supremacy in Europe and decided to exterminate other races which have no German origin. While he did, later he committed suicide when he loses the battle he waged against others.

Against this backdrop, why then should the federal government under President Buhari, be silent over the years with respect to the incessant killings because of race supremacy by the Fulani Herdsmen all over the country? That would point to the fact that Nigeria is not one. It is either the Southern part is not Nigeria or the Northern part of the country is not Nigeria since the laws to govern Nigeria as a whole does not in part govern the North. So Nigeria may really not be one, it is only one in theory and not in practice as the late Sage, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, once expressed long time ago. As it is we should all work for the unity and development of the country and not to do what will divide us. The North needs the South and the South needs the North. So, the Nigeria government should put a stop comprehensively to the current killings in various parts of the country. All that the current administration claimed to have done has not really daunted the fear that is gripping the nation. Right now there is cloud of fear hanging over the nation and, of course, we cannot afford to fight war the second time for that may lead to mother war that may bring Nigeria to its end.

UNDERSTANDING NIGERIA FROM THE COAT OF ARMS

According to Oladele (2011) the currency of every nation bears its insignia. The insignia of any nation which is called Coat of Arms contains the heraldic

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symbols; and a heraldic symbol actually tells not only the progeny in terms of whatever the antecedence of the country or the person; it also tells concerning the future. All nations of the world have insignia but it turns out that Nigeria's insignia is the coat of arms. It might be of interest to break down the distinct features of the Nigeria coat of arms to show what God has designed this nation to be. You have the shield, going away from the shield, you see the two horses hold to steady the shield, and then you have the eagle and the lush on which the shield stands. All those symbols are meaningful. Let us begin to explicate on each of the symbols on the coat of arms of Nigeria. A horse is intended to serve the King and nation by selfless rendering of its life and service to build what has been given to us. The two horses are positioned to steady the shield (Nigeria). By that token, what is suppose to hold this nation together is selfless service but that has been thrown above the board and started pursuing personal interest and self determination whereas what has been given to us is available in the coat of arms of selfless service. Going away from the horses, you see on top of the shield an eagle and on the floor the greenness of hibiscus. You find on top the eagle holding the shield (the nation) as though it is the one holding everything together. The eagle signifies strength. Understand that there are only two animals the eternal God Himself associates with. First is the lion then the eagle. The lion is neither the tallest nor the biggest animal in the forest. But when the lion roars, everyone stands still. Oladele (2011) has opined that the race is not to the strong, but it is for who God has chosen. When we understand this foundation, we will be able to see where Nigeria as a destiny nation comes from. Understanding the nature and attitudes of these animals is important. They are kings in their domains.

One thing is sure: there is a divine pattern in the setting of symbols for the nations of the world. A part from the horse and eagle in the Nigeria coat of Arms, there is a hidden one, the serpent that you find in the lush grass. It represented the choice Nigeria has made – the serpent spirit, the corrupter and the briber – the root of corruption and its influence has sadly relegated the other positive God has given Nigeria as a nation in destiny but to show also the choice we have made which has swung the nation in a contrary direction. The roots of the issue of Nigeria are embedded on the choice that we have made – greenness and corruption. We will then look at the issue of the eagle in the coat of arms. The eagle in Nigeria's coat of arms is put there by God. The eagle is what you find in America and in England on one hand, you see lion and on the other hand, the horse. So you see that Nigeria has the semblance of America and England or to put it in another way, Nigeria share some divine heritage with America, in the eagle and England in the horse and not the crescent moon and star. Where the eagle stands, there is a vision and nothing takes

away that vision. The eagle is focused and until it gets its prey, nothing can shift its focus. The eagle is the only bird that likes the storm. When the storm comes, the eagle gloats; it floats with the wind. That speaks something about what this nation has been experiencing and you would imagine how the nation survived the rigors of the numerous crises it has passed through – civil war, and other crises without breaking up as people often have in mind. It survived because of the principle on which the nation was laid or founded. Nigeria is a destined nation in the hands of God. This revelation as explained is not only mind-boggling but also explicit. No one can change what God has destined and to do so means fighting against the eternal God who uses the British to create Nigeria and to design its coat of arms in spite of all other things.

IMPLICATION OF TERRORISM ON NIGERIA'S UNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Discourse on development is in terms of freedom, creativity, skills and the capacity by which a society perform certain functions to the advantage of citizens and the society as a whole. Development is viewed in the context of this paper in terms of what benefits the citizen of a country from what has been created through various discipline when technicalities are applied to the system of endeavours. Indeed Rodney (2009) explicates on development in terms of material well-being of all in a given society. In view of the above, development is believed to be multifaceted or multisided. Somehow development does have a start in well synchronized society. That is why there is grave concern about Nigeria and the terrorists' activities resulting in wanton destruction of lives and property in the areas mostly affected. Development is in terms of creativity and productivity by the people of a society with a view to advancing quality of life of the citizenry and beyond. The creativity of those killed capable of advancing the course of the nation and the well-being of the affected community seizes forever. They can never come back to champion or contribute to the growth and development of the Nigerian economy. No one is born useless and no one can predict what the baby given birth today can become in future. Terrorism holds sway to development and advancement negatively. With the current insurgency ravaging the country, which started from the North East, and gradually pervading other states of the federation, cannot run paripasu with development. The killings recorded so far in Nigeria since the beginning of the insurgency moved the nation some steps backward among other things. The wilful killing of Nigeria citizens without restraint on the part of the federal government who sworn to uphold and defend the unity of the country in a way is paradoxical.

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The current regime in Nigeria has implicitly or explicitly, done nothing practically to put a comprehensive stop to the Boko Haram insurgency and the Fulani Herdsmen frequent destruction of lives and property and farm lands of the community attacked. The implication of all these nefarious actions is inexorably the creation of mistrust, constituent enrage, agitations and cleavage of the present national structure. As it is Boko Haram and the Fulani Herdsmen terrorism cannot thrive along with the policy of development of the country. It is in view of this the activities of the terrorist group must be subdued so as to pave the way for the implementation of the various development plans of government. Terrorist activities are capable of truncating every good intension to work toward developing of the Nigeria economy. Development is a pointer to transformation meaning that it relates to quantitative changes in the productive forces, especially technology and the social relations that should exist within which production is effected and distributed with a view to ensuring self-reliance (Aibieyi, 2010:5). Industrialization of the country should be the concern of all now and not Boko Haram and the Fulani Herdsmen genocide as it is currently being witnessed all around the country. Nigeria as a nation must, as a matter of fact, strategize to catch up with other third world countries moving away from backwardness to advancement technologically and agriculturally for the sustenance of their economy. Without adequate plans to strategize for development, there is no way Nigeria can ever or will ever achieve her ambition whether in the area of business, Technology, agriculture, etc. Nothing precludes Nigeria from being the China of Africa and nothing precludes Nigeria from thinking the possible means to harness and engage all available resources to achieve the nation's goals or aspirations (Orieso, 2002:139) as expressed in each of the development plans ever formulated in Nigeria, except there is no political will. The reason development plans continue to fail in Nigeria is that they are not doggedly or systematically pursued with honesty because of suspicion existing in the body politic of the country. Nigeria has abundant natural resources required to make Nigeria a developed nation yet Nigeria is heavily dependent on other nations to exist. It is a truism that there are many evils bedevilling the nation Nigeria and one of them is wastages. There is too much wastages of both human and material resources in the country which should have been harnessed to achieve developmental stride in the country. In addition to the above, the problem of Boko Haram and the Fulani Herdsmen wastages of human lives and property in Nigeria have contributed a great leakage to the nation's welfare.

CONCLUSION

Terrorist groups in sub-Saharan Africa, especially Nigeria, are becoming more sophisticated by the day. They have gone ahead to acquire more sophisticated

weapons more superior to that of the ordinary law enforcement agents such as the police, etc to cope. They are becoming tougher than the police except the regimental or combatant soldiers, air force and the navy. These should all be involved to quell terrorist activities in order to make the country safe for all. There is no gain saying the fact that Islamic terrorists want to convince the public that they are the most powerful people in Nigeria, not minding the losses they may suffer. They engage in terrorist acts because they felt it is the only weapon at their disposal to achieve their goal. They also felt that there should be no rival to their goal and hence they must kill their rivals through violence embedded in terrorism. For this reason a serious government must ensure, at policy level, that devices which should not only look into suitcases but also instrument capable of seeing what people are wearing underneath are put in place. This measure may seem disgusting but it will solve a lot of problem including that of suicide bombers in public places. This is in addition to the measure already taken by some state government to stem the tide of terrorist killings. It will also mean that there has to be more security beef up all over the country. As at today, there are no major terrorist group in Nigeria other than the Islamic Boko Haram and the Fulani Herdsmen which both are home-grown terrorists ravaging the nation since 2008. It is advocated that a more stringent measure be introduced which will quickly curb terrorism in Nigeria.

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