Territoriality And Territorial Conflict In North Central Nigeria: Implication For National Development

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ABSTRACT
The research is on the concept of territoriality and Territorial conflict in Nigeria; and its implications for national development. The objective of the study is to examine the concept of territoriality and its impacts on development. A qualitative approach was adopted for the study. The data collected for the study were from secondary sources and were analysed using content analysis. The finding of the study shows that the concept of territoriality has both positive and negative tendencies. That conflict arises when a particular space (land) is contested by an intruder laying claim to land and its resources. Resistance in defence of the claim results in a dispute over territorial space. The study shows that the impact of herdsmen's activities inflicting injuries and death is higher compared to other perpetrators of violent attacks. In conclusion, no nation can develop in crisis and confusion; therefore, the urban planning approach can be adopted in resolving the claim and counterclaim through territorial planning. The secularity of Nigeria's state and federal system of government provides avenues for territorial planning. The paper, therefore, recommends territorial planning in resolving the conflict.
Key Words: Conflict, Ethnic, Territorial, Territoriality, Territorial Planning and Nations Development

INTRODUCTION
Territoriality as a concept is understood differently based on the perspective it is viewed. It is the interaction between individuals or groups within an area or space and is a mechanism of an individual or group to set the region/territory by tagging or personalising symbolically be safe from tampering, and threats to the territory (Fuad, Happy and Muhammad, 2013).

The concept of territoriality was first studied in animals, especially birds and mammals, and it was found that territoriality is expressed positively and negatively (Milan, 2015). Brower, (1976) cited in (Fuad, Happy and Muhammad, 2013), posits that territoriality is an individual or group relationship with the physical setting, which is illustrated with a sense of belonging and efforts to control the use of space. Enforcing control over territorial space has resulted in conflict in some parts of the world, particularly in Nigeria. In Elden's (2013) submission, conflict over land, at a variety of spatial scales, is a major factor in human affairs. An indication of negative territoriality is when an individual or group wants to exercise authority over another.

Wilmot and Hocker (2011) described the conflict as a felt struggle between two or more independent individuals over perceived incompatible differences in beliefs, values, and goals, or differences in desires for esteem, control, and connectedness. The report of Human Rights Watch (HRW) (2006) indicated that clashes between nomadic pastoralist and farming communities are one of the most pressing axes of conflict in Nigeria, particularly in the country's north and middle belt regions. Nigeria Social Violence Project (NSVP) (2014) identified two major types of conflict in Nigeria; ethnoreligious and herder-farmer. The ethnic-religious actors are divided by cultural, ethnic, or religious communities and identities and the herder-farmer involves disputes over land and/or cattle between herders and farmers (NSVP, 2014). The clash between farmer and herder over land resources is a serious conflict and security threat in the Middle Belt (North Central) Nigeria in recent decades. Violence between herders and farmers has escalated, killing more than 1,300 people since January

International Crisis Group (ICG), (2018). This series of conflicts has led to insecurity in many parts of the country. As noted by Achumba, Ighomereho, & Akpan-Robaro, (2013) insecurity is a state of being subject to danger or threat of danger, whereas danger is the condition of being susceptible to harm or injury or being exposed to risk or anxiety. Trespassing on farmlands by cattle, contamination of water sources, sexual harassment and rape, and extortion of money from Fulani by unscrupulous vigilantes and Local Chiefs as payment for permission to settle and graze within the chief's domain is the primary causes of conflicts (Genyi, 2014). The threat to life and property has implications for national development.

Territoriality is used in the analysis of the relationship and interaction of the human environment and people living within the same domain. It studies human spatial interaction/relationships and how people use space (territory). In the spate of the recurrent land conflict in the country and the north-central state, particularly there is a need for physical planning intervention in planning Nigeria's territorial space by adopting the territorial planning concept. It is an instrument of spatial, technical-political organization, for the identification and implementation of the development strategies, in different time horizons, integrating physical and socio-economic elements (Manrique,2022). The cause of conflict has been attributed to land trespassing, therefore, the spatial organisation is inevitable in reducing the incidences of conflicts. The paper is restricted to discussion on land and its resource conflict in the study area, though other areas may be mentioned. The purpose of the study is to examine the causes of land use conflict in the North Central states to suggest a physical planning approach to resolving the crises.

TERRITORY AND TERRITORIALITY

For an understanding of the term territoriality; the paper explores the meaning of the concept of territory. The etymological origin of 'territory' is often traced to the Latin word 'terra' (geographic area) and 'terrere' (to frighten: to terrorize, (Vollaard, 2009). Gottman, (1973) in Maher and Lott (1995) defined territory as any exclusively occupied area, no matter how the area came to be identified with the owner. Tinbergen (2009) defines territory as `a defended area; whether this area is geographically fixed, or whether it moves about with the object defended. The territory has an attachment to a site, and hostility towards a certain category of other animals, usual members of the same species and the same sex (Tinbergen, 2009).   Territory can be seen as an area of bounded space (David, 2017); following this, the process whereby individuals or groups lay claim to such territory can be referred to as territoriality. It is an occupied land by a set of people within a geographic space.

Territoriality is understood as a behaviour associated with the spatial organization in spheres of influence or in delimited territories which assumes different characteristics and can be considered exclusive of the one who occupies them and the one who defines them (Raffestin, 2012). Territoriality occurs because of space user interacts in a territory including in the social space. The territory user is an individual or community that interacts at a   particular place; this is not limited to physical but also behaviour taking an important part in its interaction. In the opinion of (Beebe, Beebe and Redmond 2008) territoriality is a term associated with nonverbal communication that refers to how people use space (territory) to communicate ownership or occupancy of areas and possessions. Sack (1986)

define territoriality as an attempt by an individual or group to affect, influence or control people, phenomena and relationships, by delimiting and asserting control over a geographic area. Territoriality is associated with the possession of some physical space, but it can also involve such processes as dominance, control, conflict, security, claim staking, vigilance, and identity. Territoriality could be, the attempt by an individual or group to establish control over a demarcated territory (Johnston, 1995).

There are different types of territoriality identified by various schools of thought. Lyman and Scott (2014) distinguished four types of territory; public territories, home territories, interactional territories, and body territories. Sack, (1983) identified territoriality that relates to humans as human territoriality which is the attempt to affect, influence, or control actions and interactions (of people, things, and relationships) by asserting and attempting to enforce control over a geographical area. El-Sharkawy (1979) in (Lang, 1987), identified four types of territoriality that are useful in environmental design; attached territory, central territory, supporting territory, and peripheral territory. But Porteus, (1977), identifies three distinctive levels of territoriality; personal space, home base (a space that is well maintained) and home range (a behaviour set is built by somebody's life). David, (2018) identified animal territoriality; to be the behaviour by which an animal lays claim to and defends an area against others of its species, and occasionally members of other species as well. They have the character of defending the territory year-round and using it as a source of food and shelter, others establish a territory only at certain times of the year when needed for attracting a mate, breeding, and raising a family. On

the other hand, human territoriality is a pattern of attitudes and behaviour held by a person or group that is based on perceived, attempted, or actual control of space, object, or idea, which may involve habitual occupation, defence, personalization, and marking of the territory. There is also political territoriality, Sack, (1986) individuals eliminate and assert control over a geographic area, and also as a geographical expression of power. By this definition political territoriality is a human activity used to create and mould political relationships through socially constructed territories. Territoriality includes the physical demarcation of a geographic area, as well as the establishment of coercive and socializing mechanisms and institutions to uphold territorial control, (Sahlin 1989) cited in (Vollaard 2009).

More specifically, territoriality involves (a) physical space, (b) possession, (c) defence, (d) exclusiveness of use, (e) markers, (f) personalization and, (g) identity (Edney, 1974) in (McCunn, 2013). Lang (1987) argues that territoriality has four main characteristics; ownership or rights from somewhere, personalisation or marking of a particular area, the right to defend itself from outside interferences and control of multiple functions, ranging from meeting basic needs to satisfaction of psychological cognitive and aesthetic needs. Considering the various definitions presented, territoriality as a concept is about having authority over a place and controlling such an area. This includes defending the area against intruders, who claim false ownership of such territory.

THE CONCEPT OF CONFLICT
The concept of conflict can be expressed in many ways and can be considered as a show of hostility, negative attitudes,

antagonism, aggression, rivalry and misunderstanding (Khushboo, 2022). This is also associated with situations that involve contradictory or irreconcilable interests between two opposing groups. Conflict arises when the behaviour of a person or group is intended to hinder the attainment of goals by another person or group (Donohue & Kolt 1992). Egobueze (2016) posits that conflict is a disagreement among groups or individuals characterized by antagonism and hostility. This is usually propelled by the opposition of one party to another, in an attempt to achieve an objective different from that of the other party. According to Cambridge.org conflict is an activity which takes place between conscious, though not necessarily rational, beings.

Causes of Conflict within the North Central State

Conflict evolved from spontaneous reactions to provocations and now to deadlier planned attacks, particularly in Benue, Plateau, Adamawa, Nasarawa and Taraba states (ICG,2018). The most impacted states are those of the Nigerian Middle Belt like Benue, Taraba and Plateau (Thisday Newspaper, 4 June 2015). In North Central Nigeria, more than half (55%) of the reported events of conflicts are related to agriculture, livestock, land ownership, and water access (National Bureau of Statistics (NBC), (2017). The majority of farmer–herder clashes have occurred between Muslim Fulani herdsmen and Christian peasants, exacerbating ethnoreligious hostilities (IPI Global Observatory, 2015). Edeh (2021) identified ethnicity and tribalism, imperialist and neo-colonialist, political instability, greed, and insatiable desire for wealth and religion as the cause of conflict in Africa. Usifo (2019), presented a long list of Nigeria issues resulting in conflicts; amalgamation, tribalism, favouritism, corruption and inept leadership, resource control,

marginalisation, religious intolerance, the introduction of the sharia criminal legal system, herdsmen attacks and dispute over ownership of land etc. Wanyande, (1997) discloses that the costs of conflicts in Africa in terms of loss of human life and property, and the destruction of social infrastructure are enormous. Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed in many of the countries in which the conflicts occur, many others continue to suffer untold psychological trauma associated with conflicts (Ijeoma, 2014). According to the National Bureau of Statistics (2017), the causes of conflict include the following; terrorism, land or resource access, cultism or criminality, ethnicity, politics, religion, personal dispute and others. The challenge of scarce land resources and inappropriate land resource management mechanisms has been the cause of most of the conflict. However, the following have been identified as major causes of conflict in the study area.

THE CONCEPT OF TERRITORIAL PLANNING

Territorial planning can be conceived as an instrument of spatial, technical-political organization, for the identification and implementation of the main development strategies, in different time horizons, integrating physical and socio-economic elements (Manrique,2022). UN-Habitat, (2015), define territorial planning as a decision-making process aimed at realizing economic, social, cultural and environmental goals through the development of spatial visions, strategies and plans and the application of a set of policy principles, and tools, institutional and participatory mechanisms and regulatory procedures. Territorial planning is an integrative planning process that addresses competing interests and is linked to a shared vision, an overall development strategy and national, regional and local urban policies (UN-Habitat, 2015). As noted by Haywood and Henriot, (2019) cited in

(Manrique,2022) territorial plan constitutes a national document that contains information on which is the most appropriate land use based on biophysical and socio-economic characteristics, within the framework of legal restrictions. Territorial planning makes for a correct ordering of territory, makes it possible to control the spontaneous growth of human activities, avoid problems, and imbalances, and minimize the negative impact on the people and the environment (Latera et al., 2011) cited in (Manrique,2022).

PRINCIPLES OF TERRITORIAL PLANNING

United Nations Human Settlements Program (2015) report, international guideline on urban and territorial planning outline the following as core 12 guiding principles of territorial planning;

i. Territorial Planning is more than a technical tool, it is an integrative and participatory decision-making process that addresses competing interests linked to a shared vision, an overall development strategy, national, regional and local urban policies

ii. Territorial Planning represents a core component of the renewed urban governance paradigm.

iii. It aims to realize adequate standards of living and working conditions for all segments of current and future societies.

iv. Is an essential investment in the future with a precondition for a better quality of life and successful globalisation processes that respect cultural heritages and cultural diversity, and for the recognition of the distinct needs of various groups.

v. It is a catalyst for sustained and inclusive economic growth.

vi. Is a powerful decision-making mechanism to ensure that sustained economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability go hand in hand.

vii. Design to provide a spatial framework to protect and manage the natural and built environment of cities and territories.

viii. Contributes to increasing human security by strengthening environmental and socioeconomic resilience, enhancing mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.

ix. It combines several spatial, institutional and financial dimensions over a variety of time frames and geographical scales.

x. It includes spatial planning and aims to facilitate, and articulate political decisions based on different scenarios.

xi. It provides political leadership, appropriate legal and institutional frameworks, efficient urban management, improved coordination, and consensus-building approaches.

xii. Territorial planning is designed for continuous monitoring, periodic adjustments and sufficient capacities, and sustainable financial mechanisms and technologies.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE NIGERIA TERRITORIAL DELINEATION

Nigeria has passed through different levels of groups and regrouping as a nation-state. The groupings were; protectorates, regions, provinces, states and local councils within her territorial space. The various defined territories were considered as administrative structures under the control of different Ethnic nationalities overseen by their paramount ruler such as the Emirs, Oba, Obi and the Attah to mention but a few. However, the amalgamation of 1914 by the British formally united the Southern Nigeria Protectorate and the Northern Nigeria Protectorate into the Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria. The following maps (figure 1-7) shows the different

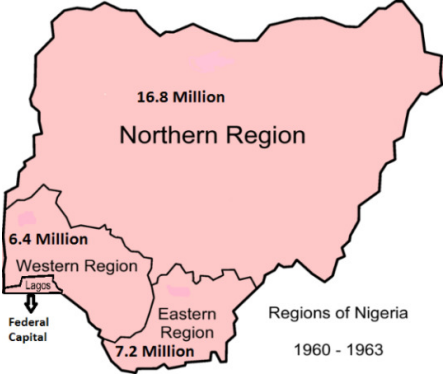delineation of Nigeria's state at different periods of her national development.
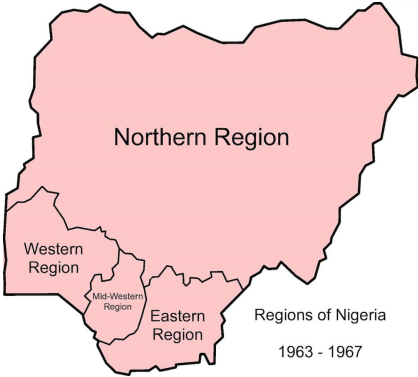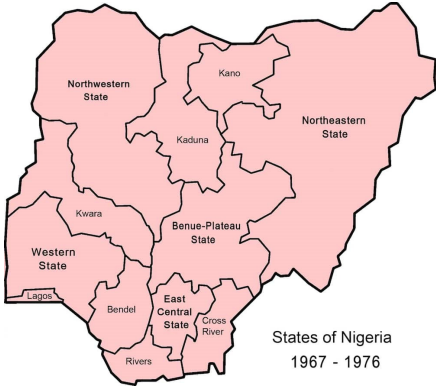

Figure 1: The 3 Regions of the Federation

Figure 2: The 4 Regions of the Federation

Figure 3: 12 States of the Federation

States of Nigeria
1976 - 23 Sep. 1987
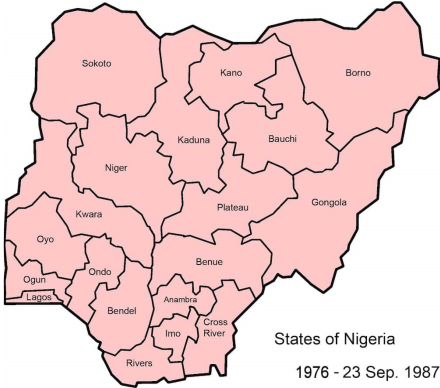
Figure 4: 19 States of the Federation

States of Nigeria
23 Sep. 1987 - 27 Aug. 1991

Figure 5: 21 States and Abuja, FCT

States of Nigeria
27 Aug. 1991 - 1 Oct. 1996
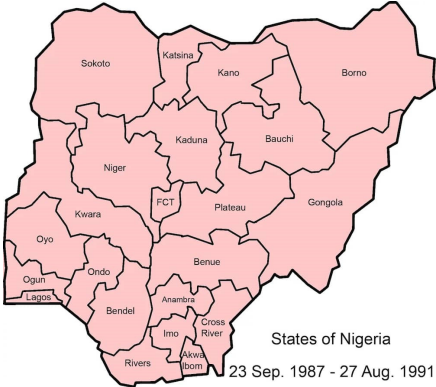
Figure 6: 36 States and Abuja, FCT
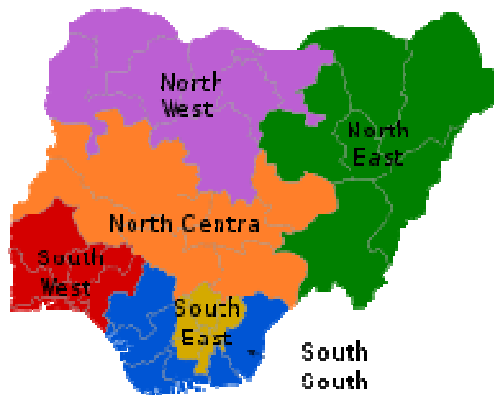
Source: George (2017)

Figure 7:   The six geopolitical zones of Nigeria.   (The maps presented are not to scale)   Source FRN, (2010)

The Country was classified along a regional line between 1960 – 1963 (figure 1) and consisted of three regions; the northern, western and eastern regions. Between the period of 1963-1967, another region (Mid-Western) was created amounting to four regions (figure 2). The period of 1967-1976 witnessed the creation of twelve (12) states as shown in figure three (3). There was an increase to nineteen (19) states in 1976 (see figure 4). However, more states were created in 1987 and 1991; 21 and 36 states respectively, and the federal capital territory Abuja.   The Federal Republic of Nigeria is divided into six geopolitical   zones   to   serve   as   an   administrative division grouping the country's states (Federal Republic of, Nigeria (FRN), 2010). These zones were not entirely carved out based on geographic location, but rather on states with similar ethnic groups and common political history.

THE STUDY AREA
North Central Nigeria (Middle Belt) consists of six states; Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Nasarawa, and Niger Plateau, which is recognized, as the North-Central geo-political zone (Anyadike,

1987). The Middle Belt is home to a complex plurality of ethnic minorities considered indigenous, while other groups such as the Fulani, Hausa and Kanuri are considered migrant settlers (Genyi, 2014). Prominent groups in the area include Tiv, Igala, Idoma, Eggon, Nupe, Birom, Jukun, Chamba, Pyem, Goemai, Kofyar, Gwari, Bassa etc. The North Central represents a transition from the savannah of Northern Nigeria to the Southern Nigeria forest region and contains geographical elements of both climatic zones. The area is heavily suited for sedentary life and, hence, agriculture is the dominant occupation.
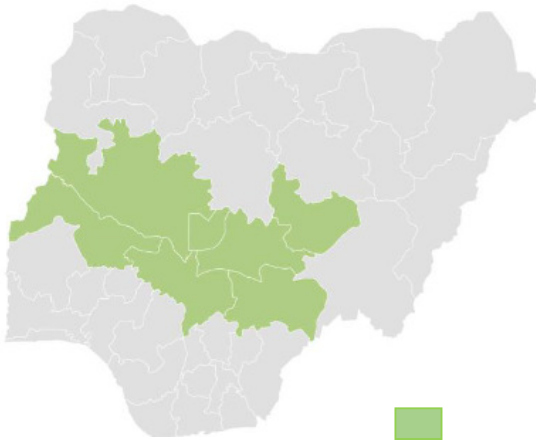
North Central States
Figure:1 North Central State
Source: Adapted from NBC, (2017)

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A qualitative approach was adopted for the study and therefore relied on secondary data sources from published materials. The review of relevant literature forms the basis for understanding the meaning and the concepts of territoriality and conflict and the implication for national development. Database searches using the internet form an integral part of the data collection process. The synthesis of data was through content analysis in other to draw relevant information for the study. According to

Alan., (2011) content analysis is the study of documents and communication artefacts, which might be texts of various formats, pictures, audio or video. use to examine patterns in communication in a replicable and systematic manner.

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

i.   The study found that the delineation of Nigeria's state into territories has been part of the country's development process. However, the government is not sincere in enforcing rules and regulations relating to the legal use of territorial space. The delineation into regions or states or in recent times geopolitical zones has not in any way reduced land and other related conflicts in the country.

ii. The failure of the national government in the area of regional or territorial planning has contributed to the internal conflict among ethnic nationalities. This has led to claims and counterclaims of ownership of land and its resources.

iii. The concept of territoriality has both positive and negative tendencies. The territory is the domain of a particular group or ethnic nationality living peacefully. But when such a territory is infringed upon, such occupation by the intruders that claim ownership of such area becomes negative territorial occupation leading to conflict.

iv. The impact of climatic and environmental change and the migration southward by the pastoralist has contributed to the crisis over land. Disputes arise when herders allow the animal to feed on farmer crops or the farmer kills the herders' animal.

v.   Conflict arises when a particular space (land) is invaded by an intruder laying claim to land and its resources. Resistance in defence of the claim of ownership of one's

territory is the major cause of dispute in Nigeria's territorial space resulting in conflict.

vi. The study shows that the impact of pastoralist activities inflicting injuries and death is higher compared to other perpetrators of violent attacks on land and its resources.

DISCUSSION:

Over the years, Nigeria has been delineated into territories for convenience of administration. There are laws and regulations to the use of land and its resources within her territorial space. However, this has not ameliorated the crisis and conflict over access to the use of land and its resources. This negates the concept of territoriality and therefore conflict. Some of the reasons contributing to conflict, perpetrators and incidences, and the proportion of conflict are discussed below.

1. Reasons Contributing to Land Conflict

i. Primitive Approach to Farming and Herding

The decline in soil fertility due to natural processes, erosion, climate change and modernity has affected traditional agricultural practices in a way that challenges the very livelihood of farmers (Tyubee, 2006). In the same vain, the natural process of desertification and climate has made pastoralists find areas with pasture and water. The contest for access to land by both parties has resulted in conflict on land and its resources. The farming operation and herding in practice are primitive, it relies on a large expanse of land. The impact of population growth on the available land resource has affected agricultural practice. In Genyi, (2014) submission, the contest for access and utilization of land-based resources between the Tiv farmers and Fulani pastoralists takes place in the context of

the peasant and nomadic economic production systems adopted by both groups.

ii. Climatic Change Crisis

Climate change has led to drought and desertification across the southern Sahel of West Africa, including much of northern Nigeria in which the arid or semi-arid climate had historically enjoyed very limited amounts of annual rainfall. (Herbert & Husaini, 2018). International crisis group (ICG), (2017) reports, that over the last six decades, over 350,000 sq. km of the already arid region turned into a desert or desert-like conditions, a phenomenon progressing southward at the rate of 0.6km per year. The inability of the pastoralist for an alternative solution has necessitated seasonal migrations to Nigeria's less arid middle-belt while, 'some have chosen to graze their herds there permanently generating tensions between settlers and host communities (ICG, 2017).

iii. Communal Disputes over Ownership of Land

Conflicts of inter-communal violence in the Middle Belt states of Plateau, Taraba, Benue, and Nasarawa left more than 400 people dead and scores of houses destroyed (HRW, 2014). Recurring communal violent conflicts are the socio-political upsurge in North-Central Nigeria, specifically in Taraba, Adamawa, Benue State, Plateau, and other states, between the Herders and Farmers (Oladotun and Emmanuel, 2019). Hassan Atayoma Omale Member representing Ankpa /Omala/Olamaboro federal constituency of Kogi state, calls on the Federal government to draft Army and Mobile Police squad to Bagana, a crisis-ravaged community in Omala local government of Kogi State (Samson, 2017). In another episode, as reported by Akinfehinw, (October 27, 2021) no fewer than six persons

were confirmed killed and houses razed in a sustained and coordinated attack by gunmen in Bagana village, Omala Local Government Area of Kogi State.

## iv. Dispute over Access to Land and its Resources

Conflicts between farmers and herders are understood as a problem of access to land and water, this threatens peace and stability in many states, particularly in the north-central zones (Herbert & Husaini, 2018). The tensions between nomadic pastoralist and farming communities in the North Central state have a long history, but the scale and frequency of violent outbreaks between the groups have recently risen, threatening to inflame ethnic and religious antagonisms (Onubogu, 2017). According to an (HRW, 2019) report, in June, a typical reprisal attack began after farmers allegedly killed five herdsmen for allegedly trespassing on farms in Plateau state. In apparent retaliation, herdsmen attacked villages in the area, killing 86 and injuring hundreds, including women and children.

1. The Perpetrator Of Conflict In North Central Nigeria

In the North Central, between the periods of 2010-2017, conflict related to Pastoralist activities amount to 46% while insurgent is 21% of the total conflict. Individuals represent 16% of the total conflict while bandits, criminals and cultists are 15% of the total number of events, and other forms of conflict stand at 2%. The major cause of conflict is related to land and its resources. Table 1 shows that conflict between farmers and the pastoralist has high Percentage compared to other causes of conflict in the region.

Table:1 Perpetrator of Conflict in the North Central Nigeria 2010-2017
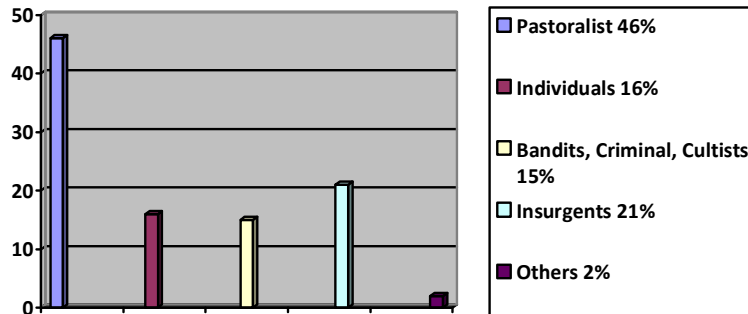
Source: Adapted from National Bureau of Statistics (2017)

2. The proportion of Conflicts in North Central Nigeria

Table 2 Proportion of Conflicts in North Central Nigeria

Type of Event (Community member.....since 2010)	Community Member (96)
Per cent experiencing any conflict event	47%
Killed	15.0%
Physically attacked	12.0%
Injured	14.0%
Suffered sexual violence	3.0%
Forced to work	0.2%
Abducted	8.0%
Robbed	17.0%
Displaced	7.0%
Dwelling robbed	14.0%
Dwelling damaged	9.70%
Land occupied	9.1%
Assets destroyed	10.0%
School access blocked	7.2%
Health service access blocked	1.4%

Source: Adapted from National Bureau of Statistics (2017)

Table 2 shows the proportion of conflict that occurred in the regions between the period of 2010-2017. The implication of the conflict is the loss of lives and valuable properties.

3. Incidences of Armed Attacks between Farmers and Fulani herdsmen

Table 3: Selected Incidences of Armed Attacks (2013and 2014).

Date	Place of Incident	Estimated Death
1/1/13	Jukun/ Fulani clash in Taraba State	5
15/1/13	Farmers/Fulani clash in Nasarawa State	10
20/1/13	Farmer/Fulani clash in Nasarawa State	25
24/1/13	Fulani/Farmers clash in Plateau State	9
1/2/13	Fulani/Eggon clash in Nasarawa State	30
20/3/13	Fulani/Farmers clash at Tarok, Jos	18
28/3/13	Fulani/farmers clash at Riyom, Plateau State	28
29/3/13	Fulani/farmers clash at Bokkos, Plateau State	18
30/3/13	Fulani/farmers clash/police clash	6
3/4/13	Fulani/Farmers clash in Guma, Benue State	3
10/4/13	Fulani/Farmers clash in Gwer-west, Benue State	28
23/4/13	Fulani/Egbe farmers clash in Kogi State	5
4/5/13	Fulani/Farmers clash in Plateau State	13
4/5/13	Jukun/Fulani clash in wukari, Taraba state	39
13/5/13	Fulani/Farmers Clash in Agatu, Benue state	50
20/5/13	Fulani/Farmers Clash in Nasarawa-	23

	Benue border	
5/7/13	Fulani attacks on Tiv villages in Nzorov, Guma	20
9/11/13	Fulani Invasion of Agatu, Benue State	36
7/11/13	Fulani/Farmers Clash at Ikpele, okpopolo	7
20/2/14	Fulani/farmers clash, Plateau state	13
20/2/14	Fulani/farmers clash, Plateau state	13
21/2/14	Fulani/farmers clash in Wase, Plateau state	20
25/2/14	Fulani/farmers clash Riyom, Plateau state	30
July 2014	Fulani attacked residents in Barkin Ladi	40
March 2014	Fulani attack on Gbajimba, Benue state	36

Source: Adapted from Genyi, (2014)
Table 3 shows selected incidences of armed attacks in the north-central zone of the country. This shows clashes between Farmers and Fulani herdsmen, it involved loss of lives as indicated in the table.

IMPLICATION OF CONFLICT ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Land conflicts have negative effects on economic, social, and national development. The reason is that no nation can develop during crisis and conflict because of the state of insecurity. The following are some of the implications of conflict arising from land and its resources.

i.   Destruction of Human Capital and Property

Ijeoma (2014) reported that the degree of human loss resulting from localised conflicts is devastating; many are sent to a state

of limbo, and millions of lives are lost in Nigeria; for instance, at least 10,000 people lost their lives between 1999 and 2003, and an estimated 800,000 were internally displaced. Tables 1-3 are the pieces of evidence of the effect of conflict on the people.

ii. Destruction of Agricultural Production

The economic impact of conflict is enormous, these range from food shortages caused by farmers being forced to abandon their homes and farms during the peak of the planting season. Farm produce is destroyed by herdsmen allowing their animals to feed on them. The resultant effect is low harvest as food crops are destroyed.

iii. Economic production

Conflict disrupts economic activity through the destruction of productive assets, diversion of resources, death and injury to the population, and damage to health and education systems, and infrastructure (Taylor, David, Mickey, and Jonathan, 2020). Other socio-economic effects include the destruction of schools, churches, homes, government institutions like police stations, and the loss of lives. This has implications for national development, especially the economic and social life of the people.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of urban planning among other things is to achieve spatial organisation of land resources for the effective operation of the urban system. This has resulted in the preparation of various plans such; as regional plans, master plans, and urban and rural plans to guide development. The lack of regional plans leads to haphazard development, claims and counterclaim of ownership of land resources by individuals or

groups. Diversities are better managed when the different components of the whole are given their identity. Nigeria nation-state for decades, and in recent times has been delineated into territories and geopolitical zones for effective administration. These zones could be seen as territory and with its territorial control. The concept of territoriality is about control and distribution of resources, defence and marking as noted in the work. The priority of economic planning over physical planning has greatly contributed to land resource conflict. In conclusion, physical planning should be given the right place in Nigeria's national development plans.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The study recommends physical planning approach among other approaches to resolving the land ownership claim by different ethnic nationalities. Territorial and regional planning form a major component of urban planning practice. In a land management system, and for the avoidance of conflict, no parcel of land should be left idle. The study recommends the adoption of territorial planning among other options for resolving land conflicts.

i.   Integration of Territorial Planning in National Development Planning Framework: The study recommends physical planning approach to resolving land conflict. As discussed, territorial planning is an integrative planning process that addresses competing interests and is linked to a shared vision, an overall development strategy, at national, regional and local urban policies. Territorial planning is inclusive and participatory in organising the space and economic development. As a matter of policy, it should be integrated into the national planning framework.

ii.   Best Practice Approach to Farming and Pastoralist Business: A best practice approach to pastoralist business and modern farming techniques be adopted. Both farming and herding are personal businesses therefore, there is a need for a change in approach to the business.

iii.   Abiding by the Rules and Regulations of Land Use Act of 1978: The regional delineation of Nigeria into, territories, states, local governments, and even geopolitical zones could be an opportunity to avert continuous conflict if, the purpose is sincere by the national government. As stated by the land use act, 1978, part 1 section 1; Subject to the provisions of this Act, all land comprised in the territory of each State in the Federation is hereby vested in the Governor of that State and such land shall be held in trust and administered for the use and common benefit of all Nigerians following the provisions of this Act (Laws of the Federation of Nigeria,1990) chapter 202.

iv.   Every ethnic nationality in Nigeria inclines to a particular territory they claim, either by inheritance or government delineation as state or local council. The study, therefore, recommends every ethnic nationality should play by the rules of the game, by restricting their operation within their official domain. In any case, the use of land and its resources should be legally acquired according to existing land use law.

v.   Respect for every Ethnic Nationality: The concept of territoriality has both positive and negative tendencies. A territory is a domain of a particular group or ethnic nationality. Infringement on a territory is illegal, and by the Nigerian constitution, every citizen has an equal right by law. Undue protection of a certain group over others could result in conflict.

vi.   As reported in the work, the impact of climatic and environmental change causes pastoralists to migrate southward. The climate change effect is not peculiar only to this part of the world. But the ineptitude of the government has contributed to the effect of climate change. Pastoralism in other parts of the has adapted to this change, and the same should apply to the Nigerian system, more so the business is personal.

vii. Investigation into the Remote and Immediate Courses of the Conflict: Farmers and Herder have been around over the years, what could have motivated the sudden hostility between the two? Both have lived peacefully and married themselves over the years but the current trend potent danger to the common interest of living together. The study suggests a critical study of both remote and immediate courses of this conflict and the maiming of Nigerians.

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