

Globalisation and the Nigerian National Security: An Overview

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Abstract

This paper examined the Nigerian National Security issues and the unethical bloodshed caused by the terrorist organization called Boko Haram in the Northeastern Nigeria and the entire country in the era of globalization. This has become imperative in view of the unabated bloodletting done to innocent citizens, especially bomb blast at the Nyanya park outskirts of Federal Capital Territory Abuja. The paper also conceptually examined in addition to other issues, globalization, national Security and a closer view in relation to the activities of Boko Haram. It recommends revitalization and strengthening of national security apparatus and the national orientation with a mandate on value re-orientation, equity, fairness and social justice, international community is not left out especially in information sharing in order to put an end to this menace.

Key words: Globalization, Security, National Security, Terrorism

Introduction

Globalization can be seen as one of the most important forces impacting on the global economy. It is accepted that the world economy has become more integrated due to the process of globalization (Nwaosue, 2015). Despite, the fact that globalization is not a new phenomenon, the intensity of the process increased since 1990 (Mostert, 2003). The increasing intensity in the process of globalization is evident in the financial transactions in the world market. Hak-min (1991) indicated that the three folds in private capital transactions between 1980 could be ascribed to the process of globalization in the international financial markets.

With the increased reliance on the market economy and renewed called in the private sector, a process of structural adjustment spurred by studies and influence of the developing countries was initiated. Globalization has brought a new opportunity to countries. Greater access to developed country markets and technology transfer hold out promise for improved productivity and higher living standard (Jean, 2002:23). However, globalization has also thrown up new challenges like growing insecurity, inequality

across and within nations, volatility in financial markets and environmental deterioration (Betterson & Potion, 1996) besides a great majority of developing countries remain cut off from the process of globalization. Although globalization has tremendous potential benefits for countries, the challenge is to realize the potential benefits without undertaking huge off setting cost (Neuland & Hough, 1991:1).

The process of globalization is reality as the increasing integrated economy provides an unprecedented opportunity for grown and higher living standard throughout the world. What is perhaps worrisome about globalization is that as we grow in it, those who benefit from the changes reduce the world to the service of the personalities and those who do not see only the threats and mind off field of transformation (Bhagwat, 2007:182). This article examines the Nigeria national security situation and the unabated shed occasioned by the activities of Boko Haram in the era of globalization.

Conceptualizing globalization and national security

Globalization

Globalization is the process of the integration of economic, political, social and cultural values across international boundaries. Middleman (2006:6), sees globalization as a historical transformation in the economy modes of existence in politics, loss in the degree of control exercised such that the focus of power gradually shifts in varying proportions above and below the territorial state and in culture, evaluation of collective achievement or perceptions of them (Ogonnaya & Ehigiamusoe, 2013).

Objectives of Globalization on National Security

1. The objective of Global Security is to diminish the current global crisis.
2. Its aim is to organize a political commitment
3. The globalization shall have impact on the global economy since the world economy has become more integrated due to the process of globalization.
4. It increases the integration in the process of globalization as an evident to increase financial transaction.
5. Globalization security provide an unprecedented opportunity for growth and higher living standard throughout the world
6. Its objective is for the integration of economic, political, social and cultural value across the international boundaries.
7. The objective is to break down the trade barriers and the increasing integration of world market.
8. The national security aims in regulating the most significant contractual relationship of a man within its scope.

Methodological Issues

Secondary sources provided overwhelming data for writing this paper. The data collection through review of scholarly and operational literature regarding globalization and the national security for an over view.

National Security

The concept of national security cannot be discussed without making reference to the meaning of state. A state is the most inclusive organization which has formal institutions, for regulating the most significant contracted relationship of man within its scope (Anifowose, 1999:85). The state plays a major role in the security of her citizens. Security is the key function of the state (Buzan, 2003). Security is a situation which provides national and international conditions favourable to the protection of a nation state and its citizen against existing and potential threat. National Security traditionally is understood as the acquisition, development and use of military force to achieve national goals (Held, 1998:226).

Security is equally viewed as falling within the domain of the military force (Held, 1998). It emphasizes the coercive means of putting all the aspects of the state on check. It is the ability of a nation to protect its national value from external threats. National security is seen in terms of a nation's capabilities or the struggle to overcome internal and external aggression. A nation is secured once it is free from military threats or political coercion (Aliyu, 2015). National security has traditionally been about the survival of the state against military threats posed by other states (Buzan, 2003). Security threat differs amongst nations. The major security threat to some powerful nations like the USA and its allies may be how to defeat international terrorist and to promote their economic interest and democratic values (Aliyu, 2015). However, nation like Nigeria has its own peculiar security threat determined by socio-economic and political circumstance. This article is concern with the threat to Nigerian security caused by the activities of the Jama' at Ahlas sunnah liod-da'wa wal-jihad, popularly known as Boko Haram.

Boko Haram: A threat to Nigerian National Security

Here, it is important to trace the implications of globalization on Nigeria Security as it reflect on the activities of Boko Haram. Throughout history people have perpetrated extreme violent acts in the name of religion be it Christianity, Islam, Judaism intiduisim or another faith. A complex series of psychological, political, historical and theological factors combine to trigger such behaviour. (Kressel, 2012)

The Jama at Ahl as-Sunnah lid da'wa wal-Jihad better known by its hausa name Boko Haram which literally means western education is evil. This is an Islamic Jihadist and Takfiri militant and terrorism organization based on the Northern Nigeria. The activities of this group has left over 40,000 policemen, soldiers and civilians including politician killed by the terrorist (UN, 2013). Boko Haram rebellion started in Bauchi on July 26, 2009 and has since then spread to other parts of Nigerian States of Borno, Kebbi, Sokoto, Zamfara, Adamawa, Kaduna, Yobe and Kano (Ogbonnaya & Eligiamuose, 2013). The group has no clear structure (Doyle, 2012) and it has three (3) different groups with

lot of supporters. The most prominent one is the Ansaru group with Abubakar Shekau as the Head assisted by Amodu Bama and many indoctrinated members of Boko Haram. They have carried series of attacks on churches, Schools, police stations, government agencies, UN building in Abuja and recently bombing in market places and on market days.

It is important to note that the ideology of the group has gone beyond their initial ideals of an Islamic of the Northern States and the rejection of all practice which are contrary to Islamic teaching to a full blown terrorist organization. The ideas Boko Haram are not clearly defined. However, what is clear is that a pure Islamic state ruled by Sharia Law is what they seek (Michael, 2001). Esco (2011) explained further that the root sense of the group resort to violence and criminal in order to influence public policy is rather deep-seated and beyond the sectarian belief. This is because the attacks of the group have been targeted or directed at every sectors of the state.

Unfortunately, the attacks by rebel group Boko Haram in Nigeria's restive Northeastern states have killed more than 1,200 people since May, 2013 when a state of emergency was declared in the region, While the united national humanitarian agency believes that over 1,224 people have been killed in Boko Haram related attacks (UN, 2016). And most recently on April 14, 2014 over 72 people were killed and 164 people were seriously injured in Nyanya motor pack outskirts of Abuja (Gbade, et.al 2014).

The group has in recent time entered Niger State and rob bank in Kagara, the headquarters of Rafi Local Government Area, Niger State (Prestige Radio 2020).

An eye witness told Prestige Radio Minna that armed-men numbering about ninety with sophisticated weapons on thirty motor bikes between 6pm to 7.30pm went away with unspecified amount of money.

Peace Building and Economic Recovery Strategies

The configuration of activities that constitutes peace efforts is recommended for application to address and solve the problem of incessant insurgency and destruction of lives, communities and their properties. Conceptually, the term "peace building" is a brain child of John Galtung (1970) who used it to imply creation of structures to promote sustainable peace by addressing the "root causes" of violent conflict and supporting indigenous capacities for peace management and conflict resolution. Since then, operational activities of peace building activities include a multi-dimensional task such as;

- a) Disarmament, demobilization (employment) and re-integration of warring factions.
- b) Institution rebuilding i.e. national capacity building such as basic facilities, transportation, communication, networks, utilities, developing rule of systems, other necessary infrastructure like education, health care and public administration for good governance
- c) Dealing with social and economic development issues. This entails building national economic recovery. This will entail enabling local ingenuity and strengthening indigenous drivers of conflict to the fore fronts of efforts needed to develop economic recovery strategies that will sustain peace. In our case, massive

financial support to establish small and medium scale enterprises, capacity building to manage these enterprises efficiently, concerted effort to provide profitable markets for these local products and all necessary incentives for business growth and national development should be emphasized.

Conclusion and Recommendations

This paper has attempted to examine the concept of globalization and national security, the destructive activities of Boko Haram and the unabated bloodletting by this terrorist group in the era of globalization. It is on this note that the paper recommends the following measures as a means of ending the crises.

First, revitalization and strengthening of the national orientation with a specific mandate on value and ideologies re-orientation towards a harmonious living all faiths and belief in the country should be encouraged.

Secondly, the economic fortunes of the people with a greater focus on the far eastern Nigeria by strengthening the institution that will provide access to poverty reduction is constitute a central place in government.

Worthy of note is the fact that equity, fairness and justice should be entrenched in our relationships as a people, and in all inter government and society interactions as the absence of societal justice is an invitation to chaos and violence, which threatens national security (Aliyu, 2015).

The assistant of national organizations and all countries of good will put an end to the activities of terrorist through sharing of ideas and information.

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