

ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECT OF BOKO HARAM TERRORISM ON SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ADAMAWA STATE OF NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This work assesses the effects of Boko Haram terrorism on socioeconomic development of Adamawa state. To achieve this, the researcher employed primary and secondary source of data collection to generate the required data. Books, journals, articles, internet materials, interview and questionnaire were properly used. The study adopts frequency count percentage to categorise respondents and Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) to data analysis to assess the effects of Boko Haram terrorism on economic development in Adamawa State. From the study findings indicates that Boko Haram Terrorism has compounded the socioeconomic challenges through destruction of lives and properties of business men through the use of explosive devices and direct attack, looting of business properties. educational institutions had stopped because of the attack on schools and colleges. Consequently, the research work recommends that government should intensify its counter terrorism fight against Boko Haram, encourage and provide loan facilities to business men and provide adequate securities in all educational institutions.

Key Words: Boko Haram, Terrorism, Development, Economic.

Introduction

The peril of terrorism has become the major issue of concern among individual, group and nations across the globe. This is because the way in which different countries are experiencing its devastating effects in various form and degree. In this modern era, no country is completely immune from its effects. In this contemporary period especially the new millennium, many country has witness the high degree of terrorist attack with high pandemonium recorded across the globe. Terrorism become an issue that has assumed both local and international dimension to extent that collaboration with different organisation at national and international level cannot be ignored in order to counter it In Nigeria a terrorist group known as Boko Haram grew out of the radical Islamic youth known as Jamaatu Ahlis sunna ledda wati wal jihademerged in 2009 (Aro 2013). Its leader Mohammed Yusuf began as an Islamic preacher who led youth wing of Shabbabul islam of Ahl-sunna a salafi group. His literal interpretation of Quran advocate that some aspect of western education is anti-Islamic and is a taboo such as evolution, big bang theory of the universe development and geography (Walker 2013). Boko Haram activities in Nigeria has been devastating since 2009. In the recent time, it has extended its terrorism to different states in

Nigeria especially in the North-Eastern Nigeria. To achieve its objectives Boko Haram sect used heavy explosive devices, guns and suicide bombers mechanism on shops, market, financial institutions and even schools. In different parts of the country. other activities of Boko Haram include; destructions of religious worship centres, launching of attacks in every religious gathering, motor parks, attacking farmers on their farm lands. They have also engaged in kidnappings, abductions, looting of properties, bank robbery to mention few. Boko Haram terrorism had crippled socio-economic progress and development in in Nigeria particularly north-east and Adamawa state in particular. Its activities das not only led to closure of schools and colleges but also halted business activities in the area. Many business men migrated to other safe places while many others lost their business and became ratchet poor and impoverished.

Objectives of the study

The aim of this study is to assess the effects of Boko Haram terrorism on socio-economic development in Adamawa state of Nigeria. But the specific objectives of the study are to examine the effects of Boko Haram on trade and commercial activities and to assess the effects of boko haram terrorism on educational developments in the selected areas of Hong, Mubi, Michika and Gombi local governments of Adamawa State.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Northern Senatorial and central senatorial district of Adamawa State which covers four local government of Hong, Gombi, Mubi and Michika. The total population of 936667 thousand people (FGN official gazette 2020). The target population for this study include the farmers, Business men and women in the mentioned local governments.

The instrument for data collections were questionnaire targeting 400 respondents which includes farmers, business men, civil servants, students and traditional rulers. Both description and inferential statistics were employed to analyse the data. Computer is equally used for analysis using statistical software, Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS).

Literature review

Boko Haram emerged in 2009 in the city of Maiduguri Borno state Nigeria by Mohammed Yusuf. The group called themselves “Jammaatu Ahlis Sunna Lidda wati wal Jihad” meaning people committed to the propagation of the prophet’s teachings and Jihad (Akintola 2012).

This popular “Boko Haram” is a product of media and derived from the way they operate and their actions. The devastating nature of Boko Haram had resulted to negative effects on socio-economic development. The overview helming attack of Boko Haram has caused many business men to loss source of their livelihood and many others migraine to safer place. Aside human cost, the activities of Boko Haram has impact both economic and psychological effects in north-eastern Nigeria. Commercial activities were closed because of the unrepresented fear of attack. Bank and shops were closed due to fear of attack (Aro 2013). Human capital and investors drain its hampering economic development due to attack on banks, markets, shops.

Consequently, illiteracy and dropouts have massively increase north-east. The abduction of over 200 school girls in Chibok on April 2014, has discourage many parents from enrolling their children in schools. In spite of teaching manpower had been affected as many teachers were killed while several others bolted to safer places (Arwafu 2015).

Empirical literature review

Ejukunemu, Joyce (2015) *Terrorism and National Development: An analysis of the effect of Boko Haram activities on the economy of Northern Nigeria*. Using primary and secondary sources of data, reveals that business activities in north-eastern Nigeria has gone down as most business men have migrated for fear of dearth and loss of their property. In addition, in terms of foreign direct investment both direct and indirect loses are unquantifiable. In the same vein World Investment Report (WIR) united nation conference on trade and development has estimated that the domestic economy has lost a whopping N1.33 trillion (FDI) Jacob and Akintola (2012)

Mohammed (2012) *Effect of terrorism on Operation of Business Enterprises: A study of impact assessment*. Primary and secondary method of data collection were used and simple percentage method for data analysis. The research divulges that terrorism has affected the operation of small-scale business in the north-eastern Nigeria. Suleiman (2012) equally observes that the insecurity had made the southerners to flee the northern Nigeria which seriously suffering insecurity to the south who are enjoying peace and is a serious setback to business operation. Hashim S. Bellow (2018) *An assessment of the effect of Boko Haram on Business Development in North-Eastern Nigeria*. The study adopted survey research design using structure interview to collect the views and opinion of business men and women. The instrument used for data analysis was simple percentage targeted to relate socio-economic attributes of business men/women. Descriptive statistics analysis was used for analysis. The study proven that the coordinated attack from the Boko Haram in the northern part besides making lives miserable for Nigerians has affected so many business operations in the regions. The findings added that Boko Haram has discourage investment as it makes investment unattractive to business people. Citing (Ujah and Eboh 2016) Boko Haram terrorism situation can and many cases halted business operations. During the period of their violence many business enterprises also carried outright closure especially in area where incidences of terrorism is rife and are on daily occurrences in bid to protect lives and properties.

There are other empirical literatures that are important for this study. Some of these are: Oladunjoye and Omemu (2014) examined the effect of Boko Haram on school attendance in northern Nigeria. The data was analyzed using Pearson correlation coefficient statistic. The findings show that there is no significant different in school attendance among male and female. There is a significant different in school attendance among rural and urban schools and as well in school attendance among primary according his study. Oladunjoye and Omemu found out that both secondary and tertiary institutions were affected by Boko Haram attacks in his area of study. Similar studies tagged “Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack” reporting to the Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT) president research carried out by group of teachers using percentage method for data analysis reported that about 171 teachers were killed since 2009 at the hand of terrorists. On the effect of this, they noted that the synergy of low pay and risk of attacks may weaken Nigerian education system.

Other studies done by Umaru and Terhemba (2014) examined the effects of insecurity on primary school attendance in Damaturu (2016). Multistage sampling technique was used to select 225 parents and teachers in 10 primary schools in Damaturu. The result indicated that the effect of insecurity has reduced the level of primary school attendance in Damaturu. Awortu, (2015) also

analysed the Boko Haram terrorism and its impact on development of Nigeria as a nation. Primary source of data collection was used. The study analyzed the data collected using Qualitative technique to assess the impact of Boko haram terrorism on the development of Nigeria. It was discovered that Boko Haram terrorism has led to the developmental challenges through destruction of live and properties, destruction of schools which have led to closing down of so many school's destruction in business, reduction in government revenue, and political instability among others in the north eastern part of the country.

Mohammed (2015) also examined the effect of terrorism on girl's education in north eastern Nigeria. The finding revealed that the terrorism has affected girl-child education negatively in north eastern Nigeria, because the school girls have been hurt in the present of other follows student during attack in their school, as such female student were afraid from going to school.

Bankole (2014) on the other hand studied the achievement of universal primary education under the auspices of the millennium development goal in Nigeria. The data for the study were generated through instrument of questionnaires and Qualitative technique was used in analysing the data collected. The study indicates that the factors affecting quality education include poor funding unqualified teachers and also insecurity. Ugwumba and Ikoku (2014) studied the Boko Haram terrorism: a peril to the achievement of education for all in Nigeria. Descriptive analysis, using mean and standard deviation were used in analysing the data collected. The study indicates that many teachers were forced to leave their job or flee to safer areas for fear of attack.

Result

Table 1.1 Effect of Boko Haram terrorism on trade and commercial activities.

Hypothesis		SA	A	UD	D	SD	Total
Destroyed commercial area	F	241	79	36	25	0	381
	%	63.3	20.7	9.4	6.6	0	100
Looting of shops	F	131	177	44	29	0	381
	%	34.4	46.5	11.5	7.6	0	100
Loss of resources and livelihood	F	109	149	100	23	0	381
	%	28.6	39.1	26.2	6.0	0	100
Inter-community trade	F	209	116	39	17	0	381
	%	54.9	30.4	10.2	4.5	0	100
Migration of business men	F	235	101	29	16	0	381
	%	61.7	26.5	7.6	4.2	0	100

The table above seek to analyse the question how Boko Haram affected trade and commercial activities. Based on the respondents 6.6% disagreed that Boko Haram had destroyed commercial centres and financial institutions and 9.4% undecided. 20:7% have agreed, 63.3% strongly agreed that many commercial centres and financial institution were destroyed by the sect. A reasonable number of people have been relying on their business for feeding or family, paying School fees and other family needs. According to respondents in areas of study, 7.6% respondents disagreed that business men and women lost their sources of livelihood as the result of the attack while

11.5% could not decide. 46.5% agreed and also 34.4% strongly agreed that Boko Haram terrorism made many business men and women to loss their sources of livelihood.

Table 1.2 Effect of Boko Haram Educational Development.

Hypothesis		SA	A	UD	D	SD	Total
Destruction of educational institution	F	18	48	76	227	12	381
	%	4.7	12.0	19.9	59.6	3.1	100
Many Pupil/Students stopped attending school	F	282	50	32	17	0	381
	%	74.0	13.1	8.4	4.5	0	100
Many teachers stopped going to work	F	228	76	57	20	0	381
	%	59.8	19.9	15.0	5.2	0	100
It has effect on school enrollment	F	229	91	44	17	0	381
	%	60.1	23.1	11.5	4.5	0	100
Students potentials	F	202	110	50	19	0	381
	%	53.0	28.9	13.1	5.0	0	100

Source: Field Survey 2021

An answer to the question: effects of Boko Haram terrorism educational developments, 3.1 % strongly disagreed that Boko Haram doing the course of their attack destroyed educational instruction. While 56.6% disagreed with the assertion. But on the other hand, 19.9% undecided 12. 6% agreed and 4.7% strongly agreed. In an assessment of pupil/students attendance to school, 4.5% of respondent disagreed that Boko Haram attack have affected School attendance 8.4% undecided while 13.1 agreed. 74.0% strongly agreed that the activities of Boko Haram have put a stop to schools in the area. In distinctiveness on how Boko-Haram terrorism affected teaching man power, 5.2% disagreed that Boko haram attack in the area did not attack teaching man power. 15.0 undecided but 19.9% agreed and 59.8% Strongly agreed that Boko Haram have effects on teaching man power. On the part of school enrolment 4.5% of respondent disagreed that Boko Haram attack has no effect on School enrolment while 11.5% undecided. 23% agreed and 61% strongly agreed that Boko Haram terrorism have effects on School enrolment in the various School in the affected area

Findings

- I. This study revealed that Boko Haram terrorism had crippled trade and commercial activities in the four local governments areas of Hong, Gombi, Mubi-North and Michika. Many shops were burnt down properties worth millions of naira were looted. Live became difficult as many business men and women loss the source of their livelihood while many others fled to safer area for fear of being attacked. There is high rise in of food stuff, spear parts of vehicles, basic commodities and essential services.
- II. Education had suffered setback as the result of the terrorist's attack in Adamawa State. Many schools were attacked and several school items were stolen by the terrorists. A

reasonable number of teachers were killed while several school age children were missing in notable areas. As the result of this, school enrolment was affected as parents denied their school accessibly. Majority of school age children were in IDP camps in different places across the country which in turn affect students' potentials.

Recommendations

This work found out that Boko Haram attack have affected business and educational development. Government should as the matter of urgency provide security agencies to ensure safety of lives and properties in the area. Again government in collaboration with other financial institutions provide loan to business men and women of zero interest to revamp commercial activities in the area, Since the study revealed that educational progress and development have suffered setback as the result of Boko Haram terrorism, government should provide the teaching equipment and other items stolen by the sect. government should improve the teaching manpower through workshops and seminars and at the same time improve welfare package to those living in that area. Similarly, there is a need by government to make education free and compulsory in the affect area.

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