Education for Sustainable National Security

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Abstract: **Security is the Fundamental objective of every institution and nation's leadership. For Nigeria as a nation, the problem of insecurity has remained the most intractable challenge in our history. This paper examines how education can be used as a weapon to confront the challenge. We examined the concept of security to reveal the various aspects of the term, including political, military, economic, ecological, social, cultural, ideological and other types of security. The causes of insecurity in Nigeria were examined to include unemployment, corruption, socio-economic imbalance, porous borders, influx of illegal arms, narcotics, slavery, criminal situations, weak internal security, injustice and nepotism, religious fanaticism and ethno-religious conflicts, gross inequality and unfairness. We considered such cases of insecurity as the Niger Delta militancy, kidnapping in the south-east of Nigeria, Jos crisis, Boko-Haram insurgency, Herdsmen aggression etc. The consequences of insecurity were examined before we dealt with the use of education to combat insecurity. We posited that a lot of the cases of insecurity derived from ignorance and so agreed that education of the formal and non-formal types would solve the problem in the long run. We then listed a broad range of content areas which curriculum workers would have to structure into existing school or out-of-school subjects in order to teach both children and adults to prepare them for a more productive livelihood in our contemporary world. Some of the prescribed content areas include entrepreneurial education, democratic/voter education, family-life education, economic independence, modest living, sound moral values, dignity of labour and productivity, religious education, rudiments of martial arts for the girl child rudiments of community policing among others .Curriculum workers are called upon to weave these content areas into existing school subjects as appropriate so that the implementations of the various curricula would result in improved security of lives and property in Nigeria.**

Keywords : **Education, National Security and Insecurity.**

I. INTRODUCTION

Security challenge has also been the most recurring problem in Nigeria. It also remains the most intractable and most embarrassing debacle. Insecurity is unquestionably the most widely spread, indeed broad-based phenomenon that prevails in all parts of the country, only comparable to hunger, poverty and hardship. It remains one challenge that seems to have a defied solution such that the international communities that tried to assist Nigeria in its solution could not make an impressive head way. We shall, in this paper examine the concept of security and by extension insecurity, the scope of the concept, the causes of insecurity in Nigeria; the consequences of insecurity in Nigeria and how we can use education to address the challenge of insecurity on a short and long term bases.

The Concept of Security

The Word 'Security' derives from the Latin noun '*securitas*' which is a combination of two Latin from words –*Sine* and *Cura*. Sine from Latin means 'without' whereas *Cura* means 'Concern', 'Fear' or 'Anxiety'. Thus the term originally translates as 'no concern' fear or anxiety'. (Urbanek, 2012) Viewed from this perspective, security is one of the most fundamental needs of both the individual and the state. In Maslow's hierarchy of needs, it is ranked second to physiological needs (Maslow, 2006). The need for safety is complex and provides for such other elements as: certainty; stability; support; care; freedom from fear, anxiety and chaos; structure; order; law borders etc. In trying to satisfy the need for security, Maslow noticed that satisfying the needs which are lower in the hierarchy is a condition for opening the need for satisfying further needs. Yet if a fundamental need is not satisfied, the development of the individual is blocked and his striving for satisfying this particular need is limited.

Security is a political issue on account of the key decisions that need to be made by state authorities to regard a particular issue as a priority. Ensuring security is regarded as one of the most fundamental objectives and functions of the state. It encompasses the following: provision for the biological survival of the population, nation as an ethnic group and state as an institution, territorial integrity of the state, its independence and sovereignty internal stability and complex, socio-economic sustainable development (Potrzes zcz, 2013). Security becomes the core fulcrum on which revolve all other developmental indices of a state or nation. The economic, social, political and indeed every other dimension of development are all anchored on security. In realization of this fact the Nigerian constitution regards security as the fundamental objective of state policy.

II. CATEGORIES/ TYPES OF SECURITY

This concept of security may be categorized into number segment/dimensions. which include: political, military, economic, ecological, social, and ideological:

1. *Political Security*: implies certainty and possibility of developing a political system in a country or a group of countries, and it concerns stability of governments and an internal stability of the countries themselves.
2. *Military Security*: is related to a lack of military threats and in the event of an occurrence of such threats it is associated with the ability to counter the said threats with own armed forces.
3. *Economic Security*: is linked to the protection of a nation's or state's economic development. It implies

putting in place economic conditions necessary for the survival of the well being of the society. It implies the deliberate policy design and implementation aimed at confronting situations and conditions that inhibit economic development.

4. *Ecological Security*: aims at the preservation of the natural environment to guarantee the survival of the present and future inhabitants of the land

5. *Social Security*: concerns the protection and development of the national or religion identity of a given society that inhabits a given territory

6. *Cultural Security*: pertains to cultivation, protection and preservation of cultural values which define national identity. It is also the insulation of a peoples cultural traditions from the invasion of external values and traditions from other countries.

7. *Ideological Security*: concerns the creation and consolidation of the community of viewpoints as we pursue the implementation of national interests. It also seeks to counteract some extreme ideologies such as: fascism, nationalism, conservatism, liberalism and communism; including to protection against concepts which justify the activities that are inimical to national interest.

There are other emergent sub-divisions of the concept of security for example, general, consumer, energy, material, financial, food or work. Some security types are being successively singled out (e.g energy, material or geographical) whereas other types are being shaped together with the development of civilization and new phenomena and challenges with a global character (e.g cyber, information and telecommunications security). Security may also be considered as internal or external. Internal security is linked to the categories of legal order, life and health of citizens, national wealth in case of natural disasters or technical failures. It concerns citizens, social group, various entitles in the market, professional organizations, manufacturers and employers, political parties, religious organizations, or political elites. In this context, internal security is related to the possibility of a skillful and efficient functioning of public authorities.

External security on the other hand is primarily associated with sovereignty independence and territorial integrity of the state, including inviolability of its borders. It is connected with the occurrence of chiefly military threat in the external surroundings of the state.

III. CAUSES OF INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

In the light of our discussion above with respect to the concept of security, especially internal and external security, we may now consider the causes of insecurity in Nigeria. The following are the causes of insecurity:

Unemployment

Unemployment means that many people do not have a healthy means of sustaining themselves. It is painful that the unemployment rate in Nigeria as at the second quarter of 2020 was 27.1% indicating that 21.7 million Nigerians are unemployed. The combined figure of the unemployed and the under-employed is 55.7%. This is the report from the National Buruea of Statistics as at August 14, 2020.

The recent decline in the nation's economy is another related cause. This decline has led to the laying off of many workers while new employment are not being made correspondingly. When people are unemployed they create usually some unwholesome means of livelihood. Armed robbery, banditry, kidnapping, ritual killing, election *thungury,* and other forms of obnoxious behavior readily become viable alternative means of livelihood.

Corruption

Corruption in leadership and followership is a major cause of insecurity. When, through corrupt practices, leaders and other privileged persons misappropriate or steal public funds to such a degree that he masses are impoverished, the result is likely to be the precipitation of actions that lead to insecurity. Such practice lead to unpaid salaries wages, and retirement benefits, to workers, inability of Government to maintain public infrastructure- bad roads, no electricity, water scarcity, inferior facilities, lowered standards of education, etc. Strike actions by workers and general insecurity have resulted from such situations. When unemployment prevails and infrastructure cannot be guaranteed, businesses are interrupted and profits are hard to come to businessmen. The result is that people see politics as the only sure means of economic survival. They then go all out to strive for political power. Corrupt electioneering practices prevail as a result. Violence becomes the order of the day. Those who can't make it in government resort to kidnapping, armed robbery and other social ills that aluminates in insecurity.

In 2019, Transparency International placed Nigeria on the 146th position out of 198 countries in the World's Corruption Perception Index with a score of 26 out of 100. Corruption has become a culture in the country and part of the result of the corrupt practices at all tiers of government is insecurity.

Socio- Economic Imbalance

When different parts of the country feel that there are inequity, imbalance and unfavorable skewedness in the distribution of the nation's resources, the result is crisis. The Niger Delta Militancy clearly portrays this fact. The feeling in that region is that the oil resources are exploited in the Niger Delta and in spite of the environmental degradation occasioned by the oil explotation, not much is done by the Federal Government to placate the people/residents. The environments remain in very deplorable conditions. The people of the Niger Delta in reaction to this felt exploitative posture of the Federal Government, have often embarked on

pipeline vandalization, training and deployment of their own militia that has often confronted the Nigerian army, thus converting the Niger Delta region into a war-zone characterized by kidnapping of workers of oil companies, and general insecurity.

In a related political scenario the South-East Nigerian youths feel that there has been a consciously planned and orchestrated political marginalization of the region. They believe that it is unfair and inexplicable to observe that no South-Easterner is appointed by the Federal Government as a Service Chief- in the Nigerian armed forces/ units. They feel that top juicy political appointments are deliberately skeswed in favour of other ethnic nationalities than the Igbo. They still feel the pains of the Nigerian civil war that that ended in 1970. They cite as examples the unjustifiable neglect of federal road, infrastructure in the country, the failure to balance out the number of states, in the country, noting that it is only in the south-east that there are five states while other geopolitical zones have more than five states. They believe that population figures are consciously manipulated in favour of the Northern and parts of Nigeria. As a result, resources, distributed on the basis of population figures leave the South-East in a disadvantaged position, among other complaints.

These verifiable and orchestrated policies have ignited convulsive reaction and the feeling of insecurity among the youths who have unrelentingly ventilated their frustration with, and objection to these consciously implemented objectionable policies by ways of calls for separation, referendum and the like. Groups such as Indigenous Peoples of Biafra (IPOB) have not relented in their agitation against the situation.

In the West of the country calls for the creation of Oduduwa Nation have persistently resonated, again as a reaction to the perceived political marginalization of the West by the Federal Government. All their feelings of political imbalance and inequity have made Nigerian an unsafe political environment at the moment.

Porous/ "Open" Borders

There are porous borders around the North-East, North Central and North West of the country from where illegal immigrants infiltrate the country. These illegal immigrants suspected to be insurgents from other countries, who are nomadic in their cultural behavior, roam the desert lands seeking places of settlement. They find the Nigerian unguarded borders veritable avenues through which to penetrate the county and carry out their agenda of militant occupation and religious conversation. In most cases they believe they are undertaking a religious mandate and so feel justified in their actions. Unfortunately the Federal Government appears incapable of controlling this influx of dangerous persons. The result is insecurity.

Influx of Illegal Arms

The issue of porous borders is aggravated by the uncontrolled influx of illegal arms with which hoodlums perpetrate terrorist activities that culminate in insecurity in the country. Smugglers pass very easily through the porous borders to introduce varieties of weapon types into the country. Shotguns, pistols, rifles, assault-rifles grenades and other explosives are usually illegally introduced into the country and used for terrorist activities. The Federal Government appreciates the need to curb the influx of these arms into the country but appears incapable of dealing decisively with the challenge.

Narcotics

Trafficking in narcotics is a major cause of insecurity in this country. Criminal groups are usually involved in this smuggling of illegal substances to Europe, Asia, South Africa, and North America. Nigerian gangs are said to be among the most formidable distributors of opium in the world. Armed robbers, kidnappers and others who perpetrate havoc in the society are known to consume hard drugs that make them bold and insensitive to human feelings.

Slavery

The Walk Free Foundation of Global Slavery reports that about 870,000 Nigerians are trapped in human trafficking. Many women are tricked into believing that they are being assisted to immigrate to other parts of the world only to be converted to salves and sold for various unwholesome uses. Children are also very often picked up and they disappear only to be sold into slavery and used for various forms of forced labour in other parts of the country or world.

Criminal Situations

Organized criminal gangs are known to constitute a nuisance to the society. They operate sometimes in the broad-day light, take over streets and open up firing/shooting in acts of robbery or kidnapping. They are known to have taken many as hostages and demanded huge sums of money as ransomes. At other times, they come upon innocent and unsuspecting citizens at night committing all sorts of havoc against people.

Weak Internal Security

Internal security disorder is often the cause of insecurity in parts of the country. When the police and other security agencies are unable to handle crisis situations, when the security agencies are ill-equipped to confront dissidents or insurgents, when there is sabotage among the ranks of the security agencies, when the armed forces are reluctant to take needed risks to save crisis situations and when nobody is prepared to make sacrifices for the sake of the communities, then insecurity will prevail (Iygeal, 2010) Sometimes, also, the information gathering processes are weak, leading to inadequate intelligence reports and /or unreliable information. These will obviously lead to insecurity of the environment

Weak Judicial System, Injustice and Nepotism

There is selective application of justice in the country such that whereas some people appear to be above the law, others are always caught up by the law even with the least offence. Tribunals are set up and it becomes predictable what the verdicts are going to be in the light of the nature of people being tried. Persons who belong to certain political parties appear to be insulated from the judicial verdicts. In fact it is believed, that offenders who wish to be protected only have to defect to certain political parties, (Fukuyama 2004; Okorie 2011)

Religious Fanaticism and Enthno-Religious Conflicts

The challenge of religious extremism is known to have preponderated in the Northern parts of Nigeria where several sects with their various orientations have tried to lord it over the rest of the nation in an effort to convert or compel others to change to/accept their own beliefs. The Boko-Haram group which objects to the formal/western type education seems to have created the greatest security challenge in Nigeria, especially in the North-East. The group has killed many Nigerian troops, destroyed villages, abducted students and other civilians and caused students to flee the schools. Many of the Chibok girls are still in their captivity while many Nigerians are still in camps taking shelter for their lives. People are afraid to travel to places of their interest for fear.

Ethno-religious conflicts prevail when the social relations between members of one ethnic or religious group and another of such group in a multi-ethnic or multi-religious society is characterized by lack of cordiality, mutual suspicion and fear, and a tendency towards violent confrontation to settle grievances. There conflicts which often revolve around who gets what in the distribution of resources, opportunities, positions and influence often result in massive killings and violence among ethno-religious groups in the country. (Adagba et al 2012)

Absence of Institutional Capacity Resulting in Government Failure

The foundations of institutional framework in Nigeria are rickety and have provoked a deterioration of state governance and democratic accountability. As a result there is a paralysis of existing formal and legitimate rules nested in the hierarchy of social order (Achumba 'et al 2013). On his part, Igbuzor (2011) perceives the prevailing insecurity in Nigeria as an indication of the failure of Government manifesting in government inability to deliver the public goods to the people. This lack of basic necessity by Nigerian peoples has created an army of frustrated individuals who resort to violence at the slightest opportunity). Although Nigeria is blessed with all it needs to provide adequately for her citizenry, the entrenched culture of corruption in public service has created the scarcity of basic necessities leading to what Hazen and Homer (2007) call a "Paradox of Plenty" As a result the crime rate is on the increase and the state of insecurity is intolerable.

Gross Inequality and Unfairness

The yawning gap between the "haves" and the "have nots", the rich and poor, and the unfairness in the distribution of resources in the country compels the down trodden to perceive the system as unjust, unfair. They therefore resolve to take their destinies in their own hands. When their voices cannot be heard either through the ballot boxes or via the mass/social media the result is violence. Others register their disgust with the system through violent protest, kidnapping, armed robbery, strike actions and similar acts of rebellion.

Other Factors:

There are other causes of insecurity such as:

- Weak and Poorly funded military as result of which insurgents overwhelm our uniformed men in the military
- Inability to prosecute perpetrators of violence in Nigeria as a result of god-fatherism, fear or deliberate compromise.
- Interagency rivalry manifested in the unwillingness of security agencies to share intelligence and therefore act in unison to address security challenges in the country (Omede 2001)
- Disintegration of Social and Moral values. As a result of which despicable behaviors that were outlawed in the past appear to have become the norms today. Robbery, killing, arson, violence, stealing, rape and the like do not seem to attract the rejection as in of the past, but are rather accommodated if not celebrated as results of "civilization and modernity" Drug abuse is now a part of the culture of many youths. The social and cultural machinery that checkmated the excesses of the youths of today have crumbled. The pornography that was objectionable in the past has became a craze of the youths of today. The value placed on human lives appears to have been whittled down such that threats to life can be ignored or seen as normal.

IV. CASES OF INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

In recent times, insecurity in Nigeria has manifested in various forms and in various regions. We recall.

The Niger Delta crisis in which the minority ethnic groups of the region felt exploited as they were not adequately compensated for the oil wealth, of the nation that was being drilled from their area with its attendant pollution and devastation of the environment (Osungade 2008). The crisis which began in the 1990s as a mild agitation metamorphosed into a formidable and near uncontrollable militancy that engaged the Nigeria military to attempt to subdue.

Details of the crisis, the scale, the component groups in the Niger Delta, the amnesty that calmed the situation after the negotiated unconditional pardon and surrender of weapons by

the militants were chronicled by Aderoju (2008) and Nwagbaoso (2012) among others.

Kidnapping in the South east was another case of insecurity in Nigeria. This challenge could be traced to the Niger-Delta crisis. When the militants of the Niger-Delta were being systematically decimated by the Nigerian troops, they fled in their numbers to the Abia and Imo State areas and ignited the terror of kidnapping as a means of livelihood Innocent people were abducted and huge sums of money were demanded by the captors.

It is also believed that when in 2007, politicians in the general elections, engaged many youths as thugs, it became difficult to retain them at the end of the elections, such men and women resorted to kidnapping as a survival strategy. The extent to which this terrorized the lives of people in the two states- (Abia and Imo) Imo was alarming. Wealthy men and women and highly placed individuals all fled the states as huge amounts of ransomes were extorted from unsuspecting and innocent citizens. Youths soon were recruited and the unemployed, unemployable and under-employed ones found a lucrative engagement in this booming but potentially dangerous engagement. They kidnapped even traditional rulers, school children, priests, and all categories of persons. The military intervention which the then Governor, Chief T.A Orji engineered calmed down the situation

JOS Crisis

Oladoyinbo (2010) reported that the Jos crisis which began as a sectarian violence but mutated into radical and ugly shapes in 1999 claimed many lives of innocent Christians. It is estimated that between 2007 and 2010 over 10,000 Christians were slaughtered (Onifade, Imhonopi & Urim 2013). The root cause according to Nwagboso (2010) was the in ordinate of muslims to forcefully convert Christians into Islam. Some claim that the crisis was as a result of cultural and land disputes. Whatever the causes, it cannot be denied that the crisis has taken its toll on the nation's economic, social and political development

The Boko-Haram and Others

We had earlier made mention of Bokor Hram menace as one of the security challenges of the country. Although the North East of Nigeria is the main base of the group, the effect of the group's nuisance has affected all other parts of the country including our national economy, lives and property of people, educational aspiration of people especially the girl-child in the Northern parts of the country. Many persons reside almost permanently in the Internally Displaced Persons' (IDP) camps while villages are deserted as homes are destroyed by fire. Terror now prevails as no one is sure of their lives the next day. Educational institutions are shut down for fear of the invading insurgents with their more formidable fire power.

Extra budgetary provisions are made to accommodate the ever-expanding needs of the displaced persons while Nigeria

becomes the focus of the world- community when the subjects of militancy, insurgency and insecurity are being discussed.

Other threats to the nation's security include other sectarian crises, – the armed bandits who block roads in various parts of the country killing and maiming innocent persons. The herdsmen and their cattle are at war with land owners as they move their cattle southwards in search of greener pastures following the desertification of the former grazing areas of the Northern region of the country. Clashes which are often bloody have resulted from such conflicts as the herdsmen allow their cattle to feed on and destroy crop of innocent Nigerian farmers in the Middle Belt regions and the South East and South West of the country.

The sophisticated arms of the herdsmen remain a great threat to the unarmed Nigerians who in many cases have been displaced from their legitimate homes for fear of being killed. The threat from the herdsmen is aggravated by the fact of alleged convert or overt protection by the Nigerian military. Questions arise as to the source of the assault rifles the herdsmen are said to carry and why they are not disarmed by the Nigerian military who obviously see them with those weapons.

V. CONSEQUENCES OF INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

Threat to life and property – Human lives are threatened and often destroyed. The number of persons who lost their lives as a result of the crises that have engulfed the various parts of the country is incalculable. These are lives of potential medical doctors, engineers, and other scientists, agriculturalists, religious leaders etc through whose efforts and contributions the nation would have becom greater.

Economic losses: When insurgents strike a community they leave a trail of destructions of property which when they are replaced, create huge losses and wastage of funds to the country. The cost of rebuilding ravaged towns and villages could have been invested in other vital parts of the life of the nation.

When farmers and others workers are threatened, when oil works are abducted when school children are held hostage, there is an obvious sabotage on the nation's gross domestic product (GDP)

Strained Relationships Among Ethnic Groups

When the Boko-Haram insurgents attack villages occupied by other ethnic groups, the tendency is for bad-blood to be injected into the relationships that had hitherto prevailed prior to the attack. Mutual hatred, mutual suspicion and mutual antagonism are the results.

Greater Insecurity

The insecurity that we witness today will lead to greater insecurity in the future because when deadly weapons are illegally imported into the country, the weapons invariably enter wrong hands and may be used for armed robbery and

political thurgery. Thus, there will be no end to the threat to lives and property. Many Nigerians obviously possess these dangerous weapons which they purchased freely from various sources.

Investors are Scared from Nigeria

When the state of insecurity prevails in the country, potential investors are frightened away from the country. The Niger Delta militancy was known to have diminished the oil revenue of the country on account of the kidnapping of oil workers and expatriates No foreign company is ready to risk the lives of their staff in an insecure environment. As a result, wherever insecurity prevails investors flee for their dear lives and the potential benefits from their investments are lost.

Reduced Social development

Insecurity diminishes a nation's social development. When, as a result of insecurity, medical doctors are kidnapped, other medical staff are afraid and the hospitals are shut down. Innocent people die in their numbers as a result. When school children are kidnapped or schools are attacked, schools close down and the education system suffers. This will ultimately affect the future of the nation's economic development

When fear and killings are the order of the day, virtually every other thing – markets, religious centers, sporting activities, the banking sector, agricultural products, indeed everything would be negatively affected.

Negative Image of Nigeria

It presents a negative image of the country to be known the world over as an insecure environment. Such a portrait of the nation will lead to a dangerous isolation from other civilized nations. Embassies and consulates will be closed and any potential political, social and or economic benefits from other nations will be lost.

Slowed Down Personal Development of Individuals

Insecurity, as prevailed during the Nigerian civil war slowed down the educational programmes of all persons in the war – affected parts of the South Eastern Nigeria for three years (1967-1970). In the same way, insecurity in the North East has slowed down the personal development of all children in those affected areas. It takes time for school buildings to be erected and for many other infrastructural facilities to be replaced when they are destroyed. The period of waiting is an avoidable loss on the part of all persons affected by the insecurity situation/phenomenon.

VI. SOLVING INSECURITY CHALLENGES VIA EDUCATION

The inability of any nation to achieve security of lives and properties of its citizenry is a signal of failure of governance. Citizens therefore need political education to be able to elect credible leaders. They badly need:

➤ *Realistic democratic education* – (Voter Education) where people are taught their rights and how to elect leaders who would provide democratic dividends and defend the democratic process as well as how to vote and dangers of voter apathy.

➤ *Curricular reorientation:* The curriculum should:

- Gear all learning to productivity, not theory.
- Emphasize science & technology
- Stress food security –strengthen schools of agriculture.
- Teach moral and spiritual education so that people learn the need to lead disciplined lives rather than reckless and dangerous lives
- Stress dangers of drug abuse/ addiction.
- Entrepreneurial Education – when people are meaningfully employed, they eat/feed well and will have no time for insecurity involvement

➤ *Teach the need for modest living rather than ostentatious living-* People should learn that:

- You need only one room to sleep in, one bed to lie on and one car to travel in at a time
- If you live a decent life, you will have no need for elaborate security arrangement
- You can only take a plate of food at a time and not more.
- You will not live on earth forever
- Your joy is not in what you have acquired but in what you have sacrificed for the good of others; the selfless services you have rendered, and how honestly you have lived your life.

➤ *Teach the need for controlled family size. The benefits include:*

- Reduced financial stress that compels people to act insatiably, thus being tempted to indulge in criminal activities that result in insecurity.
- Reduced scope of one's need to cheat to provide for large families. E.g no need for many houses to accommodate large families-
- No need for many cars for each child in the family.
- No need to buy many plots of land to bequeath to many children and grand children.
- No need for unlimited amounts of money as reserve for the unborn generation.

➤ *Teach the need for economic independence and self confidence so that:*

- Children can fend for themselves when they become adults rather than depend on their parents to provide all their needs.

- Children can engage their thoughts constructively towards making money by themselves rather than hoping on parents or others to provide for them.
- Children can face the unknown tomorrow with greater confidence and optimism.
- Children can learn not to struggle endlessly and dubiously to provide all the needs of their unborn generations; but to train their own children to stand on their own feet economically.

➢ *Teach Sound Moral Values.*

All religions in Nigeria have contents in their religious books that emphasize the need to:

- Work hard and be diligent
- Be honest, truthful and straight forward
- Be contented with what one has
- Be conscious that there is life after our earthly life and how one life here on earth determines where and how one will be over there.
- Beware of the consequences of each action one takes on earth. The good is rewarded while the bad is punished.

➢ *Teach that there are spiritual dimensions to physical phenomena*. This implies that physical battles against security challenges should first be more successfully fought from the spiritual realms. To this end, schools, irrespective of denominational orientations, should teach students

- The art and science of prayer;
- Techniques of various kinds of prayers against evil forces;
- Passages in the holy books that teach how to pray, and protection from spiritual and physical onslaughts;
- The sanctity of the human lives and the value of human blood;
- Dangers of shedding the blood of innocent persons.
- Memory verses in religious books that protect from all forms of insecurity and attack.

➢ *Teach the students, especially the girl child, the art of self-defense.* More specifically, they should learn:

- Martial arts which should be applied only when attacked by unknown men;
- The use of light weapons for self-defense,
- Physical fitness such than they can endure tough conditions without fainting.
- Coded language with which to escape recognition by enemies;
- How to use/blow the whistle when attacked, threatened or on the verge of being abused.
- Websites where they can learn more about what to do, when in danger.

- How to transmit security information to the security agencies.

➢ *Teach the adults in the wider society the need for community policing* and the imperative of all male members of every society becoming part of the local security with defined functions. More specifically, and through the adult education centers, adults should learn:

- The routes in all nooks and crannies of their villages;
- Possible hide-outs for criminals and foreign elements who may infiltrate their lands.
- How to pass-on useful information to Law Enforcement Agencies
- Tactics of self-defense in the event of an attack.
- Use of light weapons for self defense
- How to fish out criminals and hoodlums from the society.
- Procedure for interrogating suspects in order to avoid the possibility of mistakes of mistaken identity.
- Security alerts as may be employed by communities from time to time
- Adherence to curfew principles and protocols
- Peace and conflict resolution principles and strategies.

In the primary and secondary schools, security studies need to taught with greater vigour than is the case at the moment. We are pleased that there is an attempt to teach the content although it is only a theme in the subject called "Religion and National Values". This subject is made up of the following themes: Christian Religious Studies, Islamic Studies, Civic Education, Social Studies, and Security Education.

Of all the themes, security studies has the least scope of content allocated to it. For example, for primary 4, 5 and 6 classes, only one topic was assigned to security education in each year. The topic is "Personal/Neighbourhood Security: Duties and Responsibilities" (Nigeria Educational Research and Development Council, 2012)

The same topic is taught in each of the years although in each case, in each successive year, in an ascending order or level of intellectual complexity commensurate with the pupils' developmental status. The same trend is observable in the other curricula for lower basic education (primary 1-3) and upper basic (Junior Secondary School. (J.S.S) 1-3). In the J.S.S, almost as in the example shown above for primary 4-6, the theme "Security Education" has only one topic which is for the first year of J.S.S.

It is "Common Crimes and Security Management I" with the following two sub-topics "Common Crimes: causes and effects" and "Important Phone numbers and their uses".

For S.S.2 the sub-theme is "Common Crimes and Security Management II".

The sub-topics are "Observing and Reporting Common Crimes" and "Emergency Management". For JSS3, the sub-theme is "Common Crimes and Security Management III" while the topics "Common Crimes and Associated Punishment" and "Crimes and National Security" (NERDC 2012).

We have outlined above a broad range of content areas that we believe should constitute the thrust of learning that has the potential for curbing the menace of insecurity among the Nigerian populace. Undoubtedly, all the listed content areas cannot be taught in one year or in one subject area or even at one grade level. It is the duty of curriculum engineers to determine where best, and in which subject areas what grade levels, and in which type of institution- formal or non-formal, each content should be studied.

The nature of and relative importance of each content or subject matter and its level of complexity will determine in which school subject it belongs, which grade level it should be taught and how it may be reiterated at various other grade levels.

As we would expect, some of the contents may belong to the non-formal education and may require resources persons who are not professionally trained regular teachers to handle. Some topics may belong to the tertiary level of education although their rudiments may be taught as foundational subject matter at the lower educational levels.

All we are expressing is that the solution to the security challenges in Nigeria in the long run lies n the effective utilization of education. The security that we will attain in the country after years of implementing the prescribed contents will become the evidence of the effectiveness of the curriculum.

VII. CONCLUSION

Security is about the most important goal that any nation's government must strive to achieve. It is the fundamental objective of every government, and institution. A good deal of acts of insecurity results from ignorance. That is why education is the most important and potent instrument for combating insecurity in Nigeria.

It is ignorance that makes rebellious groups believe that force is the answer to their perceived problems. Ignorance makes a religious group believe that it must use force to impose its doctrine on other unwilling groups. Yes, ignorance, because no true religious leaders or founder of any religion preached or use of force on other peaceful religions. It is ignorance that

makes people intolerant of the next person, and to be negligent of the rights or interests of the next person. Education is therefore the most potent instrument that has the capacity to re-orient the psyche of our people towards more disciplined thought processes that result in peaceful co-existence of all Nigerians. We have tried to show how education can help us achieve security in Nigeria. Let us give it a trail.

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