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CORONA VIRUS AND EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS

Corona virus also known as COVID-19 is a respiratory virus that originated from Wuhan in China. Ever since its discovery, it has become a global pandemic rampaging across different countries in the world. According to research, Corona virus is a disease meant to only affect animals but due to the consumption of undercooked animals such as bats in Wuhan- a province in China known for consumption of wildlife, it mutated and started infecting humans. Presently United States of America is the most affected country with over six hundred thousand cases.

This virus is mainly spread through droplets generated when an infected person coughs or sneezes or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose. Different measures have been taken to help contain the spread of the virus; the use of facemask has been encouraged, regular washing of hands and many others but the most important measure taken that has proven to have helped greatly in dealing with the virus is the lockdown of countries affected. The lockdown helps by preventing healthy people from getting in contact with the infected and contaminated surfaces. All over the world this method of lockdown has been adopted and it has proven effective. Nigeria being one of the affected countries with over four hundred cases has issued an order of lockdown, restricting all forms of movement in the country. This lockdown has been a coin of two sides as it has affected Nigerians both negatively and positively.

Positively, the lockdown has helped Nigeria in controlling the spread of the virus in the sense that compared to other countries she has smaller number of cases of corona virus and deaths recorded unlike other countries as it has helped medical practitioners to effectively attend to the positive cases discovered without being overwhelmed but apparently the lockdown has done more bad than good to Nigerians. Negatively, the citizens of Nigeria has been greatly affected as they have not been faring well during the lockdown as a result of being financially incapable to provide their basic needs because

they have no source of income due to the government order to stay home and observe isolation. Many Nigerians are battling with hunger daily and the government has not helped at all in attending to their problems effectively, daily they lament bitterly but the government turns deaf ear to their cries of agony.

In times like this it is expected of the government to take their citizens into considerations and provide necessary amenities such as electricity, food and many others to them to ensure maximum comfort of the citizens during the lockdown. Other countries like United States of America, United Kingdom, Spain etc. has been doing this so the Nigerian government should endeavor to follow suit and put an end to the suffering of her citizen.