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QUESTION: In not more than two pages write on the corona virus pandemic and the effect of the lockdown and restriction of movement in Nigeria.

The corona virus disease also known as the COVID- 19 is a highly transmittable and pathogenic viral infection caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2(SARS- COV- 2), which emerged in Wuhan China and spread around the world.

Human corona viruses, first characterized in the 1960s are responsible for a substantial proportion of upper respiratory tract infections in children. Since 2003, at least five new human corona viruses have been identified including the severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus, which caused significant morbidity and mortality.

Genomic analysis revealed that SARS- COV- 2 is phylogenetically related to severe acute respiratory syndrome like bat viruses, therefore bats could be the possible primary reservoir. The intermediate source of origin and transfer to humans is not known. However, the rapid human to human transfer has been confirmed widely. COVID- 19 is spread through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes or speak. People can also be infected by touching a contaminated surface and then their eyes, mouth or nose. You can get infected no matter how sunny or hot the weather is. The symptoms are dry cough, tiredness, fever, difficulty in breathing and sore throat. There is no clinically approved antiviral drug or vaccine for the virus yet, the best way to prevent it is by washing your hands frequently with soap and using alcohol based sanitizers and to avoid touching the face. Since the emergence of the virus the corona virus disease has recorded 2,471,930 in the world with over 170,129 deaths and 645,008 deaths as of April 2020.

Nigeria recorded her first case of the virus on the 13th of March 2020 and has been a steady rise till date with 627 cases, 170 recovered and 21 deaths in places such as Lagos, Abuja, Ogun, Kano e.t.c.

Although the lockdown and restriction of movement is to keep Nigerians safe and healthy, there have been certain outcomes to this new development. Nigerians who are very vivacious people cannot fathom the idea of staying at home. They want and need to talk, socialize, go to work and stay active. In order to survive a lockdown food is needed to be able to leave, so many Nigerians who rely on day to day sources of income have no idea concerning feeding and as a result some have resorted to stealing and armed robbery in order to survive.

There have also been psychological and spiritual effects. With all religious sects complaining about the lack of fellowship and togetherness in worship to God and for some boredom, tiredness from having their families together in one place at the same time and moodiness, loneliness has become the order of the day.

There are also economic effects of a possible recession. Nigerians are a very resilient people and we pray and hope to come out of this pandemic, lockdown and restriction as soon as possible.