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**CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND ITS EFFECTS ON NIGERIANS**

**What is corona virus?**

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are known to cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

**Symptoms of corona virus**

The COVID-19 virus affects different people in different ways. COVID-19 is a respiratory disease and most infected people will develop mild to moderate symptoms and recover without requiring special treatment. People who have underlying medical conditions and those over 60 years old have a higher risk of developing severe disease and death.

Common symptoms include:

Fever

Tiredness

Dry cough.

Other symptoms include:

Shortness of breath

Aches and pains

Sore throat

And very few people will report diarrhea, nausea or a runny nose.

People with mild symptoms who are otherwise healthy should self-isolate and contact their medical provider or a COVID-19 information line for advice on testing and referral.

People with fever, cough or difficulty breathing should call their doctor and seek medical attention.

**Prevention of corona virus**

To prevent infection and to slow transmission of COVID-19, do the following:

Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, or clean them with alcohol-based hand rub.

Maintain at least 1 metre distance between you and people coughing or sneezing.

Avoid touching your face.

Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.

Stay home if you feel unwell.

Refrain from smoking and other activities that weaken the lungs.

Practice physical distancing by avoiding unnecessary travel and staying away from large groups of people.

**EFFECT OF COVID-19 ON NIGERIANS**

Due, to the virus there have been a lockdown in 3 states in Nigeria, and serious restriction of movements in other states, all these measures are to curtail the spread of the virus, but they also have negative effect on the citizens. They include

**Economic Impact**: The pandemic, and the lockdown will also affect the Nigerian economy in the sense that what use to go on does not happen anymore and more funds would now be used to come up with testing centers and also buy testing kits, also food for citizens at home.

**Shutdown of schools**; Covid-19 pandemic has led to the shutdown of schools at all levels, this would affect student’s academic program, school calendar even the lecturers schedule and so much more. Even though these don’t stop school activities but it has drastically reduced whatever the school and students were aiming to achieve.

**Income**; In this case, it has affected people who live by daily income, it may even affect salary earners because technically they been home and no income might be entering the organization and this can affect the payment of salaries. Market women, business men, are not able to get money during this lockdown period and also affecting their food supply of them and their families, even though the government are putting measures in place to get food to them it is still not very effective.

**Religious impact**: The pandemic has impacted religion in various ways, including the cancellation of the worship services of various faiths, the closure of [Sunday Schools](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunday_Schools), as well as the cancellation of pilgrimages surrounding observances and festivals. Many churches, synagogues, mosques, and temples have offered worship through live stream amidst the pandemic.