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REPORT ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS

The year 2020 came with high hopes of great expectations. The economic forecast predicted a better year and even a decade of greater measures for businesses and individuals while still in the euphoria celebration, about what the new year and decade has to offer with great expectations, little did we know we will face a global lockdown. Usually lockdown is often done or pronounced by the government to stop insecurity, war, terrorism at times to stop the outbreak of disease.

It is often a period where curfew is placed. This demanded ones making efforts to check on each other to confirm the safety and wellbeing. This time around the lockdown is caused by the outbreak of a virus disease called Corona Virus otherwise known as "Covid 19" which have devastated the world in 2020, causing thousands of death and economic slow down

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), corona virus disease "Covid 19" is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered virus. Most people infected with "Covid 19" virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people and those with underlying medical problems like cardio-vascular diseases, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness. The Corona Virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Presently, there are no specific vaccines or treatment for Corona Virus. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatment.

However, in Nigeria the effort of the government through the Ministry of Health, the National centre for disease control (NCDC), and State Governors are highly commendable. Also the effort of private organisation, religious organisation and nonprofit organisation (NGO) are highly commendable. All these organisations have all gone as far as sensitizing the general public on personal hygiene, social distancing and the call to stay at home is all we need to reduce the spread of the virus. These bodies has also gone as far as giving out food items as a palliative way of cushion the effect of the lockdown. The impact of the lockdown in Nigeria cannot be over emphasized because it has affected all aspect of our lives which include our mode of worship, social gatherings such as wedding ceremonies has postponed till further notice, birthday celebration has been cancelled, life musical concert have not been exempted. The major effects are on our economy because every sector one way or the other has been affected. The Covid 19 pandemic came with its attendant oil price crash which is the major source of income in our country Nigeria. Through past and even the present

government had on many occasions mouthed the need to take the economy out of the dependence on oil, now the present economic reality workers salaries may be on jeopardy.

Shortly before the Corona Virus hit the world, Nigeria had been designated as the poverty headquarters of the world with 87 million. Nigeria or around half of countries populations thought to be living on less than \$190 per day approximately less than 700 naira per day.

Finally, current measures put in place by the Federal measures put in place by the federal government to curb the pandemic, the figure is set to increase and poor conditions set to exacerbate. Much as our life had been held on hold, what matters most is our wellbeing, as the saying goes health is wealth.