**The Coronavirus Pandemic And The Effect Of The Lockdown And Restriction Of Movement On Nigerians**

**First of all**, lets know the meaning of this deadly pandemic tagged corona virus AKA COVID-19. According to world health organisation (WHO), Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.

Most people infected with the COVID-!( virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub or rather sanitizer frequently and not touching your face.

The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it’s important that you also practice respiratory etiquettes (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow).

At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments. WHO will continue to provide updated information as soon as clinical findings become available.

**FURTHERMORE**, THE Deadly coronavirus has put the whole nation activities on hold as the precautionary measures has to be put in place in order to curb the spread of the disease quickly before it rises to a state where it cannot longer be controlled but it has come with effects on Nigerian whereby mostly the average or the poor Nigerians are suffering from. The doggedness of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), the Presidential Task Force for the Control of Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the state governments in sensitizing Nigerians about the novel virus presently ravaging the world has paid off handsomely. Employing the various channels of communication open to them, they have taken the message of Coronavirus and how to avoid contracting it to the nooks and crannies of the country. Today, even little children know there is a killer disease in town. And with 1000+ confirmed cases, 100+ recoveries and 32 deaths, as at 25th of April, 2020. Nigerians now know that it is a disease to be feared. The global statistics of over 2million confirmed cases, over 700 recoveries and over 100thousand deaths is even scary.

But some Nigerians live as if everything is alright. They care less about the precarious situation of the country, nay the world, and flagrantly defy the government’s directive to citizens to stay in their homes as part of the aggressive measures advised by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to control the spread of the pandemic. But they have reason for doing so.

*‘’I am close to leaving you for another man since you cannot take care of our only child and me. You are not the only man who no longer goes to work, but you seem like the only man who cannot sustain his family. I have to buy noodles on debt from a nearby food store so our child could at least eat last night.’’*

That was a pen threat from a housewife to her husband to the consternation of their neighbours in a compound at Isolo area of Lagos State last Wednesday. Her husband kept mute throughout the embarrassing threat cum lamentation by his wife. But next day, he took to the road despite the lockdown to make ends meet for his family.

*‘’WE ARE HUNGRY AND HAVE GOT NO PALLIATIVES FORM THE GOVERNMENT’’* is the new word every single person caught on the street of states on lockdown are saying. The first 14-day lockdown enforced in the commercial hub, Lagos, neighbouring Ogun and the nation’s capital Abuja has kept the average or rather poor resident’s pockets on lockdown too as they lament and call on the government for something to be done in able to allow them stay comfortable at home. Their have been reports that palliatives distributed by government ha reached some average Nigerians but as some Nigerians call it the government did audio distribution. After the two initial two weeks the government also announced another 14-day lockdown which applies majorly to the 3 states Lagos, Ogun and the capital of the nation, Abuja. Other states also joined the lockdown as they pleaded with the residents of the states to stay calm as the deadly virus is not a death sentence but if necessary measures are being taken, it can be curbed. These states include: Osun with 20 cases, Kano with 59 cases, Oyo with 16 cases, Edo with 15 cases, Ogun with 12 cases, Kwara with 9 cases, Katsina with 12 cases, Bauchi with 7 cases, Kaduna with 9 cases, Akwa Ibom with 9 cases, Delta with 4 cases, Ekiti with 4 cases, Ondo with 3 cases, Enugu with 2 cases, Rivers with 2 cases, Niger state with 2 cases, Benue with 1 case, Anambra with 1 case, Borno with 3 cases, Jigawa with 2 cases, Abia with 2 cases, Gombe with 5 cases and Sokoto with 1 case.

The lockdown has caused financial pain for millions of informal labourers who rely heavily on their daily earnings to survive. Prominent men in the business sector in Nigeria have come forth to donate in order to curb this deadly virus. Some of them are: Femi Otedola, Abdulsamad Rabiu, Herbert Wigwe, Segun Agbaje and Aliko Dangote, Africa’s richest man, all contributed 1 billion naira each to support the government in curtailing the pandemic in Nigeria. The Founder of One of the prestigious private university Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, popularly known as ABUAD Mr. Aare Afe Babalola who also played his role as the chairman of the COVID-19 task force in EKITI STATE where they recorded 4 cases of coronavirus donated over 800 bags of rice and 500million Naira.

Nigerians are expected to await the president’s speech on man the 27th of April, 2020. To know if they are to stay home for an additional week or not. Nigerian Governors had earlier agreed on a Two-Week Inter-State Lockdown so as to curb the deadly coronavirus .