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**A REPORT ON THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTON OF MOVEMENTS TO NIGERIANS**

At the twilights of 2019, the World Health Organisation (WHO) China office heard the first reports of a previously unknown virus. It had triggered a number of pneumonia cases in Wuhan, the capital of Hubei province in central China, with a population of over eleven million. The virus which has been named Corona Virus Disease 2019 or Covid-19 by the WHO, has infected 76,936 people in mainland China, with a further 2,051 cases reported from 30 other countries. Though this was at the inception, the world figures according to WHO have dramatically risen to 2,804,796 confirmed cases and 193,710 deaths as at 27th April 2020.

Many parts of the world advocated for a lockdown to contain the Corona Virus pandemic; they opined that social distancing would be a good measure to ward off and curtail the scourging pandemic which has no cure for now.

The effects of the lockdown on Nigerians just like in other countries cannot be over emphasized, they are political, economic and social in nature.

The political effects of the lockdown in Nigeria stems from the lockdown of all the government apparatus; the government offices are closed, the presidency is operating at a minimum, the national assembly has suspended its siting sessions and the activities of the judiciary has not been clearly visible during the lockdown. I therefore will like to summaries by saying that the effect of the quarantine period bred a political log-jam.

The quarantine of Nigerians and other nationals in the country has a devastating effect on the economy. Sequel to the lockdown, the oil prices which hitherto stood at $31 dropped below $11 with damning consequences. The government was not able to generate income to support the year 2020 budget. More troubles brew when workers and business owners had to stay at home, shutting down the economic activities, this has led to the increase in the poverty levels which Nigerians where unprepared for. Already loss of jobs has been recorded and more are expected due to the lockdown that has created a gap in the production cycle as the supply chains are being disrupted. Also worthy to note, is the rise in prices of goods and services occasioned by this quarantine. The increase in demand for food and medical items have increased the prices because the supply chain is being affected and multinational companies and other Nigerian counterparts are on lockdown. To be more specific, people have bought plenty food and other items, so a huge decline in sales is envisaged. Prices for hygiene products like face masks, hand sanitizer and hand gloves have more than doubled, as buyers rush to supermarkets and stores to grab whatever is left on the shelves.

The much-anticipated government intervention during the lockdown leaves much to be desired. The implementation has a lot of gaps because the coverage area has not actually met with the targeted realities on ground. Many poor families, aged people and senior citizens could not access this government initiative. So, the issues of poverty and starvation is heightened during the quarantine period.

Finally, another effect of the lockdown of Nigerians is social in nature. All schools are locked down creating a gap in education; though some of the good schools have adopted the online method of teaching, Afe Babalola University inclusive. Since the lockdown people are not allowed to gather in Churches and Mosques, people are made to pray individually or as family in their homes. Nightlife is completely in comatose, people don’t socialize any longer at night, club life, meetings at parks has been stopped. This has led to other social vices like what has been reported in Lagos '' The one million boys '' ; a deadly group that attacks neighborhoods at night. This menace is now having a contagious effect in other parts of the country. Also, this led to the imposition of travel ban from and into the country. The latest meeting of the governors is also introducing restrictions on interstate movements as a fall out to complement the lockdown policy of the government.

In conclusion, we may not like the lockdown order by government, but as frustrating and tiring as it is to stay at home doing nothing, this corona virus is eating up the population and spreading to many people in our country on daily basis. We have to join hands with the Government and comply with their directives and with time this Corona virus pandemic will be a long forgotten matter.