**AFE BABALOLA UNIVERSITY, ADO-EKITI**

**A TEST ON PCS 402**

**Using an Internally Displaced persons Camp as a scenario, discuss Human Security.**

**BY**

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**INTRODUCTION**

Human security can be defined as one of the foundational conditions of being human, including both the sustainable protection and provision of the material conditions for meeting the embodied needs of people, and the protection of the variable existential conditions for maintaining a dignified life.

Mahbub ul Haq first drew global attention to the concept of human security in the United Nations Development Programme's 1994 Human Development Report and sought to influence the UN's 1995 World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen. The UNDP's 1994 Human Development Report's definition of human security argues that the scope of global security should be expanded to include threats in seven areas:

1. Economic security – Economic security requires an assured basic income for individuals, usually from productive and remunerative work or, as a last resort, from a publicly financed safety net. In this sense, only about a quarter of the world's people are presently economically secure. While the economic security problem may be more serious in developing countries, concern also arises in developed countries as well. Unemployment problems constitute an important factor underlying political tensions and ethnic violence.
2. Food security – Food security requires that all people at all times have both physical and economic access to basic food. According to the United Nations, the overall availability of food is not a problem, rather the problem often is the poor distribution of food and a lack of purchasing power. In the past, food security problems have been dealt with at both national and global levels. However, their impacts are limited. According to UN, the key is to tackle the problems relating to access to assets, work and assured income (related to economic security).
3. Health security – Health security aims to guarantee a minimum protection from diseases and unhealthy lifestyles. In developing countries, the major causes of death traditionally were infectious and parasitic diseases, whereas in industrialized countries, the major killers were diseases of the circulatory system. Today, lifestyle-related chronic diseases are leading killers worldwide, with 80 percent of deaths from chronic diseases occurring in low- and middle-income countries.[8] According to the United Nations, in both developing and industrial countries, threats to health security are usually greater for poor people in rural areas, particularly children. This is due to malnutrition and insufficient access to health services, clean water and other basic necessities.
4. Environmental security – Environmental security aims to protect people from the short- and long-term ravages of nature, man-made threats in nature, and deterioration of the natural environment. In developing countries, lack of access to clean water resources is one of the greatest environmental threats. In industrial countries, one of the major threats is air pollution. Global warming, caused by the emission of greenhouse gases, is another environmental security issue.

V. Personal security – Personal security aims to protect people from physical violence, whether from the state or external states, from violent individuals and sub-state actors, from domestic abuse, or from predatory adults. For many people, the greatest source of anxiety is crime, particularly violent crime.

Vi Community security – Community security aims to protect people from the loss of traditional relationships and values and from sectarian and ethnic violence. Traditional communities, particularly minority ethnic groups are often threatened. About half of the world's states have experienced some inter-ethnic strife. The United Nations declared 1993 the Year of Indigenous People to highlight the continuing vulnerability of the 300 million aboriginal people in 70 countries as they face a widening spiral of violence.

vii. Political security – Political security is concerned with whether people live in a society that honors their basic human rights. According to a survey conducted by Amnesty International, political repression, systematic torture, ill treatment or disappearance was still practised in 110 countries. Human rights violations are most frequent during periods of political unrest. Along with repressing individuals and groups, governments may try to exercise control over ideas and information.

An Internally Displaced Person is a person who has been forced to move within their own country as a result of conflict or environmental disaster.

**BODY**

Human Security provides a compelling conceptual framework for confronting the global challenge of internal displacement with which the mandate of the U.N. Secretary-General’s Representative on Internally Displaced Persons has been concerned since its inception in 1992. It is a factor in understanding the causes and consequences of internal displacement. It also provides policy guidance in conceptualizing and formulating measures for preventing displacement, providing protection and assistance during displacement, and searching for durable solutions. Furthermore, it offers a means of creating opportunities in crises by exploring remedies to the deep-seated structural problems of political, economic, social and cultural disparities that generate tensions and violent conflicts. Internal displacement resulting from armed conflicts, generalized violence and violation of human rights affects some 20 to 25 million people worldwide. Natural disasters add additional millions. Although some geographic areas are more affected than others, it is a global crisis, afflicting more than 40 countries in virtually all regions of the world. In a large number of cases, these people are not only uprooted but face tremendous security problems. Some are brutally and forcibly relocated as part of counter-insurgency campaigns. Others are trapped within zones of conflict. Most are deprived of the basic necessities of life, shelter, food, water, medicine, education and employment.

Countries experiencing violent conflicts usually also suffer from an acute crisis of national identity that creates severe cleavages between the affected populations and the controlling authorities, Governments and non-state actors alike. The victim populations consequently fall into vacuums of moral responsibility, dispossessed and even persecuted. They must therefore turn to the international community for protection and assistance. While international action on behalf of the victims of internal displacement is a compelling necessity for filling the vacuum of responsibility, access is often problematic due to the negative interpretation of national sovereignty as a barricade against external involvement. But post-Cold War increased commitment to human rights and humanitarian principles is challenging this restrictive approach to the concept and is postulating sovereignty as a normative principle of responsibility. This means that Governments are being called upon to assume the primary responsibility of providing protection and assistance to all those under national jurisdiction, and, if lacking the requisite capacity, to request or at least welcome assistance from the international community. Otherwise, in the face of severe suffering and death, the international community must intervene through various methods, ranging from persuasive diplomacy to more assertive forms of international action.

**CONCLUSION**

Ultimately, only by ensuring Human Security in the comprehensive sense of providing physical and material well-being of human beings can the displacement crisis be addressed effectively in all its phases, from prevention to the search for durable solutions.

Human Security thus provides the umbrella for the stipulation of sovereignty as responsibility under the watchful eye of the international community to hold states accountable and to offer them a helping hand in ensuring the physical, psychological, moral and material well-being of all those under their jurisdiction. Human Security also provides an appropriate framework for bringing non-state actors into parameters of accountability.