

NAME: PRINCE WILL ODOMATE ANDREA

DEPARTMENT: MBAS

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TOPIC: INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

Insecurity which is defined as the state of being subject to danger or injury. The anxiety that is experienced when one feels vulnerable and insecure. Insecurity apart from being the fear of every Nigerian has become the words on the lips of every Nigerian and a discussion topic where two or three Nigerians gather. Several illegal armed groups, ethnic militia groups, religious fundamentalists and fanatics, are evidence of insecurity in Nigeria. These have given birth to series of bombing, murder, arson, armed robbery, corruption, injustice that we hear every day. It is clear that these happenings are negatively affecting Nigeria politically, religiously and culturally. Insecurity in Nigeria is a significant reason why the growth and development of the country are affected. Even though, the country is blessed, getting a lasting solution to this problem is still a major concern to the government and its citizens. Most of the causes of insecurity in Nigeria and their solutions include

~~Unemployment, the overwhelming unemployment rate in the country is~~  
Unemployment, the overwhelming unemployment rate in the country is capable of causing panic. The issue is especially obvious when it comes to Nigerian youths. According to the statistics, every tenth young citizen of the country is officially unemployed. Another statistic provided by the NBS as of 2019 showed that the unemployment rate in the country has risen to 23.1%. If we consider unemployment in Nigeria

causes effects and solutions, it is evident that rapid growth in population is a significant cause of this menace. Also, the recent decline in the country's economy is another cause. Unfortunately, a lot of people have been laid off, while new jobs are not created. In combating the situation, it is <sup>the</sup> responsibility of the government to create new jobs as well as the citizens to create their own opportunities through entrepreneurship.

Also, the weak judicial system causes insecurity in Nigeria. People feel insecure when criminals and terrorists go free. Many evil-minded people think that money can buy freedom in the country, and unfortunately, the corrupt system proves this line of thought. Rich people can buy their freedom in the country which the poor masses do not feel secure about. The judicial system in the country should be changed. There may be only one answer to that - transparency. The Federal Government should make sure a judge's decision and power is transparent.

Furthermore, the country has borders that are poorly guarded. Insurgents from other countries can infiltrate the country with no problem. This situation is especially dangerous in the North East. The Federal Government cannot provide enough troops to secure the borders. Porous coastal borders are the main causes of terrorism in the country. The federal government should increase the number of troops that guard borders. It should also train people to protect their regions from insurgents.

In addition, the lack or non-use of Intelligence Network, the failure of the security cluster in Nigeria to make use of its intelligence network to decide on the security challenge the militant groups and all such sects poses to the peace and security of the nation leaves much to be desired. The country's Early Warning System Mechanism to preventing such deadly conflicts from erupting should be developed. The intelligence sector and the conflict prevention mechanism of the country failed in many instances to pick up the tell

signs and this is indicative of failure of the state structure. What the government should do is to develop the Conflict Prevention Mechanism in the country, including the establishment of an Early Warning System at all levels of government. Through the early detection of impending conflicts and its prevention, the government will be providing a safe and enabling environment for the civilian population and for political and economic development to thrive.

Nevertheless, the lack of good governance and provision of the basic needs of the citizens of Nigeria has also led to insecurity. ~~The basic need~~ The basic goals of any civilized society are the survival and security of life and property. These basic needs are not negotiable, no matter who wins or loses in an election. Therefore, the ordinary Nigerians must be given protection at all cost through appropriate information, education, mobilization, job, opportunity, pressure group formation and legal requirements in our democratic politics. If the government will focus on the welfare of the people by providing infrastructure like good roads, water, electricity and housing and tackle the problem of falling standard of education and medical care, then insecurity would have been reduced to minimum if not eradicate.

Lastly, there is a need for a collaborative effort in solving the insecurity problem in Nigeria. The government definitely cannot tackle the problem alone. The Religious leaders and traditional rulers, civil society groups, Labour Unions must team up with government to find solution to this monster that is threatening the fabric of the nation's peaceful co-existence.