Olatunji imoleayo oluwaseyifunmi 19/MHS01/333

Mbbs

Terrorism and Insecurity

Terrorism is the use of fear and acts of violence in order to intimidate societies, governments or against ideology. While insecurity is when one does not feel safe. Terrorism and insecurity in Nigeria is at a state which the best possible solution should be sought. Terrorism involves different acts which could include use of dangerous weapons, assassination, kidnap, violence etcetera. Anyone who carries out these acts are called terrorists. Insecurity includes unemployment, corruption, rape, weak security and judicial system, terrorists threat. Types of insecurity includes professional insecurity which involves the fear of losing ones job, social insecurity involving the feeling of rejection and fear of relating with people. There is also economic or financial insecurity. The problem of insecurity and terrorism in Nigeria among other issues is a significant challenge that leaves many people to live in fear daily.

Terrorism from the fulani herdsmen have become a threat to people especially farmers and travellers. They have been used as agents of kidnap and armed robbery in express way. They also serve as a threat to farmers and their farm because they take their cows to someone's farm to eat and destroy the farm. There has been a lot of reported cases of them killing farmers on their farm or invading a village probably because one of their cows got missing or was killed by a villager. It has reached a stage that when people see herds men they become scared for their lives because those people can be violent. The bad part is the fact that even if one gets hurt nothing might be done about it because they will make it seem like the victim was at fault due to the injustice and weak security system we are facing in this country. Boko haram too are another huge set of terrorists in Nigeria. They base at the northern part of the country and they have killed a lot of civilians and soldiers. The meaning of the name 'Boko Haram' means western education is evil. Due to their wicked acts, people have lost their homes, means of livelihood, loved ones, some people have even been forced to change their religion because they want to live.

Different factors have been postulated as being the cause of insecurity and unrest in Nigeria. Some people say it because of the government while some feel it's because of the parents, some even hold the youths as being responsible while others settle on the combination of these factors. All these factors together will bring us to the main key factors which includes unemployment, bad governance, lack of quality education, corrupt government practices, ethnic superiority, perceived victimisation, materialism and display of it with impunity.

Moreover, terrorism and insecurity has its effects in the nation. Analysis showed that insecurity affects economic growth by drying out investments, increases unemployment and lowers government revenue amongst others. Another effect of terrorism and insecurity is decline in productivity because due to the fact that the government is unable to bring an end to it and can lead to a feeling of helplessness and hopelessness, especially in the areas that are vulnerable amongst victims and their families. For instance, with the rampant kidnappings on major highways in some major parts of the country, many roads have become no go areas therefore inability to travel freely can reduce productivity of those affected. The vicious circle of insecurity in Nigeria has diminished public confidence in the government, this feeds the helplessness even further and as people are afraid to move around freely in the country, many opportunities in business are being lost.

In addition, tourists do not visit unsafe places. Insecurity in Nigeria has led to many countries advising their citizens not to travel to many parts of Nigeria. With such warning, foreigners will make Nigeria a destination of choice.

In conclusion, terrorism and insecurity in Nigeria will continue to destroy lots of things, people, families and businesses if great care is not taken. People have begun to live in fear because their lives are not safe, jobs are not assured and their businesses are not going as planned. What most Nigerians wish for is help from God and having good leaders.