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**CORRUPTION AND ITS EFFECT ON THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY**

Corruption is a cankerworm that has eaten deep into the Nigerian society. In every facet of life in Nigeria Corruption is eminent and it has become a lingua franca for both the young and the old. Corruption can be defined as the use of entrusted power to accumulate public wealth for personal benefit, corruption is not particular to any country, continent or state. However, corruption is prevalent in Nigeria.

The truism that corruption is a surest route that hinders development in any given society does not need contention .To begin with, where we all start up from, our educational system, corruption has infiltrated the likes of this place supposed to build and nourish the minds of children, now bribery has taken its tool such that it is a common denominator amongst the influential people as long as it benefits them, and this does not stop there they do anything in their power to make sure their own pass through the process without putting in the work or any attempt thus dulling minds and raising delinquent and all of this is made possible by ambitious bodies that want big quick cheques rather than doing what is right for the society at large, these activities also has its own repercussions on the children knowingly or unknowingly which is nothing good to write home about, because the children interact with other children and one or two things may rub off and in the long run could bring about a bunch of nuisance and hooligans at large with the lifestyle being incorporated in them without being checked. Nigerian academic society has also being affected by the employment of unqualified professionals and in doing so they put our lives and growth in jeopardy and in such inadequacies new businesses and production can not flourish without the right expertise and man power and thus forcing our economy to fall and crumble and so much other unpredictable circumstances.

Apart from the Nigerian Educational System, corruption also has its paws deeply trenched in various sectors of Nigerians economy such as; Oil, Agriculture, Overseas remittances etc. Nigeria is ranked 27th largest economy in the world in terms of nominal GDP, and 24th largest in terms of purchasing power, Nigeria has the largest economy in Africa but is 146th position for most corrupt countries in the world. Our leaders at the top mishandle the country’s funds and steal the people’s money, leaving a bad image on all Nigerians internationally and internally but the people on top do not care, they dim the chances of bright minds and talents just for their selfish and illegal selves. Most citizens do not care to participate in things of the government even at crucial times like elections because they do not believe in a better tomorrow, some do not even file taxes anymore because all the leaders want is to get richer and for the poor to get poorer, they might not have the mindset of doing that, but indirectly that is what is being done and officials put in charge to maintain the checks and balance are not doing their jobs because they enjoy their pockets being greased with big fat cheques. In a system where every man is for himself corruption is one of the worst things that can happen.

Every country has her own obstacle to overcome to move forward and Nigeria has her own and corruption is just one of it, no country or persons is perfect, but that doesn’t mean things should not be done rightly. And although corruption has its vast effects on us all one way or the other, we should put all our differences aside , come together and change our great nation, Nigeria, for our good and the good of the generations to come.