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MATRIC NO:19/LAW/009

COURSE CODE: GST 203

ESSAY ON VIOLENT CONFLICT IN GEOPOLITICAL ZONE IN NIGERIA

 Violence is using or involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill someone or something. Forms of violence physical direct or behavioral violence, structural or contextual violence,cultural violence,attitudinal violence.

 Conflict is using or involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill someone or something. Types of conflict include intrapersonal,interpersonal,intragroup,intergroup.

 A violent conflict involves at least two parties using physical force to resolve competing claims or interests.

An example of violent conflict is the boko haram insurgency in north east Borno state Nigeria. The boko haram is a jihadist terrorist organization based in northeastern Nigeria, also active in Chad, Niger and northern Cameroon.

Boko Haram seeks the establishment of an Islamic state in Nigeria. It opposes the Westernization of Nigerian society and the concentration of the wealth of the country among members of a small political elite, mainly in the Christian south of the country.

 The Boko Haram insurgency began in 2009,when the jihadist group Boko Haram started an armed rebellion against the government of Nigeria. The conflict takes place within the context of long-standing issues of religious violence between Nigeria's Muslim and Christian communities, and the insurgents' ultimate aim is to establish an Islamic state the region.

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After years of fighting, the insurgents became increasingly aggressive, and started to seize large areas in northeastern Nigeria. The violence escalated dramatically in 2014, with 10,849 deaths, while Boko Haram drastically expanded its territories. At the same time, the insurgency spread to neighboring Cameroon, Chad, and Niger, thus becoming a major regional conflict. Meanwhile, Shekau attempted to improve his international standing among Jihadists by tacitly aligning with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in March 2015, with Boko Haram becoming the "Islamic State's West Africa Province" (ISWAP).

Boko Haram's initial uprising  failed, and its leader Mohammed Yusuf was killed by the Nigerian government. The movement consequently fractured into autonomous groups and started an insurgency, though rebel commander Abubakar Shekau  managed to achieve a kind of primacy among the insurgents.

Religious conflict in Nigeria dates as far as back in 1953.. The Igbo massacre of 1966 in the North that followed the counter coup of the same year had as a dual cause the Igbo officers coup and pre-existing (sectarian) tensions between the Igbos and the local Muslims. This was a major factor in the biafran secession  and the resulting civil war.

After the killing of Yusuf, the group carried out its first terrorist attack in Borneo state in January 2010. It resulted in the killing of four people. During the following few years, the violence escalated in terms of both frequency and intensity. In September 2010, a prison break  freed more than 700 Boko Haram militants, replenishing their force. On 24 December 2010, Boko Haram used four bombs to kill 32 people  in Jos.. On the same day, they killed six people in attacks against churches in Maiduguri, Borno.

In 2011, president, Boko haram  killed 15 and injured 55. On 16 June 2011, Boko Haram claimed to have conducted the Abuja police headquarters bombing, the first known suicide attack in Nigeria. Two months later the United nations in Abuja was bombed, signifying the first time that Boko Haram attacked an international organisation.

On 15 April 2014, terrorists abducted about 276 female students from a college in Chibokin Borno states. The abduction was widely attributed to boko haram. It was reported that the group had taken the girls to neighbouring Cameron  and Chad where they were to be sold into marriages at a price below a dollar. On 20 May 2014, a total of two bombs in the city of Jos, were detonated, resulting in the deaths of at least 118 people and the injury of more than 56 others. This act of violence continued for several years.

In 2018, Boko Haram bombers killed at least four civilians in the outskirts of Maiduguri, the largest city in Borno State. A subsequent gun battle and tear gas launched by security forces repelled the attackers, but left two officers wounded and several others injured.

On 15 July, hundreds of Nigerian soldiers went missing after ISWAP forces led by Abu Musab al-Barnawi overran a Nigerian army base in the northeastern part of Nigeria. Less than 100 Nigerian soldiers returned after the attack, the attack came 24 hours after ISIL ambushed a military convoy in the neighboring Borno state

In 2019, Three Boko Haram suicide bombers killed 30 people in konduga, Borno State on 16 June. Boko Haram shot dead at least 65 people in , Borno, who were walking home from a funeral on 27 July.

Presently in 2020, it is said that boko haram still engages in this act of violence.