

The Effects of Boko Haram Insurgency and the School System; A Case Study of Selected States in Northern Nigeria

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Accepted 25th October, 2013

ABSTRACT

Nation state of Nigeria has been grip by ethno-religious conflicts with huge human and material losses since the return of civilian government in 1999. This ethno-religious conflict is traced to Boko Haram insurgency which started in July 2009 in the Northern states of Nigeria. This is an attempt by Islamic conservative elements to imposing a variant of Islamic religious ideology on a secular Nigerian state. Some scholars believe that religious sensitivity of Nigerians provided fertile ground for the breeding of the Boko Haram sect, while others linked sect's blossoming to the prevailing political and economic dislocation in Nigerian, most especially the introduction of party politics and politics of anxiety, the associated desperation of politicians for political power, and the ambivalence of some vocal Islamic leaders, who thought western education breed corruption which gives rise to poverty hence Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria State. Documented evidence shows that sects' activities have forced so many schools into extinction especially in the city of Maiduguri, Borno state; Mubi, Adamawa State and Yobe state Nigeria. Despite Government dialogue for peace, amnesty for sects' members, state of emergency declaration and strengthening of security; Boko Haram sects' uprising becomes more severe than ever targeting all humans and Schools in the Northern part of Nigeria.

KEYWORDS: Boko-Haram, School system, Islamic fundamentalism, party politics, Corruption, Nigeria.

INTRODUCTION

Since the inception of President Goodluck Jonathan administration in Nigeria, security challenges has become an issue in discourse hence Boko Haram.

Its philosophy stands for outright rejection of Western education, Western culture and modern science and advocates the propagation of strict adherence to Islam in its purest form. Boko Haram represents the vision and mission of a fundamentalist Islamic movement in Nigeria. The sect known as Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad (people committed to the propagation of the prophet's teachings and Jihad) seeks to Islamize Nigeria by whatever means at its disposal and at whatever human cost. So far the dastardly activities of this sect have been confined to churches, security operatives and public buildings in the Northern states and the Federal Capital Territory but now have shifted to schools especially in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa state of Northern Nigeria.

The atmosphere of insecurity currently pervading the nation is now worsened by the allegation of complicity among high-ranking security personnel, executive cabinet which president Good Luck Jonathan openly said Boko Haram have infiltrated his government.

The spate of bombing now is targeted at primary schools, secondary schools and tertiary institutions respectively; killing and maiming students, teachers, lecturers as well as burning school building at will which forced majority of schools to close down in the North especially Borno, Yobe and Adamawa state respectively.

The trend of insecurity in the country especially with activities of the dreaded Islamic sect popularly known as Boko Haram has become a major concern for every Nigerian. Significant stakeholders in the country have offered suggestions on the need to check the new security challenges posed by the dreaded Islamic sect in the country. While some suggested that amnesty be offered to the group; others called for collaboration with world leaders and international organizations as strategies to rid the country of Boko Haram terrorists. Some also suggested the need for strengthening of internal security to combat sect. It is against this background that this paper tends to stress the effect of Boko Haram Insurgency on education system especially in the Northern states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa state respectively. Thus, the paper is divided into five parts. Part one deal with introduction; second part focuses on the origin and emergence of Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria, third parts analyzes trends and activities, fourth part focuses on the effects of Boko Haram to school system, while the fifth part is the conclusion.

CLARIFICATION OF CONCEPTS

Origin and emergence of Boko Haram Insurgency in Nigeria.

Boko Haram sect though has been in existence since 2001, did not become popular in the country until 2009, when it participated actively in sectarian violence, which occurred then in Jos, Plateau State. (The Nation, January 29, 2013). Mohammed Yusuf, who remained the group's leader until he was killed by soldiers in 2009, founded the Boko Haram sect.

After his death, Abubakar Shekau became the new Boko Haram leader, a position he still holds till date. Other prominent members of the group include Abul Qaqa and Abu Zaid. Both Qaqa and Zaid have been acting as the sect's spokesmen. Anyadike and Nkechi (2013) stressed that Boko Haram's origin

seems to lie in a group of radical Islamist youths who worshipped at the Alhaji Muhammadu Ndimi Mosque in Maiduguri a decade ago hence in 2002, an offshoot of this youth group (not yet known as Boko Haram) declared the city and the Islamic establishment to be intolerably corrupt and irredeemable contrary to the Nation newspaper stated above. Though the group declared that it was embarking on hijra (a withdrawal along the lines of the Prophet Muhammad's withdrawal from Mecca to Medina). The group moved from Maiduguri to a village called Kanama, Yobe state, near the border with Niger, to set up a separatist community run on hard-line Islamic principles. Its leader, Mohammed Ali, espoused antistatist ideology and called on other Muslims to join the group and return to a life under "true" Islamic law, with the aim of making a more perfect society away from the corrupt establishment. The above assertion cannot be said to be correct as there are conflict in the literature as to the actual date of origin and formation as well as the leadership of the Boko Haram sect hence Alozieuwa (2012) stressed that the confusion not only reflects in the narratives about the exact date, and who the actual founder was, but also as to the true source of these expositions. For instance, Adibe (2012), has observed that while the popular belief is that it was founded around 2001 or 2002, Madike, traced the date to as far back as 1995, and argues that, one Lawan Abubakar, who later left for further studies at the University of Medina, Saudi Arabia, actually founded the Boko Haram sect. Under Abubakar, the sect was known as Sahaba, (Madike 2011 cited in Adibe, 2012: 50).

Elsewhere, these expositions are credited to Shehu Sani, a civil right activist in northern Nigeria, who helped broker the first peace deal with the sect which failed (Business day, online, February 1, 2012). While Uzodike and Maiangwa on the other hand acknowledge the Lawan Abubakar angle, they attribute their source to Ujah et al. in Uzodike and Maiangwa, 2012: 100). They also acknowledge Gusau's (2009) version which traced the origin to an evangelical group formed by Muslim students at the University of Maiduguri, Borno state, who reportedly felt dissatisfied with Western education (Uzodike and Maiangwa, 2012: 100).

He furthered that Muhammed Yusuf to whom the formation is now generally ascribed to, according to the competing narratives only assumed leadership after Abubakar's departure and "indoctrinated the sect with his own teachings, which he claimed were based on purity" (Adibe, 2012: 50).

Yussuf's notion of "purity" and teachings were inspired by the works of Ibn Taymiyya, a fourteenth century legal scholar who preached Islamic fundamentalism and is considered a "major theorist" for radical groups in the Middle East (Johnson, 2011), after whom Yussuf named his mosque in Maiduguri (The Nation, May 23, 2012). But just as the sect itself may be less concerned about whom to credit for its formation than waging its war against the Nigerian state, the state too may be less concerned with the origin than it is with the threat that the group now poses to national society. The circumstances surrounding its true origin perhaps informs why initially, the sect "had no specific name as its members attracted several descriptions where they operated based on the perception of the local population" (Okereke, 2012: 450).

Such names include Taliban and the Yussufiyah. The sect soon became formally identified as Ahlusunna wal'jama'ah Hijra - 'Congregation of Followers of the Prophet Involved in the Call to Islam and Religious Struggle.' The name Boko Haram, to which it is now commonly referred to, derives from the sect's anti-Western posturing, literally meaning 'Western education or civilization is sin.' Furthermore, he documented that in the early stages, the Boko Haram sect was widely known to have mobilized its membership from women and children, school drop-outs and unemployed university and polytechnic graduates, most of who tore up their certificates; student members withdrew from school. Okereke posits that "these recruits were indoctrinated by Yussuf to believe that their state of hopelessness was caused by government which imposed Western education on them and failed to manage the resources of the country to their benefits". Although from the outset, the sect's mission was to impose the Shari'a on Nigeria; the leadership went about its preaching peacefully, but not without attracting attention among other Islamic preachers who saw the preaching and interpretation of the Quran as a recipe for violence and an affront to constituted authority. Although incidents of violence have earlier been recorded against the sect, (Uzodike and Maiangwa, 2012: 102), serious concerns over its violent tendencies grew only after the open confrontation between the sect and the government in July 2009 following the death of Yussuf while in police custody, as well as his father in-law and sect financier, Ustaz Buji Foi, and the incarceration of members by state authorities. Although Yussuf allegedly drew inspiration from radical Islamist, Ibn Taymiyya, he reportedly resisted some of followers relentless advocate that "an Islamic state was realizable through

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preaching and mobilization of the people to reject secularism, by way of taking up arms and fighting to conquer the unbelievers"; "Yussuf was said to be against any form of violence, saying it was against the teaching of Islam" (Suleiman cited in Uzodike and Maiangwa, 2012: 101).

It is, therefore, yet uncertain whether the sect's current level of radicalization is a function of the deaths of its initial leadership and subsequent clampdown by the State or the accession to its leadership of the taciturn psychopath, Abubakar Shekua, a Kanuri native, who once boasted "I enjoy killing anyone that God commands me to kill – the way I enjoy killing chickens and rams," (BBC, online, June 22, 2012).

Along with two other top leadership, Abubakar Adam Kambar and Khalid al-Barnawi, Shekau in June 2012 recently made the United States' list of international terrorists (Alozieuwa, 2012) hence the use of lethal weapons such as explosives and guns as well as machetes and dagger for the purpose of meting our mayhem to the Nigerian state which has affected her economy adversely considering the high rate of loss of lives and properties. In terms of its modus operandi, observers said that the group constructed a "state within a state," with a cabinet, its own religious police, and a large farm, and attracted more and more people under its roof by offering welfare handouts, food, and shelter. Many of the people the group attracted were refugees from the wars over the border in Chad and jobless Nigerian youths. The source of the group's money at this stage of its existence is not clear. Members of the Borno religious establishment say that Yusuf received funds from Salafist contacts in Saudi Arabia following two hajj trips that Yusuf made during this time. Another possible source of funding during this period was donations from wealthy northern Nigerians. In 2006, a wealthy northern businessman was arrested by the State Security Services after a group of children alleged that they had been sent by the group to an al-Qaeda training camp in Mauritania.

The businessman says his donations to the group were an innocent attempt to contribute zakat, an obligation of wealthy Muslims to give charitably. Strategically, until the June 16, 2011, bombing of the Nigeria Police Headquarters in Abuja, the sect had restricted its terror campaign mostly to the North East part of Nigeria. Remarkably, the attack on the Police Headquarters came barely after the then Inspector-General of Police, IGP, Hafiz Ringim returned from a duty tour of Maiduguri where the sect had just carried out some terror campaign and stated he would soon smoke them out. The sect followed up that attack with the bombing on August 26 of the United Nations House, also in Abuja, a place Shekau described as a "forum of all the global evil," (Thisday, September 19, 2011). Since then, Boko Haram has either claimed responsibility for or has been credited with most terror activities in the northern part of the country. Its operations have also grown in scale and sophistication (Alozieuwa, 2012).

Consequently, the group had gained press attention in Nigeria, and interest from the U.S. Embassy, because of the catchy name locals had given it: the Nigerian Taliban.

On Christmas Eve 2010 as many as half a dozen bombs were detonated near churches and a market in two districts of Jos, Plateau state, killing scores of people. At the time it was not assumed to be a Boko Haram attack; it was thought to be a nasty twist to the long-standing ethno-political conflict there. Then, on New Year's Eve 2010 a bomb was detonated in a popular open-air fish restaurant and market inside the grounds of the Mogadishu barracks, just outside Abuja, killing ten people. While it sits very close to a military barracks, the market is frequented mostly by civilians and was loosely protected.

In February 2011, a pharmacist in Maiduguri—not believed to have had any previous connection to the group's treatment by the police—was murdered in a robbery and neighbours attributed it to Boko Haram as cash and a large amount of medical supplies were taken from his shop. Abu Dujana, a senior member of the group had stated that anyone whom the group declared an "enemy" would be killed. The group began to rob banks, cash-in-transit convoys, and successful businesses, not only in Maiduguri but also in other parts of the north, where the group remains strong. The group claims it is permitted to do this by the Quran, as the money it takes is considered to be the "spoils of war." A source who has followed the group closely states that the group is thought to have made approximately 500 million naira (about \$3 million, or £2 million) from such robberies, but such claims are unverifiable (walker, 2012).

The August 2011 bombing of United Nation compound in Abuja which recorded massive deaths and wounding scores launched Boko Haram into world news (Bekoe, 2011). The organization released a martyrdom video made by the driver of the car. Security intelligence analysts at Stratfor say building successful suicide weapons, like the ones used at the United Nations and police headquarters is very difficult. To perform two successful detonations is good evidence that there is a foreign hand involved in training Boko Haram. The types of explosives the group use are common in mining and

construction, the Reuters have noted, and there are plenty of sources of such explosives in northern Nigeria today. The way the group contacted the outside world also changed about this time. A journalist in Nigeria says the group tightened its telephone discipline, collecting the numbers of journalists it wanted to contact, rather than having journalists call contacts they had made in the organization. A Boko Haram spokesman with the nom de guerre of "Abu Qaqa" began contacting journalists to claim attacks. In 2013 under emergency rule, military claimed that it has killed Boko Haram leader while in three weeks time another video surface with leader speaking abusing Nigerian Government and vows to continue his attacks that led to the death of several students of Gujba College of Agriculture Yobe State.

Trends and Activities of Boko Haram Insurgency.

Dreaded Boko Haram Sect changes tactics of operation at all time; before now it was carried out using cars with Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) targeted public places such as August 26, 2011 suicide bombing of the United Nations secretariat in Abuja (Okpaga, Chijioke & Innocent 2012).

Abuja police barracks on 16 June 2011, army barracks in Bauchi state, bombing of Nigeria Police Headquarters in Abuja (Forest 2012). It was later dressed like Nigerian Army and Muslim women to void arrest by Nigerian Soldiers (Premium Times, August 2013).

Since August 2011 there have been almost weekly attacks by Boko Haram planting bombs in public or in churches in Nigeria's northeast. The group has also broadened its targets, away from direct revenge attacks on the state to include other representations of authority. This expansion includes setting fire to schools and attacking newspaper offices. In March 2012, some twelve public schools in Maiduguri were burned down during the night, with as many as 10,000 pupils forced out of school. Three alleged members of Boko Haram were killed while trying to set light to a school in another area of the state. The group has told journalists that these attacks are in retaliation for the arrests of a number of Islamic teachers from traditional "Tsangaya" Quranic schools in Maiduguri. In the Tsangaya system of schools, clerics teach children to memorize the Quran. These schools, some with only a few children, some very large, operate not only in Nigeria but also across the whole of the Sahel. The children, known as Almajiris, come to the city from the countryside. Many beg during the day and give their money to the teacher, or mallam, who runs the school. The group also says that it is attacking the government school system in retaliation for the government's attack on the Tsangaya system as a whole (Walker, 2012).

More than 29 students and a teacher were killed after gunmen attacked boarding school of Baga community in Borno as well as 42 students and other staff of Government Secondary School in Mamudo, Yobe state leading to the closure of all school in the state (Global post, July 2013.). The attackers systematically slaughtered students one after the other; a farmer Malam Abdullahi, found the bodies of two of his sons, a 10-year-old shot in the back as he apparently tried to run away, and a 12-year-old shot in the chest. The teacher, Mohammed Musa, an English language instructor, was shot in the chest according to another teacher, Ibrahim Abdu who manages to escape; more than 800 classrooms were also touched by the attackers (Punch 9 August 2013).

In October 2012, over 40 students were murdered in cold blood in Federal Polytechnic Adamawa State the North Eastern State of Nigeria in a style that is considered worst in the history of their operation; Names of students were called one by one and slaughtered at will like goats; lecturers were not spared as well as warders. (The Nation, October 2012)

In July 2013, a school dormitory was doused in petrol and set alight in north-eastern Yobe. Those trying to flee the flames were shot. The attack left 46 dead, mostly students. The city of Maiduguri was full with Boko Haram as they were not hiding any longer leading to their participating in collecting taxes, stealing and kidnapping for ransoms to enable them fund their operation.

Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN) based in Kano states that around 15,000 children in Born state, North East Nigeria have stopped attending classes since February 2013 which they derived the information from Borno Ministry of Education. Most of the children are primary schools while more than 50 of 175 state schools have been destroyed (IRIN 2013).

On the 19 of September, 2013 142 people were ambushed and killed by Boko Haram insurgency along Borno High way (This day 20 September 2013) Latest of the attacks was on 29th of September, 2013 where over forty students of college of Agriculture, Gujba in Yobe state were killed on campus while more than 150 sustained injuries (Thisday, 29 September 2013), while Information Nigeria an online newspaper reported 78 students were confirmed dead by Monday the 30th September 2013.

Boko Haram attacks in Nigeria from July 2009 to September 2013 in selected states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe.

S/N	DATE OF ATTACKS	STATE AFFECTED	LOCATION OF ATTACK AND NUMBER OF DEATH
	July 2009	Yobe State	Attack on Potiskum, Yobe State Divisional Police Headquarters, three Policemen and one fire service officer died.
	January 21 2011	Borno State	The Borno state Governorship candidate of all Nigeria Peoples Party ANPP, for the 2011 election, Alhaji Modu Gubio, brother to former governor of the state, Modu Sheriff, killed by sect members alongside six others in Maiduguri, Borno State.
	March 30 2011	Yobe State	Bomb planted by Boko Haram in Damaturu, Yobe State, exploded and injured a police officer
	April 9 2011	Borno State	Bomb explosion occurred at a polling unit in Unguwar Doki Maiduguri, killing the suicide bomber
	May 30 2011	Borno State	Bombs exploded early morning on Baga road in Maiduguri, Borno State 13 dead and 40 injured.
	June 7 2011	Borno State	Series of bomb blasts occurred in Maiduguri, Borno State, claiming five lives and leaving several others injured
	June 16 2011	Borno State	Four children killed in a bomb blast at Damboa town, Maiduguri, Borno State.
	July 9 2011	Borno State	A clash between Boko Haram and the military left about 31 people dead in Maiduguri, Borno State.
	July 12 2011	Borno State	Boko Haram threw an explosive device on a moving military patrol vehicle, which claimed five lives
	July 15 2011	Borno State	Explosion in Maiduguri injured five people.
	September 17 2011	Borno State	Brother in-law of Mohammed Yusuf, the slain leader of Boko Haram, Babakura Fugu, shot dead in front of his house in Maiduguri by two members of the sect two days after he was visited by former President Olusegun Obsanjo
	October 3 2011	Borno State	Boko Haram attacked Baga Market in Maiduguri and killed three people
	November 4 2011	Yobe state	About 150 people killed by Boko Haram in Damaturu, Yobe state
	November 27 2011	Yobe State	Seven people killed in attacks in Geidam. Yobe State
	December 18 2011	Borno State	Three members of Boko Haram were killed when their bomb detonated in Shuwari, Maiduguri, Borno State.
	December 22 2011	Borno State	Explosive and gunshots killed four people and left several others injured.
	December 30 2011	Borno State	Seven people killed in Maiduguri, Borno State
	January 28 2012	Borno State	Gambiru Ngala, (Borno) One Killed
	February 12 2012	Borno State	Boko Haram members killed in Maiduguri
	February 17 2012	Yobe State	2 People killed in Geidam, Yobe State
	February 21 2012	Borno State	Pupils of Gomari Costain Primary School in Maiduguri woke up on Tuesday to discover that their school has been destroyed by fire boko Haram claimed responsibility
	February 22 2012	Borno state	Abba Ganaram Primary School, Maiduguri was also set ablaze
	March 30 2012	Borno state	Nigeria's Boko Haram killed 4, robbed bank in Borno State- Reuters
	May 25 2012	Borno State	Police Headquarters, Maiduguri 7 deaths
	July 30 2012	Borno State	Six people killed in Maiduguri, environs including two Air force officers
	October 2012	Adamawa State	Boko Haram: 40 Federal Polytechnic Mubi students massacred in Nigeria
	December 25 2012	Borno State	Islamic militants attacked a church on Christmas day; afterwards the church was set on fire and killed 27 people
	April 25 2013		Baga, Borno State Muslims gathering for morning prayers and school children boko Haram killed 87 children and adults
	April 19-20 2013	Borno State	Baga massacre Islamic terrorist group Boko Haram killed 280
	July 6 2013	Yobe State	Mamudo government secondary school; Suspected Boko Haram terrorists killed at least 41 children and one teacher
	September 20 2013	Borno State	Born Highway Ambush: 142 corpses Evacuated from Bushes.
	September 29 2013	Yobe state	Latest of the attack at college of Agriculture, Gujba in Yobe state were over 40 students killed on campus while more than 150 sustained injuries

Source: Compiled by the (Okpaga, Chijioko & Innocent 2012)

Effects of Boko Haram

Analysts listed numerous effects of Boko Haram Insurgency in Nigeria to include economical, political and social as well as education in Northern states of Nigeria.

Economically, it could be viewed from two different perspectives namely, the state and individual. Particularly residents of Adamawa, Borno, Yobe and neighboring State are seriously affected by the activities of Boko Haram Insurgency.

By their nature and operation in the area the economic activities of the states mentioned are dead which led to migration of people from the affected place due to restiveness. Thousands of people have died in the sect's bloody campaign led to closure and or abandonment of people's business activities within affected region and also led to migration of people from the affected Region leading to replacement of General Andrew Owoeye Azazi as National Security Adviser with Colonel Sambo Dasuki by President Jonathan. He also sacked O. Opetirin as Chief of Defence Staff and elevates Rear Admiral Ola Sa'ad Ibrahim to his position. Rear Admiral Ola Sa'ad Ibrahim before his elevation is Naval Staff who was replaced with Rear Admiral D. J Ezeoba. M. D

Umar was also sacked and replaced with A.S Dadem as Chief of Air Staff. The President also sacked Ogbonna Onovo as Inspector General of Police and replaced him with Hafiz Ringim who was subsequently sacked and replaced with Mohammed Dahiru Abubakar. Mr. Afakriya Gadzama was also sacked and replaced with Mr. Ita Ekpeyong as Director-General of State Security Service.

Reduction of people's patronage of product from Northern Region because of rumour that member of Boko Haram are planning to send poisonous product from their region to other parts of Nigeria. 97 per cent of businesses were negatively affected by the security problem. Some of them had to close down, some of them

had to retrench their workers, and others had to cut down in the number of hours of operation. Also the insurgencies of Boko Haram have reduced drastically government derivation from the affected region due to restiveness in those places as well as reduced investment and growth of business in the affected places without excluding government executed project. Insecurity in Adamawa, Borno, Yobe, Kano etc alone has cost the Nigerian economy N1.3trillion (\$6 billion) as a result of attacks by the Boko Haram group. It was further reported that the report monitored on the Voice of

America (VoA) also shown that Centre for Research and Documentation in Kano attributed the development to a drop in earnings for nearly all businesses in the affected states.

Politically and Socially, Government's performance and ability to deliver it objective to its citizen is reduced while social effect on the other hand connotes its effect on society and people's ways of life. The insurgence of Boko Haram in Nigeria has drastically reduced government of the day's performance in the affected area. Although Nigerian politicians are fond of promising heaven and earth for the purpose of gaining people's mandate; it is in this view that President Goodluck Jonathan has not been able to fulfill the larger parts of his promise due to confusion created in the Nation by insurgence of Boko Haram. It must be noted that the insurgence of Boko Haram have made public forum caution able place to be in some Northern Part of Nigeria. The activities of Boko Haram have aggravate to the extent of developed negative impact in the mind of some Christian that all Muslims are extremist without taken into cognizance that extremism applicable to both Christianity and Islam; what would you say about one of the Nigeria respected Reverend who refused to assist his sister because she failed to convert to Christianity. It should be noted that the activities of Boko Haram have made some Non-Muslim who have not privilege to mingle with Muslim in their life to belief that all Muslim are fundamentalist while some of them were mischievous with their opinion with little exclusion about few Muslims from Yoruba Part of Nigeria. It should also be noted that the activities of Boko Haram have makes some Nigerians who are not from Boko Haram affected State to be avoiding affected State to the extent that some Youth who are serving the Nation under the scheme of National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) are seriously rejecting being posted to some part of Northern Nigeria.

Relationship between Nigeria and other Nation of the world because of bombing couple with kidnapping and hostage taking with or without demand for ransom; particularly of alien which have resulted to demised of some of them and have greatly been an object of disturb not only to Nigeria but include International Community. It could be recollect that few months ago, United State of America warned her nationals not to go to some State in Nigeria without forgetting that United Nation have once include Nigeria in watching list of terrorist in the World.

Educationally; Schools are not left out as parents are rejecting their children schooling in volatile north. Many schools have closed down due Boko Haram activities, talented lecturers, teachers have abandoned their schools for another school in another peaceful states leading to brain drained. More than 800 school buildings are affected in the north leading to some students having lesson under trees and canopies.

Numbers of school children have reduced drastically due to the activities of Boko Haram insurgency in northern Nigeria especially Borno, Yobe and Adamawa which this paper is centre.

Recommended Solutions

The continuing attacks on school buildings, security operatives, churches, mosques as well as humans being by this sect portend great danger to the corporate existence of Nigeria and may plunge the nation into sectarian strife if not quickly checked.

The paper therefore recommends a viable reorientation on the side of the Muslim extremists who have seized to see western education as sin hence these attacks on school.

Therefore a total reorientation on value for life and unity even in diversity is strongly recommended.

Though state of emergency has been declared on three states of Borno, Adamawa and Yobe, President of Nigeria, Goodluck Jonathan should rise to this security challenges by matching words with action and invite international communities to come to his aid through written application to united nation Security Council.

Majority of Northern brothers and Sisters have concluded that Federal government of Nigeria has failed in its primary function of assuring the security of lives and property of citizens in many parts of Northern Nigeria; therefore a proactive and pragmatic approach to quelling this menace is recommended including employment for unemployed ones and proper education for non educated ones.

No doubt, the impoverishment of the North is traceable to the long history of insecurity in the region. This has escalated under Jonathan's Presidency. The insecurity has led to mass exodus of investors from the North on one hand and the exodus of foreign investors from Nigeria on the other. The Northern elites should also broker peace in the region as it is believed that they are lovers of peace and tranquility which the menace of Boko Haram threatens; as it is only in peace that the region will witness development of all sorts.

Refusal to do that, the president, haven identified some of the institutions of government which the sect has allegedly infiltrated, should swing into action and fish out those involved and prosecute them. He should also get at the root of the sponsorship of the rebellious group since the government's state of emergency in some states in the north has failed to curtail violence in those areas.

Each school in the northern Nigeria should have security present since with the state of emergency declared by President Goodluck Jonathan killings are still noticed unabated.

All traditional rulers, youth leaders and politicians of northern states should come together and identify this hydra headed monster called Boko Haram and flush them out of the system or educate them to leave terrorists act.

Nigerian government should establish special force that could counters the terrorism of Boko Haram caliber as well as open a viable channel for information sharing between the government agencies and the individuals or private security outfits because security is every body's responsibility. Let the government and all the security agencies do all that is necessary to stop the continuing damaging of schools properties and bloodletting especially in schools in Northern Nigeria.

CONCLUSION

Recent Boko Haram attacks on Gujba College of Agriculture Yobe State Nigeria clearly show that the state of insecurity in the polity has assumed a frightening dimension even under emergency rule. While it may be posited that insecurity is a global problem, what looks rather strange to us is the seeming inability of our government to tackle the challenge of Boko Haram head-long either to borrow a leaf from the strategy his predecessor, President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, used to deal with the Nigeria Delta Insurgency. He should seek out competent persons and if necessary, set up new security strategies to deal with the current attacks. He should also exercise caution in dealing with foreign interests, to avoid mass exodus, besides, president should recruit more people into security forces to deal with this menace once and for all.

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