

CHALLENGES OF DEMOCRACY IN NIGERIA: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF IMPLICATION ON HUMAN SECURITY

Abstract

Nigeria returned to democratic rule in 1999. This ushered in the fourth republic after a long era of military rule in the country. Democracy was highly celebrated, accepted by all and sundry with the expectation that it will engender socio-economic and human development. The prevalent issue therefore is that the body polity has been overhauled by daunting challenges that endanger human security. Using simple percentage, frequency distribution and Chi-square (X^2) analytical test reveal that Nigeria's democracy is disturbed by corruption, electoral institution deficiency, leadership failure. These democratic weaknesses violate freedom from fear and want evident in the sub-standard living condition of Nigerians. The study concludes that undermined human security is a threat to democratic stability of Nigeria. The study recommends that democratic institutions should focus on improving development of human and material resources for the consolidation of Nigeria democracy.

Keywords: Democracy; Human Security; Corruption; Electoral; Leadership; Nigeria

Introduction

Nigeria's democratization can be traced to independence with the adoption of British Westminster parliamentary system. The prime minister as the party leader with majority seat in the parliament was the head of government at the federal level. The President was the mere ceremonial head (Chafe, 1994). Entrenching democratic ethos in Nigeria has been challenging for the country since independence through its Independence Constitution and Republican Constitution of 1960 and 1963. The British Westminster parliamentary system was provided under the 1960 and 1963 constitution. The period succeeding independence marked the emergence of new political elites who were saddled with the responsibility of institutionalising a new political and democratic culture (Aluko, 2008). At independence, Nigeria was coloured with high hopes as conducive ground for the enthronement of democratic system and good governance in Africa. By the end of 1965, the whole celebration and excitation of democratic hope in Nigeria and Africa became a mirage (Chime, 2009). The military insurrection of January 1966 aborted the democratic experimentation. Nigeria for 33 years after the 1966 military interference in Nigeria politics was rule by the military (Okoro, 2011). In between the years there were short-lived civil rule between 1979 and 1983; 1987 - 1989. The presidential system of government sculpted after the American system of government replacing British parliamentary system was adopted. The democratic return of Nigeria from the shackles of military in May 1999 marked the emergence of the use of popular phrase dividend of democracy which refers to the delivery of roads, education, rural development, supply of water, health facilities etc. (Eliagwu, 2011).

Democracy engenders groups and individual right. It allows freedom of expression by individual and groups. This enables the government to be more accountable to the people (Bayoko, 2014). People as well can demand transparency in the running of their day-to-day affairs. The fundamental human right under democratic setting become sacred, as the leaders in government cannot violate human right with impunity (Orosanye, 2006). The national shame is the evident violation of human right and the failure to protect right by successive government in the country. This is therefore the erosion of democratic core values in Nigeria political landscape. Over 55 years of independence Nigeria is yet to successfully install

democratic practices in its political affairs. Literature is awashed with evidence of democracy engendering development in some climes while in other political culture democracy struggles to thrive. Nigeria's democracy is categorised in the latter. Various factors such as corruption, electoral institutional deficiency, leadership failure (variables for the empirical study) among others bedevilled democratic success in Nigeria. Various scholars have focused on the challenges of democracy on good governance and national security but little or nothing has been said of the danger of these challenges on human security. It is against this backdrop that the paper aims to uncover the implications of these democratic stumblingblocks on the freedom of individuals and community from want and fear.

Democracy: Conceptual Clarifications

The concept of democracy has been subjected to diverse forms of interpretation since its conception in the Greek City states. Most of the interpretations are opposite in nature. Sarabjit (2002) posits, democracy has been the subject of immeasurable interpretations by scholars over the years. It has been used and misused, abused and described by people according to their interest. Ntalaja (2000) observes that, democracy is one of the most attractive features of contemporary politics. According to him, few people or nation-states nowadays claim to be democratic but not in the actual sense. Sartori (1989) asserts that democracy is more inclusive than any other political form. In the view of Momoh (2006), democracy talks about representative government and empowerment of the people. Sallah (2008) opines that democracy is fundamentally about the exercise of power by the people. It should principally focus on how people determine and manage the affairs of their countries. They also exert pressure on their representatives to ensure their general welfare is protected and guaranteed. Joseph (1991) is of the view that democracy is a government in which the will of the majority of qualified citizens rules. Odion-Akhaine (2005) opines that democracy is a vanguard for good governance as opposed to arbitrary and tyrannical government inherent in Africa.

Alani (2003) views democracy as a government that underscores the plural nature of politics. This gives recognition to the diversity of social forces in any political community. A democratic regime accommodates these forces and fosters competition and collaboration amongst them. Ayinde (2004) views democracy as a political practice that guarantees representation, accountability and participation under conditions of liberty provided by the rule of law. Dahl (2002) argues that democracy does not only include free, fair, and competitive elections but also the freedoms that renders them truly meaningful. According to Dahl, these freedoms include freedom of organisation and freedom of expression (Ibid). Osaghae (1995) notes that in all its versions, whether liberal, capitalist, or socialist, share the fundamental objective of power belonging to the people. In a similar manner, Sharma (2007) contends that democracy means among others the involvement of the people in the running of the political, socio-economic and cultural affairs of the society.

There must be evidence of democratic virtues before a state can be said to be democratic. Newton and Van Deth (2008) itemized the elements of democracy as follows: citizens involvement in political decision making, equality among citizens, some degree of liberty granted to citizenry, and an electoral system of majority rule. Przeworski (1991) simply defines democracy as a system in which parties lose election. He sees democracy as the peaceful transfer of power enacted through regular elections. Schumpeter (1990) argues that democracy is a method by which decision-making is conferred on individual who have

gained power through a competitive struggle for the votes of the citizens. Keller (1995) asserts that democracy is the replacement of administration by another without bloodshed. He rejects the concept of sovereignty, stating that the imperfection and uncertainties of elections are preferable to the prospect of tyranny found within sovereignty.

Human Security

The concept of human security is a relatively new concept. The UNDP was the first to introduce the concept to the entire world community in its 1994 Human Development Report. UNDP divide the concept of human security in to seven dimensions of individual lives and community: food security, economic security, health security, political security, personal security, community security. In its report, UNDP conceptualised human security as safety from chronic threat such as hunger, disease, and repression as well as protection from sudden disruption in the patterned daily lives of individual and communities.

Human security is a paradigm shift of security from the statecentric view to focusing on individual and community. Conventional studies of security usually consider the implications of various challenges confronting states on national security. The protection of state from external aggression dominates the studies on security with the utter neglect for individual and community. Thus, the recognition of the threat that confronting the survival of states recently are internal in nature. The proliferation of cooperation among sovereign state of the world, render threat of external aggression declined. Issues confronting state survival upsurge from the internal dynamics such as ethnic militias, poverty, unemployment, corruption, intra communal and inter communal clashes, civil war etc. this serve make the focus of security on individual and community more paramount than the notion of national security. As argued by the Commission on Human Security (CHS), the need for a new paradigm of security is associated with two sets of dynamics. First, human security is a needed approach in response to the complexity and the interrelatedness of both old and new security threats – from chronic and persistent poverty to ethnic violence, human trafficking, climate change, health pandemics, international terrorism, and sudden economic and financial downturns. Such threats tend to acquire transnational dimensions and move beyond traditional notions of security that focus on external military aggressions alone. Second, human security is required as a comprehensive approach that utilizes the wide range of new opportunities to tackle such threats in an integrated manner. Human security threats cannot be tackled through conventional mechanisms alone. Instead, they require a new consensus that acknowledges the linkages and the interdependencies between development, human rights and national security.

Commission on human Security defines human security as the approach to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfillment. Human security means protecting fundamental freedoms – freedoms that are the essence of life. It means protecting people from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations. It means using processes that build on people's strengths and aspirations. It means creating political, social, environmental, economic, military and cultural systems that together give people the building blocks of survival, livelihood and dignity.” (CHS, 2003)

Human security like other security concepts- national security, economic security, and food security is about protection and prevention of humans from inhumane violation of freedom and fulfilment. Sabelo, 2003, David Hubert, 1999 see human security as the measure to prevent or reduce vulnerability, minimize risk, and taking remedial action when prevention

fails in the course of safeguarding human livelihood. Boyd (2005) defined human security as “the ability to pursue those choices in safe environment broadly encompassing seven dimensions of security- economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political”. Kanbur (2002) conceptualised human security in terms of vulnerability and voicelessness associated with poverty in the face of unresponsive local and national institutions. By contributing to the disruption of the pattern or daily life at the individual, community and social levels, the challenges responsible for the failure of democracy to deliver “dividends” plays a key role in denying people entitlement of those three core human values, central to the nation of human security. The problem this study is designed to investigate is the correlation between democratic failure and human security.

Research Objectives

The overall objective of the research is to examine the challenges bedevilling Nigeria democracy in the fourth republic. The specific objectives are to:

- i. Determine the effect of corruption on human security in Nigeria
- ii. Investigate the consequence of electoral institutional deficiency on democracy in Nigeria
- iii. Examine the influence of democratic leadership failure on human security in Nigeria

Research Questions

- i. What is the effect of corruption on human security in Nigeria?
- ii. What is the consequence of democratic electoral institutional deficiency on human security in Nigeria?
- iii. What influence does the failure of democratic leaders have on human security in Nigeria?

Statements of Hypothesis

- i. Corruption as the bane of Nigeria democracy does not corrosively affect human security in Nigeria.
- ii. Electoral institutional deficiency as a problem bedevilling Nigeria’s democracy threatens human security
- iii. Leadership failure in Nigeria democratic governance has no link with human security

Methodology

The study is a survey research. The population of this study is the ensemble of the officers in government agencies, civil society groups and the chief members of political parties and masses. The choice of principal officers and the chief member of the political parties as the study population centres on the fact that reasonable responses to enrich the research work can be garnered from the purposively selected political elites. They are directly involved the democratic governance of Nigeria and can provide adequate information on the challenges militating against democracy in Nigeria. The masses’ opinion is imperative, as they are the major recipients of democratic failure or success. Therefore, their answers to the research questions are considered highly esteemed, valid and cogent for the study. The study uses a sample size of 150 respondents for this study.

Primary data were collected through the administration of questionnaire on the principal officers on government, international organisation and non-government organisations, political parties and ordinary person on the street of Lagos and Abuja. The researcher himself administered the questionnaire. 150 of the questionnaire were distributed to the respondents.

The data generated were analysed quantitatively using simple frequency distribution tables, percentages and Chi-square to reveal the challenges affecting Nigeria democracy.

Data Presentation and Analysis

The data generated were analysed quantitatively using simple frequency distribution tables, percentages and Chi-square to reveal the challenges affecting Nigeria democracy.

Socio-Demographic Data of Respondents

The tables below provide the socio-demography and psychographic analyses of data collected in the cause of this study.

Figure 1: Sex of Respondents

Item	Frequency	Percentage
Male	96	64%
Female	54	36%
Total	150	100

Figure 2: Age of Respondents

Item	Frequency	Percentage
18 – 25	15	10%
26 – 35	28	18%
36 – 45	91	60%
46 – 55	13	9%
Over 55 years	3	3%
Total	150	100

Figure 3: Marital Status

Item	Frequency	Percentage
Single	33	22%
Married	115	76%
Divorce	2	2%
Total	150	100

The socio-demographic data from figure 1 shows a sex composition made of 96 males representing 64 percent and 54 females representing 36 percentages. Age composition revealed that 15 respondents representing 10 percent were between 18-25 years while 28 respondents constituting 18 percent were within 26-45 years. 91 respondents representing 60 percent are between 36-45. 13 respondents representing 9 percent were 46-55 years; only 3 (3%) fell under the age bracket of 55 and above years. Marital status of respondents revealed that 33 respondents representing 22 percent are single while 115 respondents representing 76 percent were married. Only 2 respondents were divorced. In summary, the survey shows a data dominated by male respondents and majority of the respondents are within the active age of service with physical and mental vigour to life endeavours.

Research Question 1: What is the effect of corruption on human security in Nigeria?

Table 1: Respondents view on the effect of corruption on human security in Nigeria?

Item	No of Responses	Percentage
Misappropriation of funds	18	12
Poor performance	45	30
High rate of unemployment	3	2
Weak security agency	8	5.3
Poor health care system	11	7.3
None of the above	3	2
All of the above	61	40.6
Total	150	100

Test of Hypothesis

Hypothesis I

(H0) Corruption as the bane of Nigeria democracy does not corrosively affect human security in Nigeria

(H1) Corruption as the bane of Nigeria democracy corrosively affect human security in Nigeria

Independent variable: Corruption

Dependent variables: Human Security

Test statistics: chi square(x2).

Degree of freedom (df): 2

Level of significance: 0.05

Decision rules: retain Ho if calculated x2 value less than (<)critical x2-value. Reject Ho if calculated x2- value greater than(>) critical x2- value.

Effects of Corruption on democracy in Nigeria

Options	Agree	Disagree	No comment	Total
Corruption weakens checks and balances	145 (96%)	5(4%)	0	150
Corruption make political office holders unaccountable	131(87%)	9(6%)	10(7%)	150
Total	276	14	10	300

The output of the chi-square model is:

Cell	Fo	Fe	(FO-FE) ² /FE
A	145	138	0.4
B	5	7	0.6

C	0	5	5
D	131	138	0.4
E	9	7	0.6
F	10	5	5
Total			X² = 12

From the table above, 145 respondents representing 96 percent agree that corruption weakens checks and balances. 5 respondents representing 4 percent disagree corruption weakens checks and balances. Talking about accountability, 131 of the respondents representing 87 percent agree corruption makes political office holders unaccountable while 9 representing 6% disagree that corruption is responsible got the lack of accountability among public holders. 10 respondents representing 7 percent of did not give their opinion. It can be deduced that corruption adversely affect Nigeria's democracy and that it is the cause of the economic and political quagmire Nigeria is plunged. Corruption is a crucial factor that has held Nigeria's democracy in bondage. In every political administration from 1999 to 2017 there have been cases of corruption. Even though different administration has diverse methods of combating corruption, it is still evident that corruption is on the high side. Corruption, which weakens the institutions of checks and balance, has crippled both human and material development in all fabrics of the Nigerian state. The Ho is thereby rejected while H1 is accepted on the ground that the Chi-square calculated X² 12 is greater than the Tab X² 5.994

Research Question 2: What is the consequence of democratic electoral institutional deficiency on human security in Nigeria?

Table 2: Respondents view on the consequence of democratic electoral institutional deficiency on human security in Nigeria?

Item	No of Responses	Percentage
Reign of accidental Leaders	11	7
Lack of credible leaders	9	6
Electoral malpractices	10	7
All of the above	120	80
Total	150	100

Test of Hypothesis

Hypothesis 2

(H0) Electoral institutional deficiency as a problem bedevilling Nigeria's democracy does not threatens human security

(H1) Electoral institutional deficiency as a problem bedevilling Nigeria's democracy threatens human security

Independent variable: Electoral institutional deficiency

Dependent variables: Human Security

Test statistics: chi square(x2).

Degree of freedom (df): 2

Level of significance: 0.05

Decision rules: retain H_0 if calculated χ^2 value less than ($<$) critical χ^2 -value. Reject H_0 if calculated χ^2 - value greater than ($>$) critical χ^2 - value.

Effects of Electoral institution deficiency on democracy in Nigeria

Options	Agree	Disagree	No comment	Total
Electoral institution deficiency causes electoral malpractices	149 (99%)	1(1%)	0	150
Leaders without credibility gain power through electoral malpractices	132 (88%)	13(8%)	5(3%)	150
Total	281	14	5	300

The output of the chi-square model is:

Cell	Fo	Fe	$(FO-FE)^2/FE$
A	149	140.5	0.64
B	1	7	9.14
C	0	2.5	2.5
D	132	140.5	1
E	13	7	5.14
F	5	2.5	2.5
Total			$\chi^2 = 20.92$

From the table above, 149 respondents representing 99 percent agree that electoral institution deficiency causes electoral malpractices. 1 respondents representing 1 percent disagree electoral institution deficiency causes electoral malpractices. Talking about electoral malpractices, 132 of the respondents representing 88 percent agree leaders without credibility gain power through electoral malpractices while 13 representing 8% disagree leaders without credibility gain power through electoral malpractices. 5 of the respondents representing 3 percent of did not give their opinion. It can be deduced that electoral institution deficiency affect Nigeria's democracy and that it is the cause of leadership problem in Nigeria. As a general knowledge of the Nigeria political terrain, electoral malpractices are the norm. The election umpire in 1999, 2003, 2007 until the recent elections of 2011 and 2015 has been manipulated by the political money bags. This has accounted for the reign of leaders, with questionable credibility, leaders with no common vision for the development of the country. This reflects the state of the Nigerian polity. The H_0 is thereby rejected while H_1 is accepted on the ground that the Chi-square calculated χ^2 20.92 is greater than the Tab χ^2 5.994

Research Question 3: What influence does the failure of democratic leaders have on human security in Nigeria?

Table 3: Respondents view on the influence the failures of democratic leaders have on human security in Nigeria.

Items	No of Responses	Percentage
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Poverty	3	2
Unemployment	7	5
Lack of portable water	12	8
Bad roads	3	2
Erratic power supply	8	5.3
All of the above	114	76
None of the above	3	2
Total	150	100

Test of Hypothesis

Hypothesis 3

(H0) Leadership failure in Nigeria's democratic governance has no link with human security

(H1) Leadership failure in Nigeria's democratic governance has a link with human security

Independent variable: Leadership failure

Dependent variables: Human Security

Test statistics: chi square (χ^2).

Degree of freedom (df): 2

Level of significance: 0.05

Decision rules: retain H_0 if calculated χ^2 value less than ($<$) critical χ^2 -value. Reject H_0 if calculated χ^2 - value greater than ($>$) critical χ^2 - value.

Effects of leadership deficiency on democracy in Nigeria

Options	Agree	Disagree	No comment	Total
Nigeria Leadership has no capacity to eradicate poverty	145 (96%)	3(3%)	2(1%)	150
Unemployment is a result of leadership failure	139(92 %)	11(8%)	0(0%)	150
Nigeria leaders are visionless and result-disoriented	128(85 %)	17(11%)	5(3%)	150
Total	412	31	7	450

The output of the chi-square model is:

Cell	Fo	Fe	$(FO-FE)^2/FE$
A	145	137.3	0.43
B	3	10.3	23.2
C	2	2.3	0.4
D	139	137.3	0.02
E	11	10.3	0.2
F	0	2.3	2.3
G	128	137.3	1

H	17	10.3	5.2
I	5	2.3	3.1
Total			X² = 35.9

From the table above, 145 respondents representing 96 percent agree that electoral Nigeria Leadership has no capacity to eradicate poverty. 3 respondents representing 3 percent disagree that Nigeria leadership has no capacity to eradicate poverty. 2 respondents said nothing about the lack of capacity of the leaders to eradicate poverty. Talking about unemployment, 139 of the respondents representing 92 percent agree unemployment is a result of leadership failure. While 11 representing 8% disagree unemployment is a result of leadership failure. 128 respondents constituting 85 percent agree that Nigerian leaders are visionless and result disoriented. 17 respondents of 11 percent disagree Nigeria leaders are visionless and result-disoriented while 5 of the respondent said nothing. Nigeria leaders since the return to democracy have not been totally committed to the course of delivery democratic dividends. The leaders pursue selfish ambitions, a deviation from the norm, core and ideology of democratic leaders to pursue and realise the common good of all in the polity. It can be deduced leadership problem plays a negative role on the democratic delivery in Nigeria. The Ho is thereby rejected while H1 is accepted on the ground that the Chi-square calculated X² 35.9 is greater than the Tab X² 5.994.

Discussion

The above data analysis reveals the significant relationship between democratic challenges and human security in Nigeria. Democratic leaders have failed to harness the tenets of democracy to better the lives of the citizens. This has created a feeling of distrust and betrayal among the populace. Issues threatening human security arise from the failure of democracy to alleviate the woeful socio-economic conditions of Nigerians.

Employment and unemployment are among the indicators for measuring freedom from want and fear in a particular country. A gainfully employed individual is freed from the scourge of lack of amenities. Individual in the society can afford to enjoy the good life. Giving back to the community is also possible from the hand of a person who does not struggle to feed. Such a person will be capable to contribute meaningfully to the society. The community however suffer the violation of the freedom from fear due to the high level of unemployed youths. As the saying goes, an idle hand is the devil workshop” is a factor that is responsible for the increase in the rate of arms in the community. Most armed robbers are youths who struggle to provide for themselves and their families. A country is said to be developing if the rate of unemployment is declining. Again, if the rate of employment increase, the rate of capacity to acquire the necessities of life, protection from threat or actual violence as well as savings will increase thereby leading to enhancement of economic activities and vice versa. Shamefully, the level of unemployment in Nigeria continues to increase since the return of the country to democratic governance in May 1999. The rate of unemployment in 2002 was 3.8 and 3.3 in 2004. The figure declined in 2005 to 3.3 and escalates to 5.8 in 2008 and 11.8 in 2009. The figure grew to 19.7 in 2010 and to 21.1 in 2011 and stretched to 23.3 in 2012. The unemployment rate in Nigeria increased to 14.2 % in the last quarter of 2016 from 10.4 %. It is the highest rate of joblessness since 2009 as the number of unemployed rose from 3.5 million to 11.549 million while employment rose sluggishly by 4.194 million to 81.151 million. The unemployment rate was higher for persons between 15-24 years old (25.2%) women are 16.3% and in the rural areas of 25.8%. youth unemployed in Nigeria increased to 25.20 % in the fourth quarter of 2016. Youth unemployed rate averaged 19.20 % from 2014 to 2017.

Healthcare service delivery is among the major determinants for measuring human security of a country; for the reason that “healthy nation is a wealthy nation.” Since a nation does not exist on its own or in a vacuum but is occupied by human beings, it is then safe to say “a nation inhabited by healthy humans is a wealthy nation”. However, despite the importance of health development to human security in a nation, national health meter in Nigeria are perhaps classed among the lowest in the world (WHO, 2012; Jamo, 2013). Life expectancy in Nigeria as at 2012 was 48 years less than 73 years expectancy in China and 83 years in Japan. Nigeria, as at 2012 records maternal mortality ratio of 1,100 deaths per 100,000 in opposite to 45 and 6 deaths per 100,000 in China and Japan individually (WHO, 2012). Nigeria shares 14% of one third of the world maternal death (WHO, 2012). 52000 Nigerian women die annually, and in every 10 minutes 150 pregnancy related cases with an average of death occur daily in 2012 (UNICEF, 2012). It increased to 58000 maternal death in 2015 (UNICEF 2015). Nigeria record one of the world large number of infant mortality rate (70.49%, 33rd of 179) as well as maternal mortality, malnutrition, poor drug access (0%, 141st of 163) (WHO, 2012; NPC, 2010; Jamo, 2013). The rate of neo-natal mortality rate in the North Nigeria as at 2008 was 55 per 1000, while infant mortality rate was 114 per 1000, whereas under five-mortality rate was 269 per 1000. Nigeria record 814 maternal death per 100000 live births in 2015 (CIA world fact book, 2017) The lack of sophisticated health facility is problem of human security (Olaniyan and Lawanson, 2010; WHO, 2012, Jamo, 2013).

Human security dimension that emphasised empowerment against threat is short-lived in Nigeria democracy. Nigerians have very high expectations that, the return to democratic rule on the 29th of May 1999 will liberate populace from deterioration that culminate from vicious circle of poverty and generational spread of poverty through the streaming flow democracy dividend (Abdullateef, 2010). However, reverse is the case, the country’s GDP performance continuously grows below the pre-democratic period, for instance, in 1985 the percentage of the country’s GDP growth was 9.5% and appreciated to 13.0% in 1990, dropped to 2.2% in 1995; while the percentage increased to 5.4% and 6.10% in 2000 and 2005 respectively and dropped again to 5.0% in 2010. (CBN Statistical Bulletin, 2010 as cited in Abdullateef, 2010).

Freedom from fear of violence was jeopardised since the return of Nigeria to democracy in 1999. Insecurity in the country is rated 10th most in secured out of 53 countries in Africa in 2001, 2002 and 2003. The rate of insecurity increased in 2004, which pushed the country to 8th most unsecured country in Africa. In 2005 and 2006 the country was ranked 10th and 9th respectively; then pushed the country in 2007 to 9th most unsecured country in Africa. In 2008 and 2010 the country was ranked 17th respectively (Ibrahim, 2001-2010).. The Nigerian police who are conduits for saving lives and property are ranked 10th worst security agencies in the world in 2017. This indicates that the rate of insecurity in the country is high regardless of the annual budget increment on security in recent years.

Conclusion

Human Security in Nigeria has been endangered by corruption, weak electoral system, poor leadership and other factors visible in the country. Political leaders have overtime employed the state apparatus to perpetuate and advance their selfish interest to the impoverishment of Nigerians. The system is devoid of programme for the masses and their survival does not gain the good mind of the political leaders. The masses are neglected to growl with wants and fear of the future. Thus it important that institutions such as political parties, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), judiciary, legislatures and executive must be strengthened

enough to shun any trace of corruption and electoral malpractices among the leaders and to focus on Nigerian's development. More awareness need to be created on the need to eradicate the scourge of poverty, unemployment, health sector inadequacy, crime must become the focal point of leaders. Leaders must therefore be subjected to public scrutiny based on the performances to protect and promote human security in their sphere of influence.

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