

Examining the Indispensability of Information Technology Tools in Managing Insecurity in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

Nigeria instance has been battling insecurity for many years, with no idea of how the situation can be brought under control. Using the current security challenges as point of reference, from Boko Haram insurgency to Fulani Militias groups, kidnapping in every part of the country and bandits killing people all around, the country appears overwhelmed. Knowing fully well that development is anchored on peace and tranquility; this makes many countries of the world to invest heavily on getting standard and working security infrastructural facilities that enable them to keep relative peace. Effort in national security is driven by the need to ensure the safety of territorial integrity against external and internal aggression. The paper, deeply rooted in Psychoanalytic Theory, examines the importance of technological tools in containing the spate of insecurity in Nigeria in a bid to ensure national safety. The paper found that people are integral in the fight against insecurity and will further enhance the use of tech tools to be adopted. The paper concludes that modern intelligence gathering devices must be acquired and deployed by security apparatuses of government while real time communication systems that will enable information sharing must be installed and adopted. It adds that man power training must precede the adoption and use of these gadgets as there is lack of technical know-how around major global innovations. It was however recommended that State and Local agencies that are directly connected to the needs of crisis amongst the people need to be financially sustained, while public awareness should be done on daily basis. Also, government and relevant stakeholders should focus on science and technology related research, and ensure that they invest more in the defence sector.

Keywords: Security, Insecurity, IT, Defence, Militias, Kidnapping, Fulani, Nigeria, Psychoanalytic, Technology.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The inevitable security issues leading to subsequent destruction of lives, properties and the environment has been a source of worry and concern for worthy citizens of the country and well as the world. Although Nigeria have taken bold steps to settle their insecurity issues through combat approach; although, there still exist several unresolved issues bothering the country's peaceful coexistence on one hand and accurate mapping of contiguous areas using geospatial science and technology such as satellite Remote Sensing (RS), Geographic information Systems (GIS) and Global Navigational Satellite Systems (GNSS) on the other hand. This has generated a wide-ranging agreement among historians, political class, academia and other stakeholders that insecurity has remained the core cause of bloodshed in Nigeria and the world at large (Ajijola, 2012).

The use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the provision of solution to human, social and industrial challenges has proven to be a success in many fields of human endeavours and indeed many nations of the world. As pointed earlier, ICT consists of the hardware, software, networks, and media for the collection, storage, processing, transmission and presentation of information (voice, data, text, images), as well as related services (Premium Times 2015). Reports over the years show alarming increase in levels of crime and Boko Haram terrorist attack especially in the North Eastern Nigeria (Source from: Guardian Newspaper, 2014). Unfortunately, this situation is spreading cross the other Africa countries, with countries such as Cameroun, Chad and Niger now recording disquieting increases in crime levels and attacks of Boko-Haram, as the violent sect Attacks Killed Over 1,000 Civilians in February this year 2015 (Source from: International Business Times 2015).

The role of Technology and in particular, software systems in National Security Database Intelligence dynamics has therefore become a critical and significant component as well as a fundamental necessity for understanding e-security life-cycle. Also, it amplifies the needs and accelerated urgency for deploying strategies capable of protecting Critical National Information Infrastructure (CNII) with result-oriented and sustainable implementation process.

To actualize this important national objective, one global best principle is mandatory, that is: National Security Database Applications Software must be developed through and by harnessing internal resources and proficiency and not by external forces. Swim or sink, engaging the use of ICT tools in Nigeria is the key and the secure roadmap to our future and indigenous skill-sets must be called to national duty. The reason is not far-fetched, the task is a very sensitive initiative which represents and is indeed, the knowledge laboratory for national survival. The reality today translates to the fact that it should be abundantly clear to us, that the era and long-addicted habit of physically and blindly chasing the containers and cargo packages at all our import terminals and air/land boarders and throwing away the content of the manifest documents that represent the knowledge-base and real world inside the containers, must be over by now.

Undoubtedly, Information Technology (IT) is the world's fastest growing body of knowledge for sustainable development and national security architecture in this present era. At the center of these very complex processes in software infrastructure, capacity and capability which determines the equilibrium for national security, peace, growth, creation of wealth and for business continuity of nations at all levels. (E-Note.com 2011). It is the objective of this paper to highlight the problem and challenges of insecurity, as well as its effect in Nigeria. Attempt is made to trace the problem, causes and challenges of national security in Nigeria. The paper presents an overview of the general level of development of information and communication technology and various challenges in its usage for national security in Nigeria, and then examines the ICT tools used as a counter-measure to insecurity in Nigeria.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Foundation

This study is rooted in Psychoanalytic Theory. For proper understanding of this research study, the psychoanalytic theory which advocates by Freud, has taken a somewhat indirect approach in explaining criminal behaviour. It relies on the pathological process by which criminal acts are thought to be manifested (Blackburn, 1993). The work of August Aichhorn is one of the first formal psychoanalytic attempts at understanding criminal behaviour (Hollin, 1989). Aichhorn stated that there was some underlying predisposition termed "latent delinquency". That resulted in a child becoming a criminal later in life (Hollin, 1989). He believed that each child was typically asocial in its first dealings with the world and due to a failure in psychological development this asocial tendency (latent delinquency) persisted and governed behaviour resulting in the criminal behaviour (Hollin, 1989). Other psychoanalytic theorists felt that the inability to postpone immediate gratification in order to achieve greater long-term gains was a key factor in criminal behaviour (Feldman, 1993; Hollin, 1989).

Sublimation has also been offered as a factor for an individual engaging in criminal behaviour (Blackburn, 1993; Hollin, 1989). The criminal act is thought to result from inner unsatisfied wishes, which in turn stem from a failure to express strong emotional ties with another person, often the parent (Hollin, 1989). Although there are other psychoanalytic theories of crime (maternal deprivation, low self-esteem), the length restriction on this paper prevents a more in depth review. Psychoanalytic theories of crime stress the role the inner processes and conflicts play on the determinants of behaviour (Blackburn, 1993; Hollin, 1989). Blackburn (1993) summed up the psychoanalytic theory of crime as subscribing to three claims:

1. Socialization depends on the internalization of society's rules during early childhood.
2. Impaired parent-infant relationships are causally related to later criminal behavior.
3. Unconscious conflicts arising from disturbed family relationships at different stages of development are the causes of some criminal acts.

Psychoanalytic theories of crime are primarily suited for those types of crimes that result from unconscious conflicts (Blackburn, 1993; Hollin, 1989). They are not well suited for explaining crimes that incorporate planning and rational goals such as, white collar and computer crimes (Blackburn 1993; Feldman, 1993; West, 1988)

2.2 Understanding Insecurity

The need for security has been the heart of social contract between the citizenry and the state, in which people willingly surrendered their rights to the government who oversees the survival of all. From this perspective, security embodies the mechanism put in place to avoid, prevent, reduce, or resolve violent conflicts, and threats that originate from other states, non-state actors, or structural socio-political and economic conditions. Thus, security is key in achieving national cohesion, peace and sustainable development. Within the framework of this article, insecurity is defined as a breach of peace and security; whether historical, religious, ethnic, regional, civil, social, economic, and political that contributes to recurring conflicts, and leads to wanton destruction of lives and property. However, for the purpose of this colloquium, there is need to gaze into the possible reasons of insecurity in Nigeria, which shall serve as a base for apt expatiation of this article.

Below are some of the causes among many;

- i. **Terrorism:** One of the most fundamental sources of insecurity in Nigeria today is terrorism. In Nigeria, terrorism is traceable to religious fanaticism particularly in Islam dominated states of Nigeria. Terrorism in Nigeria started with the notorious Islamic sect in the Northern part of Nigeria called Mataisine during Shagari civilian regime which was aborted by a military coup in December 1983 led by General Muhammadu Buhari.
- **Widespread systemic and political corruption:** Corruption is responsible for governance failure in Nigeria; and insecurity in Nigeria is mainly a function of government failure. Corruption has created massive unemployment in the country, which has in turn worsened the insecurity situation in Nigeria. Mismanagement of resources has brought about massive poverty and lack which is also a factor in the insecurity challenge facing the country.
- **Weak Security System:** This is a major factor responsible for the level of insecurity in Nigeria, and this can be attributed to a number of factors which include inadequate funding of the police and other security agencies, lack of modern equipment, poor welfare of security personnel, and inadequate personnel.

Discussing the proper way by which government can resolve the situation, Godday Odidi, a Public Affairs Analyst recounts that;

"Few years ago, Nigerians were anxiously concerned on how the federal government can tackle the corrosive and caustic corruption, education, agriculture and power failure, but the recurring spate of hapless killings in the Northern parts of Nigeria diverted the minds of Nigerians to make the federal government to concentrate on tackling security threats in the country"

The countless bombings of churches, mosques, schools, government buildings and others have equally put Nigeria into a terrorist list which indicated that the federal government has to improve on the welfare of security agencies in Nigeria. Boko Haram members are not spirit but human beings like ours. One thing the government has failed to comb out the sponsors of this dreaded sect not the executors, the executors are just messengers to the highest order. However, the northern leaders and elders have many questions to answer on the spate of bombings in the region than blaming Jonathan's leadership at the central. It sad that a top political leader once said that Boko Haram members are well- equipped than the Nigerian security agencies. In other words our Nigerian security agencies are in total failure. Even federal government declaring states of emergencies to those troubled northern states have not prevented Boko Haram attacks. Some of the views indicated that most Boko Haram members are not Nigerians but are paid to cause political havoc in the country.

2.3 Effects of Insecurity in Nigeria

As much as there are causes of insecurity especially in the country, diving into the effects of this insecurity is believed to make research work apt. As much as social, economic, and political development is the aim of every well responsible government, it is however depend upon the peaceful co-existence by people. In the absence of security, development is untenable because insecurity destroys economic, human and social capital. For instance, the Boko Haram insurgency in Northern Nigeria has almost crippled economic activities in that region. Similarly, activities, of Niger Delta militants in the oil-producing Southern part of the country pose serious threat to the economic health of the region in particular, and Nigeria in general. In the know these, other effects of insecurity in Nigeria include the following:

1. Social dislocation and displacement of people, as well as social tensions and new pattern of settlements which encourages Muslims/Christians divisions.
2. General atmosphere of mistrust, fear, anxiety and frenzy.
3. Inhumane treatment of people, especially in areas where rape, child abuse and neglect are used as instruments of war.

Atmosphere of political insecurity and instability including declining confidence in the political leadership and apprehension about the system have continued to rage

2.4 Conceptualizing National Security

National security, means security from threats or attacks from people, organizations or countries that impacts the well-being of a nation and its citizen as a whole rather than of any specific individuals or within the nation. Such threats and attacks are usually directed at harming the lives of people and property; however, this does not rule out other illegal acts. The concept of "National Security Issues" is often misunderstood says (Wolfer, 1962) and as such elusive says (Carey, 2000). Hence a strange phenomenon, a subjective "felling", and therefore relational and relatives, rather than an objective "thing" than can be seen and handled. However, national security is the requirement to maintain the survival of the state through the use of economic, diplomacy, power projection and political power.

Anyadike (2013) believes that a nation which desires a good national security architecture must be sure to be sound in a number of national life including but not limited to economic security, energy security, environmental security, etc. Security threats involve not only conventional foes such as other nation-states but also non-state actors such as violent non-state actors, narcotic cartels, multinational corporations and non-governmental organizations; some authorities include natural disasters and events causing severe environmental damage in this category. So, to ensure national safety is to protect one's sovereign power.

3. PROBLEMS, CAUSES AND CHALLENGES OF NATIONAL SECURITY IN NIGERIA

As viewed by Freedman's (1998), it is believed that once anything generates anxiety or threatens the quality of life in some respect, it is thus labeled a "security problem". The notion of economic security thus encourages a confrontational approach to trace policy, while that of "environmental security" has often served more to confuse than to clarify by encouraging a search for adversaries. National security is important not only to the government, but to the nation as a whole. National security serves many purposes. One of the problem affiliated to national security is that security expertise is limited in Nigeria where this level of terrorism is a relatively new phenomenon and training as well as resources for building that type of intelligence gathering capability is lacking.

Another problem identify by Aliyu (2012) is corruption as close to 95 percent of the populace believe that the government is corrupt, according to a Gallup survey released in January, 2010. Aliyu (2012) critically outline three important variables that define the nexus of the causes and problems militating against national security issues in Nigeria which he cited as poverty, inequality and mass unemployment. The state is secured only when the aggregate of people organized under it has a consciousness of belonging to a common sovereign political community; enjoy equal political freedom, human rights, economic opportunities, and when the state itself is able to ensure independence in its development and foreign policy.

Elesin (2012) on his own opinion viewed showcase terrorism, armed robbery, kidnapping and other criminalities as a quick survey of the security challenges in Nigeria as well threat of sects like Boko-Haram, high level of unemployed youths, Militant from the oil rich Niger delta, ritual killings and kidnappings, the high rate of inequality, influx of illegal migrants from the neighbouring countries, emergence of political and regional thugs, and the collapse of the justice system. In addressing the challenges to the survival of democracy and national security issues in Nigeria, it is pertinent to consider security issues and problems that have affected or capable of affecting the attitude, confidence and cooperation of all groups and segments that makes up the Nigerian federation.

It is also necessary to explore the gaps and gray areas in the national constitution that are responsible for various problems and crises and how these gaps can be addressed. Some of the major security problems currently confronting the nation have been identified to include: political and electioneering conflicts, socio-economic agitations, ethno-religious crises, ethnic militias, boundary disputes, cultism, criminality and organized crimes. However, these problems either by individually or collectively constitute threats to the peace, security and development of the country. Invariably, they have implications for the continuity and survival of the nation's nascent democracy (Abiz, 2008).

4. ICT TOOLS USED AS COUNTER-MEASURE TO INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

Prior to traditional means of fighting Nigeria's insurgency, ICT has brought the use of modern technology in combating criminalities beyond information dissemination Shatimah and Adamu (2016), but involved detection, analyzing and identification of citizens' activities, interaction and movement with aid of different ICT facilities. It will be recalled that high rate of unemployment has really created a serious security challenges, as the unemployed get themselves involve in all sorts of crimes like robbery, kidnapping, oil pipeline vandalization, insurgency, political thuggery, ritual Killings that threaten national security. These crimes are not only counter-productive to the economy but also possess threat to our national integrity as potential foreign investors are scared away and the country's image is the country. This crisis with its attendant effect of insecurity started in Nigeria in the area known as the Niger Delta area, consisting of Delta, Bayelsa, River, Abia, Akwa-Ibom, Crossover, Edo, Imo and Ondo states for years where militia groups rose against the Nigeria nation by blowing up some oil flow stations, kidnap foreign oil workers, vandalize oil pipelines, and disrupt oil business generally.

This crisis is attributed to greed, selfishness, deprivation, poverty, and social injustice (Oyadongha, 2006). To stem the crisis situation, the Nigeria Government granted amnesty to Niger Delta militants; but as the government of Nigeria was yet to recover from the adverse economic effects of the militancy in the Niger Delta, a terrorist organization, Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad, known by its Hausa name, Boko Harām; figuratively meaning "Western education is a sin" emerged in the Northern part of the country, thereby opening a new wave of insurgency in Nigeria. The group exerts influence in the northeastern Nigerian states of Borno, Adamawa, Kaduna, Bauchi, Yobe and Kano. This terrorist group bombed schools, churches and mosques, public places; kidnapped women and children; raids vulnerable villages and assassinated politicians and religious leaders.

The 2014 abduction of 219 female students from the Government Secondary School in the Chibok town in Borno State, Nigeria (FoxNews, 2014) ; and the 2011 bombing of the United Nation House headquarters in Nigeria nation's capital, Abuja (Bavier, 2012) are cases in point. Bokom Haram therefore is Nigeria synonym for fear and bloodshed (Karimi and Carter, 2014). Unlike the Niger Delta militant, Boko Haram sect rejected the idea of amnesty (BBC News, 2013). This rejection implied that the Boko Haram sect were more ready than ever to take up arms against the state; and indeed insurgency increased in the northern part of the country thereafter. With the Niger Delta militancy and insurgency in the North, crime wave increased in unimaginable proportion across the length and breadth of the country. The global report stated that the war against terrorism in Nigeria raised military expenditure to a staggering sum of \$2.327 billion (N372.3 billion) in 2012 alone; thereby placing Nigeria among countries at war in Africa (Onwubiko, 2014). To this extent, Nigeria is tottering towards becoming a failed state (Banwo, 2012) usually painted in bad light in the international fora. Therefore, serious efforts must be made to minimize or completely eliminate the incidence of these crimes in Nigeria.

Nigeria Government fights insurgency more from her military effort other than the use of ICT. To this end, Nigeria expenditure on military hardware for the purpose of combating insurgency is on the increase. Onwubiko (2014) notes that the Nigerian military expenditure of \$2.327 billion (N372.3 billion) in 2012 alone makes the Nigeria's military spending to be the sixth highest in Africa, and it competes with the expenditures of countries like Libya (\$2.9 billion), Morocco (\$3.4 billion), Angola (\$4.1 billion), South Africa (\$4.4 billion) and Algeria (\$9.3 billion). As government is combating the rising insecurity in the country occasioned by insurgencies erupting from different segments of the society [through the military], there has been embarrassing quietness from the ICT sector (Okwu, 2014). This quietness of the ICT sector in using ICT resource to combat insurgency is coupled with the lack of commitment by the Nigeria government in deploying the ICT resources to this end. This lukewarm attitude of the government can be seen from the government inability to put in place the necessary infrastructure, in terms of legal and technical infrastructure.

Consequent to this, Nigeria has shown its readiness in tackling insurgency with ICT based on the recent introduction of ICT tools in carrying out national duties (James & Saraso, 2016). Explained below;

- i. Close Circuit Television (CCTV): CCTV cameras are now used widely in developed (United Kingdom and United States e.t.c.) and underdeveloped nations like Nigeria to detect criminal and terrorist activities. They are deployed not only in government offices but even in private and individual premises to watch crime execution (Kemi, A. O. et al, 2016 and Shatimah and Adamu (2016)
- ii. Automated Personal Data Bank (APDB): This is the use of dedicative devices and databases to collect and store the detected data and personal information about citizens and immigrants Eijkman, Q. (2012) that can allow the security system to track individual information including suspected terrorist groups.
- iii. Detecting Devices (DD): DD are of two types; one to detect the presence of explosive object in person or vehicle. Nigeria are currently using handheld detecting machine in public gathering like market, schools and worshipping places, but there is need to provide the improved detecting devices which can be placed in door site as in banks and gate site within public premises and other sensitive and security cautious centers Shatimah and Adamu (2016).
- iv. Protection of communication networks: Most crimes are committed in communication networks with could be telecommunication and computer networks. Therefore appropriate measure must be taken to secure the network which is the infrastructure of communication. Communication network could be protected with the use of firewall. Firewall as a set of related programs, located at a network gateway server that protects the resources of a private network from users from other networks (M. Rouse, 2005). In other words, it is firewall prevents unauthorized access to or from a private network.

4.1 The challenges of using ICT for national security in Nigeria

The use of Information and Communication Technology tools is not without a challenge.

This challenge is:

(a) Low level of ICT skills among security personnel.

The major challenge of the use ICT to combat crime in Nigeria is low level of ICT skills among security personnel. On a generally note, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Development Index (IDI) for ICT use and skills, ranked Nigeria 122th position out of the 155 selected economies as at 2011 with an abysmal growth rate of 0.18% (B. Uzor, 2012). In a related study, out of 255 personnel of the Nigeria Army Signal Corps indicates that only 89 personnel could use ICT tool without assistance (M. Umaru, 2012). This is a general reflection of what happens in other sections of the Armed Forces and other security agencies. It was asserted in (M. Umaru, 2012) that gone are the days when the purpose of sophisticated personal computers and other electronic gadgets were the exclusive preserve of the very rich and multi-national corporations and large business organizations. In other words, the ICT tools are becoming cheaper and more readily available; therefore the availability must be translated into effective and effectual use of the tool to tackle problems of life.

(b) Lack of Government Commitment.

Nigeria Government fights insurgency more from her military effort other than the use of ICT. To this end, Nigeria expenditure on military hardware for the purpose of combating insurgency is on the increase. In (E. Onwubiko, 2014), Nigeria military expenditure of \$2.327 billion (N372.3 billion) in 2012 alone makes the Nigeria's military spending to be the sixth highest in Africa, and it competes with the expenditures of countries like Libya (\$2.9 billion), Morocco (\$3.4 billion), Angola (\$4.1 billion), South Africa (\$4.4 billion) and Algeria (\$9.3 billion). As government is combating the rising insecurity in the country occasioned by insurgencies erupting from different segments of the society through the military, there has been embarrassing quietness from the ICT sector (E. Okwuke, 2014). This quietness of the ICT sector in using ICT resource to combat insurgency is coupled with the lack of commitment by the Nigeria government in deploying the ICT resources to this end.

Below are some areas where ICT could improve national security in Nigeria:

- **Financing:** This plays a huge role in the activities of terrorists and disrupting finances should be a priority of national security. ICT is a vital tool for tracking, tracing and investigating suspected financial transactions. With the recent introduction of cashless society, transactions will be forced to electronic platforms where suspicious cash movements can be identified and questioned. This would go a long way in curbing the financing of activities that constitute a threat to national security.
- **Communication:** Intercepting communication between and within terror groups and enhancing interaction within security agencies can be achieved through the deployment of ICT. A number of gadgets and technologies are used in communication and by exercising the role and ethics of those technologies will help in tagging and tracking information that is/was communicated using a certain devices. Also in ethics of IT, every electronic device developed has a unique identification number (IUID) that makes the device electronically traceable. These systems could be deployed positively for the interest of national security
- **Surveillance:** Computer surveillance involving the monitoring of data and traffic eg. Phone calls and broadband Internet traffic (emails, web traffic, instant messaging, etc.) are required to be available for unimpeded real-time monitoring by Federal law enforcement agencies. So many forms and technologies can be used such as surveillance cameras, social network analysis, Biometric surveillance, data mining and profiling, corporate surveillance, satellite imagery, RFID and Geolocation devices.
- **Intelligence Gathering:** Using ICT Tools to engage the public in acquiring information that has the potential to enhance national security. The internet, print and electronic media are useful in gathering useful information to assist in the nation security efforts.
- **Coordination:** the use of cutting edge technology to centralize and coordinate all the Nations data will act as a proactive and dynamic means of combating insecurity. A basic example is the development of Central intelligence Unit or Counter Terrorism Unit with a robust, dynamic, vibrant and updated central database.

4.2 Managing Insecurity in the 21st Century: Information Technology Exigency

In Nigeria, there have been different security concerns across the country since 1960. It is however on records that many security issues predate the date earlier stated. Insecurity in Nigeria threatens lives and properties, and has hindered business activities by discouraging local and foreign investors. The need to resolve or possibly offset the growing trend of death and depredation caused by the Boko-Haram insurgents and the whole insecurity challenges in Nigeria cannot be over emphasized in view of the data presented by amnesty international and other international agencies on the status of criminal activities happening in the country. The truce terms of the radical sect makes the hope of having peace restored to look like a ruse in the country (Abisoye, 2012).

The idea of engaging the use of force been suggested by some have placed their argument on the idea that, when a group of people decide to take up arms against their nation and murder innocent members of the populace, the only way to prevent anarchy is to deal with the issue firmly. Gubio is of the view that the group must be handled with firm caution; being a group that does not want to operate or recognize the existing Nigerian government neither do they want to know neither the Nigerian constitution nor the Nigerian laws. Meanwhile, Obasanjo in 2011 believed a "Carrot and Stick" was the best approach as the measure of ensuring a lasting solution to the problem. Also, 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. Since the menace has subsided, this is the right time for the Nigerian government to establish special force that can urgently 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. "The federal government and the entire security agencies should do all they can that is necessary to stop the continuing bloodletting in Northern Nigeria." (Anyadike, 2013).

Also in the same vein, the federal government should endorse a mandatory military training to Nigerian youths after completion of their high school education as part of efforts to stop violence in parts of the country; and this will as well check the wave of insecurity in the country. Howbeit, the federal government must create a new department of home security, new department of national intelligence, and reorganized the whole system (Kayode, 2012). The federal government should however apply the use of rule of law and new advance technologies to tackle insecurity challenges like computerized machines and other technical accessories like in other western countries. In the know of these, the NCS is expected to tighten the noose on illegal proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs), explosives and other offensive weapon. Similarly, NIS should mount a formidable campaign against the influx of illegal immigrants and effectively monitor the international borders since some of them could be willing hand for perpetration of violent crimes.

The federal government should urgently investigate the roles of the security agents and other functionaries irrespective of their closeness to the corridors of power. There is need for provision of modern equipment for the force to enhance effective crime fighting and prevention which is also of immense value. The Inter-agencies collaboration of security and intelligence agencies has to be further encouraged such as National Intelligence Agency (NIA), State Security Services (SSS), Directorate of Military Intelligence (DMI), Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) and such others should be equipped in all ramifications to be able to cope with contemporary security challenges.

There is also need to investigate or identify the kind of misery, grievances, misgiving, deprivations and despair that cause some people to take pleasure in terminating human lives, including their own sometimes. Basically, the investigation should be done with the view to effecting radical change in society and channel such deadly instincts towards peaceful ends based on dialogue, negotiation, resolution of conflict and mutual healing (Abisoye, 2012). The teaching of good morals by clerics has also been stressed as a panacea to the current insecurity posed to the country by such outlaws as the Boko haram sect members and militants in the Niger Delta (Suntai 2011; Abisoye, 2012). Sequel to this, the federal government should bring economic opportunity to the people who don't have it and reduce the rate of prosperity which has always been concentrated in and around urban areas (Clinton, 2013). Finally, the federal government should urgently look into the problem solving skills and creative opportunities as an alternative to fight against community violence, drugs abuses, thugs, crime, murder, poverty and youth unemployment in the Northern Region of Nigeria, while the carrot and stick could be in the form of dialogue and massive intelligence gathering by the security personnel to root out perpetration of the alleged serial killing and bombings to proffer immediate solution to the ongoing national security challenges which has highly affected the nation's economic and foreign investors partnership.

5. CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

This paper has examined the indispensability of information technology tools in managing insecurity in Nigeria. The growing rate of insecurity in Nigeria is disgusting and worrisome to the extent that lives and properties are destroyed and displaced across the country's geo-political zones with different types of attacks and other criminal activities such Boko-Haram, Niger Delta Avengers, Headsmen and cattle rustlers making the nation citizens frightening despite the number of security agencies available in the country and international support. Howbeit, it is quite glaring that information technology has a great role to play on national security in Nigeria. The growing importance of information technology presents not only new opportunities to benefit modern society, but also brings challenges to the approach and methodology of securing that society from outside attack. To adequately address Nigerian security challenges, modern intelligence gathering devices must be acquired and deployed by the state security outfits. Surveillance system that can monitor most sensitive equipment and public places must be put in place. Real time communication systems that will enable information sharing must be installed.

Obviously, the problem of insecurity in Nigeria has been further compounded by lack of technological know-how. Even when the tools are deployed, how well can they be used? It is based on the above that the following recommendations are made;

1. Greater priority must be given to crime prevention in public safety policies: Safety and prevention strategies, as defined by the United Nations, must constitute public policies in and of them, and not be annexed to other policies. They must benefit from adequate and specific resources both in terms of funding and governance, management capacities, follow-up, and evaluation.
2. State and Local agencies that are directly connected to the local needs of crisis in communities need to be financially empowered
3. Public awareness and training of security personnel on security issues should continue unabated.
4. Government and individual should focus more in science and technology related research, and ensure that they invest more in the defense sector, as there should be proper collaboration between the information technology sector and the defense structure of the country as well as security stakeholders.
5. The inclusion of ICT course in all Nigerian institutions of learning should be monitored to ensure practical teaching of the course at all level, so that every graduate can be able to operate the peripherals.

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