

BANDITRY AND INSECURITY IN KADUNA STATE: ISSUES AND CONTENTION IN IGABI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KADUNA STATE

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Abstract

Banditry and insecurity have led to dire humanitarian consequences in Kaduna State and beyond. It has taken the form of shooting and killing, cattle rustler, kidnapping, rape, torching of entire villages and looting of valuables and the number of fatalities and displaced people have continued to rise. This has grossly affected the rural economy and socio-economic development of the affected areas and the state at large. This paper seeks to assess the activities of banditry and insecurity in Igabi Local Government Area of Kaduna State. The paper employed both primary and secondary methods of data collection. Human Need Theory has also been utilized as its theoretical framework analysis. The paper revealed that banditry and insecurity have adversely affected the study area. Therefore, the paper recommends that government should engage and implement the three (3) key strategies for dealing with the issues of banditry and insecurity in Kaduna State: that is negotiation, managing the fallout from violence and restricting. Also, government and religious leaders should collaborate with social, political and other stakeholders in most of the affected areas to assist in identifying members of this deadly group who live among them and finally aggressively pursuer policy should be initiated to stop the growth of SALWS rather than continuing to throw up its hands and hope that things just get better on their own.

Introduction

Since the exit of the military from the political scene and the enthronement of democracy in Nigeria about 14 years ago, Nigeria has witnessed an unprecedented security challenges that have put Nigerians and foreigners on their toes. More particularly, since 2007, the state of insecurity in the country

occasioned by the activities of different groups has assumed an alarming dimension. Such activities include militancy in the South-South region, kidnapping in the South East, violent armed robbery, political assassination, ritual killings and more suicide bombing in some parts of the Northern region, especially North West (Chijioke, 2013). The insecurity challenges have assumed formidable dimension forcing the country's political and economic managers and indeed the enter nations, to regret the loss of their loves one's, investments and absence of safety in most parts of the country (Urim, 2012). Some typical example are ritual killings, suicide bombing, religious killings, political-motivated killings, ethnic clashes (like Fulani herdsmen), Book haram insurgent, armed banditry and others, have become order of the day in our beloved country called Nigeria (Ucha, 2010).

The scourge of insecurity has posed a severe threat to the development of the Northwest Region. Reports indicate the flourishing of bandit groups, whose members were seen displaying automatic weapons, terrorising herders in settlements, farms, villages, and the highways to kill people, kidnapping, and pillaging cows. Kaduna, have been the most critical hot spots in recent times. From July to December 2021, over 343 persons died due to banditry, communal clashes, violent attacks, and reprisals. Southern Kaduna senatorial district recorded the majority of these deaths. This has continued to hamper farming activities due to constant attacks and the kidnapping of farmers working in their fields. Reports show mass migration from affected communities in, Birnin Gwari, Igabi, Giwa, Chikun, Kauru, Kajuru, Kachia, Kagarko, Zangon Kataf, Jema'a and Sanga local governments. The rural economy of the frontline areas, which is sustained by crop and livestock farming, is near collapse due insecurity in the state. The weekly markets, a dynamic means of sustenance, have been suspended and residents dispossessed.

Rural development is an essential phenomenon in the realisation of sustainable national development due to the fact that it forms the foundation upon which growth and national development are built. The economy of the rural communities seeks to enhance development and improve livelihoods by implementing comprehensive development initiatives for rural areas where most people live in poverty (Abang, 2021). Banditry has led to dire humanitarian consequences in Kaduna state and beyond. It has taken the form of shooting and killing, cattle rustling, kidnapping, rape, torching of entire villages, and looting of valuables, and the numbers of fatalities and displaced people have continued to rise. This has grossly affected the rural economy and socio-economic development of the affected areas and the state at large. There can be no doubt that banditry poses a serious threat to the security of Kaduna state, the Northwest states, and the country, given its growing impact and implications.

Kaduna State and its Local Government Area in Nigeria have seen a number of ineffective governances with various leaders betraying the trust of the people and people have no say over how they are governed and or how accountable their government is to them. Poor leadership, especially in previous

and present administrations has led to a lack of government accountability and transparency that, in large measure, has resulted in a high level of corruption in the state. The culture of political and administrative arbitrariness has been the major characteristic undermining good governance in Kaduna state and Nigeria in general. A continuous decline in the quality of governance in Kaduna state, therefore, calls for building political leadership based on competence, commitment, patriotism, acceptance, and self-denial. Public officials must therefore provide leadership that brings about a change in behaviour, as leadership is indeed paramount to good governance. It is against this backdrop that this research examines the problems of insecurity as a bane of national development in Nigeria with reference to Kaduna state. An attempt will be made to highlight some challenges that militate against national development and good governance in an ascent democracy and devise appropriate strategies to address them in Kaduna state and Nigeria in general.

Statements of the Problem

Igabi can be seen as an area which bombarded with political, economic and insecurity the dynamism of crime which ranges from minor crimes to the level of terrorism has affected the lives of people living within this geographical area. Particularly the economic activity, most especially farmers and small-scale business runners. Its sophistication has overwhelmed the government; Igabi has witnessed unprecedented spate of insecurity occasioned by terrorism, banditry, kidnapping, corruption, injustice, poverty, inflation and bad governance. The spate of violence and high level of insecurity has turn hundreds of youths into jobless, prostitution, child labor. Despite efforts by the government at bringing the perpetrators of these barbaric and dastardly crimes to book, the insurgents of bandits and Fulani herdsmen is getting more increasing day by day and innocent's citizens are losing all what they have struggled for over years.

Research Questions

The following are the research questions that will guide the paper:

1. What are the socio-economic implications of banditry and insecurity in IGABI local Government area of Kaduna State?
2. What are the causes of Banditry and Insecurity in Igabi Local Government area of Kaduna State?
3. What are the efforts made by Kaduna State Government in Combating Banditry and insecurity in Igabi Local Government area of Kaduna State?

Conceptual Framework

Banditry

Banditry is defined as using arms (or any instrument of coercion/violence) to deprive people of their material possessions (Okoli & Ugwu, 2019). It is often associated with gangs, although some bandits have been known to operate as

lone brigands unaffiliated. Armed banditry has been a persistent phenomenon comprehended and illustrated from a variety of perspectives. Banditry, according to Shalangwa (2013), is the practice of raiding and attacking victims by members of an armed group, whether or not premeditatedly, using weapons of offence or defence, particularly in semi-organized groups, with the intent of overpowering the victim and obtaining loot or achieving political objectives. Such bandits are typically regarded as outlaws, desperate and lawless marauders with no fixed residence or destination avoid being identified, detected, and arrested by moving around the forest and mountains. Banditry, in another sense, refers to armed robberies or related violent crimes such as kidnapping, cattle rustling, and village or market raids. It entails using force, or the threat of force, to intimidate a person or a group of people to rob, rape, or kill them (Okoli & Okpaleke, 2014). Banditry is motivated by economic or political interests. The former indicates that banditry is motivated by the imperative of material accumulation. The latter is motivated by a desire to rob, assault, or kill a person or group of people based on political or ideological preferences (Okoli & Ugwu, 2019). Thus, banditry is defined in the context of this paper as the total of armed robbery or other violent crimes such as kidnapping, cattle rustling, village raids, highway raids that entail the use of force, or the threat of force, to intimidate a person or a group of people with the intention to rob, rape, kidnap, or kill the victims.

Insecurity

The concept of insecurity is a crosscutting and multi-dimensional concept which has been subject to debates. Insecurity is viewed differently by different researchers, some associating it with how it affects individual lives and existence. The state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection or inadequate freedom from danger is seen as insecurity (Beland, 2005). In another view, Achumba et.al. (2013) opined that insecurity is a state of being subject to danger, exposed to risk or anxiety. A person or thing is said to be secured when not being exposed to any form of danger or risk of physical or moral aggression, accident, theft or deterioration (Eme and Anyadike, 2013). It is a fear of the unknown; A feeling of trepidation and unsafe. Also, it is a state of being unable to protect lives and property. In other words, the person is vulnerable to damage, injury or loss from both internal and external causes. Thus, one can deduct from the definition that a nation's sovereignty cannot safeguard the citizen and her resource both within and outside the country. There are various types of insecurity. A Job insecurity, Food insecurity, Political insecurity, Economic insecurity, financial insecurity, Social insecurity, Demographic insecurity, Gender/sexual insecurity, Health insecurity, Environmental insecurity, Relationship insecurity, Religious insecurity, Moral insecurity and Insecurity complex.

Banditry and Insecurity in Kaduna State

With the persistent actions of armed bandits now proscribed as terrorists in Kaduna State, a new wave of crises has rocked rural development. Attacks have included kidnapping, murdering, cattle rustling, rape, torching entire villages, and looting of valuables, with the number of persons killed and displaced rising by the day. While over 1,100 persons were slain in the six states in 2018, over 2,200 were killed in 2019, and over 1,600 were killed between January and June 2020. (Council on Foreign Relations, 2020). By September 2019, similar attacks had displaced over 160,000 individuals and resulted in over 41,000 refugees.

The main economic activities in the northwest particularly Kaduna State, have been identified as large-scale agricultural and animal husbandry with trading as a secondary source of revenue. Throughout the year, targeted attacks on farmers have rendered cultivation and harvest impossible. Animal husbandry in these areas has also been affected by cattle rustling. As a result of the violence and forced relocation, affected communities were unable to rely on self-produced cereals for subsistence and commercial farming, increasing the risk of food insecurity for both displaced and non-displaced people. The possibility of being abducted for ransom exists. As the banditry attacks have continued, the afflicted populace has expressed scepticism about the army and police's ability to avoid a repeat of this heinous trend. Residents and survivors in the afflicted states have stated that when they are attacked, the police and soldiers respond slowly, if at all. The attack on the Abuja Kaduna train on Monday 28th March 2022 by these bandits and the kidnapping of passengers give credence to this assertion. Victims are still in captivity over 30 days after the incident (Daily trust news-paper march 2022).

It can be argued that banditry is thereby hurting rural development, security, peace, and prosperity in Kaduna State and the northwest region, according to all accounts. While several variables may be at play, the threat to security in the region, which is already reeling from the impact of a decade-long Boko Haram insurgency in the northeast, cannot be overstated. As a result, afflicted communities either flee to the urban centres or rely on local vigilantes for safety. People are gradually arming themselves for self-defence in certain circumstances.

Courses of Banditry and Insecurity in Nigeria

The perception of marginalization by many Nigerians is informed by the ostentation showed by the political class and elite vis-à-vis the grinding poverty to which citizens are subjected. Even security has been bourgeoisified by the elite. As Egwu (2000) contends, the security of the Nigerian nation-state has been reduced to that of the ruler and his immediate supporters, thus, the security calculus of the Nigerian state has failed because it does not include vital aspects of social and national development supported by the

provision of basic social, economic or even military conditions necessary for effective national security. This state of inequality, unfairness and injustice has toughened the people, forcing them to take their destiny into their hands. More so, ethno-religious conflicts have been identified as a major source of insecurity in Nigeria (Hazen & Horner, 2007; Salawu, 2010; Igbuzor, 2011). Ethno-religious conflicts exist when the social relations between members of one ethnic or religious group and another of such group in a multi-ethnic and multi-religious society is characterized by lack of cordiality, mutual suspicion and fear, and a tendency towards violent confrontations to settle grievances. These conflicts have also revolved around who gets what and how in the state especially as it concerns the distribution of scarce resources, power, land, chieftaincy titles, local government councils, control of markets and expansion of religious territories. These conflicts have resulted in large-scale killings and violence among ethno-religious groups in the country (Adagba, 2012).

Furthermore, one can deduce the fact that over the years, there has been a growing disconnect between the people and government. Governments, whether military or civilian, have not tried to bridge this chasm, thus creating misunderstanding, mistrust and resentment. Consequently, because the people do not understand government or have a perception that government does not care about their welfare, they become easy prey to centrifugal forces who co-opt/incite them to vent their anger on perceived enemies of the people and sometimes go to the extent of destroying national totems.

It can also be traced that Nigeria has a long history of politically based violence since the collapse of the first republic on January 14, 1966, and the incursion of the military into governance that same date. The electoral politics in Nigeria right from 1960s till date have been characterized with violent conflicts, political thuggery, assassinations, and arson. Politicians in Nigerian do not accommodate dialogue, negotiation and consensus (Eme and Onyishi, 2011). Political contests are characterized by desperation, and violent struggle for political power among politicians. Recurring political violence in Nigeria could be attributed to over-zealousness and desperation of political gladiators to win elections or remain in office at all cost. These misadventures have often been catastrophic leading to decimation of innocent lives, disruption of economic activities, and the destruction of properties among others.

As opined by Adagba (2012), unemployment/ poverty among Nigerians, especially the youths are also a major cause of insecurity and violent crimes in Nigeria. In particular youth's unemployment has contributed to the rising cases of violent conflict in Nigeria. Also, one of the major causes of insecurity in the country is the failure of successive administration to address challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequitable distribution of wealth among ethnic nationalities. At times Organized violent groups such as ethnic militia, vigilantes, secret cults in tertiary institutions and political thugs contribute significantly to security challenges in Nigeria in different dimension

and forms. Their emergence have been linked to a number of factors which include the culture of militarism that has its antecedents in military rule, the failure of the state and its institutions, economic disempowerment, the structure of the state and Nigeria's federalism, non-separation of state and religion, politics of exclusion, culture of patriarchy, ignorance and poor political consciousness.

It can also be argued that weak security system is another major contributory factor to 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 both in weaponry and training, poor welfare of security personnel, and inadequate personnel (Achumba 2013). According to Olonisakin (2008), the police-population ratio in Nigeria is 1:450 which falls below the standard set by the United Nations. The implication of this is that Nigeria is grossly under policed and this partly explains the inability of the Nigerian Police Force to effectively combat crimes and criminality in the country.

Terrorism: The most fundamental source of insecurity in Nigeria today is terrorism which is traceable to religious fanaticism and intolerance particularly in Islam dominated states of Nigeria (Achumba 2013). Terrorism is a global phenomenon and it is ravaging the whole world. It has been defined by Sampson and Onuoha (2011) as "the premeditated use or threat of use of violence by an individual or group to cause fear, destruction or death, especially against unarmed targets, property or infrastructure in a state, intended to compel those in authority to respond to the demands and expectations of the individual or group behind such violent acts". Terrorism in Nigeria is not a recent phenomenon, it started with the notorious Islamic sect in the Northern part of Nigeria called Mataisine during Alhaji Shehu Shagari civilian regime of the second republic which was aborted by a military coup in December 1983 led by General Muhammadu Buhari. Terrorism rears its ugly head again during the Obasanjo civilian regime of the fourth republic which witnessed religious riots in Plateau State in Northern Nigeria. In recent times terrorism has assumed a political undertone and is being spearheaded by a faceless Islamic insurgent based in the Northern region of Nigeria called Boko Haram, that has claimed thousands of lives in the North since 2009.

In conclusion, it can be attributed that the proximate factors that have contributed to the state of insecurity in the country are porous borders, rural-urban drift, social irresponsibility of companies resulting in negative externalities which provoke social unrest within their host communities, unemployment and poverty and terrorism, among others. All these factors combined to create the sultry security situation in the country.

Implications of Banditry and Insecurity in Igabi Local Government area of Kaduna State

Nigeria as a member of the international community and a player in the global politics has a vision to be ranked among the twenty (20) developed nations by the year 2020. To this end, Jonathan led government has drawn a road map and set up an agenda to achieve this vision. However, the increasing state of insecurity in the country as a result of the activities of Kidnappers, militants, violent armed robbers and more especially the Boko Haram sect seems to make the dream or vision unrealistic. This scourge by these hoodlums has implications for Nigeria achieving its stated vision by the year 2020.

In the first place, the increasing state of insecurity presently in Nigeria especially by Boko Haram sect, has culminated into Nigeria being black listed and given bad image as a terrorist nation by the international community. On 25 December 2009, a Nigerian, Umar Farouk Abdumuttallab, attempted to blow up an American airline enroute Amsterdam from Detroit (Olawale, 2012). This botched terrorist attempt strained US-Nigeria relations but was however resolved diplomatically. Nigeria was still included in the list of terrorist nations like Yemen, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Somalia, Iraq, Pakistan, Sudan to mention but a few. Consequently, Nigerians travelling abroad are subjected to serious security scrutiny more than others, and those staying or living abroad are also looked at as security risks.

Secondly, insecurity impinge on the political stability of the country. Thus, when the political system is unstable as a result of crisis, the government in power is distracted from pursuing its goal of transforming the country and moving it to the next level. This is because rather than focus on the agenda of government in power, government will be compelled to channel all her energy and resources towards security at the expense of other social goods that should be delivered to the people. For example, in the 2012 budget security took a large chunk of N921.91 billion, when compared with other sectors like education, health, agriculture etc, yet the country is plunged into instability as peace in the polity seems to be a mirage.

Thirdly, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the country has dropped. When there is insecurity in the country, foreign investors are scared away from coming to invest their capital and contribute towards economic development. According to President Jonathan following his meeting with British Prime Minister, David Cameron in Lagos July 19 instead of Abuja, Boko Haram began as a religious agitation but has snowballed into a monster. However, he promised to deal with the situation in order not to jeopardize foreign investment in the country.

Fourthly, the economy suffers from stagnation. There is multiplier effect of insecurity on the economy of the country. These include drop in foreign direct investment (FDI), unemployment, poverty, etc. In the Northern part of the country, learnt that a group of investors from Germany, who wanted to build a cement factory in Maiduguri, have withdrawn from the project

due to the activities of Boko Haram. The group got the approval of the late President Umaru Musa Yar Aduas government for the project and had been on it for about four years and had already finished the preliminary phase of the planning including site clearing. Construction work was to begin only to be confronted by an upsurge of violence and bomb explosions. Similarly, Junger (2007), insecurity in the Niger Delta region caused production losses up to 25% in 2005 and 2006, contributing directly to world oil prices. Should the situation in the Delta continue to deteriorate, multinational oil companies risk losing further billions of dollars in potential earnings and importing countries will face increased oil price volatility which if serious enough could affect their national economic performance (Goldwyn and Morrison, 2004). In the south east especially Abia state, Kidnapping and armed robbery activities grounded the economy of the state to a halt few years ago. Thus, small and medium scale enterprises closed down their businesses, and even banks shut down their operations because they were losing so much money to the armed robbers. In some other parts of the country, Kidnapping and armed robbery activities took their toll on the lives and property of both Nigerian citizens and foreigners. For example, in Kano State, Repauch fritz, a German engineer attached to Dantata and Sawoe Construction Limited, was killed during a raid to free him from some kidnapers in a hide – out. Similarly, Franco Limolinara, an Italian and Christopher Mcnamus, a Briton were killed by Kidnappers. In Lagos, Ogun, Kaduna, Edo, Kogi, Ondo and Zamfara states to mention but a few, armed robbery incidents claimed the lives of many people and while a bank in Kogi state had its vault emptied, four others in Ogun State invaded by armed robbers lost huge sums of money.

Fifth, Nigeria has lost both human resources and property worth Billions of naira to the blasts by Boko Haram. In the former, people who should have contributed ideas and proffered solutions to national problems and paid taxes to the government for economic development died due to the blast. The insurgency of sect had led to the senseless killings of hundreds of innocent people. The sects suicide bombers have unleashed Mayhem on citizens, first in Bornu and Yobe states and later Bauchi, Gombe, Adamawa, Abuja, Kaduna, Plateau, Niger, Kano and more recently Kogi states. It has killed at least 700 persons in the past two years. This affects the population and demand for goods and services that could boost the economy of the nation. In the latter, money that should have been used to provide new infrastructure would be channeled back to rebuild those properties destroyed. For example, the United Nations (UN) building in which President Jonathan announced recently a donation of about N3 billion for its reconstruction, others are Police Headquarters, Police Stations, Mosques, Churches, Markets, and many more.

Government Effort Towards Curtailing Banditry and Insecurity in Kaduna State

Security Challenges and Governmental Efforts at Fostering Peace. The government has made several efforts at putting an end to this menace of insecurity. One of which is the inauguration of the security outfit known as the Joint Task Force (JTF) with the singular aim of quenching the activities of robbers, ethnic Militias, kidnappers and bandits as well as terrorism. Furthermore, has granted amnesty to the erstwhile militants as well as setting up rehabilitation program for them, Committees, etc.

Theoretical Framework

This study used the Human Needs Theory as its theoretical framework. Abraham Maslow (1954), John W. Burton (1990), Marshal Rosenberg (1984), and Manfred MA popularised the theory (1991). These theorists all agreed and posited that the underlying cause of most of the intractable conflict was people's need to meet their needs, which could be on an individual, group, or societal level. This theory centrally posits that human beings require specific necessities in order to live and achieve some level of well-being in any aspect of life. And such necessities are referred to as (basic) human needs. As a result, the human needs theory holds that the lack of alternative means to meet the needs of individuals or groups is usually what sparks violence or conflict. The theory argues that violence often occurs when humans require understanding, respect, and consideration for their needs. According to the theory, these needs include not only subsistence needs such as food, water, and shelter, but also biological needs such as participation, identity, understanding, and recognition. Although there have been many human needs theorists, this work is anchored within the prism of Abraham Maslow's (1954) and John W. Burton's (1990) theory postulations. This theory contends that humans, by nature, require some necessities to survive. These necessities have been observed to include more than just food, water, and shelter.

Maslow and Burton go on to say that there are both physical and non-physical elements required for successful human growth and development and those things that humans are innately motivated to achieve. Maslow had previously identified and arranged the essentials of human needs in a hierarchical order in his postulations. Each need, according to him, has a specific ranking or order of attainment. Thus, his (Maslow's) pyramids of human needs begin with the basic items of food, water, and shelter. The need for safety and security follows these, followed by a sense of belonging or love, self-esteem, and a list of personal fulfilment. The following are considered essential elements for human survival, growth, and development: a. Safety/Security The desire for structure, predictability, stability, and the absence of fear and anxiety. b. Belongingness/Love- The desire to be accepted by others and maintain strong personal ties with one's family, friends, and identity groups. c. Self-esteem The desire to be seen as strong, competent, and capable by oneself

and others. d. Personal Fulfilment. The desire to achieve one's full potential in all aspects of life. e. Identity goes beyond a psychological "sense of self," according to Burton and other human needs theorists, identity is a sense of self in relation to the outside world. Identity becomes a problem when it is not recognised as legitimate, when it is regarded as inferior, or when others threaten it with different identities. f. Cultural Security Is associated with the need to recognise one's language, tradition, religion, cultural values, ideas, and concepts. g. Freedom is the state of not being constrained by physical, political, or civic constraints and having the ability to exercise choice in all aspects of one's life. h. Distributive Justice- Is the requirement for the equitable distribution of resources among all members of a community. i. Participation Is the ability to actively participate in and influence civil society. However, the Human Needs Theory is relevant to this work because it adds a new dimension to conflict theory. This is because the approach provides a critical conceptual framework that connects and addresses human needs at all levels.

In essence, Human Needs Theory is thought to have emerged as a result of widespread frustration with basic human needs as a threat to peace and social order. Burton (1990), a well-known proponent of human needs theory in both social and political conflict, postulates that universal human needs are frequently ignored, leading to groups resorting to violence to assert their rights and satisfy their needs. He adds clarity to the preceding argument by claiming that human needs are potent sources of explanation for human behaviour and social interaction.

Methodology

Research Design

The research design adopted the use quantitative survey design in carrying out the survey. The reason behind this selection is because the descriptive survey research design provides an effective way of collecting information from a large pool of literatures that are available in the area of this study. Again, for the fact that research in social sciences does not have single standard answer, the design is considered most appropriate for this study.

Sources of Data Collection

Two source of data collection were used in this paper, these are; primary and secondary sources. The primary sources is based on questionnaires to illicit valuable responses from the respondents, while the secondary sources derive its data of investigation from several source, such as text book, journals and government publications/documents, so as to enable the researcher have adequate resource materials needed to guide the study.

Data Analysis

The data were analyzed using simple percentage technique. The process requires placing each sum of the number of questionnaires administered on the respondents against the total population.

Analysis and findings

Data collected from the respondents are analyzed in this section.

Table 1: Response of Respondent based on the causes of Banditry and Insecurity in Kaduna State

S/N	Options	Frequency	%
1	The Gaping Chasm of Inequality and Absence of Fairness and Justice	44	13
2	Ethno-Religious Conflicts	27	8
3	Disconnect between the People and Government	15	4
4	Politically Based Violence	23	7
5	Unemployment/Poverty	55	16
6	Organized violence group	51	15
7	Weak security system	60	18
8	Loss of socio cultural and communal value system	35	10
9	Immediate and proximate factors	30	9
	Total	340	100

Source: Field work 2022

Table 1 above, shows that 13% of the respondents indicated that the gaping chasm of inequality and absence of fairness and justice are the major cause of insecurity, 8% said ethno-religious conflict, 4% said disconnection between the people and government, 7% said politically based violence, 16% said unemployment and poverty, 15% said organized violence group, 18% said weak security system, 10% said loss of socio cultural and communal value system and about 9% said 9 immediate and proximate factors.

Table 2 Data on the Affected Household Members by Attacks (i.e. injured/killed).

Household size	Total number affected household members	Percentage (%) affected household members	Percentage (%) of the unaffected members	Total Percentage (%)
1632	548	34	66	100

Source: Field work, 2022

Data on the number of affected household members by the attacks in Table 2 revealed that 34% of the total number of the sampled respondents were injured/killed as a result of the banditry. This indicates that, one third of the population of the sampled respondents were killed or injured as a result of the banditry. These shows that banditry and insecurity have serious implication on the socio-economic activity of Igabi local government area of Kaduna State.

The Government Efforts in Curbing Insecurity in Igabi Local Government Area of Kaduna State

Options	Frequency	%
The government inaugurated the security outfit known as the Joint Task Force (JTF) with the singular aim of quenching the activities of robbers, ethnic Militias, kidnappers and bandits as well as terrorism.	203	60
The government has granted amnesty to the erstwhile militants as well as setting up rehabilitation program for them, Committee.	137	40
Total	340	100

Source: Field work 2022

In table 3 above 60% indicated that the government inaugurated the security outfit known as the Joint Task Force (JTF) with the singular aim of quenching the activities of robbers, ethnic Militias, kidnappers and bandits as well as terrorism and 40% indicated that the government has granted amnesty to the erstwhile militants as well as setting up a rehabilitation program for them, Committee and so on.

Conclusion

The work showed that terrorism (banditry/insecurity) is the principal headache that is threatening the socio-economic life of Nigeria. Particularly Kaduna state and most especially Igabi Local Government Area. The dynamics of terrorism are generally promoted by the problem of arms proliferation across the length and breadth of the country, which then empowers the activities of criminals, kidnappers and the war mercenaries that are contracted to prosecute inter-communal conflicts in different parts of the country. There is also the problem of health insecurity where thousands of health facilities have been destroyed by the activities of bandits and militants, which is also part of social infrastructures of the society. The problem of food insecurity and environmental insecurity has taken the lives of many Nigerians with the hope of sustainable solution at hand. Most especially farmers and travellers mostly in the national highways of the affected areas. Consequently, the issue of insecurity in Nigerian unavoidably manifests multiple forms of complexity.

Recommendations

However, as various security issues require divergent strategic policies to curd and manage them, the current government must come up with policies that will ensure the general well-being of Nigerian citizens and grater enhancement human security.

- i. Nigeria must develop and aggressively pursue policy initiatives to stop the growth of SALWS rather than continuing to throw up its hands and hope that things will just get better on their own. Consequently, a solid plan of action that incorporates the three main areas of intervention governance, security, and diplomacy is required (GSD). To improve social provisioning for citizens who are growing angrier over governance failure and turning to violent crimes that drive up demand for SALWS, we must strengthen the institutions and processes of governance. All levels of government federal, state, and local need to collaborate with the business sector to launch an ambitious campaign to create jobs for Nigeria's throngs of unemployed youths. It is still essential for stronger government action at all levels to encourage peaceful coexistence in Nigeria among the various ethnic, religious, and political groupings. If adequately managed and regulated, this strategic sector would contribute to reducing the emergence and continuation of violent conflict that encourages the spread of weaponry in the nation.
- ii. Government should direct the removal and prevention of SALWS circulation, a National Arms Control Strategy (NACS) must be developed and adopted. To ensure a comprehensive job, this proposed agency would work with various stakeholders at all levels of government as well as at the cooperative and individual levels. Cleaning up would contribute to the country's attaining a quantifiable level of safety for people and property. In order to effectively track SALWS, border security must be strengthened through improved intra- and inter-state cooperation among security and intelligence agencies in the air, sea, and land border sectors. sufficient funds, land, and sophisticated security equipment for security organizations, including security posts at access points, land, sea and airports is of optimal importance in this era of massive terrorism. There is need for the conduct a regular and comprehensive verification exercise to ensure that government arms in the hands of security personnel are not stolen or sold out to unauthorized persons by unscrupulous security agents.
- iii. The government should engage in and implement the three key strategies for dealing with banditry and kidnapping: negotiation, managing the fallout from violence, and restricting. However, if the aforementioned measures, especially discussion, are unsuccessful, the government should use and enforce diplomacy through alternative ways to stop bandits' actions. Also, government should promote media jingles that inform the public about the locations of bandit's members' safe havens. This will make it easier to apprehend them and swiftly rid the nation of the criminals who needlessly endanger the safety of law-abiding residents. Government and religious

leaders should also collaborate with social, political and other religious leaders and stakeholders in most of the affected areas to assist in identifying members of this deadly group, who live amongst them, with a view to facilitate their arrest and prosecution.

Finally, the government should reaffirm its call for a legally binding international system that will be effective in regulating, controlling, and monitoring the illicit trade in SALWS, the government should use diplomacy to broaden and deepen its partnerships with other states at the regional, continental, and international levels. Nigeria should collaborate with regional organizations in the Lake Chad Basin, ECOWAS, and the African Union (AU) to control the trade in weapons on that continent. And also, to restructure the National Orientation Agency, a body charged with overseeing an orientation program and enlightenment, to make it more aggressive in promoting strategic security awareness, strategic security consciousness, and crime prevention. People will be able to understand the significance of keeping an eye on local developments and reporting questionable behaviour to security agencies as a result.

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