

# THE TRUE ENEMIES OF NIGERIA VIS-A VIZ THE 2023'S GENERAL ELECTIONS: A HERMENEUTICAL APPROACH

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*The citizens of Nigeria have continuously complained of their political leaders as being responsible for the backwardness and static nature of the country. This research is concerned with identifying the real problems with Nigeria which has made her remain in corruption, poor educational system, poor medical facilities and leadership crisis. This is with the aim to identify what will cause for a change to the pathetic situation of Nigeria as a country. This study adopted the hermeneutical method of philosophical research. The findings showed that Nigerians are indeed the enemies of Nigeria's progress not just her leaders in political positions. These enemies include: Political leaders, religious leaders, legal practitioners, traders, contractors, educationists, parents among others. They have acted as enemies to Nigeria through their inability to do the right things within their environment which include: encouraging procrastination, greed, sectionalism and deception in all her activities. The implication of this is that it will destroy the mind-set of the present generation against the future of the country; for the present youths are the future leaders of tomorrow. This research therefore concludes that Nigeria can be great again if only the enemies of Nigeria do the right thing as this produces greater impact in the Nigerian society. It therefore recommends that for political leadership people should not focus just on the presidency but on the senatorial, governorship, chairmanship, counsellorship seats. Collectively, Nigerians can make Nigeria better through uprooting every weed without fear of favour.*

**Keywords:** Enemies, Election, Mind-set, Corruption, Politics.

## INTRODUCTION

It is amazing how the scales of cunctativeness and disinterestedness are fast falling off the eyes of Nigerians. The youths in particular are coming to the realization that they own their country. Nigerians are tired of leadership and governance subterfuge and palter, which is evident in the Nigerian political space. This is indeed a renaissance of transmogrify, for the spirit and longing to bring back democracy to what it really represents, is fast becoming the present Nigerians quest or concern. All these are due to the bad experiences in times past which has played out in the Nigerian society and left her dormant and unprogressive a nation. 'We want a New Nigeria' has been the phrase on the lips of many Nigerians. This could lead to questions like: what is the problem with Nigeria? Is it her environment, leaders or Nigerians themselves? Being aware of the

various challenges faced in the Nigerian leadership sphere, this piece tries to identify what has hindered the progress of the Nigerian society, which it tagged “Enemies”. As such, through an interpretative approach identifies these problems with the intent to properly direct the minds of Nigerians on how sporadic transformation can be achieved in her milieu.

## **NIGERIA IN THE FACE OF OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD**

As Nigerians, we have found ourselves in a nation so blessed with talents and resources, which are enough to bring about transformation and development but the opposite is what is visible in a country like Nigeria. We were made to believe so much in our country, to the point that at the primary classes we so mastered the Nigerian anthem and sung it with great level of enthusiasm, conviction, nationalism and patriotism<sup>1</sup>. Amidst her extremely talented, scholarly and religious affluences, Nigeria as a nation has not been able to raise shoulder with other nations of the world. She once boasted of her being referred to as the “Giant of Africa”, an example for all African nations to emulate and the world to appreciate, but is that still the case?

Judging from the external show of shame, one will notice that the Nigerian passport is regarded as trash before her counterparts. This is evident in the way they are being attended to at foreign embassies. There have been cases of harassments and dejections on Nigerians when they fly abroad, because it is believed that every bad character is domiciled in Nigeria.<sup>2</sup> For instance, if things get missing in the neighbourhood or there is a case of suspicion; once a Nigerian is present without due investigative processes a suspect is already identified in them. What a pathetic situation? Unfortunately, reverse is the case as foreigners face no form of rejections, racism or partiality when they visit Nigeria; rather they enjoy optimum respect, care and protection.<sup>3</sup> It is a given that the Nigerian environment today is even more protective of foreigners than citizens.

Furthermore, the Nigerian economy is so porous that it favours foreigners more than citizens; some of first world countries have pocketed the Nigerian economy as Nigerians only do their beading in the name of partnership. When we are bankrupt, we run to them as the only hope and they enslave us even more in the pretence of wanting to assist. Majority of used goods in Nigeria are imported and from these same countries. It has even gotten to the point that if we do not dress like them, we can never be recognized as such; we have dispatched our cultural heritage to fit into their desires.<sup>4</sup> Of course, if we do not obey, the consequences will be disastrous. When foreign companies are interested in exploitation, the Nigerian soil becomes the perfect site. Nigerians are being employed and paid peanuts which are not in tandem with the level of labour exerted into work (another form of slavery).

<sup>1</sup>Augustine, Ohuawunwa. *A Reconceptualization of Leadership and Governance as Service in the thought of Robert Kieffer Greenleaf: A Quest towards radical development of the Nigerian Politics*. Unpublished Thesis of the Department of Philosophy, St Albert Institute Fayit-FadonKagoma, Kafachan, Kaduna State, June, 2022, p.1.

<sup>2</sup>Isah, Kandi. “Assault on Nigerians Abroad.” *Daily Trust*, 24<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2017, <https://dailytrust.com/assault-on-nigerians-abroad>. Accessed 8 Mar. 2023.

<sup>3</sup>David, Onoga. “Why we choose to become Nigerians.” *Punch Newspaper*, 16 September. 2021. pp.8-9.

<sup>4</sup>Emmanuel, Ajigbotoluwa. “The Effects of western civilization on African Culture: A case study of Nigeria.”

<sup>5</sup>*Seminar on Contemporary Issues in International Relations*. Department of Political Science, Achievers University Owo. March 2018, pp.22-25.

Moreover, the academic system is nothing to write home about<sup>5</sup> as when we consider world rankings, no Nigerian university dreams of the first one hundred among the universities.<sup>6</sup> Even in Africa where she claims to be a Giant, she cannot claim to be among the first three universities.<sup>7</sup> Nigerians now need to go abroad for studies in order to gain affluence and importance even in their country. A big show of shame! When we see Nigerians who studied abroad and return, they are more appreciated than those who studied in Nigerian universities. They are believed to be the best. This is the main reason why the numbers of those flying abroad for studies has increased in recent times<sup>8</sup>. Come to think of it, have we ever heard of foreigners traveling to Nigeria for studies? No. Who then is fooling who? Indeed, the situation of Nigeria is pitiful. It is often said that a beggar has no choice, that is really the Nigerian situation.

### **ERRORS OF THE NIGERIAN 2023 ELECTIONS**

Taking into cognizance the present day activities with regards the 2023 elections, it seems as if the present craving for a better Nigeria leadership system is almost being channelled alone to the federal level. Everyone speaks about 2023's election from the perspective of the presidency; this is good. But then, we need to remember lest this revolution be destroyed by a stratagem, that it takes local governments to produce state governments and it takes states governments to produce a federal government. This translates into the fact that without the local and state governments, there will be no federal government. As such, leadership is not only restricted to the presidency but to the state governorship, local government chairmanship, councillorship, Senatorship amongst others.

We must know that the enemies of Nigeria politics are experts in the game. They understand the principles necessary to hijack power. The boisterous nature of Nigeria's history has shown that her leadership and governance is deep beyond what we see day by day. Of what use is a good presidency if the governorship seats will be occupied by heinous personalities? When the local government chairmanship and councillorship will be controlled by clowns? When the house of assembly and representatives will be occupied by individuals who would turn their meetings into a myself-fist [*a term used by Fidelis Oghenero Ejegbavwoto describe the political egoism in a decayed society*] festival? Taking into consideration the nature of the Nigerian milieu, the citizens only remember to complain of the presidency when things are not going well for them most importantly business wise. For instance, if the governors, chairmen, ministers, senators and councillors are active in carrying out their tasks, Nigerians will even forget there is a president. This situation is so terrible that one can hear on the lips of Nigerians a clause like: "Even if the president and governors want to eat Nigerians money, they do not have problems with that insofar as the economy is good for them as traders".<sup>9</sup> So it can easily be

<sup>5</sup>Saturday, Birabiland Wizoma, Ogeh. "Education in Nigeria: Challenges and way forward." International journal of Academic Research and Reflection, Vol. 8. no. 1, 2020, pp.45-46.

<sup>6</sup>"The Times Higher Education World Universities Ranking 2023." [https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2023/world-ranking#/page/0/length/25/sort\\_by/scores\\_overall/sort\\_order/asc/cols/scores:4/](https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2023/world-ranking#/page/0/length/25/sort_by/scores_overall/sort_order/asc/cols/scores:4/) Accessed 7 Mar. 2023.

<sup>7</sup>"Best Universities in Africa 2023." <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/student/best-universities/best-universities-africa/> Accessed 7 Mar. 2023.

<sup>9</sup>Iyatse, Geoff. "89.87% young Nigerians prefer to study abroad." Guardian Newspaper, 15 October. 2019. p.7.  
Julian, Okonkwo. Personal Interview in Nekede Owerri 8 Mar. 2023.

identified that just as presidents in the past have failed Nigerians woefully, much more failings were caused by ministers, commissioners, senators, local government chairmen and councillors.

### THE ENEMIES OF NIGERIA REVEALED

If the Nigerian society is not improving and desired results not forthcoming, it simply means that something somewhere is hindering it; as such the idiomatic expression—“Where there is smoke, there is fire”<sup>10</sup>. Whatever must have been hindering Nigeria is nothing but an “Enemy”. According to *Oxford Learners Dictionary* “an enemy is a person who hates someone or who acts or speaks against someone or something”<sup>11</sup>. Indeed, the Nigeria picture fits this scenario. The first step to addressing a problem is identifying what causes the problem. These questions therefore arise: Who hates Nigeria? Who acts against the progress of Nigeria? Who speaks against the good of Nigerian? Who are the enemies of Nigeria and where are they domiciled? It will interest you to know that these enemies are not farfetched. They are in several offices, camps, houses, streets, markets, societies and groups in the Nigerian space. They include:

#### 1. Political leaders

Nigerians have elected wolves in sheep clothing as leaders in times past; individuals who do not have the interest of the people at heart due to corruption and greed. Nigeria has been piloted by leaders whose personal interest stands as the epicenter of governance.<sup>12</sup> The Political space is one which has condoned god-fatherism and wealth capacity as the determinant factor in appointing a leader. At this point, the words of Chinua Achebe come to mind;

The trouble with Nigeria is simply and squarely a failure of leadership. There is nothing basically wrong with the Nigerian land or climate or water or air or anything else. The Nigerian problem is the unwillingness or inability of its leaders to rise up to the responsibility, to the challenge of personal example which is the hallmarks of true leadership.<sup>13</sup>

Those appointed into public and private offices are individuals expected to be credible but we find chameleons instead. Several appointments given to the so-called leaders of various offices in Nigeria are born out of self-centeredness and nepotism. Some politicians have seen the political seats as their birth-right and are ready to go at any length to get there. Come to think of it: why are there serious violence and killings whenever elections draw near? It is simply because even if it means destruction as the price to pay to get the seat, it is worth it. What a colossal mayhem! Professor Plo Lumumba a Kenyan Professor once said:

The day leaders recognize that the occupation of office is not one for the privatization of public wealth. That is the day Africa will begin to move in the right direction. The day politicians recognize that they do not have the monopoly of wisdom that is the day that Africa will begin to move in the

<sup>10</sup>Merriam Webster Dictionary Online. 5 Mar. 2023.

<sup>11</sup>Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary Online 28 Feb. 2023.

<sup>12</sup>Iyorwuese, Hagher. *Leadership and Governance in Nigeria: A Christian Perspective*. Jos: The Leadership Publication Series, 2002, p. 14.

<sup>13</sup>Achebe, Chinua. *The Trouble with Nigeria*. Enugu: Fourth Dimension Publishing Co Ltd, 1998, p. 1.

right direction. The day politicians realize that longevity in office is not the solution to the problems we are faced with, that is the day we would begin to realize our potentials.<sup>14</sup>

Every candidate who is vying for whatever position needs to be interrogated in order for their ideology or knowledge of what leadership entails to be abstracted, because they are vying for these positions without knowing what they are going there to do. The research they have made needs to be looked into and the methods they intend to adopt in order to achieve these goals. This is because those who indicate interest for political offices should be individuals who are prepared for service; people who have visions and goals and not miscreants who are dead mentally, as instead of advancing the economy they end up leaving huge amount of debt in the offices. Many of the so called politicians are interested in privatizing all sectors of the Nigerian economy if given the chance, with the mind-set that the economic crises faced with Nigeria would be resolved; this is only a display of ignorance and lack of initiative for restructuring.

The level of credibility and accountability exhibited by these political leaders are nothing to write home about. There has been gross mismanagement of public fund without fear of being sanctioned. Little wonder, Senator Smart Adeyemi concurs while speaking on the floor of the Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

A Man single-handedly mismanaged over a Hundred billion in a nation where we have thousands, Hundreds of thousands of graduates roaming the streets. A Man mismanaged One Hundred Billion; the same man is cruising on the street of Abuja with bullet-proof cars. What is the future of Nigeria as a nation?<sup>15</sup>

The agencies who are in charge of probing or identifying these corrupt leaders have themselves been turned to puppets which are being used and dumped as they want. People embezzle money and when they are arrested or taken for questioning the end result is usually the case that some amount of million and billions are retrieved from them without any form of sanction. Even the retrieved cash automatically disappears and the case closes. Also, Nigeria has always been a nation that fights for party domination rather than the individual intending for service. Many politicians decamp and join parties as if they were changing their clothes. This is not because they feel the party has some credibility or integrity but out of their trickiest nature of believing that 'the party you join determines if you enter the position you seek.' It is no longer about the individual but the party. As such when you go through a Politicians political history, you find out that within the space of seven-eight years he has been a member of about three parties.

The intention for a political arena that is party structured is to ascertain a level of competency and diplomacy, in order to achieve a good candidacy for the supposed service in the office. But this is not actually the case when closely interrogated into. The political parties we have today are not actually interested in ensuring for a good political environment and development of the state. They are rather interested in maintaining power which would help them be in the helms of affairs, in order to be respected by other political parties who they would refer to as "inferior". The *Ethos*, *Pathos* and *Logos*

<sup>14</sup>Professor PloLumumba. The Role of the Legislature in the fight against corruption. A Speech at the Nigerian Legislature Conference on Anti-Corruption. 20th October, 2016.

<sup>15</sup>Senator Smart Adeyemi of Kogi West Constituency in Kogi State. 22nd December, 2019.

which should be considered in selecting candidates for different political offices before the time for election have been watered down and nepotism, sectionalism and tribalism has become the opus for operation. All these is owing to the fact that the party is not interested in the candidate who would make the state better but rather in the candidate who would give them a position in different levels of government. As such, we vote parties in Nigeria rather than individual capacity. All those involved in this are Nigerians not foreigners.

## 2. Religious Leaders

Nigeria is one of the most religiously oriented nations in the world. Nigeria religions are mainly divided into Christianity, Islam and African Traditional Religions. Majority of the problems faced in Nigeria can be traced to religious leadership. In Nigerian, it is observed that although religion appears to be respected, yet poverty and bad governance are getting worse by the day. The Controversial Cool FM Air Personality, Ifedayo Olarinde popularly called Daddy Freeze, hailed the reaction of Anthony Cardinal Olubunmi Okogie who explained that there was no Godliness in the decision by some churches in the country to have as many branches as possible, describing such as mere business centers. He corroborated the Cardinal's position when he quipped thus:

Finland has the most stable economy in the world today. There are less than 20 churches in Finland. Switzerland has the second most stable economy in the world. Switzerland has less than 30 churches. Denmark is the third most stable economy in the world. Denmark has about 25 churches in it. These are countries considered largely atheist in nature, yet so blessed. Come to Owerri town, from MCC Junction to Toronto Junction, there are 36 churches. That stretch of about 5 km harbours 36 churches, more churches than the entire Switzerland. Between Owerri and Mgbidi counted 97 churches and I gave up.<sup>16</sup>

Many religious leaders use the pulpits as political camping grounds, inferring and predicting the supposed future through probability and permutation. Some receive cash rewards from politicians they know have no integrity. Since this abounds, what integrity is left of such a religious leader? He is no longer a servant of God but a servant of the politicians as his religious duties will be discharged in accordance with the intentions of the supposed politicians. If these leaders love Nigeria they will never indulge in these degrading acts but would be able true to their words.

Meanwhile, serious battle has been drowned by some Christians and Muslims alike. Some religious leaders from these religious groups have incited violence through acts and speeches. And this religious battle is really affecting the peace and stability of the Nigerian citizens. There have been cases of terrorism and violent acts carried out by different terrorist groups which include kidnapping and killings that have brought pain and sadness to several families. Even in the political sphere people now decide and cast their votes for choosing leaders on the account of electing one who is from their religious group. All these are owing to religious fanaticism, brainwashing and wrong orientation. Religious leaders should be people who would preach togetherness and unity not

<sup>16</sup>Ifedayo, Olarinde. Nigeria churches proliferations. Vanguard Newspaper, 3Feb. 2019, p.15.

advocating for wickedness or self-centeredness. These religious leaders and those they influence to carry out evil deeds are Nigerians not foreigners.

### 3. Lecturers and Teachers

The educational system in Nigeria is nothing to write home about. In Nigeria, one can be admitted into a school and complete studies with the help of machineries. Money speaks! Teachers and lecturers these days are known for bribery and corruption as they collect money to pass students. Some even go as far as wanting to have carnal knowledge of their students in order to pass a course or subject. Students who refuse to give in to such acts are punished with bad grades. Instructional materials are necessary to help students excel in their academic journey but when those materials are geared towards enriching oneself then there is a problem. Many lecturers in higher institution force students to buy their books and materials while selling for exuberant prices. They forget all fingers are not equal, that both the rich, and poor study together in the same schools. These sets of lecturers and teachers are not good examples to be imitated because they lack truthfulness and transparency. In the word Wole Soyinka: "Nigeria is the only country where professors rig Elections for politicians but expel students for examination malpractice."<sup>17</sup>

Some lecturers pay little or no concern to teaching in classes, as they apply laziness and procrastination to carrying out their duties. Encouraging the drive and dream of every student is an important role of a teacher or lecturer. This shows how delicate their position is in the life of any student, but the type of lecturers and teachers we have in this age are themselves goal defeated; thereby posing a challenge to helping students recover and focus on their goals. This is obviously because they have no passion for the job, many of them went into it just to feed their belly. The most painful aspect of today's academic activities of lecturers and teachers, is that many pay to get academic titles. The evidence of this is when you see a professor exhibiting characters that are unbecoming of a professor or Doctor in the academic.

### 4. Lazy Studentship

Meanwhile, many of our Nigerian students are half baked materials, as they have not gotten the needed skills and theoretical knowledge needed to reflect what they studied in school. For those in the Senior Secondary Classes they prepare their minds already for special centers where they can get good grades they did not work for. Some have gone as far as extorting huge amount of money from their parents and guardians through deceptive means. For instance, a student telling his Parents he wants to buy "Photosynthesis", the parent out of ignorance and illiteracy give the money to the student because of how the name of what is to be purchased sounds. This kind of student refuse to attend classes or even do assignments or course works.

In higher institutions, this type of students when interrogated properly explain that their reasons for coming to school is just to obtain the certificate and answer the name 'graduate'. They are not even bothered about what they graduate with be it Thirdclass or Second class lower divisions. This gives reasons for which majority of the final year

<sup>17</sup>Nigeria News 18 July. 2019. <https://m.facebook.com/nigerianewsweb/> Accessed 9 Mar. 2023.

projects when critically looked into will be seen to be full of plagiarism and some copied projects from other institutions. This reduces therefore the need for new research, as many of our graduates in higher institutions are poor researchers. They have nothing to contribute to existing knowledge and have refused to learn the discovered knowledge. The popular slang “School na Scam’ becomes the consoling cliché on the lips of lazy students. Remember these are the same individuals who will take up leadership roles in the future, one cannot expect less than they have exhibited in their study days. Remember, students with these traits are not foreigners but Nigerians.

##### **5. Traders and Vocational Skilled workers**

In the market places, truth is difficult to be identified in this age. This is because an average trader believes; it is through lies and insincerity that one can be successful in business. As such they call extremely annoying prices for materials they sell. Is it the case that people will not make profits? No, one is expected to make profits as a trader as profits oriented prices to goods is different from playing greedy with it. One who cannot be honest in little things will never be honest in bigger ones. A recent scenario is that of POS operators who charge extremely annoying prices to customers all in the name of less cash flow or availability. The same is the case with vocational skilled workers, who are hired to carry out one task or the other. They tell lies about what they engage themselves in. Collecting money for original materials but buying substandard materials for the work, all in the bid to play smart or make more money. This is one of the main reasons why many projects in the political spaces get destroyed few months after being constructed e.g. the bridges, road etc. These traders, POS operators and contractors are Nigerians not foreigners.

##### **6. Fraudsters and Robbers**

Robbery and ritual are the contemporary engagements of the youths, all in the name of wanting to make money without stress which is now being interpreted to be grace in our time. These youths have no human sympathy as they do not consider the fact that those being affected by their misdeeds are humans like them. In recent times, one can hardly enter a street in Nigeria without identifying youths engaging in internet fraud as many parents are encouraging their children to engage in these fraudulent practices. The youths have grown complacent with internet fraud. You can rarely count youths who are not involved in what is called yahoo yahoo or yahoo plus. Every youth wants to make money not considering the means undertaken. This has hiked the prices of things in the market making it difficult for people to buy clothes and other valuables because of the mannerless style of buying things by these fraudsters. Also, these youth involving in fraud are even happy at the increase in exchange rate of dollar to naira, owing to the fact that it makes the money they get through fraudulent activities more appreciable.

Not too long ago there was an *Endsars Protest*. The protest was geared towards trying to ensure justice for the marginalized by security operatives but some youths turned it into an avenue to steal. There were cases of youths bugling people shops and stealing their



valuables all in the name of carrying out a protest. These youths engaging in all these are Nigerians and not foreigners.

### **7. Lawyers, Judges and Policy makers**

Lawyers and Judges should be credible people who would see to the triumph of truth and transparency but is that the case with our present day's lawyers and judges? Lawyers are no longer interested in truth and in fact began their training in law with a bad orientation. They are not bothered about representing truth in so far as money is involved. Judges now give judgments based on the bribe they have received or out of fear that they will be hated. Gone are the days of one not being a judge in his own case. In this age, people brag of having the lawyers and judges at their beck and call. The Constitution is now interpreted in a way that favours the mighty. Indeed, the Nigeria Judiciary has lost its pride and focus as justice is not assured for the ordinary citizen: The Thrasymachian concept of justice is evident in the Nigerian society.

In our times, people do not respect the courts orders. A clear case is that of the declaration for the release of Nnamdi Kanu but up till date he is still being held even after the court declaration. Or is it the case of Emezie the Governor of CBN ignoring the instructions of the Court with regards the use of the 200, 500 and 1000 Nigeria notes. Everyone is indeed the Lord of himself. Meanwhile, those who make policies are making policies that best fit their own interest and not policies that will improve the standard of living in the society. They make self-centered policies, all in the name of wanting to be liberal or loved by the people. Another display of Machiavellianism because they create laws and guidelines which they themselves are above and subject the masses to obey. These Lawyers, Judges and Policy makers are Nigerians and not foreigners.

### **8. Medical Practitioners**

It is often said that Nigeria does not have adequate medical facility, but the question is: How well have medical practitioners efficiently used the little equipment on ground? There have been series of killing due to the carelessness of some medical practitioners in time past due to bad medical conduct or ethics. In many public or general medical centers and hospital we find many doctors who equally have private hospitals working there. This is why many arrive these public centers late as they pay more attention to their own hospitals. Many medical practitioners have lost the senses of emergency as there have been cases of deaths which can be avoided on the account of procrastination. Some have equally engaged in inhumane activities not minding the delicate and sacred nature of their occupation. These medical practitioners are people's children, spouses and most importantly Nigerians.

### **9. Employers and Contractors**

These days it is difficult for people to get jobs out of competence and skills because employers now use other means to give jobs or contracts. Many employers want to have carnal knowledge of the supposed employees in order for the jobs to be ascertained. Some

government workers will charge those seeking government jobs some amount in order to help them secure the position. Some even give jobs positions to people not out of the fact that they have the needed knowledge required but out of nepotism and sectionalism. These employers and contractors are Nigerians like any other person, and they feel that inflicting suffering on others is the best operational system.

#### **10. Journalism and Content Creation**

The social media is now another space where truth dies daily and lies and conspiracy thrive. Journalism which is expected to enlighten and direct in correct proportionality is now used as a tool to destroy and misinform. Many Nigerian content creators in a bid to get supports and likes now tell all manner of lies, destroying the personalities of people just because of a selfish interest. They do not consider what negative effects or damage their lies can do to the image of the affected. After all, what matters most is the awards, money and recognition they get after all of these. People present and interrogate cases with bias, prejudice and sentiments, forgetting that these are obstructions to truth. This is why critical mind in the Nigerian space apply the Husserlian Phenomenological epocheby not just accepting what they see or hear on social media platforms to make judgments, rather engage the involved directly to ascertain truth. These Journalists and Content Creators are Nigerians and not foreigners.

#### **11. Parental Values**

Many parents are the main reasons for whatever character their children put up in the society. Some parents before their children use abusive and disrespectful words at each other. They fight from time to time. They engage in extra marital affairs and do not apply ethics to their drinking activities. Some parents prefer to be idle rather than working. It will not be surprising when a person sees a child replicating the same activities outside. This is because lots of parents are failing in their duties which have to do with ensuring and teaching good moral values to their children both orally and practically.

#### **12. Security Operatives**

The security operatives are expected to assure the safety of lives and properties of citizens but that is not the case. Over the years, we have seen security operatives support and engage in robbery and fraudulent activities through making guns and other dangerous weapons available to robbers. Many have reduced their jobs to looking out for youths as they have classified almost all youths as yahoo boys or girls. The constant search at bus-stops and junctions is not encouraged out of the desire to have a moral society but because of the money they intend to get from the victims. As such, many of the youths who engage in these fraudulent activities now engage in bribing security operatives. They harass citizens at will and are not scared to kill as it pleases them. In many crime scenes, we have heard of security operatives fleeing away out of fear of being killed, this now raises a question: do these security operatives know their duties? These security operatives are Nigerians like anyone else.

### 13. Banking System

The banking system in Nigeria is one that has left many devastated and heartbroken; this is due to the kind of policy they implement which affects the livelihood of citizens. Many a times, these bank workers prefer to attend to the rich with every sense of humanness because they feel some cash gifts will be given them by this kind of individuals while treating other customers with disrespect. More recently is the naira design policy which has affected citizens greatly, where we find bank managers hoarding the new currency from Nigerians, not that the new currency is not available. Thereby allowing Nigerians remain on queues for long hours and still not getting any cash to manage carryout whatever transactions they wish to. These are Nigerians inflicting pain on their fellow Nigerians.

### CONCLUSION

To Buttress, majority of the problems faced presently in different circles are owing to the deeds of the past. These identified enemies of the Nigerians space are not foreigners but Nigerians. It is indeed true to assert that the enemies of Nigeria are not just the political leaders but Nigerians. They are the political leaders, teachers, lecturers, fraudsters, content creators, religious leaders, judges, lawyers, parents, employers, contractors, traders, students, security operatives, medical practitioners, policy makers among others. Those who indulge in the aforementioned are 'you and me'. These things hinder a good society and since we engage in them we are hindering a good space; we are the ones stopping the New Nigeria. There is therefore a need to ring the bells for alertness. If we must take Nigeria, if we must produce a new Nigeria that we seek then we must start from the top to the bottom; from the roots to the fruits. All Nigeria spaces must be purged off these diseases which have eaten deep into the fabrics of the people without the people recognizing it. The president when elected in 2023 cannot singlehandedly change Nigeria totally, we are the ones who are to collaboratively change Nigeria. All political seats in Nigeria must be fought for to achieve this prodigious dream. There is a need for total cleansing and weeding. No stone must be left untouched. This triggering cannot be allowed to make mistakes. We long to see the pragmatic display of the assertion "Nigeria: The Giant of Africa".

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