

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF BOKO HARAM INSURGENCY ON EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT. *The study presented the historical analyses of the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on educational management in Northern Nigeria. Education is the key to national development in Nigeria. However, achieving quality education for all Nigerian need a safe, secured, violent free teaching and learning environment for school leaders, teachers, students and families in northern region of Nigeria. The study examined the historical overview of previous insurgent groups in Nigeria, The origin of Boko Haram insurgent group, the historical analysis of Boko Haram attacks on schools in other cities in Northern Nigeria, the effect on educational management. An important aspect of this article posited on the challenges facing school administrator, teachers and students in the region .It was therefore recommended that the federal government should show higher commitment in mobilizing the armed forces to the northern region and provide security in schools with bomb detectives' equipment. It was also recommended that the religious leaders should play active role in preaching against the killings perpetrated by Boko Haram insurgent group and a special orientation to sensitize the people on security matters in all schools and their communities.*

KEYWORDS: Boko Haram, Educational Management, Insurgency, Militant, Terrorism.

INTRODUCTION

The Nigeria as a nation is facing the global trend of terrorism, insurgency, and brutal killings of innocent citizens perpetrated by a dastardly terrorist group called Boko Haram. Since 2009, they have committed criminal offences ranging from murdering of teachers, students, religious leaders (Pastors and Imams) both in Christianity and Islamic Faith; they have unleashed terror and fear in the minds of

every Nigerians. There is massive destruction of school activities in northern Nigeria; they carry out frequent bombing of shopping mall, cinema halls, car parks, bus station, police barracks, churches, Mosques and other public places. They also involved in assassination of police officers and prominent citizen in northern Nigeria. Burning of schools occasioned by sporadic shooting of innocent citizens were also common in their styles of attacks..

However, before 2009, Nigeria also witnessed several forms of terrorism which is a deliberate and systematic use of violence to destroy, kidnap, kill and intimidate the innocent in order to draw national attention to their demands, which may be difficult to achieve under normal mutual negotiation with the Nigerian government. Certainly, some of these past terrorist attacks are politically motivated even though some may have other strong motives such as religious, economic and regional marginalization issues. Before the declaration of amnesty for Niger Delta youths by Late President Umaru Musa Yaradua in 2008, the Niger Delta region had militant groups such as Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People (MOSOP), Niger Delta People Volunteer Force, the Egbesu Boys, and the Ken Saro Wiwa's Movement. These militant groups launched agitation against environmental degradation, poverty and marginalization of the Niger Delta region of Nigeria.

The Odual People's congress (OPC) is the militating wing and frontier of the Yorubas in the Western Region of Nigeria agitating for their political right. Interestingly, the region were educational endowed as most of the citizen past through formal education, which hindered the militia group from having a strong base in western region of Nigeria. In the Eastern part of Nigeria, the Movement for the Actualizations of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) and the Bakassi Boys were also militia groups fighting for equal rights and security of Igbo federalism, autonomy and political relevance of the Igbo people in Nigeria. It was used by dominant political parties in the region to advance their courses and achieve recognition. In 1981 to 1983, the "Maitatsine" terrorist group led by Mohammed Marwa, a self-proclaimed prophet of Islam (Annabi) a Hausa word usually used only to describe the founder of Islam, used violence to killed many citizens in Northern Nigeria to achieve their religious recognition and principles.

The Origin of Boko Haram Insurgent Group

Boko Haram conducted its operations more or less peacefully during the first seven years of its existence. Due to public condemnation, the group withdrew from the society in to a remote settlement in outskirts of Borno state. The local government authority had repeatedly ignored warnings from the people on the chaotic militant character of the organization. Abiye (2011) noted that domestic terrorism arose in Nigeria because emergent militant groups took advantage of government's inefficient action in dealing with the fundamental elements of nationhood. Such as internal security, resource control, injustice, corruption, ethnicism, sycophancy, favoritism and marginalization. These factors have made terrorism to be ethnicized in Nigerian. Currently the nation is witnessing high spate of insecurity especially in the northern Nigeria by a group of terrorists known as Boko Haram. The Jama'atu Ahlus-Sunnah lidda Awati Wal-Jihad popularly known as Boko Haram. This is a terrorist group which has its base in Yobe state, North-eastern Nigeria. Musa, (2011) stated that the Boko haram has been in existence since 2001 but did not become popular until 2009 when they participated actively in the insurgent and violence which occurred in the Northern Nigeria. The name Boko Haram is a Hausa statement, which upon translated into English mean "Western education is forbidden". This group is opposed to everything that have link to Western education; its ideologies, and systems. They have no regards for human life. Certainly, "Boko" in Hausa language means western education, and "Haram"

is an Arabic language which means “forbidden”. Boko Haram opposes not only western education but western culture and modern science as well.

This group was founded in 2001 in ‘Maiduguri’ the capital city of Borno State northeastern Nigeria by Mohammed Yusuf the pioneer leader and originator of Boko Haram group. In 2004, it moved to Yobe State where it set up a base. This base was used to attack nearby police outposts, killing police officers, burning Churches and schools with a vow that the war will continue as long as the political and educational system was not changed. The Boko haram group want the Sharia Law to be applied all over the country and this will be difficult for the government of Nigeria to comply with. They vowed that they would rather have a separate Islamic state carved out of Nigeria where they can practice their religion unhindered.

The Federal Government of Nigeria saw these demands as treasonable, unreasonable, unaccepted and in an attempt to purge the group of its remote base, Mohammed Yusuf the leader was killed in 2009. Adeyemi (2014) stated that from that 2009 year, and following the assumption of a new leadership headed by Abubakar Shekau who was also later killed, during shoot-out battle with Nigerian Military in Konguga town of Borno state. Boko Haram current leader who adopted his predecessors name Shekau, has continue to unleashed violence and began what can best be described as the “soft target” capturing of local villages, killing un armed innocent civilian population of northern Nigeria, forcefully abduction of girls of school age, kidnaping of women, sporadic shooting in public places, carrying out frequent suicide bombing of churches, mosques and police checkpoint, which they publicly claimed the responsibility of the attacks.

Historical Analyses of Boko Haram Attacks in Northern Nigeria 2009-2014

- In June 6, 2009 - The group attacks a primary school in Yobe state injured two teachers.
- In July 26, 2009 - Nigerian police force arrested nine members of Boko Haram.
- In July 27, 2009 - The group attack police station in Yobe state during a member funeral procession, that led to rioting, burning of schools, many churches destroyed.
- On July 30, 2009 - Boko Haram leader Mohammed Yusuf was arrested and died in police custody.
- In January, 2010 - The Boko Haram group struck in Borno State killing four people in Maiduguri metropolis.
- On September 7 2010 - Boko haram freed over 700 inmates from a prison in Bauchi state.
- In December, 2010 - Boko haram were blamed for bombing a shopping mall, following 92 of its members arrested by police.
- On April I, 2011 - Suspected Boko Haram attacked a police station in Bauchi.
- On April 15, 2011 - The Independent National electoral commission was bombed in Maiduguri.
- May 29, 2011 - Multiple bombing in Borno state, north eastern Nigeria, killing 4 people.
- June 26, 2011 - Bombing of a social and relaxation center in Maiduguri, 25 people died.
- June 16, 2011 - Bombing of the Nigerian Police Force Headquarter car park in Abuja.
- August 12, 2011 - Assassination of prominent Muslim leader Liman Borno.
- August, 26 2011 – Bomb attack on the United Nations (UN) office in Abuja 23 died
- November, 2011 – Coordinated bombing and shooting attacks on police facilities in Potiskum and Damaturu in Yobe state, 150 died.
- December 25, 2011 – Multiple bomb attacks. Killed 12 passer-by and 35 worshippers at St. Theresa Catholic Church Madala, Niger State.

- January 5 and 6, 2012 - Multiple bombings in Kano.
 - January 20, 2012 – The Kano bombing, 12 died
 - February 8, 2012 – Suicide bombing at the army headquarters in Kaduna
 - February 16, 2012 – Prison break in Koton-karfe prison yard, Kogi State Nigeria, 130 prisoners released.
 - April 26, 2012 – 15 Church goers killed in Bauchi
 - April 29, 2012 – Bomb blast Bayero University Kano, killing 15 students, 50 students wounded.
 - June 17 2012 – Suicide bombers attack on three Churches in Kaduna 100 worshipers died.
 - September 16, 2013 – Bomb blast on school of Agriculture Yobe State killing 60 students.
 - November 25, 2013 – Bomb blast in Katsina, killing 3 people, burnt 6 houses
 - November 19, 2013 – Bomb blast in Ungogo town Kano state killing 4 people.
 - April 14, 2014 – Abduction of over 200 Chibok girls in government secondary school Chibok, Borno state.
 - July 23, 2014 - Twin bomb blast killing 15 people in Isa Kaita road, central Kaduna State.
 - September 17, 2014 – Suicide Bomb blast in Federal College of Education, Kano. Killing 15 students and 34 students were seriously injured.
 - October 31, 2014 – Bomb blast in Gombe State central bus station killing 8 people, injured 17 people
 - November 7, 2014 – Bomb blast hit First bank Azare town branch, killing 8 people.
 - November 10, 2014 – Suicide bomber bombed government secondary school Potiskun, Yobe state killing 49 students and injured 69 students with 6 teachers
 - November 15, 2014 – Attacks on Hong town of Adamawa state killing 4 people
 - November 16, 2014 – Attacks on Gombi town of Adamawa state killing 10 people
 - November 26, 2014 – Suicide twin bomb blast in Monday market in Maiduguri killing 15 people and injured 45 people
 - November 28, 2014 – Suicide triple bomb blast in Kano central mosque, killing 35 worshippers and injured 157 worshippers
 - November 1, 2014 – Bomb blast occurred in Monday market in Maiduguri, Borno Sate.
 - November 25, 2014 – Another twin bomb blast in Monday market killing 60 people, 120 people injured. Monday market is the main Maiduguri crowded market.
 - December 5, 2014 – Raid on Lafarge cement company with Sporadic shooting in Gombe State.
 - December 6, 2014 – Attacks on Minna prison, Niger state, north central Nigeria, 164 prison inmate freed.
 - December 7, 2014 – Abduction of 20 girls in Lassa town, Borno State
 - December 10, 2014 - Suicide twin bomb blast with sporadic gunshot in Kano cloth market killing 10 people.
 - December 11, 2014 – Suicide twin bomb blast in Terminus market Jos, killing 30 people.
- (Researchers Field work, 2014)

Historical Analyses of Boko Haram Most Deadly Attacks on Schools in Northern Nigeria in 2014

Boko Haram groups have claimed many attacks on schools in northern Nigeria since 2009, the recent attacks especially year 2014 is worrisome and deadly, Interestingly, during the conduct of this study,

the authors personally visited these states and many attacked scene in northern Nigeria. The authors will like to report 4 most disturbing, senseless and gruesome attacks which drawn international condemnations.

The first was on February 18, 2014 the insurgents set ablaze the Federal Government College Buniyadi, Yobe state. The boys boarding and all teachers apartment were completely razed. It is sad to reveal that 24 schools boys were burnt beyond recognition, 127 students were seriously injured. The incident occurred at midnight when the students were sleeping in the school dormitories, the insurgents force their way in to the school, shooting sporadically, razed down the dormitories including the teachers apartment. The deadly act received national and international condemnation.

The Second most disturbing attack on school occurred on April 14, 2014 when the Boko Haram group carried out the abduction of 200 girls writing the West Africa Certificate Examination at the Government Secondary School Chibok town, Borno State. These school girls were forcefully taken from their dormitories at night to Sambisa forest near the Cameroonian boarder, where they were kept as a shield against the bombardment of the federal forces. Their families are still expecting them to be back alive.

The third senseless attack on school took place on September 17, 2014. It happened when the insurgents jumped over the fence in to the school, where they started shooting to scare the students, one of the suicide bombers targeted the student's right inside their lecture hall in Federal College of Education Kano and blew-up himself. 15 students were killed and 34 others seriously injured including a lecturer.

The fourth and the worst of attacks on school students in the history of insurgency in northern Nigeria occurred on November 10, 2014 in Government Secondary School Potiskum town, Yobe State. The dastardly act took place when the suicide bomber pretended to be a student of the school and ran in to other students during school general morning assembly routine. It is sad to reveal that, the school recorded 49 students death, 71 students badly injured; parents were at the receiving end of gruesome murder committed by the Boko Haram insurgent group.

The Effect on Educational Management

This history of education in Nigeria posited an imbalance in education between southern and northern Nigeria; while the North embraced Islamic education, the south practiced western education Fafunwa (1990) said Sir Fedrick Lord lugard, the first British Governor General in Nigeria during the Colonia era signed the amalgamation of the Northern and southern protectorates in 1914 to form a country called Nigeria, That was the starting point of western education as a unifying force for the two regions. Basically, the northern Nigeria were to some extent disadvantaged as they skeptically embraced western education lately.

The Islamic education system which started in Northern Nigeria before the amalgamation, had gained widely acceptance which make it difficult for the missionaries to penetrate the northern Nigeria region with western education. The insurgent attacks has affected the planning, organizing, coordinating, financing and evaluating of all educational activities on students, teachers and school heads in northern Nigeria. They are all traumatize and afraid of going to their schools on fear of attacks from insurgents. Educational planners and inspectors can't conduct periodic checking on schools, most teachers and

students were currently internally displaced, and sheltering in refugee camps, students were kidnapped during internal and external examination. Majority of Parents in the region were prone to insecurity, They callously refused to send their children to the free education school run by the federal government of Nigeria due to fear of attack from the insurgents.

Challenges of School Administrator, Teachers and Students in Northern Nigeria.

Most primary school headmasters and secondary school principals' working in some states in Northern Nigeria had escape death during series of deadly attack in their schools; some headmasters were seriously injured during sporadic shooting of Boko Haram. Majority of the school head masters' and school principals felt unsafe, and can't go to school. Teachers also faces security challenges in their schools, many can't have access to their school due to the presence of Boko Haram insurgent in their school host community.

Many student were been killed in the presence of other fellow students during attack on schools, Many also witness bomb blast in their schools, the female students are afraid of being kidnapped, Majority have stay away from school since the beginning of kidnapping school girls. Teaching and learning processes can't be properly conducted and coordinated in an unsafe school environment. These were the present challenges facing the school administrator, teachers and students.

CONCLUSION

Boko haram has become a threat to the entire African nations. Their activities have crippled the socio-economic between Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger Republic and Republic of Chad. Many Nigerian citizens living in Northern Nigeria were currently internally displaced. The Boko Haram insurgency in northern Nigeria have reduce the country abilities of achieving the millennium Development Goals project (MDG'S), education for all, and as well as Nigeria vision 2020 programs. Since the advent of a new dimension to terrorism in Nigeria, it is clear that Nigeria socio-economic stability has really been shaken. The impact of the activities of the dreaded Boko Haram has brought physical, psychological, and economic damage to the Nigeria's economy and wellbeing of its citizens. There is a sharp drop in the commercial activities in the North as foreign investors are gradually diverting from northern Nigeria to southern Nigeria due to the increasing security crisis. With the increased intensity of bombing in the North, there is mass movement of individuals from the most attacked northern states especially in early 2014 to a safer part in the country. However, men mostly peasant farmers stay behind to defend their farming land, and livelihood.

Rightly, the Nigerian government effort in putting an end to the Boko Haram activities have made appreciable success, But we are calling the European Union to step in, provide security support and ideology, which will help Nigerian government effort to eliminate the insurgent group completely.

RECOMMENDATION

It is therefore recommended that:

- The federal government should provide scholarship for continuous education to all dropped out school children elsewhere or outside northern Nigeria.
- The federal government should show higher commitment in mobilizing the armed forces to the northern region and provide security in all schools with bomb detectives' equipments.
- The federal government should ensure that all security personnel posted to guide all schools from primary to tertiary institutions are well motivated to effectively discharge their duties accordingly.

- the religious leaders should play active role in preaching against the killings perpetrated by Boko Haram insurgent group
- Peace and security studies should be a compulsory subject in the school curriculum in Nigeria.
- Secondary school students should be properly guided by teachers and parents to ensure that they all condemn Boko Haram activities and see the insurgent as enemies of progress.
- The Nigerian police in charge of border patrols and Nigerian immigration service should effectively controls the border against in influx of illegal emigrants that aid the Boko Haram group.
- School administrators should be given a customized security mobile phone to call the security forces when they notice any danger to their schools
- All rural and urban schools should be properly secured with security forces and likewise those in the remote villages with high security risk level.
- Adequate school record keeping should be kept by the school head, students movement record book should be introduce and kept by teachers with a daily report to the school head.
- The school host community people should be given Special orientation on security issues as a way of collaboration in information dissemination to the security forces.

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