

The Role of Gender Equality and Good Governance in Peacestudies: The Nigerian Experience

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ABSTRACT: *Peace could be seen as an individual's state of mind with ideal society that operates in understanding, security and unity. The content of peace education programme must be problem solving and related to the economic, political, cultural, or social conditions that constitute the conflicting issues. Conflict resolution is a set of principles applied to encourage warring parties to seek peace. This means that the conflict is resolved when the basic needs of the parties have been met or satisfied. Conflict management refers to effort made to change the perceptions and attitudes of the people involved (Odoh 2006) Gender Equality is the state of equal ease of access to resources and opportunities regardless of gender, including economic participation and decision making and the state of valuing different behaviour, aspirations and needs equally, regardless of gender. Good governance is measured by 8 characteristics of participation rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, consensus oriented, equity and inclusiveness, effectiveness and efficiency and accountability. Using descriptive and analytical approach with anecdotal evidence gleaned from qualitative and historical literature on peace. Gender discrimination, equality and governance from traditional delegate system to modern system of governance from textbooks, library materials, oral interview, participant observation and internet materials, key informant etc. The study revealed that gender gap reduces productivity and diminishes contribution and does not only affect women's well-being and that of their families but also imposes high cost on the economy through productive losses. Development of a community or society is a collaborative effort of all citizens which can only be possible when there is peace in that community or society. It is an indisputable fact that development is about people and development is only sustainable to the extent to which human resources are developed. Gender gap reduces productivity and diminishes contribution and does not only affect women's well-being and that of their families but also imposes high cost on the economy through productive losses. Strict adherence to the principles of good governance will ensure that peace reigns in Nigeria. Based on the finding, the study recommended amongst others that themes on good governance and peace studies should be part of primary, secondary and tertiary institutions curricular in Nigeria. Topics such as electoral rights and processes, and gender equality should be taught. This will help in raising individuals that are gender sensitive, individuals who see people in their own rights as human beings not males being superior to females.*

KEYWORDS: equality, governance, peace, rule of law, justice.

INTRODUCTION

In the days of our uninterrupted African traditional societies and culture by western influences, Africans have a communal way of life which means man being his brother's keeper. In the kindred

families, villages and communities people see themselves as belonging to same groups and not as individuals. This enabled them to be at peace with one another. Therefore making peace through peace studies achieved through socialization becomes part of daily life of people in their groups. There are always mechanisms of settlement in case dispute arises. The belief in ancestral spirits and reincarnation shapes the behaviour of individuals within the communities. With industrialization as a result of industrial revolution, many people left their villages for the industrial areas coming out from homogenous village life to the heterogeneous urban environment man was left to his own destiny. A lot of problems rise which included labour dispute, terrible housing conditions, political systems were undermined, and villages give way to noisy cities.

The amalgamation of Nigeria in 1914 further worsened the situation because the amalgamation was not for national integration but rather for economic exploitation. The British used the politics of divide and rule the result was ethnicity which they introduced and it is today one of the worst obstacles to nation building. Though, attempts have been made toward nation building but much has not been achieved. The introduction of National Youth Service in NYSC in 1976 the Ukuta Panel, National Orientation Agency (NOA) and the last Constituency Assembly in Nigeria were all attempts at making peace by the Nigerian State. Though much has not been achieved but attempts have been. No one who has been through a crisis, the Nigerian civil war for instance, is in any doubt as to what peace really means. It began in 30th May 1967 which lasted until 1970. It was through peace making that the civil war ended after 30 months. The war was as a result of General Yakubu Gowon's refusal to implement the Aburi agreement a peace making effort of the then Organization of African Unity (OAU).

After the first and second world wars, the United Nation Organizations (UNO) was formed the aim was to try and settle disputes between two or more countries that might lead war. The UNO as a peace making body was helpful in settling many disputes that could have resulted in wars. Even where wars finally break out they send relief materials and continue to press for the end of the war like in the case of Nigeria Biafran War. Expenditure on militarism must be directed to peace oriented activities. All nations must practice non violent means of resolving conflicts. Therefore, the bulk of the money spent on defence could be used to address social services (Aguene, 1999).

There is need for peace and harmony for overall development of any nation. For instance, the Ezza-Ezzillo crisis that claimed many lives finally was brought under control by making peace by the Ebonyi State Governor David Umahi in (2017). He emphasized the need for peace making and appointed negotiators from both sides. Gender equality and good governance are prerequisites for peace to reign in any society. Without gender equality and good governance there will be no peace in any society this is because peace can only reign when there is justice. Peace relates to individual's state of mind, it is also a situation in which ideal society will operate in harmony, security, unity and understanding. According to Adeniyi (2016):

The United Nations was established with the primary responsibility of maintaining world peace and security and in this way propagates this culture of peace. To this end both state and non state actors, researchers, and academicians were spurred to explore ways and means of achieving peace and resolution of conflict peacefully through peace education instead of resorting to war or armed conflict.

Furthermore, sustainable development is contingent upon the three pillars of environmental protection, economic well-being and social equity. This can only be achieved through strict adherence to the principles of rule of law which in turn ensure peace for the society (Aguene, 2018). Arisi and Agbure (2010) observed that sustainable development in any society is tied to gender equality that is a situation whereby equal opportunities, access, privileges and rights of citizens are guaranteed. Bias as a result of gender difference or race, age, tribe, personality, class and religions are factors capable of slowing down sustainable development in any society. Development of a community or society is a collaborative effort of all citizens which can only be possible when there is peace in that community or society.

Education is being used to mobilize these people whether male or female to prepare and equip them with knowledge and skills for leadership, production and services which are the bedrock of sustainable development. The introduction of free education in the West, inspired Easterners to step-up the education of their children while the Northerners who were then begged by the government to send their children to school, also became more serious Northerners started to make frantic efforts to bridge the educational gap between the South and the North. Through education peace studies was introduced into the Nigerian Society for the unity of the country.

The focus of this study, therefore, is how to achieve peace through gender equality and good governance. It is an indisputable fact that development is about people and development is only sustainable to the extent to which human resources are developed. The human development paradigm which puts people at the center of its concern will have meaning if it was only fully gender responsive and strict observation of the rule of law to give chance for peace. In the Beijing Declaration, twelve critical areas of concern in development paradigm were indentified. These areas are Education, Poverty, and Human Rights, Armed Conflicts, Decision-Making, Violence against Women Economic Structures and Policies, Health, Environment, Women and Media Advancement of Women and the Girl Child. Those who organized the Beijing were having World Peace at the back of their minds.

Ideally, if a government can achieve gender equality and protect the rights and welfare of her citizens including observation of the principles of the rule of law then there is good governance and this can only be achieved when there is peace. That is peace for the individual members of the society and the nation at large. This makes peace studies inevitable in every society.

Importance of Peace Building: According to Achu (2017):

- *It helps to prevent conflict from escalating*
- *It creates security and stability in the community*
- *It restores sanity and harmonious living in the land*
- *A driving force for sustainable peace and development in the aftermath of conflict*
- *It helps to build peace in the mind of the people since war starts in the mind.*
- *It captures a programme of the Rs, which are reconstruction, reformation and reconciliation when effectively implemented and this goes a long way in healing the wound of the war.*

Statement of the problem

Despite the contributions of women in the agricultural sector, their role in promoting economic growth and social stability continues to be inadequately recognized and undervalued. The following factors are responsible according to National Gender Policy (2006): Quoted in Agueue (2018). a) The male dominated culture in Nigeria which gives women inferior position in society. b) Customs that forbid women from owing land, taboos and sexual division of labour which keeps women subordinate to men and. c) The problem of unpaid productive activities performed by women at the domestic front. In Nigeria, good governance is not observed. It has always been power acquisition by fraud and intimidation of political opponents. The government is not transparent or accountable to anybody. There is no real separation of powers. What we have in Nigeria is bad governance because of the bad heart majority of our leaders come to office with. Many did not come to serve but rather to be lawless.

Objectives of the study

The general objective of the study is to examine whether there could be peace without justice.

The specific objectives include:

- a To examine if there could be peace without gender equality?
- b To examine if there could be peace with bad governance?
- c To examine if there could be justice without peace?

Research questions

- a Can there be peace without gender equality?
- b Can there be peace under bad governance?
- c Could there be justice without peace?

METHODOLOGY

Study design

The study design is largely descriptive and analytical with anecdotal evidence gleaned from a qualitative and historical literature on culture, governance, gender discrimination and equality. The Nigeria political development from the per-colonial times to date.

Data

Data for the study were gathered from textbooks, journal articles, library, and internet materials. These were complemented by (interviews, group discussions and folklores). Participant observation and interview of key informants were useful.

DISCUSSIONS

GENDER INEQUALITY

Despite the contributions of women in the agricultural sector, their role in promoting economic growth and social stability continues to be inadequately recognized and undervalued. The following factors are responsible according to National Gender Policy (2006): Quoted in Agueue (2018).

- a. *The male dominated culture in Nigeria which gives women inferior position in society.*
- b. *Customs that forbid women from owing land, taboos and sexual division of labour which keeps women subordinate to men and*

c. *The problem of unpaid productive activities performed by women at the domestic front.*

Through socialization girls and boys are brought up to accept the social system in which they live which in most cases result in gender oppression. Gender oppression refers to a whole social system in which one sex has been placed in an inferior position or subordinate to the other (Aguene, 1998). This gender oppression resulted in the deprivation of both inheritance and decision making rights for mainly Igbo women.

Unfortunately, the discrimination against women is a world –wide problem. In confirming this assertion UNDP(1998), observed that:

In no society today do women enjoy the same opportunities as men. Unequal status leaves considerable disparity between how much women contribute to human development and how little they share in its benefits.

Challenges of Women in Peace Building and Education in Africa: According to Achu (2017):

- i. *Inequality among men and women in power sharing and policy making process.*
- ii. *Lack of respect to womanhood from the opposite sex*
- iii. *Cultural and religious barriers which gave clear distinction of the sexes thereby favouring men domineering nature against women.*
- iv. *Inequality in education hinders women involvement in peace building*
- v. *Acceptance of some women to be a weaker sex in a cog to the wheel of their participation in peace building.*
- vi. *Erroneous view of some societies on women, that their education ends in the kitchen is a big snap in their face.*
- vii. *Oppression; exploitation and violence against women is a big challenge in their involvement in peace building due to ill experience, phobia and psychological imbalance do make them not to contribute meaningfully in peace building.*
- viii. *The inferiority complex of women makes them to look as an object in the society.*
- ix. *Non-inclusiveness of women in peace building is a big challenge because of the view that they are second class citizens, who know nothing about conflict resolution and cannot take suggestion seriously.*
- x. *Lack of awareness creation on the relevance of women in peace building and education in Africa is a challenge in their participation in peace education at least for male folks to understand.*
- xi. *Having an erroneous knowledge that the purpose of womanhood is for sexual satisfaction and child bearing is a backdrop in women involvement in peace building.*
- xii. *Lack of formidable feminist group that can advance their course is a problem*

Peace studies:Peace means the following according to Oxford English dictionary;

- i. A state of tranquility, quiet and harmony for instance, a state free from civil disturbance.
- ii. A state free of oppression and unpleasant thoughts and emotions.
- iii. Harmony in personal relations
- iv. A state free of war in particular war between different countries.

Peace could be seen as an individual's state of mind with ideal society that operates in understanding, security and unity. According to Luther, conditions for peace are created and maintained when leaders

and citizens carry out their constitutional, political, social and economic roles by providing security for all peace education.

Gumut (2004) opined that peace education is “the deliberate attempt to educate children and adults in the dynamics of peace-making skills in homes, schools and communities throughout the world using all the channels and instruments of socialization.

There are many reasons for studying peace and conflict resolution. According Adeniyi (2016):

- i. It enables one to examine the causes and prevention of war*
- ii. It enables students and researchers to examine the nature of violence, oppression, discrimination, marginalization, gender inequality etcetera as well as the factors that exacerbate or trigger conflict.*
- iii. It enables students to have the knowledge about non-violent strategies in resolving conflict and its application on the day activities and during human interaction.*
- iv. It also aims at teaching students about how to resist violence through promoting principle of human freedom, dignity, equality and rule of law amongst others...*

The content of peace education programme must be problem solving and related to the economic, political, cultural, or social conditions that constitute the conflicting issues. These subjects are delivered through workshops, seminars, rallies, classroom experiences and formal assemblies, Odoh (2006).

Women are often the stabilizing force in building peace in any society they live. Women have been at the forefront of efforts to build peace in counties of Africa and even beyond. According to (Adeniyi), the African Heads of states in a solemn declaration on gender equality adopted on July 6 (2004) agreed to;

Ensure the full and effective participation and representation of women in peace process, inducing the prevention, resolution, management of conflicts and post conflict reconstruction in Africa as stipulated in UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) and to also appoint women as special envoys and special representatives of the African Union. (Agbu, Bolarinwa, Mbagwu, and Durojaye 2006: 134)

Communication according to Odoh (2006), is the process of sharing and exchanging information between individuals, groups and potential parties in a dispute. This can be achieved through interactive sessions that will help the parties in the conflict understand themselves. Communication fosters understanding and reduces suspicion. Communication remains a veritable instrument for conflict management. This is the reason Federal Ministry of Information and Culture in Nigeria is currently campaigning against hate speech and spread of false information.

Conflict resolution is a set of principles applied to encourage warring parties to seek peace. This means that the conflict is resolved when the basic needs of the parties have been met or satisfied. Conflict management refers to effort made to change the perceptions and attitudes of the people involved (Odoh 2006).

GENDER EQUALITY

Gender equality is the state of equal ease of access to resources and opportunities regardless of gender, including economic participation and decision making and the state of valuing different behaviour, aspirations and needs equally, regardless of gender (Wikipedia, 2013).

There is a Chinese saying that women hold half of the Sky but with present day realities, they hold more than half Giddens (2008) noted that ;

In explaining gender inequality, functionalists have emphasized that gender differences and the sexual division of labor contribute to social stability and integration. Feminist approaches reject the idea that gender inequality in terms of social and cultural attitudes, such as sexism and discrimination. Radical feminists argue that men are responsible for the exploitation of women through patriarchy – the systematic domination of females by males.

Gender gap reduces productivity and diminishes contribution and does not only affect women's well-being and that of their families but also imposes high cost on the economy through productive losses (Food and Agricultural Organization, 2013.)

The goal of the National Gender Policy is to build a just society devoid of discrimination. The core strategies for achieving the objectives of the national gender policy (2006) include:

- i. *Policy partnership and program, reforms through mainstreaming of gender policy concerns at all levels*
- ii. *Gender education and capacity building to enhance necessary technical expertise and positive gender culture.*
- iii. *Legislative reform to guarantee, gender justice and respect for human rights and*
- iv. *Economic reforms enhanced productivity and sustainable development, especially that which addresses the need of women and children and other vulnerable groups.*

Though Nigeria made useful attempts towards gender equality but the nation is yet to achieve complete gender equality. For now, what we have is 35 percent affirmative clause for women and not 50 percent which is the ideal position. The Supreme Court of Nigeria on 30th April, 2014, set aside customary laws of inheritance that deny women inheritance from their biological parents.

Importance of Women in Peace Building: According Achu (2017):

1. *Women make up 80% of the population of most communities and tax of peace building is so great that living out half of the population for no good reason is not helpful.*
2. *Women are the main focus in taking care of the family before and during conflicts. If women are oppressed, victimized and excluded in the peace making process, the process will be incomplete as the central figure is absent.*
3. *For the fact that women have both the capacity to make violence and peace, it is important that they be included in the process so that this peace gift could be exploited.*
4. *Both men and women experience conflict differently, it is important that all the experiences which will account for relevant intervention in peace building be included in the plan. Therefore, the women need to be included in the peace building process.*
5. *The United Nation Resolution 1325 specified women involvement and therefore women should be included.*

6. *Women have proven and successful peace building ideas, basing their strategies on inclusion and collaboration, producing outcomes that are broad-based and sustainable; it is then important that their efforts be acknowledged and expanded.*

7. *Developing a gender sensitive peace building programme requires a deconstruction of a few assumptions that we have about the roles of men and women needed to be part of this reconstruction. (Introduction to Peace Studies Course Guide, National Open University of Nigeria).*

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Good governance is an approach to government that is committed to creating a system founded in justice and peace that protect individuals' human rights and civil liberties. The rule of law is exemplified by impartial legal systems that protect the human rights and civil liberties of all citizens, particularly minorities. The importance of good governance include according to Onyishi (2010),

- i.To enhance their ability to implement development and poverty reduction policies within the existing scarce resources.*
- ii.To execute public management functions in anaccountable manner.*
- iii.To create a credible policy environment in which domestic and international investors can have confidence,and trade can be enhanced.*
- iv.To strengthen absorptive capacity to attract and mobilize development assistance.*
- v.To demonstrate transparent and participatory economic policy –making and execution as well as a free flow of information available to all stakeholders.*
- vi.To signal and adherence to standards of institutional functioning free from corruption.*

There is need for accountability for consistent, cohesive policies, processes and decision rights. Even the principle of equality, inclusiveness and women empowerment rely on good governance.The end product is peace for all individuals and the society at large According to UNDHR in Article 21 (3) states that:

The will of the people shall be the basis of authority of government; this will be expressed in periodic and genuine election which shall be held by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held bysecret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

This will give chance for peace to reignin the society.

The Effect of Gender Equality and Good Government in Peace Studies

Good Governance: Nigeria is currently facing many challenges including: Political instability, corruption, Herdsmen and farmers clashes, kidnapping, armed robbery, agitation for independence among some ethnic groups, ethnic rivalries, none observation of rule of law, no real separation of powers and judicial corruption etc.

The problems at hand can only be solved through good governance. This is because it is only through this that peace can reign in Nigeria .Good governance will provide the panacea for peace making. Good governance has eight major characteristics which include; participatory, consensus oriented, accountability, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equability and inclusive and finally it observes the rule of law (Onyishi, 2010).

It is participatory when the members of the society participate directly or indirectly in governance. It is consensus oriented when general agreement or collective opinion is respected. It is accountable when account is given how the treasury money is spent. It is transparent when the government activities can be easily understood. It is responsive when it shows sympathy easily. It is effective when it is able to perform duties very well and it is efficient when it is able to bring about the result intended. It ensures equitability when it is fair, just and reasonable. It is inclusive when it includes much or all member of the society. It follows the rule of law when the institutions are stronger and nobody is above the law (Oxford English Dictionary).

Strict adherence to the principles of good governance will ensure that peace reigns in Nigeria. Following the items one by one each stage is aimed at making peace for the individuals and the society at large. There is no where you can have peace in any society without good governance. United Nations General Secretary Kofi Anan represented the concept of the rule of law as:

a principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the state itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and which are consistent with international human rights norms and standards. It requires as well measures to ensure adherence to the principles of supremacy of the law, equality before the law, accountability to the law, fairness in the application of the law, separation of powers, participation in decision-making, legal certainty, avoidance of arbitrariness, and procedural and legal transparency (Annan, 2012).

The rule of law is the foundation of making peace in any civilized society. There is the need for National Conference to find out the problems of those fighting the Nigerian Nation. It should not be assumed that they are stupid. Our institutions should be made stronger with observation of the rule of law this will de-emphasize strong individuals who “pollute” our country with evil intentions to be law abiding it is only then that peace will actually reign.

There is need for National Integration which entails subordination of institutions and cultural values to the demands of the central authority with obvious sacrifices. When the citizens learn to respect their fatherland irrespective of their tribal origins, the love of their fatherland will reduce ethnic tendencies in attitude (Owo, 2003). This can only be achieved through peace studies.

Gender Equality: Gender equality leads to peace building because once the right thing is done it is making peace. There is an Igbo adage ‘when you treat a child like other children the child will become happy’. Hammonds (1996) observed that both men and women have been partners in laboring together for survival of their society’s right from the earlier of times both should be able to enjoy equality in terms of actualization of opportunities, status (position) and welfare. This is because through awareness campaign by feminists women are now better informed than before. They can no longer accept certain things they accepted in the past therefore this awareness if care is not taken will lead to conflicts. This makes peace studies inevitable in every society.

Esteeming women as equal partners in the developing process have had enormous changes occurring in the social political and economic conditions because of the harmony existing between men and women in their societies, without peace there could be no harmony because when women are not given

opportunity in the family decision making there will be no peace at home which will in turn affect the society at large.

The Beijing women's conference in (1995), observed that no society can truly hope to better the lives of her citizens until it fosters gender equality.

The advancement of women and the achievement of equality between women and men are a matter of human right and a condition for social justice and should not be seen in isolation as a women's issue. They are the only way to build a sustainable, just and developed society. Empowerment of women and equality between women and men are prerequisites for achieving political, social, economic, cultural and environmental security among all peoples (Beijing Conference 1995).

Peace can only reign where there is justice therefore, without justice there will be no peace. For instance, in almost every family women contribute to the up keep of their families therefore; family decision making should be between husband and wife. This is why there is need for peace studies. This will then give women the opportunity to further their carrier which will enable them to contribute to community and national developments.

Gender equality is very essential in achieving sustainable rural development. This is why the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which committed world leaders to combat poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women out of 8 agenda has as No 3 agenda promote gender equality and empower women. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) the goals were developed to succeed the Millennium Development and Goals (MDGs) which ended in 2015. It has 17 agenda No 5 addressed gender equality and empower all women and girls No. 16 addressed peace, justice and strong institution. The SDGs will end in 2030.

CONSEQUENCES OF GLOBALIZATION POLICIES

Economic consequences: Nigeria has suffered untold socio-economic crises and consequences as a result of the adopted globalization policies. Multinational corporations are virtually in firm control of the Nigerian economy with the attendant consequences of their segregation and divisive policies which in some parts of Nigeria like the Niger Delta Region have given rise to conflicts of different magnitude and dimension. In terms of industrial development, local industries have been out competed and diminished due to governments policies of liberalization which allowed massive importation of foreign goods (Oddih, 2009).

Political consequences: In Nigeria, good governance is not observed. It has always been power acquisition by fraud and intimidation of political opponents. The government is not transparent or accountable to any body. There is no real separation of powers. According to Oddih(2009):

The 2003 /2007 elections became avenues for enthroning poor leadership culture, corruption, mediocrity, ignorance, insensitivity, thuggery and all forms of violent conflicts in Nigerian politics. Western industrialized countries verbally condemned the elections but refrained from imposing sanctions ...knowing fully well that the 'elected' leadership would accommodate and project the spirit of globalization

Socio-cultural consequences: The reign of greed (winner takes all) and oppressive governments in Nigeria have succeeded in making the political climate unfriendly for the realization of the dreams and aspirations of common Nigerians. This has manifested in voting apathy since many Nigerians believe that their votes will not be counted hence why waste time at the voting centres. The government has intimidated the organized labour, civil society organizations, enough money have been given to some churches and organizations to be singing the praises of the ruling class to the detriment of the opposition and suffering masses.

Corruption has ripped the Nigerian Masses of their due democratic dividends. The health system, transport system, housing, educational system and many other social institutions are in crisis, divorce cases and many other anti-social conducts are consequences of the present globalization process (Udoka & Ekong 2004).

Rule of law: The principle of rule of law is a system of social contract between the government and the governed on accountability and transparency for the objective aim of achieving common good. According to (Eke, 2017):

respect for the rule of law, civil liberties and fundamental human rights electoral legitimacy, accountability, transparency, development oriented leadership, efficiency of public institutions, decentralization and capacity- building legal and judicial reform and broad civil society participation in decision making... (Onyishi, 2009).

What we have in Nigeria is bad governance because of the bad heart majority of our leaders come to office with. Many did not come to serve but rather to be lawless. The cases of Dasuki and Nnamdi Kanu are fresh in our memories when Federal Courts granted them bail but the Federal Government refused to observe the rule of law.

The income of community which subdivision among families and kindred is less than 40 percent of the norm which manifest more in poor infrastructure, poor health, poor nutrition, poor self esteem, low hygienic standards, low intellectual development and lack of capacity to articulate social, economic and political environment and low per capita income (Ngwube, 2017).

Nigeria is not a poor country but unfortunately her citizens are poor because our leaders loot the public treasury and nobody asks questions. The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) are used to trap political opponents. For instance, this is why some Governors immediately after serving their tenures join the ruling party to avoid the wrath of EFCC and ICPC.

CONCLUSION

Without a good electoral commission in place, and honestly elected leaders on board, the people oriented democratic culture cannot hold sway and challenges of globalization could not be surmounted. Truth, justice, peace, Joy and stability did not reign instead there is conflict.

The zeal to empower women and have them in power and decision making situations where they can help to change the situation of things, especially in relation to women abuse and the need for women

to be part of key players in conflict resolution is lacking. It should be noted that both the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals are targeted to the entire population of countries of the world irrespective of whether male or female. The aim is equal and inclusive world where nobody will be above the law and there is strict observation of the rule of law through these processes peace will be achieved in all nations and the world at large.

Strict adherence to the tenets of good governance and equality between men and women is building peace in the society. This is because once the right thing is done it is making peace. For instance, Nigerian – Biafran Civil war was because the Aburi agreement was not implemented. Another example is the dragging of Nigeria a secular country to be a member of Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC) nearly brought the collapse of the nation before it was reverted. The only solution to our divergent problems is national integration and strict adherence to the rule of law this will reinforce our weak institutions and weaken powerful and exploitative leaders.

There orientation of Nigeria should not be left for National Orientation Agency (NOA) alone peace study should be enhanced in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions. The idea of peace study is not common among state Governors and chairmen of local government areas. The absence of peace studies created conflicts in the various levels of government. There are many conflicts here and there because of inadequate knowledge of peace studies. Peace achieved by mere elimination of conflict is the peace of the graveyard. The issue at state must be addressed through conflict resolution.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Themes on good governance and peace studies should be part of primary, secondary and tertiary institutions curricular in Nigeria. Topics such as electoral rights and processes, and gender equality should be taught. This will help in raising individuals that are gender sensitive, individuals who see people in their own rights as human beings not males being superior to females. Modern agents of socialization such as schools, churches, mass media, and other organs of social communication should be used to educate women and men on the United Nations declaration on human rights especially the important sections concerning women's rights and the principles of the rule of law. Through these means peace will reign in Nigeria.

The study recommends peace studies to all ethnic groups or associations including churches, Mosques, market men, women, all classes of politicians and in short to all Nigerians because of the benefits.

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