



Bandit, Herdsmen and Boko Haram Attacks: How they affect Food Security?

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Abstract: The North West Nigeria is characterised by violent and conflicts such as political crisis in the seven (7) States in North West. All these parts have remarkable contrary effect on the nation's economic growth and development with related magnitudes and cost on the design of governance in the nation and on other African regions. The violent conflict involving herdsmen and farmers in some parts of West African stands out as one of the most unresolved security concern in the North West for instance, where the Boko Haram hangout in North East of Nigeria. The dispute between the farmer and herdsmen have also disproportionately contributes to undermining Nigeria national security and shortage of food supply within the communities. The crime cases of these new security threats frequently reported from different parts of the country. This paper examine the causes of bandit, herdsmen and Boko Haram attacks in North West, establish means in which the challenges caused by group could be address to provide lasting solution, not only specific in North West and Northern Region of Nigeria, but the entire country at large. The study utilized secondary data and quantitative content analysis were used to analysed data, documentary evidence which was verified with existing relevant theories in the literature. The conflicts have worsened security conditions in Nigeria; escalating conflicts among the three (3) groups which claimed the total of three thousand seven hundred and thirty one thousand (3731) lives under the study period. This could potentially generate more bloodshed or even wider scale unless drastic measures and the task of ending the violence are pushed up the national priority ladder. Thus, this paper also recommends that; there is need for the restructuring of the security architecture of Nigeria to meet up with the current security challenge of the country, Nigerian government should screen the media houses and establish law to guide them in reporting violence and government should build grain stores in each of the state, the State Governors should liaise with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to design the road map in connection with the NGOs to assist and reduce the level of food crisis in the study area.

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Introduction

Banditry violence has affected populations living in Nigeria's Zamfara, Kaduna, Kano, Sokoto, Kebbi, Jigawa and Katsina states in the northwest. About 21 million people living in these states have been exposed to insecurity from activities of bandits. Unconnected to the Boko Haram insurgency in the northeast, the banditry violence began as a farmer/herder conflict in 2011 and intensified between 2017 to 2018 to include cattle rustling, kidnapping for ransom, sexual violence and killings. The violence has affected about 35 out of 92 local government areas in the 4 states. The discovery of gold mines and the activities of illegal miners competing for the control of gold reserves have served to further intensify the existence and activities of armed groups in the

northwest. By March 2020, more than 210,000 people have been internally displaced. More than 35,000 refugees have crossed communal borders to Maradi in Niger Republic by the beginning of March 2020. These refugees are hosted in Madaou in Tahoua region, Dan Dadjji Makaou, Garin Kaka and Guidan Roudmji. In addition to displacement, the violence has hampered agricultural activities and heightened the risk of acute food insecurity. (ACAPS, 2021).

Banditry viciousness is definitely another wonder in Nigeria. The historical backdrop of banditry in Nigeria can be followed to pre-common conflict period when government decayed in specific pieces of the old Western locale bringing about political viciousness, wrong doing and coordinated revolt. As needs be, during the regular citizen rule, neighborhood

criminals were apparently taking homegrown creatures. As of late, in the Northwest space of Nigeria especially in Zamfara, Sokoto, Katsina, Kano, Jigawa, Kaduna and Kebbi States, the exercises of Bandits have been especially troubling. (Odinkalu, 2018; Nadam, 2019).

Predominantly farming communities faced by the insurgency in the Northeast cannot have access to sufficient humanitarian aid; 10.6 million people need urgent assistance, but only about 7.8 million can be accessed. Also, to be self-reliant means risking death and moving to attack-prone farmlands. About 4.3 million people are already predicted to be facing acute hunger in the North West. (USDA, 2019).

However, late advancements have seen farmlands developed being attacked by outfitted Fulani herders with the pardon of cows munching. A few intrusions have been done by Fulani herders in the previous two years of the established organization of President Muhammadu Buhari, a Fulani man in Nigeria, conflicts between the two gatherings got heightened after the state governments endorsed the counter open brushing law. The country's security circumstance has gotten intense and there is a developing consideration for occurrences of unremitting grisly conflicts between the Fulani herders and neighborhood ranchers in Nigeria. This advancement has gotten a subject of safety concern and public discussion. The government of Nigeria has reacted by sending security agents to look and kill the powers of the furnished Fulani herders (Opejobi 2016).

The study aim to achieve the following objectives; to examine the causes of bandit, herdsmen and boko haram attacks in North West of Nigeria, establish means in which the challenges caused by bandit, herdsmen and boko haram attack in North West could be addressed to provide lasting solution to the food crises. The scope covered seven (7) states in the North West were bandit, herdsmen and boko haram activities affect farming and its reduced the level of food production in the area, which led to poverty and hunger. On the other the activities of the groups in the affected states cause the increase of food items in the market.



Map of Nigeria showing areas affected by Northwest Banditry Crisis – July 2020 (Sources: d-maps.com; ACAPS)

Conceptual Clarification Food Security in Nigeria

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture (2010) referred to in Abur (2014), assessed that more than 53 million people in Nigeria are ravenous, which is around 30% of the nation's all out populace of about 150 million; and 52 percent live beneath the destitution between the poverty line. In any case, Nigeria achieved self - adequacy in food creation and turned into a net exporter of food to different districts of the mainland during the 1950s and 1960s as indicated by reports. (70th FAO, UN). The fall in food creation has come about to increment in food importation to adjust the abundance request oversupply of food in the country.

Food security has been characterized in various manners by various researchers. The World Bank characterizes food security as a condition where everybody approaches adequate food to eat and carry on with a sound and useful life, (World Bank, 1986). This implies that there ought to be the shortfall of different variables like emergency, dry season or war that can make food inaccessible for the overflowing populace to eat. The Africa Bureau of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID, 2015) referred to in Henry (2017), goes further by characterizing food security as a circumstance where everybody has physical, social and financial admittance to adequate food to meet their dietary necessities, produce and stay sound. This again focuses to the way that people should be secure genuinely, socially and monetarily to have food security.

Food adequacy with no craving or dread of starvation is the thing that could be viewed as food security and it involve accessibility, openness,

sufficiency of usage and solidness of supply consistently (World Bank, 1986). As per Henry (2017), when these conditions are non-existent or lacking, individuals are food-uncertain. Food frailty, thusly, results when not every person approaches adequate food to carry on with a solid and useful life or when they can't meet objective utilization levels yearly. The accentuation here is on admittance to adequate nourishment for a solid and useful life that is liberated from hunger and the dread of starvation. Individuals without physical, social and monetary admittance to adequate food to meet their dietary requirements to empower them to deliver and remain sound experience the ill effects of food shortage and frailty. At the point when individuals have food, however insufficient in amount and quality, they are still food-shaky. The simple accessibility of food doesn't ensure food security aside from when it is of sufficient amount and quality. At the point when the food supply is temperamental and questionable for some explanation, food weakness is said to exist. Once more, if food is accessible, yet isn't sufficiently used a result of vanity or self-centeredness, one can't make certain of food security.

Causes of Food Insecurity in Nigeria

Food insecurity is a multifaceted problem. It is quite an uphill task discussing the driving factors for food insecurity in Nigeria. Nigerians lack enthusiasm for local products and often consider them inferior to imported food products. The emergence of oil sector marked the imminent end of the agriculture sector as the huge revenue generated from the petroleum products shifted attention from agriculture. The government embarked on importation food and local production shrunk away, especially as wealth from oil changed the status and tastes of many Nigeria in favor of foreign goods. This couple with socio-political instability which precluded the economic downturn, civil war, dwindling human resource base, gender inequality, education decadence, poor health facilities and the general loss of good governance have coexisted to further degenerate food. The following among others have however, been identified as the prime agents of food in Nigeria. (Otaha, 2013).

Food Security Crises

In all the seven (7) states in the North West, Nigeria, the quantity of food produced before the activities of bandit, herdsmen and boko haram started during or after is unmatched in the geo political zone. Before their activities farmers are going to their farm land within the zone without any restriction both in raining season and dry farming, hundreds of farmers were been killed in several attacks by the group, the researchers cited example with Katsina State among the seven (7) states in the zone;

Banditry on food security in Katsina State

The banditry activities have brought negative impacts on food security in Katsina state. This is because banditry characterized by killings, kidnappings, threats, robberies, theft, burnings, raiding and blocking of local trade routes which are highlighted below:

Killing of farmers

This is one of the most devastating impacts of banditry in Katsina state whereby farmers were killed by the bandits. Most families experience food insecurity when the head of the family dead. These farmers are heads of households who are married with children and their death adversely affects the other family members in terms of food supply. Example of farmers attack by bandits at Yargamji village of Batsari LGA where on 6th July 2020, at overnight rain, the bandits numbering over 200 shot killing 15 farmers and injuring several others (Aminu, 2020). On 10th September, 2020, famers were also killed by bandits in Dandume LGA, one of the most agrarian areas in the state (Erezi, 2020).

Kidnapping of farmers

This is another devastating negative impact of banditry where farmers were kidnapped when they go to the farm to work. In case where famers were kidnapped, they were taken to forest and will not be released till large sums of moneys are paid as ransom. This case of ransom impoverishes the famers and in some cases the farmers had no option but to sell their properties including their farmlands to get money to pay ransom. In Dandume LGA, the farmers in the villages sold their farmlands to buy a house at Dandume town. One of the most recent cases of kidnapping was at Mallamawa village of LGA on 4th October 2020, where 22 farmers working on the farmlands were kidnapped while some managed to escape (Ibrahim, 2020). One of the farmers that narrowly escaped lamented that:

"In these villages, we depend mostly on two things as source of livelihood farming and cattle rearing. Farming has become difficult due to insecurity. Domestic animal rearing has also become difficult as bandits have rustled our cattle and presently abducting us on our farms. Am calling on the government to come to our aid as we migrate to the cities since we have no job to do in the cities and all that we have are in the villages. Anybody that is used to village life cannot stay in the city as the city consumes wealth".

Socio-Economic Implications of the Bandit and Herdsmen attacks

The socio-economic implication of the bandits and Fulani herder's assaults are compared to the end results of Boko Haram agitators in view of its rise psychological warfare exercises. The Fulani herders

have unfavorably influenced the economy of the north Nigeria specifically North West for the most part. Each area of the economy is disturbed in without a doubt by the proceeded with brutality and weakness in the Country. There is no uncertainty that the current conflicts among herders and ranchers in the overwhelmingly cultivating spaces of the center belt area has brought about the obliteration of lives and farmlands have become a significant danger to the endeavors to support food creation. (Ijirshar, Ker and Clement, 2015).

Rural and improvement specialists are consistent in their forecasts that the increases recorded in the rural area of the economy, particularly in the space of food creation, may endure a genuine mishap because of the adverse consequences of the exercises on ranchers in region where Fulani herders works. The impacts of the supported Fulani battle in the influenced regions have prompted ranchers' hesitance to return to their homesteads even as cultivating season goes on. Inhabitant ranchers escaped the region leaving their homesteads unharvest and crude, accordingly exposing homesteads to unjustifiable touching by the Fulani herders. Ranches and schools in the influenced regions have been overwhelmed with weeds and those that were not prepared for collection have not been attended to. This will adversely influence food supply to different pieces of the country since the greater part of the ranchers have moved to safe spots where they are not cultivating and are remaining inactive.

Situation Overview

A new humanitarian crisis is emerging in Nigeria's northwest with the ongoing activities of armed groups referred to locally as 'bandits' in six states, namely Zamfara, Katsina, Sokoto, Kaduna, Jigawa, Kano and Kebbi. Attacks have included shooting and killing, cattle rustling, kidnapping, rape, torching of entire villages, and looting of valuables, and the numbers of fatalities and displaced people have continued to rise. While more than 1,100 people were killed in 2018 in the six states, over 2,200 were killed in 2019, and more than 1,600 fatalities were recorded between January – June 2020 (Council on Foreign Relations 07/2020). By September 2019, such attacks had internally displaced over 160,000 people and produced more than 41,000 refugees (WFP 09/2019; UNHCR 09/2019). Displacement numbers now stand at over 247,000 IDPs and some 60,000 refugees. (UNHCR 05/2020; UNHCR 26/06/2020).

Humanitarian constraints

While there is an active presence of local aid agencies and INGOs in Nigeria's northeast due to the Boko Haram insurgency, the landscape in the northwest is not yet politically recognised as a humanitarian disaster. Official protective and

logistical infrastructure are yet to be made for major donor agencies to operate fully and functionally in the area. Humanitarian presence is very low. Activities of armed groups causing general insecurity also to restrict humanitarian access to displaced people and people in need. (ACAPS, 24th July, 2020).

Information Gaps/ Limitations

This note is based on both primary and secondary data sources. Primary data relied on a limited number of sources, at times reporting conflicting information. Primary data, especially when contradictory, was corroborated and backed by secondary data. Secondary data was not always up to date, which means that some clarities remain around the current banditry dynamics. There is still lack of clarity around the needs and locations of IDPs in the seven (7) states and our information came from few available, yet reliable sources. (ACAPS, 24th July, 2020).

Attacks by Bandits, Herdsmen and Boko Haram

People killed by bandits, herdsmen and Boko haram in the seven (7) States of North West Nigeria are; Kaduna, Kebbi, Sokoto, Jigawa, Kano, Zamfara and Katsina respectively.

Kaduna State

A total of 937 people were killed by bandits in Kaduna State, out of 93 were killed between January and March 2021, the government has said. Channels Television reports that the figure was contained in a security report presented by the Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs in Kaduna, Samuel Aruwan, at the State Security Council meeting. Presenting the first quarter security report to the council, Aruwan explained that of the 323 people killed by bandits during the period under review, 292 were males and 20 were females. He added that a total of 949 people were kidnapped by bandits during the period, while Kaduna Central senatorial district accounted for 236 deaths within Birnin Gwari, Chikun, Igabi, and Kajuru Local Government Areas. The commissioner, however, informed the council that some successes were recorded on the part of the security forces, including the killing of hundreds of bandits and recovery of many weapons. (Reported by Alfred Olufemi, April, 30th 2021).

Kebbi State

The total of 361 people were killed in Kebbi and out of 361 at least 88 people were killed June 3, 2021 by armed bandits in Kebbi State, police confirmed on Saturday, 5th June, 2021. Police spokesman in the region, Nafi'u Abubakar, said unidentified gunmen conducted attacks in eight areas of the region. Abubakar said security forces were dispatched to the region and

investigations were launched. In April, nine police officers were killed in an attack by gunmen in the state. (Reported by Anadolu Agency (AA): Adam Abu-Bashal, June, 6th 2021).

Sokoto State

Armed bandits killed 65 people including a village head in separate attacks on Sunday and Tuesday, 25th May, 2021, in Rabah and Sabon Birni local government areas of Sokoto State. The victims include 21 members of a vigilante group who were killed in Yartsakuwa village of Rabah local council during a shootout with the bandits on Sunday. The village head of Sabon Birni, identified as Umar Sanda, was killed in the Tuesday attack. The bandits, on Tuesday, reportedly blocked the SabonBirni-Shinkafi highway, robbed local merchants of millions of naira and rustled many cows. The governor of Sokoto State, Aminu Tambuwal, who visited one of the attacked communities, on Monday, 24th May, 2021, confirmed that 21 persons were killed in Rabah council. He sympathised with the residents and families of the deceased vigilantes and pledged to restructure vigilante groups in the state. In a statement, by his media aide, Muhammad Bello, the governor said: “We are going to restructure and reposition the vigilante groups in Sokoto State. We are going to make sure that we provide them with motorcycles and communications gadgets.” (Reported by A.A Maishanu, Premium Times of May 26th 2021).

Jigawa State

Two Divisional Crime Officers (DCO) I and II were killed and another injured in a gun battle with a group of bandits at Kalgo village of Garki local government area in Jigawa State. The incident occurred on Friday, 25th December, 2020, afternoon shortly after the release of two persons abducted in Bosuwa village by bandits earlier this week. An eye witness, Inuwa Kalgo told Vanguard that a combined team of security operatives arrived in their patrol vehicles before going to a nearby bush to locate the hideout of the criminals. He added that the bandits ambushed the police and in the cause of exchanging fire, two senior police officers were killed instantly and one other injured. The two DCO’s killed were working with Maigatari Divisional Police Headquarters where they were informed of the incident and they quickly went to the scene but met their untimely death. (Reported by Aliyu Dangida-Dutse, Vanguard News of December, 25th 2020).

Kano State

Also, suspected bandits killed 10 in Kano State. Residents of Tsatskiya had, in mob action, on Friday, lynched two suspected bandits’ informants. On Saturday afternoon, the bandits reportedly stormed the community, shot and killed eight residents. Several

others were said to have been injured in the process, with two currently receiving medical attention at the General Hospital in neighbouring Dutsinma Local Council. The incident was confirmed yesterday by the spokesperson of the police command, Gambo Isah, who said a report by the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in the area indicated that the bandits killed eight people and injured two. According to him, the incident was a reprisal attack by bandits, after the villagers had killed two informants. (Reported Murtala Adewale, the Guardian News of 10th May, 2021).

Zamfara

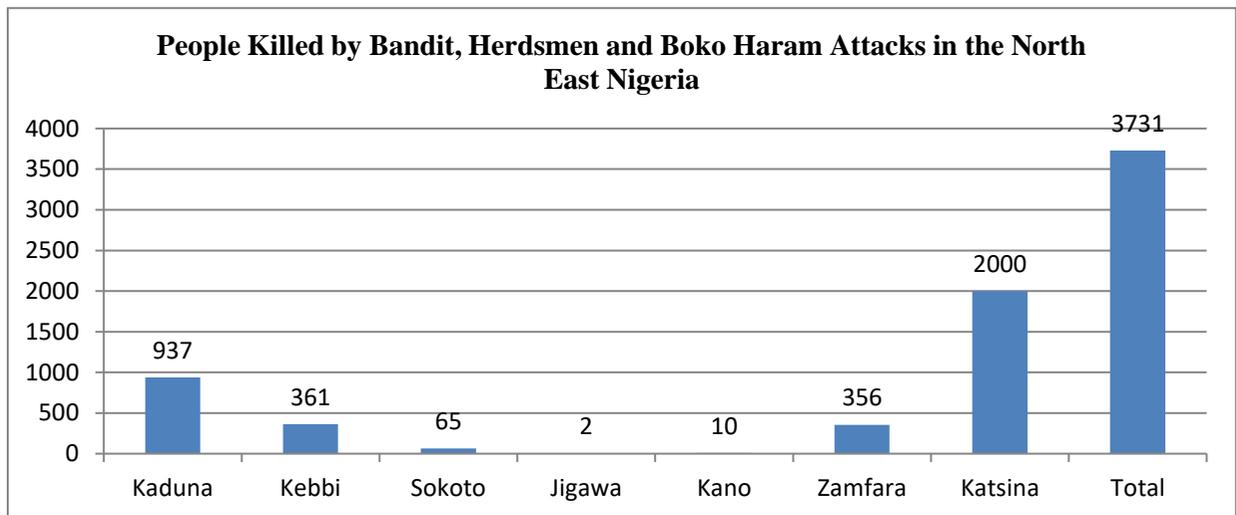
Suspected armed bandits reportedly killed up to 30 people in the Zurmi Local Government Area, Zamfara State, on the evening of June 6. Assailants reportedly targeted the Askawa and Gidan Dannunu communities. Security officials confirmed the incident. The casualty count may rise in the coming days as security personnel investigate the attack. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack yet. (Gardaworld, 8th June, 2021). Bandits have again killed 93 people in Kadawa village of Zurmi Local Government Area of Zamfara State, while many others were severely wounded. A local, Mallam Muhammadu Dansani, who narrowly escaped being killed, told *Saturday PUNCH* on the phone that the incident happened between Tuesday, 8th June, 2021 night and Friday, 11th June, 2021 morning. Dansani said the bandits, who spoke French, invaded Kadawa on motorcycles and shot 93 people dead. He said 67 bodies were seen in the village and 26 others outside the village after the attack. “The bandits are non-Nigerians. They spoke French and wore long-plaited hair. Most of them were dark and short,” he said. Dansani lamented that security personnel were nowhere to be found during the hours of the attack. When contacted, the state Commissioner of Police, Husaini Rabi, said he had visited the scene of the crime in company with the Speaker of the House of Assembly. Rabi also said those that were killed had been buried according to Islamic rites. The recent attacked by bandits on His Excellency, Governor of Kano State, Dr. Abdullahi Umaru Ganduji on his way back from Gusau to Kano and killing of Lawmaker State Assembly Hon, Muhammad Ahmed representing Shinkafi Constituency 1st July, 2021. (Report by Gardaworld, crisis 24 of 8th June, 2021).

Katsina State

On 18 April 2020, gangs killed 47 people in villages in Katsina State, northern Nigeria. Hundreds of people have been killed during the last year in north western Nigeria by gangs and bandits who carry out robberies, kidnappings, murders, and cattle rustling. Similar attacks had happened in Katsina State in February 2020 (*The Guardian Nigeria News*. 2020-02-

28) and In July 2020, ambush by suspected bandits in Katsina State on Saturday, 20th February, 2020, left at least 16 soldiers and officers dead and 28 others wounded, Premium Times learnt. Troops of the Special Army Super Camp 4 were advancing on foot in Shimfida in Jibia Local Government Area of Katsina State at about 6:13 p.m. Saturday when the armed militants opened fire on them from a hilltop, military sources said. The officers killed in the attack included a major, a captain and a lieutenant, military sources told PREMIUM TIMES. Two bandits were also injured in

the exchanges, officials briefed on the matter said. When contacted, army spokesperson, Sagir Musa, said he could neither confirm nor comment on the attack as he was hearing it for the first time. Katsina, the home state of President Muhammadu Buhari in north western Nigeria, has seen a spate of attacks by armed militants. In Katsina State, over 2,000 people have been killed, 500 communities destroyed and over 33,000 people displaced. (West Africa Network for Peace Building Report 2020).



Source: (Author Compilation, 2021)

The above presentation shows the number of people killed by Bandit, Herdsmen and Boko Haram in seven (7) States of North West Nigeria; Kaduna, Kebbi, Sokoto, Jigawa, Kano, Zamfara and Katsina respectively. The total of three thousand, seven hundred and thirty one thousand (3731) have been killed by the groups.

Theories of Insurgency Frustration-Aggression

Theory Frustration-aggression theory was proposed by Dollard, Doob, Miller, Mowrer and Sears in 1939 to explain the reason why people behave aggressively especially when their expected goals are thwarted. The theory was further developed by Miller and his other colleagues in 1941 and by Leonard Berkowitz in 1969. The principal hypothesis which was proposed by Dollard and his colleagues argued that, "aggressive behaviour often leads to aggression". This implies that frustration possibly leads to aggressive behaviour which in turn leads to resistance or rather an attempt to block the source of frustration. This is what they interpreted as responds to vices thwarting ones

expected goal. This was further interpreted by Dennen (2005) when he sees the term frustration not only as a process of blocking one's attainment of a re-enforcer but also as a reaction to such blockage.

Dollard *et al.* (1939) in their hypothesis see the motivational strength of aggression as a function: the reinforcement value of the frustrated goal response, the degree of frustration of this response, and the number of frustrated response sequences. Apparently, aggressive drive resulting from frustration, in one way or the other, is maintained within the individual or group of individuals and may lead to intolerable frustration which may provoke aggressive behaviour(s). They argued that, "the strength of any hostile or aggressive reaction against the source of frustration depends on the level, extent or amount of the residual instigation.

The above theory, therefore explain the reason or otherwise principal cases of insurgency in the North West states of Nigeria, in which the people of Geo-political zone were frustrated with the life style of politician and other top official government to the extent that they took to violence to present their grievances by underdevelopment and neglect by the State governors

despite one of the seven (7) states are gold mine state (Zamfara) were most of the killings occurred. The South East region sees unrest or threat from IPOB whose grievances is marginalisation of the Igbo ethnic nationality in the political affairs of the Federal. They feel that for decades the Nigerian government has marginalised them by systematically favouring the other major ethnic groups, particularly the Hausa-Fulani extraction at their detriment. In recent times, the desire for independence fuelled several military actions such as the launching of operation Python Dance to quash IPOB secession campaign by the Federal government of Nigeria (Tayo & Mba, 2017).

Relative Deprivation (RD) Theory

This theory is credited to Samuel Stouffer, a Sociologist in 1949. Initially, the theory was used to describe unexpected relationship that emerged from surveys of American soldiers in World War II. Stouffer finds out soldiers of the same of the era measured their individual success not necessarily with the standards set out by the military but by their individual experiences they had within their respective units. Despite their similarities in education and experiences, some officers still feel deprived from rapid promotion due to them while other enjoy the privilege (Smith, Pettigrew, Pippin & Bialosiewicz, 2012; Teasley, 2020). This theory is a widely discussed field of contemporary sociology which emphasises the reason why some people who are deprived of social necessities take to aggressive behaviour. In other words, an individual or group of individuals' underprivileged in material or immaterial way are likely to behaviour in a manner that is unacceptable to the larger society (Michalos, 2014). For Longley (2020) relative deprivation is an actual or perceived lack of resources required to maintain the quality of life such as diet, activities and material possessions. It is a feeling that one is worse-off than the people he or she associate with and compare self with. For social theorists and political scientists, deprivation theory suggests that some group of people feel deprived of something considered essential to them. Such is the case in Nigeria in which some individuals take to crime because of poverty which they attribute to the insensitivity of the government. The bandits, herdsmen and boko haram is also pertinent example of this group who feel deprived of their right from their various states leadership in North West states of Nigeria.

Theoretical Framework

The study anchored on Frustration-Aggression and Relative Deprivation Theories to investigate the reasons why individuals take to uprising or in any case the reasons for rebellion, particularly in Nigeria. A few researchers have contended that a few people or

gathering of people take to wrongdoing enlisted their complaints either against the general public or legislature of the state while some do so childish additions or avarice. For this reasons, researchers a few follows underestimation, hardship of social need, helpless initiative and terrible administration, and ethno-strict division as the significant explanations behind rebellion in Nigeria. This examination, thusly, embraced these speculations to inspect the degree to which these variables, especially friendly hardship, political underestimation, ethno-strict contrasts and strict fanaticism could prompt dissatisfaction which its outrageous end is forceful conduct. This was further interpreted by Dennen (2005) when he sees the term frustration not only as a process of blocking one's attainment of a re-enforcer but also as a reaction to such blockage.

Existing Literature

Hassan (2014) contended that insurrection can be viewed as political battle and fundamentally not a tactical battle, consequently, not manageable to a simply military arrangement without turning to a degree of severity inadmissible to the contemporary worldwide climate. Galula (1964) characterize insurrection as "an extended battle led methodologically, bit by bit, to accomplish explicit moderate targets which frequently or outrageous cases lead to defeat of existing request". The US Department of Defense, DOD (2007) referred to in Ukpong-Umo (2016) characterized rebellion as a coordinated development which its point is to topple a comprised authority or government using disruption or outfitted clash.

Adishi and Oluka (2018) think that brutal conflicts among Farmers and herders have become just about a day by day event in Nigeria lately notwithstanding the way that it's anything but another type of safety worry to the public authority. This new security concern has taken an alarming measurement which has prompted passing of many Nigerians lately. One essential element of the Herders is movement and at the core of relocation is environmental change which makes the Fulani herders frantic visitor with their reluctant host networks, the outcome of which is struggle. Conventionally, Fulani wanderers were never known for the degree of brutality however what advises the new wave regarding conduct is unbelievable. A few researchers and investigators have needed to contend that this type of savagery is impacted or brought about by the Islamic jihad philosophy which has made another measurement to psychological warfare in the country. There is hence the chance of more instances of revolts and unrests in the country if the Federal government keeps on coming up short in its obligations of giving great administration to the people.

Shehu (2018) opined that 'food insecurity exists when people lack sustainable physical or economic access to enough safe, nutritious, and socially acceptable food for a healthy and productive life.' This may also result in severe social, psychological, and behavioural consequences. On the other hand, insecurity of food may manifest feelings of alienation, powerlessness, anxiety, stress, and reduced productivity, reduced work, social performance, and reduced income earnings, and this has direct effects on the economic development of the individuals.

Abdu and Shehu (2019) consider uprising to be an insubordination to a comprised authority either chasing after political objective or for self-centred interest. Abolurin (2011) referred to in Abdu and Shehu (2019:10) depicted insurrection as a transformation, revolt, disobedience, uproar and rebellion. By suggestion, those carryout insubordinate demonstrations are guerrilla bunches engaged with rebellion. The vast majority have additionally utilized the term psychological warfare to portray the term insurrection. Yet, this depiction is not generally right about rebellion. In spite of the fact that it must be view as such just when it has gone limit with the utilization arms and different types of complexity. In this regard, Curtas (2006) and Liolio (2014) referred to in (Amalu, 2015:36) contended that revolt is not illegal intimidation, disruption, guerrilla war, ordinary conflict, upheaval, overthrow, albeit some guerrilla bunches have received a portion of these strategies in the accomplishment of their objectives.

Akinwotu and Sahabi (2020) contended that for longer than 10 years at this point Nigerians have been stood up to by occurrences of equipped theft and steers stirring, and in particular, assaults from desperados and Fulani herders, a circumstance that is credited to rivalry for scant assets like land between the ethnic Fulani herders and nearby ranchers. There is no uncertainty, nonetheless, that numerous Fulani traveling pastoralists who length West Africa face the twin danger of environmental change and fast populace development the two of which have lessened the accessible land, tragically prompting movement from the northern toward the southern piece of the country looking for green fields for their cows. Researchers have contended that the wellspring of contention between the Fulani herders and the host southern networks isn't the relocation yet the infringement on private ranch lands and the obliteration of harvests.

Methodology

The investigation received the verifiable plan which is subjective and explorative in nature, to inspect the reasons for uncertainty in Nigeria since her return to democratic rule. It was additionally received to assess the visualization identifying with the difficulties of

instability in Nigeria. This presupposes that historical research design is effectively utilised through relevant data derived from extant literature. In other words, secondary sources such as textbooks, journal articles, internet sources, and other relevant methods were utilised.

Description of the Study Area

Nigeria's North West, one of the country's six geopolitical zones, includes seven of the country's 36 states, these are; Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto and Zamfara. It's anything but a space of 216,065 sq km or 25.75 percent of the nation's complete land mass near the size of the UK. Its significant ethnic gatherings are the Hausa and Fulani, who generally share solid social ties and are particularly intermixed, with other more modest gatherings particularly in Kaduna state. The area's assessed populace of 33 million (in light of figures from the combative 2006 evaluation) is dominantly Muslim (Sunni). The vast majority of the populace (around 80%) are ranchers, pastoralists, agro-pastoralists or limited scope business visionaries. The locale has considerable strong mineral stores, including gold abused by high quality excavators in open pit mines. Notwithstanding its monetary potential, the North West has the most elevated neediness rate in Nigeria. Starting at 2019, each of the seven states in the zone had destitution levels over the public normal of 40.1 percent, driven by Sokoto (87.7 percent), Jigawa (87%) and Zamfara (74%). Millions need admittance to essential medical care and clean water, and vaccination inclusion is far beneath public objectives. While the locale has a long and pleased history of Islamic and Arabic grant, indifference toward, and insufficient interest in formal schooling throughout the many years have added to a proficiency pace of 29.7 percent. The zone at present has the most noteworthy number of out-of-younger students in Nigeria. On top of the individuals who don't go to class by any means, a great many kids are in the inadequately resourced and poorly administered Quranic educational system, or almajiranci, which produces associates of untalented youth. Similar as the remainder of the country, the area likewise endures extremely helpless nearby administration, portrayed by the bungle of public assets.

The area's topography and climatic conditions present genuine difficulties for government and state specialists. A significant part of the North West is savannah, however the locale is additionally blended with immense timberlands, some of which are home to a large number of generally Fulani herders (otherwise called pastoralists). Once under the watch of ranger service specialists, these backwoods bit by bit became safe-houses for crooks including steers rustlers, expressway looters, hijackers and cannabis cultivators. In Kaduna state, local people presently allude to the

Kamuku timberland as "Sambisa", recommending it has become as perilous as the Borno state forests where Boko Haram set up its fortress. The locale additionally shares around 66% of Nigeria's 1,497km global limit with Niger Republic, which is feebly directed. Verifiable and social ties between networks on the two sides and territorial conventions on opportunity of development have set out open doors for runners and crooks. Various unlawful intersections, combined with unavoidable defilement among line authorities, empower the traffic of illegal product like guns. (Crises Group African Report, 2020).

Conclusion and Recommendations

The security challenges emerging from the farmers-herdsmen conflicts have worsened security conditions in Nigeria; escalating conflicts among the three (3) groups could potentially generate more bloodshed on even wider scale unless drastic measures and the task of ending the violence are pushed up the national priority ladder. Failure to respond, decisively and effectively, would allow Nigeria to continue sliding into increasingly deadly conflict. As part of the efforts to curtail the crises across the country different group of Youths came up with the creation of Security outfit "Operation Shegi ka Fasa" in each of the seven (7) states in the North West Nigeria, the group was established in 2020. The Northern governors who also described the name of the outfits as derogatory, indicates their preference for community policing to secure the region. Their rejection came a few days after the sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Sa'ad Abubakar opposed the establishment of the security outfit with a call on Northern elders not to allow the Youths to take over their responsibilities. Despite the Operation Hadarin Daji and Operation Sharan Daji lunches by the Nigerian Army the attacks by the Bandits, Herdsmen and Boko Haram persist in the North West Nigeria. The activities of the bandits, herdsmen and boko haram groups forced the farmers in the zone to stop farming their farm land because of uncertainty of security and this led to shortage of food in the society. According to the poverty clock 2019, the level of hunger in North West States of Nigeria recorded (71.4%). The administrative and non-legislative organizations have contrived numerous procedures to react to the contentions. In spite of the fact that a portion of the reactions are term to be less successful in tending to the security challenges in many influenced states in Nigeria, for example, in Zamfara express, the public authority has reinforcing the security developments through the exercises of the Department of Careers and Special Services, insight get-together and arrangement of pertinent State and Government Committees. The "Activity Sharan Daji" was shaped in a joint effort with other north-western provinces of Kaduna, Kebbi, Sokoto, Katsina and Niger to leave on

joint activity to flush out Fulani desperados. The Federal government likewise heightened security arrangement in the influenced regions. In Zamfara express, the contentions prompted foundation of 223 Battalion in 2013, 207 Air Force Quick Response Unit in 2016 and One (1) Brigade Nigerian Army in 2018. Additionally, the joint Disarmament and Reconciliation measure framed by the north-western states which prevailing with regards to recuperating more than 3000 unique kinds of arms containing machines weapons, AK 47 and 49 rifles, siphon activity firearms, privately made guns, Dane weapons and ammo. Similarly, the interaction prompted the demise of famous Fulani outlaws Buharin Daji in March, 2018 (Classified Documents, 2018). Based on the conclusion this paper recommends the following;

- i. From the North to the East, to the West and South-South regions of Nigeria, the complaint is non-functional security architecture and personnel, all over the country. Therefore, there is need for the restructuring of the security architecture of Nigeria to meet up with current security situation of the country's challenges, prominent among which include insurgency, terrorism, herdsmen attacks, kidnapping, banditry, robbery and so on, is overdue to curtail in the study area.
- ii. Not just giving complex weapons and dealing with the government assistance of the security work force, observation on their lead ought to likewise be improved to cause them to remain alert. The criminally-disapproved of ones among them should be recognized, researched, attempted and restrained in like manner. This would aid far by improving the presentation and demonstrable skill of Nigerian security staff.
- iii. The Nigeria Government screen the media houses and establish laws to guide their operation in Nigeria in line with the rule and regulations in reporting issues relating to insurgency in all the Six geopolitical zone since the insecurity is all over within the country and International media should be professional in their reporting of violence in Nigeria so as not to aggravate the already delicate situation which is leading Nigeria to disintegration.
- iv. The government should build grain store in each of the seven (7) states in North West Nigeria, the State governors should liaise with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to design the road map and collaborate with the Non-Governmental Organisation to assist

and reduce the level of food crisis within the zone. Security apparatus should be restructuring in the affected areas so that people should attend their farm land.

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