Governance and the Challenges of Human Security in Nigeria: An Assessment

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Abstract
This paper examines governance and the challenges of human security in Nigeria. Governance issues are closely linked to the empowerment of people and communities which is the core of human security. Presently, most Nigerian families are living below poverty level. Graduate unemployment is increasing at a geometrical progression. People are losing their jobs, poverty rate is on the increase, and hunger is multiplying. Infrastructures are decaying. Simply put, human security is under severe threat in Nigeria. It is against this background that this paper x-rays governance and the challenges of human security in Nigeria. Nigeria returned to democratic rule in 1999 after many years of military dictatorship. There was high expectation that the return to democracy will lead to improved condition of the ordinary citizens but the reverse is the case. The paper therefore examines how the twin problems of inadequate infrastructure and corruption hinder governance and human security in the country. Documentary method was used to gather data for the work. We adopted the theory of constructivism as a framework of analysis. The findings of the paper show that human security has been endangered by the nature and character of governance in the country, and that the inadequacy of infrastructures and corruption has negatively affected the security of the human being in the country. The paper therefore concluded that government has greater responsibility of ridding itself of corruption, and recommends that government should focus greater efforts on infrastructures, the fight against corruption and ensuring peace between farmers and herders in the country.

Introduction

The concepts of governance and human security have become issues of hot debate in national and international forums both within and outside Africa. Governance is the process of making and implementing decisions and to deliver services, regardless of whether the government is democratic or not (UNESCAP, n.d. & Fukuyama, 2013). Good governance refers to the effectiveness with which government performs its task and promotes public goods which include enforcement of law and order, revenue allocation, allocation of resources to meet specific demands, provision of infrastructure and promotion of human rights to mention but a few (Anyang Nyongo 2001). Governance issues are closely linked to the empowerment of people and communities, and until people and communities are empowered to let their voices be heard or to participate in decision making and implementation, good governance will remain a mirage. Governance is very crucial to human security. According to Graham, Bruce and, Plumptre (2003), good governance is seen as the single most important factor in eradicating poverty and promoting development. Human security helps in safeguarding national and international stability by promoting such values as, the rule of law, respect for democracy, the defense of human rights, good management of public affairs, peaceful resolution of conflict and environmental protection which are the core of good governance.

However, Nigeria gained her independence from Britain on October 1, 1960 and the management of the affairs of the state felt on the nationalist leaders. There were high hopes that the end of colonial rule would bring about improved condition of living. But the failure of the new political leadership to properly manage the affairs of the State for the good of all led to military intervention in 1966. The emergence of the military in Nigeria's political scene did not help matters instead human conditions worsened under the military. Attempt to return to democracy in 1979 once again failed in 1983 following the sacking of the Shagari regime by the military. By the late 20th century, issues like democracy, human rights and the rule of law have become internationalized and the wave of democracy led to the return of power to civilians in 1999.

Since the return of democratic governance in 1999, the nature and character of governance in the country has remained a subject of intense debate by scholars, analysts and, commentators of all divides. The rising concern about the governance project in Nigeria, according to George-Genyi (2013), cannot be explained outside the country's historical experience, which laid the foundation for the current wave of ethno-religious crisis, politico-economic crisis and, corruption in the land. This state of affairs has raised serious concern about the question of good governance in the country, where politics of exclusion, deprivation and mismanagement of resources appear to have taken over the principles of accountability, transparency and responsibility which has thrown up security challenges in the country (George-Genyi 2013: p.57). The state in Nigeria since 1999 has become a source of insecurity instead of being a provider of security. It is against this backdrop that this paper examines governance and the challenges of human security in Nigeria since 1999. To achieve the above stated objectives, this paper is partitioned into five sections including the introduction

The second section centers on conceptual clarification. The third focuses on the impact of infrastructural decay and corruption on human security. The fourth section x-rays governance and the challenges of human security in Nigeria since 1999, while the fifth section draws the conclusion with recommendations.

Conceptual Clarification

Governance

The term governance has been variously defined by scholars, bilateral and multilateral agencies. But for the purpose of this paper, a few of the definitions given by some scholars and agencies would be cited. For example, George-Genyi (2013) said that governance emphasizes leadership which suggests the way political leaders, use or misuse political power, to promote social and economic development or to engage in those agendas that largely undermine the realization of the good things of life for the people. Leke and Oluwaleye (2015), see governances as the total ability to organize, synthesize and direct the disparate actions of the working parts of

government machinery so that such a government can perform meaningfully, creditably and accountably. For Funkuyama (2013), governance is a government's ability to make and enforce rules and to deliver services, regardless of whether that government is democratic or not. Graham, Bruce and Plumpter (2003) see governance as a process whereby societies or organizations make their important decisions, determine whom they involve in the process and how they render account. The United Nations Development Programme (1997) defines it as "the exercise of economic, political and administrative authority to manage a country's affairs at all levels. It comprises the mechanisms, processes and institutions, through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights, meet their obligations and mediate their difference". The World Bank (1993) defines governance as the method through which power is exercised in the management of a country's political economic and social resources for development. Governance therefore implies the management of public affairs for the good of the people. It is an attribute of democracy.

However, governance in Africa is generally in crisis and Nigeria in particular, undermining efforts at improving the condition of the people, and exposing them to all kinds of insecurity. Barak Obama, in a speech to the people of Africa at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, the former US president said:

> Governance in Africa is crisis ridden and it is a crisis that is robbing honest people of the opportunities they fought for. Corruption erodes the state from the inside out, sickening the justice system until there is no justice to be found, poisoning the police forces until their presence becomes a source of insecurity rather than a source of security. In the end, if the people cannot trust their government to do the job for which it exists, to protect them and to promote their common welfare, all else is lost. (Obama, 2015, n.p.)

Writing on the failure of leadership in Nigeria, Achebe (1983: 1) wrote:

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

Governance and leadership in Nigeria have become a threat to human security in Nigeria, depriving people of basic necessities of life. The leadership has failed to live above board in pursuit of their selfish interest thereby endangering the security of individuals and communities. Said (2006) identified the components of governance to include: (a) the mechanisms and processes of selecting, monitoring and replacing government (b) constitutionalism and the rule of law (c) capacity to formulate and implement sound policies and deliver public services (d) the respect of citizens and the sate for the institutions (e) citizens and civil society empowerment. Bile (2024), citing the Institute of Security Studies (2011), argues that Africa's security challenges are the result of the governance choices some states in Africa have made. He maintains that the challenges to human security in the Horn of Africa originated from political and state fragility, resource scarcities, and environmental degradation.

Good Governance

One may wonder the necessity of clarifying good governance, having defined governance earlier. The essence is to make a slight distinction between governance and good governance. The difference between the two concepts lies in the 'good' preceding governance in the good governance, which specifies the effectiveness of governance. Hence, good governance is the exercise of power by various levels of government in a manner that is effective, honest, equitable, transparent and accountable (Beetsech, Echikwonye and Chiba, 2012). Good governance simply means the effectiveness with which a government carries out its functions and promotes public goods. It entails sound public sector management, accountability, exchange and free flow of information and a legal framework for development. For Munshi (2004, p. 45), good governance "signifies a participative manner of governing that function in a responsible, accountable and transparent manner based on the principles of efficiency, legitimacy and consensus for the purpose of promoting the right of individual citizens and the public interest, thus, indicating the exercise of political will for ensuring the material welfare of society and

sustainable development with social justice". Good governance is all about effective and transparent leadership that produces results which together transform the socio economic conditions of a nation. Good governance is characterized by participation, rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, consensus oriented, equity and inclusiveness, effectiveness and efficiency and accountability (UNESCAP, n.d. & Ahmadu, 2013).

Human Security

One major problem with the concept of human security is not that it has no definition but that it has many definitions. This paper will examine a few of the definition. However the concept of security has gone beyond military consideration and has shifted the security discourse from the state security to the security of individuals and communities (Kumar & Dahiya, n.d.). The concept of human security emerged from a post Cold War multi-disciplinary understanding of security involving a number of research fields including development studies and human rights. The UNDP's Human Development Report of 1994 was a milestone in the evolution of human security when it argued that ensuring "freedom from want" and "freedom from fear" for all persons is the best path to tackle the problem of global insecurity (Lamb, 2023; Orhero, 2020; Adejumobi, Ndum & Abang 2020; Akpan & Ecoma 2020; Ezemenaka, 2020 & Awotunde, 2021).

Hence, the UNESCO Committee of Expert on public Administration (CEPA) (2006) defines human security as protecting vital freedom. Protecting people from critical, pervasive threats and situations; building on their strengths and aspirations. It also mean creating system that give people the building blocks of survival, dignity and livelihood, Yukio (2000) defines human security as the preservation and protection of the life and dignity of individual human beings. Thomas and Wilkin (1999) defined it as a condition of existence in which basic material needs are met and in which human dignity, including meaningful participation in the life of the community can be realized. Such human security is indivisible, it cannot be pursued by or for one groups at the expense of another.

The former Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Kofi Annam argues that human security can no longer be understood in purely military terms. Rather it must encompass economic development, social justice, environment protection, democratization, disarmament, and respect for human rights and the rule of law. According to him: "human security in it's broadest sense embraces far more than the absence of violent conflict. It encompasses human rights, good governance, access to education and health care and ensuring that each individual has opportunities and choices to fulfill his or her potential (Annan, 2000). The UN Commission on Human Security (CHS) (2003) defines human security thus:

> to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfillment. Human security means protecting people from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations. It means using processes that build on people's strengths and aspirations. It means creating political, social, environmental, economic, military and cultural systems that together give people the building blocks of survival, livelihood and dignity.

However, all the above definitions are correct but one point to note is that human security cannot be separated from the security of the State. The security of the individual is inseparable from the security of the State. It is a necessary condition for the security of the state. The 1994 UNDP's Human Development Report recommended that the scope of global security should be expanded to include threats in seven areas;

Economic Security

Food Security

Environmental Security

Personal Security

Community Security

Political Security (Lamb, 2023; CSS, 2011; Koundouri, Aslanidis, Dellis, Feretzakis, & Plataniotis, 2024).In this paper therefore, we are going to operationalize human Security to mean protection of the individual, communities and the state against non-military threats. Military threat is seen here as any kind of armed threat or armed violence against the individual,

communities and the State. It is our view that reduction of non-military threat will automatically translate into reduction in military threat to the individual and communities and hence, the state.

Methodology

The method used in generating data for this paper is the documentary method. Documents refer to any written material that was already in existence which was produced for some other purpose than the benefit of the investigator (Nwana 1981, p. 177). According to Obasi (1999, pp. 172-173): "*documents are published and unpublished materials on activities of public and private organization. Usually, these documents are produced for reasons such as historical documentation of the nature, dynamics and trends of events.*"For the purpose of this paper, therefore, the documentary method involves the examination of various written documents on the issue of local government, democratic governance and democratic consolidation in Nigeria since 1999. Reference will equally be made to documents relating to the above from colonial era. These documents include textbooks, journals, the constitution or other government publications, newspapers internet materials etc. The documents were carefully analyze to enable us achieve the objectives of this paper.

Corruption, Infrastructural Development and Human Security in Nigeria

In this section, we shall be examining how corruption has affected infrastructural development and how the two have hindered human security in Nigeria since 1999. However, infrastructures are, key to development in any country. Corruption is at the heart and center of underdevelopment in Africa. It has hindered infrastructural development which is key to the over-all development of the nations in Africa in general and Nigeria in particular. Corruption has negatively impacted in every facet of human life in Nigeria and those in the public sector are the major culprits. Thus according to Achebe (1983, p. 38): "*Therefore, to hold any useful discussion of corruption, we must first locate it where it properly belongs, in the ranks of the powerful*". Corruption has been raised to the level of state craft in recent times. *From fairly timid manifestation in the 1960, corruption has grown bold and ravenous as with each succeeding regime:* (Achebe 1983, p. 42).

Government at all levels are culpable in the corruption menace in the award of contracts, government officials and members of the tenders board usually inflate the cost of the project based on a predetermined percentage of the contract value (Igwe),2010. This has led to some projects being abandoned or the cost revalued if it must be completed. In most other cases, the quality of work done is less than what is stated in the tender and nobody asks questions. Energy is a key infrastructure needed for development to occur. Various regimes have stated their desire to end the energy crisis in Nigeria but at the end of the day nothing happens. Since the return to democracy in 1999, billions of dollars have been spent in turn around maintenance of our refineries without positive result (Ojo, 2021 & "The Cesspit", 2019). According to Igwe (2010, p. 117)

> Nigeria has four completed and once functioning oil refineries but due to
> negligence and lack of maintenance those refineries have either been
> abandoned or operated at minimum capacity such that the country, the sixth
> largest oil exporter, imports refined petroleum products.

The implication of the above is that the money that would have been used for other projects are spent on fuel importation. Worse still the corruption going on in the fuel import subsidy is unequalled. Government pay subsidy on product that was never imported. The electricity sector is another area of concern. Governments since 1999 have made insincere efforts to improve electricity situation in the country but to no avail. Billions of dollars were spent by successive regimes in an effort to improve on energy provision without positive result. Privatization did not help matters after all. In the electricity sector, people pay for services they never enjoyed. Even when there was no electricity for a whole month or even more, they will be forced to pay with threat of disconnection. The Jonathan's government in 2015 ordered the PHCN (Power Holding Company of Nigeria) to provide pre-paid meter for every electricity user but such order was never heeded. The reason is that the advent of pre-paid meter will reduce the extortion and income of certain individuals whose stock in trade in the sector is to exploit unsuspecting consumers (Onikoyi, 2012). It is widely believed that pre-paid meter regime will reduce to the

barest minimum, the level of corruption in the sector, thereby reducing their personal economic gain, and increasing the income of the company and government. The government has over the years spent billions of dollars in construction of steel plants without result (Igwe 2010). The steel plant is key to technological revolution in the country, but no serious effort is shown by government in that regard .The effect of this is that Nigeria will remain technologically backward.

The budget padding controversy reveals how those in authority siphoned public fund from source. Achebe (1983, p. 49) maintained that "*most people will agree that corruption has grown enormously in variety, magnitude and brazenness since the beginning of the second Republic because it has been extravagantly fuelled by budgetary abuse and political patronage on an unprecedented scale.*" The NNPC, FIRS and some other agencies did not even defend their budget before the National Assembly. This tells one the rot in the government, corruption negates political development. In a country where corruption is systemic political oppression, repression and suppression of political opposition and critics becomes a feature of political life (Igwe 2010). Political exclusion, domination of the weak, lack of rule of law, disregard to court orders, tension, dishonesty, selective law enforcement etc, have characterized the Nigerian political scene since 1999. The situation has worsened since the Buhari administration assumed office in 2015.

Massive looting was found to have occurred at the local government. This led to the change in dimension of the looting spree. The state governments have taken over the affairs of local governments so that local governments as tiers of governments no longer exist as democratic entities but as appendages to state governments. Local governments now strive on caretaker committees, contrary to constitutional provisions (Olu, 2001; Okafor and Orjinta, 2013). The massive looting of local government accounts has remained the major hindrance to rural development in the country.

The millennium development office that is directly under the presidency and saddled with the responsibility of implementing the Millennium Development Goals aimed at improving the quality of life of the individual and the community spent about one trillion naira in four years without any result to show for it. Poverty has been growing, unemployment is multiplying; health systems are dilapidating; illiteracy is on the increase. The implication of the above is that the money meant to provide these services for the people have been embezzled (Agbaegbu, 2010). Basic infrastructures such as electricity, water, road, health facilities, etc are necessary for human security and development but unfortunately, the nature and character of governance in Nigeria which has created a situation of mutual distrust between the government and the governed has impacted negatively on human security which is evidenced in the growing rate of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, high death rate with high infant mortality rate and all kinds of human deprivation in the country.

An Assessment of Governance and Human Security in Nigeria Since 1999

Nigeria returned to democratic rule in May 1999.There was high hope in every quarter that, the end of military rule would automatically translate into a better living condition. Between 1999 and 2001 living condition seemed to improve. Some jobs were created, unemployment reduced. Food was available and people heaved a sigh of relief in the country. These were the result of the liberalization of the communication industry. The liberalization led to massive employment generation which in the short –run resulted in poverty reduction. But unfortunately, by 2002 an atmosphere of fear returned due to the struggle by political office holders to retain their positions in 2003 election (Ujo, 2012). The bid for second term by political office holders led to incessant attacks and killing of political opponents too numerous to mention here. The uncertainty created by the situation affected foreign investment and thereby affecting employment generation and poverty reduction negatively.

However, after the 2003 general elections, things began to change in the negative direction. Employment began to dwindle, poverty rate began to increase again, hunger increased, health

and community safety began to deteriorate and climaxed in 2023, when it became obvious that Nigerian government could no longer protect the lives and properties of its citizens.

Unemployment rose from 6.4% in January 2015 to 18.8% in July 2017, and has risen to 33.10% in the first quarter of 2018 ("Nigeria: youth unemployment", n.d.). Presently the unemployment rate stands at 35% in the first quarter of 2022 according to Augusto & Co. While youth unemployment has been increasing as a result of large number of people graduating from various higher institutions in the country, many people are being forced into the labour market as a result of job losses. Report shows that in 2014, Etisalat sacked about 200 of its workers. Glo sacked 54 of their engineers in July 2016. Jumia was earlier reported to have dismissed 300 of its workers in 2015 (Oludimu, 2017). The Central Bank of Nigeria has in the past laid off thousands of its workers. Other commercial banks are known to be in the habit of sacking their workers at will. The Dangote Group sacked over seven hundred of its workers in 2017.The Nigeria labour law which is supposed to protect employees in the country is being violated by employers of labour in both public and private sectors, but that of the private sector is done with impurity. The consequence of job insecurity is that people are continually being thrown into the labour market where no job exists. Hence poverty and hunger continue to increase.

Health security is another component of human security which focuses on protecting the well-being of people by preventing, detecting and responding to public health threats. (IRREVO 2015). Inadequate health facilities and the attitude of health practitioners have led to the loss of huge sums of money to health tourism abroad. The minister of state for health said in 2006 that Nigeria looses one billion USD annually on medical tourism abroad. It is a common knowledge that the elites in Nigeria don't receive medical treatment in the country because of lack of trust in the medical system of the country. Many people have died in the hospital because they could not provide the initial deposit for their treatment. The medical practitioners in Nigeria are not passionate about their professions but are driven by the money they want to make which is consequent upon the corrupt environment we live in.

There is food insecurity as a result of lack of access to food. Food security simply means access by all people at all times to enough food for an active healthy life (World Bank, 2006).Food security means availability of food and one's access to it (Otaha, 2013). Farmers – Herders'

conflict has gotten to a point that farmers no longer go to farm for fear of being killed by herders. This has led to acute food shortage in the country and high cost of available ones. Government seems incapable of protecting the farmers from the deadly herdsmen.

The absence of community security has greatly impacted on food security in the country community security focuses on ensuring that communities and their members are free from fear ("Community safety" n.d). The absence of community security will automatically impact negatively on food security, the reason being that 90 % of the rural dwellers are engaged in the agric sector. But many of these rural dwellers are not protected in their communities. They lack basic infrastructures and other necessities of life. The activities of the herdsmen have displaced people from their farms for fear of being killed by the herdsmen. The implication of this is that these rural dwellers will be out of job and will not produce foods needed in the cities. The implication of these on the economy can be unimaginable. The invasion and killing of community members have become a daily occurrence in the country. Many communities have been displaced by gunmen; others no longer sleep in the night for fear of attack by criminal elements. This has gotten to a point that the executive governor of a state expressed his helplessness in protecting the people by ordering the people of his state to arm themselves to defend themselves. However, studies have shown that there is a thin line between good governance and human security. Most good governance issues constitute human security issues. Studies have equally shown that corruption and infrastructure have significant relationship with human security.

Many studies have also shown that corruption is endemic in Nigeria. The most regrettable fact is that it is those who are entrusted with public offices that use their offices to enrich themselves at the expense of the citizens. For Geoge-Genyi (2013), these public office holders such as the state

governors, ministers and members of the National Assembly have elevated corruption to statecraft, thereby putting democracy, good governance, peace and security at great risk. Ogbeidi (2012) argues that corruption is the only surviving legacy of successive political leadership in Nigeria since independence. He maintained that corruption has ravaged and destroyed most of

what is held as national values. At a brainstorming session in Lagos in 2010, Nigerian engineers maintained that lots of money has been lost through infrastructural projects with the aid of engineers. Speaking at the occasion Atume (2010) pointed out that "*it could not be possible for politicians to steal government fund via projects without an engineer's signature.*"

Production of goods and services are made possible by infrastructural facilities (Oyedele 2012.). According to him: "*Not only does infrastructure affect production directly, it also creates many direct and indirect externalities. It also involves large flows of expenditure, thereby creating employment*". (P. 8).

Since 1999 successive regimes have not done much to improve on infrastructure, instead infrastructural projects have been used to siphon funds in the country. Alexander, Ezugwu, Titillayo and Ajiboye (2012) maintain that the situation presently in Nigeria shows backward movement in infrastructure. It is evident in Nigeria today that pipe-born water is now a history and if care is not taken, public energy will soon be history too, as electricity will be provided by individuals like water. Within five months in 2022, the national grid was reported to have collapsed up to five times, throwing the citizens into darkness.

Nigeria has four refineries but none is functioning. The country has crude oil and yet imports petroleum products. The exchange rate has impacted negatively on the price of the petroleum products thereby making them unaffordable by many Nigerians. The consequence of this is high cost of living and hyper inflation in the country. On assumption of office on 29th May, 2023, President Tinubu announced the removal of subsidy premium motor spirit (PMS), the inflation that followed it further aggravated poverty and unemployment thereby worsening human security situation in the country. The two key reforms of the administration: removal of fuel

subsidy and the foreign exchange market rate restructuring have created intense pressures on cost of living, which have pushed more Nigerians into hardship, with 104 million now living below the poverty line (Vanguard Newspaper online, 2023). The policies of the administration have equally worsened the unemployment situation as high inflation is leading to closure of small businesses. People now live in fear, hunger, joblessness and hopelessness in the country as can be seen in the "japa" syndrome in the country. All these are consequences of governance deficit.

Conclusion and Recommendations

This paper has examined governance and the challenge of human security in Nigeria since 1999. The paper began with an introduction. The concept of governance, good governance and human security were clarified. We also x-rayed the impact of corruption, infrastructure and governance on human security. The effect of governance on human security since 1999, when Nigeria returned to democracy was equally discussed.

The finding of the paper shows that significant relationship exist between corruption, infrastructure and governance and human security. Infrastructures have significant impact on output, income and employment generation. It can also promote good health as well as reduce crime rate (Oyedele 2012). The lack of or inadequacy of basic infrastructures such as electricity and water has affected the establishment of industries which can create employments. Many companies have left Nigeria for other countries because of lack of basic infrastructure which has negatively affected the Nigeria business environment. This has led to job losses and increased poverty. Corruption has hindered the implementation of poverty alleviation programmes. Resources that are meant for poverty alleviation programmes are misappropriated and in most cases diverted to private pockets. Corruption has become institutionalized in Nigeria that it has become our national culture (Nna and Igwe 2010; Wikipedia, n.d). It has frustrated every effort at improving human condition in Nigeria.

The paper also found that human condition seemed to improve between 2000 and 2007. But situation sooner began to deteriorate and climaxed in 2016 when the country's economy finally entered into recession. The Boko Haram insurgency in the North and the nationwide herdsmen

menace did not help matters as these have thrown up new security challenges. People were displaced from their homes and farmlands and are made refugees in their own country.

Democratic experiment since 1999 has been doubtful as to whether Nigeria is actually democratic or not. There have been blatant disregard to the rule of law and human rights abuse by successive regimes since 1999. Politics of exclusion climaxed under Buhari as most crucial offices were occupied by only people from his own ethnic group without regard to the federal character. The herdsmen have been attacking and displacing communities without any effort by the federal government to stop them just because they are from the president's ethnic of origin.

The nature of governance in Nigeria is such that those in government do not see themselves as servants of the people but instead, as masters of their people. They see their positions as an opportunity to enrich them. The resources and affairs of the states are managed in the interest of few at the detriment of the majority. The poor management of the affairs of Nigeria has led to high rate of poverty, unemployment, injustice, inequality lack of rule of law high mortality rate as a result of inadequate health facilities. These have direct implication on human security in the country. In the light of the above, this recommends as follows:

1. The Federal Government must gear efforts towards entrenching good governance in the country. This is because good governance will enhance the effective management of the country's resources and ensures even development which in the long run will enhance human security.

2. The Federal Government must intensify efforts in the fight against corruption in the country. This is because corruption is one of the most single obstacles to development in the country. Corruption affects infrastructural development negatively as resources meant for development programmes go down the drains without any result to show for it.

3. The government should pay greater attention to infrastructural development. This will go a long way to not just in creating jobs but also in sustaining existing ones. With basic infrastructures such as electricity, good roads, pipe born water etc in place,

unemployment, poverty and hunger can be reduced, thereby improving human security in the country.

4. The current high rate of inflation and high cost of food items in the country is attributed to the present security challenges which have prevented farmers from going to the farms. The government should therefore do everything within its power to tackle the security challenges.

5. Government must ensure peace between the farmers and herders by encouraging modern farming methods especially by the herders. Open grazing should be banned out rightly in the country.

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