



CONSEQUENCES OF SECURITY BREACHES TO PRINT-INFORMATION RESOURCES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF NORTH-WESTERN NIGERIA**¹Madaki, A. S. and ²Yakasai, U. U.**¹University Library, Federal University, Dutse²Faculty of Agriculture Library, Federal University, DutseCorresponding E-mail: madaki.a@fud.edu.ngPhone: +2348065568482, +2348061231724

Abstract

This study examined consequences of security breaches to information resources and preventive measures in public libraries of North-Western Nigeria. Quantitative research methodology through cross sectional survey design was employed for the study, the design was adopted for its opportunity of allowing data to be collected at one point in time. The population of the study were 145 library staff of the readers' services departments of the seven public libraries' headquarters in the North-West geo-political zone. Data were collected through questionnaire, using simple random sample. Descriptive statistics using frequency percentages through the use of SPSS 16.0 versions were used for data analysis. The study revealed that majority of the information resources mostly affected by security issues are printed resources. And that the major security breaches in the libraries are inadequacy of security personnel, scarcity of library materials, Poor arrangement of library materials, poor environmental condition, unsecured environment, juvenile users, disasters, among others. It also revealed that information availability, information accessibility and use and information resources development as the major consequences of security breaches in libraries.

Keywords: Consequences, Security breaches, information resources, preventive measures, public libraries.

Introduction

Public libraries are accepted as public goods. They are universities of the people since it gives access to every intending member of the public. Public library has been defined as a place built for the collection of books and other printed resources and the personnel to provide and interpret such resources as required to meet the information, research, educational, recreational, cultural and aesthetic needs of the varied users and it is usually financed with public funds. According to Salisu (2011) public libraries are libraries set up to provide free but traditional service to everyone, it is a service oriented institution with set goals to be achieved within the resource made available by the parent institution, which is usually the government. Public libraries play fundamental roles in the development of individuals in every society, because they are agents of educational, social, recreational, cultural and economic development.

Library information resources are important assets of the library and also they constitute the bedrock for the services provided by the library to the patrons. Choy (2012) stress that,

information resources are very important tools of the library, as they represent the bases upon which a library creates value through provision of essential services to its users. Information resources in Public libraries are those resources or holdings of the libraries containing information required by the community. To realize the objective, the functions of public libraries involve the selection, acquisition, processing, organization and dissemination of information available in the form of printed and non-printed materials for effective use. Patrons of public libraries are many as they cut across all walks of life and also embrace illiterates, pensioners, children, adolescent, adults, farmers, physically –challenged people etc.

Public library plays important role in all aspects of societal development especially when viewed against its users, which consist of all categories of people in the society. As a result of this diverse use of the resources, these libraries stand to be vulnerable to all forms of crimes and security breaches. Abel and Issa (2011) stated that, for any library to remain relevant to its community, it needs to



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be prevented from any security breach that destroys the valuable and expensive materials of the library, therefore, for a Public library to be worth its name, it has to provide information resources and keep them well prevented and protected from security breaches for the benefit of its users.

However, Prevention measures help greatly in the development of libraries' information resources in general and public libraries in particular, since public libraries are established to satisfy their users' needs. Security and prevention of crimes in public libraries is essential library duties for librarians to achieve. Due to security breaches in public libraries, users sometimes are not able to get information materials needed and this makes the library ineffective in satisfying users' information needs and cause a lot of consequences.

Statement of the problem

The public library is the main arena through which the overall information resources in various areas of knowledge are made freely available to all members of the society irrespective of age, sex, religion, cultural background and educational standard as well as political and social inclination. Public libraries are expected to select, acquire, process and organize an array of pertinent books and other information resources in order to satisfy the information needs of their users. To achieve these objectives, John (2013) stated that, for a library to satisfy its users' needs, it has to provide relevant information resources and keep them well prevented for their users. Thus, prevention measure in public library is vital for the survival of library and keeping the library resources alive for present and future used. Prevention measures of library information resources help greatly to achieve the provision of effective services in response to the teaching, learning and research needs of the libraries because without it, this effort should be at stake (Ogunsola, 2010). Public libraries in the world are doing their best possible action to protect their information resources from all forms of breaches, but the scenario still increases considering the number of security problems in many libraries.

Despite the security efforts made by the Public libraries, it appears that, the tasks are becoming daunting for Public libraries of North-Western Nigeria, because criminal activities against information resources constitute a formidable obstacle to information access and use, and has many consequences which has disturbed and damaged the system of public libraries and their information resources. It is against this background that this study therefore, sought to investigate the consequences of security breaches to information resources and preventive measures in public libraries of Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, Jigawa, Sokoto, Kebbi, and Zamfara states of North-Western Nigeria.

Objectives of the Study

The study aimed to achieve the following objectives:

- i. To find out the security breaches in Public libraries of North-Western Nigeria
- ii. To investigate the consequences of security breaches to information resources in Public libraries of North-Western Nigeria
- iii. To suggest prevention measures that could enhance security of library information resources in Public libraries of North-Western Nigeria

Review of Related Literature

Security Breaches in Public Libraries

The issue of library security breaches is of growing concern to libraries and librarians. One of the serious issues that have bothered librarians from the earliest times to the present is how to ensure the security of library information materials especially against any security breach. Public libraries assume a focal point where users of diversified age groups, socio-political, economic backgrounds and cultural interests have to converge to utilise all the available resources that are relevant to their individual needs. As a result of this diverse use of the materials, these libraries stand to be vulnerable to all forms of breach and security risks. Abel and Issa (2011) stated that, for any library to remain relevant to its community, it needs to be adequately protected from any source of



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breach that destroys the valuable and expensive materials of the library.

Most of the published literature on sources of security breaches in library focuses on different sources of security breach encountered by many libraries of the world. For instance, Richard (2015) acknowledged that, the sporadic security breaches in different segments of the society have not exempted libraries, where a great amount of national wealth is stocked. In a world of copious digital technologies, libraries have enough shares of security challenges and disasters. According to Al-Salihy (2011), security breach occurs in library when any event causes a sudden removal of records and documents from accessibility and use. He further stresses that, libraries are very prone to disaster breach which include; armed conflict, wars, terrorism, fire, flood, hurricane, earthquake, etc. Apart from disaster threats theft, mutilation and vandalism also constitute some of the major security breaches bedeviling libraries in general.

Ewing & Sipon (2012) stress the sources of library security breaches in United Kingdom libraries which included; book and non-book theft, non-return of borrowed items, disasters, verbal and physical abuse, and vandalism against library buildings and properties. Ewing also reported an estimated collection lost rate of 2.6% and that is between 1500 and 3000 books stolen annually. On the other hand, Bolger (2013) reported that in 2000, the Central Library, Forth-worth, Texas was struck by a powerful tornado which was source of threat causing over N1.6 million worth damage to the library. The library's 50,000 volumes and archival materials sustained water damage and there was another problem of cleaning up the shattered glasses, resulting in Non-resumption of normal library services until three weeks later.

The concept of library security breach has been given different interpretation by different scholars. Samy, Rabiah and Zuraini (2019) studied the potential breaches that exist in Malaysian public and special libraries. Their study revealed that power failure was the most critical threat for the information security systems, followed by acts of human error, technological

obsolescence, hardware problems, software failures, network infrastructure failures, and malware attacks. The research holds significant value in terms of providing a complete taxonomy of breach categories in information systems and identifying the overall risks in the Public and special libraries domain. In his study of security management of collections in Ethiopian libraries, Teferra (2010) found that library users also constitute a serious breach unto university libraries collection, they mutilate and rip off useful library materials. Mutilation was a serious security breach in 93% of the libraries studied. The materials, most frequently mutilated were books and periodicals.

Similarly, in Nigeria, Ajegbomogun (2014) as cited by Maidabino (2011), identified the types of security breaches in university libraries, which included theft and book mutilation and reasoned the cause to security lapses, insufficient or limited number of essential materials, and users' financial constraints. This was collaborated with the assertion of Akor (2013) that, conducted a study on security management of book theft in university libraries. Finding from his study indicated that the major sources of security issues of the university library materials are usually caused by scarcity of library materials, selfishness on the part of some students and high cost of library materials. Also, Nwalo (2013) reported that, the major source of collection security issues in academic libraries is the lack of security personnel. The security personnel are not directly under the library department. He stated that "the security men are loyal to the security department rather than the library authority". This situation makes it difficult for the librarians to control security matters in their library as their orders may be flouted.

Furthermore, Biological agents like insects, fungi and rodents cause damages to books and other library printed materials particularly in tropical Africa. There are over seventy varieties of insects that have been identified as enemies and also a great source of threat to library printed materials. The most common of these pests are cockroaches, silverfish, termites and moths. Termites feed on grass, humus, wood work of buildings, library books, files, catalogue cards and photographs. When they invade a library,



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they can do serious damages in a single night (Al-salihy, 2011). Termites have actually destroyed libraries and archival materials in tropical countries.

Libraries in the world are doing their best possible action to protect their information resources from all the sources of breaches, but the scenario still increases considering the number of security problems in many libraries. It was observed that, there was no significant relationship found between the security measures adopted by the libraries and the rate of security issues.

Consequences of Security Breaches in Public Libraries

Consequences of security breaches to information resources in library is one of the serious issues that have bothered librarians from the earliest times to the present. Due to this fact, there is a vast literature on a range of consequences to library information resources. As a matter of fact, criminal activities against information resources are formidable obstacles to information access and use. Collins (2013) has defined ‘‘consequences as a result of something that has happened’’. Ugah (2017) investigated Obstacles to information access and use in developing countries. The study considered library security breaches as formidable obstacles to information access and use. Such acts are serious problems that can result in user dissatisfaction and also constitute a big coast of scholarship. Sadiku (2015) identified the consequences of insecurity in libraries which include; users’ dissatisfaction or unfamiliarity with library services, lack of concern for the need of others and few library users take library theft and mutilation as a crime.

Maidabino (2012) conducted a study on theft and mutilation of print collection in university libraries. The study reported how, financial consequences of collection security issues had inflicted American university libraries collections. He pointed out that, between 1979 and 1986 alone. American libraries reported theft and missing materials of rare books worth \$6,000 from the university of New Hampshire; \$20,000 in rare science books from Degolyer collection at the university of Oklahoma; \$1.1 million in plates, engravings, maps, books and

manuscripts from the George Washington university; and more than \$ 100,000 incunabula from the Boston College.

In a survey of library security breaches conducted by Burrow and Cooper (2010), they reported that, financial consequences of security issues in UK libraries with aggregate cost running to a total of 50 million pounds per-annum and could very likely be in the order of 100 million pounds. In today’s value the financial loss probably has increased looking at the rapid increase in the cost of books and other library materials.

Empirical study conducted on preservation and library management policy in UK Public and Academic libraries by Edem, John and Graham (2011). The study reported how security breaches caused financial effect to these libraries. The estimated cost of books loses in the UK libraries annual alone amounted to 159 million pounds and 3 million pounds respectively (direct book replacement only at 1989-1990 prices). In another study on library anxiety among Sudanese university students conducted by Abusin and Zainab (2010) reported how security issues or breaches in libraries can lead to negative perception towards the library environment and frustration among the library users, the effect which can result to devastating psychological and educational consequences in terms of effective access to the library and its collection.

According to Jato (2015), scandalous behaviours such as theft and mutilation, hiding library materials, refusal to return over- due borrowed materials, drinking and eating in the library, vandalism and defacement of library collections, arson, negligence to library policies as well as various disaster such as fire and flood caused by human factors, among others, have become a common occurrence in academic libraries and if this is not checked, it would lead to serious consequences or drought of information materials in the library. Abareh (2011) empirically acknowledged how an unregistered library user carried away 56 text books from Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi, Nigeria, library between the month of May and June 1998 without being caught in the process. The books were later recovered and returned to the library. This made it clear that, library security issues



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such as theft, mutilation, disruptive behaviour and non-return of items by borrowers has great financial and socio-cultural consequences in libraries such as academic libraries for the fact that they negatively affect the availability, accessibility and long life of collections in the library.

Furthermore, Chaney and Macdougall (2012) in their study security and crime in libraries acknowledged that, academic library collections are at risk to one form of abuse or the other. However, this abuse has great consequences to the development of information resources in the library. Also, Akor (2013) revealed that security issues have negative consequences on students' academic performance. In particular, the duo has impact on students' assignment, library use, getting recommended list by lecturers as well as impact on independent study and study for examination. Ajayi and Omotayo (2011) in their study mutilation and theft of library materials: perception and reaction of Nigerian students' information resources development examined how security breaches had negative consequences on students' academic performances. In particular, the duo has impact on students' assignment, library resources use, getting recommended list by lecturers as well as impact on independent study and study of examination. The analysis of the estimates of financial, social, educational and psychological consequences as presented strongly suggest the need for library managers to be aware of theft and mutilation of collection security breaches incidences in university libraries.

Maidabino (2012) also analysed the estimates of the financial, social, and psychological consequences of library security breaches and strongly suggested the need for library managers, especially academic libraries, to be aware of security issues incidence more especially theft, mutilation, disruptive patron behaviour and non-return of library items by borrowers etc. Security breaches in libraries go beyond financial consequences to include the negative consequences to information availability, accessibility and use. Thus, security issues in libraries such as public libraries should be handled effectively because of their implications on library collection and to the collection development

and scholarship generally. However, the inability of libraries to overcome security issue incidences can result in access frustration for both library staff and users in their libraries.

Other studies focus on security breaches like purposive miss helving of items, especially reference books (Ugah 2017), disruptive behaviour as a result of drunkenness and drug addiction (Zurain 2010) all of which may subsequently remain a serious threat to the security of the library and its collection. Channey & Mcdougal (2012) reported how different forms of collection mutilation such as underlining and highlighting text in library books, tearing and or removing pages of books and annotating in books margins can temper with the subject-content of library collection, thereby making it unusable to users.

Security and Prevention Measures in Public Libraries

Security and prevention measures in libraries are widespread and effective in deterring and controlling destruction of library information resources. Security and prevention measures are complex but important issues, the safety of library staff, patrons, and the library collections and property are all at stake. Security of library information materials is necessary since information materials are the library's core business and information materials require consistent monitoring and maintenance in order to avoid possible intrusion. The library should be considered as the only centralized location where new and emerging information technologies can be combined with knowledge information resources in a user-focused, services-rich environment that supports today's social and educational patterns of learning, teaching and research. Maidabino (2002) stress that, library services can only be achieved through the availability of functional library collections which are faced with a variety of security challenges such as managing and protecting resources and developing efficient and committed staff that are both professional and skilful.

According to Parker (2002), the security of library information materials (book and non-book materials) are of utmost importance to the librarian and information specialist for the



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purpose of reducing or avoiding unauthorized access to information bearing materials available in the library. To avoid unauthorized access to library resources, library management and information professionals must devise measures which will enable them to provide adequate security that can protect the information resources available in the library. Library resources are the information bearing materials which enable the library to fulfil its goal of meeting the information needs of its users (Adomi, 2008). Wu and Liu (2001) identified the aim of a modern university library as largely to provide access to both print and non-print collections and this makes it necessary to develop a balance between ownership and access to information or knowledge. This can be achieved by proper planning strategy including the planning for access control in line with the security requirement and the present and future mission or goals of the parent institutions.

Aina (2004) in his book library and information text for Africa stated that, library resources or materials must be safe; hence security devices must be made available by libraries to ensure that the materials are not stolen or mutilated. Though, libraries have been providing some level of security measures, for example, making available of security staff that are always at the entrance of a library to ensure that all library materials taken out of the library are checked. So also most libraries do not allow patrons to bring their bags and briefcases into the library. In spite of these precautions, library materials are still not safe. Therefore, there is need for librarians to device a very concrete physical means of securing the materials available in the library and to have telecommunication or electronic security systems which will help to provide a safe and secure facility for library resources and equipment.

It is imperative that, a library takes necessary and possible security measures to protect the library information resources against any security issues. The security issues such as vandalism, mutilation, defacement, theft, arson, etc are problems regularly encountered in most libraries since libraries are the best places where information resources are acquired, organized, preserved and disseminated to users. Some of these

information resources are not only rare to come by but they are also expensive and fragile in nature. These days, libraries, be it academic, public, school, national and other types of libraries spend a lot of money to install considerable security devices in order to check these criminal activities. Ensuring effective use, longevity, and accessibility makes an effective program of collection security necessary (McComb, 2004).

Harwell (2014) in a Library security gates: effectiveness and current practice, stated that, a number of libraries have taken advantage of the latest developments in security technology such as electronic surveillance, card keys, etc. and also combine with traditional strategies, such as staff monitoring and magnetic exit control systems.

Citing the findings of Burrows and Cooper (1992), Matthews (2014) asserted that, there appears to be little published in recent years on security and libraries, particularly in the UK. This could be interpreted as nonchalance of librarians and information professionals towards the issue of library collection security. A few authors did publish some articles on crimes in academic libraries but not much has been advocated for using modern technologies to remedy the situation. Academic libraries have invested enormously in books, journals, and other materials. The security of these huge investments is a sine qua non to the success of the libraries' effort to remain relevant and in providing good information service.

Rajendran and Rathinasabapathy (2017) in a survey the role of electronic surveillance and security systems in Indian academic libraries reported that, the traditional ways of manually checking patrons' bags are both inefficient and not user-friendly. A better way to deal with security in libraries is to embrace the electronic security systems that are better effective security of library materials and which protect them from theft, mutilation, or other forms of destructions. Electronic security systems are devices that are used with the aid of electrical apparatus to secure library materials. They help libraries to control, minimize or prevent theft of library materials and other unethical destructive behaviours. In Nigeria, Abifarin (1997), Allen (1997) and Bello (1998) as cited by Maidabino (2010) reported high rate of book



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theft, mutilation and misplacing of books in Nigerian academic libraries. They suggested measures to reduce the problems, which include tightening security personnel at library entrances and exits, expulsion of students involved in theft and mutilation, provision of multiple copies of heavily used text, reducing the cost of photocopying, and periodic searching of students hostels and staff offices.

The primary task of libraries is to provide a good security measures aimed at preventing the library information resources against any security issues. Librarians should ensure strategies aimed at preventing their resources. In this period of technological advancement, the use of electronic security devices will undoubtedly increase the efficiency and effectiveness of information prevention in public libraries, CCTV cameras to monitor the perimeter of library can alleviate risks as it allows staff to view customers entering or leaving the library. Though, advanced technologies are expensive, inaccessible, and unavailable to a great extent. Also, the large population of the library staff lack the necessary skills for the applications of the new technologies (Rao, 2004).

Research Methodology

The study adopted quantitative research method, because the approach is considered suitable for the study looking at the area of coverage and its population, there is a possibility of making a generalization of the findings as stated by Gorman and Clayton (2005). The Cross sectional design was employed. The population of this study comprises of all public libraries headquarters in the North-Western Nigeria. There are seven (7) public libraries headquarters in the North-Western Nigeria.

The study was based on the libraries headquarters because they are bigger in terms of collections, more patronage by clients and provide better services. In other words, they show better semblance of effective operational library service. The total population of the study initially are 234 library staff of the Readers' Services departments of Kano, Kaduna, Jigawa, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto and Zamfara states public libraries headquarters of North-Western Nigeria. Table below provides information about the staff population of public libraries in North-Western Nigeria.

Table 1: Information about the Staff Population of Public Libraries

S/N	Name of the Library	Staff Population in Reader Services Departments
1	Murtala Muhammad Library Complex. Kano State Library Board	105
2	Jigawa State Library Board. Dutse, Jigawa State.	70
3	Katsina State Library Complex. Katsina State.	22
4	Kaduna State Library Board. Kaduna State.	19
5	Yusuf Bala Usman Library Complex. Kebbi State.	5
6	Sokoto State Library Board. Sokoto State.	9
7	Zamfara State Library Board. Zamfara State.	4
Total		234

Source: preliminary study data

In this study, simple random sampling technique was used, therefore, the respondents of this study were the staff of readers' services departments of public libraries headquarters of North-Western Nigeria. As such 145 copies of the questionnaires were used to collect the data

from the respondents. This was in accordance with Krejcy and Mogan's scale of sampling which states; if the population size is 234, 145 is suffices. Thus, the total sample of the respondents will be as follows:



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Table 2: Sample Size of Study

S/N	Name of the Library	Staff Population	Sample size
1	Murtala Muhammad Library Complex. Kano State Library Board	105	65
2	Jigawa State Library Board. Dutse, Jigawa State.	70	43
3	Katsina State Library Complex. Katsina State.	22	14
4	Kaduna State Library Board. Kaduna State.	19	12
5	Yusuf Bala Usman Library Complex. Kebbi State.	5	3
6	Sokoto State Library Board. Sokoto State.	9	6
7	Zamfara State Library Board. Zamfara State.	4	2
Total		234	145

Result and Discussion**Table 3: Response Rate of the Respondents**

Response Rate	Frequency	Percentages
Administered	145	100%
Returned	112	77.2%
Not Returned	33	22.8 %

Table 3 reveals that a total of 145 copies of questionnaire were distributed to the respondents, out of which majority 112 (77.2%) of the questionnaires were duly completed, returned and found usable, while 33(22.8 %) copies were not returned. This

shows that there was a high return of 112 (77.2%) which is significant enough for analysis in this study. This corroborates the saying of Osuala (2005), that the higher the number of response rate, the more credible the findings of the study.

Table 4: Security Breaches in Public Libraries

S/N	Security Breaches in Public Libraries	SA	A	D	SD
a.	Lack of security personnel	86(76.8%)	16(14.3%)	7(6.2%)	1(0.9%)
b.	Poor arrangement of library materials	49(43.8%)	38(33.9%)	17(15.2%)	5(4.5%)
c.	Juvenile users	37(33.0%)	37(33.0%)	24(21.4%)	6(5.4%)
d.	Difficult patrons	46(41.1%)	35(31.2%)	15(13.4%)	13(11.6%)
e.	Unsecured environment	36(32.1%)	54(48.2%)	10(8.9%)	8(7.1%)
f.	Lack of awareness among library users	46(41.1%)	38(33.9%)	13(11.6%)	12(10.7%)
g.	Food consumption	25(22.3%)	43(38.4%)	22(19.6%)	19(17.0%)
h.	Disasters	29(25.9%)	40(35.7%)	18(16.1%)	13(11.6%)
i.	Selfishness on the part of some users	30(26.8%)	42(37.5%)	28(25.0%)	10(8.9%)
j.	Scarcity of library materials	27(24.1%)	33(29.5%)	30(26.8%)	15(13.4%)
k.	Lack of electronic security gadgets	31(27.7%)	35(31.2%)	28(25.0%)	11(9.8%)
l.	Lack of management commitment toward security issue	24(21.4%)	37(33.0%)	29(25.9%)	17(15.2%)
m.	Poor environmental condition	26(23.2%)	37(33.0%)	27(24.1%)	19(17.0%)

Key:

SA= Strongly Agreed

A= Agreed

DA= Disagreed

SD= Strongly Disagreed



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The data on table 4, revealed that majority 86 (76.8%) of the respondents strongly agreed that lack of security personnel was a security breach in libraries. This was followed by 16(14.3%) of the respondents who agreed that lack of security personnel was a security breach in libraries. About 7(6.2%) were found disagreed with the notion. It was only 1(0.9%) of the respondents who strongly disagreed with this statement. As indicated in the table above majority 49(43.8%) of the respondents strongly agreed that poor arrangement of library materials was a security breach in libraries. About 38(33.9%) of the respondents agreed that poor arrangement of library materials was a security breach in libraries. Then 17(15.2%) disagreed with this statement. Other 5(4.5%) of the respondents strongly agreed that poor arrangement of library materials was a security breach in libraries.

Table also indicated that 37(33.0%) of the respondents strongly agreed that juvenile users were security breach in libraries. Other 37(33.0%) agreed that juvenile users were security breach in libraries, while 24(21.4%) of the respondents disagreed with the notion. Also, 6(5.4%) of the respondents strongly disagreed with the notion. Moreover, table indicates that, majority 46(41.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed that difficult patrons can be security breach in libraries. Also 35(31.2%) of the respondents agreed that difficult patrons were security breach in libraries. While 15(13.4%) of the respondents disagreed that difficult patrons were security breach in libraries and 13(11.6%) of the respondents strongly disagreed with this statement.

The table also shows that majority 54(48.2%) of the respondents agreed that unsecured environment was a security breach in libraries. Also 36(32.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed that unsecured environment was a security breach in libraries. About 10(8.9%) of the respondents disagreed that unsecured environment was a security breach in libraries and 8(7.1%) of the respondents strongly disagreed with the notion. It also indicates that majority 46(41.1%) of the respondents strongly agreed that lack of awareness among library users was a security breach in libraries. This is followed by 38(33.9%) respondents who agreed that lack

of awareness among library users was a security breach in libraries. About 13(11.6%) of the respondents disagreed and other 12(10.7%) of the respondents strongly disagreed with the notion that lack of awareness among library users is a security breach in libraries.

Furthermore, majority 43(38.4%) of the respondents agreed that food consumption was a security breach in libraries. Then 25(22.3%) of the respondents strongly agreed that food consumption was a of security breach in libraries. This is followed by 22(19.6%) who disagreed with the statement. It was only 19(17.0%) of the respondents strongly disagreed that food consumption was a of security breach in libraries. The data on table also revealed that majority 40(35.7%) of the respondents agreed that disasters were of security breaches in libraries. This was followed by 29(25.9%) of the respondents who strongly agreed that disasters were of security breaches in libraries. About 18(16.1%) disagreed with this statement. Also, 13(11.6%) of the respondents strongly disagreed with the notion.

As indicated in the table above, majority 42(37.5%) of the respondents agreed that selfishness on the part of some users was a security breach in libraries. About 30(26.8%) of the respondents strongly agreed that selfishness on the part of some users was a security breach in libraries. Then 28(25.0%) were found disagreed that selfishness on the part of some users was a security breach in libraries and 10(8.9%) of the respondents strongly disagreed with the statement.

It also indicates that 33(29.5%) of the respondents agreed that scarcity of library materials was a security breach in libraries. About 30(26.8%) of the respondents disagree that scarcity of library materials was a security breach in libraries, followed by 27(24.1%) who strongly agreed that scarcity of library materials was a security breach in libraries. While, 15(13.4%) of the respondents strongly disagreed with the notion. Moreover, table indicates that, many 35(31.2%) of the respondents agreed that lack of electronic security gadgets was a security breach in libraries. Also 31(27.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed that lack of electronic security gadgets was a security



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breach in libraries. While 28(25.0%) of the respondents disagreed that lack of electronic security gadgets was a security breach in libraries. About 11(9.8%) of the respondents found strongly disagreed with the notion.

The table also shows that 37(33.0%) of the respondents agreed that lack of management commitment toward security issue was a security breach in libraries. Also, 29(25.9%) of the respondents disagreed with lack of management commitment toward security issue as a security breach in libraries. About 24(21.4%) of the respondents were found strongly agreed with the notion that lack of

management commitment toward security issue was a security breach in libraries. While, 17(15.2%) of the respondents strongly disagreed with the statement. It is revealed that 37(33.0%) of the respondents agreed that poor environmental condition was a security breach in libraries, about 26(23.2%) of the respondents strongly agreed with this statement. Then, 27(24.1%) of the respondents disagreed that poor environmental condition was a security breach in libraries, while 19(17.0%) strongly disagreed with this statement.

Table 5: Consequences of Security Breaches to information resources in Libraries

Effects	Yes	No	No response	Total
Consequences to information availability, accessibility and use	76(67.9%)	35(31.2%)	-	112(100%)
Consequences to educational development	39(34.8%)	72(64.3%)	1(0.9%)	112(100%)
Consequences to socio-cultural development/ socio-cultural consequence	69(61.6%)	43(38.4%)	-	112(100%)
Financial consequences	39(34.8%)	73(65.2%)	-	112(100%)
Psychological consequences	76(67.9%)	36(32.1%)	-	112(100%)
Others			-	-

Respondents were asked to indicate the consequences of security breaches to information resources in their libraries and majority 76(67.9%) of the respondents indicated consequences to information availability, accessibility and use as the consequences of security breaches in their libraries. This is followed by 72(64.3%) whom did not regard consequences to educational development as the consequences of security breaches in their libraries, 69(61.6%) of the respondents

considered consequences to socio-cultural development of security breaches in their libraries. About 73(65.2%) of the respondents did not consider financial consequences as the consequences of security breaches in their libraries. Also 76(67.9%) of the respondents opined that psychological consequences were the consequences of security breaches in their libraries and none of the respondents mentioned other consequences of security breaches in their libraries.



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Table 6: Prevention Measures that enhance Security of Information Resources in Libraries

Measures	Yes	No	No response	Total
Use of security personnel to checkmate security issues	96(85.7%)	16(14.3%)	-	112(100%)
Provision of multiple copies of heavily used items	74(66.1%)	38(33.9%)	-	112(100%)
Periodic searching of staff offices	97(86.6%)	14(12.5%)	1(0.9%)	112(100%)
Reducing the cost of photocopying service	81(72.3%)	30(26.8%)	1(0.9%)	112(100%)
Searching of patrons at the entrance and exits	97(86.6%)	15(13.4%)	-	112(100%)
Provision of loan services to users	82(73.2%)	28(25.0%)	2(1.8%)	112(100%)
Provision of modern security gadgets (i.e CCTV, Rfid, E-gates etc)	63(56.2%)	49(43.8%)	-	112(100%)
Training of staff on information security	68(60.7%)	44(39.3%)	-	112(100%)
User education on information security	87(77.7%)	25(22.3%)	-	112(100%)
Others	76(67.9%)	36(40.2%)	-	112(100%)

As indicated in Table 6, respondents were asked to suggest the measures employed to overcome the security breaches in their libraries, and majority 97 (86.6%) of the respondents suggested searching of patrons at the entrances and exits and periodic searching of staff offices 97(86.6%). This is followed by the use of security personnel to checkmate security issues in their libraries 96(85.7%), user education on information security 87 (77.7%), provision of loan services to users 82 (73.2%), reducing the cost of photocopying service 81 (72.3%), provision of multiple copies of heavily used items 74(66.1%), training of staff on information security 68 (60.7%), provision of modern security gadgets (i.e CCTV, Rfid, E-gates etc) 63 (56.2%), and others 76 (67.9%) also suggested other measures used to overcome the security breaches in their libraries.

Discussion of Findings

As observed by the researcher and also with the different literatures that have been reviewed, security breaches in libraries are of growing concern to library information resources and librarians. It was noted that there is increase in the wave of security issues in libraries, public libraries of north-western Nigeria inclusive. This is evidently crippling the development of library collections and

library in general. In this regard, Bello (1998) found that, lack of security personnel in libraries is the major security issue and users resorted to delinquent behaviour because the demand outstripped the supply of library materials. This result in competition for resources, which invariably tempts users to steal, mutilate, or engage in illegal borrowing etc, all of which bedevilled library information resources in general.

It is noteworthy that the consequences of security breaches in public libraries of North-Western Nigeria, the study revealed that, consequences to information availability accessibility and use, consequences to socio-cultural developments/ socio-cultural consequences, consequences to educational development/information resources development, financial consequences and psychological consequences. This is in line with the study of Abusin and Zainab (2010) that, security issues in libraries can lead to negative perception towards the library environment and frustration among the library users, the effect of which can result to devastating psychological and educational consequences in terms of effective access to the library and its collection. It also in lines with the submission of Maidabino (2010) that, financial, social, and psychological consequences of library security issues go to



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include the negative consequences to information availability, accessibility and use.

With regards to the prevention measures that could enhance security of library information resources in Public libraries of North-Western Nigeria, as revealed by the study the use of adequate security personnel to checkmate security issues, searching of patrons at the entrances and exits, periodic searching of staff offices, provision of multiple copies of heavily used items, provision of modern security gadgets (i.e CCTV, RFID, E-GATES etc), training of staff on information security, reducing the cost of photocopying service to users, provision of loan services to users and user education on information security. This corroborates the finding of Maidabino (2010) that, the measures to reduce security problems in Nigerian academic libraries include tightening security personnel at library entrances and exits, expulsion of students involved in theft and mutilation, provision of multiple copies of heavily used text, reducing the cost of photocopying, and periodic searching of students hostels and staff offices. It also aligns with the work of Rajendran & Rathinasabapathy (2007) that, a measure to deal with security of information resources in libraries is to embrace the electronic security gadgets. In the same vein, Senyah (2004) submitted that, the installation of CCTV and other security gadgets is a precautionary measure against acts of abuse and vandalism from both within and outside the library.

Conclusion

The paper scans the consequences of security breaches to print information resources in public libraries of north-western states of Nigeria. Although the scope is limited to public libraries of north-western Nigeria only yet the study captures some consequences of security breaches in libraries and gave insight into the level of prevention measures in protecting the library information resources. The result revealed that the primary task of public library is to protect the library against any security breaches and ensure effective services. It is evident from this study that, in order to effectively achieve the provision of effective services in response to the teaching,

learning and research needs of the different users, it is important for the libraries to prevent their information resources against vulnerability because without it, this effort should be at stake. The results of this paper ought to be used to assist the public librarians of north-western Nigeria in making library security policy to protect their information resources from all the consequences of security breaches and help the library to fulfil its goal of meeting the information needs of its users.

Recommendation

The following recommendations were made based on the findings:

1. Library management should provide lasting solution towards the security challenges by providing permanent library security personnel to aid for protection of library information resources from any source of security breaches.
2. Proper arrangement of library materials, Provision of multiple copies of heavily used materials and user education on careful handling of library information resources.
3. For effective security and prevention measures in the libraries, the study recommends the use of adequate and trained security personnel to checkmate security issues, and Provision of modern security gadgets (i.e CCTV, RFID, E-Gates etc).
5. Finally, the study recommends that, funding is a very important measure for tackling security breaches in Public libraries. No matter what amount of energy expended by librarians to put in place programs of value to the library, if there are no funds to carry out these programs, then all efforts are in vain.

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