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Effect of Insecurity on Library Services in Selected Universities in Nigeria

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Abstract
In this study, the researchers focus on the effect of insecurity on library services in selected universities in Nigeria. The objectives are to ascertain the causes of insecurity, identify the effects of insecurity and to determine the measures used to reduce the effects of insecurity on library services in the selected universities in Nigeria. The study adopted a quantitative methodology with a descriptive survey research design. Three (3) Universities were selected to represent the population for the study and a stratified random sampling technique was adopted to subdivide the universities into samples. The sample from each university was randomly selected made up of ninety (90) staff drawn. The instrument for the study is an Online Structured Questionnaire (OSQ). Some of the findings indicated that community crisis and feud among the people within the university community causes insecurity (X=3.91), Terrorism threat around the university community causes insecurity (X=3.86) and insurgency causes insecurity around the university community (X=3.63). In addition insecurity affect regular opening and closure time of library (X=3.67), insecurity affect regular user patronage to the library (X=3.41) and the universities should collaborate with government and other security agencies for assistance in reducing the effect of insecurity in the library (X=3.91), improve number of physical security personnel in the library to reduce the negative effect of insecurity (X=3.84) and finally increase number of electronic security system in the library to reduce the negative effect of insecurity (X=3.53).

Keywords: *Insecurity, Library Services, Universityin Nigeria, Insurgency*

Introduction

Nigerian is a gigantic country located in West Africa with thirty six (36) states including a federal capital territory with numerous ethnic and cultural groups. According to Statista (2021), Nigeria has forty three (43) federal universities, forty eight (48) state universities and seventy nine (79) private universities among others. Since 2009 to date, Nigeria has been confronted by security challenges with a strong advocacy for government intervention to the insecurity question. This may not be unconnected with the increasing ethnic hate, religious bigotry, political rivalry and a growing dissatisfied people in the country who feel the Government has not done much to better the standard of living (Onifade, Imhonopi andUrim, 2013). This has down turn the general economy with the system retrogressing thereby affecting all institutions and organizations including the universities and other higher institutions. Udoh (2015) define Insecurity as the state of being subject to danger or injury. In addition, it is the anxiety that is experienced when one feels vulnerable and insecure due to dangerous events happening within the society Adagba and Eme (2012) explain insecurity as a dynamic condition which involves the relative ability of a state to counter threats to its core values and interests. It involves challenges faced in the maintenance and protection of the socioeconomic order in the face of internal and external threat. BBC African News (2010) opined that insecurity is the state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection. It refers to lack or inadequate freedom from danger. Udoh (2015) added that the

failure of security agencies such as the police, the military, state security services and paramilitary units to share intelligence information has been identified as the factors negating the quick apprehension of causes of insecurity in Nigeria. He added that an improved security agencies and government policy can be introduced to curtail the rise in insecurity in many parts of Nigeria. Insecurity has been extended to cover other spheres like economic insecurity, social insecurity and political insecurity. Until recently, the word insurgence was alien to Nigerian society (Borgman, 2000). The activities of the Militant Islamic sect popularly called Boko Haram have opened a problem of insecurity in Nigeria. Borgman (2000) identified that the effect of Boko haram insecurity include mass shootings in communities, House bombings, kidnapping of people, arson, car and suicide bombing in various parts of the country. These activities have heightened the spade of insecurity in the country (Beland, 2005). According to Achumba et' al (2013) stated that most of the communities in Nigeria are bedeviled by insecurity issues in recent times. Adekola and Enyiche (2017) opined that Insecurity situation is created when there is conflict in the community or society due to various reasons that sometimes can be avoided.

Why do we need to study the effects of insecurity on library services in selected universities in Nigeria? It is believed that anything that happens to a mother would definitely affect the child. Hence, if Nigeria is faced with insecurity issues then, this would directly or indirectly affects the university system. The library services provided in the university can subsequently be hindered as they are part of the whole university system leading to poor results of services provided to the users. The services provided by the libraries such as cataloguing services, consultancy, classification, reference services and circulation services may even fiddle away leading to a below standards routine. In this case, it is important to carry out this study that will describe the negative effects of insecurity on libraries and to prepare in eventuality on what measures the libraries in the university should put in place in case of any insecurity challenges that may happen so as to better the role libraries play in improving its services. Statement of the Problem

There are many challenges faced by libraries in Nigeria. This has threatened library development but necessitates strategies to solve and revive the affected issues. A major challenge such as insecurity has become a recent topic of discussion as it is a treat to all aspect of life. No society or institution can progress without a peaceful atmosphere (Buhari, 2020). Insecurity has hindered the regular services that many libraries provide in the university environment. It also reduces the satisfaction derived by users and the Staff. Hence, damages the prospects of libraries and the university system as a whole. This draws the attention of the researchers to see the need to study the effects of insecurity on library services in selected universities in Nigeria.

Objective of the study
The main objective of the study is to investigate the effects of insecurity on library services in selected universities in Nigeria. Other specific objectives of the study are as follows to:

1. ascertain the causes of insecurity that affects the library services in the selected universities in Nigeria.

2. identify the effects of insecurity on library services in the selected universities in Nigeria.

3. determine the measures that can be used to reduce the effects of insecurity on library services in the selected universities in Nigeria.

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Research questions

The following are the research questions for the study:

1. What are the causes of insecurity that affect the library services in the selected universities in Nigeria?

2. What are the effects of insecurity on library services in the selected universities in Nigeria?

3. What are the measures used to reduce the effects of insecurity on library services in the selected universities in Nigeria?

Scope of the study

The scope of the study covers the effect of insecurity on library services provided by the main Libraries in the selected Universities as follows: (1) University of Benin (2) Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto and (3) University of Maiduguri. The selected Universities are all located in Nigeria. The scope was chosen based on the observation of the researchers especially because of the regular insecurity challenges faced and also to provide relevant information for the study.

Research Methodology

The study adopted a quantitative method because it involves statistical means of presentation. The study used descriptive survey research design as it is appropriate to provides detail explanation of events. Three (3) Universities were selected to represent the population for the study *(see below Table 1)*. A stratified random sampling technique was adopted to subdivide the universities into samples. The sample from each university was randomly selected made up of ninety (90) Library staff. The instrument for the study is an Online Structured Questionnaire (OSQ) with Likert scale headings of = Strongly Agreed (SA), Agreed (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD). The OSQ was used to collect data and administered online via an assistant (Staff) who was able to compile their Whatsapp phone numbers so as to use for sending the link to the OSQ to be filled and submitted. Google software was used to develop the OSQ. A Cronbach's alpha index of 0.7 was obtained to determine the reliability of the OSQ. For the responses, it was based on four (4)-point rating scale, a mid-point mean of 2.5 was used as positive response criterion mean and accepted as a positive response because the average of individual mean score was 2.5. For clarity, each item was presented in a table and all findings were presented as the table reveal.

Table 1: Population for the Study

S/N	Names of the University	Library Staff
1.	University of Benin	30
2.	Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto	30
3.	University of Maiduguri	30
	TOTAL	90

Sources: This information was gotten through Online Structured Questionnaire (OSQ) via an assistant (Staff) who was able to compile their Whatsapp phone numbers in 2019/2020 academic session.

As shown in table 1 above, the populations of this study consist of 90 Library staff in the selected University under study. The breakdown of the number of Library staff in selected University in Nigeria is as follows: University of Benin (30); Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto (30) and University of Maiduguri (30).

Research Question 1: What are the causes of insecurity that affect the library services in the selected universities in Nigeria?

Table 2: Causes of insecurity that affect the library services in the selected universities in Nigeria

SN	Causes of Insecurity	SA	A	D	SD	-X	Decision
1.	Unemployment increase within university community	12	10	45	23	2.12	Rejected
2.	Illegal arms around the university community	13	21	29	27	2.22	Rejected
3.	Community crisis and feud among the people within the university community	67	13	8	2	3.91	Accepted
4.	Students protest in the university community	52	25	10	3	3.4	Accepted
5.	Terrorism threat around the university community	77	13	0	0	3.86	Accepted
6.	Insurgency causes insecurity around the university community	55	32	4	3	3.63	Accepted
7.	Looting of buildings causes insecurity in the university community	2	12	43	33	1.9	Rejected
8.	Religious and ethnic fanatics within the university community causes insecurity	58	22	4	6	2.8	Accepted
9.	Cultism among students causes insecurity in the university libraries	22	32	29	7	2.7	Accepted

Criterion Mean=2.50

The table-2 shows the following factors were responsible for effect of insecurity on library services in selected university in Nigeria, except unemployment increase within university community (2.12), looting of buildings (1.9) and Illegal arms around the university community (2.22). Community crisis and feud among the people within the university community causes insecurity was rated(X=3.91), terrorism threat around the university community causes insecurity (X=3.86),Insurgency causes insecurity around the university community(X=3.63), students protest in the university community(X=3.4), religious and ethnic fanatics within the university community (X2.8),cultism among students causes insecurity in the university libraries(X=2.77) respectively and generally accepted because they were above the criterion mean. This is in confirmation with Adekola and Enyiche (2017) who opined that the major causes of insecurity are clashes between rival cult groups and violent resistance to exploitation.

Research Question 2: What are the effects of insecurity on library services in the selected universities in Nigeria

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Table 3: The effects of insecurity on library services in the selected universities in Nigeria

SN	Effects of Insecurity on Library Services	SA	A	D	SD	-X	DECISION
1.	Insecurity affect regular opening and closure time of library	54	23	9	4	3.67	Accepted
2.	Insecurity damages information sharing in the Library	10	11	49	20	2.12	Rejected
3.	Insecurity promotes stealing and vandalism of resources in library	33	23	24	10	2.88	Accepted
4.	Insecurity destabilizes Staff motivation for better performance in the library	20	44	13	13	2.79	Accepted
5.	Insecurity affects general Staff training in the library	33	28	16	13	2.72	Accepted
6.	Insecurity affect regular user patronage to the Library	45	39	4	2	3.41	Accepted
7.	Insecurity create poor cataloguing and reference services provision in the library	33	42	7	8	2.18	Rejected

Criterion Mean=2.50

The table 3 shows that majority of the respondents accepted that insecurity affect regular opening and closure time of library (X=3.67), insecurity affect regular user patronage to the library (X=3.41), insecurity promotes stealing and vandalism of resources in library (X=2.88), insecurity destabilizes staff motivation for better performance in the Library (X=2.79), insecurity affects general staff training in the library (X=2.72). Whereas, (X=2.18) rejected that, insecurity create poor cataloguing and reference services provision in the library and (2.12) opined that insecurity damage information sharing in the library. This is in line with Borgman (2000) who identified that the effect of Boko haram insecurity includes mass shootings in communities, House bombings, kidnapping of people, arson, car and suicide bombing in various parts of the country.

Research Question 3: What are the measures used to reduce the effects of Insecurity on Library Services in the selected Universities in Nigeria?

Table 4: Measures that can be used to reduce the effects of Insecurity on Library Services in the selected Universities in Nigeria

SN	Measure used to reduce the effects of insecurity on library services in selected university.	SA	A	D	SD	-X	Decision
1.	Improve number of physical security personnel in the library to reduce the negative effect of insecurity	76	14	0	0	3.84	Accepted
2.	Increase number of electronic security system in the library to reduce the negative effect of insecurity	52	35	2	1	3.53	Accepted
3.	Closure of the library to reduce negative effect of insecurity	9	10	31	40	1.87	Rejected
4.	University should collaborate with government and other security agencies for assistance in reducing the effect of insecurity in the library	82	8	0	0	3.91	Accepted
5.	Sensitize and orient library users on the insecurity challenges faced in university and library environment	45	32	8	5	3.3	Accepted
6.	Provide consistence security training and retraining for library staff to reduce negative effect of insecurity	21	51	12	6	2.97	Accepted

Criterion Mean=2.50

The table 4 shows that, majority of the respondents agreed that university should collaborate with government and other security agencies for assistance in reducing the effect of insecurity in the library (X=3.91), improve number of physical security personnel in the library to reduce the negative effect of insecurity (X=3.84), increase number of electronic security system in the library to reduce the negative effect of insecurity (X=3.53), sensitize and orient library users on the insecurity challenges faced in university and library environment (X=3.3) and provide consistence security training and retraining for library staff to reduce negative effect of insecurity (X=2.97). This is in agreement with Udoh (2015) who has view that an improved security agencies and government policy can be introduced to curtail the rise in Insecurity in many parts of Nigeria.

Results and Discussion of Findings
The study revealed:
That community crisis and feud among the people with terrorism and insurgency are all the leading causes of insecurity that negatively affect library services in universities in Nigeria. This might be because of the poor government policy, corruption and other related problems in Nigeria. Insecurity affect regular opening and closure time of the library, user patronage, promotes stealing and vandalism of resources and destabilize staff motivation. This might be because of the damages caused by various insecurity elements in Nigeria. Universities should collaborate with government and other security agencies for assistance in reducing the effect

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of insecurity in the library. It should improve number of physical security personnel and of electronic security system in the library with sensitization and orientation to library community. This would assist to reduce the effect of insecurity faced by universities in Nigeria in providing library services. There is a significant connection between insecurity and efficient library services. The library service is affected by the general insecurity in University community.

Conclusion

Researchers have undertaken various studies concerning insecurity in many field of knowledge. This study focus on the effect of insecurity on library services in universities in Nigeria. Insecurity has become a serious issue that has affected the normal activities in the university libraries in Nigeria. Libraries become unproductive in the event of challenges of insecurity which are dependent on peace to strive for better development and satisfaction of user demands.

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