



# The Vices of Corruption and Insecurity as Banes to the Socio-Economic Development of Nigeria. The Place of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission

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## ABSTRACT

There exist a linkage between poverty- corruption – and insecurity in Nigeria and these vices affect the socio-economic and political development of Nigeria. The objective of this work therefore, is to underscore the vices of corruption and insecurity as banes to the socio- economic development of Nigeria, and consider the powers of the economic and financial crime commission in curbing these vices. Using questionnaires and in-depth interviews, data were drawn from 100 members of staff of the EFCC. The work adopted the Yaro Yameni formula in order to determine its sample size and a simple random sampling technique to give each element of the population an equal chance of being selected. Findings revealed that the EFCC is incapacitated in the performance of its duties especially when offenders are high profiled elites/members of the ruling party, leading to delays in court trials, unsubstantiated judgment, or outright dismissal of cases. The work recommends that considering the linkage between poverty, corruption and insecurity in Nigeria, public funds should be utilized to create more job opportunities and sincere or transparent empowerment programmes should be created to engage the youth thereby distracting them from being used to perpetrate violence. Again, a prerequisite for holding political or public office should be the prospective holder's reputation in previous workplace, fear of God, corruption history, and love for humanity.

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## 1.1 Introduction

The greatest hindrance to socio-economic and political development especially in the third world countries has been attributed to corruption and insecurity. Corruption and insecurity have negatively affected the socio-economic and political development of Nigeria. People in high places and political offices are corrupt because of greed, even when the resources available in these country have the capacity to guarantee every member of the society their basic needs (Aliv, 2010).

Corruption is essentially a product of our highly individualized materialistic society which emphasizes struggle by individuals to acquire as much wealth as they can without regard to how much wealth was obtained or available and even reasons for provision (Political bureau report, 1987). The situation has led individuals and group of persons to pursue various illegal and anti-social means of making wealth, not considering the economic and political repercussion of their doings.

The challenge that corruption poses in the social economic and political development, even to the national life is grievous. From independence in 1960, successive administrations have been enmeshed in crises of confidence based on formulating and implementing policies that will lead this country out of corruption.

Ibrahim and Igbuzor (2002), opined that the high rate of poverty in Nigeria is the cause of insecurity in Nigeria, they maintained that the inability of the government to provide basic infrastructural, basic services, employment and opportunities for its populace contributed greatly to the growth of insecurity in the country. Nigeria has applied so many tactics to curb the excess of corruption and insecurity in the country, but the situation seems to be the same or have little effects as to positive change.

However, if there is no conducive or peaceful environment which is capable of attracting foreign and local investors, the socio-economic strength of the country will be weakened, thereby stagnating the nation's economic status for as long as the menace continues.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

There is a linkage between poverty- corruption – and insecurity in Nigeria and these vices affect the socio-economic and political development of Nigeria. The question therefore is how the E.F.C.C. has been successful in combating these vices.

The objective of this work is to underscore the linkage between corruption and insecurity, and the place of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission in curbing these vices and ensuring the socio-economic and political development of Nigeria.

The work will also bring to bear the negative effects of corruption and insecurity on the country's socio-economic and political development and proffer possible ways of improving on the E.F.C.C in their bid to fight corruption.

### 1.3 Research Hypothesis

The following hypotheses are hereby formulated as working statement for this work.

H0= The Economic and Financial Crime Commission is very effective in combating corruption as it is free from political interference.

Hi=The Economic and Financial Crime Commission is not very effective in combating corruption as it is not free from political interference.

### 1.4. The Scope and Limitation of Study

The study is focused on corruption and insecurity, and the socio-economic and political development in Nigeria, using the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (E.F.C.C) as a case study. Data was collected from amongst the Staff of the commission. However, the study was limited by the non-cooperation and refusal by some E.F.C.C staff to release information considered as crucial.

### 1.5. Definition of Concepts

**CORRUPTION:** This is the diversion of resources meant for the betterment of the community to the gain of an individual at the expense of the people or community.

**INSECURITY:** For the purpose of this study, insecurity is the bridge of peace and security whether historical, religious, ethno-regional, civil, social, economic, and political, that have contributed to recurring conflicts which Nigeria has witnessed over the years, resulting to wanton destruction and loss of lives and properties.

**DEVELOPMENT:** It is the multidimensional process involving the organization and reorientation of the entire economic and social system. This involves improvement of income and output, radical change in institutional social and administrative structures as well as in popular attitudes customs and beliefs.

## 2. Theoretical Framework

The theories that best explicate this work are the Securitization theory and Human security theory. According to Eroukmanoff (2018), the Securitization theory posits that national security policy is not naturally given, but carefully designated by decision-makers. In securitization theory, political issues are constituted as extreme security issues to be dealt with urgently when considered as dangerous, menacing, threatening, alarming, etc, by a securitization actor who has the social and institutional power to move the issue beyond politics. Therefore, security issues are articulated as problems by securitizing actors. For instance calling corruption and insecurity as banes to the socio-economic development of Nigeria moves corruption and insecurity from a low priority political concern to a high priority issue that requires action such as securing borders. The relevance of the securitization theory here, shows that no more can we think of threat form solely military dimension (war, conflict, arm, race etc). But the cogent need to include other soft security and non-military issues such as: environmental degradation, identity, food insecurity, health, poverty, unemployment, etc.)The work also adopted the Human Security theory as a framework of analysis. The theory according to the 1994 United Nations Human Development index sees security from a point of view different from that of military side – protecting the state from external aggression, the palliation of weapons and maintenance of a large Army, to the protection of the lives, property and families of senior politicians. The human

security theory sees security from the human side. Thus humans should be sure of their safety, freedom, the protection of their inalienable rights and empowerments. Issues like employment, health, environmental safety, education, food security and freedom from fear and all manner of wants. This brings to bear the need for the development and empowerment of humans in all ramifications.

The relevance of this theory, to the work brings to bear that corruption and insecurity are serious human security threats due to the fact that they cause a global threat in the form of loss of millions of lives, unemployment, and social unrest.

### 3. Corruption and Insecurity& the Place of the EFCC in the Socio-Economic Development of Nigeria

Insecurity is the lack of security, uncertainty or the state of being in danger or vulnerable to harmful occurrence or re-occurrence. Others see it as a state of total unrest, panic and not being sure of peace or the quality of not being safe, living in the fear of attacks, terror, plagues, disaster and environmental hazards.

Chukwu (2002), see insecurity as a condition of living in fear of threats coming from possible attack that may cause injury, harm or even death. Insecurity as a psychological feeling of being hunted, terrified, threatened and challenged by an external force which is possible of causing dangerous harm to people if not checked. When people are faced with insecurity, it affects every aspect of their lives, and productivity can hardly be achieved or expected from one who is insecure. In the just concluded 2019 election, the INEC could not conduct voting exercise in some parts of the country because of the fear of insurgency, banditry, kidnappers and herdsmen attack, thereby causing cancellation of votes, inconclusive elections, and giving room for serious electoral malpractice.

Nigeria, one of the largest economies in Africa is also the lynch pin of security in West Africa, yet for over a decade it has struggled to address devastating Jihadi insurgencies and terrorism by Boko-Haram and the Islamic state. Victory against both groups remain elusive and security in the north-eastern Nigeria has significantly deteriorated since 2017.

Insecurity has also spread to other parts of Nigeria with the farmers/herdsmen conflict which is compounded by the intensifying effects of global warming and that remains dormant at best.

On the other hand, Transparency International (2014), see corruption as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. Corruption; a dishonest behaviour by those in position of power such as politicians, managers, government office holders and workers, can include giving or accepting bribes or inappropriate gifts, double dealing, under-the-table-transactions, manipulating elections, diverting funds, lending monies and defrauding investors.

Corruption in Nigeria is a persistent phenomenon. In 2012, Nigeria was estimated to have lost \$400 billion dollars to corruption since independence. In 2018, the country ranked 144<sup>th</sup> in the 180 countries listed in the transparency international corruption index with Somalia at 180<sup>th</sup> position as the most corrupt and Denmark the least.

Nigeria politicians find themselves in the strong position of power and wealth due to their connections with the oil and gas industries in Nigeria. These oil and gas industries are under the control of the government owned Nigeria National Petroleum Company (NNPC). Oil and gas exports account for over 90% of all Nigerian exports revenues.

While many politicians own or have shares in these industries, tax and revenue, from the energy sector are diminished and the benefits of Nigeria's energy wealth are not evenly distributed throughout the country.

Vote rigging by both main political parties, the People's Democratic Party and the All Progressive Congress in election is widespread and corruption is endemic with government. Business arrangements and family loyalties dominate governmental appointments paving ways for corrupt politicians and government officers to bring in their kinds unto government positions and offices. Behind another scene is awarding profiting contracts to favour supporters who in turn may not deliver a quality project at all.

Corruption runs through every level of Nigerian government. From massive contract fraud at the top through petty bribery money lending schemes, embezzlement and signing salaries from fake workers. It is estimated that corruption within the state apparatus cost the country billions of dollars every year. Corruption has tremendously drawn back the wheels of socio-economic and political development in Nigeria thereby causing hopelessness in the face of the raging youths who would have been preparing to inherit government from our aged leaders.

The Economic and Financial Crime Commission (E.F.C.C) was established in 2003 under President Olusegun Obasanjo partially in response to pressure from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) on money lending which named Nigeria as one of the 23 countries non-cooperative in this international community's efforts to fight money lending (Osagie 2017).

The agency has its Head Office in Abuja Nigeria, under the previous E.F.C.C Chairman Nuhu Ribado, the agency has addressed financial commission by prosecuting and convicting a number of high-profiles corrupt individuals ranging from Nigeria's former chief law enforcement officer to several bank chief executives.

Nigeria engaged in the fight against corruption and insecurity so that they can be a smooth flow of growth and development where finances assigned to finish a project is not embezzled by greedy leaders. The fight against corruption and insecurity is so important because where there is no peace, there cannot be an interpreted flow of development, just as monies which were supposed to be used for important project are now used to fight insurgency and banditry. The economy of any country can only grow or flourish if there is peace but, in a situation, where external and internal investors are being scared of investing in a country because of the fear of insurgency and conflict or even high level corruption, has affected the values of the nation's money in the international market. Any democratic state that is not free from corruption and insecurity will not find it easy to achieve a credible election, because corruption will lead to rigging, snatching of ballot boxes etc and other electoral violence's will be unavoidable. So engaging in a fight against corruption and insecurity is very important (Attah, 2000).

Corruption as a menace in Nigeria has caused a lot of setbacks to the socio-economic development in Nigeria.

Education as we know is one of the most important social activity that insures any country of a good future, both in producing good leaders, science and technology, but in Nigeria, the case is different because the level of corruption in the education sector is too high, it ranges from examination malpractice to issues of irregular admissions.

International relation is one of the players to a country's socio-economic development but in the case of Nigeria many

developed countries are afraid of investing in Nigeria for fear of our corrupt leaders, who may swindle them of their capital or give them high taxation and revenue including the epileptic power supply in the country.

Agriculture is another most important sector of any country's economy because a country without enough food provision cannot grow smoothly, the Nigeria agricultural sector has experienced a lot of corrupt practices which has slowed down its pace of growth, these setbacks ranges from embezzlement of natural resources and international loans and grants meant for farmers to boost their production, illegal sales of fertilizers meant for farmers, lack of good agricultural research institute and lots more.

Nigeria has experienced lots of socio-economic setback due to inter-religious conflicts especially in the North, some of these problems are caused by marginalization of some tribes when it comes to political appointments.

Such sentiment has created violent group like MASSOB, IPOB, EASTERN SECURITY NETWORK, AMOTEKUN of which when they revolt, causes a negative effect on the country's socio-economic development.

Due to the possibility of vote buying and rigging at elections in Nigeria the wrong people in the quest for power and money, force themselves into power only to showcase their ineptitude and incompetence increasing corrupt practices and insecurity in Nigeria. Due to the high rate of insecurity in Nigeria, especially in the north-east, the people are afraid to come out to exercise their franchise for fear of insurgency by the dreaded Boko-Haram sects, therefore making the political activity in that area, a total mess short of every reasonable expectation.

Insecurity in many parts of Nigeria has made many schools children drop-outs, for instance, years ago the Boko-Haram took over about four Local Governments in BornoState and every academic activity in those Local Governments was put to halt to avoid the re-occurrence of Chibok kidnap thereby hampering the future of our potential political leaders from that geographical zone. Again, because of the incessant electoral malpractice and disorderliness which has occurred in Nigeria's elections, for countless number of times the international observers record about Nigeria's elections has been so bad therefore putting Nigeria's position on the world corruption list at the bad side, making the world to have a negative remark about Nigeria.

Since the election in Nigeria are always engulfed by rigging, snatching of ballot boxes by armed political tugs, vote buying, INEC vulnerability, announcement of fake results and killings, many citizens have lost interest in exercising their franchise because they are of the opinion that it makes no difference since the politicians have always had their ways through the illegitimate means.

Critics of the EFCC tend to be astounded when faced with the performance indicators posted by the commission in the relatively harsh operating terrain, it has grown to become the premier anti-corruption agency in Africa and indeed the level of recoveries it has made is arguably unparalleled in the history of any agency in the world.

In the area of convictions, the commission has secured over 600 convictions. An analysis of the pattern of convictions shows that the bulk of them have come from areas of advance fee fraud and allied offences arising there from. There have been other high profile convictions involving politically exposed persons such as Tafa Balogun, Diepreye Alamiesigha, Bode George, Cecelia Ibru, and Lucky Igbinodian among others.

Inevitably, the commission has continuously found itself in the eye of the storm as a result of executing its mandate of providing financial security for the Nigeria economy. This is only to be expected in a country boasting of Nigeria diversity.

The commission is serially being criticized for operating outside the bound of law and infringing human rights, illegal detentions of suspects, among others.

The case of burglary, the E.F.C.C has on many occasions burgled into people's houses in absence of the owners or without informing them, this act is very condemnable and not expected of any law enforcement agency in Nigeria considering the givens of our constitution.

The commission is perceived to be a tool of any incumbent President in dealing very hard with his political opponents and it is invariably accused of selectivity in investigations and persecutions, thereby making the commission look like an agency formed solely by the president political enemies and opponents.

The commission is also accused of collecting bribes from offenders because it is always pointed out that suspects are arrested, investigated and brought to court with so much fanfare and thereafter, the case appears to wither away, this point is valid because on many occasions like that of Gov. Yahaya Bello at Kogi State who embezzled the sum of N50 billion bailout and another N30 billion state fund was also investigated but the case died down as if it never started.

The EFCC has also been accused of stealing, in the sense that whenever they break into a suspect property either by intel or guess work and discover a large amount of money, fingers has pointed that EFCC official do reduce or steal some parts of the money before announcing a fake figure and this act is not fit for an agency designated to fight financial crime and money related offences (Daily Sun Journal, 2009).

The commission operated within a rough terrain and it is only its doggedness that has ensured the results that it has posted. The key challenge of the commission has been the absence of the requisite favourable legislative framework necessary for the success of an anti-corruption war. The first of this constraint is the cases of corruption and financial crones, this law also caused slow pace trials (Osagie, 2017).

In Nigeria, most politically exposed persons have political immunity and have the means to evade or delay trials by either manipulating the judge in charge with heavy amount of money as bribe, thereby frustrating the entire efforts of the commission by finally letting criminal go free.

#### 4. Research Methodology

##### Research Design

The study used survey research design, surveys allow for the study of people's opinion on a given issues of public interest. According to Onwukwe (2011) survey research is concerned with the collection of data for the purpose of describing and interpreting a certain condition, practices, beliefs, attitudes e.t.c. The purpose is usually to describe systematically the facts, qualities or characteristics of a given population, events or areas of interest concerning the problem under investigation.

##### The Population Study

The nature of this study required that data should be generated from staff/personnel of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission, permanent and adhoc. The choice of selecting the informants was guided by the judgment that they are knowledgeable due to their years in service and willing to be interviewed on the subject matter under investigation.

#### Sampling and Sample Size Determination

The study adopted the Yaro Yamani formula in order to determine its sample size and a simple random sampling technique to give each element of the population an equal chance of being selected and from a population of 100 respondents of staff of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission.

#### Instrument of Data Collection

Data were collected through the administration of structured questionnaires. The source of primary data included interview and questionnaire. While sources of the secondary data included record collected and documented for other purpose other than for research.

The methods used for data collection were primary and secondary sources of data collection, primary data were generated through the questionnaires administered to the respondents while secondary data were generated from the study found useful by the researcher.

#### Data Analysis Techniques

The data collected were analyzed with simple descriptive statistical tables, frequency and percentage.

The Yaro Yamani formula was adopted and is represented below as:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + n(E)^2}$$

The rationale behind the choice of simple percentage, table and Yaro Yamani formula is that they give easy visibility to attributes of the data under analysis and also to enhance efficient use of numerical data.

#### Overview of the Study Area

This research was conducted within Abuja and Calabar in Cross River State where experienced staff of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission were engaged as respondents.

#### Data Analysis

QUESTION 1: Do the Economic and Financial Crime Commission Staff/Personnel given a free hand to perform their functions without corrupt political interference?

Table 1

RESPONSE	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
Strongly Agreed (SA)	37	37%
Agreed (A)	5	5%
Undecided	1	1%
Strongly Disagreed (SD)	34	34%
Disagreed (D)	23	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

In the table above, the data show that 37 respondents (representing 37%) strongly indicated that the Economic And Financial Crime Commission staff are given free hands to perform their duties without corrupt political interference. 5 respondents (representing 5%) indicated that the EFCC is given free hand to perform their duties. 34 respondents (representing 34%) indicated that the EFCC are not given free hands to perform their duties. While 23 respondents, (representing 23%) indicated that the EFCC do not always have free hands to perform their duties.

Therefore, from the data it could be deduced that the EFCC are not totally given free hands to perform their duties.

QUESTION 2: Are monies recovered from the financial crime offenders handed /remitted to the federal government in full?

**Table 2**

Response	No Of Male	No. Of Female	% Of Response
Strongly agreed (SA)	43 (43%)	29 (29%)	72%
Agreed (A)	15 (15%)	11 (11%)	26%
Undecided (U)			
Strongly disagreed (SD)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1%
Disagreed (D)			
<b>Total</b>	<b>59 (59%)</b>	<b>41 (41%)</b>	<b>100%</b>

In table 2, 43 male respondents (representing 43%) and 29 female respondents (representing 29%) strongly agreed that monies recovered from the financial crime offenders are handed over to the Federal Government in full. While 15 male respondents. (Representing 15%) and 11 female respondents (representing 11%) agreed with the question.

From the collected data, it could be deduced that monies recovered from crime offenders are handed over to the Federal Government in full.

### QUESTION 3:

Are monies recovered from cybercrime fraudsters returned to their victims after investigation?

**Table 3.**

RESPONSE	NO. OF MALE	NO. OF FEMALE	% OF RESPONSE
Strongly Agreed (AS)	28 (28%)	22(22%)	50%
Agreed	5 (5%)	7 (7%)	12%
Undecided	10 (10%)	6 (6%)	16%
Strongly Disagreed	12 (12%)	10 (10%)	22%
Disagreed			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55 (55%)</b>	<b>45 (45%)</b>	<b>100%</b>

In the table Above 28 male respondents (representing 28%) and 22 female respondents (representing 22%) strongly Agreed that monies recovered from cybercrime fraudsters are returned to their victims, while 5 male respondents (representing 5%) and 7 female respondents (representing 7%) Agreed that monies recovered from cybercrime fraudsters are returned to their victims. 10 male respondents (representing 10%) and 6 female respondents (representing 6%) undecided. While 12 male respondents (representing 12%) and 10 female respondents (representing 10%) strongly disagreed that monies recovered from cybercrime fraudsters are fully returned to their victims.

### Discussion and Findings

From the above, if Nigeria can ignite totally the powers of our constitution by making sure that the rule of law takes effect of sovereignty of the constitution and equality before the law, the fear of the constitution recompense against criminals, will not allow our politicians and public office holders to venture into the punishable adventure of being guilty of financial crime and other official misconduct.

If the EFCC can have a total independent formation free from external controls, a fearless E.F.C.C, our leaders and public office holders will make sure they don't step on the toes of the E.F.C.C by avoiding money laundering, misappropriation of government funds and other corrupt practice.

One of the major cause of corruption in Nigeria today is the undisputable fact that square pegs are not in square holes, because of the who know man system et employment which has flooded public offices with incompetent staff, leaving those who are intellectually and academically fit for the job to roam around the streets of Nigerian searching engaging in odd jobs or even being totally jobless. But if the employment

system is sanitized and those who are fit and prepared to handle public offices are employed, the result the situation of things would have been different.

If INEC, which is the agency in charge of electoral activities in Nigeria can really be independent as the name implies our electoral reputation would have been different, but in a situation where the president appoints the INEC chairman for the house of assembly to confirm, the INEC which is supposed to be superior to every political office holder is now subject to their sack and pick thereby making the agency live at the mercy and control of our politicians. But if their power of independent can be activated, Nigeria's electoral system will be good again.

If by required intelligence and accurate information, the Nigeria military is purged of all the officers who are paid informants to the dreaded Boko-Haram, Islamic states and other insurgent groups, we can be sure of successful attacks on the enemies with our armies being ambushed due to the leakage et plan by Nigerian army officer.

If Nigeria government can have treaty with neighbouring countries like Cameroun, Niger, and Chad against insurgence the Boko-Haram will not have a peaceful ground to plan and execute the evils because every country that is part of the treaty will definitely be on the work out against the hoodlums and killers. For instance last year, the president of Chad led his army on a fight against Boko-Haram; he killed them in hundreds, captured many and recovered many vehicles and tons of ammunitions. If Nigeria and the surrounding countries had done that at the same time, it would have yielded a wonderful result against insurgency.

There is no doubt the fight against insurgency is more resultfull in the hands of the developed countries like U.S.A, Russia, Israel, and Germany because they are highly equipped with well-trained intelligent officers, weapons like; detective drones modern ammunitions and current security and communications gadgets which is really needed to fight the dreaded groups. For instance, the United States of America single handedly killed Osama Bin Laden, Sadam Husein and Suleimani of Iran which by virtue of terror are more fearful than Abubakar Shekau of the Boko-Haram. Then if U.S.A is brought into help fight Boko-Haram, success and victory is expected.

Due to high rate of corruption in every sector of Nigeria's economy, the Army is not left out because recruitment are always shared among Senators, Ministers, House of Rep Members, Governors and those who work in the Presidency and most times the people brought into the Army through the shared slot arrangement are not always sound and fit enough for this job thereby recruiting weak cowardice and incompetent officers into the Army.

But if through a transparent recruitment system, the right people are selected, those who are capable of bringing forth results will be available and ready to deliver at all times and by so doing intelligence will conquer hooliganism and ignorance.

Just as the Boko-Haram have informants in the Nigerian Army, it is also important for Nigeria Army to have spies in their camp to enable them to get accurate information about the plans, strength, weakness and possible threats and attacks. That, for sure, will help Nigeria army move strategically against the terrorist. The fight against terrorism is a big fight because the terrorist, since they are sponsored by rich countries, terrorist organization and top politicians in Nigeria, they also buy ammunitions that are not cheap, so for one to embark on a fight with them, there is need for him/her to be

with them, there is need for him/her to be fully armed with modern technological weapon to fully defeat them.

The recruitment of the so called repented Boko-Haram members into the Nigerian Army is one of the major reasons why the fight against terrorism in Nigeria has lasted for more than a decade without a reasonable result. And that is because the so called repented Boko-Haram are spies in disguise who only come to monitor the fight mapped at the Nigerian Army and report back to their boss without the knowledge of anyone in the Nigerian Army. So I suggest that the repented terrorist should be placed on psychiatric rehabilitation, and religious monitoring for a very long time before allowing them to join the masses.

One of the major reasons why many Nigerian youth engage in terrorism, banditry and kidnapping is because of the high rate of poverty and absolute wretchedness, but if the government can make jobs available for the youths they may not have any reason to join the terrorist, thereby reducing the members and increase peace and unity in Nigeria which attract foreign investors.

### Conclusion

In the cause of this work, it was revealed that corruption and insecurity has really eaten deep into the socio-economic and political development of Nigeria. The damage created by the former affected the democratic system of the Country, due to political instabilities ranging from vote buying, snatching of ballot boxes and evident rigging of elections.

It also points out the effects of insecurity in Nigeria which has scared away and prevented foreign investors which would have given the Nigeria economy a boost and provided more legitimate jobs for many youths in the Country.

### Recommendations

Following from the above, Nigeria should adopt a voting system that is linked to the thumb biometric of all the registered voters, this should be in connection to every voters National Identity Number (NIN), Bank Verification Number (BVN) and National Birth Certificate Number From National Population Commission, to enable the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to distinguish between voters of the indigene and non-indigenes. By doing this, we can now be sure that the manipulation that brings the wrong persons into leadership positions can be curbed.

The reports of all the international/National observers and individual party representatives should be considered after every election, because that is another avenue through which the genuineness of any conducted election can be tested, so the world (UN) should always come into Nigeria's elections considering the testimonies of all the observers of all levels, especially the ones with evident proves.

Since corruption is the most foundational cause of Nigeria problems which has brought about insecurity and insurgency in the North, then an incessant fight for succession in the South by the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), Eastern Security Network (ESN), Oduduwa Republic/Yoruba Nation and their Amotekun Security Outfit which is almost plunging the Nation into a State of Anarchy (lawlessness), public funds should be utilized to create more job opportunities and sincere or transparent empowerment programmes should be created to distract the youth from being used to perpetrate violence.

Federal character should always be considered whenever appointments and employment slots are being shared across the Nation. If every geopolitical zones, ethnic groups and

religion is well represented at every political and public office, recruitments and replacements, tensions caused by marginalization will not come up and a call for restructuring will also be needless.

A prerequisite for holding political and public offices should be the prospective holder's reputation in previous workplace, the fear of God, love for humanity, and a free corruption history.

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