

Boko Haram and Terrorism in Northern Nigeria: (A Psychological Analysis)

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Abstract.

One of the challenges governments across the world have been tackling since year 2000 has been the rise in the activities of Islamic extremist groups. Nigeria, a nation that has a relative population of Christians and Muslims, is experiencing a serious time of turbulence and tension orchestrated by an Islamic extremist Group Boko Haram, which has as its mission and agenda ‘The Eradication of Western Ideology in Nigeria’ and the ‘Implementation of Sharia Law in the Country’. The militia group has, through its bombing operations since 2004, killed over 7,000 Nigerians mostly in the northern region, attacking public and international buildings like the United Nations Building, Police Headquarters, banks, churches, recreation centres, etc. The Nigerian Government has openly admitted through the president that Boko Haram militants have infiltrated the military, police and his own government and that the danger the group has created is worse than that caused during the 1960s civil war that killed more than a million people. He sacked the Inspector General of Police, National Security Adviser and the Defence Minister for not doing enough to tackle the Boko Haram problem. The objective of this paper was to (i) chronicle the rise of Islamic jihadist and takfri militant sect known as Boko Haram, (ii) provide detailed incidence of terror attacks on Nigerian since inception as record by media and researchers and (iii) present psychological analysis of the motivation of Bokite’s using Maslow’s concept of hierarchy of needs, The frustration-aggression theory and Bandura’s perspective of social learning theory. The analysis explored the physical and psychological conditions in Nigeria today that tend to have precipitated terrorists behaviour in northeastm, southeast and south-south. The paper concludes that the advent of gross erosion of quality of life, youth unemployment, poor standard of living, impunity and corruption at all level of our national life is responsible for the current spathe militancy, insurgency, kidnapping and assassinations in the country.

Keywords: Boko-Haram, terrorism, Abduction, Kidnapping, Mass-Murder

Introduction

The northern Nigeria of today comprises nineteen states, and to a very large extent, Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Despite the heterogeneous ethnic composition of the North, the Hausa-Fulani ethnic group still predominates, with over 70% of its people belonging to the Hausa-Fulani ethnic stock. The most important rallying point for unity among the Hausa states was Islam. The country, survived a brutal civil war in the late 1960s, in which more than 1 million people died. The country has witnessed repeated rounds of violence since then, often between Muslims and Christians, often fueled by politics.

Book Haram are Islamic jihadist and takfiri militant sect based largely in the northeastern part of Nigeria, north of Cameroon and Niger (Shehu, 2011; Moses, 2012; Agbambu, Bwala, Ibrahim & Usigbe, 2013; Burstin, 2013). Founded by Muhammed Yusuf in 2002, the organization seeks to establish a "pure Islamic state ruled by sharia law, putting a stop to what is deemed "Westernisation" (Cook, 2011; Bartolotta, 2011; Ifowodo, 2013). The group has adopted its official name to be "the Congregation of the People of Tradition for Proselytism and Jihad", which is the English translation from Arabic Jamā'at ahl as-sunnah li-d-da'wa wa-l-jihād (والجهاد لدعوة السنة أهي جماعة) (Wikipedia, 2014). In the town of Maiduguri, where the group was formed, the residents dubbed it Boko Haram. The term "Boko Haram" comes from the Hausa word boko figuratively meaning "western education" (literally "alphabet", from English "book") and the Arabic word haram figuratively meaning "sin" (literally, "forbidden"). The name, loosely translated from Hausa, means "western education is forbidden" and so sinful (Wikipedia, 2014; Ogbonnaya, 2011). The group earned this name by its strong opposition to anything Western, which it sees as corrupting Muslims. However, this interpretation of the name is disputed, and locals who speak the Hausa language are unsure what it means (Wikipedia, 2014).

Ideologically, Boko Haram was founded as an indigenous group, turning itself into a Jihadist group in 2009. It proposes that interaction with the Western world is forbidden, and also supports opposition to the Muslim establishment and the government of Nigeria. Because of this hard lined position, the members of the group do not interact with the local Muslim population and have carried out assassinations in the past of anyone who criticises it, including Muslim clerics. Boko Haram therefore, emanated from an orthodox teaching slightly resembling that of the Taliban in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Late Sheikh Muhammed Yusuf (Jan 1979-July 2009) is the leader of the group. Their school of thought considers anything western as an aberration or completely unislamic. The group viewed the western influence on Islamic society as the basis of the religion's weakness. Hence their declaration that western education and indeed all western institution is infidel and as such must be avoided by Muslims. Many young people dropped out of school, including university student to join them, workers including highly placed administrators and tertiary institution lecturers also joined them, many youths separated from their families, while many people abandoned their jobs for the group.

Also, most people sold their belongings to contribute to the coffers of fighting the cause of Allah to save Islam from the clutches of western influences and domination (Ogundipe 2012). At the initial stage of their growth, the sect was entrenched in Borno, Yobe, Katsina, Kaduna, Bauchi, Gombe and Kano States, but now have covered virtually all northern states and are advancing their frontiers to other parts of the country (Nossiter, 2012; Abak, 2013; Gillian, 2013). Mohammed Yusuf the leader, had severally described his groups as non-militants, but simply a group of youths who are bent on upholding the words of Allah. He warned that they will rather die than to succumb to the present corrupt system in the country. The group vowed to continue to fight the authorities and their accomplices until they succeed or die in the process.

Yusuf argued that Western education, or “boko,” had brought nothing but poverty and suffering to the region and was therefore forbidden, or “haram,” in Islam. He began peacefully by mostly preaching, and he quickly gained a following among disaffected young men in the northeast. But his anti-establishment rhetoric and hints that Boko Haram was building an arsenal of weapons also caught the attention of the authorities. In truth, the authorities could hardly claim ignorance of the activities of Mohammed Yusuf and his men. As a matter of fact, he was arrested on several occasions by the police in Maiduguri but before the police could roll out the drums and start celebrating his capture, Yusuf would have resurface in his vast compound in Maiduguri. According to (Shehu, 2011) there was a time when he returned from Abuja barely five days after his arrest and people from Kaduna, Bauchi and Kano came to welcome him. There was a long motorcade from the airport as thousands of his members trooped out to lead him to his house. The extremist group has said it is fighting to establish an Islamic state in northern Nigeria and has carried out waves of attacks across the region. The group is known today for attacking Christians, government targets, bombing churches, attacking schools, police stations, army barracks, kidnapping western tourists and also assassinated members of Islamic establishments that criticized them (Njadvara & Gambrell, 2011; Brock, 2011; Olubode, 2011; Lobel, 2012; Campbell, 2013). Some of the violence has occurred along the northern borders with Cameroon, Chad and Niger amid fears that Boko Haram fighters could spill into neighbouring states.

In 2009, the police clamped down on the sect members who were ignoring a law requiring motorcyclists to wear crashhelmets. That sparked a furious backlash. Police stations and government offices in Borno were burned to the ground, and hundreds of criminals released in a prison break, as the violence spread across northern Nigeria. The government and army reacted with force; Yusuf was captured and shot dead in police custody. Five days of fighting left some 800 people dead. The battle between security forces and followers of the Boko Haram sect came to an end with the killing of the leader of the group few hours after he was captured in Maiduguri.

The police claimed that Mallam Mohamed Yusuf whose followers battled troops and policemen for five days in many states, was reportedly killed in a shoot out with security men, but a BBC reporter in Maiduguri said Yusuf was arrested and paraded before journalists with apparent signs of injuries, “he has been killed, you can come and see his body at the state police command headquarters. A journalist said the body outside the state police headquarters had several gunshot wounds. It was learnt that before he was killed, Yusuf requested that people should pray for him to have the mercy of God. Violence linked to the Boko Haram insurgency has resulted in an estimated 10,000 deaths between 2001 and 2013 (Sani-Muh’d, 2010; Ibrahim, 2011; Doyle, 2012; Lasnier, 2012; Mark, 2012; Newsday, 2013; Campbell, 2013; Pernice, 2013; Gullian, 2013): See Table 1 for chronicle of Boko Haram attacks in Nigeria. Expectedly, being a die-hard sect after the killing of Mohammed Yusuf, the group carried out its first attack in Borno in January 2011. The attack resulted in the killing of four people. Since then, the violence has only escalated in terms of frequency, intensity and sophistication, as well as casualties. In January 2012, Abubakar Shekau, a former deputy to Yusuf, appeared on YouTube announcing his assumption of control of the jihadist Islamist extremist group Boko Haram after the death of Mohammed Yusuf in 2009.

Some of the fundamental arguments of beliefs held by the group is that banking, taxation and jurisprudence in the country are completely infidel submitting to these void the entire faith of a true Muslim, they also argue that western education was un-Islamic as it embodies all that Islam projected, while it propagates the negative of what Allah and his prophet had ordained. For instance, the mixing of boys and girls under the same shade, the propagation of the theory that men evolved from the family of monkey as well as the sun in the sky is static. According to them, all these are in conflict with the direct words of Allah

who said Muslims must not mix sexes under the same umbrella and that he created men from clay as well as the sun, earth and the moon each move on its own axis. They further argue that today's banking system is shyllock and Islam forbids interest in financial transaction, just as the laws of the land are manmade, in replacement for the ones ordained by Allah. It was on their bid to run away from all of these vices that members of the sect decided to cluster themselves in strategic location in the outskirts of most major towns of Bauchi and Yobe. This article attempts to use Maslow's concept of hierarchy of needs, and Bandura's perspective of social learning theory to analyze the physical and psychological conditions in Nigeria today that tend to have predictable effects on behavior, including terrorist

Late Sheikh Muhammed Yusuf, took advantage of the poor quality of Nigeria educational system, the incessant strike, cult activities, widespread malpractices and prostitution that is made worse with no offer of job after graduation to lure many youths to abandoned schools and embrace Yusuf's new and emerging state that promises to offer them a better education. Late Yusuf also took advantage of the irresponsible leadership at all levels of government, unemployment, poverty, corruption and insecurity. And as he points out such failures, citing verses of Quran and the saying of the prophet, the youth see him as the leader that will indeed deliver them from malevolence to the promised land. He was able to attract membership from the families of the high and mighty in Borno State. Many other members of prominent families from Borno and Yobe States reportedly joined or later became sympathetic to his cause and supported it financially. Boko Haram recruits youths in the age range of 17 and 30; but cases of children in their early teens, paid by the organisation to commit arson on school properties (as well as other crimes), have been reported. The fresh recruits are said to be trained in Mali for between 4-6 months. A number of these recruits have gone through the hardship of the Almajiri system; which no longer serves its purpose in the educational system of northern Nigeria.

The Boko Haram men were largely known to have lived at Jadamana near the Maiduguri airport where they have their Jummat mosque (Adefolarin, 2012). They neither buy commercial food, nor eat from dishes prepared by non members, due to its sources (Haram). In fact, they do not eat much, some of them are said to live on fruits and dairies only. They normally dress in similar costumes as the Taliban of Afghanistan or Pakistan, with long-sleeved robe, shortened trousers, a turban, long beard, a small coat covers the long-sleeved robe, covering the abdomen (like a bullet proof jacket) and a chewing stick. It is on record that members of this sect disowned their parents, buried members' certificates including masters Degree Certificates. Their main enemies were the state, the ruling classes and Nigeria's educated elite. According to Human Rights Watch, during the period between 2009 and beginning of 2012, Boko Haram was responsible for over 900 deaths (Nossiter, 2012).

According to Tukur (2013) the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Chairman, "Today, there is fear everywhere, Churches are being burnt, Mosques are being attacked, United Nations building bombed, motor parks are being bombed. People cannot go to motor parks again to travel for the fear of being attacked. Security installations, such as police stations, prisons are being burnt down and inmates released at will. Nobody knows the next target of attack. Tukur, was expressing sadness over the security situation in the country, cited the recent attack on the prisons at Ganye, his country home in Adamawa State where over 100 inmates were set free while 25 were killed after which the prison was set ablaze, said "This nation must come together to fight the common evil. There is fear everywhere. In my village, Ganye in Adamawa, they invaded the place, burnt down the police station, attacked the policemen on duty, raided the bank, privately-owned houses, moved down to the prisons, set the inmates free and burnt down the building. Where are we heading to? Nobody can even explain what is happening now".

Boko Haram is considered to be a major potential terrorist threat affecting Nigeria and other countries, and US officials believe it is potentially allied with Al Qaeda U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) Commander General Carter F. Ham stated in September 2011 that three African terrorist groups - Shabab of Somalia, Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb across the Sahel region, and Boko Haram "have very explicitly and publicly voiced an intent to target Westerners, and the U.S. specifically" and that he was concerned with "the voiced intent of the three organizations to more closely collaborate and synchronize their efforts." General Ham reiterated his concern after the Christmas Day 2011 bombings of churches in Nigeria. A bipartisan U.S. congressional counterterrorism panel has urged the Obama Administration and U.S intelligence community in November 2011 to focus on Boko Haram as a potential threat to United States territory (<http://homeland.house.gov/press-release/homeland-security-committee-report-details-emerging-homeland-threat-posed-africa-based>)

Types of Boko Haram

There are three categories of Boko Haram operating in Nigeria. They are the religious one, the criminal, and the political. The religious one is the original one led by late Muhammed Yusuf. The criminal boko haram, are those individuals harassing and extorting money from people, those that rob banks etc and kill Nigerians in the name of religion. While the last one, the Political boko Haram are the Political rivals in the north who use arms to settle disputes between themselves. They came about when Local politicians sponsored armed thugs to help disrupt the 2007 election and then abandoned them, creating a fertile recruitment field.

Observation Learning Theory and the increase in Boko Haram attacks in Nigeria

Boko Haram claims to be working for a purer, Islam-driven society, a contrast to the corrupt patronage of the federal and state governments. It has recruited University graduates and political thugs—young men used by politicians to do their dirty work and set off violence after lost elections. They have robbed banks and bombed police stations with homemade I.E.D.s, acquiring guns and cash as they have bounced from the sponsorship of one northern politician to another, politicians who often end up denouncing the group after its members turn on them. Before seriously considering the ways in which Boko Haram insurgency can be effectively controlled, it is necessary to understand why it took hold in the first place. It is the position of this paper that Bandura's Observational learning theory can account for part of the riddle. In order to facilitate the discussion of the link between observational learning processes and the prevalence of terrorism in Nigeria, it is pertinent to give a brief description of the basic postulates of observational learning theory. According to Bandura (1986), much of what we learn is obtained by observing others, and that this is much more efficient than learning through direct experience because it spares us countless responses that might be followed by punishment or no reinforcement of any kind. The people whose behavior is observed are referred to as models.

According to Akinfala (2005) Learning through modeling involves cognitive processes and is not based simply on imitation since the learner adds and subtracts from the observed behavior and generalizes from one observation to another. Certain factors determine whether we are going to learn from a model in a given situation or not. One of the key moderator variables is the characteristics of the model; we are more likely to model powerful people than inept ones, high status people rather than those of low status, and so forth. A second moderator variable concerns the characteristics of the observer. People of low status, education, or power are more likely to model than people high on these attributes. A third factor refers to the consequences of the observed behavior on the model. If the person greatly values the behaviour being observed, there is a greater likelihood that it will be modeled. But

even of more crucial importance for the paper is the impact on learning when a model is punished for a given behavior. Observers learn to refrain from modeling a behavior that produces severe punishment to the model. For example, a person who sees another being punished for taking arms up against the state might not wait to receive the same punishment before deciding to refrain from this activity.

Finally, Bandura (1986, 1988) identified four main processes that are crucial for observational learning: attention, retention/representation, behavioral production, and motivation. In order to learn through observation, you must attend to the model. Factors that regulate attention include the frequency with which we associate with people, whether or not we are attracted to them, and whether we think the behavior is important and can yield some profit to us. Second, we must be able to make some mental representation of what we have witnessed in memory, since we may not have the occasion to use an observed behavior for up to several years. Behavioral production involves the process of converting the mental representations into appropriate actions. For instance, one may remember that someone took up arms against the Federal Government of Nigeria eg Asari Dokubo, Abubarkar Shekau, Henry Orkar etc, but can you perform the same feat? Lastly, observational learning is most effective when observers are motivated to enact the modeled behavior. Human motivation may depend on whether you encounter a situation in which you believe that the response is likely to lead to favorable consequences for you. So how does this explain the prevalence of terrorism in Nigeria? Beginning with the basic processes, it is obvious that many Nigerians see cases of terrorism and abductions everyday in many parts of the country today. The Boko Haram sect and the Niger Delta militants have killed countless number of people and destroyed properties belonging to individuals and the authority, if Wikipedia's definition of terrorism which it says "refers to those violent acts which are intended to create fear (terror); are perpetrated for a religious, political or, ideological goal; and deliberately target or disregard the safety of non-combatants (civilians)" is anything to go by, then the Niger Delta militants and Boko Haram sects have committed a crime against the state. Therefore a crime against a state is a crime. In Nigeria, we have had several of such struggles against the state. There were the resistance by the North not to be joined together with the South to form Nigeria, the Aba Women's Riot of 1929, the nationalists' agitations, the Eastern Minorities agitations, the agitation by the Yoruba of Western Nigeria against the imposition of the late Chief S. L. Akintola as the leader of the Yoruba and the Middle-Belt riots against the "perceived neglect and oppressive policies of the ruling Northern Peoples Congress (NPC)..." All these agitations were for the common good and executed without arms.

Frustration-Aggression Theory: How Criminality Pays in Nigeria

Frustration-Aggression Theory: The frustration-aggression theory is based mostly on the relative-deprivation hypothesis which argues that "much terrorist behavior is a response to the frustration of various political, economic, and personal needs or objectives." (Margolin, 1977). Other scholars however have dismissed the frustration-aggression hypothesis as simplistic, based as it is on the erroneous assumption that aggression is always a consequence of frustration. In Nigeria, criminality cannot be totally divulged from frustration-aggression of the some concern citizens, ethnic groups and political interests. Specifically the case of Niger Delta militancy, bombing, pipeline vandalism, kidnerpping and distruction of oil installations is borne out frustration-aggression of the the local authorities. Ileowo (2013) provide insight into the genesis of the rampaging militia into Niger Delta region.

According to Ileowo (2013), High Chief Government Oweizide Ekpumopolo (a.k.a. Tompolo) the Niger Delta militant was born in 1970 into the family of Chief Thomas Osei Ekpumopolo and Mrs. Sologha Ekpumopolo of Okorenkoko in Gbaramatu Kingdom in Warri South-West Local Government Area of present Delta State Nigeria. His militancy career

began in 1997 during the struggle to ‘liberate’ the Ijaws from the dominance of its neighbours — the Itsekiris. General Sani Abacha, the late Nigerian Head of State, had then relocated Warri South Local Government headquarters from Ogbe-Ijoh to Itsekiri’s Ogidiben and, thus, an Ijaw ‘soldier’ was born. After the struggle, he relocated to Oporoza due to threats to his life, and there he started the struggle against the oil majors and the federal government for what he perceived as injustice against ‘their land’— usually the rhetoric for Niger Delta militants.

True to his name, Government Ekpumopolo was an authority of some sort. Traditional rulers, local council men, lawmakers, governors defer to him. He led several ‘successful’ guerrilla attacks against Shell, almost crippling its production capacity in the Niger Delta. The company had no choice but to start paying some sort of ‘security fee’ to the warlord. Tompolo started consulting in security matters for the oil companies, the federal government and the Joint Task Force (JTF) to maintain some level of peace. Things got out of hand after his men beheaded 11 military men comprising of one officer and 10 rank and file men of the Nigerian Army. That incident forced the chairman of the JTF in the Niger Delta, Brig. Gen. Sarkin Yaki Bello, to declare him wanted, dead or alive. When the late President Musa Yar’Adua took the oath of office in May 2007, he promised to bring an end to the Niger Delta insurgency, offering the militants state pardon for all their criminal atrocities. To show the power Tompolo wields, during the visit of then Vice President Goodluck Jonathan to his terrorist headquarters at the notorious Camp 5, he instructed all in the Vice President’s entourage, security details and other officials to stay outside the camp, allowing only Jonathan into his camp. In June 2009 when the implementation of the amnesty programme started, thousands of youths surrendered their arms and ammunition, with a report stating that Tompolo along with 1,500 militants handed in a cache of weapons that included general purpose machine guns (GPMGs), grenades, rocket-propelled grenade ((RPG) launchers, explosives and a large number of assorted weapons. Ilelowo 2003 said that , In what seemed like an opportunity-comes-but-once-so-lets-seize-it-and-settle-the-boys-bigtime-kind-of-contract, the Jonathan administration through Nigerian Maritime Airspace Management Authority (NIMASA) , headed by Ziadeke Akpobolokemi (said to be Tompolo’s candidate for the NIMASA job), awarded a contract worth \$103.4million (N15billion) maritime surveillance contract to Tompolo’s company – Global West Vessel Specialist Ltd (GWVSL) in a concession arrangement to secure Nigerian coastline from Lagos to Calabar. The contract stated that GWVSL will provide security for oil pipelines, repel pirates and oil thieves, guard the nation waterways and also collect levies on behalf of NIMASA. The agency said about N124billion is expected to be generated by GWVSL for the federal government.

In a memo dated November 9, 2011, with reference number PRES/99/MT/61 and entitled ‘Award of Contract For The Strategic Concessioning Partnership With NIMASA To Provide Platforms For Tracking Ships And Cargoes, Enforcing Regulatory Compliance And Surveillance of the entire Nigerian Maritime Domain’, President Jonathan approved the contract and it was rubber-stamped by the Federal Executive Council (FEC) in one of its weekly contract awarding bazaars on January 5, 2012. The contract will run for 10 years, though President Jonathan, through NIMASA, has promised not to renew the contract after the expiration of its present term. But to show how desperate President Jonathan was in securing the contract for his friend and personal confidant – Tompolo, he wrote to the National Assembly, withdrawing an earlier similar proposal submitted by his predecessor which sought to create a coast guard comprising all the security agencies to man the country’s maritime domain. But why shouldn’t he, when NIMASA presently pays Tompolo’s GWVSL N49m weekly for vessel hired by the agency.

We have heard over and over how the Nigerian system rewards honest labour with hardship and award criminal endeavours with the juicy contracts and patronage which only

feather the nest of cronies. Fellow militants who didn't labour (kill) as much as Tompolo were not rewarded as much. We pity men of the Nigerian military who daily sacrifice their lives for nothing. We hope Abubakar Shekau will not be given the same 'heroic' welcome whenever he leads his comrades-at-arms to accept the amnesty proposals of the Jonathan administration. Despite the huge amount being paid to Tompolo, Nigeria's maritime domain has been less secure. Crude oil theft has reached an all-time high, threatening Nigeria's income. Coordinating minister of the economy Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, lamented the alarming rate at which Nigeria's income from oil was being depleted due to oil theft and bunkering. Tompolo's militant colleague, Asari Dokubo, has threatened to destroy Nigeria and match his opponents bullet for bullet, bomb for bomb, and missile for missile if Jonathan is not re-elected in 2015, because only his stay in office will guarantee Tompolo's business which will in turn guarantee continued oil bunkering and theft in the Niger-Delta. Nigeria holds the shameful record of being a favourite hunt of pirates and sea robbers, second only to Somalia, a country that has been racked by decades of civil war. It is absolute madness for a country to entrust the security of its waterways to a militant/warlord. The 43-year-old ex-militant, High Chief Government Owezide Ekpumopolo (a.k.a. Tompolo) on 26th August 2013 received his Bombardier SE60 LearJet. The Jet according to aviation sources cost a whopping sum of \$13.3 million (N2.12 billion). This is the scenarios that continue to play out in favour of his ilk, institutions and systems that perpetually endeavour to make his likes overnight celebrities. A bombardier SE60 costs \$13.3 million (N2.12 billion), which could have been invested in other productive ventures had the contract not been awarded to Tompolo in the first instance. Only a fool employs a man with a history of dubious character (though forgiven) into a position of trust; he will always stay true to who he is.

Therefore, attending to the behaviour of the model is not a problem here, because other citizens including other militants can see what has become of Tompolo's life. It is also certain that these people will remember the criminal activities that they have observed. Someone that did not have any meaningful source of income, was hitherto living from hand to mouth often begin to buy properties, and not just seen driving around in flashy cars, but within a short period after being awarded "lucrative" contract that grant him access to money or influence has graduated to owing a private jet. It is my submission that the Bokoharam have been able to reproduce the observed behavior in the Nigerdelta. It is not difficult to see the motivation in modeling the militancy that have been attended to, retained, and with which these people have an ample capacity to reproduce. Suffice it to say at this juncture that there is the obvious need to take care of the several demands of the immediate and extended family.

There is also the factor of simply aspiring to be like other big shots and generally get societal recognition through the award of traditional titles and other self-aggrandizing projects. But even more fundamental than these factors, we believe, is the basic insecurity from not knowing whether there would be any other opportunity to place one in a situation where worrying about basic problems such as feeding the family or fulfilling other basic obligations would no longer be a problem. The second important issue about observational learning involves the factors that determine whether or not a particular behavior will be modeled. We indicated earlier that one of the key determinants relates to the consequences to the model for engaging in a specific behavior. The question one may ask is: what typically happens to people who engage in militancy/terrorism in Nigeria? The answer is, hardly anything at all. People clearly see militants, not only including, but especially their leaders, without any visible source of income, now living large. It is our argument that a good deal of the prevailing militancy/terrorism is due, at least in part, to the processes of observational learning discussed above, especially regarding the fact that this behavior yields a high modeling rate owing to the absence of punishing consequences to the models. What is the deterrent to this antisocial behavior in Nigeria.

Relating the Theory of Hierarchy of Needs to the Proliferation of terrorism in Nigeria

While speaking at an interdenominational church service to mark 150 years of existence of Nigerian Army, Chief of Army Staff, Lt-General Azubuike Ihejirika, disclosed that he has had sleepless nights since 2010 when he was appointed COAS because of activities of the Boko Haram sect. The United States in 2013 closed 19 embassies in the Middle East and Africa after getting wind of impending Al Qaeda attacks. Many Western countries followed suit. A sitting Senator of the Federal Republic is currently undergoing trial for allegedly funding the group; so is a high court judge. Although the prevalence of terror can be explained in part by observational learning theory and frustration-aggression theory, it is our contention that the concept of hierarchy of needs gives a better account of this proliferation. As with observational learning theory and frustration-aggression theory, a brief description of the concept might be necessary to effectively espouse this connection.

The concept of hierarchy of needs derives from Maslow's (1943, 1970) more general theory of motivation and is based on the assumption that people are persistently motivated by one need or another. When one need is satisfied, it ordinarily loses its motivational power and is replaced by another one. Thus, as long as people's hunger needs are frustrated, they will strive for food, but once they have enough food, they move to other needs such as housing. According to Maslow, basic or lower-level needs must be satisfied at least to some reasonable degree before higher-level needs become motivators. What this means essentially is that needs are arranged on a sort of a ladder, with each ascending step representing a higher need, but one less basic to survival. Lower needs must be satisfied in order for people to strive for higher needs. Thus, a person who holds an office job may be satisfying higher-level needs such as esteem, but if he becomes hungry, will leave his work in search of food. The following are Maslow's needs in order of prepotency (predominance): physiological, safety, love and belongingness, esteem, and self-actualization.

Physiological needs include food, water, oxygen, and so forth. They are the most basic or prepotent of all. People who are truly hungry are motivated to eat, not make friends or gain prestige. People from affluent societies have their hunger needs satisfied as a matter of course, so when they say they are hungry, they are really talking about appetite; a hungry person is unlikely to be fussy about the temperature or texture of food. Physiological needs are different from other needs in at least two important ways. First, they are the only needs that can be completely satisfied. However, they also have the attribute of recurrence. Even when we have had more than enough to eat, we will eventually get hungry and have to eat again. The other needs do not constantly recur. When the physiological needs are fairly satisfied, we become motivated by safety needs, including physical security, law and order, freedom from threats of illness, danger, anxiety, and so forth. Love and belongingness needs are next after safety and include the desire for friendship, the wish for a mate and children, the need to belong to a club, etcetera. Once these are satisfied, people then move to pursue esteem needs, such as confidence, self-respect, and the esteem of others. The final step is the move to self-actualization which Maslow suggests is not an automatic step. In fact, he contends that very few people step over this threshold.

A very essential component of this postulation relates to the fact that even if one attains the upper-level needs, once the lower, more basic needs are deprived, the person ignores the higher needs in order to address the basic one. How does one apply this to the proliferation of terrorism in Nigeria? (Akinfala 2005) argued that until early 80's, most of the basic needs on Maslow's hierarchy were adequately satisfied by a majority of Nigerians. People had enough food to eat, and could fulfill their basic needs. In fact, in the case of a majority of Nigerians then, most of the safety and to some extent, belongingness needs were met. A sizeable proportion of the people were striving for esteem needs. Then, beginning gradually during the waning days of the General Babangida regime, and through the various

structural adjustment programs involving devaluation of the naira, the resultant inflation, massive reduction in the work force, and so forth, the quality of live for most Nigerians has reduced by a quantum leap.

Unfortunately, Nigeria is Africa's most populous country and the 9th most populous country in the world. Nigeria has an estimated population of 160 million, by implication one in every five Africans is a Nigerian. The country is the 6th largest producer of petroleum in the world; it is the 8th largest exporter and has the 10th largest proven reserves. About \$400b of Nigeria's oil revenue cannot be accounted for out of \$900b within the last 2 decades. In spite of the country's vast oil wealth, the majority of Nigerians are poor with 71 per cent of the population living on less than one dollar a day and 92 per cent on less than two dollars a day. But the country still spends billions of dollars on food importation inspite of the very fertile land in the country. Poverty still remains one of the most critical challenges facing the country and population growth rates have meant a steady increase in the number of poor. Life expectancy remains low and is estimated to have decreased from 47 years in 1990 to 44 years in 2005. Corruption is one of the principal challenges in Nigeria, raising the cost and risk of doing business in the country and making the country unattractive to investors

In the Nigeria Economic Report issued by The World Bank in May 2013, the most impoverished state in the country, Jigawa, has a poverty rate of 77.5%. This connotes that out of over 4.3million estimated inhabitants of Jigawa, 3.3million are living below the poverty line of \$1.25 per day. In rudimentary terms, 3 out of every 4 people in Jigawa are poverty-stricken. The northern part of the country is the hardest hit by austerity, as the north-east & north-west zones have over 70% poverty rates. Youths under 35years of age are the bulk of people in those zones living in impecuniosity. Also, considering that poverty and a sense of purposelessness are normally in tandem, these youths unfortunately serve as cannon-fodder for propagandists; and in this case, potential recruits for Boko Haram. In virtually every failed system which faced insurgency, historically speaking, a charismatic leader either put food/material provision in one hand or a gun/weapon in the other. In Nigeria of today, people die because they cannot afford N500 to purchase needed medication or basic public health care. Worse still, people around may not be able to help as they too may not be able to collectively raise that amount of money.

It is a very obvious reality in today's Nigeria! As strange as it may sound, this is going on side-by-side with ostentatious living by the one per cent of the population; illiteracy is also both a product of and driver of poverty. Thus, the greater the level of poverty, the higher the illiteracy rate and of course, more poverty — these dynamically reinforce each other. Accordingly, when a young man is poor, illiterate and unemployed, he becomes a clean slate for any kind of brainwashing which, according to Marx, is more potent when it comes from religion and aided by culture. The reason is very simple. First, this category of persons lacks the intellectual power to logically question or critique what they are told. They live in the world of myths. Secondly, the activity component of the brainwashing given to them provides a quasi-equivalent of employment and thus they feel engaged in acting out what they have been brainwashed about. Is this not the kind of situation we find with the Boko Haram phenomenon? To understand this clearly is to closely examine the coordinates of Boko Haram and that of poverty in Nigeria. Boko Haram at the outset appeared to have had its operational bases located in the poorest parts of Northern Nigeria. It is in such places where people have been denied the opportunity to go to school as well as have meaningful economic sources of livelihood that recruitment is the easiest. Boko Haram leaders are aware of it and of course are maximizing the advantage.

According to Akinfala (2005) Nigeria is the 3rd among 20 countries in the world with the widest gap between the rich and the poor, poverty in Nigeria is undoubtedly the face of the north. The Northern youths as a result of lack of means to satisfy their Physiological needs

become hopeless, frustrated and their energies are driven towards terrorism. Although, poverty and unemployment alone cannot be blamed for terrorism. The environment of poverty can lead people to commit terror. E.g. Living in an areas of concentrated poverty can be a catalyst for futility. It can be a contributing factor of hopelessness and despair. E.g. What do I have to lose? I might as well commit terror. But really, anyone can go into despair. In the midst of high poverty, with more and more people losing jobs and facing financial difficulty, it seems as though the statistics should be predictable. Countries with the most crime tend to be those with the highest rates of poverty and other types of disadvantage. Many other factors such as the general and administrative injustice influence terrorism and are correlated with poverty as well. With people flocking to its recruiting centers by the thousands, Boko Haram faces no shortage of willing soldiers to continue its war of attrition against the Nigerian government. Poverty can lead to high levels of stress that in turn may lead individuals to commit theft, robbery, or other violent acts.

Moreover, poverty may lead to an actual or perceived inferior education, which would cause youth to count on less access to quality schools, jobs, and role models, decreasing the opportunity costs of crime and increasing the probability of youth spending time on the street associating with gangs. Crime offers a way in which impoverished people can obtain material goods that they cannot attain through legitimate means. Often threat or force can help them acquire even more goods, this induces them to commit violent acts such as robbery, which is the second most common violent crime. For many impoverished people, the prize that crime yields may outweigh the risk of being caught, especially given that their opportunity cost is lower than that of a wealthier person. Thus, poverty should increase crime rates. It has led many Nigerians to attach no value and regard to life itself. In addition to the fact that these people can not fulfill their physiological needs, most people who have jobs, do not feel secure about their jobs. Even the most stable of civil service positions have become very unstable. People who successfully worked through the service, retired and were doing well during early retirement are now seriously impoverished. Inflation has grown at rates way beyond the pensions. Therefore, even those not threatened in terms of job security do not find solace in the fact that they will work until they retire. It is the position of this article, that this kind of uncertainty has led to a perceived deprivation of the basic needs and has resulted in the very high rates of militancy that is being witnessed in Nigeria today. And since these needs physiological and safety needs predominate over those of esteem, loss of self-respect is no longer a sufficient deterrent. It is plausible that this factor may be responsible, at least in part, for the current proliferation of terrorism in Nigeria.

Integrating the above theories in the efforts at curbing terrorism

In what way can these approaches be helpful in the efforts to eliminate or at least control the level of terrorism in Nigeria? Presently, those found to have carried arms against the state are granted amnesty e.g. the Niger Delta militants and currently, the Federal Government is also considering offering amnesty to the Boko Haram terrorist. The ex militants are now celebrities all over the country, like Tompolo, Asari Dokubo with private jet and drive around town in flashy cars etc. No terrorist or militant has been jailed so far. As indicated by the principles of observational learning, consequences of an act on a model are key determinants of whether or not a particular behavior will be modeled. When people seen to be glaringly take up arms against the state go unpunished and government turn them to celebrities overnight, then there is no reason for others not to copy their activities. One of the ways of effectively combating terrorism would be to render appropriate punishment for those guilty of this act. However, for punishment to be effective, it has to be uniformly applied to all that are guilty of terrorism/militancy and not limited to people of low status. If punishment is selective, people will likely note the exceptions and find ways to join this exclusive club, and not desist from this criminal behavior. The government of Nigeria must make it clear that

criminality will not in anyway be tolerated in the country and anyone who carries arm against the country will be severely punished by the strong arm of the law. Granting pardon or amnesty whatsoever name giving it, for murderers is tantamount to encourage social vices and criminality, moreover it is potentially dangerous to Nigeria and Nigerians because it is a clarion call to more terrorism in Nigeria, majority of them are willful murderers masquerading as political and religious insurgents who do not respect the basic tenets of humanity and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Providing appropriate punishment for terrorist in and of itself is not sufficient to eliminate terror. The phenomenon of terrorism has multiple causes, and is determined by more than just seeing people go unpunished for engaging in this deviant behavior. The theory of hierarchy of needs has shown that people have needs that range from basic survival needs all the way to esteem and self-actualizing needs. In order for the higher needs to be in place, the lower ones must be satisfied. A person who has no means to feed self and family is not likely to be worried about integrity. No matter how severely others are punished for carrying arms against the state, this is unlikely to serve as a deterrent to a person who cannot fulfill his or her basic obligations of feeding, housing, and the means of getting to work. Most Nigerians today can hardly keep up with these basic needs. To make things worse for those who have jobs the salaries are sometimes not paid for several months at a stretch. Furthermore, the sometimes arbitrary manner in which people are sacked from their jobs is likely to create a high level of insecurity among the citizens. When you combine the above factors with the reality that there are no existing social programs such as unemployment benefits, it is easy to see why this might trigger the survival and safety needs on Maslow's hierarchy. Thus aroused, people will take any step necessary, including militancy and terrorism, to satisfy these needs.

Although, Jonathan government inherited the Boko Haram problem when it came into office in May of 2010. Since taking office, Jonathan has taken several steps to attempt to solve the problem, such as creating a special joint military task force to eliminate Boko Haram, installing numerous closed circuit televisions throughout the Federal Capital Territory where Abuja is located. To this end, his government must engage in building of infrastructures across the country. Creating of jobs across the country by the government and private sectors and the most important of them all is eradicating corruption in Nigeria. These are the panacea to the cancer of terrorism in Nigeria. If there were infrastructures like hospitals, schools, industries and social amenities that the people in the Northern part of the country are directly benefitting from, they will be busy, gainfully employed and there will be no time to carry arms. The youth in the northern Nigeria must be educated through whatever means possible, either Islamic education or western education, jobs must be created for them. If this is done, the youths in northern Nigeria will see another alternative to violence, they will embrace life instead of death. Also, we will advocate that Nigerians must come together and decide the way they should be governed. We need to talk as a people. There is no need for billions of naira to be used in celebration of Nigerian's centenary when the people who you are celebrating are not even together. The unity of Nigeria must be decided. The country must come together to decide whether we all want to stay in this sham, bottled up together by the British, called Nigeria or each zone want to go their own way. People can not be forced to live together, sooner or later rancor will arise and when it does, separation will come. Government regulation of preaching in religious gathering, Enhanced criminal intelligence by the security agencies, Cooperation and intelligence sharing by the different intelligence agencies, Effective implementation of police reform policies reducing the high turn over of the inspector general of police and establishing a legal procedure to elongate or fix a tenure of say five years for them, Enhanced border patrol and regulations of the influx of immigrants or aliens, Put in place good policies to promote effective and efficient leadership, good

governance transparency and a mechanism to check, prevent and totally eliminate corruption, Put in place effective mechanism for conflict mediation and resolution and also an alternative dispute resolution, Enhance the citizen security agencies relationship towards maintenance of Internal Security and stability.

More over , politicians should be careful with their campaigns promises. Looking at the electioneering campaigns of 1998/1999: the number one campaign promise (with ALL parties guilty of the same failed promise) was that Sharia Law will be put in place and enforced in the northern states of Nigeria. We all know what happened at the end of the day: “Political Sharia” was introduced after the elections were won under the banner of the Sharia Law implementation promise. This was to the total consternation of the voters. Their hopes for a better government that will provide the dividends of democracy, through reduction of corrupt practices as would be expected under the Sharia regime, was dashed. They had just been reaped off! It sure would be expected that the people will react! Now is it not an irony that one of the key demands of Boko Haram is the enforcement of Sharia Law in the northern. Given that the current secular laws as enshrined in the 1999 Constitution and the enforcers of the laws are too weak to address institutional corruption, the people of northern Nigeria may have sought solace under Sharia Law – which has strict ways of dealing with ‘theft’ which corruption can be categorized as.

Under Sharia Law, the punishment under the sentences cannot be changed by any Judge as the sentences are already prescribed by God as stated in the Holy Quran. There are no appeals, plea bargains or state pardons . If you commit the crime, you must serve the punishment! This sure will deter corrupt public officers. The solution is straight forward, give to the people what the majority are clamoring for and there will be peace. They are not asking for something new, they are asking for what they paid for with their votes in 1999 and which was stolen by politicians. If there are people from the south (pagans and Christians) who are not comfortable staying in these areas where Sharia Law prevails, they should relocate to the more comfortable states in the south. This is a democracy, so we must respect the wish of the majority. Theft is similar to election rigging and is we sure we will have better elections in northern Nigeria when Sharia Law is fully in place. How dowe will try to re-interpret a clearly stated punishment as contained in the Holy Quran that Judge who will slap a politician on his wrist rather than exerting the full punishment as prescribed in the Holy Quran. The Bible is not permitted in Saudi Arabia and you will not find churches in the country. Let the people vote on their way forward and let there be peace. The British made serious mistakes in the amalgamation of Nigeria. We need not continue to live the foolishness. In the midst of all the militancy, there are communal conflicts that consume thousands of lives and properties worth millions of naira. For some of these conflicts, government had set up committees to investigate the causes and recommend solutions, yet, no solutions! It is the unsatisfactory management of these agitations that remains a source of hate, anger, bitterness and intolerance among the peoples of Nigeria.

Finally , amnesty is no solution if government decide to go ahead to offer amnesty to bokoharam, they will only be setting a bad precedence and sooner or later another militia groups will arise and we will keep going round the circle. Offering amnesty to boko haram will only make militancy attractive and just another way to milk out money from the government. Nigeria has become a country more interested in following shortcuts in solving its problems. It is instructive to note that, this shortcut process will only bring short time solution and a greater problem in the future. Years ago the government of Nigeria offered amnesty"paid money"to militants in the Niger delta as a way of encouraging and stopping them from blowing up oil pipe lines, because their actions were affecting the conomy of this country. Back then, the amnesty program was applauded by many especially those who were feeding fat from the proceeds of the amnesty. The best method in tackling militancy in the

country is not throwing "moneyamnesty" to the militants or agitators, but addressing the root cause of their militancy and agitations, we must understand why people carry arms against a nation. ₦950 billion was allocated for security in the country's 2013 budget, yet it remains insufficient to bankroll the North-Eastern military operations.

Table 1: Nature and frequency of terracks in Nigeria from 2009 to 2014 by date and year

Year	Date & Month	Nature of Attack	Location	Number of people killed	Number of People Injured	Number of People Displaced & Property Destroyed
2004						
2009	26 th July	5 days up-rising	Dutsen-Tanshi Maiduguri	41		Over 30 people
	27 th July	Armed attack	Potiskum DV HQ, Yobe	4		
	29 th July	Armed attack	Potiskum/Damaturu, Yobe	33		Over 160 people
	29 th July	All night armed battle	Railway terminus Maiduguri , Yobe	40		Over 250 people
2010	January	Gun runner battle	Jos	326	183	Over 120 people
	March	Midnight armed attack	Dogo Nahawa, Zot & Ratsat Jos	300	129	Over 90 people
	7 th Sept	Jailbreak	Attack on Prisons in Bauch	5		Freeing 721 Innmates
	6 th Oct.	Assassination	Awana Ngala in Maiduguri	3		
	9 th Oct.	Assassination	Maiduguri	3		
	11 th Oct.	Bombing/Gun attack	Maiduguri Police Station		3	
	24 th Dec.	Bombing/Armed attack	Jos metropolis	80	23	Over 230 people
	28 th Dec.	Assassination	Senior police officer & two others	3		
	28 th Dec.	Bombing/Armed attack	Christmas eve bombing in Maiduguri	38	87	Over 120 people
31 st Dec.	Armed Attack	Abuja Market blast killing many people	168	210	Over 250 people	
	23 rd Jan.	Assination/killings	Boko Haram Murders Deeper Life Pastor & others	4	45	Over 60 people
	29 th Jan.	Assasination/killings	Boko Haram kills ANPP Guber Candidate & other	7	34	
	31 st Jan.	Bombing/Gun attack	Boko Haram & Military in fight to finish in Borno			Over 250 people
	17 th Febr.	Bombing/Gun attack	Boko Haram/Military Bloody clash in Borno	2	23	30 people & 25 houses raised
	12 th Mar.	Assasination/killings	Boko Haram Assassinated Muslem Cleric	5	12	
	27 th Mar.	Assasination/killings	Boko Haram kills ANPP Stalwart & other	2		
	5 th April	Assasination/killings	Boko Haram free for all rampage	2	7	Over 110 people
	22 nd April	Jailbreak	Boko Haram frees prisoners in Yola			14 prisoners freed
	26 th April	Bombing/Gun attack	Bonmbing/Blast	3	14	Over 150 people
	29 th May	Bombing/Gun attack	Boko Haram Bombed Northern Nigeria			

2011	31 st May	Bombing/Gun Attack	Bomb explosion & killings	1	23	
	3 rd June	Bombing/Gun Attack	Bokites Attacked Catholic & Epidemiological center			
	8 th June	Bombing/Gun Attack	Boko Haram Attacked Catholic church in Maiduguri	10	68	23 people & 3 buildings raised
	17 th Jun.	Bombing/Explosion	Boko Haram Hit Police HQR in Abuja	2	20	38 cars & 140 others damaged
	21 st Jun.	Bombing/Explosion	Blast/Explosion in Borno	4		
	26 th June	Bombing/Explosion	Bombing attack on bear garden in maiduguri	25	12	
	27 th Jun.	Bombing/Explosion	Blast/Explosion and Gun attacks in Borno	30	66	75 people & several Houses raised
	28 th Jun.	Bombing/Explosion	Boko Haram Bombed Custom House	3	9	Several cars and 3 buildings raised
	7 th July	Bombing/Explosion	Boko Haram Bombed JTF Patrol Van	3	3	1 car destroyed
	10 th July	Bombing/Explosion	Bombing at the All Christian Fellowship Church in Suleja			
	11 th July	Armed Attack Alert	The University of Maiduguri temporarily closed down			Over 400 people flees Maiduguri
	12 th July	Armed Attack/Killing	Muslim Cleric Liman Bana shot dead by Boko Haram	1	11	
	24 th July	Bombing/Explosion	Explosion Rocks Sheu of Borno's Palace			4 buildings affected
	3 rd August	Bombing/Explosion	Explosion & Blast rocks Borno Soldier			
	5 th August	Bombing/Explosion	Explosion & Blast rocks Borno	2	2	43
	12 th Aug.	Bombing/Explosion	Car Bomb hits Nigeria UN in Abuja			
	15 th Oct.	Bombing & Explosion	Explosion rocks Shinkafi general Onoja's home			3 building damaged
	17 th Oct.	Bombing & Explosion	Gombe Mobile Barracks Blast	4	11	2 buildings affected
	24 th Oct.	Assasination/killings	Boko Haram Gun attack on journalist	1		
	4 th Nov.	Armed Attacks/Killing	Boko Haram attacks Damaturu	63	108	Over 100 people
	11 th Nov.	Assasination/killings	Armed Attack on Police & FRSC stations Borno	2	7	2 cars damaged
	28 th Nov.	Assasination/killings	Armed attacks on churches in Yobe	4		8 churches burnt down
	8 th Dec.	Bombing & Explosion	Explosion rocks Kaduna	7		Several houses & shops raised
	12 th Dec.	Bombing & Explosion	Explosion at football viewing center in Borna	3	14	
	13 th Dec.	Assasination/killings	Armed attacks in Borno	3		
	19 th Dec.	Armed /Gun Attacks	Army & Boko Haram clash in Kano	8		
	20 th Dec.	Bombing & Explosion	Explosion rock Kaduna		3	
	23 rd Dec.	Bomb Blast/Explosion	Multiple explosions & Gun shots in Yobe	5		
	25 th Dec.	Bomb Blast/Explosion	Boko Haram hits Church during Christmas Prayers	65	46	
		Bombing & Explosion	Mandala Church Christmas explosion, Niger State	35	65	4 buildings & 6 cars damaged

	26 th Dec.	Assassination /Killings	Boko Haram Gun attacks SSS office in Yobe	3	5	3 cars raised
		Bombing &Exploision	Boko Haram attacks on Churches in Adamawa			4 churches & 5 building raised
		Bombing &Exploision	Boko Haram Bombers invade churdh in Jos	3	12	2 building damaged
2012	5 th Jan.	Armed Attacks	Boko Haram Gunmen attacks in Jigawa Police St	1		Over 600 Christians displaced
	7 th Jan.	Mass Murder	Boko Haram attacks Christian communities in Gombe	28	46	113 people displaced
	9 th Jan.	Armed Ataacks/Killing	Boko Haram Killings & Assassination in Yobe	6		
	11 th Jan.	Armed Ataacks/Killing	Boko Haram Kills Police in Yobe	5		
	17 th Jan.	Armed Ataacks/Kiling	Boko Haram Kills Police in Gombe	5		
	20 th Jan.	Bombing &Exploision	Boko Haram attaks Kano by blast and exploisions	14	42	
	21 st Jan.	Bombing &Exploision	Bomb exploision rocks Kano	6	20	
	23 rd Jan.	Bombing &Exploision	Bomb exploision in Bauch Church	11	22	4 cars damaged
	31 st Jan.	Armed Attacks	Gun attacks at Police station in Yobe	2		
	3 rd Febr.	Armed Attacks	Boko Haram Kills many in Maiduguri	6	11	
	8 th Febr.	Bombing &Exploision	Boko Haram suicide bombers storm Kaduna Barracks		23	
	16 th Febr.	Jailbreak in Prisons	Boko Haram & jailbreak in central Nigeria	1		119 prisoners freed
	20 th Febr.	Bombing &Exploision	Exploision rocks Suleja church		13	
	21 st Febr.	Gun Fight	Boko Haram Gun fight in Yobe	30	17	5 vehicles damaged
	27 th Febr.	Bombing &Exploision	Suicide bombers attacks Jang's Church			
	8 th Mar.	Gun Fight	Boko haram fighters opens fire at a checkpoint in Kano			
	8 th Mar.	Abduction/Kidne rpping	Boko Haram Killed abducted Brish Engineers	2		
	12 th Mar.	Armed Attacks	Book Haram Kills scores in Jos Church raid	18		
	14 th Mar.	Armed Attacks	Boko haram fighters opens fire at a checkpoint in Kano			
	17 th Mar.	Armed Attacks	Gun attacks in Sounthern Kaduna	10	5	3 buildings & 2 cars raised
	21 st Mar.	Armed attacks	Boko Haram fighters attacks police Staff College in Jos	2		
	9 th April	Exploisions	Easter day bombibg in Kaduna	40	65	13 vehicles, & 6 buildinds
	27 th April	Bombing &Exploision	Boko Haram bombers attacked Media Houses in Abuja			
30 th April	Armed Attacks	BUK attacked by Boko Haram fighters	15	43	9 vehicles damaged	
3 rd June	Armed Attacks/Killing	Book Haram killed Church-goers in Bauchi	15	35		
11 th Jun.	Armed Attacks	Suicide Attacks on Churches in Biu Jos & Borno	12	65	Over 120 people displaced	
17 th Jun.	Mass Murder	Book Haram kills many in a suicide attaks in Jos	130		Over 300 people	

	18 th June.	Mass Murder	Suicide attacks on Churches in Kaduna and Zaria	40	110	Over 90 people displaced
	8 th July	Armed Attacks	Bokites Gunmen suicide attacks in Barakin-Ladi	34	55	Over 60 people displaced
	26 th July	Armed Attacks	Boko Haram attacked Gum Arabic Factory in Bayan	5	12	
	7 th Aug.	Armed Attacks	Gunmen Murders several in Okene, Kogi	25	34	Over 40 people displaced
	8 th Aug.	Armed Attacks	Boko Haram fighters killed Soldiers in Bauch	3	6	
	18 th Sept.	Mass Murder	Book Haram Murder entire family member in North	4		
	24 th Sept.	Suicide Attacks	Suicide bombers attacked Bauch church	3		
	3 rd Oct.	Midnight Suicide Attacks	Book Haram attack Mubi town killing scores	46	150	Over 350 people
	29 th Oct.	Suicide Attacks	Suicide bomber hit Church during Holy Communion			
	27 th Nov.	Armed Attacks	Gunmen attacked Abuja Police Detention Facility	40	39	Stampeed
2013	20 th Febr.	Abduction/Kidnaping	Boko Haram abducted seven French Tourist in Cameroon			
	25 th Febr.	Armed Attacks	Gunmen Killed several in Kaduna	11	9	Raised shops and buildings
	26 th Febr.	Abduction/Kidnaping	Boko Haram releases video of kidnapped French family			
	4 th Mar.	Suicide Attacks	Boko Haram attacked Military base	20		5 building raised
	13 th Mar.	Suicide Attacks	Boko Haram fighters stormed Kano School	13	55	
	19 th Mar.	Bombing &Explosion	Bomb blast and explosion at Motor Part in Kano	30	65	Not less than 50
	12 th April	Terror Attacks	Boko Haram & JTF clash in Kano	9	12	
	24 th April	Mass Murder	Massacre at Baga Borno state	105	210	Over 150 people lost their homes
	26 th April	Terror Attacks	Boko Haram terror attack in Yobe	25	38	Over 90 people
	8 th May	Jailbreak	Boko Haram Attacked Army barrack in Bama, Yobe	55	45	Over 105 inmates freed
	14 th May	Abduction/Kidnaping	Boko Haram abducts women & children	55	67	Over 65 people
	20 th May	Terror Attacks	Mass/exodus of men & women to Niger from Borno			Over 2,000 flee Borno to Niger
	6 th July	Armed Attack	Boko Haram attack school in Yobe killed many students	42	55	
	19 th sept.	Terror Attacks	Boko Haram attack in Borno State	142		
	29 th Sept	Armed Attack	Boko Haram attack College of Agric. in Gujba Killed many	40		
2014	14 th Jan.	Bombing/Explosion	Boko Haram Bombed Maiduguri, Borno killed many	31	50	
	16 th febr.	Mass Murder	Izghe massacre by Boko Haram terrorists	105		
	24 th Febr.	Mass Murder	Mass murder of College student in Yobe	43		
	27 th Febr	Armed Attack	Boko Haram raid village in Borno	74	54	Over 200 displaced, 34 buildings raised
	2 th Mar	Bombing/Explosion	Boko haram bomb Maiduguri, raid village	300	250	Over 350 displaced, 45 buildinds raised

Table 1 shows the chronicles of reported cases of terror attacks from 2009 to 2013 in Nigeria. A closer look at the the nature of attacks clearly revealed four things (1) seven different methods of attacks employed, (2) development of sophistication of methods and apparatus or technology employed, (3) the relative increase in the spathe of attack, and (4) the success rate in terms of casualties recorded. As presented in Table 2 below, six different methods were employed with different degree of success in terms of casualties.

Table 2: Types of Terror Attacks and Frequency Distribution 2009-2012

Types of Assaults/Attacks	Frequency	% age
Armed Attacks	23	21.2
Bombing & Explosions	39	36.1
Midnight /Terror Attacks	8	7.4
Mass Murder/Suicide Raid	12	11.1
Assassination/Murder/Beheading	15	13.8
Abduction/Kidnapping	7	7.5
Jailbreaks	4	3.7
Total	108 attacks	100%

Table 2 presents the analysis of the nature and type of attack logic of Boko haram, the frequency in percentage occurrence. From the table, it is very obvious that Book haram uses more of Bombing and exploision/blast to reck terror and havocs. This method represents 35.8% of the various methods being deployed so far. This method is followed closely by armed attacks/gun ruuner and killings representing 20.7% of times. Assassination/Murder/beheading was employed 14.2% of times. Abduction and kidnapping occurred 6.7% ot times. Mass murder/Suicide raid was deployed in about 11.3% of times, while Jailbreak was the least method employed; it represents only 3.8% of times.

In order to examine the number of terror attacks and fatalities, frequencies of occurrences were computed and presented in the table 2 below.

Table 3: Number of Reported Terror Attacks in Frequencies and Fatality

Years In Retrospect	Nos Of reported Armed Attacks (In Frequencies)	Number of people Reportedly killed (Estimated in hundredth)	Number of People reportedly Injured (Estimated in hundredth)	Number of People Displaced (Estimated in hundredth)	Number of Properties Destroyed (Estimated in hundredth)
2009	4	Not less than 444	Over 167	Over 321	Not less than 15 buildings
2010	10	Not less than 600	Over 356	Over 459	Not less than 30 building raised
2011	43	Not less than 481	Over 273	Over 150	Over 50 building Over 12 Churches Over 43 cars
2012	37	Not lee than 559	Over 519	Over 423	Over 26 cars
2013	15	Over 511	Over 708	Over 3,080	Over 99 buildings & 10 cars raised

2014	5	Over 563			
	88 Attacks	Over 3,118 deaths	Over 2,793 Injured	Over 9,305 Displaced	

Table 3 above presents the incidence of terracks attacks in Nigeria from 2009 to 2013 as captured by media reports. It shows clearly that Nigeria witnessed 88 widely reported major attacks that claimed close to 3000 lives, injured over 2000 people and displace several thousands (over 9,000) of people from their homes. The number of attacks increases with years from 4 major attacks in 2009 to 10 attacks in 2010. In 2011 the number of attacks increased to 43, and thereafter to 37 in 2012, 15 deadly attacks in 2013 and 5 attacks in 2014 (as at February records). It is important to note also that as the number attacks increases so is the methods and fatality and the casualties that follow such attacks. The number of deaths and injured as well as displaced people continue to cascade with time. This figures is very instructive to note that if this is representing only the reported cases then the figures is expected to more threatening if the correct picture of attacks are rightly captured.

Conclusion

A case has been made that terrorism is a serious impediment to sustainable development, especially in developing and third world countries, and that it is not only prevalent in Nigeria, but has proliferated over the past few years. Two psychological theories have been put forth, Bandura's observation learning theory and Maslow's theory of hierarchy of needs to explain why terrorism took hold in Nigeria and its current proliferation. The main position of this article is that a poor record of punishing those that have carried arms against the state may have led to other people emulating the terrorist activities of others. Furthermore, the increasingly worsening economic situation has led to a corresponding decrease in the standard of living of most Nigerians. This situation, coupled with the increased uncertainty about jobs and anxiety in many people about their ability to fend for self and family, may have contributed to the present escalation of terrorism in Nigeria. It is recommended that in addition to other measures being taken to reduce terrorism, the leadership must demonstrate the willingness to track and punish terrorist and create a conducive economic climate that would raise the standard of living of the citizenry. The judiciary must be fortified and anti-terrorist laws must be made and implemented to send a strong message to terrorist that Nigeria is no longer a safe haven for their operations.

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