



SECURITY STRATEGY: PANACEA TO INSURGENCY IN NIGERIA TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

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Abstract

Thrust of this paper is to x-ray the security strategy/measure which could be used to control unpalatable situation in Tertiary Institution in Nigeria highlighting security strategy as a panacea to insecurity in Nigeria Tertiary Institutions. It was found and concluded that many tertiary institutions have been responding to have positively to insecurity challenges in their respective schools that lead to closures of other tertiary institutions but some Polytechnic continue to enjoy good performance through the entrepreneurial leader of the institution that purchased, maintained and sustained the security in the light of dwindling resources, and this made the institution to had achieved greatly. It was recommended that government should reabsorb security staff back as staff of Tertiary institution as it was hitherto reformed of 2006. That Security Fund should be created which staff and students should pay into the account for more security acquisition on campuses.

Keyword: Peace; Bad- governance; Insecurity; Strategy; Institution; Entrepreneurial leader

1. INTRODUCTION

There is absence of peace globally This is attested to through failures recorded in governance in the world over. Nigeria is of no exception, confronted with myriads of crisis which insecurity is one the problems . The security challenges such as insurgence, baditary, kidnapping, bombing, arsons and Wanton destruction are the order of the day on life and property. The country had to contain the Boko Haram menace, Herdsmen brouhaha in the North, Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) East Nigeria, Niger Delta Avengers, communal clashes of various types in all parts of the country amidst of depression which make people became poorer (Rufus, Eyo, 2017). The Nigerian economy has affected educational systems through various programme of FG as sectoral reforms which lead to abolition of certain cadre workforce in the Federal Tertiary institutions in the country in 2007 and replacement of such with contract staff to reduce wastages, hence contracting out security personnel in the educational institution.

Tertiary institution policing became normal but abnormal in the course of looking for peace on campuses, which usually lead to student-paramilitary clashes, uproars and death among students. Seagrave (1999). The policing of education to most complex issues that insecurity differs



greatly from institution to institutions world over. There is positive association between security and development and between insecurity and underdevelopment or non-development. Security or insecurity impinges on all facets of human development, governance, social amenities development, transportation, Education, Investment and Trade (Charles-Zalako, et al, 2019).

The mishandling of campus security usually have major effects on the community extensive liability and civil damage case which may be taken against institution (Segrave, 1999). Institution been sued for cultists attack, on students rape against staff and so on which had long-term effect through adverse publicity. The sectoral reforms lead to contractual or casualization of security workforce which salary paid to these security personnel are grossly not sufficient, hence demotivation on the security personnel in the education system, especially the government institutions.

The infrastructural facilities problem as irregular supply of electricity to power gadgets are also sources of insecurity on campus, maintaining generating set is expensive tasks on the authority of institutions interrupted 24/7 in the light of dwindle resources from the government as well as incapacity of the authority to increase school fees as one of the sources of IGR to finance these burdens which usually lead to students unrest and crisis on campuses. Hence, ability to pay for security became issues. Educational organizations were highly susceptible and more taken as soft targets for hits, hence, the heights of the attacks on schools necessitated the withdrawal of children, wards, pupils and students from all schools then resulted to de-schooling.

The attack and kidnapping on tertiary institution exacerbated the closure of almost all schools in the Nigeria, mostly the North and at South part of Nigeria. The fundamental goal of an academic organization is to provide to all stakeholders a conducive environment for learning and research. If the community is unsafe or seen to be unsecured these goals will not be attained (Segrave 1999). Charles-Zalako et al (2019) conducted research on Proactive Strategies for Enhancing Educational Development. The research work was based on review it was concluded that proactive priority on security in our educational institutions at all levels will engender equality and purposeful school system. It was recommended that prioritization of security for school system.

Ekpoh, et al, Ukpong (2020) carried out research on security challenges in universities: Implications for safe school Environment using population of 650 and sample size of 325 of security personnel using survey method. The data were analyzed using Alpha Beta using independent t- test. The results indicated that cult activities, kidnapping, drug abuse, illegal possession of fire arms by students restiveness, stealing and pilfering. It was conducted that poor funding and porous institution environment and recommended that the security units should be funded and equipped well. Therefore, limited research have been conducted on security strategy amidst of insurgency in tertiary institution Nigeria. This research work is anchored on two theories which are relevant to the present study, these are: Relative Deprivation theory and social contract theory.

Security

Security is noted to be all encompassing activities, precautions and personnel geared toward safety to lives and properties. It gives a peaceful pre-requisites for people and government to pursue their lawful under takings without fear, threats or hindrances (Gambo & Abiodun, 2021)



Strategy is the overall plan for deploying resources to establish a favourable position; whereas tactics are concerned with the maneuvers necessary to win battles, strategy is concerned with winning the war (Grant, 2003). Security Military strategy: This involve both offensive and defensive measures relative to strength and capabilities, advantages of outflanking over frontal assault, the task of gradual reactions to aggressive escalation, and attritions (Grant, 2003).

Security Programmes: These are series of measures created to protect against losses to an organization and combinations of measures or scheme, programme designed to meet specific needs of institution for prevention, protection, control, detection, Enforcement, investigation administration; Emergency service, Public service activities (Akinade, 2007).

Objectives of Security

Phenson, (2014) as cited in Gambo and Adebajo (2012) listed objective and principle as the critical elements of security as:

- i) Security ensures the protection of lives and property of individual and state.
- ii) To give tranquility and serene environment for citizen, association, all and sundry to go about their legitimate undertakings.
- iii) To establish parameter and opportunity for evaluation and timely neutralization of threats and cover such threats to legal treatment.
- iv) Security found a blockage and creates walls of defense and state and people.
- v) It builds hope of safety, promote peace and order and ensures safe working and residential environment; as well as prevention of stability.

Principle of Security include modes of operation, rules, principle which include according to Gambo and Adebajo (2021). Security intelligence: Threat Assessment; objectives and aims; planning; command and control; security liaison and containment.

2. Critical Elements of Security

Essentials or critical elements of security are those important factors that assist in effective security management. These include adequate security structures and function in society that includes Human, Material and Technical element. (Gambo & Adebajo, 2021).

Types of Security

- (i) **National Security:** This is explained to be requirement to maintain the survival of the nation-state through the use of economic, military, political power and exhibition Diplomacy.
- (ii) **Social Security:** Refer to intended government effort to reduce risk that could occur as a result of death of wage earner to the family which may be inform of social insurance.
- (iii) **Personal Security:** This is an individualized safe-guard his immediate environment, property or life.



Insurgency, Insecurity and Tertiary Institutions

Insurgency is action of person(s) or groups of people that block or disrupt the development and growth of a country by constituting a threat and act aggressively to other members of the society. (Gambo & Adebajo, 2021). There are five elements that typically involve in insurgency.

1. Cell-networks that keep secrets.
2. Use of terrorism to destroy security among population and often by undermining the state.
3. Attacks on government installations, office and institutions
4. Multifaceted attempts to cultivate supports in general population, often undermining by the government.

Historically, Nigeria has gamut record of religious crises especially in Northern Nigeria with religious sects that speaks a lot of riots. The JamaatulAhl-As-Sunna Li-D'awatiWal-Jihad (Boko Haram) existed since 2001 but became insurgent group in 2009. (Gambo&Adebajo, 2021).

Northern Nigeria Educational institutions, firstly experienced insurgency that ravaged the area. Records reveals that insurgency in schools in Yobe, Borno and Adamawa has led to the Wanton destructions of over 1,500 schools and the deaths of about 2,295 students and dislodgements of 19,000 teachers from school. The spate of security challenges are Boko-haram insurgency, kidnapping for ransom, Banditry cultism, drugs and substance abuse have impacted to real threat to all educational organization in Nigeria. Sulamon (2021) security challenges in Nigeria had side effect on government; student; teachers; and parents alike. As the economy of parents has been effected as a result of banditry and kidnapping. The government revenue collapsed as a result. Closure of schools, business outfit thereby became hard for government to take care of her citizenry. Hence business closures and widened-up of business premises in the light in challenges. By posed by insurgency and insecurity in the country.

Security is a public good. Besides, security is not free in modern days in any set-up, it should be bought, maintained and sustained. Security is everybody business especially in educational institutions Akinade (2007). Crime prevention is everyone business that should be supported from all stakeholders for effective security of live on campus to happen. The performance of tertiary institution has greatly been affected as a results, myriads of attacks on campuses which manifests as: Absence of lecturer(s) seeking sabbatical and collaborative research work with their partners in heavily attacked institutions located in the area where insurgency had attacked in the past. Many lecturers could not go for conferences around those insecurity classified area been recorded, hence low-performance.

Many institutions that been attacked were closed down for lecturers research work and other academic activities around such institutions. Hence, other ancillary and supportive business activities also usually closed down thereby increase low sales and poverty increases among the dwellers around such institution who would not buy and sell nor cultivate on farms. These are concerted crime prevention, proactive measures designed to eliminate or minimize criminal opportunities before performance of crime actually happens. The insecurity on campuses are not the same and they do not occur and manifests in the same ways due to different geographical locations of campus and the ownership of such Institutions. Akinade (2007) there are measures and strategies that could be used by security personal to prevent crime through doing something that could removes opportunity completely, making the criminal's action as hard as possible to perpetuate, happen or attempted by the perpetrators.



The Security Strategy/Measures in Tertiary Institution

Surveillance Strategy

Surveillance is a measure of protecting individual, organization members and property through obtaining of information informally either by electronic gadgets mounted. The most powerful measure of surveillance is wiretapping and bugging which usually use legitimately and by criminal to obtain information which members of public may not aware (Akinade, 2007). Physical surveillance is in form of patrol and motorized movement at some designated areas in/ out of campus, even in some locations outside, closed town where and institution is located.

Collaborative Measures

This is a measure put in place as a concerted joint effort of tertiary institutions security personnel and other security agents in combating crime. There are always presence of these security agents on campus to give helping hands to tertiary institutions internal security. Use of outside local vigilante service of the local community hunters and payments of fees as a motivation and assistant in finance to these security agencies will go a long way in responding tertiary institution attacks from outside as well repeal of such attacks. Besides, every events in the institution these security agents are usually on ground to assist in solutions to combating crime.

Use of Community Development meetings

The authority/ management usually hold meetings with landlords of all house(s) that students resides to discuss on security issue(s) which may like have negative impact on the host town and institution campus.

Use Armed Security Guard and Patrol Guard on Campus

The authority do make use Armed security personnel/guard with full supports in case of crises to dispel attack from outside while the internal attack do promptly attended to without fear or nor favours. There are local hunter recruited but trained by police and Nigeria army under collaborative arrangement to guide against attack on campus.

Motorized Patrol Intelligence Model

The authority of the Tertiary Institution should used motorized intelligence because of the locations of the school to source information from all radii of the institution location especially towns, garages and every locations should be under surveillance. This is the best instead of relying on after the event measures. Intelligent personnels are on roads to gather information about purported, plans in relations to security breaches against staff, students and town people in the location of the Institution Campus.

Security Strategy and Tertiary Institution Performance

The management of this institution after Federal Government reforms of 2007 employed or re-absorbed the able body and young and fit security personnel under the institution Consultancy that handle the payment of salary instead of relying on contract security from outside private company. The security personnel should comprises of special squads which their duties is police-oriented that are capable of crime control and maintenance operations in and out of the institutions' campus. Moreover, the second group is security should be guard-oriented group which are capable of preventing minor theft case among student, routine patrol of that are schemed or revolved round



security hazard (unlocked doors, theft of property prevention, investigation into minor campus theft). The campus can be divided into manageable coverages that are manned by different persons and heads with both of two types of security personnel; policy-oriented and security oriented guards that they work closely with each other in solving problem but reporting to their heads and all unit heads report differently to officer-in-charge of campus security who is not the CSO. The surveillance group who are not known to the Institution members but they work around institution and town to reduce students' related crimes. Institutions arranged training for these security personnel in institutional efforts to attract and retain these security personnel.

Motivational Scheme

Most these security personnel despite on contract should be given free medical consultations from institution medical outfit. Besides, all vigilante members are also given the privilege to use medical outfit without consultation fees,

Loan & Advances Schemes

All these security personnel granted opportunity to obtain loan from institution microfinance for their personal finances.

Annual Awards

Annual best security officers award are given to deserving nominated member with one motorcycle each to security personnel of 3 in number who won the awards annually. The Institutions recorded zero level of cult activities and rape activities because the place is not a hiding place for their activities, the scrupulous activities, the students would be caught. Since all these could not happen in the institution, the school has been recording high performance in terms of academic calendars not disruption nor cancelled since many years back. Similarly, the school and town should closely collaborate against anything that can cause breakdown of laws and orders which can cause problems are settled promptly.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Polytechnics have been sustaining its security strategy that has assisted the institution to have been recording higher performance compared to many institutions around south west, Nigeria because the school have recorded low crises as a result of security problem specially against area of cultist repellants on students, staff and community at large. This has enabled the institution to have smooth academic calendars over the years.

The CEO of Tertiary institution should devised individualized institution strategy in combating insecurity that pervades institutions of higher learnings in Nigeria.

Security which has negative impact on learning research and service delivery. The CEO of institutions of higher learning at which needed to be funded fully to prevent breach security which has negative impact on learning research and service delivery. The CEO of institutions of higher learning create atmosphere of to prevent breach of security, which would also not allow compromise of security among security staff of each institution.

The CEO of each institution should institute security fund among staff of each institution where certain amount "token Naira" should be levied annually on staff, student of each institution to argument security expense undertaken by each institution.

Each CEO should also ready to spend part of their own security votes for sustainability of security on their campus for efficient functioning of system should be paid "Honourarium"



monthly to motivate them, so that in case of eventualities, these security agents can join tertiary institution guard in combatting security emergency.

FG should change the reform decision of 2006 and start to reemployed security back on campus, because most of institutions have contracted out their security outfits to private organization which these institutions do not have control on the security personnel posted into their institutions that lacks local or Institution specific requirement.

Sales of alcohol should be banned in higher institution campus to students and where staff club exist only censored members should be allowed into the staff club.

Employment local Vigilante service should be adopted to fight crime on campus(es) should be undertaken in conjunction with internal security.

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