International Terrorism and Its Implications for National Security in Nigeria

Muhammad Bello PhD

Department of Political Science
Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State Nigeria
muhammadsbell1965@gmail.com

Sadiq A. Abdullahi Ed.D.

Faculty of Education
Federal University, Gombe State, Nigeria
aabdul01@yahoo.com

Hussaini Tukur Hassan PhD.

Department of public Administration
Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nigeria
hthassan2004@yahoo.com

Abstract: *Since the September 11, 2001 terror attacks on the United States, international terrorism has taken a new dimension, signaling a turning point in both tactical and strategic security responses to national and international terrorism. In Nigeria, Boko Haram has unleashed havoc in the north and the Niger Delta militant groups in the south have posed serious security challenges to Nigeria government. This paper examines the impact of international terrorism and the challenges to Nigeria's national security. It looks at the growth of cross-national terrorist groups with links to international terrorist organizations providing military training, funding, and political influence. The paper explores the following questions: What are the causes of international terrorism? What measures should be adopted to combat contemporary terrorism? What strategies should Nigeria adopt in response to the new form of terrorism? Information for the study was collected from primary and secondary sources through the use of the documentary research method. The literatures were critically analyzed using the descriptive approach leading to logical deductions. The study revealed that international terrorism poses a greater threat to national security and national development in Nigeria. It recommends Human Capital Development policies to boost national security; while dialogue and enlightenment should be pursued to mitigate terrorism implications.*

Keywords: *National security, terrorism, terror, warfare, international education.*

1. Introduction

The attack of the New York twin towers on September 11, 2001 in the United States by al-Qaeda is the deadliest in the modern era of international terrorism, which began in 1968 (Hoffman, 2009). Tactical, organizational, and strategic national security discourse has shifted from traditional warfare to contemporary and complicated warfare. The modern trend of terrorism is toward loosely organized, self-financed international networks of terrorist groups with religious or ideological undertone. Radical religious groups are adopting religion as a pretext to pose threats to nations around the world. Since the inauguration of a new president in Nigeria on May 29, 2015, the nation has committed itself to fight terrorism working with regional and international agencies and governments. The regional and international security pacts signed recently offer hope to ending the insurgencies in Nigeria. The African Union, the United States, and the European Union have pledged support to Nigeria and other African nations in the fight against terrorism. This is good news, but let examine the root causes of terrorism and ways to fight it in Nigeria.

2. The Nigerian State

Nigeria is a multi-ethnic and ethno-religious nation with an estimated population of 170 million people, (Nigeria National Population Commission 2010).The ethnic, religious, political and socio-cultural tension continues to pose an intractable violence between the different groups vying for economic and political power. With the emergence of the Niger Delta Militant groups in the late 1980s and the evolution of Boko Haram sect in 2003, there has been a steady decline in the standard of living and in social cohesion in the country due to corruption and bad leadership. With the appearance of Boko Haram, whose name roughly translates as "Western education is forbidden" in

©ARC

local Hausa dialect, the tactics has transformed into a new kind of warfare. The sect has carried out attacks on security agents, government installations, media houses, mosques and churches. This action clearly show element of extremism in its agenda aggravated by economic realities and communally ethno religious polarities (Alao, 2012). The tactics and strategies adopted by Boko Haram is an indicator of its likely connection with international terrorist network such as Al-Qaeda, Al-Shabaab, and Islamic State (ISIS), to which Boko Haram professes nominal allegiance. The use of explosive device and suicide bombing which are alien to Nigeria are pointer to this transformation.

The problem of ethnicity and religion has become apparent over political and economic control of political positions and resources and these have a negative effect on national peace and security. Bad governance and failure of leadership in the nation has also affected the citizen's disposition toward total patriotism (Ukpabi, 1986). The lack of patriotism is further enhanced by lashing up ethnic and religious sentiments amongst civil populace, workers, and students by politicians, elite, and religious leaders to achieve their selfish ends.

To support our argument, many organizations in the past have used terrorism as a revolutionary weapon to fight oppressive governments. The Shining Path of Peru, a Marxist revolutionary outfit is a typical example that has killed thousands of people, costing Peru billions of dollars on security measures, repairs of damaged infrastructure and economic losses (Nwolise, 2005). Other organizations that use terrorist tactics to fight oppression include the Sikh Separatists of Punjab in India, Tamil Liberation Front in Sri-Lanka, the Basque in Spain and the Palestinian Liberation Organization. While Al-Qaeda has attacked Americans in Saudi Arabia several times since the late 1990s to force what they called 'infidels' out of the Holy Land of Islam. The current development in Palestine is a kind of revolutionary violence in an asymmetric warfare situation with the use of terrorist tactics. Arafat (1985) posited that: 'the struggle for Palestine liberation what ensure victory is not the arms but faith, will, self-sacrifices, justness of their cause, sincerity of the fighters and above all their confidence in a victory".

3. Historical Context of Terrorism

Since the creation of the state of Israeli in 1948, the Middle East has been the world hotbed of terrorism, with numerous terrorist operations recorded (Ward Law, 1982). By the 1960s, several terrorist organizations had emerged across the globe. These include: the Shining Path in Peru (1960), the Red Brigade in Italy (1969), the Irish Republican Army (1969), the Al Qaeda in Afghanistan (1980) and Boko Haram in Nigeria (2003). All these terrorist organizations exist and operate globally.

4. Theoretical and Conceptual Framework

There are many theories on international terrorism. The theory of Social Darwinism, which emerged in the international system during the Second World War (1939-1945) due to Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler's acts to justify terrorism, provides the foundation for our discussion. In this concept, the nation state is in constant stage of evolution and development through competition and anarchy. War plays the role of passing the reign of authority from the weak to the strong. The submission of Hitler in 1939 is very crucial in the explanation of terror when he posited that "Nature knows no political boundaries... first she puts living creatures on the earth and watches the free play of forces. She then confers the master's rights on her favorite child, the strongest". This perspective on the nature of war or violence reflects the basic orientation of contemporary international relations analysis. The basic difference between domestic and international politics is manifested in the fact that while peace is the rule in domestic politics, war is the distinguishing feature of international relations. The state of war is the direct result and the unavoidable consequence of lack of community, consensus, and monopoly of means of violence in the world at large. Thus, war and the expectation of war, and the diplomatic and strategic behaviors of leaders and nations are the consequence upon which theorists of international relations have based their analysis.

The Philosophy of Darwinism extols conflict, political violence and war as a tool of political development and natural evolution. Although, this may only apply mainly to nation states, terrorism is not a game played by only state actors. It is seen more as an instrument of the weak against the strong. Hence, military theorists perceive terrorism as an asymmetric warfare. Another theory advanced by cognitive and behaviorist psychology Sigmund (1923) *the Frustration Aggression Theory* aided by revolutionary theory of conflict as propounded by David Chalmers in 1943. He offered some explanations for our understanding of terrorism. Revolution, seen as systematic tactics of terrorist

violence, is aimed at bringing about a change in a political system, has long been identified as a justifiable and internationally acceptable action for the termination of prolonged totalitarian, repressive government or unbearable oppressive socio-economic political system. Revolutionaries often apply terrorist tactics because terrorism is the weapon of the weak. The strong and wealthy oppressor can amass troops and military hardware at great financial expense, the weak and poor oppressed do not require much resource to effect kidnapping, assassination, hijacking, sabotaging or suicide bombing. (Edwin, 1976), writing on political violence, believes that violence is termed "political" when it is used in defense of a political order or is directed against it. He further observes that political violence is 'either, revolutionary or reactionary depending on whether it is used in furtherance of the drive for progressive social change or is used in defense of or the restoration of decadent social order.

Sigmund Freud provides a psychological perspective into the mind of terrorists. He believes that frustration and hopelessness are sources of terror and frustration that propels aggression. His *Theory of Frustration Aggression* helps to explain the aggressive behavior manifestation of terrorist acts. He further states that man has an instinctive desire to destroy himself when frustrated. But since the ego in him does not always allow self-destruction, the destructive instinct is turned against others in a process of displaced or transferred aggression. Hence, the frustration aggression theory holds that aggression is always the consequence of frustration and that the occurrence of aggressive behavior always presupposes the existence of frustration. Thus frustration is the product of relative deprivation of an expectation that creates a gap between aspiration and achievement. Freud's paradigm helps to conceptualize and understand contemporary terrorism. Acts such as suicide bombing, hijacking and assassination of school children carried out by terrorists hinges on action that can only be explained in the light of the *Frustration Aggression Theory*. The study relies on this theory in its analysis.

Boaz Mutungi, an expert in international terrorism, in 2007conceptualizes terrorism to mean the intentional use of or threat to use violence against civilian or civilian targets in order to attain political aims. This is based on three fundamental elements. The first centered on the use of violence. The belief that activity that does not involves violence or threat of violence shall not be defined as terrorism including (nonviolent protest, strikes, peaceful demonstration, tax revolts, etc.). The second reason is that the aim of the activity is always political; to change a regime, changing social or economic policies to attain a political goal. In the absence of political aim, the activity in question will not be defined as terrorism. A violent activity against civilian that has no political aim is at most an act of criminal delinquency, a felony or simply an act of insanity that is unrelated to terrorism.

Some scholars in field of international relations have added ideological and religious aims to the list of political and economic aims of terrorism (Adesoji, 2010 &Nwolise, 2007). One of the advantages of a political aim is that it shifts from the narrow definition of terrorism to a broad definition to include individual and group motivation, ideological, and religious motivation. (Stohl, 1988) posits that motives are entirely irrelevant to the concept of political terrorism. To him, most analysts fail to recognize this and, therefore, tend to discuss certain motives as logical or necessary aspects of terrorism but they are not, at best, they are empirical regularities associated with terrorism, most often they simply confuse analysis. The third aspect is that the targets of terrorism are civilians. Terrorism is thus distinguished from other types of political violence (guerrilla warfare, civil insurrection). Terrorism exploits the relative vulnerability of civilian targets, the tremendous anxiety and the intense media reaction evoked by attacks against civilian targets.

The preceding definitions suggest that terrorism is not the result of an accidental injury inflicted on a civilian or a group of civilians but stresses that this is an act purposely directed against civilians. Hence, the term terrorism should not be ascribed to collateral damage to civilians or to cover military activity, if such damage incurred in an attack originally aimed against military target. Terrorism can therefore be defined as the calculated use of violence to inculcate fear, to intimidate governments in the pursuit of political, religious, or ideological goals (September 11, 2001 Commission Report). Terrorist attacks are characterized with indiscriminate disregard for human life, and widely considered as a violation of contemporary traditions in conventional warfare. Terrorists do not adhere to rules and traditions and thus are considered to be 'rogue actors' lacking any centralized coordination for the attacks, political goals or consensus to act.

5. National Security

Wikipedia (2015) defines 'national security as the policy enacted by government to ensure the survival and safety of the nation state, including but not limited to the exercise of diplomatic and military power in both peace and war'. National Security involves the measures taken by state actors to safeguard the nation from real or potential threats. It is that aspect of government policy which create enabling atmosphere necessary for the protection and promotion of vital national interest and values against known or potential enemies. Consequently National security should be concerned with both domestic and foreign interests of a state (Trager & Simonies, 1973).

Security is commonly used to mean safety from danger and protection from internal, external attack or infiltration. This usage is tied on the apron string of defense and security forces. The cold war era gave the highest currency to the conventional security doctrine that rested on the assumption that only a strong military can effectively deter attacks and threats of force (Chris, 1997). On the contrary, John (1991) conceives security in terms of arms, armament and military personnel. He posits that security is the 'relative freedom from harmful threat'. In the post-cold war period, the concept of security has attracted a new thinking by contemporary scholars who condemned the militaristic thought of security insisting on the concepts of rehabilitation, transformation and expansion. (Booth, 1991) observed that 'one of the themes of new thinking is the idea that security policy should have political accommodation as a primary aim, the adverse effects of identifying security almost exclusively with military strength was evident throughout the cold war. This approach can be described as strategic reductionism that thinks of security in a technical and mechanistic military way. The new thinking incorporates non-military variables in national security calculus. For many of the four billion inhabitants in the developing countries, security is conceived as the basic level of the struggle for survival. Hence, security as a concept should be applied in its broadest sense to include economic security, food security, social security, environmental security, the quality of life security and technological security. The issues being raised by the contending views is that national security of any nation should as a matter of necessity go beyond mere amassment of military/police armaments, personnel and equipment; what Imobighe (1978) refers to as "pax armament" and stretched to cover the satisfaction of human needs. Thus contemporary national security thinkers and planners have gone beyond the confines of the military to incorporate non- military variables like food availability, high level of production and per capital income and employment generation.

National, regional, and global security issues are interrelated concepts. National security is a condition whereby a nation is free from internal, external fear or threat to its peace, stability and progress. There are other classifications of security- political security, the freedom from domination; economic and social security, the freedom from poverty and wants; cultural security, the freedom from ethnic and religious domination; and environmental security, the freedom from environmental destruction, degradation, and resource scarcity. National, regional, and global insecurity affect both the national economy and national development. Take for example, poverty a condition of human existence where resources for meeting basic needs are extremely limited or inaccessible is being neglected by nations around the world. Some of the characteristics of poverty include:

- food insecurity of absolute and relative form,
- lack of access to health service,
- poor or inadequate education,
- lack of basic needs, and
- Physical and psychological experience of violence and insecurity.

McNamara (1968) puts the issue of security in a proper perspective when he posited thus:

> 'any society that seeks to achieve adequate military security against the background of acute food shortage, population explosion, low level of production and per capital income, low technological development, inadequate and inefficient public services and chronic unemployment has a false sense of security'.

Furthermore, he stated that without development, there can be no security. In his words:

> 'in modernizing society, security means development, security is not military hardware, though, it may include it, security is not military force, though it may involve it, security is not traditional

military activity, though it may encompass it, security is development and without development, there can be no security. A developing state that does not develop simply cannot remain secure for the reason that it owns citizens share it human nature'.

This process of human nature involves the notion that human beings have needs and aspirations; such as: food, clothing, shelter, health, progress and good life.

6. Challenges to National Security

The security challenges cuts across borders and the impact is felt at all levels of endeavors. Political corruption, economic greed, Illiteracy and ignorance, ethnic and religious insensitivity and conflicts, lack of qualitative education, disregard of rules and regulations, lack of free and fair elections, and lack of commitment to democracy, lack of efforts to eradicate or reduce hunger, poverty, overpopulation, excessive inflation, refugees, diseases such as HIV/AIDS and Ebola, and the proliferation of nuclear weapons, are sources of national, regional, and global insecurity. National, regional, and international terrorism are interconnected in the end game of international diplomacy. National, regional, and global insecurity also affect both the national economy and national development. In many cases, the gross inequality, the lack of access and quality health and education still remain daunting challenges to many nations who are dealing with global economic crisis. Illiteracy, a condition where individuals cannot read and write, is a serious national and global security problem.

7. Implications of Terrorism on National Security

Historically, most of the remote causes of breach of peace and security in Nigeria include: boundary disputes, cultism and organized crimes, ethnic, political and religious rivalries; as well as other socio-economic factors that often resulted to the re-curing of conflicts over the years, resulting in wanton destruction and loss of lives and property.

The increased criminal tendencies and subversive activities of the jobless youths which have swollen the unemployment pool are manifested indicators of past unworkable government policies that have failed to positively address crucial unemployment, food insecurity, abject poverty, disease and infrastructure development and maintenance neglect. The evolution of ethnic militias has been noticed to arrogate to themselves the functions of the people vanguard with the aim of defending community interest. These arrogated functions are outside the ambit of the 1999 Constitution and threaten the national peace and security of Nigeria state. At the period of conflict, the operation of these militias may on the surface seems uncoordinated but if critically examined they are organized gangs backed by their communities that played key role in masterminding and execution of bloody campaigns during conflicts, with serious effects on internal security (Ibrahim, 2002).Most of these groups draw their inspirations from the international terrorist networks, particularly the popular ones, whose atrocities aim to undermine national interests.

In Nigeria today, there are ethno-cultural agitations including those fighting for autonomy and resource control. There are also violent activities of ethnic militia groups such as Oodu'a People Congress (OPC), Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) as enunciated with the establishment of a clandestine Radio Biafra that propagates hatred against citizens from other part of the country, Ijaw National Congress (INC), Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) and the Niger Delta Peoples Volunteer Force (NDPVF). The spate of kidnapping of foreign oil workers in Niger Delta region, incidents of bombing in Port Harcourt and Warri, and attacks on oil pipe lines and installations illustrate the vulnerability of Nigeria to terrorism inspired by international terrorism. It is horrific to note that the headquarters of kidnappers has moved from the south- south to south west Nigeria.

In the recent past, international terrorism has become an established feature in world politics (Nwolise, 2005).It is used by state agents and insurgents to seek political and military results that would not ordinarily be impossible to achieve in a political forum or in conventional battle field. Nigeria has remained a beleaguered nation fifty years after independence, afflicted by an unprecedented series of insecurity, inter communal and inter-ethnic clashes, civil strives, religious conflicts, armed robbery, assassination, murder, economic sabotage, gender based violence, abuse of public office, bomb expulsion, and massive corruption; worst ever in the history of Nigeria's nationhood. While communities and groups engaged each other in communal conflicts, state agents

have been accused of involvement in the perpetration of violence and destruction as reflected in Zaki Biam and Odi in Benue and Bayelsa conflict (Ibrahim, 2002).

Communal and religious conflicts tend to re-enact, partly due to the failure of leaders and relevant security and civil institutions to act proactively to deal with the causes at the very onset. In a similar vein, series of ethno religious crises were brewed in various cities during the 1980s and 2000's which have undoubtedly been linked to activities of foreign nationals with links to international sponsors (Mbaya, D. 2011). Such sectarian crises were experienced in Kano especially the Maitatsine phenomena in 1980's, Kaduna (1987 and in the last decade), Katsina (1991), Maiduguri (1982-2007), Yola (1984), Bauchi (1991,2000,2002,2009), Kafanchan (1987), Gombe (1985), TafawaBalewa (1991), Zaria (1992), Zango Kataf (1992), Funtua (1993), Potiskum (1994),Nassarawa (2005) Taraba (2006) Shagamu in Ogun (1999), Lagos (1999-2000), Jos (2001 till today).

There has been an act of economic sabotage relating to pipe lines in all the oil producing states in the Niger Delta. The abduction, kidnapping and harassment of foreign oil workers, local contractors, amplification of violence base on rumors by militants in the Niger Delta increase the difficulties for law abiding citizens and oil conglomerates to engage in lawful businesses in Nigeria. These have direct bearing to international development with direct bearing to international terrorism activities. This has also discouraged domestic and foreign investors which resulted to the loss of revenues to the nation in the last two decades. Retired military, Para –military officers and ex-servicemen who have served the country with rich experience in weapon handling and tactics increased the level of training imparted on the ethnic militias. Some of them acquired their skills and weaponry from international terror groups.

This may have accounted for the sophistication and destruction of lives and properties during ethnic communal and religious crisis with grave implication for peace and security. The involvement of the ex-service men may have been caused by the lack of government support to the men who have served the nation from the prime of their lives to the terminal points of their service. There are unimaginable populations of unemployed youths due to serious level of corruption in the country. These unemployed easily form gangs and easily get attracted into criminal acts. In the absence of employment, these groups of youths were hijacked to cause crisis in the community especially since the inauguration of democratic rule in the last 16 years. Most of this youths are not only unemployed but from poor family background who are easily engaged by the ethnic militias and recruited by the wealthy individuals as aids, political thugs and personal security.

Most terrorist organizations have failed to achieve their long term strategic aims through terrorist acts, but terrorism has sometimes brought about significant socio-political changes that would otherwise have been impossible to attain. Contrary to the claims of governments, terrorism has sometimes proven successful on short-term, For example ensuring that causes and grievances that may have been ignored or neglected were addressed, wresting political concession from otherwise resistant government and winning the release of prisoners. In Nigeria, the continued onslaught on the nation's oil installations, abduction and kidnapping of foreign oil workers by militant's terrorist group (MEND) may have forced the government to establish the Ministry of the Niger Delta Region.

In June, 2008, for example, the Delta militants in an audacious offensive bombed the Royal Dutch Shell's Bonga oil field, Nigeria's largest offshore oil facility. Until then, offshore facilities were thought to be safe from attacks located 120 kilometers (75 miles) offshore. Bonga oil field has a daily production capacity of 200,000 barrels of oil and 150 million standard cubic feet of gas. The militants claimed they are fighting for a greater share of the region's oil wealth after decades of neglect. But the breakdown of law and order in the Delta has allowed criminal gangs to thrive by kidnapping for ransom and stealing crude while criminality appears to be increasing.

Even with the several bomb-blasts that rocked the sense of security of the Nigeria nation, the Nigeria police like other security operatives may not be well trained, prepared and equipped for counterterrorism operation. There is little or no commitments as the agency remain unprofessional while today's terror tactics have been fully put into practice in the Niger Delta, pitching militants against the nation's security operatives. The military is completely demystified while other militias are yet to come on board. Military might does not crush grudges, agitations and inhuman treatment, and exploitation could be experienced when military force is used. In this circumstance, the implication is that the citizens lose confidence in governmental institutions as well as on the

leadership of those institutions. It is always a herculean task to restore such confidence in governance, government and its leaders. This has been the experience of many countries across the globe that passed through civil war and series violent insurgencies.

Contemporary terrorism has drastically changed the phenomenon, its responses and perception from mere terror to a new form of warfare. The transformation of hijacking from an action aimed at negotiation for money or release of prisoners as in the past to a new form of mass killing and not demand for ransom drive home a great message. It is fundamental to note that the old form of terrorism uses essentially kidnappings, assassinations, abductions, hostage taking, hijackings, and arson, sabotage, intimidation and bombings. In some of the past terrorist incidents such as the 1976 Entebbe case in Uganda, there were demands on governments some of which were met and the crisis resolved, while some demands were not met resulting to unilateral attempt at resolving them. Furthermore, in the Entebbe incident, the hijackers demanded for the release of some Palestinian activists held In Israel jails. The request was refuted hence the Entebbe raid (Stevenson, 1976).

Terrorist incidents in the past and their responses from affected nations/victims are quite different from what is now being witnessed since the September, 11 incident. These differences make terrorism and its vagaries a new kind of warfare. Contemporary terrorist's character traits include the display of martyrdom, use of unconventional warfare tactics and good information gathering. There are evidences that many such terror groups in Nigeria have been adopting the tactics of international terrorism.

Terrorists are usually urban-based, highly mobile, maintain low profile, uses pseudonyms and operate clandestinely in small cells (Nwolise, 2005). They are always unstable and difficult to predict. Their tools of operation could include cyber-attack, reliance on narcotic, and chemical, biological, radiological, incendiary device, improvised weapons of mass destruction for attacks with reliance on surprise and secrecy and precision in timings. From the context of frustration aggression theory, it could be argued that much of terrorist behavior is a response to the frustration of various political, economic and personal needs of those concerns and affected.

Since the 9/11 attack on the United States, international terrorism has been identified as a serious foreign and domestic security threat to nation states which needs to be handled using diplomacy, international cooperation, constructive engagement to economic sanctions, covert action, physical security enhancement and the use of military force as a last resort. Modern trend in terrorism is that which is religiously or ideologically motivated towards loosely organized, self-financed international networks of terrorists. Radical religious fundamentalists, or individuals using religion as a pretext, pose terrorist threat of varying kinds to national security. Such organizations have proliferating in recent years without control and are capable creating far reaching implications in the future. Another trend is the growth of cross-national links among different terrorist organizations, which may include combination of military training, funding, technology transfer or political advice. The most astonishing development of international terrorism is the trend toward proliferation of WMD. For instance, North Korea regarded by the US to be a passive or less active supporter of terrorism has admitted to having a clandestine program for uranium enrichment and claimed to have nuclear weapons, Iran seen as active supporter of state sponsored terrorism has been secretly conducting a long standing uranium enrichment program (Newsweek, October 2001).

The impact of international terrorism to national security in Nigeria has resulted in the destruction of lives and property, pose threat to Western interests, and polarize religious communities in Nigeria. In the international arena, Nigeria's image have suffered immensely due to acts of international related crimes, such as money laundering, advanced free fraud, drugs and human trafficking since some of these crimes are connected with terrorism. Between 2003 and 2006, Nigeria's image abroad gradually improved perhaps due to government image reconstruction efforts yet, the level of criminal activities has not significantly changed. The vulnerabilities of Nigeria state economically, politically, socially and technologically could attract international terrorist activities. Furthermore, media reports on threats of ethno-religious crisis, armed robberies, cultism and militia gangs, political upheavals, unemployment and corruption as reported both locally and internationally could have negative consequences on Nigeria's image abroad and would exacerbate and trigger terrorist attacks in Nigeria. Under such situation, the effect could result to closure of embassies, ban on foreign investors, tourists, and Nigeria could be rated as insecure and a potential terrorist threat (Adekanye, 1998).

8. The Strategies of Mitigating Threats

Effective counterterrorism measures involve a series of reaction dealing with different forms of terrorist threats. It requires intelligence gathering about the terrorists to prevent terrorist attacks, disrupting the financial resources used to support terrorism, degrading the sects capacity through force, regional collaborative efforts and the socio-economic approach which would involve tackling youth unemployment to prevent the youth from being recruited as terrorists, working with other nations to curb terrorist's network, as well as arresting and prosecuting the terrorists. A result oriented counterterrorism measures often include economic sanctions on nations sponsoring terrorism or allowing terrorist to operate in their territory and the use of military as the last option. However, counterterrorism would require absolute public support against the terrorist acts to achieve success.

In the early part of 1960s there were no recognized religion terrorist gangs, but by the 1990s almost one quarter of the world active terrorist groups were inspired by their religious beliefs (Nwolise, 2005).The number of terrorist acts committed by such groups has increased and estimated to be responsible for more than half of the 64,319 recorded incidents that occurred between 1993 and 1998. Source: Patterns of Global Terrorism, 1998. The question remains what effective mechanism can be developed to combat this transnational problem, to which modern state are extremely vulnerable. In the last eight years, the past administration in Nigeria is believed to have adopted lackadaisical attitudes towards national terrorism and its attitude reflected in its security institutions. With the inauguration of new administration on 29thMay, 2015; the ugly trends in terrorism and other criminal activities were being reversed. The intensification of counter-terrorism measures within the country, as well as seeking the support and collaboration of the international community, would go a long way in combating the menace of terrorism.

The paper proffers some strategies to complement the existing ones. Among these strategies are the establishment of anti- terrorist centers and policies, dialogue, transparent foreign policy devoid of double standard, stemming the growth of refugees and poverty, community security and good governance. At the international level, intelligence information sharing, public enlightenment, joint training of anti-terrorist personnel, extradition and transfer of terrorist related cases are necessary.

The strategy of dialoguing with aggrieved groups in Nigeria and the pursuance of justice in the distribution of national resources must be adopted with all the seriousness it deserved. This might prevent the eruption of domestic violence if not complete eradication whenever it arises.

Causes that might inspire terrorism like religious schism, religious radicalism or fanaticism, insurrection, ethnic strife, socio-political marginalization, excruciating poverty, mass illiteracy, mass unemployment, racism, exploitation, territorial occupation led to open warfare, should be properly addressed.

9. Conclusion

The paper's position is that the vulnerability of Nigeria's internal and external disposition provides the enabling conditions for international terrorism to threaten Nigeria's National Security. Such enabling factors include widespread poverty, socio-economic upheaval, political instability, international piracy, organized crimes, high unemployment, and negative effects of globalization, crippling inflation, and widespread corruption in government agencies. Thus, Human Capital Development policies should be considered as one of the main sources of National Security. The integration of the two (Human Development and Security) in national development plans will guarantee sustainable peace and national development.

10. Recommendations

- There is the need to have human security as a basis for internal, national and global security. The new era in global terrorism requires efforts to address all socio-economic and political issues affecting citizens. Every individual need is a necessary threat to national security, if ignore for a very long time.
- There is need of reassessing the nation's concept of national security to cover all dimensions especially non-military threats, training and equipping security and defense forces to meet the new challenges of the 21st century.

- Bilateral and multi-nationals coalition should be strengthened. Local, national, regional, and global security is predicated on cooperation and collaboration. The African Union, European Union, United States and the global community should come together to fight terrorism at human, regional, and global levels.
- There is an urgent need for enlightenment across the globe about the forms, nature of threats from terrorism and ways and means of dealing with them by citizens of eachnation.

REFERENCES

Achike O, 1976. *Ground Work of Military Law and Military Rule in Nigeria*. Fourth Dimension Publisher, Enugu.

Adedeji E, 2003.*Nigeria's Threat Assessment in the Fourth Republic*. National Defense College Lecture, Abuja.

Adekanye B.J, 2003. Terrorism and Globalization: How should International Community Respond, An African Perspective. *African Journal of Peace and Conflict Studies*. Vol 1, No2.

Adesoji A.O, 2010. *The Boko Haram Uprising and Islamic Revivalism in Nigeria*. African Spectrum.

Adesoji A.O, 2011. Between Maitasine and Boko Haram: Islamic Fundamentalism and Response of the Nigeria State, Africa Today.

Alao A, 2012. *Islamic Radicalization and Violence in Nigeria: Country Report*. Conflict, Security and Development Group, London.

Alex S, 1988.*Political Terrorism: A New Guide to Actors Authors, Concepts, Data Bases Theories*. North Holland Publishing Company.

Amin L, 1997. *Peace Keeping and Security in Africa*. Fourth Dimension Publishers, Enugu.

Anderson R.A, 1999.*The Sociology and Psychology of Terrorism: Who Becomes a Terrorist and Why*. A Report Prepared Under an Agreement by the Federal Research Division, Library of Congress September 1999.

African Research Bulleten, Vol. 13, No. 7, Aug 15 1976 and Stevenson, W. 90 Minutes at Entebbe.

Barber, B.R. 2002 'Terrorism Challenge to Democracy' Opinion Editorials. Mutual Aid Society on a Grand Scale. Los Angeles Times.

Bello M. S, 1999. Military Policies and Training in Nigeria 1960-1993. Unpublished thesis in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science (Msc.), University of Maiduguri, Nigeria.

Bello M. S, 2009. International Terrorism and National Security. Unpublished dissertation in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, University of Abuja, Nigeria.

Brain M.J, 1990. *International Terrorism the Other World War*. Macmillan Education Ltd, London.

Chalk P, 2000. *'Terrorism,' Military Security and Global Order*. Macmillan, London.

Christopher C.J, 1990. *International Terrorism*. Macmillan Education Ltd, London.

Collins P, 1988. *Dictionary of Government and Politics*. Peter Collins Publishing Company, London.

Edwin M, 1976. *The Philosophy of Violence*. Basic Truth.

Hoffman B, 2008. *Terrorism*. Microsoft Encarta 2009 [DVD]. Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA.

Holme, E, 1996. *Conflicts in the International Strategies against Terrorism*. University Press, New York.

Ibrahim, J, (2002). *Military Strategy, Historical Perspective*. National Defense College Lecture, Abuja.

Imobighe I.A, 1987. Nigerian Defense and Security: Issues and Options for Policy. National Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies, Jos.

Jaja, J.M. 2011. Leadership and Security Problem in Nigeria: A Critical Reflection. British Journal of Arts and Social Sciences.

John I.A. Muhammed A.Z. Pinto A.D. Nakanta C.A. 2007 Gun Violence in Nigeria: a focus on Ethno Religious Conflict in Kano Journal of Public Health Policy.

Kapur R.N, 1996. *Terrorism and Integrated Approach to Counter it.* National Defense College Paper India.

Max T.J, 2000. *The Future of Terrorism.* Frank Cass Publishers, London.

McNamara R.S, 1968. *The Essence of Security.* New York.

National Population Commission 2011 Education Data for Decision Making Abuja.

Nwolise O. 2005 Terrorism: What is To Be Done About An Emerging Threat To Democracy, Good Governance, Development and Security of Nations in the 21st Century. In Special Research Issue, Vol. 1, Ibadan, French Institute for Research in Africa.

Orueme, T.O.2007. Corruption in Nigeria. A Cultural Phenomenon. Journal of Financial Crime

Paul W, 1974. *Political Terrorism.* Macmillan Education Ltd, London.

Peter C, 2000. *Military Security and Global Order.* Macmillan Education Ltd, London.

Pothuraju B. 2012 Boko Haram's Persistent Threat in Nigeria Background: A Publication of the Institute for Defense Studies and Analysis

Stohl M, 1988.*Demystifying Terrorism: The Myths and Realities of Contemporary Political Terrorism.* The Politics of Terrorism (New York).

Terrorism Vs Middle East Pease, The Renaissance, Feb 1974.