Investigation into the Impacts of Current Insecurity in Nigeria: The Way Forward

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Abstract: The research work examined the quest for human security in Nigeria for nation-Building. Available and existing literature noted that, human lives are sacrosanct and essential to the existence of human race for nation-building where the focus of this research work lies. The study therefore investigated the connection of the quest for human security to nation-building in the study. The study adopted theories of human security Marshall as its theoretical framework to midwife the work. The methodology used consisted of both primary and secondary data which were derived from the use of interview and survey research, emphasized on well-structured questionnaire and the use of Focus Group Discussion (FGD). Also, secondary data were sourced through textbooks, journals, internet materials and government official bulletin, while statistical means such as percentage (count) representation of frequency table and pictorial representation were utilized to analyze the findings of the study. The research examined the impact of Political violence, religious crises, poverty, ethnic rivalry, poor governance, pandemic diseases, environmental and climate change factors through the instrumentality of kidnapping, banditry, social unrest, tourism and human trafficking to actualize their ways against the preservation of human security for nation-building. The outcome of the research study provided essential tools and insight for scholars, researchers, public policy analysts, security agencies, human rights organizations in Nigeria in the search for human security in Nigeria for nation-building in general.

Keywords: Fundamental Human Rights, Governance, Human Security, State Fragility, State Security Apparatus.

1. INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) report of 1994 outlined the meaning of human security which beam its research light on human being, on the strength of absence of conflict. It is now a formal shift from the state security to human security for safety from hunger, repression and diseases to protection from sudden and dangerous derailment in the way of daily activities whether at home, job or in the public (UNDP, 1994). Ensuring human security requires seven identities and infrastructures that are worth mentioning:

1. Food security-threats for physical and economic in-roads to food;
2. Health security-problems to life, health and inaccessibility to health services;
3. Economic security-joblessness, social unrest, inflation, social security, income disparity and homelessness;
4. Political security- threats of state fragility, repression and human right abuse;
5. Environmental security- climate chance problems to human existence, degradation of the eco-system , pollution, forms and other natural disaster that pose as threats to human lives;
6. personal security- threats to physical violence, domestic violence, child abuse, rape, divorce, discrimination, human and drugs trafficking; and
7. community security- threats of cross-borders crisis, ethnic / religions crisis tension on farm lands and natural resources (Kerr, 2007)

The 1994 UNDP report on human security has been widely accepted by scholars, policy analysts, and government agencies as a framework for analyzing the security of lives and property in communities, protecting against organized destruction or sudden resource wastage that can lead to lack of social amenities, hunger, and poor wellbeing (Simon, 2008). This focus on individual security, often neglected in traditional security education, highlights the diverse threats to human security and seeks consensus on solutions (Mahmud et al., 2008).

Human security goes beyond state defense to encompass social, political, and economic concerns, ensuring the preservation and security of individuals, which is crucial for sustainable development. This is achieved through dialogue, consultation, and collaboration among various stakeholders (Hussein et al., 2004). The 2001 establishment of the Commission on Human Security (CHS) marked a significant achievement, aiming to raise awareness, define human security as a practical tool, and protect essential freedoms (Johns, 2014).

Gazizullin (2016) emphasized that security risks should be assessed with a people-centered view. In Nigeria, despite three decades of liberal democracy, human security remains fragile, as evidenced by violent conflicts and criminal activities (Orhero, 2020). The 1999 Nigerian Constitution underscores human security, affirming that government power derives from the people and that their security and welfare are paramount (FGN Constitution, 2011). Human security thrives when its indicators are unimpeded, driven by the people who ensure the availability of life's necessities.

Problem, Statement and Justification of the Study
In Nigeria, citizens face constant attacks and threats to their security from both state and non-state actors, leading to widespread fear and loss of life. This has reached an alarming and potentially irreversible point. Between 2018 and 2022, democratic governance in Nigeria has been perceived as failing to protect human security, leading to distrust, loyalty issues, and separatist movements (Shaibu, Anum & Okeme, 2021). The structurally deficient nature of the nation exacerbates poverty, unemployment, and inequality, further threatening human security (Katsina, 2012). Historical challenges, socio-economic inequalities, constitutional crises, and leadership issues have all negatively impacted human security in Nigeria (Gambari, 2008; Duke, Ebaye & Bassey, 2021).

Bellamy (2020) noted that the threats to human security extend beyond immediate humanitarian costs to include indirect social, economic, health-related, and environmental consequences, making assessment complex. Climate change has further compromised human security by affecting cultural values and increasing the vulnerability of communities to violent conflicts and economic losses (Adger, 2014; Oche, 2010). Overall, human security in Nigeria remains deeply compromised by a range of interconnected issues.

According to Ujomu (2018)
Nigeria faces a problem of human nature or agency which is easily seen in the inability of human beings as social members, together for a common purpose. This inability to sustain social order threatens Nigeria's core institutions, principles and values for human and national development. This shortfall above has traditional and modern dimensions. The entrenched authoritarianism and anachronism of the pre-colonial and colonial African societies have combined with the ethno-religiously motivated postcolonial nation-state to create a crisis of unfinished nation-state project. This conundrum or convolution is partly traced to a full blooded egoism in African human nature which triggers a deficit in the national and human security and paves the way for violent conflicts, corruption, terrorism, inefficiency intolerance and lack of procedural and social justice in the society (Ujomu, 2018:62)

Consequently, no field study has done to date adequately on the thematic nature of the topic. Therefore, the current research work is topical, and justifiable on the basis to further interrogate the efficacy of human security in Nigeria for nation-building. The study has been useful and of great importance to scholars, public policy analysts, economic planners, security agencies, human rights organizations and the public. In addition, the study has been able to highlights and filled the gap which previous studies regarding the topic were lacking.

Objectives of the Study
The research examined the impact of Political violence, religious crises, poverty, ethnic rivalry, poor governance, pandemic diseases, environmental and climate change factors through the instrumentality of kidnapping, banditry, social unrest, tourism and human trafficking to actualize their ways against the preservation of human security for nation-building.

1. Evaluated the level of compliance to the protection of live and properties
2. Determined how the state has not adequately address Human security;
3. Investigated and validate the reasons why Human security are vulnerable to threats, persecution and loss;
4. Projected for the future on how to avert lapses and prevent casualties insecurity in human security in Nigeria.
5. Determined if Human Security can guarantee the quest for nation-building in Nigeria.

2. RELATED WORK

With a wealth of literature on human security, particularly in Nigeria, the primary aim of a literature review is to offer theoretical perspectives for the research. Scholars have explored various dimensions of human security, encompassing economic, political, environmental, health, and international threats due to state interdependence. Ezemenaka (2021) highlighted Nigeria's focus on military security, with little emphasis on human security, which involves protecting lives and properties from collapse and destruction. Walnshak (2018) noted that human security ensures political and economic growth through government efforts to secure quality lives.

Orhero (2020) emphasized fostering cooperation and stability for preserving human rights and wellbeing. Philips (2019) argued that human security encompasses people's safety, food, health, housing, education, and a conducive environment. Krause (2008) advocated for protecting lives during crises within contemporary multilevel security discourse, while Kaldor (2010) expanded the concept to include protection from foreign threats and various local risks, defining it as freedom from fear and want.

Onuoha (2009, 2011) viewed human security as safeguarding lives from threats such as small arms proliferation, armed robbery, ethnic-religious conflicts, human trafficking, and energy sector issues. Idu (2020) examined human security through the lens of the Boko Haram insurgency, leading to famine, displacement, and illiteracy. Abdurrasheed (2021) highlighted the role of good governance and trained security personnel in enhancing human security.

Amila and Luka (2020) identified poverty and unemployment as significant threats to human security in Nigeria, exacerbated by the state's inability to ensure food security. Olojede and Ossah (2022) linked human security issues to corruption and poverty. Onuoha et al. (2010) and Beriledium (2013) emphasized the importance of human security for women, vulnerable to social vices like diseases, rape, and human trafficking. Olaniyan (2011) observed that population growth in Nigeria poses serious threats, leading to youth bulge, rural-urban migration, and resource depletion.

Barnett (2007) noted that climate change hinders human security by affecting natural resources and limiting governmental capabilities. Sajo (2018) defined human security as the absence of threats, emphasizing its global promotion. Ayodele (2011) included threats from illicit drug trafficking, impacting social order and human security. International perspectives, as noted by Thomas and William (2002), Pittman (2005), and others, underscore the interplay between domestic vulnerabilities and global security needs.

Theoretical Framework
The theoretical review for this study will cover Human Security and Citizenship theories for a deeper understanding of the topic. Human Security theory emerged in 1994, post-Cold War, as a response to neorealist state-centric military security, globalization, the collapse of liberal state-building, and a reduction in threats from weapons of mass destruction. The spread of constitutional democracy and human rights necessitated a redefinition of security. Concurrently, internal violent crises in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Canada, Eastern Europe, and the USA, along with emergent threats like HIV, Ebola, and climate change, highlighted the inadequacies of traditional security concepts. This led to a focus on the rights of individuals, emphasizing freedom from fear and poverty (Macfarlane & Khong, 2006; Christie & Acharya, 2008). Human Security theory involves multiple disciplines and addresses physical, biological, and social dimensions of human life (Tanaka, 2015). Notable proponents include Newman (2010), Paris (2004), Suhrke (1999), Chandler (2012), Tadjbakhshk and Chenoy (2006), Hubert (2011), Axworthy (2001), Booth (2007), Kerr (2007), Johns (2014), and Gazizullin (2016). In Nigeria, Human Security is essential for nation-building, linking domestic and foreign policy to protect lives and properties. Critics argue it legitimizes state domination and military intervention, is impractical, and is seen more as a policy agenda than a decisive shift.

3. METHODOLOGY

Location of the Study
The study was conducted in the South-West states of Nigeria (Lagos, Osun and Ondo). The states have their capitals cities in Ikeja, Osogbo and Akure respectively. They are located in the western part of Nigeria bounded by Ekiti, Edo, Ogun, Oyo Kogi, Kwara States, Benin Republic and the Atlantic Ocean. The dominant languages spoken are English and Yoruba, while smaller tribal groups exist alongside, but Yoruba is the major ethnic group. The populations of the three selected states are in Millions as they could be classified as Muslims, Christians and traditional worshipers. They are hugely blessed with natural and human resources with above 60% percent literacy education while the reason for chosen the states is to enable the researchers get adequate result from the field which were reliable and adopted for the study.

Area of Study
The study was conducted in purposive selected three (3) states in the South-West of Nigeria with notable town/cities identified as target locations

Table: Design outlay for selected study area/location

S/N	States	Local Govt. Area	Name of Town(s) to be selected	Total no to be selected	Total Aggregate
1	Ekiti	Ado-Ekiti Oye-Ekiti Ikole Ekiti Ikere Ekiti	Ado-Ekiti Oye-Ekiti Ikole Ekiti Ikere Ekiti	1 1 1 1	4

2	Osun	Ilesha East	Ilesha	1	4
		Osogbo LG	Osogbo	1	
		Ife Central LG	Ife	1	
		Ila LG	Ila-Orangun	1	
3	Ondo	Akure	Oba-Ile	1	4
		Owo	Owo	1	
		Odigbo	Ore	1	
		Akoko-North East	Ikare	1	
	Total	**12**	**12**	**12**	**12**

Reasons for the study Area Locations
A total of twelve (12) Local Governments of three (3) South-West state of Nigeria have been examined for the study. It ensured that the states fell within one of the Geo-political zones in Nigeria which were adequately captured. As such, twelve (12) Local Governments and twelve (12) towns/cities selected were relatively appropriate for the chosen study.

Sample Frame/Participants/size.
The participants for the study were members of the chosen towns/cities which included: opinion leaders of communities, academics, professional, traders and students of Higher institutions.

Interview of 2000 sample size.
In the investigation, execution and realization of the aims and objectives of this study, both primary and secondary methods were used for data collection. The technique used was purposive sampling technique.

Population of the Study
The target total population of the study was 2000 of which 48 were examined for in-depth interviews, 9 for Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and 900 for questionnaire, all out of 2000 sample size.

Method of Data Collection
Primary and secondary methods were adopted to generate data through a structured questionnaires, personal interview (key informant) and Focus Group Discussion, while secondary data explored from relevant textbooks, journals, internet materials and government official bulletins.

Population of the Study
The target total population of the study was 2000 of which 48 were examined for in-depth interviews, 9 for Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and 900 for questionnaire, all out of 2000 sample size.

Method of Data Collection

900 structured questionnaire were prepared, 48 personal interview and 9 focus group discussion we're administered to gather used information from respondents, while secondary data were collected from textbooks, journals and internet materials on the chosen topic of the study

Table2: Do you agree that poverty and poor governance could breed human insecurity to the nation?

Variable	Frequency	Percentage %
Strongly Agreed	280	54.5
Agreed	212	41.2
Disagreed	02	0.4
Strongly Disagreed	20	3.9

SOURCE: field work 2024

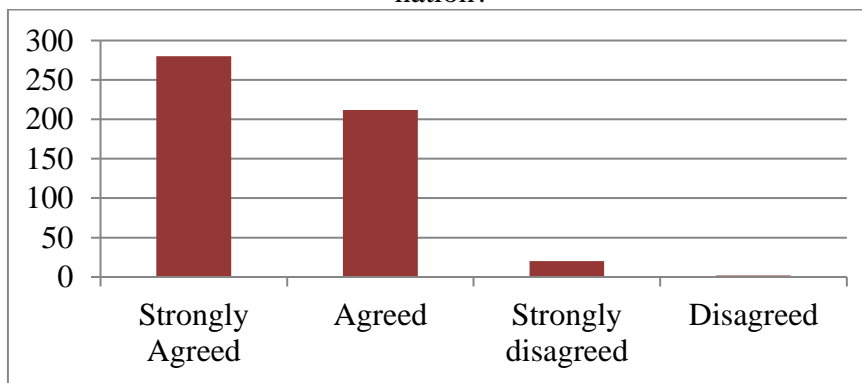Figure 1: Do you agree that poverty and poor governance could breed human insecurity to the nation?

Table 2, revealed that 280 (55%) of the respondents strongly agreed and 212 (41.2%) of respondents agreed that poverty and poor governance breed human insecurity, while 20 (4%) strongly disagreed and 02 (0.4%) disagreed. The result noted that 280 (55)% strongly agreed because it was evident that poverty and poor governance can breed and lead to human insecurity where the two indices are present, they made human life baseless and inactive.

Table 3: Kidnapping and banditry are two recent evil acts threatening the corporate existent of our human security and the nation. Do you accept this assertion?

Variable	Frequency	Percentage %
Strongly accept	358	60.0
Accept	98	28.4
Rejected	22	4.3
Strongly Rejected	38	7.4

SOURCE: field work, 2024

Figure 2: Kidnapping and banditry are two recent evil acts threatening the corporate existent of our human security and the nation. Do you accept this assertion?
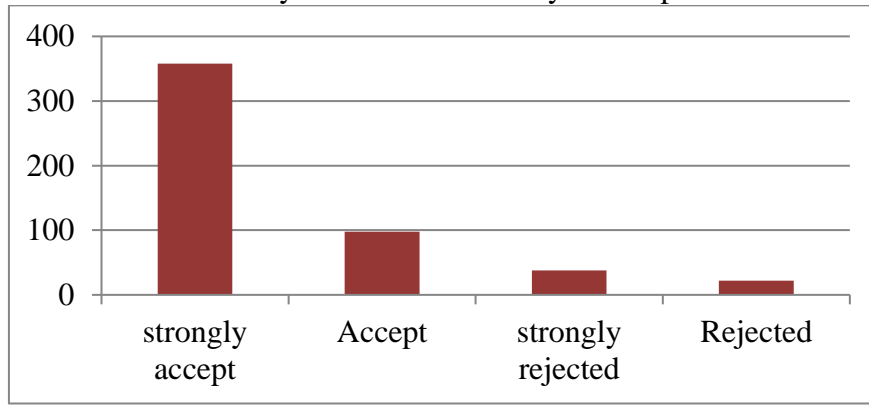

Table 3 result noted that 358 (60.0%) strongly accepted the assertion from the respondents. 98 (28.4%) accepted from the respondents while 38 (7.4%) strongly rejected the assertion and 22 (4.3%) rejected from the respondents. The analysis therefore indicated that 358 (60%) strongly agreed that kidnapping the banditry are acts that could cause human security challenges in the nation.

Table 4: Do you agree that human and weapons trafficking are against the preservation of human security for nation building?

Variable	Frequency	Percentage %
Strongly Agreed	76	14.7
Agreed	402	77.6
Disagreed	20	3.9
Strongly Disagreed	20	3.9

SOURCE: Field work

Figure 3: Do you agree that human and weapons trafficking are against the preservation of human security for nation building?
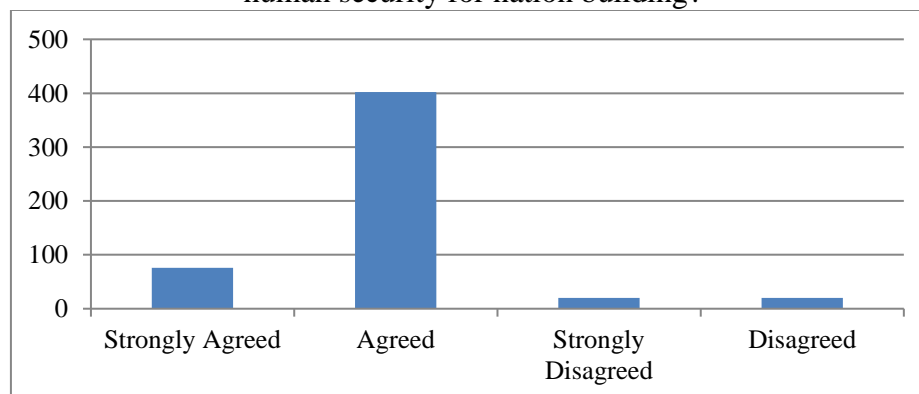
The outcome from table 5, figure 3 revealed that 76 (15%) of the respondents agreed and 402 (78%) of the respondents strongly agreed, while 20 (4%) disagreed among the respondents. The analysis of the results tend to note that the majority of the respondents 402 (78%) strongly agreed that the two social issues can caused human security challenges in the nation.

Table 5: Are you confident that the absence of social crisis, capital loss, corruption, and terrorism and ethno-religious tendencies will manifest strong-based mobility to livelihood, physical safety, and good institutional structures for economic and political development in the nation?

Variable	Frequency	Percentage %
Highly Confident	365	71.2
Confident	44	8.8
Not Confident	38	7.4
Undecided	66	12.9

SOURCE: field work 2024

Figure 4; Are you confident that the absence of social crisis, capital loss, corruption, and terrorism and ethno-religious tendencies will manifest strong based mobility to livelihood, physical safety, and good institutional structures for economic and political development in the nation?
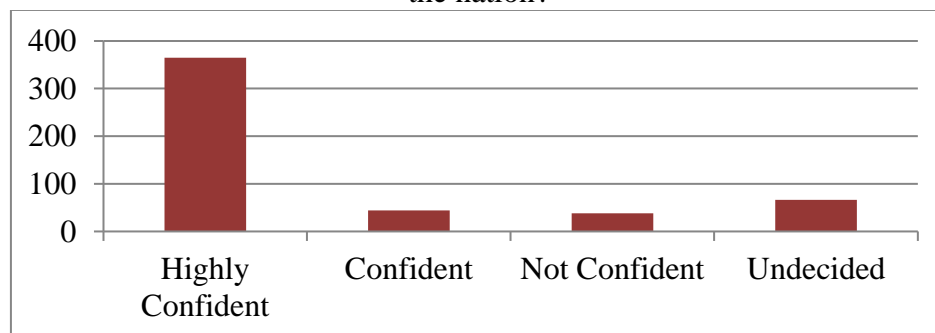

Table 5 revealed the analysis as: 365 (71.2%) voted for highly confident from the respondents and 44 (8.8%) agreed to the assertion, while 38 (74%) not confident from the respondents and 66 (12.9%) we're undecided by the respondents. This translates that 365 (71.2%) strongly confident to the above assertion

Table 6: Do you think human security through its quest for nation building prescriptions can efficiently and effectively resolve the problems of pandemic disease, environmental and climate change, migration and refugees issues in Nigeria?

Variable	Frequency	Percentage %
Highly Efficient	76	14.7
Efficient	402	77.6
Ineffective	20	3.9
Undecided	20	3.9

SOURCE: Field work

Figure 5: Do you think human security through its quest for nation building prescriptions can efficiently and effectively resolve the problems of pandemic disease, environmental and climate change, migration and refugees issues in Nigeria?
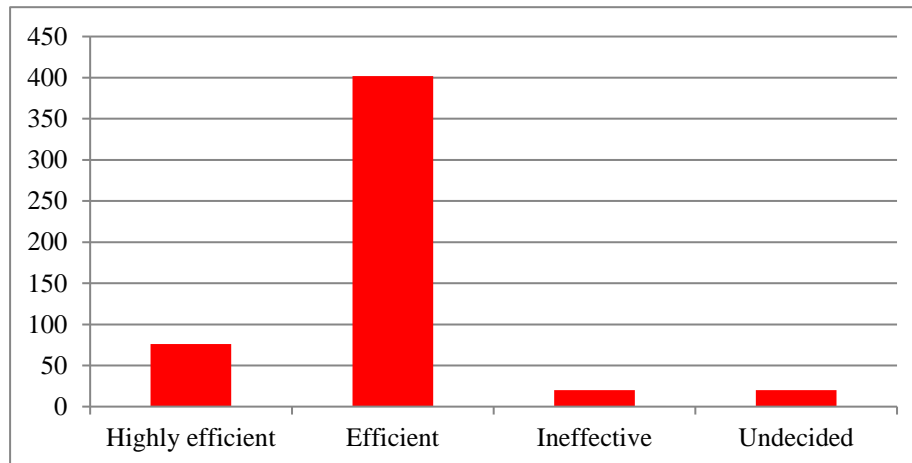
The result revealed that 76 (15%) of the respondents noted for highly efficient and 402 (78%) for efficient, while 20 (4%) from the respondents noted for inefficient and 20 (4%) were undecided among the respondents. It therefore means that 402 (78%) of the respondents which formed majority noted for efficiency on solving the problems of human security.

Data Analysis or Technique
Simple percentage, frequency count and focus group discussion were used to interrogate data collected from the field work

Summary of findings
1. Contributed to knowledge on the quest for human security in Nigeria for nation building;
2. Ascertained the level of human insecurity in Nigeria for nation building;
3. Revealed factors for human security to work
4. Identified the challenges of other indicators or variables that human security continue to face in contemporary Nigerian society

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Kindly find there in the analyses of the tables from Table 2 to 6. Table 2 analysed the variables under investigation with results of the respondents where the impact of current insecurity in Nigeria has been discussed that poverty and poor governance have been responsible as the major problem, which the majority noted 280(54.5%) as strongly agreed on that assertion as a negative step. Table 3 was analyzed on the variables that the impacts of current insecurity in Nigeria have brought kidnapping and banditry into the center stage where the respondents strongly accepted that the above vices are social evils with an account of 358(60.0%) as factors causing insecurity in the country. Table 4 revealed that the analysis

on the variables used noted respondents majorly agreed 402(77.6%) that human and weapons trafficking are against the preservation of human security for nation-building in Nigeria.

Table 5 as well analyzed the result and noted that the respondents highly confident 365(71.2%) that the absence of social crisis, capital loss, corruption, terrorism and ethno-religious tendencies will manifest strong-based mobility to livelihood, physical safety, good institutional structures for economic and political development in the nation and while Table 6: analyzed the investigation that the respondents majorly agreed on the efficiency of human security which can resolve the problems of pandemic diseases, climate change and refugees issues in Nigeria.

Expected Contributions
The study provides further exposition on the necessity for more pragmatic attention where human security can flourish and play vital intervention role in combating social vices, threats and conflict that affect foo security, health security and personal security. Again, it will add value if the study will address danger apprehension for the preservation of security of persons human development, consultation and collaboration with various shareholders on the platform of human security formation-building.

5. RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

The study recommends the following as panacea: To address the root causes or remote manner told human insecurity, corruption in the defence sector to be dealt with, address unemployment cases, poverty at various levels. Invest more in education, economy; apply multifaceted strategies plus community based information areas that will facilitate prompt intelligence gathering. Effective coordination among various security apparatus, boost good governance in place and build sustainable structures which will add value to the lives of the citizens and improve the basic necessity of human security with the utmost care. The enabling environment for human security should be guaranteed to accommodate lives, and it's societal conditions.

It can be deduced from the empirical research study their human security has been a challenge issue to nation building, where it has leads to threats to lives, social, economic, political and security problems preventing and confronting the corporate existence of the nation. Furthermore, the dimensions of this challenge has been felt on environment, government institutions, national development, ethno-religious angles, social order, conflict and health related areas. The above recommendations have been able to fill the gap from where the existing findings stopped. This new findings and research study have address and enhanced the interrogation through its investigation and conclusion.

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