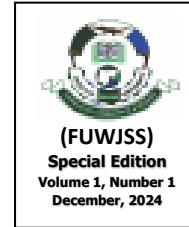


**SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF
#ENDBADGOVERNANCE PROTEST IN
KANO STATE, NIGERIA**

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Abstract

This study examines the socio-economic impacts of #EndBadGovernance protest in Kano State, Nigeria. The #EndBadGovernance protest occurred in Nigeria from August 1-10 2024. The first day of the protest turned violent in many States, including Kano State; properties belonging to public institutions and private institutions were set ablaze, looted and destroyed. This necessitated governments of affected States to declare curfew in order to restore law and order. In Kano State, the protest was hijacked by criminal elements. This led the state government to declare 24 hours curfew which was later reviewed, and this affected businesses in major markets such as Kantin Kwari, Singer, Sabon Gari and Dawanau. Using the routine activity theory, this study examines the impact of the #EndBadGovernance protest in Kano State. The study adopted a descriptive cross-sectional survey involving eight local governments in Kano metropolis: Dala, Fagge, Gwale, Kano Municipal, Kumbotso, Nassarawa, Tarauni and Ungogo. Findings of the study revealed that business activities were significantly obstructed in Kano state during the period of the #EndBadGovernance protest. The paper concludes

that the obstruction of business activities during the #EndBadGovernance protest in Kano State heightened the incidence of poverty, unemployment, hunger in the State. The study recommends that the Kano State Government should assist business owners whose properties were burnt, looted and destroyed during the #End Bad Governancet protest; as this will help in resuscitating their businesses and contribute to economic development of the State.

Keywords: Governance, hunger, insecurity, poverty, protest

Introduction

For Usman, Sarki and Shehu (2017), security is a necessary requirement for socio-economic development of any nation. It provides the enabling environment for citizens to live and work towards social, economic and political development. Security of lives is a cherished value for every society to achieve its goals. Security is everybody's business in the society. Security operatives alone cannot combat insecurity without the cooperation and support of the host communities.

According to Usman (2020), Nigeria is endowed with abundant natural and human resources. Many Nigerians are living below poverty line suffering from hunger, starvation, food insecurity, inflation and bad governance. Some of these and other social problems necessitated some Nigerians to organized the #End Bad Government protest across the nation. The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended provide the citizens right to peaceful protest. The protest was violent in states like Kano, Kaduna, Niger, Katsina, Jigawa, Bauchi and Borno. The violent nature of the protest forced the security agents to shoot sporadically. Some of the protesters in Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, Jigawa, Borno, Yobe, Niger and Kebbi lost their lives. The human right activists lamented that about 1065 protesters were alleged killed by the security forces. But the NP expressed that only 13 lost their lives during the protest.

The violent nature of the protest led to insecurity, killings, looting of public and private properties, burglary, arson and other heinous crimes against the citizens. The security agents used force in order to restore law and order across the affected states. States such as Kano,

Katsina, Kaduna, Bauchi, Jigawa, Plateau, Borno and Yobe declared 24 hours curfew in order to maintain law and order. In Kano state, many people joined the protest and later hijacked by criminal elements. Many people in Kano metropolis suffered attacks and properties worth billions of naira belonging to the individual, federal, state and local governments were looted, destroyed and set ablaze by the unknown criminal elements that hijacked the protest. The Nigeria Communication Commission NCC office newly constructed yet to be commissioned was set ablaze and looted. Other affected areas include Audu Bako secretariat, different shopping malls, shops, markets, schools, religious institutions and many more.

In order to curtail the wide spread of insecurity the state government under Gov. Abba Kabir Yusuf declared 24 hours curfew in order to restore security in the state. The protest affected many people in the state. It led to killings, injury and displacement of people to other peaceful areas. The protest along with the declaration of curfew affects socioeconomic activities in the state. It affects revenue and earnings of many people in the state. Many of the protesters were killed during the protest by the police and military. In places like Zoo road, Kurna, Rijiyar Lemo, Kofar Naisa, Bacirawa etc. many of the protesters were killed. Some citizens who did not participate were killed by the street ammunition. This draws the attention of human right activists, lawyers and international human rights organization mandating the government and human right commission to investigate the level of human right violation by the security forces against the protesters. Banks were shut down affecting commercial activities especially within Kano city.

According to Chigbu and Osuji (2023) in Nigeria, the banking industry is an important part of the financial system. The banking sector dominates the Nigerian financial system as it accounts for about 90% of the total assets in the system. Banking industry play significant role in the development of Nigerian economy, it facilitates exchange of goods and services facilitating growth and development of the economy. Banks as agents of economic development invest directly in the economy. Banks contribute to the economy by mobilizing savings from the surplus economic unit and make funds available to the public. Banking industry is among the most important financial

institutions in the economy of any nation. They are the principal source of credit for millions of people and governments. For local business, banks are often the major sources of credit and when business and customers make payments for purchases of goods and services, more often than not they use banks cheque books, credit or debit cards, or electronic accounts. Banks represent the nerve centre of a nation through which policies are implemented.

Kano as a commercial centre of northern Nigeria houses many banks and were affected by the #End Bad Government protest. Banks were affected that crippled commercial activities in the state. This created hardship as many people during the curfew could not transact or run business through online banking due to poor network and banks shutdown operations. This affects markets such as Kantin Kwari, Singer, Sabongari, Dawanau and many more. In other to curtail the wide spread of insecurity the state government declared 24 hours curfew in order to restore security in the state. It was later relaxed from 6am to 6am, later adjusted to 6am to 10am and finally relaxed when normalcy returned in the state. This affects socioeconomic activities in the state.

According to G4 Service (2024), the protest was violent in Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, Bauchi, Jigawa, Borno, Niger, Zamfara, Kebbi, Nasarawa, Gombe, Bauchi, Imo Plateau and Abuja respectively. The end bad governance protest in some states affects security and socioeconomic activities in the country. The protesters carries different placard reading brings back fuel subsidy, end insecurity, restore electricity tariffs, end devaluation of naira, reform judiciary, reform EFCC, reduce tertiary education fees and many more. The frustration and anger by the protestants who were mostly youths was hijacked by some criminal elements affecting the saucerful execution of the protest in some states. Section 40 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended provide right to peaceful assembly and association. But many of the criminal elements who hijacked the protest violate the provision of the constitution.

The protest turnout was violent with gunshot by the police in many states. To forestall breakdown of law and order by protesters, security agents have taken over different parts of the country. In Abuja, NCC industrial park was destroyed and looted. The protesters have taken

laws in their hand as they blocked the Abuja-Keffi highway and robbed motorists. In Lagos state, the protesters blocked Lekki toll-gate and fired tear gas by the police and dispersed several hundred protesters. In Jigawa state, APC office was destroyed, looted, set ablaze and government food storages were looted. In Kano state, the NCC park was destroyed, looted and set ablaze, street lights, shopping mall, public and private properties were set ablaze and looted.

The violent nature of the protest forced the security agents to shoot and killed some of the protesters. Some of the protesters in Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, Jigawa, Borno, Yobe, Niger and Kebbi lost their lives. The violent nature of the protest led to insecurity, killings, looting of public and private properties, burglary, arson and other heinous crimes against the innocent citizens. The security agents had to use force in order to restore law and order across the affected states. States such as Kano, Plateau, Katsina, Jigawa, Borno, Kaduna, Bauchi, Nasarawa and Yobe declared 24 hours curfew in order to maintain law and order. Killings by the security agents violate fundamental human rights enshrined in the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended. Also, making the protest violent is an abuse against right to peaceful assembly and association. This derogate and limit the right to protest which forced some states declared curfew. Socioeconomic activities become affected across the affected states in Nigeria.

According to G4 Service (2024), the federal government lamented that in five days, Nigeria lost 100 billion naira due to the protest. In Kano state, the protest was peaceful but later turned to violent by some criminal elements. Many institutions, public and private properties were looted and destroyed. Markets, schools, shops, street lights were destroyed and looted by the criminals who hijacked the protest. The NCC office in Kano aimed at providing services to the 7 states in the north west was destroyed, set ablaze and looted. Furniture, air conditioners and computers worth billions of naira were looted from offices. This becomes a setback in the state. Vehicles belonging to government and individuals were set ablaze. Major markets in Kano such as Singer, Dawanau, Sabon Gari, Kwari and many more that provide food stuff and other commodities to some states and neighbouring countries were shut down affecting economic activities.

This led to shortage of food items and other commodities. Banks shut down due to fear of attacks. This affect banking sector as many people couldn't transact, buy or sale commodities using online banking.

The Kano Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mining and Agriculture (KACCIMA 2024) lamented that Kano state, lost 5 billion naira in five days due to destruction and curfew declared by the state. Banks, industries, shopping mall, small and medium enterprises were closed in the state. This affect production, whole sealers, retailers and consumers. This becomes a setback to socioeconomic activities in the state. Against this background, the study examines the socioeconomic implications of #End Bad Government protest in Kano state, Nigeria.

History of Protest in Nigeria

For Inter-American Commission on Human Right (2019), protests mean public disapproval, objection or disagreement over an ideology, action, activities or policy with a view to draw attention to its negative impacts, effect a change, modify a policy, influence public opinion, or overhaul a policy that is detrimental to the citizens. A protest assumes picketing, rally, walks, carrying of placards, sharing of leaflets, to vigil and sit-in, among others. Protests are one way for people in a community to express their disapproval with laws or actions around them.

Ortiz, Burke, Berrade and Cortes (2022) expressed that protests can be done when people come together to send a message to government officials or other leaders that actions should be taken to improve their condition. Currently, there are many protests happening around the world. Everyone has the right to protest peacefully. Protests can be lawful or unlawful. Lawful protest is when people protest but follow the laws. Lawful protests may include people holding signs, talking with others, making speeches about their beliefs and feelings. Sometimes protests may happen in the road but if the protest is on the road there are often police escorting the protest. Unlawful protesting includes breaking the law and making it unsafe for others. There might be destruction of property, fighting, lighting fires and people carrying weapons. Unlawful protest can be very dangerous because it leads to loss of lives, injury, theft, arson and violation of law and order.

For UNDP (2023), social protest is a key manifestation of human rights recognized and protected by international right, such as the right to freedom of expression, the right to freedom of peaceful gathering and the right to freedom of association. As such, protest allows people to exercise their autonomy through a bond of solidarity with others. At the same time, the possibility of joining protest movements is a critical condition for the realization of the right to participate in the conduct of public affairs. Therefore, the protection of this possibility is an essential element for the existence and consolidation of democratic societies. Thus, protest management based on the principles of protection of human rights and promotion of dialogue is fundamental to support the legitimacy of state institutions. Furthermore, protests play a key role in the inclusive, participatory and peaceful resolution of differences.

For Ezeugwu, Omeje, Erojikwe and Nnanna (2021), Nigeria has a long history of protests, beginning from the 1929 Aba Women protest against the British Colonial Administration, in the present-day Eastern and South-South regions, the Coal miners' strike in Enugu in 1949 to the Abeokuta protest in the 40s, the 1953 Kano riot, *Maitasine* protest in the 80s, Jos riots of 2008 and 2010, Abuja bus crash protests, among others, to a more recent Bring Back Our Girls (BBOG) protest. Thus, more recently, Nigeria witnessed the #ENDSARS protests swept across the country started in 2017 against police brutality and extrajudicial killings of Nigerians. The #ENDSARS protest gain momentum from 8- 21st of October, 2020. The protest had no defined leaders or heads. The mass protests to end the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (known as the #EndSARS protests) was a social movement and mass protests against police brutality in Nigeria. The protest started in 2017 as a Twitter campaign using the #ENDSARS to demand the disbanding of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad in 2020. The recent protest is the end bad governance protest held from 1-10 August, 2024. Arouse due to bad governance, hunger and insecurity across the country.

Theoretical Framework

The study adopted Routine Activity Theory (RAT) in explaining the socioeconomic implications of the #End Bad Government protest

in Kano state, Nigeria. According to Siegel (2013), the progenitors of Routine Activity Theory (RAT) are Lawrence E. Cohen and Marcus Felson (1979). The theory focuses on relation to space, time and emphasizing its ecological nature and implications thereof. RAT moves the explanation of crime away from focusing solely on the offender, including the suitable targets and the guardians of the targets. Crime occurs in routine normal life when a suitable target is in the presence of a motivated offender without a capable guardian. Crime occurs through three essential elements that converge in space and time in the cause of daily activities (Cohen and Felson, 1979).

Suitable target or victim-: prior to the criminal incident is known as target but after the crime is committed the person, object or place attacked become a victim. What exposes a person, object or a place to criminal attack is the degree of attractiveness or vulnerability.

Potential offender-: when an accessible and suitable target-person, object and place are not kept safe from harm or injury by an individual with the ability, fitness or quality necessary to cause harm, there is likelihood that a crime will occur

The absence of effective guardianship-: guardianship is the physical or symbolic presence of an individual (either intentionally or unintentionally) to deter a potential criminal event. A capable guardian, whose presence would discourage a criminal from committing crime, can be law enforcement agents, friends, lighting, locks, alarm system etc. (Reid, 2006).

The justification for adopting RAT in explaining the cause of the #End Bad Government protest is that, unidentified criminal elements are the potential offenders who brutalized people, destroyed public and private property affecting socioeconomic activities.

The guardianship includes the security agents who are saddled with the responsibility of combating any form of insecurity in the country. Members of the affected communities are suitable targets and become victims of unidentified criminal protesters during the end bad governance protest. Community members in the affected states that becomes victims of the unidentified criminal protesters are the

suitable targets. The security agents are the capable guardians who were not available to control the activities of the unidentified criminal protesters. This gives advantages to the unidentified criminal protesters in committing heinous crimes against the targets.

Research Methodology

The study adopted a descriptive cross-sectional survey involving eight local governments in Kano metropolis: Dala, Fagge, Gwale, Kano Municipal, Kumbotso, Nassarawa, Tarauni and Ungogo. The justification for the selection of Kano metropolis was because there was mass participation of the protesters and the local governments were seriously affected by the protest. The study adopted qualitative technique where in-depth interview served as the instrument of data collection. The study population comprised of the security agents, community leaders, business owners, bankers, industrialist, participants and the victims of the protest in Kano metropolis. Thematic analysis was conducted based on the objectives of the study.

Findings and Discussion

The discussion was based on four objectives designed. These include: causes of #End Bad Government protest, security implication of #End Bad Government protest, socioeconomic implications of #End Bad Government protest and possible solutions to #End Bad Government protest.

Causes of the #EndBadGovernance Protest

#End Bad Government protest was disastrous and affected many states in Nigeria. This affect resident of the states negatively. Many factors contribute to the protest. In an interview with various stakeholders on the causes of the #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

Poverty has contributed immensely to end bad governance protest. Many people in Nigeria especially in Kano are poor. Many don't have food to eat, sponsor their children to school and pay for medical bills. The youths who came out massively during the protest are unemployed and some are drop out, not attending school. This can push them to commit all sort of criminal offences not necessary the

violent protest we experienced (IDI with a Traditional Ruler, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a religious leader on the causes of #End Bad Government protest also revealed that:

Many youths are neglected by the government, community and the families they belong to. These youths are not given sound western and Islamic education. They are neglected with no opportunity to work for them to survive. Poverty keeps rising everyday among people. This is why many couldn't afford to sponsor their children to school. Parents struggle to feed their children. This contributes to many social problems and moral decadence that led to the protest in the country (IDI with a Religious Leader, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a participant of the protest on the causes of #End Bad Government protest also revealed that:

Actually, we participated in the protest due to bad governmental policies. Youths cannot go to school as many higher institutions increases their registration fees. We cannot eat as many Nigerans are dying from hunger and starvation. Insecurity in northern Nigeria is becoming order of the day. Many were kidnapped and killed by the bandits. Many of the hardship were caused by the removal of fuel subsidy. That is the reason we protested to bring back petroleum subsidy in Nigeria (IDI with a Participant of the Protest, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a business owner and also a victim on the causes #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

Many factors contributed to the protest. Millions of people especially youths are poor becoming scavengers. Poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, insecurity and bad governmental policies are factors contributed to the protest. Most of those who participated were poor youths and some are not attending school, as such illiteracy contributed to the protest. Most of the participants are unemployed have nothing to do in order to sustain their lives. The removal of fuel subsidy also brought hardship that motivated many youths in to the protest (IDI with a Business owner, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with an industrialist on the causes of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

The constitution of Nigeria gave right to peaceful protest. But there are many factors that contributed to the protest. Hunger, poverty, starvation, illiteracy, fuel subsidy and poor economic policies of the government have contributed to the protest in Kano. Majority of the participants were youths who become affected with such bad policies in the country. They cannot attend school or engage in any economic activities. The federal and state governments neglected youths despite the earning of the govern increases due to removal of subsidy. Bad policies usually motivated the protest across the country (IDI with an Industrialist, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a Banker on the causes of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

The protests in Nigeria turned violent in some states affecting, banking sector and commercial activities in Kano city and other states. The causes of the protest arouse due to government policies in the country. Most of the policies are directed by the world Bank and IMF for loan. The policies didn't favour Nigerians, as such many Nigerians who are mostly youths went on protest to revolt against the hardship. Poverty increases with high level of unemployment in Nigeria. Hunger become pervasive as many households can't afford meals three times in a day. This frustrated youths into the protest (IDI with a Banker, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a security agent on the causes of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

The Nigerian constitution provides right to peaceful protest, most of the participants in the protest were said to be youths who are mostly unemployed. Unemployment leads to so many social problems in Nigeria. It includes crimes like kidnapping, theft, burglary, arson and violent conflict. Poverty and unemployment are the causes of insecurity in Nigeria. The protest was mostly caused as a result of unemployment particularly among youths (IDI with a Security Agent, Kano, 2024).

The above findings revealed that many factors contributed to the #End Bad Government protest in Kano state. Some of these factors include poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, removal of fuel subsidy, hunger and insecurity.

Security Implications of #End Bad Governance Protest

No doubt, #End Bad Government protest affects security and socioeconomic activities in Kano state and the country at large. In an interview with various stakeholders on the security implication of the #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

No doubt the protest affects national security. It leads to criminal activities that include arson, theft, looting and killings. Many business owners were affected as their shops were looted by the criminal elements that hijacked the protest. Many shops in Kano metropolis were seriously affected (IDI with a Security Agent, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a security agent on the security implication of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

The protest causes public nuisance, mischief, theft and looting public and private property. Looting someone's property is a crime and also setting one's property ablaze is a felony. The constitution of Nigeria guaranteed right to peaceful protest, but the protesters went beyond the limit, that is why many states declared curfew to restore security for law and order (IDI with a Security Agent, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a security agent on the security implication of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

Most of the protesters came with motive of committing criminal offences. Most of the states that declared curfew did so due to violent and criminal nature of the protest. The security agents played pivotal role in securing markets, banks, public and private property, if not, the level of devastation would have gone beyond quantification. Criminals were mostly the ones that hijacked the protest and criminal offences were seriously committed (IDI with a Security Agent, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a security agent on the security implication of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

Protest is constitutional but making it violent is criminal against the laws of the state. Many of the protesters came out with weapons, possessing weapons without approval by the state is a criminal act. Some of the protesters went round holding foreign flags, this is criminal and treason against the state. The protest affects internal security as most criminal hide under the umbrella of the protest and commit heinous criminal offences in the affected states Kano inclusive (IDI with a Security Agent, Kano, 2024).

The above findings revealed that the #End Bad Government protest in Kano state affects security and peaceful coexistence. Some of the security implication of the protest include, theft, looting, burglary, proliferation of arms and killings.

Socioeconomic Implications of #End Bad Governance Protest

The #End Bad Government protest led closure of industries, banks and markets. This affects socioeconomic activities in Kano state and the country at large. In an interview with a business owner and the victim of the protest on the socioeconomic implications of the protest revealed that:

The protest affects socioeconomic activities. Major markets in Kano that attract many people across the country and neighbouring countries were shutdown. The declaration of curfew by the state government forced even small business to closed. This affect buying and selling leading to hunger. The prices of commodities also increase after the curfew was lifted. Socioeconomic activities in Kano as a commercial centre in northern Nigeria was seriously affected by the protest. Myself as a business owner became the victim of the protest and making it difficult to survive (IDI with a Business Owner, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a banker on the socioeconomic implication of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

The protest was violent affecting all sectors of the economy. Major markets were shutdown affecting the micro and macro earnings. All banks in Kano were shut down due to the protest and curfew

declared by the government. Banks were affected and definitely revenue generated by the government becomes affected. People couldn't not make any transaction with banks. This led to hardship as network of online banking was affected too (IDI with a Banker, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with an industrialist on the socioeconomic implication of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

Socioeconomic activities were seriously affected. The chain of business distribution was affected. There was no production, distribution and exchange of goods and services. Many industries were forced to close due to insecurity of the protest. Billions of naira were lost by industries and business owners in the state. This also led to increase in the cost of production after the situation become normal due to shortage of resources (IDI with an Industrialist, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a Traditional Leader on the socioeconomic implication of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

The economy and livelihood of people were seriously affected by the protest in Kano. Business activities were forced to close. Shops were looted affecting the take up of many businesses. The prices of food stuff and other items also increases which lead to hunger, many become destitute because they can't afford food items during the curfew declared by the government. Major markets in the state that attract millions of people were all closed affecting everyone. Activities in Kano as a commercial centre were seriously destabilized and affect socioeconomic activities in the state (IDI with a Traditional Leader, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a Religious Leader on the socioeconomic implication of #End Bad Government protest revealed that:

Economic activities were crippled during the protest. This affect millions of people. Nothing like business transaction, shops within our domain also closed for fear of being attacked and looted. This caused many problems and increases insecurity. Many business

owners counted lost because they cannot go to market for purchase and sales. Many shop owners who operate increases the price of commodities which affect the needy. The consequences of the protest usually affect the poor who have nothing to offer to their families (IDI with a Religious Leader, Kano, 2024).

Possible Solutions to Future Violent Protests in Kano State

The protest was disastrous and detrimental to the government and members of the community. Many ways can be employed in order to avert the future occurrences of such protest. In an interview with a business owner on the possible solution to future occurrences revealed that:

There is the need for government to take cognizance of the hardship Nigerians are suffering from. There is the need to bring back fuel subsidy since Nigerians are not benefitting from it. More policies need to be implemented that will benefit the humanity. Soft loan should be given to business owners who recorded lost during the protest. Youth should be considered in all policies by the government (IDI with a Business Owner, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a Banker possible solution to future occurrences revealed that:

The economic policies by the federal government are not favouring the masses nor the established business in the country. Government needs to eschew from borrowing from world bank and IMF as most of the cruel policies in this country are directed by those organization. Emphasis should be given to small and medium businesses in order to boost the economy. Youths who are out of school should be train in business and loan to establish business. This will make them to desist from violent act (IDI with a Banker, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with an Industrialist possible solution to future occurrences revealed that:

Many factors contributed to the protest in the country and most of the participants were youths. Government at all levels need to consider youths to make them self-reliant. Employment opportunities and poverty alleviation programmes should target the teeming youths who are unemployed. Government should listen to

the people as the masses voted them into the office. One of the demands of the protesters was hardship as a result of the removal of fuel subsidy. Government should reason with the citizens and bring back the subsidy for betterment of Nigerians (IDI with an Industrialist, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a Traditional Leader possible solution to future occurrences revealed that:

Federal Government should please consider the demand of the protesters. Government should design policies aim at fighting hunger, starvation, unemployment, illiteracy especially among the youths. Government should make higher education accessible and affordable to the teeming youths who drop school as a result of poverty. Self-reliant programmes should be design to salvage to youths from becoming criminals. Many policies when design do not target the designed population because of corruption. Most of the government officials are corrupt, this affects everyone leading to insecurity in the country (IDI with a Traditional Leader, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a Religious Leader possible solution to future occurrences revealed that:

Leaders should know that they will account for their actions in the hereafter. They should desist from corruption, most of the problem people are suffering from resulted from corruption and unqualified people are voted into the mantle of leadership. Government should listen to the people and execute the demands of the people who voted them. The lives of youths should be given priority, must of those who participated in Endsars and the end bad governance protest were youths who are unemployed and have no resources to attend school. Youths should desist from any act of violence, they should get their voter card and get prepared in 2027 (IDI with a Religious Leader, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a Security Agent possible solution to future occurrences revealed that:

Many factors such as hardship, hunger, poverty, illiteracy and unemployment contributed to the protest. Government should provide opportunities to the youths; this is because youths are the

backbone of any society. If government can improve the lives of the youths, it can reduce crimes such as theft, burglary, thuggery, phone snatching and drug abuse. Members of the community should also liaise with security agents and report any suspicious act in their community. This can help to improve security (IDI with a Security Agent, Kano, 2024).

In another in-depth interview with a participant of the protest on the possible solution to future occurrences revealed that:

Majority of the participants during the protest were youths. Youths in Nigeria are suffering from hunger, poverty, unemployment and many are not attending school due to poor governmental policies. The leaders are not aware of the hardship brought by the removal of subsidy. There is the need to bring back subsidy. Many youths today can't afford to eat even once in a day. In such situation a youth can commit crime to sustain his life. University education is now expensive only the children of politicians can afford it, there is the need to make education free at all levels for the youths. Most of the leaders at all levels are corrupt, this affect the lives of the youths, there is the for the fight against corruption in the country (IDI with a Participant of the Protest, Kano, 2024).

Conclusion and Recommendations

The #End Bad Government protest was geared towards liberating Nigerians from hardship but later hijacked by criminal elements. Many states become affected as public and private properties were destroyed, looted and set ablaze. Many lost their lives as the protest became brutal in nature. Security operatives use force in order to bring normalcy in the affected states. Some states declared curfew which added hardship to the citizens as markets, banks and many institutions were closed and people couldn't access necessities of lives. Security, economy and socioeconomic activities were affected in many states across the country. The recommendations for this study are proffered based on the major findings. The study recommends that the Federal government should open borders for food importation since the boarder closure did not yield any impact but hardship on Nigerians leading criminal activities.

The Kano State Government should assist the business owners whose properties were looted and burnt during the #End Bad Government protest. This will help in resuscitating their business and contribute to economic development of the country. The Federal Government should be considerate to the protesters especially in bringing back fuel subsidy as most Nigerians are suffering from the removal of the subsidy. The removal of the subsidy only contributed to hardship but did not yield any impact on the poor Nigerians. Governments at all levels should soften the hard policies that failed to favour many parents. This can help the parents to take care of their families especially in providing the basic needs such as food, education and healthcare. Most of the policies directed by the World Bank and IMF put the lives of Nigerians into hardship. Both the Federal and State governments should be proactive in dealing with security issues and threats, through modern methods of intelligence gathering, training, logistics, motivation and deploying advanced technology in managing security across the country.

Community participation and proactive engagement of civil society and stakeholders should be encouraged, this can help in the fight against insecurity in Nigeria. Government should create avenue and initiate programmes targeting how to improve the lives of youths to become self-reliant. This can help the youths and eschew from criminality. Government should make education affordable and accessible to the teeming youths as enshrined in the constitution. This will help in the fight against illiteracy in the country.

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