

INSECURITY IN AFRICA: SCALES, FACTORS, STRUCTURAL AND CYCLICAL DETERMINANTS

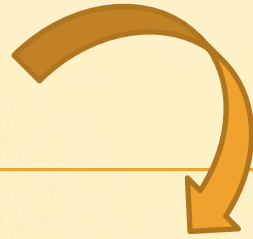
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***DELIVERED AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SECURITY: WHAT
GLOBAL GOVERNANCE IN CENTRAL AFRICA TO ADDRESS THE RISE OF
VIOLENT EXTREMISM ORGANISED BY CAFRAD, EIFORCES AND ACBF
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- ❖ SCALES OF INSECURITY
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- ❖ WAY FORWARD
- ❖ CONCLUSION

- ❖ **WHY THIS INITIATIVE?**
- ❖ **WHY THIS TOPIC?**
- ❖ **GLOBAL EFFORTS AT EXTERMINATING INSECURITY**
- ❖ **NEED TO CONSOLIDATE ON PAST GAINS AND MOVE FORWARD**
- ❖ **LAW AS THE CONVEYOR BELT TO ACHIEVE SECURITY**
- ❖ **STRATEGY AND TECHNOLOGY AS IMPERATIVES**

CONCEPT OF SECURITY AND INSECURITY

- ❖ Security as a concept denotes internal and external safety, protection of lives and property of citizenry in a defined geographical expression, upholding law and order in a society, enabling environment for pursuit of economic activities resulting into gains and ultimate prosperity
- ❖ Security or the corollary insecurity may be articulated from the perspective of human and global development matrix
- ❖ Preservation of core values
- ❖ Insecurity, extremism and terrorism

CONCEPT (CONTD)

- ❖ Survival and conditions of human existence
- ❖ Francis, D.J. perceives it as “feeling safe from harm and danger, defence, production and preservation of core values..”
- ❖ Egbewole security is living without any fear of foreign conquest. Paper delivered at Ouagadougou in 2013

EVOLUTION OF INSECURITY IN AFRICA

- ❖ Pre 1995 scenario
- ❖ Insurgency and terrorism since 1995- Between 1995 and 2001 only 8% of terrorism committed on African soil
- ❖ Africa now appear to be the hotbed of terrorism in the world and witnessed and still witnessing various acts of extremism in Egypt, Algeria, Nigeria, Mali, Kenya, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Somalia to mention a few
- ❖ Mombasa bombings of 2002 represented a watershed.
- ❖ US Embassy bombing in the Horn of Africa

LESSONS FROM PREVIOUS ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Critical Thinking lost on past activities
- ❖ Non involvement or little deployment of technology
- ❖ Emotional and sentimental reactions
- ❖ Engagement strategy totally neglected
- ❖ Youthful redundancy- mass unemployment: idle hand theory



SCALES OF THE INSECURITY

- ❖ What scale is insecurity in the world?
- ❖ What is the share of the scale Africa?
- ❖ What effort(s) are we making in reducing the scale?
- ❖ Who are those involved?
- ❖ Why do we need the reduction?
- ❖ Rather discuss extermination?
- ❖ Concerted efforts needed?



FACTORS OF INSECURITY

- ❖ Socio-political firmaments- sit tight syndrome, high handedness, expansion of political space leading to unregulated liberty.
- ❖ Poor socio-economic conditions leading to cyclical poverty, economic subjugation, extermination of the middle class.
- ❖ Corruption culminating in infrastructural decay, creating a class of nouveau rich at the expense of the hard working middle class
- ❖ Personification of government

FACTORS (CONTD)

- ❖ Failure of technology
- ❖ 4 prong dimensional theory of structural, facilitator, motivational and triggering causes
- ❖ Structural from imbalances either ethnic, demography or class
- ❖ Facilitator including social media revolution, technological advancement etc
- ❖ Motivational- mass movement through appeal
- ❖ Immediate cause phenomenon

STRUCTURAL AND CYCLICAL

- ❖ Structuralism as a concept denotes understanding the human culture in terms of relationship to the environment
- ❖ Structure of extremism, insecurity and fundamentalism better understood from the denial and pristine piety regimes
- ❖ Are there local variations or cultural imperativeness for extremism in Africa?
- ❖ Do we need laws apart from what we presently have?

STRUCTURAL AND CYCLICAL (CONTD)

- ❖ Do we need a regional initiative?
- ❖ Why the cyclical continuum of extremism?
- ❖ Why are where we are inspite of our efforts
- ❖ Pointing at global conspiracy- living in denial?
- ❖ Structuralism introspection as escape route:
Need to carefully make observations under controlled conditions to decipher the problem and using “anatomy of the mind” to navigate

WAY FORWARD

- ❖ Good governance
- ❖ Technology as a vehicle of development
- ❖ Critical thinking on revamping the African economy- need to move from consumption to production
- ❖ Massive job creation
- ❖ Religious extremism to be discouraged by providing viable alternative platforms



WAY FORWARD (CONTD)

- ❖ Involving all critical stakeholders in the process
- ❖ Effective utilization of law as instrument of socio, economic and political development



CONCLUSION

- ❖ Africa must move from the primitive and anachronistic regime to a developmental platform by providing equal opportunities for all
- ❖ Ensure guaranteed future for all citizenry
- ❖ Further expansion of political space with responsible libertarianism



**THANK
YOU
FOR
LISTENING**