THE (COVID-19) PANDEMIC: NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND GOVERNANCE IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The covid-19 pandemic is a serious health challenge, that has challenged the expertise and the knowledge of not only the health workers and practioners, but also the people and government all over the world, this is because it has defied all known and established medical solutions. As the whole world continues to grapple with the problem posed by the pandemic and the continuous search for a lasting cure and solution to the pandemic, it has continued to ravaged not just the health sector, but has also gone a long way to negatively affect the socio-political, economic, public participation and good governance of different countries of the world. One of the major means of curtailing and containing the spread of the deadly virus, as stipulated by the World Health Organisation (WHO)covid-19 protocol is social distancing, the act of moving apart from people in other to prevent the spread of the virus. It's the effort of keeping at least 2-metres away from people to avoid physical contact with one another. This paper-examined the negative effects of the covid-19 pandemic on public participation and governance in Nigeria. The explorative method of analysis was adopted for the study, secondary data. The paper established that the main issues around the pandemic, that has triggered it more is the lack of adequate preparation by various governments of the world to combat the health challenge of such magnitude and also, the failure by most citizens of the world to globally adhere to the various covid-19 pandemic protocol as specified by the World Health Organisation (WHO), such as staying at home for some months, this is majorly due to the socio-economic needs of the citizens to survive economically. The paper thus, suggests that ~~a~~ consolidated fund should always be set aside not just by the World Health Organisation (WHO) but also, through the various governments of the world in case of the occurrence of such pandemic in the nearest future.

Key words: Covid-19 pandemic, negative impact, public participation, good governance, Nigeria.

Introduction

History/Origin of Covid-19

The emergence of COVID-19 pandemic, has not only affected the health workers and practitioners alone, but it has also gone a long way to negatively affect public participation of the citizens, as well as governance and by extension good governance. This paper is not unmindful of some of the gains of the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about in forms of the ability of some employees to actually work from home, company executives and managers in both public and private establishments who hitherto cannot do without physical meetings are now having executive meetings through virtual meeting devices such as the Zoom communication device and students now have more reliance on e-learning as teaching and learning now take place in the communication space devoid of the usual physical presence of the teachers and the learners in the four walls of

the formal classroom settings. Furthermore, more families and other social units now look to diversify their various forms of income in order to cope with the negative socio-economic effects of the dreaded COVID-19 pandemic. The goal of this paper is to examine the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on public participation and governance in Nigeria.

Covid-19 pandemic is a serious health issue, a health issue that has altered and re-configure our lives, and the way we live, it has completely change how we relate as human beings, our business transactions, teaching and learning experience, situation and environment, intra and inter-governmental relations. It has challenged the expertise and the knowledge of not only the health workers and practitioners, but also the people and government all over the world, this is because it has defied all known and established medical solutions. As the whole world continues to grapple with the problem posed by the pandemic and the continuous search for a lasting cure and solution to the pandemic, it has continued to ravaged not just the health sector, but has also gone a long way, to negatively affect the socio-political, economy, the collapsed of many companies, factories and industries, public participation and good governance of different countries across the globe.

In the initial outbreak in Wuhan, China, the dangerous infection was commonly referred to as "coronavirus" and "Wuhan coronavirus", (Griffiths, 2020), it was also referred to as "Wuhan pneumonia" (Chen, Zhou, Dong X, Qu J, Gong, Han (2020). Previously, numerous ailments have been named after the topographical locations where they originated from, for example, the Spanish influenza (a misnomer, as it is commonly agreed to that the flu did not start in Spain, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome and Zika infection (Shablovsky, 2017).

The official names, that's COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 were issued by the WHO on 11th February, 2020 (WHO, 2020) WHO Leader, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus clarified thus; CO for corona, VI for virus, D for disease and 19 for when the outbreak was first identified (31th December, 2019) (European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC), 2020). WHO additionally uses "the COVID-19 virus" and "the virus responsible for COVID-19" in her public statements (WHO, 2020). The virus was commonly referred to as "coronavirus" in the media and public discourse. Newspapers and other well-known media have frequently spelled the disease without capitalizing all letters as "Covid-19" because it is pronounced as spelled, it is not an acronym such as BBC in which each letters is pronounced, but the fully capitalized version continues to be the medically correctly spelt that's "COVID-19" (Ribbans, 2020).

Conceptual Discourse

COVID-19: Nomenclature, Diagnosis, warning signs and preventive measures

The virus is thought to be natural and it has an animal origin (Andersen, 2020), and spread through an infected person (Berger, 2020). The actual origin is unknown, but by December, 2019 the spread of the infection was almost entirely driven by human-to-human transmission (Heymann, 2020). A study of the first 41 cases of confirmed COVID-19, published in January, 2020 in The Lancet, revealed that the earliest date of onset of the virus was 1st December, 2019 (Cohen, 2020). Official publications from the WHO reported the earliest outbreak of the infection was 8th December, 2019 (Kuo, 2020). However, human-to-human transmission was confirmed by the WHO and Chinese authorities by 20th January, 2020 (Kuo, 2020).

Coronavirus disease 2019, COVID-19 is an infectious sickness brought about by serious intense respiratory condition Covid 2, also referred to as (SARS-CoV-2) (Hui, et al., 2020). The infection was first brought into lime light in December, 2019 in Wuhan, the capital of China's Hubei province, and has since spread worldwide, culminating into the present 2019–20 coronavirus pandemic (Hui, et al., 2020). Common indications include fever, cough and shortness of breath (Hopkins, 2020). Other indicators may include; fatigue, muscle pain, diarrhoea, sore throat, loss of smell, and abdominal pain (Hopkins, 2020). The time from contact to manifestation of the warning signs is usually five days, but may range from two to fourteen days (Velavan, 2020). While most of the cases leads to mild warning signs, sometimes leading to viral pneumonia and multi-organs failure (Hui, et al., 2020). Since, the beginning of 20th April, 2020, more than 2.4 million cases have been reported across 185 countries and territories (Worldometers,2020) resulting in more than 165,000 deaths, and more than 624,000 people have recovered (Hopkins CSSE, 2020).

The normal procedure of diagnosis is by real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) from a nasopharyngeal swab (CDC, 2020). Chest CT pictures or images are of huge assistance for detection in patients where there is a high doubt of infection, depending on the indications and danger factors; nevertheless, this procedure is not endorsed for routine diagnosis (Salehi, 2020). Some of the prescribed measures to forestall the spread of the disease consist of regular hand washing, maintaining social distance from one another, covering ones nose, when coughing, and sneezing with a tissue paper or inner elbow, and also keeping unwashed hands away from the face (WHO, 2020), and infected persons and medical personnel are also encouraged to use face masks (CDC, 2020). However, the endorsement of the use of face masks by the general public varies, with some authorities recommending against their use, some recommending their use, and others requiring their use (Tait, 2020). Presently, there is no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19 (WHO, 2020). It should also be noted that some other measures to curtail the spread of the disease also include the treatment of the symptoms, supportive care, isolation, and diagnostic measures (CDC, 2020).

Wu, Chen, and Chan (2020), maintained that, the most ideal approach to forestall and hinder the transmission is for people to be very much educated about the COVID-19 infection, the illness it causes and how it is spreads. Shielding oneself, as well as other people from the disease by washing one's hands or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer regularly and preventing the touching of one's face with unwashed hands. The COVID-19 infection spreads principally through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected individual coughs or sneezes. Currently, there are no specific serums or antibodies for COVID-19, but there are many on-going medical experiment and assessment leading to viable vaccines. Official names have been pronounced for the virus accountable for COVID-19 (previously known as "2019 novel coronavirus") and the disease it causes. The official names are: coronavirus disease (COVID-19), Virus severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, (SARS-CoV-2), Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), Coronavirus, COVID, 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease, and Novel coronavirus pneumonia (Chen, 2020). Viruses, and the sicknesses they cause, mostly have various names. For instance, HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. Individuals often know

the name of a disease, but not the name of the virus that causes it. Viruses are named based on their genetic structure to help the progress of problem-solving tests, vaccines and medicines. This is usually done by the Virologists and the wider scientific community; hence, viruses are named by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV). Diseases are named to further encourage discourse on the illness contraction, spread, and adequate therapy**.** The major task of WHO is, human disease awareness and response, therefore, diseases are officially named by WHO in the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) (Kessler, 2020). ICTV announced "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)" as the name of the new virus on 11th February, 2020.This name was given because the virus is genetically related to the coronavirus responsible for the SARS outbreak of 2003.The two viruses are similar, but not the same. WHO announced "COVID-19" as the name of this new infection on 11th February, 2020, following the protocol hitherto established by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

In order to guide against misinformation, therefore adopting the name SARS can lead to sending wrong signals to the world by generating needless fear for some populace, particularly in Asia which was worst hit by the SARS epidemic in 2003. In view of this, WHO started referring to the infection as "the virus responsible for COVID-19" or "the COVID-19 virus" when relating officially with the public. Neither of these terms are proposed as substitutes for as the endorsed name of the virus as agreed by the ICTV (Hopkins CSSE, 2020).

Furthermore, some cases in China at first revealed chest rigidity and palpitations as symptoms (Zheng, 2020). In one experimental analysis, only about half of the patients had fever at the commencement of their hospitalization, but 89% developed fever at some point during their hospitalization. Fever and respiratory problems came up later both in some elderly people and some people with other medical circumstances (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP), 2020) In some, the disease may progress to pneumonia, multi-organ failure, and death (Hui, et al., 2020). In those who came up with serious symptoms, the time from the beginning of the symptom to requiring mechanical ventilation is usually eight days (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP), 2020). Loss of smell was detected as a common symptom of COVID-19 in March, 2020 (Hopkins, 2020), which was never revealed to the public previously (Pulus, 2020).

Fundamentally, in a normal infection, there is an interlude between the period a person is infected with the virus and the period the symptoms manifest. This is the incubation period. The incubation period for COVID-19 is usually five to six days, but may range from two to 14 days (WHO, 2020). Furthermore, 97.5% of persons who manifest the symptoms will do so within 11.5 days of infection (Lauer, Grantz, Bi, Jones, Zheng, Meredith, Azman, Reich, & Lessler, 2020). Studies have revealed that, not all those who are infected actually manifest the symptoms. The role of these asymptomatic carriers in the transmission process is not yet fully discovered (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP), 2020). Nonetheless, initial evidence has indicated that, they may actually lead to the spread of the pandemic infection (Bai, Yao, Lingsheng, Wao, Tian, Jin, Chen, & Wang, 2020).

Similarly, the number of infected persons who do not show the warning signs is presently

unavailable and is still under investigation, however, the Korea Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC) revealed that 20% of all established cases remained asymptomatic in their hospitalisation period (Bloomberg, 2020). China's National Health Commission started adding asymptomatic cases on its daily cases on 1st April, among the 166 infected persons on that day, 130 (78%) were asymptomatic as at the period of testing (Day, 2020). Serious symptoms include difficulty in breathing, bluish lips or face, persistent chest pain or pressure, confusion, and an inability to move, that's a very high level of immobility (Health direct, 2020).

Public Participation: Meaning and Models

Public participation in democratic governance comes in various shades and forms, for instance: involvement in political campaigns, occupying public or political offices, being a candidate in an election, analyzing political ideas, spreading of party manifestoes, membership of pressure groups, contributing cash towards party activities and so on (Neshkova 2012). Rowe & Frewer (2005), stated that public participation that does not take into account the subject of consultation with the local people cannot be described as an effective public participation. Therefore, the major thrust of public participation is the sustained deliberation and negotiation with the common man in the society. The desired objective is citizen engagement in order to play more active roles in governance.

It should be noted that, most modern day governments expends a lot of money and time in order to bring about the effective participation of their people in the election process, this serves as a form of legitimacy for the party after winning the elections, and in order to also win the support and sympathy of more citizens, while executing their policies and goals (Cavalcanti, Schlapter, & Schmid, 2009).

A solid relationship has been found to exist between public participation in democratic governance and citizens' engagement (Gaventa, 2011). This has been brought to bear to a convincing level with the adoption of various methods to boost public participation in governance. These numerous approaches include, but are not limited to, normative theories of public participation which focuses on matters of capability and equality, such as citizen advisory councils, citizen panels, public surveys, public forums and citizen juries (Hendricks 2002); inclusive citizenship (Kabeer 2005); participatory citizenship (Gaventa & Valderrama, 1999); citizens' action (Gaventa, 2004); (Coelho & von Lieres 2010) and citizens' engagement (Gaventa & Barrett 2012).

Other participatory methods has to do with; community conversations, community dinners, deliberative democracy forums (Carr & Halvorsen 2001); innovative citizen participation strategies (Leighninger 2002); large group interaction model, e-government initiatives (Cuthill 2003); representative democracy (Wiesen 2003); participatory budgeting processes (Kroning 2004); town hall meetings, participatory democratic model (Aragon & Sanchez, 2008); consensus conferences, deliberative polls, empowered participatory governance, countervailing power, participatory publics and fourth power (Sintomer, Herzberg & Rocke 2008).

Governance

Bevir (2012) defined governance as, all processes of governance, for instance; undertaken by the government, market, or network, a family, a tribe, a formal or an informal organization, or territory, and through laws, norms, power or language. Governance differs from government in that it concentrates less on

the state and its organizational structures, but more on social practices and events.

Like government, the word governance evolves, from the Greek verb kubernaein [kubernáo] (meaning to steer, the symbolic sense that was initially confirmed in Plato). It is use in English language to denote some definite actions of presiding a country, and dated back to early modern England, when the phrase "governance of the realm" appeared in some of the works of William Tyndale and in royal communication between James V of Scotland and Henry VIII of England (Bevir, 2012). The initial usage in line with the institutional structures, as a distinct entity from the individual rule was in Charles Plummer's 'The Governance of England' (1885 translation from a 15th-century Latin work by John Fortescue, also known as The Difference between an Absolute and a Limited Monarchy). This usage of governance to refer to the methods of governing became orthodox, including in Sidney Low's seminal text of the same title in 1904 and among some later British constitutional historians (Hufty, 2011).

Nevertheless, the currently adopted use of the term governance, include all the activities of a larger variety of public and private institutions. It further became prominent in the 1990s, when it was re-coined by Economists and Political Scientists, and further spread by international organizations such as the United Nations (UN), the International Monetary Funds (IMF) and World Bank (2006). This has led to the rise and popularity in the adoption and use of the term governance.

Kinds of governance

Governance is usually associated with a given level of power and authority in line with a specific kind of organization, that's; public governance, global governance, non-profit governance, corporate governance, and project governance. Governance is also related to the type of actions and procedures, that includes; environmental governance, internet governance, and information technology governance, or a particular kind of governance, usually coined as an empirical or normative theory; involving regulatory governance, participatory governance, multilevel governance, and collaborative governance. Governance can also be described as normative or practical actions. Normative idea encompasses fair governance, or good governance, its common mostly in political, public sector, voluntary, and private sector administrations (Lijun, 1998).

Governance as a process

Governance as a process is often shrouded in abstract, this is because, governance is often a theoretical concept that denotes the activities that brings about stability in the practical sense, and the rise of formal and informal institutions (Lijun, 1998). These activities may operate in formal and informal institutions regardless of the scope, and may be aimed at achieving any objective, decent or indecent, for profit or for non-profit. Looking at governance from this perspective, it can also be applicable to the idea of the states, corporations, non-profits organizations such as non- governmental organizations (NGOs), partnerships and other associations, business relationships, project teams, and any other humanly involved activities, including the family unit (Lijun,1998).

Public governance

It should be noted that there is a clear difference, between the concepts of politics and governance. Politics encompasses the procedures by which a set of individuals, perhaps with opposing views or ideas, arrives at a group decision, often perceived as obligatory on the group, and it is often prescribed as a general guide on the group. However, governance, on the other side, carries

the managerial and means of achieving the goals and objectives of politics, not playing the role of hostility or opposing governance (Offe, 2009). However, the argument for and against the actual separation between politics and governance ranges on among political scholars, and even between politics and administration. However, power and accountability are related to all the terms.

In common usage, public governance takes place in three major forms: through systems connecting public-private partnerships (PPP) or with the partnership of community organisations; the use of market forces from which market values of competition is use to distribute wealth while, functioning under the government guidelines and through the top-down approach that mainly has to do with governments and the state administration.

Private governance

Private governance takes place in a non-governmental entity. However, they directly or indirectly play active roles in rule-making and these standards which have a binding effect on the quality of life and prospects of the larger society. In essence, private entities are also indirectly involved in making public policy statements. For instance, insurance agencies apply a tremendous influence on the society, most often than none, they are mostly unseen and are easily approved, and that is a private form of governance in the society (Mendoza, 2014). The term public policy, should not be entirely related with policy that is made by government. Public policy can be established by the private or the public organization. Nonetheless, it's safe to refer to public policy that is made by government, as governmental policy, this eradicates the uncertainty concerning the organ involved in public policy making.

Good governance

Good governance is a term usually use in the international system to explain the different normative experience of how public structures should be manage and the ability to be able to allocate resources effectively in the public domain. These normative experiences are often times expressed on the grounds that, they are favourable to economic needs, such as the reduction of poverty level, and improvement in the economic conditions of the majority of the populace. It should be noted however that, various governments and administrations tends to have different definitions of governance and good governance at different point in time in order to serve and defend different narratives and expressions.

According to the World Bank, governance can be defined as the "manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic and social resources for development" (World Bank, 1991). The Worldwide Governance Indicators project of the World Bank, defines governance as, the "traditions and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised" (World Bank, 2006). In essence, governance is perceived as the process by which governments comes into power, effective application of rule of law, adequate checks and balances. It also has to do with the efficient ability of the government to put in place and execute excellence public policies for the overall benefits of all the citizens, protection of citizens' dignity, the state and the various institutions that oversee the economic and social relations in the state.

Governance has also observed from another perspective as the use of state's apparatus, power and authority to allocate resources, and the creation of equal opportunity for all citizens to benefit from the economic development of the

state and the overall control and administration of the economy for the benefit of all citizens (Bell, 2002). According to the United Nations Development Programme's Regional Project on Local Governance for Latin America, Governance has been defined as the ability of the political structures to resolve conflicts between formidable actors and the ability to arrive at binding policies on all actors. It has also been used to describe the "proper functioning of institutions and their acceptance by the public" (legitimacy). It is also assumed as the effectiveness of government and the ability of government to be able to arrive at democratic consensus in the midst of varying individual and communal interest and values (Applebaugh, 2010).

Negative impacts of covid-19 on public participation and governance in Nigeria

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about some gains in forms of the ability of some employees to actually work from home, company executives and managers in both public and private establishments who hitherto cannot do without physical meetings are now having executive meetings through virtual meeting devices such as zoom and students now have more reliance on e-learning as teaching and learning now takes place in the communication space devoid of the usual physical presence of the teacher and the learners, and the four walls of the formal classroom settings and more families and other social units now look to diversify their various forms of income in order to cope with the negative economic effects of the dreaded COVID-19 pandemic.

In as much as there has been some measure of gains amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, there has also been a lot of negative and adverse effects of the pandemic, due to the following reasons:

Stigmatization: Citizens that have been infected with the coronavirus disease are often stigmatised ~~upon~~ by family members, relatives and the general public sometimes even leading to death. They are often isolated in unhygienic environment without adequate care, and some that have managed to survive the disease are often kept at arm distance and look upon with suspicion. This continuous and sustained stigmatization often times leads to depression and consequent psychological trauma and mental health challenges on the COVID-19 survivals. In all these the public participation of such citizens is restricted and are not able to take part in citizen engagement, town hall meetings and others, which may necessarily have to be physical, thus their level of public participation is usually restricted because of the associated stigma that goes with COVID-19 patients in Nigeria.

Discrimination: The pandemic novel coronavirus has also led to unnecessary discrimination particularly from Nigerians that are coming home from China, the epicentre of the pandemic, and other hugely affected countries such as Brazil and the United States of America. Even though most Nigerians coming from these COVID-19 hugely affected countries do have health certificate from the same Chinese authority indicating that they are free from the virus having tested negative to it are still discriminated upon, on arrival in the country. This situation often times restricts the movement of these returnees, and thus affects their level of public participation as citizens in the country.

Collapse of Trust between citizens and government: This has been hugely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The government is supposed to hold the position of authority as a trust for the citizens, but the covid-19 experience has led to the breakdown and total collapse of the trust between the government and the governed.

For instance, the so-called palliative from government, that are supposed to be distributed and shared amongst the citizens only end up in the hands of politicians, the political party stalwarts and supporters. Therefore, social palliatives such as Food stuff and other provision do not actually get to the desired populace. Furthermore, most of the facemasks that have been distributed to the poor masses have been confirmed to be fake, this is because, it is not the same face marks that are used by the government officials are also used by the ordinary citizens. The implication of this is that good governance is under threat, because the whole essence of good governance is the provision of adequate social welfare for the majority of the citizens.

Insecurity: Another major negative impact out of the COVID-19 pandemic and which has not only affected governance and also public participation of the people is the problem of insecurity in the country. Due to the biting and sustained economic hardship experience with the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the need for people to feed themselves and survive over relatively scarce resources, has led to the emergence of urban street gangs such as the one million boys. These urban gangs often move in groups, particularly in the night, robbing innocent citizens of their hard earn money, going on looting spree and rapping women as they move from one street to the other. These in most cases have often led to total breakdown of law and order.

Negative Economic impact: The economy is the super structure on which other institutions and structures are built on. The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively affected many economies of the world, Nigeria inclusive. When the economy is down, ultimately public participation will be minimal; this is because people have no means of moving from one destination to the other. Subsequently, the stock exchange markets continue to fall exponentially, crude oil price falling down exponentially, hunger, loss of jobs, and more family eating at home as a unit, hence the survival of the fittest. What this portends is a huge failure on the part of the government to do the needful. Therefore, governance and public participation is thus affected negatively. Recently, as a result of the economic down turn, occasioned by the emergence of COVID-19 pandemic, Germany has sent a COVID-19 damages bill to China, insisting that China didn't do enough to curtail the spread of the deadly virus from getting out of China, and spreading to other parts of the world. Most international and domestic flight operators and airlines have had to retrenched and sacked their pilots and other co-workers as a result of the travelling embargo placed by various government of the world on curtailing the spread of the virus, thus leading to very low patronage from travellers and customers.

Domestic and gender violence, this has become more rampant and pronounced in the COVID-19 pandemic era. As many members of the community continues to grapple with the economic down turn reality, the more disagreement, frustration and aggression leading to domestic and gender violence. couple's that hitherto hardly stay together are forced by the COVID-19 pandemic to stay together at home for a long period of time, this situation has ensured that disagreements, conflicts and misunderstanding that are often overlook because of the distance between the couples are now brought to the fore, leading to physical assaults and violence among couples and partners.in this kind of situation, there is no way, the public involvement and participation of such household will not be affected or reduced to the barest minimum.

Criminal related incidence, as a measure to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the prisons and correction centres, more and more hardened criminals are being released from prisons, on a daily basis. This action by government boils down to government deficit as the government can no longer cope with the feeding, accommodation, medical and health needs of these criminals. Most of these criminals on their release often go back to commit even more heinous crimes. This situation has led to the rise in the number of reported crime rate in the country.

Brutality by the security operatives, in a bid to forcefully ensure the enforcement of the COVID-19 lock down, many Nigerians have been tortured to death by the soldiers. This is an eye opener to the breakdown of governance in the country, at least 18 people killed in Lagos alone within two weeks of the enforcement of the lockdown, this is because, most of the security officials lack the necessary training to enforce the lockdown order. In all these what suffer most is the public engagements of the people and it also show case the breakdown of governance and extra judicial killings as an offshoot of and the negative resultant effects of COVID-19 pandemic.

Cross border / inter – state tension, as more nations are caught up in the web of the COVID-19 pandemic, the more attempts are made by the various government to protect their citizens and their economy from the negative effects of the pandemic. This has made many countries to come up with emergency laws and legislations in other to do this. In an attempt to thus close their border from foreigners and even citizens coming from other countries with COVID-19 virus, tension often erupt at the border between the citizens of different countries as well as between the security operatives and the citizens, leading to chaos, and anarchy, orders and counter orders and instructions from the superior officers to the junior ones on the field. Order and counter, will ultimately lead to disorder.

High death rate, it's a fact that the advent of COVID-19 has led to more death than any other related virus. This high death rate are not just ordinary human lives, they represent the human capital development of the country, some are experts in their chosen career and have excel along the way, such as university professors, engineer, medical doctors, nurses, lawyers and many other professionals that would have added a lot of value to the country have actually been lost to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the paper is convinced that the main issues around the pandemic, that has triggered it more is the lack of adequate preparation by various governments of the world to combat the health challenges of such magnitude and also, the failure by most citizens of the world to globally adhere to the various COVID-19 pandemic protocol as specified by the World Health Organisation (WHO), such as staying at home for some months, this is majorly due to the socio-economic needs of the citizens to survive economically.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the paper thus, suggests the following recommendations:-

1. A consolidated fund should always be set aside not just by the World Health Organisation but also, the various governments, through the various Ministries of Health in different countries of the world in the case of the occurrence of similar pandemic in the nearest future.
3. The government must look for a lasting solution to the problem of abject poverty currently faced by most Nigerians, as more

and more Nigerians continues to live below the poverty level. Thus, the government must provide the enabling environment for both the public and private individuals to succeed economically by providing the citizens stable power supply, access to clean water, and adequate security to lives and properties. This will go a long way in assisting the citizens in case of another outbreak of any pandemic in the future.

4. Also, functional and qualitative education should be provided for the citizens and at an affordable rate. The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic has actually revealed that a good number of Nigerians are not well educated, this is because most never believe in the existence of COVID-19 pandemic. This boils down to lack of adequate education on their part as they continuous leave in a state of denial of the pandemic and deadly virus.
5. As it is presently structured, Nigeria runs a monolithic economy, based on the production of crude oil. The covid-19 pandemic has actually shown that Nigerian citizens as well as the government must look inward to other forms of the economy, such as agriculture, and the exploration of other solid mineral resources such as coal, limestone, gold, and others. This will ensure that the economy is never grounded as a resultant effect of over reliance and over dependence on a monolithic oil-based economy.

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