



FARMERS-PASTORALISTS CONFLICTS AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON INTERNAL SECURITY SECURITY IN NIGERIA

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TOPIC

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AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON
INTERNAL SECURITY
IN NIGERIA





INTRODUCTION





INTRODUCTION



The Globe

- ➤ Nations all over the world strive to provide a peaceful and conducive environment for the wellbeing of the citizenry
- This may not be the case, as most nations are usually engulfed in various forms of conflicts or communal strife
- Conflict is an indispensable result of the interaction between people across the globe

Source: http://www.lenticularpromo.com/v/vspfiles/asages/animated_gifs/gif









Conflicts in Nigeria

- ➤ Ranging from family disputes to total war, conflicts have defined human existence from time immemorial
- ➤ It has resulted in the rise or fall of civilizations as well as the reformation or destruction of societies
- Conflict connotes a process of differences between groups, people or nations that leads to disagreement
- > The root of most conflicts is related to either power dynamics or the control of resources

Source: http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-z7S52LBCk/rczRh1Yjb8g/s1600/NIGERIAWEB.jpg









Effects of Violent Conflict

- > These disagreements are settled either through peaceful means or by violence
- ➤ Violent conflict between groups in a society or state could cause loss of lives, destruction of property and displacement of people, which hampers the wellbeing of citizens and the development of the state
- > One form of conflict that is fundamental in the interaction between people is disputes between pastoralists and farmers







Farming on Arable Land



Pastoralist Grazing on Arable Land

- Although, both groups are indispensable to the food security of most societies, the antithesis of their modes of production has always been a source of conflict
- As farmers seek more arable land to cultivate crops, pastoralists also desire more extensive grassland and water sources to graze their animals
- The competition between farmers and pastoralists for these scarce land resources often leads to violent conflicts which in turn has the propensity to undermine the internal security of a state

Source: http://canng.org/images/Grazing.jpg







Map of India

- ➤ In India, competition for grazing areas is intense
- Population growth is pushing arable farming into marginal areas due to introduction of modern transportation and low-cost irrigation techniques
- This results in a competition between pastoralists and farmers for scarce resources

Source: https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/71RgfleTq6L._SL1148_.jpg







Advocacy for Pastoralist-Farmers
Tolerance in India

- The numbers and political power of farmers as well as land tenure systems that favours farming more than livestock appears to make the farmers more dominant
- The Government is advocating policies for that would ensure a balanced and harmonious understanding of both parties as well as their interests

Source: http://South+Indian+Farmers+SICCFM+meeting.JPG







In Kenya, there are perennial conflicts between pastoralists and farmers

Longer dry seasons and uncertain rains have put pressure on pastoralists to migrate to areas like Kiboya, 250 kilometres from Nairobi, in search of pasture and water, which is inhabited by farmers

Map of Kenya

Source: http://www.aidthechildren.com/assets/images/Kenya.gif





- The conflicts have been traced to many factors like inadequate land tenure policies, inappropriate government development policies, political and socio-economic marginalization of pastoralists
- > Inadequate arrangements to cope with droughts and other emergencies
- Conflicts between pastoralists and farmers has remained a major focus of the Kenyan government due to the attendant security concerns





- ➤ In Nigeria, conflicts between farmers and pastoralists has been on the increase in recent years
- Clashes between the 2 parties are largely rooted in disputes over land as well as the rising numbers of livestock and encroachment on grazing lands which has increased the risks of conflict

Nigerian Flag

Source: http://flaglane.com/download/nigerian-flag/nigerian-flag-graphic.png







Map of Nigeria

- In 2014, there were over 200 reported incidents of pastoralists and farmers conflict which resulted in thousands of people displaced, destruction of property and farmlands as well as loss of cattle
- This further heightened the state of insecurity in affected states notably Kaduna, Benue, Plateau, Nassarawa, Katsina and Zamfara amongst others

Source: https://beaumont.tamu.edu/ClimaticData/WorldMaps/4_37.gif







- ➤ The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) has adopted measures over the years to stem the tide of farmers-pastoralists clashes in Nigeria
- The FGN has also budgeted huge sums of money for the Great Green Wall Programme, aimed at combating desertification that is a major factor that drives pastoralists southwards in search of grazing areas

Source: https://Seal_of_the_President_of_Nigeria.svg.png









- Despite these efforts, conflicts have continued unabated, as most of the grazing reserves are either not utilized or suitable for use by the pastoralists as farmers have encroached upon some of them
- The persistent clashes between both parties and the unintended consequences of wanton destruction of properties and loss of lives not only undermines internal security, but by extension livestock development in the country

Effects of Farmers-Pastoralists Clash in Nigeria

Source: http://carllevan.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/.jpg







To discuss the implications of pastoralists and farmers conflicts on internal security in Nigeria with a view to making recommendations





<u>SCOPE</u>

- Overview of pastoralists and farmers conflicts in Nigeria
- Causes of pastoralists and farmers conflicts in Nigeria
- > Implications of pastoralist and farmers conflicts on Internal Security in Nigeria
- > Strategies to mitigate pastoralists and farmers conflicts in Nigeria



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OVERVIEW OF PASTORALISTS AND FARMERS CONFLICT'S IN NIGERIA





Farmers-Herdsmen Clash in Nigeria

- Conflicts between pastoralists and farmers have existed in varying intensity and frequency since the beginning of agriculture
- > Clashes between the 2 parties in Nigeria started becoming violent from the 1980s
- This was because the marked expansion of cultivation of the Fadama (riverine and valley-bottom) areas led to both the farmers and pastoralists engaging in fierce struggles for access to such valuable lands

Source: http://www.southworld.net/wp-content.pas-3.jpg







Map of Nigeria Showing States that have Experienced Farmers-Pastoralists Clashes

- ➤ Clashes have taken place in many states in Nigeria such as Kaduna, Taraba, Nassarawa, Enugu, Oyo, Plateau and Benue States amongst others
- These clashes which are prevalent in the Northern part of the country have resulted in loss of human and animal lives as well as farmlands and property, with the attendant breakdown of law and order

Source: https://oblongmediadotcom.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/img_.jpeg







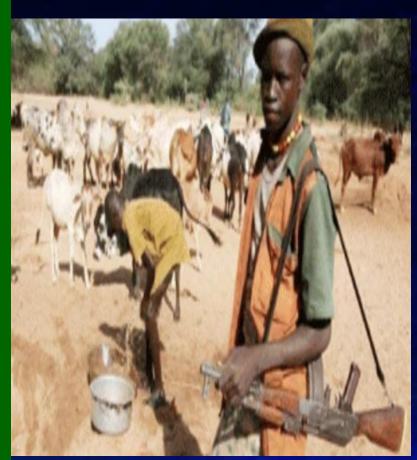


Destruction of Property and loss of Lives during Pastoralists-Farmers Clash

- In March 2014, a clash between farmers and pastoralists in Angwan Sakwai, a rural community in Kaura Local Government Area of Kaduna State, led to the death of 57 persons and the destruction of numerous homes The issue was over control of land for grazing and farming activities
- > The pastoralists were reportedly armed with rifles and machetes and some of them were allegedly in combat uniforms
- ➤ Thus, the clashes between the Fulani herdsmen and farmers constituted a threat to the wellbeing of the people of Kaduna State







An Armed Herdsman

- ➤ In 2015, there were clashes between pastoralists and farmers in Igbeti and Igboho environs in Oyo State
- The pastoralist armed with AK 47 rifles attacked their hosts after alleging that the death of their cattle was because of poisoning by native Yoruba farmers
- The pastoralists were angry because they could not graze their surviving cattle and they believed that their dead cattle had been poisoned by the local farmers, militia and hunters

Source: https://wp-content/fit







- The natives were also concerned by the destruction of farmlands and the repeated violent conduct of the pastoralists
- These clashes between the pastoralists and farmers were therefore detrimental to the security of life and property in Oyo State

Activities of Herdsmen in Oyo State

Source: http://ooduarere.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/cattle.jpg





Effects of Farmers-Pastoralists
Clash in Adamawa State

- In January 2016, there were clashes between pastoralists and farmers in 4 villages in Girei Local Government Area of Adamawa State
- > Several houses and other property in the villages were also burnt during the attack
- These clashes have virtually persisted across the country with each party usually blaming the other
- ➤ Overall, the clashes have continued to undermine national security and thus an indepth analysis of the causes of the conflict is necessary to chart a possible remedy

Source: http://media.premiumtimesng.com/wp-content/files/2017/07/IMG_0075.jpg









- Climate change
- > Water scarcity
- Search for grazing land
- > Population growth and urbanization
- > Shrinking of the Lake Chad Basin





CLIMATE CHANGE



Herdsmen Migrating in Search for Greener Pastures

- Climate change occasioned by depletion of the ozone layer has led to increased heat waves, dryness of the rivers and lack of pastures for cattle to graze
- > This in turn has contributed to massive migration of pastoralists to other regions of the federation particularly the Southern part of the country
- ➤ Climate change induced migration has frequently resulted into clashes between pastoralists and farmers in the Middle-Belt and Southeastern areas
- Climate change is a major cause of farmers and pastoralists conflicts in Nigeria

Source: http://www.thebreakingtimes.com/wp-Herdsmen-1.jpg





WATER SCARCITY



A herdsman fetching water for his Cattle



A Farmer Watering Crops

- Freshwater scarcity is an unpleasant phenomenon that affects both farmers and pastoralists negatively in Nigeria and induces conflict on some occasions
- ➤ Amidst global concerns of freshwater scarcity, there is increasing demand for freshwater resources particularly by farmers and pastoralists
- It seems the pastoralists are more disadvantaged because they need to constantly be on the move to find water and pastures for their animals

Source: http://Irrigation-farmers-from-the-effects-of-climate-change.jpg





WATER SCARCITY (CONT)



Cattle allegedly poisoned by angry farmers

- Meanwhile, sedentary farmers, in their desire to expand their farms to grow more crops and increase their income, may have also encroached on grazing lands and blocked access to water points that were traditionally used by the herders
- > To assert their rights of access to those resources, the pastoralists drive their animals into croplands, which they either consume or destroy
- ➤ With the destruction of crops, farmers retaliate by killing the cattle, which results to conflict between both parties. It is therefore evident that freshwater scarcity is a cause of farmers' pastoralist conflicts in Nigeria

Source: http://c8.alamy.com/comp/tuareg-herdsmen-in-village-compound-pre.jpg





SEARCH FOR GRAZING LAND



Cattle Grazing on a Farmer's Crops

- > Pastoralists look for where there is sufficient grass or crop residue for their animals to eat
- > In a situation where leftover crops are eaten, it creates conflict with the farmers
- These cattle enter farms to feed on the foliage of crops even in the presence of some pastoralists who pretend not to notice such destruction

Source: https://www.researchgate.net/-herd-of-cattle-eating-a-farmer%27s-crops.png





SEARCH FOR GRAZING LAND



- ➤ During the dry season, grasses and forage dry up and the herdsmen believe that if the dried vegetation is burnt, fresh pasture would regenerate
- In the process of burning, the fire spreads into adjourning farms
- ➤ This causes conflict between the affected farmers and the herders as crops on the field are destroyed by the spreading fire
- > Thus, search for grazing land is a cause of farmers and pastoralist conflicts in Nigeria

Burning of Grazing Land by Herdsmen

Source: http://biology-assets.anu.edu..jpg





POPULATION GROWTH AND URBANIZATION



- > The population of Nigeria has a mix of farmers and pastoralists
- Generally, this population has witnessed tremendous growth in the last century
- Shortly after independence in 1963, the population was estimated at about 48 million people but currently it is put at 170 million showing about 250 per cent increase within the last 50 years
- This huge increase in population puts a visible strain on natural resources like water as well as habitable and cultivatable land

Mixed Population of Nigerians

Source: http://digest.bellafricana.com/wp-content/.jpg





POPULATION GROWTH AND URBANIZATION (CONT)



IDPs as a result of Farmers-Pastoralists Clash in Nigeria

- This, situation has partly been responsible for the growing tension between contending interest groups such as farmers and pastoralists particularly in the northern and middle-belt part of the country
- The last decade witnessed several destructive clashes between farmers and pastoralists leading to heavy casualties on both sides with displacement of thousands of others

Source: http://crossriverwatch.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/North-UkelleIDPs.jpg





SHRINKING OF THE LAKE CHAD BASIN



Effect of Water Shortage on Livestock

- Climate change and reduced rainfall has proved devastating to the ecosystem of the Lake Chad Basin and other river basins along the River Niger as well as the River Benue Troughs
- > The 1973 to 1974 and 1983 to 1984 Sahelian droughts increased desertification in the area, pushing the Sahara Desert over 100 kilometers further south
- ➤ The desert's movement south also moved the Sahel correspondingly decreasing the rainfall that the Lake Chad depends upon by 30 per cent

Source: http://world.350.org/africa/files/2014/12/livestock.jpg





SHRINKING OF THE LAKE CHAD BASIN (CONT)



Part of Shrinking Lake Chad

- > The basin is estimated to support up to 30-40 million people while recent studies have estimated that it is 10 % of its original volume
- About 50 per cent of the depletion of Lake Chad is due to unsustainable water diversion and use for human activities
- This has in turn created livelihood shifts such as the forced migration of pastoralists from the Lake Chad Basin into hinterland parts of Nigeria in search of grazing land
- Clashes between farmers and pastoralists have been recorded as a result of this migration





CATTLE RUSTLING



Cattle Rustling

- Cases of cattle theft (rustling) were also known to have caused pastoralists-farmers conflicts in the country
- > In every community, there are miscreants.

 Some of these have been caught stealing cows by nomadic herders which sometimes lead to the killing of the thieves
- These killings often enrage the host communities and in turn reprisal attacks are meted out in an attempt to avenge their people

Source: http://newsrescue.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/cattle.jpg





CAUSES OF PASTORALISTS AND FARMERS CONFLICTS IN NIGERIA (CONT)

CATTLE RUSTLING

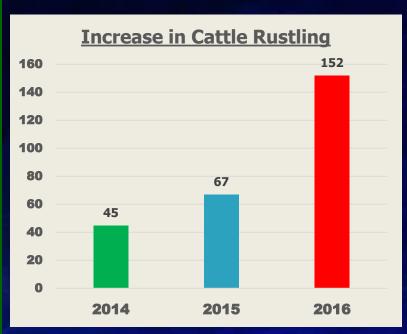


Chart Showing Increase in Cattle Rustling

Statistics have indicated a significant rise in cattle rustling attacks with over 152 incidents recorded in 2016 as against 45 and 67 recorded in 2014 and 2015 respectively, Zamfara, Kaduna, Kano and Katsina states were identified as key areas where rustlers frequently carried out rustling activities





- Displacement of People
- Loss Of Lives and Destruction Of Property
- Food Security
- Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons
- Cost of Reconstruction and Provision of Essential

Services



DISPLACEMENT OF PEOPLE



Nigerians Fleeing TheirHomes as a Result of Farmers-Herdsmen Clash

- The frequent clashes between Fulani herdsmen and farmers in Nigeria have caused people to abandon their villages for fear of reprisal attacks to other towns and villages
- > Over 7,000 persons were displaced in the wake of the crisis between pastoralists and Agatu farmers of Benue State in February 2016



DISPLACEMENT OF PEOPLE



IDPs at Ohi Idoma's Square

- The displaced persons who were sacked from Okokolo, Akwu, Ocholonya, Adagbo, Ugboku and Aila by the rampaging herdsmen are currently camped at the Ochi Idoma square in Otukpo, Ugbokpo, Adoka, Ojantele, Ikobi and other neigbouring communities from the clash
- > The emergence of these IDPs has a negative impact on the national security of Nigeria

Source: http://nigeriancurrent.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/nigeria-idp-relief.jpg





LOSS OF LIVES AND DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY





Loss of Lives and Destruction of Property

- A major consequence of the frequent pastoralist-farmers clashes has been the wanton destruction of properties and loss of lives
- > The pastoralists in most cases burn the houses of the fleeing villagers including their domestic animals
- > The attack by one party and reprisal by the other party is often carried over for a long period and sometimes from one community to another
- > Thus, loss of lives and property associated with farmers and pastoralist clashes has impacted on Nigeria's internal security may still impact on its national security in the future

Source: https://io.wp.com/media.premiumtimesng.com/wp-content



FOOD SECURITY



Low Crop Yield

- > The recurring clashes between pastoralists and farmers in some parts of Nigeria remains a major threat to food security
- > This usually results in destruction of crops, unsustainable and over grazing of arable land, loss of economic plants and loss of crop yields
- > This in the turn results in low yield in farm produce and a resultant adverse effect on food security
- In Jigawa State more than 70 cases of clashes were recorded at the beginning of the 2015 farming season. Similar situations were also recorded in other states in the North Central region
- > This results in low crop yields and food shortage

Source: http://si.ibtimes.com/sites/www.ibtimes.-corn.jpg





PROLIFERATION OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS



- > The persistent farmers and pastoralist conflicts have arguably increased the proliferation of illicit weapons in the country
- Most of the clashes recorded indicate both parties have acquired various assorted automatic weapons
- > This is further exacerbated by the porous border areas in the country where these weapons are smuggled through
- > This corridor is also being exploited by violent non-state actors such as Boko Haram Terrorists and other mischievous individuals to acquire weapons in what appears to be a convergence of various illicit criminal networks

Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons

Source: https://www.google.com/search?q=Proliferation+of+Small+Arm





COST OF RECONSTRUCTION AND PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- > A major concern after any pastoralist and farmers clashes is the issue of reconstruction of destroyed communities
- In an era of dwindling resources and a myriad of socio-economic challenges, such conflicts constrain government to divert funds that could be used for other socio-economic purposes towards post-conflict reconstruction
- Farmlands, houses, as well as essential services such as hospitals are usually burnt down when pastoralists and farmers engage in clashes
- ➤ In 2016, the Mercy Corps funded by the British Department for International Development conducted a research and estimated that the conflict between pastoralists and farmers across the North Central region is costing Nigeria at least \$14Billion USD annually between 2013-2016
- > The survey focused on Benue, Kaduna, Nassarawa and Plateau States. The huge amount required to effect construction of communities affected by pastoralists-farmers conflict often results in delay in providing needed funding by the government.
- > Therefore, if such colossal amount of funds is employed in other ventures other than reconstruction, it would definitely enhance socio-economic development in the country

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STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE PASTORALISTS AND FARMERS CONFLICTS IN NIGERIA





- Ranching
- > Improving and Establishment of Grazing Reserves
- Remarking of Grazing Routes
- > Forming Conflict Management Committees
- Prosecution of Culprits





RANCHING

- > Ranching is another conflict management option open to curbing pastoralists and farmers clashes
- > The Federal Government could direct cattle owners to have enclosed spaces for their livestock with adequate facilities for their grazing
- > The establishment of ranches and the movement of beef instead of live cattle would curb the incessant clashes between pastoralists and farmers in the country
- > This is in addition to establishing abattoirs near the ranches
- > This way, infractions on both grazing routes and farmlands would be avoided
- > Therefore, ranching is a veritable an option in curbing farmers-herdsmen clashes in Nigeria





IMPROVING AND ESTABLISHMENT OF GRAZING RESERVES

- > To stem the tide of frequent clashes between pastoralists and farmers, the improvement and establishment of grazing reserves could serve as panacea to the problem
- > The grazing reserves are equipped with facilities like boreholes, power pumps, and windmills
- > The initiative is meant to address the issue of pastoralists and farmers conflicts over grazing areas
- > It will also address the menace of livestock roaming the streets of urban areas
- Grazing areas and ranches will confine pastoralists to dedicated areas to graze and protect their cattle without interference from others





REMARKING OF GRAZING ROUTES

- > In Nigeria, grazing lands and routes are expected to be demarcated in order to define boundaries
- > The establishment of demarcated rangelands and grazing routes allow the livestock to access water points and pastures without causing damage to farmers cropland
- > Pastoralists are usually expected to graze over areas earmarked outside farmlands, and these have been accepted to be the norm overtime by the farmers
- > The movement of herdsmen are opportunistic and follow pasture and water resources in a pattern that varies seasonally according to availability of resources
- > In order to curb the clashes, another crises management option is to clearly and regularly demarcate the grazing routes
- After the demarcation, both parties need to be enlightened of the changing climatic effects and shifting rainfall patterns as well as the pressure on the land resource
- > There could be collaboration with farmers' and pastoralist unions and associations in creating comprehensive awareness and compliance with designated stock routes





FORMING CONFLICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

- > Statutory conflict management committees at community, local, state, and federal government levels that would incorporate pastoralists, cattle unions and local leaders should be established specifically for prevention and resolution of conflicts between pastoralists and farmers
- > This could be achieved by applying educational and campaign methods to create better awareness and compliance rates of stock routes among farmers and pastoralists
- > Teach farmers and pastoralists on conflict prevention and coping mechanisms and educate both parties on the need for peaceful co-existence and mutual understanding
- > Traditional and other local institutions need to be more responsive to the plights of victims of farmers-pastoralists conflicts by using appropriate mechanisms at their disposal for effective resolution and management of conflicts





PROSECUTION OF CULPRITS

- > There is an adage that says that man avoids criminal behaviour if that behaviour elicits swift, severe and certain punishments
- > The clashes between pastoralists and farmers continues to fester probably because security agencies have not effectively brought the perpetrators of the to justice
- ➤ This is critical when considering the automatic weapons particularly AK 47 rifles that are being employed during such clashes as well as the loss of lives and destruction of properties and farmlands
- ➤ The police and other security agencies and the Attorneys-General of various states were clashes have taken place need to investigate and punish the culprits in order to serve as deterrent others





CONCLUSION

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ANATOMY OF CONFLICT

If there is no communication then there is no respect. If there is no respect then there is no caring. If there is no caring then there is no understanding. If there is no understanding then there is no compassion. If there is no compassion then there is no empathy. If there is no empathy then there is no forgiveness. If there is no forgiveness then there is no kindness. If there is no kindness then there is no honesty. If there is no honesty then there is no love. If there is no love then God doesn't reside there. If God doesn't reside there then there is no peace. If there is no peace then there is no happiness. If there is no happiness ----then there IS CONFLICT BECAUSE THERE IS NO COMMUNICATION

Shannon L Alder





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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