

PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION AS MEANS TOWARD CURTAILING VIOLENT CONFLICTS IN NORTH-EASTERN, NIGERIA

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Abstract

Nigerian governments have over the years made several attempts at resolving various conflicts and peace-building in various and different ways ranging from reconciliation, arbitration and mediation employed immediately after the civil war (1967 -1970) to the use of negotiation, dialogue and amnesty. This paper posit that Peace–building and conflict prevention is the main antidote to conflict eruption and crises. Content analysis is the method adopted in this research. It is the belief of this paper that there is the possibility of resolving the North-East crisis provided the government and the people of North-East, Nigeria can diligently pursue peace-building it will forestall or limit violent conflicts and enhance peaceful coexistence.

Keywords: peace-building, conflict prevention, means, curtailing, violent conflicts.

Introduction

In human history men have been very adept at making war than keeping the peace. There is probably no year in any era when a war of some kind has not erupted somewhere. But if mankind is to survive, it is not only appropriate but essential to search for effective methods of making peace. Conflict is an inevitable feature of human society and in most cases, it leads to destruction of lives and properties. Conflicts emanate largely as a result of struggle over scarce resources, status and power. Conflict arises due to incongruence of objectives or qualities between at least two groups in a relationship, combined with endeavors to control one another and having adversarial emotions toward one another. The contradiction or contrast may exist in all actuality or may just be seen by the groups in question. Conflict situation occurs regularly in the day to day activity of the society and even private life of individuals. Conflict can sometimes grow out of a minute differences, what may at first appear to be insignificant may become very dangerous if it festers. This may happen in any kind of conflict even in purely personal one, among groups, communities or nations. Thus it is imperative to prevent conflict and avoid its eruption by engaging in activities and programs that are aimed at peace building among the people in the society. Peace building as conflict prevention is therefore act or activities that are carried on to ensure that issues that may possibly result into dispute or conflict among people or societies are addressed, curtail or settled amicably between or among the contending parties on an issue, it also involves provision of necessary resources, facilities and condition that make life meaningful and interesting such that individual or group can comfortably meet their basic needs of life without too much struggle that often bring about conflict in human society. It is a pre-conflict approach and are usually rooted in the structure, norms and values of society.

Background of Peace-building in Nigeria

Despite the successes in the history of peace keeping in countries like Liberia and Sierra Leone, the government in Nigeria has a poor record of peace building mechanism and strategy. Hassan and Ibrahim, (2013).Pate & Dauda, (2015) argue further that African government only respond to the situation and not

root causes. In Nigeria the idea of peace building has been on for decades as necessitated by the nature of the amalgamation of the country in 1914 by the British colonial masters and the continual interplay of internal and external imperialist power that often propel violence for their own selfish interest. The Nigeria government's effort at peace building began with the three (R's) immediately after the civil war in 1970. The government began by reconstructing, rehabilitating and reconciling the various properties that were destroyed during the war as well as rehabilitating and reconciling the various groups that were affected by the war. The introduction of National youth Corps in 1973 to bring the youth, the leaders of tomorrow together and to foster in them the sense of belonging in faith and unity could be seen as a giant step in Nigeria peace building efforts, this has to a large extent achieved the desired objectives as it has enhanced inter-marriages and foster unity in diversity, others includes the right of resident in any part of the country, freedom of legal acquisition and owners of property in any part of the country, the federal character principle in the employment policy of government which gives equal access and opportunity to every citizen. The establishment of the agency for Mass Mobilization for economic and social justice (MAMSER) and the National orientation agency (NOA) are programs aimed at fostering unity and peace building in Nigeria established by government. The Yar'Adua Administration formulated the Amnesty Program in 2007 which was a peace building procedure planned for diminishing the issue of contention in the Niger Delta. Beyond that, President Yar'Adua sought for and enhanced the determination of part of the revenue allocation. He additionally guarantee that part of the oil income got from a zone, was furrowed back in the improvement of that territory. He further fortified the NDDC - Niger Delta Development Commission and even raised a Ministry of Niger Delta at the Federal level. The measures of the late President could go down in history as being the most pragmatic, most commonsense, and most effective attempt to address this festering sore of a nation. Nigeria which is alleged to be built on the rape and abuse of the Niger Delta region of the South-South and South-East. But with equity, fairness and natural justice in the allocation of the nation's abundant resources, this will enable the land and her people be in peace. Other efforts put in place by the government includes the establishment of Institute of peace and conflict resolution under the leadership of General Sani Abacha, the institute was charged with the responsibility of undertaking basic and applied researches into causes of conflicts and coming up with mechanism for preventing, managing and resolving conflicts and ensuring stable political order, this agency has over the years perform creditably well according to Alozieuwa of (This Day Newspaper, Nigeria). Non-governmental organizations (NGO) and the private sector have also play their role in peace building, this includes the setting up and formation of peace organizations such as Peace Initiative Network (PIN) which has been working on preventing and managing conflicts through advocacy and awareness raising campaign in the north central and the far north eastern part of the country. Trios Human Development Foundation (THD) working on community conflict management as grass-root civil society organization since the year 2009. Stakeholders Democracy Network (SDN) working in the Niger delta to empower those that have been worst affected by the activities of extractive industries. Social Action: Providing support to communities and social movements involved in resistance to the negative impact of resource extraction. Others includes Pro Natura International Nigeria (PNI, Nigeria), Leadership Initiative Interfaith, Global care, Global Family Peace among other working on different peace building areas across the country, ranging from empowerment, gender rights, promotion of freedom and human rights improvement in term of social status fostering unity and development in people

Statement of Problem

Nigerian governments have over the years made several attempts at making peace after resolving conflicts and crises in various and different ways ranging from reconciliation, arbitration and mediation which was employed immediately after the civil war (1967-1970), to the use of dialogue negotiation, and amnesty, Nigeria conflict resolution has always involve the use of armed men to resolve conflicts. For example the administration of the then military Head of state Gen. Sani Abacha used police and military to resolve Ife/Modakeke crises in 1997, without achieving the resolution of the crisis, until the assistance and peaceful intervention of United States Agency for International Development/Office of International Initiatives (USAID/OTI). Armed men were also dragged in 1999 to quell the Arogbolajaw-UgboIlaje crises by Obasanjo's administration. The same administration, in her attempt and effort to resolve and settle the Niger-

Delta crises constituted a Military Joint Task Force (JTF) and dragged armed men to the area with the ideological slogan ‘Operation Restore Hope’, in order to gain support of the people and legitimize their actions. Also, in most of the ethno- religious and tribal clashes, armed men are often been drifted to such areas in order to subdue and compel people to be law abiding which are in most cases forceful and temporary and often aggravate conflicts rather than resolving conflict and to restore ‘peace’. Unfortunately even where and when crises or conflicts are said to have been resolved hardly had there been efforts to build or make peace among the warring parties.

The question is how effective has the conflict resolution strategies that has been employed in the resolution of the conflicts, by implication, if this strategies were effective the conflict should have been over by now judging from the efforts and resources that have been pumped in to it resolution. What then are the barriers or factors hindering the resolution and what are the ways out of the predicament, this paper belief that peace-building strategies and conflict prevention mechanisms will be more appropriate and effective in forestalling the eruption of conflicts

Aim and Objectives

- i. To examine peace-building and conflict prevention in North-East, Nigeria
 - ii. To examine the effectiveness of peace-building and conflict prevention in North-East Nigeria
 - iii. To identify factors hampering the effectiveness of peace building strategies
 - iv. To identify new measures that could be employed in peace-building and conflict prevention in North-Eastern states of Nigeria

Research Questions.

- i. What measures are employed in peace-building and conflict prevention in North-Eastern states of Nigeria?
- ii. How effective are the measures employed in peace –building conflict prevention in North-Eastern States of Nigeria?
- iii. What are the factors hindering effectiveness of peace building strategies in North-Eastern States of Nigeria?
- iv. How do we design peace building strategies to bring about lasting peace in North-Eastern states of Nigeria?

Scope of the Study

The scope of this paper is the North-Eastern states of Nigeria. The area reflects the crisis prone area, where Boko-Haram insurgents and terrorists has unleashed untold hardship on the people and destroyed properties worth billions of naira since the year 2009 up to-date the research will employ content analysis method. This study focusses on assessing peace building efforts that has been employed by the government and people of North-East State in trying to address the persistence conflict and crisis in the area over time but have not been able to achieve the desire goal of a peaceful society.

NB: Table I. Population of North-Eastern states of Nigeria

Table i. Population of North-Eastern states of Nigeria.

SN	State	Population
1	Adamawa	3.2 million
2	Bauchi	4.7 million
3	Borno	4.2million
4	Gombe	2.3million
5	Taraba	2.3million
6	Yobe	2.3million
	Total	19 million

Source: Nigeria Population Commission (NPC,2006).



Figure 1.1: Map of Nigeria showing states of the federation. Source: Nigerian official website.

Source: NNPC, 2006.

<https://nigerianfact.com/map-of-North-Eastern-states>



<https://nigerianfact.com/map-of-North-Eastern-states>

Figure ii. Map of North-Eastern Region of Nigeria showing the six states in the region

Review of Literature

Peace Building as Conflict Prevention: According Ackermann (2003), the idea of preventing war is not new. It was a dominant theme at the Congress of Vienna in 1815 during which measures to ensure peaceful coexistence between states were reached, prominent among which were mutual consultation, neutral states, peaceful settlement of conflicts and demilitarized zones (Craig & Geoge, 1995). Conflict prevention is a central feature of the United Nations charter vi and vii. It empowers the Secretary General and the General Assembly to settle disputes peacefully and prevent an outbreak of Third World War. This objective is slightly different from the 1992 United Nations Secretary General's conception (Boutros BoutrosGhali-Preventive Diplomacy) and the post-war peace building initiative which was aimed at supporting and assisting in rebuilding, reconstructing and reconciliation of war-torn societies. This can be considered as post-war "reaction strategy" to prevent the re-occurrence of conflict or crisis. Kofi Annan, (UN Secretary General 2001 -2004) made concerted efforts in moving away from the reactive peace building strategy to preventive peace building which is believed to be more enduring. These views and postulations about what peace building is and what it is aimed to achieve are still an issue of discourse both in theory and practice.

Haugerudbraaten (2010), traced the origin of peace building to the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General's 1992 Agenda for Peace which was considered as an indispensable piece of UN endeavors to advance peace. He contended that the exact meaning of the term has stayed muddled. As actors going from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to Defense Ministries grasped the idea, each made their own commitments to the subject. Subsequently, there are a few noteworthy contrasts in its understanding. The Secretary General made a point in his initiating the peace building effort that it was inherent in the mechanism for sustained and collective approach that will address economic, social, cultural and humanitarian challenges. He clarified that to achieve this, there must be the process of disarming, restoration

of peace, destroying of weapon, repatriating of refugees, training security forces, monitoring elections, advancing the protection of human rights, reforming institutions and promoting political participation.

There is a notion and it is reinforced by Paris (2007), that scholars have not done enough to analyze the concept of peace building and its underpinning assumptions. (Miller & Ireland, 2005), also said the concept is still not mature as he described the Canadian peace building initiative as being etymologically adolescence and undefined. He argued that the use of a single term should not really pose any challenge if scholars recognize its existence and clarify or reinforce the concept in their scholarly work. The idea to further explore better ways of peace building towards enhancing sustainable peace, is the call to endorse UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan's peace building commission support at the 2005 World Summit of the United Nations with a distinct office and funding for peace building as opposed to the earlier peace keeping and peace making strategies which had hitherto been a post-conflict peace making approach centering on peace agreement, implementation and post-conflict resettlements to a preventive approach focusing on a building vibrant civil society, democracy, the rule of law, justice and development. There are currently over twenty-four governmental and inter-governmental organizations or bodies that are currently active in peace building across the globe. The concept of peace building has not only created a big debate among scholars because they have not paid close attention to analyzing it, now that stalemate has crept into the design and implementation as a result of blurred lines. Going forward, the concept, from a design and intent point of view must be very clear so that it can be applied in a life process.

He also argued that the use of the term can commence earnestly, but did recognize that there may not be a consensus immediately on the definition of the term. (Reychler, 2006) elucidates on the challenges facing peace researchers and argued that though there is reduction in armed violence, but poverty, poor economic situation, unemployment are leading to more conflicts which are more severe than armed conflict because they are silent killers, he therefore, calls on scholars not to lose sight of the micro perspective of peace building, which is a holistic approach to peace building through a better understanding of sustainable peace building architecture.

The twin inclinations suggested by "An Agenda for Peace" is in no way, unique in the literature. It suffices to say that six components exists in the utilization of the expression and of which "peace building" can be distinguished. These measurements relate to a rundown of inquiries - planned to move applied ambiguities from the rear of the psyche to cognizant mindfulness for example, is peace building about removing the root causes of a conflict or about finding ways to resolve old and new disputes in a peaceful fashion? Do peace-building efforts primarily entail security, humanitarian, economic or political interventions or all of these at the same time? Are the measures employed in peace-building short, medium or long-term ones? Should international involvement in peace-building be a short-to-medium term or long-term? Who are the main actors in peace-building - indigenous or external actors? Does the word refer to a set of concrete actions taken or is it a generic concept that refers to an overarching thing? Should peace-building be viewed as a top-down or bottom-up process, as a planned and coordinated process, or as one that, to a large extent, is initiated locally and pursued by a multitude of actors in their field of concern and comparative advantage?

The aim of peace building, according to Galtung (1980), is to promote peace, and he argued that there are two concepts of peace; negative peace which he sees as the absence of violence, and positive peace which is stability that prevents dispute from escalating into conflict. This thought has become the basis of analyzing and addressing the root causes of conflicts which ordinarily is complex, especially in developing countries.

(Acemoglu, Naidu, Restrepo, & Robinson, 2019)believe that peace is a celebration of life. Death is a denial of peace. The fundamental postulate of peace is the preservation of human life as far as humanly possible, against human-produced threats of death and destruction. The most fundamental and critical question is: why should human life be preserved? The need for preserving life has been asserted through various perspectives and arguments. The religious view is that God gives life and only God, not humans should take it away, because human life is part of the cosmic scheme of the divine law. The naturalists argue that life is

a gift from nature, so let natural law (just natural) not human law, determine the meaning and the duration of life. Secularists consider human life as the culmination of evolution; they believe that homo sapiens, as the most evolved creatures, have developed civilizations based on intellectual, aesthetic and moral attributes; these attributes facilitate individual and collective self-actualization. Thus, according to all schools of thought, human life is fascinating and challenging, and it should not, therefore, be deliberately destroyed by human hands. In other words, human life is the means of the intellectual and spiritual advancement of human beings. Peace Building

According to Muriithi (2007), peace building is a comprehensive process in addressing challenges at different levels. It is about the attempt to overcome the structural, relational and cultural contradictions which lie at the root of conflict to underpin the processes of peace making and peace keeping.

At an essential level peace building includes tending to the underlying causes of conflicts, empowering warring groups to keep on discovering arrangements through negotiation and when necessary through intervention (Murtin and Wacziarg, 2014), peace building incorporates regulating the procedure of deactivation, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) just as reform of the security-sector. This requires the advancement of social and monetary equity just as the establishment or change of political structures of administration and the rule of law. These exercises are eventually endeavoring to realize the mending of war influenced networks through reconciliation, resource mobilization and reconstruction of socio-economic infrastructures and development (Murtin & Wacziarg, 2014). It is pertinent to note that there are distinctions between peace building, peacemaking, peace keeping and conflict prevention.

Joseph (2015), analyses communities' indigenous ways to deal with peace making and conflict resolution and tries to see if governments' reactions are in conformity with native information of peace making and conflict resolution through the analysis of Msinga towns in the North of the Natal Province. It centers on tribal wars, which have a long history in the research area; the scars of brutality are still fresh in the psyches of people living in these regions. The discoveries of the research show that there is still doubt between individuals from these networks to the degree that any pressure can prompt viciousness. The discoveries additionally show that, although there have been and still are numerous peace making and conflict resolution activities, these appear to be insufficient in achieving peace and the feeling of a unified network. Moreover, numerous nearby natives and women accept that government forced approach have constrained their viable support in peace making and conflict resolution.

(Goodhand & Hulme, 1999) opined that:

- i. There exists a general ideology that peace entails social changes and must be established over time.
- ii. Peace incorporates economic, social, cultural, political and humanitarian aspects of life; it is indeed more than the disappearance of brutality or dispute and comprises ideas on sustainable development and social justice.
- iii. Peace building is not an occasion with a specific beginning and end, rather it is a process which occur previously, during and after violent conflicts.
- iv. Peace building is presumably not a precise action but an aftermath of an activity (defined by its outcome or process).
- v. It is based on the premise that societies affected by violent conflict still contain individuals, groups, attitudes and processes that promote peace.

Call (2008) in his work, *Building State to Build Peace*, opines peace building is more than the elimination of violent conflict; in any way, stability can be achieved by balance of threat of power. Rather, it includes the production of a positive peace, the end of the main causes of conflicts so that actors do not, at this point have the thought to utilize violence to settle their disparities. Another explanation of peace building which is a legitimate ramifications of the first, is that similar advancements that are utilized to help construct peace after war can likewise be utilized to assist social orders while staying away from war in the main case.

Peace building is equally the process of promoting societal changes and reconciliation. It is an intervention undertaken to reduce violence and increase social justice (Sodipo, 2013). It is a technique used to prevent, manage violent conflicts through advocacy, awareness raising and campaigns. It involves capacity building strategies for people to deal with and address local root causes of conflicts and hostilities (Onigu-Otite & Albert, 1999). Peace building is borne out of the fact that peace cannot be achieved or kept by force. It can only be realized through understanding (Ofuoku & Ewrierhurma, 2018), opine that peace building incorporates the way toward modifying the political, security, social and financial components of a general public rising up out of conflicts.

Methodology

This paper examines peace building and conflict prevention strategies in North-Eastern States of Nigeria. In this aspect the methods and procedure follow in the collection of data that are pertinent to this paper is content analysis. This is the use of literature and documentary material, internet materials. Journal, Articles and textbooks

Theoretical framework of Analysis

Basic Human Needs Theory: According to (Rubenstein, 1990), Psychologists discovered the reality of basic human needs with respect to the acquaintance for an explanation of individual natural history. Social thought discovers basic needs as the strategic causes and cures of social disintegration, when basic need isn't satisfied. Johan Galtung opines that "some kind of focal weakening will happen." Galtung perceives two general groupings of social disintegrating: "setting" (non-appearance of venture, dismissal, withdrawal) and "foaming" (overt activity, defiance, revolt). Various groupings and analogies might be progressively capable, the crucial point remains: what leads us to consider fundamental needs are the unwanted consequences of their non-satisfaction.

Human needs theory also focuses on conflict that arises from development processes, and the satisfaction of the means of people or groups used to pursue their needs. It pushes the argument of recognition, role seeking, and competition for scarce resources as well as maintaining law and order (Rubenstein, 1990). The basic needs approach has as its main thrust violent in conflicts are caused by the deprivation of basic human needs of a population, and it holds that needs are the underpinning root causes for violence in the world rather than interest, greed or grievances (Coser, 1967). His argument was that the moment dignity, political access or power are not given the minority, they will use violence to draw attention to the majority and that such violence is legitimate because it will bring positive change to the society.

Findings, Presentation and Analysis.

The frequent ransacking of villages and the attendant displacements, loss of lives and property has made life nasty and brutish in this part of the country and there appears no end in sight for the hellish situation. The 2014 Global Terrorism Index (GTI) report that 82 per cent of people killed in terrorist attacks across the world were just in five countries namely, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria and Syria. The Index also identified Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia and Uganda as being at risk of increased terrorism due to the presence of the following four factors – extrajudicial killing, lack of women's political rights, lack of intergroup cohesion and political instability (Global Terrorism Index, 2014:2). Clearly, existing conflict resolution mechanisms have failed to arrest the conflicts in Nigeria (Olojo, 2015) There is, therefore, an urgent need to devise fresh and effective strategies of peace-building and resolving the conflict. This geopolitical zone appeared to have suffered the most, judging by the level of economic dislocations, social unrest; and destruction of both lives and properties recorded in these areas (Faluyi, Khan, & Akinola, 2019). The persistent displacement of people forced the government and non-governmental organizations to create Internally Displaced Person's camps (IDPs camps) to provide succor to the displaced persons (Abdulkarim, Abeeb Mohammed, & Idriss, 2018). Despite government attempts to stem the tide of disputes and clashes in the society through its institutions, for instance, managed key, regulatory, broad shared and integrative systems; the issues of ideological battling, insufficiency and

conflicts have remained persistent and clearly unmanageable (Faluyi et al., 2019) This is because the faulty social and political structure and deep-rooted grievances that generate violence have not been addressed (Akinwale, 2010) argue that some of these challenges are self-imposed and reinforced through greed-based behavior; others are the result of poor institutional capacity and the complexities of addressing widespread organized crime and the general situation of insecurity in the country This probably calls for a rethink and review of all existing levels of collaborations and synergies for holistic, enforceable, sustainable and dynamic peace building approaches and initiatives for the country. (Anyadike, 2013)

These approaches must ultimately incorporate relevant and key stakeholders of the Nigerian nation, driven fervently by altruistically motivated individuals who are professionally competent to prevent and manage the dreadful shackles of destructive conflicts in the country. The Nigerian government has a history of adopting *ad-hoc* approaches to resolve violent conflict. The country had no policy framework or strategy to respond to armed insurrection. This seems contradictory due to the country's participation in peacemaking and peacekeeping in other African countries that experienced insurgency. Liberia and Sierra Leone are some of the examples. Nigeria led ECOWAS Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) to enforce peace in the two countries. Aside, Nigeria was also very active in UN peacekeeping missions.(Hassan & Umar, 2014) observed that the government's response to terrorism has been defined by reacting to its symptoms rather than its root causes.(Alabi, 2010) examines the causes of conflict in Nigeria which according to him are rooted in poverty, unemployment and unjust allocation of resources (Chinwokwu, 2013) questions the difficulties of conflict management in Nigeria by looking at the bunch of security issues in the nation, analyzes some generative powers that enhance the development and force of conflicts and weakness in Nigeria, recognizing the difficulties to peace making. He argued that uncertainty coming about because of violent conflicts in Nigeria has set an extraordinary weight on the inward security, peace and advancement of the nation, notwithstanding government endeavors at checkmating them. He further opines that conflicts and frailty in Nigeria are internally and remotely produced to cause crises among the ethnic groups so peace would be slippery for political elites to proceed with their colonialist lordship on the individuals. He suggests among others: good administration dependent on responsibility, rule of law and equity; non-outer impedance in internal conflicts; edification battles by government organizations on peace building and training peace and conflict resolution in our schools.

Literature shows there has been some negligible peace-building efforts by Nigeria government and her institutions such as the National Peace commission, Mass Mobilization for economic and social justice (MAMSER) National Orientation Agency (NOA), as well as Non-government organizations such as Peace Initiative Network (PIN) which has been working on preventing and managing conflicts through advocacy and awareness raising campaign in the north central and the far north eastern part of the country. Trios Human Development Foundation (THD) working on community conflict management as grass-root civil society organization since the year 2009. Stakeholders Democracy Network (SDN) working in the Niger delta to empower those that have been worst affected by the activities of extractive industries. Social Action: Providing support to communities and social movements involved in resistance to the negative impact of resource extraction. Others includes Pro Natura International Nigeria (PNI. Nigeria), Leadership Initiative Interfaith, Global care, Global Family Peace among other working on different peace building areas across the country, However, much needed to be done in term of peace-building and conflict prevention especially in North- Eastern Nigeria that have been ravaged by the Boko Haran insurgency and Fulani herdsmen conflicts.

Conclusion

Findings shows that peace building is further compounded by rising crime rate, the proliferation of small and light weapons as well as socio-economic factors such as massive unemployment and poverty, it is also evident that the cause of all these is rooted in the structural and political history of the country, poor governance and socio- ethnic differences. In trying to resolve the varied violent conflict in Nigeria, there is the need for good governance, provision of basic needs, and employment for the teeming youth. Peace buildingactivities and strategic help to Nigeria ought to have the limit with respect to the full coordination

of and commitment with the essential and optional state holders at all levels of society, peace-building strategies must address local root causes of conflict, hostilities and encourage local capacity for change that will sustain peace, efforts must be made to take a holistic approach strategically linking governance, conflict prevention and peace building and to address development deficits resulting from marginalization, mismanagement of public resources, social exclusion and weak sense of national identity.

Recommendation

1. Societies and government at national and international levels need to put more resources and effort in peace building which is conflict prevention mechanism rather than waiting for conflict to erupt before putting huge resources in attempt to curtail or resolve conflict. The United Nation Charter 1 on World Peace and Security emphasize this, but more need to be done in this direction by government in their domestic policy,
2. Government should look at the root cause of conflict or crises and address it permanently rather than suppressing it, which often than non-re-occur.
3. Government should realize that peace cannot be achieved by force such as the military counter insurgency strategy. Peace can only be achieved through understanding among people themselves.
4. Government is advised to explore the traditional conflict resolution approach and peace building which is more effective and culturally grounded.
5. The political economy or basic need approach which tackles problems from the basic needs of the people and the root causes of problems such as poverty, unemployment, hunger are valuable approach to peaceful society.
6. There is the need to strengthen conflict prevention and peace building initiative such as (CPPBI) in Benin City Nigeria. The views of local civil societies on the cause of violent conflict in Northern region and Nigeria in general and the prospect for peace should be encouraged.
7. The need to return to traditional community-based people oriented and participatory security awareness, conflict resolution and peace building strategies that is built into the culture and value and which has been very effective is the way out of the menace. This research findings show that Nigerian government seems not to have effective machinery for assessing the strategy employed in the ongoing North-East conflict to be able to identify the loopholes and challenges confronting those in the frontline of the fight against the terrorist group and to as well be able to improve on their performance.
8. Importantly, employment provision, conflict prevention strategies which can be built into the people's culture (value and tradition) as an integral part of social norms which can be sanctioned and punished will provide a better means of preventing conflict without necessarily waiting until crisis break out before putting a lot of effort and resources into its resolution. This is what Kofi Anna, former UN secretary general (20001 - 2004) referred to as pre-war effort or conflict preventing approach and peace building as opposed to the post-conflict resolution and peace building of Butrous Butrous Ghali (1996 - 2000) the immediate past UN Secretary General.
9. It is equally important and necessary to look inward and reflect into the traditional conflict resolution and peace building strategies in Africa and in Nigeria in particular. There had existed traditional way of resolving conflict and building peace among different ethnic and tribal groups for example, among the Tiv in Benue state, the Igbo in South-Eastern part of the country, the Yoruba in the South-Western part and even among the Hausas/Fulani's in the Northern part Nigeria, this can be re-exploited and utilized as alternative conflict resolution strategies. Many scholars have written extensively on this strategy such as Uwaize (2014), Akinwale (2010) Ajaegbo and Kelechi (2015), Buhari and Ajayi (2014), Olaoye (2005) among others
10. One area to be addressed is the establishment of a functional national infrastructure for peace as well as supporting other peace initiatives such as Dialogue initiatives, Town hall meetings for farmers/ herdsman. Capacity building training and advocacy and support for intervention

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