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### Human Life and Human Rights in Nigeria: An Assessment amidst Security Challenges and Rights Violations 2019 – 2026

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#### **Abstract**

*The protection of human life and human rights is a fundamental obligation of every state. In Nigeria, persistent insecurity and recurring human rights violations have raised significant concerns about the effectiveness of these protections. This paper is anchored on Human Security Theory as its theoretical framework. Data were collected from secondary sources, while thematic content analysis was used to analyze the data. The study critically examines the extent to which human life and human rights are safeguarded in Nigeria, drawing on empirical evidence from credible institutional reports and documented real-life experiences. It further analyzes patterns of violations involving both state and non-state actors. Findings reveal a substantial gap between constitutional guarantees and actual practice, characterized by insecurity, weak institutional accountability, and systemic governance challenges. The study concludes that although legal frameworks exist, their implementation remains inadequate. Recommendations are proposed to strengthen accountability, reform security institutions, and enhance human rights protection mechanisms.*

**Keywords:** Human life, human rights, violations, security, challenges and governance.

#### **1. Introduction**

Human beings, by virtue of their humanity, are born as rational entities endowed with inalienable rights. Human life and human rights are universally recognized and are closely linked to the principles of good governance. The right to life and the protection of human dignity are foundational principles of democratic societies. In Nigeria, these rights are constitutionally guaranteed under the 1999 Constitution (as amended). However, increasing incidents of insecurity—ranging from insurgency and banditry to communal conflicts—have raised serious concerns regarding the extent to which these rights are protected in practice.

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Despite institutional frameworks designed to safeguard citizens, the persistence of human rights violations suggests a disconnect between legal provisions and lived realities. This study examines this disconnect, focusing on whether human life and human rights are effectively protected in Nigeria.

The foundation of human dignity, equity, and social justice stems from the protection of human life and human rights. Over the past two decades, Nigeria has faced a myriad of challenges, including insecurity, human rights violations, kidnapping, cattle rustling, herder–farmer clashes, banditry, police brutality, weak institutions, and communal conflicts.

The protection of human life and the preservation of human dignity, worth, and values have increasingly become elusive. Reports of killings by criminal groups and bandits, coupled with the inability of the state to effectively perform its fundamental responsibility of protecting lives and property, raise critical questions. These include: What are the core functions of the state? How effective is governance in Nigeria? To what extent are institutions responsible for safeguarding lives and property functioning effectively?

This paper critically assesses the state of human life and human rights protection in Nigeria within the context of current security challenges. It examines patterns of violations, institutional responses, and the broader implications for governance and development.

Human rights are universally recognized as fundamental freedoms and entitlements inherent to all individuals by virtue of their humanity. These include the right to life, dignity, liberty, and security. These rights are protected both nationally and internationally through instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. In Nigeria, these rights are enshrined in Chapter IV of the 1999 Constitution (as amended).

Despite these legal frameworks, Nigeria continues to grapple with severe and persistent insecurity. The widespread occurrence of killings and human rights violations reflects systemic weaknesses in governance, with significant implications for national development. Institutional gaps, underfunding, and, in some cases, compromised operations have undermined the effectiveness of agencies responsible for protecting lives and property.

Human rights abuses—such as extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, torture, unlawful detention, and delays in the administration of justice—have become increasingly prevalent. These developments raise serious concerns about the capacity of the Nigerian state to uphold human life and human rights.

This paper also highlights the role of non-state actors, including militias, terrorist groups, and criminal networks, in the violation of human life and rights. The apparent lack of state capacity and credibility has exposed citizens to heightened risks and threats.

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The study investigates the extent of human rights violations, identifies the factors responsible, and evaluates the effectiveness of existing legal and institutional frameworks. It further examines the implications for governance and development before concluding with recommendations.

## 2. Conceptualization / Literature Review and Theoretical Framework

### 2.1 Human Life

Human life refers to a complex biological and social process characterized by growth, reproduction, and responsiveness to stimuli (Alberts et al., 2022). Beyond its biological dimension, human life encompasses social, psychological, and moral conditions that sustain human existence and well-being (Donnelly, 2021). It extends beyond mere survival to include dignity, worth, and the capacity for self-actualization within a social context.

Human life is a fundamental value in any society, as all social relations and institutional frameworks revolve around human existence. All other rights are built upon the right to life. The right to life is enshrined in international instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966). These frameworks impose obligations on states to protect individuals from arbitrary deprivation of life. The protection of life is a core function of the state, which includes ensuring security, maintaining law and order, and providing essential social services (United Nations, 2020). Reports by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC, 2025) indicate a significant rise in violent incidents and killings in Nigeria, reflecting a deteriorating human security environment. These findings suggest that human life is increasingly threatened by both state and non-state actors.

The concept of human life also includes quality of life and access to essential services such as healthcare, education, food, shelter, and security. There is a strong link between human life and human security, which focuses on protecting individuals from both violent and non-violent threats (Olowu, 2022).

### 2.2 Human Rights

Human rights are inherent and inalienable entitlements that every individual possesses by virtue of being human. These rights are universal, indivisible, and interdependent, and they apply equally to all persons regardless of status, ethnicity, or affiliation.

Human rights encompass civil, economic, political, and cultural dimensions and serve as the foundation for dignity, equity, and freedom in society (Amnesty International, 2023). They are protected by both domestic and international legal frameworks, which impose obligations on states to respect, protect, and fulfill these rights.

In Nigeria, human rights are enshrined in the 1999 Constitution (as amended). The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is one of the key institutions responsible for their

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protection. Core rights include the right to life, dignity, liberty, fair hearing, and freedom from discrimination (NHRC, 2025).

Human rights serve as instruments for promoting social justice and democratic governance and as benchmarks for assessing state performance and legitimacy. However, Nigeria's democratic experience reveals persistent and systemic human rights violations, including unlawful detention, abuse of power, and suppression of civil liberties, which undermine governance and erode public trust (Abah, Eze & Nduba, 2023).

Human rights are both ends in themselves and means to achieving broader societal well-being. Their violation has far-reaching consequences, including inequality, instability, and conflict (Ojule, 2023). Their effective protection depends on strong institutions, adherence to the rule of law, and political will.

### 2.3 Theoretical Framework: Human Security Theory

Human Security Theory emerged from a global paradigm shift from a state-centric conception of security to a people-centered approach that prioritizes the safety, dignity, and well-being of individuals.

The concept gained prominence with the 1994 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Report, which redefined security beyond territorial integrity and military threats to include protection from non-military threats such as poverty, disease, hunger, environmental degradation, and human rights violations.

The UNDP identified seven dimensions of human security: economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political security.

The theory is built on two key principles:

- Freedom from fear
- Freedom from want

A third complementary principle is:

- Freedom to live in dignity (Alkire, 2020)

These principles emphasize protection from violence, access to basic needs, and the preservation of human dignity.

This framework is particularly relevant for analyzing Nigeria's security challenges and their impact on human life and human rights. It provides a comprehensive lens for understanding the multidimensional nature of insecurity and its implications for governance.

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### 3. Methodology

The study adopts a descriptive research design. Data were collected from secondary sources, including institutional reports, academic literature, and credible publications. The data were systematically analyzed using thematic content analysis.

### Security Challenges and its Impact in Nigeria from 2019 - 2026

Nigeria has myriads off the challenges as a nation top on the list is insecurity amidst of economic austerity and excruciating underdevelopment. Nigerian security challenges is complex and violent in nature with multidimensional astronomical volatile turbulent increase on daily basis. The mechanics and dynamics of Nigeria security architecture is unpredictable involving both state and non - state actors. It's seems endemic, systemic and highly institutionalized as been perpetrated. Nigerians are faced with the following security threats which includes, economic insecurity, communal conflict, kidnapping, banditry, terrorism, all these leading human life termination and human right abuse.

These challenges have resulted in loss of lives, displacement, human rights violations, weakened governance structure, (Onunwa, 2025).. Human Right Watch ( 2025) reported that insecurity has escalated significantly with thousands of deaths, destruction of livelihood and widespread Humanitarian crisis.

This following are insecurity challenges in Nigeria and its impact.

- a) Insurgency and Terrorism.. This is prevalent mostly in Northwest and Northwest Nigeria. These insurgency and terrorism are perpetrated by group of non state actors like the Boko Haram, ISWAP, and other militia groups. Their aim is to destabilize the government of the day and establish their government. They have captured and colonized some communities in Bornu state. They have been in operations for the past two decades plus. These two groups have different ideological agendas and modus operandi totally against the government of the day and western education. They attacked communities, individuals and military formations just to seek relevance and disorganize the government of the day. They attacked government-owned infrastructural facilities. They also employed suicide bombing, and kidnapping of school children.
- b) Banditry and kidnapping. These are groups of armed individuals that attack and abduct villagers, communities and individuals and demand for ransom from the government and their relations. For instance in 2025 in Kebbi state school girls were abducted and some were killed during the operation. The vice principal of the school Malam Hassan Yakubu was killed during the operation in Government Girls Comprehensive Secondary School, Maya Kebbi state on November 18, 2025. There have been series of terrorist and kidnapping cases along major highways in Nigeria for instance. Abuja - Kaduna road.
- c) Farmer - Herder Conflict. This is another major insecurity in Nigeria that has led to the loss of innocent lives. There has been a steadily increasing number of recorded cases of farmer - herder conflict. This conflict is caused as a result of land allocation /ownership and water to man and livestock. Climatic change is one of the factors. In the middle belt mostly Plateau and

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Benue state. In July 7th, 2025, (AP News, 2025) reported that 20 people were killed in a gun attack in the village of Tahoss, Riyan Local government area Platuea state. The killing is linked to farmers and herders conflict. In Benue state the cases are uncountable.

- d) Ethno / religious tension and Rual Displacement. Nigeria is a heterogeneous pluralistic society, geographic proximity, ethnic diversity and religious variety becomes a very significant issues to handle mostly in a situation where fanatics any opinionated mentality is in operation.
- e) The issue of communal and ethno religious conflict seems endemic. The issue of cheat, deprivation and Marginalization amongst two different cultural and religious groups. This leads to high tension that escalate to serious warfare. Identity politics leads to recurring violence and instability within such geographical territory. Guardian (2025) reported that Nigerians ongoing security crises stems from deep - rooted Marginalization of ethnic, religious and political minorities, especially in the middle Belt region thereby increasing kidnapping and terrorism, conflict and communal attack.
- f) Human Rights Violations: Nigeria human rights are grossly violated despite the institutional framework made to safeguard it, like the constitution, commission, legal system and the judiciary. These violations are perpetrated by both state and non - state actors. Insecurity in any society goes with human right violations as it compounds the situation and security issues making citizen to live in palpable fear and dear vulnerability. Human rights violations such as unlawful arrest and detention, torture and extra judicial killing are rampart in Nigeria. Police brutality during the EndSARS protest, Amnesty International reported that 12 people were killed Government confirmed only 2 persons died. Many arrested and detained for years without trial. In 2020 Boko Haram admitted slaughtering 76 farmers in Bornu state claiming it revenge for offense against Nigeria army.
- g) Poverty and Economic insecurity. In conceptualization of human security in this survey we link the meaning to include good life, good and viable economic opportunities, basic infrastructure are basic meaning of human security there absence signifies insecurity. The austerity measures and economic depression in Nigeria is biting and constitute insecurity to over 76.9 percent of the population. Nigeria has one of the highest poverty rates in the world, with over 100 million people living below poverty line, (World Bank, 2022).
- h) Disruption of agriculture and food insecurity.
- i) Agricultural activities is on low ebbs in Nigeria because of insecurity that has enveloped some states that produces food for commercial purposes. For instance Benue state known as the food basket of the nation for the past 20 years has been battling with high insecurity, kidnapping, terrorism, Farmers - herders conflict. These has led to abandonment of farming as farmers are afraid to go to farm. Farmers live in Internally Displaced camp ( IDP) instead of living in their home to farm. Ijrshar et'al (2025) avvred that fermers abandone their lands due to attacks, leading to reduced agricultural output and food security. BusinessDay NG, (2026) over 3.6 million people are internally displaced, with the figure potentially exceeding 8 million, raising concerns over good security and the economy. Insecurity leads to displacement which in turn leads to food security..

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- j) Cybersecurity and threats: The radical change from analogy to digital technology in all of human endeavors has some negative implications despite its numerous advantages. Globalization and modernization coupled with advancement in digital technological goes with serious threat and security in Nigeria. There are digital security threats as a result of its advancement. Cyber crime and cyber fraud are rampant in Nigeria. Hacking of individual, group, corporate bank accounts, and other online accounts leading to fraud. Online theft of intellectual properties and other online fraudulent activities are serious security threats in Nigeria. Falade & Osho (2025,) posited that weak enforcement of cyber security laws and institutional gaps continue to expose Nigeria cyber threat.
- k) Bad governance and weak institutions. The Nigeria Political system has produced political actors and gladiators in powers and authority that has no regards and value for humanity. They are only interested in looting the national wealth and appropriating it amongst their cronies. They have rendered state institutions powerless and are more powerful than the state institutions including security agencies, antigraft agencies and the judiciary.
- l) Poor legislation, lack of government political will, separation of powers. Civil unrest and protest must also be mentioned.

### **The implications of insecurity in Nigeria.**

Insecurity any where goes with serious effect and in quantifiable implications as it has multiplier effect to the nation in all sphere of human engagement. From Nigeria insecurity landscape we have seen and suffered the follow.

- a) Economic and physical impact: No positive human development program can take place in atmosphere of rancor and insecurity. Investors are discourage from investing. Production reduced drastically as a result of civil unrest just as it effects farmers or effect entrepreneurs and capitalist. Insecurity discourages investment, it lowers domestic capital formation. It reduces investment in human capital investment as budget for security and defense takes more of what should have been used to better the life of the people like education, healthcare and infrastructures. IFM 2022 noted that Nigerian government spending has shifted heavily towards security reducing available funds for infrastructure and development. Insecurity lowers growth through reduction on investment.
- b) Another impact of insecurity is that it leads to decline in production of good and services mostly agricultural products.
- c) The displacement of people outside their original area of domicile mostly farmers that engages in agriculture. Insecurity like banditry, kidnapping terrorism, separationist violence disrupt agriculture, trade and investment. Farmer are engulf with palpable fear going to farm not possible as they are kept in Internal Displaced Camp (IDP)
- d) Insecurity lowers production of agricultural produce and income there by increasing inflation and food security and scarcity. World Bank (2023),, posited that agriculture a major employer in Nigeria has been severely affected as farmers abandon their land due to fears of attack this leads to good shortage and inflation.
- e) Insecurity lead displacement of people as a result horrific attack they have seen and witnessed. There are many Internal Displace Camp in Nigeria. Internal Displacement

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Monitoring Center (IDMC, 2024) stated that Nigerians remains one of the counties with the highest number of internally displaced persons in Africa.

- f) Those displaced persons left with fears, anxieties and worries, serious severed trauma that effect then mental wise and some leads to death. This social Humanitarian impact is great it links to health and life.
- g) Psychological and health implications. Those traumatized die of it as a result of poor medications. WHO (2022) averred that mental health services in Nigeria remains inadequate to address those growing need of people in IDP camps. Health care facilities are abandoned as citizens and Health workers flew for their dear lives leaving medication to nature.
- h) 5.Insecurity depends poverty and makes underdevelopment systemic. UNDP, 2023, opined that insecurity depends poverty and inequality particularly in already vulnerable regions like Northeast, northwest west and Middle Belt region in Nigeria.
- i) Human right is grossly abused and violated when there is insecurity. This has increased astronomical in recent years despite the fact that we operate a democratic system of government. This is done by both state and non state actors. Insecurity has resulted to unlawful arrest and detention, violence, sexual violence, Amnesty International 2023, posited that both state and non state actors have been implicated in human rights abuse. Human Rights Watch, (2024), the rule of law is weakened as citizens lose confidence in the Justice system and impunity becomes more prevalent.
- j) Endemic insecurity has weakened state power and authority in some part of Nigeria, like Bornu, Zamfara, Benue and Platuea state. There are some local government captured by Boko Haram. This undermines government authority to protect human right and life. International Crisis Group (2022) stated that in some areas in Nigeria non state actors armed groups exert control, challenging government legitimacy.
- k) Elections are characterized and marred with insecurity and threat to voters in the already heated polity security wise. This discourages voters participation which runs contrary to democratic principles and ethics. This weakens our electoral system credibility and capacity in conducting free and fair election. Free and fair election is a mirage in atmosphere plagued with insecurity. This will lead to circumventing democratic ethics and ethos which does not only threatened democracy but also leads to bad governance because elections results doesn't represent the will and wishes of the people. Democratic consolidation becomes illusive.
- l) Persistent insecurity leads to closure of school this leads to increase in the number of people drop out from school. The educational system is effected. UNICEF, 2024, the disruption of education major consequences in Nigeria.

### **Pattern of human rights violations in Nigeria**

Human rights violations is on increase in Nigeria if drastic action is not taken will soon be a norms in the society. In Nigeria the pattern of human rights violations is compounded and complex based on political and socio - economic dynamics involving both state and non state actors. Despite the establishment of state institutions like the National Human Rights, Commission, the security agencies anti - graft agencies, the constitution, the entire legal system all to safeguard and guarantee human right, yet Human Right abuse continue to escalate on daily

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basis. State institutions representing the state while non - state actors are represented by militia group, individuals, Boko Karam, ISWA and Separatist. National Human Rights Commission (2025) discovered that over two million complaints of right violations. National Human Rights Commission is saddled with the responsibility to protect human rights as the judiciary, and the legal system serves as security to redress.

Patterns of Human rights violations in Nigeria includes

- a) Torture and cruel inhuman treatment., these form of human rights violations includes all form of physical, emotional and psychological assault and abuses. For instance torture by the disband Special Anti Robbery Squared (SARS) was alarming which led to national protest in 2020. Ill- treatment of suspects by security agencies, is rampant among Nigerian security agencies.
- b) Extrajudicial killings and unlawful use of force. This refers to killings of innocent citizens without due judicial process. This is perpetrated by both state and non state actors. Taken laws into one's hand in taken lives away from people without justifiable reasons. The Lekki Toll Gate killing the EndSARS protest in October 18, 2020 was a clear example. The killing of innocent citizens by Boko Karam and insurgents. Below & Mela, (2023), killing, and ill-treatment of suspect are persistent practices among Nigeria law enforcement agencies.
- c) Arbitrary arrest and detention. This involves arrest without warrant, without justified reason(s), it includes detention without due process and refusal to grant bail to suspects. Nwosu,( 2024) the arbitrary detention remains widespread especially in conflict zones and during protest.
- d) Lack of accountability, transparency and impunity. Failures of government to be accountable to her citizens in investigating and punishing those culpable of humans rights violation or human life. There has been weak enforcement of all judicial panel recommendations in Nigeria. Such reports are always swept under the carpet.
- e) Child Rights Violation. Many children are recruited and conscripted into to join insurgent groups as soldiers. Child abuse, exploitation and neglect of children. Child trafficking and force labour inclusive.
- f) Social and economic right violations. Human security includes the provision and enjoyment of basic social amenities and infrastructure, employment opportunities, housing, education and healthcare. The absence of the aforementioned things is right violation by the government.
- g) Violation of freedom of expression and press. Restricting citizens from expressing their opinion or limiting them access to information. Harassment of journalist and activist.
- h) Suppression of freedom of assembly and association. Citizens are denied right to organized protest.
- i) Right to life and security violations by state and non state actors. Insurgency and terrorism are on the increase so is right to life and security violated. Gender - Based Violence and sexual exploitation. Attah, 2025 stated that conflict related sexual violence and post conflict stigmatization are major human rights concerns in Nigeria. These are ill-treatment and violation targeted against women and girls mostly during conflict

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- j) Religious and ethnic discrimination. Ethno religious violence between farmer and herder.
- k) Forceful displacement and destruction of property. People property are destroyed and citizens chase away from his home. These are all human rights violations in Nigeria.

### **Human life, and Rights Safeguard in Nigeria an analysis.**

Human life and Rights protection are the basic functions of the state. The protection of life, rights and properties in Nigeria over the years has met with endemic systemic challenges. Insecurity has been the order of the day for over two decades as serious unimaginable but practical pathetic stories unfolds on daily basis about killings destruction of properties, kidnapping and violations of human rights.

The emergence of new militia group (namely the Lacarawa in Kebbi and Mamuda in Kwara state) under the watch of the current administration is worrisome as their activities is horrendous and grotesque.

There are established institutions and frameworks saddled with the protection and prevention of human life and right abuses that has both international and national backing and recognition. Nigeria as a nation has a very well worded theoretical normative framework and legal system for human life protection and rights abuse. Example includes:

- a) The National Human Rights Commission
- b) The 1999 constitution as amended.
- c) The judiciary and law enforcement agencies.
- d) National Action Plan on Human Rights 2022 - 2026.
- e) International Human Rights Legislation treaty Brighton.
- f) African Charter on Human and People's Rights.

The existence of these bodies and frameworks has made little or no impact in protection of life, and human right violations in Nigeria. NHRC (2024) report indicate that although these institutions exist, their effectiveness is constrained by enforcement challenges and system weakness.

It's crystal clear that human life is in great danger in Nigeria and human rights abuse on systemic institutionalized abuse and violations. Human Rights Watch, (2026) , Amnesty International (2025) averred that Nigeria continue to experience widespread violations including killings, from terrorism, banditry, and communal conflicts as well as extrajudicial killings, torture and arbitrary detection / arrest by security agencies.

Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (2024) report highlight that security has worsen with both state and non state actors violating rights during counterinsurgency operations and communal conflict.

With the existence of all the institutions, frameworks and structures put on ground to protect live, rights and properties human life, and rights violations are on astronomical increase on daily

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bases. The stories are pathetic and horrendous so many cases not reported, the few reported cases are swept under the carpet as perpetrators are not brought to book. Human life and human rights are only protected on paper and pen. There is great lacuna between theory and practical. When and where much emphasis are laid on rhetoric than practical better results to curb the abnormal, illusion is sacrosanct and stability becomes a mirage, (Chinnah, 2026) .

### **Why insecurity in Nigeria is on the increase.**

The current disconnect between security architecture and insecurity in the land calls for an imperative clarion call on the rationale behind the endemic insecurity landscape in Nigeria. Why has insecurity been endemic in Nigeria.

The following points accounts for pandemic endemic insecurity in Nigeria.

- a) Bad Governance and corruption. The political arena has produced political actors and gladiators that are fantastically corrupt, they are only interesting in enriching themselves and their cronies using the resource of the state.
- b) Bad governance mid wives poverty and poverty gives birth to insecurity. Bribery and embezzlement of Public funds will hinder effective and efficient budgeting for security. Most times budget for security are shared among the power players within the political class. Transparency International 2021, Onapajo & Uzodike, 2022). Corruption undermines effective security delivery, mismanagement of defense funds, erodes public trust in government institutions.
- c) Judicial weakness and compromise in the legal system. Amnesty International ( 2022) slow judicial processes and low conviction rates embolden criminal and reduce deterrence.
- d) Impunity and abysmal rascality. The Nigerian state has produced leaders, political actors and gladiators that are stronger than state institutions. These few individuals operates with impunity under the guise of immunity. State institutions are weakened while few individuals are strengthened to have their ways even when millions are killed. Human Rights Watch, (2026) stated that perpetrators of abuses are rarely investigated or persecuted this encourages impunity.
- e) Lack of accountability and transparency in the system, mostly among the security agencies and the judiciary.
- f) Abuse of power by security and anti graft agencies, including non state actors. There are outstanding verified facts were security agencies were found culpable of as perpetrators of violence in some situations. Human Rights Watch, (2026) evidence shows extrajudicial killings, torture and excessive use of force by security agencies.
- g) Endemic persistent activities of non state actors like the Boko Haram, ISWAP, Banditry, kidnappers and other deadly groups. ACLED, 2024, discovered that Northwest, North Central Nigeria have witnessed increased banditry and mass kidnappings as a lucrative enterprise. Global Terrorism Index (2023) , posited that despite military efforts, insurgent group remain active, adapting strategies and expanding attacks.
- h) Another issue that accounts for endemic insecurity in Nigeria is poor management of Nigeria borders facilities. It was discovered that many of these non state actors are not from Nigeria.

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The question then is how did the managed to find themselves in Nigeria major towns and villages? This has to do with borders mismanagement.

- i) Mismanagement of borders facilitate the influx of arms fighters and criminal elements from neighboring countries, International Organizations for Migration ( IMO) 2021).
- j) Ethno - Religious Conflict. Ethno - religious conflict tends to be persistent in some areas, for example in Middle Belt we have witnessed serious endemic communal classes and reprisals, Kalu, (2020).
- k) Farmer - Herder Conflicts,.
- l) Political violence and electoral conflicts.
- m) 9 Increase in cybercrime and digital coordination of criminal activities, (EFCC, 2023).
- n) Internal displacement due conflict has created vulnerable population prone to exploitation and recruitment into armed groups UNHCR, ( 2024).
- o) 11.Proliferation of small arms and ammunition, The widespread availability of illicit arms has empowered criminal groups, bandits and insurgents escalating violence, Small Arms Survey, (2021).
- p) Bad economy, poverty and other features of underdevelopment. NBS, (2023), rising poverty and unemployment, particularly among youth, have made many susceptible to recruitment into criminal network and insurgent groups.
- q) Weak and compromised security architecture . Nigeria security system and architecture is underfunded, overstretched compromised, under - equipped, sabotaged within themselves and lacks the use of digital security and artificial intelligence. Any security architecture plague with this can't function effectively.

### Findings

The survey discovered that there is a lacuna between human security and territory security protection. Nigeria is mostly concerned about territorial security with little or no attention to human security which includes provision of basic social amenities and infrastructural facilities. Chinnah (2020) posited that human security is governance driven. The study discovered that the security agencies are culpable and perpetrators. They have abused their powers and compromised their duty coupled with internal sabotage. The institution is very weakness with strong individuals that uses impunity for immunity. Government has refused to take decisive action to end insecurity, because of corruption, religion and ethnic sentiment. The survey revealed that poverty and underdevelopment fuels insecurity.

### Conclusion

Nigeria insecurity crisis will continue to exist until government comes out with practical viable solutions including the will power to end insecurity. Human life, and human rights abuse and violation are just like Siamese twins. The study concluded with the following recommendations.

- a) There should be transparency and accountability in the entire security system.
- b) There should be institutional and frameworks restructuring to meet the current dynamics in insecurity.

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- c) Use of artificial intelligence and digital technology should be employed. Seeking for foreign assistance with a defined contract.
- d) General reform of all security operations.
- e) Attention should be focused on human security than territorial security.
- f) Strong borders management and checkmating the movement of illicit arms.
- g) Judicial reforms, punishing offenders, community policing and establishment of investigative bodies.
- h) Establishment of a strong mechanisms to check human life and human rights abuse to mention but few.

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