Human Insecurity and Development Crisis in Some Selected Local Government Areas in Rivers State, Nigeria

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Abstract:

The study evaluatedhuman insecurity and development crisis in some selected Local Government Areas in Rivers State, Nigeria. The study was guided by four objectives and four corresponding research questions.The literature review was done based on some key variables in the study. Frustration Aggression Theory propounded by Dollard in 1939 was adopted as its theoretical framework. The study was anchored on a descriptive design. The study area centred on Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas of Rivers State. The researchers randomly selected 400 respondents from the two local government areas: Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas of Rivers State. A purposive or judgmental sampling technique was used in the process of distributing 400 questionnaires to the respondents.The major sources of data collection were primary and secondary sources. The primary sources of data were gotten from the researchers' observation and the study's questionnaire titled 'Inhuman Security and Development Crisis in Rivers State, while secondary sources of data were gotten from textbooks, newspapers, and government publications. Data obtained from the research instrument was analysed using simple percentages. Findings of the study show that insecurity is caused by a political alliance with cultists, tussle for supremacy among various cult groups, poor leadership, corruption, poverty, unemployment etc. The studyrecommended, among other things, that government should provide employment opportunities to the youth; this will help, to an extent, by engaging them in meaningful activities, thereby deterring them from engaging in criminal activities.

Key words: Insecurity, Development, Crisis, Chieftaincy Tussle, Cult Supremacy

Introduction

There is a growing realisation that development cannot take place in the absence of safety and security. Security, according to Johanson (2014), is a necessary component of development progress. According to Epelle (2012), in a Hobbesian state where life is lonely, poor, ugly, brutish, and short, there is no production, scientific discovery, or navigation, all of which are necessary for societal growth. Man in pursuit of his daily bread frequently found himself in each other's throats, terrified of the possibility of death at any moment. As a result, Hobbes argued for the existence of a leviathan, a powerful entity that will use available resources in the art of providing security for the general public (Eyina, Orlu & Jacob, 2021). The search for security, as it was in a Hobbesian state (i.e., in an unsecured environment), resulted in the development of the contemporary state structure.

Although the Nigerian state was establishedto defend life and property, insecurity is progressively becoming a permanent feature or characteristic of the state's social structure. It has become increasingly difficult to promote development in Rivers State because of persistent insecurity. As a result, social, economic, and political activity have all been adversely affected. It has resulted in the absence of freedom and a threat to the most basic of human necessities (Nwagba, 2012). As a result, Effiom and Edinyang (2013) defined insecurity as the state of being under threat of being injured. The perception that one is vulnerable can cause a sense of unease or worry, which can be initiated or exacerbated by this perception. As explained by Nwolise (2006), security is an all-encompassing, holistic vision, which indicates that the territory must be secured by an interconnected network of armed forces, taking into account the negative impact of human insecurity as well as the importance of security to humans and national development. Moreover, according to him, state sovereignty must be ensured by a democratic and patriotic government, which in turn must be protected by the military, police, and the people themselves; this protection must extend not only to external attacks but also to the devastating consequences of internal upheavals, unemployment, hunger, starvation, diseases, ignorance, homelessness and environmental and socio-economic injustices; this protection must also extend to the people themselves.

Nigeria's oil-rich Niger Delta area accounts for the vast majority of the country's foreign profits. Regrettably, the revenues generated from the region's abundant natural resources were rarely used to further the development of the area. The immediate result is an interminable state of poverty throughout the area. This has resulted in a great deal of conflict. Conflict, according to Orisa (2011) happens when two or more individuals are split by distinct interests and

strive for opposing aims. Irikana and Orisa (2007) contend that conflict impedes and destabilises development and that this is in opposition to conventional wisdom. This region has seen a lot of turmoil as adolescents have taken to the streets to demonstrate their dissatisfaction with the region's exploitation for decades. This region of Nigeria has little to show for the years of oil exploration that has taken place but pollution, poverty, extinction of aquatic life, and a low standard of living, to name a few consequences. Despite the quantity of money produced in the region, poverty and misery have been the constant companions of the people who live there (Adeyemo, 2003). This horrible condition prompted Lawan (2006) to assert that the region is enslaved by the shackles of poverty, ignorance, sickness, and a variety of other horrifying circumstances. As a result, the consequences of this insecurity have resulted in developmental issues in the Niger Delta region, with Rivers State at the epicentre of these challenges.

The human and social insecurity that has evolved in the region, on the other hand, has had a significant impact on the growth of Nigeria (UNDP, 2006). When it comes to development issues, Seers (1969) defined development as a process that includes not only economic progress but also conditions in which people in a country have enough food and jobs and income inequality among them is reduced significantly. Company headquarters and other enterprises have relocated from restive and kidnap-prone locations, according to Ugwulebo (2011). Many corporate expatriates have been kidnapped and killed, while students and religious members have also been abducted and killed, prompting them to flee the country and seek refuge elsewhere. The Boko Haram sect has been involved in kidnapping students in both Borno and Yobe states for several years. The Yobe is a tribal group in Africa that consists of several different peoples who speak various languages and live in a variety of environments.

The "Dapche" kidnapping of schoolgirls was the first unexpected kidnapping episode by Boko Haram that caught the attention of the international community's security architectures. In Benue, a series of clashes between Fulani herders and indigenous farmers have been the talk of the town for the past few days. On the 3rd of October, 2006, a military force abducted four Scots and Malaysians, Indonesians, and Romanians from their homes. The Joint Task Force (JTF) launched a military operation against MEND on May 5, 2005, and it was the first of its kind. As a result of the kidnapping of Nigerian soldiers and foreign sailors in the Delta region, this action was taken. However, kidnapping continues to be a widespread problem in the region, with thousands of cases reported each year.

There is no exoneration for any of the aforementioned difficulties in Rivers State. The state government has made efforts to bring the level of insecurity in the state down to a more manageable level. However, despite their efforts, it is assumed that they are making little or no progress. There are some elements of a crisis in various communities throughout Rivers State, particularly in the rural areas. Increased kidnapping activity has taken place in recent years, with kidnappers demanding millions of dollars as ransom. Increasing cultism in Rivers State has led to an upsurge in instability as villages such as Ibaa, Labelle, Asarama, Unyeada, Ndele, Egi, Omudioga, Egi, Omuku and others within Emohua, Andoni, and Ogba/Egema/Ndoni LGAs have been involved in an ongoing confrontation with one another. Many enterprises have folded, investors relocating to other nations, hence capital flight which provides a difficulty to the Nation. Peace and security must be stabilised for the state and Nigeria to flourish because peace is the remedy for development, whereas insecurity and conflict create underdevelopment in the country. However, it is against this background that the researchers wish to place their searchlight on insecurity and developmental challenges in some selected communities in Rivers State.

Statement of the Problem

The challenges that have arisen as a result of insecurity are extremely serious. For the next generation, Nigeria's rich resources may present an opportunity for the country's development to be further enhanced. Since the availability of several attractive natural resources, such as water bodies, mountains, and forests (among others), Nigeria has become a popular tourist destination. However, instability has hampered the research of these resources in recent years. When it comes to the Nigerian tourism industry, it has the potential to ensure the creation of job opportunities, hence lowering crime. Cross River and the Rivers States, in particular, were the forerunners and major contributors to Nigeria's tourism development, which began in the Niger Delta and spread throughout the country.

Considering that tourism promotes socio-economic development, Mbadike (2017) recommends that it be conducted in an environment that is free of potential dangers. Because of human insecurity, all of these efforts have failed to produce the returns that have been sorely needed. Because of insecurity and uncertain youth restiveness, most of the locations remain underdeveloped and have poor patronage numbers as a result. Foreign direct investment is required to develop these tourist destinations, and this is not achievable in a socially and politically unstable atmosphere.

As a result of the threats of crime and instability in Nigeria's cities and the oil-rich Delta Area, numerous European and Asian countries, including the United States, have issued warnings to their people living in the country. According to the information posted on the website of the United States Department of State, citizens of the United States should avoid non-essential travel to some of Nigeria's states, including Delta, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Rivers, Abia, Edo, Imo,

Borno, and Bauchi, due to the high risk of kidnapping, robbery, and other armed attacks in these areas. The United States Department of State warns that citizens of the United States should avoid non- (Nwagba, 2016).

Nigeria's insecurity, according to Ifenacho (2008), can be related to internal community politics. He recommends that the state and multinational firms step up their development efforts and that the enclave's internal conflicts be resolved as soon as possible. However, according to Okowa (2005), widespread corruption is one of the root causes of instability. This author argues that the inevitability of the current crisis and killings results from system failure and internal contradiction. He claims that the Biblical city of Babylon eventually collapsed under the weight of its innerrejection and that Nigeria will ultimately suffer the same fate unless the ruling class takes revolutionary remedial measures to rectify the situation.

However, insecurity stemming from various activities carried out by some unscrupulous individuals has created a hindrance to growth. Kidnappings, homicides, and cult-related activities are prevalent in Emohua LGA and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGA, with the highest concentrations occurring in the former. In response to the young uprising, Chukwu (2018) posited that the capitals intended to develop the areas are being shifted to another location due to the youth uprising. As a result, she refers to this phenomenon as "capital flight." Hundreds of thousands of youths are on the rampage, seeking freedom and liberation. Whenever a contentious scenario continues to exist, it is considered that development has arrived at the funeral.

Many researchers, however, have expressed an interest in investigating the factors that contribute to insecurity in Rivers State, including oil resource exploitation, corruption, poor leadership, long-term deprivation of people's rights by the government and multinational corporations, and a high level of poverty. Even though political variables responsible for the prevalence of insecurity and development issues were not given adequate attention, this study tried to close the gap that had previously existed.Considering the above backdrop, the study adopted the following research questions:

1. What are the factors that contribute to the persistence of insecurity in the Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas of Nigeria?

2. What are the methods being used by the government to address insecurity in Rivers State?

3. Is there any political undertone to the current state of insecurity in the area under investigation?

4. In what ways does insecurity affect the development of the Emuoha and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas?

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study is to examine insecurity and development challenges in Emuoha and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local government Areas. Other specific objectives include:

1. To identify the factors responsible for the persistent insecurity in Emuoha and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local government Areas.

2. To ascertain the strategies initiated by the government to redress insecurity in Emuoha and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local government Areas.

3. To determine if there exists any political undertone to the prevailing insecurity in the area of study

4. Toidentify the consequences of insecurity on the development of Emuoha and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local government Areas.

Conceptual Clarifications

Insecurity: According to Orisa (2017), insecurity may be defined as "not feeling safe or protected," which occurs when citizens lack trust in their country and in their relationships with others. The topic of insecurity has been the subject of extensive debate in our society; it is no longer a new phenomenon, as nearly every state in our country, Nigeria, and the rest of the world have been affected by insecurity. Orisa (opcit) asserted that there is a widespread dread of political instability in the country. This volatility causes stress, worry, and insecurity in our society, and it has a negative impact on our economy. According to Effiom and Edinyamg (2013), insecurity is defined as the state of being at risk of being hurt or killed. Unease or nervousness that is provoked or exacerbated by the perception of oneself as being vulnerable is known as "vulnerability anxiety."

As argued by Imo and Essien (2013), the Nigerian society is engulfed in a general sense of insecurity, which is exacerbated by youth restiveness, as well as all manner of crimes and anti-social behaviour, all of which have emerged as serious dangers to peaceful coexistence in the Nigerian state. According to Effiom and Mezieobi (2014), "the most

pressing concern confronting Nigeria at the moment is the question of national insecurity," which they believe is exacerbated by "visionless cables" that recruit youth to do terrible acts of national devastation on a large scale. The insecurity of lives and property has become a severe problem in Nigeria, according to Salawud (2010). Political assassinations, community violence, religious intolerance, militant activity and kidnappings, bombings, and the killing of humans are all examples of the problem.

National insecurity is a broad term that can be regarded from various perspectives, including personal group or leadership valued viewpoints, as well as from an environmental one. It is critical to recognise that insecurity issues in Nigeria today are matters that touch the collective interests of all citizens, regardless of gender, religion, or ethnic affiliation. A closer look at Nigeria's insecurity reveals that it is primarily motivated by political considerations, despite other elements working against it. When politicians tend to stay in power indefinitely, refusing to allow the assumed zoning formula to be implemented, laws are enacted to suppress or eliminate opposition, human rights and civility become expensive luxury items, funds and resources are diverted to probably individual pockets, and development comes to a halt, insecurity automatically sets in, and the nation or country lives in fear of being overthrown. In Nigeria, achieving the appropriate level of internal security, particularly between 2007 and 2018, has proven to be a difficult task. The proliferation of various militia organisations, which posed severe security concerns to the Nigerian government, occurred during the time period mentioned above. As a result, such unwholesome habits have not only harmed economic activity in many parts of Nigeria, but they have also resulted in the loss of a large number of lives and property owned by Nigerians (Emeodu, 2019).

Development: The concept and meaning of development have not been blessed with the blessing of a definition that is widely accepted. Kalagbor (2004), on the other hand, believes that growth is multidimensional, multilayered, and ramifying. Walter (1972), writing from a humanist perspective, observed that development entails increasing skill and capacity, greater freedom, creativity, self-discipline, responsibility, and better material well-being. Social groups evolve as a result of improved ability to govern both internal and external connections as a result of their development. All human societies have gone through stages of development, but the extent to which they have progressed varies from one society to another and even within the same society. When it comes to development on a societal level, Nnoli (1981) took a holistic approach when he asserted that development is a dialectical phenomenon in which the individual and the society correlate with their physical, biological, and human environments, changing them for the benefit of the individual and the society as a whole and the advancement of humanity as a whole

Briefly stated, it is essential to remember that growth involves a fundamental and revolutionary approach and a total overhaul of a society's structures, institutions, ideas, organisation, and value system. This is especially true for developing countries. Societal, economic, technological, and political development are all reflected in the organisation. Development, according to Kalagbor (2004), must aim to enhance the standard of life of the population, abolish or at the very least reduce to the bare minimum poverty, unemployment, and inequality in society. Is it possible that the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) chose poverty eradication as its primary goal because of this consideration? In a similar vein, the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) of Nigeria sets poverty eradication, wealth building, and employment production as its primary objectives.

Theoretical Framework

Developed in 1939, the frustration-aggression hypothesis sought to explain aggression and frustration as a whole. Dollard and colleagues, Doob, Miller, Mowrer, and Sear, proposed the theory. Berkowitz made some changes to it later on (1970). The fundamental assumption of this theory was that any instances of violence resulted from frustration, which was characterised as any events that impede an individual from achieving specific goals in his or her life. A distinction between what people believe they desire or deserve and what they get (Feierabends, 1969) and the distinction between predicted need satisfaction and actual need satisfaction have been made to explain aggressiveness (Davids, 1962). When people's expectations are not met by reality, they have a tendency to challenge those whom they believe are to blame for their disappointment.

According to Best (2006), the present conflict in Nigeria's Niger Delta is a result of discontent that has escalated to the point of aggressive behaviour. He asserted that after years of peacefully agitating for what they perceived to be a fair share of the oil wealth that is extracted from their land, the youth of the region have taken the law into their own hands by vandalising oil pipelines, kidnapping oil workers for large ransoms, and causing trouble for those they believe are responsible for their problems. Once again, there are cult-like organisations that band together to assert their claims to their territories. Other politicians have used such tactics to encourage the use of weaponry, and some have even used them as a tool for criminal activity.

According to the hypothesis, the causes of insecurity in Rivers state are related to feelings of frustration that metamorphose to hostility on young people. Once again, certain authorities failed to provide job possibilities to the

youth, resulting in their unemployment and dissatisfaction with their lives. The Rivers State is endowed with a rich crude oil resource, which is exploited without regard for the region's long-term economic growth. In some locations, persons who are expected to assume leadership roles (such as chieftaincy or royal highness) are denied the opportunity to do so, resulting in feelings of disappointment and disappointment, leading to frustration. In the same way, the government failed to address the needs of the people, causing them to become dissatisfied. According to Dollard et al. (1930), the amount of frustration caused the individuals to become more aggressive and frustrated, ultimately resorting to kidnapping and armed robbery acts as a means of survival. In the wake of this level of insecurity resulting from the activities of the youth, Rivers State has faced several developmental issues. This is inferred from the findings of Chukwu (2018), who discovered that youth restiveness increases insecurity and, as a result, hurts the development of any given society. So the expression of aggressive behaviour by dissatisfied youth has resulted in insecurity, which has caused progress in the studied region to stagnate or reverse.

Methodology

The descriptive design was used as the foundation for the research. Local government areas in Rivers State where the study was conducted included Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas. Using a random selection process, the researchers picked 400 respondents from two local government areas in Rivers State, namely, Emohua Local Government Area and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area. As part of their procedure of distributing questionnaires to 400 respondents, 200 from each LGA in Rivers State, the researchers used a convenience sample technique. Primary and secondary sources were the most important sources of information for data collecting. The questionnaire for the study, titled 'Inhuman Security and Development Crisis in Rivers State,' served as the primary source of information for the researchers. Simply calculated percentages were used to analyse the data collected by the research instrument.

Result and Discussion

Table 1: Sex Distribution

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	300	75%
Female	100	25%
Total	400	100%

Source: Research Fieldwork, 2021.

Table 1 above shows that majority of the respondents are male constituting 300 (75%) respondents, while the female constitute 100(25%) respondents.

Fig 1: Age Distribution of Respondents
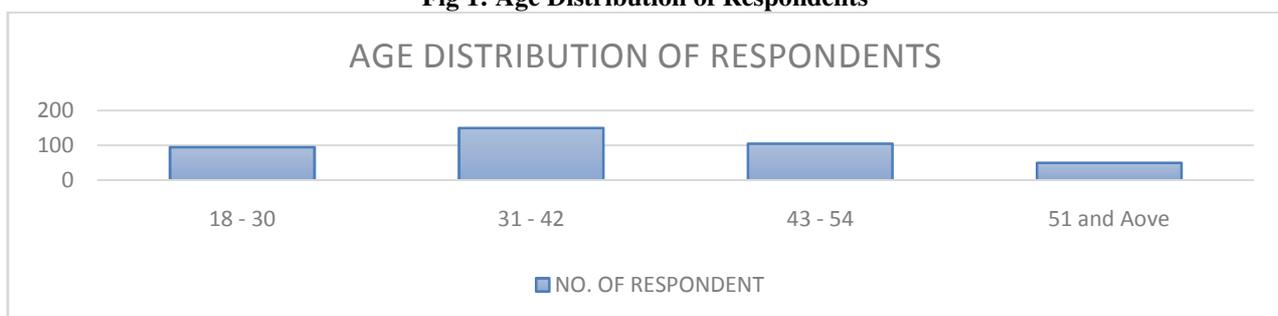
Source: Researcher's Fieldwork, 2021.

In terms of respondent ages, 95 (23.75%) of the total respondents are between the ages of 18 and 30, while 150 (37.5 percent) are between the ages of 31 and 42, according to the results. Again, 105 people (26.25 percent) were between the ages of 43 and 54, with 50 people (12.5 percent) between the ages of 55 and above.

Table 2: Marital Status

Marital Status	Respondents	Percentage
Single	130	32.5%
Married	140	35%
Divorce	60	15%
Separated	20	5%
Widowed	50	12.5%
Total	400	100%

Source: Researcher's Field work, 2018.

According to Table 2, the vast majority of respondents who took part in the survey were married, accounting for 35 percent of the total sample size, according to the findings. Thirty-one percent (130) of the 400 participants were single, 60 (15 percent) were divorced, twenty (5 percent) were separated, and fifty (12.5 percent) were widowed out of the 400 participants.

fig.2: Educational Qualification of Respondents
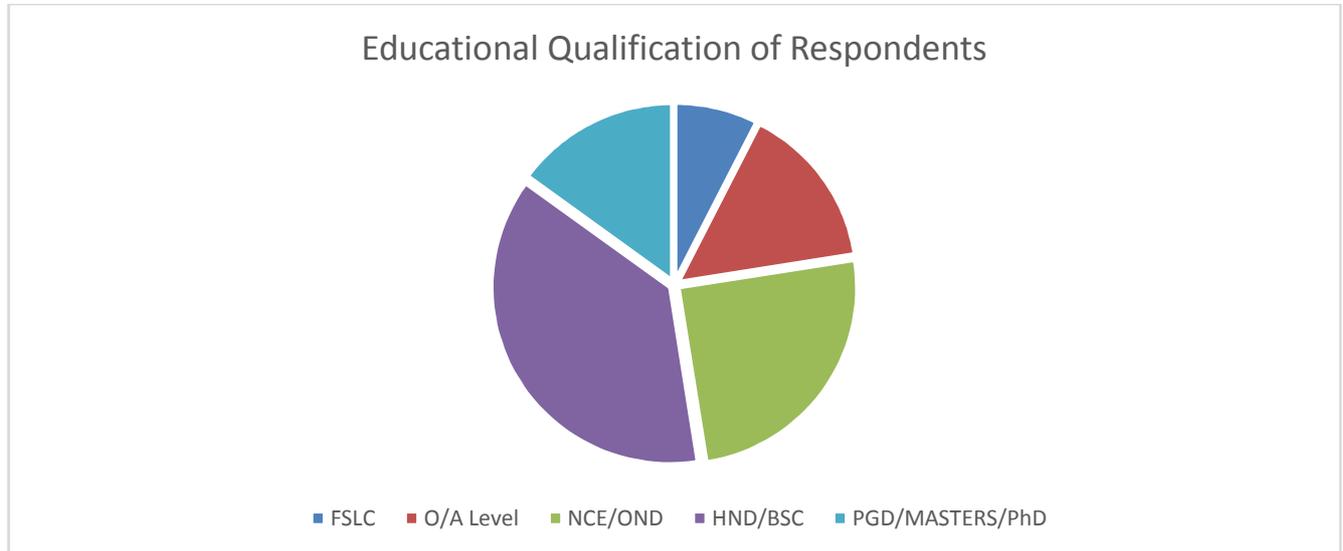
Source: Researcher's Fieldwork, 2021.

FSLC was held by 30 respondents (7.5 percent), O/A Level Certificate was held by 60 respondents (15 percent), and National Diploma and NCE Certificates were held by 100 respondents (25 percent), as indicated in figure 2. Again, those with HND/BSc degrees account for 150 (37.5 percent) of those who responded, while those with PGD/Masters and Ph.D. degrees account for 60 (15 percent).

Table 3: Religious Distribution of Respondents

Religion	Respondents	Percentage
Christian	360	90%
Muslim	10	2.5%
ATR	30	7.5%
TOTAL	400	100%

Source: Research Fieldwork, 2021.

Table 3 above shows that 360 (90 percent) of the respondents are Christians, whereas 10 (2.5 percent) of those who took part in the survey were Muslims, and 30 (7.5 percent) of those who took part in the survey practised African Traditional Religion.

Fig 3: Occupation Distribution of Respondents
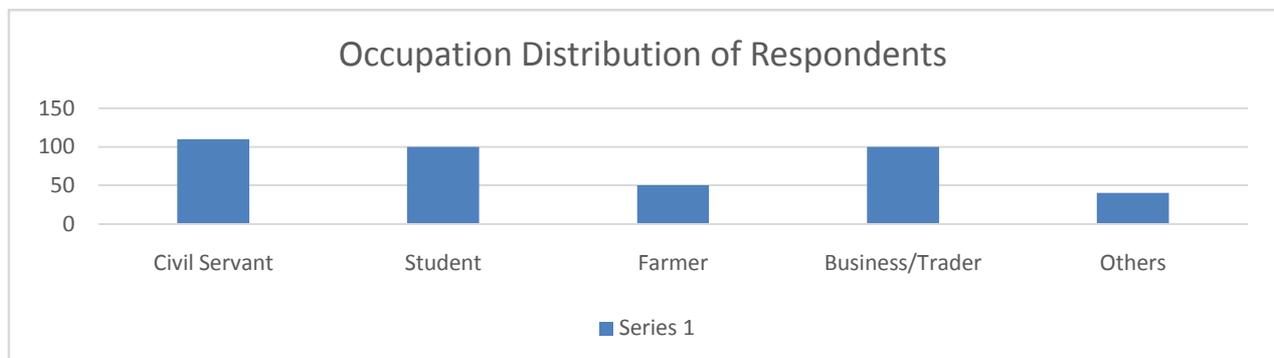
Source: Researcher's Fieldwork, 2021.

In accordance with the data in Fig.3, 110 respondents (27.5 percent) are public servants, 100 respondents (25 percent) are students, and 50 respondents (12.5 percent) are farmers. Again, those who are active in business or commerce account for 100 (25 percent) of the respondents, while the remaining 40 (10 percent) are from other fields.

Research Question 1: What are the factors responsible for the persistent insecurity in Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/NdoniLocalGovernment Areas?

Table 4 presents factors responsible for the persistent insecurity in Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/NdoniLocalGovernment Areas

S/N	ITEMS	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	TOTAL
1	poverty	140 (35%)	200 (50%)	45 (11.25%)	15 (3.75%)	400 (100%)
2	unemployment situation	115 (28.75%)	225 (56.25%)	40 (10%)	20 (5%)	400 (100%)
3	environmental pollution	90 (22.5%)	250 (62.5%)	41 (10.25%)	19 (4.75%)	400 (100%)
4	Chieftaincy tussle and poor leadership	150 (37.5%)	200 (50%)	30 (7.5%)	20 (5%)	400 (100%)
5	cultism	200 (50%)	180 (45%)	15 (3.75%)	5 (1.25%)	400 (100%)

Source: Researcher's Fieldwork, 2021.

It follows from this that the chieftaincy conflict, cult activities, a high poverty level, unemployment, weak leadership, and environmental pollution are the causes or elements responsible for the persistence of insecurity in the research area.

Research Question 2: What are the strategies initiated by the government to address insecurity in Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas?

Table 5 present the strategies initiated by the government to address insecurity.

S/N	ITEMS	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	TOTAL
1	Skills acquisition	150 (37.5%)	190 (47.5%)	35 (8.75%)	25 (5%)	400 (100%)
2	government grant amnesty	170 (42.5%)	210 (52.5%)	5 (1.25%)	15 (3.75%)	400 (100%)
3	job generation	15 (3.75%)	35 (8.75%)	150 (37.5%)	200 (50%)	400 (100%)
4	Effective Community or neighborhood policing.		10 (2.5%)	200 (50%)	190 (47.5%)	400 (100%)

Source: Researcher's Fieldwork, 2021.

This means that the governments were able to extend amnesty to deviants while still making provisions for the acquisition of new skills and knowledge. However, they (the government) were unable to provide job opportunities or to ensure effective community or neighbourhood police as solutions for addressing insecurity in the area under study, as was the case in the previous study.

Research question 3: Is there any political undertone to the prevailing insecurity in the area of study?

Table 6 shows if there is any political undertone to the prevailing insecurity.

S/N	ITEMS	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	TOTAL
1	Insecurity is sponsored by politicians to ensure success in election.	100 (25%)	200 (50%)	`60 (15%)	40 (10%)	400 (100%)
2	Crisis emanating from chieftaincy tussle has some political backup	170 (42.5%)	180 (45%)	30 (7.5%)	20 (5%)	400 (100%)
3	There exist relationship among cultist and politicians	150 (37.5%)	190 (47.5%)	35 (8.75%)	25 (6.25%)	400 (100%)
4	Selfish politics by politicians breeds insecurity	140 (35%)	200 (50%)	25 (6.25%)	35 (8.75)	400 (100%)

Sources: Researcher's Fieldwork, 2021.

Table 4.2.3 above indicates whether or not there is a political undertone to the current level of insecurity in the area under investigation. This implies that there is a political undertone to the prevalent insecurity in the area of study, as evidenced by the fact that politicians sponsor insecurity, that there is a relationship between politicians and cultists, and that politicians engage in selfish politics, all of which contribute to insecurity. Also demonstrated is how politicians have affected the chieftaincy tussle in communities, including those such as the Ibaa, ultimately leading to communal upheaval and forced migration.

Research Question 4: What are the consequences of insecurity on the development of Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGAs?

Table 7 present the consequences of insecurity on the development of Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni

S/N	ITEMS	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	TOTAL
1	Insecurity leads to loss of manpower.	140 35%	220 55%	25 6.25%	15 3.75%	400 (100%)
2	Insecurity leads to collapse of business activities and loss of properties.	160 40%	210 52.5%	20 5%	10 2.5%	400 (100%)
3	Insecurity leads to capital flight.	140 35%	200 50%	45 11.25%	15 3.75%	400 (100%)
4	Businesses and institutions are closed and cease to exist because of insecurity challenges in your place.	150 37.5%	230 57.5%	15 3.75%	5 1.25%	400 (100%)
5	Insecurity discourages government/private investment in your community.	170 42.5%	210 52.5%	12 3%	8 2%	400 (100%)

Source: Researcher's Fieldwork, 2021.

This suggests that insecurity in the region of research has had an impact on the development of the places under consideration. It has resulted in the loss of labour, the cessation of business operations and the loss of property, capital flight, and the closure of businesses and institutions.

Discussion of Findings

The research examined the elements that contribute to the persistence of insecurity in the Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas in Nigeria. According to the findings of the study, the high levels of poverty in these communities contributed to the problem of insecurity. Once again, it was agreed that high levels of unemployment, environmental pollution, chieftaincy tussle/poor leadership, and cultism are all elements contributing to insecurity in the area under investigation. Because of this, poverty has had an impact on people's lives, prompting them to take various measures to maintain their well-being. Youth who are in the process of seeking greener pastures will do whatever to survive to alleviate their plight in poverty. In addition, unemployment increases to insecurity. To overcome his or her daily obstacles, an unemployed individual may commit harm to others. The findings from the study revealed that youth who are unemployed or out of work are among those who commit acts of insecurity such as kidnapping, theft, armed robbery, and other crimes.

Cultism, sometimes known as cult supremacy, is a significant element contributing to instability among stud communities like the Egi, Omuku, Ibaa, and Omudioga tribes. Cult organisations such as Deegbam, Ice-Land, and Green-Landers are among those who have formed. Many lives and homes have been lost due to this activity, which has been carried out in collaboration with some local officials. Crimes such as murder, kidnapping, vandalism, armed robbery, and other forms of robbery are prevalent in the region under investigation. A significant amount of emphasis cannot be placed on the importance of this aspect in the development of such areas.In addition, a fight for control of the chieftaincy and inadequate leadership has contributed to insecurity. This is in accordance with Emeodu's (2019) argument that the death of the Ibaa Royal Highness in 2008 heralds the beginning of a new chapter of instability in the Ibaa society. With disastrous implications for those who are affected by it, it has spread like wildfire throughout the country. Many of those who are determined to take over the throne will not give up their efforts, even if it means causing major strife and instability within their communities. Once again, community leaders are not doing everything they can to curb crime; they have become a significant contributor to the problem.

Furthermore, the study exposes initiatives and interventions implemented by the government to combat insecurity in the studied areas, such as amnesty programmes, which are detailed in the report. In addition, the study indicated that no job possibilities were provided to those cultists who had repented to keep them from returning to their evil cultish ways. Additionally, there is a security vacuum as a result of the absence of efficient community or neighbourhood policing to assure the efficacy of their communities' security.

Furthermore, the study reveals a political undertone to the current insecurity, with some politicians encouraging insecurity to be successful in elections and remain relevant in state and national politics, which they do through the purchase of arms and financial assistance. As a result, there is a link between cultism and politicians. All of this indicates that the high level of insecurity in the region has a political undercurrent to it, which is consistent with the evidence. A community's unity has been destroyed by the type of politics performed by some members during a chieftaincy dispute, such as that which occurred in the Ibaa community, which has weakened the unity of the community.As a result of their desire to gain or maintain power, they have allied with cultists to intimidate their opponents. That political class's self-centeredness has contributed to instability and development issues in these places.

Finally, there are a variety of repercussions of insecurity for the development of the Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas, which are discussed below. According to the findings of the study, insecurity harms the socio-economic growth and development of the area. Other implications include decreased commercial activity, the loss of lives, and the destruction of property. As people escape for their lives in the Omudioga, Ibaa, Egi, and Omoku areas and other communities, it has been demonstrated that commercial operations are at a reduced rate as people flee for their lives. During a period of uncertainty, people lose their possessions as well. In addition, insecurity harms growth by causing capital flight and personnel exodus. When Chukwu (2018) asserted that activities of youth restiveness in Rivers state have contributed to capital flight, she was backed up by the evidence. Capital that is expected to be invested or utilised by a resident of these locations is instead transferred to another site for commercial purposes, resulting in a reduction of investment in the areas concerned. Residents of these places are forced to relocate, and some people lose their lives as a result of the insecurity they face. When this occurs, it results in a loss of workforce in the affected areas, which harms development. All of these difficulties caused by insecurity have an impact on growth, and progress will be impossible to achieve until insecurity is handled.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Insecurity harms societal development. It hurts the development spirit of the community. Thus, people's lives and property are no longer safe, resulting in the forced relocation of people to another place to build their businesses. The economy is deteriorating, and both the tourism and agriculture industries are suffering as a result of the situation. Because of this, there has been a decrease in revenue generation and an increase in food shortages, which helps to explain why there is a high level of poverty and cyclical movement of insecurity. Based on the aforementioned challenges and problems of insecurity, as well as development challenges, the study makes several recommendations that, if implemented and adhered to, will serve as a panacea to the issues of insecurity and development challenges in the Emohua and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Areas, and will be to the general benefit of the state of Nigeria.

1. There should be mobilization of neighborhood/community security watch, which emphasizescommunity security by using members of the community in alliance with other security agencies.

2. Politicians should avoid using the people to cause havoc and menace to society. Penalty to defaulters is imperative to serve as a deterrent to others.

3. There is a need for increased empowerment and job possibilities to allow the adolescents to have useful activities that are perfect for social advancement. Thus, this may assist to build peace and security.

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