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Establishment of Cattle Colonies and Perceived Threat to Human Security in Nigeria

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Abstract:

The general objective of the study was to examine proposed establishment of cattle colonies and perceived threat to human security in Nigeria. Specifically, the study was to ascertain if the proposed establishment of cattle colonies will threaten human security in Nigeria. The study was a survey research. Accidental sampling technique was used. The study adopted a quantitative and qualitative method of analysis. Primary and secondary sources of data were employed. The theoretical framework was group threat theory. The study revealed that establishment of cattle colonies will significantly threaten lives, land, child's education, availability and supply of food, healthcare among others. Based on the findings, the study recommends that violent killing should attract life imprisonment, cattle treated of diseases to avoid threat to health care, production should be done in areas where a particular religion is accepted or dominant and cattle slaughtered and moved in cold room to wholesalers and consumers.

Keywords: Cattle Colony, Perceived, Threat, and Human Security

Introduction

(Nwabueze, 2018). The upsurge in population increased demand for agricultural products and Cattle colony refers to a place or community for the settlement of Fulani herders and their cattle who share a common interest to the reduction on available land for farming took over huge portion of arable land. That led to the reduction on available land for farming



and pastures and made cattle herders to move to the south. The presence of pastorals in the south led their cattle to enter the farms to feed on foliage of crops leading to destruction of crops and incessant clashes between herders and farmers' in several parts of Nigeria over use of fertile land. That became worrisome and unbearable to the nation (Nwobi, 2018). Similarly, the Federal government over the years condemned and issued palliatives until she emphasized the relevance of finding a lasting solution to the clashes.

In the light of that, the Federal Government proposed the establishment of cattle colonies on 10th July, 2018 (Onyekakeya, 2018). The motive was to end the culture of cattle grazing and establish facilities to take care of herders and their cattle in a colony. Several states in the south openly rejected the controversial policy while some states in the north supported the plan. The planned proposal led to confusion and disinterest because pundits were lost over the real motive behind the proposal for cattle colony establishment (Sheyin, 2018). One of

the daunting challenges was that the Federal government did not explain how the proposal will prevent cattle grazers from encroaching on farmlands as they transit between colonies. That led to fear of depletion of agricultural production, systemic disequilibrium, loss of lives and properties (Abada, Okafor and Oforbuike, 2018).

On that premise, the study seeks answers to the following questions: To what extent will the proposed establishments of cattle colonies threaten human security in Nigeria? The general objective was to examine the proposed establishment of cattle colonies and perceived threat to human security in Nigeria, while the specific objective is to ascertain the extent proposed establishment of cattle colonies will threaten human security in Nigeria.

Review of Related Literature Cattle Colony

The concept of cattle colony connotes a centre for the sale of cattle and beef products. It is quite remarkable in Pakistan. The central colony is located at Bin Qasim town in Karachi with several meat warehouses and abattoirs.



People move into the colony to shop and make supply (Onyekakeya, 2018). A colony is defined as a territory under the immediate political control of a state, distinct from the home territory of the sovereign and ruled by a metropolitan state as it is in Ancient Greece (Ikiddeh, 2018). Similarly, it implies a total subjection or partial control of an area or a country by another country occupied by settlers from that country. It is a community of animals or plants of one kind living close together or forming a physically connected structure (English Oxford Living Dictionaries, 2018). In the same perspective, it is a place for the settlement of people with common or similar language, interests or occupations, living together in close association. The proposed establishment of cattle colonies of the Federal Government could be interpreted as a place for the settlement of Fulani herdsmen (Nwabueze, 2018). In the same vein, cattle colony implies designating vast tracts of land in each state as herding ground. Cattle grazers will use the

colony to feed their cattle in order not to disturb fertile agricultural land and farmers (Orji, 2018).

Human Security

The term human security is relative in nature. It could mean having freedom from fear and want in relation to health, income, food, community, politics, person, environment and economy. It entails the threat to and values under threat in human lives. There has to be understanding of the perceived threat on a specific group or individuals that emerge slowly and silently or appear suddenly and dramatically (Gomez and Gasper, 2014). In a similar vein, human security connotes freedom from fear, want and future generation to inherit a healthy natural environment (Annan, 2018). It can also be defined as the act of protecting humans from severe and widespread threats (United Nations, 2009). In the same context, it is a means of avoiding, mitigating and coping with the existing threats (Latvian Platform for Development, 2010). Again, it is the ability to assist humans to come



out of the aftermath of widespread insecurity emanating from fear of losing landed properties and being dominated in Nigeria. It suffices to say that if a human being is free from fear (violent attacks, persecution or death and psychological trauma) and want of (food, health care, child education and gainful employment), then human security could be said to exist.

Historical Excurses of Proposed Establishment of Cattle Colonies

The former military government passed a decree promulgating land use Act of 1978. That entrusted ownership of land to the military. It was the decree that propelled the Fulani's to further expedition and gave them the leverage to move to the south for pastoral business. In that vein, a bill was advocated by Senator Rabiw Kwankwazo of Kano for the establishment of cattle ranches and colonies. Secondly, a bill for an Act to provide establishment, preservation and control of National Grazing Reserve and livestock route and creation of National Reserve Commission

was advocated for by Mrs Zainab Kure senator representing Niger South senatorial districts. The goal was to curb incessant clashes between herders and farmers. Southern senators and two senators from the North did not consent to that bill (Abada, Okafor, and Oforbuike, 2018). Furthermore, the Federal government on 10th July, 2018 unveiled a proposal for the establishment of cattle colonies' as part of efforts to mitigate the frequent clashes between farmers and herdsmen nationwide. The proposal came shortly after the first Federal Executive Council meeting presided over by the President (Per Second News, 2018). The Minister of Aviation, Hadi Sirika, in response to State House Correspondents inquiries after the meeting about how the proposed colonies would come about, explained that a colony was much more bigger than ranch and had been in operations since 1914 until the nation's population grew and most of the designated routes were converted to farmlands.



In the opinion of Audu Ogbeh Minister for Agriculture, the proposed establishment of Cattle colonies round the States will be done in partnership with the States government that will like to volunteer land for it. The project will be funded by the Federal government while potential beneficiaries will be expected to pay some fees. The business of ranching connotes a private business for herdsman and their beneficiaries but a colony depicts a larger business that will encompass as much as 40 ranches will share the same facilities such as hospitals, schools and markets the Federal government intends to provide at a subsidized rate (Premium Times, 2018). More so, the cattle colonies should be able to house cattle grazers who will co-exist, feed their cows well since the Federal Government will provide their feed, give the cows green fodder and good water to drink (Sheyin, 2018). Perhaps, cattle grazers were already anticipating a sigh of relief while the proposal infused fear into a section of the country opposed to it.

Surprisingly, about 16 states approached that plan with a refreshing attitude and agreed to volunteer 5, 000 hectares of land each. The States are all from the North. They include Adamawa, Kano, Kaduna, Katsina, Zamfara, Kebbi, Nasarawa and Plateau, Bauchi, Gombe, Borno, Jigawa, Yobe, Niger, Kogi and Kwara states (Olowolagba, 2018). Specifically, Kogi state under the auspices of Governor Yahaya Bello provided authorization letter to the Federal Government and 15,000 hectares of land from two local governments (Ajaokuta LGA 10,000 and Adayi LGA 5,000) for the establishment of cattle colonies (Adetayo and Nnodim, 2018). The southern states such as Delta, Oyo, Ebonyi states demanded an explanation from the Federal government on the concept of creating colonies for herders and their cattle. Abia and Ekiti states refused outrightly to bring an inch of their land for the establishment of cattle colony. Rivers and Enugu states were silent on the proposal (Folade, Ossai, Shobayo, Gbadamosi, Adurokiya, Ige, and Akinselure, 2018). The



Benue state made it clear that there was no land for the establishment of cattle colonies. Similarly, Imo state government pointed out that there was no law or bill before it seeking the release of lands for cattle colony and no land would be taken over by herders in the state (Alex, 2018). That reflected the existence of contention between different groups over land issue.

Empirical Review

In a study conducted by Nmah (2018) titled Fulani herdsmen attacks and cattle colonies: Convert islamization of Nigeria or terrorism. The goal was to x-ray Fulani pastoralists' killing in Nigeria and its antecedents. The paper used historical and phenomenological methods. Findings revealed that the problem Fulani herdsmen attack posed a serious threat to the existence of Nigeria. The study recommends synergies by the Federal government, state government, local government, and security agencies. The previous and present study was local. While the previous used historical approach the present

study will use survey and accidental sampling technique. In the same vein,

Chukwuemeka, Aloysious and Eneh (2018) conducted a study titled the logic of open grazing in Nigeria: Interrogating the effects on sustainable development. The objective was to examine the implication of open grazing system on sustainable development in Nigeria. The study was a survey research. It adopted ex-post facto research method. In analyzing data, content analysis was used.

It perceived cattle breeding as government and should take preeminence over other agricultural activities in Nigeria. It recommends building of ranches in lieu of proposed cattle colony. The previous study used ex-post facto technique while the present study will use accidental sampling method.

Similarly, the author Blench (2017) conducted a research on fencing agricultural land in Nigeria: Why should it be done and how can it be achieved? The study was descriptive. It aimed at considering technical options for enclosing

land, including the comparison industrial fencing versus live fencing because of the change in Nigeria as a result of the fact that agricultural systems in precolonial era are no longer realistic. The prescription was that fencing should be gradually introduced to demarcate land ownership and prevent incursions by both people and livestock. The previous study was descriptive while the present study will be a survey research. In another study, the paper titled climate change, pastoral migration, resource governance and security: The grazing bill solution to farmer-herder conflict in Nigeria was written by Amusan, Abegunde & Akinyemi (2017). It examined the implications of the proposed Grazing Bill for managing farmer-herder conflict. The study was descriptive and it recommended sedentary system of cattle ranching. The previous study was descriptive while the present study will be qualitative and quantitative.

Gap in Literature

Literature reviewed showed that previous studies concentrated on implications of open grazing on sustainable development, implications of the proposed Grazing Bill for managing farmerherder conflict, climate change and pastoral migration among others. However, little effort was made to study proposed establishment of cattle colonies and human security in Nigeria. That created the gap which the study will fill.

Hypothesis

1. There is a significant relationship between proposed establishment of cattle colonies and perceived threat to human security in Nigeria.

Theoretical Consideration

The theoretical umbrella for this discourse is Group Threat Theory. The leading proponents of group threat theory are Herbert Blumer and Hubert M. Blalock Junior in the 1950's and 1960's. It is a sociological theory that says the larger the size of an out-group, the more the corresponding in-group perceives it to threaten its own interest. That will lead to the in-group members having increased negative attitude



towards the out-group. In-group is a small group in the society whose members share the same interest, language and try to keep other people out. The out-groups are those who do not belong to any group (www.en.wikipedia.org).

Tenets of the Theory: Group Threat Theory has the following tenets; (1) there must be interest of the society or group at work. (2) There is perceived threat among groups. (3) There are behavioural responses for both groups and individuals and (4) there is usually a competition between groups.

Application of the Theory to the Study

Group threat theory is relevant to this study because people's threat perceptions arise when there is intergroup competition for material, financial resources and when the interest or position of the group is put in question by the arrival of newcomers. The in-group responds to the threat via showing anti out-group attitudes and prejudices. Once there is a perception that the majority group's or in-group interest is

threatened, there is bound to be more negative attitude. It was displayed when the Federal government offered palliatives to herders-farmers clashes until the need to find a lasting solution arose. That led proposal to establish cattle colonies. In the same context, (Callens, Meuleman, and Valentova, 2015) explained that when an individual's self interest is at stake, the perceptions of group threat develop more easily. In that light, other Nigerians will be vulnerable to further attacks with establishment of cattle colonies because they don't belong to the group of Fulani's (Ozoh and Dinwobi, 2018).

Similarly, it was the competition for group interest that gave rise to the perceived instigation of diverse reactions such as the President funding his brother's private business from the Federal government's coffer. There was perceived threat to lands, lives, gender violation, child education, safe environment, healthcare, indigenous people among others (Iheme, 2018). That in turn, would produce destructive behavior leading to fear and want.

Again, the perception of fear of insecurity as a result of the planned cattle colony would metamorphose to a contradiction of interest and mutual suspicion between the stakeholders in different communities.

Research Methodology

The study was a public opinion survey research. Accidental sampling procedure was used. In gathering data for this study, primary and secondary sources of data were employed. The instruments used were questionnaire and interview while the secondary data was largely adopted from journals, textbooks, newspapers, internet resource and government documents. The population of the study was quite infinite however, the population size was estimated to be about 6370. The sample size was 10% of the

total population (637). One state was selected from each of the six geo-political zones. Then a sample of 637 was selected on the basis of 106 respondents from one state drawn from each of the zones. Respondents comprised of community leaders, security agents, traditional rulers, religious leaders among others. Data was presented in tables. A five point Likert scale was used. Data was analyzed using quantitative and qualitative methods.

Mean of the responses were used.

Data Presentation and Discussion of Findings

Data showed that out of 637 questionnaires administered 627 came back. Data in this research was presented bearing in mind the objective and hypothesis of the study

Table 1: Percentage, Decision and Mean Scores of Respondents Perception on whether proposed establishment of cattle colonies will threaten human security on the following:

S/N	ITEMS	SA 5	A 4	UD 3	D 2	SD 1	MEAN	DECISION
1	Land	320 (51%)	294 (47%)	1 (0.2%)	5 (0.8%)	7 (1%)	4.45	Accepted
2	Indigenous people	148 (23%)	269 (43%)	69 (11%)	98 (16%)	45 (7%)	3.59	Accepted



3	Heath care	310 (49%)	294 (47%)	1 (0.15%)	10 (2%)	12 (2%)	4.40	Accepted
4	Religion	232 (37%)	238 (38%)	45 (7%)	61 (10%)	51 (8%)	3.88	Accepted
5	Safe environment	160 (25%)	390 (62%)	2 (1%)	16 (3%)	59 (9%)	3.92	Accepted
6	Availability and supply of food	260 (41%)	210 (34%)	20 (3%)	67 (11%)	70 (11%)	3.38	Accepted
7	Violence	148 (23%)	268 (43%)	68 (11%)	99 (16%)	44 (7%)	3.60	Accepted
8	Gender violation	140 (22%)	329 (53%)	20 (3%)	71 (11%)	67 (11%)	3.64	Accepted
9	Ethnicity	100 (16%)	220 (35%)	30 (5%)	193 (3%)	84 (13%)	3.09	Accepted
10	Harassment	70 (11%)	180 (29%)	18 (3%)	263 (42%)	96 (15%)	2.78	Rejected
11	Jobs	98 (16%)	120 (19%)	35 (5%)	229 (37%)	145 (23%)	2.67	Rejected
12	Culture	294 (47%)	310 (49%)	1 (0.15%)	10 (2%)	12 (2%)	4.37	Accepted
13	Reliability of Income	200 (31.8%)	270 (43.0%)	40 (6.3%)	67 (10.6)	50 (8%)	3.80	Accepted
14	Childs education	250 (39.8)	300 (48%)	2 (0.3%)	25 (3.9)	50 (7.9%)	4.07	Accepted
	Total	2574	3673	347	1367	717	50.75	Accepted
	Grand mean						3.62	Accepted

Source: Nwobi, U. A. (2019) Authors Field Work.

$$\text{Mean (X)} = \frac{\sum fx}{N}$$

Data on Table 4.1: showed that items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 14 had mean scores above the criterion mean of 3.0. That indicated acceptance. That indicated that proposed establishment of cattle colonies was perceived as a threat to human security. The other items



10 and 11 had mean scores below the criterion mean of 3.0. It was therefore rejected. The grand mean (3.62) was above the criterion mean, which showed that proposed establishment of cattle colonies was perceived as a threat to human security. The result of the study confirmed the hypothesis that there is a relationship between proposed establishments of cattle colonies and perceived threat to human security.

The study revealed on table I, that land will be threatened. Fear would be regurgitated when the lands to be donated are arable lands belonging to people, which will perpetually deny them of their ancestral property. If each state donates 10,000 hectares of land as proposed, it will translate to 370,000 hectares of land mass given to a group for personal business. Taking away scarce arable lands will impede farming activities in rural communities. In the same perspective, there was fear that the economic trees belonging to the land owners would have been lost to the herders who would take over the possession of the land. Worthy of

note was that the Fulani's have a history of forcing indigene ship status on host communities so people would rather avoid having them as neighbours' or tenants than risk losing their lands and heritage to the nomads in future. Again, there would be reduction of agricultural productivity and diminution of household capital (Dasam, and Ibe, 2018).

It is worthy to note that, rearing of cattle necessarily requires a herder. So two or more herders would be needed to follow and tend 100 cows; accordingly, 300 herders would be needed to tend 30,000 cows. A colony of 30,000 cows requires 300 herders living in the colony. A herder may have a family, a wife (wives) and children living with him in the colony. We are therefore talking of 300 Fulani herdsmen and their families lodged in the body of a State under the scheme (Nwabueze, 2018). That number alone precipitated fear in the minds of land owners who envisaged losing their properties to the controversial idea of the Federal Government (Ishola. 2018).



The startling revelation was that the nomadic Fulani's are dominant in nature and would want to forcefully take over ownership of the land in future if allowed to establish cattle colonies (Ikechukwu, N. 2019, Personal communication). In the same vein, that will imply giving the Fulani's a territorial space everywhere in Nigeria. The Fulani herders that would settle in these colonies would eventually increase in population overtime and would seek for more lands to occupy and even bring in their nomadic brothers who are mostly foreigners (Okoro, 2018). Besides, the right to ownership of land will become a contentious one. The herders will argue that the lands are theirs since it will be awarded to them by the Federal government. This will fuel the already existing mayhem between different groups in the nation thereby subjecting the entire nation to additional form of insecurity. The unwillingness of the Government to control and protect the lives of others before marauding herdsman might tempt people to resort to self-help in defense of their lives and properties if

threatened or attacked. This will ignite breakdown of law and order in the nation (Okakwu, 2018). That confirmed item 2 as a significant threat to indigenes of people where colonies will be built.

The planned policy will spread diseases everywhere. As a confirmation to that, item number three (3) on health care indicated accepted. If we take a cue from the places where they established their presence, it has never been peaceful. Man does not live with animals and so (Uzokwe, A. 2019, Personal communication). In the same context, the fear of insecurity will inhibit healthcare system in the area. This is because skilled doctors and nurses will flee because of fear of being maimed to more stable areas leading to spread of communicable disease. Besides, the supply of medical equipments will become scarce and the economic loss will reverse back to affect health security as over 70% of Nigerians may not be able to afford healthcare services (Adegbam, 2013).



The study revealed that if cattle colonies are established, the herders who are predominantly Muslims would want to impose their religion on others almost like indirect jihad. The land owners will resist them which will lead to conflicts. That was why most Christian homes cried out that they don't have land for cattle colonies. Even the Governors in the South-East unanimously rejected the plan (Ike, N. 2019, Personal communication). That was in tandem with the result as seen on item 4 in table 1 above.

Consequently, item 5 showed that there will be a significant threat. There will be an upsurge in security spending as private businessmen will end up lavishing so much in order to sustain a private security outfit. This will translate to a drain on the people's resources because the money would have been earmarked for other meaningful things instead of diverting it to security (Achumba, Ighomereho and Akpor- Robaro, 2013). In a situation where the Government is unable to provide a secure and safe environment for lives,

properties, businesses and other economic activities to thrive, it will give rise to disaffection and resentment among the different groups in Nigeria (Ewetan, and Urhie, 2014).

The discovery from item 6 indicated that the proposal also has a tendency of threatening security.

About 200 villages in Akure north Local Government occupied mostly by Igbo's, Yoruba's, Agatu among others provide the bulk of food items consumed in that area. Sadly, the incessant destruction of farms by suspected herders threatened food security. This has resulted to scarcity of food to consume because farmers are afraid of going to their farms. Common foods such as cassava and maize produced by them were scarce. In that manner, food security will occur.

It was revealed in an interview section with (Nwagbara, F. 2019), that reflecting on the antecedents of Fulani herders in most communities like Nembe in Uzouwani, Enugu state, it shows that Fulani herdsmen are



aggressive in nature. The perception and awareness of the wanton violence and killings associated with the Fulani cattle herdsman instilled tremendous fears on the citizens (Obaze, 2018). Since the society lost their trust on herders, the proposal was perceived as a settlement for the herdsman who are the perpetrators of the clashes in the country. Perhaps, herdsman may likely constitute themselves a state in future (Nwabueze, 2018). In the same vein, the decision to set up cattle colonies is tantamount to granting rewards to the killer gangsters of Fulani herdsman and this is indirectly conveying the impression that some highly placed Nigerians, within the Presidency are behind the killings by armed Fulani herdsman as a way of making it look like the Nigerian State is being done a favour; if the armed Fulani herdsman accept to stop their bloody campaign as a consequence of their acceptance of the cattle colonies across Nigeria (Editor, 2018).

It was evident from the foregoing that the planned cattle colonies will seem as if the

herders get some privileges for perpetrating violent destruction of lives and killings of innocent people. Besides, it will seem as an encouragement of the herders to further perpetrate their crimes since they know that at the slightest provocation, the Federal Government favours them (Iheme, 2018).

There would be threat to gender violation as revealed from the study on item 8. In that vein, (John, L. 2019, personal communication) also pointed out that confining cattle in a colony does not mean confining cattle herders. Once they are in need of sexual satisfaction, they will constitute a source of threat to women in their environment. That may translate to unwanted pregnancies and transmission of diseases to the female genders. More worrisome is that the Fulani's will make use of charms and gun to make the girls submit.

The result of the findings revealed on item 9 that the proposal will fuel insecurity on ethnic sentiments. It was perceived to promote the interest of a particular zone of the nation above the other zones (Folade, Ossai, Shobayo,



Gbadamosi, Adurokiya, Ige, and Akinselure, 2018). Even in terms of voting, 16 states out of 36 states that consented to the proposed establishment of cattle colonies are less than two third majority of the law making bodies of National Assembly and House of Representatives. That will not foster unity because it has been belated overtime and the northern agenda will manifest in future (Ubaka, E. 2019, Personal communication). The elite class in the nation owns these cattle businesses while they use the nomadic Fulani's as their errand boys to rear the cows. Since the Fulani's are in control of power and the same ethnic group that wields political power owns the cattle business, it was perceived that they will use such establishment to exploit the nation in general. Similarly, other ethnic groups were gripped with the fear of being dominated. Such fear and hostility between the groups will likely skyrocket leading to human security risk like resistance against the Federal Government (Torulagha, 2018).

Grazing reserves were built in 1950's and 1960's in line with World Bank assisted Programme on livestock's development. They were handed over to the States and further to individuals who collected Certificate of Occupancy for farming in disguise. Today farming activities are not going on in those grazing reserves. In the North for instance, we had in Katsina (Safara reserve), Kaduna (Kachia reserve), Niger (Kantagora reserve), Borno (Bama reserve), and Bauchi (Wawa reserve). Unfortunately, they were misused by those concerned (Wilson, and Onifade, 2018). The Federal government did not consider such waste and she is seeking for another opportunity to spend the nations resources on nomadic Fulani's via proposed cattle colonies Furthermore, cattle colonies to be run exclusively by the Fulani's would be tantamount to running a private business at the detriment of other tribes or zones in the nation. When other peoples' land is confiscated just for the sake of Fulani's cattle trade worth trillions



of naira annually out of which they do not pay tax to the government is a human security risk (Igbo civil society coalition, 2018). Many of the businessmen will have to relocate from the zones with cattle colonies in order to avoid being affected by the perceived violent attacks. People will begin to seek for peaceful parts of the country to reside (Nwagboso, 2012). In addition, the need for regular supply of raw materials for production will be cut off by fear of being in the same environment with herders. This will lead to an exodus of human beings from areas where cattle colonies will be established. As the situation promotes fear, it will limit the peoples' ability to work effectively. Again, there will be manpower shortage which will translate to decline in the survival of the business (Nigerian South Africa Chamber of Commerce, 2016).

In a similar vein, they will build their mosques and bring in their Imams and mullahs to aid them in expanding (Torulagha, 2018). In the course of events, they will expect others to

imbibe their culture, seek dominion, control over the original land owners and insist on political control of the entire community. In an attempt to resist them, they will threaten the lives and peaceful coexistence of the people with their arms (Kayode, 2018). Over the years, herders took their cattle's along routes. The cutting of these cultural ties will make Fulani's pastorals to feel victimized thus threat to human security will occur.

The finding from item 14 showed that the proposed cattle colonies will threaten human security on child's education in Nigeria. In substantiating the finding, (Adeoye, 2017) explained that in line with United Nations Children Fund report the number of out of school children rose to an alarming rate of about 10.5 million to 13.2 million. That implies a drop in literate and skilled workforce in Nigeria needed for economic growth. The decline in number of school children will further persist. Finally, the study significantly demonstrated that the hypothesis was correct and should be accepted.



Recommendations

- To reduce threat to healthcare there should be restriction of cattle in ranches to defecate and insecticides used to treat them of diseases that could be transmitted to human beings.
- To eliminate violent attacks southerners should rear cattle themselves. The breed of cattle that can survive in their area and also give quick returns on investment. That will improve their income rather than losing to violence.
- Production should be done in areas where the religion (Islam) is perceived to be dominant or accepted. Then the products should be sold in shops in the areas threatened.
- To have a safe environment, instead of moving live cattle to the south, cattle should be slaughtered and moved with cold van to areas they will be sold. Consumers and wholesalers can buy directly from cold rooms.
- There should be conflict mediation, resolution and reconciliation and peace building mechanism in rural communities, local government areas and states affected by violence.
- Modern innovative technique of cattle rearing should be explored and embraced to ensure reliability of income.
- To avoid ethnic sentiments, the financial responsibility of raising cattle should be borne by the owners instead of spending the nation's resources on a particular ethnic group.
- Cattle should be grazed within the environment of the owners. The Federal government should specify the parameter within which ranches should be from homes.
- The old grazing reserves should be revived by the Federal government for use by nomadic Fulani's to curb the menace of violence.

Concluding Remarks

The perceived threat of the proposed establishment of cattle colonies to human security in Nigeria revealed that the planned



cattle colonies will threaten land owners, indigenous people, child's education, safe environment, healthcare, lives, availability and supply of food among others. Given that, the nation needs a government that will guarantee human security. To achieve this, the recommendations above will serve as good measures to pull the nation out of the quagmire of threat to human security. It suffices to say that the proposal was provocative since it was not unanimously agreed on thus was perceived to be for personal economic interest.

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