



# INSURGENCY AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS: A SOCIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF BOKO HARAM INSURGENCY IN YOBE STATE, NIGERIA

Ibrahim Alkali

[alkaliibrahim59@gmail.com](mailto:alkaliibrahim59@gmail.com)

Department of Sociology, Yobe State University

## ABSTRACT

*The research intends to sociologically study the effect of the Boko Haram insurgency on the humanitarian crisis in Yobe state. Since 2009, when the Yusuffiyya movement went from being a peaceful way to spread Islam to a terrifying group of brutal militants called Boko Haram, Nigeria has been enveloped by insecurity in the name of Islamic jihad. The high level of insecurity has led to a humanitarian crisis in terms of population displacement and mass killings and has slowed down the economy. Both qualitative and quantitative methods of data generation were used. The 358 respondents constitute the sample size of the study. Using IPSS V21, descriptive and inferential data analysis tools were employed for the quantitative while Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) was used for the qualitative data. The study showed that their terrible actions have an effect on every part of the population. It also showed that the Boko Haram sect had caused a severe humanitarian crisis in the study area by forcing people to relocate, massacring many people, making it hard for people to make a living, destroying property, and making things difficult for the economy. The study suggested that the government and security forces should work together with NGOs to address the leading causes of the insurgency by putting in place people-centred relief programmes and free education. Other interventions should focus on giving insurgency victims more help with shelter by putting up more tents, ensuring food security and offering them psychosocial support.*

**Keywords:** Boko Haram, Insurgency, Humanitarian crisis, Yobe State

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Following the early writings of the founders of sociology and classical sociologist such as Auguste Comte, Emile Durkheim, Karl Marx, Max Weber, and other philosophers who intensely delved into the discursive frame of the Enlightenment epoch, the qualitative effects of the French revolution (of 1789) on European society, the concepts of insurgency and terrorism became a significant concern in philosophy and social sciences. One of the major setbacks to development and a causal factor for the humanitarian crisis in Nigeria is insecurity. The concept of "insurgency," previously limited to rebellious acts that fell short of an organized revolution, has since come to refer to any armed rebellion of this form, usually guerilla in nature, against the established government of a state or nation (Britanica, 2022).

Since the beginning of the Boko Haram insurgency in 2009, the activities of the dreaded fundamentalist group have forced more than two and half million Nigerians to flee the country to neighbouring countries (Norwegian Refugee Council, 2019 as cited in Gwadabe et al., 2018). Domestically, the violent attacks on

villages by the insurgents have made Nigeria the country with the highest number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in sub-Saharan Africa (Humanitarian Response Plan, 2020). The Displacement Tracking Matrix (2017) revealed that women and children constitute 79% of the IDP population, and children under five years account for 28%. In the same vein, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA, 2018, as cited in Gwadabe et al., 2018) added that the IDPs in North-Eastern Nigeria are in desperate need of life-saving assistance such as food and nutrition, healthcare, shelter and non-food items, potable water, and improved sanitation and hygiene conditions.

Statistics from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) indicate that at the end of November 2019, no fewer than forty-three thousand nine hundred (43,900) people were killed, and there were more than one million one hundred and sixteen thousand five hundred and thirty-six (1,116,536) IDPs registered in twelve Local Government Areas of Yobe State: Fika, Potiskum, Gujaba, Fune, Gulani, Damaturu and Tarmuwa. Similarly, eight thousand two hundred and seventy-eight (8,278) houses, schools, and worship places were destroyed. The number of houses that have been destroyed by the Boko Haram insurgency cannot be quantified (Amalu, 2016). Most of the victims of the insurgency have no access to healthcare and educational services; where such facilities exist, they are underequipped, characterized by a lack of trained and sufficient staff, modern equipment, and drugs. Additionally, some of the internally displaced persons in the most affected local government areas (LGAs) are exposed to security threats in addition to poor living conditions and economic hardship, especially in Gujaba and Gulani, which were attacked by the insurgents several times.

However, the situation in the region has degenerated further as various humanitarian agencies have limited access to the rural areas where the displaced persons are relocated (Salkida, 2012; Itumo & Nwefuru, 2016; cited in Okunade & Ogunnubi, 2019). According to the Chairman Senate Committee on Special Duties, the Nigerian government is spending five billion naira (3.8m dollars) monthly on the welfare of internally displaced persons in the northeast in terms of livelihood support, nutrition, health, water, sanitation, and hygiene (Thisday Newspaper, 2020), while UNHRC spent 40 million dollars in 2016 alone in terms of coordination, protection, basic needs, logistics and security from violence and exploitation in the northeastern Nigeria (UNHRC, 2016). With all the aforementioned financial support and policies, most of the victims still don't have access to the aid provided, while others receive lop-sided food supply, and some never receive food distribution. Malnutrition, violation of fundamental human rights, insufficient shelter, lack of water and sanitation facilities, lack of privacy, and lack of access to vaccines in the conflict areas continue to rise as there is limited access to food in this situation (Alobo & Obaji, 2016 as cited in Okunade & Olusola, 2019). The humanitarian situation in North East Nigeria has further deteriorated due to the lack to access to the needy communities by various humanitarian agencies and frequent attacks targeted at Aid Agencies.

Therefore, this research intends to assess sociologically the humanitarian crisis caused by Boko Haram and the role of government and non-governmental organizations in Yobe state, Nigeria.

## 2.0 Literature Review

### 2.1 The Concept of Insurgency

According to Ladan (2012) insurgency refers to “a violent move by a person or groups of persons to resist or oppose the enforcement of law or running of government or revolt against constituted authority of a state or of taking part in insurrection. He further posits that insurgency could be described as a crime and human right violation”. It is a pattern of internal disturbances and tension that pose serious problems of public safety and public order for the relevant authorities, which can eventually lead to situations that threaten the life of a nation and tempt the government power to proclaim a state of emergency. Internal disturbances involves situation of confrontational acts of violence, which can assume various forms like violent protest, killings, threats and destruction of properties and attempt of overthrowing the state authorities in power.

### 2.3 The Meaning of Boko Haram

Boko Haram is an Arabicized-Hausa terminology which simply translates into “western education is sinful”. The name was given to the sect by the community. However, the group called themselves; *Jama'atul Ahul Sunnah Lidda'awati wal Jihad*. They believed that they are strictly committed and adhered to the teaching of

Islam. Some scholars regarded Boko Haram as an outgrowth of the Maitatsine riots of the 1980s and the religious/ethnic tensions that followed in the late 1990s (Johnson, 2011, as cited in Adenere, 2012).

## 2.4 Internal Displacement

One of the resultant effects of the Boko Haram conflict in Nigeria is the massive internal displacement of the population (Gwadabe, et.al, 2018). Internal displacement is a situation where persons or group of persons are forcibly uprooted from their homes to other locations within their country as a result of man-induced or natural causes (Gwadabe, et.al, 2018). Internal displacement describes situations in which individuals and groups are compelled or obliged to leave and remain away from their homes, but remain within the borders of their own countries (Alobo and Obaji, 2016).

## 2.5 Humanitarian Crisis Created by Boko Haram Insurgency

An event or series of events that pose an extremely high risk to the health, safety, security, or welfare of a community or other large group of people, typically across an extensive geographical area, is considered a humanitarian crisis (Humanitarian Coalition, 2013, para 2, cited in Okoli et al. 2014). The Humanitarian Coalition (2013, para 3) classified humanitarian crises as follows: "1. Natural disasters: earthquakes, floods, storms, and volcanic eruptions 2. Man-made disasters: conflicts, plane and train crashes, fires and industrial accidents 3. Complex emergencies: when the effects of a series of events or factors prevent a community from accessing their basic needs, such as water, food, shelter, security, or healthcare; e.g., war, terrorism". The constant upsurge in the spread of the despicable actions of the Boko Haram sect in the Northeast since 2009 has produced hostile humanitarian consequences in the region (Emmanuel, 2015). Livelihood in most of the affected communities of Yobe and Borno states, such as Buni-Yadi, Buni-Gari, Goniri, Gujba, Kawuri, Baga, Konduga, Bama, Malari, Dalori, Pulka, Giwa, Chibok, Gwoza, Kalaberge, Ngambaru, Dikwa, Marte, Mubi to mention but few, have been economically, socially and politically stagnant and nasty.

Furthermore, over the past decade (2011–2021), the Northeast region has been subjected to dire humanitarian exigencies. The situation has pushed millions of people to seek humanitarian assistance (WHO, 2018). Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States are the most affected in the region, while Bauchi, Gombe, and Taraba were relatively peaceful (UNHCR, 2018). According to UNHCR estimations, 1.8 million people have been internally displaced, and 5.8 million people need assistance. Furthermore, over 80 % of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) were in Borno State, the epicentre of the crisis, and over 60 % of them were living in host communities, exerting pressure on the already stretched resources of these communities (UNHCR, 2018, cited by Kamta et al., 2020).

Educationally, since the beginning of violent attacks by Boko Haram insurgents, the educational sector has been negatively affected. The sector in the Northeast has experienced and has been experiencing attacks by the insurgents who detest Western Education. The primary and most common effects of Boko Haram on the educational sector are the systematic and continuous destruction of school structures and the killing of teachers and students by the strong pseudo-Islamist terrorist group. This has led to a low enrolment rate, especially at the primary and secondary schools in the affected areas.

The attacks came after Western education was generally practised in Nigeria, with schools established throughout the country. The system of education under attack by the Islamist insurgents has been attributed as one of the bedrock of human and capital development in Nigeria (Patrick & Felix, 2013). The group has carried out several attacks and threatened schools in the North. In some of these attacks, teachers were killed or injured, and the structures were razed (Patrick & Felix, 2013).

According to the Demographic Health Survey's Education Data Survey (2011) report, "72 per cent of children in Borno state have never been to school, with 4 per cent in the Federal Capital Territory." The report revealed that out of every 120 children, Zamfara has an average of 28 children in school. Borno state has 29 children in school out of every 120 children, Sokoto 34, Yobe 42, while Plateau State has the highest number of children in school with 113 of every 120 (DHS Education Data Survey Report, 2011)". For instance, before 6 July 2016, shooters attacked a government-run boarding school of 1,200 students in Mamudo village, Potiskum LGA, Yobe State, killing at least 42 people, 42 people died, most of them students (Amadu, 2016 as cited in Bintube, 2016). Some had parts of their bodies blown off and badly burnt, while others had gunshot wounds. " Most of the dead were students, with a few staff members and a teacher also killed (Amadu, 2016

as cited in Bintube, 2016). United Nations (2017) states that about 57% of schools in Borno and Yobe states remained closed in late September 2017 for fear of Boko Haram attacks.

Additionally, the UN estimated that between January 2014 and December 2016, Boko Haram and security forces destroyed 1,500 schools and killed 1,280 teachers and students (GCPEA, 2018). These numbers represented more widespread and systematic attacks on schools from 2013 to 2015 than during the 2009-2013 period covered in *Education under Attack 2014*, which coincided with increased activity by Boko Haram (GCPEA, 2018). Three hundred fourteen schoolchildren were killed in the Northeast between 2012 and 2014 by the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attacks (GCPEA, 2018). According to the Nigerian Union of Teachers, Boko Haram has killed over 600 teachers since 2009. Similar findings by Amnesty International (2013) stated that up to 50 schools were attacked, burned, or destroyed in Borno state alone in 2013, resulting in the deaths of 70 teachers and 126 students in Borno and Yobe States in 2013 alone. Boko Haram attacks had razed 209 schools, causing damage worth an estimated \$15.6 million (Mukhtar & Mukhtar, 2015).

From the above literature discourse, it could be deduced that the humanitarian crisis, dislocation, and population displacements caused by the Boko Haram insurgency have led some vital social institutions in the Northeast to stop functioning entirely or partially. From the functionalist perspective, the existence and continuation of the Boko Haram insurgency are a result of the malfunction in the security sector to crush the insurgents. Additionally, the family institutions and schools (formal and informal education) have failed to socialize the members of society in the Northeast to become good citizens and not pick up arms against the state. Therefore, order and stability could be restored to the Northeast only when the institutions, as mentioned above, discharge their functions optimally, and society will experience order and stability, that is, homeostasis, which is the central focus of functional explanation in social theory. The main goal of the functionalist perspective in this regard is to bring peace and stability to the areas affected by the Boko Haram insurgency. Heal the socially wounded through professional psychological services and return the displaced people to their homes, revive their economic activities to make them economically productive members of society, and reintegrate the repentant or surrendered Boko Haram members into their society.

## **2.5 The role of government and Non-Governmental Organizations in the management of humanitarian crisis created by Boko Haram insurgency**

The Nigerian government policy and approaches to the humanitarian crisis due to the Boko Haram insurgency were derived from the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa adopted by the special summit of the Union held in Kampala, Uganda, on 22nd October 2009, known as the Kampala convention of 2009. The national emergency management agency (NEMA), which was established by Act 12 as amended by Act 50 of 1999 for disaster management in Nigeria, NEMA did not take action when Boko Haram's activities commenced in north-eastern Nigeria in 2009, leaving many homeless and helpless (Okunade & Ogunnubi, 2020).

Together with the military, the Nigerian government's national emergency management agency (NEMA) set up a standing committee in Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa states in 2016. The goal was to open a safe corridor for locals who escaped from Boko Haram occupations and repentant militants to move into safety while aid workers provided much-needed assistance to the internally displaced. For the influx of internally displaced persons and those seeking refuge in the states of Adamawa, Bauchi, Gombe, and Taraba, NEMA opened Operations Offices in Gombe and Adamawa.

NEMA has been delivering food to the camps where displaced people are staying in order to supplement the efforts of the governments of the affected states and to address the humanitarian challenges, particularly those related to food security and nutrition (Datti, 2016). NEMA signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the states of Borno and Yobe to guarantee a steady supply of these food and Non-Food Items (NFIs). The Agency also deployed a medical team and equipment to the North East to aid in the delivery of Medicare to the IDPs, and it supplied the IDPs in need with the means to continue working in their chosen fields by supplying them with drugs for use in major hospitals in the zones (Datti, 2016).

Similarly, the Nigerian Foundation for the Support of Victims of Terrorism has launched its Educational Development Support Programme (EDSP) for Boko Haram-affected school children in Yobe state. The targets of EDSP, according to the Executive Secretary of Victims Support Fund (VSF), are school-age children affected by insurgency and terrorism in the state. The vision of VSF in Nigeria is to restore the dignity and well-being of Boko Haram victims of terrorism and insurgency with the assurance of their future. As stated by the executive chairman of the fund, "while our mission is a foremost knowledge-driven and

programme-based organization mobilizing sustainable funding and building partnerships for the support and transformation of victims of terrorism and insurgency in the country".

In continuation of the implementation of its mandate to administer support to victims of insurgency and create the enabling environment for accelerated recovery and sustainable peace and development, VSF has launched its Educational Support Programme in Yobe state. The executive director of VSF stated thus, "This VSF project will provide school children with textbooks, exercise books, writing materials, school bags, and sandals, among other things; he further revealed that, adding that the first phase of the project will reach 21,291 children. In a breakdown of EDSP beneficiaries, he said in Borno state, 10,000 school children and teachers are targeted, while Adamawa and Yobe will have 7000, 3000, and 1,291 pupils and their teachers, respectively". However, several studies disputed and revealed that the policies are not properly implemented and funds released are diverted by the officials, and, finally, both the federal and the state governments usually stop at the initial relief assistance offered, a situation which has shifted the burden of the victims in states to the host communities

The Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) were actively participating in the Humanitarian Country Team and the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG). The HCT meets monthly under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator to provide strategic leadership, policy development, and engagement with the Federal Government. The ISWG coordinates the sectoral response. UNICEF leads Education, WASH, Nutrition, and Child Protection. UNICEF has been supporting National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) with the overall inter-sector coordination in Yobe state since 29th April 2015. International Organization for Migration (IOM) has supported the Government of Nigeria's efforts to manage migration since 2002 on the basis of a Cooperation Agreement by providing capacity-building, advisory services, and technical assistance on issues relating to migration, such as migration health and information, assisted voluntary returns, and counter-trafficking (UN-IOM, 2021).

Additionally, the internally displaced people in Nigeria have been receiving crucial monthly food assistance from the European humanitarian organization Action Against Hunger, which is based in France. In Borno and Yobe states, the initiative benefited about 209,000 people in 2020. (ACF, 2019). In order to increase food security and community resilience, the organization also provided households with technical assistance and supplies for agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing, vegetable gardens, and other income-generating enterprises (ACF, 2019).

In terms of agriculture, during the 2021 growing season, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) provided better seeds and agricultural inputs to one million returning Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from the Northeast to help them rebuild their shattered communities. States in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe are represented among the recipients. The purpose of the Agricultural Input Support (AGRIS) programme was to increase farmers' output and combat hunger and poverty in the region. "Yobe alone has 35,000-40,000 individuals who will benefit from the WFP arrangement to lower the levels of poverty and unemployment in the state, making it one of the three most afflicted states" (Hemba, 2021).

### **3.0 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Theoretical Framework**

In the discipline of sociology, there is always a body of theories and viewpoints that offer an explanation for observable events. An analogy between well-known ideas and the issue under study is made in this section. This work's theoretical justifications were derived from the theory of structural anomie.

Anomie, according to the initial hypothesis put forth by Emile Durkheim and subsequently refined by R.K. Merton, is a state of social disorder caused by a breakdown in the relationships that bind individuals together to form a functioning society. Because the social strength of the norms and values that would otherwise provide stability is diminished, anomie periods are unstable, chaotic, and frequently replete with conflict. Merton developed the structural strain theory, which explains how anomie leads to deviance and crime by building on Durkheim's notion that anomie is a social situation in which people's norms and values no longer match those of society. Merton developed the structural strain theory by building on Durkheim's notion that anomie is a social situation in which people's norms and values no longer match those of society.

### 3.1.1 The Social Structure and Anomie Theory

According to the anomie theory, when social laws are lax or broken, society's ability to control how individuals behave and make them respect the rule is also lax or ineffective (Iwariemie-Jaja, 2003). The theory aims to prove a relationship between a structural bottleneck, anomie, and criminal inclination. According to Durkheim (1897), anomie is a morally unregulated condition, which is a breakdown in either society's standards or amoral norms (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2003). People, therefore, find it challenging to adapt to the changing circumstances of life when there are no clear rules to guide members of society. Frustration, disagreement, dissatisfaction, and deviation are the outcomes of this, in turn. Durkheim also believed that crime or deviance is unavoidable during a time of rapid social transition.

Merton (1938) builds on Durkheim's anomie idea further. Although Merton's (1938, as referenced in Omotor, 2009) anomie theory did not specifically address criminality, it stressed that disparity may occur because of the way society is set up, which could lead to anarchy. Merton begins by stating that while society defines success in terms of certain objectives (such as financial security), it does not necessarily offer the means (such as education and fulfilling employment opportunities) to fulfill these cultural expectations. For the sociological analysis of the relativity of deviant behavior, Merton describes two structurally inherent factors that are crucial: (1) culturally defined goals, which are deemed by all and sundry, irrespective of status and position, as legitimate and highly desirable goals to pursue; and (2) the means the social structure condones as legitimate avenues for the pursuit of culturally prescribed ends (Bell, 2010).

Therefore, whether or not people embrace society's goals and have the chance to achieve them determines patterns of rule-breaking. To this degree, there will undoubtedly be five adaptations (Iwarimie-Jaja, 2003). These are conformity, innovation, retreatism, ritualism, and rebellion adaption modes. Since those who fall into the conformity group accept both the culturally prescribed goals and the structurally sanctioned ways of accomplishing the goals, conformity is the initial mode of adaptation and is not aberrant. The other four are all crimes or acts of deviation. Innovation refers to persons who accept goals but reject means, retreatism to those who accept goals but reject means, ritualism to those who accept goals but reject means, and rebellion to those who attempt to alter the entire system.

The idea significantly aided in the explanation of why criminal activity becomes inevitable in social structures that create values that certain people turn to violence, such as the insurgency in Nigeria. Additionally, based on Merton's model of adaptation, the insurgency is categorized as a rebellion because the Boko Haram group wants to replace the current system of Western democracy with one governed entirely by their interpretation of Islamic law.

However, an Italian Marxist intellectual and politician developed the notion of hegemony in his book the *Prison Writings* to explain the ideological conflict. According to Gramsci, hegemony refers to a group's "cultural, moral, and ideological" leadership over allies and inferior groups. As mentioned by Jones (2006), Gramsci believed that for the working class to replace the ruling class, it would need to mobilize the majority of its like-minded citizens (Anyanwu, 2016). One may claim that since 2002, Boko Haram has resisted various state military deployments and instead mobilized more sympathizers outside of Nigeria, which has resulted in territorial unrest and wars.

Hoffman (1995, pp. 5-6) contends that "the very need to exercise a monopoly of lawful force arises only when nations are challenged by rebels or lawbreakers who themselves employ force and who (either implicitly or openly) attack the legitimacy of the laws they break. Moreover, the difference argument contends that what is lawful for the states is unlawful for the insurgents, and the opposite is true.

The theories assisted in comprehending the causes for the emergence of several insurgency groups by Nigerian youth, including Boko Haram. However, as the theory demonstrated, the socioeconomic circumstances of these youths are substantially a factor in their involvement. As noted by Kurtzer (2020), one cannot completely rule out concerns like the misunderstood interpretation of the real teaching of Islam in the involvement of the

youths in the group. Despite some of them having degrees and others working hard, many young people in Nigeria are left unemployed and uncared for because they cannot find environments that would help them realize their potential. It is even more upsetting to learn that many Boko Haram members have been subject to societal maltreatment since they were young. This is reflected in the Almajiranci institution (some parents' traditional method of sending their children to study Qur'anic lessons from a teacher who lives far away from the children's town), which is widespread among the northern Muslims.

However, the theory has been criticized for some flaws. One of these criticisms is that it implies everyone has the same ideals and aims, which may not always be the case. People aim for a variety of things, including academic, athletic, and social achievement, as noted by Siegel (2010). Most young people could be more focused on short-term "immediate" objectives like maintaining a busy social life or excelling in sports than on long-term "ideal" accomplishments like financial success. Athleticism, IQ, personality, and family life are just a few examples of the non-social class-based variables that can help or hinder goal achievement.

### 3.2 Methodology

Mixed research method was used and data was sourced from both primary and secondary sources. The sample size for the study was 385 determined by using the CRS software. However, 358 were valid for analysis. Cluster sampling technique was employed to cluster Yobe State in to four, a purposive sampling was used to select two Local Government Areas from each of the clusters. Consequently, a stratified and random sampling techniques were employed to stratify the respondents in to different categories such as; IDPs, Village heads, government officials, and humanitarian workers and the individual respondents. SPSS V21 containing descriptive and inferential statistics was the tool used for the quantitative data while the qualitative data was analyzed using Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA).

### 4.0 Results and Discussion of Findings

**Table 4.1.1: Socioeconomic and Demographic Characteristics of Respondents**

Sex	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
	Male	196	54.7
	Female	162	45.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>
Age			
	Below 20	56	15.6
	20 – 30	172	48
	31 – 40	94	26.3
	41 – 50	32	9
	51 – above	4	1.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>
Educational Qualification			
	Non Formal Education	76	21.2
	Primary Education	61	17
	Secondary Education	92	25.7

	Tertiary Education	129	30
<b>Total</b>		<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Marital Status</b>			
	Single	152	42.5
	Married	161	45
	Divorced	19	5.3
	Widow	26	7.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

The result from table 4.1.1 shows the analysis of the socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of the respondents. It revealed that 54.7 percent of the respondents are male, while 45.3 percent are female. The result also shows that 15.6 percent of the respondents are below 20 years, 48 percent are between the ages of 20 – 30 years, 26.3 percent between the ages of 31 – 40 years. 9 percent are between the ages of 41 – 50 years, 1.1 percent are between the ages of 51 and above. This shows that, most of the respondents (IDPs) in Damaturu comprises of both male and female of productive age.

The table also shows the results of respondents' educational attainment; where 21.2 percent of the respondents have attained Non-Formal Education, 17 percent attained primary education, 25.7 percent attained secondary education while 30 percent attained tertiary education. The result indicated a mixture of all levels of educational qualifications in the area. It is important to note that higher or lower educational qualification is not a critical requirement for being a IDPs in the study area.

In terms of marital status of the respondents, the result shows that 42.5 percent of the respondents are single, 45 percent are married, 5.3 percent are divorced, while 7.3 percent are widow. This means majority of the respondents are married.

#### **4.2 Analysis of the Respondents' view on How the Boko Haram insurgency affects the lives of people in Yobe state**

Here the presentation below contained the analysis of respondents' views on how Boko Haram insurgency affects the lives of people in Yobe state by rating either high, moderate or fair.

**Table 4.2.1: Respondents' Views on How Boko Haram Insurgency Affects the Lives of People in Yobe State**

Options	Variables					
	High Death rates	Injuries	Trauma	Population Displacement	Economic Hardship	Lack of Basic Social Amenities
Highly	204	179	176	256	183	175
Moderately	136	109	160	83	102	160
Fairly	18	70	22	19	73	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>358</b>

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

The above table 4.2.1 indicates the level of effect of high death rate on the lives of people of Yobe state due to Boko Haram insurgency, where 57 percent of the respondents indicated the effect as high, 38 per cent of the respondents indicated the effect as moderate while only 5 percent indicated fair. It also revealed that, 50 per cent of the respondents' rated serious injuries due to Boko haram insurgency as highly affecting the lives of people of the state, 30.4 per cent view the effect as moderate while only 19.6 percent responded fairly. This

indicates that serious injuries caused by Boko Haram insurgency have serious negative effect on the lives of the people of Yobe state.

The table shows that, 49.2 percent of the respondent rated panicking/Trauma as highly affecting the lives of people of Yobe state, 44.7 rates it moderate while only 6.1 percent rate it fair. This also indicates very significant effect of panicking/trauma due to Boko Haram insurgency on the lives of people of Yobe state. Furthermore, the above table also revealed the effect of population displacement due to Boko Haram on lives of people of Yobe state, the result indicates that 71.5 percent rated the effect as high, 23.2 percent moderate whereas only 5.3 percent rates it fair.

Similarly, as shown in the above table (3.2.1), 51.1 percent of the respondent opined that the economic hardship effect on the lives of people of Yobe state is high, 28.5 percent rated it moderate while 20.5 percent rates it fair. While 48.9 percent of the respondents indicated that lives of people of Yobe state were highly affected by the lack of basic social amenities due to Boko Haram insurgency, 44.7 percent indicates moderately affected while only 6.4 percent indicates fairly affected. This result reveal that lack of basic social amenities due to Boko Haram insurgency has a very significant effect on lives of people of Yobe state.

However, the percentage of agreement in respect to the effects of the Boko Haram on the lives of People in Yobe State is higher. Therefore, it can be concluded that the activities of the insurgency has negatively affected the lives of the people in the study area. This can be also supported by interview conducted with few selected respondents.

*Boko Haram* has affected virtually all aspects of our lives and daily activities. It removes trust between us as Yobe people and between the Yobe people and immigrants. Historically, Yobe is known to be hospitable to visitors; but today, we are skeptical of hosting strangers because we fear they might be members of this insurgent group. (IDI with a Damaturu resident, 2021).

**Table 4.3; Respondents' Views on whether Boko Haram Insurgency Caused Population Displacement in Yobe State**

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly Agree	191	53.4
Agree	136	38
Disagree	24	6.7
Strongly Disagree	7	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

The above table 4.3.1 shows that 53.4 and 38 percent of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed respectively that Boko Haram insurgency causes population displacement in Yobe state while only 6.7 and 2 percent disagreed and strongly disagreed that Boko Haram insurgency causes population displacement in Yobe state. Therefore, it be concluded that the sect's activities has caused population displacement in Yobe State.

**Table 4.4.1: Respondents' Views on whether Boko Haram Insurgency Affect the Health System of Yobe state**

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly Agree	242	67.6
Agree	86	24
Disagree	16	4.5
Strongly Disagree	14	3.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

Result from table 4.4.1 above show the respondent's views on whether insurgency affect the Health system of Yobe state. The result indicates that 67.6 and 24 percent of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed that insurgency affect the Health system of Yobe state; while only 4.5 and 3.9 percent disagreed and strongly disagreed with the view that insurgency affect the Health system of Yobe state. This revelations is in line with the response gathered through the interview session as stated below.

Most of the Health workers, especially those not indigenous to Yobe state have fled to other states and indigenous workers abandoned their work places during spikes of insecurity. Some health facilities have been attacked, with insurgents taking away drugs, hospital equipment, ambulances and kidnap some health personnel. However, majority of them have returned and resume work (IDI with a Health Worker in Damaturu, 2021).

**Table 4.5: Respondents' Views on whether Boko Haram Insurgency Affect the Educational System of Yobe state**

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly Agree	242	67.6
Agree	86	24
Disagree	16	4.5
Strongly Disagree	14	3.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

Result from table 4.5.1 above show the respondent's views on whether insurgency affect the educational system of Yobe state. The result indicates that 67.6 and 24 percent of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed that insurgency affect the educational system of Yobe state; while only 4.5 and 3.9 percent disagreed and strongly disagreed with the view that insurgency affect the educational system of Yobe state. This is in line with the qualitative data collected below;

Boko Haram sect is a threat to our collective security. Educationally, the group kills, kidnaps or abducts school students. More than 110 students and

two lecturers of college Agricultural science were killed and two are still missing. As a result the college was relocated to the state capital, but with the recent improvement of the security situation we are expecting the state government to reopened the main campus located here (IDI with a merchant in Buni Yadi, Gujba LGA, 2021).

An interviewee also have described how the Boko Haram insurgency affected the educational system of Yobe state, thus:

The insurgency has seriously affected the educational system of Yobe state. They instilled phobia in the minds of parents to allow their wards to attend schools. Whenever our wards left home for school is filled our minds are filled with fear on whether or not the child will return home safely. (IDI with a respondent in Yobe State, 2021).

Another interviewee also described how the Boko Haram insurgency affected the agricultural sector of Yobe state stated below;

Agricultural activities have partially resumed as we are not allowed to farm more (Five) 5KM from the town. As a result many returnees still don't have a land to farm (IDI with a Farmer in Gujba, 2021).

Another respondent stated that:

During the last few years we are only allowed to go fishing from 9am to 4pm but due the improvement in security we can now fish overnight (IDI with a Fisherman in Gashua, 2021).

**Table 4.6: Respondents' Views on Whether the Non-Governmental Organizations Played any Roles in Improving the Condition of the IDPs:**

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Strongly Agree	206	57.5
Agree	123	34.4
Disagree	19	5.3
Strongly Disagree	10	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

Table 4.6.1 illustrate that 57.5 and 34.4 percent of the respondents strongly agreed and agreed that non-governmental organization played a vital roles in improving the condition of the IDPs in Yobe state, only 5.3 percent disagreed while 2.8 percent strongly disagreed. Therefore, it can be concluded that NGOs played a significant roles in improving both the socioeconomic and livelihood conditions of IDPs in Yobe state. This can be substantiated by the responses below generated during the interview exercise;

For the last two years, we have been working in Yobe State Specialist hospital in Damaturu, the state capital, operating a 25-bed emergency paediatric unit, a 12-bed isolation ward and a 50-bed inpatient therapeutic feeding centre for children under five with severe malnutrition and accompanying health complications. (IDI with *MSF* worker in Damaturu, 2021).

Another respondent stated that:

For the year 2022, WFP would be targeting a total of more than 40,000 IDPs and vulnerable people in Yobe State alone for livelihood and food interventions. This is an increase from 2021 where our target was 35,000 people. (IDI with a staff of WFP in Damaturu, 2021).

A respondent from the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) responses on the role of the government on the condition of the IDPs stated that:

Our priority now is to resettle the IDPs to their various communities as the security Situation has improved. We also discourage both the INGOs and NGOs from issuing food hand-outs to IDPs and shift to rebuilding the physical structures, the economy and social lives of the affected communities. (IDI with a staff of SEMA in Damaturu, 2021).

A response on the role of the government on the condition of the IDPs a respondent stated that:

The Federal Government through the North East Development Commission (NEDC) has commenced the renovation and building of new primary and secondary schools in Potsdam, Buni Yadi (Gujba) and Gahsua (Bade) Local Government Areas of Yobe state. (IDI with a staff of NEDC in Damaturu, 2021).

## 5.0 DISCUSSION OF MAJOR FINDINGS

The study discovered that the Boko Haram insurgency causes population displacement, high death rates, panic, and inaccessibility to basic social amenities. The sect's actions have affected almost every aspect of life in Yobe state. The findings further show that all people in Yobe state have been directly or indirectly involved. Farmers and civil servants are the most affected population by Boko Haram in Yobe state, likely because most Yobe state residents are civil servants and farmers. Adebisi, Azeez, and Oyedeji (2014 as cited in Dauada, 2015) found that agriculture's declining share of GDP has more implications in the Northern States, where it is a source of livelihood. Boko Haram will continue to reduce subsistence agriculture if nothing is done. The UNHCR report that Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe are the most affected, and since September 2018, 1.8 million people have been internally displaced and 5.8 million need assistance. Emmanuel (2015) found that the region (Northeastern Nigeria) has lost civil normalcy due to human casualties, human rights abuses, population displacement, food insecurity, limited medical facilities, and other social amenities.

The study discovered that the Boko Haram insurgency has negatively affected Yobe state's education system. The insurgent group destroys school buildings/structures through their nefarious activities, terrorizes students and teachers, abducts/kidnaps students, and threatens parents for sending children to school in Yobe state, as revealed by the study. The discovery is in line with an investigation by Patrick and Felix (2013), which shows that the fight is directly against western education, which is widely practised in Nigeria, with schools in every corner of the country. However, western education has remained Nigeria's bedrock of human and capital development. In some of these attacks, teachers were killed or injured, and buildings were destroyed (Patrick & Felix, 2013).

As indicated by the result, the insurgence has also destroyed health facilities and killed and kidnapped health personnel leading to the abandonment of duty by Non-indigenous health workers. Awojobi (2019) found that the sect destroyed several hospitals, dispensaries, and clinics in Borno state, including modern machines. He also discovered that many health and humanitarian workers were killed, causing others to flee the region and lose confidence in their jobs, leaving the health sector vulnerable (Yerima, 2017). However, most of the destroyed facilities are being rebuilt, and most health workers have returned to work.

Regarding the effects of the sect on the economy, the study discovered that destruction of shops, burning of markets, fear of attacks by local business owners, and frequent threats by insurgents have seriously crippled Yobe's economy. The revelation can be supported by Dauda's (2014) study, which found that state counter-

insurgency measures, such as the ban on motorcycles and closure of some markets, have resulted in the loss of means of livelihood and subsistence for some households, and by extension, the whole trend points to debilitating livelihood and human security crises. In addition, the destruction of infrastructure, telecommunications, markets and businesses and short business hours have caused many to relocate to safer parts of the country, reducing incomes and increasing poverty (Adebayo, 2014: para 10).

The study also found that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and state and federal governments play a significant role in improving the conditions of vulnerable populations and IDPs in Yobe State. The humanitarian situation in the state has improved due to the relative return of security and humanitarian agencies' ability to respond to the basic social needs of IDPs and vulnerable people in terms of access to clean water, healthcare, livelihood, and food interventions. This revelation is in line with Oluwa (2012) assertion that NGOs' activities show that without their involvement, human rights violations and debasement of some populations' well-being will occur, especially among IDPs and refugees. He says NGOs in Nigeria have always been known for interfering when the government cannot.

## 5.1 Conclusion

The study concludes that Yobe state has experienced a dire humanitarian crisis ranging from population displacement, high death rate, trauma, food insecurity and lack of access to basic social amenities as result of the presence and activities of the Boko Haram insurgency. Their activities almost affected all the social institutions negatively within the society either directly or indirectly. As posited by the functionalist perspective, society is like a living organism and every part interdepends and contributes to the society's stability, whatever affects one part, affects all and may lead to the dysfunctionality of the whole system. Educationally, the sect kills, abducts and kidnaps several students. Economically, the group crippled the economic and commercial activities in the state by burning markets and destruction of shopping malls. However, governments, stakeholders, and non-governmental organisations have played and continue to play a vital role in cushioning the humanitarian crisis created by the insurgents.

## 5.2 Recommendations

The following recommendations are made based on the outcome of the study.

- i. Federal and state governments should rebuild all the destroyed schools and markets and assist affected community members in rebuilding and renovating their houses destroyed by the insurgent group.
- ii. Government should provide enough security at each of the schools and routes in the vulnerable communities to boost the confidence of students, teachers and parents in attending, teaching and sending their wards.
- iii. NGOs should stop giving out cash and instead direct their efforts toward providing vocational training.

## References

- Action Against Hunger. (2019). Hunger Relief in Africa | Action Against Hunger. Retrieved from <https://www.actionagainsthunger.org/countries/africa/uganda%0Ahttps://www.actionagainsthunger.org/countries/africa/nigeria>
- Adetoto Rasheed Adenere (2012), Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria as a symptom of poverty and political alienation *Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (JHSS)* Vol. 3(5), pp. 01-00
- affected victims amongst internally displaced persons – *Journal of Humanities and Social*
- Alagba Oluwa. (2012). Activities of Boko Haram and Insecurity Problems in Nigeria. *Arabian Journal of Business and management Review*. Vol. 1 No: .9

- Anthony Abayomi Adebayo. (2014). Implications of 'Boko Haram' Terrorism on National Development in Nigeria: A Critical Review. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences* Vol 5 (16).  
Doi:10.5901/mjss.2014.v5n16p480
- Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2021, July 27). *Social contract*. *Encyclopedia Britannica*.  
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/social-contract>
- Dr. Mustapha Bintube (2015), Boko Haram Phenomenon: Genesis and Development in North Eastern Region Nigeria, *International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology Research*, Vol.1 (1), pp.1-22
- Emmanuelar, Imasuen (2015) Insurgency and humanitarian crises in Northern Nigeria: The case of Boko Haram *Journal of African Journal of Political Science and International Relations* Vol. 9(7), pp. 284-296
- Humanitarian Response Plan Nigeria (2020). Humanitarian Programme Cycle. Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1-61.
- International Organisation of Migration: Nigeria Crisis Response Plan 2021  
<http://dtmcrisisresponseplan.iom.acsitefactory.com/response/nigeria-crisis-response-plan-2021>
- International Rescue Committee (2020). *Emergency watchlist*. International Rescue Committee 1-49.
- IOM (2020). Global crisis response platform humanitarian and crisis transition activities: Nigeria crisis response plan 2020. IOM. 1-12.
- Joe Hemba. (9, December 2021). WFP targets 40,000 IDPs for livelihood intervention in Yobe next year Premium times  
<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/more-news/499984-wfp-targets-40000-idps-for-livelihood-intervention-in-yobe-next-year.html>
- Kurtzer, J. (2020). Out of Sight: Northeast Nigeria's Humanitarian Crisis. A Report of the CSIS Humanitarian Agenda. Center for Strategic & International Studies Rowman & Littlefield. Rhode Island Avenue, Forbes Boulevard Washington, 1-145.
- Mohammed Dauda (2014). The Effect of Boko Haram Crisis on Socioeconomic Activities in Yobe State. *The International Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities Invention*. Volume 1 issue 4 2014 page no.251-257
- Mukhtar, U., Mukhtar, J. I. & Mukhtar, H. Y. (2015). Unemployment Among Youth in Nigeria: A Challenge for Millennium Development Goals. *Researchjournal's Journal of Economics*. 3 (3): 1-12.
- Nasa'i Muhammad Gwadabe, Mohd Afandi Salleh, Abdullahi Ayoade Ahmad & Sobia Jamil (2018). Forced Displacement and the Plight of Internally Displaced Persons in Northeast Nigeria. *Humanities and Social Science Research*; Vol. 1, No. 1
- Okoli, Al Chukwuma & Iortyer, Philip (2014). Terrorism and Humanitarian Crisis in Nigeria: Insights from Boko Haram Insurgency. *Global Journal of Human-Social Science* Volume 14 (1)
- Okunade, Samuel & Ogunnubi, Olusola. (2019). The African Union Protocol on Free Movement: A Panacea to End Border Porosity?. *Journal of African Union Studies*. 8. 10.31920/2050-4306/2019/v8n1a4.
- Oladayo Nathaniel Awojobi (2019). Re-Assessing the Socioeconomic Effects of the Boko Haram Conflict in a Qualitative Systematic Review *Global Journal Socioeconomic Challenges*. Volume 3(1)
- Oladunjoye Patrick and Omemu Felix. (2013). Effect of Boko Haram on School Attendance In Northern Nigeria. *British Journal of Education*. Vol.1 (2). pp. 1-9.
- Sani Datti. (November 28, 2016) *NEMA Efforts In Managing Humanitarian Crisis In The North East PRNigeria* <https://prnigeria.com/2016/11/28/nema-humanitarian-north-east-2/?cv=1>  
*Science (IOSR JHSS) Vol 22 Issue 5 Ver. 3 PP 35-41*
- Stoddard, A., Harvey, P., Czwarno, M., and Breckenridge, M. (2020). Humanitarian access score report: northeast Nigeria survey on the coverage, operational reach, and effectiveness of humanitarian aid. *Humanitarian Outcomes*, 1-16.
- Yerima H. M ((2017) Insurgency in Nigeria; the perspectives in health care delivering to gender