

Psychosocial and Educational Services of Internally Displaced Persons in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria: Sociological Implications

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Abstract

Nigeria has been faced with insurgency for more than a decade which resulted to numerous internally displaced persons especially in the northeastern Nigeria, particularly in Borno State. This study focuses on the psychosocial and educational services of internally displaced persons in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria: Sociological implications. A total of 435 questionnaires (Bakasi 116, Farm Centre 75, and Dalori 244) were administered to the respondents, out of which 395 questionnaires were dully completed. A descriptive study using pre-test and post-test treatment with stratified sampling technique was used to select three (3) IDPs camps. The research hypotheses were analyzed using inferential statistical tool, ANOVA. The study reveals that the psychosocial effects of Boko Haram insurgency on the basis of camp had not differed significantly among the IDPs. The study further found that socio-economic status of the respondents and educational status on the basis of camp had not differed significantly. The study recommends professional counsellors and educational sociologist be actively involving in the provision of services such as trauma vocational education, and focus on psychosocial challenges like trauma confronting the internally displaced persons.

Keywords: psychosocial, Educational Status, Internally Displaced Persons, Nigeria

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1. Introduction

Nigeria has been battling helplessly with insurgency perpetrated by the Boko Haram terrorist group. Boko Haram is predominant in the North Eastern part of Nigeria in states like Borno, Yobe and Adamawa. They have in the last half a decade or so, become the most dangerous insurgent group that Nigerians have witnessed. Their central philosophy is “Western education is forbidden”. They are known to devastatingly attack churches, mosques, schools, police stations and government, private and public owned facilities with a kind of guerrilla warfare tactics. The hazardous undertakings of Boko Haram insurgency have generated a huge upsurge of displacement in the North Eastern part of Nigeria. Internally displaced person's plight is more worrying and hazardous in Nigeria (Adebowale, 2013). Over the years, the growing number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Nigeria is becoming alarming number of-internally is placed person According to the Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki Moon, (2014), Displacement remains arguably the most significant humanitarian challenge facing the world of the 33.3 million IDPs in the world; Sub-Saharan Africa hosts 15 million, with an increase of 7.5% between 2013 and 2014.

The major political phenomenon that has disturbed Nigeria unity and threatened its national security in recent time was the insurgency. This scenario has not only hampered government efforts to provide security to its citizens as part of its constitutional responsibility but exposed the state's boundaries to more attack capable of frustrating state's defense against external aggression. Though insurgency and organized crime against constituted authority is a product of history as many societies has faced security challenges in recent times thanks to organized insurgency Abbas, (2009). For instance, Mackinlay, (2002), opined that every generation in human history has experience one form of rebellion. Modern society certainly has faced numerous challenges, insurgency is one such challenge, and it has tremendous effects on society because it is an organized rebellion against constituted authority. Insurgency thus is not peculiar to developing nations as argued but became existential feature of every modern states. In Nigeria, where the insurgency was in rise, the country has witnessed displacement of large numbers of its citizens because of this menace Durosaro and Ajiboye (2011).

Since 2011, the population of the north eastern Nigerian states have been affected by the insurgency between Boko Haram and governmental forces. The government declared a state of emergency (SOE) on 14th May 2013 in three northeastern states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa. Insurgent attacks by Islamic Boko Haram militants increased dramatically from mid-2014. Its expected resurgence, following a mass prison break in September 2010 was accompanied by increasingly sophisticated attacks. Since the current insurgency started in 2009, it has killed 20,000 and displaced 2.3 million from their homes. This had resulted into serious psychosocial problem for IDPs. Psychosocial issues, is the interrelation between psychology (individual thinking, emotion, feeling and behaviour) and the social world or environment in which we evolve, culture, tradition, spirituality,

interpersonal relationship in the family, or community and life tasks, such as school or work. Psychological assessment is an evaluation of a person's mental health, social status and functional capacity within the community, generally conducted by psychiatric social workers. Being displaced can have several adverse effects on the physical, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of a person. Exposure to violence or disaster, loss or separation from family members and friends, deterioration in living conditions, the inability to provide for one's self and family and lack of access to service, can all have immediate and long-term consequence on individuals, families and communities, including posttraumatic stress disorders, psychosomatic illness, depression, anxiety and even violence (GPID, 2005).

Psychosocial challenges peculiar to displacement for which Maiduguri is one, includes family break up, loss of contact with friends, loss of jobs, insecurity, and loss of rights e.g. territorial and political. The internally displaced persons, the vast majority of whom are women and children, face a range of threat to their physical safety and restrictions on the freedom of movements. Many are traumatized by the violence that prompted them to flee and are afraid to return, those whose homes who have been damaged or destroyed have nowhere to go back to. Efforts by national and state governments to address their needs are inconsistent, and poor access means support from international agencies and Nigerian civil society is limited. People who live in or near camps receive some assistance, but often not enough to meet their basic needs. They also tend to live in cramped and unhygienic conditions. The most vulnerable IDPs- the young, the old people and those with disabilities- are most at risk (Alkassim, 2013).

It has also been reported that about 52,000 patients have active files with the psychiatric hospital in Maiduguri; the reporter said that the caseload has doubled since Boko Haram launched its campaign of killing and kidnapping. Boko Haram has burned down villages, shot rockets into homes, and beheaded drivers on highways in its campaign to impose Islamic law. It has forced both boys and girls into its ranks and the recent abduction of nearly 300 school children brought the group global attention (Bajekal, 2015). One of the doctors, Babagana Machina, says soldiers and suspected Boko Haram members alike have marched into his office, each of them exhibiting symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. After five minutes of therapy and a prescription for cheap antidepressants, they leave through the crowded waiting room. Some of them will tell you that they killed even their parents," said Dr. Machina, (Adamu, 2009).

The greatest favors one can do to himself is to get educated and to others to give them education. Insurgency, violence, conflicts or war, threats of such intimidation or an abuse can have very serious and permanent effects on education of the displaced population thus not only slowing down any progress or development of potentialities available giving prominence to mediocrity as the priority because of excellence. When and where there is insecurity the priority becomes survival. That is the first natural instinct. The other entire thing, education inclusive becomes Secondary Schools are closed, pupils and students stay out of school or institution for as long as the insecurity persists where school building and properties were destroyed or looted, the situation becomes more complex, the effects more challenging. Sad as this situation may look if is better than cases where students are pursued and killed in their schools (Akanji, 2009).

The psychosocial needs and education of the internally displaced persons in Maiduguri continue to remain a challenge due to the instability of the situation, attributed to the violence, and family separation. This situation is further aggravated by the limited access to social, educational and health service for the displaced population. The capacity to provide socio-economic support to the affected population by the various nongovernmental actors involved in humanitarian assistance, coordinated by National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA, 2015) in Maiduguri, have been overstretched due to the magnitude of the problems and the limited resources available. In June 2015, International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) forum performed an assessment in order to evaluate the needs of the displacement population, identify gaps in support and recommend action points. The conclusion of the exercise highlighted that the most urgent need of the affected and displaced population were food security and in livelihoods, while needs of the critical stage included health, nutrition, shelter/ Non Food Items, education and socio-economics support (FDMA, 2013). The International Monitory Found similar results from their assessment, stating food and shelter as the primary needs for the displaced population (Betancourt & Khan, 2008). Since 2014, International Organization for Migration (IOM) had been implementing socio-economic support intervention in Nigeria

1.1 Statement of the Problem

The increasing spread of nefarious activities of the Boko Haram sect in Nigeria and Borno State in particular and the destruction of lives and property as well as large-scale displacement is a serious issue that could not be dismissed with a wave of hand. In the last few years, the security situation in the country has worsened. Bombing, killing, mass murder, abduction, kidnapping and other crimes against humanity are on the increase in north eastern Nigeria because of communal violence, natural disaster, internal armed conflicts, border conflicts, ethno-religious conflicts and terrorist attacks (Hamid & Musa, 2010). It is instructive to state that this development has resulted into wanton destruction of lives and properties, displacement of people from their

original homes, segregation of families and communities. In an attempt to reduce the citizens suffering as a result of security challenges confronting the state especially in Maiduguri, various humanitarian measures have been introduced by the federal government through the establishment of National Emergency Management Agencies (NEMA) at the federal and SEMA at state levels has caught the attention of international community following series of violent attacks which have led to increase in numbers of Internally Displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria.

The psychosocial needs and education of IDPs are in increase daily. Today most attention of government and NGOs are on construction of IDPs camps and provision of necessary facilities and relief materials, which in most cases are inadequate to serve the population of the displaced persons in the state. Today the unseen prevailing situations of the internally displaced persons in Maiduguri are cases of mental distress and psychological trauma that has led some of the IDPs to commit suicide because they have lost hope in life. Some of these traumatized IDPs have also become burden on the government and nuisance to the host community as they move from house to house begging for food, clothes and money and also, many of them had to dropout from schools most especially children below 15 years (OCHA, 2007). It is base on this background that this study seeks to assess the psychosocial needs and resources of IDPs in Maiduguri with a view to providing some measures to be put in place by the government, NGOs and other policy makers for IDPs.

It is in the light of the above that this study seeks to assess the psychosocial needs and education of IDPs in some selected camps in Maiduguri, Borno state Nigeria.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The following objectives guide the study:

1. Examines the psychological effect of insurgency on the IDPs in Maiduguri, Borno state
2. Assess the educational and socio-economic status of IDPs in the study area.

1.3 Research Hypotheses

1. HO₁: There is no significant difference in psychological effects of insurgency on the IDPs on the basis of camps.
2. HO₂: There is no significant difference in educational and socio-economic status of the IDPs on the basis of camps.

2.1 Methodology

Research design is a descriptive survey research design which was used to gather data from the respondents. The descriptive survey is suitable for this study because it allows for a large population to be sampled within a single research and for many inferences (deductions) to be made. The descriptive survey design is deemed appropriate for this study which seeks to assess psychosocial needs, and educational status of IDPs in some selected camps in Maiduguri.

The population for this study comprises of the whole Internally Displaced Persons population in Maiduguri, which are put to 132,769 (International Organisation for Migration, 2015 and Displacement Tracking Matrix ROUND VII), while the target population comprised three selected camps in Maiduguri namely: Bakasi, Farm centre and Dalori camps.

Camps	Population	Male	Female
Bakasi camp	8,760	2920	5840
Farm centre camp	5,786	1929	3857
Dalori camp	18,977	6327	12679
Total	33523	11167	22356

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM, 2019)

Table. 1 shows the population of the three selected IDPs camps in Maiduguri. Dalori camp is the highest camp in terms of population and biggest in terms of size in Borno state at large. Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) reported that the three selected camps for this study as shown in Table.1 are the largest camps in Maiduguri which contain IDPs from all the three zones in the state.

The sample size of the study is 435 obtained using Research Advisors 2006 table for determining the sample. To select sample for this study, the researcher adopted multi-stage sampling techniques. In the first stage, the study disaggregated the total population of the study area in to three sampled camps. In the second stage stratified sampling was used to grouped the population of the selected camps into IDPs, camps administrators/officials and camps security personnel (both JTF and civilian JTF). In the third stage, it used simple random sampling technique in each of the camps to select 244 respondents in Dalori camp, 116 in Bakasi camp and 75 in Farm centre camp. Total 435 (Male 106 and Female 329 respectively) this the sample size.

Instrumentation: The researcher used researcher-designed questionnaire titled "Psychosocial Needs and Educational aid of IDPs in some Selected Camps in Maiduguri". Documentary sources were to elicit information from the respondents. The questionnaire is close ended questions base on four scale in order to measure the

responses of the respondents. The scale to rate the respondents are: Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Strongly Disagree (SD) and Disagree (D) with corresponding assigned values of 4, 3, 2, and 1 respectively. The designed questionnaire was validated by supervisory team of the study and other experts were given to the faculty of education and extension services, Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto who ascertained the content of the questionnaire. The observation was duly corrected accordingly.

To ensure reliability, the research instruments has been test-retest to other IDPs NYSC Camp and CAN Centre out of study area. This technique involved administering the same questionnaire twice to the same group of subjects, after an interval of two weeks between. The results from both the test- retest method of reliably were accurately recorded. The responses from each administration were correlated to determine the extent of consistency.

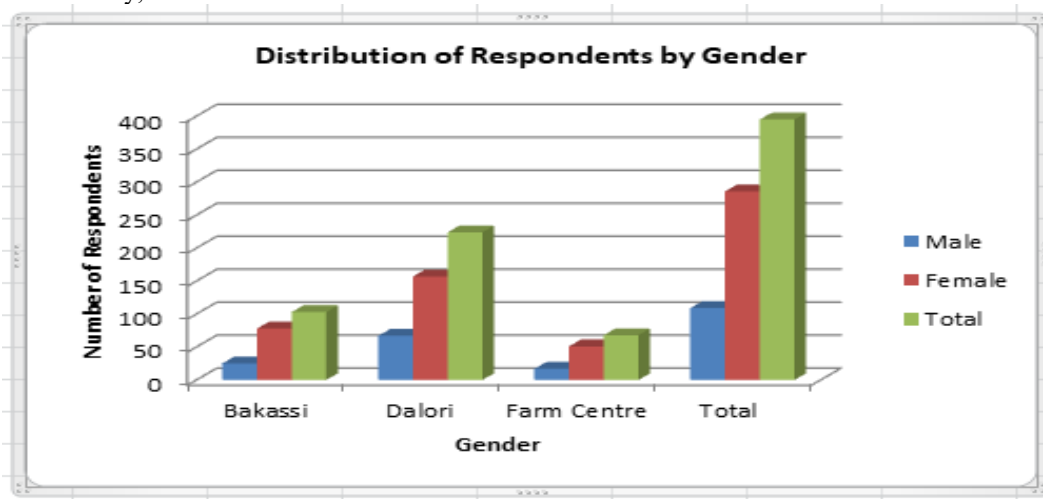
2.2 Procedure for data Analysis: The descriptive statistics tool includes table, frequency and percentage were used to show the demographic data of the respondents. One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to test hypotheses of the study at 0.05 level of significance.

3.1 Result

Table 2: Shows demographic data of respondent base on gender

Gender	Bakassi	%	Dalori	%	Farm Centre	%	Total
Male	25	24.3	67	29.9	17	25.0	109
Female	78	75.7	157	70.1	51	75.0	286
Total	103	100	224	100	68	100	395

Sources: Field survey, 2019



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Table (2) and bar chart above depicts distribution of respondents based on sex. The largest populations of respondents are Bakasi Males (22.3%), female. (75.7%) Dalori Males (29.9%), female. (70.1%) and Farm Centre Males (25.0%), female. (75.0%).

Hypothesis 1

Table 3: ANOVA of IDPs on the Psychological Effects of Insurgency

Source of variation	Sum of square	df	Mean square	F-cal	P	Remark
Between groups	1.037	2	0.518	1.820	0.163	accept
Within groups	111.663	393	0.285			
Total	112.699	395				

$N_{Bakasi} = 103$, $N_{Dalori} = 224$, $N_{Farm\ Center} = 68$, $P > 0.05(0.163)$

Result in Table 3 revealed that the p-value at $F(2, 392)$ regarding the psychosocial effects of insurgency on the IDPs in Bakasi, Dalori and Farm Center is 0.163. This value is greater than the p-value of 0.05 (level of significance) indicating there is no significant difference among the IDPs in Bakasi, Dalori and Farm Center regarding psychosocial effects of insurgency. Therefore, the null hypothesis was accepted.

Hypothesis 2

There is no significant difference in educational and socio-economic statuses IDPs on the basis of camps

Table 4: ANOVA of IDPs Educational and Socio-Economic Statuses

Source of variation	Sum of square	df	Mean square	F-cal	P	Remark
Between groups	0.680	2	0.340	1.107	0.332	accept
Within groups	120.455	393	0.307			
Total	121.136	395				

$N_{Bakasi}= 103,$ $N_{Dalori}= 224,$ $N_{Farm\ Center}= 68,$ $P>0.05(0.332)$

Result in Table 4 revealed that the p-value at F(2, 392) regarding the educational and socio-economic statuses of the IDPs in Bakasi, Dalori and Farm Center is 0.332. This value is greater than the p-value of 0.05 (level of significance) indicating the educational and socio-economic statuses of the IDPs in Bakasi, Dalori and Farm Center are not significantly different. Hence, the null hypothesis was accepted.

4.1 Discussion of Finding

The first hypothesis tested the psychosocial effects of insurgency on the IDPs. The study revealed that the respondents agreed that the insurgency in Maiduguri leads to abnormal behaviour among IDPs. Furthermore, it was also found that most of the IDPs are traumatised and stressful. Among which are large scales of psychiatric cases among the IDPs as a result of the losses they suffered from the Boko Haram insurgency. Similarly, the study found that there was uncoordinated behaviors and social vices among the adult IDPs in the camps, which has lead to absent of trust and cordial relationship among the IDPs themselves and between the IDPs and camp officials as a result of what they experienced from the Boko Haram activities. Hence, the grand standard deviation (δ) of the respondents were very close in their responses indicating the psychosocial effects of insurgency on the IDPs in Bakasi, Dalori and Farm Center, are not significantly different. Therefore, the null hypothesis not rejected. The findings of this research corroborate with that of Muchane (2011), who reported that post-traumatic stress may cause personal trauma, violent crime physical or sexual assault, road traffic accident, event difficulty during child bearing and psychiatric disorder. The result of this findings also agreed with the report of Ifatimehi, (2019), that due to fear of seeing relatives, parents and whole community killed, the camp that are currently lodged in exposes them to fear of possibility of attack and exploitation.

In the test of hypothesis 2 of the study, assess the socio-economic status across IDPs in Bakasi, Dalori and Farm Center. The results in revealed that the respondents agreed that the insurgency affected the IDPs educational and socio-economic statuses. The findings indicated the educational and socio-economic statuses of the IDPs in Bakasi, Dalori and Farm Center are not significantly different. Hence, the null hypothesis not rejected. The findings corroborate with the study conducted by Owolabi and Emeka, (2012), who confirmed that family type, size, socioeconomic status and educational background play important role in children education attainment and social integration. The findings here are in consistent with the report of Nathan, (2014) who stated that severe internal crises characterized by security challenges have force young people mostly adolescent out of school and displace many from their home.

5.1 Conclusion

There is relationship between insurgency, psychosocial, educational and economic status of the IDPs in the studied camps. There is significant effect of psychological interventions by the government, and other civil organizations to the IDPs in the studied camps.

5.2 Summary of the Findings

The major findings from the research are summarized as follows:

1. It was found that there is no significant difference among the IDPs in Bakasi, Dalori and Farm Center regarding psychosocial effects of insurgency.
2. The study has also found that there is no significant difference in educational and socio-economic statuses of IDPs on the basis of camps.

5.3 Recommendations

In view of the finding of this study, the following recommendations were offered:

1. Professional Psychiatrist, psychologist and counsellors be actively involving in the provision of services such as trauma counselling, career counselling, and family counselling to internally displaced persons.
2. Education provisions should be made available where the children of the IDPs will be hosted as well as skills acquisition programmes to cater for skill development in different areas to enhance their economic status.

5.4 Sociological Implications

The devastation and destruction of both human lives and properties inflicted upon those living in the states are

beyond imagination. The importance of education in the life of a person can never be overemphasized in both temporal and spiritual aspects of human existence. Education is very paramount; it is the light that shows the way by removing the darkness of ignorance. It is the salt that gives taste to life. The greatest favor one can do to himself is to get educated and to others to give them education (Astin *et al.*, 2003). Insurgency, violence, conflicts or war, threats of such intimidation or an abuse can have very serious and permanent effects on education thus not only slowing down any progress or development of potentialities available giving prominence to mediocrity as the priority because of excellence. When and where there is insecurity the priority becomes survival. That is the first natural instinct.

The other entire thing, education inclusive becomes Secondary Schools are closed, pupils and students stay out of school or institution for as long as the insecurity persists where school building and properties were destroyed or looted, the situation becomes more complex, the effects more challenging. Sad as this situation may look if it is better than cases where students are pursued and killed in their schools. This can be more brutal? Evil? How can there be education if there are no people to receive education? Students and pupils that are lucky to escape such brutality may be marred physically, intellectually or socially for life, and sentenced for a life cripple. Students in all the public schools have stayed at home without going to school for four years. Some have resumed but a lot of the Secondary Schools that were used as IDP camps are still closed in Borno state particularly (Cunningham, 2003)

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