



## **TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL: IT'S PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES OF CORRUPT PRACTICES IN NIGERIA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The United Nations Global programme against corruption (UNGPAC) defines it as “abuse of power for private gain”. The paper examines corruption as a challenge to sustainable development in the fourth republic. In this research work, attempt was made to conceptualize corruption and sustainable development .With regards to the methodology, the paper was based on systematic qualitative content analysis .We also used historical and cultural theory of corruption as the tool of our analysis. A cursory observation into the Fourth Republic in Nigeria reveals that corruption was perpetrated with impunity with little or no effort at bringing the perpetrators to justice. Despite the establishment of the anti-graft commissions by the Obasanjo Administration, corruption has continued to escalate like wildfire. Therefore, this paper attempts to extrapolate the factors that were responsible for this high profile corrupt practices in Nigeria and this were traceable to historical and cultural factors of the components that make up the country. The amalgamation of Nigeria in 1914 by Sir Frederick Lugard placed the three major ethnic groups in the country advantaged over the minority ethnic groups. The minorities, who felt insecure in the hands of the major ethnic groups therefore, resorted to manipulations just as the major ethnic groups attempt to maneuver their ways. It is this suspicious attitude of the people that make up the country for one another, and for what a person in position is likely to be, that results in corrupt practices. It is therefore, the contention of this paper that unless this phenomenon is fought with every decorum it deserves by the Federal government of Nigeria, sustainable development will*

*be a mirage with dire consequences on the economy, the citizenry and on our collective image globally. The anti-graft commissions should therefore be empowered to work assiduously without being molested or interfered with by the government. The paper contended that unless good governance is in place with accountability carefully observed, sustainable development cannot be realized.*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Transparency international, briefly (TI), is a non-governmental organization with seat, acting world-wide, in Berlin which engages itself in national and international people and economical corruption fight and raising the awareness of it. This includes, but not limited to political corruption, it publishes yearly its corruption perception index, a comparative listing of corruption worldwide, Heywood, P. (1996).

Transparency international were created in 1993 in Berlin friends from all over the world engaged by the former director of world Bank Peter Eigen and developed in shortest time to one most influential non-profit and partly-political independent movement of the most recent time, which can be compared concerning its political influence, for instance with Attack or Amnesty international. One of the greatest threats to economic and political development of any nation is corruption. Therefore, the challenges of corruption remain a major devastating issue facing Nigeria since the colonial period, although, this phenomena has become a cankerworm that has eaten deep into the fabrics of our system. Nevertheless, its solution rests in our hands and cannot be put off to another day. That is why many countries have put in place different mechanisms for checkmating the spate of corruption. In Nigeria for example, the menace of corruption has been discussed at different levels, yet this ugly incidence keeps surviving with us at all facets of our endeavours.

Since the return of the country to civil rule on May 29, 1999, the Nigerian government has taken a number of measures to address the problems of corruption and bad governance in the country. These measures include public service reform (monetization to reduce waste and reduction of over-bloated personnel, reform of public procurement); establishment of anti-corruption enforcement agencies (such as the Economic and Financial Crime

Commission, Independent Corruption and other Practices Commission); and the on-going sanitization of the financial services sector by the Central Bank under Governor Sanusi, which have revealed mind bulging levels of bare faced theft by the management of several banks in Nigeria, Human Right Watch (2007).

The cause for the establishment of the organization was the idea, the world corruption, which had accepted unbelievable extents and effect in the time of the cold war to fight by independent influencing control of an outstanding and particularly control instance standing for itself.

The worldwide resonance on the establishment of transparency international in the year 1993 was unexpected. The historical framework offered a favourable surrounding field. The old iron curtain was with the German unit finally pleases, the core of the European union joinedthemselves straight, the Gulf was in Iran and Iraq, the civil war in Yugoslavia humans for justice had sensitized and frame the U.S.A, “blew the democratic wind” the Clinton era. Much was ready in paying a new. The idea of transparency international fell on fruitful soil, however in response also defense and criticism provoked, Adebayo, R. I. (2012).

## **METHODOLOGY**

The research work explores primary and secondary sources of materials in sample random which implies the issue of transparency international: it’s prospects and challenges of corrupt practices in Nigeria. Data from textbooks, journals, magazines, newspapers, internet and libraries were made use of.

## **PHILOSOPHY OF THE MOVEMENT AND IT’S PROCEEDINGS**

Transparency International already carry the basic concept in the name. In the variety of the different kind of corruption is according to the principles of the organisation as large common denominator, when solution, to prevent simple transparency in handling the things crucially, which it make possible, corruption leads into constructional courses. Because so paradoxically has from the point of view of this system also jedwede corruption in society and economics their sense. It is the symptoms for a malfunction in the system and if one liked to fight corruption, one must extract their fertile soil from her:

- By consistent disclosure and transparency of the things and linear path by current control by independent supervision
- By persuasive power and acceptance opposite concerning and authors.
- By careful selection and rotation of the personnel within the ranges concerned.

Multi-eye principle with financial effective control decision Complete documentation, particularly in the assignment and procurement area.

Most corruption accusation take place under poverty suffer on international level in state (south America, Africa). One of these states formed a proper vicious circle from poverty and corruption, which from own Kraft of the states hardly more is to be broken through and it makes susceptible thereby for outside political influencing control. When the fact appear particularly paradoxical that a certain “corruption impact is already presupposed” in investment funds (usually 10% of the sum total).

Financed in development assistance project usually from tax funds to be the same country the corruption again. Hence, it most often in interest of foreign ruling powers or companies to promote the corruption in a country to induce if not straight, in order to enrich itself.

The beginning of transparency international is not confrontative but consenstative contrary to Amnesty international of Green peace, D. H. the government or to stand comparing head as supporters and aids on an equal footing in things corruption to the side and meet them with reason and understanding. A beginning that always does not become and pretty often in the cross fire of the criticism was gladly seen stands. Straight of others non-governmental organisation (NGO), like Attac or Green peace, those their popularity from the power of the mass and the road refer. Peter Eigen justifies this proceeding with his origin.

Someone like the director of the world Bank within the range East Africa nearly 25 years “more over the top” in the political, social and economic High Society operated, could demonstrate badly also over 60 years again with a protest poster before company building.

It had to continue, where it had stopped. Above in the executive floor, in addition, this explains the success of transparency international. Before scarcely 15 years in particularly citizen of Berlin Manson as bare vision based, applies for transparency international today as one of most successfully anti-

corruption movement of the world, which operate in the meantime offices in over 90 states locally established national and chapters information. The work beginning of Transparency International is to work “from above” itself thus with the powerful ones made of government to set economics and society to a table and to convince it from the sinnhaftigkeit the non-corruption to. At the soundest one thing is that corruption is simply expensive the argument convenience so far most frequently to co-operate in the context of the transparency international consultation with the responsible anti-corruption expert.

### **ORGANISATION AND ROLE**

Transparency International (TI) as a group of some 100 national chapters, with an international secretariat in Berlin, Germany originally founded in Germany in May 1993 as a not for profit organisation TI is now an international non-governmental organisation (NGO's) and claims to be moving towards a completely democratic structure TI say of itself.

Transparency international is a global network, civil organisation leading the fight against corruption it brings people together in a powerful worldwide coalition to end the devastating impact of corruption on men, women and children around the world. TI's mission is to “create change toward a world free of corruption”.

Transparency international as a global network fighting corruption in national arena in number of ways. They bring together relevant player from government civil society, business and the media to promote transparency in elections, in public administration in procurement and in business. TI global network of chapters and contact also use advocacy campaign to lobby governments to implement anti-corruption reforms.

Politically non-partisan, TI does not undertake investigation of alleged corruption or expose individual cases, but as time were work in coalition with organizations that do. It develop tools in fighting corruption and work with other civil society organizations, companies and government to implement them. TI is a non-partisan and to build coalition against corruption. Transparency international has the skills tools, expertise and broad participation to fight corruption on the ground as well as though global and regional initiative.

## **MAIN FUNCTIONS AND GOALS**

1. It help design and implement system for financial and administrative oversight of grants and project of the Americas Department (one country and multi-country) and provides administrative and logistical support to two senior programmed co-ordinators;
2. Being the lead co-ordinator, including financial and administrative management and monitoring of activities and result of the grants provided to TI nations in the Americas through the TI Anti-corruption. Delivery change (AD:DC) global programmes; and
3. Provide lead logistical supervision and co-ordination of key regional meetings.

The works of Transparency International is around and demand in population; enterprises and politics. In order to arrange for example the annual corruption index of the countries questionnaires provided with questions how; Which sector are according to their opinion affected particularly by corruption? (with a valuation of 1 (corrupt free) to 5 (particularly corrupt) as strongly their life is affected by corruption? (with valuation scale 1 (not at all totally).

Credit it or a member of their household in the last 12 months in any form bribe paid? (Answer Yes or No). On the basis of these data monthly to be different topic diagrams for the different nations. In transparency international quarterly news type character (TIQ ) are the intermediate result as well as other messages to seen order than booklet from TI to refer free of charge event and results approximately around the world to the homepage.

In the Annual report (annual report) the analyses and research result are combined into the previous year. Additionally single results are published about special (bribe payers survey corruption special brochure) separately.

## **FINANCING AND ORGANISATION**

The foreign officers are subject to bilateral and multilateral financing and organisation. The parent company transparency international attaches importance to the fact that the daughter offices as selfly-sufficient as possible in its respective homeland or operational areas to become active to be able to sense from country to country and from culture to culture other rules must be

considered and be supposed. Also, the definition of corruption is individually made in each country.

Transparency international sub-divide it national offices (national chapters) in groups as regional and working groups which can act drop referred also independently. TI avoids it to interfere directly into the interest of the national chapters and depends on their international work exclusive of their structural so the local civilian – social forces are to be mobilize and promoted.

### **TRANSPARENCY AND SUCCESS**

The principal purpose is the idealistic vision of total and world wide Eliminating of corruption. On the way to this vision TI could already obtain some success and partial success.

### **INTERNATIONAL (EXCEPT)**

Change of consciousness with worldwide organisation such as the world bank to prevent completely particularly advanced by their new president.

Wolfson worldwide convention against corruption at the United Nation's (presented 2003 in Mexico) OECD convention against the bribery of foreign Sovereignty carrier of 1997, in which 34 hands oneself export countries obligate, the bribery abroad by their export. Convention of the laws to national right can be accused in Germany for a bribery abroad taken place and condemned also valuably.

### **NATIONAL (EXCEPT)**

Development of evaluation of the OECD convention in German right and demand of the development and application of anti-corruption laws. Thus TI Germany submitted a detail statement June 2003 for the phase II of monitoring process and fighting corruption conditions.

Influencing control on the formulation of the tax adjustment law TI pursues the goal that the practice of fiscal authorities follow clear the will of legislator and de-facto-removability of bribe payment is not waited at home and aboard. Since the beginning of year 1999 opposite TI and TI-Germany the OECD, the European Union and the federal Government was active, in order to reach the export credit and institutions for export insurance of the OECD member states (the ECAS) may not have cover export traders, if they care by bribe payments

or corruption for a long time is tried to obtain by clear regulations for the public export credit promotion an internationally effective basis, Odofin, A. P. and Omojuwa, K. A. (2007).

Transparency international's biggest success has been to put the topic of corruption on the world's agenda international institution such as the world Bank and the international monetary fund (IMF) now view corruption as one of the main obstacle for development, whereas prior to the 1990's this topic was broadly discussed. TI furthermore, played a vital role in the introduction of the United Nation convention against corruption and the OECD Anti-Bribery convention, Mydral, G. (1970).

### **CORRUPTION PERCEPTION INDEX (CPI)**

The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) besides the world Bank corruption index is the most commonly used measured for corruption in countries worldwide. To form this index, Transparency international complies survey's that ask businessman and analysts book in and outside the countries their analyzing, their perceptions of how a country is. Relying on he numbers of actual corruption cases would not work since law and enforcement of law differ significantly from country to country, Adebayo, R. I. (2012).

### **HISTORY OF CORRUPTION**

The history of corruption is as old as the world because ancient civilization have traces of widespread illegality and corruption thus, lipset and Lenz5 (2000) not that" corruption has been ubiquitous in complex societies from ancient Egypt, Israel and Greece down to the present". Corruption is also believed to be in any continent, region, and ethnic group. It cut across faith religious denominations and all system and affects both young and old, man and woman alike. Corruption is found in democracy and dictatorial politics feudal, capitalist and socialist economics, Christian, Muslim, Buddhist culture are equally bedeviled by corruption. This does not, however mean that the incidence and magnitude of corrupt activities are the same in every society. Some countries are more corrupt than others. "As George Orwell notes in his read book, *Animals farm*. All animals are equals, but some animals are more equal than others, Mydral, G. (1970).

Though, (corruption) seen as global phenomenon but it is more devastating to the developing economic and to the so-call “Third world”.

However, corruption is pandemic in Nigeria and in many other African and Asian Countries, their leaders as well as the followers are corrupt. The problem of corruption is traceable to the debauchery of colonial rule (Ekeh 1975, 1985 Osaghere 1988).

Among the theories of Africa politics that has help to understand the predicament and more importantly the issue of endemic corruption, include theory of two publics developed by Peter Eke. Prebendalism popularized by Richard Joseph and Gurnal Myrdals soft state thesis. Others have captured Africa as a rentier, patrimonial and neopatrimonial state. These theories are important not only to understand the predicament in Africa countries but also providing explanation for the pandemic corruption ravaging Africa countries, Adebayo, R. I. (2012)

Ekeh (1975, 1985), argued that one most striking impacts of colonialism was the emergence of two public realm. The primordial and civil public realism which related differently with the private realm in terms of morality. For Nigeria, Eke (1975) argued: only right i.e. benefits., Kohli, S. (1975)

are expected from the state by its citizens who own duties or responsibilities to a native sector. The former forms the basis of an amoral civil public realm and the later a public was concerned with illegitimate and exploitative colonial rule and had no moral linkages with the private realms. It was an amoral public realm in which cheating the system was considered a patriotic duty (Ifidon 1996; 162).

Let consider the word corruption and what do we mean by corruption?

Despite the successes attained by these measures, the situation remains unacceptable as corruption continues to permeate and pervade every facet of national life in Nigeria (CLEEN Foundation Monograph Series, 2010). Against this backdrop, this paper will attempt to expose some acts of corruption in the Fourth Republic and state its dare consequences on sustainable development in Nigeria. The central theme of the argument is that corruption has been responsible for our economic, social and political under-development in Nigeria. Therefore, corruption, which has come to survive despite all efforts at curbing it, is at the center of our discourse in this paper.

The paper is divided into seven sections. Section one deals with the on-going introduction. Section two conceptualizes corruption and sustainable development. Section three is concerned with theoretical framework while section four deals with methodology.

Peter (1978) identified three dimensional approaches to the definition. These are definitions based on legal criteria, public opinion and public interest. From the legal perspective, political corruption is connected to any behaviour that violates some formal standard or rule of behaviour set down by a political system for its public officials. For example Nye (1967:419) conceives political to mean an act which “deviates” from the formal duties of public role because of private regarding (personal, close family, clique) pecuniary or status gains; or violates rule against the exercise of certain types of private role-regarding influence”. This definition includes behaviour such as bribery (use to prevent the judgment of a person into a position of trust) nepotism (bestowal of purpose reason of inscriptive relationship rather than merit and the misappropriation (illegal appropriation of public resources for private uses. ( Banfield 1961).

Another classic perception of corruption is that of Rogow and Laswell (1963: 132-133) for them corruption is taken to be a violation of the public interest. The definition is also lacken to ambiquitous because public interest like public opinion is difficult to determine.

Brinkerhoff (2000:241) see “corruption as subsuming wide variety of illegal, illicit, irregular and/or unprincipled activities and behaviours”. From this perspective, corruption then is importantly a moral, political and legal issue.

In this context, corruption is a multi-conceptual that has legal, social, political, economic and ethnical connotations. It comes in various forms, it simply conceived in this as misuse, or improper use of power and influence, deliberately and consciously for personal aggrandizement or group advantage. In this sense, corruption connotes the abuse of public role or resources or the use of illegitimate forms of political power and influence by public or private practice. Conceived in this manner, corruption is inextricably tied (but not limitedly) to politics, more especially i.e. politics defined from Harold Lasswell tradition of “who get what when and how” and perhaps how much. The struggle over resources otherwise known as” National cake: in the Nigeria society has taken a debilitating approach permitting all forms of corruptions.

The idea that the “national cake” is meant to be shared rather than baked, by the various ethnic group that constitute Nigeria Federation provides a fertile group for the kleptomaniac elites to siphon the public fund.

Corruption has been a major cause of injustice in society, where greedy and selfish people pervert the norms of society, that guide its well-being. Recent world attention on corruption is due to evidence abounding that corruption damaged the fabric of society in many ways. It makes governments and communities uneconomic, unstable and unsafe. Most crisis in Africa is caused as a result of corruption, Nigeria in Particular is embedded by corruption. Bribery which is the most popular form of corruption has rendered government uneconomic and ungovernable. Bribery encourages unfair advantages and renders competition, a features of democratic struggle invalid. By receiving bribes. People in authority abuse trust. In some countries in Africa, bribery is so rampant that it has gain social acceptance as a way of doing business. In other countries like Nigeria bribery has become endemic and a (necessary) way of life, for public officials as a way of earning additional incomes. This has led to extortion of bribes from the public and people need to pay these extortion bribes to pursue business or personal well-being.

By far the most destructive form of corruption in Africa is perpetrated by the rich who seek excessive riches and adopt extravagant lifestyle to the extent that it significantly affects the well-being of society. It is this type of corruption that African leaders have been identified with and which has worsened their human crisis situation;. By making the leaders self-centered, greedy and insensitive to the needs of their people, who daily grapple with poverty, disease, violent, starvation, war and death.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, transparency international that was founded in Berlin in 1993, has been able to tackle corruption through its various network in the national and international arena, it has been able to bring people together in a powerful worldwide coalition to end the devastating impact of corruption on man, women children around the world free pf corruption. Corruption breeds poverty, sickness low life and unequal distribution of income and wealth. This face produced by corruption wish was formerly the face of the third world and

much more the portrait of Africa can now be seen all over the world. Corruption is therefore a global phenomenon, yet the poor are mostly victims as their poverty is created by the greed of others. Corruption and poverty go hand-in-hand.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following are the recommendations of the study:

- The on-going reform in the public and private sectors should be handled with seriousness and that the anti-graft agencies should not be used as an instrument by the ruling government against opposition or perceived enemies.
- The Commission should be empowered to carry out its constitutional duties without any interference from the government. The focus and the best way to tackle corruption is to prevent it from happening.
- We also recommend that all the public loots should be thoroughly investigated and the offenders, once found guilty should be prosecuted and the loots taken back on the face value of what has been stolen.

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