



POLITICAL TRENDS AND ITS IMPLICATION ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN KADUNA STATE

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ABSTRACT

The study entitled political trend in Nigeria and its implication on socio-economic development focused specifically on kaduna state ascertain the effect of political element or principle on socio-economic development on state from 2017-2018 on the basis of a hypothetical statement that there is a significant relationship between socio-economic development and political opportunities. Both primary and secondary data were used and the former were analyzed using frequency tables as well as subjecting them to test as they relate to the hypothesis this was done through the person's correlation statistical tool of analysis The study discovered that ethnicity is a major element of political parties and Nigerian political system coupled with self-identification with place of origin as a way of promoting socio-economic development However, there are minority groups who are often cut off from the process of development by this trend of politics. Hence the study recommended that the world best practice that entails that politics and political positions be used for the generality of the people in terms of equitable sustainable economic benefit.

Keywords: Party Politics, Ethnicity, Development, Political Opportunities

INTRODUCTION

Nigeria has come a long way in its political and socio-economic process which is predicated on the need for development and progress in all ramifications. There is no gainsaying that the momentum and speed of any country in transforming its social and economic structure revolves around and ultimately depends on the health of its political process and invariably the political structure, and altitude endemic in the country (Bonnie and Kehinde 2007). To this end, the political and economic history of Nigeria from inception to the present day has been the bricks assembled to constitute the ignoble Nigerian economy whose inadequacies are felt socially or economically all over the nooks and crannies of the country.

Nigeria politics unlike those of the perceived developed countries is a mere continuum of exhibitions that is anchored on obvious cultural and/or ethnic values and interest which has caused in congruency or inconsistency in the political framework. The ripple effect of this, is associated with socio-economic debridement and aberration as it affects the lives of the Nigerian populace (Otite 1990). The trend of Nigeria politics from time immemorial hinges on party mechanisms vis-a-vis its ethnic flavor and composition and it therefore constitute the basis of skewedness in Nigeria's development structure (ibid). The socio-economic impact of those political trends have caused skewedness of economic weight and distribution in Kaduna state just like every other state in the country particularly places like Zangon kataf local government when compare to Kaduna North local government of the state. This study therefore will look at the development variation within the state.

STATEMENT OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

One of the essences of governance and politics is to engender even development by fair and equitable location and distribution of infrastructures across the various administrative enclaves or units that make up a governmental entity. However, in some communities of Zangon kataf local government there are dearth of infrastructure and poor socio-economic manifestations against their contemporary in Kaduna North local government of Kaduna who are relatively ahead. Places like Farman in Z/kataf local government appears neglected with pockets of abandoned projects and infrastructural deficit while places like Ung Rimi in Kaduna North local government is known for socio-economic advancement. Hence, The need to find out the role of party politics and ethnicity on the socio-economic development of these areas.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

In view of the problem above, the study is set to provide answers to the following

Questions:

- i. To what extend has ethnicity in party politics caused infrastructure lack in Zangon kataf local government?
- ii. How has ethnicity in party politics improved the living condition of people in Kaduna North local government area!
- iii. How can politics be used to engender even development in Kaduna state?

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The broad objective of the study is to determine the impact of political trends and its element on socio-economic development in Kaduna state while the specific objectives include:

- i. To ascertain the extent to which ethnicity in party politics has caused infrastructural lack in Zangon kataf local government area
- ii. To determine the contribution of politics to living condition of people in Kaduna North local government
- iii. To identify ways in which politics can be improved upon as an instrument of even development in Kaduna state

STATEMENT OF HYPOTHESIS

This study is anchored on the following hypothesis:

Ho: There is no significant relationship between political parties and the level of socio economic development in Kaduna state

Hi: There is significant relationship between political opportunity and the level of socio-economic development in Kaduna State.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study focuses on political privileges and opportunities of Zangon kataf local government and Kaduna North local government vis-à-vis socio-economic fortune from 2007 to 2015. This is because during this period there were changes in government involving different political parties with lots of promises to ensure an even distribution and allocation of resources across the board without any form of discrimination

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

Relevant literatures on concept that underpin the study will be reviewed This includes ethnicity, party politics and socio-economic development.

Ethnicity

According to Nnoli (1978:5). ethnicity is a "social phenomenon associated with (communal) competition among members of different ethnic group." Ethnic group as used in this definition are social formations distinguished by communal character of their boundaries and membership specially language, culture or both, with language constituting the most crucial variable in Africa. An ethnic group, however is not necessarily linguistically or culturally homogeneous. in so far as it often subsumes sub-cultural. linguistic, dialectic, occupational and class difference, depending on the prevailing level of socio-economic development and cultural differentiation (Eteng 2004 :45), To this end. Azeez (2004:329) sees ethnicity as a sense of people hood that has its foundation in the combined remembrance of past experience and common aspiration. It is therefore evidenced as Eteng observed that ethnicity is a derivative of the ethnic group which forms the basis of its articulation and

activation. That is, it is the existence of the group that makes ethnicity possible.

Accordingly, however, ethnicity does not exist outside the unit or group that embodied it. To this, Enloe (1978: 3) postulated that "ethnicity is looked upon as unreal, an artificial basis of identification and political and economic control". It is therefore considered a strategic weapon chosen by disadvantaged group as a new mode of seeking political redress, or by a privileged group in order to protect its advantages. Thus Cox (1970:317) see ethnicity or ethnic group generally themselves biologically, culturally, Linguistically or socially distinct from each other and most often view their relation in actual or potential antagonistic terms (also. Barth 1970:10).

Party Politics

Simply stated, party politics are activities of political parties in a democratic environment to seek control of political offices through state norms of election (Olaniyi. 2001 99). To this extent, party politics exist when elective principles are present in a state and by implication under democratic regimes which recognizes the legitimate choice of the citizens to select or elect those to represent them in government offices, for example in the pre independence era in Nigeria, party politics was not in existence until 1922 when the Clifford constitution introduced for the first time in the country the elective principle. According to Okoye (1982), party politics therefore are activities of formal structure, institution or organization which compete through electoral process to control the personnel and politics of government, and with the aim of allocating the scarce resources in the state through an institutionalized means or procedures.

Hence The primary objective of party politics is directed toward a single goal of wrestling for governmental or political power.

Despite the facts that party politics serve some other numerous purposes outside the primary objective. Sure as integrative mechanism feedback mechanism.

Aggregative machinery or tool regulatory and promotional roles, its roles are punctured and truncated by various negative activities sure as polarizing and widening gap between and/or among ethnic groups, unhealthy rivalry, marginalizing tool, exploitative mechanism and expropriatory role, apart from undemocratic role (Monga 1996:1920). He latter are elements that characterize the Nigerian party politics, instead of party politics being used as veritable instrument for evolving or producing competent and capable leaders whose focus and intent is the redistribution of social and economic resources, it has become a known fact that the framework of political parties

in Nigeria in itself is built on the tenets of varying prejudice and sentiments which has manifested in the country for decades.

Examples of these destructive tenets as alluded by Monga 1996:1920 is the irrational principle of zoning that has become central to party politics in Nigeria. This principle in itself implies that certain ethnic groups or section has a prerogative to produce a candidate for political position or office at the expense of other ethnic groups or section at given point in time which is usually rotator.

When each politician emerge as a public office holder he/she has the impression that he she is there to enrich his/her section or ethnic group or at least them preferential treatment both socially and economically or face backlash after exit from office.

This is to the extent that whether he she is capable or not since he/she belongs to the entitled group. It is considered appropriate. There is no gainsaying that this has not augured well for Nigeria's political economy

Development

Development is a multifaceted phenomenon. According to Tayebwa (1992:261) development is a broad term which should not be limited to mean economic development economic welfare or material wellbeing to him development is general with social aspect inclusive. Todaro (1981:56), accordingly posit that development is a multidimensional process involving the reorganization and reorientation of the entire economic and social system Hence, development in the context of this study involves both the social and economic aspect.

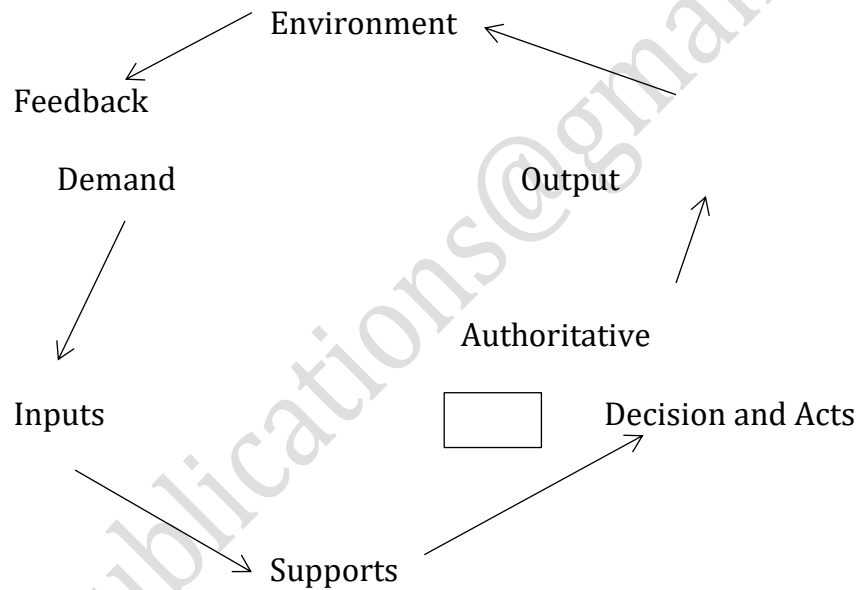
According to Marxist scholars as cited in Oni (2001), economic development is the improvement in the quality of factors of production public control of those factors of production and equitable distribution of surplus value to take place, the state or government must control the process fairly without prejudice. Oni (2001) in his own view sees it as the qualitative change in factors, of production leading to increase in quantity of goods and services produced by the society and increase in the quantity of such goods and services that every individual is opportune to get or possess Social development: this entail the availability of services needed for the material. Cultural and emotional enrichment of citizenry such as education, health and medical services social security, social services and a sense of belonging to the society (Oni, 2001).

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This paper is anchored on system theory which was developed by David Easton in 1953. It will be used to explain the interrelationship amongst the various group in Kaduna the various groups in Kaduna State specifically the

two local governments under study and how ethnicity in politics affects each of the areas as a collective whole.

The system approach sees an organization or a governmental entity in this case as a system of interrelated parts each of which makes contribution to the survival of the whole and each of which depends on other parts of the system for its own needs. There is hierarchical arrangement in the system as the parts or subsystems are made up of other smaller parts. In a system analysis, the parts in the system cannot be altered without affecting other parts. However, a system has input transformation mechanisms i.e. it possesses the quality of transforming inputs into outputs. The central guiding principle of the approach is the assumption of equilibrium. That is, the whole will need the cooperation of the parts to keep it mobile. This is as shown below:



Source: Austin, (1975)

Certain key concepts are central to the understanding of the effect of political trends on socio-economic development. One is of the political institutions or governmental institutions that function to transform demand, support, and commitment into authoritative decisions that has to do with allocation of resources. The second concept is input. This refers to the forces generated in the environment that affect system positively. They take the form of demand and support. Demands are actions by the various ethnic groups or individuals seeking authoritative allocation of values from the political authorities. The actions rendered in favour of government such as obedience to the law, political participation (voting) and payment of taxes are seen as support.

Inputs are generated from the environment while environment is any condition defined as external to the boundaries of political system Outputs are the decision (sentiments) of the authorities inside the box. If the decision of political authorities' vis-à-vis political parties is underpinned by prejudices arising from ethnicity, the various sections of the environment (ethnic groups) who ought to be the beneficiaries of the output may not be thereby creating socio-economic imbalance in the environment. Thus for the necessary even socio-economic development in Kaduna state, there is a need for indiscriminate distribution of values or output just as there is general contribution of input (support)

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the study entails the sources of data, method of data collection population/ sample size and sampling techniques as well as method of data analysis.

SOURCE OF DATA COLLECTION

The data for this study were derived or gotten from both primary and secondary sources

The primary data were gathered from respondents in the two local government adopted or selected. The secondary data were gotten from documented materials like textbooks and journals.

POPULATION SAMPLE SIZE

The estimated population of the two areas (local government areas) selected is 450.000 which was to large. hence the need for a sample to be drawn. The study use Yamane's Formula to derive the sample size of 400 thus

$$\begin{aligned} N &= \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2} \\ &= \frac{450,000}{1- 450000(0.05)^2} \\ &= \frac{450,000}{1126} = 400 \end{aligned}$$

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

Since the study adopted survey design to complement the documentary design questionnaires were administered to the sample of the population i.e. 400 respondents from the selected local government areas sure that 200 questionnaires were administered in each of the local government areas in order to get information from the respondents.

SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

The study adopted the cluster sampling in the course of the research. This is because the local governments are made up of segmented villages that are relatively high in number. Hence, the need for sampling that will ensure adequate degree of representativeness of all the places or villages in the two local governments

METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

The data collection in the course of the study were presented in tables (frequency table or percentages) and analyzed concomitantly The adopted hypothesis was tested using the Pearson's correlation statistical tool of analysis denoted or represented by the formula below:

$$r = \frac{N\sum XY - \sum X\sum Y}{\sqrt{[\sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2] (\sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2)}}$$

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

This has to do with the systematic presentation and analysis of data gathered instrumentality of questionnaires in the course of the survey. However, it is important to state that out of the 400 questionnaires administered only 380 were duly completed returned and this number shall constitute the basis of analysis in this study. The data as regards or in relation to the hypothesis are as shown below.

Table 4 1a. Fortunate to have a political leader between 2007 and 2015 (Kaduna North LGA)

| <i>Option</i> | Frequency | Percentage |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> | 90 | 47.4 |
| <i>No</i> | 100 | 52.6 |
| <i>Total</i> | 190 | 100 |

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2017

Table 4.1b: Fortunate to have a political leader between 2007 and 2015 (Zangon Kataf LGA)

| <i>Option</i> | Frequency | Percentage |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> | 52 | 27.4 |
| <i>No</i> | 138 | 72.6 |
| <i>Total</i> | 190 | 100 |

Source Researcher's survey, 2017

Table 4 1a above shows that 90 respondents (47.4%) out of the 190 of the respondents in Kaduna North said they have been fortunate to have a political leader come from their area while a larger number of 100 (52.6%) said they

have not had such fortune This implies that it is not possible for every group (be it ethnic or social) to present or have a leader emerge from among them as purposed by ethnicity in party politics or the reason adduced for ethnicity principles like zoning in Nigerian politics. This is especially because the minority groups are often subsumed under the majority groups and since politicians by virtue of ethnicity identify with their immediate group in terms of facilitating socio-economic development at the expense of others their own chance of having a "messiah in the corridor of power may not come. Hence the basis of ethnicity in party politics has been proved to be a mirage.

Table 4.1b Shows that only 52 (27.4%) out of the respondents said they have been fortunate to have a political leader come or emerge from their area in Zangon kataf local government while the larger number of 138 (72.6%) said they have not had the fortune. This is a confirmation of the analysis on table 4.1a. However, a comparison of the two local governments (Zangon kataf and Kaduna North local government) with recourse to the tables shows that even among larger groups or majority groups in Nigeria, there are varying degrees of political fortune among the groups which is often disproportionate Hence the need for ethnicity free political system and leaders particularly at the centre i.e state and federal government level to ensure that no group is shortchange as a result of its inability to produce a political leader.

BENEFIT OF HAVING A LEADER FROM AN ETHNIC GROUP FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRES ADMINISTERED

The following are the benefit the respondents gave in summary:

- More project execution in the immediate group (ethnic or social) of the leader
- Siting of government institutions and/or organizations
- Establishment of schools
- Preference for job opportunities
- More social welfare
- Free access to the leader

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING A LEADER FROM AN ETHNIC GROUP

- Little or no project execution
- Abandoned projects
- Diversion of government projects or institution
- Frustration when seeking government jobs
- Lack of social welfare
- No school established or renovated
- Hindered access to the political leader or difficulty in forwarding problems to him/her.

The points in issue 4.2 and 4.3 as well as the elicited information/data presented were not without examples as some of the people (respondents) gave instances of such situations. In 2014 the federal government of Nigeria in recognition and response to the need for the construction of the road linking Zonkwa through U/Rimi Bajju was a laudable idea Bajju was abandoned. This was due to political considerations that people from the areas mentioned above are supporters of an opposition political party. Similarly the socio-economic development the area like Malali and Ungwan Rimi is much more than those of reas ike Malan and Ungwan Rimi IS much more than those of Goni Gora who are suffering an acute infrastructural deficiency.

Recently also, the construction and widening of the dual carriage road in kawo without any similar project being done in Zangon Kataf local government and other areas goes to show that socio-economic development so far has being one-sided aimed at rewarding party supporters one way or the other Projects have been abandoned on the round that were not elected by people from the areas e.g. a road was to be constructed from Zonkwa through Ayagan to U/rimi Bajju but was abandoned

Table 4a Having a leader will remedy their plight (Zangon Kataf LGA)

| <i>Option</i> | Frequency | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> | 120 | 63.2 |
| <i>No</i> | 60 | 31.5 |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 10 | 5.3 |
| <i>Total</i> | 190 | 100 |

Source: Research Survey, 2017

Table 4, 4b. Having a leader will remedy their plight Zangon Kataf LGA

| <i>Option</i> | Frequency | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> | 150 | 79 |
| <i>No</i> | 28 | 14.7 |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 12 | 6.3 |
| <i>Total</i> | 190 | 100 |

Source Researcher's Survey 2017

Table 4.4a above shows that 120 (63.2%) of the respondents said having a political leader from the disadvantaged areas will remedy their socio-economic plight. 60 (31.5%) said it won't while 10 (5.3%) said they were not sure. This implies that majority of the people in the local government sees politics and political opportunities along ethnic or group perspective and as an instrument for the protection of self group interest. Table 4.4b shows that

150 (79%) of the respondent said it will remedy their socio-economic plight. 28 (14.7%) disagreed while 12(6.3%) were not sure. This statistics confirm the earlier analysis on Zangon kataf local government. However, the significant disparity in number of those 14 clamoring for political opportunity or leadership as a measure for socio-economic clamoring for political development of their areas is greater.

Table 4.5a: Possible neglect of an area after the exit of a leader from the area (Zangon kataf LGA)

| <i>Option</i> | Frequency | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> | 130 | 68.4 |
| <i>No</i> | 53 | 27.9 |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 17 | 3.7 |
| <i>Total</i> | 200 | 100 |

Source: Researcher's survey, 2017

Table 4.5b: Possible neglect of an area after the exit of a leader from the area (Kaduna North LGA)

| <i>Option</i> | Frequency | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> | 150 | 78.9 |
| <i>No</i> | 18 | 9.5 |
| <i>Not sure</i> | 22 | 11.5 |
| <i>Total</i> | 200 | 100 |

Source: Researcher's survey, 2017

Table 4.5a shows that 130 (68.4%) of the respondents from Zangon Kataf local government area expressed fear that even if they are fortunate to produce a political leader and by so doing the area experienced socio-economic change, there is a possibility of subsequent neglect, 53(27.9%) disagreed, while 7(3.7%) were not sure. This implies that ethnicity in politics cannot engender the required socio-economic development that will be sustainable. Table 4.5b though having different figures also point to the same fact.

TEST OF HYPOTHESIS

The following hypothesis will be tested below:

Ho: There is no significant relationship between political opportunities and the level of socio-economic development in Kaduna state

Hi: There is significant relationship between political opportunities and the level of socio-economic development in Kaduna state

Computation of correlation values

$$r = \frac{N\sum XY - \sum X \sum Y}{\sqrt{[\sum X - (\sum X)^2] (N\sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2)}}$$

The respondents' plight was made better through the following factors:

| Factors | X | Y | XY | X² | Y₂ |
|---------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Water supply</i> | 15 | 9 | 135 | 225 | 81 |
| <i>Electricity</i> | 19 | 13 | 247 | 361 | 169 |
| <i>Good roads</i> | 10 | 16 | 160 | 100 | 256 |
| <i>Employment</i> | 19 | 11 | 209 | 361 | 121 |
| <i>Hospitals</i> | 22 | 9 | 198 | 484 | 81 |
| <i>Schools</i> | 17 | 8 | 136 | 289 | 64 |
| <i>Housing</i> | 28 | 4 | 122 | 784 | 16 |
| <i>Total</i> | 120 | 70 | 1,197 | 2,604 | 788 |

Therefore, judging from the table above, the value of the correlation is 0.014 indication positive correlation. This suggest that there is a significant relationship between political opportunities unities and socio-economic development hence the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The study discovered that the illusion of considering ethnicity is party politics as a way ofpromoting, equitable distribution of resources towards social economic development is not feasible because there are minority groups or subgroups who might not be fortunate to produce a leader at the strategic level.

Therefore they are practically neglected in terms of adequate government intervention. It was also discovered that the benefit of ethnicity in part politics of Nigerian political trend has equal negative consequences. In addition, the study discovered that through political leaders or ethnic enclave whole being relatively lackadaisical about developmental needs and desire in other places that are not their place of origin or not control by their party, the tendency of them not being there subsequently exposes the so called "home" to neglect too. This has been the reason why there is no even development in the state.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The challenge of socio-economic development in Nigeria revolves around the weakness of our political system. The study has revealed that the reason why

the people of Kaduna state and invariably Nigerian populace are suffering in spite of the huge and numerous human and material resources we have is because on political economy is not anchored on harmony and common purpose

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion Nigeria is a blessed country that should not or is not supposed to have socio-economic discrepancies of gargantuan proportion as it has now. But the trends in the political system that allows for prejudice and sentiment have put the country and specifically Kaduna state at the dreg of socio-economic challenges. How it is important to say that some parts are relatively at advantage but how does it benefit the whole? It actually does not hence this study recommend that the political system in Nigeria be revamped and fashioned to meet the standard of global practice. Political parties should be free from every element of ethnicity or religion as leaders of all and not their immediate ethnic group Candidates contesting election should be based on ability govern with fairness politic leaders regardless of where they come from should be magnanimous in victory and embrace and sundry in the spirit of unity having in mind that we all are Nigerians. This will guide the towards delivering the dividends of democracy to the people without of any form discrimination.

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