

The Roles of Libraries in Functional Education, National Economy, Security and Anti-Corruption Practices for Sustainable Development in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

This paper highlights the roles of libraries in functional education, national economy, security and anti-corruption practices for sustainable development in Nigeria. Tranquility and harmony evident in peaceful co-existence of people were identified as important features of peace, progress and national development. For a nation to experience good national economy, formidable security, corrupt free state as desired by United Nations via her policy in sustainable development, a functional education system needs to be set up. However, education system in any nation cannot attain its goal without a functional library.. The roles of library cannot be overemphasised in the area of provision of access to valid and relevant information to the citizens, creation of current awareness service, preservation of cultural heritage, agents of change in the society among others. In promoting functional education, libraries could play roles like, support for education and teaching and learning of skills. The aforementioned roles of the library. These include poor funding of libraries, high literacy rate, government attitude and policies, poor power supply, network fluctuation etc.

Keywords: *Impact, Library, Information Science, Sustainable, Development and Goals*

Introduction

Libraries are places where information services are rendered to users. In context of libraries, catering for the needs of the users ideally means provision of physical and bibliographic access to information sources. Though libraries are primarily set up to acquire, organize, store and make accessible to users within the shortest possible time, all forms of information materials which they require, the systemic organization, acquisition and dissemination of books and not merely labeling, distinguishes a library from either a reading room or a store house of books. When a library is adequate, a reader can pursue to its depth, a study of his choice. He can translate himself to whatever time and place. Besides, he becomes not servant of a given view, but

a master over an empire of knowledge. With proper preservation and storage, books endure as most work of man does not. They speak from one generation to another and provide the union of understanding that links the generation and cast our vision of life forward into a future we shall not see.

Library is a busy workshop where people of all ages share the experiences of many other persons by reading about their thoughts and achievements. The books on library shelves give us the ideas and facts that men have collected for thousands of years. Libraries also provide up to date information in all fields with collections of books, newspapers, pamphlets, photographs, etc.. Finding one certain book or monograph record in a library could seem like trying to find buried, treasure without a map. Therefore, libraries are organized to make it easy for us to find information quickly. We can all use the library for help in school

work, for aid in our daily jobs or for pleasure in our leisure time. Young people learn to use the library as part of their everyday school activities.

Brief overview of Education

Education has been noted as the bedrock for any meaningful and sustainable development. It is a tool through which a country's socio-economic, scientific and technological development is achieved. It is also an opportunity through which both individual, group or any nation is economically, socially, culturally and technologically empowered. Education is therefore, the instrument for empowering young people with knowledge and skills which provide them access to productive employment (National Planning Commission, 2013). In recognition of need for education, the Nigerian National Policy on Education (FRN-2004) noted that education is that process concerned with the transmission of worthwhile values; skills, and knowledge suitable for developing learner's potentials for national development. The policy statement further emphasized that education is the most important instrument for change (FRN, 2004). Emphasizing on the role of education Lawal & Wahab, (2011) noted that education is the most important tool for the teacher in the assignment society has bestowed on him.

Anaduaka & Okafor (2013) had equally noted that the major goal of education in any nation is to prepare its citizens for the responsible and productive adult life so as to enable them to function honestly, efficiently and effectively in the society in which they live. The philosophy of Nigerian education as provided in the National policy on Education (FRN: 2004) had emphasized that every child/citizen of the country "shall be provided with equal access to education in the country formal sector right from the primary, secondary to the tertiary levels.. Over the years, Nigerian governments have therefore taken some measures in ensuring an improvement in education so that education will provide the

function it is meant to provide for the society. It is for this reason that the country in 1976 launched the Universal Primary Education (UPE). Also, in 1990 Nigeria joined other countries, agencies and organizations such as UNESCO, UNDP, UNFPA, , UNICEF and the World Bank in adopting Education for All (EFA). Nigerian governments did not stop at this, as a practical demonstration of its commitment to the recommendations of EFA, the Universal Basic Education (UBE) programme was launched by the federal government in 1999, The UBE was to provide equal access to quality education for all, regardless of gender, ethnic or social background and geographical location. All these policies are in a bid to ensure that every citizen is literate and useful to the society.

The role of Library in promoting functional Education

These roles cover and supports the types and content of functional education as presented in Gumnut (2006) above. The roles are:Support for Education

As the level of education differs so are their levels of teaching and learning. The main role of library in education is provision of access to recorded knowledge/information to its community especially the formal education sector. Education will help enlighten the people from the primordial sentiments/thoughts that encourage ethnic/religious identify consciousness and enthrone national consciousness and identify. Therefore, libraries at the various levels of education provides information materials to support the curriculum of its parent institution, starting from school libraries that provides learning resources for both primary and secondary schools to academic libraries that provides tertiary materials for post-secondary/tertiary or higher institutions as it variously called. Universities have additional mandate of research, so university libraries provide current primary and secondary research materials to advance the course of research in the university. The public library is not left out as it is sometimes referred to as the "peoples' University this is because it

provides materials for the education of almost every segment of the society as it is holding sway in handling lifelong learning. Libraries provide materials on peace and conflict studies, civic education, sociology, psychology, religion and other general reading materials that help in enlightening and molding citizens' character, teaching them the right societal values etc.

Provision of Free Access to Information

Information is the key to advancement in the life of an individual or a people. It is one of the major difference between the haves and have-nots. Right information has the capacity of liberating a person from the shackles of ignorance and poverty, as it helps one to make or take the right decision per time. This information come in the form of human knowledge collected/generated, processed, preserved and disseminated in the right format to their various communities of service. Peace education entails passing on relevant information that will help prevent, manage and build peace in the world. People need to know what leads to conflict and the possible things to do.

Libraries provide various reading materials (information) that will enlighten the people thereby creating an informed society with little or manageable conflicts like ethno-religious conflicts witnessed mostly in less informed (developed) societies like Nigeria. Nelson Mandela as reported by Igwela and Nsirim (2018) says that "the more informed you are, the less aggressive and arrogant you are". Access to public information would go a long way in bridging communication gap between the government and its citizens, thus reducing agitations, protests and restiveness even when some selfish elites are fanning the embers. This gave rise to enactment of Freedom of information Act by several countries of the world over the years, with Nigeria joining on 28th May, 2011. But whether the Act is serving its purpose is not clear as the popularity and awareness seems to have died

down. Teaching of Information and Study Skills

Peace education is a global effort at creating a united and peaceful world through knowledge/information, it therefore entails handling with all seriousness. This is why libraries teach certain learning skills like information literacy and study skills to its users to enable them identify, access, evaluate information, develop skills and competencies in reading, writing, summarizing, paraphrasing, comprehension, critical thinking etc. The two skills are as discussed below:

Information Literacy Skills

Information literacy is a relatively new concept in the world of information. Bill and Tony (2005) described information literacy as a series of logical steps or stages involved in the process of acquiring and using information. Information literacy is not narrowed down only to the formal education system but rather as above authors submitted, has substantial relevance outside the formal education system, particularly in the workplace and in terms of democracy and citizenship. Every worker, trader, artisan always needs one information or the other to stay afloat their chosen careers or vocations. Across the world, libraries teach information literacy to users. The place of information in peace cannot be overemphasized. Adeogun (2006) was of the opinion that the value of information services in the present information dispensation is not possessing information but in providing access to it and more importantly in developing the organizational and technological capabilities in the end-user to be able to identify, access, sift and determine the validity of information, hence, libraries teaching of information literacy.

Study Skills

Study Skills are generally regarded as strategies and methods of motivated learning and it is often centered on reading and writing. According to Bill and Tony (2005) the term 'study skills' refers to the conscious and deliberate use of the processes

of learning to achieve effective study practices. The set of skills implied is large. The most obvious are: reading, writing, note-taking, time management, working with others, engaging in critical and analytical thinking, revising and remembering. It is a response to the notion of an 'information society' and provides potential frameworks and objectives for learning (bill and Tony, 2005). All these areas of study skills are all part of the content of peace education and are very important in good communication, both personal and inter-personal. When people have good skills, they can live peacefully with their neighbours.

Current awareness service/ Selective Dissemination of Information

This service is used by libraries to keep busy scholars and researchers abreast of latest information materials in their chosen field(s). Peace and conflict studies researchers and other interested scholars who identifies with their libraries are meant to give their profiles, indicating their areas of interest and the type of information and or materials they need as well as the mode of notification and delivery of the materials. This is a specialized library service. The library staff involved in this must be up and doing in conducting literature search especially from newly arrived library materials and deliver same to the researcher.

Preservation of Cultural Heritage

Preservation and conservation of cultural heritage had been the prime function of libraries especially, public and national libraries. Jabo and Bayero (2014) say that culture is a complex whole which include knowledge, beliefs, art, morals, custom and any other capacities and habits acquired by man as a member of a society. They argued that because of the place of culture in the society that sustainable democracy cannot be attained without preservation of the society's cultural heritage. Libraries, especially public and national have direct charge to collect and preserve works/materials embodying the cultural heritage of their communities in all available reach out to the public informing

them of the existence of various materials of their cultural heritage which has the capacity to enlighten their minds on the norms and value of their society.

Agent of Change in the Society

Change is about the only thing in life that is constant. Societies have evolved over the years of which Nigeria is not an exception. This change cuts across our national life to include political, social, economic and even cultural among others. For Jabo and Bayero (2014) the objective of every social change is to establish a new order, where all citizens can hope to obtain justice, liberty and equality. According to Olayemi, Olayemi and Abolarinwa (2018) by providing a wide variety of materials to support the educational and social needs of their community irrespective of their race, nationality, age, gender, religious and political inclinations, language, disability, economic and employment status and educational level, libraries perform social change roles. Materials on social justice, human rights, gender equality, politics, civic education, corruption, good governance, poverty eradication, national consciousness etc. and other related materials that will awaken the consciousness of the readers to a rebirth giving way to the old order that is dividing and deepening our conflict should be provided by libraries. These materials would help our democracy to be rooted thereby guaranteeing peoples freedom, improved well-being and paving way for sustainable peace.

Cultivating Reading Culture/Habit

This is particularly in the purview of school and public libraries through the soft and entertaining reading materials they provide for children. One of the major format information can be documented on is paper and the only way to decode that information or knowledge is through reading. Reading, therefore, is a very fundamental skill in learning. The state of literacy of any individual is usually measured by the person's ability to read and write: For Nwabueze and Iwekpeazu (2012) reading is

the foundation upon which other academic skills are built because through reading, information can be acquired which bridges the gap between knowledge and ignorance. Some Conflicts are caused by ignorance as well as wrong information. School libraries (libraries in primary and post primary schools) should make sure that their collections should cover various good soft materials on social studies, cross culture, literature, peace, value system, patriotism, national integration among others. That way they can have the opportunity to tutor the children on benefits of reading as well as guide them on how to study.

Outreach- Community Services

This will serve the information sector mostly. Libraries should play the role of extension workers, reaching out to the outside community. They should take the message of peace to the citizens outside the confines of the library by organizing seminars, talks, conferences (with pictures and in slide presentation-effective assimilation as the audience will be a mixed one covering people of diverse age of understanding), walks/road shows, concerts/drama, cultural exhibitions, workshops etc. A sustained outreach for peace would keep the people in constant consciousness of peaceful coexistence. National, public, academic and the library associations and some conflict/peace, citizenship and political orientated special libraries should galvanize stakeholders like Federal Ministry of information, National Orientation Agency, National Human Rights Commission, Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution, government officials, traditional rulers, religious bodies, organized private sector and different registered associations among others, operating in their various constituents/communities to carry out this for it to have the desired impact. Whatever programme they adopted should cover well prepared and delivered peace-related issues like human rights, political education, national integration and societal values among others. Through this, the library impacts knowledge, skills and attitude which

will equip the people to be peace builders. This process of peace building sees them through practical issues of conflict and deeper issues of relationships, human development, structural realities and re-orientate them by teaching them the right attitude to life and issues of life. Conflicts must be played down; giving its unacceptable and devastating consequences.

Overview of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Diploma of Sustainable Development Online (2012) refers to the term as the type of economic growth pattern where the uses of resources meet the needs of the human population while conserving the environment at the same time. Sustainable development means resources are used in a way that both current and future human needs can be met.

The Sustainable Development Guide Online (2012) also describes the term as the development that meet the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. According to Ukaga (2010) ask a sample of people about the term “sustainability” and you are likely to get a variety of answer representing diverse perspectives, experiences and circumstances. The author confirms that a “one size fits all” approach to sustainable development is inappropriate, ineffective and unnecessary. He stressed further scratch below the surface, however, and you will find that while there is a diversity of viewpoints on the concept of sustainable development, as well as special policy and practice options for achieving it, there is more agreement on some of its core principle such as: meeting basic human necessities fairly and efficiently; preserving options for both present and future generations to meet their needs; promoting community well-being based on broad participation and active citizenship; maintaining that diversity and productivity of nature: managing and utilizing resources with prudence and precaution; linking various aspects of sustainability(I e

economic, ecological and social); assuring accountability for all; avoiding or at least minimizing waste having a long term view; maintaining a holistic perspective; and fostering cooperation and shared responsibility.

Adebayo (2010) also maintains that the concept of sustainable development is the efforts at improving the environment or natural resources for the purpose of improving the quality of human life in such a way that the needs of the future generation are not jeopardized. To this end, sustainable development is the ability to preserve the existing resources of the state for the collective use of the citizen while conscious efforts are made to conserve the resource for the use of future generations.

SDGs are a 17 universal set of goals launched by the United Nation (UN). The SDGs were conceived in 2022 at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development held at Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. In the Conference, the UN General Assembly's Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG) was instituted with the mandate to propose a set of goals as strategy to tackle various development issues, ranging from ending poverty and hunger, improving health and education, making cities more conducive of "leaving no one behind" and "the future we want". In July 2014, the OWG presented the proposed SDGs to UN General Assembly which adopted it for implementation by all nations of the world from January 2016 to December 2030. The SDGs consists of 17 sustainable development goals, 169 targets and over 500 indicators. According to UN (2014) the SDGs are:

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and adequate nutrition for all, and promote sustainable agriculture.
3. Attain healthy life for all at all ages

4. Provide equitable and inclusive quality education and life- long learning opportunities for all.
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls everywhere
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable modern energy for all.
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resource for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystem, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Place of Library and Information Service in the Attainment of SDGs on Education

Libraries have long been crowned knowledge institution as they provide the public with spaces for information and learning. This space is accessible to all group of society, regardless of gender, age and ethnic affiliation (IFLA, 2023). This role of the library must be seen through the backdrop of the ability of well-informed citizens to exercise their democratic rights and to play an active role in society (Drotner, 2005). Libraries have rightfully staked their claim as gateways to participation in society through lifelong learning and information.

According to Bello (2004) library plays an important role in making educational objective achievable. Ochai (1995) observed that libraries have dissipated a lot of energy in the attempt to prove the central role the library should play in information for nation development. In Nigeria, for instance, "Library and information services to the grassroots" was the theme of the 1986 Conference of the Nigeria Library Association, Kaduna State Chapter while the paper presented at the 31st National Conference of the Association in 1993 were dominated by information provision roles of the library as the pivot around which development revolves and library, its vehicle.

Participants of IFLA Africa Section Seminar 2007 identified that libraries;

- i. Have an existing legal mandate and roles to provide information to all;
- ii. provide egalitarian service at no charge to end user;
- iii. have existing collaborative networks that enable them to share skills, resources and achieve economies of scale;
- iv. are involved in creation of repositories for local content.
- v. Knowledge library and information services have to generate financial resources; and There is clear need for knowledge library and information

services have potentially viable product that can help practitioner to provide information products and services that are relevant to the government and other service users including towards the realization of the SDGs. The seminar further identifies poor funding of all categories of libraries as the threats for the attainments of SDGs on education (IFLA, 2007). Restructure this section marked blue to bring out the meaning

Relationships between Libraries and the Sustainable Development Goals in National Development

Libraries achieve high value-added at the level of the institution, but of what value are they in the community for the attainment of the millennium development goals? This statement is not clear. The answer to these questions depends on what we think on libraries and the sustainable development goals. In classical terms, the purpose of national development is to attain increased productivity for economic growth. Economic growth presently, has not however, provided solution to rural exodus, marginalization of the weak, galloping urbanization, proliferation of shanty-towns, mass unemployment, increased poverty and spread of deadly diseases, etc. To be realistic, development efforts should be aligned with the current regional and global development strategies such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are multidimensional and lay emphasis on human development and sustainability (United Nations, 2002).

Concept of Corruption in Nigeria

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. Also, this phenomenon 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 mechanism 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 endeavors.

According to Olugbenga (2007), Odofin and Omojuwa (2007), the word corruption cannot easily be defined. Similarly, Ajibewa (2006), Falooore (2010) and Igbuzor (2008) cited in Egwemi (2012) maintains that corruption is not an easy task to define. Indeed, defining corruption is a daunting challenging venture. However, Andrig and Fjelstad (2001:4) view corruption as a “complex and multifaceted phenomenon with multiple causes and effects, as it takes on various forms and contexts”. According to them, one of the major difficulties in conceptualizing corruption is that while it is difficult to disappear it has a capacity to take on new forms (Andrig and Fjelstad, 2001). In a similar fashion, Tanzi (1998) maintains that while it is difficult to define corruption, the crisis associated with corruption is not difficult to recognize.

At the opening remarks on conference proceedings titled “Corruption and Governance Challenges in Nigeria” organized by CLEEN foundation Monograph series (2010), the chairperson, Ms. Farida Waziri, posits as follows: Etymologically, the word “corruption” comes from the Greek word “corruptions” meaning an aberration or we may say a misnomer.

The Transparency International has chosen a clear and focused definition of the term as “the abuse of entrusted power for private gain”. It can also be defined as a pervasion or change from the general accepted rules or laws for selfish gain (Farida, 2010). Public office is abused for private gain when an official accepts, solicits or extorts a bribe. It is also abused when private agents actively offer bribes to

circumvent public offices and processes for competitive advantages or profit.

In view of the above, Agbu (2003) observed that public office can be abused for personal benefit even no bribery occurs, through patronage and nepotism, the theft of state assets, or the diversion of state resources. Given this development therefore, corruption connotes any behavior that deviates from an established norm with regards to public trust whether the person concerned is elected, selected, nominated or appointed and it does not matter whether the person affected holds office or not since anybody can be corrupt.

Corruption Crusade in Nigeria

Corruption, overtime has been described as the bane of Nigerian development. The blame has been passed from one regime to another, be it military or civilian. Corruption has been described by some as being endemic in all governments. Different meanings have been assigned to corruption by different scholars. For Otite (1986:12), it simply means the pervasion of integrity or a state of affairs that is associated with bribery, favor or moral depravity. It has also been described as the loss of purity of the mind or actions. Obih (2008) defines corruption as depraved change from a sound to a putrid state, dishonest, open to bribe, not genuine etc. This seemingly insurmountable problem has impeded the country’s developmental strides overtime. Virtually every institution in the country has been pervaded by this monster, which does not know any social, cultural, gender or age barrier. For this reason, successive governments have tried to grapple with this evil in various ways.

A cursory look at military interventions in most third world countries Nigeria inclusive would reveal that one of the coup plotters’ core reasons for intervening in the politics of their countries is to check the scarlet threat of bribery and corruption which has undermined the development process of their countries. In Nigeria the first military incursion into

politics in 1966 was based on the war against corruption.

It has been observed that the root of Nigeria's political and economic underdevelopment since independence is the pervasiveness of corruption in public life. The Nigerian states in both its militarized and civilian forms have been quite busy in this concern over the fight against corruption. Corruption appears to be an institutionalized component of Nigerian economic, political and legal systems with very discernible yet subtle ways of manifestation. It has become one of the greatest obstacles to its national development. In form and practice, the control is largely sectoral, discriminatory and ineffective.

As corruption became institutionalized, it is steadily growing to be leviathan, which has given the country the unenviable award of being the most corrupt nation by Transparency International 2003. There are as a matter of fact, admirable provisions in our penal statutes, particularly the criminal and penal codes. Which not only make corruption and financial irregularities criminal but provide sanctions for their violation. This paper therefore takes a look at the anti-graft war and its contradictions in the country's developmental strides and how education will help to reduce it so that development will be assured in the country.

There is no problem in Nigeria that cannot be traced or linked to corruption; be it bad road network, epileptic power supply, the billions of money sunk into the sector notwithstanding, refineries not working at full capacity, although money spent on their turn-around is more than that needed to build a new one. It is the reason why public schools are crumbling and in different stages of despair because government officials responsible for them have stolen the funds meant for them to build a new one. to either build their own private schools or sent their children to expensive schools abroad. The establishment of expensive private

universities by both Obasanjo and Atiku as serving president and vice-president is traced to corruption. How else can one explain the presence of fake drugs in our pharmacies, in spite of NAFDAC and its efforts in curbing this evil? What justification can be made for the death traps that Nigeria highways have been known for when over N300bn has been purportedly spent on roads rehabilitation and maintenance by successive governments over the years? Can we ask why our hospitals have become more consulting rooms without adequate medical treatment? The cause of youth restiveness in the Niger Delta is corruption personified, as the region remained underdeveloped notwithstanding the massive wealth of the region as the people in the region are subjected to abject poverty in spite of the activities of palliative development agencies like OMPADEC and NDDC in the region.

Corruption is about evil and criminal, its existence and growth threaten the very fabric of the Nigerian society. In time past, the Nigerian public service had what was called financial instructions (FLS) and authority to incur expenditure (AIE) without which anybody could take one naira let alone one billion naira from the treasury of either the federal, state or local government. No one can send word to the central bank and collect money in flagrant breach of the financial rules. What went wrong? How did public officers loot treasuries? How did they launder money running into several billions? How did the money get moved out of bank vaults in to private account both within and outside the country? Who knocked out the rules? How did N300bn meant for road get under the control of one man, instead of being in the treasury or bank? What could be the reason why a serving inspector general of police would keep for himself N17 billion meant for the men and officers under his command, when the barracks across the country are inadequate and in appalling state of despair, with the working conditions of the men and officer in the force becoming a disgrace and

shame to Nigeria? Even the judiciary, the hope of the common man has not been spared of the influence of corruption. This is happening in a country where people are starving and wallowing in abject poverty in the midst of plenty. The bottom line is corruption. Corruption accordingly fails to see the necessity for its elimination. Thus Odegard (1959) contends that corruption is in a sense a product of the way of life of an acquisitive society where money talks where that which works is justify and where people are judge by what they have rather than what they are;

Anti-Corruption Efforts in Nigeria

The menace of corruption and the lack of effectiveness of the existing institutions to fight corruption prior to 1999 led to the establishment of the ICPC (2000) and EFCC Act (2004) and the Money Laundering (Prohibition) Act, 2004. These Acts made comprehensive provisions to prohibit the laundering of the proceeds of a crime an illegal act, provide appropriate penalties and expands the interpretation of financial institutions. It also provides scope of supervision of regulatory authorities on corrupt activities among others (Ademola, 2011). The establishment of these institutions has contributed significantly in combating those activities to the extent that it is the scorecard for assessing both the ICPC and the EFCC.

The Challenges of Corruption to Sustainable Development in the Fourth Republic

Fredrick cited in Alemika (2012) links corruption to “damage of public interests” which includes security. Likewise, Osoba (1996) cited in Alemika (2012) suggests that corruption may undermine society’s capacity to provide opportunities for citizens to meet the basic necessities of life. Other writers on corruption argue that corruption has beneficial effects (Alemika, 2012). Such benefits according to him, includes circumscribing bureaucratic red-tapism, redistribution of income; promotion of capital formation; etc.

However, the balance of the consequences of corruption is largely on the negative side. Corruption widens inequality, aggravates mass poverty, militates against efficient resource planning and allocation, undermines economic growth by discouraging investment; compromises economic efficiency; results in high governmental expenditures as a result of inflation of contracts and cost supplies. There is no doubt that corruption is poisonous to long term development and democracy (Alemika, 2012). The Nigeria’s 2011 Corruption Index by the EFCC maintains that Nigeria is certainly not immune to corruption. The damage of the scourge to the economy and the fabric of the society is seen in the schools that are not built, the hospitals without medicines, the roads that are not passable and the failure of our citizens to be inspired.

In Nigeria today, the greatest threat to corruption is impunity. Because of its sheer scale and level, corruption is no longer secret, it is celebrated (The Nigerian 2011 Corruption Index). According to Alemika (2012), corruption in Nigeria has endangered social, economic and political problems among others. The following are some of the ways corruption has threatened sustainable development in the Fourth Republic.

- Non-institutionalization of democracy, rule of law, human rights and economic development.
- High incidence of prevalence of conflict, violence, crime, insecurity and instability due to antagonistic competition, inequality, poverty and lack of access to basic necessities of life.
- Erosion of values of hard work and integrity.
- Lack of access to productive opportunities and diverting energies of youth to crime, deviance, violence and sundry forms of anti-social behaviour

- Low foreign investment because of corruption induced bureaucratic and other obstacles
- Lack of investment in the real sector by both foreign and domestic investors because of high profitability of contracts in service and supplies motivated by corruption
- Dependence on foreign sources for goods and services resulting in under development of indigenous technological and productive capabilities
- Leakages of national assets to foreign countries through money laundering and conspicuous consumption
- Misallocation of resources towards programmes and projects amenable to corrupt practices
- Perpetuation of patron-client relationships that undermine democracy, efficiency in public and private sectors
- High cost of doing business and low investment in productive sectors resulting to widespread poverty and unemployment, high prices of goods, low purchasing power resulting in low-capacity utilization by producers and manufacturers which in turn result to retrenchment of workers
- Political ethno-religious and communal conflicts and violence as different groups in the society struggle to control state power as avenue for corrupt enrichment and ability to disperse patronages to their cronies, relatives and associates
- Loss of public trust and legitimacy by the government
- Poor social welfare conditions as indicated in the table below

Challenges of Libraries in Promoting Education and other National challenges

From the foregoing, it is obvious that there are many challenges that hinder libraries from performing their role in

promoting functional education and other national challenges.

Some of the challenges include:

1. Poor Funding:

Nigerian educational system has been poorly funded over the years. Various Nigerian Governments have failed to allocate the minimum 26% budgetary allocation of the national budget to education as advised by UNESCO. This makes funding of libraries too low to cater for the needed resources. It is obvious that so many things in Nigerian schools are contending with the little fund allocated to them. For examples; there is NUC policy that 10% of every university budget should be allocated to the university library, but this is not done. This affects the libraries provisions of current and relevant information materials, including materials that will promote peace education. The poor funding of the education, could be as result of government's unacceptance of education as being a major enabler of any nation's development or lack of political will power.

2. High illiteracy rate:

According to UNESCO, 65 million Nigerians are illiterate and 10.5 million children of school age are out of school, Achitabwino (2007) said that the greatest barrier to information provision in Malawi by libraries for the promotion of democracy and socio-economic issues is high illiteracy rate, noting that most of the information is in print and over half of the population of Malawians cannot read and write, and that affects their national development. This situation is not quite different from what we have in Nigeria. In a lecture titled "youth, security and national development in Nigeria" delivered by the Emir of Kano, Muhammad Sanusi II, he blamed the Boko Haram insurgency and other security challenges across the country on poverty and poor ideology among youths due to lack of access to quality education, owing to bad governance and corruption. He warned that Nigeria may not be able to overcome certain threats to national security, unless the authorities address the twin issues of

ideology and lack of access to quality education (Madugba, 2018). This explains why countries with high literacy rates have very low rate of the kind of tolerable and avoidable crisis we have been experiencing all these years, whether religion, ethnic, or political. It therefore suffices to say that with continuous high illiteracy rate in the country getting people to read or comprehend concepts, tolerate others, communicate effectively, critically analyze information will not yield good results.

3. Non impactful Government:

Government and its agencies including religious bodies, and other stakeholders in the promotion of peace are not doing enough to preach the message of peace through the libraries. Perhaps, they did not see what libraries can do to promote peace. The message of our core national values is not well taught as it ought to be because of failed agents of socialization. The library can actually help in promoting peace education, if they are carried along by relevant stakeholders.

4. Poor Reading Culture:

There is this popular saying by the white men that “if you want to hide anything from a black man you put it in a book”. This implies that we don’t read. Poor Reading Culture has in the recent past become a disheartening issue in Nigeria. One thing is providing the needed materials. Scholars have advanced some factors responsible for poor reading culture, among which are poor home environment, poor implementation of government policies, poor funding of education sector, poor library facilities including reading materials, change in value system among the youths, inexperienced class teachers, inexperienced library officers, absence of library hour in curriculum, non-teaching of use of library especially in primary and post primary schools among others. Worst situation is this era use of ICT where everybody is on go with the internet enabled devices. Social media is taking lots of productive times of our youths who engage in chats where cut and paste

abbreviations are used. They find it difficult these days to sit down and read fairly voluminous books, if libraries acquire relevant peace promoting materials and they are not read by the patrons, this will certainly affect the libraries effort of promoting peace in the society.

Conclusion

In conclusion, tranquillity and harmony evident in peaceful co-existence of people were identified as important features of peace, progress and national development. It was also seen that democracy has the capacity to keep a people relatively peaceful particularly in a multi-faceted country like Nigeria, but despite the practice, democracy, the conflicts, crisis, insecurity break down of law and order from 1999 till now is unbearable. The crisis situation across the world necessitated the functional education initiative to educate citizens of the world towards a united and peaceful world by inculcating necessary conflict and peace management related skills, knowledge and attitudes to the people. It was also shown that in promoting peace education, libraries could play roles like, support for education, teaching of skills, current awareness services, preserving of cultural heritage among others as already discussed. However, libraries face some challenges in performing these roles like, poor funding of libraries, high literacy rate etc.

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