

RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Lingering Challenges of Underdevelopment in Africa's and Nigeria: The Root Causes, Impacts and Panacea

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Abstract

The underdevelopment of Africa's and Nigeria is neither natural nor solely caused by internal contradictions, such as corruption, bad leadership, embezzlement of public funds as argued by some political science scholars even though the aforementioned internal factors plays a very devastating roles on the issue of underdevelopment in Africa. However, Andre G. Frank argued that the Europe and Africa's were developing at a different pace, until the Europe came and distorted the development of Africa, the idea which Frank called development of underdevelopment in Africa. Nevertheless, it is germane to expose the fact that the underdevelopment of Africa's and Nigeria was caused or could be traced to internal and external factors such as bad leadership, corruption and highhandedness etc. as the internal factors on one hand, and slavery, colonialism and imperialism, deceptive politics of exploitation of Africa's surplus values as the external factors on the other hand. However, this paper examined the external causes of underdevelopment in Africa's and Nigeria, and examined the pattern or process through which the Europe underdeveloped Africa's and Nigeria. This paper adopted the relative deprivation theory as a model to explaining how Africa's and Nigeria were deprived of her development, and how her resources were exploited by the Europe, hence, underdevelopment of Africa's and Nigeria. This paper also adopted the secondary methods of data gathering, as valuable data were retrieved from articles, textbooks, newspapers and internets materials, as those data collected are used to validate the arguments of this study. This paper finally proffers sustainable solutions on how to fall out of the devastating challenges of underdevelopment ravaging Africa's and Nigeria.

Keywords: Underdevelopment; deprivation; exploitation; Africa's; Nigeria; Europe; colonialism; slavery

Introduction

It is very germane to note that association of men which is naturally characterized by exploitations and threat is inevitable, as threat and exploitation has always reflected in the actions of men in their relations with other men, either at individual relations level, group relations level and or countries relations level. Aristotle posits that no man is a highland; it has being in the character of men to associate with one another. He therefore submits that man is by nature a political animal (Aristotle, 384 BCE- 322 BCE). Associations of men and nations has always depict one forms of threat or the other as conflict, deprivation and exploitation has always reflected in the relations of men and nation with other men and nations respectively. It was on this bases that Hans Morgenthau argued that in the relations of state (countries) with one another, power is necessary to protect every state national interests, and therefore argued that all states should seek power (Military, economic and diplomatic Capability) at all time in order to protect their interests (Morgenthau, 1948). As analyzed in Uhou Jerry in relations to Morgenthau submission, O.B.C Nwolise submits that politics whether national or international, ultimately and fundamentally the struggle for mind and resources of men and nation. He argued further

that, in the struggle, the gladiators often used all methods to win, including deception, as those countries that are deceived lose freedom, power and resources and grow lean while those countries that deceived them gain those valuables and grow fat (See Uhou, 2014).

States had naturally come in contact with one another, either on friendly relations, or hostile one through the activities of slavery and colonialism as experienced by many African states in the past. It was on this ground that the realists like Morgenthau, George F, and Clausewitz argued that war, deprivation and conflict is inevitable in human nature. However, the underdevelopment of Africa's and Nigeria in particular was not by natural occurrence, and not by internal complexities only as argued by some scholars even though internal complexities such as corruption, bad leadership, highhandedness, tribalism and religion segregation etc. were seen as the major contributors to the lingering underdevelopment of Africa's and Nigeria. On this basis was why Ayittey argued that local system of governance: excessive state intervention and associated corruption of institutions at all levels from the police and judiciary to the highest branch of government are the causes of underdevelopment in Africa (Ayittey, 1992 in Oluwasuji, 2010). Nevertheless, the underdevelopment of Africa's and Nigeria was primarily

caused by external factors such as slavery, colonialism and imperialism and the deadly exploitations that characterized them. In relation to the above, Oluwasuji argued that the root cause of underdevelopment in Africa's and Nigeria are pernicious effect of slavery, racist conspiracy plots, colonialism and imperialism and exploitations by the various multinational corporations, an unjust international economic system and inadequate flow of foreign and deteriorating terms of trade (Oluwasuji, 2010). Nevertheless, Rodney argued that the exploitation of Africa's surplus values (Resources), was not the major problem but the moving away of the values by the Europeans to European land (Rodney, 1972). Those values that would have been used to develop Africa's and Nigeria were moved to foreign land; Andre G. Frank called it development of underdevelopment (Frank, 1989). Ali Mazuri as argued in Alabi argued that almost everything that has gone wrong in Africa is the fault of western colonialism and imperialism which harmed indigenous technological development and caused the infrastructure e.g. roads and railways to collapse. He also argued that the political decay, decay in law enforcement and mismanagement of funds were all the fault of western colonialism (See Alabi, 1989:187).

The above act of exploitations of Africa's and Nigeria's surplus values by the Europe during the period of slavery, colonialism, and even after, serves as a great threat and challenges on Africa's and Nigeria Economic, political and social condition at large. Relations of countries with one another indeed were marked extremely naturally by threats, exploitations, conflicts and deceptive politics. However, at this juncture, it will be expedient to explain with a theoretical framework how Africa's and Nigeria contact with Europe in the past was marked with high rate of exploitation, hence underdevelopment of Africa and Nigeria.

Relative Deprivation Theory

The relative deprivation theory originated from Samuel Stauffer and Colleagues (1949), in sociological work, the American soldier. However, such theory had variously been applied in various scholarly works. Relative deprivation explains the lack of resources to sustain the diet, lifestyle, activities and amenities that an individual or group are accustomed to or that are widely encouraged or approved in the society to which they belong. Measuring relative deprivation allows an objective comparison between the situation of the individual or group compared to the rest of the society. Relative deprivation may also be traced to the individual experience of discontent when being deprived of something to which one believed oneself to be entitled. It is a term used in social sciences to describe feelings of measure of economic, political, or social deprivation that are related rather than absolute

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Relative deprivation as analyzed above explains the lack of resources to sustain the diet, lifestyle, activities and amenities that an individual or group are accustomed to. However, Africa's and Nigeria in particular had been made to lose her resources needed to sustain her diet, lifestyle, activities and amenities that would have sustain Africa's and Nigeria, keep their country economy, politics and social activities moving, hence underdevelopment. Africa's situation when compared with other nations such as the Europe, America, Asian etc. Mostly in terms of economic and political development, one will realized the fact that Africa's are less developed. The African's and Nigeria's super structure and the sub-structure are experiencing backwardness. Africa's and Nigeria in particular suffers all of the above because of the deprivation leveled on Africa's years back during colonialism, slavery and imperialism. After Africa's and Nigeria have being deprived by the colonial masters of the opportunity to utilize their resources, as these resources were exploited by the colonial masters, and was moved out of Africa's land to the European land to developed European economy, while Africa's and Nigeria's economy suffers underdevelopment at large. The deprivation, as in exploitation of Africa's surplus value is not the problem, but moving away those values to foreign land was the major problem (Rodney, 1962). Africa's traditional political system was obstructed as the colonial masters super imposed their own English political system which allows the Europeans opportunity to govern, and also allows them unbridled access to Africa's resources. At the long run, after Africa's independents, Africa's and Nigeria economy was already dependent on European economy and was greatly influenced by the Europe, hence Africa's and Nigeria's underdevelopment.

Conceptual Clarification

Introduction

Countries' economies differ in terms of how standard they are. However, Guru posits that "all economies of the world are not equally developed. Some are more developed and advanced than others. Therefore, the economies of the world have been classified into developed economies and underdeveloped economies (Guru, 2019). He went further that, previously, the underdeveloped economies were called backward economies while the developed economies were known as advanced economies. However, the term backward and advanced are now considered unsatisfactory and misleading. Therefore, the terms developed and underdeveloped began to be used in place of advanced and backward" (Guru, 2019). What then is development or developed countries?

Development

Development is a universal concept, and has become very important in the last two hundred years; it has acquired greater importance since the end of the Second World War

(Agagu, 2004). Despite its indisputable importance, it has equally acquired various meanings, orientations and values (Oluwasuji, 2010). However, to give an all-inclusive definition of the concept development has been highly challenging, but nevertheless, the liberalism and the neo-liberalism school of thought equates development with economic growth. According to Mimiko (1997) in Oluwasuji (2010) "this school of thought perceives growth as being synonymous with development, while macro-economic indices are used to measure development. The increase in the Gross National Product (GNP), Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and Per-Capital Income (PCI) is therefore tantamount to economic development. Contrary to the above, Mimiko contends that mere increase in the macro-economic indices does not translate to development, but a concrete transformation in the socio-economic and political lives of the masses which will mean increase in the standard of living of the citizens" (Mimiko, 1997:1 in Oluwasuji, 2010). Rodney argued that, to give the definition of the concept development from the perceptions of increased in a country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), her Gross National Income (GNI), Per-Capital Income (PCI) and Advancement in Industrialization only not make a country developed. Nevertheless, Rodney posits, to perceived development in a country, such country must have embarked on massive provision of social amenities and essential services, in such a way that the citizens have access to those amenities in a way that will enhance livelihood and guarantee high standard of living of the citizenry in the country. Rodney in consonance with his above argument posits that development is a many-sided involving individualism, social stratification/castes, and the society at large. This development is represented in the context of increased skill, greater freedom, creativity, self-discipline, and responsibility, and material well-being. This paper in relations to the contention of Rodney argued that development implies security of lives of citizens in all ramifications of lives, which includes the governmental provisions of the basic needs of lives including protection of lives and properties which will enhances livelihood, increase citizen's standard of living, and guaranteed the citizens of freedom from fear and freedom from want. Development should signify in the lives of citizens, as citizens should be first developed before the physical community.

Underdevelopment

Giving a concise definition of the word underdeveloped country will be so difficult. Nevertheless, let us consider the definitions of some scholars. As analyzed in Guru Supriya. He posits according to the United Nations experts "an underdeveloped country is one in which Per-Capital real income is low when compared with the Per-Capital real income of the United States of America, Canada, Australia and Western Europe (Cited in Guru, 2020). kwatiah, posits that Eugene Stanley argued that an

underdeveloped country is "a country that is characterized by mass poverty which is chronic and not the result of temporary misfortune, obsolete method of production and social organization, which means that the poverty is not due to poor natural resources and hence could presumably be lessened by methods already proved in other countries". As analyzed in Kwatiah, the planning commission of India argued that underdeveloped country is one "which is characterized by the co-existence in greater or lesser degree, of unutilized or under-utilized manpower on the one hand and of the unexploited natural resources on the other hand" Prof. Jacob Viner is of the position that an underdeveloped country is "a country which has good potential prospects for using more capital or more labour or more available natural resources or all of these, to support its present population on higher level of living or if its Per-Capital Income level is already fairly high, to support a large population on a not lower level of living". According to Bauer and Yamey, in Kwatiah, they argued "the term underdeveloped countries usually referred loosely to countries or regions with level of real Income and Capital per head of population which are low by standards of North America, Western Europe and Australia"(Cited in Kwatiah, 2019).

However, the positions of scholars above signify countries bedeviled by poverty, not as a result of lack of natural resources or human resources, but the inability to properly manage or utilizes the available resources to the advancement of the livelihoods of the citizenry on one hand and to the betterment of the State as a whole. Nevertheless underdevelopment can be define as the inability of any country to judiciously and properly manage the resources of the country, in midst of abundant natural and human resources, either due to colonialism and imperialism earlier experienced, or factors such as bad leadership, corruption, highhandedness, embezzlement of public funds, Religious segregation, ethnic bigotry and visionless leadership, which had starved the country of essential and social amenities, technological advancement and high rate of industrialization. The above definition is mostly applicable to the Africa's and Nigeria underdevelopment.

National Security

The concept national security and its definition depend on individual perceptions. However, Mbachu (2012) argued that it has to do with the security of the entire citizenry in all ramifications of lives. Nevertheless, Imobigbe (1987) argued that "security implies the freedom from or the absence of those tendencies which could undermine internal cohesion and the corporate existence of the nation and its ability to maintain it vital institution. He argued further that national security is reoffered as a conscious effort to achieve freedom from danger and national ability, values, legitimate interest and enhances the well-being of the people". Mbachu (2012), contends that national security has to do with the security of the entire citizenry in

all ramifications of life's that covers health, economy, education, good government, food technology, environment, political etc. As the police, immigration, customs, and civil defence organizations are charged with the responsibility of maintaining internal security". This paper posits that the argument of both scholars above are all encompassing, and have really signifies the meaning of national security in its broader sense. Nevertheless, National Security is the primary responsibility of every government, as clearly specify in section 14(2b) of the constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria. It has to do with the protection of lives and properties on one hand, and the guarantee of citizen's welfare through the provision of the basic needs of lives on the other hand. In other word, ensuring freedom from fear and freedom from want.

The Nexus between Development, Underdevelopment and National Security

The concept underdevelopment can be seen in the wider sense of it, as the decrease in a state or country's Gross National Income (GNI), her Gross National Product (GNP), her Per-Capital Income (PCI), with less advancement in her level of industrialization, also when her government is not able to give to her citizens the basic needs of lives, social amenities that will guaranteed and enhances high standard of living in a country. However, when viewed from the opposite, that is, when government or country is able to give the basic needs of lives to her citizens, and or experienced increase in her GNI, GNP, PCI and with high level of industrialization, then such country can be said to have developed, and in the real sense of it, any country that experiences increase in her GDP, GNI, PCI, and able to provide the basic needs of lives to her citizens on one hand, and social amenities on the other hand, then such country is certainly developed and secured. Mcnamara argued that security is not military capability only, even though it includes it, but should be seen from advancement in a nation economic condition and her citizen's welfare, and he ends up equating security with development (Mcnamara, 1968).

"How Europe Underdeveloped Africa's" and Nigeria.

In analyzing "how Europe underdeveloped Africa's" and Nigeria, one has to trail through history, as there is a danger in neglecting history. However, in assessing Africa's and Nigeria political economy of security, there is also a danger in neglecting history. As analyzed by Andre G Frank, he argued that Africa's and Europe were developing at a different pace, until the Europe came and distorted the development of Africa's through slavery, colonialism and imperialism and the exploitation that characterized it. He argued further that the underdevelopment of Africa's was neither natural, nor by internal contradictions, but was caused by the Europe. Frank called it the underdevelopment of development (Frank, 1989). As argued by Tedheke, he submits that after

the invading of the American Indians prior 1644, in which they were captured as twenty five million American Indians killed, their land was taken over by the American white on the claims that they were lazy. The American Indians were used as machines on the farm land and in the industries. They were called not slaves but indentured savant (Tedheke, 2016). When the Americans discovered that the indentured savants were not enough to work on their industries and farm land, and with the advancement in technology which led to the cyclical industrial revolution in Europe around 20s, 30s to 70s, and based on the fact that the then capitalist in Europe were ignorant of how to run an industries, with their idea of paying starvation wages to the proletariats (workers) who were in-turn not able to possess the demanding power (Effective Demand) to buy their goods which greatly led to the drop in profit (Tedheke, 2016).

In regards to the above, they have to look for market, raw materials and cheap labour elsewhere. That was what brought the Europeans to the coast of Africa's. It was reported that Vasco Dogama was the first to discover the coast of Africa (Tedheke, 2016). Nevertheless, the Portuguese in the 16th century were the first to engage in the Atlantic slave trade in 1526, before the British came, as slaves were sold to work on coffees, tobacco, cocoa, sugar and cotton plantation, gold and silver mines, rice field, the construction industries, cutting timber in ships as skilled labour and as domestic servant, while the first Africans kidnapped to the English colonies were classified as indentured servants (Mannix, 1962). Earlier before the start of the slavery, Europeans started studying Africans and realized that Africans were very strong, as they now concluded on enslaving Africans. As submitted, God-Martin argued that 500 million Africans were moved to Europe and America for slavery, while 400 million died (Cited in Tedheke, 2016). Weber also argued that about 12 million to 12.8 million Africans was shipped across the Atlantic over a span of 400 years (Weber, 2015). As at 19th century, about 30 percent of all slaves sent across Atlantic came from Nigeria. Over 3.5 million slaves were shipped from Nigeria to America (Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.). Equally, the transatlantic slave trade resulted in a vast and as yet still unknown loss of life for African captives both in and outside the Americas, approximately 1.2 to 2.4 million Africans died during the transportation to the new world (BBC News, 2007). More also died soon after their arrival (BBC News, 2007). Over the 400 year period of slavery, between 100 million and 200 million slaves died on the sea and was thrown overboard (Michel, 1994).

Those abled bodied Africans that would have contributed in developing African land were taken into slavery. A lot of resources such as cocoa, copper, gold, silver, tin, diamond, coal, iron, zinc, mercury, cobalt, magnesium, rubber, cotton etc. Were exploited from Africa's and Nigeria, and were moved to Europe and America during slavery and colonialism. Exploitation of the above values

is not the problem but the moving away of those resources or values to foreign land (Rodney, 1972). After the chattel slavery, the Europeans concluded on the idea of total colonization, invading the coast of Africa with the idea of partitioning Africa among Europe and America as signed in the treaty of Westphalia (1844). This period was marked with exploitations of Africa’s surplus values (Resources), dissolution of the traditional political systems of Africans that were in place before the emergence of colonialism. In Yoruba land the system was called the kinship system, in Igbo it was called the age grade system (Accepharlus), and in Hausa land, it was called the Emirate system (Conservative), while the colonial masters super imposed their foreign rule on Africans (Anyaele, 1994). The economy and political system of Africa’s and Nigeria was badly affected, hence Africa’s underdevelopment. Slaves during the chattel slavery period were distributed across the world in numbers as showed below.

Table 1.0 Table showing the distribution of slaves from 1519- 1867
Destination
percentage

Portuguese America	38.5 percent
British West Indies	18.4 percent
Spanish Europe	17.5 percent
French Americas	13.6 percent
British Atlantic Colonies/ United States	9.7 percent
Dutch West Indies	2.0 percent
Danish West Indies	0.3 percent

Source: Stephen (1999)

Note: The number of the African’s who arrived in each region is calculated from the total number of slaves imported, about 10,000.00 including British Guiana and British Honduras (Curting, 1972). Nevertheless the European abolitionist, most prominently Dr David Livingston argued that the fragile local economy and societies of Africa were being severely harmed by the trade (Curting, 1972). However, let us check the world population in millions and percentage as at that period and after, and see how slavery had affected Africa’s development till today.

World Population in Millions and its Major Area

Table 2.0
Year 1750 1800 1850
1900 1950 1999

World	791	978	1,262	1,650	2,521	5,978
Africa	106	107	111	133	221	767
Asia	502	635	809	947	1,402	3,634
Europe	163	203	276	408	547	729

Latin America and Caribbean	16	24	38	74	167	511
Northern America	2	7	26	82	172	307
Oceania	2	2	2	6	13	30

Source: (UN Population Division, 2016)

World population by percentage distribution **Table: 3.0**

Year	1750	1800	1850	1900	1950	1999
World	100	100	100	100	100	100
Africa	13.4	10.9	8.8	8.1	8.8	12.8
Asia	63.5	64.9	64.1	57.4	55.6	60.8
Europe	20.6	20.8	21.9	24.7	21.7	12.2
Latin America and The Caribbean	2.0	2.5	3.0	4.5	6.6	8.5
Northern America	0.3	0.7	2.1	5.0	6.8	5.1
Oceania	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5

Source: (UN Population Division, 2016)

In consonance with the above statistics, Rodney argued that at the beginning of the slave trade in the 16th century, although there was a technological gap between Europe and Africa, it was not very substantial. He argued that both continents were using Iron Age technology. He went further that the major advantage the Europe had was on the ship building. Rodney argued, during the period of slavery, the population of the Europe and the Africa’s grew exponentially, while the population of Africans remained stagnant. Rodney argued that, the profits from slavery were used to fund economic growth and technological advancement in Europe and America (Rodney, 1972).

At the agitation for self-governance by Africa’s and Nigerian leaders, they were granted political independence at different time respectively, as Nigeria gain her independence on October 1st 1960, but without gaining economic independence. It is expedient to note that political independent was truly granted, but without independence in the sphere of economy as the Europeans and America had converted the economy of Africa’s and Nigeria to depend on or appears being subordinate to European economy through their deceptive game of systematically restructuring Africa’s economy by dividing the global system between the producer of primary product (producer of raw materials), and the producer of secondary product (producer of finished goods), and also determined the price for both exchange (Mimiko,1997). They buy the raw materials from Africa’s and Nigeria at a cheaper price (buyer’s market), shipped them to Europe. After transforming it to finished goods, they bring them back to African’s and Nigeria in particular and sell at exorbitant prices (seller’s market) (Oluwasuji, 2010). They were able

to determine both exchanges based on the fact that they are the designer of the global system, and they also determine the relations of states there in, being the most powerful nations of the globe. Buttressing the above, Prof OBC Nwoli argued thus:

“politics whether national or international, ultimately and fundamentally the struggle for mind and the resources of men and nations, in the struggle, the gladiators often uses all methods to win including deceptions, those nations that were deceived loose freedom, power and resources and grow lean, while those nations that deceived them gain those valuables and grow fat” (Cited in Ohou. 2014).

Alabi (1989:187) also submits that “Africa’s present crisis of development have their roots in colonialism. Despite the fact that Africa account for over 28% of the total value of world mineral production and 22%-95% in ten of the sixteen important non-metallic minerals including chime and uranium, the continent remains dependent and underdeveloped. The country inherited dependency and underdevelopment which turned the continent that had at periods in history housed the great civilization of Egypt, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Zimbabwe into a symbol of destitution, hopelessness and deprivation”. He went further that “colonialism not only ensures that Africa inherited underdevelopment but also ensure the perpetuation of this underdevelopment, having been incorporated into the capitalism network. Africa has continued to provide raw materials, market and labour to boost rapid industrialization in the west a situation where international trade has become the essential mechanism for the siphoning away African surplus value to develop the west (Alabi, 1989:187,188).

The activities of the multinational and the trans-national companies such as Shell Petroleum, Chevron, UAC, Leventis, leaver brothers etc. was also used to distort the economic development of Africa’s and Nigeria. When the European capitalist discovered that, shipping the finished product from Europe and America to Africa’s and Nigeria will cost them extra capital that will invariably affect their profit, and seeing Africa’s and Nigeria in particular as the best market for their goods, they now decided to ship the entire industries to Africa. Such idea in-turn led to more appropriation of capital and increase in profit (Mimiko, 1997). The activities of those European and American multinational industries were used to cripple the Africa’s and Nigeria’s infant industries.

We also cannot but lay emphasis on the implications of the international financial institutions owned, designed and established through the Britton wood treaty of 1944. It is factual to note that none of the African states was a signatory to the treaty that established the Bretton wood institutions as most of the African states were still under colonialism. This institutions were designed to cater for those western states that were just been relief of the hardship of World War 11. International monetary fund (IMF) was established to serve and relief those states in the areas of balance of payment deficit, while the international bank for reconstruction and development (IBRD), was

established to serve those states in the areas of reconstruction and rehabilitations e.g. Transportation, Agriculture, Technology, Communication, Industrialization etc. (Mimiko, 1997). Just since 1979, according to Onimode, the IMF and the World Bank had turned to Africans in rendering financial assistant to the trapped developing states, with their arming and deceptive conditionality’s (Onimode, 1992). The game is that the Europe convinced African states that the only way to get out of their backward economic challenges is to run to IMF and World Bank for assistance with their deceptive conditionality’s of e.g. di-subsidization, trade liberalizations, deregulations, reduction of civil servants and their salaries, spending less on social amenities etc. These actions has invariably impacted the economy of the African states as it has put them in long time debt trap, hence underdevelopment (Mimiko, 1997). The western industrialized states, especially the United States of America are more favored by the practice of weighed voting in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Governing Board and World Bank: while the right to veto decisions is accorded to it five established members by the United Nations Organizations Security Council. Seen in this light, the two global financial organizations IMF and the World Bank are certainly for the perpetuation of political and economic dominance of the strong and rich against the poor and the weak states of the World (Umeonyirioha, 2020).

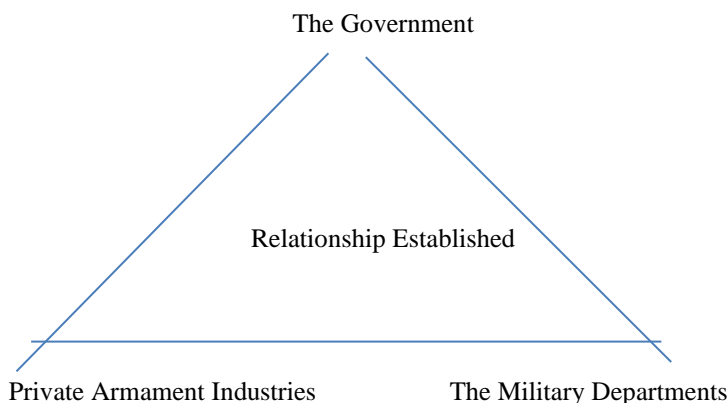
The African culture had also been made to depend on the European and American culture, as most of the developing states citizenry no longer buy and use product related to their culture, or produced in their own countries, as they prefer that of foreign. The fact that African citizens have emulated foreign ideologies in areas such as dress, videos, films, languages etc. was why Dr Bayo Fasunwon of the department of political science, AAUA argued that globalization is the coming of Anti-Christ. Over reliance on imported things is one of the major problems of Africans as argued by Patrick Lumumber Jr. Sincerely speaking, psychologically, technologically and security wise, slavery, colonialism and imperialism has negatively affected the African States and Nigeria in particular, thereby making them underdeveloped and hence insecure. It was the accumulation of capital realized by the European and American capitalist, and the fact that they could not spent all on the production industries that made the capitalist diverted part of their capitals to armament industries, after which they convinced African States to spend on defence instead of spending on economy so that the capitalist can make their money on armament businesses (Tedheke, 2016). The fact that the responsibility of every government is to protect the lives and properties of her citizenry as stipulated in the 1999 constitution of the federal republic of Nigeria, section 14 (2b), and the inability of African governments to live up to their constitutional expectations, as they have failed in giving the basic needs of lives to her citizenry, which has gave birth to so many criminal act by the citizens, as citizens

now saw criminalities as the only way to survive, haven being placed on frustration by their government, (Osewa, 2019). African government in other to tackle the menace of crime and insecurity in their various states now adopted the idea of spending more on security, while the economy is left in abeyance to suffer great underdevelopment, and this was what led to the preponderance of defence over economy in Africa, and pave way for the relationship between African government, their defence and the American and European armament industries, hence military industrial complex.

Military Industrial Complex

The United States of America and other countries of the world have all adopted the idea of military industrial complex, as the military could not be left alone on the issue of armaments, war and security. Due to the expansion in

war and security institutions, and as security challenges are becoming complex, there was the need for the involvement of private armament industries in the issue of war and security. The military industrial complex is a nation’s military establishment, as well as the industries involved in the production of armaments and other military materials (History.Com Editors, 2018). Military industrial complex can be seen as the relationship that occur between a government, its army or defence department and a private armaments industry on the production of military ammunitions and weaponry. It was such relationship that led to the establishment of weaponry Industries like The Defence Industries Corporation of Nigeria, in Kaduna (DICON), established by an act of parliament in 1964 (Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.).



Source: The author, (2020)

Weber argued,” it is the network of individuals and institutions involved in the production of weapons and military technologies. He went further that the military industrial complex in a country typically attempts to marshal political support for continued or increased military spending by the national government” (Weber, 2020). The diagram below shows the relationship and depicts what military industrial complex implies.

Brief History of Military Industrial Complex in America

“Dwight D. Eisenhower, a five star general and the commander of the Allied Forces 6. during the World War 11, who serves as two times president of United States coincided with an era of military expansion history. Rather than draw down its troops, as it had after world war 11, the US military kept a large standing army after the Korean War ended in 1953, and maintained a high level of military preparedness due to the ongoing Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. Private companies that after past wars had gone back to civilian production, kept manufacturing armaments, producing increasingly

sophisticated weapons in an arms race with the Soviets. Despite, or perhaps because of his own experience with wars, Eisenhower worried about the nation’s military growth, and the escalation of the Cold War, throughout his presidency. He tried to cut budgets for military services during his presidency, thereby, upsetting many in the Pentagon”(History.Com Editors, 2018). The expansion of the idea of military industrial complex in the world has become a world challenges, the threat of war among nations is becoming multiplied and had also enhances the preponderance of small arms and light weapons among citizens of all states, as social vices, and or armed crime among the people is becoming more enhanced, and calling for increase criminalities amongst the citizenry. However, let us go back to colonialism and the policies that characterized the period. During colonialism and imperialism in Nigeria, the British government adopted particular policies with which they govern Nigeria as at then.

The British Nigerian colonial economic policies in Nigeria

At the early period of colonialism in Nigeria was a period when the British and other European states had contact and control over the African states, and Nigeria in particular. For Britain” it means a redefinition of her imperial strategies (Ikime, 1972 and Aghalino, 1993 in Adeyeri and Adejuwon, 2012). It is a fact that the economy of Nigeria is suffering from the challenges of underdevelopment. Such challenges indeed could be traced to the era of slavery, colonialism and imperialism with the British policies, in which the adverse effect of such had being economic backwardness that have invariably, gave birth to the underdevelopment in Nigeria. It was analyzed in Adeyeri and Adejuwon, that “Okwudiba Nnoli, Inyang Efeng, Bade Onomode, CC Onyemelikura and Eskor Toyo, are by far the best and most educative authors that has address the issue of colonial Nigeria economic policies and underdevelopment”(Aghahowa and Ukpebo, 1999: 149 in Adeyeri and Adejuwon, 2012). The “incorporation of African peasant producers into the world market has typically been seen as one of the most successful colonial policies, removing millions of Africans from the comfort and stability of subsistent and exploitative world market. The perception has been sustained largely by the discourse of dependency, underdevelopment, and allied concepts, which denote the systematic subjugation of raw material producers to the force and vagaries of the world market (Adeyeri and Adejuwon, 2012).

In respect to the above, the depression experience in Africa represents a deepening of the incorporation of African producers into the world market (Up Cit). As submitted by Tamuno (1980:395), to secure central direction of policy and pool economic resources, the British government from 1898 adopted the policy gradually in its various administrative units in Nigeria. The government at the time did not seek the views of Nigerians to ascertain whether or not they favored such an amalgamation. The British officials involved in formulating and executing the policy of amalgamation were convinced that through it they would obtain a convenient and political means of securing firm administration. During the colonial period, British dominated the Nigerian market through their viral and pro-active policies. The policy of the colonial government in Nigeria was in favor of protectionism, as the process started during ww1 and reaches its apogee in ww11. In 1917, for example, the colonial government imposed a total ban on the export palm oil from Nigeria, except to the United Kingdom. Between 1919 and 1922, the colonial government also imposed highly discriminative duties on palm kernel from Nigeria, with the intention of emphasizing the 1917 ban (Adeyeri and Adejuwon, 2012). There were also policies made by the colonial government to create beneficial infrastructure, such as good roads, railways, power, etc. That was temporal, only to enhances the moving of natural resources to the part where they would be shipped down to Europe and to facilitate the European settlements in Nigeria.

According to Falola et al (2007), they posit that among the so called advantages was the promotion of inter-group social, economic and political relations through measures like road, rail and port development. It was also argued that the introduction of a new portable currency facilitated the trade among Nigerians, and that the colonial economic measures led to the expansion of urban centers and commerce in Nigeria. They concluded on colonialism in Nigeria as well, thereby broadening Nigeria economic relations with the rest of the world. However, some political science scholars argued that the above colonial policies, that was seen by some scholars as a catalyst that positively changes the economy of Nigeria, and also led to development of urban centers, have only left a temporary urbanization and development as all those achievement will and has now disappeared within the tinkle of an eye, hence a fleeting mirage.

Conclusion

The underdevelopment of Africa’s and Nigeria, as Frank and Rodney argued it was not only by internal complexities, such as bad leadership, corruption, embezzlement of public funds by public officials, as some political science scholars will argue, but was primarily given birth to by Africa’s and Nigeria deceptive contact with the Europe and America. Contact that was characterized by many years of exploitations, Slavery, Colonialism and Imperialism, which has severely affected the political- economy and the development of African States, hence underdevelopment of African States. This paper in its recommendation argued that despite the problems inherited from colonialism and slavery in the past, Africans had the opportunities to build up her political-economy to meet up with the developed countries of the world. The only way to achieve this is by rising against and allaying all acts of bad leadership, corruption, highhandedness, embezzlement of public funds, ethnicity and religion bigotry that are mostly seen as the major internal propellant of underdevelopment in Africa’s and Nigeria in particular as argued by Oluwasuji (2010) and Alabi (2020).

Recommended Solutions

After arguing that the root cause of Africa’s and Nigeria underdevelopment is the Africans experience under slavery, colonialism and imperialism, and the exploitations with which it was characterized. However, this paper recommends that the only workable way out of the underdevelopment ravaging Africa’s and Nigerian state in particular is to seek the unity of Nigerians irrespective of ethnic and religious affiliations, so as Nigerians can unanimously take the bull by the horn by rising against bad leadership, corruptions, highhandedness, religion and ethnic disunity and seek good governance that will invariably calls for development.

As observed by Alabi (2020) and Oluwasuji (2010), that the major propellant of underdevelopment in Africa's and Nigeria in particular, are bad leadership, corruption, highhandedness etc. and that the Europe and America, slavery, colonialism and imperialism should not be blamed for the failure of Africa's and her underdevelopment. The paper also recommends that Nigerian and African leaders should go back to the drawing board to ascertain a strategy with which Nigeria and Africa can be detached from the neo-colonialism ropes that bind them to the western world mostly in terms of influence on our super-structure and our sub-structure (politics and economy).

This paper also recommends that political positions and the politics of Africa's and Nigeria should be demonetized, that is reducing the volume of money inherent in Africa's, especially Nigerian politics, as this will disengage those politicians that seeks positions of power in order to enrich themselves and allay all forms of political godfathers. Constitutional approval of individual candidacy in which his or her integrity will be attested to by the citizens, and or the funding of all approved political parties through the tax payers money, and giving of political nomination forms to all candidates free of charge, and finally allowing only experts in the areas of governance and economy to rule the nation. Doing this will allow only citizens that love and can competently serve the people come to power, hence meritocracy in place of mediocrity.

The Africa's and Nigerian leadership must go back to the drawing board to design a workable strategy of detaching Nigeria from the global gain of neo-colonialism, which could be possible by investing and developing indigenous industries, summon Africa's and Nigerian scientists and engineers to be on their toes by tapping or espionageing technologies from the technologically advanced nations of the world, and applied it on Africa's and Nigerian indigenous industries. African government especially Nigeria should also encourage their indigenous up-coming scientist that possess creative ideas, especially the young ones that were showed on every social media platforms. Those ideas, expertise and technocrats possess by them should be exploited and utilized maximally for the development of Africans sciences, industries and the society at large. In other words, Africa's and Nigerian government need to do business by investing on industrialization.

Laws should be promulgated to prevent the Africans and Nigerians especially public office holders from investing, owing and establishing industries or any organization in America and Europe or in other advanced economy countries of the world without investing or owing companies in their ancestral land. At least 70percent of their investment most be in Africa's and in Nigeria. Through this, their indigenous currency will certainly rise in value drastically. This may be very difficult for African presently corruptible leaders to be adopted as it will certainly negatively impacted their (corrupt leaders) financial life, expose their corruption level, while developing the African society at large. Again the Africa's

and Nigerian social institutions such as the film and music industries need be assessed by the government as those institutions needs general overhauling especially to avert or reduce the level of corruption inherent in the mentioned institutions. Those institutions indeed have lost the trail in terms of promoting good ethical and societal values, especially in the areas of promoting Africans culture. They rather promote foreign cultures such as food, dress, languages and generally foreign way of lives that are inimical, strange and arming to Africans culture, hence tarnishing the image of Africans. Average Africans and Nigerians now prefer to walk half naked on the streets, this which is not in consonance with African culture, hence over reliance on foreign things and culture.

Law must be enacted to compel Africans and Nigerians to use their indigenously produced products and allay the spirit of over reliance on foreign product. All this will ensure the development of Africa's and Nigeria's infant industries and restrict Africa's and Nigeria's connections with the Europe and America. Experts and professionals in politics and economic should be made to constitutionally qualify to occupy political and economic positions, while ministerial positions should also be occupied by experts in various ministerial positions respectively. In other words round pegs should be put in round holes. The constitution should also be amended to support this in both the executive and legislative positions. All political positions should be constitutionally made to be voluntary position that must be occupied by volunteers without any immunity on them and with their salaries and other emoluments equal to that of the civil servants. This will surely deter all public treasury looters, and allow only citizens who wish and willing to truly serve the country come to power.

Conflicts of interest and indebtedness

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