

Full Length Research

Nexus between Causes, Dimensions, Adverse Effects and Solutions of Corruption in Nigeria

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The major problem bedeviling Nigeria today is endemic corruption. This paper takes critical and comprehensive look at a form of connection between the causes (root), dimensions, effects and possible ways of combating corruption in Nigeria. The findings from the study revealed that corruption had impeded the socio-cultural, economic and political development of Nigeria through abuse of power and authority, illegal diversion of public funds, looting of public treasury, embezzlement, adulteration of contracts, bribery, and money laundry. These, however, have perpetrated into poor execution of government expenditure and development projects, budget deficit, excess borrowing, high rate of poverty, mass unemployment, inequality, lawlessness, bad governance, sectors collapse and immorality in the Nigerian society. Therefore, the conclusion derived from the findings as contained in the recommendations includes: for Nigeria to tackle corruption, politically we need effective leadership and effective application rule of law. Economically, government must evolve and implement sound and effective economic policies that would improve the economic conditions, standard of living and quality of life and reduce the cost of essential services. Socio-culturally, government must evolve effective method of inculcating value system and societal re-orientation through mass mobilization and anti-corruption campaign for the entire members of Nigerian society.

Keywords: Nexus, Corruption, Political, Economic, Socio-Cultural, Causes, Dimensions, Effects, Solutions

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INTRODUCTION

Free corrupt society is one of the necessary requirements for rapid and sustainable economic growth and development. And also is one of the requirements for political, economic and socio-cultural development in any nation. One of the reasons Nigerians voted President Muhammadu Buhari into power was his promise to deal with the corruption as ugly monster which crippled the country's political, economic and social development. However, one of the political cardinals of his regime is

anti-corruption crusade and to combat corruption in Nigeria.

In view of that it's necessary to understand the root, genesis, causes and dimensions of corruption in order to curb corruption to minimal level. Corruption has political, economic and socio-cultural genesis, dimensions and effects. However, to tackle corruption in Nigeria we must use both the combination of political, economic and socio-cultural measures, failure to address any one of

these measures religiously. Nigeria is found to perpetuate in high level of corruption. Corruption is the abuse of public trust, funds and office for private, personnel gain or for luxury life at expense of the majority citizen.

The series of military interventions, coup d'etat in Nigeria must be attributed to the political, economic and socio-cultural instability which was the result of persistent rise in the level of corruption in Nigeria. Economically, absence of corruption encourages foreign investment, sufficient capital for development oriented projects, expand production, improves income and standard of living, reduces poverty, encourages budget surplus and facilitate economic growth and development.

However, the World Bank has estimated that as a result of pandemic corruption in Nigeria 80 percent of Nigeria's energy revenues benefit only 1 percent of the population (Wikipedia, Economy of Nigeria, p. 2, 2011)

The issues of corruption and anti corruption crusade have been the major concern of all the regimes, be it military or civilian in Nigeria. This is because corruption diverts scarce resource meant for development and provision of socio-economic infrastructures, thus creating extreme poverty, inequality, unemployment, insecurity and deteriorated socio-economic and political progress, thus impeded development. In Nigeria corruption has been rationalized and institutionalized, it has become like cancer of the blood whereby members of the society acknowledge it as bad, evil, and problem and as necessary in terms for survival. It has become do or die or order of the day in Nigeria whereby public resources and funds are converted illegally into private or personal properties leaving little or nothing for the collective well being of our over 150 million Nigerians. The funds allocated for their welfare services and socio-economic amenities disappear into the air or group of person or single person pocket. Globally, corruption does not respect any political or economic system, is found in democratic, military, capitalist, socialist, developed and developing societies only the level or rate of corruption varies. Corruption has become pandemic and epidemic disease in Nigeria for its speed, spread and occurrences. Corruption is absolutely illegal efforts by all form of ramifications to secure public wealth, resources, money and power through illegal means for personal gain at the public expenses.

However, corruption has contributed immensely to the vicious circles of poverty and miserable life to larger segment of the Nigerian population. Therefore, Nigerian governments at all level and especially the present regime of Muhammad Buhari should not joke with any possible measures aimed at alleviating or combating the monster to the barest minimum level, since total eradication is not possible. Corruption has become

persistent monster that has been eating deep into the fabric of Nigerian economy and made most devastating and adverse effects on Nigeria's development.

The conceptualization of corruption is wide with different perception, analysis and understanding. In spite of that corruption entails or summarized as any form of bribery, extortion, illegal diversion, nepotism, favoritism, embezzlement, fraud, gratification, inflation of contracts, over-invoicing, and abuse of office, looting of public funds or wealth. On the other hand corruption obtains when an official transfer a benefit to an individual who may or may not be entitled to the benefit in exchange for an illegal payment. (Oxford concise dictionary of politics 2003, p124-125) By involving in corruption officials breaks a legally binding constitution. It has been confirmed universally, corruption is neither a property of a social system or an institution or a trait of an individual's character but rather an illegal, selfishness and greed exchange.

Therefore, the objectives of this study are:

- 1) To determine the nature and character of the phenomenon of corruption
- 2) To examine the political, economic and socio-cultural root, genesis, causes and dimensions of corruption in Nigeria.
- 3) To analyze the adverse effects of corruption on political, economic and socio-cultural development of Nigeria.
- 4) To proffer viable political, economic, socio-cultural ways or measures of curbing or combating the menace of corruption in Nigeria.

METHODOLOGY

The study used both primary and secondary source of data. Primarily data were obtained through field work in oral interview (specialized interview) with top management staff of EFCC, ICPC, Judges at FCT Federal High Court, Police and lecturers in two selected universities, Federal University Dutse and University of Abuja). Simple random sampling was made among these respondents. In secondary source, library materials such as documentary papers, journals, text books, seminar papers, magazines and news papers were consulted.

Theoretical Framework

Concerning relevant of corruption, the social sciences literatures and scholars provides the theoretical and empirical significance relationship between corruption and social structures backwardness (i.e. political economic, social and cultural structures). Therefore, this

paper examines and adopts work of system theory. This is because of connection and inter-connection of political, economic, socio-cultural causes, dimensions, effects and solutions of corruption. System theory takes the social system as the proper unit of analysis. It was popularly introduced to sociology and politics by Talcott parsons (The structure of social analysis 1937) and by David Easton (The political system 1951).

The system theory views that the system or structure exists as a whole and consists of different parts of political, economic, social and cultural sub system that are interrelated, interacted, interdependent and interconnected. Political, economic, socio-cultural system formed a social system. And within a country like Nigeria these sub systems are interconnected at the same time connected to the whole. Corruption does not exist or function in a vacuum, it is through machineries of the state (power, authority, political administrative structures) that the act of corruption are been perpetuated. However, when pervasive tendencies are condoned, standards are comprised laws are break, order are disobeyed due process are neglected, power are abuse, and check and balance are shunned. Bribe, stealing, illegal diversion, looting, embezzlement, fraud, nepotism and favoritism would definitely be the order of the day, which translated and affects all the subsystem of the social structure. Corruption in political and administrative system affects economic and socio-cultural system negatively.

Economically, the provision of adequate education, socio-economic infrastructure, full employment, greater income, high standard of living would invariably reduce the rate of corruption. In Nigeria high rate of poverty, inequality, unemployment and poor living standard contributed greatly to the corrupt behavior. However, socially, breakdown of socialization process, value system, lack of contentment, greediness, selfishness, breakdown of social norms and values also contributed immensely to the high rate of corruption in Nigeria. This shows the connection and inter-connection between corruption and subsystems in a social structure. The system theorists viewed corruption as a cancer that has gradually eaten deep into the fabric of the entire structure and conclusively attributed to be responsible for Nigeria's political, economic and socio-cultural backwardness.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The international monetary fund (IMF) and the World Bank sees corruption as "The abuse of public office through the instrumentality of private agents, who actively offer bribes to circumvent public policies and processes for competitive advantage and profit beyond bribery, public office can also be abuse for personal benefit through patronage and nepotism, for example, the theft of state assets or the diversion of state revenue (Kari & Ernest, 2013: 3).

Corruption is effort to secure wealth or power through illegal means for private gain at public expense; or a misuse of public power for private benefit (Lipset and Lenze 1999: 112). Therefore, corruption is a deviance behavior which reflect any form of abuse or misuse of public office, power, duties, resources, funds wealth, money, trust and properties for private personal, selfishness benefit, profit, firmly and luxury life.

According to Oshoba (2014: 9) corruption or corrupt behavior involves the violation of establish rules for personal gain or profit. Furthermore, oxford advance learner's dictionary sees corruption as dishonest or illegal behavior especially of people in authority.

According to President Muhammad Buhari at NTA media chat on Wednesday 30, December 2015 asserted that corruption is a situation where public funds were diverted into personal pocket e.g. crude oil was lifted illegally and the proceeds were put into personal accounts instead of the federal government accounts. However, the classical concept of corruption as a general disease of the body politics was stated by ancient political philosophers, Plato and Aristotle. Plato in his theory of the corrupted political system referred democracy, oligarchy and tyranny as corrupted regimes instead of being guided by the law were serving the interest of rulers. Both Plato and Aristotle regarded corruption as dysfunctional. On the other hand in modern political theory Machiavelli, Montesquieu and Rousseau have come with their political thought on corruption for Machiavelli, corruption was process by which the virtue of the citizen was undermined and eventually destroyed. While Montesquieu saw corruption as the dysfunctional process by which a good political order is perverted into evil one and a monarchy into despotism. According to Rousseau political corruption is a consequence of the struggle for power. He further asserted that man had been corrupted by social and political life. It is not the corruption of man which destroyed the political system but the political system which corrupts and destroyed man (Voskanyan, 2000: 10).

The Independent Corrupt Practice and other related offence Commission ICPC Act 2000, and the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) Act 2004. The EFCC act empowers the commission to investigate, prevent and prosecute offender who engage in:- money laundering, embezzlement, bribery, looting and any form of corrupt practices, illegal arms or contract deal, smuggling, human trafficking, and child labour, illegal oil bunkering, illegal mining, tax evasion, foreign exchange malpractices including counterfeiting to currency, theft of intellectual property and piracy, open market abuse, dumping of toxic wastes and prohibited goods (EFCC, Act 2004).

Conclusively, this paper classifies definition of corruption into political, economic and socio-cultural perspectives.

(1) **Political definition of corruption:** corruption is the systematic process which comprised of any forms of abuse or misuse of public power, office, authority and duties for personal interest, or is the violation of established rules, laws, order, and political procedures for personal gain. All forms of political, policy and authority crimes.

(2) **Economic definition of corruption:** Corruption is the systematic process which comprised of any forms securing or acquiring public or private wealth, resources, funds, money and properties through illegal means for private gain at public expense, or illegal diversion of public funds and money into private accounts i.e. looting of treasury, bribe, embezzlement, squandering of government revenue, stealing of government money, inflation of contracts, money laundry and stealing government property.

(3) **Socio-cultural definition of corruption:** Corruption is the systematic process which comprised of any form of social behavior which deviates from normal norms and value of the society from the formal duties or public roles or institutionalized, improper behavior or immorality that entered into cultural norms and values system of society which has become norm and value. Nigerians are now born, learn, believe, socialize, grow, live and practice corruption. Corruption has become cultural norms and value of behavior that are socialization from generation to generation in Nigeria. Socio-cultural perspective of corruption is all forms of immorality associated with administrative crimes.

Features of Corruption

This paper identifies the following as features of corruption.

- 1) It is a deviance behavior or crime
- 2) It involves two or more offending parties
- 3) It is illegal, violation of law, misuse
- 4) It involves abuse of public office, funds, wealth, resources, money, power and authority.
- 5) It involves illegal diversion for private gain in public
- 6) It attracts punishment
- 7) It has negative effects on parties' involved, corrupt officials, government and society at large.

The Dimensions of Corruption in Nigeria

This paper classifies corruption into three dimensions such as political, economic and socio-cultural

dimensions.

1) Political dimensions of corruption in Nigeria

These are the forms of corruption that found in any form of political activity or struggle or in the highest places or offices of political authority involving politicians, administrators who implement policies and pass legislation that benefit them (The Encyclopedia Americana, 1999) i.e. false declaration of assets. Political corruption is sometimes seen as similar to corruption of greed as it affects the manner in which decisions are made, as it manipulates political institutions, office, rule of procedures, and distorts the institutions of government. (NORAD, Ch.4, 2000). This form of corruption involved buying of electoral votes to win election, political thugs, the use of Almajiri as a political weapon and instrument, use of coercion or intimidation and even killings to get elected into political positions or authority, political assassination, kidnapping of political opponents, influencing judicial decisions and governmental appointments through a disguised payment, electoral and census rigging, the use of power in a dishonest or illegal way or administrative or judicial decisions, sale of government appointments and contracts, reckless abandonments and process, abuse of code of conduct, false political promises, holding on to power against will of people.

However, bureaucratic corporation occurs in the public administrative structures or the implementation end of polities. This corruption occurs in public service where documents are delayed or manipulated depending on how much you give. Therefore, political and bureaucratic corruptions are unethical behavior which violates the norms and values of the system of political and administrative order and rules false documentation and suppression of records etc.

2) Economic dimensions of corruption in Nigeria.

This dimension comprised of all forms of economic and financial related crimes. It deals with fraudulent practices in both public and private sectors which usually or most of the time involved monetary gains or exchange such as bribery scandals, fraud, money laundry, kidnapping for monetary gains, avoiding the payment of import duties and penalty, looting of funds or treasury, stealing government money, kickbacks, pay-off, embezzlement, extortion, gratification and all other forms of illegal monetary or financial gains or exchange in public service or private related government-structures. Inflation of contracts, over-invoicing, payment for or supplies not satisfactorily done or not done at all, abuse of tender process, awarding contracts to self adulteration of markets goods. All forms of illegal acquisition of public

wealth, funds, property and money etc.

3) Socio-cultural dimensions of corruption in Nigeria.

Demanding and paying bribes and gratification have become a norm or national culture, value system by placing emphasis on illegal wealth accumulation. This dimension of corruption comprised of nepotism, favoritism, primordial, regionalism, ethnicity, or religion in power and authority. Corruption has become a socio-cultural behavior which deviates or violates public rules against the exercise of certain types of public duties for private and selfish gains. Using cultural ethnicity or religion to abuse public office, power or authority, accepting corruption as a culture or as a norm and value has become the order of the day among the Nigerian societies. It also imply highly biased culturally or religiously distribution of state resources, wealth, revenue allocation, allocation of values, positions, offices, contracts and funds to favor community, families, relations, religious followers and ethnic groups. Corruption had become completely institutionalized, naturalized, socialized and entered the complex whole of culture and value system and belief of Nigerian society, pass from one generation to another.

The Causes of Corruption in Nigeria

This has to do with root, genesis and reasons of corrupt behavior in Nigeria. We have political, economic and socio-cultural reasons of corruption among Nigerians.

1) Political genesis of corruption in Nigeria.

These are the political activity, process, issues, value and belief that determine the level of and course corruption in Nigeria. These are the political factors that exposed, pushed or forced Nigerians to become vulnerable to corruption. Many have argued that the rampant cases of corruption in Nigeria are symptomatic of the crisis of governance, misgoverned by unpatriotic and parasitic, bad, un-nationalistic, greedy and selfishness leaders.

According to the UNDP (1998) in (Kari and Ernest, 2013) corruption arises when public officials have a wide authority, little or no accountability and perverse incentives or when their accountability responds to informal rather than formal forms of regulations. Others includes concentration of powers in the executive arm of government, poor transparency and accountability surrounding executive decisions, restricted access to information, weak systems of oversight and enforcement, excess spending on struggle for power, belief in power as the only source of wealth, belief in political office as the only means of compensation.

However, soft political controls system and high tolerance for corruption activities of state. Political offices and power are seem as the primarily means of gaining access to wealth, rich and influence. People in Nigeria do anything possible include killing, ritual, threat, intimidation, assassination, blackmailing and violence to get elected or acquire power, position and authority. Corruption in Nigeria must be pandemic and order of the day, because politics has become do or die affairs. Politics and political activity have become big business in Nigeria because anything spent to secure a political office is regarded as investment and easiest means to make money and become rich. Another genesis is the weakness of governmental and legal enforcement mechanism and agency. However, the institutions established to enforce sanctions on corrupt officials are too weak to carry out this function. These institutions are EFCC, ICPC, police, judiciary and prison. These institutions are highly politicized, and the lukewarm attitude of those who are supposed to enforce the laws of land judges, courts, and police officers could lead people to engage in corrupt behavior because they behaved they would free and go unpunished.

However, delay in investigation, trial, prosecution also increase the rate of corruption and corrupt tendencies in Nigeria. *According to chairman EFCC Mustapha Ibrahim Magu "EFCC investigates 1,889 cases and secures only 78 convictions in 2015.* This shows the nature of slowness and delay in prosecution and conviction of corrupt officials in Nigeria by Judicial system. This makes many Nigerians not to fear corruption and its punishment. However, Lack of openness and transparency in public service and ineffective political process. There was absence of strong and effective anti-corruption tools such as laws, punishment, and deterrence, and detention, interrogation, capital punishment either by hanging or injection to serve as deterrence to others. However, another genesis of corruption in Nigeria was ineffective political system and leadership, and lack of contentment among our leaders, elite, public servants and other civil-servants. Finally break down of law and lack of application and practice of rule of law increases the rate of corruption in Nigeria.

2) Economic genesis of corruption in Nigeria.

Economic crises, economic backwardness and instability have contributed greatly to high rate of corruption in Nigeria. Corruption in Nigeria occurs as a result of unequal distribution and sharing of resources, income and wealth amongst the populace. However, there was perpetuation and increasing wider gap between haves and the have not's, poor and rich in Nigeria. The haves are able to afford and live in good life, education, health, shelter, food, income, employment and standard of living for them and their family and they are virtually left with

nothing then vicious circle of poverty, poor income, deteriorated life, unemployment, diseases, illiteracy, destitution, begging, humiliation and helplessness from generation to generation. However, the first class people, elites, ruling class and technocrats are able to acquire good life not by hard work but because of they were opportune to be in positions of authority and looted public funds. Therefore, economically greater inequality in distribution and sharing of wealth and resources played vital role in increasing the rate of corruption in Nigeria. Political office, power and authority are regarded as the primary means of gaining access to wealth, rich and quick money. Corruption is highly regarded as short cut to wealth. There was little or no access to economic opportunity structure and encouragement of individual initiative. In addition in Nigeria there was little access to education, employment, economic mobility and advancement in life which of course culminated into high rate and wide spread of corruption in Nigeria. Economic prostration and difficulties always expose many Nigerians to corrupt behavior, low level of development, financial and entrepreneurial capabilities, also perpetrated the level of corruption in Nigeria. These included high rate of object of poverty, income inequality, unemployment, no jobs for increasing youths, poor youth empowerment, and lack of capital to be self reliance or to start business. Socio-economic deterioration such as poor public schools, roads, hospitals, water, electricity and inflation in essential services also economically perpetuated corruption in Nigeria. However, poor economic motivation in public service increases the rate of bribery and corruption. And the classical scholars studies on corruption shows that relationship exist between corruption and economic backwardness. It has become fashion in Nigeria to loot public treasury, steal public wealth and money, in order to sustain family in wealth and richness and be free from poverty.

3) Socio-cultural genesis of corruption in Nigeria

Categorically, breakdown of societal cultural norms, values, value system and social control had greatly contributed to high rate and persistent of corrupt behavior in Nigeria.

Robert K. Merton (1968) A Sociologist demonstrated that relationship between culture and level of corruption. He further asserted that corruption motivated behavior responding to social pressures to violate the norms so as to meet the set goals and objectives of a social family and societal orientation. It has also been argued that culture (norms, values, beliefs, attitude, and folkways) influence the existence and perpetration of certain corrupt practices. Most of the cultural values, norms and beliefs prohibited theft, stealing, looting, distrust and abuse of authority. Most of the traditional Nigerian communities regarded them as abomination which usually lead to

punishment like rejection, capital punishment, fine or execution. But unfortunately our traditional rulers, religious priests, families and communities have institutionalized and culturalised corruption. They encouraged corruption by receiving gift from corrupt leaders, sharing the looted or stolen money or wealth, and even praying for God protection for the corrupt leaders to escape punishment. Sometimes they pray for God to change the wealth from evil to holy. This is how our system of beliefs and norms encourage corruption and corrupt behavior in our traditional societies. Kings, Obas, Emirs, Egwai, Mallam, Sheik, and Pastors encouraged and collect stolen money and wealth from corrupt leaders.

Lack of total enforcement of societal norms, values and beliefs had become the major root and genesis of the prevalence corrupt behavior in our society. The causes of corruption are myriad and they have political, economic and social variables. Some evidence points to a link between corruption and socio-cultural diversity, ethno-linguistic, fractionalization and the proportion of a country's population adhering to different religions and traditions (Lipset & Lenz, 2000). Culture of a society could make the citizens more prone to corrupt activities. At wrong socialization process sometimes members of society socialized by parents, peer groups, leaders and elites to steal, loot or embezzle public funds. However, members of society both ethnic groups and religious groups tends to be proud, appreciate and praise members that stole government money or looted treasury or embezzlement public funds e.g. Bode George stole government money jailed and when he is out, was received by his people with praise, jubilation and celebration. This will automatically encourage corruption without regret among members of Nigerian society.

The leaders tend to steal collective public money and resources shamelessly and used the communities that they have impoverished to serve as a shield against prosecution people in these various communities are being tricked into behaving that those leaders are victims of political victimization and marginalization. These corrupt leaders often times use tribal and relation sentiment to their favor, in causing disaffection and communal crisis. When General Buhari came up with war against indiscipline during his military regime, the same religious leaders and traditional rulers pray for his downfall. However, presently the same corrupt leaders sponsored traditional rulers and religious priests to pray against President Muhammad Buhari purposely because of his Anti-corruption crusade.

The Adverse Effects or Negative Consequences of Corruption on Political, Economic and Socio-Cultural Development of Nigeria

The persistent and wide spread of corrupt practice

among members of our society had ravaged, distorted, impeded and blockage the political, economic and socio-cultural progress and development of Nigeria, thus bane the Nigerian development, the negative effects of corruption on a nation's socio- economic and political development are countless.

(1) The adverse effects of corruption on political development of Nigeria.

Politically, corruption destabilizes government and political activity as it leads to political instability and crises such as military intervention and political apathy and depression in Nigeria. Corruption has become pandemic, entrenched and translates into a breakdown of the rule of law, lawlessness, disorders and in most cases a loss of state legitimacy in Nigeria. The image of Nigerian political system and government abroad is no long be recognized. However, corruption leads to personalization of power and authority as well as dysfunction of public sectors. It impedes democratic process and development and the application of constitution and the administrative justice, public institutions and offices lose legitimacy as a result of misuses of power for private interest. It destroys the legitimacy of democratic government and in its extreme forms even threatens civil liberty because civil liberty and democracy lives on trust and corruption destroy trust. The implementation of laws and rules as well as effort to reform them are impeded by corrupt judges, lawyers, prosecutors, police officers and other law enforcement agencies. Corruption induces evil political struggle, political behaviour and competition, erodes transparency and political decision and policies. It distorts political emancipation and sustaining political activity based on regionalism, patronage and monetization. Rampant corruption perpetrated electoral malpractices such as rigging, buying and selling of voters' card. Electoral officers' connived with party agents and security to manipulate or falsify electoral results.

Corruption destroys the internal party democracy in Nigeria and perpetrated political assassinations, thugs, killings, rituals and manipulation of youths to achieve Political goal. Corruption delays decision making and policy implementation, adulterate budget and development planning process and of course impeded the process of development administration. The root and genesis of misconduct and indiscipline in Nigerian public service must be attributed to wide spread of corruption. Conclusively, the inability of Nigeria's past and present leaders to consolidate on the gains of democracy has been attributed to persistent corruption.

2) The adverse effects of corruption on economic development of Nigeria.

Corruption has a devastating consequence on economic

activities, structures, progress, performance and development in Nigeria. Corruption has impeded and retarded Nigerian economic growth and development. *According to British high commissioner to Nigeria, Mr. Paul Arkwright Nigeria must tackle corruption to experience possible economic prosperity and growth to let its populace out of poverty. Nigeria has experienced endemic corruption over the years which led to the high level of socio-economic difficulties faced in the country. It reduces public spending on socio-economic infrastructures, social services, poverty oriented programmes.*

However, corrupt government officials shifted government expenditures to areas in which they can collect bribes and kick back or 10 percent easily and quickly.

During Obasanjo regime over eighteen (18) billion naira was invested into the power sector to provide regular electricity supply for the societal development and unfortunately nothing came out of it, except high level of corruption.

Corruption diverts limited funds or resources, undermines economic progress and impedes policy changes required for economic growth and development, persistent and deepen corruption in Nigeria led to high rate of poverty, inequality, unemployment, destitution, diseases, illiteracy and deteriorated living standard among the citizens. The recurrent situation of corruption has negatively affected the standard of living of the 80% of the population of Nigeria because corruption undermines the government ability and capacity to deliver range of basic needs and social services such as health, education, roads, portable water supply, electricity, housing and general welfare services. Through corruption Nigeria loss huge revenue, loss both internal and foreign investors, increase the cost of goods and services leads to the production of sub-standard products and goods and services, and contracts. The current capital shortage Nigeria is facing in the economy 60% must be attributed to corruption.

The most disheartening, is the value of development Assistance that flowed into the country for socio-economic development was squandered by our political leaders/elites. No doubt corrupt practices in Nigeria had resulted in undermining the growth and stability of foreign Direct Investment (FDI) impedes Nigeria's ability to attract oversea capital and investors. Undoubtedly, Nigeria is one the world and largest producer and exporter of crude oil, a country endowed with abundant natural and human resources unfortunately still has more than 60 percent of its population living below the poverty line. Conclusively corruption affects productivity, output, exports, balance of payment, foreign exchange, GDP and foreign reserve negatively, thus economic backwardness.

3) **The adverse effects of corruption on Socio-cultural development of Nigeria.**

Corruption has also done great damage and harm to social, cultural and beliefs systems of Nigerian society. Corruption destroys and impeded moral foundation, norms and values, beliefs and image of the Nigerian societies. Corruption has done immeasurable damage to the social fabric of our society, distorts the normative system and sows the seeds of social dislocation and socio-cultural crises of all forms. It also creates hate, clashes, conflicts between ethnics and religious groups. It destroys dignity, honesty, integrity, trust and moral of individuals, groups, communities and societies of Nigeria. Nigerian resources, wealth and power are shared to kinfolk, families, friends, relatives and religions leaders. Corruption diverted contracts, appoints and funds to kinship members to favour them.

Corruptions made who looted public treasury to be praised, valued, and worshiped and have reserved seats in houses of worship, ceremony and social gathering. However, unfortunately, corruption has vehemently entered the life, blood and affairs of the Nigerian family circle, peer groups, schools (primary, secondary, higher institutions, university) worship places, bureaucratic institutions, security out pit market places, village meetings, women organizations and other form of social gathering. Socially, corruption has destroyed the moral and trusts of the public servant, honest and sincerity are no more in any policy. Both society and public servants exhibit bad attitude to work. Corruption crippled society individual talent, integrity, dedication hard work, innovation and self or individual initiating. It induces frustration, social suicide and general apathy among the public which result to weak civil society. It weakens the state and its ability to promote social development and social justice.

Corruption has dramatically increased the rate of deviance behavior and has become a cancer that has gradually spread and eaten into the socio-cultural fabric of the society and attributed to be responsible for the under development and backwardness of the Nigerian society. It strives, mediocrity, indiscipline, crimes and social disorder, however hard work and innovation are no longer rewarded. Corruption has institutionalized laziness, begging, dependency, destitution and insecurity in Nigerian societies. According to late Professor Festus Iyaya there was significant relationship between corruption and high level of insecurity in Nigeria. Corruption is the root of insecurity and conflicts. Because money meant for employment generation, social services, welfare improvement, poverty eradication and development programme were diverted into private use. These perpetrated youths into unemployment, poverty and inequality. These increased the level of insecurity and caused social instability in the society.

Some of the selected Cases of Corruption in Nigeria

The table 1-3 identify the names, groups and organizations involved and nature of the cases of corrupt practices and amount of money involved both in naira and dollar as the case may be.

Sambo dasuki and groups on Arms/Weapons scandal of \$2.1 Billion, the Money Was Embezzled. The table 2 is the evidence on how the money was shared.

According to federal government 55 people in Nigeria stole a total of N1.34 trillion in seven years (2006 to 2013).

As revealed by federal government in Daily Trust Newspaper of Tuesday, January 19, 2016, Vol. 39, No. 12. *That fifteen former governors allegedly stole ₦1.46.84 billion, four former ministers stole ₦7 billion, twelve former federal and state officers stole N14 billion, eight people in the banking industry allegedly stole N524 billion while eleven businessmen allegedly stole 653 billion naira.*

According to federal government using world bank rate and cost, on third of the stolen funds could have provided 635.18 kilometers of road, built 36 ultra modern hospital, that is one ultra modern hospital per state; built 183 schools; educated 3,974 children from primary to tertiary level at 25.24 million per child; and built 20.062 units of 2 bedroom houses. This is the money that a few people, just 55 in number allegedly stole within a period of just seven years.

However, according to Mrs. Aisha Buhari wife of the President in a media chat that seven (7) Nigerians stole N3.3 trillion from Nigerian public treasury.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Geoffrey as a result of President Buhari Anti corruption crusade, Nigeria has recovered about one (1) Billion dollars stolen fund from Switzerland Banks.

The foregoing tables show how our corrupt leaders stole and share public funds, treasury and money diverted into their personal gain. You can imagine how much Nigeria is losing through corruption which is almost equal to the entire budget. Sharing of Nigeria money is just as easy as sharing of roasted chicken. How and when Nigeria would achieve economic growth and development with this high and persistent rate of looting.

In many years back Nigerians are talking of thousands and millions naira were stole in corruption but now a days we are talking of millions or billions of dollars not naira were stolen. If care is not taking in future we will be talking of trillions of dollars were stolen in Nigeria.

Denmark is the first and scored 92 in 2014 as world the most freely corrupt country while Somalia is number 174 scored only 8 as the most corrupted nation in the world. Unfortunately Nigeria is ranked as 136 and scored only 27 in global comparative. Table 4-6

Table 1

S/N	Name of Persons Groups of persons Organizations	Nature of the Corruption	Amount in Dollar or Naira
1	Maina	Pension fund scam embezzlement	₦195 Billion
2	Mahmud Tukur and Maman Ali	Fuel Subsidy Scam fraud	\$6 Billion
3	Mr. Stephan Orensaye	Found guilty over fraud on civil service pension	₦123 Billion
4	Mr. John Yusuf	Police pension fund fraud, breach of trust, embezzlement	₦32.8 billion
5	Stella Oduah	Bullet profit car purchase	₦255m
		NCAA Operational Vehicles	₦643m
6	FG	Private jet arm scandal with South Africa	\$15 million
7	Abba Moro	Immigration recruitment scandal ₦1000 for each applicants	NA
8	Malabu oil and gas	Oil Scandal	\$1.1 billion
9	NNPC	Crude Oil Theft Scandal	\$500, million
10	Authur Eze	Defense Contracts Fraud	₦500million
11	Mohammed Abacha	Stolen money in foreign bank	₦446 billion
12	Faruk Lawan	Evidence of bribery scandal collected & \$ 620,000	\$ 3million and Collected \$ 620,000
13	Diezanni Allison Madueke	Stolen money	US \$ 1.5m
14	FG	Bribe to Pastors and confessed by Pastor Musa	₦6 billion
15	Iyabo Bello Obasanjo	Embezzlement of money as Christmas bonus of ministry of health	₦300m
16	Igbinedion Governor of Edo	Embezzlement Edo's state fund and money laundry	₦19 billion
17	Dame Patient Jonathan	Money laundry fraud	\$13million
18	Bode George and Aminu Dabo	Dirty contract in NPA	₦100million
19	Governor Nyame	Stolen money from Taraba State	₦2.4billion
20	Governor Dareye of Plateau	Fraud Charges	₦700m
21	Governor Boni Haruna's aid	Corruption charges embezzlement	₦100m
22	Governor Ibori	Corruption charges	₦44billion
23	Orji Kalu Abia State	Money laundry	NA
24	Alaimyesaghia	Corruption charges pleads guilty and jail for 2 years	NA
25	Nnamani former governor of Enugu State indicated by EFCC	Steal money from Enugu State treasury	₦6 billion
26	Governor Gbenga Daniel	Faces indictment for corruption and abuse of office bought residence in London.	£1.75m
27	Former V. President Atiku	Corrupt charges and diversion from Nigerian government to foreign account	\$100m and \$145m
28	Ibrahim Mantu and Zwingn	Bribery scandal	₦54m
29	Governor Saminu Taraki	Used for financed third term project	₦30 billion
30	Obasanjo regime	Power Scandal	\$18 billion
31	Chief Ugochukwu Chairman NDDC	Inflating Contract value and false statement	₦10.2 billion
32	Alao Akala	Misappropriation of fund	₦11.5 billion

Table 1. Continuation

33	Former Speaker Dimaji Bankoli and Usman Nafada	[Dragged to court over 17 change alleged misappropriation	₦10 billion
34	Ndudi Elemelu former Chairman House Committee on power	Docked over fraud charge	₦5.2billion
35	Peter Odili of River State	In late 2006 during two terms diverted money	Over ₦100billion
36	James Ibori	-Diversion of public fund - Abuse of office - Money laundry - Attempted to Bribery Ribadu	-Bribery \$15m - Embezzle ₦40 billion - \$266B
37	Abubakar Kigo and Mrs. Uzoma	Embezzlement police pension fund	₦33 billion
38	Dan Etete	Oil Scandal	\$1.1 billion
39	Olisa Metuh	Arms Purchase	₦400m
40	Former D.G NIMASA Patrick Akpobolokemi	Stealing	₦754.7m
41	Tompolo	Fraud/money laundry	₦45.9 billion
42	Emeka Mba DG NBC	Fraud	₦15 billion

Source: field survey, 2016

Table 2.

S/N	NAME	AMOUNT
1	Haliru Bello and Abba Son	₦600 million
2	Bello Mataualle	₦300m
3	Peter Odili	₦100m
4	Tanko Yakasai	₦65m
5	Ahmadu Ali	₦100m
6	Jim Nwobodo	₦500m
7	Rashid Ladoja	₦100m
8	Chief Toney Anenih	₦100
9	General Jaferu Isa	₦100
10	ALiyu Shinkafi	₦100
11	General Sarkin Yaki	₦200
12	Bode George	₦109
13	BAM Properties	₦300
14	Chief Olu Falae	₦100
15	Iyorcha Alyn Company	₦345m
16	ACACIA Holding	₦600m
17	Dalhatu Investment	NA
18	Serving and former members HR	₦600m
19	Haruna Abdullahi	₦100m

Source: field survey, 2016

The Strategic Measures for alleviating and Combating Corruption in Nigeria.

If Nigerian government is serious in controlling and reducing the rate of corruption to a minimum or least level

the combination of both political, economic and socio-cultural measures must be put together and use religiously and effectively. The study believes that if Nigerian government can utilize those measures together, corruption will be reducing drastically or high

Table 3. shows how 55 people stole ₦1.3 trillion in 7 years in Nigeria.

S/N	NAME	AMOUNT
1	15 former governors	₦ 146.84 billion
2	4 former ministers	₦ 7 billion
3	12 former public servants both federal and state levels.	₦ 14 billion
4	8 people in the Banking Industry	₦ 524 billion
5	11 Businessmen	₦ 653 billion

Source: Daily Trust, 2016

Table 4. Nigeria in World Ranking and Scoring of Corruption

Rank	Country	2014 scored
1	Denmark	92
2	New Zealand	91
3	Finland	89
4	Sweden	87
5	Norway	86
6	Switzerland	86
7	Singapore	84
8	Netherlands	83
9	Luxemburg	82
11	Canada	81
11	Australia	80
12	Germany	79
12	Iceland	79
14	United Kingdom	78
15	Belgium	76
15	Japan	76
17	Barbados	74
17	Hong Kong	74
37	Israel	60
37	Spain	60
39	Dominica	58
39	Lithuania	58
39	Slovenia	58
42	Cape Verde	57
43	Korea South	55
43	Latvia	55
43	Malta	55
43	Seychelles	55
47	Costa Rica	54
47	Hungry	54
47	Mauritius	54
50	Georgia	52
50	Malaysia	52
50	Samoa	52
53	Czech Republic	51
54	Slovakia	50
55	Bahrain	49
55	Jordan	49

Rank	Country	2014 score
17	Ireland	76
17	USA	76
21	Chile	74
21	Uruguay	74
23	Austria	74
24	Bahamas	74
25	United Arab Emirate	73
26	Estonia	69
26	France	69
26	Qatar	69
29	Saint Vincent	67
30	Bhutan	65
31	Botswana	63
31	Cyprus	63
31	Portugal	63
31	Puerto Rice	63
35	Poland	61
35	Taiwan	61
63	Cuba	46
64	Oman	45
64	Macedonia	45
64	Turkey	45
67	Kuwait	44
67	South Africa	44
69	Brazil	43
69	Bulgaria	43
69	Greece	43
69	Italy	43
69	Romania	43
69	Senegal	43
69	Swaziland	43
76	Montenegro	42
76	Sao Tome & Principal	42
78	Serbia	41
79	Tunisia	40
80	Benin	39
80	Herzegovina Bosnia	39
80	El-Salvador	39

Table 4. Continuation

55	Lesotho	49
55	Namibia	49
55	Rwanda	49
55	Saudi Arabia	49
61	Croatia	48
61	Ghana	48
85	Sri-Lanka	38
85	Thailand	38
85	Trinidad & Tobago	38
85	Zambia	38
94	Armenia	37
94	Colombia	37
94	Egypt	37
94	Gabon	37
94	Liberia	37
94	Panama	37
100	Algeria	36
100	China	36
103	Suriname	36
103	Bolivia	35
103	Mexico	35
103	Madera	35
103	Nigeria	35
107	Argentina	34
107	Djibouti	34
107	Indonesia	34
110	Albania	33
110	Ecuador	33
110	Ethiopia	33
110	Kosovo	33
110	Malawi	33
136	Nigeria	27
136	Russia	27
142	Comoros	26
142	Uganda	26
142	Ukraine	26
145	Bangladesh	26
145	Guinea	25
145	Kenya	25
145	Laos	25
145	Papa New Guinea	25
150	Central Africa Republic	24
150	Paraguay	24
152	Congo	23
152	Tajikistan	22
154	Chad	22
156	Cambodia	21
156	Myanmar	21

Source: field survey, 2016

80	Morocco	39
85	Burkina Faso	38
85	India	30
85	Jamaica	38
85	Peru	38
85	Philippines	38
115	Cote Devoir	32
115	Dominican	32
115	Guatemala	32
115	Mali	32
119	Belarus	32
119	Mozambique	31
119	Sierra Leone	31
119	Tanzania	31
119	Vietnam	31
124	Guyana	30
126	Mauritania	30
126	Azerbaijan	29
126	Gambia	29
126	Honduras	29
126	Kazakhstan	29
126	Nepal	29
126	Pakistan	29
126	Togo	29
133	Madagascar	28
133	Nicaragua	28
133	Timor Leboa	28
136	Cameroon	27
136	Iran	27
136	Kyrgyz slam	27
136	Lebanon	27
156	Zimbabwe	21
159	Burundi	20
159	Syria	20
161	Angola	19
161	Guinea Bissau	19
161	Haiti	19
161	Venezuela	19
161	Yemen	19
166	Eritrea	18
166	Libya	18
166	Uzbekistan	18
169	Turkmenistan	17
170	Iraq	16
171	Southern Sudan	15
172	Afghanistan	12
173	Sudan	11
174	Korea North	8
174	Somalia	8

Table 5. Nigeria among African Countries (Continental Scoring & Ranking)

Rank	Country	2014 scored	Rank	Country	2014 score
31	Botswana	63	119	Mozambique	31
42	Cape Verde	57	119	Sierra Leone	31
43	Seychelles	55	119	Tanzania	31
55	Lesotho	49	126	Gambia	29
55	Namibia	49	126	Togo	29
55	Rwanda	49	133	Madagascar	28
61	Ghana	48	136	Cameroon	27
67	South Africa	44	136	Nigeria	27
69	Senegal	43	142	Comoros	26
69	Swaziland	43	142	Uganda	26
76	Sao Tome & Principe	42	145	Guinea	25
79	Tunisia	40	145	Kenya	25
80	Benin	39	150	Central Africa Republic	24
80	Morocco	39	152	Congo	23
85	Burkina Faso	38	154	Chad	22
85	Jamaica	38	156	Zimbabwe	21
85	Zambia	38	159	Burundi	20
94	Egypt	37	161	Angola	19
94	Gabon	37	161	Guinea-Bissau	19
94	Liberia	37	166	Eritrea	18
100	Algeria	36	166	Libya	18
103	Niger	35	173	Sudan	11
110	Ethiopia	33	174	Somalia	8
110	Malawi	33			
115	Cote devour	32			
115	Mali	32			

Source: field survey, 2016

Table 6. Nigeria among West African Countries (Sub-Regional Ranking and Scoring).

Rank	Country	2014 scored
42	Cape Verde	57
61	Ghana	48
80	Benin	39
85	Burkina Faso	38
94	Gabon	37
94	Liberia	37
103	Niger	35
115	Cote devour	32
119	Sierra Leone	31
126	Gambia	29
126	Togo	29
136	Nigeria	27
145	Guinea	25
161	Guinea Bissau	19

Source: field survey, 2016

level of corruption will be a history in Nigeria. Our problem in Nigeria, we always focused on political

measures and neglected economic and socio-cultural measures.

The political, economical and social cultural measures are.

1) Political measures for combating corruption in Nigeria. The state should make political offices less attractive (do or die) in order to prevent desperate politicians with selfish motives from holding such offices. The electoral system must be transparent to allow the credible people to be elected into political offices. There must be proper accountability in the system among all political officers and administrative offices. Most importantly, however, there must be a proper and effective application of constitution, rule of law, entrench a culture of justice, equity and fairness in government and political system of Nigeria. Government must enforce all electoral laws into practice and enforce internal party democracy to avoid any element of corruption in political process. Effective leadership, our leaders and elite must imbibe the culture of discipline, patriotic nationalistic, trustworthy, strong and dynamic for them to fight corruption to the minimum level. Public and political declaration of assets for all politicians and public officers must be encouraged and enforced without fear or favour. Institutionalization of transparency and openness in government spending projects and award of contracts must also be encouraged. Government must strengthen and reform anti-corruption agencies such as EFCC, Police, ICPC, Prison and Code of Conduct Bureau. As the law enforcement agencies they must be allowed to discharge their duties effectively without fear or favour or interference. Legislative and judicial measures against corruption must be in place to ensure that anti corruption laws are adequate and provide sufficient and effective punishment for corrupt offenders. It is also necessary to impose rigorous sanctions and punishment, effective means of deterrence and prevention. The Nigerian security agencies such as State Security Service, Nigerian Intelligence Agency, and Bank Officials must be incorporated effectively in anti-corruption crusade. This will enable government to monitor and fast track any illegal transactions and accounts of suspected corrupt officers. This would go along way with encouraging genuine whistle blowing and early detection.

Nigerian government must encourage and sustain genuine cooperation and partnership with European governments' foreign banks and institutions such as CIA, FBI and Anti Corruption international agencies to recover stolen money deposited in foreign banks to also achieve anti corrupt crusade. Government must implement measures of curtailing excess use of money in politics and the influence of money as a factor in political process/struggle. Monetization of politics has become the root of many evils not only corruption in Nigeria. Therefore, monetization of Nigerian politics must be controlled.

Furthermore, administrative measures must also taken

into consideration in reducing the chances of public officer getting involved in corruption such as adequate motivation, incentive, better salary and welfare. There must be a complete adherence to ethical standards in decision making and it should be the foundation of nation policies. It is however, necessary to apply due process in any operational policies and procedures in public organizations and agencies. Inexperienced, unskilled, unknowledgeable and unmotivated leaders must be avoided in public services and politics as suggested by philosopher Plato. There must be an effective monitoring, evaluation and supervision of process and procedures in public services.

Finally government must encourage judicial independence, autonomy, reform, adequate welfare. Government must encourage speedy judgment and trial of corrupt officers, many cases of corruption take years to be convicted. This delay create lack of fear for being corrupt and perpetrates another form of corruption in judicial system and many alterations in judgment, trials, prosecution and witness. *According to Ibrahim Magu chairman EFCC. EFCC investigates 1,887 cases, only 78 convicted in 2015 you can see the level of delay in trial and prosecution by our judicial system.*

Corruption can also be control by application of check and balance and absolute separation of power among the three arms of government because absolute power corrupt and led to dictatorship and tyranny.

2) Economic measures for combating corruption in Nigeria. Undoubtedly, economic instability and crises, economic backwardness and imbalance induce corrupt behavior in Nigeria. Therefore, effective, sound, dynamic and vibrant economic policies and measures must be used to reduce drastically the rate of corruption in Nigeria. Government must make it mandatory to all revenue generating, collecting ministries, departments and Agencies (MDA's) to remit their money and payment to single federal account. *A good example is President Muhammadu Buhari Treasury Single Account (TSA). This policy has reduced the rate of corruption, corrupt practices and behaviours drastically in Nigeria. It also enables the Nigerian government to recovered more than three trillion (3 trillion) naira from it according President Muhamadu Buhari.* However, (BVN) Bank Verification Number has also exposed many corrupt people and excess money stole from Nigerian treasury.

No one should be above the law, no one would go free by stealing public funds or money, and no one would escape punishment. However, political immunity must be removed when it comes to issue of economic and financial crimes. If we are so serious in curbing corruption in Nigeria, Judicial system needs financial autonomy, good remuneration, and incentive, freedom of judgment without fear or favour. Government must also enforce jail term practice and strengthen the criminal laws into

practice in order to curb corrupt practice in Nigeria. Government must also enforce a strict financial regulation and effective intelligences and surveillance of any huge financial transaction to curb the rate of fraud and money laundry. Government must formulate and implement any economic policy that would narrow socio-economic inequality in distribution of wealth income and social services. Therefore, wider gap between haves and have not's or poor and rich must be narrow in term of acquiring food, shelter, clothes, jobs, social amenities and standard of living. These would go a long way in improving the quality of life and standard of living of Nigerian citizens thereby reducing corrupt tendency and behaviour among them. However, if Nigerian government is serious about curbing the level of corruption issues of object of poverty, mass unemployment and inequality must be seriously and effectively address. Object of poverty, social insecurity and wider inequality exposed many Nigerians to corrupt behaviour.

Government must also provide adequate, effective and sustain socio-economic amenities such as hospitals, portable water, schools, electricity and roads to improve the quality of life of the Nigeria citizen.

Marxist political economy asserted that it is not people consciousness that determine their well being but the way the society organizes the production, distribution and exchange of goods and services that determines their material conditions. Therefore, government must make effective effort to improve economic activities in order to achieve economic stability and reduce drastically the rate of corruption in Nigeria. Analysts tend to believed that developed countries have less or zero level of corruption than the developing nations. It is also necessary to keep inflation low. If inflation is high and persistent corruption too will be high and persistent. Persistent rise in prices of goods and services led to high cost of life and income will be insufficient to cater for basic needs, difficult to pay children school fees, to pay rent, to take care of domestic household needs. Inflation forced public servants, business men and politicians into corruption. Therefore, it is necessary to address economic challenges in order to improve the standard of living of Nigerian citizen. These would invariably assist in reducing the level of corruption in Nigeria.

3) Socio-Cultural Measures for Combating Corruption in Nigeria.

This is no doubt that socio-cultural values, value system, religions have role to play in combating corruption in Nigeria. Failure to address them would perpetrate corruption in Nigeria.

Sociologically society, family, religion, community,

media and peer group plays significant role in good behaviour, social control, socialization process and value reorientation, good moral, uprightness, upbringing, contentment and trust. Government must encourage all avenue of societal reorientation to a good value system, a value system re-orientation that would de-emphasize the use of money or wealth for recognition, relevance, political appointment and contest and traditional titles.

Government must embark and encourage National orientation programmes and anti-corruption crusade to increase social awareness on the economic, social, legal and cultural implications of corrupt behaviour in our society. Our members of society must make efforts to eradicate the behaviour of zero-sum game, the losers lose all, the winner wins all or winner takes all. This makes struggle for power, authority or promotion in service as do or die affairs or life and death. Both government and members of societies from the grass root must encourage and institutionalized reward and sanction for disconformities or improper behaviour. All Nigerian societies, religious institutions included, must come together to inculcate self disciplined, self controlled, integrity, honesty, respect, trust and obedience into the mind, trait, attitude and personality of members of Nigerian societies. It is an obligatory duty for parents, community leaders and religious priests to train members of society to be law abiding citizens to conform to norms and value of society to grow up with good behaviour. This will reflect a good behavior and sincerity in government or any political process among Nigerian citizens.

However, civil society groups, social groups must also be mobilize and sensitize through campaign and increased public awareness by disseminating the behaviour expected from government in general and public offices in order to improve accountability, good behaviour, trust and transparency. These would reduce drastically the rate of corruption, indiscipline and misconduct in public service. A cultural revolution must be carried out to restore our value system and system of beliefs in our society. This must start from home and parents and all hands must be on deck to restore these values and norms, because it is the womb where corruption, evils and improper behaviours were conceived and nurtured. Charity begins at home, (good parents lead to good children, and good children lead to good future generation and society)

CONCLUSION

The paper centered on a form of connection between causes, dimensions, adverse effects and solutions of corruption in Nigeria. The paper has discovered that corruption has political, economic and socio-cultural definitions, causes, genesis, dimensions and negative effects. The paper has also discovered that corruption

has largely retarded and impeded Nigerian political, economic and social development. If Nigerian government is serious about fighting corruption, the combination of political, economic and socio-cultural measures must put together and address collectively in order to make effective impact on reducing corruption to the minimal level in Nigeria. With reference to that the paper provides political, economic and socio-cultural measures in alleviating and controlling the level of corruption in Nigeria.

Politically, government must encourage the application of rule of law, practice of constitution, effective leadership and effective law enforcement agencies and judicial reform and independence.

Economically, government must improve economic conditions, quality of life, standard of living, social amenities and services of the citizens. Socio-culturally, government must encourage and promote grass root re-orientation of societal norms and values, value and belief system and effective socio-cultural awareness among the citizens through the use of family, peer group, media, religions and schools.

Finally, no country, be it developed or developing in the global world that can claim to be free from corruption, corruption is inevitable in human life or activity. What varies is level or rate of corruption from one society to another. And what can be done successfully is to curb to minimal or lowest level to allow for meaningful development in Nigeria.

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