

**Terrorism and the National Question in Nigeria**

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## Certification

This thesis titled “**Terrorism and the National Question in Nigeria**” was carried out by **Akintunde Bashir BUSARI** with Matric No. **LCU/PG/001222** in the Department of Politics and International Relations, Faculty of Management and Social Sciences, Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria, under my supervision.

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## **Dedication**

I return all Glory to God. This Thesis is dedicated to the Almighty God, the ever faithful God, the One that knows the end from the beginning, the Sustainer of my life, the One that has given me the grace to come this far and to successfully conclude the programme.

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## **Abstract**

In recent times, acts of terrorism perpetrated by Boko Haram terrorists and other new terrorist groups have escalated, making Nigeria one of the most impacted countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The main objective of the study was to examine the impact of terrorism on the national question in Nigeria. This study examined the activities of the different terrorist groups and the consequent national question which had led to political, ethnic and religious upheavals in Nigeria. The study also examined ongoing measures against terrorism and the impact of terrorism on Nigeria's national security. The background of the study gives an insight on the evolution of terrorist groups in Nigeria, their modes of operation, effects on citizens and the socio-economic and political impact on the country. The qualitative research method was used for this study. Social Contract Theory was adopted, and data were obtained through face-to-face and telephone interviews with 40 respondents. The non-probabilistic purposive sampling method was used with Borno State as the focus. Recommendations were made to aid counter-terrorist agencies in developing and applying additional and effective workable strategies in their fight against terrorism. Policies were recommended that may discourage terrorism initiations in Nigeria. Different social problems were identified stating the main reasons and primary causes of terrorism in Nigeria. Recommendations were made to boost the capacities of security agencies as well as address the prevailing social problems and inequalities affecting ethnic groups in Nigeria. This is to ensure that citizens across the country, who are vulnerable targets of terrorists' vicious activities, are protected and provided with opportunities. This is to make them self-reliant and useful citizens, thus preventing the aggravation of the national question through insecurity.

**Keywords:** Terrorism, National Question, National Security, Borno State.

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## List of Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
AQIM -	Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb
AMISOM -	African Union Mission in Somalia
ADF -	Allied Democratic Forces
FARDC -	Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo
ATS-G -	Automated Targeting System - Global
API -	Application Programming Interface
CJTF-HOA -	Combined Joint Task Force- Horn of Africa
CFR -	Council on Foreign Relations
CT -	Counter-terrorism
DFLP -	Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine
ECOWAS -	Economic Community of West African States
FATF -	Financial Action Task Force
FBI -	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FTF -	Foreign Trained Fighters
GWOT -	Global War on Terror
GTI -	Global Terrorism Index
GSU -	General Service Unit
ISIL -	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
IDP -	Internally Displaced Persons
ISWAP -	Islamic State in the West African Province
IPOB -	Indigenous People of Biafra
IMA -	Islamic Military Alliance
ISGS -	Islamic State in the Greater Sahara

IAN	-	International Alert Nigeria
LRA	-	Lord Resistant Army
MNJTF	-	Multi-national Joint Task Force
MINUSMA	-	Multi-dimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
NCF	-	National Consultative Forum
PNR	-	Passenger Name Record
RSSRR	-	Regional Strategy for Stabilization Recovery and Resilience
SDP	-	Social Democratic Party
TSCTP	-	Trans-Saharan Counter-terrorism Partnership
ACLED	-	The Armed Conflict Location and Event Data
TPA	-	Terrorism Prevention Act
UNSC	-	United Nations Security Council
UNHCR	-	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
WANEP	-	West Africa Network of Peace-building

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