

# President Buhari's One Year Administration In Nigeria: Challenges And Achievements

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*Abstract: President Buhari like any other president across the world in modern time who came to power through democratic election usually showcase their successes and failures recorded whenever they complete one calendar year in office. On the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2016, the President in a national broadcast to the nation to mark his 100 days in office presented to Nigerians his drawbacks and his triumphs that will be use to assess him while comparing it with his acceptance/inaugural speech on his swearing-in day a year ago on the 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2015. The author of this paper used the opportunity to assess Buhari in his one year steering of Nigeria as a civilian President. In view of this therefore, the paper using qualitative content analysis methodology x-rays the Buhari's Administration through the review of latest Nigeria newspapers and related available documents and presents his achievements and failures within the specified period under study. The paper in its findings reveals that his challenges are results of long years of exercise of the British colonial activities in Nigeria which culminated in merging different and unmatched ethnic groups together under a federation followed by prevalent and continuous agitation for marginalization by different ethnic groups in the Nigeria state since Nigeria political independence in 1960. The paper's major recommendations based on the findings is for Buhari to implement the recommendations of the Constitutional Conference of 2014 in full because it is a unanimous voice of Nigerians on how to live together in peace, preserve the unity of their nation and govern themselves and it will correct all the agitation for any marginalization. The second important recommendation is an appeal to all Nigerians to cooperate with Buhari based on his transparent and practical campaign against corruption as demonstrated by the publication of the recovered loots by past political leaders and public servants.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

On the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015, one time (31<sup>st</sup> December, 1983-27<sup>th</sup> August, 1985) Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, General Muhammadu Buhari was colorfully sworn-in as an elected civilian President by the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice of Nigeria at the Eagle Square, Abuja after a landslide electoral victory following the defeat of the then President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan at the poll.

Buhari in his inaugural address to the nation (Nigeria) and the world outlined and showcased his administration's "immediate concern" and resolve to tackle the security

challenges particularly the Boko Haram insurgency in the North Eastern Nigeria, the Niger Delta situation, improving power supply to give Nigerians light, pervasive corruption headlong, fuel shortages, youth unemployment, update dilapidated physical infrastructure, uphold separation of powers among arms of government. Others include discourage the use of incumbent administrative fiat and power to interfere in the affairs of the legislature and as well preserve judicial independence amongst others.

According to Buhari while using the presidential inaugural speech to thank the government and people of Cameroon, Chad and Niger for their assistance in committing their armed forces to fight Boko Haram in Nigeria, said he

wish to assure the international community of the readiness of his administration to combat threats of cross-border terrorism (Philips 2015) and promised to relocate the Nigeria Military Command and control Centre from Abuja to Maiduguri and promised that the military will remain there until Boko Haram is completely defeated and subdued which could only be achieved when the over 200 girls abducted from a secondary school in Chibok, Borno State and all other innocent persons held hostage by the insurgents are rescued.

He reintegrated that Nigeria will not regret for entrusting the national responsibility to them and he strongly promised Nigerians that his government will not succumb to hopelessness and defeatism because his government "can fix our problems" even though he knows that apart from Boko Haram, other security challenges such as high rate of kidnapping, assassination, armed robberies, herdsmen/farmers clashes and cattle rustlings are also prevalent.

In another development, President Buhari strongly promised Nigerians that his government will heavily invest in the Amnesty Programme in Niger delta even though, it will end in December, 2015

On Power Buhari lamented and attributed the poor economic performance in Nigeria to the power situation regretting and describing it as a shame for a nation having over 180 million people to be generating only 4,000 mega watts of electricity and even abysmally distributing less

Finally, Based on the manifesto that brought him to power through the All Progressive Congress (APC), he promised to tackle youth unemployment through revival of agriculture, as well as solid minerals and mining. Others to include granting credit facilities to facilitate the setting up of small and medium enterprises.

## II. REACTIONS TO BUHARI'S INAUGURAL SPEECH

Reactions thrill-in after Buhari concluded his inaugural speech as compiled by Alade (2015) of the Vanguard Newspaper. Prominent among them are some prominent international personalities as well as some national dignitaries. John Kerry, the U.S Secretary of State sees Buhari's speech as a powerful agenda promising that the United States would support Buhari's Administration in the area of the Boko Haram insurgency and the economic challenges being faced in Nigeria. U.K represented by U.K's Foreign Secretary, Philip Hammond promised after the inaugural speech to help Nigeria in diversifying the economy from reliance on oil and also help in the security situation as well as tackling corruption and ensure that security agencies operates within the ambit of human rights. President Zuma of South Africa speaking in an interview with national Television also described the inaugural speech of Buhari as a very perfect example to all Africa and that Africans are happy. Egyptian representative (Egypt Foreign Affairs Minister) urged Buhari to ensure that all issue raised while delivering his presidential inaugural speech be fully implemented. Liberia President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf congratulated Buhari and say that dark days of wars and coup d'etat as a means of changing government in Africa is over and testifies that Africa now is characterized by deepening democracy based on the inaugural ceremony of Buhari.

Back home in Nigeria were former President Goodluck Jonathan, Atiku Abubakar, APC Presidential Aspirants who was defeated at the APC Presidential primary election by Muhammadu Buhari, Opeyemi Bamidele, Member of the House of Representatives, Professor Onuremi Sonaiya a Presidential Candidate of KOWA Party in the March Presidential election, Mr Tari Dounana Bayelsa State Chairman of the Trade Union Congress of Nigeria to mention but just a few gave pass mark to Buhari's Inaugural Speech.

The above promises made by Buhari and the encomiums by powerful super power nations over the Buhari's inaugural speech raises the dead hope of Nigerians because Buhari according to Adekoya (2016) though, ruled Nigeria between the year 1983 and 1985 as a Military Head of State, he enjoyed a high reputation for undoubting integrity and for his total and open war against corruption coupled with his doggedness therefore, many Nigerians strongly believed him when he promised them of his mind-boggling corruption and also his unwavering determination and pledge to crush Boko Haram because of his vast experience as a military and a no-nonsense demeanor lent credibility. Adekoya further asserts that an nearly overwhelming Nigerians after the inaugural speech on the 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 relied and confidently trusted Buhari that the ailing Nigeria economy due to global oil glut will be revive and be rejuvenated. Finally, Adekoya submits and rhetorically ask, "a year later, does all the optimism surrounding Buhari's victory seems justified?" (Adekoya, 2016) or more appropriately let me also ask, a year later, does all the promises to Nigerians arising from Buhari's inaugural speech before the whole world reasonably realized? It is the above simple but difficult questions that this write-up will answer.

## III. BUHARI'S CHALLENGES IN HIS ONE YEAR RULE IN NIGERIA

From Buhari's One Year Anniversary nation-wide broadcast on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016 coupled with several other sources available to the writer of this article, there are very many challenges confronting Buhari's administration despite his fantastic and unwavering promises he rolled out to Nigerians on the day of his swearing-in.

While Buhari was taking over the mantle of administering Nigeria from the then outgoing President Goodluck Jonathan one year ago, he declared that Boko Haram insurgence has taken over fourteen (14) local governments out of the seven hundred and seventy four (774) from the Nigeria state and had erected their flag there. Buhari speaks tough on the Boko Haram insurgence in the North Eastern Nigeria after taking oath of office and promised to "crush it". However, within a twinkle of an eye one year has passed and Boko Haram insurgents still persist and thrive in its stronghold at the Sambisa Forest in Borno State as the soldiers were not able to completely out-run and subdue the forest. This is contrary to President Buhari's pledge to Nigerians. The sect is successfully launching its bombing activities in different locations since Buhari took over power. Many innocent Nigerians is losing their lives and billions of properties been destroyed and also women and children are still been abducted

from different locations. Also, the over 200 girls abducted from their secondary school before Buhari took over power are yet to be recovered from the hands of their abductors as Buhari pledged while being sworn-in. Though, in his one year anniversary speech he said that for him to end his speech on a happy note to the delight of all his listeners, two of the abducted Chibok Girls have regained their freedom (Buhari, 2016). To the parents of these girls and to inquisitive Nigerians there is nothing to be celebrated for only two girls out of over 200. Going by this, Buhari's perception of his performance over the release of the two Chibok missing girls is a great achievement. Mathematicians would prove beyond reasonable doubt that Buhari's performance in this direction is woeful because 2 out of 200 (let's even assume they are) will mean that averagely by the time he will complete his first term of four years, only 8 girls will be recovered. Supposing he re-contest the 2019 presidential election and win he will end up rescuing only 16 girls accordingly which is just 8%/100 of the total girls because that is what you get when you divide 16 by  $200 \times 100/1$ . Therefore, at the end of his tenure 184 of the girls will still be at large. In mathematical scoring the above performance do not only represent failure, it represent woeful failure. Supposing he do not win the presidency come 2019 and we assume that averagely he is able to rescue another six girls in addition to the two already recovered, the girls recover would be eight in number. It means that he will score 4%/100 because that represent the exact figure you get when you divide 8 by  $200 \times 100/1$ . Here it will mean that at the end of his tenure in 2019, 192 girls will still not be seen by their parents and relations. Indeed, instead of crushing Boko Haram based on his tough talk while accepting his office as President-elect, Buhari in his one year anniversary said the effort of his administration is to free the abducted Chibok girls from their mindless captors have been centered around negotiations (Buhari, 2016). Therefore, the certainty of the freedom of the girls from hands of the captors is questionable before Buhari's tenure will come to an end since no one could tell when the Government and the Boko Haram could agree to come together to commence the negotiation.

Decline in the price of oil in the international oil market is also posing great challenge to Buhari's Administration. According to Buhari, from 2010 price of oil in the international oil market averagely swings in US \$100 per barrel but the economic condition in the global market grows from bad to worse and oil price as from 2015 begins a steady declining and price per barrel now stands as low as US \$30. The resultant effect of this development in Nigeria due to her over reliance and over dependence on only oil revenue as a source of administering the nation is catastrophic in poor revenue generation by the Government of the Federation. Nigeria Government in order to make both ends meet therefore, like all other rich oil producing states, have to take tough decision while struggling with the drastic drop in the global oil price. The causes according to Buhari are external forces beyond the control and management of the Government of Nigeria which are three-fold including a 70% drop in global oil price, slow down in global growth, and normalization of monetary policy by the United States Federal Reserve (Buahri, 2016 in Nwabughio, 2016).

President Buhari also inherited huge debt owed contractors and suppliers by state governments. In fact, according to Buhari (2016) in Nwabughio (2016), twenty seven (27) states government could not be able to pay salaries of their workers which is being owed them for several months. After taking over, Buhari approved and released US \$3.5 billion bailout fund to the bankrupt states (Okpamen, 2015) that could not pay salaries of their worker to do so. Amidst of releasing this money to states, many critics critique the giving of the bailout fund to the states on ground that the governors had earlier received the salaries of their workers from the Federation Account through the monthly allocation. Expressing their disappointment it is speculated that If the Buhari that we elected is the same Buhari that was the Head of States from 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1983-28<sup>th</sup> August 1985, he wouldn't have release such a whopping sum to the state in the name of any bailout but to look for these governors and bring them to book to pay up to the last amount the money they collected from the Federation Account. Most annoying thing is the fact that some governors who enjoyed the bailout fund are still the same governors who embezzled the fund. Rhetorically, how can a governor embezzled money and you are giving another money for the same purpose? Like Kayode (2015) in Okpamen (2015) put it is really unfortunate that governors who flamboyantly lived and mismanaged their state resources should be begging for bailout. He further stressed that while it is very good to provide the fund to relief the workers of their suffering, measures should be taken to ensure that the same mismanagement do not re-occur. Utomi (2015) in Okpamen (2015) also take almost the same line of Kayode above saying that what happened should be a lesson for the government to erect a strong and stringent conditionality that will prevent future mismanagement and spending that is not necessary by political office holders.

The administration as well is facing the challenge of an inherited epileptic power supply arising from long years of neglect and corruption in the power sector. Buhari in his inaugural address said that the power sector gulped about US \$20 billion between 1999 to that May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 when government is being handed over to him and what Nigerians got from this whopping sum of money invested in the power sector is total darkness, misery and frustration (Buhari, 2015). Nigerians had been expecting that Buhari having made a strong condemnation of the set back nigeria is facing as a result of failure of past leaders would have immediately take the bull by the horn and immediately after his oath of office take drastic action having recognized in his inaugural address that power is responsible for the poor performance of the economy over the year but virtually Nigeria did not see the impact of Buhari in the area of power supply within his one year in office. Rather, the power situation grows worse everyday. In fact, Households in Nigeria as well as banks, companies, organizations and others including power generating companies in their various office across the country had to resort to generating set for their daily power consumption using their lean resources. Among the African nations not to talk of Asia, Latin America and the advanced economies of the world, Nigeria is the only country that has interrupted power supply. Government come and go and Nigerians remains in darkness still our leaders stand boldly in

other countries of the world to claim being the giant of Africa. The most annoying part of it all is that the names and nomenclature of the sole power generating company continue to change to deceive Nigerians that power will be restored and the company continue to exploit Nigerians through increasing tariffs thereby making the consumers to pay higher for light that they hardly see. For instance, in January 2016, the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) announced an increase in electricity tariff by 45% and based on complaints from electricity consumers, Babatunde Fashola, the Minister for Power, Works and Housing while defending the increase during a public hearing before the Senate Committee on Labour and Power on the increase of electricity tariff clearly declared that "there will be no going back on the 45% increase on electricity tariff because a reversal would cost over N575 billion" (Babatunde, 2016). Now, those without meters in their houses based on the new tariff increase will pay almost N12,000:00 per month because they now pay for 400 units whether the light is there or not. Getting the meter is even another story because funny funny enough the process of getting the meter is too cumbersome and very costly unlike other countries where the meter is given free.

Decaying and dilapidated infrastructures across the country is one of the items that captured the glimpse of President Buhari during his speech of acceptance as President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the nation shortly after his swearing-in stating that his administration will have to upgrade to a standard the dilapidated physical infrastructures and look at the whole field of medical care across the nation. One whole year passed out of his four years of tenure without any attempt by the president to tackle these existing challenges he inherited from his predecessor.

One other important item extracted from the Buhari Presidential inaugural speech in May 2015 is the social problems of the Fulani herdsmen/farmers clashes alongside with cattle rustlings and high rate of kidnappings in almost if not all the states across the country which he agreed is adding more insult to the security injuries in Nigeria. To prevent Nigerians from allaying any fear relating to the enlisted challenges he assured Nigerians with all sense of optimism that his administration is determined to erect a formidable, efficient, and a well-compensated security agents that will be well maintained (Buhari, 2015) to deal with the menace squarely. The above presidential observation is supported by dozens of evidences analysed below.

Nigerians after the inaugural address hived a sigh of relief and were confident that Buhari has spelled doom for the enlisted kidnappers, herdsmen and cattle rustlers across the nation. Unfolding renewed events and the glaring war declared on innocent Nigerians by the kidnappers, herdsmen and the cattle rustlers across states in Nigeria after the inaugural speech of Buhari shows that Buhari is not up to their task. As a result it was reported that many communities particularly in the North central and Southern States have recently faced several severe attacks allegedly perpetrated by Fulani herdsmen. In Benue state particularly in Tiv and the Agatu land the war between the herdsmen and the locals has been on the increase. It was reported on the 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 by Godwin (2016) of daily Post that in the renewed attack in

Agatu land 300 people were reportedly killed. The same case which is most fresh and recent was the night massacre that took place on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 in Nimbo Community in Uzo-Uwani Local Government Area of Enugu State which was reported by Okoli, Ovuakpori, Ijumadu, Agbakwuru, & Ozor (2016) that no fewer than 40 persons lost their lives. The youth organization in the affected areas had declared that "...the Federal Government under Buhari has failed to protect them" (Okoli, Ovuakpori, Ijumadu, Agbakwuru, & Ozor, 2016). The national Assembly after the Nimbo attacks also has come out to say that the frequent attacks by Fulani herdsmen was capable of threatening Nigeria's corporate existence (Okoli, Ovuakpori, Ijumadu, Agbakwuru, & Ozor, 2016).

The rate of kidnapping and associated true stories surrounding it is full in the pages of Nigeria newspapers daily in such a way that it has become a normal life style of Nigerians and in Nigeria because no Nigerian is panic by kidnapping stories again. Though, it exists in all parts of Nigeria, it is well pronounced, most common and highly frequent in the southern part of Nigeria where it has been turned to a good and fast business of making quick money in tens and hundreds of millions the demanding for ransom. That is why the kidnapping diary is packed full of names of prominent politicians, the bourgeoisies, the capitalists, the nobles, the aristocratic class etc because it is from these categories of class of people that openly and carelessly displays their ostentatious life style in the midst of hungry, haggard, frustrated and extremely poor masses and it is from them that tens and hundreds of millions are easily extracted by the kidnapping compradors. A most recent case was the kidnapping of the former Minister of State for Education, Iyabo Anisulowo which the Spokesman for the Ogun State Police Command, Muyiwa Adejobi confirmed that she was kidnapped in Ilaro yelwa South local Government Area of Ogun State on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 (Adedeji, 2016). Oladele (2016) has called on the National Assembly of Nigeria to enact a law that will classify kidnapping as an act of terrorism in order to deter the perpetrators of the evil to suffer the consequences of their act. Though the security agents are trying their best within their available resources, the persistent and the continued thriving of these nefarious activities across the country was as a result of the failure of a well equipped security apparatus and lack of security agents in the remote areas. Nigerians expected that Buhari would have done something more serious over the issue. They were even shocked that Buhari tactically refused to comment on the challenges of the Fulani herdsmen, kidnapping and the assassination across the country while delivering his speech for his one year anniversary as he speak on challenges despite the deadly havoc these menace are ravaging in the country.

In another development, the Buhari inaugural address raised the hope and morale of the people of the oil producing states in the Niger Delta Region when he promised them that his government plans to invest heavily in the Amnesty projects and Programmes and he solicited for their cooperation in this regard in order to make it more effective even though, it suppose to end in December, 2015. The action over this promise remains silence until his one year anniversary broadcast to the nation when he again made mention of his

commitment of implementing the United Nation's Environmental Programme Report and to advance clean –up operations and to re-engineer the Amnesty Programme as relates to the Niger Delta. The consequence of the inaction of actualizing the promises after one year has led to build up tensions in the Niger Delta Region and the launching of operation bombing of oil pipelines by the Niger Delta militants across the states of the Delta region accordingly. The Buhari Government has also intervened and responded to the militants activities according to Amaize, Oyadogha, Obasi, Yafugborhi, Omafuaire & Brisibe (2016) militarily on the 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 by dispatching five War Ships, 100 Gunboats, and fighter jets to the Niger Delta Creeks. This is a clear indication of imminent war in the delta region. Earlier before the redeployment of the soldiers, President Buhari while in China has alarmed those blowing oil installations in the Niger Delta to either desist from the act or be treated as terrorists like the Nigeria North Eastern Boko Haram. As a follow up, he also send Service chiefs to Niger Delta headed by the Chief of Defence Staff, General Gabriel Olanisakin who stormed the headquarters of the operation, Pullo Shield in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2016 (Ugwuanyi, 2016) The resources being invested to prosecute this war would have been use before this unavoidable war to undertake the programmes and projects promised. Delay indeed, they say is not only dangerous. In fact, Senator Bariagha Amade in an Interview of Friday, June 03, 2016 has appealed to President Buhari that dialogue remains the best option for the Niger Delta issue currently on-going than to approach that injurious situation with military solution (Agande, 2016). Also, a human right activist, Ann Kio Briggs has urged Buhari to embark on immediate withdrawal of soldiers that were redeployed to some communities in the Niger Delta region because it could cause provocation that may result in tension in the area (Ejiofor, 2016).

One year after Buhari raised the hope of teeming Nigeria unemployed youths at the well decorated Abuja Eagle Square of providing job for them job, they are still waiting to no avail even though, he said it is one of the top item in the All Progressive Party (APC) manifesto that brought him to power. Though, he told Nigerians on the 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 while marking the 17<sup>th</sup> year of uninterrupted democracy in Nigeria which collided with his one year anniversary in office that N500 billion Naira was earmarked in the 2016 Budget for social intervention programmes and that 500,000 teachers and 100,000 artisan across the country will benefit accordingly, Nigerians don't know if even those without education background and qualification will also be employed as teachers as well and if not, it then mean that the alarming unemployment rate will continue because the percentage of those with education background is very negligible when compared with those without education background. In our tertiary institutions for instance, universities we have only one faculty of education each, in the polytechnics we don't even have any school of education. It is only our colleges of education that every school is purely education courses. It therefore, mean that the Buhari employment opportunity he promised Nigerians should be revisited if it has to accommodate others.

Another challenges of Buhari within his one year in office is the arresting and prosecuting of looters of the Nigeria treasury. The challenges include protection of these categories of people by the law, the judiciary, human rights and other organizations which made Buhari lamented while on his speech for his one year in office describing the entire processes as tedious and time consuming. Indeed, the Government of Buhari who vowed on the inauguration day to recover all looted funds of Nigeria from past leaders and whosoever is connected to looting is being hampered and hitting a rock due to lack of fund. The Presidency lamented and said that lack of fund is stalling Nigeria's effort to trace and prosecute the former government officials who are responsible for the heist (Ibekwe, 2016). Also in a Letter to Simon Taylor, Director, Global Witness (United Kingdom based anti-corruption organization) dated February 15, 2016 signed by Bolaji Owasanoye, the Executive Secretary, Presidential Advisory Committee on Corruption soliciting for assistance in order to raise fund states that as a result of fall in the prices of crude oil and other facts like the economic downturn has rendered the government incapacitated to have funds that will be needed to pursue the funds looted.

One of the strongest challenge of Buhari one year in office was the wide-spread demonstration by the Igbo youths to realize the "Sovereign State of Biafra" by the South-Eastern people of Nigeria in 2015 shortly after Buhari was sworn-in. Earlier on in May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1967, Colonel Odumegwu Ojukwu (now Late) had declared the Biafra Republic which eventually culminated into a Civil War that lasted for about thirty months. The 1967 declaration is available on the following link <http://www.blackpast.org/biafras-declaration-independence1967&http://www.africafederation.net/Biafra.htm>. The organizations that are championing the re-declaration of the Biafra sovereign state are Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB), Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and Biafra Independent Movement (BIM). Though, MASSOB was launched by a Nigerian Indian-trained Lawyer, Raph Uwazuruike who was accused of violence, arrested and charged for treason by Nigeria Government in 2005 and released 2007, MASSOB was renewed in Okwe in the Okikwe district of Imo State in 2014 by the Director of Radio Biafra (a radio which initially began transmission from London), Nnamdi Kanu. The full text of the declaration is available on the following link <http://dailypost.ng/2014/06/01/nigeria-will-cease-exist-december-2015-biafra-movement-leader/>. Capturing an important portion of the Kalu declaration, he said that "there is no going back, by December 2015, Nigeria would have seized to exists; we shall fight until we get Biafra, if they don't give us Biafra, no human being will remain alive in Nigeria by that time. We shall turn everybody into corpse, you better go and buy your coffin" (Uzodinma, 2014). Kanu later declared that it is appropriate to bring radio Biafra home and we are on the FM frequency covering a segment of Eastern Nigeria (Kanu, 2015 in Madugba, Omonisa, Mamah, Igata, Okonkwo et al (2016). He used the radio station to promote the realization of Biafra sovereign state from the Nigeria state because he said that "actualization" is no longer the acceptable but "realization" because Biafra has already been actualize in 1970 by Odumugwu Ojukwu. The Radio station became a

campaign organization for realizing Biafra state. This eventually led to Kanu's arrest in Lagos by Department of State Service (DSS) on his visit to Nigeria. His arrest has further triggered the clamor for realization of Biafra state and demand for his immediate release. Ever since Kanu was arrested, the Eastern axis of Nigeria have not witness a day without demonstration in one place or the other. Severally, the Onitsha-Asaba Highway has been blocked as a results of protest resulting in the death of many both youths and security agents. The most recent was the clash between the youths and the police on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 which the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) in a statement signed by its spokespersons, Emma Mmezu and Clifford Iroanya has alleged that the security agents were shooting at agitators deliberately while they were celebrating 50<sup>th</sup> year of the struggle for the Biafra sovereign state. The statement claimed that the incident led to death of 23 people as a result of shooting that commenced from 1:30 am at the St' Edmund Church Compound, Nkpor, Anambra State (Ugwuanyi, 2016). Over the alleged killing, the Deputy Senate President of Nigeria, Ike Ekweremadu while moving a motion and addressing his distinguished Senators at the floor of the Senate on the 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2016 described the killings of protesters by troops in major parts of the South-East as reported by major Nigeria newspapers as uncalled for and that the security agents should be responsible (Usman, 2016).

#### IV. BUHARI'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN HIS FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE

Though, the Buhari Administration is challenged by several factors as enumerated above, the Administration had recorded success in certain areas within the one year in office.

In his acceptance speech, President Buhari after taking oath of office on may 29, 2015, assured Nigerians of his plan to relocate the command and control centre of the Nigeria Army to Maiduguri to challenge the Boko Haram insurgency, comb the Sambisa Forest and rescue the over 200 Chibok girls. By June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 it was reported by the Nigeria Army Spokesman, Sani Usman that the Nigeria Army has relocated its command centre to Maiduguri, the Borno State capital which was in accordance to the pronouncement made by Buhari and as directed by the Chief of Army Staff Kenneth Minimah (Ibeh, 2015). As a result, the Army confirmed the establishment of a Military Command and Control Centre (MCCC) Maiduguri accordingly. Following the relocation of the military command to Maiduguri, great success was recorded to push the Boko Haram from its occupied territories to their major strong hold in Sambisa forest.

It was reported that it was as a result of deadline of three months given by President Buhari to the military to defeat Boko Haram that assisted the military to seek quick and fast solutions to the defeat of the insurgency according to John Campbell (Naokes, 2015). Buhari had earlier on before the year runs out declared that Boko Haram has been 'technically defeated'. This fact could be proved to some reasonable extent because Boko Haram has lost all the territories captured and declared with their flags been flown. Also, Boko Haram is no longer embarking on conventional warfare again as the case

before which made Buhari to declared that Boko Haram can no longer take over towns again. Apart from the killing of several Boko Haram members by the Nigeria security forces, it has partially disrupted the media coordination existing between Boko Haram and the Islamic State (I.S). Again, Boko Haram video release is far slower than before. Once more, Maiduguri that is known for constant raid by the Boko haram insurgency is no longer at risk from the frequent attack again. Finally, the imminent threat that the Boko Haram insurgency was posing to the territorial integrity of the nation has drastically been checked by the Nigeria forces in recent time (Zenn, 2016).

The above success over the Boko Haram insurgency is credited to many factors ranging from disruption of the food and weapons supply routes to Boko Haram into Borno State from neighbouring countries coupled with the appointment of Tukur Buratai as a new Chief of Army Staff and other officers which did not only boost the soldiers morale but ginger them to put an end to Boko Haram insurgency from their father land. Other factors as well includes Buhari's visit to leaders of Nigeria's neighbouring countries over the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria and hosting of key international partners including France, United states and India which did not only enhance regional and international approach to Boko Haram weakness but assisted Nigeria greatly to share military intelligent ideas and equipments and help in providing relief materials to internally displaced persons and refugees in Chad sub- region. Again the open and practical campaign against corruption coupled with the arrest and detention of Col Sambo Dasuki (former Chief Security Adviser to President Jonathan Goodluck) over the arms deal saga restored the lost glory of the Presidency and returned to most Nigerians the battered confidence on government to protect them and their properties thereby allowing them to go with Buhari and the military to end insurgency in the North East. Fifth, the destruction of the multi-camps of Boko Haram in different locations and the Sambisa Forest (the stronghold of weapons) assisted the counter insurgency operation to be very successful. Finally, the relocation of the Military Command and Control Centre to Maiduguri, The Borno State Capital, the centre-heat of the Boko Haram insurgency by Buhari is a catalyst that is enhancing the fast tracking of the near defeat of the insurgency because all the Service Chiefs and their surrounding top officers moved to the forefront of the war instead of sitting in the air conditioner offices in Abuja and be issuing reluctant command.

Without mincing words, Buhari after receiving staff of office from Goodluck Jonatahn made avowed promise to chase all corruptive people that had loot the nation's treasury through anti-corruption campaign. As a follow-up to his promise while in London on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Buhari had in an interview during the global anti-corruption summit states that the details of loots of the Nigeria treasury will be made known to the nation on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016 to mark his one year anniversary. He said "So far, what has come out, what has been recovered in whatever currency from each ministries, departments and individuals, I intend on the 29<sup>th</sup> (May 2016) to speak on this because of the number of people arrested either by EFCC (Economic and Financial Crime Commission), DSS (Directorate of State Security). But we

want to make a comprehensive report on the 29<sup>th</sup> (Ogundipe, 2016). On that 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 while addressing the nation through nation-wide broadcast to mark his one year anniversary he informed Nigerians that the Minister for Information will later announced the loots which was contrary to his promise. The Minister later in the evening of the same 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 on Channels Television told Nigerians that the expected list of loots the President said is not yet ready but promised it will come out before that week runs out but will only be published accordingly (Mohammed, 2016 in Ogundipe, 2016). As a result, the President came under severe attack in the media where Nigerians criticized him for failing to reveal the names of looters to Nigerians as he promised earlier. However, on the 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 Akosile (2016) reported that in line with President Buhari's earlier promise in London, the Minister for Information and Culture, Lai Mohammed on behalf of President Buhari had released an interim Report specifying the Cash and assets of the loots accordingly. According to the statement, the amount recovered is N3.4 Trillion which include recoveries under interim forfeiture (Assets and cash) while the amount that is being awaited from the United States, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom is N115 billion (click on this link <http://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2016/06/05/keeping-his-promise-buhari-announces-recovery-of-n3-4-trillion-in-one-year/> for further details. This is a landslide achievement for President Buhari in his one year in office.

## V. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The challenges that confronted Buhari in managing and administering Nigeria within one year as President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which some are not as a result of his own lapses is not abnormal and unusual in the Nigeria state. It has ever been like that since the British Colonial Masters bequeathed on Nigerians an unbalanced federation made up of over two hundred and fifty ethnic groupings with emphasis on majority-minority well promoted.

The nation is characterized by high tension hatred among the ethnic groups, over-emphasis on religious consideration above national coherent integration, over promotion of ethnic and tribal bigotry adhered and entrenched in the Nigeria constitution by the so-called forty nine members of the Constitutional Drafting Committee (CDC) set by good-intentioned Murtala Mohammed in October 1975. The war of scrambling for controlling the national affairs through the juicy presidency is sustained by all the ethnic groups particularly among the three giant British created and acclaimed major ethnic groups of Hausa/Fulani, Yorubas and the igbos. Irrespective of how good a president and his policies and programmes is provided that president is not from a particular ethnic group, the other major ethnic groups will sponsor all forms of violence to make the throne and other region other than his own ungovernable for him. This indeed, is the open trend since the British handed over Nigeria to us in 1960 and this explains the multifaceted coups, counter-coup and coup d'état and the Civil war during the military era and also responsible for the post electoral and

other sectarian killings where dozens of people died and properties that cannot be quantify in monetary term are lost.

The challenges currently facing Buhari and threatening the national unity of Nigeria from the other different regions in Nigeria may not be unconnected with the cry for marginalization in different social, economic and political benefits accruing to the nation. Some has call for negotiation between the government and the parties involved to resolve the differences. In view of this I wish to state as follows:

That apart from tackling Boko Haram and carrying out of campaign war against corruption and chasing of looters, the Buhari administration failed in his one year in office in many other areas contrary to expectations of Nigerians based on his promise which made tensions to build up and blown open giving birth to many violence across the country particularly in areas of infrastructure development and official visit to states in Nigeria. In the light of these I wish to recommends as follows:

That another war in Nigeria is no longer needed because up till now Nigeria is yet to recover from the civil war that was fought between 1967-1970 because the wound is yet to be heal after it has gone forty six years ago;

That any war embark upon in Nigeria again will draw the nation back to another darkness and may bring about its total collapse like pack of cards after all, it has been predicted by the world power that Nigeria will divide by 2015 which we narrowly escaped and averted last year;

That all elements and ingredients of negotiation that anyone may proffer at this trying time has already been taken care of by men and women of proven integrity and experience picked by their respective people, community, associations, labour unions, etc to represent them and speak their voice in the painstakingly conducted and money consuming Constitutional Conference under the Goodluck Jonathan Administration in 2014, the full report of which is accessible through this link <http://media.premiumtimesng.com/national-conference/wp-content/uploads/National-Conference-2014-Report-August-2014-Table-of-Contents-Chapters-1-7.pdf>.

That President Mohammadu Buhari should without further delay implement the Report of the Constitutional Conference of 2014 since it takes care of rotational presidency among the characters of Nigeria, provide equal opportunity for every Nigerians and will promote unity, national integration among Nigeria and as well will create a sense of belonging to every Nigerians alike.

I urged all Nigerians to cooperate with the President in his fierce, fearless and unwavering campaign against corruption which was openly demonstrated to Nigerians and the world by the open publication of the loots of our nation's resources by people of selfish interest that has made you, me and our children to suffer for the past years.

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