

**POOR GOVERNANCE AND THE CHALLENGES OF HUMAN SECURITY IN
WUKARI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF TARABA STATE
NIGERIA (2015-2021)**

by

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ABSTRACT

The problems with human security date back to the time of independence, when the newly elected indigenous politicians engaged in an intense political struggle for control of the government at the expense of impeding national development, which is meant to lead to human security. This absence of governance which is caused by politicians at the federal, state and local governments in Nigeria has a spill-over effect that can be seen in many local communities in Nigeria. It is on this premise that this study examines poor governance and the challenges of human security in the Wukari Local Government area of Taraba State. The study employed a survey research design, while a mixed method research method was employed for the study. The theory employed for the study is the Marxian theory of postcolonial state. The study finds out that, corrupt public officeholders in Taraba state have hindered the provision of good road networks through political interference in contract procurement. The study recommends that citizens must ensure that only politicians with a track record of integrity and good reports are elected into all elective positions in the state. The suggested solution will make poor governance which has always led to the challenges of human security, a thing of the past.

Keywords: poor governance, human security, politicians, Taraba State, Nigeria

Introduction

The concept of governance is not new, as it is the expected outcome of effective government. Governance means the modus in which power and authority are used in the management of a country's socio-cultural, economic, political, and ecological opportunities to achieve stable sufficiency for all classes of citizens to be able to secure their wellbeing through their initiative and industry (Nwankwo, 2009). Governance is about making and implementing policies that are developmental-oriented. It is doubtful if there could be any stable sufficiency for both the rich and the poor masses without robust effective governance that promotes road infrastructural development to lubricate the economy.

It has been argued that "many African countries embarked on political reform chiefly in support of economic policies and response to donors' demand for such reforms in exchange for external aid" (Fosu, 2019, p.3). Government reforms and policies in most African countries seem not to be conceived

with the ambition of embarking on infrastructural development that will enhance the well-being of the people. Rather, the policies are birthed due to what actors of government in power stand to benefit in the form of aid and assistance from foreign governments and donor agencies; sadly, rather than how to see to the effective implementation of such policies of the government to ensure infrastructural development. Even though scholars like Tanyi, Andre, and Mbah (2018, p. 4) have argued that “policies are supposed to express the general will and can be made only by the government on behalf of the people”. However, inadequate financial budget and funds disallowed the instantaneous rehabilitation of all poor road infrastructures (Zin & Yadollahi, 2012). This has made preferences of criteria for selecting the best projects for the general public to be an important subject in budget allocation for road projects. Therefore, several policies have been made through a budget and implemented without significant growth, as “Nigeria has continued to endure in the group of the least developed countries in the world” (Ugwuanyi & Chukwuemeka, 2013, p. 59). The role of political actors in the implementation of policies is germane in governance. The rate at which the necessity for “improving the development process can be achieved is anchored principally on the ability of the government to formulate suitable policies through budget and the capacity of the actors of governance and] public bureaucracy to effectively implement the formulated policies” (Ugwuanyi, & Chukwuemeka, 2013, p. 59).

Consequent to the foregoing, Nigeria's transport infrastructure is declining at a rate of N800 billion naira per cent per annum, and the quality of service is falling despite the National Transport Policy in 1993 and its implementation in 1993 and 2002 (Ugboaja, 2013). The declining rate of transport infrastructure which is caused by poor governance has negative implications for human security. Most of the above studies were carried out outside the Wukari Local Government area of Taraba State and also argued for sound policy implementation rather than effective governance.

Other scholars focus more specifically on governance as a tool in road infrastructure, Ubi and Udah (2019, p. 150) in their study, “Impact of governance and road infrastructure on industrial growth in Nigeria” conclude that sustainable industrial growth is achievable only when governance through budget implementation leads to road infrastructure to create a business environment that is friendly to investors”. This means that governance plays a vital role in the development process of any economy, and even a more significant role in infrastructure development (Akanbi, 2013). Related to the above observation is the study carried out by Bernstein (2015, p. 71), the scholar contends that "there are many other methods in which governance can conglomerate in practice, and the literature on international development has since acknowledged the significance of governance abilities, design, and reforms for achieving many development goals". The above studies are relevant in that they investigate the subject matter of governance. However, the foregoing subjects are deficient because of their inability to relate the role of governance to human security.

The role of governance in development was brought to the fore when Ajulor (2013) in a study found out that there have been limitations in policy implementation in Nigeria owing to unworkable goal setting, corruption, lack of consideration of the social-political environment, and lack of participation of target beneficiary in policy decisions. Therefore, the kind of poor governance “has created a business environment that makes full participation of the private sector deficient” in Nigeria (Ubi & Udah, 2019, p.130). Even though governance is related to the present study, however, it does not vividly investigate the role of “poor governance in posing challenges to human security” as this study is set out to do.

This study intends to provide an answer to this research question. How has poor governance posed challenges to human security in the Wukari Local Government area of Taraba State between 2015 and 2021?

Literature review

The issue of poor governance and human security in Nigeria dates back to the independence era. At independence, Nigerian leaders engaged in aggressive competition for political power rather than pursuing unpretentious development to enhance human security. This was with the understanding that

political power delivers the only workable stage for the reproduction of material existence (Abada, 2013). For instance, leakages associated with corruption and poor monitoring were significant factors militating against effective capital budget implementation in Nigeria (Effiom & Edet, 2019). Poor governance manifests in the form of corruption and poor monitoring of government projects, hence, the political influence that manifests in the form of corruption and poor monitoring are challenges emanating from the executive to pose challenges to human security. Corruption hinders many potential beneficiaries of economic security from assessing such gestures that ought to help their economic welfare to prevent the threat that they would have suffered if those welfare packages were not available. These imbalances in economic policy formulation and implementation are what Nwala and Ogboji (2020, p. 40) see as “the root problems of Nigeria”.

Effective policy implementation is intrinsically linked to governance. Prasad (2002) holds that governance is the process, as well as the result of making authoritative decisions for the benefit of society. Policies and programmes made for the benefit of society are bound to address threats from danger and fear of what to eat and live and the ability to access good healthcare facilities when the need arises.

Sharma, Sadana, and Kaur (2012, p.65) refer to governance as “how the authority of government is exercised in mobilizing a society’s social and economic resources, to add the issues of public interest”. Governance means that the greatest good is delivered to the greatest number of people to ensure that there is freedom against threat and fear owing to the absence of basic human needs. Bernstein (2015) opines that governance can be categorised into three aspects; they are:

1. Good governance emphasizes processes of decision-making and institutional basis that improve involvement and inclusion, transparency, accountability, access to information, fighting corruption, safeguarding basic human rights and the rule of law;
2. Equitable governance’ stresses larger equity in the sharing of wealth, resources, and opportunities within society;
3. Effective governance is the problem-solving capacity of government to pursue sustainable development through institutional dimensions, technology, expertise, financial resources, and the capability to engage in long-term planning that deals with interconnected problems.

From the above observation, good governance is the practice of making public policies and building institutions that are people-oriented with emphasis on respect for human rights, equality before the law, and zero tolerance for corruption with the understanding that the government is merely a representative of the people that must do the wish of the people they are representing, including the construction of roads for their benefits. Sharma, Sadana, and Kaur (2012) see good governance as a phenomenon that depends on the effective functioning of the executive, legislative, and judiciary to perform the tasks assigned to them with integrity and commitment.

Secondly, we can say that there is equitable governance when there is the provision of public goods for the enjoyment of both the rich and the poor in society, including the construction of roads. Road infrastructure seems to be an example of equitable governance because of its importance to the rich and the poor in the movement of people and goods from one place to the other. Equitable governance is all the effort put in place by political authorities to ensure that everybody in the society derives equal opportunity from public goods. Put differently, there is poor governance when there is political influence in contract procurement in the area of execution of road projects.

Thirdly, effective governance is the ability of the government to solve societal challenges and deliver the greatest good to the greatest number of people for the present generation through infrastructural development and policy framework that will create an enabling environment for the future generation. Thus:

Inclusive economic institutions produce a more equitable distribution of resources and incentives for economic progress that may simultaneously redistribute income and power in such a way that greedy public officeholders with political power may become worse off, by helping the resolve of inclusive political institutions (Acemoglu, & Robinson 2013, pp. 82-84).

Governance ensures that the inclusive economic institution supports the inclusive political institutions that allow effective distribution of wealth for the greatest number of the society such as road construction.

Acemoglu and Robinson (2013), find out that, the people who grieve from the extractive economic institutions where there is no infrastructural development to redistribute wealth and enhance economic growth suffer from poor governance and hence cannot be confident about an absolutist ruler to willingly change political institutions and redistribute power in society. The above study maintained that the only way to change these political institutions to realize prosperity is to force the elite to create more pluralistic institutions that can enhance growth. It has been noted that sustainable industrial growth will only be realized when governance produces a good road network, to produce a business environment that is conducive to entrepreneurship (Ubi & Udah, 2019). Hence, governance is exhibited when road infrastructure is executed as budgeted for, while poor governance is when political authorities fail to execute road projects that can lubricate the economy. The following has been itemized by the World Bank (1992) as the main features of bad (poor) governance:

- i. Failure to separate what is public and what is private
- ii. Failure to create a predictable framework for law & government behaviour that is developmentoriented
- iii. Too many rules and regulations adversely affect the working of markets, while boosting rentseeking behaviours
- iv. Misplacement of priorities that is inimical to progress.
- v. Progressively small base for, or non-transparent, decision-making (cited in Ubi et al., 2019).

The following features of poor governance pose serious threat to human security; hence political authorities (dominant class) in post-colonial state like Nigeria failed to separate what is public from what is private in addition to using the state as a tool for primitive accumulation. The use of state as primitive accumulation by political authorities poses a challenge to human security, as it denied people of survival needs. Shani (2017, p. 3) refers to “human security as the right of people to live in freedom and dignity, free from fear and” needs (as cited in Ayeni, Andeshi & Uzoigwe, 2022, p. 264). The inability of political authorities to provide people basic needs like good road networks is a threat to human security. According to Ayeni, Andeshi and Uzoigwe (2022, p. 264), “human security requires that people do not suffer lose as a result of the inability of the government to provide those things that are their responsibilities to the people. Human security is threatened when people are hungry or worst-off as a result of lack of basic human needs that government ought to provide, while human security is enhanced when basic human needs are provided through effective governance.

Mindzie, Washira, and Dunderdale (2014) underscored the significance of effective democratic governance as the key to forestalling, and solving conflicts, and improving social and economic development on the African continent. It is a fact that the main reason why many countries favour democracy is because of its capacity to address some issues that are key to governance. They find out that, the crucial governance challenges comprise poor resource management, detachment between the citizens and their leaders, the use of tribal or religious personalities to provoke violence, poor service provision, and restricted accountability. The reason while there is an issue with budget implementation might not be unconnected to the fact that the problems of poor road infrastructure that democracy ought to address, have also remained the problem of governance.

Rosselmann, Klaus, Engel, Ron, Taylor, and Prue (2008), in a policy paper entitled ‘Governance for sustainability: issues, challenges, and success’, find out that, the role of governance is solving the global and local challenges of our time. The challenges are noticeable in the area of poor road infrastructure, lack of security, and portable water among others. When the foregoing is lacking in any society, it means that human security has been threatened courtesy of poor governance that has led to political influence on contract procurement, thereby, denying people of road projects they ought to be enjoying. Rosselmann et al (2008) concluded that contemporary democracy has reduced citizens to consumers. Its’ ideal is not the actively involved citizen, but the consumer voting based on personal

economic security. The perspective that democracy has reduced citizens to consumers who are not active in politics, but vote based on personal economic security means that there is a problem of human security caused by poor governance that denies citizens good road networks. It has been agreed that corruption alters growth and economic prosperity in Nigeria and also undermines the normal functioning of institutions of governance that could promote social and economic development (Atubi, 2013). The above study which believes that corruption in government distorts economic prosperity invariably insinuates that poor governance threatens human security. This foregoing is because corruption as an indicator of poor governance does not create a business environment that is friendly to investors to bring about human security.

Theoretical framework

Marxian theory of post-colonial state was adopted for this study. Marxian theory of the postcolonial state was propounded by Karl Marx, and popularised by Alavi (1973), Ake (1981, 2001), and Ekekwe (1986) among others. Marx noted that non-socialist states are instruments of class domination, exploitation, subjugation, and oppression, and a tool for primitive accumulation by the dominant class (Lenin, 1984, p. 10, Engel, 1942, p. 155 and Alavi, 1973, p. 146 cited in Abada 2013, p. 79).

Marxian theory of post-colonial state is relevant to this study; because actors of governance use the state as a tool for primitive accumulation and pretend to be concerned about the human security and welfare of the people they are supposed to serve.

In applying Marxian theory of the post-colonial state to the explanation of the phenomena, the analysts usually make the following assumptions: For a start, they believe that non-socialist states (especially post-colonial states) are an instrument of class domination, exploitation, and oppression by public officials (politicians, bureaucrats, influential individuals, et cetera) who use their influential position as actors of governance to exploit and accumulate public funds meant for public project and programmes. According to Ake (1987):

Colonialism fashioned the character of post-colonial states by discouraging the rise of a strong indigenous bourgeoisie and instead planted stooges, in their quest to secure and perpetrate their economic interest. Having a very weak economic base, these stooges resorted to using the state for primitive capital accumulation, thus becoming a ready instrument for class formation and domination (cited in Abada et al 2013, p. 80).

The above perspective is a reflection of a non-socialist state like Nigeria, where actors of governance expropriate government funds meant for the execution of public projects and programmes to offer economic security to enable people to address their human needs arising from fear and threats to life.

Acemoglu and Robinson (2013, p.3) explain that “political power has been closely concentrated, and has been employed to produce great wealth for those who retain it”. Hence, public officeholders have always used it to influence contract procurement on the execution of road projects.

In the quest to differentiate the role of public office holders in developed countries, from those of the developing countries that are mostly post-colonial states, Ekekwe (1986) submitted that:

The dissimilarity between the two forms of the capitalist state is that the state in the advanced capitalist formations functions to maintain the economic and social relations under which bourgeois accumulation takes place in the periphery of capitalism, factors which have to do with the level of the development of the productive forces made the state a direct instrument for accumulation for the dominant class in developing countries (cited in Abada et al 2013, 79).

There are inclusive political institutions in developed countries, most especially, “western countries because of stability and continuity that made sure that there was no risk of greedy public office holders taking over and changing the rules of the game, stealing their wealth, imprisoning them, or threatening their lives and livelihood” (Acemoglu, & Robinson 2013, p. 43). Inclusive political institutions or strong political institutions in developed countries made primitive accumulation an uphill

task for public officeholders while ensuring steady economic development. Thus, the World Bank estimates that “every 1% of government funds spent on infrastructure stock leads to an equivalent 1% increase in GDP”

(Shonibare 2015, p. 2). Corroborated the above, Anyanwu and Sarumi (2016, p. 4) argue that “infrastructure raises the quality of daily living with a flow outcome on the country’s economy based”. Non-socialist states are instruments of class domination and exploitation by public officeholders. As a result, they are blind to see the benefits that society stands to benefit from the execution of road projects and fixing dilapidated roads.

Methodology

This study employed a survey research design because it enables researchers to generate first-hand information from respondents who are affected by the subject of investigation. These primary data were generated from the administration of questionnaires and the conduct of interviews.

According to National Population Commission (NPC) (2006), Wukari, has 238,283 population figures, while a sample size formula known as Taro Yamane was used to arrive at four hundred (400) as the sample size. The reason for using the sample size formula was due to the population of the study was infinite, meaning that using 10% to 20% of the population would be too much for the researcher to handle.

The sample size of four hundred (400) consists of 58 Public/Civil Servants; 58 Students; 57 Farmers; 57 Traders; 57 Company workers; 57 transporters; and 56 Opinion leaders. They are involved because they have more knowledge of the effect of poor governance on human security. The distribution of questionnaires and guided interviews was done using a convenient sampling technique. The convenient sampling technique was adopted because of the difficulties in having to meet people in the selected local government.

The data collected through interviews from public opinion and transporters were analysed through content analysis, while data collected through questionnaires were analysed through descriptive statistics, by employing Simple Percentage, Means, and Standard Deviation.

Result and discussion of findings

The below table presents data on ‘poor governance and the challenges of human security’. Respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which they agree or disagree.

Table 6: Has poor governance posed challenges to human security in the Wukari Local Government area of Taraba State, 2015 to 2021?

Variables	Categories	Freq.	Percentage (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.
The executive arm of government in Taraba State has enhanced numerous road projects for your local government	Strongly disagree	81	32.1	2.2063	1.25172
	Disagree	114	45.2		
	Agree	38	15.1		
	Strongly agree	19	7.5		
	Total	252	100%		
Corruption among public officeholders is the reason why there have not been	Strongly disagree	14	5.6	4.2262	1.09346
	Disagree	10	4.0		
	Undecided	14	5.6		

several road constructions in your local government	Agree	81	32.1		
	Strongly agree	133	52.8		
	Total	252	100.0		
Constructed roads did not stay long before it got bad in your local government	Strongly disagree	4	1.6	4.0714	1.04617
	Disagree	29	11.5		
	Undecided	18	7.1		
	Agree	95	37.7		
	Strongly agree	106	42.1		
	Total	252	100.0		
Poor supervision by public officeholders is the reason why constructed roads don't last long in your local government	Disagree	14	5.6	4.3810	.82643
	Undecided	14	5.6		
	Agree	86	34.1		
	Strongly agree	138	54.8		
	Total	252	100.0		
The reason why most bad roads are not constructed is because of a lack of participation by people who	Disagree	5	2.0	4.4722	.63999
	Undecided	5	2.0		
	Agree	108	42.9		
are affected by policy on road construction in your local government	Strongly agree	134	53.2		
	Total	252	100.0		
	Total	252	100.0		

Source: Field survey (2021)

The first question in the above table was 'the executive arm of government in Taraba State has executed numerous road projects in your local government' during the administration of Governor Darius Ishaku of Taraba State. Responses revealed that; 81 (32.1%) of the respondents strongly disagreed, 114 (45.2%) of the respondents disagreed 38 (15.1%) of the respondents agreed, while 19 (7.5%) of the respondents strongly agreed (Mean =2.2063, S.D = 1.25172). Looking at the Likert Scale; we could see that, it is "not true at all" that 'the executive has not executed numerous road projects in your local government'. Therefore, the executive arm of government in Taraba State has not executed the expected road projects in Wukari Local Government. The interview response revealed that all the respondents unanimously agreed that "Wukari – Tsokundi road (27km) is under construction, while Government Residential Area (GRA) – Abonta Drive Road has been completed" (Personal Interview, August 2021). The researcher and his research assistant went for site seeing to see for themselves the public project embarked upon by the state government in the LGA.

QS 2 on whether 'Corruption among public office holders is the reason why there have not been several road constructions in your local governments' during the administration of

Governor Darius Ishaku of Taraba State, responses revealed that; 14 (5.6%) of the respondents ‘strongly disagree’, 10 (4.0%) of the respondents ‘agree’, 14 (5.6%) of the respondent ‘undecided’, 81 (32.1%) of the respondents ‘agree’, while 133 (52.8%) of the respondents ‘strongly agree’ (mean = 4.2262, S.D = 1.09346). Looking at the Likert Scale; it means that, it is “absolutely true” that ‘Corruption among public office holders is the reason why there have not been several road constructions in the selected local governments. Therefore, corruption among public officeholders is the reason why there have not been several road constructions in Wukari Local Governments. Interview Responses showed that all the 82 respondents unanimously agreed that: Siphoning of funds meant for road construction hinders the construction of bad roads. One (1) of the respondents who don’t want his name to be mentioned because of the fear of being persecuted further say that “money that is supposed to be used for construction of bad roads or to empower people has been used by Mr Governor to buy luxurious vehicles as a wedding gift for President Buhari Son that just got married of recent, to escape Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) (Personal Interview, August 2021).

Corroborating the above evidence, PRNigeria (May 10, 2021) quoted the Taraba Integrity and Accountability Group, Jalingo (TIAGJ), in a petition written to the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC) that Governor Ishaku’s younger sister, Mrs. Gladys Kande Mamman, “a member of the Taraba State Primary Board, uses pseudo companies linked to her BVN 222284422299 to launder 39 billion for the governor, using hoax contract, even though she is a public servant” (para.4).

Below is the pictorial evidence of bad roads owing to poor governance that need construction, but due to corruption, they remain in bad shape.

Figure 4: New B B Road, Wukari



Source: Field Survey (2021)

This road is very busy because many street roads link to this road, in addition to the fact that the road is in the heart of Wukari Town where shops of different types are. The road has a T-junction from the entry point, from Wukari – Ibi Road axis linking to the popular Wukari Yam Market. Hence, this road and many others need urgent attention if there is governance (see Table 8, serial number 63, expenditure code – 0253001015, construction of Township Roads in all local governments of the state, under the supervision of the Ministry of Urban & Town Development). The point here is that no township road

was constructed in Wukari, as other roads that were constructed were adequately provided for in the budget.

QS 3 on whether 'Constructed roads did not stay long before it gets bad in your local government' during the administration of Governor Darius Ishaku of Taraba State, responses revealed that; 4

(1.6%) of the respondents 'strongly disagree', 29 (11.5%) of the respondents 'disagree', 18 (7.1%) of the respondents 'undecided', 95 (37.7%) of the respondents 'agree', while 106 (42.1%) of the respondents 'strongly agree' (mean = 4.0714, S.D = 1.04617). Looking at the Likert Scale; it means that, it is "true to a high degree" that 'Constructed roads did not stay long before it gets bad in Wukari local governments'. Therefore, Constructed roads did not stay long before they got bad in the selected local governments. Interview Responses showed that 63 out of 82 respondents who are all from the Wukari Local Government area unanimously agreed that, "road construction did not last long before it gets spoilt because the roads are poorly constructed as a result of corruption" (Personal Interview, August 2021).

QS 4 on whether 'Poor supervision by public office holders is the reason why constructed roads don't last long in your local government' during the administration of Governor Darius Ishaku of Taraba State, responses revealed that; 14 (5.6%) of the respondents 'disagree', 14 (5.6%) of the respondents 'undecided', 86 (34.1%) of the respondent 'agree', while 138 (54.8%) of the respondents 'strongly agree' (mean = 4.3810, S.D = .82643). Looking at the Likert Scale; it means that, it is "absolutely true" that 'Poor supervision by public office holders is the reason why constructed roads do not last long in the selected local governments'. Therefore, Poor supervision by public officeholders is the reason why constructed roads do not last long in the selected local government. Interview responses showed that all the respondents unanimously agreed that, "there is poor supervision that leads to constructed roads getting spoilt on time because public office holders have shared the money with contractors" (Personal Interview, August 2021).

QS 5 on whether "the reason why most bad roads are not constructed is because of lack of participation by people who are affected by policy on road construction in your local government during the administration of Governor Darius Ishaku of Taraba State, responses revealed that; 5

(2.0%) of the respondents 'disagree', 5 (2.0%) of the respondents 'undecided', 108 (42.9%) of the respondent 'agree', while 134 (53.2%) of the respondents 'strongly agree' (Mean = 4.4722, S.D = .63999). Looking at the Likert Scale; we could see that it is "absolutely true" that 'the reason why most bad roads are not constructed is because of lack of participation by people who are affected by policy on road construction in the selected local government'. Therefore, the reason why most bad roads are not constructed is because of the lack of participation by people who are affected by the policy on road construction in the selected local government. Interview QS 5: What do you think will happen when people in this local government are not asked about the actual road they wish to be constructed? Interview responses showed that all 82 respondents unanimously agreed that, "the people are not consulted on the road to be constructed because public officeholders want to embezzle money, at the expense of bad road that needed to be constructed" (Personal Interview, August 2021).

Figure 6: Bad roads occasioned by poor governance in Wukari Local Government area



Source: Field Survey 2021, Wukari Local Government area

The road by the left is a typical example of a road that was constructed a few years ago, with inferior materials. This road links Wukari Yam Market to EFCC Road in Wukari, while the road on the right is the state of roads in most places in the study area.

Conclusion and Recommendation

This study has been able to investigate poor governance and the challenges of human security in Wukari Local Government area of Taraba State, 2015-2021. The activities of the executive arm of government show a high level of poor governance (e.g. corruption that manifests in the form of embezzlement and misappropriation of capital funds in addition to poor supervision and political interference of capital project) as there has not been construction or rehabilitation of bad roads in critical condition in the local government that can address threat and fear owing to the absence of basic human needs. The politicians at the state level who ought to provide access to survival needs (human security) through the provision of basic needs like road infrastructural development has embarked on oppressive tendency and primitive accumulation of wealth.

Numerous bad and dilapidated roads in the Local Government Area need urgent attention, if a conducive business environment for investors must be created to address the threat of danger and fear of what to eat, where to live and the ability to access good healthcare facilities when the need arises. However, the few road projects embarked upon by actors of governance at the state level in Wukari Local Government Area are insignificant as the expected bad roads were never rehabilitated to provide the needed survival needs for human security.

In conclusion, poor governance which was brought about by actors of governance at the state level has denied many people of the study area their survival needs (human security) that capital projects like road infrastructural development would have brought about if corrupt public officeholders had not hindered its' provision. The provision of basic needs including access to good road networks in the study area would have made life easy for the people to enhance their human security potential and prevent them from experiencing the threat and fear that the absence of basic human needs brings.

The study recommends that citizens must ensure that only politicians with a track record of integrity and good reports are elected into all elective positions in the state. The suggested solution will make poor governance which has always posed challenges to human security, a thing of the past.

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