

# ANALYSIS OF KADUNA STATE GOVERNMENT STRATEGY ON TACKLING INTERNAL SECURITY: A CASE STUDY OF OPERATION YAKI (2011-2019)

By

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## Abstract

*The challenges of insecurity and the need to investigate and identify its sources and causes led the government of Kaduna state into creating Operation Yaki in 2008 with the mandate to curb crime and criminality in the whole state. Despite this innovative security measures, Kaduna State seems not to be recording meaningful drop in crime rate, hence the need for empirical verification. It is against this background therefore, that this paper assessed the impact of Operation Yaki as a security outfit on crime control in Kaduna State from 2011 to 2019. It is the latest in the crime fighters' attempt to curb the menace of rising crime rate in the State. The Theory of Liberalism on security was adopted to serve as a theoretical base for this paper. The paper adopts qualitative analysis to serve as a method for data collection. Findings revealed generally that Operation Yaki has impacted positively on crime rate in Kaduna State and residents of the State feel more secure now than before the coming into being of the security outfit. Hence it is recommended that government should channel more attention and resources towards the improved functioning of the security outfit in the following direction: The culture of regular maintenance and adequate fuelling of patrol vehicles by government be improved, and government should look into the possibility of having more offices of Operation Yaki across the state for easy access.*

**Keywords:** Insecurity, Operation Yaki, Thuggery, Internal security

## Introduction

The concept of security goes back to the cradle of Nation-States themselves. Armies for domestic peace-keeping and maintaining National sovereignty have existed since the dawn of recorded history. Civil and National police forces have also existed for millennia. Intelligence agencies and security services of government stretch back to antiquity such as the Roman Empire,

Ottoman Empire and that of the Kanem Borno. While the general concepts of keeping a Nation secure are not new, the specific modern English term “internal security” came into common parlance in the 20th century. Methodologies and strategies to achieve and maintain the highest possible desired State of internal security have been consistently developed over the modern period to this day. However, the concept of National or internal security is very difficult to define because the root term, security, has remained a contested concept. In other words, it has no universally accepted definition due to its many-sidedness arising from ideology and timeframe being addressed, as well as the point of analysis.

At a general level, security simply suggest freedom from danger of threats, safety-or the ability of the State to protect and promote its cherished values and legitimate interest and enhance the well-being of its people. Therefore, according to (Imobighe,1990) internal security may be conceptualized as the freedom from or the absence of those tendencies which could undermine internal cohesion and the corporate existence of the Nation and its ability to maintain its vital institutions for the promotion of its core values and socio-political and economic objectives as well as meet the legitimate aspiration of the citizenry. It implies freedom form danger to life and property and the presence of conducive atmosphere for the people to purpose their legitimate matters within the society.

Internal security is very critical to the functions of the State. The essence of the State is the promotion of good life and the creation of political conditions that would enhance the welfare of the citizenry. The State cannot perform its first primary purpose unless maintenance of law and order is achieved. Therefore, internal security is quite an important aspect of National security/development. The problem of internal security crisis cannot be properly understood nor decoded, unless the analysis and the interpretation of the underlining causes, types, effects and solution are premised on the contemporary global financial and economic crisis. The under currents of the inter connectedness between the contemporary Nation States pose a fundamental challenge of the issues of internal security, conflict management and at development especially to the developing third world countries. In the contemporary world it has become extremely difficult to divorce internal security from external pressures. Indeed, internal security is symbiotically linked with the global politics and its other dynamics.

Kaduna State has experienced cases of internal insecurity. Starting from the Kafanchan riot of 1987, Zangon Kataf crisis of 1992, sharia crisis of 2000, Miss World crisis of 2002, post-election crisis of 2011 and Boko Haram menace in the State. These security challenges couple with other consequences of crimes such as kidnapping, cattle rustling, banditry, constitutes serious challenge to the peace and development of the State. On assumption of office in November 2007, Haz Iwendi the then commissioner of police for the Kaduna State Command observed that there was more fear of violence and crime generally among citizens in the State than incidences of crime itself.

A breakdown of the violent crime statistics confirmed by the State Police Command in Newswatch of Sunday April 13, 2008 for the four months before the inauguration of Operation Yaki (i.e. between December 2007 and March 2008) shows that thirty persons had been brutally murdered within that period, averaging at least seven murders a month, 18 armed robbery cases which resulted in the stealing of 16.9 million naira, six cases of rape. The sheer brutality of some of these crimes left witnesses or victims with permanent psychological scars (Adzegehs, 2008). Faced with the afore Stated rampant cases of violence and in pursuit of its primary responsibility of protection of lives and property through crime control in the State, the State government came up with an innovative response through the inauguration of a unique security outfit on the 26th of March, 2008 known as Operation Yaki. In a broadcast by the then Executive Governor of the State, Architect Namadi Sambo he declared thus:

*In line with our Eleven Point Agenda and to ensure the security of lives and properties of the citizenry and from the reports of the security agencies we received on loss of lives by armed bandit and loss of property such as car snatching, we were propelled to conceptualize and come up with a full proof security outfit which we codenamed Operation Yaki. Operation Yaki is an initiative aimed at eradicating crime and to create a fertile ground for enduring peace, tranquillity and development of the State.*

With this innovative step taken, crime control in the whole of Kaduna State should be very effective. Cases of internal insecurity such as kidnappings, cattle rustling, armed robbery and other related fraudulent practices in recent times in Kaduna State seems to persistently remain high despite the introduction of Operation Yaki, this apparent state of insecurity as reiterated above constitutes a major concern to all stakeholders especially the government of Kaduna State, hence the need to asses Kaduna State government's strategy in tackling internal security within the State.

### **Conceptual and Theoretical Framework**

**Internal Security:** Internal security can be defined as the totality of the Nation's equilibrium State which must be maintained to enhance the State performance of its responsibility without unnecessary interruptions from anywhere.

**Operation Yaki:** An innovative security outfit created by Kaduna State Government in collaboration with the Federal Government of Nigeria in Kaduna State which rests on the partnership between the personnel of the Nigeria Police Force Kaduna Command, the Military, the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps, Federal Road Safety Corps, State Security Service (SSS), Neighbourhood Watch Group inaugurated in 2008 with the mandate to curb crime and criminality in the whole of Kaduna State.

### **Concept of Internal Security**

Internal security is very critical to the functions of the State. The essence of the State is to protect life and to create policies that would enhance the welfare of the citizenry. The State cannot perform the first primary purpose of the State unless maintenance of law and order is achieved. Therefore, internal security is quite an important aspect of National security/development.

More so, the issue of internal security is so critical to Nations and National leaders that they are prepared to stake anything in defense of the Nation, or to maintain its security. Hence Walter Lippman observed that a Nation is secured to the extent that it is not in a position to lose core values, life, property and liberty. Internal security also refers to the requirement to maintain the survival of the Nation-State through the use of economic, military political power and the exercise of diplomacy. President Olusegun Obasanjo, while presenting his grand strategy, declared that the primary objective of National security shall be to strengthen the Federal Republic of Nigeria; control crime, eliminate corruption, enhance genuine development, progress and growth and improve the welfare and well-being and quality of life of the citizenry (Attah, 2006).

This responsibility is usually assigned to the armed forces. But the internal aspect of National security is never accorded much recognition nor attracts substantial; Nigeria government has no any well-articulated policy on internal security. It has relied on adhoc measures, fire brigade approach, and excessive use of force, road blocks and persuasion which is never respected most times. And this partly explains why the internal security of the Nation has become very precarious. For instance, the devastating impact if armed robbery on the socio-economic development of Nigeria notwithstanding, the agitation for National conference on internal security is yet to be placed on the agenda for National discourse. At a general level, security simply suggest freedom from danger of threats, safety-or the ability of the State to protect and promote its cherished values and legitimate interest and enhance the well-being of its people. Therefore, threat to life and property be it from the armed robbers, Boko Haram attack, civil disturbances, road blocks that endangered the road users and other distractions are symptomatic of lack of internal security.

## **Empirical Review**

Many scholars have identified religious, political, intolerance, mismanagement of resources, subversion, sabotage, armed robbery, banditry, farmers-Herders clash, as the main cause of internal security crisis in Kaduna State. However, there are deeper structural problems arising from the inherent contradictions and that of the global financial economic crisis which are engendering conflicts and crisis that are manifesting in forms of political and religious, intolerance, corruption and resource mismanagement. These structural problems are:

- Issues of good government and accountability that is still a mirage and lacking among our leaders, be it at the local government, State government and federal level. The issue is also lacking in the private sector of the economy.

- Poor nature and scope of economic development this centres on what has been happening to poverty what has been happening to unemployment and what has been happening to inequality?
- The effects of rapid population growth on the economic development. This has been identified as a major cog in the wheel of economic development and reasons for internal security threat since 1960.
- Electoral fraud as impediment to State's search for internal security. Nigeria has a long history of electoral rigging and fraud that have been frustrating the wishes of the people to choose those who exercise political power. Precisely because of this history, elections in the country and Kaduna State have often been associated with political tension and indeed violence and crisis.
- Growing rate of poverty and the Hungary among Nigerians. Poverty is a situation or condition of hopelessness and a condition of being poor and wretched Aliyu (1979) defined poverty as a situation in which people live below a predetermined standard value in terms of income and conditions of living, hence the rating and description of individual and Nations as being poor. About 50% of Nigerians live below poverty line and about 70% live in rural areas with no infrastructure, food, shelter and so on. The effect of poverty and lack of food makes the poor to indulge in violence and antisocial activities which threatens the security of the State.
- High rate of illiteracy. The rate of illiteracy is very high in the country, figures from various education departments showed that education in some part of Nigeria has sustained a progressive decline over the years. The implication is that social, political and economic mobilization policies of the government do not trickle down to the majority of the youths and other agents of peace.
- The consequence of corruption and unethical practice. Corruption is essentially the product of man's greed for earthly grandeur, power and authority. It exists when an individual illegally or illicitly puts personal interest above those to the people and the ideals she or he is pledged to serve. Generally the in consequences of corruption and unethical practice are multi-dimensional and multi-faceted. The implications are overwhelming and have far reaching negative implications for internal security required for co-existence and development. These consequences include: poor leadership, underdevelopment, unemployment, concentration of wealth on the hands of a few, political instability, internal insecurity and discouragement of foreign investors etc. (Apenda, 2006, Igbama 2007/2008, Orngu 2006, Adule, 2005).

Therefore, probably the nexus between National security crisis and democratic rule is like addressing the fundamental question-National security, whose security? If democracy is centred on the people and the people is said to mean the poor, disadvantaged, or the many, it therefore implies that for National security to be achieved to avoid crisis, it must be people-oriented.

## **Effects of Internal Security Crisis**

Internal security has both short and long term consequences. In the short term, when mobilized cultural symbols charge people to violent action. The immediate effects are devastation both calculated and mob action lead to massacres and widespread losses of human capital-warriors, community leaders, vibrant youths, entrepreneurs, occupational specialist, husbands, wives, children etc. There are also devastations of property-houses, farmland and crops, farm equipment, live stocks and vehicles etc.

In additions, there has been increased urban violence coordinated by ethnic militia. The intra-ethnic conflicts have graduated from more outburst of violence in Kaduna, Zaria, Kano, Jos, Suleja and other cities to a near war situation in the. The security situation in the State has become so precious that hostage taking of some students, kidnapping, and bomb blast of religious places, market and schools are becoming uncontrollable. Presently secessionist movement have emerged such as the movement for the actualization of the Gurara State, agitating for the reconstruction of Kaduna State.

There is also a deployment of government troops, the Nigeria police, mobile police, army, and navy to quell or control some of these internal security threats. Beside the government normally set up commissions of enquiry to examine the remote and immediate causes of these conflicts. All of these activities have led to a diversion of scarce resources, human, material and finance to resolve such conflicts.

The incidence of mismanagement of resources is well known and do not deserve our comment here. Except to agree that, stolen resources in the State contribute to internal security issues. It simply means the weakening of State capacity to provide the basic needs of the people. People are forced into all lands of criminality because of their poor material existence. This assumption is the root of armed robberies, human trafficking drug abuse, prostitution, etc. that have developed in recent times.

There is also the problem of subversion - a calculated move or series of clandestine activities designed to undermine the State's governmental set-up. Sabotage/ vandalization, the deliberate destructions of an industrial process, including the human and natural resources or public utilities in order to grind the States to a halt! Moreover, espionage, smuggling, influx of alien and political assassination constitute real threat to internal security.

Poor image in the international community: internal security threat has lowered the image of the State and makes it unattractive in the eyes of the international community. The international community deals with States with security threat with a lot of deep-seated fear and suspicions. Kaduna State and Nigeria at large is no longer respected globally and many investors are forced to relocate to other States and West African countries due to threat to lives and properties (Campbell 2009).

Unemployment: large scale eruptions of ethnic religious and other conflicts witness in this Nations has discouraged investors especially the private sector. Consequently the teeming youths who graduate from educational institutions remain unemployed and idle in the major cities. These youths engage in anti-social vices such as armed robbery, drug abuse, prostitution, vandalism, cultism etc, in order to make ends meet.

Effect of the stability of government: loyalties are fragmented by thoughts of fear and improbabilities, thereby destabilizes the institutions of the State. The efficiency and efficacy of institutions of both public and private as decisions-making process is not only slowed down but also is incoherent and often irrational when a State faces internal security crisis.

Plight of Graduates: Internal security threat causes talented and skilled people to seek employment outside the country rather than stay and engage themselves in productive activities for the State and the Nation's development. Out of fear, and threat to lives and properties, some Nigerian university graduates prefer to live and work in Europe, America and some Arab countries even with less salaries and loss of dignity.

### **The Nature and Effectiveness of Public Security Outfits in Tackling Internal Security**

The sole responsibility of the security outfits is to maintain law and order. In Nigeria the security agencies are performing below expectation due to poor condition of service of personnel and exploitation by management of some of the outfits. As a dominant public security outfit in the country recognized by section 114 (1) of the 1999 constitution of Nigeria, the Nigerian Police Force is as old as Nigeria itself and has seven departments ("A"- "G") with specified duties i.e. Finance and Administration, Operations, Logistics and Supply, Investigation, Training, Research and Planning as well as Information and Communication. Police Force are vested by several statutes (i.e. Police Act, Criminal Procedure Act, and the Public Order Act) with broad powers to investigate crimes, to apprehend offenders, interrogate and prosecute suspects, grant bail to suspect pending completion of investigation, search and seize properties suspected to be stolen or associated with crime, serve summon and host of others (Alemika, 2013). With the statutory provision/function of the police, the public security outfit has not been effective in the fight against crime efficiently in the country.

The organization has been bedevilled with inadequate funding, lack of modern technological equipment, inadequate training and poor remuneration (Oluwafemi *et al.*, 2014). The ineffectiveness of the Nigeria Police was further confirmed by findings from a study by *Institut Francaise de recherche en Afrique* (IFRA Nigeria, 1996) which reveals a not encouraging public perception on the effectiveness of the Nigeria Police Force in crime control as only 29% of all households felt that the activities of the police were satisfactory. Almost all found fault with the activities of the police, except for about 10% that could not assess the impact of the police.

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) is also a public security outfit established by Act of 2013. NSCDC had also been assigned to play crucial roles in grassroots security system and Nation building. It has power to arrest with warrant or without warrant, detain, investigate and institute legal proceedings against any person who is reasonably suspected to have committed an offence, investigate and take necessary step to forestall any planned act of terrorism and report same to appropriate security agency among others (Abolurin, 2011). It is rather disheartening to State that most Nigerians do not know the constitutional responsibility of the organization despite the availability of the offices across States of Nigeria federation. Amendment of the NSCDC Act 2007 empowered the organization to have arms squad.

However, a cursory look at the armed men of this organization, one can infer that NSCDC is grappling with lack of sufficient and modern firearms. Trailing behind the foregoing, it is difficult for NSCDC to be effective in crime control in the country (Oluwafemi et al, 2014). In the Nigeria context, there are other public security outfits/paramilitary organizations organized to assist military or perform specified security functions. These include: Nigeria Prison Service, Nigeria Immigration Service, Federal Road Safety Corps, Nigeria Fire Service, and Custom Service (Abolurin, 2011). The effectiveness and efficiency of these public security outfits ought to have complimented the inefficiency of the Nigeria Police, However, the inefficiency of the aforementioned organizations had not been addressed, hence, the infiltration of small light weapons, contraband goods and influx of aliens into the country without necessary documents (Alemika, 2013).

The ineffectiveness and inefficiency of public security outfits in Nigeria is vividly captured in the words of Oluwafemi et al (2014:214) in a study that look at the Irony of Multiplicity of Security Outfits and Security Challenges, thus: The pre-eminent security outfits-the Nigeria Police have been incapacitated to subdue the menace of criminality in Nigeria while the Security and Civil Defense Corps with the new armed squad men seem unfit to make an impact apart from their humanitarian service. The porosity of Nigeria borders and infiltration of weapons and ammunition from neighbouring States accounts for the inefficiency of Nigeria Customs Service and Immigration Service.

Based on the position of the scholars above, it is deducible that public security outfits in Nigeria have not been as effective as expected. The failure of these security outfits to live up to their individually given mandate of crime control could explain the decision of the Kaduna State Government to bring together some of these public security outfits to form a unique crime control outfit named Operation Yaki as a way of searching for a more effective crime control strategy in the State.

In the endless search for more efficient and effective methods of crime control, Criminal Justice Scholars have noted the tendency for greater government investment in “partnerships” and “coalitions” (Rosenbaun *et al*, 1998). While crime prevention was once regarded as a matter solely

for the police, it is now difficult to find reference to crime prevention, either in official policy Statements or criminological literature, which do not also refer to the need for multi-agency involvement and cooperation. The last decade has also seen the creation of a variety of specific multi-agency crime prevention initiatives, and an increase in research attention being paid to such things as multi-agency partnership and inter-agency co-operation. (Sampson, Stubbs, Pearson, and Blogg, 1988).

In its identification of those agencies that are deemed to be competent in addressing crime control, the State has reinforced its decentralizing approach by moving away from the idea of them being solely responsible for addressing this issues. In doing so, the State is developing a new role, in which it is now responsible for both expanding and enhancing the role of local level agencies in the management of crime control (Garland, 2001). “The primary objective is to spread responsibility for crime control onto agencies, organizations and individuals that operate outside the criminal justice system and to persuade them to act appropriately” (Garland, 2001:125). While Garlands stand on inter-agency involvement in crime control, his focus is on those agencies outside the criminal justice system.

Based on this, his position can be said to be away from the composition and working of Operation Yaki as a security outfit to some extent. Interagency collaboration on crime control has received some level of recognition. The most prevalent is the collaboration among the military, police, Department of State Security (DSS), Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC), the Nigeria Custom Service, Nigeria Immigration Service, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) and the collaboration is often in the shape of a Joint Task Force (JTF) e.g. JTF Operation Pulo Shield, JTF Operation Safe Haven, JTF Operation Restore Order, Operation Hakuri etc.

Scholars posit that interagency collaboration in the fight against crime is fast becoming the desire of most countries today. However, the success of such partnership depends on co-ordination since they are different agencies with different training and mode of operation. However, they tend to be concerned strictly with crime prevention rather than crime control generally. Though Musing and Lamb (2011) seem to present a more relevant case, their focus is limited to drug crime control and involves international organizations, agencies and countries, far from the picture of Operation Yaki.

### **Challenges in Tackling Internal Security**

Several reasons have been identified as obstacles to effective Crime control and issues pertaining internal security. On their part, Alemika and Chukwuma (2008) locate the root of the problem on the colonial era when the excesses of the police against the community were not controlled. This, according to them, made the public to view the Police as their enemy, and as instruments of violence and subjugation; as extortionist and harbingers of bad news and trouble.

Consequently, they (Alemika and Chukwuma, 2008) identify the lack of public trust in the Police, Police brutality, Police Corruption, inadequacy in resource and management as major hindrance to effective crime policing in Nigeria.

This view is supported by other scholars who generally argued that police Corruption and the way the Nigerian Police is being used as instrument of coercion is posing serious challenge to effective crime control and internal security (Adebayo and Ojo, 2009; Odinkalu, 2005). Similarly, NOPRIN Research Report (2007) sees Police Brutality like torture, killing extortion, and rape as serious obstacles to effective Crime Policing in Nigeria. Looking at Police Brutality from the context of the killing of six young persons labelled “armed robbers” in Apo, Abuja; the research, covering 400 Police Stations reveals a Police institution whose task of crime policing has been criminalized. Consequently, “far from being a scourge to crime and its perpetrators, the NPF is now a danger to public safety.” (NOPRIN Research Report, 2007:2).

Despite the variation in scope and methodology, it is deducible from the stated body of literature above that, of the four factors identified above as obstacles to effective crime control and tackling internal security, the two strongest in the literature appear to be Police Corruption and Police brutality. The similarity in view notwithstanding, Alemika and Chukwuma (2008) provide a more detail analysis of how the police acquired the attitude of corruption and brutality and how the same is hindering their effectiveness and as such affecting internal security. The reasons for the difference and similarity being that, while Alemika and Chukwuma (2008) trace the problem from the Colonial era, Adebayo and Ojo limit their scope to discussing the negative impact of Police Corruption on crime control in Nigeria. In Kaduna State in particular, Crime control by Operation Yaki cannot be said to be absolutely free from all the challenges identified above.

In a study on law enforcement in Post-Colonial Africa, Okafo (2007) argues that because the Nigerian Police is alien to the Nigerian Culture and belief; it has been found to be contributing to the spread of crime, instead of fighting it. According to him, the culture and belief, based on which the Nigerian Police was founded makes it easier for the Police to aid the spread of Crime in the country and as such aggravate the general security of the State. This is evident in the way the police is staffed by some corrupt elements that makes it ineffective in crime control, contrary to local policing organizations like the Bakassi Boys, Oodua People Congress (OPC), the Hisba in the Northern part of the country and Neighbourhood Watch (also known as vigilante Group) that command more support and confidence of Nigerians. This according to Okafor (2007) is because of the fact that they reflect the norms and belief of the local people. Similarly, Alemika and Chukwuma (2003) evaluate the perception of the poor in rural areas on Informal Policing Structures (like Bakassi Boys, Vigilante Group etc) in Benue, Enugu, Ekiti, and Jigawa. They identify the lack of funding, harassment and extortion by the police when carrying out their policing duties, lack of basic operational equipment such as Flash lights, insufficient Guns and ammunitions etc., and lack of recognition by some Local Government Authorities as their major challenges to effective crime control.

Looking at the above stated position of Okafo (2007) and Alemika and Chukwuma (2003), the agreement between them is on their focus on Informal Policing Structures. However, while the concern of Okafo (2007) is for the Nigerian Government to reform the Nigerian Police to look more like a home grown policing agency, Alemika and Chukwuma (2003) bring out the challenges being faced by such groups. The existence of Informal Policing Structures in Nigeria and Kaduna State in particular is a fact. However, besides the Vigilante Group that has been incorporated into Operation Yaki in Kaduna State, minor Informal Policing Structures have not been accorded the needed recognition and empowerment to make them contribute in assisting the police in controlling the rate of crime which affect the general security architecture of the State.

The Police is made to believe it can control crime solely even without much cooperation and assistance from communities. As a result, communities are hardly communicated to by the police in a comprehensive manner on the need for both parties to cooperate and control crime. This largely explains the difficulty in crime policing in Nigeria. In Kaduna State in particular, there is to some extent, weak relationship and communication between the personnel of Operation Yaki and residents of State.

### **How to Produce Effective Crime Control**

To make the security agencies effective in their task of crime control, government should deal with the cause of crime, appeal for the cooperation of Nigerian citizens in terms of information provision, train, retrain, equip, and increase the salary of officers and men of the security agencies especially the Police Force (David, 2011). The view of David (2011) is supported by Knuttson and Clarke (2006) who believe that crime control can never record any positive impact with the main cause of crime in existence. These major causes of crime which are high unemployment rate, low income, low (or zero) savings etc are still prevalent in Nigeria (Akindire, 2007). The unity between David (2011) and Knuttson and Clarke (2006) and Akinride (2007) is on the need to control crime by tackling the major causes of crime in the society. Despite the agreement between them, David provides a broader view on how to control crime. To a large extent, the above views could contribute in enhancing the performance of Operation Yaki in tackling internal security in Kaduna State.

The agreement between Philip and Trone (2002) and Igbuzor (2008) is evident in their view that by making policing agencies build trust and cooperation among themselves and accountable for their actions, crime control measures could record positive impact on crime rate. The difference is in scope and methodology. While the views of Philip and Trone (2002) and Ige (2005) is inadequate in terms of details, clarity and implementation strategy, same cannot be said of the views of Igbuzor (2008). However, their (Ige, 2005; Philip and Trone, 2002; and Igbuzor, 2008) views could improve the impact of Operation Yaki in Kaduna State. This is because Operation Yaki seems to be enjoying limited cooperation from the community in terms of adequate information provision.

This could be due to lack of trust, confidence and cooperation between the residents of State Operation Yaki. Thus, by making Operation Yaki cooperate with other agencies in sharing intelligence, and accountable to the community, trust and cooperation could develop between the Community and the security outfit. This could aid the smooth flow of information. Put briefly, the above views suggest that by dealing with the major causes of crime, empowering and motivating police personnel, appealing for public trust, support and cooperation to the police, trust and cooperation between the police and other agencies in terms of intelligence sharing, crime control could impact positively on the total security of the State.

### **Theoretical Framework**

Theory of Liberalism to security by Joseph Nye was adopted as a theoretical base for this paper. Liberalism is a theory about State that seeks to adapt the concepts of security and justice. Liberalism believes that human kind likes co-operation and progress. Unlike what realists believe, violence and war do not have their root in the nature of human kind but the existence of corrupt institutions and the lack of appropriate facilities lead to selfish behaviour among the states (Dunne 2001). Thus, liberalism believes that nations are able to achieve peace and emphasizes on democracy and creating good states and international organizations, in which the world will finally be led into more peaceful one. In addition, liberalism believes in the good nature of human kind and concludes that states are group of people that create it. Therefore, like human kind, states are able to achieve peace and security through co-operation.

Liberalists believe that the State ought to be constrained from acting in ways that undermine freedom. In particular, Joseph Nye and Robert Keohane in their common book entitled, "Power and Interdependence" believe that new actors are as important as states for the analysis of the international politics, but their statement does not mean that they believe in the disappearance of international conflicts. However, they believe that conflicts and security issues will take a new form and they may even be more in number (Keohane & Nye, 2001).

In addition, they also describe the new era as the interdependence era in which traditional approaches are not able to provide a proper explanation for the conflicts and security issues. According to them, both "sensitivity" and "vulnerability" are the main concepts that must be emphasized in order to understand the conditions of interdependence era (Keohane & Nye, 2001). Meanwhile, the concept of vulnerability is about the ability of the states to make effective adjustments to the changes that occur over a period of time; the concept of sensitivity is about the ability of the states to respond to the changes. In other words, the sensitivity of the states reveals how the changes in one country or in the international system will bring costly changes in another country, as well as how great the effects of the changes are (Keohane & Nye, 2001).

Presently in Nigeria, there is a general feeling of insecurity among the Nigerian populace. The effect of insecurity on the socio- economic condition of Kaduna states of Nigeria has become so devastating that some financial institution and other business ventures have closed down in

many areas. Thereby giving rise to the vices of insecurity in the state such as banditry, kidnapping, cattle rustling, armed robbery etc. Operation Yaki was formed to tackle security challenge in Kaduna state using the logic of community policing approach that will bring different players into the system to contain this menace. If we do not stop this on time, Kaduna state will know no peace there by chasing away socio-economic activities that will benefit its citizens.

## **Discussions and Conclusions**

The mandate of Operation Yaki is to curb crime and criminality in the whole of Kaduna State as a way of ensuring the protection of lives and properties. In pursuing this mandate Operation Yaki plays the role of a quick responder and deterrent to criminals through regular patrols of high ways, black spots, and response to distress calls. Gleaning from David (2011), we can posit that Residents of Kaduna State feel more secure now than before the coming into existence of Operation Yaki because since the introduction of Operation Yaki in 2008, the security situation in the State has improved than before.

On several occasions, public commentators and political analysts believe that the rate of crime in Kaduna State is on the decrease since 2008 when Operation Yaki came into existence, the giant stride displayed by the security outfit is second to none as far as tackling security challenges is concerned in the state. One can see the manifest where Operation Yaki involved in physical face-off with some criminals in some areas within Kaduna metropolis, notably among those Areas are Rigasa, Kabala west etc that are known to serve as criminals safe heaven.

Despite its limited patrol of streets, highways and black spots, operation Yaki has been certified by residents of Kaduna State to be effective on crime control as it has been able to impact positively on crime control to the extent that it has increased the risk for criminals thereby limiting their desire to commit crime in the area, hence the drop in crime rate since its creation in 2008.

Deducible from the foregoing therefore is that despite being faced with some challenges such as poor numerical strength; poor maintenance and fuelling of patrol vehicles, brutality to the people, slow response to distress calls, insufficient monthly allowance, not always within easy reach, and the absence of similar security measure in neighbouring states; Operation Yaki is living up to its mandate of crime control in Kaduna State as its coming into being in 2008 has contributed in the reduction in crime rate and the feeling of insecurity in the area, and the same has been assessed by residents as being effective in respective area. This discovery vindicates the proposition that “the impact of Operation Yaki has served to deter criminals in Kaduna State”.

Apart from discovering that the mandate of Operation Yaki is to curb crime and criminality in the whole of Kaduna State by playing the role of quick responder, punisher and deterrent to criminals, it was also discovered that the introduction of Operation Yaki has played a major role in reducing crime rate in State as residents feel more secure now than before the creation of the security outfit. Also discovered was that poor numerical strength, poor maintenance and fuelling

of patrol vehicles are the major challenges facing the effective functioning of Operation Yaki in State. It is clear from the foregoing that this paper has confirmed that Kaduna State Government through Operation Yaki has impacted positively on crime control. Hence their satisfactions with the impact of the security outfit. It is the submission of this study therefore, that as an innovative response to high cases of crime, the introduction of Operation Yaki is an effective security measure which can be made more effective only through the channelling of additional government attention and resources into it and collaborating with neighbouring States to initiate similar security measures.

## **Recommendations**

In the light of this, the following recommendations are proffered.

1. More personnel be recruited and trained into Operation Yaki to boost the numerical strength of the security outfit. .
2. Operation Yaki should be less brutal in their dealings with residents of the State in order to boost their confidence on them thereby encouraging them to maximize their cooperation with the outfit especially in terms of supply of information.
3. The monthly allowance of members of Operation Yaki should be looked into with a view of upward review in order to motivate the personnel of the Task Force to function better.
4. Government should look at the possibility of having quick response offices for Operation Yaki across the state to enable easy access to men of the outfit and quicker response to distress calls.
5. Government of Kaduna State should partner neighbouring state governors and make them see the need to have a similar security measure in their states to boost the effectiveness of Operation Yaki in Kaduna State as a whole and beyond.

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