POLICE AND *HISBAH*: THE STATUS OF URBAN KANO SECURITY MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

Police and *Hisbah* organisations are currently saddled with providing security to urban Kano civilian populace. As the former is being conventional in security management, the later on the other hand is a specialised agency introduced to assist the implementation of Islamic Shari'a which followed the public agitation in the year 2000. In the contemporary times, both agencies work tirelessly in a collaborative effort to achieve maximum security which is traditionally unnoticed due to past enjoyed peace. This research aimed at explaining the contributions of these agencies in combatting the current security challenges. In-depth interviews were conducted with five respondents from each of the two organisations making the sample size ten respondents. The qualitative analyses revealed that, tremendous achievements were being realised. Albeit these successes, some major impediments affect the proper functioning of these agencies. These include, inadequate personnel, insufficient funding, lack of working tools, and corruption. On the other hand, external problems aggravating insecurity situation in the area include among other things, unemployment and poverty within the populace. Hence, to re-strengthen security, a lot need to be done. However, this task does not only lie in the hands of relevant authorities, but the entire population as a whole. Some mechanisms in addressing this issue were also suggested in the write up.

Keywords: Police, Hisbah, Urban Kano, Insecurity, Security management

INTRODUCTION

Security is the most vital element in human social, economic and political life. The redirection of global attention from traditional to non-traditional security concerns in third world countries, followed the aftermath of cold and Gulf wars. This invocation was made in United Nations summit held in addressing domestic security issues vis-à-vis crime prevention (United Nations Report, 1994). A number of scholarly articles focussed on security importance for socio-politico-economic development in relation to the developing societies like Nigeria (Slakmon, 2007; Brooks, 2010; Good, 2010; Hoogensen, 2012). However, a number of countries commit their resources toward a sustainable security management for a viable development.

Particularly in urban Kano, the insecurity was pronounced after the 20th January 2012 deadly *Boko Haram*[1] symbolic attack on security forces that exposed the fragility of security system (FBS, 2013[2]).. Common crimes observed include; murder, rape, insurgency, assault,

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[1] A religious sect aiming to create an Islamic state in Nigeria.
[2] FBS is an acronym Nigeria's Federal Bureau of Statistics.

robbery, abduction for ransom, theft, burglary, swindling/419[3], auto theft, prostitution, drug abuse, pre-marital pregnancy, child abuse, homo-sexuality etc. (Ayila, Oluseyi & Anas, 2014). This situation turns worrisome as the relative peace being enjoyed in the past begins to fade. This sounds a challenge to both the state as a security provider and the civilian populace. It is against this background that the study looks at the contribution of the twin security agencies (Police and *Hisbah*) toward internal security management. In this course, their achievements and problems were highlighted.

The proliferation of urban Kano insecurity is not unconnected to factors such as, unemployment. Its drastic upsurge in the country remain one of the major reasons of insecurity in the state (CBN, 2013)[4]. Also, law enforcement corruption and inadequate security personnel were some of the factors observed (Smith, 2007; Idris, 2013). Depicting the insecurity dilemma, recent statistics of NDLEA[5] (2013; 2014) shows that, Kano state has the highest illicit drug consumption incidences in the country in which cases from urban Kano were the most evident.

In another release, NDLEA[6] statistics of 2015 shows that over 11,678.93kg of illicit drugs were impounded between January and November. In addition, 556 people were arrested by the agency during this period[7]. On the other hand, the media release[8] by the police in the state confirmed that, between November and December of 2015 alone, illicit drugs worth 1.2 billion naira[9] were impounded. Accordingly, the report says that over 95% of these drugs' consumers were Kano indigenes while over 95% of the suppliers were immigrants as more than 200 suspects were also arrested in the operation. This scenario is said to be responsible for most dangerous (Jacques & Allen, 2014; Sutherland, et.al, 2015).

Accordingly, paedophile raping of 2013 alone indicates hundred and seventy nine (179) cases excluding the dark figures[10] (KSGD, 2014). Other social vices detected are politically related assassinations, insurgent activities, abduction for ransom, and burglary actions (Okechukwu & Nkechi, 2013). This is a situation that attract sociological investigation Blaikie (2010). Meanwhile, the existing literature focus on human insecurity discourse at mostly national/international levels. In addition, explanations on the major roles of security agencies at grass roots are still scarce. Hence, the study centers at providing a micro level analysis vis-à-vis Police and *Hisbah* roles in security management.

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[3] Common name of swindling/duping in Nigeria.
[4] Central Bank of Nigeria recent unemployment statistics
[5] An acronym for National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency saddled with management of drug related offences.
[6] National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency
[7] Sourced from the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency, Kano State Headquarters.
[8] Press Conference by the Police Public Relation s Officer, Kano State Command.
[9] Six thousand USD or twenty seven million RMY
[10] Refer to three categories of criminal cases. Undetected, detected unreported and detected, reported but unrecorded.

URBAN KANO SECURITY STAKEHOLDER ORGANISATIONS

The study considers two security stakeholder organisations due to their crucial disposition for micro level security management/analyses concerning the study area.

i.   The Police

The 1999 Constitution (when Nigeria returned to civilian rule after a long military experience) had provisions of the Nigeria Police Force, Police Council and the Police Service Commission. However, Section 214(1) of the 1999 Constitution provided that:

> There shall be a Police Force for Nigeria, which shall be known as the Nigeria Police Force, and subject to the provisions of this section, no other police force shall be established for the Federation or any part thereof…(Reiner 2000:3).

The primary roles of police include the prevention of crime, protection of lives and properties through maintenance of law and order. In reference, the Nigeria constitution of 1999 in Chapter IV sections (1) & (2) in sub sections a, b and c contains the fundamental rights of every citizen. Therefore, the police in line of their powers have the obligatory role of providing and maintaining human security and sustainability at all times and by all means necessary (Alemika &Chukwuma, 2003; Smith, 2007; Aremu, Pakes & Johnstone, 2011).

ii. The *Hisbah*

This was only introduced in the year 2000. Its creation followed a series of Islamic Sharia agitations in northern Nigeria. The major functions consist of fighting evils contrary to Islamic Shari'ah. These include war against prostitution, alcoholism, gambling, fornication and adultery, etc. *Hisbah* has not been recognised by federal constitution but was however embarked by the state assembly law No. 4 of 2003 that strengthened its power to exist and operate within Kano state. The major units of the organisation are crime prevention, surveillance, investigation, operation, welfare and special duties. On reaching the office of the Director General, it is clearly written under law no. 4 of 2001, thus:

> Any person of free virtue suspected to be a prostitute and found around night clubs, hotels and other places believed to be areas where any immoral acts are being perpetrated shall be guilty of an offence and shall upon conviction be punished with imprisonment which may extend to one year or fine of ₦10,000[11] or both.

Today, *Hisbah* works in collaboration with the police, and all other sister security agencies owned by both federal and state governments. The common goal is to enhance security for the exponentially growing population of urban Kano.

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[11] An equivalent of 83 USD or 292 RMY

LITERATURE REVIEW

Criminal Behaviour

A number of societies in the world today face insecurity because of the amount of criminal activities when it goes beyond control. Crime refers to the commission of acts that are forbidden, or the omission of acts required, by law and for which offenders are liable to be punished if convicted in a court of law (Siegel, 2012:13). The Russian official statistics indicates that, the crimes recorded in 2012 were 1.5 times lower than those in 2006. The total registered offences per capita in 2012 dropped by 1.2 times compared to 2006. Also, the number of registered offenders was dropped by 1.2 times in 2011 as against 2006. Further, the statistics showed that, felonies have declined by 1.6 times during the same period (Semukhina, 2014). This revealed efficiency in security management.

Orock (2014) argued that, youth involvement in crimes entails insecurity situation. Similarly, crime and violence appear costly as funds meant for developmental purposes are rooted into fighting crime and insecurity. In a Colombian experiment, Cárdenas and Rozo (2008) revealed empirical evidences that the country lost 2% points in economic growth since 1980s to crime management. Recent analyses showed a significant reduction of violent crime in some urban areas where crime/insecurity dominated in the past occurred as a result of security agencies efficiency. Blanco and Ruiz (2013), maintained that, the homicide rate at the national level decreased from 70.2% in 2000 to 33.4% in 2010, and the number of registered kidnappings has decreased from 3,572 cases in 2000 to 282 cases only in 2010.

According to UNODC Report[12] of (2012), the drug business and related activity have been decimated by almost 60 % in Colombia although the country is still ranked the highest in homicides ratings amongst five countries. The country is also ranked amongst the five least peaceful nations in the world since 2007 (Institute of Economics &Peace, 2015). This informed that criminal behaviour has surpassed the administrative efforts in security management.

In Greece, a 10% increase in the crime rate reduces annual per-capita GDP growth between 0.49% and 0.62% respectively (Goulas & Zervoyianni, 2013). In Glasgow, UK, the relationship of annual crime rates and neighbourhood structures was found relatively ineffective. In a United States study, it was indicated that, from 1992 onwards, economic functionality open ways for employment and eradication of poverty which affect criminal potentialities (Lynch, 2013). Tong Po-sun (2014) in the Hong Kong based study on crime prevention highlighted the optimal need of offender rehabilitation bodies and programs that will secure the developing societies from further effects of crimes.

Insecurity/Security

Insecurity denotes a situation characterized by fear and want, associated to feelings of powerlessness (Slakmon, 2007). On the other hand, security encompasses crime prevention, public policing, technology and risk management (Brooks, 2010). It has been estimated that,

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[12] United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

between 800,000 and 1,000000 people lose their lives to violence each year. In a further exploration, it has been essentially captured that, security failure encompasses a wide range of potential incidents. Britto (2013) found that, in communities where there is concentration of criminal activities, insecurity exists if the incidences go beyond control.

As such, people live in fear and anxiety as crime and insecurity have an inseparable relationship. Wall (2008) argued that, the availability and affordability of modern information technology produced what is termed as *e-criminals*. A syndrome that always stays invisible as no reliable data depict their actual statistics. Critically, this type of crime is more synonymous to urban life where modern technology is sought. Bondi (2014) relate insecurity to poverty where its experiences are part of everyday lives. On the other hand, O'Brien (2015) Central American study revealed a correlation between human security and the democratic political commitment. Therefore, violence, indiscipline, corruption and other forms of crimes dominate only if the concerned authorities are indolent.

Holmes (2012) argued that, authorities' efforts in combatting corruption in post-Soviet Russia were insufficient. Thus, the revelation indicated that, the anti-corruption momentum was kept with a minimal influence. In an Australian mixed method analysis, police corruption indicate an imprecise corruption/insecurity relationship (Lauchs, Keast, & Yousefpour, 2011). In the Nigerian context, the causes of corruption were identified as greed, love of money, and excessive pleasure. This has been responsible for the insecurity predicament in the country (Makinde, 2013). By extension, corruption is responsible for many failing states in the Third World countries today.

METHODS

Qualitative data were largely utilised in this study. The sampling method was a non-probability type of snowball (referral) technique applied in both target security agencies. The data were collected using In-depth interviews. In each of the two organisations, five respondents were interviewed. The interviews conducted were later transcribed. Both manifest and latent contents were utilised. The manifest contents consist of the direct quotations from the respondents which were observed through, and obvious components were described (Oiler, 1982; Downey Wamboldt, 1992; Koch, 1995). The latent contents interpret the underlying meaning of the text and analysed (Henwood & Pidgeon, 1993; Draper, 1997; Kadracki et'al, 2002).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The two organisations are trying by every possible means necessary to ensure security is provided to the urban Kano populace. In a due response, one of the senior police officers in charge of the metropolis when interviewed on the efforts of police to secure the society from evils mentioned:

> As we know, insecurity is a serious issue which concerns insurgency, robbery, theft, mob actions and thuggery. We look at illiteracy as a source of societal evil. 'An empty mind is a devil workshop'. Most of the criminals we parade are found wanting in terms of their literacy level. To curtail this, I think our schooling system must be given a second thought so that the

literacy level could be improved and checkmate crime from the grassroots especially among our teeming youth.

In the first place, there appears to be an overwhelming obstacle to security management generally in the state. This is because, more illiterates, more ignorant of the law and more security challenges being experienced. The idea buttressed above emphasise on the issue of schooling system which is expressly of low quality currently. Therefore, one of the major impediments to security in urban Kano is illiteracy which must be checkmated if the community is to be saved from danger. Similarly, in their efforts to combat criminality within the target population, another police officer added:

> It is evidently clear that the amount of crimes being committed has reduced to a bearable minimum. The reason behind this is the tireless efforts by the concerned agencies to ensure peace reign in the state and even beyond. Violent crimes such as political thuggery, street mobs, armed robbery have all decimated in recent times. Recruitment of more officers, provision of more working tools are some measures being taken to well manage the problem at hand.

From this interview excerpts, it can be understood that, in recent times, security in the study area is improving. This could be supported by the current recruitment of the police officers generally in the country which are being deployed to various areas in an effort to ensure societal security. In addition, the concerned authorities still affirm that, modern crime fighting tools are continuously being provided to meet the shortcomings of the police. Although many challenges are being observed to have dominated the agency, yet the current processes infuse some hopes into the ordinary citizens believing that peace is being restored. Likewise, another officer narrates:

> The three vital measures we always take in ensuring and maintaining peace and order in the state include among other things, good human relations, intelligence gathering and proactive policing. In addition, we also have a good human relations with our sister agencies such as, military, immigration, custom and *Hisbah.*

From these excerpts, it is observed that, for security to be achieved, there must be a cordial relationship between the police and the general public if security is to be attained with optimum success. This human relations help in intelligence gathering and assists in the proactive policing strategy. By implication, lack of good human relation between the police and the general public may bring setbacks to the successes of security agencies. Additionally, collaborations with some sister organisations such as the military, immigration and *Hisbah* is viable. This indicates that, collective efforts must remain intact if the present security achievements are to be improved. Another officer interviewed had this to contribute:

> Other measures considered important in dealing with crime prevention strategies consist of frequent patrol, arresting crime perpetrators and enlightening the public on police roles where we use media houses on key security issues. The public response has been so far satisfactory.

The excerpts emphasize the importance of daily patrol, crime perpetrators arrests, and media roles in public enlightenment. This is to say that, frequent patrol of crime hotspots on daily basis always keeps the police vigilant, putting the perpetrators away from these scenes. In cases, where crimes incidentally/accidentally occurs, police remain reactive to counter attack the criminals when any move is sought. This is quite a remarkable development in the security management technologies considering some societal complexities that may obstruct the police operations. Meanwhile, another police officer added:

> Despite the multifaceted challenges in the security industry, we found the business entrepreneurs, traditional and religious leaders helpful in cooperating with the relevant security agencies. The major unified aim is a general peace for the state and to device ways through which it could be sustained.

The above view emphasised the importance and eligibility of traditional authorities in ensuring peace and stability in the state. In otherwords, security agencies alone cannot concur the insecurity related issues being experienced. It is also highlighted that, the study area currently faces security challenges which call for all hands to be on deck for a unanimous dealing with the problem at hand. However, adequate means for sustaining peace is yet to be satisfactory. In a rider comment to the forgone, another view opines:

> I think it is not only the security agencies and traditional authorities that shall contribute to the impending insecurity issues. Parents, religious scholars are also saddled with security management. The former can contribute through socialisation from early childhood through adolescence to adulthood. The latter can preach against any antisocial behaviour so that people can shun away from evils which always transgress insecurity.

From these excerpts, family and religious institutions have a giant role to play in sustaining the societal security. Therefore, parents and religious clerics have both a primary and secondary roles in ensuring the societal safety. The effects of these two categories shall never be underestimated. It is also obvious that, family members especially the two parents are the first set of people a child comes in contact with during the early socialisation. Here, personality is initiated, developed and becomes matured at a later life. Within the larger society, religious leaders are the most obedient group especially in a non-secular societies. Unless such institutions uphold these responsibilities, security challenges may continue to exist. Furthering the discussions, another police maintained:

> One of the ways of handling insecurity is that, community must comprehend what the police task is, therefore, community must assist the police to avert insecurity. All unwanted behaviours must be reported to the relevant authorities. Nooks and crannies should have a common network, otherwise, attaining success in achieving security goal is going to be difficult.

This view extends community role in security management. Community policing is therefore suggested in the interview excerpts. The public's role in assisting the police work is essential and becomes integral in a daily living. The complexities of human societies necessitate this approach for support must be co-ordinated to achieve an everlasting successes. It is believed that, coverage in security management will only be possible if such measures are considered and applied. In buttressing the problems affecting the proper functioning of police in the security industry, a respondent highlights:

> The state generally suffers from police inadequacies. In a community of more than twelve million, but less than ten thousand officers are expected to provide security to this exponentially growing population. By elaboration, the problems are numerous, but the most pertinent include working equipment that are currently inadequate in facing the security challenges of the modern times. Transportation, arms and ammunitions and effective communication devices are also lacking to cater with the societal security needs. As such, combatting insecurity in urban Kano is always difficult, although this is a common phenomenon in the force all over the country.

In evaluating the real scenario, statistical evidence indicates that, the police strength in the whole Kano state is estimated at 7000 personnel meant to manage the security of 12,052,530 civilian population. Ironically, the ratio statistics which reveals 1:1722 is expected to work efficiently to safeguard the public security. This violates the standard of 1:450 set by the United Nations (Ahmed, Muhammad, Mohammed & Idris, 2011). It is very difficult if not impossible to achieve maximum security in this regard if this problem persist. In this effect, another officer interviewed has a somewhat different opinion:

> It is something acceptable that many shortfalls exist in the force. The fact that crimes increase is because of some obvious reality of our weaknesses. Meanwhile, this does not mean we make no impact in managing the public security no matter how little. I believe, with the current reformation in the security sector, things will get better. One thing is, the change shall come gradually.

As expressed in the view, the police force in the state is inadequate and this has been acknowledged to be affecting the effectiveness of the agency. Stressed in the opinion is that more efforts shall continue to counter attack the prevailing insecurity situation in the study area. However, the undergoing changes in the country generally encompasses every sector taking the security spheres at the forefront. Optimism sets a focus of determination which should be allowed to take a natural course. Hence, the end point is expected to be positive. The tables below provide additional explanations in security management enterprise in the study area. Table 1 depicts the common crimes being experienced in urban Kano. The major classifications being three (violent, property and public order). Although studies indicate that a number of crimes are contemporarily relevant in our midst, these mentioned above appear to be the most evident.

Table 1: Classification of crime with some examples

S/N	Type of crime	Example
1	Violent	Mob action, Assault, Rape, etc.
2	Property	Theft, Swindling, Pick pocketing etc.
3	Public order	Prostitution, drug abuse, Child Abuse, Homosexuality, etc.

Source: Kano State *Hisbah* Board, 2015.

In a further explanation, Table 2 indicates that, across the time periods of eleven months, public order crimes are much common compared to the remaining two in the distribution. In summary, crimes such as prostitution, drug abuse, child abuse and homosexuality disturb the public much. Secondly, violent crimes such as mob, assault and rape occupy the second range. And lastly, the property oriented crimes. The major idea is that, the fluctuation incidences generally indicates some impact of *Hisbah* in security management strategy. Hence, crime incidences got reduced dramatically in 2015.

Table 2: Distribution of Crimes by Months: January – November, 2015

Crime	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Violent	16	36	17	19	19	16	16	20	19	06	05
Property	5	03	02	04	07	09	12	08	10	13	06
Public Order	51	94	81	57	101	94	90	72	75	78	56
Total	72	133	100	80	127	119	118	100	104	97	67

Source: Kano State *Hisbah* Board, 2015

Evaluating these achievements, a *Hisbah* official digested:

> We receive victims of child abuse, old people suffering from dementia, delinquents and mentally retarded people. Their welfare (food, clothing and general services) are under my department. We also care for refugees until they are repatriated back. In fact, our services covers not only Kano indigenes, Nigerians but also internationals**.**

The notion of welfare being undertaken by the agency is rather clear. The general belief is that, checkmating similar problems reduces the criminal tendencies and improve security among the populace. Despite some challenges, positive results are being obtained. As a rider to the above, another interviewee in the same Agency opined:

> In order to maximize the quality of our operations, we collaborate with the sister agencies especially the police where and when necessary. We also take every possible measure to ensure no connivance with criminals is observed. Through this strategy, we achieve a lot in dealing with crime spots in urban Kano.

From this view, it is stressed that, security management must adopt a collaborative strategy if the society is to actualise its dream in achieving maximum security in due course. Interestingly, the *Hisbah* only had state law backing while most of the agencies within the

security enterprise had s federal law support. Under the law, no provision of sophisticated weapons to *Hisbah* is prescribed. For the conventional agencies such as the police and the military, the story is different. Thus, we may infer that, *Hisbah* operations are limited in some instances. Certainly, cooperation must exist if the public is to stay secured. Another response believes:

> To this end, *Hisbah* in Kano has achieved a tremendous goal in combatting insecurity. It is rather difficult if not impossible to negate the contribution of the agency in the security industry. Although there was no a federal constitutional backing, the state assembly law help the agency utilisation which becomes integral component of urban Kano populace.

The view indicates the necessity of *Hisbah* as an agency in the security industry to which it has been integrated. Security management could only be actualised to its maximum capacity if the agency is allowed to perform its roles at the highest ability possible. Its functionality also rests not only on constitutional basis but Islamic religion to which the urban Kano populace are so attached. Nevertheless, *Hisbah* becomes an indispensable organ in urban Kano security enterprise, without which, tremendous achievements would not have been actualised. Despite all these, one of the interviewed officials in *Hisbah* Board, Kano State, opines:

> Of-course there is a weak leadership in the country generally. This we believe is the major cause of security drawbacks that the state has been dwindling into. However, with the current change of government, our hopes are restored, our beliefs reinstated and our involvement re-strengthened. We hope, with time, insecurity will become a history in our nation not only in urban Kano or Kano State.

A police officer further confirmed:

> Actually, it is possible that the major setbacks in security sectors were due to leadership weaknesses. No provision of modern and adequate working facilities, no good welfare to law enforcements, no any sort of encouragement from the policy makers in security management efforts, etc. These damages will take time to restore into stability even if the irregularities are halted for now and transparency maintained.

The above views depict the overwhelming problems of two security agencies which can bring setbacks to achieving the organisational goals. It indicates that the leadership is currently indolent in tackling insecurity. This could be understood as that, no adequate working tools are supplied, and welfare services of the serving officers to motivate and improve organisational efficiency is rather frustrated. This concurs with O'Brien (2015) Central American study, who found that, there is a correlation between human security and the democratic political commitment. The higher the government commitment to security management, the more the society stay secured and vice versa.

Also echoed from the current findings, there is some coincidence with Wall (2008) study that relates lack of availability and affordability of modern information technology to crime persistence and insecurity dominance in urban life. These security challenges will continue to exist unless the leadership strategies and of working tools inadequacy are resolved for the better. However, some other view from the police force argued:

> Although corruption is not the only reason behind the urban Kano insecurity, but it is the most tragic. In addition the police's is the most common. This is because, police welfare service is zero, even MSS (mechanised salary scheme) introduced to manage salary discrepancies is not serving the purpose for which it has been initiated. In as much as corruption remain in the police, crime and insecurity will persist at infinity.

This clearly indicates the existence of a serious corruption in the police force. It further makes the pervasive nature of corruption effect obvious. The negativity seems to appear systemic within crime/insecurity nexus vis-à-vis security management. The most tragic insanity in the whole is that there is an expression of pessimism as to when corruption incidence is to cease within the agency. This sounds inimical to security successes. Hence, in as much as corruption remains in the police, the issue of security improvement for the civilian populace is rather difficult if not impossible. Hence, another police officer echoed:

> Actually, the issue of corruption in Nigeria's security agencies is common. In fact it became an integral part of these agencies. These could be attributed to poor welfare services that consist of salaries, special duty allowances, shelter, etc. what is happening in these agencies is a typical 'jungle justice' where high ranking officers dominate lower ranks. How do we expect system efficiency if power wheelers in these organisations abuse the law!

The above view is a rider to the immediate. Corruption is rather reemphasized as one of the major impediments of security in the country generally. It also evaluated the degree of the incidence in the police and how it degenerated among the levels of official ranking in the agency. The irony is that, inefficiency should always be expected if the evil of corruption dominates. This current revelation is in congruence with Holmes (2012) study who found corruption as a related factor to insecurity in post-Soviet Russia where measures taken by authorities were insufficient making anti-graft momentum with a minimal force. It also agrees with recent Makinde (2013) Nigerian analysis in the same course.

Accordingly, as an impairment of integrity, corruption is brought by greed, love of money, and excessive pleasure, among others things. Meanwhile, the current findings are not in harmony with Lauchs, Keast, & Yousefpour, (2011) Australian result, where both quantitative and qualitative data indicate an imprecise corruption/insecurity relationship vis-à-vis police corruption networks. In a multifaceted dimension to insecurity in the state, an official from *Hisbah* Board has this to say:

> Common sense will tell you that unemployment plays a vital role toward the insecurity situation we experience. Therefore, insecurity will never become a history in urban Kano if the issue of unemployment especially among the

teeming youth is not made the top priority. Man is created to live a life like his other humans. The cases being reported here are evidently linked to unemployment. You see marriage breakups, breach of trust, snatch and run, minor thefts and burglary cases all traced to unemployment problem. If this could be reduced, we will get relieved at least, and the society will enjoy some relative peace.

In a support to this opinion, another official opined:

Fighting poverty is one of the key elements of managing insecurity. Initiating effective poverty eradication programs at various levels of human interaction can save the society. It is just unfortunate that, majority of the populace are poor. So this strategies may take longer times before they become actualised.

The two views portray the common causes of insecurity which call for the immediate of relevant authorities in fighting this evil. As unemployment dominates, poverty situation arises which further aggravates the economic hardships for the public. Eventually, insecurity along property related offences intrudes. This coincides with the work of Bondi (2014) that relates insecurity to poverty. Hence, insecurity becomes part of our daily living in as much as unemployment and poverty exist in our midst. This goes to show that, insecurity situation comes as a result of both internal and external factors.

CONCLUSION

Human insecurity has been one of the Nigeria's serious challenges in the 21st century. In urban Kano however, public order (drug abuse), violent (rape) and property (theft) are among the most evident cases of crimes detected in recent times. On this basis, the paper highlights on the status of security management in urban Kano vis-à-vis police and *Hisbah* contributions.

It was found that, despite the various successes the twin organisations have achieved, some problems still obstruct their performances. Therefore, to checkmate current security challenges, additional personnel and modern working tools for both agencies are so much needed for effective efficiency maximization. Also, welfare services should be improved to boost the organisational morale and checkmate endemic corruption engulfing the security industry. Meanwhile, poverty eradication strategies through the provision of employment opportunities must be initiated. In addition, entertainment industry, religious scholars, parents and the general community all have a role to play in ensuring a secured society.

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