

FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA: PERSPECTIVES FROM STUDENTS



**CENTRE FOR INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND
DEVELOPMENT**

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PERSPECTIVES FROM STUDENTS**

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FOREWORD

Corruption can be fought in different ways. One way is to fight corruption by investigating, arresting and punishing the persons involved. This requires that investigative powers of police and prosecution be increased, and inspection, control, etc. mechanisms be strengthened. This repressive way is based on the idea that corruption is a voluntary exchange undertaken by participants therein in order to fulfill their private interests. It is also based on the assumption that those who are responsible for control and law enforcement (police, prosecution, etc.) are not corrupt. However, none of these assumptions is true in itself, especially in countries and institutions where corruption is widespread or pervasive.

Despite the multifaceted approach in combating corruption not much has been achieved in this direction and the much desired development has eluded the country mainly because of lack of good governance (which must be shrouded in transparency, accountability and rule of law). Corrupt leaders cannot wage any effective war against corruption. The fight against corruption can be fruitful only if approached from multiple standpoints. Thus, corruption must also be approached from an academic and educational perspective.

The purpose of this book “Fighting Corruption in Nigeria: Perspectives from Students” is to introduce anti-corruption components from the students perspectives and provide a good example of how students from tertiary institutions can take action to align themselves with the international sustainability

and anticorruption agenda. The book is a collection of ideas written by students from different tertiary institutions in Nigeria under the Centre for Information Technology and Development project “Innovative Ideas Essay Competition” that tried to engage Nigerian students in tertiary institutions to make submissions on innovative ways to curb corruption in Nigeria.

This project has helped many students in developing strategic ideas to fight corruption, demand for good governance, engage with their representatives and made them to seek for better governance from their representatives.

It is our hope that this book will inspire students and young people to join the effort to rid Nigeria out of the menace of corruption.

It helps in creating a voice among students to expand the demand and advocacy for transparency and accountability.

Y. Z. Ya’u

Executive Director
(CITAD)

INTRODUCTION

Corruption remains one of the most endemic issues affecting development in Nigeria. Corruption still subsists as one of the greatest challenges facing Nigeria.

The effects of corruption on the image and development of Nigeria need not be overemphasized. The existence of this phenomenon in virtually all aspects of the nation's socio-economic life is said to be one reason why poverty level remains high irrespective of the country's position as the six highest suppliers of oil to the whole wide world, and a possessor of numerous other human and natural resources. Recently, President Muhammadu Buhari stated that corruption was the major factor responsible for the suffering of millions of Nigerians. According to the President, corruption at all levels was the biggest problem impeding Nigeria's economic growth and development.

Despite Nigeria's anti-corruption campaign, the country has dropped from 144 in 2018 to 146 in 2019 on the annual corruption perception index published by Transparency International. The report revealed that Nigeria ranks 146 out of the 180 countries considered, behind Botswana (34), Rwanda (51) and Mauritius (56) among other African nations. In 2017, Nigeria ranked 148, while it dropped to 144 in 2018. Nigeria's current position means the most populous black nation is two steps lower to 146 in 2019.

In Nigeria, historically, the war against corruption could be traced back to the pre-colonial era. The various pre-colonial societies had had in place institutions or policies that were pre-

set to fight corrupt practices. The Yoruba Alaafin stood to commit suicide or be banished on any event of gross abuse of his office (Ezenwaji 2000:3). This act essentially checked the Alaafin (the head traditional political Yoruba Society) from corrupt practices and he himself was to ensure that his officials were not corrupt. In the Igbo societies, uprightness was the watchword of all the people. Even at this, for fear of any possible abuse of office, the Igbo political system did not repose authority on a single individual. In the North, the Emir was checked by the collective efforts of his officials against corrupt practices (Nwaodu, 2012:76) The Sharia Laws were the standard for all the faithful including the emir and his punishments abound for corrupt acts.

In the early years of the British rule, there were complaints that emirs and chiefs were difficult to trust with money among other corrupt acts and very quickly the administration issued a proclamation on how to deal with it, which was essentially that corrupt officers would have their appointments terminated and go to jail. Detailed accounting and auditing guidelines were also circulated to assist and warn all officers (Falola cited in Mbaku 1998). They were also traditional anti-corruption bodies like the police, and the courts. However, the weaknesses of these institutions following their infection with the same vice they were to fight made it necessary for the colonial government to devise other means of fighting corruption.

The level of awareness of the need to combat corruption by the colonial administration was awoken by the motion moved on February 26th, 1952, by the Emir of Gwandu at the floor of the Northern House of Chiefs: That this House, agreeing that bribery and corruption are widely prevalent in all walks of life, recommends that Native Authorities should make every

effort to trace and punish offenders with strict impartiality and to educate public opinion against bribery and corruption (Adebayo 1986).

From the military to civilian governments, one form of mechanism or the other has been devised in the prosecution of this fight against this social menace. The post-independence Federal Government also adopted the use of Commission of Inquiry in fighting Corruption in the Country. The early military governments/regimes did not live up to the people's expectation in combating corruption. The military governments had become more corrupt than the civilian governments. Anti-corruption campaigns and mechanisms for both military and civilian governments such as "Operation Purge the Nation", "War Against Indiscipline" and "Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC)" were launched to promote and emphasize discipline and professionalism among civil servants as a way of improving political and administrative efficiency. Unfortunately, the programmes eventually degenerated into policing against disorderly behaviors and failed to engage the Nigerian citizens such as students of tertiary institutions to establish more effective structures for corruption control.

In an effort to compliment the Federal Government's war against corruption, Centre for Information Technology (CITAD), has initiated two competitions; "Report a Project and Innovative Ideas" to engage the youths in the on-going fight against corruption. Report a project is a competition that invites applications from students in tertiary institutions to write on abandoned projects in their various communities with the aim to expose cases of abandoned projects that have positive impact on the lives of the people either as a result of fund diversion or change of government. While "Innovative

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Ideas” is a competition where students of higher learning institutions write essays on how best to fight corruption. The aim of the programs is to engage the youths in critical thinking and innovative ideas which at the end will lead them to asking questions and holding those in public offices accountable. This is due to the fact that youths constitute majority number in the country and can play significant role in the fight against corruption.

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**ANTI-CORRUPTION AND DEMAND
FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE
COUNTRY**

When specifically viewed with Africa's history in mind, administrative corruption, thought rampant across Africa today is an alien culture. Pre-colonial Africa, for the most part, was founded on strong ethical values sometimes packaged in spiritual terms, but with the end result of ensuring social justice and compliance. In both centralized and decentralized pre-colonial African communities, governance was conducted with the uttermost seriousness. As the laws were mostly unwritten in nature and therefore prone to be easily forgotten, they were often couched in supernatural terms to instil fear and be instilled in the subconscious.

Examples abound of the heavy emphasis on accountability and good governance across several pre-colonial African communities.

The term "corruption" is used to a shorthand reference for a large range of illicit or illegal activities. Although there is no universal or comprehensive definition as to what constitute corrupt behaviour, the most prominent definition share a common emphasis upon the abuse power or position for

personal advantage. The Oxford Unabridged Dictionary (2002) defines corruption as perversion or destruction of integrity in the discharge of public duties by bribery or favour; while Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary (2006) defines corruption as inducement to do wrong by improper or unlawful means (as bribery).

With little or no knowledge of the economic earnings of potential tax payers, colonial masters imposed flat-rate taxes known as hut tax on the colonies. The mode of tax payment was often steeped in violence, whereby district commissioners or warrant chiefs were empowered to arrest any defaulter.

The prevailing culture of acquisition of alien taste, a culture of consumerism rather than production; and oppression of the less endowed are the natural outcome of iodizing usurpers and people who reaped where they did not sow. Sixty years later, Africans for the most part, remain enchanted with the trappings of modernity without the character to cultivate it. Fast cars, big houses, expensive vacations to the west, Brazilian wigs and others are only some of the manifestations of a generation mentored by pilferers and oppressors in the form of colonial authorities.

Corruption is a cancer that has eaten deeply into the fabric of Nigeria policy. The general global perception about graft in Nigeria is that it is generally acknowledged that corrupt practices are endemic and systemic in both public and private sectors of Nigeria. From the foregoing, it is evident that corruption undermines the country's integrity and security. It also poses serious developmental challenge being responsible for the poverty of the populace. Public resources meant for the development of all ends up in few hands, the nation pays the price. This has resulted to absence of social amenities such as

portable water, electricity and good roads. The populace becomes demoralized and become willing tools to be used as sabotages to the state. It has led to the extinction of institutions of national significance and pride such as Nigeria Airways, National shipping lines, steel Rolling mills, Nigeria Telecommunication Limited, and car assembly plants e.t.c.

Many reasons have been put forward as portable causes for the prevalence of corruption in Nigeria. The political bureaus in its report mentioned such causes as excessive materialism generated by our individual capitalist order which emphasize personal wealth without regard to the collective interest and welfare of the larger society. Other causes of poverty, illiteracy, get-rich-mania, statism, and wrong attitude to public property , absence of a welfare scheme which cushions effect of unemployment, retirement, large families, and quest for powder, double standards and low level of patriotism. These are important in themselves: the cost of corruption can be classified into four factors, political, economic, social, and environmental.

Our democracy and political leadership cannot develop in a corrupt climate. Economically, corruption leads to the depletion of our national wealth. It has led to the use of scarce public resources to finance uneconomic high profile projects such as power plants, pipelines that cost billions whereas if these were channel towards building schools, hospitals and roads or the supply of Electricity and water to rural areas which are basic needs of life.

The possible solutions to averting Corruption in Nigeria.

- Restoration of indigenous values and institutions: Nigerian indigenous values and system were for the most part debunked by first, the missionaries, and then

colonialists in a much more forceful manner. Indigenous solutions to corruption must once again be explored followed by the rediscovery of indigenous systems of administration. Rwanda has successfully done the latter through the Gacaca, Abunzi, Umuganda, Umudugudu and other indigenous systems. The above is by no means a call for Nigeria Muslims and Christians to revert to African traditional religion as is often perceived whenever the indigenous is mentioned.

· **Formal informal and non-formal Education:**

The greatest vehicle for cultural transmission towards a transformation of prevailing social paradigm is education. In its formal form, the curriculum of learning across Nigeria must be overhauled to make for real mental and intellectual independence. In its non-formal manifestations, conferences, workshops, camps, and other non-formal learning situations must be widely utilized to re-educate citizens on the fact that real living occurs only when individuals have sound moral values, or at least, consistently and seriously aspire to it.

· **Religion as a nation building institution:**

Nigerians listen to their spiritual leaders, much more than they do politicians and policy makers. The pulpit ought to be mobilized as a knowledge and faith based platform for reaching the souls of Nigerians and in directing them towards nation-building

· **Promotion of the “African” nation state:**

For the past 50 years, Nigerians have been struggling in vain to assimilate the artificially imposed colonial boundaries. It is time to promote the greater African nation-state and de-emphasize the cosmetic divisions that is filled with antagonist ethnic groups.

- Nigeria must be encouraged, motivated and facilitated to travel widely across the continent in order to overcome the ethnic animosities that was ignited by colonialism, established by the post-colonial tussle for power among ruling elites, and strengthened by geographic claustrophobia.

- **Strengthening of anti-graft institutions:**

Strong anti-graft institutions are a necessity across Nigeria state, as in any other part of the world. Government should appoint credible and determined individuals who may even be nationals of other African countries.

- The EFCC need leadership that commands legitimacy, which will enable them to assert their independence and build the integrity with its rank and life. EFCC should be empowered and grant absolute autonomy in handling cases relating to corruption. Anti-corruption laws, legislation and regulations should be written in simpler language and made accessible to the populace.

In conclusion:

Seeing corruption as amoebic in nature (that is, without a definite form), this paper shown that it occurs in various forms and a wide range of places such that there seems to be no single approach to its eradication. Corruption is increasingly seen as a serious crime with devastating consequences such as wasteful spending, bigger budgetary deficits, great economic inequalities, disinvestments as well as unorthodox trading practices. With regards to the fight against corruption, education is central in inculcating desired knowledge, skills and values and its use in combating corruption should focus on the will to know how to act.

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**ANTI-CORRUPTION AND
ACCOUNTABILITY: JOINING THE
CRUSADE**

Corruption has been the bane to legitimate governance, democratic stability and socio-economic and political development of many societies in developing countries. Corruption is a menace that has bedeviled the country as a whole, and there is a plethora of its crippling effects in Nigeria, some of which include lack of development, high crime rate, and lack of moral value in the society. Corruption also gives a country bad reputation, together with unemployment, and poverty to mention a few.

Corruption can be defined as the dishonest or fraudulent conduct of those in power, which typically involves giving or taking bribe, deceiving someone to get money for personal gain, favouring relatives and friends with jobs they are not qualified to do. According Morris (1991), "Corruption is the illegitimate use of power to benefit a private interest". Corruption can also be described as using any undue influence in pursue of whatever interest. This also corroborates the definition give byTresiman (2010) who defined corruption as the misuse of public office for private gain.

The phenomenon of corruption cuts across both public and

private sectors, and even across macro and micro levels of social interaction. Corruption in its various types may include: political corruption, moral corruption, judicial corruption and economic corruption. Arguably, the most disturbing and highest level corruption is political corruption which is also known as grand corruption, is the large scale transfer of public resources by government officials for private gain. Under this type of corruption, damage done is directly on the country as a whole. Most practiced forms of corruption in Nigeria are embezzlement, nepotism and cronyism, grafts, kick backs, bribery, and election rigging among others.

In most countries around the world various anti-corruption mechanisms are set up to combat corruption. These mechanisms or activities are put in place to oppose, punish and discourage corruption, and are designed to eradicate or prevent dishonest or fraudulent conducts, especially in the socio-economical and political context.

Anti-corruption crusade, as it has been termed in recent times, will lead to accountability, which is of immense importance in the public sector. This is because both elected and non-elected officials need to show the public that they are performing their responsibilities in the best possible ways with the resources at their disposal. This means that all government officials must be responsible to the citizens, and must always justify the source and utilization of public funds of their disposal in order to reduce corruption and increase accountability.

Most often, in order to fight corruption, government usually set up anti-corruption agencies to fight corruption. These anti-corruption, or Anti-graft agencies are designed to fight, eradicate or prevent dishonest or fraudulent conducts, especially in a political context. The National Assembly and

State Houses of Assembly both play an important role in this anti-corruption crusade, as they exercise the power of investigation. The judiciary, which comprises of all courts within the country, is also involved in the enforcement of anti-corruption laws since suspected offenders will be tried before them.

Examples of agencies established to specifically fight corruption are:

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC): which was specially and specifically dedicated to tackling economic and financial crimes in Nigeria. The EFCC has gained some success through the past years, and the statistics of record of investigation and convictions from 2003 to 2011 confirms this: 36 convictions, 75 under trial and 105 under investigations. Presently, there are notable cases at the federal high court of Nigeria which includes EFCC VS Dame Patience Jonathan where EFCC obtained an order to seize the sum of USD\$22.3 million in her account in Skye Bank, and a case of allegation of N450 million frauds between EFCC against Mohammed Belgoresan and Professor Abubakar Suleiman, former Minister of National Planning.

Another agency is the Public Complaint Commission which was established under the Public Complaints Commission Act and operates to protect the public against corrupt oppressive exercise of power by public officials and even citizens against one another.

The third agency is the Code of Conduct Tribunal whose primary responsibility is the trial of persons who violate the provision of the code of conduct of public offices. In other words, the main thrust of the code is to prevent corruption in public life and offices.

The Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) was established under the corrupt practices and other related offences act and operates to protect the public services against corrupt practices. This agency in its recorded fight against corruption and bringing culprits to account shows that it has discovered and dealt with many groups of corrupt officials in some ministries, departments and agencies, with recovery of over 100 exotic vehicles, including armored bullet proof utility vehicles (SUV) worth over N450 million.

The Code of Conduct Bureau (CCB) is not left behind in this anti-corruption war. The notable case taken to the Code of Conduct Bureau was the case between EFCC vs. the present Nigerian Senate President, Bukola Saraki, where he was standing trial for corruption and false assets declaration he made before he became governor in 2003.

The national securities agencies act also provides for three agencies namely the Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA), the National Intelligence Agency (NIA) and the State Security Service (SSS), which together with numerous anti-corruption and transparency units established in various government ministries and agencies, helps in monitoring, reporting and dealing with corrupt tendencies and practices.

However, the country's many agencies' anti-corruption crusade has been hindered by many factors, among which is lack of transparency and accountability. The ill stain of corruption did not spare even the anti-graft agencies as the former chairman of Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) Ibrahim Lambode, was accused of fraudulently diverting over many proceeds from funds recovered by the agency (Adeyemi 2016). The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) also reported that Nyako, the former governor of Adamawa state and seven others,

including companies are standing trial before the court on a 37-count charge bordering on money laundering (Pulse 2016).

Accountability has been defined as the obligation of an individual or organization to account for its activities, accept responsibility for them and to disclose the results in a transparent manner. It also includes the responsibility for money or other entrusted property. Accountability connotes the state of being liable and requires a specified person or group of people to report and justify their actions in relations to specific matters or assigned a duty (Borens, 2007). Also, accountability focuses on the sanctions or procedures by which public officials can be held to account for their actions.

In other words, anti-corruption activities go hand-in-hand with accountability. Anti-corruption acts are designed to eradicate or prevent dishonest and fraudulent conducts, especially in a political context. Given this, anti-corruption and accountability would aid in having a transparent and free-corrupt nation.

The lack of accountability is one of the leading factors that have given rise to the increase in corrupt acts and cases in Nigeria. In the year 2017, Transparency International (TI) carried out their survey, and Nigeria ranked 148 out of 180 surveyed countries in terms of transparency, an index used in measuring corruption and accountability. It is very disappointing that in the latest corruption perception index released by Transparency International, Nigeria has relapsed deeper into corruption.

According to other surveys by Transparency International in its corruption perception index, it is evident that lack of accountability and transparency from public officials has led the

country into the doom of immense corruption for the past years and even currently. The lack of accountability from the public officials has made corruption more attractive and easier to get away with no penalty whatsoever.

Conclusively, these anti-graft agencies in the fight against corruption have faced numerous problems which have hindered them in effectively and efficiently combating corruption in Nigeria, some of which are lack of special covert operations, culprits not harshly penalized to deter others, lack of assets forfeiture law, inadequate financial support, lack of accountability, out-dated laws, media trials, hasty investigations and lack of strong exhibits.

I would recommend that accountability, which is one of the fundamental prerequisites for preventing corruption need to be instilled into every facet of public offices. Enforcement agencies must also be well-equipped in order to enforce laws and be given the authority to prosecute anybody regardless of his/her position.

There is also need for reformation of the anti-corruption agencies in Nigeria, as these agencies should also be accountable to the public. Accountability in every government agencies, including the anti-corruption is also a way of curbing corruption. Once accountability measures are fully implemented, public officials will be under the scrutiny of the public. Accountability should be made the very foundation of the fight against corruption in Nigeria.

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TOPIC:

ANTI-CORRUPTION SUBMISSION INSIDE THE COURT OF LAW

Courts have impact over different activities of the people, human nature indicated that human beings are in thirt of justice because everyone had a feeling of stepping his brothers for his own satisfaction and need to be above the others. Therefore, a man can harm his fellow men using his power, physical or sycological, to inhale the atmosphere of other people. Thus the courts play vital role and bridge the gap between who can harm and who can be harmed. Despite the meritorious role the courts play in maintaining justice among people, and eradicating any form of maltreatment and mismanagement. Unfortunately in our country the courts became where injustice, corruption, unethical and immoral behavior dance without any restriction. From head to toe, if you inspect the judiciary sector now you can find a lot of corruption and mismanagement under the temple of justice.

Judicial officers commit mismanagement and corruption, just because of their interest. Taking bribe takes place in different ways. Chambers of judges became like a shop where buying and selling business occur. Offices of registrars is like a service room of unspoken black business. While on the other hand some officers of custody contributed with unlawful detention of innocent people. And the police officers that have business with courts whose actions and corruption practices cannot be expressed because of the transparency of their black marketing

and its awareness among others.

All the above fiasco and many more corruption practices are well known by many people in the courts, and to be frank, even there is no law governing the same affairs, so the law of ethics and morals cannot let a man believe corruption and other mismanagement are suitable in such places. Talkless to religious principles that opposed corruption directly. A good conscience cannot agree with it ever and never. Because it's bad and shall not give birth of an eyeful child, corruption can only destroy the current and future generations. Therefore we are to put our hands on the desk, and be firm to ginger ourselves and our people to wake up and eradicate corruption. We shouldn't remain at home and leave those who are benefiting from corruption to stop it. They will not, because they are beneficiaries of it.

Rights of citizens are provided and protected by the constitution, see chapter (4) of CFRN. The courts are places where a person can go and secure his rights or seek redress of being harmed by other, nowadays became where rights are nothing but zilch. And things are happening in paradoxical way. For example, constitution prohibited the court to detain a person in custody pending trial for the alleged offense he's charged, and exceed the duration of the provided punishment for the offense. And anything other than what law provided may amount to unlawful detention. But authority are not contemplating and respecting this law and the fact appeared that most of the prisoners now are those people who are suffering from such case. And those whose right of their personal liberty was infringed upon.

On the other angle, many people were tortured before their appearance before the court of law by law enforcement

agencies such NPF, DSS, SARSS etc. And when appearing before the court even they claim their right of dignity or file their complain of being tortured and forced to answer certain questions of committing the offense, i.e TWT, the court sometimes are not answering their prayers. Simply because of the superiority of the prosecution officers. And this is another form of mismanagement. Again in the court of law, a man can be punished with fine. And the receivers of fine can demand something from him other than the fine. Or to take the money without giving him receipt of payment, and put the money in their pockets. Or if the fine is high they can reduce the amount and take it and put in their pockets, from the offenders or their guardians and cancel the case as if it didn't occur.

Inside the court there are some people who are not lawyers, and they are not court personnels, they are just are, and they are they! Physically you can say they don't have any business with the court or any authority, because the moment you see them you can assume they are just audience or they too are there for their own case. But the moment they see a man approaching the court they welcome him and ask him about his case. The most wonderful thing is. They can tell a person that they have a good contact with the judge, therefore they can help but they are to be helped too, vice versa. If you finished with them and pay them, thus no matter the worse your case is they can solve and get you free. Frankly, they are para-judges and they are sent by them. And the paid money are to be taken by them. Oops! What a mismanagement!

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TITLE :
**MY INNOVATIVE IDEAS OF
TACKLING CORRUPTION IN THE
JUDICIARY**

The Nigerian society faces a high risk of corruption when interacting with Nigeria's judiciary; it is characterized by a high degree of corruption and political interference. So many criminals go scot-free due to their influence and power they hold in the society, while others go to prison for the least crimes compared to the so-called 'Elder statesmen, Religious leaders, business men and women just to mention a few.

As a youth, I read about past criminal cases which of some are either being closed or ignored.

I once thought that the only solution to such brouhaha is Revolution, but recently when I learnt about Centre for Information Technology and Development's theme on 'How To Tackle Corruption in the Judicial, I started to think of other ways to tackle this serious issue since I believe in the rule of law. Corruption is a significant obstacle to the judicial system, whatever is contrary to the constitution is illegal, our judicial system is in the hands of self-serving, money- hungry and power-seeking Judges who can be seduced, sucker-punched, or blackmailed into submission. Nigeria's constitution establishes

an independent judiciary, but other branches of government frequently interfere with it, nearly half of Nigerians perceive the judicial system to be corrupt. The judiciary is plagued by understaffing, underfunding, inefficiency and corruption. Judges are susceptible to bribery and courts cannot be relied on for independent judgements. Judges and court officials are poorly remunerated and court documents are not digitized, which encourages corruption in the judiciary.

In October 2016, law enforcement in Nigeria seized \$800,000 in a raid targeting several senior judges (BBC News, 2016). Among those arrested was a Supreme Court judge who has been charged with fifteen counts of fraud amounting to nearly \$1,500,000 (BBC News, 2016). Additional charges have been recently added to the case as reported by Premium Times in May 2017. The big question here is, How do we tackle Corruption in the judicial sector and minimize its cancerous spread on this ladder which is public life? How do we stop the termites from eating off the parts that make up this ladder that may stop our country from ascending to the Eldorado of Progress?

To tackle corruption in the judiciary, A Reformation in the judiciary is of paramount importance, a trusted independent panel should be launched to oversee every casefile in the judiciary, the people on this panel must be people of Integrity, Goodwill, selflessness, and Honesty which can traced by their previous and present history of both social and professional aspects, I believe in good leadership, What I believe much strongly is that these kind of people do exist.

Secondly, for years, the line between justice and the judges is clearly invisible, as a result of this the people feel like they don't get the justice they deserve, how can we trust a system that is responsible to enact a just and egalitarian society but is doing

the exact opposite? This is Hypocrisy and as a youth and advocate for good governance, I call for every Nigerian to reject and unambiguously despise any form of corrupt practices not only in the judicial but in every aspect of life. If the judicial are well paid and given incentives to turn their backs against corruption, surely corruption can be minimized or completely eradicated.

It is quite uneasy to fight corruption especially when the big fish feeds on the little fish, but survival is an option, I choose to survive by abstaining myself from corruption. I am a youth and I still believe that there will be a brighter future, but change begins with me, this should not be a wordy statement but rather which we take into concrete action and pragmatism. A judicial system that promotes the value of justice, free initiatives, and rule of law is what every good citizen would pray for in his/her country. As a youngster, I will say NO TO CORRUPTION, in not only the judicial sector but also everywhere.

Furthermore, Everyone should put in mind that fighting corruption is everyone business.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:

INNOVATIVE IDEAS ON USING ICT IN PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY AND THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA

Corruption may be defined as the abuse of entrusted authority for illicit gain, recognising that corruption in particularistic societies essentially reproduces the existing structures of unequal distribution of power.

In Nigeria ICT can be use to effect the work of all actors (EFCC, ICPC, The Police, etc) involved in or working against corruption, including public institutions, civil society organisations, the private sector and the media, while many see great promise in this development.

ICT-enabled whistle blowing tools can facilitate detailed reporting on cases of grand corruption that can be followed up with legal action. The protection of whistle blowers' identities and appropriate follow-up action is crucial in the design of such tools. Otherwise, potential whistle blowers might be deterred from, or could be endangered by, reporting corruption.

Concerning transparency portals, impactful examples that provide big and open data used by civil society or the business community are still relatively rare or not exist in Nigeria. There is an urgent need for further evidence on the impact of such portals on the supply side of information and on enhancing downward transparency.

Similarly, while the application of AI technologies carries great promise, the current state of development and lack of scientific evidence means it is difficult to assess the impact of AI on corruption, especially for developing countries. Future growth should be accompanied by rigorous assessment and build on existing evidence from other areas of application.

However, ICT can also facilitate corruption, emerging technologies can provide new corruption opportunities related to the dark web, crypto currencies, or simply through the misuse of well intended technologies such as digital public services. ICT can also contribute to the centralisation of corruption opportunities, such as a central database for all financial transactions, something which may have previously been highly decentralised.

These instances underline the fact that ICT is not per se a panacea against corruption; it can also be used by corrupt officials.

ICT facilitates the information flow between government and citizens, across government institutions, and among citizens. Potentially this fosters transparency, accountability and citizen participation. The impact of ICT against corruption is influenced by the reduction of information asymmetries, the automation of processes, the limitation of public officials' discretion, and the reduction of intermediaries.

With regards to the supply side of information from governments to society, the digitalisation of public services reduces direct contact points between citizens and public officials. It automates processes, therefore removing opportunities for public officials to misuse their discretionary powers. It can also facilitate the detection and prevention of corruption through providing 'downward' transparency, where government activities are made public and accessible to citizens, civil society organisations, journalists and researchers that is, facilitating vertical accountability. Consequently, the power over information within society becomes decentralised and thus corruption riskier to commit. Information on citizens' rights and on cases of corruption can be provided more quickly and easily. The digitalisation of donor-beneficiary payments can remove opportunities for corruption by middlemen such as distributing agencies.

False information might be spread. Online activism might give people the impression that they are active against corruption while the virtual activity does not translate to real impact. Digital means of interaction among citizens and businesses may also render corruption easier to organise and maintain by lowering transaction costs and allowing for more efficient monitoring within criminal groups.

In summary, both frameworks could lead to positive and negative impacts of emerging technologies on corruption, depending on a range of contextual factors and enablers, anti-corruption effects of ICT adoption only materialise once a threshold of rule of law is reached.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS
TO IDENTIFY AND REDUCE
CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA**

There is a broad role of ICTs to make a significant contribution to the fight against corruption. By facilitating the flow of information between government institutions, between government and citizens, as well as among citizens, new technologies can promote transparency, accountability and civic participation. There are numerous ways in which ICTs can trigger positive change: by reducing the asymmetries of information between public officials and citizens; limiting the discretion of public officials; automatizing processes, cutting out intermediaries, and reducing red tape and bureaucracy. The Program for ICT in Developing nations developed a list of the possible areas in which ICTs can help combat corruption.

- Automation : which can reduce the opportunities for corruption in repetitive operations.
- Transparency : which can help reduce the room for discretion;
- Detection in operations : to identify anomalies, outliers and under performance

- Preventive detection through monitoring of networks and individuals;
- Awareness raising to empower the public and inform it about its right to resist arbitrary treatment;
- Reporting: to create complaint channels that can lead to concrete action and help punish violations and close loopholes;
- Deterrence : by disseminating information about reported cases of corruption;
- Promoting ethical attitudes through public engagement and online discussions.

Examples of technological innovations to identify and reduce corruption:

There are multiple ways in which ICTs can contribute to identify and reduce corruption and bribery:

- Technology innovations can be used by governments to improve the efficiency and transparency of public administration and to better communicate with and provide information to citizens;
- It can also be used by citizens and civil society to raise awareness about the issue of corruption, to report abuses, to collect data and to monitor government activities,
- The use of ICTs to fight corruption has increasingly served as an avenue to bring the tech community closer to activists and civil society, through the phenomenon of “hackathons”. The latest International Anti-Corruption Conference hosted a hackathon focused on finding innovative ways to fight corruption using new technologies.
- ICTs are increasingly used to monitor budgets, projects and government activities, as well as to request official information.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**MY INNOVATIVE IDEAS OF
TACKLING CORRUPTION IN THE
JUDICIARY**

INTRODUCTION

Equal treatment before law is a pillar of democratic society. When courts are corrupted by greed or political expediency, the scales of justice are tipped, and ordinary people suffer. Judicial corruption means the voice of the innocent goes unheard, while the guilty act with impunity (Huguette Labelle, chair of Transparency international (TI); 2017)

With regard to the above quotation, it is important for the judiciary to be free without any accusations of been corrupt. It should be a place where ordinary people will go and find justice, and not a place to go and suffer any kind of injustice. Therefore, below are the possible solutions of tackling corruption in judiciary:-

MY INNOVATIVE WAYS OF TACKLING CORRUPTION

ADDITION OF MORE JUDGES AND COURT ROOM:

As we all know, sincerely speaking, the number of judges and

courts rooms we have, is too small for the size of the country. This is what exactly lead to over crowded and too much of delay before a judgement is delivered for a single issue. This also gave room to judges to take part into corrupt practices. I think by adding more judges and court rooms will help in tackling corruption in our Judiciary.

PUBLIC ENLIGHTMENT:

By public enlightenment, this means that the government will involve in massive enlightenment to the general public, telling them about the negative effect of corrupting judicial officials. They have to understand that, the future of their country will only be determined on how just the people are. By teaching people not to give corruption, it will help in fighting or tackling corruption in our judiciary.

RE-SHUFFLING OF OUR NATIONAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL:

This simply means that our NJC should be re-shuffle, by removing the Chief Justice of Nigeria to be the chairman of the body. Judiciary in most cases, is been control by some few personnel, therefore,if a judge commit any illegal act that is contrary to his code of conduct, while he was taking to disciplinary committee(NJC), the moment he has anybody as a member to that body, that is the end of his case, you will never heard of such an issue. Therefore, if we removed CJN as the chairman of the body, it will help in reducing corruption in our judiciary and also the game of godfatherism will reduced.

THE POLICY OF FEDERAL CHARACTER SHOULD NOT WORK IN THE ENTIRE JUDICIAL SYSTEM:

Like how the rule is found in most of our superior court of justice, let the rule be extend to the whole system. This is to say, everybody can serve anywhere in the judiciary from anywhere he is, provided he is a citizen of Nigeria, not necessary a person

coming from that state. If you cannot find a person who is of good character, let the appointment be giving to any person even outside that state for the betterment of our judiciary. I think by removing such kind of issue, it will help in tackling corruption in our judiciary.

OUR JUDICIARY NEED TO BE SANITIZED:

Since the judiciary has always been accused of being corrupt, let the system be sanitized and if anybody has been found guilty, let him face the law. By showing example to the current judicial personnel, it will deter the others and even the ones who are to be employed. This will also help in achieving fight against corruption in our judiciary.

APPOINTMENTS OF JUDGES SHOULD NOT BE DONE BY A PRESIDENT OR GOVERNOR:

Sometimes, what lead to corruption in our judiciary is coming as a result of the appointment, which is carried out by the President or a Governor. If the appointment is to be done by the governor or president, it means if someone close to that governor or president commits anything, he will go unpunished. Sometimes the cabinet of that person may give him some corruption to give judgement in favour of him. If President and Governors were removed from appointing members of judiciary, the level of corruption will reduced.

CONCLUSION

Conclusively, the above mentioned ways, are my Innovative ways of Tackling corruption in judiciary, and going to be very useful if put into practice.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:

INCREASING TRANSPARENCY AND FIGHTING CORRUPTION THROUGH ICT

Corruption is a function of both the opportunity to request/receive bribes and the risk of detection. Corruption exists in all sectors of society. It damages a country's development by undermining faith in public institutions, increase costs for firms and discourage both foreign and domestic investments.

In Nigeria there is a strong need for ICT - interventions to be launched together with real administrative (in both Federal, State and Local Government) reforms in order to be successful. Together with comprehensive administrative reforms ICT can decrease corruption by increasing transparency, introduce systemic hurdles, as well as increase the risk of detection.

Lack of transparency ultimately makes it difficult for citizens to hold their own governments accountable. There are still significant challenges in realizing the potential of new technologies due to issues of access.

The Internet is providing over a millions of Nigerians with

unprecedented access to information and communication tools, but the vast majority of the rural people have no or limited access to the Internet.

Monopolies and discretion are corruption facilitators, while accountability and an anti-corruption ethical ambience in Nigeria are inhibiting factors. There are several ways in which ICT can contribute positively to changes regarding these factors.

The process of constructing electronic services entails transferring information held by government agencies, or individual civil servants, into electronic platforms and presenting it to users in forms defined by laws and process regulations by means of linking different databases. Because this is done automatically there is no room for individuals to exert influence by manipulating or withholding information as long as the user has direct access to the electronic service; automation removes the agent. Using electronic services also means introducing competition by providing alternative delivery channels. This way users can choose to avoid government officers who are corrupt.

The very idea of electronic services is that the user interacts with an electronic system where rules are strictly specified, rather than with a civil servant. While the main reason for electronic services is typically related to cost savings, clearly automation removes the possibility of the civil servant acting on his or her personal discretion.

Accountability refers to the “service guarantee” of a government; the extent to which its actions are accounted for and corrected if not carried out correctly in the first instance. Technically, accountability can be improved fairly easily.

Information can be published online, processes and decisions can be traced for audit and analysis, and there can be rules for compensation where accountability is not delivered.

Some points to take note on using ICT to fight corruption

- More e-Government is better; the more services online in a country, the less corruption.
- ICT has a greater positive effect than the traditional anti-corruption factors.
- ICT investment in e-Government pays off in terms of reduced corruption.
- Administrative reform must focus on whole systems, not just individual functions. Wherever there is a loophole due to some technical component missing there is an opening for corruption.
- Corruption is an economic activity. When bribes are cheaper than fees there is a market for corruption, when fees are lower than bribes there are good chances of reducing it.
- Creating an “ethical ambience” among the public requires trustworthy reporting systems and prompt corrective action from government.

In conclusion, although there is a scarcity of reliable data in Nigeria, there is at least some good chances that ICT can be an effective tool to combat corruption with help of agencies like National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) and Nigerian Communication Commission (NCC). The potential of ICT can, however, only be realized when it is combined with real administrative reforms. One of the positive findings is that ICT also drives such reform.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:

THE ROLE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN CURBING CORRUPTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

Corruption can be defined as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain (Oye, 2013, Ackerman, 1999, Ansty and Mcathy, 2012). Corruption can be classified as grand, petty and political (Shah & Schacter, 2004).

Grand corruption consists of acts committed at a high level of government that distort policies or the central functioning of the state, enabling leaders to benefit at the expense of the public.

Petty corruption refers to everyday abuse of entrusted power by underpaid low and mid-level public officials in their interactions with ordinary citizens, who often are trying to access basic goods or services.

Political corruption is a manipulation of policies, institutions and rules of procedures in the allocation of resources and financing by political decision makers, who abuse their position to sustain their power, status and wealth. Political corruption could also mean cheating in elections, buying the loyalty of

members of assemblies.

A person is corrupt when he is dishonest in his intentions and actions. So corruption means dishonesty in thinking and action.

Bribery, using one's official position improperly and using money or material of others without their permission are some very common forms of corruption.

Transparency International also defines corruption as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. The range of corruption is vast, from government officials demanding relatively petty payments and police taking bribes, right up to politicians taking huge kickbacks on official deals.

Let us come closer home in the definition and explanation of corruption. Corruption is demanding for cash or sex for good or better grades.

Corruption is forcing your students to buy your handouts. Corruption is manipulating or hiding circulars that financially empower the staff or denying the staff of their rights.

The fact is that we are all corrupt. Corruption is endemic in the nature of man. Take this test for your children and yourself. Set plates of rice with different sizes of chicken parts before your teenage children and ask them to pick one by one. The first child to pick will pick the plate with the bigger size of chicken part. That is corruption. You will do same given similar opportunity. No doubt, corruption has been around since time immemorial and indeed, may well be an engrained trait of human nature (Oye, 2013) The irony is that those who shout the most against corruption are themselves most corrupt. The

reason they shout is because they are not the one in position to steal. It is out of simple jealousy. Take for instance what is happening in the National Assembly today. These were the people crying out so much against corruption. The truth is that both the Nigerian government and the society encourage corruption.

The government does not pay or reward hard work. When a politician comes home from Abuja, he is welcomed by hundreds of his followers who feed at his table and must be settled before he goes back. How does he keep up? He must steal. You cannot be recognised in your home society no matter how good you are if you have no money. However, it doesn't matter how you make your money.

We often say that our computer files, software applications are corrupt when there is a malfunction or when these programmes are dysfunctional. Corruption in man is a dysfunctional performance of man. It is an aberration in man. Just like corrupt software can frustrate the user, so a corrupt man or society can be frustrating.

Corruption is not a Nigerian thing alone and it is certainly not limited to poor nations. It is worldwide. In the UK, we have read of police allegedly taking bribes from newspapers, members of parliament jailed for fiddling their expenses. In the USA, multinational corporations have crumbled due to corruptions.

Since the 1980s, western countries have been able to use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to bring corrupt officials to justice. Oye, (2013) stated that in many parts of the world, a major part of the problem in dealing with public sector or government bodies is corruption.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**MY INNOVATIVE IDEAS ON USING
ICT IN PROMOTING
ACCOUNTABILITY AND THE FIGHT
AGAINST CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA**

INTRODUCTION

E-governance has gained popularity in recent years, with many countries resorting to information communications technology (ICTs) to modernise government, increase efficiency and improve public service delivery. As an additional benefit,

ICTs are also expected to reduce corruption by promoting transparency, opening government data to public scrutiny, and by automating government processes, restricting discretion of officials and limiting citizens' interaction with gatekeepers to access key services.

Despite these high expectations and massive investments in e-government, evidence of impact is mixed and limited and there is a high rate of failure of e-government projects, due to contextual factors as well as the type of the ICT interventions.

This Helpdesk answer provides an overview of recent literature on the role of ICTs and government to combat corruption in key government processes such as procurement, taxation, human resource management, open data and service delivery. It also explores the potential of ICTs and social media for citizens' mobilisation and empowerment.

Impact of ICTs for fighting corruption:

In recent years, many countries have enthusiastically embarked on major e-government projects, using new technologies to improve and modernise government processes and make them more efficient. They have also enabled citizens' empowerment by;

- (1) Enabling downward flows of information, from government to citizen
- (2) Creating the possibility of upward flows of information, from citizen to government, essential to informed decision making
- (3) Enabling horizontal flows of communication, flattening hierarchies (Bailur and Gigler 2014).

While many initiatives do not primarily and explicitly aim at addressing corruption challenges, there are many expected anti-corruption benefits associated with e-government (World Bank 2016; Dupuy and Serrat 2014; Zinnbauer 2012):

- Reducing information asymmetries between office holders and citizens, enabling the latter to assert their rights without corruption interfering
- limiting the discretion of office holders, reducing their opportunities to extract bribes
- streamlining and automating specific processes to reduce interactions between office holders and citizens that can create opportunities for the development of corrupt networks

- removing intermediaries that often facilitate bribery
- reducing red-tape in public bureaucracies and thus remove potential entry points for corruption
- increasing the transparency of transactions with public officials, making them audit-able to deter corrupt behaviour
- providing a growing repertoire of collective action tools and platforms for citizens to organise, report and mobilise against corruption
- receiving feedback and reports from service users to regularly track satisfaction, identify problems, report corruption and improve service quality.

Understanding the Role of Technology in Reducing Corruption in Nigeria:

Using a transaction-cost economics framework, the authors argue that uncertainty resulting from the lack of or ambiguity of information regarding the procedures, rules and regulations that are applicable to the transaction and asset specificity defined as the situation in which managers are compelled to interact with government agents for services that are not available through any other source associated with government transactions, allow bureaucrats to act opportunistically and demand bribes.

Therefore, computerisation initiatives that reduce uncertainty and asset specificity of government services lead to lowered perceptions of corruption. A survey of 101 managers of domestic and multi-national enterprises in Nigeria, supports these hypotheses.

Open Data as a Tool to Fight Corruption:

This report provides a non-exhaustive overview of how release and re-use of open data can help curb corruption in a number of

sectors by suggesting a list of relevant data that can be released in a particular context and demonstrating good practice examples. It concludes with a number of recommendations to governments towards realising the potential of open government data as an anti-corruption tool.

These recommendations include:

- 1) linking/integrating open data and anti-corruption policies;
- 2) providing data in accordance with accepted openness standards (open formats, free of charge, timeliness, etc.)
- 3) prioritising datasets with the highest impact, including public accountability data
- 4) providing relevant data pro-actively.

Social Media, Internet and Corruption:

Using data from over 150 countries, this paper explores the relationship between multi-way means of communication and corruption. Internet and social media platforms provide for two-wayflow of information. Using Facebook as a proxy for social media, the authors show that Facebook penetration and corruption are negatively associated.

The same holds for internet penetration. Both internet penetration and Facebook penetration have a causal, sizable and negative impact on corruption.

ICT innovation for anti-corruption:

Service automation:

Processes that replace discretionary decision making by public officials with auditable software processes. Often part of e-government reforms.

Moving services online:

Processes that remove intermediaries, giving citizens direct access to public services and information and reducing space for corrupt officials to extract bribes or rents.

Online corruption reporting:

Web or mobile platforms for reporting corruption or grievances to government. Reports and responses are generally not made public.

Citizen reporting channels:

Issue-reporting platforms that citizens can use to report problems with public services (e.g., potholes in roads) or to report corruption, often via mobile phone.

Online RTI requests:

Online platforms that allow users to file right to information (RTI) requests digitally. In some cases, government agencies create these platforms, but in other cases, civil society organisations build them, mostly in the absence of an official website. They also republish the official responses.

Transparency portals:

Websites that offer timely publication of key government documents online. They are often focused on financial information and can be backed by legal mandate.

Open data portals:

Portals that provide free access to a wide range of government datasets in machine-readable formats. The intention is to enable third parties to scrutinise the data and build applications on top of it.

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"IF WE DON'T KILL CORRUPTION, CORRUPTION WILL KILL US": THE MANIFESTATIONS OF CORRUPTION IN NIGERIAN SOCIETY AND THE ROLES OF THE CITIZENRY IN FIGHTING THEM.

TOPIC:
CORRUPTION FREE NIGERIA

NIGERIAN CORRUPTION

Corruption is a form of dishonesty or criminal activity undertaken by a person or organization entrusted with a position of authority, often to acquire illicit benefit, or abuse of entrusted power for one's private gain.

Corruption is the offering of a bribe to an official so that the truth will be hidden.

Nigeria is the most populated country in Africa, has consistently been ranked high in corruption by Transparency International and other notable organization that monitors corrupt practices around the world. In 2012, Nigeria was estimated to have lost over \$400 billion to corruption since independence.

Corruption has existed in human society for a long term and one of the problem confronting the developing countries. In Nigeria corruption is one of the unsolved problems that distort the development of the country, corruption is one of the biggest challenges, its clear that every citizen has a level of corruption.

Corruption is mostly caused by poverty which almost 60% of Nigerians are suffering from, greed from our leaders, unemployment, poor youth empowerment and a lots more. Effect of corruption include lack of development, high level of crime leads to kidnaping, stealing, increase in prostitution rate, dishonesty etc.

Solutions include having good leaders, providing infrastructure, since nobody is above the law therefore punishing offenders who are caught in corruption, providing employment, good health insurance, creating awareness for effective fight against corruption.

Corruption can not be removed without active participation of the people against corruption, as long as people are willing to be exploited by the corrupt officials or willing to exploit the corrupt system for their advantage, corruption cannot be eliminated. So citizens must play a great role in fighting corruption.

Citizens can fight corruption through not voting corrupted politicians during elections, refuse to pay bribe when one wants to be employed or getting their work done or needing a favour, by electing the most deserving candidates, by changing selfish goal, less desire of material wealth, being self employed, love and respect for the country, helping one another, fear Allah and a lot more.

Corruption is an enemy and downfall for any society says Prof. Peter U."corruption is a potent cancer that have mercilessly eaten Nigeria to a state of stupor". If we can fight corruption, corruption will surely fight us. Even through EFCC an anti-corruption agency exists in Nigeria, corruption is still existing. So is now or never let have corruption free Nigeria. May Allah have mercy on us.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

"IF WE DON'T KILL CORRUPTION, CORRUPTION WILL KILL US": THE MANIFESTATIONS OF CORRUPTION IN NIGERIAN SOCIETY AND THE ROLES OF THE CITIZENRY IN FIGHTING THEM.

TOPIC:
**PROBLEMS OF CORRUPTION ON
HEALTH**

Once the leaders of the community are corrupted, the problems starts, the money is diverted and affects so many things regarding health in a community or organization below are three of these problems that corruption leads to:

First is the infrastructure: once the money is diverted it affects the infrastructure of health which includes the building of the hospital, the beddings that is suppose to be provided and makes the patients suffered so much, so many cases has been reported where patients will be taken to a hospital but will not be admitted due to lack of bed and will be send back home or transferred to another hospital even though he needs an immediate medical attention and that may result to death itself.

Second is the working instruments: when the leaders mind are enslave by money they won't bother to provide hospitals with

working instruments which is also one of the most important things that makes patients suffer alot, so many people are suffering from different diseases which requires test before examination but due to lack of working instruments the doctor may prescribed wrong medicines for different disease which may causes another sickness. Another issue is the Anti-Natal, here we're talking about pregnant mothers who require alot of medical attention that if ignored can lead to the death of the unborn children which are all due to corruption.

The last but not the least is the personnel and this is also a situation that causes many issues among which is the availability of workers example if a hospital needs like 10 they will only be provided with 5 workers and also the workers may decide to buy their personal working instruments and charge patients a lot of money more than required since the hospital cannot provide them.

We can only overcome these problems once we can get rid of the corruption on our minds because your mind is your ruler, don't let yourself to be enslave by your mind as the saying goes "A person that has control over his mind enslave those that has no control over their minds".

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MY INNOVATIVE IDEAS OF TACKLING CORRUPTION IN THE
JUDICIARY

TOPIC:
CORRUPTION AND OURSELVES

The institutionalized machinery that drives the gamut of our nationhood today is tottering at the precipice of inevitable fall. This is easily discernible considering the level of corruption and all its attendant evils that has taken this country by the throat and seeking to snuff life out of it. Like it has often being said if this country does not kill corruption, corruption will eventually kill it. Towards this end there are a numerous burning questions scalding our tongues and seeking honest answers to them if we are intent on saving the legacies of our country for the coming generation.

Questions about ourselves in relation to corruption, questions on how truth we are to ourselves and how much of visionaries and change-makers we are. Questions on how much and how true we aspire to sustain our country and the human ideals it requires to work to the fullest in consonance with the welfare of its citizens, now and in the future.

Truth is, everyone in this country is corrupt in his own way. It has even become religious and sacrosanct to be corrupt throughout the nooks and crannies of our country: the imam who preaches to his congregation on the dreadful menace of

corruption and its consequences, is not left behind; he is likely corrupt in his own way, especially when his interest is at stake. Ditto for the pastor who preaches on Sunday from the holy repose of his pulpit. He is also likely to be corrupt in things that affect him and his.

Corruption is seen as being smart and brilliant in Nigeria of today. The question is how much you can outsmart the other party by hoodwinks and guiles. Those upon whom we rest hope of salvaging us from the tentacles of corruption are in fact the secret exponents and champions of corruption. Then we begin to ask these questions: who will check the reckless corruptive course this country is taking? Who will lead the fight against the menace of corruption without bias, fear of favour? Who will bell the cat? I, You or who?

Whenever we mention corruption, what instantly comes into our minds is our leaders. Our leaders. Yes, because we see them as the worst examples of instigators and exponents of corruption. Majority of us believe that if they were not corrupt and have been rendering their services to the nation maximally and effectively, no one will be corrupt. For so long, they have shortchanged the entire citizenry of this nation by not giving us our dues while they have brazenfacedly dipped their hands into the country coffers and enriched themselves undeservedly. Their corruptive practices which have become the norm to them and I dare say they even see them (their corruptive practices) as adornments. Consequently this has induced everyone to become corrupt in his own way and manner.

But in my assumption, we are the ones to be held accountable for all they do. In the first instance, we are the ones who vote them in. We are the ones! Despite our knowledge of their corruptive ways, we still vote them in because we often hope to

share in their spoils of office especially if we are related to them, if we are their party men, if we attended the same schools with them, if we worship in the same church or mosque with them. In fact if we share any affinity with them. But at the end of it all, we realized that their spoils are only meant for them and their immediate families. The little we might have been given if we were given at all is never enough to feed us and our immediate families for a day or two. We realized very late that we have been taken for a ride. But because of our helplessness, naivety and ignorance of our power as an electorate, we fall the same way when next they come for their sweet mouths and vote for them again.

Until we learn how to vote incorrupt, sincere and honest people into offices will we continue to live a life devoid of honour, a life of helpless slaves who are given leftovers to fight over like dogs. And who like dogs have to bark at, and bite one another for possession of the few dry bones. Until we learn to build a government with the interest of the citizenry as its pinnacle, a government that govern the country with a large heart and does not believe in the supremacy of not its party and the sanctity of its party men, a government that will convict anyone found guilty of an offence no matter his status, place of birth, religious affiliation or political belonging, we will still be wallowing in the muddy water of corruption and all the ills that attend it like unstable government, insecurity, unemployment, underemployment, cultism, insurgency, ritual killing, kidnapping, armed robbery and host of others.

But if we eschew corruption in those high places where the fate of the nation is being decided and its destinations sealed, corruption will thin out of our system and life will become more meaningful.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:

MY INNOVATIVE IDEAS OF TACKLING CORRUPTION IN THE JUDICIARY

INTRODUCTION

Regrettably, we are currently in the era, whereby, if you are not part of the trend of being corrupt, is hardly for you to achieve your aim. This is because almost all the system had been corrupt. Unfortunately, for you to be listed among the top and well respected public servants, you have to be involved in one of the corrupt practice or the other. Failure to join the crew will automatically disqualify you from getting any kind of benefits, or even promotions.

The Nigerian JUDICIARY, just like some ministries and some organizations, were always been accused of engaging in corrupt practices. Judiciary had been regarded as the custodian of the law, and the final hope for the common citizen to go and find justice, whenever he feels like; his right has been violated or infringed.

However, after the Introduction, the paper will go ahead to give the meaning of judiciary and judicial corruption, possible solution of tackling corruption in the judiciary, and then,

followed by the Conclusion.

DEFINITION OF JUDICIARY AND JUDICIAL CORRUPTION

According to Transparency International, *Corruption is the abuse of power for private gain. While according to Wikipedia, Corruption is a form of dishonesty, or criminal activity undertaken by a person or organization entrusted with a position of authority, often to acquire illicit benefits.*

Judicial Corruption according to Transparency International, include any inappropriate influence on the impartiality of the judicial process by any actor within the court system.

POSSIBLE SOLUTION OF TACKLING CORRUPTION IN THE JUDICIARY

Judiciary, was considered as the last hope for the common citizen, for this reason, it should not be allow to be part of the victim of corruption, for if justice is to be afford, the poor cannot and will never compete with the rich. However, the judiciary had already been in the system (of corruption), and this will not be left untouchable, that is without finding a lasting solution to the problem. By finding a solution to the issue, we can be able to retain the good image of our court system, in the eye of everyone, and to the world at large. Therefore, below are the possible ways of tackling corruption in the judiciary;

DIGITALIZATION OF OUR COURT SYSTEM:

Digitalization of our court system and processes is one of the important issues that we need to consider, while fighting corruption in our judiciary. The origin of corruption in our judiciary, traced its root from the initial stage, that is, when you meet the registrar and want to institute and action. Time without number, so many files had been reportedly missing either as a result of corrupt practice, or negligence of the court

personnel. Therefore, digitalization of our court (documents) will help in reducing this problem. If not all, let most of the activities and document be digitalize. Even the cost of the court will reduce, and accessibility of documents will be easier. This should be done from lower to Supreme Court.

SERIES OF ORIENTATION TO JUDGES AND OTHER COURT PERSONNEL:

There is need for our judiciary(both judges and other personnel) to be oriented from time to time, informing them about their roles in the society, and the problem associated with the failure to comply with their primary responsibility. This orientation should be done before, and after their appointment. Let them have it, in their mind, the consequences of being corrupt, and the bad image it give to the person(s), and to the body itself. Let them know, if they are corrupt the whole country will go astray. Therefore, series of orientation will help in minimizing corruption in our judiciary.

INVOLVEMENT OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS:

To have a successful fight against corruption in our judiciary, the religious leaders, do also have important roles to play. This is because; judges do always attend to places of worship more than any other place, or occasions, as it is in their ethics. I think, the religious leaders, can use such opportunity, to preach against corruption, telling them the implication associated with such evil act.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION:

- By encouraging people to resolve their issues amicably, it will really help in fighting corruption. No need for you to hire the services of a legal practitioner, no enmity between the parties, as everyone is regarded as a winner, no encouragement of bad relationship; above all, it only requires little time, sometimes, in

one sitting all issues will be resolved. I think by encouraging this, the level of corruption will be reduced.

INVOLVEMENT OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION: - Just like we have many human right organizations, if we have organizations like them, which will mount pressure from every angle, when there is an allegation of corruption in the judiciary, and not they will stop, until it reaches the appropriate authority, and something recommendable is done about it. With this, we can also reach our aim of tackling corruption in our judiciary.

USING MASS MEDIA AS AN INSTRUMENT OF TACKLING CORRUPTION:

Media also has an important role to play in tackling corruption in our judiciary. This is because; they are number one instrument of keeping people up to date in every aspect of life. If they were allowed to be reporting matters related to that issue, the number of corruption will reduce, as people will not tolerate seeing their pictures and their names in newspapers, television and other information dissemination, with allegation of being corrupt.

CONCLUSION

Tackling corruption is very paramount, for the well-being of our country. Therefore, it is not only the work of a single individual, but a collective responsibility of all. Apart from the above mentioned ways, which are; digitalization of our court system, series of orientation to judges and other court personnel, involvement of religious leaders, encouragement of alternative dispute resolution(ADR), involvement of non-governmental organizations, and using mass media as an instrument, we do have so many ways of tackling corruption in judiciary. But with this, if carefully examined, it will help a lot in tackling corruption in our judiciary.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**MY INNOVATIVE IDEAS ON USING
ICT IN PROMOTING
ACCOUNTABILITY AND THE FIGHT
AGAINST CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA**

Corruption can be defined as a form of dishonesty or criminal activity undertaken by a person or organization entrusted with a position of authority, often to acquire illicit benefit. Corruption may include many activities including bribery and embezzlement. Political corruption occurs when an office-holder or other governmental employee acts in an official capacity for personal gain.

Some of the way that we can fight or reduce corruption in Nigeria using ICT

- Nigerian government should develop an app for whistle blowing which will allow the citizens to report corrupt officials (in offices, institutions and any government agencies) using a mobile phone, the app should not have direct link to officials being punished, so as to protect the citizens identities from the corrupt officials.

- Due to the high rate of unemployment in Nigeria, recruitment is very often prone to bribes. One way we are helping government to prevent corrupt practices by public service personnel is to put their entire recruitment process online.
- Despite decent anti-corruption institutions (EFCC, ICPC, etc), an active civil society and a relatively free press, corruption seemed to be ingrained. Leadership in government, media and NGOs seemed cynical. One of my recommendations was to use secure case management systems with audit trails and secure workspaces so investigators can trust these tools and that their work won't be undermined or leaked.
- Automation is playing an important contribution to reducing discretionary practices in tax collection. Taxpayers hoping to pay less and tax administrators hoping to earn more can easily lead to bribery and corruption in the tax office. The system should automate tax administration system that can move taxpayer information from being hidden in a desk drawer to being recorded electronically and only accessed by the people who need it. This helped reduce opportunities for corruption, built public trust in the tax system, and increased revenue collection.
- Corruption doesn't stop at national borders. Sharing information internationally on aid, public contracts, or company ownership, for example through a public registry of beneficial owners, can be really powerful to compare, identify, and prosecute. Agreeing an open data standard also reduces discussions on which information should be public and this being different in different

countries.

- Nigerian government should initiate a portal where technology should be use to load all details about land ownership and copies of these documents could be obtained through an IT booth, but still lack of literacy meant that middlemen were still able to use the vulnerabilities of the service seeker to demand money, particularly in Nigeria rural areas.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**THE BEST WAY TO FIGHT
CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA**

What is Corruption?

Corruption is lying for personal gain, giving or taking bribe, committing fraud by deceiving someone to get money or other gain, favoring relatives and friends with jobs they are not qualified to do.

Causes of Corruption

There are many causes of corruption. Some causes are greed, poverty, and lack of moral values, economic insecurity, unpatriotism, and unusual desire for material wealth.

Effects of Corruption

The effects of corruption include lack of development, high crime and prostitution rate, and lack of moral value in the society, poor image of the country, dishonesty, unemployment, and poverty to mention but a few.

The Solutions on the fight against corruption in Nigeria

I think the best solution is that the EFCC abuses power of confiscation, kafin duk wani public officer yashiga office, yayi

declearing asset din sa, idan lokacin futarsa yayi a binciki duk wani resources da yake dashi, an san me yake dashi a da, an san me zai samu a zamansa na office, thus, idan ya fita sai a ga nawa yake dashi yanxu. Matukar abinda yake dashi ya haura abinda yasamu plus wanda yake dashi da, shikenan EFCC su kace, ba dauri bakomai kuma a futo a fadawa duniya cewa wane wane yana da kaza kafin shigarsa office, yasamu kaza a zamansa a office, amma yanxu ga abinda muke dashi amma EFCC ta kwace ta sallameshi.

Sabo da haka duk wanda yake da tunanin yayi to bazai ba, zai ce inma kayi rana daya za'a kwace.

Actually I think this will help in smoothness in the process, and this requires no court order

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TITLE:
**THE ROLES OF RELIGIOUS AND
TRADITIONAL LEADERS IN
FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN
NIGERIA**

INTRODUCTION

When it comes to issue of fighting corruption in Nigeria, it is widely recognized by many individuals that religious leaders and traditional rulers will play a vital role in this regard. For us to succeed in this, there is a need for us to bring these two important institutions under the shadow of a single tree.

Both the two institutions (Religious and Traditional leaders), can use their common moral authority and values, to serve as a change instruments for the betterment of the country and as well lead the country to the promising land.

After the introduction, the paper will go ahead to define the two concepts(Religious and Traditional leaders), the roles of religious and traditional leaders in fighting corruption and then finally the conclusion.

DEFINITIONS OF THE TWO CONCEPTS

Religious and Traditional leaders, just like many other concepts, they don't have a universally acceptable definitions. However, according to an online dictionary, a religious leader 'is one who is recognized by a religious body as having some authority within that body". While according to I Jahun, in his article "the roles and the challenges of Traditional Rulers in Land conflicts and management in Nigeria "he defined traditional leaders as "a person who by virtue of his ancestral position occupies the throne or stool of an area and whose throne has been in existence before the Advent of British in Nigeria".

THE ROLES OF RELIGIOUS AND TRADITIONAL LEADERS IN FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA

Religious and Traditional leaders can be considered as the largest and strong institutions in Nigeria, which have the allegiance of millions of believers from different dimensions. By liaison with these two institutions, it will help in fighting corruption in the Country. Therefore, below are the possible ways in which Religious and Traditional leaders can help in reducing corruption in Nigeria;

ENCOURAGE AND EDUCATE FOLLOWERS TO ADOPT GOOD BEHAVIORS:

The expectation in most of the communities is that, those with good behaviors are expected to be good ambassadors of that community. Being closer to the people and who people use to respect much, Religious and Traditional leaders may use the respect and dignity giving to them by people by virtue of their positions to bring a positive change to that community. This is to say, to use their authority to influence their followers to exempt themselves from any form of corrupt practices.

ENLIGHTENING THEIR FOLLOWERS NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN CORRUPT PRACTICES:

By virtue of them being closer to the people, who are always together in places of worship, they have the opportunity to their followers against the evil associated with corrupt practices. Also when it comes to the Traditional leaders, they have the responsibility of calling the attention of their followers not to partake in any act of corruption. This is due to the respect they were giving in their respective communities and also by virtue of their positions. If they will make use of this opportunity, it will contribute in reducing corruption in Nigeria.

USING SPECIAL EVENTS (CELEBRATIONS) AS AN INSTRUMENT OF FIGHTING CORRUPTION:

It is an opportunity for both the Religious and Traditional leaders to consider special events, like Eid (Sallah celebration for the Muslims) and Christmas celebrations, to remind and call the attention of their followers toward the need to contribute in the development of their nation, and not to contribute in the destruction of the country by engaging in corrupt practices. So also for the religious leaders have and added advantage, in fighting corruption, because, from the practices of our religions, each and every week, followers use to have a day (e.g. Sundays and Fridays) to perform their prayers in a gathering, if that time will be used they can also use that opportunity to give their contribution to the development of this country.

ESTABLISHMENT OF YOUTHS AWARENESS CENTERS IN VARIOUS COMMUNITIES:

Religious and Traditional leaders, if collaborate with each other and establish youth's awareness centers, training their youths and inspiring them to be good ambassadors of their communities, it will help in fighting corruption. This is to say by receiving training their community it will help them even if they

found themselves in another community, and this will help in fighting corruption.

REFUSAL TO COLLECT UNNECESSARY GIFTS:

It is the practice in almost all our communities that, when a person (must especially those holding political offices) visit religious or traditional leaders, they use to give them something beyond their capacity. This is to say more than what they earned as their salaries. Therefore, if such gifts were given to them they should not accept it, as such gifts most of the times is what prevent them from telling them [their followers] the truth.

LET EVERYONE RECEIVE PUNISHMENT FOR HIS WRONG DOING:

When a person is found guilty of being corrupt, let him receive punishment according to what he has done, this to say he should not escape the punishment prescribed by the law. Also the religious and traditional leaders should not be involve in defending any person, merely because he came from their own side or belief. By not defending him and allowing him to be punish according to what he has done, it will reduce the corrupt practices in Nigeria.

CONCLUSION

Conclusively, religious and traditional leaders are two instruments, which if used by virtue of their positions in their communities, it will help in not only fighting corruption, but also having a good citizens. By virtue of their positions in their respective communities, they have vital roles to play in fighting corruption. Apart from the above ways in which religious and traditional leaders if follows, will help in reducing corruption in Nigeria, there are so many other ways in which they will help in fighting corruption in the entire nation.

NAME: ABDUL RAUF HASSAN ABBA

TOPIC:
**CORRUPTION: AS AN INFECTIOUS
DISEASE TO SOCIETY**

The first thought coming to my mind about corruption is that people hardly know its full range. They often resort to it unconsciously. In fact, researcher Suzana Jašić (October, 2015), on his Lecture on Good Governance states that “there is no accepted definition of corruption. Therefore, it becomes difficult to convey the meaning of corruption from one entity to another.” Now-a-days corruption can be seen everywhere. It is like cancer in public life, which has not become so rampant and spread overnight, but in course of time. Corruption has been defined variously by scholars. But the simple meaning of it is that corruption implies perversion of morality, integrity, character or duty out of mercenary motives, i.e. bribery, without any regard to honour, right and justice. In other words, undue favour for any one for some monetary or other gains is corruption. It is also the misuse of authority for personal gain of an individual or group. It is the unfair use of public power for some private advantages by breaking some rules and regulations made by the government by someone to gain his/her personal gratifications. It has spread its tentacles in every sphere of life, namely business administration, politics, officialdom, and services. In fact, there is hardly any sector which can be characterized for not being infected with the vices of corruption.

Corruption is a global phenomenon and is omnipresent; it has risen steadily and is now rampant in our society. It has spread in public lives, politics, central governments, state governments,

businesses, industries, etc. It has not left any field. Corruption is increasing day by day instead of decreasing or steadying because of the continuous increase in the appetite of people for money, power, position and luxury. It is social evil which is playing humans body and mind socially, economically and intellectually, It is a position which has been spread in the mind of wrong people of the society, community and country.

The causes of corruption are many and complex but to mention few:

Firstly, Appearance of the political elite who believe in programs to interest rather than nation-oriented policies. Secondly the tolerance of people towards corruption, the complete lack of intense public outcry against corruption and the absence of strong public forum to oppose corruption allows corruption to reign over people. Thirdly, the size of most of the population, coupled with widespread illiteracy and poor economic infrastructure tip of the endemic corruption in public life. Fourthly In the private sector, corruption increases the cost of business through the price of illicit payments. The last but not the least the time of elections is a time when corruption is at its peak. Great political fund employer to comply with the high cost of the election and ultimately seeks personal favor.

There are many myths about corruption, which must be exploited, if we really want to fight. Some of these myths are: Corruption is a way of life and nothing can be done. Only people from underdeveloped or developing countries are prone to corruption. You have to avoid all these crude fallacies while planning measures to combat corruption.

Nowadays political leaders are making interest oriented programs and policies instead of nation oriented programs and policies. They are just wishing to be a famous politician for

completing their own interests instead of citizen's interests and requirement. There is increasing level of chance in the value system in the human mind as well as decreasing ethical qualities of human being. The level of trust, faith and honesty is decreasing which gives to the corruption. There is a strong connection between the officials, politicians and criminals who are making this country weak and so weak.

To root out the evil of corruption from society, we need to make a comprehensive code of conduct for politicians, legislatures, bureaucrats, and such code should be strictly enforced. Judiciary should be given more independence and initiatives on issues related to corruption. Special courts should be set-up to take up such issues and speedy trial is to be promoted. NGOs and media should come forward to create awareness against corruption in society and educate people to combat this evil. Only then we would be able to save our system from being collapsed. Declarations of property and assets of the government employees are made compulsory and routine and surprise inspections and raids be conducted at certain intervals.

Though it is very difficult to control corruption but it is not impossible. It is not only the responsibility of the government but ours too. We can eliminate corruption if there will be joint effort. We must have some high principles to follow so that we may be models for the coming generation. Let us take a view to create an atmosphere free from corruption. That will be our highest achievement as human beings. Also Laws should be foolproof so that no discretion to politicians and bureaucrats.

Furthermore people should put on their mind that fighting corruption is everybody's business not just an individual person or agency.

Corruption is a serious problem that must be tackled before any

meaningful development can take place in any country. While poverty is a contributing factor to corruption, endemic corruption enhances and spreads poverty - it is a vicious circle. The effects of corruption are so overwhelming that it could stagnate a nation. It poses a serious developmental challenge. In the political arena, it undermines democracy and good governance by subverting the electoral processes and governmental procedures. Thus, Nigeria finds herself with a good legal instrument that should ordinarily tackle the problem, but is unable to do so because of the human factor or what can be derisively referred to as the "Nigerian factor."

NAME: ABDULWALIU ABDUSSALAM

TOPIC:
**INNOVATIVE WAYS TO SPREAD
ANTI-CORRUPTION AND DEMAND
ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE
COUNTRY**

Corruption can be said to be the abuse of entrusted power or leadership for private gain. It is a dishonest, fraudulent and swindling conduct by those in power, it is often done to acquire illicit benefit and it usually involves bribery. Corruption may involve embezzlement, bribery among others. Corruption in the society has prevailed from one form to the other. The basic inception of corruption started with our opportunistic leaders who have already done a very deep damage to our great country Nigeria. Corruption in the society is a result of the connection between bureaucrats, politicians and criminals.

Further more, corruption has become an act that is widely respected and almost generally accepted in the present condition of the country we are today, corruption has a lot of negative effect in the state of our country especially in the national image and international image of our country. Other countries believe Nigerians are the most corrupt and fraudulent people in the world due to some inappropriate events, acts and activities that are being carried out in the country and outside the country by some Nigerians.

Anti-corruption can be said to be laid down strategies and plans that are designed to eradicate, prevent and fight dishonest or

fraudulent conducts especially in public service and mostly in political context. There is no silver bullet for fighting corruption, so many countries have made significant progress in curbing corruption. However, practitioners are always on the lookout for solutions and evidence of impact. Fighting corruption requires a set of measures at the domestic level where corruption takes place, where stolen funds and assets are often located, these measures ranges from the adoption of mechanisms and reforms to support prevention and detection of corruption.

We usually view corruption as just bribery which just financial, bribery is not the only form of corruption that exist, some other forms of corruption includes public civil servants going to work late, sometimes they don't even go to work, favoritism in recruitment of staffs, not awarding contracts to contractors and constructing companies who are qualified to be awarded contracts and boycotting due procedures to get something because you know the top officials in charge. Corruption has changed the view of the proletariat and the world entirely, the world only respect the rich and wealthy, even in the family level the eldest in the family is no longer respected rather the rich and the wealthiest are well respected even if it is the youngest of the family, he or she even take decision and they have the final say for the family instead of collective decisions.

One of the ways to spread anti-corruption is to involve the well respected people in the country like musical icons, comedians, actors and actresses to help join hands to spread the news of anti-corruption. Just as we know that people mostly listen to hip hop music, the hip hop artiste should write and sing a song that portrays corruption as a negative impact to the image of our great Nation, movies and comedies should be done too to help spread anti-corruption. Comics and cartoons for the kids

should be done to help the kids in the awareness of anti-corruption, we all know kids loves cartoons and comics even in newspapers, and kids learn more faster from comics and cartoons. It will help in spreading anti-corruption.

There should be a program on National television broadcasting networks which will be talking about anti-corruption, on a particular day of every week, it will help in the spread and awareness of anti-corruption.

Another innovative way to spread anti-corruption is to schedule a time for extra curriculum activities such as social gatherings, sports etc. This should be for schools, places of work and so on all in the name of anti-corruption. Icons are to be invited in this extra curriculum activities to speak or lecture on the topic 'anti-corruption' if this is done regularly it will help in spreading anti corruption.

Another innovative way of spreading anti-corruption is to declare public holiday for public servants, this public holiday should be once or twice every year for rallying, protesting and demonstration on anti-corruption. Non governmental organizations or groups can play a vital role in the rally, protest and demonstration if the youths are recruited into these organizations and educated on the fight against corruption, banners, hand bills etc. Should be made and shared during the time of this protest and demonstration. The recruited youths and the public servants should not only go to the roads, street, towns and villages but rather should dedicate their time by moving house to house and door to door educating the people about anti-corruption, this education should be done in different languages which the people will understand. If 75% of the families in Nigeria are aware of the fight against corruption they will surely spread the news to other families who are not

aware. The families will groom their children on how to resist corruption and with time it becomes a part of them to always resist corrupt acts and they may also report to any the nearest police anytime they see or witness one.

Another way to spread anti-corruption is the social media, we all know most youths and most adults spend most of their time on social media via their mobile phones everyday, the spread of anti-corruption can be done through broadcast messages that talks more about corruption, creation of handles of anti-corruption on twitters and so on. This should be done always and it should be very active. The problem about this way is that when a particular issue comes up on social media, it will trend for sometime and with time it will be forgotten. So expert should be employed who will only base on the spread of anti-corruption on social media.

One of the most important ways of spreading anti-corruption is to involve our religious leaders which are our pastors and imams, we should task them to always preach on anti-corruption in every religious gatherings and when ever they get the time to do that. We all know our religious leaders are well respected and the masses always listen to them because they believe they are holy and God sent. This strategy will go a very long way in spreading awareness on anti-corruption.

On the other hand, accountability is an elusive concept, but understanding where it originates from can help the citizens to find ways to make the government of a state accountable for all it's actions politically, socially and economically.

One of the ways to demand accountability is for laws to be enacted to make it mandatory for all public officers to declare there assets and liability publicly before assuming office, as well

as senior public servants, this asset and liability declaration should be done even when they are leaving office (that is after their tenure in office). If their assets are made public, it will be impossible to steal a dime because even if they want to use other people's and businesses to divert public funds for personal use, they may not be able to claim such after office because the people know the implication of such act as criminal.

Governmental and Non governmental bodies or committees should be set up for critical investigation on every public officers during and after their stay in office. This committee will help in proper investigation of so many public officers and if any one is found wanting he or she should be executed without any further delay in judgment.

In conclusion, if all the steps on the spread of anti-corruption and demanding accountability in our country can be followed, the percentage of people who are aware of anti-corruption will increase on a daily basis and accountability in our country will be steady.

NAME: ABUBAKAR MAGAJI

TOPIC:
**HOW TO ELIMINATE
EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE**

Any intentional act of wrong doing against the rules of examination is called examination malpractice. On the other hand examination malpractice simply means any form of cheating before, during or after examination. It is also defined as academic dishonesty or Academic fraud and it does not only refer to students but to staffs too.

SOME TYPES OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE

1. Bribery; Getting the right answers or Marks for money.
2. Lying; Giving wrong information to educational staff.
3. Cheating; An attempt to take in helpful material for the examination, but in a way the instructor does not know about it.
4. Sabotage; An attempt to prevent other from passing the examination, this includes among other things like tearing pages from the book or deliberate damage to someone else's work.
5. Professor teaching misconduct; This include deliberately giving incorrect grade to the student's work or encouraging academic fraud.

SOME CAUSES OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE

1. Social and academic environment; There are connection between malpractice and educational environment, for example research shows that bullied students or those

- who are uncomfortable in the learning are very likely to cheats.
2. Demographic reason; Some demographic aspects like age, gender and average score may determine the likelihood of a person cheat. Secondary school student cheat less often, while student participating in a lot extra curriculum activities are more likely to cheat.

EFFECTS OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE

For both students and teachers examination malpractice are interferes, for example student who engages in examination malpractice are more likely to be dishonest in other aspects of their life, most of them end up stealing or cheating

POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE

1. The number of invigilators and supervisors should be increased in the examination halls.
2. Exam officer, vice principal and principal should occasionally pay visits to examination halls to observe what is going on.
3. Guidance and counseling should be employed in all schools to guide the students on study habits.
3. Teacher should be trained properly in their fields, so that they will have tactics to fellow on how to finish the syllabus for a particular term or at least cover a large part of it.
4. Continuous assessments should be practiced correctly, it will reduce examination malpractice as 40% of marks accumulated from various assessments techniques such as projects and assignments.
5. Holidays may be more in number but reduced in length as students reluctant to resume from long holidays.

SUMMARY

Ultimately, examination malpractice destroys the academic world. This destroys the main point of education, the gaining of knowledge and practice skills. This means student can get certificate without gaining knowledge, This phenomenon makes the learning process unfair.

NAME: AHMAD MUSA ISMAIL (JINGAU)

TOPIC:
**CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA: CAUSES
AND SOLUTION**

INTRODUCTION

Corruption has been the shackle that inhibit our mother country from being developed, a dungeon that incarcerates her from dazzling among its sisters like India and Singapore.

My mother country would have been the richest country on this planet because it has been endowed with abundant natural resources range from what is on the ground like arable land to what are extracted underground like coal, gold, ore and the main source of our foreign earning crude oil.

The main hindrance of Nigeria's development is corruption. I must say it again, corruption is the siphon through which our corrupt leaders suck our bloods and leave us empty-bodied, empty-headed and empty-stomach. I have been pondering since the time I was getting a political-consciousness on how we the tomorrow's leaders endeavour to kick out the menace of corruption from our country and Africa thoroughly.

This is the first I get a slight chance to write an essay on the PROBLEM OF CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA. This essay I hope will serve as the whip of flogging corruption, atomic bomb of nuking corruption and kiln of melting corruption from existence in Nigeria. In this essay I will give some concepts of Corruption, the causes, economic impact since I'm an economist, I will

present the negative impact that corruption brings about to the economic sector of the country. I will also propose the solution from my viewpoint and finally draw the curtain of the essay by conclusion.

CONCEPT OF CORRUPTION

Corruption, like many topics of Social Philosophy has no single definition that unanimously agreed by the scholars of that realm. The definition of corruption has been like that philosophy, Political Science, Economics and other field of Social Science. The concept of corruption ranges from power-based, money/public-fund-based to what I can not mention here due to the scarcity of ink.

Corruption is as wide, depth, and complex as human behaviour itself. So, many scholars have been proposing their understanding of what corruption is.

I want to use this page to write the general opinion of people of this country according to the samples taken in the research report on corruption titled: Qualitative Study on the Patterns, Experiences and Manifestation of Corruption In Nigeria written for the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime by Oladipupo Ipadeola on March 2016.

In this paper the writer says "Several definitions were provided by participants on what they generally believe to be corruption. Most of the respondents believe that corruption has a broad definition and can be viewed as any other crime. Therefore, the general definitions provided for corruption fits any other crime punishable under the law.

The general opinion from participants is that corruption is any conscious action or inaction, process or procedure,

perpetuated by an individual or group that unfairly and unduly appropriates rewards, resources, or advantage to some individuals or groups at the expense of others."

The definitions of corruption in dictionaries is given as : Oxford English defines Corruption as " dishonest or illegal behaviour, especially by the people in authority" Merriam Webster defines Corruption as " dishonest or illegal behaviour by powerful people".

Concept of Corruption by Scholars:

According to Marshall (2001) Corruption is defined as "circumventing formally agreed or implicit rules for decision-making (in the public or private sector) by use of personal inducements in order to achieve institutional and/or personal objectives."

Sen (2000) defines Corruption as: "corrupt" behaviour or "Corruption has been broadly defined as the violation of established rules for personal gain or profits". Anyway, Corruption is the abuse, misuse and disuse of the authority for personal benefits. Corruption comes in many form like favouritism, nepotism, racism and all forms misconduct.

When a registrar admits the one who is not deserved to be admitted, the registrar misused the power therefore he committed corruption. When a leader chooses incompetent, undeserved to be his minister/commisioner this leader misuses the power, he is corrupt. When a leader give a contract to contractors and request for backsheesh that leader is corrupt.

So, Corruption is beyond the definition, if you all see all what I quoted critically you can spot that they are just description of Corruption according to the respective scholars.

CAUSES OF CORRUPTION

Corruption does not come from the sky nor excavated underground, we human beings breed the corruption.

The main cause of Corruption is:

(i) Greed:

That is why many people say Corruption is inseparable from human behaviour because naturally human being (and other animals) are selfish, so in trying to fulfill his selfishness he engages in corruption. This is what catalyse politicians to buy the votes of the masses in order to get in to the power; it also causes what is called Sit-tight-syndrome that occurs most in African countries, is the unwillingness of the leader to hand over to the elect-leader at the end of his tenure.

(ii) Government Involvement in the Economy (market):

Ideologically, I'm a socialist (I prefer government to centralise all the economic sectors). The point I want to make here is that the hybrid economic system, the so-called mixed economy where government can partially intervene in to the market is the one that bring forth his contagious offspring. Nigeria is among the countries that practises this system of mixed-economy. So, in this system government intervene in the market activities in the guise of tax, subsidy, and price policies in the time of running-inflation.

The most conspicuous policy in the hybrid economy where corruption encapsulate is subsidy. In Nigeria, the fuel subsidy then and now is the cesspool where the nominal so-called PMS subsidy falls everyday.

(iii) Low Wages:

This also contribute to the growth of corruption. A primary and secondary school teacher earn very low salary, so his salary will

not subsist him up to the next payday, in this stance taking bribe or taking public goods like school lab apparatuses, depreciated materials like scrapped school cars will be his last resort. This problem is pervasive in police service in Nigeria.

IMPACT OF CORRUPTION TO THE ECONOMY

Without Corruption Nigeria would be a strong economy as Japan. As I posited in the introduction, Corruption is the shackle that retards Nigerian economy and inhibits it from being developed as its sisters (India, Japan, and Singapore) did.

So, corruption and economic growth are inversely related, our economy would grow more if there were no corruption.

Corruption gives the avenue for diverting our funds from productive sector that every Nigerian would benefit (education sector) to the sector that few elite are benefiting. Corruption undermines the pillars that our country stands upon, Democracy. It's sad in a country like Nigeria to see even the bill of budget will not be signed till the president gives the legislators money.

Sound economic policies have not been working in Nigeria because of corruption. Most of the development plans in Nigeria from 1962 up to this republic had not been effective due to corruption, though military coups contruted negatively to the development plans (most coups occurred due to the selfishness of the plotters, like the first coup).

SOLUTION

I will propose what I think are the solutions based on what I have above as the causes of corruption.

First of all we need the self-discipline, we must change our bad

attitudes toward our country, change our negative behaviours and guide our youth on how to be honest citizens. Selfishness is in-born human nature, so we should try to transform to the homo-sociologicus. We must also rise and help toward the building of New Nigeria new leaders who are not corrupt, new generation immaculate from corruption. In the same vein, in this coming election we must think and vote for the leader who is less corrupt.

Government should divert all kind of unnecessary subsidy to the education sector (which is nearly collapsed due to the incessant strike) for the development of the young generation. In my piece on population I posited that the one viable solution to our exponential population growth in Nigeria is to invest in education otherwise the citizen will engage in criminal activities (heaven forbid).

Government should execute the minimum wage of thirty thousand for the betterment of the working class. Thank Heaven, the current administration increased the salary of the police twofold, I hope this will be the end of corruption in Nigeria. Since the government increased the salaries of workers, there must be a harsh punishment to everyone who is caught committing any form of corruption. There should be a reshuffle in the structure of our country, I prefer Unitarian government with Unicameralism.

Every government activities and authority must be centralised and vested to one arm of government (executive) and the congress (unicameral) should be just figurehead, ie nominal. This will reduce the lag in executing bill by the congress.

Accountability and auditing should be observed strictly in order see where fund goes.

A strict punishment should be taken according to the gravity of the of the corruption, ranging from imprison, confiscate of all the culprit's possessions, life imprisonment, up to hanging if possible.

CONCLUSION

Corruption circulates in the human body as the blood does, corruption is a serious illness to the countries and it leads to the demise of the victim country if good measures are not taken to addresses it.

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TOPIC:
**ANTI-CORRUPTION AND
ACCOUNTABILITY**

Corruption is one of the most concerning phenomena for societies across the globe. Tapping on the territory of a so-called "democratic" society, this virus holds back the society not allowing it to take the train of democratic and human development.

Corruption is found in the government when instead of thinking about the interests of the citizens as a whole, the members of the government are chiefly interested in promoting their own selfish interests.

Corruption is found in both public and private organizations and everyone starting from the clerk to the Managing Director of a company is corrupt in a way or the other. The clerk takes small bribes from the people who visit the office so that their work is finished early than the others who are waiting in a queue.

Parents offer bribes in schools and colleges to get their child admitted. There is no institution, no organization which is not corrupt in a way or the other.

But the question that arises is that can an anti-corruption movement be started and if yes, shall it be successful.

The answer depends largely on the adaptation of anti-corruption measures by both the government and the citizens. It is essential for all the Indians to stop taking bribe and also to stop offering bribe in any form.

Corruption is an incurable disease which all the citizens should try to combat by hook or by crook. It is only because of the corrupt politicians that today Nigeria is burdened with enormous loans from the developed countries especially America. It has been estimated that if the money deposited in the Swiss Bank of Switzerland by the Nigeria politicians return to Nigeria, not only will Nigeria be free from all the loans but the rising prices of different commodities would immediately shoot down.

People should learn not to re-elect the candidate they voted for if he fails to fulfill the promises that he made while contesting the elections. People are of the opinion that corruption is a way of life and nothing can be done to eradicate it. It is essential to understand that unless we as the citizens are not determined to do away with corruption from the roots, how we can expect the government to be corruption-free.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**"SEX4GRADE AS A FORM OF
CORRUPTION, ITS IMPACTS ON
NIGERIAN EDUCATION SECTOR
AND THE WAY OUT"**

Sex4grade as a form of corruption or I will rather called it school rape by corrupt lecturers pressurizing a female student or some female students in order to have sex with her or with them for a good grade or to improve their grades or to help her or those students to secure admission into the institution of higher learning.

Sex4grade does not only destroy the reputation of the lecturer but the university as a whole, some parents look at any higher institution as a place where a female student mind will be corrupt, by luring her into committing bad attitude like drugs or initiating her into school prostitution (sex4grade). This is the reason many parents in the Northern part of the country most especially in rural areas, prefer to marry up their daughters then sending them to schools of higher learning.

A lecturer X having sex with a female student Y in a University Z just for her to get good grade or to increase her exam score or to graduate with a flying colours. This practice is very common in our institutions and has a very negative effect in our educational system, those female students are the mothers of tomorrow, how do you expect a lady that pass all her courses or some of her courses using sex4grade as a ladder of passing exam to be something that the country will be proud of?, unless if she was pressurized or forced into sex4grade, but a lady that take herself to a lecturer for sex in exchange for grade will not bother if her daughter went through the same process, the only thing that will bother her is her daughter getting pregnant, some will even tell their daughters to do whatever they can to pass the exams, but take necessary measures not to get pregnant. As a result of this practice institutions will be producing unqualified graduates, high crime rate will increase, increase rate of drug pushers and unqualified professionals in so many fields.

The wayout

Sex4grade can hardly be eliminated completely, but measures can be taken to reduce it to a reasonable level of about 90%, because some are doing it for pleasure not for grade, some female students are giving themselves to lecturer because they have high sexual desire and can do anything to get his attention and later have sex with him, my point here is that even if they do it not for grade, as time goes, it might make a u-turn and become sex4grade, he enjoy her and she might take that for a favour, sex4grade can be reduce if:

1. Parents should monitor their daughters movement in and out of schools.
2. Severe legal actions should be taken against a culprit.
3. Parents should inculcate reading habit in their children right from Primary and Secondary

Schools, so that by the time they get to the university or institutions of higher learning, they will only face their studies and will not approach any lecturer for any help.

4. Governments, universities and higher learning institutions should introduce competitions, scholarships and awards for hardworking students, so that there will be high rate of competition between students which can never be achieved through sex4grade.
5. All necessary reading materials should be available in libraries and easily accessible by students.
6. Internet service should be available in schools both the lecture hall, libraries and student hostel for their reading and research, with all bad and porn sites blocked from these services so that they cannot be accessible by students.
7. An online complaint site/mobile app must be introduced where cases of sex4grade will be reported to institutions and the reports should go to police, EFCC, ICPC, Human Rights Commissions, State Anti-corruption Commissions, etc immediately as it is reported so that someone might not go into the database and play with the data, these reports must also be available to parents.

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TOPIC:

CORRUPTION: SEX FOR GRADE, ITS IMPACT ON NIGERIAN EDUCATION SECTOR AND WAY FORWARD

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines 'corruption' as dishonest or illegal behaviour, especially of people in authority.

Corruption in Nigeria has continued to be the bane and cankerworm that has eaten deep into the fabrics of the country. Some even argue that corruption is in the veins and blood of all Nigerians.

While this axiom may sound absurd, if carefully looked into, it could be established that the dwindling state of virtually all the sectors of the country is as a result of corruption.

Corruption is an all encompassing term referring to anything done not in the normal and acceptable way. So, if you take this definition, almost all humans are corrupt, for only a few do things in the most approximate and acceptable way.

In the education sector, for example, the sector is suffering decline because the very canon and criteria for employing teachers have been characterised with corruption. Irrespective of how good you or your result is, you hardly get employed if you

don't have 'connection' (connection as they call it.) And what would you expect of a teacher who was employed not on the canon of his wit and brilliance to be able to do his or her duties in the most effective way?

There are many instances where you have teachers not teaching their students. That is corruption.

Students too are in one way or the other involved in corruption, as some of them lack the rudiments of excellence in their attitude as students.

The nature of giving admission in tertiary institutions in Nigeria today is fraught with a number of irregularities. While a few institutions give admission on the basis of merit, a number of others give it only in the obverse way.

And what happens when both the teachers and students are only in the institution as influence could take them there? Well, the obvious happens - corruption will again surface.

Lecturers who can't take their eyes of girls will try all their might in arresting the interest of those girls they call pretty, even if that means breaching their own ethics of work. When all efforts fail, some lecturers resort to luring girls by promising marks to the girls or simply help these students to pass the course.

However, on the students' side, those (students) who fear of flunking a course may take themselves to the lecturer in charge of the course and offer, in a cunning way, themselves for marks.

A documentary by the BBC revealed that students in the higher institutions of learning suffer sexual harassment by their lecturers.

'Sex for grade' is purely a form of corruption because any lecturer who gives grades to students who yield to his demand to have sex with her does so because the student has accepted his offer, not that the student has passed the exams.

The consequences of this is: it can bring about serious decline in the country's education system. Why? If students can be forced into agreeing to sleep with a lecturer in return for marks, it means the marks are not earned on merit basis and so these students may end up having qualification or certificate they can't defend.

This trend, if left unchecked, will not only destroy the country's education system, but will have serious negative consequences on the society itself.

However, certain measures have to be put in place to arrest the trend.

Institutions must introduce laws or sanctions to any lecturer or student who is found wanting.

The government and other relevant agencies must establish and enact laws to punish any lecturer or student who is involved in any form of this menace.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**THE ROLE OF TRADITIONAL
LEADERS IN FIGHTING
CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA**

Corruption may be defined as the abuse of entrusted authority for illicit gain, recognising that corruption in particularistic societies essentially reproduces the existing structures of unequal distribution of power.

Traditional Leader are the people that are highly respected in the society and they are the people that are very close to the people in any community, in about 90% of communities in Nigeria, people respect and fear traditional leaders, therefore they do whatever they tell their people to do.

In the war against corruption, Nigerian government can use the power of traditional leaders to fight corruption from the grassroots, the traditional leaders are the people that are supposed to the campaign for fighting corruption to their people in all the communities because of the respect people have for them.

People tends to listen the traditional leaders more than their representative in Senate and National Assembly, which people see them as corrupts and therefore have nothing to tell people in war against corruption.

The government should create programs for fighting corruption that can reach people in all communities using traditional leaders through local radio and tv, organizing gathering in communities and also school programs right from the primary schools up to the tertiary institutions, using traditional leaders will reduce corruption in Nigeria for about 80-90%.

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TOPIC:
**ANTI-CORRUPTION
AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

Corruption is a social evil. It germinates the good cause of the society and especially destroys the backbone of the society.

Stressing how much of a damage corruption does to the vast majority can help better addressing in across board. Better outreach and communication messages should draw on pertinent cultural and religious rhetoric.

10 Innovative Ways to Fight Corruption

1. CORRUPTION IS NOT ONLY ABOUT BRIBES:

People especially the poor get hurt when resources are wasted. That's why it is so important to understand the different kinds of corruption to develop smart responses.

2. BUILD CAPACITY FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST:

Countries that suffer from chronic fragility, conflict and violence are often the ones that have the fewest internal resources to combat corruption. Identify ways to leverage international resources to support and sustain good governance.

3. POWER OF THE PEOPLE:

Create pathways that give citizens relevant tools to engage and participate in their governments identify priorities, problems

and find solutions.

4. CUT THE RED TAPE:

Bring together formal and informal processes (this means working with the government as well as non-governmental groups) to change behaviour and monitor progress.

5. IT'S NOT 1999:

Use the power of technology to build dynamic and continuous exchanges between key stakeholders: government, citizens, business, civil society groups, media, academia etc.

6. DELIVER THE GOODS:

Invest in institutions and policy sustainable improvement in how a government delivers services is only possible if the people in these institutions endorse sensible rules and practices that allow for change while making the best use of tested traditions and legacies, imported models often do not work.

7. GET INCENTIVES RIGHT:

Align anti-corruption measures with market, behavioural, and social forces. Adopting integrity standards is a smart business decision, especially for companies interested in doing business with the World Bank Group and other development partners.

8. SANCTIONS MATTER:

Punishing corruption is a vital component of any effective anti-corruption effort.

9. ACT GLOBALLY AND LOCALLY:

Keep citizens engaged on corruption at local, national, international and global levels in line with the scale and scope of corruption. Make use of the architecture that has been

developed and the platforms that exist for engagement.

10. LEARN BY DOING:

Any good strategy must be continually monitored and evaluated to make sure it can be easily adapted as situations on the ground change.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:

EXAM MALPRACTICE AS A GENESIS OF CORRUPTION: CURBING EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE

Introduction

Examination malpractice is simply any type of cheating during examination process. It remains the mother of corruption among secondary school students that has birthed indiscipline, unqualified professionals and a whole bunch of lazy students. It has posed a serious threat to the betterment of sound education in our country. It is the cancer worm that has eaten up the zeal to study for serious students and a shortcut to success for lazy students who are eager to reap what they never sow.

Exam Malpractice

Gone are the days when schools boast of academic excellence based on the level of qualified teachers, hardworking students and a disciplined school management.

An unprecedented number of secondary school students today solemnly depend on examination malpractice to excel. It is the evil messiah that is worshipped in order to boast of academic

excellence and the best of them is the champion that has mastered every single method of exam malpractice.

It is disheartening to see the school managements who are entrusted with the future of these students become the mastermind behind this evil act. They go to any length and bribe external examiners during the West African School Certificate Examination in order to co-operate with them.

Parents have also played a significant role in promoting examination malpractice in secondary schools. Prior to when the examination body is set to conduct the examinations, some schools take advantage of this period, monetize it, by extorting money from parents and guardians of their students. Some of these parents are ever eager to pay any amount and are aware of the fact that the money is to be used for an illegal act, thereby promoting corruption in the country.

In situation where some schools do not engage in such acts, parents withdraw their wards from such schools thinking their children won't be able to make it without cheating, hence forgetting the purpose of sending them to school and paying their fees for six years. They are willing to give extra money on special examination papers like mathematics and English. The contribution of parents in this act has gone a long way in promoting it.

On the part of students, one wonders why the highest level of indiscipline is among the senior students who are supposed to be disciplined, serious with their academics and a role model to their juniors.

Once these students discover the readiness of their parents and school in facilitating the exam malpractice, they loss interest in

studying, become indisciplined and only focus on how to perfect their cheating skills. They master different means of exam malpractice such as using written notes, phones, copying from fellow students and getting answers from their teachers.

Examination malpractice like every other wrong comes with a price tag and they are as follows:

1. Unfulfilled dreams:

Passing all the requirements for university by secondary school students through exam malpractice leads to unfulfilled dreams as such students after gaining admissions into universities that have zero tolerance for examination malpractice are unable to cope, they either get frustrated and drop out or end up being withdrawn by the universities.

2. DRUG ABUSE:

Most drop out become drug addicts either due to depression or peer influence. They find comfort in drug abuse as they have nothing meaningful to do with their time.

3. CORRUPTION:

Students that have been exposed to exam malpractice see corruption as a norm and abuse power by engaging in embezzlement.

4. INCREASE CRIME RATE:

Most students continue with the act of exam malpractice even in tertiary level and when caught or withdrawn from schools, they resort to breaking laws and being a nuisance to their community. If they are fortunate to graduate and get employed, they cheat at their work place. And many may end up becoming thugs and

drug dealers.

5. Unqualified professionals:

Graduates that indulged in examination malpractice right from secondary school through university without being caught, disciplined and reoriented end up to be unqualified professionals. They gain license to practice and either end up killing people or leading to loss of properties as a result of their hidden ignorance.

There are possible solutions to put an end to exam malpractice and they include:

1. School management and parents must withdraw their support for examination malpractice.
2. Examination body should install CCTV cameras in all examination centres.
3. External examiners should be law abiding and intolerant towards exam malpractice.
4. Hard working students should be appreciated by awarding them openly and lazy students should be encourage to study.
5. Parents should inculcate reading habits in their children by setting up home competition and buying gifts for the winners.
6. Legal action should be taken for culprits.

Conclusion

Examination malpractice is an evil act that has done more harm than good. It is a threat to sound education which should not be taken lightly by individuals of concerned minds. Parents, teachers, students and the society at large should shun this act for the betterment of our beloved country.

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Anti-Corruption and Accountability

TOPIC:
**MY INNOVATIVE IDEAS OF
TACKLING CORRUPTION IN THE
JUDICIARY**

An effective judiciary guarantees fairness in legal processes. It's a powerful weapon against corruption. But people's experiences in court are often far from fair.

In some countries, most people in contact with the courts face demands for bribes. Their payments total staggering amounts. Court efficiency is crucial.

A backlog of cases creates opportunities for demanding bribes to fast-track a case. Court personnel can be paid to slow down or speed up a trial, or dismiss a complaint.

Judges can also bribe or be bribed, or they can suffer pressure from above. If politicians abuse their power, they can influence decisions and distort appointment processes. Against this backdrop, people are often unaware of their rights. Or worse still, countless negative experiences can simply resign them to their fate before a corrupt court.

A range of simple reforms can prevent judicial corruption. An independent body should oversee appointments. This helps

ensure they're based on merit rather than favouritism. If the public is given proper information, we can also monitor the process.

Fair judicial salaries and pensions make court personnel less vulnerable to bribery. These should reflect experience, performance and an honest track record. In the face of powerful interests, several measures can also protect judges from pressure. These include investigations of credible allegations against them, and limited liability for decisions. Court officials must be aware that if corruption is proved, they will be removed in a fair, open way. Civil society, the private sector, the media all have a vital role to play. They must expose judicial bias and drive reforms to increase courtroom honesty.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**"IF WE DON'T KILL CORRUPTION, CORRUPTION WILL
KILL US":**
**THE MANIFESTATIONS OF
CORRUPTION IN NIGERIAN
SOCIETY AND THE ROLES OF THE
CITIZENRY IN FIGHTING THEM**

Introduction

Corruption, as generally viewed as a form of dishonesty or criminal activity performed by people in the position of authority through whatever trust that is kept under their authority; this can be seen in different ways and manners in our society, corruption can also be described as unfaithfulness, betrayal, deception and lack of integral actions displayed by the people in position with power.

Corruption can be in different ways which includes:

- a. **Forgery:** this is the falsification of certificates, documents and the like for personal benefits of some people.
- b. **Bribery:** this is the exchange of resources or valuables

- in exchange something good or to gain something that the giver of the bribe is not entitled to have.
- c. **Cronyism:** this is a kind of partial and sentimental interest, put which is awarding jobs or appointments, especially to the close relatives of those in power, these and more like.
 - d. **Embezzlement:** an act of withholding or extravagant spending of resources (government fund) by the people that are entrusted with such resources or assets.

Observations

The above-mentioned types of forms of bribery are common and becoming way rampant among 90% of governmental and non-governmental trustees of assets and resources, as such we are experiencing a rapid decline in social and economic activities. Almost all classes of individuals fall victims of corruption nowadays (including children and the next generation).

Take for instance, I was once in one of the Government Hospitals within Kano metropolitan in order to see an Ophthalmologist, after all the tests needed, he recommended an eye glasses and I agreed, ideally there is a particular and separate unit for refraction, but the doctor insist that he will examine and do the refraction himself which was not part of his duty, I was able to convince him that I will get back to him later, because he was insisting that I should pay him cash at hand.

Again, I went to the Hospital Pharmacy to buy drugs, that is where I observe the Pharmacist was giving drugs to his/her relatives free of charge.

This is actually failed my hope for Nigeria and left me in doubt if

Nigeria could change.

With the above-mentioned example, I am sure that corruption is in every corner in Nigeria, no matter how small it is, it will kill the nation, the integrity, the passion, the blessings and the merit are being killed by this thing called corruption.

Implication of Corruption

Corruption has outnumbered disadvantages to our lives which includes:

1. It destroyed our economic and social welfare.
2. Poor masses are always at the receiving end (they always bear the consequences)
3. The zeal and passion of our youngsters is being killed though corruption.
4. Everyone will like to join government and position in order to enjoy free (public) assets and valuables.
5. Our country will continue to lose reputation in the eyes of the world.

Conclusion

Corruption is the real killer of any country, but if the citizen can join hands together and fight it, we will kill corruption before it kills us. Corruption does not destroy economy only and affect the present generation, but the next generation will also bear the consequences of the fast crime of former leaders due to bribery and corruption issues.

Defaulters should be expose at all level, nobody should be allowed to go free with corruption crime on the economy be it at Local, State or Federal level, if we can expose such crimes (even if they are our family and friends), we will reduce the occurrences and slowly corruption will become history in Nigeria.

Citizens have a great role to play in fighting corruption, we should not always shut our mouth and keep quite when we know we can blow whistle and expose the crimes done on our economy, Nigeria is our country and we should not allow some minority to kill it due to the greedy and looting habit, also government should impose law of life imprisonment to anyone found guilty of corruption practices.

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TOPIC:
**CURBING EXAMINATION
MALPRACTICE**

Examination malpractice is simply any type of cheating during examination process. It remains the mother of corruption among secondary school students that has birthed indiscipline, unqualified professionals and a whole bunch of lazy students. It has pose a serious threat to the betterment of sound education in our country. It is the concur worm that has eaten up the zeal to study for serious students and a shortcut to success for lazy students who are eager to reap what they never sow.

Gone are the days when schools boast of academic excellence based on the level of qualified teachers, hardworking students and a disciplined school management. An unprecedented number of secondary school students today solemnly depend on examination malpractice to excel. It is the evil messiah that is worshipped in order to boast of academic excellence and the best of them is the champion that has mastered every single method of exam malpractice.

It is disheartening to see the school managements who are entrusted with the future of these students become the mastermind behind this evil act. They go to any length and bribe external examiners during the West African School

Certificate Examination in order to co-operate with them.

Parents have also played a significant role in promoting examination malpractice in secondary schools. Prior to when the examination body is set to conduct the examinations, some schools take advantage of this period, monetize it, by extorting money from parents and guardians of their students. Some of these parents are ever eager to pay any amount and are aware of the fact that the money is to be used for an illegal act, thereby promoting corruption in the country. In situation where some schools do not engage in such acts, parents withdraw their wards from such schools thinking their children won't be able to make it without cheating, hence forgetting the purpose of sending them to school and paying their fees for six years. They are willing to give extra money on special examination papers like mathematics and English. The contribution of parents in this act has gone a long way in promoting it.

On the part of students, one wonders why the highest level of indiscipline is among the senior students who are supposed to be disciplined, serious with their academics and a role model to their juniors. Once these students discover the readiness of their parents and school in facilitating the exam malpractice they lose interest in studying, become indisciplined and only focus on how to perfect their cheating skills. They master different means of exam malpractice such as using written notes, phones, copying from fellow students and getting answers from their teachers.

Examination malpractice like every other wrong comes with a price tag and they are as follows:

1. UNFULFILLED DREAMS:
Passing all the requirements for university by secondary school

students through exam malpractice leads to unfulfilled dreams as such students after gaining admissions into universities that have zero tolerance for examination malpractice are unable to cope, they either get frustrated and drop out or end up being withdrawn by the universities.

2. DRUG ABUSE:

Most drop out become drug addicts either due to depression or peer influence. They find comfort in drug abuse as they have nothing meaningful to do with their time.

3. CORRUPTION:

Students that have been exposed to exam malpractice sees corruption as a norm and abuse power by engaging in embezzlement.

4. INCREASE CRIME RATE:

Most students continue with the act of exam malpractice even in tertiary level and when caught or withdrawn from schools, they resort to breaking laws and being nuisance to their community. If they are fortunate to graduate and get employed, they cheat at their work place. And many may end up becoming thugs and drug dealers.

5. UNQUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS:

Graduates that indulged in examination malpractice right from secondary school through university without being caught, disciplined and reoriented end up to be unqualified professionals. They gain licence to practice and either end up killing people or leading to loss of properties as a result of their hidden ignorance.

There are possible solutions to put an end to exam malpractice and they include:

1. School management and parents must withdraw their support for examination malpractice.
2. Examination body should install CCTV cameras in all examination centres.
3. External examiners should be law abiding and intolerant towards exam malpractice.
4. Hard working students should be appreciated by awarding them openly and lazy students should be encourage to study.
5. Parents should inculcate reading habits in their children by setting up home competition and buying gifts for the winners.
6. Legal action should be taken for culprits.

In conclusion examination malpractice is an evil act that has done more harm than good. It is a threat to sound education which should not be taken lightly by individuals of concerned minds. Parents, teachers, students and the society at large should shun this act for the betterment of our beloved country.

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOPIC:
**THE ROLES OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS
IN FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN
NIGERIA**

Since there is now a concerted effort to wipe out corruption in the society, the thrust of this paper is that for “the change begins with me” campaign to succeed in Nigeria as the government wishes, it should involve the two majority religions in the nation, that is Islam and Christianity.

The reason is that there is this indisputable fact that many people, be it in the economic or political sphere, rely so much on the spiritual advice and guide of their religious leaders in doing most of what they do in their life endeavors. If therefore, the fight against corruption is to succeed, it must start from the religious institutions of both the Muslims and the Christians.

Added to this is the fact that, although Nigeria operates a secular constitution, the adherents of both religions constitute about 98% of the population of the nation and if this 98% of the population decides to be on the side of the government in fighting corruption, and they also eschew corruption in their lives, one can imagine how successful “the change begins with

me” campaign of the government against vices will become. Moreover, the truth in the statements above becomes clearer when one considers the fact that virtually all the people that are currently being prosecuted, under investigation or convicted of corruption in Nigeria are either Christians or Muslims. All these people profess one of these faiths and are prominent members of their congregations. Thus, if the fight starts from their spiritual base and they are roundly admonished, criticized and when necessary ostracized by this base, it is likely going to yield the needed results because no human being is an island unto himself. Likewise, experience has shown that it is from this base that most people launch their career, be it politics or other life endeavours.

In the same vein, as is always the situation in Nigeria, everyone from the poorest person to the richest and from the non-influential person to the most influential person has religious leaders as their spiritual guides, advisers and mentors. Therefore, beginning the campaign against corruption from the Mosque and the Church with the help of the leaders of these religions will have a multiplier effect as its impact will be felt on the other spheres of the society since most people tend to listen to their spiritual guides and follow their advice and mentoring.

Although, some may argue that these institutions themselves and the religious leaders need Reformation before they can reform their members. This is not far from the truth because it is usually the case that part of the proceeds of corruption for which their members are being prosecuted, investigated or convicted had been shared and given to some of these religious leaders and they have actively encouraged them saying “it is the doing of the Lord” or “the mercy of Allah” on them. Nonetheless, it does not mean that there are no good and incorruptible ones among them. The good and incorruptible ones among them

could be co-opted into the program and certain incentives given to them so as to encourage them and, hopefully, with time, others will follow suit.

The act of giving incentives to encourage them is because part of the problem is that these so-called men of God or religious leaders see Islam and Christianity as their “get rich quick” option just as the politicians see their political offices as their gateway to wealth. Thus, it will not be an easy endeavour to ask them to shun the corrupt but rich members of their Church or Mosque. Likewise, it is hoped that others will follow suit in this fight against corruption because nothing is impossible especially when there is financial independence!

Moreover, while the politicians may be excused on the ground of ignorance and greed, those who hold spiritual offices have less ground to claim ignorance and greed because, by virtue of their office, that is what they are expected to treat in the society. They are the provider of the medicine to the evils in the human soul and as such ought to have healed themselves before seeking to heal others. If, therefore, the healer is sick, who will heal the dying?

Finally, Islam and Christianity are important and central to the anti-corruption campaign of the government because while the government may be busy preaching change and moral equity, the people may see this as a mere slogan since they do not really trust political leaders. But once this is coming from the pulpit of the Imam and/or Pastor, they will “believe” and listen since this is where their loyalty usually lies and this is where they look for direction in their lives and affairs.

Therefore, in as much as there is a need to fight corruption in the religious sphere, there is also a need to understand that the

anti-corruption war will do better with the help of religion based on the psyche of the Nigerian people as it concerns religion. Hence, here lies the importance of Islam and Christianity in the “change begins with me” campaign of the government and the reason why the government needs to co-opt the leaders of these two religions into the program.

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TOPIC:
**INNOVATIVE IDEAS OF TACKLING
CORRUPTION IN THE JUDICIARY**

Introduction

Corruption is 'the abuse of entrusted power for private gain'. By implication Judicial corruption includes any inappropriate financial or material gain and non-material gain, aimed at influencing the impartiality of the judicial process by any actor within the court system.

Example, a judge may allow or exclude evidence with the aim of justifying the acquittal of a guilty defendant of high political or social status. Judges or court staff may manipulate court dates to favour one party or another. Junior court personnel may 'lose' a file for a price as we witnessed during one of the numerous cases of corruption against James Ibori.

Defining judicial corruption does not tame it. We must therefore critically come out with measures to stem the tide of judicial corruption.

Tackling Judicial Corruption

Judicial corruption takes many forms and is influenced by many factors: legal, social, cultural, economic or political. Some of the problems most commonly identified with judicial corruption

are:

- Judicial appointments lack merit
- Terms and conditions Poor salaries and insecure working conditions, including unfair processes for promotion and transfer.
- Lack of Accountability and discipline.

Judicial appointments

1. Independent judicial appointments body. We need an objective and transparent process for the appointment of judges to ensure that only the highest quality candidates are selected. Judges should not feel indebted to a particular politician or senior judge who appointed them.
2. Merit-based judicial appointments. Election criteria should be clear and well publicised, allowing candidates, selectors and others to have a clear understanding of where the bar for selection lies; candidates should be required to demonstrate a record of competence and integrity.
3. There must be civil society participation including professional associations linked to judicial activities, should be consulted on the merits of candidates.

Terms and conditions

Judicial Salaries must be commensurate with judges' position, experience, performance and professional development for the entirety of their tenure; fair pensions should be provided on retirement. What is good for the judges is even more desirable for judicial workers who have been enmeshed in crisis of compensation of late.

Accountability and discipline

1. We should strip corrupt judges of immunity in corruption or other criminal cases. Indeed we should treat judicial corruption as judicial murder that should carry heavy judgements as it is the case in the Peoples Republic of China. The point cannot be over emphasised: Corruption erodes the moral fabric of every society, violates the social and economic rights of the poor and the vulnerable. The truth is that what is stolen by few rogues cannot be made available for the mass need of the desperate poor multitude. Dangerously too, corruption undermines democracy and subverts the rule of law which is the basis of every civilized society. Corruption retards development.

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TOPIC:

"SEX4GRADE AS A FORM OF CORRUPTION, ITS IMPACTS ON NIGERIAN EDUCATION SECTOR AND SOCIETY AND THE WAY OUT"

Sex4Grade is a form of sexual intercourse between a male lecturer and a lady student or a female lecturer and a male student in order to pass an exam, graduate with good result or any other benefit that the student can gain from the lecturer as a favour due to what happened between them.

Sometime sex4grade is as a result of the lecturer forcing the student to agree to have sex with him/her, or the consequences of denial from the student might lead to her/his failure in the exam and can lead to her/his withdrawal from the Institution. It can also be another threat from the lecturer to the student not necessarily using exam for him/her to lay down the student.

We are not doing favours to the lecturers if we link all cases of sex4grade to the lecturers fault. There are many cases when a female student will offer herself to a lecturer, doing all she can do to seduce him and make him have sex with her, for him to graduate her, to pass her exam or just for her to satisfy her sexual desire. If the lecturers are at fault for going after their

students for sexual needs, many female students are also at fault for going after their lecturers, seducing them and have him have sex with her, some do pay money to get what they want from their lecturers/teachers.

Effect

The effect of all these will in future produce graduates that are unproductive, a graduates that cannot steer even their locality before you think of the community, not even small organisations, not to talk of the big organisations, sex4grade will produce graduate that cannot teach even in primary school level, graduate that cannot defend even 40% of their professions, these will not have the effort or courage to talk in crowd or public gathering, the value and quality of education will fall woefully and in the job market it will create corporate prostitutes that can open their legs just to get jobs and after getting job, sex is the only way to get promotion, this may lead to the low efficiency or fall of the organisation. The effect are countless because many illegitimate children will be born from sex4grade, these children will grow up to be immoral because the society will reject them, and the more people hate them the more problem that will be created.

Wayout

Sex4grade can be stopped or reduced to about 90% if not all, government should take drastic measures on any lecturer/teacher found guilty.

1. The lecturer's/teacher's salary should be cut by half for 3months and a 3months jail term, if it's the first time he was caught.
2. The lecturer's/teachers appointment should be terminated with a minimum 5years prison term, if he was caught the second time.
3. Any student caught trying to seduce or seducing

lecturer/teacher, her admission should be revoke and she should be withdrawn from the Institution or she should restart her studies from level one as a form of punishment.

4. The guilty one's photo should be in every newspaper and magazines covers, their pictures should also be on all the local Tv channels across the country.
5. Students should face their studies only, and lecturers/teachers should do their work only.
6. There should be no immoral relationship between lecture/teacher/boss with student/employer, apart from classroom teaching/work, defaulters must be punished accordingly.
7. Any other measurers that the institution or the government think will end any form of discrimination or sex4grade in our schools.

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TOPIC:
**ROLES OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS
AND TRADITIONAL LEADER IN
FIGHTING CORRUPTION IN
NIGERIA**

Before I start let me give a brief explanation of what corruption is “Corruption may be defined as the abuse of entrusted authority for illicit gain, recognising that corruption in particularistic societies essentially reproduces the existing structures of unequal distribution of power.”

Religious and Traditional leaders have a very important role to play in fighting corruption in Nigeria and any other country, but for the religious leaders their preaching and activities have to be watch closely by authorities, sometimes the preaching can ignite violence.

Religious leaders both the Christians and Muslims have a special power over their followers so also do traditional leaders, God give them a special power over their followers/people, the two have more values in the eyes of their followers and are seen as holy because they are not corrupt, they don't collect or give bribe, they don't have public offices were they can loot the treasury, therefore they have control over the lives of the people following them. People follow without questioning their

characters. The two are the ones who are in the position to show people what is wrong and what is right, with the powers they can tell their followers the effect of corruption on them, their children, their community, their state and the country at large.

Religious leaders can also use the Qur'an and Bible to quote verses where God himself prohibit corruption and looting of public treasury, to me the two (Religious and Traditional Leaders are in best position to fight corruption in Nigeria.

ABOUT CITAD

Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) (www.citad.org) is a capacity building civil society organization whose activities cover research, advocacy, training and publicity in all the areas of ICTs. Its vision is; a knowledge-based democratic society free of hunger, while its mission is; using ICTs to empower citizens for a just and knowledge-based society that is anchored on sustainable and balanced development.

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