

**WHAT IS WRONG WITH WHAT IS RIGHT IN APC GOVERNANCE  
AND WHAT IS WRONG IN WHAT IS RIGHT WITH PDP OPPOSITION  
ARE INFORMED BY IGNORANCE AND IMMATURITY: BETWEEN  
THOSE WHO BELIEVE THAT IT IS THEIR TURN AGAINST THOSE  
WHO BELIEVE THAT IT IS THEIR PERMANENT BELONGING**



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## **THE ALL PROGRESSIVES CONGRESS PARTY**

This is the ruling party and government since May, 2015. It will be foolhardy to question the background, justification and mandate given to this party, by voting the previous party and government out of office. Insecurity, Corruption and economic crisis were unquestionably the front challenges that required priority attention.

On security, it is impossible to deny that there is a critical positive difference with respect to the insurgency facet. The recovery and retention of some local government territories in the north east is a classical success. This success was possibly not impossible for achieving by the previous government BUT WHY DID IT FAIL? Indeed why was corruption able to subdue this national challenge and priority responsibility? The money was there. The fighting men were there. The acquisition of arms was not impossible. What difference did or has the present ruling party and government made?

The element of corruption was detected as having gravely contributed to the inability of the government to attend to Boko Haram menace. And the trial along with revelations from Dasuki roles proves this beyond reasonable doubt. The sharing between political chieftains and services chiefs of security funds is the most irresponsible history for our national destruction. The implication of this is that the institutions and men that will be engaged in the rooting out of Boko Haram were corrupted. And the indicator was the hesitation in obliging the new commander in chief on relocating to a new field. This psych had not completely disappeared when Buhari was away on sick leave. With a seeming fall-back, the Vice President repeated a similar order and the response was nonchalant. But the moment Buhari returned, it took full effect. Thus, the challenge of corruption that fuelled insecurity was further destructive of our security institution. But why were the security chiefs a professional failure in guiding the ousted government? Why did they opt for the money at the expense of the oath of their offices? This is the critical question because none of them was an incompetent chief by skill. Worse still, they were vulnerable to posting ill equipped men to face Boko Haram and the procedure was most unprofessional. It can therefore be deducted from this experience that the roles of the Service chiefs had a security bulb. And this bulb extended from corruption attraction to the nonchalant disposition of seeming

commanders outside the service and government and the submission of the then commander in chief to the same. Goodluck Jonathan is definitely not a blood sucking individual. But he was not helped by the ruling corruption of even the former commanders in the Council of State. This is a very positive suspicion in the light of the complaints of these commanders and following by some naive or mischief leaders over the leadership of the services that have changed the story line. The drumming of federal character reflection in the appointments will appear to possibly serve the dual targets of getting those who will risk listening to them and destroy the changing spirit of loyalty to the new commander in chief. What then will possibly happen if and when the security institutions and the leadership returns to dual loyalty for its selfish benefit or even shift loyalty to commanders outside? This challenge only reveals that the military that have not been democratic have not given up in keeping an unholy hold on the nature and character of our governance. Buhari is the difference. And this can partially explain the character of the new insecurity pattern. Crimes like kidnapping and secession are now armed. And arrests relating to bastardly killings like those of worshippers in Benue and those in Taraba and the one in Plateau and Zamfara etc. have indicated MORE THAN HERDSMEN as instrumental. The club of political loyalists to these commanders of corruption and destruction are now the developed force to be resisted. The electorate are largely blind and out of this. The PDP that will appear to ignorantly serve as a fitting vehicle for building the new form of challenge may be naive about this understanding but is effectively playing it. And the form is informed by its character of opposition. All that it is after is to remove Buhari. Buhari is the problem. The agents in the legislature have consistently aided the frustration or destruction of nationalist actions accordingly.

On corruption, it will be insulting to suggest that no successes have been achieved. To be attractive to questioning by anti-graft agencies to public accounting officers have revealed embarrassing outcomes. The best records relate to those convicted. They are best because the cases have been closed. For a governor, a service chief or a minister to be so involved was not expected. Some with their children or brothers or friends. Discovered funds in undisclosed accounts, soakaways, farms, seemingly abandoned vehicles, houses, etc. are no mean achievements. Whatever made this possible was the height of failure in holding public trust. For instance, a former petroleum chief was not believable when he claimed that the millions of

dollars found on him was a gift until the activities of his minister came to light. The resources involved beat the imagination of any sensible man.

The cries that only non-ruling party and government members are hounded amounts to intellectual exercise. None of such cries have concretely established that any person or functionary in chase is innocent. Worse of all there are supposedly key members of the ruling party and government that are also being questioned. And the yet to be chased members of the ruling party and government that are alleged to deserve similar chase or been petitioned against CANNOT SERVE AS EXCUSES FOR EITHER NON PERFORMANCE OR RETREATING FROM CHASING THOSE FOUND TO BE QUESTIONABLE. Indeed the freeing of an accused by the Supreme Court on the ground of the locus standee of the prosecuting agent revealed the complexity of our system response to matters of values or morality. Naive observers including former justices praise the freedom, whereas it does not amount to in-culpability. But has the agency with the locus standee the lever to take that up? Why wasn't it able to initiate it? This state and nature of the system decay of the government machinery is part of the challenge that the ruling government has to face. This is necessarily so because, it reveals that the routine machinery and processes of checks in the form of ACCOUNT AUDITING have long collapsed. Like the security bosses that saw a beneficial option for not acting RIGHT, the public service functionaries were not exempted. A former minister of finance indicated the fury she faced for suggesting prudent economic restructuring from some governors. It is in this circumstance that uncritical and irresponsible opposition fails to appreciate implementation of its locked up policy of Single Treasury Account or completion of its abandoned good projects because it stole the resources. Nothing will appear to be more shameless and revealing of the quality spectrum of the corruption orientation that has to be overcome.

These twin factors reflect on the economic capabilities of the now ruling party and government to deliver dividends of democracy. It started with a tight ability to even pay workers in employment and to meet up its contributory responsibilities for pensions. The sceneries of the Maina pension exposures and the strong resistance of the Pension Commission boss to relinquish her office were good pointers to the mess in that direction. With the roles of the legislature in the poor processing of annual budgets and frustration of other anti-corruption or economic

recovery laws, the ruling government can only move at a strangled pace. When this is given the active colouration of politically motivated destruction of oil facilities, it will be appreciated that if not by the grace of a super power, the government has a slim chance to have an easy overcoming of the challenges. The slow take up of gigantic infrastructural projects has therefore been at an inevitability pace. The railway projects, the Mambila electricity project, the Niger bridge project, the Ogoni land clean-up project, the roads projects, the dredging of River Niger and the Ajaokuta steel project are credible overcoming of the internal and external resistances to the responsibilities and commitment of the ruling party and government. And a good pointer is the culpability of the government to impeachment on a critical issue like the security of the nation. The government was clearly hasty and not procedural in committing funds from reserves even though the legislature was fully contributive and aware of the contractual requirements. Thus, the greatest evidence of the opposition is in the SLOW and almost UNIMPRESSIVE process and level of delivering the concrete dividends of democracy, they were opportune to give but destroyed. A laughable but intriguing one was the offer by a presidential hopeful that he will close the history of insurgency in two weeks. He must either have a pact with the Boko Haram or its sponsors or have an undertaking by those who are ticks of our security collapse or has an assured greater command of the security operatives that can be of double loyal, than the credentials of Buhari. The constitutional review process was the most dramatic display of resistance to our collectivity Because Buhari is the head of the ruling party and government.

It will as a result amount to a blatant lie to suggest that Nothing has been achieved on the phases of the inevitable challenges the ruling party and government was confronted with on assuming office. It will equally be dishonest to refuse to appreciate that whatever achievements have been established have been out of extreme avoidable frustration led or allowed by key members of the same ruling party.

And the sole explanation for this revolves around Muhammadu Buhari, the leader of the ruling party and government. He radically differs and strongly or adamantly resists becoming like what he does not believe or understand. His focus appears to be on REALIZATION of the opposites of what he has inherited. And he was careless about the INFORMAL process or understandings to achieve those

BECAUSE they will ABUSE the DIFFERENCE he is expected to make. One angle is the scramble and war for constituency's projects that are not constitutionally provided for. The other is the painful check on COOL petroleum subsidy for questionable contracts and clearly doubtful prospect of having abused Oil and Gas licenses renewed. These two examples are extremely critical because they define or determine the poverty or prosperity of the new born ticks of the National Assembly and the undeveloped ticks on the petroleum dependent economy that we have.

What is therefore wrong with what is in the right doings of the All Progressives Congress party and the government has three related facets. The first is that, whatever realizations Muhammadu Buhari can, should or will pursue MUST need to cover all Nigerians irrespective of partisan or non-partisan status. The resisting elements within and outside the party thus have a stake in the governance he is given the mandate to lead. The implication of this is that that, they deserve a listening ear and attention, as against suspicion or outright dismissal. The second facet that is related to this is the REALITY that responsibility for the first is ordinarily inevitable without giving some DELIBERATE CONSIDERATIONS to the resisters. And the philosophy that justifies this is that, if nothing was wrong there will be no need for correction, amendment or change. Beyond this, CHANGE does not or need not start with exclusion or elimination. And the third related facet is the DOUBLE REALITY that a Clean formal process is impossible, impracticable or even unjustifiable because QUALIFIED VICTIMS will cut across the board. Between those who enabled the mandate to be secured were members and chieftains among the resisters and loyalists. For Muhammadu Buhari to move ahead with the loyalists who persevered with the 'losses' and only dream of a probable relief in an uncertain future, is unfair and unrealistic. It is unfair to the loyalists who have so CHOSEN and unrealistic to those who have Chosen not to persevere. The philosophy is that both choices are really or truly wrong because both parties are culpable. Consequently, Muhammadu Buhari is wrong to consider that the loyalists deserve some safety or understanding over the resisters.

Accordingly, the style or culture of leadership withdrawal or non-involvement built up an unacceptable peripheral culture of indiscipline between the two classes of the same challenge and for required support. Allegations are made or revelations of the skeletons of those in the loyalists group by the resisters or their agents. The

colouration or effect on the polity and governance logically weakens the strong stand of the ruling party and government to non-participant puristic observers. The rule of equality in deserving attention of reward or punishment will be the scale. And beyond this, new ticks were being born right with and under Muhammadu Buhari but he either pretends not to know, ignores when his attention is drawn to it or only acts out of inevitable necessity. This is the background for the loss of influence in the National Assembly, collapse of party discipline and political rascality at the state levels of the ruling party. And with him, it is either his relation or his closest aide on one hand, or the manipulation of the state-house machinery for growing the characteristics of the problematic groups or abuse of standard formal access/relationship requirements for governance on the other. The culture of protective services by this bunch of rascals made or logically presented Muhammadu Buhari as a leader in captivity NO MATTER HOW MUCH DENIAL HE PERSONALLY MAKES OF IT. And the isolation of the leader from the immediate led is both wrong and unacceptable. The mandate of the leader is Not of the electorate Minus the Party and Government.

This wrong or wrongs constitute what need to be evaluated as either sufficient or otherwise, to qualify for failure of Muhammadu Buhari and his government. And this will be against two factors. The first is, IF the few undeniable achievements for the collective benefit of Nigerians are not sufficient justification for the toll, price or cost of the pains caused to especially the resistor group. The second is IF the psychology of the resisters group was INVITING ENOUGH to assure Muhammadu Buhari for even a tacit understanding that WITH A LARGE RELIEF FOR THE SOCIETY THEIR SPECIAL RELIEFS WOULD BE ATTENDED TO. If the All Progressives Congress party and government is Ignorant of this or simply downplays it, it is not only WRONG but has the challenging responsibility to MATURE-UP to OVERCOMING them.

### **THE PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY IDENTITY**

The machinery and members of the Peoples Democratic Party are in the lead and are entitled to, in opposition. The pain of having been ousted from power cannot wither away in three years following some sixteen years of free control, cutting short a fifty year project. The siding of the party with any individual or group playing resistor role within the ruling party and government of All Progressives



Congress or in other opposition parties or even self-appointed guardians outside political parties or organizations that claim to wish the lot of Nigerians well, will be treated as product of OPPOSITION, of the PDP. The logic and sense is that it will serve to strengthen the right of the opposition, with the objective that it will correct the ruling party and government.

That the opposition is right for the WRONGS defined against the All Progressives Congress party and government need not be repeated. The PDP is made up of fellow Nigerians with members who can think and have senses too. Indeed, not necessarily lower than those of members and leaders of the ruling party and government along with their supporters.

However, the first drawback of the resistance stand, the root of APC crisis and identity of the PDP is the plain and superior fact and truth that FORMALITY has a superior status over INFORMALITY. Those who self-admit their culpability to abusing their trust and surrender what did not belong to them can safely guard themselves against formal charges based on records. Those who hesitate or refuse to do so voluntarily cannot possibly resist formal charges. While they remain innocent until convicted, they remain suspects until cleared. The collective interest and commonwealth of Nigerians is in the faceless and objective form of formality. The truth of Nigeria is not in the negotiations of any individuals or groups. It is therefore wrong and will ever continue to be so, to consider that the right of attention by any individual, individuals or groups should be admitted as a right OVER what is collective. This is why those who persevere with immediate losses and got the discretionary avoidance of Muhammadu Buhari are more tolerable. Those who resist because it is their entitled choice, can remain credible only at the informal level. This sample of dialectical relationship played out well, when Bukola Saraki met with Muhammadu Buhari after the technical discharge of the assets declaration charges against him by the Supreme Court. Muhammadu Buhari was reported to have sympathized with Bukola for the tortuous legal process he went through and Bukola prostrated to accept. However, it was clear that Muhammadu Buhari could not have meddled into the process of the charges. He is consistently in the open, for formality, that is safe and stronger. He could not be expected to ask that other charges be suspended. He did not interfere in the governance of states or the party structure.

Hence, to welcome an arrangement where for instance the standard for governance FROM A STATE OF DOOM STRIVING TO STICK OUT THE HEAD, will be some tacit understanding between immediate FAILED LOSERS and the LEADER WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY TO CHANGE THINGS will be ambitious. The discretion will be more risky than safe. It will require a bloodless heart to believe and understand that a party to the damages that require correction will be a frontline trustee for correcting the damages. Immodesty or lack of humility or remorse is the identity closer to such requests, suggestions and expectations. It is for instance appreciable if one finds the agent or representative of such informal suggestions to have been associated with claims of unpaid billions for subsidies of refined fuel imports that were never supplied, appropriation of hundreds of houses for self out of a few thousand for public workers, purchase of public infrastructure facilities without paying, that are also dysfunctional or the arrow head of billions worth city infrastructure development that has failed to take off. It not different at the state level, where the preceding government had stolen the resources while appearing to have worked, based on chains of loans. The succeeding government that meets up with the maturity to pay for the loans will not find it easy to believe and understand that the same party will be trustworthy for getting out of the woods. The best offer will be to ignore or exclude such party. And if the party gets ungrateful by non-remorse or even fighting, it will only be intelligent to formally engage the rascal, regardless of what he sniffs or smokes. Similarly, it will not be funny where the excuse for losing state resources is presented as including powerful individuals in the state as the private beneficiaries through cash gifts or payment for works and services that are private to them. In other words, it will be burdensome for past business mode to be understood and much less so to continue.

The essence of this wrong is that, what is public and collective cannot of surety be safe by informal handling as against formal handling. The wish, desire, implied suggestion or expectation of the resisters, the opposition, the PDP and their supporters is therefore at least MORE WRONG THAN RIGHT. The collective interests of Nigerians will be vulnerable to another experience that is expected to be corrected by the change of mandate. And it will amount to both betrayal of trust and irresponsibility on the part of the ruling party and government to take such available and unjustifiable risk.

The second wrong about what is right in the expectations of the opposition, is the isolation of the performance capacity of the government from their resistance and even sabotaging roles. The right or entitlement to attention and indeed good or better governance is not **MORE FEASIBLE** with irrational and senseless resistance.

The three opportunities to process the national budget is a typical reference for utmost display of resistance. The time wasting that is not explainable and the intrigue of engaging the executive agencies in self-serving plans and projects have become established as part of legislative culture. The preparation of zero-budget that is water-tight was never given a benefit of the doubt or opportunity for trial. The sanctioning of key members of the same ruling party that is majority in the National Assembly for petitioning budget padding or questioning the leadership for forgery of import documents or ignoring the questionable integrity of another member are terrible resistance actions **AGAINST RESPONSIBLE LEGISLATION TO SUPPORT GOOD OR IMPROVED GOVERNANCE**. The epileptic manner in which the legislature responded to the charges of non-transparency on its leadership before an anti-graft institution by initiating a sudden amendment to the law establishing it and the screening of a head of another agency was less than honourable. The total suspension of the screening of nominations for appointments to serve the country was the pointer height of determination to resist. And the experience of compelling the executive to admit its abusive budgetary amendments to immediately accommodate its constituencies funds plotting, to be made up by supplementary budgeting to follow, on two occasions, are clear indications of the desperate and obsessive commitment of the resistance forces to smooth governance experience. That is the effective benefit of the stand that Executive Budget Proposals arrive **DEAD** for breathing life into it by Appropriation. In the seventh Assembly no such experience had room. It was as cooperative as hyenas and vultures feasting on a carcass. The disagreements were very often inconsequential.

A classical case is that of the Petroleum Industry Laws. As central and critical as it relates to the poverty or prosperity of the national economy, the leadership of the legislature intermittently promised to process the laws to a conclusive end. Now that it is in its last year, it is clear that the resistance is rating its performance only in comparison to the unwilling preceding governments under the Peoples

Democratic Party. The Governance tranche that was passed, was with unintelligent clauses of making Engineering a Certificate for Leadership and Management. And when the Executive pointed out the prejudicial irrelevance, it took a different period between the two chambers to have the corrected version transmitted to the President. The speed at which the committees independently worked or that of the joint committees never matter.

A third wrong that may be out of ignorance or mischief, is the impression that governance can be better or more rewarding IF the PERSON of Muhammadu Buhari is not the leader. This is questionable on two grounds. The first is that there is nothing personal in the governance process for any leader to hold on to. The personalization of the process is always discretionally irresponsibly injected or introduced. And the clear consequence of such was the cause of most of the performance failures of the Peoples Democratic Party governments between 1999 and 2015. It is therefore Not Buhari or Whoever But the Value of the leader. The second is that replacement of the person does not necessarily give the answer of good governance. And the pointer is that Obasanjo was resisted against a shabby third term, Umaru gave in to God under controversial circumstances and Jonathan became a targeted ANYTHING BUT JONATHAN. Thus if internal replacement was of no benefit and replacement by another person outside the Peoples Democratic Party is now questionable, a return to the house is certainly not an answer. Heaping the inability or failure of the resisters, the opposition and their supporters on the person of Buhari is illogical, senseless and therefore unintelligent. And the basis is that it is the largest collective interests of all citizens that matter for attention and not that of any particular individual, individuals or group against the citizenry.

The Peoples Democratic Party along with the resisters, opposition and supporters who share these terms for defining the inability or incapacity of Muhammadu Buhari and the ruling government are OUT-RIGHTLY WRONG and not more wrong than right. In other words there is no element of right that is associable with the basis, style and activities of the opposition, to the ruling party and government and its leadership. The gamut of ignorance or mischief that may be responsible for these drawbacks must necessarily be overcome BY DISCIPLINE in knowledge and orientation of what is right, TO POSITIVELY CONNECT WITH THE RIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPROVING GOVERNANCE. Just like the All

Progressives Congress party and government has no justification whatsoever to give good governance in exclusion of the Peoples Democratic Party and the Opposition elements in the forms of internal resistors or supporters, the Peoples Democratic Party and its carriages has no moral, rational and sensible justification to claim any credentials or capacity to be either suitable or more suitable IN DENIAL of both its inhuman committal blunders and the modest recoveries by the All Progressives Congress party and government. And the inalienable basis for this is that the entire resources of Nigeria are the absolute entitlement of all Nigerians THAT ONLY INCLUDE THE FUNCTIONARIES OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES, THE MEMBERS AND GOVERNMENT. Those that are inclusive are neither the ONLY ones nor do they have SUPERIOR RIGHTS over THE REMAINING.

The perception and orientation that ALL Nigerians have only the right and duty to submit to whatever ESPECIALLY the ousted Peoples Democratic Party and its agents or masters offer to Nigerians amounts to audacity. It is informed by ignorance and arrogance. And a pointer to this was the loose expression that the party will continue to hold unto power for more than five decades. This has historically been proved wrong by its failing to get another mandate to continue after sixteen years and the established justification that it has been most abusive of the collective trust it was to manage. Two wrongs are accordingly deducible from this psychological challenge of the Peoples Democratic Party and the followers of its train. The first is that political power that is really a mandate is a burden TO CARRY OUT VISITABLE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL NIGERIANS. The obsession for power is for that reason the beginning of failure. In other words, the call or cry or fight to assume or take over power is the FIRST RESERVE OF THE ELECTORATE. Any political party, including the ruling and the opposition SHOULD acquire this award to bear the burden of responsibility BY SYMBOLIZING A SUPERIOR KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF OUR COLLECTIVE CHALLENGES AND THE REQUIRED DISCIPLINE FOR BETTER REALIZATIONS. And it is no less irresponsible for the All Progressives Congress party and government to give EVEN AN IMPRESSION that, the beneficiaries of governance should be Nigerians IN EXCLUSION of either the ELITE in general or any portion or section of the elite. No individual or group in the ruling party and government will be right to assume that, the lot of

Nigerians had suffered as such; the DUE strategy is to exclude those that had benefited in the past. It is wrong to assume that the government is for the majority of Nigerians to the exclusion of a portion just like it is wrong to assume that the government should be for the whims and caprices of a portion of Nigerians against the majority.

## **THE NECESSARY BASIS FOR NATIONHOOD**

To begin with, nobody came into this world or was born with clothes, shelter, what to eat, what to drink and the companion to be with or to belong. These are matters of existence and survival that are deliberately arranged or committed. And the relationship term is that the new born or member is REALLY ALLOWED OR GRANTED THESE by the non-refusal, non-objection or non-resistance of ALL OF OTHERS. This implied value of the equal right to life and living is further protected by different grades of sanctions against anyone including the biological bearers of the new born, IF HIS EXISTENCE OR SURVIVAL IS DEFINED AS HAVING BEEN DELIBERATELY CUT SHORT. And so, in any society where ONE single person becomes short of accessing these basics, something is unacceptably wrong or irresponsible of the society or arrangement. For instance, it is absolutely unacceptable and irresponsible for any child or children to be born with the grant of two clothes, safe shelter, nutritional foods and drinks while another one has either none or less enough to threaten existence and survival. The poverty and malnutrition across the globe is thus an indicator of human arrangements failures. And that it is VERY MUCH AVOIDABLE OR MANAGEABLE.

The first responsibility of governance is to ENSURE the sustenance of making these basics available; improving their quality in the terms of both their availability and how they are made available; expanding their quantum and spectrum in terms of variety and even types – beyond forms. For example, providing milk by breast, by powdered milk and addition of education can become part of the basics as society develops. The challenge is constant because as available deaths are minimized more members are added into the society no matter how well planners deceive themselves. The standard of basics hence continues to transform. While the scope applicable to infants differs from those of children; adolescents, adults and the aged have theirs. For example, the basic requirements for the education and

employment that will enable the optimal historical attention to this first responsibility of governance do not apply to the infants, children and the aged. This is why and how in some societies, allowances are made available to the unemployed and the aged to purchase their basics that have been effectively arranged for availability in the market. In the end, every member of the society is available or useable FOR THE SUSTENANCE OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY AND THEIR PROSPERITY.

But these provisions or performance of any society or governance IS NOT THE BEGINNING AND END OF HUMANITY. Eating, drinking, sheltering, learning, reproduction, movement or transport etc. ARE NOT THE COMPLETE CONTENT OF HUMANITY TEMPLATE. It is therefore backward for any political party and government to ignore or remain at the level of providing ROADS, BRIDGES, DRINKING WATER, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, RAIL SERVICES, POLICE, MILITARY, JUDICIAL SERVICES, ELECTRICITY, BOOSTING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, RAISING MANUFACTURING OF GOODS LIKE FERTILIZER, TEXTILES, VEHICLES, etc. In other words, to be struggling to do these along with challenges like prenatal deaths, hunger, ignorance, crimes etc. since independence IS BAD ENOUGH. If our political arrangements have successfully been clearly or more beaten by these increasing basics demands, politicians should be ashamed of sticking out their heads after a failure session. And the bankruptcy of ideas with our politicians and political platforms is evident by the poverty of ideological differences. Thus, over and over, ruling parties and governments are MORE engaged in ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT. Leadership is at best MINIMAL. Nigeria is not being taken further or beyond the level of the basics. Neither the ousted Peoples Democratic Party nor the ruling All Progressives Congress party and government have shown a clean and clear knowledge, understanding and commitment to this. This is why the ruling party and government is building credibility with catching thieves and the furthest the opposition can go is: WHAT OF THE THIEVES IN THE RULING PARTY AND GOVERNMENT? And the shameful dropping to the level of: DO NOT HARASS THE OPPOSITION LEADERS WITH CHARGES logically and sensibly cuts down its credibility. It suggests either that it is incapable of attracting non questionable members or it prefers to lead with questionable members. None of the two is responsible.

Accordingly, by the backward or below competence or wicked outings of the Peoples Democratic Party and its supporters, both the ruling party and government along with the electorate have been losing doubly. In one respect, the opposition has failed or ignored the further snail speed of the executive in carrying out governance. When it takes the Executive to the third quarter of a calendar year to present a budget for the following year and close to another six months or more to secure appropriations, the process needed not to be repeated after the 2015 experience. The incompetence or wickedness of the resisters along with the opposition has unfortunately rewarded the leader of the ruling party and government with the courage to publicly admit to slow pace of movement and that it is not always the best. But, he covered the truth that, slow pace of movement is not denied for some times but is not justifiable for most of the times. And the justifiable basis for this objection is that, the growing challenges of governance that should affect the people cannot be stemmed down by waiting. In-between this dilemma is the intellectual competence along with sincerity of both parties. Thus, the second and bigger loser is the polity that gets lately, poorly or never served for the dividends it gave the mandate to the ruling party and government.

### **THE NECESSARILY SUPERIOR BASIS FOR NATIONHOOD**

Ideas, Principles and Values MUST ALWAYS BE THE BEDROCK UPON WHICH OUR SOCIETY, OUR NATIONHOOD AND OUR HUMANITY must rest. These, must be KNOWN and LIVED by all by the insurance of the leaders. Like the example of right to life, even ignoramus of law LIVE without or not to abuse another person's right to life. And when it does happen, in addition to ignorance not being an excuse, the abuser does not expect or get assistance from any person. And the leaders, through judicial instruments sanction the abuser beyond any resistance he may or can put up. Thus, it is the LIVING that is the ultimate orientation that is required. For clarity, men do not, cannot and need not Live roads, foods, drinks, houses, cars, trains, farms, schools, etc. It is Ideas, Principles and Values that are lived.

In Nigeria, we have our Constitution. There is nowhere in the document or such document of any society or nation that will list the basics for the citizens to be attended to by the government or leaders. It will express ideas, principles and values that must drive the history of the people. And they are often universal to the



extent of covering ALL members safely for EXISTENCE, SURVIVAL AND PROSPERITY, even as it recognizes, respects and protects differences that will not abuse the collectivity. But every citizen does not require to be a lawyer or a barrister in constitutional law to fit in. This is because it is the ideas, the principles and values that require to be lived. Law, lawyers and adjudication come in only when citizens conflict in the material mode of LIVING them.

But, there is a minimum standard or requirement for every adult citizen. And it is packaged in the NATIONAL ANTHEM and THE PLEDGE. It is the MOTOR for living the entire constitution. This motor is spared with immaterial or spiritual parts or values or principles that are for living by the citizens in the landscape known as Nigeria. The members that are called upon, is with respect, to assume the commendable status of COMPATRIOTS. This is a meltdown concept irrespective of mother tongue, region, religion or name for the qualification of every member that qualifies as a Nigerian citizen as defined in the constitution. And the caller is not a human being or a spirit but NIGERIA, that symbolizes a land of decent and voluntary people with an immediate reality and unfolding positive future. This collection of people with a common identity of goodness and for goodness have a common calling, to SERVE our FATHERLAND. This is an invitation to be committed to a common claim and source that produced us. The land is the father, therefore NOT the land of the father of any of us or even the land of our different or various fathers. This birth is superior to our biological relationship. And the instruments required that will enable each one, a collection of us and all of us to achieve this common value are LOVE, STRENGTH AND FAITH. We are to care, strongly and believing in Nigeria. This is consistent with what those before us (HEROES) successfully laid, that we are now enjoying. We will be failing them if we fail to build on the fruits of their labour that we now live on. Our love can only become true if we NEVER allow their labour and achievements to be in vain. Accordingly we shall serve with our HEART AND MIGHT, because we love and have the strength, given our faith in Nigeria. The ultimate goal is NATIONHOOD where the members are civilly bound in FREEDOM, PEACE AND UNITY. These are the foundation ideas for every Nigerian's citizenship and what any political party and leaders MUST, SYMBOLIZE, UPHOLD, PROMOTE AND PROTECT.

As a country of faithfals or believing men and women in ONE Almighty God, we are required and accordingly submit to Him, to direct our Course that is

undoubtedly NOBLE. This has taken care of our faith. We are not a people, a country or nation of faithlessness or pretend that God has no business in our affairs. The individuals or groups who will bear faith in God and also or proceed to restrain or exclude our beingness from religion or morality are less than our requirement for nationhood. This is because the call upon God to GUIDE our leaders RIGHT, help our youths the TRUTH to Know, in LOVE and HONESTY to grow, in order to live JUST and TRUE for building on what our past heroes have laid TO BUILD A NATION WHERE PEACE AND JUSTICE SHALL REIGN, is a declaration of submission to Him. In Nigeria, the Ideas we have chosen for ourselves for existence, survival and prosperity are to be driven by the principles outlined WITH THE HELP OF GOD.

Accordingly, when a leader takes oath of Office, he is summarily reminded and committed by pronouncing the Pledge. That he submits to Nigeria, with Faith, Loyalty and Honesty. To Serve with all his Strength, in defence of her Unity, that her Honour and Glory will be held UP. And Almighty God is invoked to help.

It is interesting to specifically further note that, the majority of believers who are Nigerians are further blessed with either the LORD'S PRAYER or the SEVEN OFT REPEATED VERSES, as Christians or Muslims. And these do not conflict, contradict or oppose the Constitution or the National Anthem.

But how many of our politicians, leaders, technocrats, philosophers, businessmen, teachers, students, religionists are conversant with the National Anthem? How many can even sing it? How many can recite it? How many have cared to understand it? How many have imbibed it to drive their disposition and orientation? How many believe in it? For the rascals who will claim that their religion is superior, since there is no contradiction between the two, How positive is the result of their relationship with the Lord's Prayer or the Seven oft repeated verses, when the same questions are put to the person? For example, in the case of the political leaders who are Muslims, how many of them know that prayer (*Istikhara*) to consult Allah for guidance in every major affair? How many of them use it?

Thus, religion or Islam and Christianity are not obstacles to our Nationhood. Indeed they are opportunities for stronger, more meaningful and fulfilling

Nationhood. Unfortunately the Ignorance of those who refuse to find out to know, is the generator of the Exploitation of both of those who refuse to find out to know along with the greater Ignorance of those who lack the capacity or skill to even know by those who feed fat on this, by claiming to know or assumed to know. This is the tragedy of our history. It is displayed by Believers in name who are ignorant or careless about their BELIEFS asking God from time to time, when they run into need or crises WITHOUT BEARING ANY GODLINESS and supported by religionists who do not know, recognize, appreciate and commit themselves to tenets THAT DO NOT CONTRADICT JUSTICE, FREEDOM PEACE AND UNITY for our nationhood. This is unfortunately, the complexity of our bankruptcy LIVING or DISCIPLINE in spite of our more than rich Ideas and Principles base. Our religion and constitution have not been embraced.

If our leaders are to be what we can be, the UNITY, PEACE AND PROGRESS of Nigeria will NOT be difficult for both the Executive and the Legislature to pursue. The colours of party identity will not be a risk or threat to whoever is the President. The electorate will not suffer the confusion between voting for honourable candidates irrespective of the party background because the President should get easy support for his bills. But the truth about competence for nationhood is IRRESPECTIVE OF COLOURS. Because the President can make mistakes or even commit wrongs, he requires checks from WHATEVER COMPETENT SOURCE, whether from within or outside his party. In other words, have a different party from that of the President to be in the majority should not make nationalism hopeless. That is why independent candidature is not a mad idea. But, where a party chief can get drunk and expect that instructing his members to act in disregard for what we all stand for and are pursuing, we are closer to animals than humans. Where the opposition will not strongly support what is right for the nation because its craze is to have its turn, we are not on the course of nationhood. What is required for instance is that after elections on different party platforms, on getting to the legislature, EVERY AND ALL MEMBERS WILL BECOME EMBODIMENTS OF THE SAME IDEAS, PRINCIPLES AND VALUES IN THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND COMPETE IN ENSURING THAT THE EXECUTIVE REMAINS ON THE SAME COURSE. The responsibility of the electorate is to get the best men into the government by awarding their mandate. These men do not have to be on the same political platform. And both the

Executive and the Legislature have openings for engaging similar good or competent men who have no partisan leanings to give helping hand.

These characteristics failure is responsible for the pervasive IMMORTALITY across our leaders and followers, always edging towards the option of ANYTHING BUT THE PRESENT. This weakness of giving up is Not of Compatriots. The Nationhood that we all cry for cannot be approached without common values. It cannot be attained without universal discipline that envelops or accommodates all of us. It is therefore foolhardy to suggest that one individual or group is the answer to the challenges of all AS IF ALL OF THOSE THAT ARE NEITHER THE INDIVIDUAL NOR GROUP ARE MERE PUNS LIKE THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE GROUP TO THE SELF APPOINTED FOOL.

Education is therefore the cardinal call by responsibility and duty, for national orientation. The political parties must constantly engage in this, whether they are in power or not. Public institutions must make it a duty to introduce and entrench this. Individuals, families and religious groups must promote knowledge, education and the discipline of godliness. Because no religious leader is God or the bearer of the scripture that is referenced for guidance, following must not be like a herd of sheep. And the justification for this is that the leaders are fallible. The distinction between what is right and wrong is determined by knowledge and the guidance of God – no matter how many false bearers of the truth appear. And one example is that an insane can claim to have been instructed spiritually to marry his sister and a false priest can accept to join them in marriage. But Jesus can intervene by children of God resisting it. Individuals and voluntary or independent organizations have this urgent responsibility to take up.

The level and quality of this education at any time in point is the basis for possible discipline that can sustain our developmental efforts. Anything less will be less fulfilling because it will not be based on common understanding and aspiration. We shall opportune our society, politics, economy and culture to a superior, safer and prosperous level with education for Reorientation – TO BE WHAT WE CLAIM AND PROSPER FOR.