

The Political-Economy of Nigeria's National Insecurity: An Examination of the Fourth Republic

JOSHUA, Segun Ph.D. and OLANREWAJU, Ilemobola Peter

**Department of Political Science and International Relations, Covenant University, P.M.B.
1023 Ota, Ogun State.**

E-mail: segun.joshua@covenantuniversity.edu.ng, joshuasegun2003@yahoo.com

Tel: 08051671086

Abstract

National security has always been a major concern of every country in the world. This is why leaders of countries of the world can go to any length to secure life and property of its citizenry as well as the geographical boundaries of their countries. In addition, political leaders across the globe always handle with urgency and decisively any domestic violence capable of threatening the national security of their countries. Nigeria has been a theatre of violent conflicts with some of the conflicts and violence threatening the security of the country. Anchored on the political-economy approach, with heavy reliance on secondary data, the study examines the political and economic motivations of perpetrators of insecurity in the country with a particular focus on the Fourth Republic. The study finds that contrary to the notion that ethnic and religious differences are the major causes of insecurity in Nigeria, political and economic gains are of greater causative factors of insecurity in the country. The study recommends among others, the need to cut down on privileges attached to political offices so as to minimize violent contest associated with same. This will invariably reduce insecurity problems in the country.

Keyword: National Security, Insecurity, Political-Economy, Nigeria, Fourth Republic