The Role of Citizen Journalism in Addressing the Bokoharam Insurgency in Nigeria

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Abstract
This paper is aimed at examining how citizen journalism, can curb the current security challenges posed by Boko-Haram Insurgency in Nigeria. The study also explored the relevance of collaborative journalism in Nigeria's news industry. The objective is to bring to bear where citizen and professional journalism are collaborating to make news available in Nigeria, especially as it involves curbing Boko-Haram insurgency. This paper will apply some theoretical approaches, to explain the public sphere theory of Jorgen Habermas and network public sphere of Yachia Benkler with emphasize on their relevance to the concept of citizen journalism. Secondly, it will look at its motivating factors and how citizen journalism can provide possible solutions to the terror in the society. It will also looked at the perspective to make recommendations that will enable the professional journalists and media organizations to incorporate citizen journalism into the mainstream media.

INTRODUCTION

The advent of press freedom has given rise to unprecedented usages of mass media by citizen journalism. Community dwellers and societies around the globe were become more united and strong. The mass media has served essential functions in the society by accepting and fulfilling certain obligation to the society. In accepting and applying these obligations of citizen journalism, the element of mass media must be self-regulating, within the framework of law and established institutions.

Citizen journalism thereby communicates with the technological means of sounding information, ideas and opinions from a mass communicator to a complex audience. It is agreed that the mass media has been infiltrated by some unqualified individuals with their different

political agenda's, other than to serve the nation and various crisis imposed by the Boko-Haram terror in the nation.

However, information gathering and reporting are advancing from the confines of the traditional mass media to what scholars called cybersphere. The concept of cybersphere is to involve the idea of citizen participation in cyberspace (Banda, 2010:26). Citizen journalism is a rapidly evolving journalism where common citizens take the idea to news or express views of happening within their community. Because of its freedom and accessibility, the traditional media outlet has entered cyberspace to maintain relevance or to remain relevant. The security challenges post by Boko-Haram insurgency in Nigeria have been subject of contentions. Boko-Haram is an Islamic sect of militants in Nigeria's northern region like Kano, Plateau, Borno, Adamawa and Yobe State. The sect has coursed terror in Nigeria and Nigerians, in which over 3000 people have been reportedly died in separate attacks carried out by the group, like other terrorist organization in the world.

Religion seems to be at the core of Boko-Haram's socio-political and revolutionary agenda. It is in relations to this development that these study seeks to explore the significance of citizen journalism, in not only reporting news about Boko-Haram and its activities but tasking Nigerian leaders to transparency and legitimate practice on how insurgency can be curbed.

This study will apply two theoretical approaches which explain the public sphere theory of Jorgen Habermax and network public sphere of Yochia Benkler with emphasize on their relevance to the concept of citizen journalism. We look at Boko-Haram and its motivating factors in an attempt to evaluate the circumstances behind Boko-Haram insurgency in Nigeria and how factors as region, politic and socio economic may have affected the activities of the sect. Bearing in mind the relevance of mass media in national development, we will also analyze Boko-Haram and the media, with emphasis on the use of citizen media as sources of information for both Boko-Haram and professional media. The general public thereby accesses the reliability of their performances in insurgency management and resolution through information dissemination and gathering.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

In view of these, the following definition of terms have been adopted for this study.

- **Citizen Journalism:** Bowman and Willis (2003) and Gant (2007), refer to Citizen Journalism as the capacity of an ordinary citizen to play a vital role in the process of gathering, investigating, report, and sharing information. It means any undertaking by the people who are not professionally trained or employed as journalists to post news or information based on actual surveillance, research inquiry, study of examination.
- **Terrorism:** According to Schmid (2009) cited in Watson, (2012:466), terrorism is a doctrine of the presumed effectiveness of a special form or tactic of fear, generating, coercive political violence and on the other hand, to a conspiratorial practice of calculated, demonstrative, direct violence action without legal or moral restraints, targeting mainly civilians and non-combatants, performed for its propagandistic and psychological effects on various audiences and conflict parties.
- **Boko-Haram:** Adesoji (2010) posits the name "Boko-Haram" as the sect out of external view of its belief. As a Hausa world, 'Boko' means school and more appropriately western education and 'Haram' drawn from Arabic means forbidden, ungodly or sinful. Literally, Boko-Haram means "western form of education is not good", but its interpretation is western education is sinful, sewilegious or ungodly and should be forbidden (Adesoji, 2010). Although, a statement allegedly released in 2009 by an acting leader, Mallam Sanni Umaru rejects the meaning of Boko-Haram as western education is sin, Boko-Haram actually means "western civilization is forbidden". The difference, according to him is that

the former, gives the impression that they are opposed to formal education coming from the west… which he says they are not while the later affirm their belief in the supremacy of Islamic culture (not education), for culture is broader, it includes education but not determined by western education (Onuoha, 2012:12) potentially, the section is not only opposed to western education but preached outright rejection of western civilization and modern science.

- **The sect:** The sect's leader who prefers the group to be addressed as Jama'atu Ahlis surma Lidda'awatiwal-Jihad (people committed to the propagation of the prophets teaching and Jihad seeks to enthrone an Islamic Nigeria, which will be guided by Sharia Law. Boko-Haram's leader, Mohammed Yusuf is credited to tracing societal vices in Nigeria today to the entrance of western education and governance guided by western practice.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Two theoretical approaches have been adopted to examine how citizen journalism would be able to curb the current security challenges posed by Boko-Haram insurgency in Nigeria by applying this theory; the public sphere and the network public sphere theory.

i) Public Sphere Theory

It is imperative at these point to look at the concept of public sphere theory. The theory can be described as an arrangement of discussion that guaranty Myriad contributions from all involved without hindrance. This idea was capitalized by Jurgen Herbermas in an attempt to describe ideal democratic system where emphasis is based on participation and increase self-development of the governed (Kellner, 2000; Papacharissi, 2002; Deane 2005; Antony and Thomas, 2010). Warren (1995) wrote that the public sphere is the area in which individuals participate in discussions about matters of public concern in an atmosphere free of intimidation or dependencies (inequality) that would induce individuals toward compliance or silence (Warren 1995, pg 171 cited in Robert 2012).

However, individuals come together to create, deliberate, preserve and celebrate a good live in common. This was and it is still being practiced today, the significance for each individual freedom to participate in policy formation and implementation as a member of a community.

Public in these regard apply idea of citizenship commonality, and things not private but accessible and observably by all (Papacharissi, 2002, p 10). Kellner (2000) opines that, the public thus presupposed freedoms of speech and assembly a free press, and the right to freely participate in political debate and discussion making (p.5). The freedom that characterized these assembly brackets inequality such that the authority of a better argument could be win out over social hierarchy.

According to Anthony and Thomas (2010, p. 1283) said consensus therefore is rarely enduring to make a meaningful impact in a society full of differences and as such consensus is always a ceasefire in a world crises crossed by ongoing conflict.

At the core of these conflicts lies the significance of mass media in the struggle for the extension of citizenship right as agenda sitter. The emergence of the mass media was widely celebrated, for it pleads for a participatory and citizen-oriented approach to information and communication. Although as the need for financial consciousness grew, mass media soon become a means for the state (Kellner, 2000). The privatizing forces of capitalism create mass commercial cultures that replace the public sphere (Carey, 1995 cited in Papa Charissi 2002). The consumeristic tendencies that infiltrated society at this period polarized the culture of active participation as greater where more concern about consumption of media product than political action.

Public opinion and consensus, thus was no longer formed in the free public debate, but not administrated as part of policy administration and social control of the political, commercial

and media elites according to pre-determine personal equity. For Habermas, the role of media transmute from facilitating national discuss to those themes certified by media corporations. Hence, the interconnection between a range of public debate and individuals participation rift and transform into that of government news and exhibition, where citizen and consumer ingest and integrate passively entertainment and information (Kellner, 2000). A reply to this shortcoming is the needs for more inclusive discussion in the public sphere makes the concept of "network information economy" of Yuchai Benkler very appropriate for these study.

ii)   The Network Public Sphere

The superiority of the network public sphere over mass mediated public sphere in this regard cannot be based simply on the ability of the web to give voice (Robert, 2009) However, to avoid unproductive public opinion what Benkler calls Babel objection. The network must satisfy its capacity of meeting five criteria. (i) It must be open to everyone. (ii) It must show itself capable of filtering. (iii) It must have sources of accrediting reliable information. (iv) It must be capable of blending disparate individual opinions into coherent public opinion. (v) It must be independent of government control (Bankler, 2006 cited in Robert 2009). In this regard, it can be concluded that the network public sphere may be an honest advancement of Habermas' public sphere, as it tries to strike a balance between the speaker and the listener, making it possible for different argument to be articulated and reasoned.

In addition, communication has a dialogic structure guided by a mutual expectation of uptake which often brings diverse and clear approach to issues of national importance (Bowman, 2004: 1339 cited in Moe, 2008: 324). Explaining the global importance of the network, volkmer (nd) affirms that the network is a public sphere in which the public and its opinion is no longer a substantial element of one society, but a global public sphere, which did not only serves the public and the state, but is common between state and extra-societal, global community (cited in Sparks, 2005:43). The networked public sphere in this light may better correct the idea of exclusion raised by some critics (example Fraser (1990). With the network in place everyone has the same opportunity to contribute to deliberations provided he/she has access to the network. It brackets the potential glut of "inferiority complex" resulting from social status, age difference, gender parity etc within discursive arena.

Further, Papacharissi (2002) contends that since online technologies are only accessible and used by, a small fraction of the population, this contributes to an electronic public sphere that is excusive, elitist and far from ideal not different from the bourgeois public sphere of the 17th and 18th centuries (Paracharissi, 2002: 12). Robert (2009) also argues that a new form of society and collectivity would best describe the process that Benkler is analyzing.

THE CONCEPT OF CITIZEN JOURNALISM

The concept of citizen journalism signifies an attempt to name the freedom provided by the network technology for individuals to become news producers and publishers. Ross and Cormier (2010) wrote that citizen journalism gather, process, research, report, analyze and publish news and information, most often utilizing a variety of technologies made possible by the internet (Ross and Cormier, 2010:66) to communicate to a large community.

The notion of citizen journalism has highlighted how Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have offered significant opportunities for media production and information dissemination outside the confines of established journalism, and thus for bypassing the gatekeepers of the traditional media business (Hintz, 2012). Citizen journalism therefore refers to the capacity of an ordinary citizen to play a vital role in the process of gathering, investigating, report, and sharing information. It means any undertaking by the people who are not professionally trained or employed as journalists to post news or information based on actual surveillance, research inquiry, study of examination (Bowman and Willis 2003; Gant, 2007). The intent of this participation is to provide independent reliable,

accurate, wide-ranging and relevant information that democracy requires (Bowman and Willis 2003:10). Citizen journalism in that it is produced by amateurs, often with less editing and less rigor (Kaufhold, Valenzuela and Gil de Zuniga, 2010). Citizen journalism practice interestingly, is not limited to contact creation by ordinary people but could include activities like reposting, linking, tagging, rating, modifying or commenting upon communication materials posted by others or professional news outlet (Goode, 2012:1288). Although, internet technology is the motivating factor to citizen journalism practice. Goode affirms that it does induce offline method where broadcast news incorporates eyewitness footage from all cell phone. He contends that reporting stories originally broken by citizen journalism initiatives on the web or even guess reporter slots in which citizen features and help in packaging an issue for transmission newscast, quality as citizen journalism.

The advancement in the social networking system (facebook, tweeter, youtube, etc) has drastically encouraged political participation in Nigeria and the world at large without boundaries. Users have the freedom to have organized forum where issues of public importance are discussed.

SOCIAL MEDIA
Social media are veritable tools of citizen journalism. The outstanding social media used in Nigeria includes facebook, twitter and youtube; social network sites integrate personal networks of members in an online environment, allowing registered users to contact friends of friends. The freedom and perhaps the low cost of communication offered by its enables members to post and share different kinds of content, including photos, music, diaries, messages and videos (Vender Wurff, 2008:69). Social media is centered on the concept of a read-write web, where the online audience moves beyond passive viewing web content to actually contributing to the content (Sweeter and Larisey, 2008:179 cited in Water et al, 2010:247). Facebook in Nigeria like everywhere in the world, has become a virtual community which enables users to interact and communicate salient public information. As noted earlier, it was a potent source of communicating during fuel subsidy protest of January 2012.

The use of smart phones is making information easily circulated on social networks as it unfolds. For the fact that is constitutes the highest community of online users, facebook becomes a veritable tool to create first hand information about what is happening in the local or even global community. People could access news about Boko Haram insurgency, for example, on facebook, twitter and YouTube. During crisis people take pictures to document the event and sharing photos in such situations could be informative newsworthy, and therapeutic (Liu et al, 2008). To create awareness of the security challenges in Nigeria, members of the public seek accurate and reliable information and post findings on facebook; twitter or YouTube. Boko Haram too on its part has used the social media to send message across to the public about their activities and beliefs.

Citizen Journalism with all its benefits and attributes may be seen as the affairs of the privileged individuals who have what it take to embrace the freedom it brings. Some factors have significantly attributed to the ineffective practice of citizen journalism in Nigeria to be able to curb the insurgency. They include; illiteracy, poverty/unemployment, dearth of infrastructure, declining cultural values, etc it could also be called the digital divide, which is based on insufficient infrastructure, high cost of access, inappropriate or weak economic and social benefits from information intensive activities (Wolff and Mackinnon, 2002)

THE CULTURE OF INTERACTIVE JOURNALISM
Nigeria, was permanent in 2001, when global system for mobile communication (GSM) was launched. That was when journalists started utilizing short message service (SMS) to back the news to their colleagues in the offices. SMS is a service offered by network provider s that

allows customers to send text message over their cell phones. It was in…. significant for broadcast media journalists who started using the service to send a signal of evolving news scoop to their employer for timeless. Today, the use of SMS to break news is common to everyone who can utilize it. The improvement in mobile phones now makes events to be easily captured as it is unfolding. Before internet facilities begun to be eminent in Nigerian public sphere, SMS was used to organize group meeting among folks, send signal to far areas and was impressive in seeking for support during election.

BOKO-HARAM EMERGENCE

The account of an emergence of military Islamic group known as Boko-Haram is mired in controversy. Writers and critics have different accounts of its origin in Nigeria. Mu'azu (2011) for instance, write that the Mohammed Yusuf's idea, the first leader of Boko-Haram arose from the concerns of some Muslim families about western thought, dress and politics and their impact on the Nigerian society.

In this desire to correct, what he sees as "the negative impact of western culture on the society" he built school and Mosque to inculcate Islamic religious moral values devoid of western acculturation (Mu'azu, 2011:16). In a similar vein, Danjibo traces the emergence of the group to 2911, when Mohammed Yusuf organized a group known as the Yusuf Fiyya Yusuf, regarded as the initiator of what is today Boko-Haram, had gone to study Quran in the neighbouring Chad and Niger Republic where he developed radical views that were adherent to westernization and modernization (Danjibo, 2009: 6). His radicals and provocative preaching was at variance with other Islamic scholars but attracted followers as much as 28,000. His teaching gained acceptance among the youth, who are largely Almajeri and University Undergraduates in the north eastern state of Borno and Yobe of Nigeria.

The accounts of Boko-Haram's origin are murky, two major factors are common. Firstly, Boko-Haram started as a non-violent movement. Secondly, philosophy is rooted in the practice of Orthodox Islam – the perceived only way to ensure society free of corruption and westernization (Danjibo, 2009; Onuoha, 2012). Another points, which could be taken from these accounts is the idea of radicalism and fundamentalism. This largely informed the origin of the sector even as a peaceful organization was driven by an ideology or a view of Islam different from other Islamic devices.

However, the existence of Boko-Haram sect became a subject of serious local and international concern in July 2009 when it successfully carried out an anti-government revolt. Government forces cracked down the sect in a very violent manner and many members of the group were arrested and Yusuf, the then leader of the sect was killed. Many of its members were jailed and their houses and worship places destroyed. The forces that greeted these confrontations by Nigerian security forces were thought to have devastated the actual formation of the group. Meanwhile, several hundreds of people dies in the uprising (office of coordinator for counterterrorism, 2011 cited in Thompson 2012:52).

Membership of Boko-Haram is highly diffused as the sect's hierarchy may have learnt from previous experiences, especially the massive killing of its members in 2009 (Thompson, 2012). The exact members nine of its members are not known, although its followers cut across the 19 states of northern Nigeria, Niger Republic and Sudan (Onuoha, 2012). The sect member cut across all spectrum of society but a majority of members come from the poorest group (Adesoji, 2012). Boko-Haram insurgency therefore is largely sustained from the widely dispersed almajiri practice of Islamic order. The word Almajiri is derived from the Arabic. Almuhajiru; meaning and emigrants (Dambuzu, 2012). It is usually referred to a person who migrates from the luxury of his home to other places or to a popular teacher in the quest for Islamic knowledge.

In any organization that believes in a particular agenda, source of existence first start with members by tasking self to create a meaningful and sustaining awareness from which external funding could be attracted from supporters and well-wishers. Boko-Haram may have started in the same manner before rising to be called a sect. The capacity of the sect to mount audacious attacks in Nigeria is certainly an indication of increasing rate of support and funding from people who share the same sentiments as them. Consequently, the increase in frequency of its attacks, the coordination and the geographical reach is generating serious concern over the sources of funding Boko-Haram. Analysts hold the opinions that Boko-Haram may have affiliations with international terrorist groups like Al-Qaeda and Al shebaab. (Onuoha, 2011:112). Therefore citizen journalism in Nigeria needs the cooperation of the global journalist in curbing the insurgency of Boko-Haram in Nigeria.

MOTIVATING FACTORS OF BOKO-HARAM

Many factors could be identified as motivating the spread of Boko-Haram activities in Nigeria but three connecting factor are evident, one of these are: political, socio-economic and religious factors. Many observers argue the operations of Boko-Haram to be purely religious. To others it is a socio-economic problem and some attributed the insurgency to political gaming. All these factors are interrelated and work hand in hand with the other. It is extremely difficult to talk about the political factor of Boko-Haram without relating it to socio-economic and religious factors. The role that partisan and political patronage played in the sustenance of Boko-Haram is obvious (Adesoji, 2010).

Conflict is the "bread and butter of journalism" (Owen-Ibe, 2002:32, cited in Popoola, 2012:49) and the way it is reported make great impact in the public sphere of any society. Terrorism, as a societal problem has been a dark feature of human behaviour, it has been with the world of centuries and has also been a threat to global peace and security. In Nigeria today, terrorism is a challenge when discussing about terrorist groups, initial clarification needs be made. Judging from the tactics of Boko-Haram, sects and its reliance on the shadow of anonymity, to perpetrate violence. Citizen journalism will find it very difficult to gather vital information that will curb the terror with these factors involve in its operation.

The threat of Boko-Haram Insurgency therefore media professionals who report on the activities of the group have suffered attacks intimidation and some killed, all in an effort to get first-hand information on the operation of the sect. Issues around public security and community safety, especially in a multicultural, ethnic and religious society like Nigeria, are among the most difficult to mediate for journalists. Nigeria operates a plural media system in which both the public and the privately owned media exist side-by-side (Popoola, 2012). This arrangement largely influences the way Boko-Haram Insurgency is made public, thus some media outlets have more information about the sect than the others. The leadership collected mobile numbers of journalist they have trusted and always bend information about the sect through such journalists. It is common among media outlets to determine which news about Boko-Haram to report. Observers say the Bombing of This Day Newspaper Offices in Abuja and Kaduna may not be unconnected with the styles of journalism of the industry. In management opinion, this seemingly is an opinion held by most Nigeria. This Day Newspaper present event in a more objective stance thus reduces the type of sympathy the sect would want to attract from its actions. Such manner of journalism is what Boko-Haram detests.

For instance, the Daily Trust Newspaper has been alleged to have a more slant reportage about the sect such that gains it constant access to the sect. There may not be enough evidence to substantiate this claim but observers say new about Boko-Haram activities on Daily Trust Newspaper is given the background of poverty, bad governance and corruption, perhaps in a way that seemingly justified the operation of the sect.

More so, media technologies have drastically transformed journalism to encompass greater accessibility of people generally referred as former audience on issues and events that make new (Gillmor, 2006). As journalism undergoes profound changes for social, economic and technological reasons it avails itself the opportunity to embrace the reality of the changing audience and make it an all-inclusive affair (Bekett, 2008). The idea of citizen journalism here does include the mainstream media's capacity of incorporate or provide a participatory network that offers the opportunity for collaborative engagement. In relation to Boko-Haram insurgency in Nigeria, citizen journalism tools have been significantly used by both Boko-Haram and individuals to publicize the operations of the sect. Since the cardinal objective of terrorists is to create fear, Boko-Haram has posted threatening massage on YouTube that have always formed media source of fact. In all the various attacks of Boko-Haram, mainstream media have received pictures and videos of such event through an individual who either was a victim of the attacks or was at the place at the right time the incident occurred. Simon (2008) identifies three different angles by which citizen journalist covering acts of terrorism could be engaged. First, as a victim that is caught up in the event; second as a bystander that is at the 'right place' at the 'right time' or third, someone who travels to the scene of an act of terror in order to specifically cover it. The first two categories, according to Simons, capture those who are journalists by virtue of being at the proximity of event, the third category demonstrates an individual(s) who deliberately seek to cover an event in order to independently and reliably analyze and report such events to the people.

This development could have potential implication for the mainstream media but it could also be a "right peg in a right pole" in that mainstream media will never miss an important event. Although the citizen journalists may lack training he/she may possess a great deal of enthusiasm which could be a double edged sword. Reports package badly, actions of citizen reporter may make the work of professional journalist more difficult but could complement and add to the information available to media outlets, if work is done well (Simons, 2008). Boko-Haram's Christmas Day bombing 2011, Unbuilding attacks, police Headquarters attacks were first reported by individuals who were at the scene. The citizen not only broke the news through social media but helped the professional journalist to rise to the information through further investigation, interpretation and analysis. In the same manner, the 7/7/2005 London Bombing, was reported through citizen journalism.

With events happening largely underground, far removed from the eyes of the media professionals, the mobile phones camera came into its own, helping illustrate the day's horrific events in a way that would not have been possible before. The public's photos of the bus with its roof blown off helped confirm this was a bomb and not a power surge, as London underground has first suggested. Dramatic stills and video sequences from passengers on the tube trains led the BBC six O'clock News bulletin, the first time such material had been deemed more news worthy that professional material (Douglas, 2006).

Citizen not only conveyed the choking, claustrophobic atmosphere but also provided evidence, helping identify the time of the explosion Douglas says, citizen journalist thus encourage people to submit photos, video and other news worthy materials to the media for publication (Barnett and Reynolds, 2009). Similarly, citizen eye witness accounts about Boko Haram attached have in many occasions served as sources of fats to traditional mass media in Nigeria. News media and Boko Haram have used the social networks like Facebook, Twitter and youtube to chronicle news within the Nigeria society and beyond. With youtube, it has become incredibly possible for the world news about Boko Haram to be accessed (e.g Aljazeera). Any suspected possible attacks of Boko-Haram have (most times) entered Nigerian Public Sphere though the social media. In this regard, it can be argued that the internet has

empowered most Nigerians to be responsible to issues of national concern; for coming out a word, I call it individual journalism.

Individuals, today, use mobiles connected camera phone to capture new even and send to news organizations or citizen bloggers for publications. For example, citizens who witnessed the policemen attempting to donate bomb stacked into a bag, upload the video of the incident when the police officer was eventually killed by the bomb. Many people also published it on facebook from which tradition media carried the news.

Also, the Boko-Haram bombing of Catholic Church on 25th December, 2011 was filmed and uploaded on social networks by citizen within the area with a mobile connected camera phone from where must Nigerians knew about the incident. Channels TV broke the news from tips given by eyewitness after which reporters begun to send pictures and videos to their offices. No matter how poor the quality of such pictures or video might be it still made newsworthy. The Dana plane crash that happened on 3rd June, 2012 in Nigeria also came to limelight through citizen on social networks. A concerned Nigerian who responded to article on a blog titled "sorrow" tears and blood published by the Sun Newspaper (4th June, 2012). Nwoefe cited….

And again, during this period people filming the dead bodies could be blame because local TV station was unable to broadcast the incident live. Most people got to know about the incident first through blackberries. During the hours of the incident when the plane was burning, NTA was showing horse race; AIT was showing Football, STV-breaking show, channels Bible study, on CNN, we were getting report on the crashed plane; what a country! (Sun newspaper 4th June, 2012) Nwoefe quoted.

CONCLUSION

The paper has shown that citizen journalism really influences Nigerian public sphere, the tools involved in disseminating information or news about Boko haram insurgency and other security challenges in Nigeria. It is undoubtful that media coming directly from the grassroots or eyewitness would further authenticate journalistic endeavors where the traditional media practitioners to collaborate with citizen journalism to inform and report news on issues which affect the nation. Citizen journalism can provide an alternative view of issues, spark discussion and introduce controversy that may be avoided by government controlled mass media; its news can be accurate, different and baseless. It could fragment the fragmented society in that people can utilize it tools to groom ideological and radical beliefs that are authentical to the peace and mutual co-existence of other members of the society. Thus, Boko Haram may have used the privileges of citizen journalism to plan and strategies its attacks on Nigeria and Nigerian to their advantage.

The paper also reveals that, Boko Haram provides information about its activities through the citizen media, which is YouTube, Twitter, facebook and other website, which in many occasion, serve as source of news for mass media outlets, the prevalent problem of digitalization cuts majority from information gathering system since few members of the citizen have access to good mobile phone that contain enormous of these provided website. In addition, the twin bomb blast that occurred in Nyanya area of Abuja last month were confrontations aimed a testing the will of the Federal Government. It was also reported that the twin bomb blasts in Jos terminus market as well as the attack on football viewing centre in Jos and recent abduction of over 200 school girls from a school in Chibok, Borno State were against all know principle in human relations. All these reports and photo concerning the incident has been noted by the citizens, in the area before the arrival of the professional journalists.

RECOMMENDATION

Insecurity and insurgence cases in Nigerian has gone so far and clipped the society image in a big mod among other nations in the world. Boko-Haram's operation is potentially

encouraged by three (3) interrelated factors as mentioned earlier which could directly dealt with, on the basis of the right

1) counter-terrorism strategy; informed by the clear understanding of the group's strategic intent, radical modification of the political and religious behaviour of the Northern political and religious leaders as well as the sincerity of government to provide go governance, create employment, tackle corruption and poverty.

2) Citizen journalism in Nigeria is a product of both African Indigenous communication that must involves town crier, visitation, use of market place, to reveal strategies and plans of Boko-Haram to enable government provide possible solution that will curb the insurgency.

3) Citizen journalism in Nigeria society is therefore must be a combination of unique mass mediated communication system (radio and TV because of its heterogeneous reach; transcends illiteracy), citizens journalism (because of it freedom, immediacy and ubiquity).

4) Citizen can easily report vividly where and when the incidence occur and their hideout to the professionals through photo, phone calls or text messages. According to report, the unabated wave of terrorism being perpetrated by the Islamist militant group, Boko Haram, across Nigeria lately is alarming. According to the common unique issued on Sunday in Abuja, it was suggested that the president should endeavor to introduce the reactivation of CCTV surveillance camera in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and installation of secret camera on all Nigerian roads to detect vehicles carrying explosive devices. It is regrettable that Nigeria is gradually been torn into shreds. These paper therefore, suggest that professional journalists should collaborate in full-force with the citizen too curbing the menace of terrorism and Boko-Haram in insurgency in Nigeria, Africa and the world at large.

I will at this point suggest that, in reporting terror insurgence, professionals in the field should employ civic culture and engagement to make up rational public sphere, these medium which basically reflects the notion of citizen its medium to checkmate and inform the professional journalists the occurrence of terror and insurgence of Boko Haram especially in the northern part of Nigeria where the activities are known.

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