

# Effect of Boko Haram Insurgency on The Socio-Economic and Cultural Heritage of Sukur Villages in Adamawa State

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***Abstract- The research was on the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the socio-economic and cultural heritage of Sukur villages Adamawa state. The reason for this topic was as a result of the level of damage done to the cultural heritage of Sukur people by the Boko Haram insurgency which has make many Tourist to stop visiting or the cultural heritage annual festival on hold which have caused declined in the contribution on socio-economic of the villagers and to the Adamawa state revenue generation. The objectives considered for this work include; to examine the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the socio-economic of Sukur people and to assess the level of Boko Haram impact on tourism to the Sukur cultural heritage. The data was sourced through the primary data, 200 questionnaire were administered to the respondents. The technique used for the analysis were Simple percentage and linear probability model. The findings for the research was that socio-economic and revenue contribution to the state in the study area were affected and the money released by the state government was being used to repair the destroyed artefacts by the Boko-Haram insurgency. Also the impact of the Boko-Haram destruction done on to the cultural heritage of Sukur was great and many of them might not be reconstruct anymore forever as these artefacts were not easily replaced as people that can do it are no more. The researcher recommended that both the community and the state government should be proactive in protecting what our fore father had left behind so as to show them to the incoming generation as a legacy.***

## I. INTRODUCTION

One of the sectors that creates revenue and job opportunities for people is the tourism industry. In contrast to other business sectors, it is the one most

vulnerable to social conflicts (Krol et al., 2000). According to Tribe (2010), a crisis could have an impact on tourism through subpar business plans, job losses, inadequate infrastructure, and property damage if it is not adequately secured or protected. This supports Butler's (1980) claim that social tensions and other vices may cause a decline in the number of tourists and visitors to a specific location. Nigerian citizens, public buildings, and commercial establishments have all been impacted by Boko Haram terrorist attacks in recent years. Major Nigerian states, particularly those in the northeast, including Borno, Yobe, Gombe, Adamawa, Taraba, and Bauchi States, have been impacted. These attacks have had a significant impact on economic, human, and business developments, with a particular focus on the tourism industry.

The importance of the topic under investigation shows that the Republic of Nigeria's tourism sector is a very promising economic sector and one of the key drivers of sociocultural development, which raises citizens' standards of living and improves their quality of life. Importantly, the presentation of associated services like hospitality, security, and leisure is often just as important to tourism as travel and journeys to a destination. Indeed, the Nigerian economy's contemporary tourism sector combines a wide range of unique activities, many of which are implemented by businesses with a fairly intricate and wide-ranging organizational structure in the area. This fact suggests that Nigeria's tourism sector has a significant impact on the national economy as well as the economies of nearby regions.

### Statement of the Problem

An analysis of the effects of Boko Haram terrorism on Yankari Game Reserve as a tourist destination in Bauchi State, Nigeria, was conducted by Matthew and

Fada (2014). The accommodations and leisure activities in the research were their main concerns. To determine how Boko Haram affected lodging and leisure activities, they used both primary and secondary data. The effect of terrorism on tourism in northern Nigeria: An example of the Boko-Haram threat was the subject of research by Dawodu and Olaleye (2023). They found that Boko Haram had a long-term detrimental impact on Northern Nigeria's tourism industry, both for individuals and the state as a whole. They based their findings on secondary data. Bello's research on the Boko Haram insurgency: Examining Attempts to Destroy and Conserve Culture in Northeastern Nigeria (unpublished paper). He analyzed his research question using both primary and secondary data, and he found that local residents are crucial to the preservation of their culture. The Boko Haram insurgency has a significant effect on Nigerian tourism, according to all of these researchers. Research by Matthew and Fada on assessing how Boko Haram terrorism affects Yankari Game Dawodu and Olaleye conducted research on the effects of terrorism on tourism in Northern Nigeria, utilizing both primary and secondary sources to gather information. Bello's research on the Boko Haram insurgency examined the attempt at cultural destruction and the efforts to conserve it in Northeastern Nigeria, using both primary and secondary data as sources. They also used secondary data to arrive at their conclusions. These have all studied the Boko Haram insurgency and how it affects travel.

However, neither of them nor anybody else has studied the Boko Haram insurgency or how it affects the socioeconomic and cultural legacy of the Sukur people in Adamawa state. In light of this, the purpose of this study is to investigate how the Boko Haram insurgency has affected the socioeconomic and cultural legacy of the Sukur people in Adamawa state's Madagali local government area.

#### Justification of the study

In terms of their cultural heritage, artifacts from their unusual architecture, and manner of dress, the Sukur people are distinct. This has drawn a lot of people to their community from both inside and outside the nation. And for many years, this has brought in money for the local population, which has resulted in a high

standard of living as well as income for the state and the nation as a whole. The area has been under Boko Haram insurgency for ten years, resulting in the destruction of this historic structure, the loss of the people's cultural heritage, and a socioeconomic decline.

Using primary data to gather information from the people in the study area, this research project aims to examine the effects of the Boko Haram insurgency on the socioeconomic well-being of the Sukur people and the damage to their cultural heritage, as well as the reduction in the amount of money that the state government receives from this cultural heritage.

#### Aims and objectives of the study

The aims and objective of the study is to examine the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the socioeconomic and cultural heritage of Sukur village and the specific objectives are:

- i. to examine the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the socio-economic of Sukur people
- ii. to assess the level of Boko Haram impact on tourism to the Sukur cultural heritage
- iii. to examine the level of damage done by Boko Haram insurgency on the Sukur cultural heritage

#### Literature Review

Because of their connection, terrorism and tourism cannot be briefly discussed. As Zissis and Vassiliadis (2008) correctly noted, both tourism and terrorism entail crossing international borders and involving people from various states. For example, terrorists infiltrating Nigeria through her porous borders and foreign tourists traveling from Europe, Asia, America, or Africa. There have been numerous instances of internally motivated crises, including acts of terror, throughout Nigeria's history since the country gained its independence. As a result, crimes involving terror were intensified due to religious and ethnic sentiments as well as the various political and religious demands of the nation's various groups.

It is important to note that, among other factors, a nation's degree of political stability and development determines how much of an impact terrorism has on its tourism sector (Adesoji et al., 2018). This means that because Nigeria is a developing country, its tourism sector is more negatively impacted by acts of terrorism

than those in developed countries. Nigerian tourism is the most sensitive and delicate sector of the country's economy, contributing significantly to its overall development. Its success is largely dependent on stability and the safest possible environment (Adesoji, 2010).

Empirical review

For the Next-11 countries (N-11), Kum, Aslan, and Gungor (2015) examined the relationship between tourism and economic growth. It was determined that the gross domestic product (GDP) and tourism profits have a lasting relationship. The study found that the GDP growth of the Next-11 countries is positively impacted by tourist arrivals. Savaş, Beşkaya, and Şamiloğlu (2010) employed two distinct indicators of the growth of international tourism along with quarterly data. The purpose of the article was to examine how Turkey's tourism industry contributed to the country's economic expansion. They approached cointegration using the ARDL method. The study's findings support the growth hypothesis because of Turkey's tourism industry.

However, Antonakakis, Draguni, and Filis (2014) used monthly data for ten European countries from 1995 to 2012 to examine the dynamic relationships between tourism growth and economic growth. The following empirical regularities are revealed by their analysis: the relationship between tourism and economic growth is highly dependent on economic events and is unstable over time. Furthermore, Ohlan (2017) looked into the connections between India's economic expansion and tourism from 1960 to 2014. The findings of recently created composite tests by Bayer and Hanck demonstrate the co-integration of financial development, economic growth, and tourism.

Materials and Methods

Study area

Adamawa State, one of the three states most severely impacted by the Boko Haram insurgency, is home to Sukur town. It is reached by naturally occurring stone-paved walkways that climb the hills and include palaces, villages, and the ruins of an iron industry. In 1999, UNESCO named this location a World Heritage Site. Boko-Haram attacks in Madagali and other Adamawa local government areas between 2014 and 2017 changed the story for Sukur, which is supposed

to be a gem of Nigeria's tourism industry. Dozens of terrorists were able to infiltrate the Sukur hilltop settlement on September 17–24, 2014, and took food, livestock, and short residents. They also set fire to at least 73 horses. The destruction of Hidi's palace, a famous building among other traditional architectural structures, was the most regrettable part of these attacks. It compromised the integrity of this World Heritage Site. The Sukur community's cultural landscapes have changed over time. All tangible and intangible facets of people's lifestyles, as well as the palace's material and non-material cultural heritage, vanished. Cultural heritage was preserved in royal palaces of keys, family heads, priests in charge of scared rooms, shrines, etc., according to Nonye Onyima.

Data collection

The data collection for this research work will be primary data. And the random sampling will be used to select 200 respondents of the people, with the structured questionnaire to obtain the information from this respondents.

Data analysis

The data getting from the structured questionnaire will be analysed using simple percentage for the first specific objective, the Linear probability model will be used to analyse the second and third objectives.

Model specification

$$CLH = \beta_0 + \beta_1TRM + \beta_2RVN + \beta_3BH + \mu \dots\dots\dots 1$$

$$CLH = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1DMG + \alpha_2TRM + \alpha_3RVN + \alpha_4BH + \mu \dots\dots\dots 2$$

Where,

CLH= Cultural Heritage

TRM= Tourism

RVN= Revenue

BH= Boko Haram

DMG= Level of damage

$\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \alpha_0, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$ , are parameters while  $\mu$  is the error term

The equation 1 will be used to analyse the second specific objective while the equation 2 will be used to analyse the third specific objective.

And the questions 9 to 12 will be used for the regression model one and two.

Analysis of the data.

This section reveal the analysis of the data as 200 questionnaires were administered and only those that were well filled which are without any error in answers the question were used as a sample size for the research.

Table 1. Questionnaire distribution

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Returned	190	95
Not returned	10	5
Total	200	100

Source: field work 2024

From the table 1. It was observed that 200 questionnaires were distributed and only 190 were fully filled and returned which is 95% and these 190 respondents was the researcher work with as it's were more than 50% of the whole respondents.

Table 2. Gender

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	90	47
Female	100	53
Total	190	100

Source: field work 2024

From the table 2. It was observed that 53% of the respondents were female and the remaining were male. This means that female was more participate in the research work than their male counterpart.

Table 3. Educational level

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
No formal education	90	47
Primary	50	26
Secondary	40	21
Tertiary	10	6
Total	190	100

Source: field work 2024

From the table 3. It was observed that 47% of the respondents do not have formal education, while 26%, 21% and 6% had primary, secondary and tertiary education respectively. This means that most of the residents of Sukur village do not have formal education and some of them stop education at secondary school.

Table 4. Occupation

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Farmer	120	63
Trader	60	32
Civil servant	10	5
Total	190	100

Source: field work 2024

From the table 4. It was observed that 60% of the respondents engaged in farming, while 32% of them engaged in trading of one thing or the other during the festival and some remain in business after the cultural heritage festival. The remaining 5% were civil servant that is teachers.

Table 5. Before the insurgency, how much do you earn in a year

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
₦100,000 – ₦500,000	80	42
₦501,000 – ₦1,000,000	70	37
₦1,101,000 – ₦1,500,000	25	13
₦1,501,000 and above	15	8
Total	190	100

Source: field work 2024

From the table 5, above it was observed that 42% of the respondents earned up to 500,000 naira annually before Boko-Haram insurgency followed be those that earned up to one million naira and those that earned more that. This means that many residents of Sukur village are partially able to meet their basic need and even have some savings at the end of the end.

Objective 1.

Examine the effect of Boko Haram insurgency on the socio-economic of Sukur people

Table 6. During the insurgency I lost almost all my investment

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	150	79
No	40	21
Total	190	100

Source: field work 2024

From the table 6, above it can be viewed that 79% of the respondents lost almost everything they had during the insurgency while only 21% of them did not lost all. This means that almost all the residents of the Sukur village lost almost all their belonging during Boko-Haram invasion into their village.

Table 7. After the insurgency, are you able to bounce back?

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	130	68
No	60	32
Total	190	100

Source: field work 2024

From the table 7, above it was observed that 68% of the respondents have not bounced back to the level they were before Boko-Haram invasion into their village as many of their livelihood had been destroyed, while only 32% of them were able to bounced back because they were gotten some assistance from their relatives and friends and many of them were civil servants.

Table 8. Does your income being affected or stable after the Boko-Haram insurgency

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Not much	20	10
Very much	140	74
Not at all	30	16
Total	190	100

Source: field work 2024

Table 8, revealed that 74% of the respondents were affected by Boko-Haram insurgency and these group were farmers and those 16% that were not affected are civil servants and the remaining 10% were those that have other means of getting money.

Table 9. How are you coping with the situation after returned to your village?

Items	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Assistance from NGOs	130	68
Assistance from Government	20	11

Assistance from Relatives/Friends	40	21
Total	190	100

Source: field work 2024

Table 9, revealed that 68% of the respondents were able to cope after insurgency through NGOs assistance, while 21% of them got assistance from their relatives and friends and the remaining of them got their assistance from government either state of federal government.

Table 10. Objective 2.

Assess the level of Boko Haram impact on tourism to the Sukur cultural heritage

Dependent Variable: CLH

Method: Least Squares

Variable	Coefficien t	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	0.651905	0.069739	9.347833	0.0000
TRM	0.129056	0.068147	1.893782	0.0598
RVN	-0.270223	0.068927	-3.920424	0.0001
BH	-0.361305	0.065066	-5.552886	0.0000

R-squared	0.208559
Adjusted R-squared	0.195793
F-statistic	16.33808
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000

From the table above which on the objective 2. It shows that holding every other variable constant an increase in the tourism of the Sukur Cultural Heritage by one percent it will lead to 13% percent increase in the probability of the cultural heritage festival of the Sukur development, employment and revenue generation for the people and the state. And it is significant at 10% level of significant. Holding every other variable constant an increase in the revenue of Adamawa State toward the Cultural Heritage Festival of Sukur Village will lead to 27% percent probability of the cultural heritage preservation of the Sukur

cultural heritage and it is significant at 5% level of significant. The reason why revenue have negative sign was that preservation of the cultural heritage was not for the state to get more income rather for some people to have money to share and the money released for it was for the reconstruction of the artefact destroyed by Boko-Haram. Holding every other variable constant an increase in Boko-Haram insurgency by one percent it will lead to 36% probability decreased on the cultural heritage of Sukur destruction, and it is significant at 5% level of significant. The F-statistics shows that it is significant at 5% level of significant which means that we therefore reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative which says that Boko-Haram insurgency had great impact on the Cultural Heritage of Sukur Village in Adamawa State and some of the damage done might never gotten back again.

Table 11. Objective 3.

Examine the level of damage done by Boko Haram insurgency on the Sukur cultural heritage

Dependent Variable: CLH

Method: Least Squares

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	0.604051	0.073537	8.214232	0.0000
TRM	0.047481	0.069196	0.686182	0.4935
RVN	-0.324282	0.070439	-4.603726	0.0000
BH	-0.306114	0.065553	-4.669694	0.0000
DMG	0.275870	0.075404	3.658580	0.0003
R-squared	0.251671			
Adjusted R-squared	0.235491			
F-statistic	15.55439			
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Table above shows the objective 3.

Holding every other variable constant an increase in the tourism by one percent it will lead to 5% probability increase in the cultural heritage festival of Sukur though it is not significant at both 5% and 10% level of significant. Holding every other variable

constant an increase in the revenue by one percent it will lead to 32% probability decrease in the cultural heritage of the Sukur festival and it is significant at 5% level of significant. The reason for the negative sign was as a result of the money released by the State government was to repair the damage done to the cultural heritage of Sukur and that this money goes to private individual pockets. Holding every other variable constant an increase in the Boko-Haram insurgency by one percent it leads to 31% probability decrease in the cultural heritage of the Sukur village, and it is significant at 5% level of significant. Holding every other variable constant an increase in the damage by one percent it will lead to 28% probability increase in the cultural heritage of Sukur. And it is significant at 5% level of significant. The F-statistics is highly significant at 5% level of significant. Which means that the level of damage done to the cultural heritage of Sukur is great.

Discussion of findings.

The Sukur people's socioeconomic situation was significantly impacted because many of them struggle to eat two to three square meals a day or spend \$1 per day. Additionally, many villagers were unable to send their children to private schools for primary or secondary education and instead preferred that they attend government schools, where teachers visit the classroom once or twice a week. This result is consistent with the 2014 study by Antonakakis, Draguni, and Filis, which found that tourism boosts a nation's or community's economy. However, since this people's artifact is being destroyed, their socioeconomic situation has been impacted and many of them now depends on farming.

The Boko-Haram insurgency had a significant and severe impact on Sukur's cultural heritage because nearly all of it was destroyed, including the palace. As a result, many people traveled there to witness the extent of the damage to Sukur's cultural heritage, and many of them felt sorry for the community's residents and the state as a whole because they had lost their jobs and income. This result is consistent with research by Kum, Aslan, and Gungor (2015), which found that terrorist attacks primarily affect employment, the local economy, and revenue in a community, state, or nation because many of their sources of income have been destroyed.

Since many of these artifacts may never be replaced, Boko-Haram caused significant harm to Sukur cultural heritage. The most appealing artifact for tourists had been severely damaged and might not be replaced until the arrival of your kingdom. The damage to Sukur's cultural heritage was so severe that it would take years before a festival was held. This result is consistent with the findings of Adesoji et al. (2018), who claimed that the degree of economic development and prosperity in a nation or community determines the extent of the terrorists' destruction.

#### Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation

##### Summary

The study looks at how the Boko Haram insurgency has affected the socioeconomic and cultural legacy of Adamawa state's Sukur villages. The Sukur people's cultural heritage has been a popular tourist destination for both domestic and foreign visitors because of the way it was constructed by their ancestors and because it provides revenue for many members of the community and the state government as a whole. However, the Boko-haram insurgency has left the area in ruins.

##### Conclusion

The study looked at how the Boko Haram insurgency affected the socioeconomic status and cultural legacy of Adamawa state's Sukur villages. Following the collection of data, it was examined and conclusions were made. According to the study, the Boko-Haram insurgency had a significant negative impact on the Sukur people's cultural heritage. The damage was so severe that many of the artifacts may never be replaced, which will discourage tourists from visiting the area because the main attractions were destroyed, which has also resulted in a decline in the socioeconomic standing of the Sukur people.

##### Recommendation

The following recommendations were made:

In order to improve the socio-economic of Sukur people both the local government, state and the federal government of Nigeria have to contribute greatly to the revamping cultural heritage of Sukur so as to make the tourist to start visiting the place like before.

Also, both the community youth and the state government have to be proactive in protecting the

legacy left behind by any of their fore fathers as this will help the incoming generation to have knowledge and be conversant with their cultural lineage.

However, non-governmental agency should also help the people of Sukur by providing them relief material to rebuild some artefacts destroyed by the Boko-Haram insurgency.

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