Economic Performance Evaluation and Trinity of Violence: Understanding the Interconnectedness between Frustrations, Desperation and Anger in Northern Nigeria

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Abstract

Violence as a concept is triggered by disagreement or contentious issues between two or more individuals, parties and even regions or nations, as is used to be an order of the day in the contemporary world. More turbulent periods in the history of Nigeria are experienced as it harbours most violence and conflicts, self-centeredness and social and economic decline, accounting to more than 48.6% of the total restiveness across the West Africa. The consequence of violence is often undesirable, leading to terrorisms, wars, political violence, protective custodies and abductions, outbreak of diseases, malnutrition and starvation, moral decadences (deteriorations), poor economic performances of governments, boundary and tribal conflicts, political jingoisms and incarcerations, wanton destructions of lives and properties, to mention but few. This paper uses the principles of negative emotions in understanding the concept of violence in northern Nigeria, due to its diverse socio-cultural richness among the whole West African states. The paper further derives theoretical explanations from a principle that individuals have power to let peace prevail through a focused consciousness and the concept of common structures of intelligibility, which can then pave way towards developing ten (10) principles of understanding violence in the chosen study area. Experts, including security agencies, private security experts, victims of violence and religious leaders as subject matter experts (SMEs) were used to indicate interconnectedness between these emotions as trends and patterns of violence. Thereafter, social network analysis was used as a conceptual framework to map dynamics of emotions leading to three negative emotions, viz: desperation, frustration and anger. These were ranked in order of their occurrences in conflicts and eventual violence. The paper also suggests means and ways of reducing violence and conflict from understanding the 'trinity' of violence in the region.

Keywords: *Violence, Peace, Negative emotions, Northern Nigeria.*

Bacground to the Study

Since the advent of current democratic dispensation in 1999, Nigeria has been a theater of war. From Niger Delta struggle to recent Biafra uprising, more than 30,000 people lost their lives to one form of violence or another. In Nigeria, like in many other places where violence occur, it is motivated by political, economic or social grievances (Berber, 2013) and expressions of violence are indicated, principally, as sentiments or feelings of antagonism (Taft & Haken, 2015). The diversity of interest in Nigeria escalates and complicate drivers of violence. With over 173.6 m people and one of the world's most ethnically diverse population, with over 350 different ethnic groups, the country is one of the most volatile, violence prone places in the world (NPC, 2013).

Along the same lines of thoughts as in Taft and Haken (2015), Falola (1998) indicates that as sentiments drive violence, mono-causal explanation of violence in Nigeria is grossly inadequate as no single factor can explain the causes of violence. For example, disagreements between friends in a community can spiral into communal violence between different families and indeed inter-communal clashes if the friends belong to different communities or fall into different religious lines. Similarly, local level pressures can impact on state and national trends just as much as national pressure can impact on states and local governments. Another instance is that political violence, as an outcome of an election, can ignite ethnic violence where people of differing ethnicity attacked and kill one another.

Furthermore, the media contributes to escalations of violence by their negative reportages (Campbell, 2013) as well as violence can be due to resources use or even simply due to disagreement with the way the country is constituted (Suberu, 2001).

Falola (1998) and Taft and Haken (2015) indicate that uncomfortable emotional or sentimental state cause of violence. To understand violence, therefore, it is essential to attempt to understand conditions, factors or elements that lead to those uncomfortable or negative emotional states. In the case of Nigeria, Falola (1998) lists and explains some of these to include, political instability and as a result of ethnically and politically fragmented system. Others are militancy and religious fundamentalism leading to further fragmentation due to struggle for resource control or due to perceived religious persecution. Other elements include external foreign influence, poverty, ethnic diversity and failed attempt at modernization. In what can be regarded as an update, (Taft & Haken, 2015) list 8 factors or indicators to violence each with associated sub-factors. Certainly not any of the factors or elements mentioned above explain violence. For example, militancy cannot alone explain violence in Nigeria as only small amount of violence is driven by struggle for resource control. Similarly, religious fundamentalism cannot be used to explain violence excluding social and economic analysis. Thus, to understand violence in Nigerian situation, it is important to consider the multifaceted relationship between several elements or factors both past, present and in the future. Also, although several elements need to be taken into consideration the manifestation violence considered as reality while the factors or elements as drivers to the manifested reality regarded as formless uncomfortable/negative emotional states in the agents that manifest the reality. The reality is the appearance or the violence. Thus, in addition to the interaction of many factors or elements that drive violence, it is also

important to understand the dialectical relationship between manifest reality and formless drivers or emotional states.

This Paper is in the interest of peace building and avoidance of violence it is based on the premise that in order to avoid violence, it is important to understand the way emotional factors interact resulting to violence and the relationship between the manifest reality (violence) and the formless drivers. It is intended as an attempt to provide pathways of understanding or explore how effort to the solution to the many crises situations in the country by fostering understanding of inter-communal crises in Northern Nigeria taking points of convergence, rather divergence, as common points of understanding.

Thus, the paper aims to address the following questions:

a. What forms the key patterns and trends of violence in Northern Nigeria?
b. What are the peculiar characteristics of the region that subjects it to vulnerability of violence?
c. What forms key structural insights in the elements or factors of violence and their relationships?
d. How do those insights lead to violent outcomes and how can we resolve contentious issues?
e. Can contentious issues leading to violence be linked?
f. Will it be possible to develop local peculiarities that will ultimately be acceptable to all proponents and opponents of issues or world views?

Theoretical Foundation
Due to varied interest, working and researching for peace in Nigeria has proven to be very complex (Taft & Haken, 2015). Those with interest in peace in Nigeria include security and other government agencies, civil society, governments at all levels, private sector, community leaders and the general populace. Their interests involve resource allocation for security, monitoring and evaluation of government programmes, initiation of projects and activities, private investment and other economic activities. In addition to individual interests, stakeholders also become interested in other stakeholders. For example, investors are interested in the security of their investments and at the same time are also interested in the security agencies and how they conduct their works. Similarly, the security agencies are interested in what resources they obtained for their activity and at the same time interested in private investment as taxes from these form the bases of their adequacy of resources for their activities. For these reasons systems theory/perspectives is adopted as the theoretical framework for this work. This perspective recognises the fact that pressure from one level can impact on another level with the consequent effect of changing the magnitude and dimension of the impact. An analysis of the need for peace at the community level to the exclusion of consideration of the peace at the family level can distort or derail peace initiative.

Bossel (2007) defines system as anything that is composed of elements that are connected in a manner that structure emerges. The system structure with elements performs system functions in its system environment serving a distinct system purpose. In a community, society, nations and indeed the world there are myriads of systems, each of this responding

to the challenges of its environment and in the process co-evolve in interaction with other system. These interactions and co-evolutions shape the environment and have systems evolves into larger systems resulting into societies and eventually shaping the structure of the entire world. Some systems behave in a simple way such that their behaviours can easily be predicted. Others behave in a complex process. Yet others adapt their behaviour to different challenges and may even change their structure and behaviour characteristics in an evolutionary process. Violence as a concept requires systems view due to multiplicity of interests. Indeed, earlier work (Van Soest & Bryant, 1995) indicates that violence is deeply rooted in cultures and social system interacting with societies institutions and individuals and thus require system view to understand. Therefore this work considers violence as a complex system that is responding dynamically to changes in the environment.

Research Methodology
This paper followed pragmatist's perspectives of system thinking in order to link both primary and secondary data. The secondary data was obtained from surveys of literature and media reports on violence in Nigeria in general and particularly in northern Nigeria. In order to obtain an objective reportage and literature analysis, the survey involve examination of divergent paradigms in the areas of history, sociology, religious study, political science, economics and literature. These paradigms were pulled together in a re-enforcing manner so that they provide support in the construction of arguments. The literature and media often differ in level of analysis. Often, the level depend on the stakeholders with different focus, national, state, local government, community and in limited cases individual levels. Due to the dynamics of violence in the region, another level of analysis was also added, such that dyad and triad levels depending on the trigger or fault lines are identified.

To support literature and media report, websites such as the council for foreign relations, Nigeria Security Tracker, FFP's UnLock Project and Nigeria Watch were used as sources for data. Furthermore, Centre for Democratic Development Research and Training, Zaria (Kaduna State, Nigeria), a research institute in northern Nigeria was also used particularly for comparative purposes. The centre has several publications in the form of pamphlets and booklets with Virage of information on religious and political violence in northern Nigeria. Comprehensive information was obtained for two years between 2014 and 2015.Obtained data were classified according to number of deaths only. This is because number of deaths is often reported by the media and is easier to verify through a number of sources. Data coding is done in relation to monthly reports, state and mode of violence.

As relying on literature and press reports on violence in the region has methodological limitations (researchers tend to tilt along religious or political lines and reports were not accurate, even absent in some cases or were official presentation which may be distorted as agents of government tend to escalate the violence), data triangulation was used. Information was obtained from multiple sources and also bases for comparison were made. For example, for data reported in a research work, backward referencing was used to get to the original information to check for consistency in data, mode of violence, perpetrators, casualty figures, sources of information, and/or injuries sustained. Similarly, reports by multi-lateral and/or international organizations, such as Amnesty International were used to validate some of the information that cannot be traced to a publication or website.

In addition, ethnographic data were collected in three major cities in the north (Kano, Kaduna and Katsina). Victims of violence were targeted for data collection and interviews were conducted. Interviews conducted focused on casualty figures and material lost only. In some cases (3 instances) interviewees were asked to suggest ways to end violence in the region. The aim of the question was to prompt ideas that some of the victims found acceptable in line with then theory used in this work. Fifteen direct victims and 5 dependent of deceased victims were interviewed. Twelve of those interviews (60%) were face to face while the remaining 8 were via phone. The least time for the interviews was 2.30mins and the longest was over 3 hours. In all there were more than 20 hours of interviewing time in 30 days period.

Also as data was obtained from secondary sources, primary validation using expert elicitation was employed. Obtained data was arranged in tabular form specifying indicators of violence in the region considered and three columns to indicate if an indicator is believed to be strongly linked, moderately linked or weakly linked to violence in the region. Five experts were assembled for this aspect of the research. Four of the five, belong to one of the two security agencies (2 military men, 2 police officers) and one civil society activists who is engaged with internally displaced persons charity work. At the end of the discussion, 14 indicators were identified with several sub-indicators. Each of these major indicators had about 8 sub-indicators. In total more than 80 indicators and sub-indicators were identified. Using the 14 major indicators, the expert also identified the linkages between them. That is which of the indicator is linked to which and whether the linkage is two way or single way.

Trends and Patterns of Violence in Northern Nigeria
The primary aim of this paper is a comprehensive analysis of violence in Northern Nigeria over a two year period. Northern Nigeria was a British colony formed in 1900. The Berlin treaty (1885) granted northern Nigeria to Britain. The two protectorates of the north and the south were merged or amalgamated in to what is now known as Nigeria in 1914. After Nigerian independence in 1960, the region continued to fragment from provinces to states. Presently the region now has 19 states in the 36 states entity called Nigeria.

Although this paper considers years 2014 and 2015, to fully comprehend violence in this region, references will be made to much longer period of time, often from 1960s. The seed of violence in northern and even the country Nigeria was sown at the onset of independence. This paper traces the major causes of violence in northern Nigeria as documented in the literature, particularly in Falola and Taft and Haken.

Violence in northern Nigeria
The following figures indicate the total deaths due to violence in the 19 states of northern Nigeria. The first portion figure portion of the death until the month of April, while appendix indicates the total over 24 months period. The month of March 2014 records most deaths from the figure.
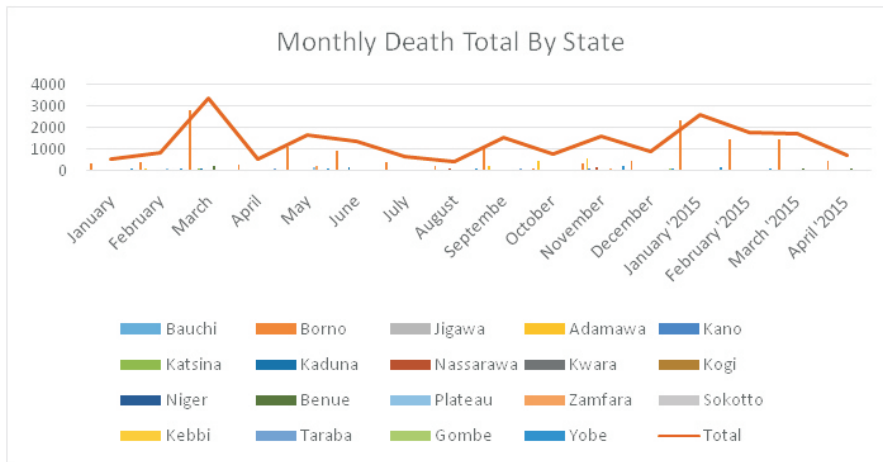
Figure 1: Monthly Deaths due to violence

Figure 2 indicates total deaths by states in the 19 states and appendix indicates detail of deaths by states in the period considered. It can be seen that Borno state records most deaths in the period considered.
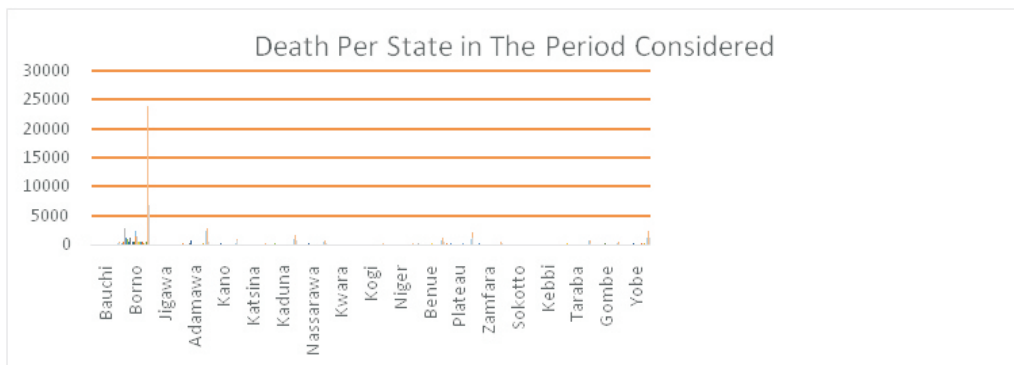

Figure 2: Deaths by State

The next figure presents total deaths per months against total considered for the two years under review and two years prior to review period. It can be seen that there were more deaths in the period 2014 and 2015 than there were in the 2012 1n2 2013 periods.
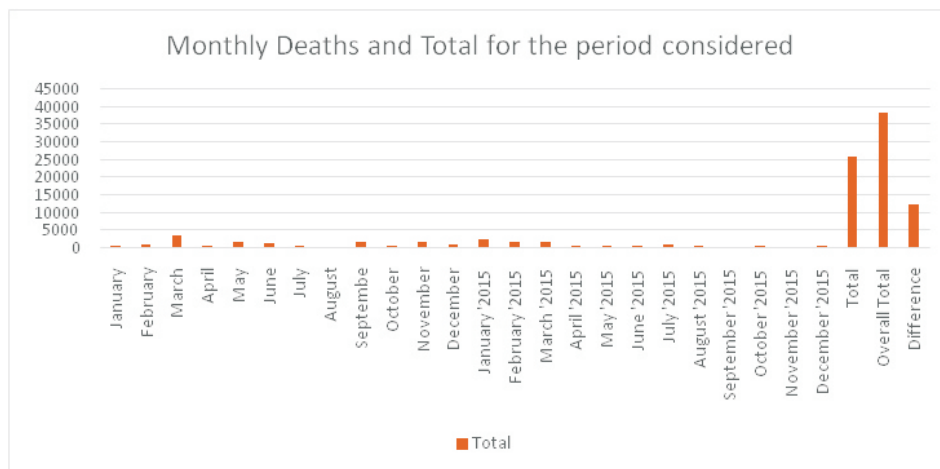
Figure 3: Total monthly deaths in 4 years

In the following sections, in addition to the websites and the references mentioned above, additional sources were used to list and briefly discussed some elements that were found to be relevant in understanding the dynamics of violence in northern Nigeria

Elements or Indicators of Violence in northern Nigeria
In northern Nigeria complexity in violence indicators is more than in other places in Nigeria and as indicated in Taft and Haken more than in most places in the world. The following paragraphs briefly discussed elements or indicators that could manifest in violence in the region. It should be pointed out that these elements are listed randomly and does not represent order or hierarchy.

i. Poor Governance. All though there three levels of governance in Nigeria, poor governance manifests in all the levels and leads to grievances, lack of social amenities and hence citizens frustrations and anger leading to violence
ii. Political Culture. Politics is and political power is often misused in the region. This led to fragmented system and lack of adequate coherent political structures that are self-sustaining. Election and political power becomes for the highest or stronger bidders and as such representation is inadequate and corruption at all level is rampant.
iii. Use and Abuse of Power. Political leaders use power at will in complete disregard to rule of law. Similarly because the official security system is inadequate in the provision of security to the populace, citizens resort to the use of private arrangement often with undesirable consequences.
iv. Capacity of State. The states in the region have less resources and capacity to provide welfare services including necessities to the citizens. The states are also not able to provide security.
v. Non-State Actors. This especially in the area of security and other services. The well to do secure such services leading to growing differences in some instances, scuffles and violence erupt.

vi.   Resource Distribution. There are claims that resources are not evenly distributed. Although, there is a central resource sharing formula it was based on population and not resources base.

vii.   Environmental Degradation. There is pressure on the environment due to over farming and over grazing. The resultant effect is less food and more struggles.

viii.   Increased Social Fragmentation. Social identity fragmentation is becoming increasingly complex. Within one settlement, different social identities may emerge with consequence increase in goals and needs.

ix.   Minority-Majority divide. Coupled with increased social fragmentation is the division in line with whether or not one belongs to majority or minority ethnic group. This becomes the bases for political appointments and as such opportunities.

x.   Settler-Citizen Dichotomy. In some societies within the region, citizens are grouped into original inhabitants (bastustants) and settlers. This means that allocation of privileges does not follow merit but emotional attachment related to what is referred to as settler citizen dichotomy. The area is so porous and does not tackle illegal migration. This also grew into the incessant existence of Boko Haram and cattle rustlers.

xi.   Population Demography. Some places are more populous than others and as such most likely to have diverse groupings.

xii.   Diverse Ethnic Groups. People tend to be identified with their ethnic grouping rather than their nationalities or places of abode.

xiii.   Low Education Citizenry. The region has high illiteracy ant best low educated populace.

xiv.   Unemployment/Underemployment. The number of people who are gainfully employed is high.

xv.   Poverty level. The region has high poverty level due to large number of people and few employment/engagement opportunities.

xvi.   Rising Street Gangs/Political Thuggery. In recent years due to crave for power at all cost, there has been rising criminal activities perpetuated by street gangs and political banditry.

xvii.   Cultism and Gagsterism. These are taken together as they are caused by rising substances abuse. The need to dominate other groups leads to violence.

xviii.   Militancy and Religious Fundamentalism. Most religious organizations now provides a military or para-military wing, and fighting endures.

xix.   Student Activism. Active student association in tertiary institutions often results in violence. Students are often polarized along ethnic/religious lines.

xx.   Confraternities. Student groups often graduate to adults with the militancy carried over to adult life and group themselves into confraternities.

xxi.   Drugs and Drug trades. Street groupings need drugs to survive, different drug traders often engage in violent confrontations.

xxii.   Parental Neglected Children/Unwanted Home Upbringing. Some children grow without parents or with parents who are too busy or too poor to care about them. These children grow with gang members and become gagsters themselves.

Evaluation of Violence Network Properties

Using the 14 indicators or elements of violence in the area considered and the UCINET[R] a social network software (Borgatte, Everett, & Freeman, 1999), the following network is a representation of the relationship between the elements.
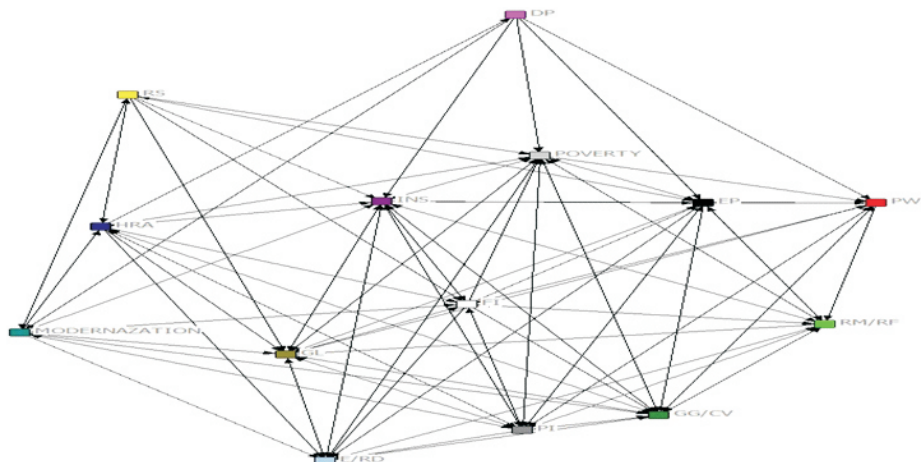

Figure 4: Network of negative emotions or violence indicators

In networks such as depicted above, a structural pattern emerges. Neighbours are clustered such that a pattern is observed where large proportion of ties is highly clustered together. Nodes densely clustered to the ones they are related to. Such that 'clique-like' phenomenon evolves within the network. This phenomenon is known as clustering. In order to determine the extent nodes are closely related to one another, or are neighbours, an examination of the local neighbourhood of an actor, or the actors that are directly connected to an actor and those it can connect to is performed. Using Ucinet clustering coefficient actors that are neighbours to one another are determined. This actors or emotions are likely to fuse or mutate to a compound emotion. So also overall neighbourliness of all the actors or emotions. The overall coefficient is an indication how closely related all the actors or emotions are. The closer the value to 1, the more the closeness of the actors.

The result give the overall graph clustering coefficient or the average density of the neighbours of all the actors as .631. This result indicates that all the actors are closely related together. The average densities, weighing actors with closely related neighbourhoods were also determined and the value is .628. The interpretation of this result is that indicators are embedded in a fairly dense neighbourhoods, that is, indicators are easily connected with one another to result in compound indicators or increasing complexities in causes of violence.

Using each actors clustering coefficients, it is possible to examine the neighbourhood of each actor or indicator. The table below provides a summary of each actors, clustering coefficients and number of neighbours each actor have. For example, Poverty has 66 neighbours (possible linkages) it can connect to. Of these only 58.3% are connected to it. This means that only about 40 actors are connected to it.

Indicator	Clustering Coefficients	Number of Neighbors
Human Rights Abuse	.611	45
Demographic Pressures	.500	21
Insecurity	.545	78
Economic Pressure	.627	55
Group grievances	.664	55
Government Legitimacy	.621	66
Public/Welfare Services	.722	36
Refugee Services	.667	21
Political Instability	.645	55
Poverty	.583	66
Ethnic/Religious Diversity/Divisions	.733	45
Modernization	.583	36
Foreign Intervention	.636	66
Resource/Religious Militancy	.689	45

Source: Gaves, 2012

Using the information in the table above, and in order to determine the relationship between indicators so that each indicator is treated in accordance with its possible complexity, indicators are put into different classes or categories. This categorization is in line with negative emotions grouping (Gaves, 2012) that can lead to violent actions. Indicators with highest number of linkages (up to 70% or number of neighbours more than 60) are place in one class and this is named Anger indicators. Whereas, those with connections less than 60% and those of between 60% and 70% are placed in separate classes. The later class are called Frustration indicators whereas the former are classified as:

Desperation Indicators The table below presents the categories and the number of indicators in each category.

Frustration Indicators	Clustering Coefficient	Desperation Indicators	Clustering Coefficients	Anger Indicators	Clustering Coefficie nts
Demographic Pressures	.500	Human Rights Abuse	.611	Public/Welfare services	.722
Modernization	.583				
		Economic Pressure	.627	Ethnic/ Religious	.733
		Group Grievances	.664	Diversity/ Disturbances	.545
		Refugee Services	.667	Insecurity	.621
		Political Instability	.645	Government Legitimacy	.583
		Resources/ Religious Militancy	.689	Poverty Foreign Intervention	.636

Source: Gaves, 2012

From the above table, 2 indicators have clustering coefficients less than 60% and have less than 60 neighbours. These are categorized as frustration indicators. The second category of indicators are 6. These are indicators with clustering coefficients above 60% and with less

than 60 neighbours or possible linkages. These are categorized as desperation indicators. The third and final categories are six and have either more than 70% linkages with their neighbours or have more than 60 neighbours. These are called anger indicators. In the next sections these indicators will be discussed according to the categories they are put above and using the divine matrix principles discussed a pathway is provided to dealing with them.

Pathway to Understanding Indicators of Violence
As humans if we can devise means of communicating the differences between individuals and bridge the fine line between reality and imagination, we can meet our heart desires. If we desire violence, we can pursue violence and get it. If we desire peace, we can build peace and enjoy it. In other words we can transform potentiality to reality. If the desired reality is beneficial, we can transform our potentiality into reality. Reality is of form, whereas potentiality is formless. In like manner if reality is not beneficial to us, like violence and destruction or disease, we can be able to stop the potentiality from becoming reality. In the next sub-section Bracken (1995)'s inter-religious dialogue methodology is briefly explained. It forms the pathway to understanding violence in Northern Nigeria.

Common Structures of Intelligibility
In contemporary contentious issues that often result in violent confrontations among people with diverse opinions or views, various approaches are employed to understand and appreciate one another's perspectives. One way is to listen to other views and even attempt to carefully observe their rituals, their symbolic activities and other practices. These approach have over time been found to be effective in promoting respect for the diverse practices of neighbours and other people with practices that are different from ours (Bracken, 1995).

In theory, specific points of agreements or disagreements are sought. Such as points of comparison between different views or between different goals. The search here is to find places or grounds for mediation between different concepts, practices, rituals, traditions, religions or viewpoints. This is referred to as building common structures of intelligibility (Bracken, 1995). This structures allow understanding some of the measures that parties otherwise consider alien to them. The philosophy in this is that some conception from someone viewpoint is extended, abstracted and purified in the process to serve as ground for comparison.

In order for the built ground structures of intelligibility to be effective, they should strive to offer a neutral points of comparison between contentious issues. They can be tailored to provide focus of conversation between proponents of rival views. One of the views can become a subject matter of discussion and then the other and so on. Discussion stimulates understanding of both explicit and tacit knowledge and enhances knowledge creation on the subject matter through the interaction between the two (Nonaka & von Krogh, 2009). In addition, the validity of the common structures of intelligibility lies in the possibility of opening access to other people's worldviews that enriches opponents of those views with new knowledge allows them to move in the direction of objectivity regarding the viewpoint they opposed. The new worldview may be rejected as being unsuitable or inferior to opponent's known views or it may be quite fruitful and stimulating insight providing a

philosophical framework for further investigating of different views. If it is accepted as providing insight into issues of contention, it will be understood and applied alongside the dominant views with the consequent evolution of a single world view for all.

Bracken (1995) suggests two common structures of intelligibility: creativity and extensive continuum. These two are differentiable, but they formed an inseparable aspects of the universe. The difference is that creativity is the whereby of all becoming and the wherein of the interconnectedness of actuality of existence is called extension. Creativity is used in this paper to provide a way of understanding and countering indicators of violence in northern Nigeria.

In religions, the great one, great void or any such name are referred to as the origin of reality. This is similar to the energy principle which forms the dynamism whereby entity emerged from nothingness and then become linked to one another. Here, the great one. The God or the Godhead is not itself a person, it is rather a ground of belief or dynamic source of some personal being or God. Borrowing this to violence, indicators may be regarded as potentialities that if not countered may result to reality.

In ten points below an attempt is made to understand violence using the common structures of intelligibility viewpoint and in the process answer the research question in section on.

1.   The deeper perception of reality is by seeing both as the form and the formless together. In this case violence can be viewed as both the indicators to it and the reality of it. This may be the indicators/element and/or interaction between them to result in to violence. The emotional state that results into conditions that leap jump indicators from one level, such as from frustration to desperation, may be understood from the level of interaction. The need arose to see the formless indicators transforming to the form or violence. It is thus important to sensitive to the presence of the formless and devise ways and means to prevent it from becoming the form.

2.   It is also important to determine the nature of the formless that is reveal in the form or the reality. The formless may not be a reality or an entity but must be an activity or a resultant effect of an activity, such as human right abuses. This indication is that the two are separate things only potentially, not actually, that is, reality (violence) exists only in relation to its drivers (indicators, such as anger) and are so linked from the on-set.

3.   Flowing from 2 above, because finite (violence) came to being due to the infinite (several indicators), indicators contain and transcend all that is in violence, whether good or bad. Thus violence, by this point, results from the dialectical relationship between the formless (indicators) and the ultimate form, destructions and/or killings. It should be indicated here that as shown in , violence can also be said to be functional or could be used to solve certain contentious issues. This view of infinite is thus indicative that it is a determine concept that is qualitatively better than the finite as it gives birth to the finite. As such understanding and resolving the indicators to violence goes a long way in resolving violence.

4. The indicators does not have form while the consequence of violence have form and as such they are not simultaneously being. One give birth to the other, or one is a consequence of the other. However, as drivers to violence, these indicators, as resultant effects of negative emotions, manifest in its current or even future evolution due to interaction to violent outcome. This is an important point in understanding how to counteract future manifestation of violence by taking system view of possible outcome of interactions between two or multiple indicators. This means that as much as understanding individual inidcators is essential, mapping possible combination of indicators, factors or elements is also important. It is, therefore, helpful to understand that elements or factors knew how to combine and manifest into violence much better than any violence alone.

5. Understanding Driver (or combination of Drivers)-Violence relationship is needed to prevent or counter violence. The finite can only be because the infinite exists. Thus the relationship is that one is dependent on the other. Similarly, following the same line of argument, the finite achieve its true identity simply because of the existence of one or combination of several of the infinite. The form of violence exists because of the infinite formless negative emotions as indicators and even when the form is independent of the formless, it is in existence because of it and its future being or effected by it. This point is also important as no matter the dynamics of violence or how it later manifests, it gets related to the original formless indicator.

6. Flowing from 5, within the dialogical situation both the formless and the reality combine to transform the context within which they interact and as such change or give new shape and/or order to the environment or context. Therefore, both the form and the formless and the context or environment that results from their interaction, thus, the two now relate within their transformed or resultant context with the importance of each of them separately in existence. The reality (in this case violence) as manifestation of the infinite (in this case indicators or negative emotions) and the transformed (in this case destructions or killings) as the creation of their interaction. Thus, the infinite is an activity or resultant effect of an activity as pointed out earlier.

7. The indicators or the formless may also be regarded or considered as being within the reality or the form. And, although this may be the case but the two must be understood to exist independent of one another. Thus the consideration of the formless to be the real is restricted to consideration of the dynamic relationship between the two.

8. The two from above are non-duality, they are distinct entities. One entity is limited in the manifestation (violence) and the other unlimited (indicators) in the number it can individually or in combination with others to be manifest into a reality or a form.

9. The formless could also be ranked or classified in hierarchical fashion. Such that those that are highly ranked are regarded as more likely to result in reality as individual drivers or more likely to combine to form. Thus although the formless could all be move to form, they are not equally likely to result into forms. Thus, it is important to also consider the transition of drivers from the lower level to the higher ones such that threshold is established and this becomes indicative of the highest point within which violence results. This point means as the formless either as individual or interaction in the dynamical relationship, the levels of the formless changes and thus the possibility of violence. In this paper, network science is used to

develop a hierarchy of the formless and the possible transition to form. The hierarchy is such that indicators are named as frustration, desperation and anger. Although the three are negative emotions, they are not equally driven to violence with anger being placed as higher in the hierarchy.

10. The problem now is the identification of the formless as distinguishable activity to enable explanation and analysis. In order to enable analyses, the formless can be thought as a measurable entity and devise means of measuring these entities and also means of establishing the levels of them. It is also important to make it knowable in order for it to be measurable.

Conclusion/ Recommendation

This paper used the concept of a bridge between our inner emotions, feelings, experiences and beliefs and our outer worlds to understanding a social, intractable issue in northern Nigeria. Violence has been regarded as an issue that has defied all known possible solutions by both governments, civil societies, donor agencies, religious groups and even individuals in society. The principles espoused that individuals can do a lot through the power of the inner ability. Individuals have the power to choose peace through focusing on their consciousness to peace building. Individuals only need to focus on what is needed to achieve in order to achieve it. In order to build peace the need to be at different level of thinking away from the level that bring negative emotions and violence is required.

Bracken (1995), idea of common structures of intelligibility was used to arrive at 10 principles of understanding violence in the area of study. However, in order to fully understand violence, the paper suggests that first, there is the need to study trends and patterns of violence. Second, there is also the need to understand and study the negative emotions that lead to violence. Third, the need to also study the dynamics of these emotions is essential. In future work, ideas presented in this paper will be expanded in order to develop counter measures to violence in northern Nigeria. It is also important in future research to build mathematical model of hierarchy of these emeotions.

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