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Leadership, Good Governance and Sustainable Development in Nigeria

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Abstract – *Since independence in 1960, the country has mostly been under the claws of the military. The dominance, predominance, and prolongation of military rule in Nigeria combined with corruption to undermine due process, the rule of law, transparency, accountability, and efficiency in government. The military failed because it was repressive, corrupt, and undemocratic. The people became tired and voted in 1999 for a civilian president. Since then Nigeria have been under democratic dispensations as well as enjoying democratic dividend. It is as a result of this, that we are undertaking the study of leadership and good governance for sustainable development in Nigeria. Sustainable development is geared towards harnessing the contribution of every man and woman for optimum good life in all spheres of human endeavour in any given society.*

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1. Introduction

Nigeria's societal base comprises indigenous societies ranging in scale from smallest autonomous village tribe to the largest kingdoms and empires of pre-colonial Africa. Within Nigeria, there are varieties of sects ranging from the Christian and Islamic sects, to those of African traditional religions (Ogoloma, 1993:38).

Nigeria often referred to as the "Giant of Africa," is larger than any country in the Western Europe (Herskovits; 1979/80:314-335). It lies along the Gulf of Guinea in the West Coast of Africa, and its size is comparable to the Four States (Texas, Michigan and South Carolina, and the District of Columbia) of the United States of America (USA) combined together. It covers an estimated area of about 373,000sq miles and is bounded on the South by a dense Coastal Swampy Forest and on the North by the Southern reaches of the Sahara desert (Luke: 1988:1). She got her independence on 1 October 1960, almost 100 years after the Lagos territory was ceded to the British Crown by King Dosummu (Arthur and Samuel; 1970:2). It became a sovereign state in 1963 after renouncing its domination status. It had an estimated population of about 150 million. It is important to note that, Nigeria being the most populace state in Africa, out of every four Africans one is a Nigerian (Ogoloma; 1993:35).

Nigeria is a nation of many ethnic and religious groups, and for those governing the society, it is an enormous job. Given the presence of politically assertive ethnic groups, the stability and survival of the present democratic politics depends on how the leaders control the potential ethnic disputes that would result. Nigeria's short life has been packed with successions of social changes. There have been shift from regions to states, from families to cities, from agriculture to industries, and now power shift from the north to the south. These changes have not all been for the benefit of the common man. Only those in the corridors of power have gained from these with multiplicity of riches, while the ordinary citizens have remained in wallowing penury. In order words, the masses have been preoccupied with the struggle for daily survival. We shall now therefore look at leadership and good governance in Nigeria in details.

2. Theoretical Foundations of Leadership

The origin of leadership could be traced to the days of the early man. And as one of his contributions to the modern world, Man have realized that, they have to walk in groups headed by a strong leader. That is why any group, specie or horde of people who are without a leader, the tendency is that they will become rudderless. According to Okocha (2009:13), *“renowned scholars of anthropology have categorized man, the human being of the Homosapiens specie as belonging to the ‘herd group’ animals, like sheep, goats, antelopes, cattle, horses, elephants, men, etc which thrive best when they have a good leader, and when they are properly led”*.

“Good and proper leadership is therefore critical and perhaps essential, for the survival and prosperity of man, and the other animals in the herd group, so as to avoid the disastrous consequences of such tragedies like stampedes, and aimless wanderings”.

3. Meaning and Characteristics of Leadership

Leadership is as old as the Human Race

And in the words of Okocha (2009:12) *“Leadership” is one of the greatest challenges of mankind, and in recent times in Nigeria, issues that pertain to leadership have been vociferously brought to the fore in our national discourse, among several other vexing topical issues in our great country. Some have said that chief, among the several debacles that have characterized our sad and sorry plight as a nation, is the question of leadership or apparent lack of leadership”*.

Some scholars finds that common to all definitions of leadership is the notion that leaders are individuals, by their actions, facilitate the movement of a group of people towards a common or shared goal. The definition implies that leadership is an influence process. Fore Cole, *“Leadership is the dynamic process at work in a group whereby one individual over a particular period of time, and in a particular organizational context influences the other group members to commit themselves freely to the achievement of group tasks or goals”* (Robbins 1997:442). Chaturvedi (2006:170) opines that, leadership is the capacity in a person or in a group to inspire confidence and thereby regard for himself or themselves to guide and govern the followers.

Leadership therefore is an instrumentality provided by a leader or group of leaders by which all other elements of national power-geography, economy, population, technology ideology and morale can be mobilized and used most purposefully and effectively for the achievement of the goals of a nation in a given context. The work attempts to explain the conditions militating against good governance in Nigeria.

Okocha (2009:12) posited three characteristics of leadership; they are;

1. Knowledge, education and learning

Knowledge can be acquired by education and training and also by experience. And so, to be a leader, knowledge is essential, and actually very paramount. And so, to be a leader in politics, you must be politically knowledgeable and politically experienced. To lead in a profession, you must yourself be well qualified, knowledgeable and experience in that profession; and so with other spheres of human endeavor.

2. Courage and fearlessness

A leader must be courageous, and imbued with the resolute determination to pursue the aims and aspirations of his people by all legitimate means possible.

3. Strength of character

Leadership is sometimes a very daunting and uphill task. A good leader must therefore have the strength of character that will enable him or her to persevere, even inspite of all odds. He must be focused on the goal, and not be distracted by selfish motives, or personal interests.

Models of Leadership

According to Tamunomiebi (2002), the following are models of leadership;

- (a) **Trait models:** This is the oldest model using the examples of great person. This basically is about the character of an individual including physically attributes like height, weight, appearable, skill abilities, etc.
- (b) **Behavioural Models:** These are theories proposing specific aspect of behaviour of leaders from non-leaders. The dissatisfaction with this trait led behavioural scientists to focus on the actual leader's behaviour not on the emergence of an individual as a leader.
- (c) **Contingency Model:** This is developed from the mistake of the behavioural theories which made little or no allowance for the situational factors that will influence style. Thus, if in a particular situation a leader adopted style A, what are the chances that style A will also work in a complete different situation. This theory rely on the Fieldler Model which is on effective groups depending on the leaders style.
- (d) **Herseley-Blanchard's Situation Theory of functioning:** The situational leadership theory was developed by Herseley and Blanchard in 1972. The theory is a contingency theory that focus on followers maturity. They defined maturity as the ability and willingness of

people to be responsible for directing their own behaviours. It has two components, Job maturity and psychological maturity.

- (e) **Path-Goal Theory:** R House developed this theory. It extracts key models from the Ohio State University Studies which says that the leader's behaviour is acceptable to subordinates in so far as they view in him a source of immediate or future satisfaction. That it makes subordinate need satisfaction contingent on effective performance. And that it provides the coaching, guidance, support, and rewards that are necessary for effective performance.

It is important to note that, the models of leadership that so much appeal to the Nigerian situation is that of trait and path-goal theories. This was evident in Tafawa Belewa, Shagari, Yar'Adua Administration. Equally, the Fiedler Model which is about the leaders style of interactions with groups-the stake holders, the various groups from the geo-political zones of the country which we are witnessing today. But in all, the country needs dynamic leaders who can deliver the goods with political will to the people as fruits of democratic dividends.

4. Types of Leaders

According to Deckor and Nnodim (2005:26-28) there are many types of leaders starting from home where the father is normally the leader. We also have political leaders, religious leaders and others. They are classified as follows:

(a) Institutional Leaders

These occurs where there promotions, appointments or election to a formal leadership position. His functions as a leader here is in accordance to the position he occupies. It is in such a way that a successor takes over from him whenever he leaves office. For example, we have Divisional Police Officers, school principals, Medical directors of local hospitals, etc. These people are generally public officers with limitations to their authority. They come and go according to the rules or regulations laid down for them.

(b) Situation Leaders

This type of leaders are seen whenever there are emergencies or inadequacies in a family, organization or social institutions to rectify the anomaly. It's main tasks is to meet up with the challenges existing in such a situation so as to tackle them successfully. The danger here is that the leadership holds on perpetually. He assumes that continuous leadership as a way of compensating him for salvaging a situation.

(c) Charismatic Leadership

This type of leadership is chosen for his personal attraction which enables him to command considerable following by his people. "When leadership qualities and policies are popular, he goes into the heart of his people. The people love and adore him for whatever he says or does. They see him as a God –sent and could even worship him. He has great appeal that his followers could be ready to lay down their lives in defence of objectives championed by such

leader. Examples include Jesus Christ, Obafemi Awolowo, Zik, Sardauna of Sokoto, Nehru of India, Mahatma Gandhi, John Kennedy, Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran, Nelson Mandela of South Africa, etc.

(d) Traditional/Religious Leaders

These groups of leaders are the custodians of culture and religion and many of them had their positions ascribed by the gods or culture on them. "Traditional leaders rule over their domain as dictated by their custom. Just as religious leaders lead their followers according to the doctrine of their religion. They command respect among followers and cannot be easily challenged or removed no matter the situation. In some quarters it is believed that only nature could cause a change probably through death" (Deekor:2005:27-28).

5. Functions of Leadership

Rose and Hardy (1975), after critical examination of other works came up with nine functions which include: viscosity; hedonic tone, synality, goal-achievement and initiative. Others are group and goal analysis, communication, establishing structure and implementing philosophy. Let us explain briefly one by one.

1. **Viscosity:** This is the degree to which members can work as a unit for a common interest. Cooperation among members can result in group cohesiveness and enables the group to function as a body. It is therefore, the duty of a group leader to promote and facilitate group cohesiveness by minimizing dissensions, conflict among members, and encourage group work and discipline among members.
2. **Hedonic Tone:** This relates to pleasantness in group atmosphere, the degree of cooperation among members, relationship among members and satisfying experiences in group, to achieve this, the leadership should enhance likeness among members and their willingness towards the group and its objectives.
3. **Goal achievement:** This measures the extent to which the group is able to attain its aims and objectives. It behoves on the leaders to assist the group define; mobilize resources to attain its goals. To do this, the leader must be efficient, skillful, insightful, and courageous and motivate members to work towards the goals.
4. **Initiating ideas and task:** A leader must be a visionary man as he sees far ahead of his contemporaries. This extraordinary vision is his ability to initiate ideas and task and not only initiate but also be in the forefront to accomplish the idea and task. A purposeful and insightful leader starts new ideas, projects, discussions etc and led others in the group or community to carry out the tasks. Not only initiating task, such a task must be beneficial to the group as he critically analyze the benefits of such ideas.
5. **Group and goal Analysis:** Analysis means evaluating situations, separating them and making comments about each situation or task. The ability to see other dimensions of a task or problem that confronts a group is a duty of the group leader. Objective analysis

promotes insight into the task to be performed and makes easy the process of planning, task distribution and supervision. Critical view of group mechanism promotes better understanding of attitudes of members and the environment necessary for cohesion and goal achievement by the group.

6. **Facilitates Communication:** A leader must facilitate effective communication among members. Group decisions, achievements, problems etc must be communicated to members to sustain interest. Once a member is denied information as to the happening in the group, his interest begins to wane and disinterest creeps in. Adequate and effective communication process must be established by leader to prevent suspicion and misunderstanding.
7. **Establishment of Structure:** Every objective no matter how difficult could be achieved if adequate and relevant structures are put in place to achieve it. Such structures could be physical or behavioural, such as congenial member interactions, group activities and extra-group relation. In this vein, duties must be specified and designed to members clarifying responsibilities and limit to avoid misperception. The understanding of group structures by members and responsibilities fosters orderliness and accountability.
8. **Implementation of Group Philosophy:** Philosophy is the foundation of every group objective which could not be easily changed, and in which goals and objective are stated. The leader, just like a company director or manager has his primary task of implementing the group philosophy. To achieve this, rules and regulations does and are stated and monitored and implemented.

Although, sometimes personal goals conflicts with group philosophy which portends danger. Personal goals such as visibility, contact with other people outside the group, fraud and the use of leadership position as a ladder to achieve other intrinsic goals. Such temptations should be checked and avoided by the leader.

6. Definition of Governance

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (2005), "governance is the activity of governing a country or controlling a company or an organization, the way in which a country is governed or a company or institution is controlled". To Kaufmann et al (1999), governance is "the traditions and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised" While to UNDP, governance is "the exercise of economic, political, and administrative authority to manage a country's affairs at all levels. It comprises mechanisms, processes, and institutions, through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights, meet their obligations, and mediate their differences". It is also the way "...power is exercised through a country's economic, political, and social institutions". (The World Bank's PRSP Handbook).

7. Dimensions of Governance

The fundamental aspects of governance (Kaufmann et al (1999) are, graft, rule of

law, and government effectiveness. Other dimensions are voice and accountability, political instability and violence, and regulatory burden. While, property rights and rule based governance the quality of budgetary and financial management, the efficiency of revenue mobilization, the efficiency of public expenditures, and transparency, accountability and corruption (World Bank CIPA indicators).

8. Key Attributes of Good Governance

The concept of good governance has been clarified by the work of the former commission on Human Rights. In its resolution 2000/64, the commission identified the key attributes of good governance as;

- (a) Transparency
- (b) Responsibility
- (c) Accountability
- (d) Participation
- (e) Responsiveness (to the needs of the people).

By linking good governance to sustainable human development, emphasizing principles such as accountability, participation and the enjoyment of human rights, and rejecting prescriptive approaches to development assistance, the resolution stand as an implicit endorsement of the rights-based approach to development.

Resolution 2000/64 expressly linked good governance to an enabling environment conducive to the enjoyment of human rights and “prompting growth and sustainable human development”. In underscoring the importance of development cooperation for securing good governance in countries in need of external support, the resolution recognized the value of partnership approaches to development cooperation and the inappropriateness of perspective approaches.

9. Origin of the Term Good Governance?

The term “Governance” is of recent origin in Nigeria and Africa in general. Like liberal democracy, it is a standard terminology developed by the Western societies to showcase their level of transparency and responsiveness to the needs and aspirations of the people as well as their adherence to Human Rights. It was developed by the World Bank in the 1980s and 90s with their Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) to access in economic and political matters the performances of the states and governments in terms of the prescriptions handed over to them and their endeavours in executing them thereof. Its components are; transparency, accountability, responsibility, responsiveness, etc.

Today, it has become a model to be used to access the performances of the states and government specially the Third World countries in the areas of economic, political, Human Rights observations, etc. The Western societies are believed to be the harbingers of these good governance ideas. Any country therefore that reneged or fall short of these ideas are rated to be low in the observance of these principles. And indeed in Nigeria, good governance is a terminology taken to be democratic dividends and best practices.

Before delving into the terminology of good governance, it is necessary we understand the term governance. Governance is the process by which authority is conferred on rulers, through which they make the rules, and by which these rules are enforced and modified. Understanding governance therefore requires an identification of both the rulers and the rules, as well as the various processes by which they are selected, defined, and linked together and with the society generally.

10. Definitions of the Term Good Governance

Good governance (UNDP) is, "...among other things participatory, transparent and accountable. It is also effective and equitable. And it promotes the rule of law". And it "...encompasses the role of public authorities in establishing the environment in which economic operators function and in determining the distribution of benefits as well as the relationship between the ruler and the ruled (OECD:www.oecd.org/dac/).

To World Bank, it is "...epitomized by predictable, open and enlightened policy making, a bureaucracy imbued with professional ethos; an executive aim of government accountable for its actions, and a strong civil society participating in public affairs, and all behaving under the rule of law" (World Bank 1994 Governance: The World Bank Experience).

According to UNDP, "Good governance is among other things, participatory, transparent and accountable. It is also effective and equitable. And it promotes the rule of law. Good governance equally ensures that political, social and economic priorities are based on broad consensus in society and that the voices of the

The term good governance has no single and exhaustive definition neither is there any limit to its scope that is universally accepted. The term is used with great flexibility to its advantage, but also it is a source of some difficulty at the operational level. This depends on the context and the overriding objective sought. Good governance has been said at various times to encompass (a) Full respect of human rights (b) The rule of law (c) Effective participation (d) Multi-actor partnerships (e) Political pluralism (f) Transparent and accountable process and institutions (g) An efficient and effective public sector (h) Legitimacy, access to knowledge (i) Information and education (j) Political empowerment of people (k) Equity (l) Sustainability (m) Attitudes and values that foster responsibility, solidarity and tolerance.

Equally, there is a significant degree of consensus that good governance relates to political and institutional processes and outcomes that are deemed necessary to achieve the goals of development. It has been said that good governance is the process whereby public institutions conduct public affairs, manage public resources and guarantee the realization of human rights in a manner essentially free of abuse and corruption, and with due regard for the rule of law. The true test of "Good governance is the degree to which it delivers on the promise of human rights that is; civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights.

11. The Linkage Between Leadership and Good Governance in Nigeria

The linkage between the leadership and good governance therefore has been how hard the leadership maintained transparency in its policies, decisions, actions and dealings not only within the state but externally also or are the activities of the leadership shrouded in secrecy? How accountable had the leadership been to the people for its policies and activities. Do the masses participate in decision makings or are policies handed over to them without any input and participations. Is the leadership actually responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people or just paying lip-services to their issues.

This is so when we realize that, the concept of good governance as identified by the UN Commission of Human Rights. In its resolution of 2000/64 came out with the following attributes. They are as follows;

- (a) Transparency
- (b) Responsibility
- (c) Accountability
- (d) Participation and responsiveness (to the needs of the people).

Moreover, how has the leadership in actualizing good governance in the state brought about democratic reforms that create avenues for the public to participate in policy making either through formal institutions or informal consultations. In pursuance of its good governance policy, has the government advanced human rights by improving the state capacity to fulfill its responsibilities in providing public goods which are essential for the protection of a number of human rights, such as the right to education, health and food. Moreover, have they brought out reforms that will include ways of accountability and transparency, culturally sensitive policy tools to ensure that services are accessible and acceptable to all, and paths of public participation in decision-making.

Equally, have the leadership in relation to rule of law initiated legislative reforms by being human rights sensitive and assist institutions ranging from penal systems to courts and parliaments to better implement that legislation. For good governance initiatives include advocacy for legal reform, public awareness-raising on the national and international legal framework, and reform of institutions.

And in fighting corruption, good governance rely on principles such as accountability, transparency and participation to shape anti-corruption measures. These initiatives include establishing institutions such as, anti-corruption commissions, creating mechanisms of information sharing, and monitoring governments.

12. The Linkage between Leadership and Sustainable Development

“Sustainable development is the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs”. This is according to the Brundtland Commission Report on “Our Common Future” (1987). The leadership therefore, in its day today activities should try and bring about good governance. For good governance is essential for sustainable development. Without good governance, meaningful sustainable development can not take place. And sustainable development have come to rest on many premises like; the emergence of more effective governance institutions; respect for rule of law, and the curbing of corruption that have eaten deep into the fabric of our society and is affecting the growth and development of the economy of the country, transparency in the management of public finances and executive agencies being accountable for their actions to the electorate, the judiciary (the last hope of the common man) and the civil society.

13. Appraisal

Apparently therefore, governance is a collective responsibility it embraces all the facets of the state and governments both at the national, state, and local government levels. But it takes the will and strength of a selfless leader to be able to carry out policies that will benefit all the segments of the society. A self-serving leader may not be able to do so.

The leaderships of this country in their delivery services have not remained transparent and accountable to the people. That accounts for the high rate of corruption in the state which, could be found in every nook and crannies of the society. Funds meant for developmental purposes had found their way into individual pockets or stashed away in foreign bank accounts regarded as safe haven. The voices of the poorest of the poor are not heard. This is surprising when, we realize that good governance is all about accountability, participation and responsiveness to the needs of the people and their aspirations. Because of internal disequilibrium the leadership have not remained focused regarding the goals of the government. Distractions occur here and there some times by selfish motives and personal interests. This has resulted in wallowing poverty, unemployment, lack of infrastructural development and domestic conflicts. Except Nigeria adopts a system which enables people to grow into leadership through training experience and performance, the country will continue to group in dark with ineptness, maladministration and corruption. It is a known fact that good governance is to create order and well-being in the mist of conflicts that will bring about sustainable development.

It is also a known fact that leadership style should not be the type that will not yield good governance and political dividends. Leadership attitude should not also be lethargic to the issues affecting the common man and the society at large. For most people in position see themselves as rulers instead of servants. They see themselves as above the law ignoring the fact that good governance involves participation of the leaders and the leader.

In electoral matters, there should be transparency, equity and fair play to all the political gladiators and their must be enabling environmental for equal play ground to all. There should be no abuse of authority and privilege of office to those in power and authority. Otherwise, there will be no fair play to those who are not in office. The election officials must display sincerity and transparency during elections allowing credible oppositions and competitions to be able to bring the best out of the political parties for sustainable development.

14. Conditions Militating Against Good Governance in Nigeria

Nigeria's history since independence has been dominated by the question of national unity. This had been the result of parochial loyalties of the major groups to their tribes rather than to the country. This prompted Achebe (2009:30) to posit that, "since independence in 1960 till now, Nigeria have not gotten the right leadership it ought to have that has propelled other nations to greatness". That accounts for the so many ills of the country. Nigeria needs the kind of leadership that is sensitive to the problems and aspirations of Nigerians as well as show leadership examples to other black countries of the world. Nigeria therefore needs leadership that can save the country and provide selfless and inspiring leadership. Therefore the trouble with Nigeria is simply and squarely a failure of leadership. There is nothing wrong with the Nigerian character. There is nothing wrong with the Nigerian land or climate or water or air or anything else. The Nigerian problem is the unwillingness or the inability of its leaders to rise to the responsibility to the challenge of personal example which are the hall mark of true leadership.

Achebe was therefore stirred in his mind as a result when he said thus: *"Where are our own Abraham Lincoln, Gandhi, Chissano, etc? We need our own Messiah to start developing like other nations. Leaders that will make our tap run and our hospitals to start working so that our leaders will no longer go abroad for health checkups. Or uses that as a medium of stashing away our patrimony abroad for selfish ends instead of using our God-given resources to develop all nooks and crannies of Nigeria for the benefit of the masses. Nigeria needs a leadership and government that will create jobs for the over 80 million Nigerians living now below poverty line. A population that survives on mere \$1 per day. Leaders that will make our roads motorable and our streets lighted"*.

This conflict of interests between the leaders of the sub-nationality tribes over the distribution of power and resources, the nationalist sentiments, that had grown with the national independence, got eroded. The consequences of this conflict were the institutionalization of military rule in the country up till May 29th, 1999, with the attendant problem of transition of power from military to civilian and vice versa, the mistrust of the

political leadership over the distribution of power and resources. This is the crux of the condition militating against good governance in Nigeria's political history. (Ogoloma; 1993:46-47).

1. The importance of a common language and ideology for the development of a country cannot be overestimated and underplayed. In the light of this, it has become a must for Nigeria to adopt a national ideology that can help to galvanize the heterogeneous society for a purposeful national economic, political and cultural development of the country. Its absence has prevented Nigeria from properly articulating her national interests and leadership role effectively. The only ideology it has known has been that of nationalism geared against a colonial power which helped in fighting and winning its independence and sovereignty but it is out-dated as it has not helped her to effectively tackle the rigorous and at times cumbersome complicated domestic and international relations for its development. The nature of the ruling elite is such that, they are pro-west without any inclination for radicalism and assertiveness in their policies. They stand for status quoism and are sectionalists and tribalistically minded group (Ogoloma; 1993:224-235).

Other conditions militating against leadership and good governance are religion, regionalism, ethnicity, tribalism, praise singing and corruption in all levels. Corruption leads to the inability of the leadership most especially to impact upon the citizens and their policies. Corruption is one of the major causes of ineptness of the leader in carrying out policies that would bring about good governance and sustainable development in Nigeria.

15. Conclusion/Suggestions

In Nigeria, democratic dividends is what we call good governance. This good governance is expected to move the country forward by bringing about sustainable development in the country. The leadership style should be the one that will usher in democratic dividends by not been lethargic to the issues concerning the common man. If need be let there by leadership education that will high light service delivery and accountability. The cost of governance should not be very expensive, and high. Sanusi Lamudo Sanusi, the Central Bank Governor had argued that, the present structure of governance in the country had contributed to the high recurrent expenditure in the budget. He said that government existed to serve people, adding that it was not sensible for the government to continue to spend 70 percent of the country's revenue on itself and 30 percent for the people (Business day, Thursday 06 Dec. 2012, p.2).

The cost of governance therefore should be minimized to make the government effective and for the democratic dividends to percolates to all and sundry in the society not loosing sight for the need of transparency, equity, fair play and justice. The leadership should always carry the people along having their aspirations and yearnings at heart in taking decisions that concerns them.

That be as it may, leadership in Nigeria is seen as a means of amazing wealth and exploitation fulfillment of parochial and selfish interests. Leadership should not be seen to be so. Rather be able to compete in the comity of nations.

And according to Anyakwe (2011:18) "The missing link in Nigeria is not money, but poor quality of leadership. And in referring to President Goodluck Jonathan said that, I want him to enthrone the kind of leadership that will project Nigeria well and put it aright before the comity of nations". This he will do by, turning governance into a right and not privilege by running a government that is exemplary for others to emulate.

Evidently leadership in Nigeria is perhaps pollution of leadership qualities, a bastardizing of revered tradition, convention and culture. Thus leadership in Nigeria is seen as a means of exploitation, personal enrichment, fulfilling parochial interest and selfish ambition which does not portray the way of the leader. This is not to be so. Nigeria must join the country of nations in enthroning good leadership and governance for it is a country in desperate need of good leadership, for the constant change in the leadership in our history clearly testifies that we are a people of worth searching and yearning for a more reliable government which is fair, just and caring enough to evoke spontaneous patriotism from the citizenry.

In the light of the above, it is suggested that people should not put their tribes/ethnicity first before the interest of the country. Because, the country comes first.

1. Leadership should not be lethargic to the problems and aspirations of the masses.
2. Governance should aim at the greatest happiness of the greatest number.
3. Nigerians should learn not to bother about the tribe/ethnicity of the leader. But rather focus on his ability and capacity to govern.
4. The leadership should not fail to fight fissiparous tendencies whenever and wherever they may arise with enough political will.

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