AN EVALUATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN KWARA STATE UNDER A DEMOCRATIC SETTING: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS (1999-2015)

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ABSTRACT
The article examines the socio-economic development of Kwara State from 1999 to 2015. The aim of the study focuses on administrative problems and prospects after the transition to civilian government. This political achievement paved the way for the people to hold their leaders accountable in the state. Kwara State, a federation unit in Nigeria benefits from the Federation Account for socio-economic development. The objective of this study is to evaluate the policy framework that drives the socio-economic development. In view of this stance, the executive governor is the head of civil service administration in the state. Therefore, the successive governors, starting from Governor Muhammad Lawal late (1999-2003), Governor Bukola Saraki (2003-2011) and Governor Abdulfatai Ahmed 2011-2015 respectively are instrumental in policy-making. However, their campaign promises are embedded in the individual manifesto with intention of actualising the expectations of the people. The individual governor derived its socio-economic policy from the Scheme of Kwara State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (KWASEEDS). It is reported from the data collected from the interview scheduled that, there has been socio-economic development in Kwara State, rather it has not commensurate with the expectations of the people within the focus periods. The research method adopted in the study is quantitative and qualitative approach. The implication is that the campaign promises had not reflected on the expectations of the people in Kwara State due to unethical electoral process in the state.

Introduction

Socio-economic development enmeshes governmental plans towards a community development on the interest of the people in Kwara State. This also informs the economic livelihood of the people which the government designs to achieve in a democratic system. This is because economic expectation of the citizens provides a basis of performance after the inauguration of the Fourth Republic in 1999. However, many scholars have explained economic reform, leadership performance with reference to constraints and successes of the Western, Asia and Latin America economic development. The influence of economic factors on the third wave of democratisation in Asia and African countries recognises the performance of the democratic government. In Huntington's argument, the oil hikes in some countries remains the major constraints with other economic downturns which frustrate the authoritarian regimes to change to democratic government in the third wave from 1974 and aftermath (Huntington, 1991).

Therefore, the fluctuation of oil price in the Nigerian economy was a major challenge in economic sector between 1999 and 2015. This is because the country runs her socio-political and economic mainly on oil as the mono-product. At the tune of the 21st Century, the oil price dropped at the international market. This immediately affects democratic government in Nigeria with a process of manipulation of oil prices (hike) for the sustainability of democratisation process. The focus on the governmental policy is consistent in the country after re-democratisation of the Fourth Republic as the oil price is skyrocketed because successive governments increased the oil price from twenty naira to uncertainty price after the initiation of democracy. Although, President Goodluck Jonathan increased the oil price to ninety-seven naira in 2012 from sixty-five naira after the death of President Umar Yar'Adua in 2009, his regime was down in political legitimacy in 2015 and this forced the price of oil to eighty-seven naira on the basis of his re-election (Usman and Ibrahim, 2012). Against this backdrop, the expectation of the Nigerian people remains the socio-economic development which could reflect reasonable on oil price in the country. Therefore, oil plays a significant role in democratisation process in Nigeria since the inauguration of the Fourth Republic in 1999. The resumption of President Muhammadu Buhari in 2015 was not a surprise to Nigerians. The oil price was hiked to one hundred and forty-five naira per litres. Comparatively, the magnitude in the oil price after the initiation of democracy in 1999 was skyrocketing as compare to the military regime of the past which maintained stable price in the country. Before the transition to democracy in 1999, the price of oil under General Abacha/General Abdusalam's regime was twenty naira in 1998.

Statement of the Problem

Many studies have been conducted on democratic performance, socio-economic development, and campaign promise in Nigeria (Bratton, 2013; Ibeagere and Omoera, 2010; Momoh, 2006; Basiru, 2013; and Ogundiya, 2009). This study focuses on sub-state (provincial/regional) contexts and more specifically on Kwara State, a federation unit in Nigeria. Therefore, this study is necessary as it explore the character of leadership performance and campaign promises in the case study. This study also attempts to examine the fundamental challenges to the successful governments regarding campaign promises by political elites, leadership performance, and the deepening of democracy in Kwara State. By and large, it determines the impact of political class in the leadership selection among the contending political parties and how it inform the voting behaviour of the electorates in the state after the return to democracy. This not only defines the political situation, but the socio-economic interest is the major catalyst which justifies the campaign promises of each political party. It comes informed of community development so any political party that fulfils its promises within four years is likely to enjoy legitimacy (re-election) because of reasonable performance. This makes the competition and participation high in a situation where the electoral system is followed properly. Justification of this character in Kwara State relies on the antecedent democratic character which worked against the principles of democratisation and democratic consolidation.

Conceptual Framework

Socio-economic development serves as precondition for the deepening of democracy as well as assessing leadership performance of a

democratic government. However, we can ask a question about the impacts of campaign promises and leadership performance. Therefore, the quality of a good government is clearly answerable to needs and demands of the actual people. The concept of socio-economic development responds to integration of social interest of the political groups for maximum improvement on living condition of the people for standard (Chojnicki, 2010). I present in this study the system which informs socio-economic development as alternative power mentioned earlier in this section that citizens are the determinant that can change the system when government in power loses legitimacy another government is established by election with reference to leadership performance on economy.

The failure of socio-economic growth in most developing countries of Africa over some years, is basically on the poor performance of democratic government. Therefore, stating various challenges, such as unemployment, hunger, poverty, insecurity, disease, illiteracy, insecurity, wars and crimes. These challenges could be eradicated by new thinking and re-direction of development from economic growth which focused on the citizen's welfare. The urgent solutions to the socio-economic challenges lies on government proactive effort in setting economic policy that would re-direct economic development through the establishment of basic physical infrastructures that would enhance industrialisation with regard to economic growth and economic development (Ewetan, 2014).

In this sense, insufficient infrastructure in developing countries constitute socio-economic disadvantage. Such that hydroelectric infrastructures, such as power, water, and sufficient roads respectively are the strong indicators of development. This requires policy arrangement of a country to improvement public infrastructure so as to maintain economic livelihood of the people (Erdal, 2012). Thus, one of the significances of leadership performance in a democratic government is adequate supply of electricity for the people so as to improve socio-economic advantages in the state.

Research Methodology

The research methodology in this section emphasises on procedural steps on how to make inquiry into campaign promises, leadership performance and the deepening of democracy in Nigeria, study of Kwara State 1999-2015. This process explains the content of research questions and how it justifies the research objectives. The author looks into the importance of research methodology throughout this article. The research captures the underpinnings of qualitative and quantitative methods which are discussed in context of ontological and epistemology.

Theoretical Framework

What is leadership which forms issues in democratic performance? Leadership means influence which is a fact that everybody knows. Sometime is not about why but how do leader influence the followers to the vision of an institution. One of this explains leadership quality, such as integrity that is ability to do what is right, empowerment of followers, faith in followers, understanding of followers, emotionally intelligent, exemplary to followers and communication skill. However, political leadership in a democratic government embraces and seeking for consent rather than imposing coercive power on people. This translates to involvement of the people on policy formulation and implementation which relates to working of democracy. Not only this, it facilitates cordial relationship between the electorates and the government in power to move the country to the next level in development (Teles, 2012). Leadership performance offers a broad definition in the foreign policy as it informs the character of political actors over certain issues which affect national interest of the country. This worthy quality explains the action of diplomatic president in the international politics. It is worth to mention again that performance of political leaders in their domestic governments improve on prospects in global politics. For example, President Bush of the United State fighting against terrorism after September 11, 2001 and French President Francois Holland deployed troops to Syria after the use of chemical weapon in 2013. This reflected performance and presentation of public actors under democratic governments (Lahel, 2011).

Strategies Of Socio-Economic Development in Kwara State

The concept of re-democratisation implies that a democratic government is restored after the end of an authoritarian regime at a period of time. This solemnly embraces the electoral matters which connect the electorate and political elite in engendering a political synergy. Therefore, Nigeria realised democratic government in 1999 as founding elections were conducted in the process of setting the political ball rolling. This development reflects political structures that facilitate socio-economic development in the environment of Kwara State.

Evidently, the elected government that replaced the military regime in Kwara State in 1999 continues with the economic policy of the military. This challenge faced the new democracy after the end of the military rule in Nigeria. This trend was slow to improve on the needs and aspiration of the citizens. However, some cardinal areas which touched the livelihood of the people are: education, health, gender, housing, environment, food and security, etc. These socio-political developments were apparently implemented through rolling terms of the first democratic governance. Thus, the subsequent regimes responded to economic development in the state which obviously replaced the past economic policy by innovative programmes. These initiatives gave a direct sense in building mechanism through public policy.

The process of democratisation process accounts for the presence of economic and political mechanism. These segments find practice at aftermath of the first regime of the state. The management of Kwara State reflects slow socio-economic performance of Executive Governor Muhammed Lawal and this practice thrilled the success of Bukola Saraki in 2003 election as well as his re-election of 2007 to complete the second term in 2011.

The inclusion of socio-economic development in this case study recognises the idea that political structure should be able to tap its natural resources to cater for the needs and social lives of the generality of the people. This is simply a reference to manner of production of goods and services. In another vein, socio-economic development manifests itself in diverse ways: health and well-being of all citizens, good reward labour for improvement in the standard of living from the context of social infrastructures are examples in this case (Terhenman and Tyoyila 2012). The articulation of these social capitals translates into the current programmes of Kwara State by ensuring strong commitment for proper implementation and accountability in utilisation of the state resources through viable public policy which could achieve immediate goals in the polity.

Kwara State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy 2004-2011

Kwara State under the leadership of Executive Governor Abubakar Bukola Saraki, who emerged as the winner in 2003 gubernatorial elections intentionally, waved the obsolete economic programmes of his predecessor, Governor Muhammad Lawal of 1999. The economic rationale of the State Executive (then) was State Economic Empowerment and Strategy which existed between 2004 and 2011 respectively. The socio-economic activities of Kwara State are mainly government driven in supporting viable sectors to achieve its state goals in the area of welfare and social well-being of the people. However, the government demystifies its domestic actions by identifying problems of the past political regimes in ensuring means of resolving it for improvement of the deficit economic factors of the state. In processing this agenda, KWASEEDS was introduced as economic management of the state.

KWASEEDS simply means the commitment of the state government to empower the people as well as enable them take advantage of the current and future opportunities. It therefore seeks to improve human development, promote the private sector, improve governance, address environmental degradation, agenda imbalance and HIV/AIDS problem in the state. Subsequently, in its campaign for this indispensable transformation, the standard of education in Kwara State was relatively low. The KWASEEDS seeks to enhance access to quality education for all school-age children in the state by ensuring that all uplifted to make schools more efficient and learner-friendly. Furthermore, the state health system and facilities have deteriorated over the past decades. The KWASEEDS programme ensures more improvement in the preventive and eradication of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and waterborne diseases (Kwara State Planning Commission 2004).

In another dimension, the governmental policy in the state seeks to control environmental challenges, ranging from soil erosion, flooding and creeping desertification. KWASEEDS is to reduce environmental externalities from economic and social activities in the state to a bare minimum by adopting environmental mitigation that will bring on board both the private and the public sectors and ensuring compliance with the state environmental laws. In this connection, women constitute a higher number of people living below the poverty line in the state. Therefore, KWASEEDS will create space for women to opportunities and resources designed to enhance their welfare and well-being by articulating on gender parity. In this light, poverty is pervasive in the state. But the pervasiveness varies along geographical zones, rural and urban centre, age groups and gender (Kwara State Planning Commission, 2004).

The operation of private sector investment in the state is very minimal. KWASEEDS drives to create enabling environment for large scale business which accommodates private investors. The significance of this economic campaign often relates with the improvement of lives of the people in the aspect of employment. Not only this, the enterprises will also check poverty as well as the government takes viable responsibility in this modern way of sustaining the economic growth and development. Moreover, the growing of private sector in the state will also accommodate social responsibility as task of helping the state in rendering charitable service to the people, depending on the type of the business which emphasises on the private service. Furthermore, involving private sectors in Kwara State internally and externally promotes employment opportunities as well as increase the financial base of the state. The menace of unemployment during the military era manifested the democratic regime of 1999. This bane reflects the policy of the government for growing private sectors in accordance with the interest of the people (State Planning Commission, 2004).

Reforming relates with institutional approach within the ambit of the state. The primary intention of the elected governor (Bukola Saraki) is to tap the human resources for vertical and horizontal development. Human resources in the state is necessary for socio-economic and political development. The resumption of the executive governor in 2003 recognises the institutional challenge that regressed developmental projects. KWASEEDS is established in order to bridge the gaps between the past administration and the present elected government then. Against this backdrop, involving the people of Kwara State especially people that understand the challenges facing the state after the end of the military is important (State Planning Commission, 2004). The effort of every successful government in Kwara State is to improve upon the governance through the institutional framework. Therefore, reforming government and its institutions through the human capacity is germane to democratic development. Thus, different ministries are involved with leadership exercise and state commissioners are appointed to manage the affair of the ministries.

Medium Term Sector Strategy Plan 2011-2015

The importance of election in the state allows different set of democratic governments to implement reform which attain to the demands of the people. It also promotes working and the deepening of democracy in transformation agenda of each successful government. In this sense, what is transformation agenda? The transformation agenda was a blueprint of the President Goodluck Jonathan's economy plan in the course of change from the old socio-economic reforms to the new plan that will oversee and incorporate certain industrial sectors for economic growth and development in the country. Thus, the agenda focuses on these economically sectors vis-avis education, health, energy and power, transportation, agriculture, aviation and security (Bello-Imam, 2013).

These segments agenda are pursued to control the economic conditions of the country so that it will guarantee and create large opportunities for Nigerian. In this sense, Kwara state maintains these economic drives as justified by the creation of Medium-Term Sector Strategy Plan (MTSSP 2011-2015) by the Executive Governor Abdulfatai Ahmed. This economic management was entitled "Kwara: Consolidating developing and delivering". This economic profile will largely foster the socio-economic development of the state. In this template, government activities are aptly explained below:

Agriculture and Agro-Processing

This sector has contributed to the economic growth of the state in diverse settings. Apparently, the establishment of Shonga project has remained a reliable source in the area of income generation. Moreover, agriculture in the state largely remains subsistent and labour intensive. Agro-processing remains a significant source of revenue to the state, due to the significant revenue gains from the value adding processing of basic agriculture raw materials and produce. In 2010, some initiatives commenced in this regard including cashew nut processing and more recently plans for cassava processing into ethanol and so on. The production of other farming in the areas of fishing, cassava, sugar cane fruit juice, rice and soya beans are relevant in the production. The premise of agriculture and agro-processing is a constructive idea of the government for food security in the state. Discovery of the natural endowment in the state requires government to initiate policy that could promote utilisation of resources at local levels.

It needs to be said that the available natural resources could sustain agro-processing on foods which have direct impact on the livelihood of the people. Apart from this initiative, the agro-processing food is very easy to establish as it requires small capital. Finally, this government is committed to giving subsidy which comes in form of money or farm inputs, such as technology, giving fertiliser, and land to the farmers. Nigeria is growing fast in agriculture with 60 per cent population self-employed including women and young children and it contributes 35 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (Nwuncli, 2010). This opportunity should remain in the profile of Kwara State government to assist the subsistence farmers in all areas of agriculture. Therefore, the incidence of urban drift would be checked in this framework. The significance of agro-processing industry mainly focused on the agricultural products could enhance adequate food productivity in the state. Exploitation of the natural resource in both human and natural endowments are involved as agricultural inputs. The existence of agro-processing industries depends on the policy of the government to support the scheme with capital intensive and training which ensures socio-economic development in Nigeria (Kareem *et al*., 2009). In view of this new economic development in the state, the policy framework of the government after the initiation of democracy in 1999 is to cut the unemployment rate down through a range of agro-processing industries and this would extend to the rural areas of Kwara State.

Minerals

Kwara State has mineral resources which are abundant in commercial entity. But the basic challenge involves the illegal miners in various tasks tapping it for private enterprise. This action reflects that the state does not gain any economic profit from mineral resources. It is thus right to say that the mineral is undeveloped because it has not passed through the process of tapping for general interest and for mass employment in the state. The state has proven significant reserves of limestone, marble, feldspar, gypsum, kaolin, columbine/tantalite, gold, quarts, mica, and granite, all of which could be exploited to form the base for industrial development in the state. Thus, the government has taken legal action to stop illegal exploitation of the mineral by liaising with the Federal Ministry, Mines and Solid Minerals to ensure proper regulatory framework in Kwara state.

One of the economic functions of every successive government in Kwara State is to have a policy in economic management of the state. This could be achieved through adequate exploitation of the mineral resources. The challenge of illegal mining in the state started from the military era and was inherited by democratic government. Therefore, the mineral resources of the state are protected by the constitution of the country. Rocks are important mineral resources in the world and sedimentary rocks are good for community development. Most of the developed countries in the world today tapped the mineral resources for their socio-economic development. Against this backdrop, developing countries should have the similar idea in exploiting the natural resources in their territory (Chicaco et al 2016). In the light of the abundant resources deposited in the territory of Nigeria, (Bamalli *et al.,* 2011) aptly discusses:

> *It has been proven that Nigeria is endowed with a lot of mineral resources. The range of mineral raw materials and their reserves are so wide that it should not have been necessary to import industrial mineral raw materials. Though, the primary mineral can be exploited for Industrial processing, many industries*

import their mineral raw materials requirements due mainly to inadequate technology for transforming raw materials into variety of products needed by local industries.

This argument provides as well as highlights the major challenge Kwara State is facing after the transition to democratic rule in 1999. Basically, every successful government tries to embark on a project which could harness the resources of the state but persists because of lack of modern technology that could help in this operation. Government of Kwara State could give it a sort by inviting various local technologists to embark on an alternative technology which could benefit the people at low prices.

Manufacturing and Industry

Kwara state had evolved manufacturing enterprises which practically operates at different capacities. These operations have significantly contributed to high level of production in the state. Some of the leading companies are: Dangote flour mills, detergent and pharmaceuticals and there is functioning factory that has been restored which is regarded as one of Nigeria's top companies. Other industrial areas in the state include: United Foam Products, Global Soap & Detergents Industry, Tuyil Pharmaceutical Industries which manufactures a range of pharmaceuticals and the popular Visleri Table water brand, and the Chellarams motorcycle assembly plant, to name a few. In this construction, the private industries have contributed to large socio-economic growth in the state. The government has taken a decisive policy in accommodation of more industries in the state. The step taken by the government is to consolidate the local industries with the foreign industries. Accommodation of the foreign industries expands employment opportunities to the job seekers. This expansion in manufacturing industries often adds to the economic structure of the state (Ojo and Ololade, 2014). The economic structure as a complex organisational framework, interlace network, configuration or outline of logical connectives through which activities of economy are coordinated or aligned in the state.

In Nigeria, particularly after the political independence manufacturing industries contributed significantly 10 per cent to the country's economic output. Discovery of oil boom in 1970s largely affected the operation of the manufacturing industries. The oil price also changed in the international market for the fact that the manufacturing industries regain its operation in 1980 adding more to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (National Bureau of Statistics, 2014). In view of this economic advantage, private manufacturing industries were in existence for the production of food, beverage, beer, textile, cement and tobacco. Kwara State government is not left out in this manufacturing industry. In addition, the manufacturing industry assists in driving the economy from local to modern. This can be achieved through the economic policy of the government which could throw more advantages to the private enterprises in the country (Oburota and Okoi, 2017). Kwara State government should also maintain this idea in the light of transforming the state in the area of the manufacturing industry.

Education

Kwara State government immensely improved the level of human capacity development by establishing viable institutions which will contribute to training of the people's such educational institutions are: Kwara State University Malete and School of Aviation for the training of competent pilots and increasing the level of human capacity in the federation of Nigeria. The two institutions have foreign facilities which make it more attractive to the foreigners particularly neighboring countries. Other formal educational institutions include: College of Education, Ilorin, Lafiagi and Oro, School of Nursing Ilorin, School of Mid-wifery, and College of Health Technology Offa respectively.

The priority for education in Nigeria became the mission of every successful government after the initiation of democratic system in 1999. Qualitative education that could compete in the global system is recognised in Nigeria. In view of progress in the educational institutions, there is hope for the deepening of democracy in the state. The democratic system is prepared to revitalise education in order to meet the international benchmark as well as to target economy of the country. Therefore, training the generations start from the elementary education

to the higher education vis-à-vis University, Polytechnic, School of Nursing, College of Education and Aviation School. Indeed, Universal Basic Education Scheme was re-launched in 1999 for the purpose of meeting the MDG (Mojo, 2000). This is achieved in Kwara State within the three elected executive governors. For one and a half decade, the major challenge in the UBE is the corrupt of official in the organisation was unleashed.

Infrastructure

In recent years, Kwara State infrastructure has seen massive transformation. Roads have been built and upgraded, the power situation has greatly improved and new facilities such as Ilorin International Airport had been constructed. To complement these improvements as well as provide a more conducive environment to users, the state in the last few years has embarked on significant cleaning and greening projects. One of the significant achievements was the provision of transformer in various parts of the state – most significantly within the Ilorin metropolis.

The perennial development in infrastructure is realised but the performance fluctuates in the three democratic governments which were established between 1999 and 2015. Flowing of adequate infrastructures in the Fourth Republic by the regime in power often receives legitimacy from the people that give power periodically. Therefore, a responsible government creates policy in the manifesto in order to realise the dream of the entire populace. The key expectation of the humanity lies on the basic infrastructures which enhance other factor of production and consumption. The establishment of Kwara Infrastructure Investment and Finance Strategy by Governor Abdulfatai Ahmed in 2014 for curtailing of deficit infrastructures across Kwara State vis-à-vis health, education and water (Kwara State Government, 2016).

At this standpoint, what is infrastructure which requires human expectation? This can be distinguished between economic and social infrastructure (Kasper, 2015):

> *Economic infrastructure as a physical network with properties of natural monopoly includes the sectors energy, including electricity, oil and gas; telecommunication, transport, water, and wastewater. Social infrastructure follows the idea of covering a specific area. This could be backed by Hoteling's spatial competition model for supermarkets in industrial*

The major stakeholder in the provision of the two infrastructures involves the state and the private enterprises. The former is important in the function of physical structure particularly dealing with the people, while the latter is more vibrant in the management of the economic structure. Thus, the economic structure under the control of federal and state in Nigeria lacks adequate and proper management because it is replete with corruption and mismanagement which resulted in the privatisation of some sectors in the country, such as Telecommunication and Refinery. The major challenge which seriously accounted for low production is skewed to electricity in Nigeria.

Schemes and Plans on Socio-Economic Performance

In the foregoing discussion of socio-economic development, the Kwara State as the focus in the federation of Nigeria has twenty statutory Ministries. Of these, this study selected three Ministries as the main focus for its societal functions as well services to the people: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Water Resources, and Ministry of Health. The major argument centres upon the socio-economic relations. In this point of view, does the stance commensurate with the governmental policy and the goals of achieving of social well-being of the citizens with reference to process of economic reforms in the state? Therefore, this study observes the four political regimes from socio-economic background with a view to explaining the interactions between the three governors elected and the people in Kwara State. The justification of socio-economic development in the State political environment often depends on the objectives of the blueprint. In a nutshell, bureaucratic structure of the state Ministries will be considered in the interpretation of efficiency and leadership performance in the administration. In view of this training, government's policy thrust for the Ministry of Education revolves around the following:

1. To ensure that Kwara becomes a model for the administration of public education, in terms of the quality of training as well as relevant infrastructure, nation-wide.

2. To contribute to the state's policy with regard to industry by promoting entrepreneurship, sports, civic studies, and ICT skills at a very early age within the Kwara school curriculum.

3. To expand the state's involvement in education beyond primary, secondary and tertiary.

4. Centres for vocational skills for adults and semi-adults (Kwara State Government, 2011).

Kwara State Government focuses on the broad objective of the government of Kwara State is to make the Ministry of Water Resources a national benchmark in sustainable and optimum public service delivery in water resources management. The Ministry intends to drive its vision by ensuring continuous identification and resolution of water and sanitation needs of Kwarans over the next 5 years and beyond. Government's four years objectives are:

- Extend water pipe networks to new layouts and other areas yet to be served as well as the provision of boreholes where it is most appropriate towards ensuring that no Kwaran treks beyond 500m to access potable water.

- Ensure that water is sufficiently available in Kwara State both rural and urban areas.

- Promote public and private sector participation in water resources management, development, supply and conservation (Kwara State Government, 2011).

Figure 1: Does the leadership performance reflect on the economic expectations of the people?

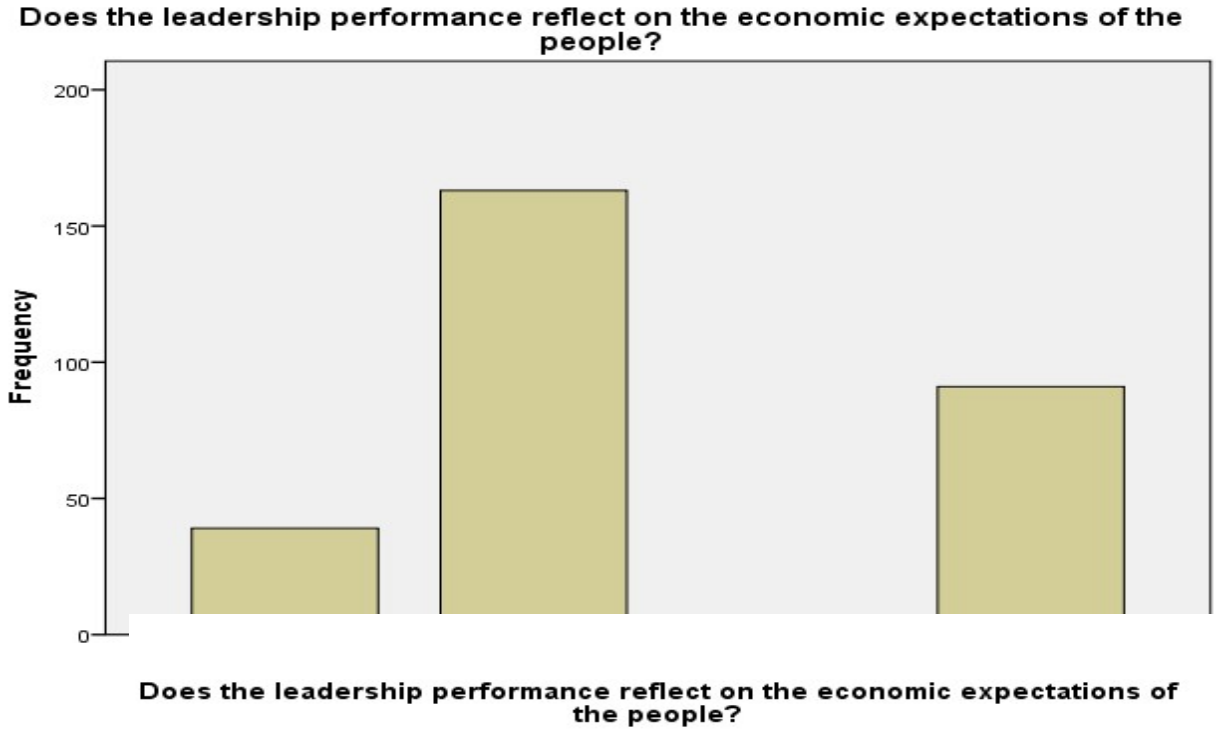


Figure 1 shows whether the leadership performance fulfills the economic expectations of the people. Therefore, the data collected from the respondents indicated that leadership performance has not fulfilled the economic expectations of the people. In the case of Kwara State, the people participated in representative democracy basically on infrastructures that could improve on the humanity in the state. The bar graph indicated 'No' as the highest frequency

of 163 with 55.4 per cent. This means that every government has highly disappointed the electorates by not providing basic needs of the people. In this stance, leadership performance has not defined the economic expectations of the people. This outcome was correspondingly linked to the interview schedule of respondents, it was observed that the number of respondents that said leadership performance has reflected socio-economic development was lesser than the respondents that raised opinion against the performance of the government on socio-economic development in the state. Therefore, the researcher observed from the findings that leadership performance does not reflect the socio-economic expectations of the people due to poor performance of the successive governments in the state.

Conclusion

Kwara State is bedeviled by myriads of problems which, despite its revenue allocation from the Federation Account, inhibit its socio-economic development as well as threaten its current democratic structure. Every successful government of Kwara State has mission and vision for the total welfare of the people based on socio-economic mechanism for the improvement of lives. However, the socio-economic policies of Kwara State had not been in tune with needs of the people. On this note, the transformation agendas of Kwara State through economic policy have little impact on the lives of the people. For example, the overhead bridge, shonga farm, and Aviation School respectively are meaningless since the beginning of the Fourth Republic as the people live in abject poverty in Nigeria and Kwara was in part. The government of Kwara State deliberately focused on the water sector as confirmed by many respondents, but the services are to poor or it has not met the international benchmark. Many respondents also complained of the personnel, medicine and services render are not improving.

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