

COMBATING CORRUPTION IN NIGERIA

(A CASE STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIMES COMMISSION (EFCC))

BY

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ILORIN KWARA STATE

MAY, 2025

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research work was carried out and approve as meeting the requirements for the award of higher national diploma (HND) in the institute of finance and management studies (IFMS), Kwara state polytechnic, Ilorin in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of higher national diploma (HND) in public administration.

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DEDICATION

I dedicatethis project to Almighty God for his mercy over me since I started my HND programe, all the glory be to him

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With the heart of gratitude and thanks, I give all glory to Almighty God who has been good to me all area for His infinite mercies upon me at all times and ensuring the successful completion of this project.

The struggle was tough, the road was tough but the journey was well made through. I remain grateful to my creator for giving me the wisdom, necessary and important to extent my special thanks to Mr and Mrs ADEWUYI, the reason behind my success, Thanks to my Brothers too big kudos to my families.

And to my lovers I pray the lord bless you all more than your expectations, thanks for all you do it's well known that when kindness cannot be returned, it must be appreciated to my humble and able supervisor, MR ABIOYE W.O I pray the lord continue to guide and protect you sir , Thanks for all the good comments. Big thanks to my HOD MR SERIKI thanks for all the fatherly advice, may the lord bless you all. (AMEN)

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CHAPTER ONE

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

1.1 Introduction

The Nigerian society has never been well governed because of impunity and corruption since it gained its political independence in 1960 (oluwasannmi, 2007, egbegbulem, 2009)

Oluwasannmi, (2007): imhonopi and ugochukwu, (2013) are of the opinion that from the first democratic experiment in 1960 to military regime and back to democracy as practiced in the country today. Nigeria has unfortunately been managed by corrupt leaders who are visionless, weak, parochial, morally bankrupt, narcissistic, egoistic, greedy and corrupt.

The leadership from 1960 has criminally managed the country's affairs accumulate wealth at the expense of national development and throwing the people over the precipice where they now wallow in absolute poverty, illiteracy, hunger, rising unemployment, avoidable health crisis and insecurity (ebegbulem cited in imhonopi and ugochukwu, 2013).

The formal president olusegunobasanjo assumed office in 1999 as poor politician call his bank accounts accounted to about (20,00) but eight years later

he had refurbished and expanded a derelict agricultural (poultry) farm at ota in ogun state to be now worth hundreds of millions of naira (oluwasannmi,2007). Obasanjo now possesses educational institution that run from primary to university level, he now has over two hundred millions of shares in various conglomerates, most especially transcorp Nigeria limited (oluwasannmi, 2007). This effort at combating corruption made little or no impact in the war against political corruption as his friends and officials under him were corrupt (ebegbulem 2012: oluwasannmi, 2007).

Furthermore, corrupt leadership has also been visible in the past administration. The people of Nigeria and the world have observed the cluelessness and low credibility of the past good luck Jonathan administration new York times newspaper of may 6th 2014 describe him as “leading a corrupt government that has little credibility’ (moris, 2015). In a similar vein, Jonathan government was also described by former us republican presidential nominee, senator Mc kay as a practically non-existing government that has lost credibility in providing security of life and property (ijewereme and dunmade, 2014).

In addition, Hillary clinton, the former us-secretary of state in separate events in New York City said the Nigeria government under president good luck Jonathan, squandered its resources, and indirectly help corruption to fester in the nobbled country (moris, 2015). Falana (2012) opines that, under president

good luck administration: “some of the governor and his party members under investigation posted their orderliness and relations to man department in the EFCC”. Falana further post that orderliness corruption is being carried out with impunity under past president good luckJonathan administration to the extent that the war against corruption has been lost completely.

The minister of petroleum. “Mrs.Daziani allusion madueke has been indicted of corruption by five different investigative panel committee’s report at different time, yet she confidently remains in charge of the ministry unperturbed (melaye, 2013), without the president demonstrating political will to bring the minister to book. Madueke has also been recently indicted (for squandering 10 billion naira on private jet maintenance expense) by the house of representative. The house called her to defend the indictment: instead she took court injunction restraining the house from further investigation and indictment of her office (ijewere&dunmade, 2014). Presently, she was indicted in UK for money laundry and charge to court (punch, 2015).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Infact, the general challenges for the anti-corruption strategies encompass the lack of institutional framework and autonomy anti-graft institutional to persecutethe culprit in accordance to the extant regulations. A weak judicial system absence of severe or soft punishment and government interference into

the activities of anti-graft institution are among the other challenges which exist today. Moreover, other contributing factors include bad leadership, paucity of funds absence of a comprehensive database, lack of autonomy and needs to reform the public sector (WAZIRI, 2010:)) Justine &okoye, 2014). These strategies set out by anti-graft institution in fighting against corruption in the country

1.3 Research Questions

1. What are the challenges of the strategies in combating corruption
2. Do you think that the lack of autonomy has hindered the strategies in combating corruption?
3. Does the lack of funds threaten the effectiveness of the strategies?
4. What are the possible solution to combat corruption?

1.4 Scope of the Study

1. Retardation of economic growth through low investment
2. Corruption discourage foreign donors and the international community from engaging in development project in a particular country
3. Corruption brings about less of revenue, as tax evasion is common among individual and corporate entities who present improper claims of tax exemption resulting to loss of revenue to the state

4. Corruption negatively affects budgetary allocations as it leads to re-allocation of resource on a particular item due to misappropriation of the earlier budgeted sum or failure of execution of services
5. Corruption negatively affects the quality of infrastructure and public services in that, procurement of public contracts is through corrupt means resulting to low quality of infrastructure and public services
6. Government projects are cherry picked by the public office holders, in favor of project that will bring personal financial gains rather than being on the basis of public welfare

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance delay, frustrations, and waste of resources in current prosecution regime constitute another challenge facing the EFCC. It has become an act for defense attorneys to ensure that financial crime do not continue, and substantive cases are never tried on their merits. Defense attorney can delay and prolong cases by tactics of applying for stay on proceeding. Where such application is not granted, the defense attorney accuse the judges of bias and therefore grounds for application to transfer their cases to other judges. 74 similar to the above challenge is the problem of congestion and the slow pace of courts and judges and antiquated manual recording system. Delays and congestion in judicial proceedings can be reduced by establishing a special financial crime

court for the adjudication of corruption and money laundering cases.

1.6 Organization of the Study

This project work has been subdivided into five chapters.

CHAPTER ONE: deal with general introduction of the study or background of the study, introduction, statement of the problem, purpose or objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, organization of the study, plan of the study, definition of term and references

CHAPTER TWO: contains literature review, introduction, theoretical framework, current trend in thinking, summary of the chapter and references

CHAPTER THREE: discuss methodology / research method, introduction, sample and population of the study, sources of data/ data collection instrument, method of data analysis, research problems and references.

CHAPTER FOUR: contain data presentation / analysis and interpretation of finding, introduction, brief history of the case study, presentation of data, analysis of data, summary of the chapter and references

CHAPTER FIVE: analysis summary of findings, recommendation, conclusion, references and bibliography.

1.7 Definition of Term

1. **CORRUPTION:** can be defined as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. corruption erodes trust , weakens democracy , hampers

economic development and further exacerbates inequality, poverty, social division and the environment

2. CRISIS FRAUD: this could be reflected as swindling, trickery, racketing, forgery, smuggling, counterfeiting and deceit.
3. EXTORTION: this entails the application of violence, coercion or threats another to obtain resources
4. ELETORAL CORRUPTION: this division of corruption entails the rigging of ejections as well as other frauds in the electoral techniques and stages. It entails the promise of an office, coercion, special favors, interference and intimidation with the freedom of election disenfranchisement, purchasing of votes, maiming and victimizing, snatching of ballot boxes, mutilation of election results in favor of losers.
5. BRIBE: dishonesty persuade (someone) to act in one's favor by a gift of money or other inducement.

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CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

For the purpose of conceptual clarification and to limit the level of ambiguity, which as a rule is hallmark of academic research. It is important to examine some of the concepts and terms that are invented by nor used in this study i.e. corruption, good governance and sustainable development. Corruption was not invented by, nor is it phenomenon with deep historical roots, although it manifests itself with similarities direction in different societies, depending on the peculiar system of power distribution and the legal and moral norms operating therein (osoba, 1996). In the view of egwemi (2012) corruption is not an easy task to define. However andrig and fjelstad (2001:4) see corruption as a complex and multifaceted phenomenon with multiple courses and effects as it takes on various forms and contexts.

United nation (2012) defined corruption as “abuse of power for private gain” the transparency international has chosen a clear and focused definition of the term as “the abuse of entrusted power for private gain “ it can also be defined as a pervasion or change from the general accepted rules or law for private gain

(Farida, 2010). The World Bank however defines corruption as the abuse of office for private gains. Public office is abused for provide gain when an official accepts, solicits or extorts a bribe. It is also abused when private agents actively offers bribes to circumvent public offices and process for competitive advantages or profit. Corruption , like all social phenomena, is intelligible only in its total social and cultural acceptability or tolerance being critically related to the dominant mode of capital accumulation, income, wealth and poverty distribution, power, configuration and the underpinning moral and ethical values operating in a given society (osoba , 1996, fatile ,2013). Corruption in Nigeria is a kind of social virus which is a hybrid of traits of fraudulent anti- social behavior derived from British colonial rule and nurtured in the indigenous Nigeria context (Usman, 2013)

The pervasive 'climate of corruption "in Nigeria constitutes the greatest impediment to good governance and sustainable development president Muhammad buhari in his inauguration speech as the president of Nigeria when taken over power in 2015 he asserted that "Corruption is the greatest bane of our society today no society can achieve anything near its full potential if it allow corruption to become the full blown cancer it has become in Nigeria (Adams, 2015). The menace has taken over nearly if not all the public institution and parastatals likewise the private organizations. In the past administration,

president good luck Jonathan demonstrated no zero tolerance to corruption, the level of corruption and impunity was so pervasive where some of his cabinet like economic and finance minister Dr. Okojoiweal and CBN governor lamidisanusi disagreed over unremitted funds into the account CBN account (Adams, 2015). It is instructive to note that the Nigeria government and citizens have totally committed themselves to the implementation and measure that can prevent or drastically reduce the extent and consequence of corruption in the country. Yjat is not to say the laws. Institution and programmers for controlling corruption have not been introduced by successive government (fatile, 2013). On the contrary, every Nigeria government since 1975 introduced elaborate laws and programmes, only for official to turn such programmes into fertile opportunity for corrupt practices and enrichment. Consequently, there has been a geometrical growth in the rate of corruption in the country (adeshina, 2015).

It is an incontrovertible fact that corruption and impunity has been the bane of good governance in Nigeria. Thus the phenomenon has ralleged the country and destroyed most of our cherished national values. Unfortunately the public officials saddled with the responsibility of formulating and implementation the affairs of the country policies, which have been the major culprit in perpetrating this act regrettably since independence a notable surviving legacy of the affairs of the country at different times has been the

institutionalization of corruption in all agencies of the public services, which like a deadly virus has subsequently spread to the private sector of the country (ogbeidi, 2012)

Agbu (2003:3) observed that public office can be abused for personal benefits even if no bribery occurs, through patronage and nepotism, the theft of state assets. Or the diversion of public resources. Thus, corruption connotes any behaviors that deviate from an established norm with regards to public trust. It also means theft of public trust whether the person affected holds Office or not since anybody can be corrupt (Usman, 2013)

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

To give clarification of what good governance is. It is important to define the term governance in order to fully understand good governance. The world bank (1989) defines governance as the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country social-economic and political resources yaqub and abubakar (2005) defined the term governance as the totality of the process of constituting a government as well as administering a political community in the

same vein ninalowo (2005), acknowledge that governance as the totality of administrative functions of the state with a view of fulfilling constitutional obligations to the populace. Nature (2006) viewed governance as the process and system by which policies makers manage the resources of a nation to address is corruption. Good governance promote development by generating and defending broad commitment to the public welfare.

2.2 Classification of Corruption in Nigeria Public Sector Private Corruption

By private corruption we mean people outside government, private individuals engaging in ethnical acts of immorality (pervasion show of dementia and act of fraud or scamming) the other groups of people is person in the organized private sector who may not or come out other acts of fraud in their companies or who colludes with those in government to perpetrate some financial practices.

Private corruption has manifested in Nigeria as everyday bribery to obtain a desire objective, breaking of traffic law, piracy, piagtanism, attention of school grades or promotion etc.

PUBLIC CORRUPTION: this is the familiar corruption that takes place in government or by government officials and their accomplices in the private sector. Another names for public corruption is official, grand on institutional

corruption this case person in position of authority exploit the position to take from the common wealth.

2.3 Theoretical Review

The relevant theory to this discourse is the modernization theory. Modernization theory were concerned with structural change in the economy and state of primitive organization of production to the modern organization of economic activities (itutigton,1968) emphasis on the transformation of a tradition society into a modern one suggests that the outcry against corruption amount to a puritan reaction to modernization. In this view, corruption represent a deviation from ethnical norms (fatile, 2013). This looking at corruption represent a deviation from ethnical reflects a social economic and political challenges facing the nation.

Good governance can also be term as exclusive utilization of a countryresources to harness social-economic and political development in a manner that is accorded with transparent,accountable, equitable and responsible to the yearning and aspirants of the people (adeshina, 2015). Responsiveness, consensus, oriented, equity and inclusiveness, efficiency and accountability that will enhance sustainable development to the citizen. Similarly obaidullah(2001). Andekpu (2009). See good governance and sustainable development as

accountability, transparency. Delivery on election promises, creation of an atmosphere for the flowering of freedom that will lead to the achievement of the greatest number of the following of freedom that will lead to the achievement of the greatest number of our people (adeosun, 2012).

Good governance play an important role in the advancement of sustainable development. It promote accountability, transparency, efficiency and rule of law. Beside it allows for sound and efficient management of human resources for equitable and sustainable development (moris, 2015). However corruption negates this merit according to former united nation secretary general, KofiAnnan (1998),” good governance is perhaps the single most important factor in eradicating poverty and promoting development” good governance enhances human development and is the divot around which other development activities revolve human development is the channel through which other forms of development are achieved.

Kayode,OyegideandSoyode(1994), contend that a successful development effort requires good governance managed by competent disciplined and corrupt free public officials operating in a stable political system that creates an enable environment that pave way for people to work effectively. Adeshina (2013). Contends that the root cause of bad governance is not lack of resources or

international isolation. Rather, strong anti-state position which hingtinton cited by Abu (2007). Summarized best by stating that in bureaucracy is one with a rigid over centralized bureaucracy.

It is instructive to note that the modernized theory had been replaced with the principal agent theory by the neo-classical economists. In their view corruption amounts to principal agent problem (Abu, 2007). In this case it is the state which is principal that entrusts the task of allocation right to appropriate resources to its agents i.e., the administrators whose responsibility is to coordinate capital projects towards executing some development projects instead of siphoned and misappropriated for self-enrichment of few group of undesirable public officials and their cronies to the detrimental of the populace and national development. This means that there would be no corruption in the state had nothing useful for private interests to allocate selectively.

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CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH AND DESIGN METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Research design and methodology according to Cohen and Marion (2008) is simply a plan that specifies how data should be collected and analyzed.

In this sense, data is not just mere information it bias information gathered by investigations with the aid of their instrument techniques and the means. They are clearly identifiable information collected under conditions that are precisely specified and they have meaning only in relation to the particular problems being investigated

Osondu (2004). Defined research as the general approach executing the study. It includes the specification of the type of design and followed in the study.

Research method has to do with adopted by researchers to the collect data, which are relevant to the problem under consideration. The researcher of this

project makes use of questionnaire

Questionnaire according to saliu (2004) is a common investment of investigation in a social science.

The questionnaire is a sequence of question designed to collect data on a specific subject usually from respondents in some cases the responders fill in the complete the questionnaire especially when dealing with illiterate respondent however, if the respondents are largely illiterate the researcher or his agents complete the form

This chapter deals with detail and the sources of data collection to form the aim and objectives of this projects data has to be collected to provide basic information for the analyzing and interpreting data.

3.2 Source of Data

There are several way of collecting data but the procedure to be selected will depend on the cost, time and nature to be collected.

Two sources of data collective are used in gathering information.

1. PRIMARY DATA COLLECTION: these are data collected by the researcher from the origin source for a specific purposed the main advantages of obtaining such data is that the exact infraction needed is obtained

The method of collecting primary data are observation, survey, questionnaire and interview method.

2. SECONDARY DATA COLLECTION: these are data collected from past literature that are already existing, it aids the beginning of research work or saves time and money. It is more easily collected than primary sources of data magazine, textbook etc. it can also be obtained from internal source such as organizational record and filed manual etc.

3.3 Sample and Population of the Study

The population of the study for this project is economic financial crime commission, Ilorin since the entire population of this era cannot be subjected to the study due to time constrained and financial difficulties being faced it is now suggested to use a particular proportion of sample from the entire population of the study, sample size used to perform entire population of over 100 thousand population. That is the sample must have almost all the characteristics of the population certainly, there are two major types of research sampling. Probability sampling techniques which include accidental and convenience sample, quota, sample judgment or purposive sample and many more.

Having considered the different sampling techniques the research will further utilize stratified random sampling techniques by splitting population into a few homogeneous groups which consists of random sample taken within each strata. This is so because of economic and financial crimes commission

3.4 Data Collection and Analysis

To make this research work a successful one the following research instrument were used for data collection,

1. Observation: the research also observe political activities and its environment both locally and global using this as a supplement for other information used.
2. Personal interview: the research also used personal interview method of data collection to gather information personal interview is probably the most popular the most popular surveys. This entails a face to face contact with the respondent but the researcher who ask the question that can the research work.

METHODS OF DATA ANALYSIS:

The data collected were analyzed using and simple percentages and in some case different method were used for better analysis and interpretation

Descriptive method was used: this method has the advantages or merit of bringing more result for the research for easy understanding. It gives a clear explanation of all the information received through the questionnaire administrated percentages: this allow the researchers to determine the degree of response to the data collected whether it is fallurable or unfallurable to the study.

3.5 Research Problems

It is no gain saying that there is bound to be problems in the conduct of any research work information (data) as always said is power but it must be understood that such a power but realistic and viable information will not be easy to come by in the conduct of this research work, the problem were confronted and of this research work, the problem were confronted and which now served as impairment to the quick completion of the work.

1. The first problem worth mentioning here is that of time constraint. The time self aside for the gathering or electing information (data) completion and analysis of these data and more importantly to do justice to this research work is very limited because time has to be shown with other important activities like lecture which must be pertinent to individual sensible student. The available time is information from the respondents
2. Lastly, there is inconvenience in the area of gathering information from

various or numerous respondents due to secrecy nature of Nigeria people they always find it difficult to help researchers when it comes to supplying some sensible or personal information

3. This is often worse when dealing with the illiterate one and those without proper enlighten about the importance attached or associated with research work.

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CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

In this chapter effort was made to present and analyse the fact gathered from the respondents the data collected with regard to each of the question were descriptively analyzed in tabular form, on hundred and ninety(195) questionnaires were distributed to the respondents and one hundred and seventy-eight questionnaires for her analysis the researcher also used simple percentages.

The Nigeria government has taken various measures and strategies to address the incidence of corruption and bad governance in the country these measures includes public services reform (montization to reduce waste and reduction or overbloated personnel, reform of public procurement): establishment of anti-craft agencies (such as the economicand financial crime commission(EFCC), independent corruption and other practices commission(ICPC) and the on-going sanitization in Nigeria national petroleum co-operation (adeshina,2015).

4.2 Data Analysis

QUESTION 1

Did corruption reduce in the country?

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	13	77.63
NO	9	22.37
TOTAL	23	100

SOURCE: Field work,2024

TABLE 4 reveals that (1377.63%)of the respondent agreed that the corruption of the country reduce while the remaining people disagreed and there percentages is (22.37)

Is it all office that have penalty?

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	23	-
NO	-	100
TOTAL	23	100

SOURCE: Field work, 2024

TABLE 4.4 reveals that (13100%) of the respondents agreed that the corruption of the country reduce while the remaining people disagreed and there percentage is (22.37)

Is there any one that is over head the law?

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	0	-
NIO	23	100
TOTAL	23	100

SOURCE: Field work,2024

Is there any state in Nigeria that is over head the law?

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
YES	0	-
NO	23	100
TOTAL	23	100

SOURCE: Field work,2024

4.3 Interpretation of Data

TABLE1:SEX

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
MALE	16	69.6
FEMALE	7	30.4
TOTAL	23	100

SOURCE: Field work,2024

Table 1 show that 16 (69.6%) of the respondents are male, while 7 (30.4%) are

female. This means that both sexes are well represented bin the study.

TABLE 2: AGE

RESPNOSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
20-30 YEARS	6	26.1
31-40 YEARS	13	56.5
41-50 YEARS	4	17.4
51 YEARS AND ABOVE	0	0
TOTAL	23	100

SOURCE: Field work,2024

TABLE 2 indicates that 6(26.1%) of the respondent are within the range of 20-30 years, 13(56.6%) are within the range of 31-40 years, while 4 (17.4%) are within the range of 41-50 years this means that majority of the respondents are adults.

TABLE 3: EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
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PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0
HIGER DEGREE	3	13.1
PROFESSIONAL	2	8.7
TOTAL	23	100

SOURCE: Field work,2024

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CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Summary of Findings

For the fact that the word corruption is a thing that has been in existence in decades and is still existing in our world today and the rate it is increasing day after day is very high that is the reason why this research work gives some antidote in which the rate at which corruption is increasing in our society nor in Nigeria at large can be combated or curbed.

Chapter one gives brief clue about the topics and also some importance or purpose behind the topics. Chapter two gives related review. Chapter three talks about the method at which the topic is being carried out. Chapter four discuss about the data presentation analysis and interpretation of findings while the last chapter which is chapter five talks about the summary of the research work, recommendation and conclusion

5.2 Conclusion

In conclusion, corruption can be eradicated in our society if it is not treated well and it can't be eradicated if it is treated well so it is a vice versa so incurring

or combating corruption in our society, those people that work is being assigned to must treat it well and they must not be those that will still be involved in it.

5.3 Recommendation

It is evident that various type of corruption do occur in our society and in Nigeria at large. The recommendations is hereby listed consecutively:

- i. This research work will illuminate deep thing about what corruption is all about
- ii. It can be recommended to all institution treating the topic serving as a guide
- iii. It could also be of help to the organization which are in charge of curbing or combating corruption in the society

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