

**EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF CORRUPTION ON UNDERDEVELOPMENT IN
NIGERIA**

By

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project has been read and approved as meeting part of the requirements for the Award of National Diploma in public Administration and Management, Institute of Finance and Management Studies, Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin.

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DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to the creator of the earth and universe, the Almighty God. It is also dedicated to my parents Mr. & Mrs. Sakariyau for their moral and financial support.

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Glory be to Almighty Allah swt who own life, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude for seeing me throughout my duration in Kwara state polytechnic and for making my vision come to reality and also his mercy, provision and goodnesses over upon my life.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The inextricable relationship between corruption and underdevelopment in Africa had long been established by scholars of repute interested in the political economy of the continent. This is because the resource endowed continent of Africa widely expected to achieve meaningful socioeconomic and political development is currently wallowing in abject poverty with hopes of a rapid transformation gradually fading away. Therefore, continental Africa represents one of the ironic reversals in human history where there exists no concrete relationship between available human/natural resources and the state of development. This is in line with the assertion of Aluko (2018) when she stressed thus: The fact of the matter is that expectation for African countries e.g., independent Nigeria was very high given its abundant natural and human potentials. However, the accumulation of the wealth of the nation and the desperate and determined attempt by its leaders to circulate it amongst friends and family members has undermined the advancement of the nation, and its ability to maximize its potentials to the fullest.

As a result, Nigeria has been ranked high in corrupt practices by Transparency International and other notable organizations that monitor corrupt practices around the world (The Transparency International Corruption Index, 2016). Needless to state at this juncture that the nexus between corruption and underdevelopment had already been over flogged in avalanche of scholarly works since the beginning of Africa's post-colonial history (see Rodney, 2021; Achebe, 2008, etc).

However, their (i.e. the scholars) concentration on corruption and development could be understood in relation to the yearnings of the citizens of the continent for an improved standard of

life, which they hoped would mark a tremendous departure from the years of colonial exploitation, oppression, suppression and underdevelopment blamed on colonialism.

It is very important to note that the phenomena of corruption and underdevelopment lack universally acceptable definitions. The major reason for the conceptual problem hinges on the fact that corruption and underdevelopment are multi-faceted; they may be political, socioeconomic, institutional, etc. However, according to section 8 (1) of the Anti-Corruption Law of Nigeria (2004), it involves the act of asking for, receiving or obtaining any property or benefit of any kind for oneself or for any other person for self-aggrandisement. Similarly, the World Bank (2010) sees corruption as the abuse of public office for self-aggrandisement or private benefits. From these definitions, corruption may be summarized to mean illegal acts characterized by unlawful payments and financial transactions such as bribes, embezzlement and money laundry, inflation of contracts, abuse of public property, lodging government funds in private accounts, examination malpractice, among others. It also involves the abuse of general rules of public offices, absence of accountability and the under-utilization of public funds for self-aggrandizement.

1.2 Statement of Problem

According to Achebe (2008), the problem of underdevelopment in Nigeria is strictly leadership because the human and natural resources of the country are sufficient for a phenomenal development. Deducing from the assertion of the late erudite scholar whose understanding of Nigeria is unquestionable, it is safe to argue that leadership failure has eroded the place of responsibility and accountability in the process of governance necessary to stamp out corrupt practices. Apart from the problem of leadership, some scholars have argued that petty corrupt practices mostly carried out by the less privileged in Nigeria can be blamed on the level of poverty

in Nigeria (Uzochukwu, 2017). The proponents of this school argued that the inability of many families in Nigeria to enjoy the basic necessities of life entices many to corrupt practices. Hence, some people engage in corrupt practices not because they actually want to but because they see corrupt practices as a way of bridging the gap that exists between the poor and the rich.

The problem of underdevelopment (as our criterion of problem variable) in Kwara is diverse. From the angle of corruption, it is either related to bribes/kickbacks – payments in return for being allowed to do legitimate/illegal business; protection corruption, – related to payments in exchange for being allowed to engage in illegitimate business; or systemic top-down corruption – related to systematically siphoning of public resources by the ruling elites which is linked to Margaret's taxonomy as discussed overhead (2020). In Kwara State for example, bribery and inducements are so rampant to the extent that people see them as normal life in their day-to-day runnings, hence, causing underdevelopment as it increases private gain and reduces public revenue. Drivers for example, bribe not to be delayed on the road by security personnel, tax payers lobby in order not to pay for assessment forms etc. (Economic Financial Crime Commission report, 2021).

Additionally, in Kwara State, there are payments related to exchange for being allowed to engage in illegitimate business (protection corruption). For example, people pay to avoid due process in screenings, some pay for indulgence in illegal activities like smoking of marijuana, illicit drugs, and the rest. Hence, leads to either the underdevelopment of the individual or avoidance of appropriateness in working place and in consequence, it makes no sense of administration (Mass Grievances Report, 2019).

There is yet another problem hindering the development of Kwara State, which has to do with systematically siphoning of the nation's resources by the elites. This has been a tradition in

Nigerian politics where people get into power to divert the nation's wealth for their public gain at the detriment of the masses. Kwara State is not an exception to this taxonomy of corruption. As a result, socio-economic facilities in most parts of the senatorial district is deteriorating, most public structures and institutions are dilapidated (Socio-economic survey profile of Kwara State, 2018). It is against these stated problems that the study assessed the impacts of corruption on underdevelopment in Kwara State.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this research work is to assess the impacts of corruption on underdevelopment in Kwara State. The specific objectives are in respect of the following;

- i. To determine the relationship between corruption and economic growth of Kwara State.
- ii. To assess the impact of bribery on underdevelopment in Kwara State.
- iii. To assess the impact of protective corruption on underdevelopment in Kwara State.
- iv. To assess the impact of systemic top-down corruption on underdevelopment in Kwara State.

1.4 Research Questions

From the stated problems, this study will therefore be guided by the following specific research questions:

- i. What is the relationship between corruption and economic growth of Kwara State?
- ii. To what extent has bribery impacted on underdevelopment of Kwara State?
- iii. To what extent has protective corruption impacted on underdevelopment of Kwara State?
- iv. To what extent has systemic top-down corruption impacted on underdevelopment of Kwara State?

1.5 Significance of the Study

Few studies have been conducted linking corruption and underdevelopment. For example, Philip (2013) conducted a study titled “Corruption as a Bane for Under-Development in Nigeria: Issues and Challenges”. The study is entirely conceptual in nature. David (2012) examines the definitions, theories and concepts of corruption as a ‘die-hard’ phenomenon that has caused terrible retrogression in Nigerian society. However, none of the aforementioned studies conducted a comprehensive study of operationalizing corruption using Margaret (2002 & 2012) taxonomy of corruption (relating to the World Bank’s measure of public sector corruption) (i.e. bribes/kickbacks, protection corruption and systemic top-down corruption). Therefore, bridging this gap will make this study a novel within the field of development.

Moreover, this study (impact of corruption on underdevelopment) is seen as one of its kind as far as Kwara State is concerned. This study is more or less pioneer research that is set out to enlighten the entire citizens of the State in particular, and the entire nation in general, on the need to concentrate on fighting corruption in order to achieve development.

1.6 Scope and Limitations of the Study

This study assessed the impacts of corruption on Underdevelopment: A study of Kwara State. In terms of substance, the study specifically assessed the impacts of bribery, protective corruption and systemic top-down corruption on underdevelopment in Kwara State. We derive our variables from the Margaret’s exhaustive taxonomy of corruption; because, the taxonomy relates to the World Bank’s measure of public sector corruption (Margaret 2002 & 2012).

Regarding the time coverage, the study covered the period of five (5) years (between 2016-2021). This is to ensure effective analysis because all things being equal, since, keeping data is not an easy feature in Nigeria's administration. But because of the time frame is not too long, it is expected that this research work gets valuable data to facilitate the analysis so as to arrive at a logical conclusion.

The study is not without challenges. It was difficult getting through with the study. We came across challenges like difficulty in accessing relevant documents relating to e.g. document covering the budgeted and released funds for projects in Kwara State. More so, some of the respondents are reluctant in filling the questionnaire and interview schedule administered to them which has reduced the rate of return of the questionnaire. Against all odds, we were able to get necessary information to arrive at logical conclusion.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

The chapter is broadly partitioned into three broad categories. The first part covers the conceptual literature – conceptual clarification of the variables featured in the study (i.e. bribery corruption, election campaign corruption, protective corruption, systemic top-down corruption and underdevelopment). The second part covers the review of empirical literature on the subject matter and the last part is the theoretical frameworks for the study – sub-partitioned into two: review of related theories and the underpinning theory to the study.

2.2 Conceptual Review

2.2.1 Concept of Corruption

Corruption is dishonest behaviour by those in positions of power. Those who abuse their power may be individuals or they may belong to organizations, such as businesses or governments. Corruption can entail a variety of actions, including giving or accepting bribes or inappropriate gifts, double-dealing, and defrauding investors. Corrupt behaviour is often the result of government intervention in the economy but it can be prevented with certain checks and balances. One example of corruption in the world of finance would be an investment manager who is actually running a Ponzi scheme (Ambali, 2021).

Corruption is dishonest behaviour by those in positions of power, such as business managers or government officials. Corruption can come in the form of bribery, double-dealing, and defrauding investors. The consequences of corruption can be social and financial but it has a major impact on those who are financially vulnerable. Corruption occurs when someone in a position of power uses

their authority to influence decisions or conducts any other dishonest or fraudulent behaviour like giving or accepting bribes or inappropriate gifts, double-dealing, under the-table transactions, manipulating elections, diverting funds, laundering money, and defrauding investors (Ambali, 2021).

Corruption is a social problem found in various “degrees and forms in all but the most primitive societies”. Staats (2021) noted. Ekiyor (2005) in his broad view of corruption defined it as the unlawful use of official power or influence by an official of the government either to enrich himself or further his course and/or any other person at the expense of the public, in contravention of his oath of office and/or contrary to the conventions or laws that are in force. It is very unfortunate that this menace knows not any time nor period; it happens anytime or period of any nation’s history. In line with the above assertion, Gould and Kolb (2016) contend that corruption is not a characteristic of a one period in political history nor of any one country; it is endemic in both authoritarian and party systems of government. Further still as evidence that the history of corruption is as old as the world, Scott (2021 cited in Scott 2014) is of the view that corruption ‘must be understood as a regular, repetitive and integral part of the operation of most political system’.

2.2.1.1 Causes of Corruption

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) cites several key factors that contribute to corruption. These include government intervention in the economy, the liberalization of policies, and the deregulation and privatization of certain industries. This can pop up in several different areas, including:

- i. Lowering wages for civil servants compared to those in the private sector: Certain employees may resort to taking bribes in order to compensate for the difference in wages.

- ii. Price controls: Corruption thrives when governments intervene by putting these in place to keep prices lower for certain goods and services.
- iii. Eliminating foreign competition through trade restrictions, tariffs, and trade barriers, thereby opening up the possibility of a semi-monopoly by domestic players: The latter are more likely to resort to corrupt behaviour to keep restrictions in place for foreign companies to keep their place in the market. Corporations and groups may receive government grants and subsidies when they aren't the intended recipients (IMF, 2016).

2.2.2 A Brief Overview of Public Bribery and Its Harms

Public bribery, or the bribing of public officials, is one of the quintessential forms of corruption (Geo, 1998). Legal scholars commonly define the offense as the giving, offering, promising, taking, or agreeing to take money or other consideration in order to improperly influence a public official's actions (Noonan, 2014). Colloquially known as the world's second oldest profession, bribery features a quid pro quo relationship between a public official's specific act and a payment made to influence that act (Brown, 2022).

A public bribe may feature domestic and transnational facets, as perpetrators may bribe domestic and foreign officials. Perpetrators proffer bribes, directly or indirectly, to domestic and foreign public officials essentially for the same reason: to corrupt or subvert an official's loyalty and judgment and thereby obtain an unfair advantage (Sun, 1999). Legislators and scholars conceptually divide the offense into active and passive forms. The term "active bribery" refers to the promising, offering, or giving of a bribe, and "passive bribery" refers to the accepting or agreeing to accept a bribe (Bruce, 2022).

2.2.3 Economic Growth

Economic growth is a term that almost everyone is at least familiar with-whether they have studied economics or not. Most people who use the term have a rough idea of what it means, but to an economist, it takes a deeper and more concise meaning. To an economist, economic growth is the sustained increase in the National Income (NI) or the total output of all goods and services produced in an economy. It is an increase in the capacity of an economy to produce goods and services, compared from one period of time to another. Kuznets (2021), a Nobel laureate in economics, defined a country's economic growth as "a long-term rise in capacity to supply increasingly diverse economic goods to its population, this growing capacity based on advancing technology and the institutional and ideological adjustments that it demands". This means that for an economy to achieve growth there should be advancement in technology accompanied by institutional and attitudinal adjustments.

Economic growth according to Todaro and Smith (2013), is the steady process by which the productive capacity of the economy is increased over time to bring about rising levels of national output and income. Economic growth therefore occurs whenever people take resources and efficiently rearrange them in ways that make them more productive overtime. It is the continuous improvement in the capacity to satisfy the demand for goods and services, resulting from increased production scale, and improved productivity i.e. innovations in products and processes. In sum, we can say economic growth means new products, more outputs and wider choice for consumers.

2.2.4 Conceptualizing Underdevelopment

Underdevelopment is not absence of development, nor the absence of human and natural resources. It means the inadequate or insufficient level of development in the Third world as a result of the exploitation or the under-utilization of their human and material resources, or a combination of

both factors. Underdevelopment depicts an appalling situation where the human and socio-economic potentials of a given society have either been externally exploited to the detriment of its inhabitants, or have not been fully or optimally harnessed by the government for a better and quality living of its citizens. Underdevelopment makes sense only as a parameter for comparing levels of development across the globe. Every society has developed in a way or another. Some societies have developed more by being able to master science and technology and deploy such superior knowledge in the production of tools with which they meet their needs, and even exploit, subjugate and dominate other societies that have – lesser knowledge of science and technology, and this, directly or indirectly stagnates development process of the latter while accelerating the development of the former (Ake, 2003). However, it's germane to adumbrate that the collapse of the eastern bloc in the late 80's and early 90's led to the emergence of a global western system of economies into the global capitalist market economy. After the demise of the eastern Europe in early 90's, capitalism as an economic system now dominate the globe more than it has been used ever at any time in its history.

2.2.5 The Challenges Corruption Poses to the Development of Nigeria

Underdevelopment is one of the progenies of corruption in Nigeria. This is because it breeds so many negative values that retard the development of Nigeria. The challenges corruption poses to the development of Nigeria are enormous, and beyond reasonable doubt, explains the underdevelopment of the country. In fact, it has reached a dangerous point whereby ethnic groups now defend their corrupt persons convicted of corruption charges, and insist that they are only being persecuted because they are not the only corrupt persons in Nigeria. The above reality, more than ever before, calls for a thorough examination of some of the challenges corruption poses to the development of Nigeria.

In one of his speeches on corruption in Africa, the executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Yuri Fedotov, has observed that about \$400 billion was stolen between 1960 and 1999 in Nigeria. He further noted that Gen. Sani Abacha alone is estimated to have embezzled the equivalent of 2 - 3 per cent of the country's GDP for every year that he was President (Fedotov, 2017). Similarly, an examination of fifty-five major cases of corruption charged to the court by the EFCC between 1999 and 2012 involved a total sum of one trillion, three hundred and fifty-four billion, one hundred and thirty-two million and four hundred thousand Naira (N1,354,132,400,000:00) (Corruption and poverty in Nigeria: A Report, 2015).

Similarly, the investment of funds looted by heartless persons in Nigeria could have been used in the creation of job opportunities for the millions of unemployed youths roaming the streets with their minds opened to deviant behaviours in order to survive. The situation is further aggravated by the fact that both local and foreign investors wanting to invest in the country have been discouraged from doing so because they fear the negative impact of corrupt practices on their businesses. No doubt, corruption is at the heart of the unemployment crises facing 21st century Nigeria, and in fact threatens the economic prosperity of the country (Aloko& Usman, 2013, p. 469).

Researchers in the social sciences have established the relationship between corruption and poverty (See Corruption and poverty in Nigeria: A Report, 2017; Ogbeidi, 2012; Ekundayo, R, et al, 2013, etc.). In its 2010 report, the World Bank observed that corruption has a negative impact on economic performance, employment opportunities, poverty reduction, and access to public health and police services. Furthermore, the Bank (2001, p. 102) noted in a report published in 2001 that corruption affects the lives of the poor through several channels, including the diverting of resources from vital social services that benefit the poor, such as education and health clinics.

Scholars keen interest in the relationship between corruption and poverty was borne out of the fact that Nigeria is one of the fastest growing economies on the African continent and in the world at large. But ironically harbours some of the poorest people in the world with as many as 69% of the population, which is about 112.47 million Nigerians, living below the poverty line (National Bureau of Statistics, 2016). Corruption is also taken as having the tendency to exacerbate and cause conflicts, promote poverty, and impact negatively on the best use of human and natural resources. In fact, some previous studies have shown that corruption remains a major hindrance to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (Transparency International, 2017; World Bank, 2018).

It may be apt to state categorically that any country where corruption has become a national way of life must experience developmental bankruptcy as is the case not only in Nigeria but in the entire continent of Africa. That is the problem with Nigeria, a country where the elite keeps on shifting the country's currency to foreign countries, with no consideration for the developmental needs of the people who deserve to enjoy the wealth of their nation.

2.4 Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework is sub-partitioned into two: review of related theory (ies) encapsulating "Theory of Prebendalism" as well as the underpinning theory to the study – Multi-Internal Effects Theory of Corruption.

2.4.1 Review of Related Theories

- Multi-Internal Effects Theory of Corruption

The theory argues that corruption causes a serious development challenge, in the political sphere; it undermines democracy and good governance by weakening political processes. Corruption in

elections subverts accountability and representation in policy making, in the judiciary it suspends the rule of law and in the public service it leads to the unequal distribution of services (Dininio, and Kpundeh, 1999).

From multi-internal effects such as poor governance, misuse of natural resources, mediocrity, high unemployment rates, the even widened gap between the rich and the poor to the international effects such as the tarnished image of countries and organizations involved in corrupt acts. The theory suggests that, in a country where corruption is the order of the day, foreign nations exercise caution in entering business with such countries, thereby weakening the economic sector of the country (Cleen foundation, 2010). According to Dike (2008) corruption wastes skills because time is often wasted to set up anti-corruption agencies to fight corruption and also to monitor public sectors. To conclude, corruption diverts scarce public resources into private pockets, it weakens good governance; it also threatens democracy and erodes the social and moral fabrics of a country (Dike, 2008). All these negative effects have multiplier effects on the development of any nation.

2.4.2 Underpinning Theory: Theory of Prebendalism

The theory that best explains corruption in Nigeria is the theory of prebendalism as postulated by Richard (1996) which described the nature of Patron-Client or Principal-Agent relationship in Nigeria. According to the theory "state offices are regarded as prebends that can be appropriated by office holder who use them to generate material benefit for themselves and their constituent and kin groups". Principal-agent theory heavily influenced by the work of Rose-Ackerman (1978) and Klitgaard (2018) defines corruption as a series of interactions and relationships that exist within and outside public bodies. A principal-agent problem exists when one party to a relationship (the principal) requires a service of another party (the agent) but the principal lacks the necessary requirement to monitor the agent's performance in an effective way. This arises because the agent

was selected using corrupt ways by the principal which creates a power imbalance between the two and makes it difficult for the principal to ensure the agent's compliance (Booth, 2012).

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The question of scientific status in research depends upon the degree to which it conforms or deviates from certain scientific principles. In other words, at each operational step in the research process you are required to choose from a multiplicity of methods and procedures of research methodology which will help us best achieve our research objectives. This is where your knowledge base of research methodology plays a crucial role. This chapter contains the various strategies used in carrying out this study. It includes the research design, population and sample (sampling technique and sample size), the method (s) of data collection and data analysis.

3.2 Research Design

This research design for the study is mixed method also known as integrating or multimethod (covering both quantitative and qualitative data). Mixed method procedures are those in which the researcher seeks to elaborate on or expand on the findings of one method with another method. This may involve beginning with a qualitative interview for exploratory purposes and following up with a quantitative, survey method with a large sample so that the researcher can generalize results to a population (Bryman, 2006; Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2003). Alternatively, the study may begin with a quantitative method in which a theory or concept is tested, followed by a qualitative method involving detailed exploration with a few cases or individuals (Cresswell, 2009, p. 31). The reasons for the intention of adopting mixed methods design in the study lies on its ability to broaden understanding by incorporating both qualitative and quantitative research, or to use one approach to better understand, explain, or build on the results from the other approach). This is shown in Fig 3.1 below:

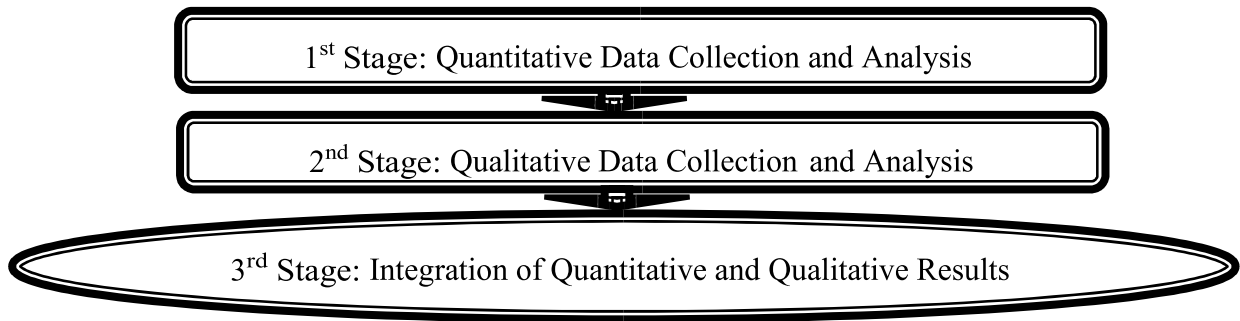


Fig. 3.1 Mixed Methods Design

Source: Adapted from (Pollack, 2007).

3.3 Population and Sampling of the Study

The study assessed the impacts of corruption on Underdevelopment with particular reference to Kwara State. The target population for the study includes staff from ministry of planning, finance, justice, and ministry of works. The population of the study is summarized in table 3.1.

S/No.	Ministry	Staff Strength
1.	Ministry of Planning	90
2.	Ministry of Finance	110
3.	Ministry of Justice	80
4.	Ministry of Works	120
5.	Academic Staff in Kwara State (e.g. Department of Political Science and Social Studies College of Education, Ilorin)	50
	Total	450

Table 3.1 Population of the Study

Source: Staff Register, Ministry of Finance, Planning, Works and Justice, 2022.

On the overall, the cumulative total of the target population is Four-Hundred and Fifty (450) respondents. Among the respondents, some were interviewed to corroborate the information generated through questionnaire e.g. individuals with requisite knowledge on the subject matter in ministry of planning, finance, justice, and ministry of works.

3.3.1 Determination of Sample Size for the Study

The study intends to adopt Yamane sampling technique for objective determination of representative sample size. According to Yamane (1967), for a 95% confidence level and p value of 0.5, size of the sample should be calculated via the following formula:

Where:

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

n = Sample size required

N = Number of people in the population e =

Allowable error or Level of Precision ($\pm 5\%$)

Let this formula be used for our population, in which N = 582, with $\pm 5\%$ precision with 95% confidence level and p value = 0.5, we get the sample size as:

$$n = \frac{450}{1 + 450(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{450}{1 + 450 \times 0.0025}$$

$$n = 212$$

3.3.3 Sampling Technique

The study made use of probability proportionate cluster sampling technique in distributing the questionnaire by dividing the total by the number of clusters multiplied by the sample size. On the other hand, purposive and snowball sampling techniques were used in selecting the interviewees.

3.4 Methods of Data Collection

The methods required for data collections were both primary and secondary sources of data.

3.4.1 Primary Instruments of Data Collection: Data that were obtained from the primary sources are through the following:

- a. **Questionnaire Administration:** Questionnaire is constructed base on the research questions posed and hypotheses posited. The questionnaire consists of two parts; part “A” contains questions on the personal data of the respondents. Part “B” contains questions relating to the research questions, objectives and hypotheses. The questionnaire is structured using Likert scale (summated rating scale). The choice of Likert scale is not by accident but because it is attitudinal in nature and by far, one of the most popular measuring scales in use in social science research which not just measure the absolute intensity of the response but simply measures it in relation to another response (Kumar, 2011).
- b. **Interview:** Another major source of primary data for the study is interview (Face-to-face Interview). Among the target population, some were interviewed to corroborate the information generated through questionnaire. They include some selected individuals in the domain e.g. individuals with requisite knowledge on the subject matter in ministry of planning, finance, justice, and ministry of works.

- c. Focus Group Discussion (FGD): Focus group discussion is the third method the study employed in collecting data. Some selected academicians and civil servants were consulted in groups for discussion.

3.4.2 Secondary Instruments of Data Collection

The following documents were useful in course of the study to complement the responses of questionnaire and interview.

- a. Economic Financial Crime Commission report, 2021.
- b. Mass Grievances Report, 2019.
- c. Socio-economic survey profile of Kwara State, 2018.

3.5 Validity of Instrument

In order to ensure that the instrument measures what it intends to measure, the instrument were subjected to content validity. Babbie (2008) stated that validity describes a measure that accurately reflects the concept it is intended to measure. It is equally important that the items and questions covered the full range of the issue or attitude being measured, assessment of the items of an instrument in this respect is called content validity (Kumar, 2011, p. 167). In addition, the coverage of the issue or attitude should be balanced; that is, each aspect should have similar andadequate representation in the questions or items (Kumar, 2011, p. 167). In order to ensure content validity of the instrument, the questionnaire as adapted from previous research works were given to experts to validate the content of the instruments to ensure that the instrument measures what it supposed to measure.

3.6 Reliability of the Instrument

The reliability of the instrument was conducted through the use of Cronbach Alpha with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20.0. The bench mark was 70%. This means that if the output from Cronbach Alpha is 70%, it means the pre-test of the instrument is reliable; it is relatively high when it is 80% and excellent when it is 90% (Taber 2016). In order to ensure internal consistency of the questionnaire, a pilot study was conducted among 15 respondents and the Cronbach's Alpha output result from the SPSS was 96.8% showing that the instrument is reliable to proceed with analysis.

Table 3.4 Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.968	15

Source: Output from SPSS 2022.

3.7 Method of Data Analysis

In respect to the quantitative analysis, both descriptive and inferential statistical methods were employed. The descriptive statistics (i.e. use of frequency and percentage) was used to analyse the respondent's views as contained on the questionnaire questions. The inferential statistics (i.e. the use of statistical method – 'multiple regression' that enabled logical inferences) were used in testing the hypotheses. This was done with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 25.

On the other hand, the responses from the interview guide were thematically analysed. The goal of a thematic analysis is to identify themes, i.e. patterns in the data that are important or interesting, and use these themes to address the research questions. Another rationale behind the choice of

thematic analysis was that ‘the approach can produce an understanding analysis that answers the research questions.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

The chapter deals with the data presentation and analysis. It presented, analysed and discussed the data collected through the questionnaire and interview with regards to the objectives and hypotheses postulated in chapter one. The collected data are presented in tables and analysed using frequency tables and percentages. The chapter also test the hypotheses earlier postulated in chapter one using linear regression analysis through SPSS computer package (Version 25.0) in order to draw inferences and establish relationships between the predictor/independent variables (i.e., Bribes/kickbacks, protection corruption and systemic top-down corruption) and criterion/dependent variable (i.e., Underdevelopment) in Kwara State.

4.2 Data Presentation and Analysis

A total of two-hundred and twelve (212) copies of questionnaire were administered to staff from Ministry of Planning, Finance, Justice, and Ministry of Works as well as some Academic Staff of Political Science and Social Studies College of Education, Ilorin. Though, two-hundred and twelve (212) questionnaires were printed, administered/distributed but 190 representing (89.6) % approximately (90%) of the total questionnaire were duly filled and returned, while twenty-two (22) representing 10.4% approximately 10 percent of the total questionnaire were not returned. Therefore, one-hundred and ninety (190) questionnaires formed the basis for presentation, analysis and interpretation of result. This is as a result of the assertion made by Sproul, (2021) that 85% and above returned questionnaire of the total questionnaire distributed can be representative for logical analysis. The following is the bio-data of the respondents before the responses of the questions relating to our variables.

4.2.1 Bio Data of the Respondents

Table 4.1 Gender of the Respondents

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Male	110	57.9	57.9	57.9
Female	80	42.1	42.1	100.0
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2022.

Table 4.1 depicts the analysis of data collected with respect to gender of the respondents. It shows that 110 representing 57.9% of the respondents are males and 80 representing 42.1 of the respondents are females. This implies that majority of the respondents sampled for the survey are males.

Table 4.2 Age of the Respondents

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
18-24	50	26.3	26.3	26.3
25-30	100	52.6	52.6	78.9
31-and above	40	21.1	21.1	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2022.

Table 4.2 depicts the analysis of data collected with respect to age distribution of the respondents. It depicts that 26.3% of the respondents fall between the ages of 18-24 years, 52.6% of the respondents fall under 25-30 years and 21.1% of the respondents are within 31 years and above. Judging from the frequency distribution table above, the highest frequency is 100 with 52.6%, this translates to mean that majority of the respondents have their age between 25-30 years.

Table 4.3 Educational Qualification

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
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SSCE	50	26.3	26.3	26.3
NCE	40	21.1	21.1	47.4
B.Sc./B.Ed.	80	42.1	42.1	89.5
Above B.Sc.	20	10.5	10.5	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2022.

Table 4.3 depicts the analysis of data collected with respect to educational qualification of the respondents. It depicts that 26.3% of the respondents have SSCE as their highest qualification, 21.1 of the respondents have NCE as their highest qualification; 42.1% have B.Sc./B.ed as their highest qualification and 10.5% of the respondents have above B.Sc. as their highest qualification. Judging from the frequency distribution table above, the highest frequency is 80 with 42.1%, this translates to mean that majority of the respondents have NCE as their highest qualification.

Table 4.4 Ministry of the Respondents

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Planning	50	26.3	26.3	26.3
Finance	80	42.1	42.1	68.4
Works	20	10.5	10.5	78.9
Justice Total	40	21.1	21.1	100
	190	100	100	

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2022.

Table 4.4 depicts the analysis of data collected with respect to the Ministry of the respondents. It depicts that 26.3% of the respondents are from Ministry of planning; 42.1% of the respondents are from Ministry of finance; 21.1% are from Ministry of justice; and 10.5% of the respondents are from Ministry of Works. Judging from the frequency distribution table above, the highest frequency is 80 with 42.1%, this translate to mean that majority of the respondents are from Ministry of finance who are in the right position to answer corrupt activities in Kwara State because corruption is mostly linked to finance per se.

4.2.2 Questions relating to Bribes/Kickbacks in Kwara State

Table 4.5 Payments or demands are made in return for being allowed to do illegitimate business in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	60	31.6	31.6	31.6
Agree	94	49.5	49.5	81.1
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.5
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.8
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research survey, 2022.

Table 4.5 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether payments or demands are made in return for being allowed to do legitimate/illegitimate business in Kwara State. The result revealed that 94 and 60 respondents representing 49.5% and 31.6% respondents giving a cumulative percent of 81.1% of respondents strongly agree and agree that payments or demands are made in return for being allowed to do legitimate/illegitimate business in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% given a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, we have come to a conclusion that payments or demands are made in return for being allowed to do legitimate/illegitimate business in Kwara State.

Table 4.6 Payments or demands are made in order to improperly influence a public official's action in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
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Strongly agree	60	31.6	31.6	31.6
Agree	94	49.5	49.5	81.1
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.5
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.8
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research survey, 2022.

Table 4.6 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether payments or demands are made in order to improperly influence a public official's action in Kwara State. The result revealed that 94 and 60 respondents representing 49.5% and 31.6% respondents giving a cumulative percent of 81.1% of respondents strongly agree and agree that payments or demands are made in order to improperly influence a public official's action in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% given a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, we may come to a conclusion that payments or demands are made in order to improperly influence a public official's action in Kwara State.

Table 4.7 There is quid pro quo relationship between public official's action in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	60	31.6	31.6	31.6
Agree	94	49.5	49.5	81.1
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.5
Disagree	12	6.3	6.3	94.8
Strongly disagree	10	5.3	5.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.7 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether there is quid pro quo relationship between public official's action in Kwara State. The result revealed that 94 and 60 respondents representing 49.5% and 31.6% respondents giving a cumulative percent of 81.1% of respondents

strongly agree and agree that there is quid pro quo relationship between public official's action in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 12 respondents representing 6.3% and 10 respondents representing 5.3% with a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively.

Based on the response in this table, we may come to a conclusion that there is quid pro quo relationship between public official's action in Kwara State.

4.2.3 Questions relating to Protective Corruption in Kwara State

Table 4.8 There are payments in exchange for selling illicit drugs in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	60	31.6	31.6	31.6
Agree	94	49.5	49.5	81.1
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.5
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.8
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.8 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether there are payments in exchange for selling illicit drugs in Kwara State. The result revealed that 94 and 60 respondents representing 49.5% and 31.6% respondents giving a cumulative percent of 81.1% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there are payments in exchange for selling illicit drugs in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% giving a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, we may come to a conclusion that there are payments in exchange for selling illicit drugs in Kwara State.

Table 4.9 There are payments over importation of foreign products e.g. foreign rice and oil in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	62	32.6	32.6	32.6
Agree	92	48.4	48.4	81.0
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.4
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.7
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.9 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether there are payments over importation of foreign products e.g. foreign rice and oil in Kwara State. The result revealed that 92 and 62 respondents representing 48.4% and 32.6% respondents giving a cumulative percent of 81.0% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there are payments over importation of foreign products e.g. foreign rice and oil in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% given a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, we may come to a conclusion that there are payments over importation of foreign products e.g. foreign rice and oil in Kwara State.

4.2.4 Questions relating to Systemic Top-Down Corruption in Kwara State

Table 4.10 There are cases of systematic siphoning of nation's wealth by the ruling elites in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	62	32.6	32.6	32.6
Agree	92	48.4	48.4	81.0
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.4
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.7
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.10 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether there are cases of systematic siphoning of nation's wealth by the ruling elites in Kwara State. The result revealed that 92 and 62 respondents representing 48.4% and 32.6% respondents giving a cumulative percent of 81.0% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there are cases of systematic siphoning of nation's wealth by the ruling elites in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% given a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, we may come to a conclusion that there are cases of systematic siphoning of nation's wealth by the ruling elites in Kwara State.

Table 4.11 There is embezzlement of money meant to provide public goods in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	62	32.6	32.6	32.6
Agree	92	48.4	48.4	81.0
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.4
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.7
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.11 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether there is embezzlement of money meant to provide public goods in Kwara State. The result revealed that 92 and 62 respondents representing 48.4% and 32.6% respondents giving a cumulative percent of 81.0% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there is embezzlement of money meant to provide public goods in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% given a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in

this table, we may come to a conclusion that there is embezzlement of money meant to provide public goods in Kwara State.

4.2.5 Questions relating to Underdevelopment (Criterion Variable)

Table 4.12 There is mass poverty in public sector activities in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	62	32.6	32.6	32.6
Agree	92	48.4	48.4	81.0
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.4
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.7
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.12 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether there is mass poverty in public sector activities in Kwara State. The result revealed that 92 and 62 respondents representing 48.4% and 32.6% respondents with a cumulative percent of 81.0% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there is mass poverty in public sector activities in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% giving a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, we have come to a conclusion that there is mass poverty in public sector activities in Kwara State.

Table 4.13 There is poor health status among citizens in Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	60	31.6	31.6	31.6
Agree	94	49.5	49.5	81.1
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.5
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.8
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.13 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether there is poor health status among citizens in Kwara State. The result revealed that 94 and 60 respondents representing 49.5% and 31.6% respondents giving a cumulative percent of 81.1% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there is poor health status among citizens in Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% giving a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, we have come to a conclusion that there is poor health status among citizens in Kwara State.

Table 4.14 There is low education attainments among citizens of Kwara State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	64	33.7	33.7	33.7
agree	90	47.4	47.4	81.1
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.5
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.8
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.14 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether there is low education attainments among citizens of Kwara State. The result revealed that 90 and 64 respondents representing 47.4% and 33.7% respondents with a cumulative percent of 81.1% of respondents strongly agree and agree that there is low education attainments among citizens of Kwara State; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% giving a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively. Based on the response in this table, we have come to a conclusion that there is low education attainments among citizens of Kwara State.

Table 4.15 Infrastructural facilities in Kwara State are inadequate in comparison to the population

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Strongly agree	60	31.6	31.6	31.6
Agree	94	49.5	49.5	81.1
Undecided	14	7.4	7.4	88.5
Disagree	10	5.3	5.3	93.8
Strongly disagree	12	6.3	6.3	100
Total	190	100	100	

Source: Research Survey, 2022.

Table 4.15 shows the analysis of data with respect to whether infrastructural facilities in Kwara State are inadequate in comparison to the population. The result revealed that 94 and 60 respondents representing 49.5% and 31.6% respondents with a cumulative percent of 81.1% of respondents strongly agree and agree that infrastructural facilities in Kwara State are inadequate in comparison to the population; 14 respondents representing 7.4% of the respondents are undecided; while 10 respondents representing 5.3% and 12 respondents representing 6.3% given a cumulative percent of 11.6% of the respondents strongly disagree and disagree respectively.

Based on the response in this table, we have come to a conclusion that infrastructural facilities in Kwara State are inadequate in comparison to the population.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusion

The study drew conclusion based on data generated from questionnaire during field work, including submissions from secondary documents complemented by results of face-to-face interviews. Consequently, we have offered recommendations designed to ensure that the overbearing impact/effects of corruption is reduced to the barest minimum. However, from the findings of this study and the discussions on the various results obtained at through questionnaire and interview, the study concludes the following: The study concludes that bribery with positive unstandardized coefficient of 0.606 has significantly impacted underdevelopment in Kwara State; the study also concludes that protective corruption with positive unstandardized coefficient of 0.149 has significantly led to underdevelopment in Kwara State. Regarding objective III and Hypothesis III, the study discovered that systemic top-down corruption with positive unstandardized coefficient of 0.135 has significantly led to underdevelopment in Kwara State.

5.2 Recommendations

Corruption is one the dare devils that stares humanity in the face. It is also a global problem with certain destructive tendencies in third world countries like Nigeria. In view of the findings, the following recommendations designed to ensure that the overbearing impact/effects of corruption is reduced to the barest minimum:

1. To curb corruption in Nigeria, the government should provide independent judiciary which will be responsible for penalizing the offenders. Even those who thought themselves “Above

the law” having realized that they will be penalized by the system, they will not misbehave. It is our contentions that until strong and sustainable institutions to combat corruption are put in place, any attempts to fight corruption in Nigeria will amount to effort in futility, meant to address the symptoms of corruption rather than the root causes of it.

2. The political zeal to fight corruption has to be practically demonstrated beyond mere lip service. First, political leaders have to make themselves models of transparency, honest and accountability in government. It is when political elites screw political corruption that they can have the audacity to check bureaucratic (public service), as the two go to hand. The second leg is the genuine determination to implement the provision of the law.
3. The system that allows money to be siphoned out of the country at will, and for withdrawals to be made from the nations external reserves at caprices of an individual should be properly looked into in order to prevent further occurrence of such ills.
4. The way forward is to strengthen the anti-corruption laws of Nigeria in a way that aids the war on corruption. It is our contention that long jail terms devoid of bail options or life sentences rather than the usual charge and bail corruption cases noisily circulated in the media be adopted.

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