



Migration And Neo Slavery: Threat To African Development

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ABSTRACT

The quest for a better life is said to be greatly responsible for human migration. The essence of these movements of people from one place to another is for improved living conditions. Undoubtedly, the introduction of Trans Atlantic slave trade changed the circumstances, and the demand for forced labor became high. After its abolition from 1808, a Neo form of slavery emerged which has raised lots of public concerns both from the government and the general public because of the resultant effects. This work, therefore, examines the effects of migration and modern day slavery vis-a-vis African development. This work is anchored on the resource curse theory owing to the fact that irrespective of the abundant natural resources on African continent, most people are deprived of the gains of the resources which makes them vulnerable to migration and modern day slavery. The methodology adopted is historical analysis and extensive review of data collected mainly from secondary sources. The study argues that despite various efforts made towards curbing migration and the critique of the 21st century neo slavery, both still persist as a result of constraints arising from poverty, hunger, unemployment, greed, get-rich-quick syndrome and so on. However, the paper also brought to the front burner the inability of African nations including Nigeria to stand firm and challenge or resist exploitation, degradation and subjugation occasioned by the 21st century Neo slavery, which are responsible for low economic growth and development. The paper, therefore, recommends that effective border checks and control, adequate re-orientation and awareness on the dangers of migration and Neo slavery in the 21st century should be properly emphasized in order to minimize or eradicate these monsters.

Keywords; Migration, Modern Slavery, Threat, Development

INTRODUCTION

In the African context, slaves were reorganized as a social institution and as old as man. They were also regarded as domestic servants engaged by the wealthy class in the society such as the kings and other

prominent people in the society. It was a symbol of wealth and honour. Meaning that individuals were assessed based on the number of slaves he was able to have, helping him and his family members in their family's day to day domestic activities. In some parts of Africa, slaves had no right and as such the master could treat him anyhow, sell, or even kill him especially when the slave was no longer useful, (Buah,1981:56). However, in some places, they were treated almost like free members of the household, allowed to acquire wealth, marry and raise children (Onwubiko, 1999:206). Domestic servants then were obtained voluntarily as a pledge or agreement to serve for money borrowed until the money is paid back. At times, families may decide on their own to send their children to those wealthy people due to the economic burdens on the family.

This was quite different from the European Trans Atlantic slave trade that was later introduced as a result of the contact between Europe and Africa. As was observed by Shehu (2018), this trade with the countries outside Africa remained around the coastal area until when the first industrial revolution introduced significant changes in production which brought a huge demand for labour (who would work in the new industries?). These labour demands caused unfortunate circumstances in Africa which was the slave trade. Similarly, the industrial revolution also led to struggle for raw materials for production and African became a dumping ground for their finished products. An increase in economic growth and developments became observable in Europe which necessitated the formation of triangular slave trade that paved way for formation of the slave trade across the Atlantic Ocean and final encroachments of African hinter land began (Onwubiko 1999).

The implication of this was that the trade, created an abnormal market in human beings due to the dehumanizing and demoralizing effects of this horrible trade. Its association with high level of human brutality as well as loss of fundamental human rights was responsible for the unfortunate situation in Africa. It is on this assertion that (Rodney 1972) justifies this evil trade as a rape of Africa. It was estimated that about 15million to 20million of African slaves landed America from the time the trade began in the sixteenth century until it was eventually brought to an end in the nineteenth century, (Fage 1966: 82). He further stated that the number of African slaves that lost their lives on the cargo was not included in this figure, since it was rare for a slave ship to complete a voyage without the death from disease of at least a part of its human cargo, (Fage 1965). According to Rodney (1972: 104) accurate figures are uncertain because many Europeans, chartered companies and interlopers or privates with vested interests, smuggled slaves and withheld data. It is obvious that figures may be difficult to ascertain but evidence has it that millions of Africans were shipped to Europe for this evil trade.

This act of sorrow began to raise lots of concerns and agitations from various angles, both from within and outside Africa which pricked the conscience of various religious bodies/organizations, scholars, philosophers, humanitarians, philanthropists and various influential people. They spoke strongly against the immoral act Trans Atlantic slave trade which finally led to its abolition in 1808. Despite its abolition, the demand for slaves continued to increase and did not finally cease until by the 1880's all the American nations had at length abolished the status of slavery, (Fege, 1966:83). Importantly, the Europeans at this time became more in great needs of raw materials than human labour since industrial revolution has taken place. They introduced another form of trade known as legitimate trade that provided them an opportunity to trade with African raw materials as commodities instead of human beings. These raw materials majorly in agricultural products includes; rubber, cocoa, palm oil, groundnut, ivory, timber, cotton, coffee, indigo, palm kernel, gum and mineral resources. It was argued that this trade brought an increase and expansion of African economy due to the presence of many European traders and companies that demonstrated interest. However, Shehu (2018) observed that Africa benefited less compared to their European counterparts.

Another major event that greeted Africans was the scramble and partition of African territories by the Europeans. This brought the Africans under the heavy influence of European powers known as colonialism. The colonial rule provided an opportunity again for Africans to be exploited by the Europeans through their various mechanisms and policies such as political, economic, social and religious aspects. It is this unpalatable situation that led Africans into the struggle for self government which was finally achieved.

Currently, this monster called slave trade and colonialism which were generally fought and condemned seems to have come back in our society in another dimension known as modern/neo slavery, thus, possessing

similar severe exploitative tendencies which have far reaching negative implication on African regional development. By this reason, this study seeks to determine the effect of this modern slavery on the African economy and how best to tackle this monster called modern/neo slavery that has been on the increase in the relationship between Africa and Europe so as to create room for an enhanced economic growth and development in Africa.

Conceptual Clarification

In recent time, modern slavery is increasingly rising in developed world which has necessitated the high rate of African migration to Europe and other parts of the world, thereby, creating source of worries and concerns amongst the academia.

Migration connotes movement of large numbers of people, birds or animals from one place to another (Horby 2010). Migration is encompassing, involving both humans and animals. Specifically, human migration in this aspect of the work is the change of residence by group of people. It excludes such movements as nomadic, migrants' labours, commuting and tourism which all are transitory in nature. Migration, thus, movement of people from one place to another has provided man the opportunity of experiencing different categories of migrations such as tribal migration, inter-tribal migration as well as border migration. The essence of these movements, according to Ilo (2008), has always been a way of escaping from bad conditions of things which are not only natural but also human. It is a movement with hope or expectations of better life.

In terms of purpose, both migration and modern day slavery have remained inseparable and have also been recognized as an old social institution that operated in different kingdoms and empires in the past. This is due to the fact that modern slavery activities have always been achieved through the activities of migration.

According to International Labour Organization (ILO 2016), modern slavery has been used as an umbrella term for the act of recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining persons for forced labour or commercial sex act through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. It is a severe exploitation of other people for personal or commercial gain (anti slavery.org 2017). Modern slavery is noted with high exploitative tendencies where people are entrapped into one form of exploitation to another. The influence of modern slavery has continued to grow day by day in our society like a wild fire manifesting in different forms with an evil intention of exploitation of the unsuspecting members of the public for personal or commercial gain mainly as a result of poverty.

Annie (2016) refers it as institutional slavery that has continued to occur in present day society. He estimated that about 38 million to 46 million people are in slavery today. Modern slavery is noted as one of the indices of African underdevelopment, thus, creating serious disequilibrium at the expense of dependent African nations. It is also an enemy to the principles of the fundamental human rights which not only guarantees right to live and freedom of individuals to make choice about their lives but also negates the sanctity of human dignity.

In 2016, it was estimated that about 40.3million people worldwide were in modern slavery including 24.9million in force marriage, 70% of those are women and girls, (ILO 2016). Similarly, ILO (2017) also gave a report of how about 40million people are in modern slavery and 152million in child labour around the world. Looking at these figures, Africans have always been victims of the circumstances of modern slavery with women in high number of victims. From the recent study out of 16million people who are engaged into modern slavery, 9.5million are women. Many today are used for worst jobs with poor working conditions landing them into poor wages and debt. Both women and children are severally and sexually exploited, abused and marginalized.

Modern slavery has resulted to the massive migration of Africans to Europe and other parts of the world with fake promises of better life situations given by these agents of modern slavery. Many of these victims have no destiny or hope of survival due to the condition facing them which is different from what they were told before coming.

Development: For Amucheazi (1980), development is realistically seen as a multi dimensional process involving the totality of man in his political, economic, psychological and social realities among others. Todaro (1975) described it as a multi dimensional process involving the re-organization of the entire society.

Seer (1969) is of the view that development takes place only when the central problems of poverty, unemployment, and inequalities in the society have been reduced from high level. From the above views, development is perceived as a rapid increase in the level of economic attainment which must be seen and observed. Therefore, African development in this work is seen as the positive manifestation of economic, political, social and cultural enhancement in Africa. It comprises every aspect of the region's potential (human and material) which places the region and her citizens into better opportunities in existence like free modern day slavery societies, job opportunities, quality education, good health care system and good security network system for African development

Theoretical Framework

Many theories have been given by different scholars as justification why people are vulnerable to migration and modern day slavery. This paper therefore examined the resource curse theory as one of the theories that properly explain the issue as it relates to the work.

The Resource Curse Theory

The resource curse also known as the paradox of plenty or the poverty paradox, the phenomenon of countries with abundance of natural resources (like fossil fuels and certain minerals) having less economic growth, less democracy and worse development outcomes than countries with fewer natural resources, (Smith, Benjamin, Waldner & David 2021). The term resource was first used by Richard Auty in 1993 to describe how countries rich in mineral resources were unable to use that wealth to boost their economics and how counter-intuitively, these countries had lower economic growth than countries without an abundance of natural resources (en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resource-curse). To this regard, African continent is one of the richest continents of the world blessed with both human and natural resources. With these natural resources, many countries in Europe and other continents got attracted and developed by tapping these resources. In fact, African continent can quickly be described as the breast that fed the entire world, yet many citizens of African are suffering from abject poverty, hunger, diseases with many youths left unemployed. The various African governments cannot pretend they don't know what's happening; rather it is obviously a sign of failure in their primary responsibility to cater for the welfare and protection of the lives of her citizens. This economic misfortune in the midst of plenty has succeeded in dragging many of the African citizens into various disturbances including vulnerability to forceful migration and modern day slavery activities in Europe and other parts of the world. These suppose blessing in the country's economic growth as sited by Auty (1993) has turned the region into lower economic growth and development.

Forms of Migration and Modern Day Slavery: it's Operationalization

Migration of African Negroid race can be classified into two major forms; movement through slavery and movement through voluntary migration. Movement through slavery was occasioned by the Arab and European Atlantic slave dealers. The Arab slave trade known as Trans Saharan slave trade which started in the 9th century A.D. encouraged the forceful movement of African slaves from the Eastern/Western and Northern parts of the continent to the Middle East and Asia (Nkwocha 2012). The European at about 15th century joined the race resulting to the shipment of millions of Africans to Europe and Americas.

The voluntary migration involves the willingness of many Africans to move to many different countries of the world like America, Germany, and France etc. The African Union (AU) on this note described them as blacks in diaspora, consisting of people of African origin living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of the African Union, (Nkwocha 2012). This one has to do with the willingness of an individual or group to migrate while the later has to do with forceful migration. Undoubtedly, the presence of modern slavery encourages the use of forceful migration which has been on increase in the African society.

However, modern day slavery activities have become globalized through its different forms that are aimed at exploitation for personal or commercial gains. These include, forced prostitution, sex trafficking, human/child trafficking, child abuse, forced/child labour, force/child marriage, child slavery, migrant labour, debt bondage slavery and so on. It also includes drug and currency trafficking and some used as robbery activities. Severally, it is the African brothers and sisters that have used this medium to exploit their fellow

African brothers and sisters mainly young girls and boys who were innocently lured into such act by their fellow Africans.

These innocent girls are mainly recruited from rural villages in African societies by their fellow Africans (business agents), with fake promises of better life in Europe and other parts of the world. With the cooperation of the state actors like the police, immigration officers and other security agencies, they made their way to Europe especially in Italy that has the highest number of African prostitutes numbering over 50,000, (Ilo 2008). There, they are meant to live under the control of these African business women referred to as their “madam”, who ensure that they comply according to instruction through the use of threats, thereby forcing them to sleep with a good number of men with little or nothing that goes into the girl’s pocket in the name of forced prostitution. The continued threats put them in no condition other than to remain in this perpetual bondage. To worsen their case, the way and manner through which they entered Europe was another disturbing issue that can frustrate them if caught on the street of Europe in case they want to escape. Many have no genuine papers, came through irregular migration, passing through the difficult Sahara desert and Mediterranean Sea, thereby, making it very difficult to be recognized by the government of their various host countries.

Most Africans who engaged in this kind of exploitation against their fellow Africans see it as a viable and lucrative business venture especially with the support and cooperation of both the society and the state actors who also receive their own share in the business. This makes them (agents) to live in affluence at the detriment of their fellow Africans. Sequel to the economic challenges in Africa today, people are rather after your wealth and not how you made it. This situation of living in affluence and the havoc of poverty contributed a lot in making it very easy for the victims of this modern slavery to believe these agents and their fake promises. They make false claims in order to lure their victims into believing them. Many of them never wanted to become prostitutes but cannot do otherwise due to the condition they found themselves in.

Outside prostitution business, most of them were also forced into different kinds of sexual relationships such as lesbianism, homosexual, and man sleeping with animal as well as forced marriage. Some were forced to sleep with animals which are used for blue films and sold all over the world. The continued threat and harassment received by these innocent young Africans from their wicked madam who connected them to such wicked act provided an opportunity for the continued exploitation of their fellow African brothers and sisters.

Another form of modern slavery that also wreaks more havoc in the society today is child abuse in the form of child marriage, child trafficking, child abandonment, child sexual abuse, child battery, child deprivation and child labour. Child connotes a young infant either a boy or a girl, while abuse has to do with treatment that is inappropriate. Therefore, any treatment that threatens his or her safety or leaves in them, physical or emotional scars could be referred to as child abuse (Ake: 1996). In further explanation Ilo (2008: 237) in his own view tries to broaden the concept by referring to it as “any act of violence or exploitation of a child or any denial of a happy childhood should be seen as child abuse, whether it is caused at the institutional level by international or national governments, organizations, agencies or businesses or whether it is caused at the microcosmic level by parents, relatives, communities, or rebel groups”. In the African traditional value system, a child is a blessing from God/gods and as such is held at a very high esteem. They are always considered in the scheme of things. But the reverse is the case, where children are now intentionally exploited which negates the sanctity of childhood. Child abuse denies the child the opportunity of social progress, that is living without love and hope for future. They are always angry and frustrated. This condition hinders the manifestation of the potentials in them.

Child abuse is not only perpetrated by people that are not related to the child, but also by parents and relatives. As noted by Pagare (2004) child abuse is any behavior directed towards a child by a parent, guardians, other family members or another adult who endangers or impairs a child’s physical or emotional health or development. For instance sexual abuse could come from the father, step-father, mother, step-mother, and other male or female members of a household. Female children between the ages of 8 and 13 are most times enlisted in prostitution by poor parents or older prostitutes who are care givers (Iyegbu 2003).

Another shameful and worst form of child abuse is child trafficking/child labour. This has really contributed in no small measures in destroying the large number of children that are expected to turn around the

economic fortunes of African states to a positive direction. It is estimated that over 200,000 children are sold into slavery in West and Central Africa every year (UNICEF 2003). It further described it as one of the gravest violations of human rights in the world today. This is a situation whereby both the child and his or her parents are deceived with empty promises of a better life situation in their new environment. When trafficked, these children are subjected to all manner of exploitations and abuse of child's rights for the selfish interest of their traffickers. All round developments such as health, education, sexual life, social life of the child etc become endangered.

In many occasions, these children are forcefully recruited and used in armed conflicts as forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and forced or compulsory labour. Sometimes they are forced into marriages without seeking for their consents. Most children are engaged into forced labour which involves the use of children for excessive tasks for low wages, often under conditions harmful to their health. Child labour also involves, children working for long hours and doing strenuous jobs is greatly affected. Sometimes, these children are deprived the basic needs of life such as food, shelter, clothing, education, love and affection. According to Gerd (2000), these children in an effort to run away from their problems end up in a more severe challenge in the cities where crimes, drugs and immorality remain the order of the day. Modern slavery is not limited to any single race, gender or age group. It affects men, women and children in and around the world, (Allianceagainstmodernslavery.org).

Causes of Migration and Modern Day Slavery

Migration and modern day slavery has a complex phenomenon with multiple causes. Besides there're some common factors that could be pointed out as responsible for African migration to Europe which has led to the emergence of modern slavery. These include poverty, joblessness, population increase, hardship/bad governance, absence of true democratic rule, bad economic policies, human right abuses, ethnic violence, religious conflicts, inadequate social services, natural disasters, ecological and geographical factors get rich quick syndrome, insurgency, militancy, armed conflicts and so on.

The economic hardships in addition to the high rates of poverty as a result of joblessness (unemployment) and retrenchment have greatly contributed a lot to the problem of migration to Europe and subsequent emergence of modern slavery. Most families cannot afford to fend for their children and there is every intrinsic determination of the children to survive by all means. So these children and their parents can easily be lured into becoming victims of modern slavery through fake promises of migration to Europe or elsewhere for a better living/job. With hope of survival, such opportunity is easily grasped. Many parents are compelled by prevailing hardship to give out their children as maids or house help as a survival measure to support the family without actually knowing that indirectly they have given out their children for child labour (Igbokwe 1998). This level of demographic expression of impoverished economy and inadequate levels of economic growth across most of the African nations are majorly responsible for the massive train of migration of Africans to Europe and the subsequent emergence of modern slavery.

Other issues that have encouraged the growth of this monster in Africa are persistent bad governance as a result of corruption among the political class that has been the bane of leadership in African nations. According to Shehu (2018), lack of accountability and frequent change of economic policies by African leaders truncate dividends of democracy on the African continent due to the economic corruption in the African system of politics. Many African leaders have vowed to perpetually remain in power so as to continue to accumulate wealth from the public treasury. This has made Africans to remain undeveloped and struggle for survival becomes highly difficult. As a result of this, many are willing to accept poor and odd jobs in Europe than to remain in Africa.

Increase in the population of jobless youths is another contributory factor to migration of African youths to Europe and the emergence of modern slavery. Nwokolo (1985) observed that one of the factors responsible for street hawking is sometimes, the effect of one having more children than one can cope with. Therefore, the high rate of unplanned population of jobless youth in Africa pursuing very limited resources creates room for survival of the fittest which has conditioned many interests of the youth to travel to Europe. This mindset of the youths coupled with the quest for survival made it possible for many to migrate to Europe and engage in odd and dangerous jobs with poor salaries over there in order to make a living resulting to modern slavery.

Ethnic violence and frequent religious conflicts can also be held accountable for the migration of the youths to Europe and the subsequent emergence of the modern slavery. Kohnert (2007) in German Institutes of Global and Area Studies indicates that since 1993 to 2003, African states had become a conflict zone and has currently increased the number of refugees. The report further pointed African refugees as constituting about one third of the global refugee's population. In addition to frequent clashes of various ethnic and religious groups that have bedeviled African states, migration outside African continent has been on increase. There is also an indication that some African nations that are bedeviled with crises like militancy, insurgency, banditry, natural disaster, armed conflicts etc also provided a gate way that has quickens the migration of Africans to Europe where they feel that they could be saved from the crises rocking in their land and as such becomes very easy to be lured into the activities of modern slavery especially those that migrated illegally.

Impacts of Modern Slavery on African Economy

Most Afrocentric historians described Trans Atlantic slave trade as the most iniquitous transaction of human being and also the most forced migration of the highest number of human being ever recorded in history (Ilo 2008). The nature of modern slavery activities could be seen as taking after Trans Atlantic slave trade. It has greatly impacted negatively on the development in Africa. This can be seen through economic, political, social and psychological angles. The depopulation of African citizens through cross border migration to Europe and other parts of the world and the subsequent appearance of modern slavery have contributed in no small measure in abandonment of both small indigenous industries and agricultural activities in African societies. This led to extremely low ratio of population to cultivable land in African (Inikori 1980). Now African find it difficult to feed their citizens due to shortage of food supply. In addition, the depopulation impact which led to brain drain of potential or virile labour force of young men and women contributed in no small measure in the loss of human resources of the African nations. This is due to the fact that these agents deceived them with fake promises of better jobs and meaningful living in Europe.

Modern slavery provided opportunity that has allowed few individuals or groups to enrich themselves, since victims are gotten relatively cheap and sold at a high profit for different purposes outside Africa. These victims are left in the hands of their adopters who are only after their own selfish interest. Modern slavery negatively affects both the physical and psychological state of the victims. They are denied all manner of human developmental opportunities that can impact meaningfully in their lives, thereby exposing them to various life threatening situations such as discrimination, object of mockery and violence and also become infected by various kinds of diseases. This situation creates an intergenerational poverty upon the victims and their family members, thereby affecting the regional economic growth and development.

Poor development effect: modern slavery is generally known for its high exploitative tendencies, uses such mechanism to ensure restriction and control of the salaries, wages and other allowances dully meant for their victims. Most times these wages are delayed or denied which has a great economic multiplier effects on both the victims and their family members at home which in turn affects the region at large.

Modern slavery activities create a huge threat to good governance. It creates violence and conflicts, rising criminality, discrimination and also hinders nation building in the area of investment and income tax generation which has a huge negative economic implication on the African growth and development. This is a huge distraction and set back to the government. Modern slavery also promotes corruption amongst government officials especially the security agencies charged with the responsibility of manning the various borders who collects bribes to protect perpetrators thereby frustrating the efforts of government in combating the crime.

Modern slavery also increases environmental hazard. Through irregular migration, victims of modern slavery have been exposed to all manner of environments that are considered harmful to the victims. This irregular means have seriously accounted for many migrants missing, wounded, imprisoned as well as dead. More than two thousand Africans especially from Nigeria, Gambia, Mali, Guinea-Bissau, Ghana, Cameroon, Algeria and Morocco attempt to cross over to Europe illegally and 10% of them got marooned or die on the way, (Ilo 2008:132). This situation pays back nothing to the society rather than agony.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Indeed, migration and modern day slavery can as well be managed if the following recommendations are strictly adhered to by both the state actors, groups and individuals, who should join hands for effective collaborations towards achieving a crime free society for the overall benefits of the African nations.

Various African governments as a matter of their constitutional role should improve the living standard of their citizens by establishing enough industries to enable the youths so as to reduce the level of unemployment, poverty and hunger. This will save them from being vulnerable to modern day slavery which has a great negative impact on their nation's economic growth and development. They must also be provided with adequate opportunity for education and entrepreneurial skills suitable to the African society which can improve their chances of becoming gainfully employed. This can keep them busy and reduce the rate of modern day slavery in Africa.

The security agencies should be adequately strengthened against all forms of insecurity and modern day slavery through joint security forecast and response strategy at local and national level. In fact they should be equipped with proper modern fighting equipment and their welfare well taken care of. This will avail them the opportunity of proper border management strategy against all forms of insecurity and modern day slavery. In addition, there should be strict monitoring/control team put in place against all forms of bribery and corruption with adequate punishment for any defaulter that can serve as a deterrent to others.

African Union (AU), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and other regional and religious bodies should help in the fight by declaring a total war against modern slavery and corruption in the land of Africa with high sense of sincerity and trust which will go a long way in reducing the high level of migration and the subsequent emergence of modern day slavery in Africa. Thus, this will zero the minds of people from seeing corruption as a genuine means of acquiring wealth without implication.

Various African governments should also take proactive measures, programmes and policies that are more appealing to the satisfaction of the citizens' legitimate needs and more aspirations which will help to reduce the feeling of inequality amongst them and vulnerability to modern slavery. Because when groups and individuals are kept under certain conditions that are not favorable, they tend to revolt (Mmere 2012:6).

The reorientation agency of governments in different African countries should periodically conduct reorientation exercises in different states and local government areas in their countries through seminars and workshops. This can go a long way in changing and sanitizing the minds sets of individuals towards understanding the sanctity of human lives as against modern day slavery.

Finally, the fight against this monster should not be a government thing alone; every citizen should also be more committed and patriotic by making themselves available tools in the hands of the security agencies through the provision of necessary information on modern day slavery going on around one's environment to the law enforcement agents. Citizens of the region should also be involved in legitimate enterprises that are deemed worthy and eschew the idea of "getting rich quick syndrome" that always makes them vulnerable to modern day slavery. They should realize that life has stages and must be followed gradually.

CONCLUSION

Migration and modern day slavery have posed a great challenge or threat to the African growth and development. They are issues in Africa that have continued to generate a lot of concern both from the public and the government due to its key role in the economic growth and development. Certain factors like unemployment, poverty, corruption, inefficiency of the security personnel etc were identified as some of the major factors responsible for the menace in Africa.

The paper, therefore, gives signal to government to wake up to their responsibilities by ensuring that numerous job opportunities are created so as to forestall the continued growth of modern day slavery in African. Strong legislations should be made and judiciously enforced without sentiments; fear or favor against anybody found culpable in modern day slavery to serve as deterrent to others. Peace, justice and equity, which will go a long way in bringing cooperation, tolerance and respect for human rights should be pursued vigorously. Above all, youth unemployment and poverty alleviation programmes should be given adequate attention as they reduce the rate at which the youth will plan to leave their country for greener pasture. It will also keep them away from crimes and other vices.

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