



# **DETERMINANTS OF THE PERFORMANCE OF THE POLITICAL SYSTEM IN NIGERIA (A STUDY IN POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY)**

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Article history:		Abstract:
Received:	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	The performance of the political system in Nigeria is controlled by several overlapping and intertwined determinants, including the regional factor represented by the division of the state into states and local councils of government, which did not affect the ethnic division of the state on the basis of tribes. In northern Nigeria and their orientation towards declaring their independent state, which adds a state of confusion to the political reality in light of the emerging tensions as well as the lack of security due to the presence of armed conflicts in the neighboring countries of Nigeria such as Chad and Niger and the tribal entanglement with the inhabitants of those countries whose impact was reflected on the Nigerian interior such as political assassinations and ethnic conflicts Maritime piracy, oil smuggling, currency counterfeiting, and political conflicts between political parties and forces had a negative impact on the democratic application of the transparency and integrity of the elections.
Accepted:	23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2023	
Published:	24 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	
<b>Keywords:</b> Nigeria, Federal Republic of Nigeria ,poko-Haram, political geography of Nigeria, Natural factor of Nigeria, Human factors of Nigeria, Economic factors of Nigeria,The Federal Republic of Nigeria, the elements of the political structure for a republic Nigeria Federal..		

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Nigeria is one of the West African countries, as it has geographical (natural and human) components, as it is among the countries with a large area as well as the multiplicity of natural resources in it, primarily oil and minerals, and ethnic diversity affects political stability and the strength of the state, and this is evident from the presence of several tribes and The most famous of which are Hausa and Yoruba competing with each other for control of governance, which contributed to the disintegration of Nigerian society, which had devastating effects on the political, economic and social system, causing a crisis of national integration if Nigerian society lived in the midst of a state of continuous conflict, which led to the emergence of the phenomenon of coups Military forces that lasted until 1999, which led to sowing division between the people of the one state and the exploitation of armed groups for these matters, including the Boko Haram group, as it resorted to violence and organized terrorist, as well as its association with external terrorist groups and entities, which required the Nigerian government to deal with the matter firmly and recruit sons One of the most prominent challenges that the government faced was the establishment of a democratic system based on sufficient transparency through the participation of the popular masses and casting their votes away from

sectarianism and eliminating the issue of multiple loyalties, which resulted in a gap between the ruling elites and the people. To achieve the first steps of political stability and to strengthen the principle of national security.

The research aims to answer the following questions? What is the geographical political analysis of the performance of the political system in Nigeria?and What is the role of geographical factors (natural and human) as determinants of the political system in Nigeria?What are the repercussions of Boko Haram's presence on the political system in Nigeria?What is the role of ethnic composition in the process of political transformation in Nigeria?

To answer these questions, the research assumes that there is The political process in the history of Nigeria went through several stages for the establishment of a civil democratic government instead of military rule, and the 1999 elections constituted the starting point, according to which Nigeria transformed from military rule to civilian rule,The geographical factors are determinants of the performance of the political system through the natural factors represented by the astronomical and strategic location, the human population size and the demographic composition of the Nigerian society,Some of them were factors of strength for the state and some of them were factors of



weakness. The social structure of Nigeria was characterized by an ethnic nature, which contributed to the increase of ethnic conflicts, which was reflected in the building of the state. The Boko Haram group is considered the biggest security threat and challenge to the national security of Nigeria since 2009, which required the Nigerian government to follow several strategies, including national and international ones. The emergence of terrorist groups was also associated with the loss of control of the Nigerian government over its internal problems. The ethnic factor had a major role in the process of political transformation due to its association with the electoral process and loyalties. Nigeria is a country characterized by multi-ethnicity, whose effects appeared on the process of political participation in the elections of 1999, 2003, 2007 and 2011 till now.

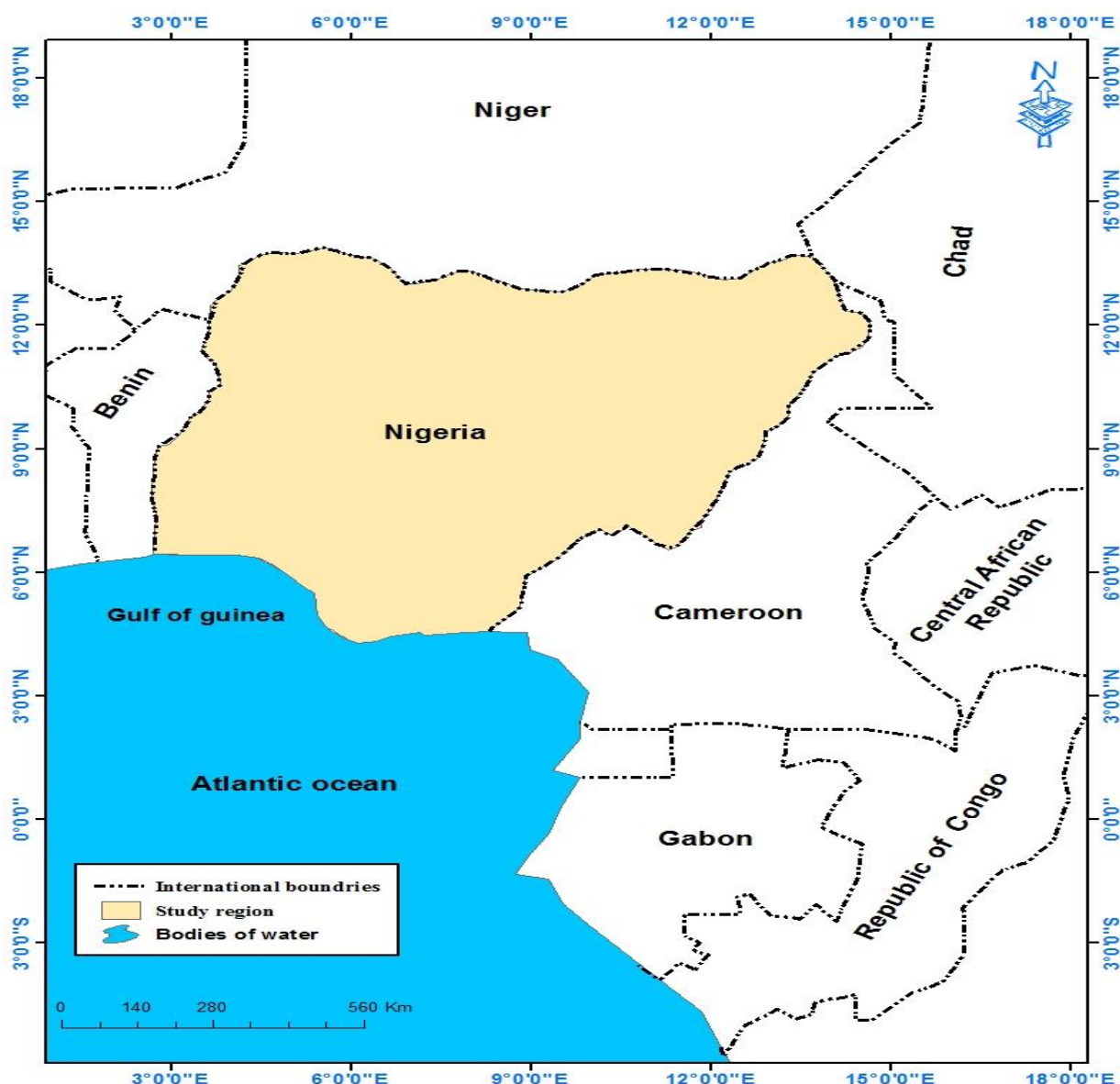
## **2 THE FIRST REQUIREMENT:**

### **2.1 Natural factors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria**

The natural factors represented by the location, size, shape, climate, land surface and its vital world play a role in guiding the state's policy and its economic components. negatively on the country's weight. These factors are:-

First: the geographical location

The geographical location is one of the important and influencing factors in the state's activity, the attitudes of its population, and its political behavior. The location of the state is intended to determine its location in relation to the arcs of longitude and latitude, which is known as (astronomical location), and its location in relation to land and



water, and in relation to neighboring countries.[1] Also, the geographical location of some countries has made them a center of influential powers on the international arena. It either makes them a strong country that is feared by countries, especially neighboring countries, or makes them weak and vulnerable to occupation by the

countries of their geographical neighborhood, and their weakness increases if one of the neighboring countries is strong.[2] And according to the internal and external variables that affect the site and affect it, its importance changes continuously from time to time, especially its spatial neighborhood, although its location does not



change. [3] It is also characterized by being variable due to the difference in the status of the state between the locations of population concentration in the world and the political centers of gravity and the development of global transportation routes, and this makes political geography an explanation history.[4]

### **1- Astronomical location**

Nigeria lies between two latitudes ( $4^{\circ}$  and  $14^{\circ}$ ). $^{\circ}$ ) north and longitude( $3^{\circ}$ ,  $15^{\circ}$ )East, map (1), it is located in the west of the continent of Africa and has a total area of (923.768) km <sup>2</sup>, It is bordered to the west by Benin, to the north by Niger, to the east by Chad and Cameroon, and to the south on the Gulf of Guinea.[5]

Map (1)

Astronomical location of the Federal Republic of Nigeria :

Source: The researcher's work based on Shawqi Abu Khalil, Atlas of the Islamic World, 2nd Edition, Dar Al-Fikr, Damascus, 2003.

### **2-Location relative to dry and marine :**

From this perspective, the site refers to the location of the state, whether it is a continental or marine location, and this concept is considered one of the most stable geopolitical concepts because it focuses on the state's relationship with the open seas. Therefore, the purpose of studying this site is to first identify the state's relationship with the marine surface surrounding its land territory. And what is related to this surface of seas and oceans, then identifying the relationship of the state to the land to which its territory belongs [6] Countries that lie on large bodies of water are described as maritime states. As for those that do not overlook water bodies, they are land states. Maritime states vary in their location on the seas. Some of them overlook one sea, two seas, or three seas. The coastal location of the state leads to two important things: its richness. Economic and civilizational friction, and therefore its strength and progress, and this requires that the waters in front of the country's coasts be a greenhouse open to navigation, as well as not being frozen and easy to navigate. suitable for the construction of natural ports and the berthing of ships, except for a few.[7]

represent an area bay Guinea Section the South western to the ocean Atlantic in his side African that breaks up in a form more from necessary in order to Prepare bay, featuring eight ten nation from West and middle Africa Which angola, benin, togo, Republic Africa central, Republic Congo democracy, SAW Tommy and principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone gabon, gambia, ghana, guinea, Guinea tropical, Guinea Bissau cameroon, cot d'ivoire, liberia, and Nigeria. and on Toward finer Located region bay Guinea what between Cross Line the offer( $0^{\circ}$ )(Line leveling)and line height ( $0^{\circ}$ )(Line Greenwich)It owns Region resources free and metallic huge like oil, and diamonds, and gold and fish and on Face particular Available region bay Guinea on reserves big from oil and gas where concentrated70%from stock Africa from oil in the coast African western from region bay Guinea.And he has anticipation experts in general1999that Reach investments companies petroleum western in region bay Guinea alone to around40 one billion dollar on Bezel twentieth year coming.as There are expectations that Reach quantities oil extracted from water deep to 25% by 2015 opposite. just in 2007. [8]

### **3-Neighborhood site**

To the neighborhood sitegreat political importance .It may be a site the country is adjacent to one or more countries that have reached a stage Young people are thus exposed to constant invasion by those countries, as well The neighboring countries to each other Some affect always in Relationships in peace and war alikea whether The greater the length of the border Wild state is becoming more a threatand this is helped on Get up Countries diaphragm [9] \* It is clear from Table (1) that the longest border of the Federal Republic of Nigeria is with Cameroon, which is 1975 km, followed by its border with Niger, which is 1,608 km, while its least border is with Chad, which is 85 km. asThe length of the borders between countries entails several problems, including the control of the borders, and this applies to the borders between Nigeria, Cameroon and Niger, which allowed the entry of armed groups and their control over several areas.

**Table (1)**

The lengths of the borders of the Federal Republic of Nigeria with the countries of its geographical neighborhood [10]

Country	border length (km)
Federal Republic of Nigeria - Benin	809
Federal Republic of Nigeria - Cameroon	1,975
Federal Republic of Nigeria - Chad	85
Federal Republic of Nigeria - Niger	1,608



the total	4477
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#### 4- Strategic Site

The strategic location gives countries a privileged political, economic and military position in peace and war. The most important strategic locations are represented by canals, straits and valleys. The strategic location is only to the extent that the state is equipped with the means that allow its investment. Thus, geopolitics meets with strategic geography in creating the location of a water or land corridor between countries. to give it this advantage[11] There are many strategic theories related to the strategic location, including the old ones, such as Mackinder's theory of the land force and Spikeman's theory of the air force. Nigeria's location was in a privileged position, as it is located within the outer crescent region, as Mackinder counted (the Eurasian-African bloc) on the island of the world, and whoever controls it by any A power from the global powers will be able to control the world, Africa faces Europe and overlooks it on the coasts of the Mediterranean for a distance of 3800 miles, and at the same time it is connected to the continent of Asia fully through the Isthmus of Suez and only the Strait of Gibraltar separates them from Europe, which represents the western entrance to the Mediterranean [12] In Speakman's theory, Africa represented the eastern section as well as Eurasia and Australia according to its division of the globe, and thus it encircled the western section represented by the North and South Americas according to location, breadth, shape, and resources. As for modern theories, such as Brzezinski's theory, it determined the location of Africa as a geopolitical axis through its control by The power that controls Eurasia being one of the three most developed regions of the world. [13]

#### Secondly:-Space And Figure

The size of the state affects its political weight. The state may have a large area, but this area may be deserts and not subject to reclamation, which makes the mere expansion of the area mean nothing in relation

to the strength and value of the state. The large area has value in the event of an increase in the population of the state, as it helps the progress of the state. Economically and politically, the expansion helps the disparity in the natural resources and the diversity in the economic components of the state, on the one hand, and on the other hand, the space may be available, and the population may not be sufficient to exploit the natural resources, which makes the state remain under the level of development that it is supposed to reach until the number of its population reaches the number which is proportional to the space. [14] According to the rating of Pounds (Pounds) for countries according to their spatial size, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which has a huge area(923.768) km<sup>2</sup>It is located within the very large countries, table (2). Nigeria, being a large desert country, suffers from great difficulties in managing it and extending its control over its parts. Its grip was strong on the northern outskirts, then it gradually weakened. Regional governments spend and distribute the group of tribes or peoples in it: the Yoruba in the west, the Igbo in the east, and the Hausa in the north, and then there was the eastern region, the western region, and the northern region. [15] The extension of the country's axis is of importance from the urban, functional, economic and political point of view, as well as the formality. Most of its units are longitudinal slices cut through the natural ranges.The shape of the globe has a role in the political structure of the state, as Nigeria represents the greatest extension of the interior, and it consists of two main population nuclei, separated by growth, which are the north and the south, and they are sexually incompatible. Three intentions, a nuclear nucleus in the north, and two nuclei in the east and west, and the great density avoids the river and their delta is reflected in Nigeria being a federal state between three or four regions and where regional conflicts abound.[16]

**Table (2)**

The area of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in relation to the countries of its geographical Neighborhood [17]





Country	Area (in km <sup>2</sup> )
Federal Republic of Nigeria	923768
Cameroon	475,650
Niger	1,267,000
Boys	114,763
Chad	1,284,000

### Third: the terrain

The land surface forms play a major role in estimating the value of the state, as it and the climate determine the economic characteristics that the state may enjoy and be a factor for its advancement and progress. climatic and vegetation conditions therein. [18].

The geological formation draws the natural, human, and political map of the state. Political geography is concerned with the geological formation of the state, as it helps to identify the country's mineral resources, which are among its most important pillars, in addition to the ease of access to minerals. The place of the capital, which is the basis for achieving political unity. Surface appearances are related as (Terrain, mountains, plateaus, valleys and swamps) in the political and economic terms of the state and this in turn is reflected in its strength. [19] The geological formation is represented by the discovery of the bedrock rocks of the Precambrian in many directions, and the emergence of Cretaceous rocks expands in the northwest and in the Niger Valley and the Benawa Valley, while there are discoveries of the rocks of the third time in the far northwest, in the northeast and across Nigeria in the south. The fourth time, the northeastern section (Basin of Chad), the coastal plains and the Niger Delta, and the overlapping igneous rocks dating back to the Precambrian appear, as well as the igneous interferences of the first time in particular in the Jos plateau, while the overlaps of the second and third times seem more important and exposed in the plateau (pew) [20]

The surface of Nigeria is characterized by the diversity and different topography. The north of the country is part of the African plateau, whose southern edge descends towards the Niger River basin and the Benawi River, with a clear decline. And on the eastern borders, there are higher areas, as the highest height is 2042 m at the top of Mount (Farjal) in the Shabshab Mountains area, south of the Banawa River. [21] maybe Discrimination in Nigeria between two sets from

appearances the surface from North direction the South, In North And the middle stand out plateaus And the heights and mediate country plateau Goose And with intentions As for in east of the state and on border Cameroon stretch strings mountainous,)mountains Kugel , Shabthi , mandar), And in the South extends easy tape Coastal, its width ranges between (100-300) km Maximum breadth for him in Delta Niger And it excels sedimentary soil overflow As for in region Lagos And Ibaden Faisal susceptible to border (100) km<sup>2</sup> [22] Nigeria can be divided into three regions: [23]

1- The Northern Territory: - With its huge area, it is representative of the savanna region in Nigeria, representative of the areas of indirect traditional rule during the colonial era, and representative of the Islamic-dominated region, and it is representative of economic backwardness in relation to the rest of Nigeria.

2- The eastern and western regions: - They represent the range tropical in nigeria, Therefore focus in them verdict the alien a period long.

3-Territory eastern:he Territory that controls on him tribe Igbo that Spreaded In which Christianity more from Other from tribes the South whole, As for Territory western He is province Yoruba tribe that I shared it Christianity and Islam.

As for the climate, the climate in Nigeria prevails in the West African climate, and being located in West Africa where the equatorial and tropical regions meet, therefore the region is dominated by a hot climate and it is generally rainy, in addition to the abundance of rain in the coastal regions and summer rains of medium quantity that decrease in the interior regions as they oversee the Gulf of Guinea. [24]. The northern range located to the north of the plateau region (north of latitude 11 degrees) is the driest region of Nigeria. It is best represented by (Kno). In this chapter at all and the



distinctive winds of it It is (the two pyramids), and in March the temperature rises rapidly, and the months of April, May and June become the hottest months of the year, and in June a sudden change occurs, as the temperature decreases due to cloud cover and the overflow of northern rivers, and the temperature returns to rise gradually as a result of the lack of cloud cover, and from October To May in the north and from November to April in the Canoe shows, the dry northern winds dominate the region once again in complete control.[25]

### **Fifth: Natural resources**

#### **1-Water Resources :**

The role of water emerges from a geopolitical point of view through the state's control of its water resources and related issues of upstream and downstream. It is considered a factor of weakness in the case of the extension of the watercourse between more than one country, and this is subject to international agreements between the two countries (upstream and downstream). [26]

The waters of the Djemari and Kamadougoujana rivers descend to the northeast to be together, as well as the Hagia River, which originates near Kno, and the Kamadougoubi River, which flows into the western coast of Lake Chad.,The Jalma River (descends on the northern slopes of the plateau) connects with the Kaduna River (descends on the western slopes) and they head south to central Niger under the name Kaduna River. It ends with al-Banawi before and after Makurdi. [27]

The Niger River and its tributary (Banwiya), which form the letters (Wai in English) are considered the main natural phenomenon in Nigeria, as they divide it into three distinct sections: in the southwestern corner lies the Yoruba Plateau. West of the Enugu River itself, and in the north of the Benueh Valley, where the Joss plateau rises from 1500 m and reaches 1800 m near the city of Jos, and towards the north extends the high plains of the Hausa country.

Its left bank, while the Lake Chad depression occupies the northeastern corner. [28]

#### **2- Mineral resources**

Mineral resources affect the economic and political power of any country, as they are an essential and important factor in terms of national security and the strategy that the country follows.[29] Mineral resources are classified into two types: metallic and non-metallic resources.

#### **A- Metallic resources, which are oil and gas**

The wealth in Nigeria varies from oil and natural gas to coal, iron and other wealth, but the main wealth on which the Nigerian economy depends is oil, as Nigeria is one of the main oil-producing countries There are those who indicate that the discovery of oil in Nigeria dates back to 1938 AD, but the majority of sources confirm that oil was discovered in 1958 AD and its production areas are concentrated in Port Harcourt and in the Niger Delta, if the number of oil fields in it is (606) oil fields, which are The most important African country in the field, as it is a member state of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and ranks eighth in the list of oil exporting countries at the global level. [30] According Data published by OPEC and the International Energy Organization as well an agency The US Central Intelligence Agency in a report within a year2015 ,reach Nigeria's proven oil reserves about (37 billion barrels)And in Another report by the same agency on production levels reached Nigeria's oil production in the year2014 circa)2.423)million barrels per daya,And reached its production of gas in the year2013 around (38.4 ) M3 annually Table (3) as well face The oil and gas industries in Nigeria have many difficulties, such as the instability of regulations, the protest movements and theft of oil in the Niger Delta, all of which discourage investors, as is theft every day.A (150)one thousand Barrels, a value more from(5)billions of dollars annually ,An amount sufficient to circulate electric power to Nigeria Fully be fore in 2030. [31]

**Table (3)**

Proven oil and gas production and reserves (2015-2021)

year	Crude oil production (thousand barrels per day) (1) [32]	Proven reserves of crude oil (million barrels) (2) [33]	gas production (billion cubic meters) (3) [34]	proven reserves of gas (billion cubic meters) (4) [35]
2015	773,458,592	37,062,06	2,929.85	186,476.82
2016	666,739,006	37,453.00	2,777.79	193,354.99
2017	689,743,453	36,182.00	2,901,63	198,711.27
2018	701,431,890	36,971.91	2,836.55	200.902.20



2019	735,244,080	36,890.00	2,864.93	203,449.26
2020	644,362,369	36,910.00	2,729.10	203,056,10
2021	2,712.97(5) [36]	-	-	-

And suffer Nigeria, like natural gas-producing countries, suffers from the loss of huge amounts of gas as a result of the so-called Torchage (Torchage)

**Table (4)**  
 Crude Oil Exports (2015-2020) [37]

year	The value of crude oil exports (million dollars)
2015	771,689,625
2016	645,435,248
2017	686,662,833
2018	698,519,830
2019	732,896,583
2020	648,483,640

## 1.1 2. The second requirement: 1.2 human factors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

The human factor is a source of strength for the state in the event of war and peace through its support and development in a manner that achieves the desired purpose of it. In the event of war, its role is highlighted by carrying arms and defending the state. The comprehensive state in the economic, social and political sectors. [38]

Nigeria is one of the African countries (south of the Sahara) with a large population size The size of the

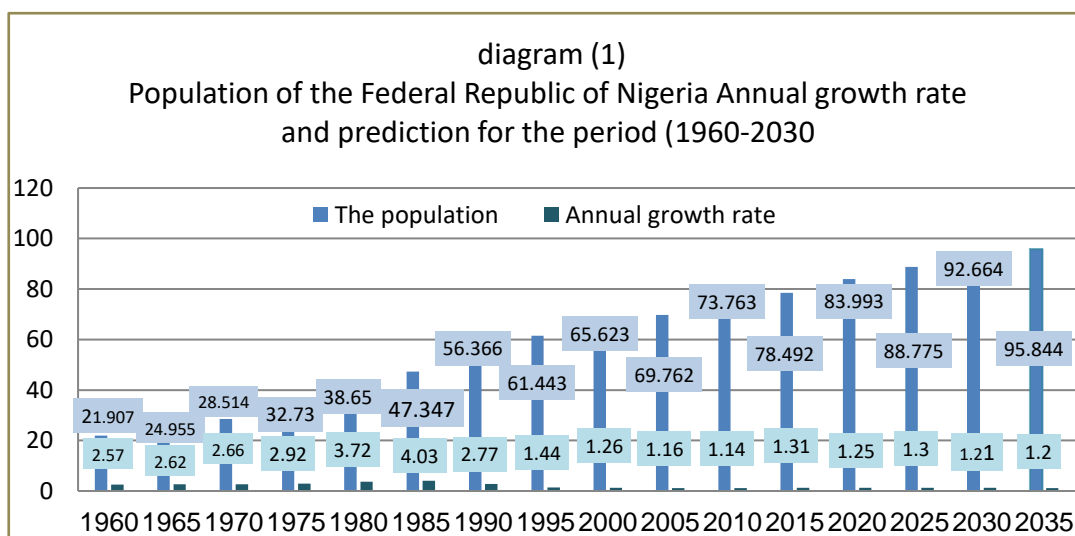
population of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in 1960 was about 45,138,460 million people, with a growth rate of 2.5 and in the 1965 census about 50,127,920 million people, with a growth rate of 2.6. In 2000, it reached about 122.283.853 million people, with a growth rate of 2.5. It rose to 181,137,454 million people in 2015, with a growth rate of 2.6. In 2020, it reached about 206.139.587 million people, with a growth rate of 2.5. The population of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in 2035 will reach 262.977 million people (table 5).

**Table (5)**  
 Population of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the period (1960-2030) [39]

year	The population ( thousands)	Annual growth rate (%)
1960	45,138,460	2.5
1965	50,127,920	2.6
1970	55,982,142	2.6
1975	63,374,289	2.5
1980	73,423,646	2.6
1985	83,562,776	2.6
1990	95,212,454	2.6
1995	107,948,339	2.4
2000	122,283,853	2.5
2005	138,865,014	2.5
2010	158,503,203	2.6
2015	181,137,454	2.6
2016	185,960,244	2.6
2017	190,873,247	2.7
2018	195,874,685	2.6



2019	200,963,603	2.6
2020	206,139,587	2.5
2021	211,400,704	2.5
2030	262,977	2.5
2050	401,315	2.5
2100	732,942	2.5



Source: - Table (5)

Population growth is affected by several factors, such as births and deaths, which represent natural increase, and the abnormal increase, which represents migration. Natural increase can be inferred through the difference between births and deaths.[40] Births express the live births born in one year for a specific population group, and the birth rate is calculated through the ratio between the total number of births per year to the total population. [41]

The crude birth rate in Nigeria is one of the highest in Africa, reaching 35 births per 1,000 people for the year 2021. However, the birth rate was expected to decline in the coming decades. Although the birth rate may be declining, the death rate was 18 per 1,000 people for the same year. [42] hit a number deaths Births in Nigeria amounted to about 265,276 thousand in 2015, and it increased to reach (270,384, 270,705 thousand, respectively. [43]

### **Second: - the geographical distribution of the population**

The study of the geographical distribution of the population of a country reveals the spatial relations of

this distribution, which helps to know the reasons and ways to redistribute the population in a way that provides protection for it, and this is what is meant by geopolitics. [44] The population density of Nigeria in 2020 about 228.74 person per square kilometer. And in general 2022 About 239.95 person per square kilometer.

### **Third: demographics**

It is intended to study the age and gender characteristics of the population, that is, their distribution according to gender and age groups, and the most important of these characteristics: the age and gender structure, which is called the population structure. [45] The study of the population structure is of great importance in the study of the population, as it clarifies the demographic features of the society, male and female, and identifies the productive groups in it, which bears the burden of supporting the rest of its members. Migration, one of which cannot be considered completely independent from the other, but any change in one of these factors leads to an impact on the other factors. Therefore, the study of age structure helps to understand the role of these factors in growth and their trends, and the related study of civil status, economic



and educational activity, and so on. [46] There is the largest population concentration in the lower Niger Valley in the provinces (Onitsha) and (Oweri) of the (Abu) tribe (in the eastern section), where there is a sharp population pressure that led to seasonal migration to other destinations, even to the island of Fernando Po and Gabon. There is another population gathering Dense, but very different, in the Yoruba tribes (western section). As for the population centers in northern Nigeria, they are different and crowd in cities that were surrounded by walls, the most important of which are Kano, Katsina, Sokoto, Zaria and Maiduguri. There are also sparsely populated areas because of the wars that

were taking place Among the tribes, the reason for the lack of population or the severity of the population in what is called (the middle zone) is due to the era of slavery and the white raids to capture slaves from the north and the south, and to the spread of tsetse flies, as well as the poverty of resources. [47]

### **1- Age structure:**

It is intended to divide the population into five- or decimal age groups, and on this basis it is possible to know the labor force and plan its investment and benefit from it for the purposes of military planning and mobilization.[48]in terms of migration and stability during different periods[49] Table6

**Table (6)**

The age structure of the population of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the year 2020 .[50]

age groups	population	The ratio%
Less than 15 years old	20,784	24.74
65 years and over	5,515	6.57
Total	80,673,951	100

### **2- Qualitative composition**

It means the composition according to sex or gender. Although the ratio of males and females is not widely different in different societies, it is important because of its consequences on employment and migration. The number of male births exceeds that of females, and the gender ratio is between 104 and 106 at birth. .[51] It is also called sexual composition, and this distribution is important for the difference in the physical composition

of males and females. Males bear hard work, unlike females, who are able to bear household burdens and raise children, as well as delicate work that suits women. The difference goes beyond crafts and businesses to the nature of consumption for both sexes.[52]

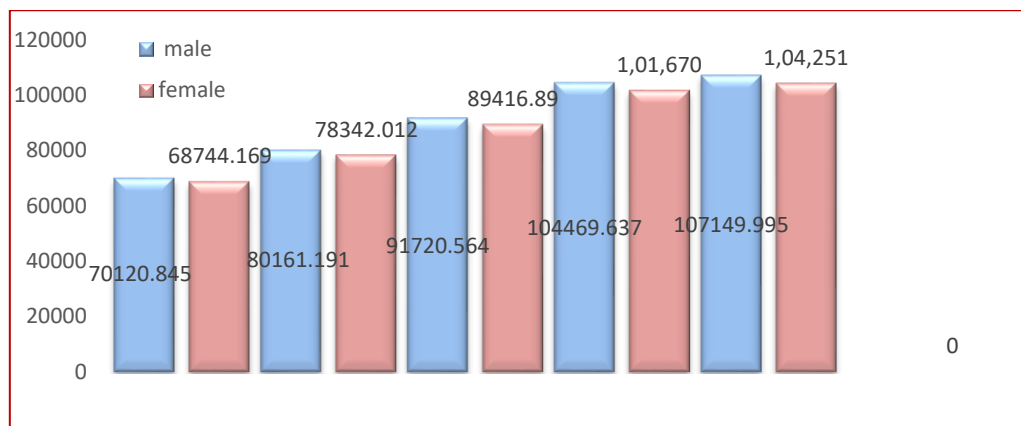
**Table (7)**

The qualitative composition of the population of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the period (2005-2021) thousand people[53]

years	males	females	Total population	type %
2005	70120845	68744169	138,865,014	102
2010	80161191	78342012	158,503,203	102.3
2015	91720564	89416890	181,137,454	102.5
2020	104469637	101,669,950	206,139,587	102.7
2021	107149995	104,250,709	211,400,704	102.7

**Diagram (2)**

Qualitative composition of the population of the United Republic of Nigeria for the period (2005-2021) thousand people



Source: Table (7).

It is clear from the previous table during the period 2005-2021 that the number of males is higher than the number of females, as it reached in 2005 (70120845(million males and)68744169(One million females. Their number out of the total population (138,865,014) With a sex ratio of 102 males for every 100 females, and the number of males in 2010 was (80161191(million people and the number of females)78342012(million people. Their number out of the total population (158,503,203) with a sex ratio of approximately 102 males for every 100 females. The number of males in 2015 (91720564) million people and the number of females (89416890) One million people. Their number is out of the total population (181,137,454) and by type hit102.5One male for every 100 females. As for the number of males in 2020, it reached (104469637(million people and number of females (101,669,950) million people. Their number out of the total population (206,139,587) with a gender ratio of 102.7 males for every 100 females. As for the number of males in 2021, it reached (107149995) million people and number of females (104,250,709) million people. Their number out of the total population (211,400,704) With a gender ratio of 102.7males per 100

females

The fact that the percentage of males exceeds the percentage of females means that the percentage of those who are able to bear arms and engage in military service increases, and Nigerian society is an example of that. In light of the ethnic divisions and political deterioration that the country is going through, the number of men needs to be more than females to engage in the security field and volunteer in the army. To control the borders and prevent the entry of terrorist elements as well as the imposition of security at home.

### 3- The Economist Composition

It refers to the family population at two products) Actually out of the total human labor capacity is the Worker in and he-This differs from the average dependency ratio according to the age structure and activity rate Economic crude measures ratios-dependency-H\*The crude activity rate is meant as the percentage of the population with economic activity divided by the total population at different ages. [54] Table (8).

**Table(8)**

Estimate the workforce (15 years and over) and employed persons for the year 2021[55]

Statement	The number thousands	male number	number of females
Work's strength 15 years and over	64479317	377826578	442305895
Employed %	58.8	-	-

From table (8), the following is evident: The total labor force (64479317(Thousand for the year 2021



,and the number of males participating in the labor force reached)377,826,578) and the number of females participating in the labor force is (442,305,895), while the percentage of workers is 58.8%. This indicates a high percentage of workers, especially the involvement of the population (men) in the army and security forces to control the state and resist the activity of terrorists.

### **3- Ethnic composition**

Nigeria became independent from Britain on October 1, 1960 AD, and during the period (1960-1966) it formed the First Republic. Nigeria is one of the most diverse countries in Africa in terms of ethnic diversity, as it is a diverse country consisting of more than 250 ethnic groups. Nigerian society is characterized as a tribal society and although the divisions are not valid in all cases, the divisions between ethnic groups in Nigeria have often been reinforced by geographical divisions (Muslims generally live in the north, while Christians live in the south), and religious divisions (Nigeria is divided almost evenly between Islam and Christianity with the Hausa-Fulani majority practicing Islam and the Igbo majority practicing Christianity)[56], social and economic divisions and political inequality. There are more than 250 ethnic groups and 500 local languages, and about 50% of them profess the Islamic religion and 40% profess Christianity, while 10% profess pagan African religions. Two criteria can be adopted: the language and the geographical division of the state. [57] In terms of the linguistic component, Nigeria contains more than 450 languages. Despite this, English is the official language of the state. Nigeria is a multi-ethnic country. As there are three major ethnicities, as we indicated above, there are also three major languages, including the Hausa language, which is most widespread in the north, and the Yoruba and Igbo languages spread in The south, which are considered one of the languages of Niger-Congo, and the northern region of Nigeria is linguistically more homogeneous than the southern region, because the Hausa language is the common language among the inhabitants of the region.[58] Languages can be classified according to the following:-[59]

A- Hausa-Fulani: It represents about 31% of the people, and it is concentrated in the northern regions in the states (Sakt, Jamfar, Kitson, Kano and Bruno), and the majority of them are Muslims, as their percentage is estimated at about 98%.

B- Yoruba: It amounts to about 21%, and they speak the Yoruba language. Yoruba groups are densely

populated in the southwestern regions, and they are divided into Muslims and Christians.

H - Igbo: - They represent about 18% of the total population of Nigeria, and they speak the Igbo language and settle in the eastern regions, and the majority of them are Christians.

In terms of geographical division, Nigeria consists of 36 states divided into six major geographical regions:- [60]

Northwest Region: It consists of seven states belonging to the Hausa and Fulani ethnicities.

North Central Region: It consists of six states and is a mixture of Hausa and Yoruba.

- The Northeast Region: It consists of six states, and it is a mixture of Hausa and many other ethnic minorities, which amount to about (200) ethnicities.

- Southwest Region: It consists of six states, and it is a mixture of the Igbo ethnicity and more than (30) ethnic minorities.

- The Southeast Region: It consists of (5) states controlled by the Igbo ethnicity.

The relationship between the different ethnic groups in Nigeria is characterized by the presence of a state of prejudice, given the evocation of the history of events and the relations between them in their daily dealings. Economic, political and religious factors also play a major role in increasing tension between the various components of Nigerian society, as the Hausa tribes and the Yoruba tribes are among the most frictionless ethnic groups. In Nigeria, due to their presence in each other's territories, skirmishes occur between them that turn into revenge operations. As for the relationship between the Hausa and Igbo tribes, it is characterized by conflict since 1966 AD due to the assassination of President Johnson Aguii Aronsi, which caused an armed conflict known as the Biafra letter.[61]

The causes of ethnic conflicts in Nigeria can be classified into several reasons:- [62]

**1- Causes related to colonialism** As it constitutes a pivotal role, colonialism sees that the unity of the colonized peoples constitutes a threat to them, and therefore it sought to sow division and revive divisions in order to be able to Control over the states Nigeria was under the control of Britain [63]

2- Reasons related to the sectarian factor, and this factor is the most complex due to the nature of its regional and global extensions. Although Nigeria is a secular country from a legal point of view, religion and sectarian affiliation still play a pivotal role for its citizens in political and social life, in addition to their regional and tribal intersections. The sectarian problem is also one of the problems stemming from the citizenship crisis



and the repercussions produced by the phenomenon of national and state-level lack of integration, and the excessive sensitivity brought about by sectarian divisions at the local level. As it includes more than a third of Muslims in Africa, and they see that their percentage exceeds 60% out of more than 160 million people, Muslims demand, based on these data, their right to influence and have a clear presence in the affairs of the country, whether it is related to it internally or externally, as they seek .[64]

From the foregoing, it is clear that the ethnic diversity (national, linguistic, and religious) contributed greatly to the emergence of divisions in Nigeria, which resulted in terrorist groups exploiting this matter from outside the borders for the purpose of fragmenting the unity of the state and creating confusion in it. Nigeria is still dominated by sectarianism, which had a role in participation politics and national integration.

## **2. The third requirement:**

### **2.1 Economic factors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria**

Nigeria is among the African countries (sub-Saharan) that leads in terms of GDP in addition to South Africa and Angola, and the GDP in these three countries constitutes (58.2%) of the total GDP in sub-Saharan African countries in 2016. Table (Table) 9).

Nigeria accounted for the largest share of the GDP for the year 2017 AD at 29.3%. The economic recession in Nigeria greatly affects the GDP of Africa in general, as happened in 2012 AD and 2016 AD. Nigerian economic growth recorded a decline and severe stagnation due to a combination of effects related to the decline in oil prices Since mid-2014, as well as the restriction of economic growth resulting from the escalation of armed conflicts, especially Boko Haram and armed groups in the Niger Delta, where production is expected to improve after the arrest of some militants who carried out multiple attacks on oil fields. [65]

#### **First:- Gross Domestic Product:**

Through table (9), we find that there is a rise in the gross domestic product during the period 1980-2018, as the gross domestic product (at constant prices) for the year 2010 amounted to about (369.1) billion US dollars in 2010, and the gross domestic product (at constant prices) reached (457.1) billion US dollars in 2016 and in 2018 amounted to about (404,649), with a growth rate for the period (1980-2016) about (3.3%), and thus it leads the African countries that are characterized by high GDP, which are both South Africa and Angola, which are (295,440), (106,918) respectively.

**Table (9)**

Gross domestic product at constant prices for the year 2010 in sub-Saharan African countries (1980-2018) billion US dollars [66]

Country	1980	1990	2000	2010	2016	2018	Growth rate for the period (1980-2016) %
Nigeria	143.8	130.9	157.5	369.1	457.1	404,649	3.3
South Africa	191.9	222.9	267	375.3	419.6	295,440	2.2
Angola	unavailable	32	34.5	82.5	103.9	106,918	unavailable

Nigeria is one of the most prominent examples of the growing phenomenon of illegal money [67] As the reports of the Integrity Organization indicated that it is the main source of such funds in sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria topped the list of countries exporting illegal capital during the period (1970-2008), followed by Egypt, then South Africa, and during the period (2004-2013) South Africa occupied the center The seventh in the world in terms of the volume of illegal financial flows, while Nigeria ranked tenth in the world, according to the report of the Global Integrity Organization for the year 2015 [68] Nigeria follows the commercial exchange system as an economic system, as it replaced part or

parts of the traditional economy this is mostly in agricultural production intended for export, i.e. mainly cash crops. There are relatively few investments in this economy in large agricultural projects, and the movement of workers towards the modern economy is still relatively few. [69] witnessed Nigeria experienced difficult circumstances during the eighties and structural imbalances in all its economic fields resulting from the openness of its economy to the outside world due to the export of oil and its exposure to many shocks and turmoil as it is a one-sided economy and relies on oil as a main source of income. It also witnessed after 2004 AD an economic reform program that was one of its most important





results The independence of the Central Bank of Nigeria, the reduction of government interference, and the stability of the currency exchange. Despite these reforms, the value of the naira did not stabilize and remained so even after 2008, due to the presence of unstable factors affecting monetary management. [70]

### **Second: Components of GDP:**

The role of the agricultural sector is to provide the food requirements of the country's population and make it

food-sufficient. Countries seek to be self-sufficient at the very least and provide food commensurate with the needs of their population to be in the ranks of developed countries.[71] Agriculture in the Federal Republic of Nigeria represents the most important economic activity in terms of the number of workers in it, as they represent (17.14%) of the labor force from all economic activities in 2017, in addition to being ranked third after industry and services (table (10). [72]

**Table (10)**

The number of workers in the agricultural sector (in thousands) in the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the period (2000-2019) [73]

year	The number of workers in the agricultural sector(thousands)	Percentage of workers in agriculture out of the total number %
2000	19,387	48.7
2005	20,219	45
2010	21,154	41.4
2014	19,205	37.5
2015	19,267	36.9
2016	18,790	36.6
2017	18,793	36.1
2018	19,063	35.6
2019	19,313	35.1

The cultivated area in the Federal Republic of Nigeria is (69,123.5 thousand hectares of the total area(923,768) thousand square kilometers for the year 2018 [74] As for the percentage of reclaimed lands amounted to(1.121) thousand tons for the year 2018. [75] And the area of forests reached (21,953.6 (2018).[76]

### **2- Trade**

The value of total imports in the first quarter of 2022 amounted to about NGN 5,900.83 billion in the first quarter of 2022, and decreased by 0.67% compared to the value recorded in the fourth quarter of 2021 (NGN 5,940.58 billion); But it increased by 21.04% compared to the value recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2021 (4.875.19 billion Nigerians). As for exports, the value of total exports in the first quarter of 2022 amounted to about 7,100.46 billion Nigerians, which indicates an increase of 137.88% compared to the value of Exports in the first quarter of 2022 (2,984.93 Nigerians) and increased by 23.13% compared to the value recorded in the fourth quarter of 2021(about 5.766.62) billion Nigerians.[77] As in table (11).

**Table (11)**

Exports and imports for the years 2021 and 2022 of the Federal Republic of Nigeria [78]

	Imports	Fourth quarter 2021	First quarter 2022
		5,940.58	5,900.83
	Exports	5,766.62	2,984.93

**Table (12)**

Trade partners for exports and imports, and the percentage of their contribution to exports in the first quarter of 2022 for the Federal Republic of Nigeria [79]



imports		exports	
Business partners	contribution percentage %	Business partners	contribution percentage %
China	25.55	India	16.57
Holland	10.49	Spain	9.54
Belgium	9.55	Holland	9.30
India	7.04	Indonesia	6.68
United States of America	5.72	United States of America	5.25

### 3. The third requirement:

#### 3.1 The elements of the political structure for a republic Nigeria Federal

First: the concept of the political system

The constitution, constitutional institutions and the human role within the political system are among the most important features of constitutional systems, which in turn differ from one country to another. The political system consists of formal and informal political institutions. The official one represents the government with its three powers: legislative, executive, and judicial. As for the informal one, which includes political parties, interest groups, pressure groups, the federation, and trade unions.[80] On this basis, the political system can be defined as the set of activities and interactions between the active political parties whose values are determined and formally distributed in society. Thus, it defines the overall political life in society, where the state, government, and system constitute the basic elements. [81]

#### Second: The nature of the political system in Nigeria

The history of the first elective democracies in Nigeria dates back to May 1919 AD when British colonialism granted the right to vote to three members of the Lagos City Council in southwestern Nigeria. The first elections for the Council were held on March 29, 1920 and in 1922, the new colonial constitution added four elected seats in the Legislative Council: three of These seats are for Lagos and one for (Calabar). In September 1923, the first general elections were held in Nigeria, where the Nigerian National Democratic Party (NNDP) won. NNDP won three of the four elected seats in the Legislative Council, and one of the important stages in the process of Nigerian democratic transition was the 1959 parliamentary elections, which resulted in the Northern People's Congress winning 134 out of 312 seats in the House of Representatives.[82]

Nigeria became independent from British colonialism in 1960, when it was formed as a republic.

On the federation (consisting of three major states), which are states: the north, the east, and the west, and an ethnic group forms in each region that represents the majority and dominates the political and economic life at the internal level. Nigeria, like the rest of the African countries, has suffered from conflicts and wars between its ethnic components in order to obtain Political influence and economic gains, which exposed Nigeria to divisions on the basis of tribalism and regionalism [83], and this was represented in the declaration of a state(Ibo)[84] A republic in the (Yafra) region in central and southern Nigeria.[85] Although there were ethnic and religious tensions in Nigeria in the pre-independence era and the post-independence civil era, they did not degenerate into violence or armed conflict. The three major political parties were regionally based which corresponded to the three major ethnic groups in Nigeria, for example, the NPC in the north, and AG in the southwest and NCNC in the southeast. Issues such as minority concerns were pervasive and marginalization became a common theme. However, ethnic and religious violence was unheard of during the First Republic (1963-1966) and throughout the civil administration before the military coup and counter-coup of 1966. The second Republic (1979-1988) witnessed ethnic and religious violence. under a civil democratic system. (Nizam Haji Sheikhu Shagari), the first President of Nigeria. [86]

The stages of transformation in the Nigerian political scene can be divided into four stages:- [87]

- 1- The First Republic (1963-1966)
- 2- The civil war Biafra (1966-1979)
- 3- The Second Republic (1979-1988)
- 4- From Bukhari to Abacha (1988-1999)

A number of political parties were active in Nigerian political life during the period (1979-1983), the most important of which are:- [88]

- 1- Al Wefaq Party
- 2- Work Council AC



- 3- The Alliance for Democracy ad
- 4- All Nigeria People's Party ANPP
- 5- The Grand Alliance of All Progressives APGA
- 6- The People's Democratic Party DPP
- 7- The New Democratic Party

In 1999, Nigeria witnessed the first civilian government that assumed the presidency instead of the army, through popular democratic elections, and it was won by (Oleson Oba Sanjo). Aba Sanjo re-nominated himself in the 2003 presidential elections, and he was elected for a new presidential term (2003-2007). According to local and international observers, these elections included suspicions of corruption, irregularities, and fraud.

In May 2006, the Senate rejected a draft to amend the constitution to allow for a third term in favor of Abasa. Ngo and elections were organized in 2007 AD won by (Yar Adwa) supported by Abasa Ngo and the control of the People's Democratic Party continued PDP)) on Nigerian politics to date. The decentralized system of government in Nigeria consists of three levels: federal (central), local, and state. There are about 36 states and 774 local government and the federal capital territory. [89]

I enumerated directions for explaining military coups in African countries, combining theories that depend on traditional analysis with theories that are based on mathematical analysis, including the theory of temporary development in developing societies. In Nigeria, the people looked down upon the volunteers in the army, and thus the army was from the less advanced Tiu, such as the Ibo, who represented the few but advanced class within the Nigerian army, as for the theory of colonial inheritance on the case of Nigeria, that the military in Africa are not qualified by virtue of their modernity to bear the sacrifice imposed on them by the English or French traditions, which requires non-interference in political affairs from The military side, as happened in Nigeria after the federal authorities sought the help of the army, and it ended up seizing political power in the state, supporting the army, and raising its budget more than the security budget of the ministry and the president is less than it, although it was the armed forces that carried out the coup against the government on February 14, 1966 AD, even if We applied the theory of contagion to the case of Nigeria, and we find that it is related to the idea of geographical linkage, as it is among the first regions located south of the Sahara that are vulnerable to military coups (Togo, Dahomey, Ghana, Nigeria, Upper Volta, and Mali The theory has benefited in predicting military coups [90]

### **Boko Haram group**

The word Boko Haram [91] is considered an Hausa word, and it is a compound word that is a mixture of the Hausa and Arabic languages. The Hausa people used the word Boko and meant the Western education system, and if the word forbidden was added to it, the meaning became: The Western education system is forbidden. Rather, the word should be interpreted according to its semantic content and not according to the literal translation Accordingly, the correct translation could be: Following the educational system in the Western context is forbidden. [92] The presence of Boko Haram in the future is a major security challenge, despite the modest achievements made by the government. The observer of the group's activities and movements notes that the survival of the movement is still based on three pillars:- [93]

First: - The large number of followers and recruits from the "Magiris" children and poor children from neighboring countries such as Cameroon, Chad and Niger who easily cross the Nigerian border.

Second: - The large financial support that the group received from politicians and some rich people, which ensures the continuation of the group's operations and the provision of weapons, training, and compensation for those injured during the implementation of its operations, as well as the relatives of the group's suicide bombers.

Third: The great influence of the movement's theorists who frame the movement's members intellectually and exploit their relations with foreign organizations described by some as terrorist, such as Al-Shabaab and Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb in order to gain new recruits.

There are several reasons that justify the Nigerian government's inability to eradicate Boko Haram, including:- [94]

1- The crises of the military institution, which are crises related to the equipment of the Nigerian army. Its poor equipment gives Boko Haram forces strength, in addition to the low morale of the soldiers, and the violations committed by the army often benefit Boko Haram forces.

2- Border fragility, which is represented by the activity of Boko Haram within Nigeria's neighboring countries, due to the inability of those countries to control their borders due to their length and difficult terrain and the weak capabilities of the region's armies.



3- Sectarian conflict Sectarian conflicts play an important role in the growth of Boko Haram's activities, especially in light of the mutual violence between Muslims and Christians in many Nigerian villages, and the group presents itself as a defender of Islam, which generates a popular incubator for the group.

4- Problems related to the state itself and the limited regional and international cooperation to besiege the group and dry up its external resources, especially since its threat threatens all of West Africa, not just Nigeria. The relationship between the Boko Haram group and the Nigerian government went through two phases:-  
[95]

1-The stage of self-reliance for construction and formation. This stage was based on several axes:-

The official disengagement with the Nigerian state institutions on all institutions, and it began with the mandate of Bobby in 2006 AD and the establishment of a media arm of the group. In addition to the establishment of institutional structures affiliated with the group in all areas such as hisba, trade unions, military brigades, agriculture, finance and the judiciary to serve the members of the group. A hierarchical arrangement of management was also adopted by appointing Emirs owe allegiance and obedience to the Emir of the group in the northern states of Nigeria and some of the geographical neighboring countries such as Chad and Niger.

B- The second stage, the stage of confrontation and clash, was represented by the acts of piracy, murder, kidnapping and armed robbery since 2009 AD, which were carried out by the Boko Haram group. This stage is considered the most influential at the local and international levels due to the direct involvement in acts of violence and assassinations.

It becomes clear to us that Nigeria is characterized by cultural and religious differences through the presence of three issues represented by the Hausa - the Fula Muslims in the north, the Ibo in the southeast, and the Yoruba Christians in the southwest, and this is what made Britain impose federalism on Nigeria, but its application had political consequences for the state through the division of B Regions Although Nigeria is a country with a large population size as well as the area in Africa.

## **5. CONCLUSIONS:**

1-Partisan pluralism was linked to the ethnic factor, since Nigeria is a country characterized by ethnic pluralism (national, religious and linguistic). The party system was clear through the association of

participation in the political process with sectarian loyalties, which was reflected in its impact on the stability of the elections and its repercussions on the stability of the political system and the elected government.

2- The growth of the phenomenon of terrorist groups in Africa in general and West Africa sub-Saharan Nigeria in particular, one of the most important causes of which is the weakness of governments in terms of security and the instability of their political systems, which allowed groups to exploit the collapse of their situation by entering them, tampering with their security and threatening their safe population.

3- The transformation of Nigeria from a state with military rule into a civil state enabled it to begin the stage of building the state and attempting to reform the political, economic and social system in the state since 1999, but many obstacles did not enable it to achieve this and this was linked to political participation in elections and terrorism.

4- Geographical factors played a role in border fragility, represented by the activity of Boko Haram within the neighboring countries of Nigeria, the inability of those countries to control their borders due to the length and difficulty of their terrain and the weak capabilities of the region's armies.

5- Nigeria was characterized by cultural and religious differences through the existence of three issues represented by the Hausa - Fula Muslims in the north, Ibo in the southeast, and Yoruba Christians in the southwest, and this is what made Britain impose federalism on Nigeria, but its implementation had political consequences for the state through the division of regions Although Nigeria is a country with a large population size as well as the area in Africa.

6- The possibility of applying the contagion theory to the case of Nigeria because it is linked to the idea of geographical linkage, as it is among the first region located south of the Sahara that is vulnerable to military coups (Togo, Dahomey, Ghana, Nigeria, Upper Volta, and Mali). The theory has benefited in predicting military coups.

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