

INTERROGATING THE QUEST HERALDING THE CREATION OF STATE POLICE AS THE MESSIAH IN NIGERIA.

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Abstract

Nigeria is a secular and multifarious society embracing a Presidential system of government, which indirectly connotes winner take it all. Therefore, the quest for creation sub-national police capable of reflecting the cultural and political idiosyncrasies of the indigenous people of the geo-political area is commendable. It is not in doubt that the Nigeria Police as presently constituted, which is embedded in Exclusive List in the constitution of Nigeria and funded through the federal government has failed to provide the much needed security of live and property in the country. It is the constitutional responsibility of the government both at the centre and the sub-national levels to ensure that the lives and property of its citizenry are protected and preserved. Government has no doubt failed in carrying out this responsibility as millions of Nigerians are killed, maimed, kidnapped and abducted on a daily basis. Crimes such as kidnapping, insurgency, abduction, terrorism, militancy, banditry and religious crisis have been on the increase in Nigeria. However, this manuscript is of the utmost view that the establishment of the police at the sub-national level may not after all solve the problem of insecurity plaguing the country. This is as a result of the fact that the challenges bedevilling the police in Nigeria such as corruption, lack of training and re-training, inadequate appropriation and funding and others are not constitutional but attitudinal. It follows that the same challenges would bedevil the states police if it is established. It was suggested among others things that the officers and men of the Nigeria Police should have attitudinal change towards national issues and policies; there should be amendment to the constitution of Nigeria to accommodate state police; there should be adequate appropriation and funding of the Nigeria police and state police if created.

Keywords: Decentralisation of Institutions, Insecurity, Secular State, State Police.

1. Introduction

One important feature of federalism is that it guarantees the sharing and division of power among the tiers or orders of government in order to ensure efficiency and enhance growth and to successfully control disorder or conflict in the state.¹ What federalism entails is totally a constitutional division of power between two tiers of government guaranteeing non-

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¹ M. Keating, Support for Improvement in Governance and Management (SIGMA), Federalism and the Balance of Power in European States, Paper Prepared for Sigma at the University of Arberdeen, Scotland, (2007), 5.

encroachment by neither of the governments – central or sub-national. Federalism tends to solve series of problems such as determining the power of each arm of government in order to avoid conflicts from time to time. The provision of incentives to politicians and other key actors in a federation may attract centrifugal or centripetal forces and dynamics.² Federalism also accommodates peace, stability and economic growth in such countries that have diversities, ethnicity, language, religion and other related differences.³ It has assisted in conflict settlement and increase growth and stability even if it has also caused problems in some countries.⁴ The kernel of federalism is anchored on the provision of the constitution which is the ground norm of every country, and it spells out the division of power to the various tiers of government. The constitution is therefore, the legal instrument for power sharing to the various orders of government.

In Nigeria, there are three orders in government. They include the Central government (Federal) and the sub nationals which comprises of the States and Local governments. The states of the federation are 36 in number and there is the Capital Territory (Abuja). The Federation is also comprised of 774 Local Government Area Councils each with their constitutionally devolved and divided powers.⁵ The Exclusive Legislative List contains such items which are within the ambit and power of the Central Government.⁶ The Concurrent List has embedded in it, items which the federal or central government and the states of the federation have powers to legislate or act upon.⁷ The local government councils have their functions and powers embedded in the constitution too.⁸ The police are embedded in the Exclusive Legislative List, and the implication of this is that the central government alone can act or make laws regarding the affairs of police in Nigeria. Arguments have ensued as to whether the Nigeria Police as presently constituted should remain or there should be creation of state controlled police. The argument tilts towards the favour of the creation of state police. The dailies are always flooded with captions bordering on the creation of police to compliment the efforts of the federal controlled police. It has been argued that the creation of sub-national police would stern the rising security challenges in Nigeria because it is going to involve officers and men from the various states. The question is despite the creation of local vigilantes, *amotekuns*, *ebubeagus* and other regional and local security outfits, has the insecurity in the country improved? The answer no doubt is emphatically no, the insecurity in the country has remained unimproved. It is not very clear too if the establishment of sub-national police would guarantee safety of live and property as enshrined in the Constitution.⁹

It is not in doubt that several countries have adopted state police across the globe and Africa in particular, but suffice to state categorically that it is still in doubt if the establishment of sub-national police would become the ‘messiah’ so to say as it affects the security lapses or challenges in the country. This work interrogates the viability or otherwise of the establishment of sub-national police in Nigeria and to ascertain whether its creation would actually solve the problem of insecurity in the country. Nigeria is no doubt weighed down as a result of the

²*ibid*, 12.

³International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance 2ndedn. (International IDEA 2017) 3.

⁴ *ibid*, 4.

⁵See, generally Ss. 2 and 3 CFRN 1999 (as Amended)

⁶ *ibid*, Pt. I 2nd Sch.

⁷ *ibid*, Pt. II

⁸ *ibid*,Pt. III 4th Sch.

⁹ See, S. 14(2) which provides that the ‘Security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government’.

daunting security challenges and this has led to the clamour for the creation of state police across the country.¹⁰

The security challenges in Nigeria are enormous, and despite the efforts of government and promises made by successive administrations in Nigeria, the security situation still remain worse on a daily basis. The insecurity situation is no doubt alarming.¹¹ It is against this backdrop that stakeholders, scholars and eminent Nigerians have called for the restructuring of the Nigeria police. The call is mainly centered on the creation of state police as it were under the 1960 and 1963 constitutions of Nigeria where the western, northern and midwestern regions had their police but the eastern region seemed not to have utilized that opportunity. Some scholars have advocated that if this is done, the security situation in the country would improve tremendously. This notwithstanding, others argued that the traditional rulers and the political class would usurp the powers of the police and use the state controlled police to witch-hunt their political opponents. The failure and poor performance of the Nigerian police have been attributed to series of challenges which borders on corruption, lack of training and re-training, inadequate man power, poor remuneration, absence of sophisticated weapons, inadequate budget and funding, and such other challenges. One therefore, wonders if the state police personnel would be recruited or enlisted from Germany or the US or 'heaven' in order to avoid the lapses that are inherent in the *modus operandi* of the police in Nigeria.

2. Philosophy behind Creation of State Police

The Nigeria police, just like their counterparts in other countries across the globe are saddled with the responsibilities of securing the people. Thus, 'the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government.'¹² It is within the purview of the state to safeguard, protect and improve the environment, water, air and land, forest and wildfire in Nigeria.¹³ Again, the Police Act provided for the functions of the police to include: prevention of crime, detection, the preservation of law and order, protection of lives and property; apprehension and prosecution of offenders, due enforcement of all laws and regulations; and among other things carryout other duties within and outside Nigeria as maybe directed.¹⁴ Other laws of the federation, such as the Evidence Act, Criminal procedure Act and Criminal procedure code also provided for some duties of the police as it affects detection and prevention of crime in the society.¹⁵ From the foregoing, it is quite understood that the police is saddled with the responsibilities of detecting and preventing crime. In doing this, the police controls crime and help in the protection of lives and property.

The police are no doubt part and parcel of nation building and development strides in the society. This is sequel to the fact that development can only thrive in an atmosphere where there is peace and order. It is against this backdrop that the Nigeria Police is charged with the responsibility of maintaining law and order so as to ensure the advancement and improvement of the socio-economic spheres of the country. This can be achieved if the citizens of the country

¹⁰ E.I. Yecho and K.T. Azaigba, 'Deconstructing The State Police Thesis as an Antidote to Internal Security Challenges in Nigeria, 1999 – 2018', (International Journal of Advanced Academic Research/Arts, Humanities and Education vol. 5, Issue 2 2019) 1.

¹¹ M.B. Aleyomi, 'Is State Police a Panacea to Security Threat in Nigeria?' (Afro Asian Journal of Social Sciences vol. 4(4.2) 2013) 30.

¹²(n.9).

¹³ *ibid*, s. 20.

¹⁴See, generally s.4 of the police Act.

¹⁵A.S. Edet, 'Crime Control and Policing the Nation States: The Nigerian Police in Focus' (International Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities Reviews vol. 7 No2 2017) 97.

and their properties are secured through policing. It follows that effective policing in a democratic society would attract economic growth. It is not in doubt that insecurity prevents both local and foreign investors from investing in a particular country.¹⁶ The Police are very essential for good governance and development tendencies. So many persons perceive the Nigeria police as veritable tool for development and growth, but others see the Nigeria police as ‘a spare tyre of a sort’.¹⁷ The truth of the matter is that so many Nigerians have indeed lost confidence in the police and they do not want to be associated with the Nigeria Police. But it must be stated that despite the corrupt nature and poor performance of the police, there seem to be good eggs and good attributes of the Nigeria police.

With the 1954 Lyttleton arrangement of federally controlled Police operations in Nigeria, arose contending views on the relevance of the 1954 Police arrangement for Nigeria. This contention on the nature of police operations in Nigeria in terms of its decentralization continued even among delegates and members of the Willink’s Commission of 1958 and the Nigeria Constitutional Conference of 1958 in London. The result of these debates of the Willink’s Commission and that of the 1958 Constitutional Conference shaped the outcome of the 1960 Independence Constitution and the 1963 Republican Constitution of Nigeria, which allowed the creation and maintenance of regional, local government and native authority systems of police operations in Nigeria. The 1963 Republican Constitution of Nigeria made provisions for the creation and maintenance of a Police Force within the various regions.¹⁸ The Northern and Western governments were able to retain the local police established by their native authorities. It appeared the eastern region did not utilize that opportunity given by the 1963 Constitution to establish and propagate its own police architecture.

The 1999 Constitution did not make a similar provision to that of the 1963 Constitution. Rather, the 1999 Constitution provides that: “there shall be a Police (Force) for Nigeria which shall be known as the ‘Nigeria Police’ and subject to the provisions of the constitution no other police shall be established for the federation or any part thereof”.¹⁹ The implication of the provision above is that it precludes various states and constituent units of the federation from establishing their own police. The word “force” was expunged from the constitution to bear the “Nigeria police”, probably to deter the police from their brutal nature to the citizens. The police ought and should be friends of law abiding citizens of the country especially in a democratic setting. The Court has held that the police are not debt collectors.²⁰ So, it is not the duty and responsibility of the Police to collect debt for lenders. That is a civil matter or cause which should be instituted in the Court of law. The Nigeria Police have dabbled into civil matters outside the purview of their core mandates and the Courts have always frowned at this attitude. They are to maintain neutrality in election matters; the police are not an aggrieved party but a nominal party who has no stake as to the outcome of an election or a Court case. It is none of their business to decide the person whom the electorates elect and consequently declared by the Court to be the winner and person returned. Their primary functions are to ensure that there is fairness and security at the arena, ‘and theirs is to tend the rope in the interest of peace and

¹⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁷ E.F. Ijalana, ‘The Police in Nigeria: Meaning, Foundation, Scope and Essence’ (Journal of Law, Policy and Globalization vol. 73 2018) 64.

¹⁸ See, s.105 (7), 1963 Constitution of Nigeria.

¹⁹ (n 9) 12.

²⁰ *Ken McLaren & Ors v Jennings* (2003) 5 FWLR 107, 144.

stability in the land, thus, they should learn to remain neutral and strive to attain the aura of neutrality bestowed on them by the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria'.²¹

The Nigeria Police as presently constituted has been condemned for its failure to effectively combat crimes in the country. It is glaring that the quest for money and corrupt practices by the Nigeria Police and other security agencies have over shadowed their interest in securing lives and property in the country. Nigerian farmers are no longer going to their farms to cultivate because of kidnapping and abduction. The practice is that the hoodlums go to the bush and ambush the local farmers who cultivates in their various farms; they are kidnapped and ransom is demanded from the poor farmers- their victims. The family members of the victims held in captive pay such ransoms before the victims are released and oftentimes, the victims are killed for the inability of their family members to provide ransom. The poor farmers are helpless and all these have deterred the farmers from going to their farms to cultivate because of the fear of the unknown. The consequences of all these is that it has occasioned a sharp increase in the prices of food stuff in the country as many farmers can no longer go to farm to cultivate thereby leading to poor production.

It has been observed that in other federations, especially the US, the sub-nationals are constitutionally allowed to create their Police. Thus, States and Local Police are allowed to function depending on the provisions of the various State Constitutions, while the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) takes care of the country's security holistically. The control of the Nigeria Police by the President through the Inspector General of Police (IGP) has not in any means helped in combating crime. Kidnapping, armed-robbery, fraudulent and internet fraud (yahoo), insurgency, banditry, terrorism, drug pushing and other crimes and social vices have been on the increase in Nigeria. Yet, the Nigeria Police and such other crime fighting agencies established by the federal government of Nigeria, such as the Department of State Services (DSS), the Nigeria Securities and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Federal Road Safety Corps, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and others, have not lived up to expectations. Although, there is no society without crime, suffice to state that the crime rate in Nigeria is at such an alarming rate or frequency and if not curtailed would be disastrous or detrimental to the economic advancement of the country.

It was argued that since Nigeria is a federation and it practices federalism, it is necessary that Nigeria should be seen to practice true federalism by creating state Police. But would the creation of state police be the antidote to the security challenges in the country? So many scholars and stakeholders have argued that state police should be created in Nigeria as it is propagated in other federations like the U.S, Germany, Switzerland and other federations.²² This work is of the view that Nigeria and Germany or the U.S is not one and the same country. The security situation in Nigeria is not the same as it is in these countries, therefore, it would be uncalled for to equate Nigeria with the US or Germany. It is submitted further that there is no one recipe for the propagation or practice of federalism across the universe; the way it is carried out in the US or Germany is quite different from the way it is practiced in Nigeria. A

²¹*Agagu v. Mimiko* (2009) ALL FWLR (Pt. 462) 1122, 1201.

²²M.Y. Danung, S.O.J. Okoronkwo and P.J. Miner, 'Creation of State Police and its Necessity in this Era of Terrorism and Insecurity in Nigeria', AFJCLS 5 2020) 30.

country's constitution determines the modus operandi of the practice of its federalism and subject to the country's local circumstance.²³

The proponents of the creation of State Police have argued that it will stem the increasing insecurity in the country, while others who are against the creation of State Police are of the opinion that the State governors who would fund such State Police would use the police to fight and frustrate the opposition in the states. It has been argued that the Nigeria police has been ascribed the same reasons for the collapse of the local police and that state police is the logical solution to the insecurity palaver in Nigeria, therefore, the creation of state police would accommodate true federalism in Nigeria.²⁴ It is the tenet of federalism that the central government and the sub-nationals should be co-ordinate and independent. Although, it has been observed that different countries run their federations subject to the written constitutions of such countries and local circumstances, the need for State Police has become imperative but this issue must be discussed especially to ascertain how the rules and legal framework can be put in place in the constitution on how it should be administered or regulated in order to cushion the effect of the fear of the opposition. Thus, Robert Clarke stated as follows:

I agree we must have state police; it is a question of must. It is a necessity we have to pursue. But under whose control would it be? Is it going to be local police in a unified manner again that will create one unitary command and come back to the same problem? We don't know! So, these are the areas you and I have to sit down and work out. The idea is fantastic, but the operation of it is what we have to look into.²⁵

A former Inspector General of Police, Ehindero, was of the view that Nigeria is not ripe for state police.²⁶ According to him, the 'First and Second Republic witnessed how the police were used by political opponents and that it was an instrument of terror at that time. He argued that state police cannot deal with the challenge of terrorism'. According to him, the state governors would have some control over the police. He cited issues like boundary dispute between a state and another as one of such issues that could raise alarm between two states police if created. He rather suggested proper funding of the police; information gathering and giving of information to the police to enable the police effectively carry out their duties of investigation and prevention of crime. It must be noted that the reasons for the failure of the regional police during the 1960/1963 Constitutions were among other things as a result of the interference by the traditional rulers, ethnic and religious challenges. A former Director, Department of States Services, (DSS) Ejiofor, had a contrary view. He opined that:

I have been one of the advocates of state police for a long time. It is good that the National Assembly has now got on the matter to ensure that they give the enabling law speedy passage. The creation of state police is going to improve our security because the governors of states have been called the chief

²³ S. Ugbo, 'Re-Examining True Federalism Conundrum in Nigeria' (University of Ibadan Law Journal vol. 13 2023) 126.

²⁴ T. Shola, 'State Policing in Nigeria: Beyond Necessesesity' (International Journal of Research in Social Sciences vol. 6, Issue 8, 2016) 752.

²⁵ See, *The Guardian Newspapers*, (Saturday, 19 October 2019), 3.

²⁶ See <<https://punchng.com/will-creation-of-state-police-improve-security/amp/#aoh=15746945115193>> & referrer=https%34%2F%2Fwww.google.com & amp-tf=from%20%251%245, July 9, 2018>, accessed 6 April 2024.

security officers, which has just been a name without the power for them to carry out the responsibility. The challenge I hear people talk about, which is that the state police can be an instrument of oppression, to me is not sufficient enough to kill the idea. Security will no doubt improve when we have the state police. With state police, the recruitment will generally come from the locals who know the terrain. They will not work as if they are excluded from the Nigeria police, they will work in synergy with the Federal police²⁷

Also, Agbakoba, a human rights crusader, on his part stated thus:²⁸

Absolutely, the answer is clear. The State Police issue is a small conceptual issue in the larger discussion of devolution of power and restructuring. What it means is that in any management system, if you concentrate power in the hands of one person and you ignore the components parts or units, there is bound to be inefficiency. So, sitting in Abuja and controlling the entire criminal justice system of Nigeria, it is impossible... I will not advocate picking state police out of the whole number of matters that can be devolved from the federation. If you are talking about state police, it means those who accept it must also accept a major devolution of powers to the states, the problem of revenue generation and payment of policeman would be made possible. The fear of governors misusing the police is the same you can direct at the federal police.

Meanwhile, Zulum has posited that insecurity would worsen in Nigeria if State Police is created.²⁹ Flowing from the above assertions, it has become very clear that the argument canvassed by scholars and stakeholders who are opposed to the creation of State Police is rooted in the fear that the State governors would use the States Police against their political opponents in their various States. It is submitted that this line of argument is not tenable or strong enough as the issue of security is more paramount than the political interest that the politicians propagate and parade as their main reason for opposing the creation of State Police in Nigeria. It is further submitted that during the 1960/1963 Constitutions, there was Regional Police in Nigeria and the Police assisted immensely in curtailing security challenges in those regions where Regional Police existed. In spite of the provisions of the legal duties of the police in the Police Act, the Nigeria police is still bedeviled with questions as to its effectiveness and efficiency. Former Ekiti State governor and then Chairman of Governors' Forum (Kayode Fayemi), while speaking on the current Nigeria police, stated that 'the states are equally helping to fund the Nigeria police, despite its federal connotations'.³⁰ He asserted that since the state governors contribute their quotas in the welfare of the Police, it would not be out place to prevent them from having their various states Police.

²⁷ *ibid.*

²⁸ *ibid.*

²⁹ See, M. Oladeji, 'Zulum Frowns at Adoption of State Policing, Says it Will Worsen Security Situation' <<https://www.ripplesnigeria.com/zulum-frowns-at-adoption-of-state-policing-says-it-will-worsen-security-situation/>> accessed 2 February 2024.

³⁰ Channels TV News, Sunday 20 October 2019 at 8:30pm.

The South-West governors' forum held a summit on how the security situation in the Western part of the country can be improved. Also, on the 26th November, 2019, the South-South geo-political zone comprising Delta, Edo, Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Rivers and Cross-Rivers States met to discuss ways of improving the security situations in the geo-political zone.³¹ The governors in the region have agreed to float a security outfit aim at checking the insecurity in the region. The governors and the Inspector-General of Police discussed the issue of encouraging Community Policing. According to them, if the community people are involved in policing in Nigeria, it would go a long way to reducing the perpetration of crime in the various states. The community policemen or the vigilante groups are now all over the states. The same thing applies to other geo-political zones in the country who have decided to create regional vigilantes to help tackle insecurity in the various regions in country as the conventional Nigeria police can no longer curtail the activities of criminals who perpetrate heinous crimes in the society on a daily basis. It is submitted that the vigilantes could be helpful if the federal and state governments can accord the community vigilantes a befitting status by taking care of their welfare and logistics in order to redouble their efforts.

3. Challenges of the Nigeria Police

So many people have posited that decentralization of the Nigeria police is the key to security improvement in Nigeria. This is how the police is propagated and organized in many advanced countries and it has actually worked in those climes. Unfortunately, in Nigeria, there is only one Police known as the Nigeria police, controlled by the President and the Inspector - General of Police (IGP). The activities of the Nigeria police have been bedevilled by a lot of imbroglio which encompasses corruption, inadequate funding, inadequate manpower, absence of regular training and re-training and others. Poor remuneration of the police has been identified as the basic challenge of the Nigeria Police and that this accounts for the poor performance and the level of insecurity in the country.³² As stated earlier in this work, it is not very clear if these challenges that are bedevilling the Nigeria police would recur in the state police if created. It is submitted that the officers and men who would be recruited or enlisted into the state police are from the same environment that is already corrupted and enmeshed in devastated situation. Insecurity in Nigeria has been a very serious issue and it has gone a long way to truncating the development and economic improvement of the country. Religious crisis, militancy, insurgency, banditry, armed robbery, terrorism, kidnapping, abduction and other heinous crimes orchestrated by Boko Haram sect, insurgency, banditry, herders and agitators are the common security challenges in the country. In the Niger Delta area, the militants and agitators are demanding the control of the resources in their domain. In the eastern part of the country, there is the struggle for self-determination being orchestrated by Indigenous Peoples' of Biafra (IPOB), in western Nigeria, the O'dua People's Congress (OPC) are agitating for establishment of a Yoruba nation. And in the north, the Hausa/Fulanis are against western education but their main objectives are unknown. These contestations have no doubt impeded development and have caused shortage of food supply. This ugly situation has called for the restructuring of the police in Nigeria to accommodate state and community policing. However, even the established Community vigilantes (community police) have not help matters. Virtually every community in the country has one form of vigilante or the other. Despite the formation of these vigilantes no meaning security of live and property has been achieved. This notwithstanding,

³¹ Available on <<https://saharareporters.com>> accessed 10 March 2024.

³² E.O. Ayeni and B.O. Odogbo, 'Evaluating the Nature of Nigeria Police and the Challenges of Insecurity in Wukari Area Command, Taraba State, Nigeria 2014 – 2020 (African Social Science and Humanities Journal vol. 5(4) 2024), 339.

it must be noted that there is the need to build on our community policing projects.³³ It was argued that the debate regarding whether state police is different and distinct from the federal government controlled police should be established is good enough for Nigeria as a nation despite despicable nature of such argument.³⁴

4. Conclusion and Recommendations

This work has examined the canvassed in support of the creation of sub-national police in Nigeria; functions and duties of the Police; challenges of the Police. Nigerian citizens see the Nigeria Police as agents of oppression, thus, Nigeria is at the crossroad as the citizenry no longer have confidence in the police. The alarming rate of insecurity in the country has exacerbated the quest to establish sub-national in order to compliment the effort of Nigeria police which is embedded in the Exclusive List in the Constitution thereby robbing sub-nationals every opportunity of establishing their own police. It is not in doubt that the Nigeria Police has failed woefully in providing the much needed security to the citizens. However, it was stated earlier that the hurdles bedevilling Policing in Nigeria encompasses corruption, inadequate funding, lack of training and retraining, insufficient manpower and other challenges. This work submits that these challenges bedevilling the Nigeria Police would also bedevil the States police if created. The entity known as Nigeria has been adjudged a corrupt country, it follows that the officers and men who would be enlisted into the state police formations are not from England, Germany or the U.S. Of course, they are Nigerians and are part of the corruption which is now a cankerworm to the country. In attempting to provide an answer to the poser: whether the states police are the ‘Messiah’? It is submitted that the establishment of sub-national police is likely not going to be the ‘messiah’. It must not be misunderstood that this work is against the creation of state police, no, it is not, but it must be noted that the establishment of the police at the sub-national level may not address the security hurdles plaguing the country. Although, this work agree that the challenges of the Nigeria police as enumerated above are enormous and germane, it is however, concluded that the problem with the security architecture is not about the federal government or the state government or constitutional issues, but the wellspring of Nigeria’s insecurity borders on the attitudinal character inherent in Nigerians including the Nigeria police. It is a known fact that corruption has eaten deep in Nigerians and until Nigerians have a national rebirth and attitudinal change towards national issues and policies, the security situation in Nigeria would continue to deteriorate.³⁵

The nagging argument bordering the establishment of sub-national police in Nigeria is in the public domain and has been adumbrated and the following recommendations are proffered as follows:

1. The Legislature is enjoined to further alter the constitution in order to move the Nigeria Police from the Exclusive List to the Concurrent List. This would pave way for State Houses of Assembly to legislate on the Police and create the State Police.
2. The various agencies that are saddled with the role of fighting corruption in Nigeria should intensify their efforts towards fighting corruption.

³³O.I. Eme and A.N. Ogbochie, ‘Limitations of State Police in Nigeria’ (Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences vol. 5 No5 2014)137.

³⁴ *ibid*, 139.

³⁵T. Ezukanma, ‘The Solution is not in Restructuring’ <<https://thenationonline.net/the-solution-is-not-in-restructuring>> access 25 April, 2025.

3. Corrupt police officers and men should be shown the way out and adequate punishment should be meted on them.
4. There should be attitudinal change among young Nigerians. The quest for material things and wealth should be jettisoned for good names.
5. Government at various levels should not politicize corruption and insecurity.
6. There should be adequate appropriation of funds for arms and ammunition in the country.
7. Nigeria police should desist from the moribund ways providing security, rather there should be training and re-training in modern day crime detection and prevention.
8. There should be a reasonable increase in the salaries and allowances of the police officers and their rank and file.
9. There should be a legal framework that would guide the operational base of the Nigeria police and state police if created.