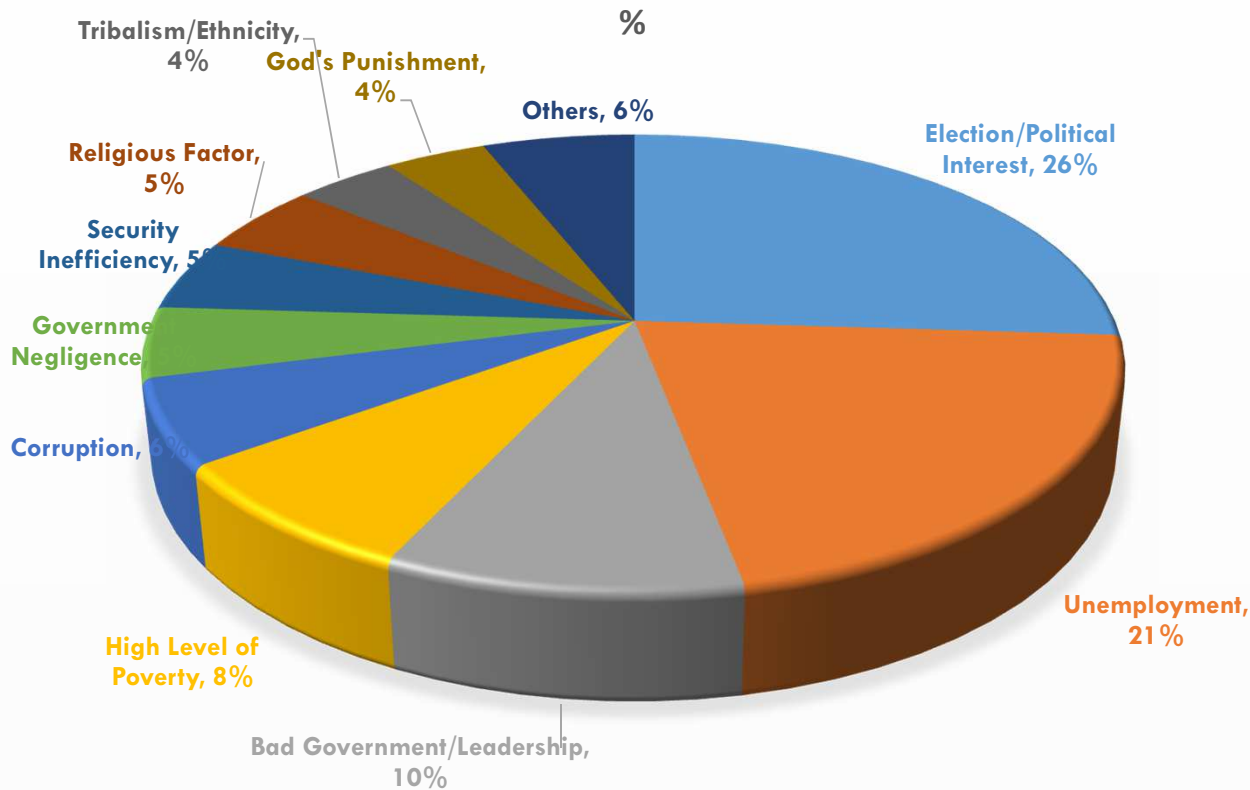


Number: 7

What is the Major Cause of Insecurity in Nigeria?



I extracted the data used in the chart on the left from a NOI-Polls July 2014 survey. As can be seen, a slight majority (26%) perceived that “Election/political interest” is the major cause of terrorism in Nigeria, followed by 21% of the respondents who attributed the issue of terrorism to “Unemployment”, “Bad government/leadership” (10%), “High level of poverty” (8%) and “Corruption” (6%).

The connecting thread among these dominant causes is that the government and those seeking to run it are indirectly the cause of insecurity in Nigeria. If you re-arrange these five factors, you will stumble on a cause and effect sequence that tells the underlying story of the insecurity-driver in the country. It runs like this: “a bad leadership/government sustained by corruption and renewed through elections/political interests delivers unemployment and poverty”. Of course unemployment and poverty are the inevitable end results after corruption will have milked the system dry. But how does it deliver insecurity?

A hungry man is always an angry man and can go to any length and through any means to survive. Criminality is usually one of such options.

- Martin Oluba | PhD, DBA

Data Source: NOI Polls July, 2014

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