Migration and Development of Abuja: An Evaluation

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MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ABUJA: AN EVALUATION

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

One of the most distinguishing characteristics of people is their tendency to migrate. The distance of these movements as well as their frequency, are distinctive characteristics. The mobility of humans is evidenced by the linguistic, social and nationalistic mixing of much of the world’s population, although, the mobility has always been a basic trait of human population. It has accelerated with economic technological process, particularly in the fields of communication and transportation. Cultural adaptability has allowed human to adjust to major ecological changes by employing mental abilities and technological skills.

Migration is one of the three major components of population change. The others are fertility and mortality. Of the there most difficult to characterize and measure is migration. Migration involves a change in place of residence across a defined geopolitical boundary. The movement may be for a defined period. Migration does not occur to everyone, it is a selective process. Migration is age and sex selective. The migrants’ destination and reasons for migrating are also selective (United Nations, 1997).

“Migration is a movement and in human terms usually refers to a permanent change of home” (Waugh, 1978). It can also however be applied more widely to include temporary changes involving seasonal and daily movements. It includes movements both within and between countries.
Migration affects the distribution of people over a given area as well as the total population of a region and the population structure of a country or city. Migration may be temporary or permanent, in case of commuting migration, it’s a daily act but because there is no change in residence, a purist would not call commuting a migration, preferring the term “Mobility”

Temporary migration may be seasonal as migrant workers move in search of work or periodic as when a worker usually male move in search of work or periodic as when a worker usually male moves to an industrialized, urbanized area and sends money back to the women and children perhaps over a period of a year or two. Migration therefore tends to affect both spatial distribution of the population as well as the demographic structure of the population. The role of migration in influencing the population size and composition as well as the socio-political issues of any nation can hardly be over-emphasized. The effects of migration of the cultural modification of both the sending areas and receiving areas are enormous (United Nations, 1987).

Some societies experience a great deal of migration where as societies experience very little migration. Also migration can be repeated or even reversed. Choice making or decisions through veritable instruments are usually by government’s wishful thinking or a reaction to societal environmental demands. The idea of creating towns and capital cities is not new. The history of human settlements shows repletion of visions and actual construction of new capital cities. Washington became the new capital of United States of America in 1800; Ottawa became the new capital of Canada in 1957; Brazil moved its capital from Rio de Jeneiro to Brasilia in 1956; Australia moved its capital to Canberra in
1913; Dodowa became the new capital of Tanzania in 1974. While some of the new capital cities have long been conceived, planned and executed, others like Abuja are being developed and have in part been playing the roles of capital cities. (Stephen, 1970).

This provide information on countries that have been involved in constructing new capitals with a view to identifying areas of achievements and limitations which is beneficial to the understanding of Nigeria, that is building Abuja as its capital. The building of new capital city is usually motivated by social, political, economic and strategic reasons. Nigeria’s new capital serves the need to have a befitting Capital efficient and convenient. (Stephen, 1970)

The present level of migration in Abuja has constituted a serious concern to the government. Abuja became the Federal Capital in February 4th, 1976 under decree no.6, following the recommendations of the Aguda Commission report under the then military regime of General Mohammed. This was as a result of the failure of Lagos as a model capital city that will symbolize greatness. In 1976, a good master plan for Abuja started and was completed in 1979 by the government.

The transfer of the Federal Capital of Nigeria from Lagos to Abuja led to uncontrolled migration of people into Abuja resulting to huge problem of accommodation, which resulted to people residing under bridges, uncompleted buildings, offices, shops and worship centers. This problem of accommodation led to distortion of the master plan through the development of illegal structures along Durumi, Karmo, Kubwa, Airport road, Gwagwa, Dutse and Jabi. There is also the problem of inadequate medical care, transportation and recreational amenities.
Bashiru Salawu and Dagachi Aliyu Manbe

A critical examination of Abuja as the Federal Capital of Nigeria unveiled that the same challenges that confronted Lagos are beginning to manifest in Abuja. Therefore, equal provision of opportunity should be given to all states of the federation to help check migration into Abuja.

There is an urgent need to improve on the Federal Capital Territory environment to drastically reduce unemployment in Abuja through the availability of equal opportunities to all states of the federation: like equal income distribution; and improvement in the economic situation of the majority in the various states’ labour force, thereby putting a check to unnecessary migration. A survey of the Federal Capital Territory migration was thought would create a body of knowledge that would serve as the basis of mounting appropriate account-oriented programme to improve the quality of life of people working nationwide. It could also lead to ways of generating employment and increasing productivity on one hand and having equitable distribution of income on the other hand.

This research work will present an objective picture of the Federal Capital to the public as a whole with no regards to political inclinations and sentiments. Previous researches that have been done in this area of study with respect to Abuja are found on open shelves of libraries. The concept and work of building the new Federal Capital commenced many years ago and the books that exist are mainly government publications aimed at enlightening Nigerians on the need to have a befitting Federal Capital that will enhance the government’s administrative efficiency and convenience. This led to the vitality of a study of this nature. This work will throw more light on migration both
academically and administratively. It offers the reader, a composite picture of Abuja and it is written in the form that makes ample use of deep expert knowledge gathered from good research information, thus making it more palatable for migrants and information seekers.

Furthermore, it will help students in this area of study to have a better insight and understand migration socio-economically, and will also provoke further research work by writers and academicians.

1.6 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

For efficiency and a proper study, this research work is limited to cover the determinants of migration especially rural-urban migration, which includes social and economic reasons; the characteristics of migration; the results of excessive migration and the development of Abuja. This study will also examine the attitude of policy makers towards migration and the development of Abuja.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Emigration

This is an act of leaving a country; a person who leaves a country is referred to as emigrant e.g. leaving Nigeria for the U.S.A.

Immigration

This is an act of arriving in a country. A newcomer who arrives in a country is referred to as an immigrant e.g. the person who leaves Nigeria for the USA is an immigrant in the USA.
Bashiru Salawu and Dagachi Aliyu Manbe

Gross Migration

This is the total sum of people who enter and leave an area. Thus, this measures the total volume of population turnover in a community. To calculate Gross Migration Rate

\[
\frac{I + O}{P}
\]

Where

- \(I\) - number of incoming migrants
- \(O\) - number of outgoing migrants
- \(P\) - population

Net Migration

During any specific period of time, a region may be receiving migrants from one region and losing migrants to another region. The difference between the arrivals and these departures is called net migration. A situation where a country loss more people through emigration than they gain by immigration there is said to be “Net migration loss” while countries with a “net migration gain” are those that receive more people through immigration than they loose through emigration. These category if countries or cities are likely to have an overall population increase e.g. FCT, Abuja, in Nigeria.

Out-Migration and In-Migration
Each migratory involves two actions: leaving one place and arriving at another. Leaving the place of origin is referred to as Out-migration, whereas arriving at the place of destination is referred to as in-migration. To calculate out-migration rate \( \frac{O}{P} \times K \)

\[
\text{In-Migration rate } \quad \frac{I}{P} \times K
\]

Where

- \( I \) - number of incoming migrants
- \( O \) - number of outgoing migrants
- \( P \) - population
- \( K \) - 100/1000

**Areas of Origin and Destination**

The area of origin is the place which a migrant leaves and the area of destination is the place in which the migrant arrives for instance a person decides to leave his village in Okene, Kogi State for Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory. The area of origin will be Okene while the area of destination is Abuja.

**International and Internal Migration**

International migration is the movement of a person or group of people from one country to another across national boundaries i.e. movement between countries. It involves the change of residence from one country to another. It is also referred to in some texts as “External migration”.
Internal migration refers to population movement within a country i.e. change of residence within a country. International migration, unlike internal one, affects the total population of a country.

Chain Migration

This is a migration process which depends on a small number of pioneers, who make the first moves to set up a new home in a new place. These pioneers later send information back home and this further encourages migration form the originating area. This is very visible in the case of the nomadic Fulani who change location because of the search of green pastures for their cattle. They most times send someone ahead, kind of like a pioneer to seek for better location for their cattle before they all migrate to a new habitat. This definition accords with Burgess (1926) view of successive waves of immigrants moving into a city.

THE TRENDS AND PATTERNS OF UBRANIZATION GROWTH IN ABUJA.

The emergence of Abuja is born by the desire to create a new national capital that is more conducive to the efficient administration of the federal government, than what Lagos was. The decision to shift the capital to Abuja and the factors that influenced it had been the priorities of the federal government as such this research will not be complete without the review of some previous work. The attempt will be to try and identify and evaluate previous observations comments and opinions related to rural-urban migration.
Advance Learners Dictionary defined migration as:

(1) To move from one place to go to live or work in another.

(2) To move from one place to another according to season

Migration refers to all forms of movement in Physical space. Immigration is the process of coming to live in another country permanently and emigration is the reverse. There are of two forms of migration: - International and internal migration. Movements across local boundaries are internal migration while international migration is movement of people across international boundaries.

Emigration and immigration are forms of international migration. Internal migration include: urban – rural migration; urban – urban migration; rural – rural migration; and rural – urban migration. Emphasis will be laid on internal migration in this research.

Urban – rural migration is also known as the return migration and this type of migration is very important in Nigeria. Caldwell, (1969) pointed out that, “to most West Africans, the ancestral village remains home”. This kind of migration is commonly seen during festive seasons in Nigeria and upon retirement from active service.

Urban – urban migration is characterized by the movement of people from one city to another in response to certain conditions of life such as expected rise in cultural opportunities and social prestige. Caldwell, (1969) pointed out that, the tendency to migrate to the country’s largest towns rises with the size of the centre of origin. Migrants move to another city in a single movement as in the transfer cases. This kind of migration is usually done in stages.
Rural – rural migration is the movement of persons from one rural settlement to another within the same country. Amin (1974) estimated that about 15,000 Nigerians in 1950’s moved annually from the middle belt while wives migrate to their husband’s villages.

Rural – urban migration is the movement of people from rural area to urban area. Onimode (1968) revealed that after the age of 45 years, the number of migrants leaving the villages decreases. Rural – urban migration is more common among youths between the ages of 15 years to 25 years. This is because most young people have not established their own families, thus they possess greater freedom to move from place to place without having to worry about family members that will be left behind to earn more money through wage employment.

Rempel, (1970) established that there is a positive correlation between migration and education. An individual with a higher educational qualification migrate to the urban area in search of better job opportunity.

Obadon et al (1989) in his paper on Abuja, past, present and future was of the view that once the private sector is sufficiently stimulated to participate in the economic development of Abuja, greater attention should be paid to the development of infrastructural facilities and the provision of socio-economic services. There is need for housing development to accommodate migrants into Abuja. This may mean the creation of more villages and serviced agricultural lands to attract migrants. Such migrants should be given a full sense of belonging and rights of ownership of property.
Hart, (1980) felt that the opportunities for formal income generating activities and wage employment play an important role in encouraging rural – urban migration. The problems of rural – urban migration like slums and poor housing conditions; unemployment and underemployment are all phases of urban problems.

Ford and Henry, (1969) pointed out that a sizeable proportion of the total migrating population constituted more adult males. There is a recent increase in the number of female migrants from the rural areas into the urban centers. This can be as a result of the recent education of females who end up gaining employment after graduation.

Amin, (1974) in his book titled “Modern migration in West Africa”, stated that disparity between the urban and rural areas emerged as a result of the imposition of the colonial structures on the third world countries by the imperialist nations. This also provides an explanation for the trend of migration into the urban areas since a difference existed between pre-colonial migration and post-colonial migration. The former was a movement of labour. Pre-colonial took the form of people moving from the rural areas.

The number of Africans living in urban areas is lower than those of the developed countries. Urban growth has exceeded the growth of urban services, thereby causing the problem of inadequate housing, water supply, transport service, electricity, recreational facilities and education. Some previous researchers revealed that the inability to assess the consequences of migration in African countries is due to poor data collection. This section surveyed some of the limited empirical findings and theoretical speculations emphasizing those that have a bearing on social and economic development. The
payment of higher incomes and greater opportunities in the urban area continues to stimulate rural-urban migration, Banton, (1957).

The consequence of rural-urban migration therefore, has both positive and negative effects on both the migrants and the city centre. Segal, (1972) opined that, rapid growth of shanty towns on large cities, leads to the spread of disease which strains the medical facilities of the average city far beyond their capacities. The unemployed and underemployed youths in close contact encourages the spread of proposition and crime and political unrest which are all threats to an ordered and peaceful community and to the stability of the government itself.

Some of these migrants are University graduates who end up as rubbers because of unemployment. The non-graduate migrants, who end up as rubbers, do so because of unemployment which led to frustration and saw robbery as the way out. The difference between graduate rubbers and non graduate rubbers is that, the graduate rubbers don’t kill during robbery while the non-graduate rubbers at times end up killing their victims after robbery.

Olatunbosun (1975) defines rural area as the less densely populated part of a country. There is no large concentration of population in the rural area. More so, in respect to the aggregate population, the majority of people live in the rural areas. Olatunbosun believes that rural areas has spatial and occupational dimension. The spatial index tells us the percentage of the number of people living in the rural areas, while occupational index is an indication of the number of people in the rural areas who depend upon agriculture for their livelihood.
Maboguje (1975) observed that an urban center according to Louis refers to large, dense and permanent settlement of socially heterogeneous population comprising of persons from a wide range of cultural interest and pattern of behavior. In urban centers, occupation pursuit tends to be specialized. Rural communities tend to be smaller and has low population per-square mile. The major occupation in rural areas is farming and it operates as a way of life in the family. Farmland may vary in size, depending on the type of farming practiced. Non agricultral occupations are secondary. In pre-colonial urbanization, one major observation was that, there was little rural-urban dichotomy. This implies that the dominant occupation of the rural people was the same as that of urban areas. In parts of the country, the pre-colonial situation was close integration between the rural and urban sides, and the pre-colonial urban centers were to a large extent self sufficient, trade also brought about changes. During the merchandise period, traders came from far and converged in certain places to trade, some remained there thereby increasing the population of such towns and adding to the heterogeneity of the population. The issue of slave trade made towns along the coastal areas and those on the caravan routes developed into important slave market, example of such is Lagos which moved from a small fishing village to an important slave market.

**POPULATION GROWTH AND URBANIZATION IN ABUJA**

Ayeni (1976) pointed out that rural-urban migration continue to increase and grow to the expense of rural areas so that Nigeria has a rate of urbanization that is one of the highest in the world. Many people from Eastern part of Nigeria migrate to Northern part of the country like Kano, Zaria, Kaduna, Maiduguri and Sokoto. However, the pattern of migration in the country has been greatly influenced by the industrialization
process and the discovery of petroleum. There is realization that our cities have failed to meet the demands of their residents in terms of provision of basic social amenities.

Aye (1978) pointed out that Nigeria has a pattern of rural-urban migration that is almost unique in Africa. Unlike many countries in Africa, rural-urban migration in Nigeria predates the European colonization of the country. Rural-urban migration has always been a way of life in many parts of the country. Colonial development represents one of the numerous phases of rural-urban migration. Nigeria provides a good situation for studying the dynamics of rural-urban migration process as well as examines the socio-economic responses to changing mechanisms of urbanization.

Adepoju (1976) pointed out that it has been difficult to piece the various migration data together in order to have a comprehensive perspective of the level and patterns of migration in the country. Migrants are mostly between the ages of eighteen and twenty nine. Other characteristics tend to be greatly influenced by the direction of the more rural-urban migrants who are mostly illiterates, single and unskilled people. Rural-urban migration is mostly propelled by economic opportunities. This is more when such opportunities are non-existent in the rural area of origin. The inability of the rural areas to retain the youth is due to the limited opportunity for non farming employment there. There is also the poor social condition like lack of social amenities in the villages. There is also the attractiveness of one rural area to the inadequate educational facilities and the desire of the youth for a change of place. Also there are poor and deteriorating economic and social conditions which are reinforced by the poor amenities including post-primary educational institutions. Parents feel that, the lack of social amenities in the rural area
makes life very dull. However, their age and family situation compel them to live there, probably for the rest of their lives. A great concern for the youths in villages is the lack of wage employment as a major push factor. As long as social amenities are not adequately matched by employment opportunities, the youths will continue to aspire for wage employment in towns. Parents do not consider the provision of social amenities in villages as a sufficient condition for arresting migration of youths. There should be diversified wage employment in the villages as parents are anxious to free their children from the low status and poor rewards attached to farming. According to Adepoju, education is the vehicle for social mobility and escape from peasant farming and low income. Thus, parents invest in their children, in both formal and non formal education and later sponsor them to towns in search of wage employment. Some youths depend on relations who had earlier migrated to the towns for a long period before they succeed to secure jobs and accommodation. Part of the income of such youths is expected to be sent to the village to support the parents.

According to United Nations publication (1974), certain factors can be considered to have special importance in various parts of Africa for rural-urban migration. Such factors include: - Pressure of population on land; close primary relationship in the rural areas where everyone’s mind each other’s business and the desire to break away from the monotony and strict control of tribal life; payment of taxes; payment of bride price; the time attraction of the town and its opportunities for personal advancement and independence as well as improved material welfare; the desire to join one’s family in the urban area and the desire to acquire better education. Pestilence may induce a community to abandon their abode, religious persecution or racial and ethnic problems; the pursuit of
fresh and more rewarding economic opportunities in order to ease the effect of pressure
are some of the causes of migration.

Makinwa (1981) noted that, following the established practice of Nigerian
politicians, in developing the state capitals and shown pieces of modernization, cities are
privileged locations manufacturing industries and social infrastructures such as good
roads, hospitals, good education and hospitals associated with good life of urban centers
encourages migration. The increasing volume of international and regional commercial
transactions and rapid industrialization has attracted an alarming rate of migrants.
Makinwa, pointed out that, migration alone accounts for a large increase in urban
population. According to him, Nigeria has a growth rate of 6 percent per year. Migration
and urbanization patterns have negative consequences on those involved. It is evident that
migrants recognize the disadvantages of rural-urban migration, but still prefer it to the
rural area.

Hence (1970) listed some reasons for people migrating from the rural area to
urban center. Rural-urban migration takes place with improving educational attainment
and economic condition and modernization which in turn lead to job opportunities and
new type of employment. More so, there is also shift from bachelor to family bases and
growing attraction of urban communities and increasing interest in material and non-
material purchase. Towns have become magnet for rural populace who are always
attracted by the opportunity for employment and social amenities, while they have been
repelled from the rural areas by poverty.
Hawakar (1981) pointed out that rural – urban migration is no longer regarded as harmful process to be halted but a major medium of development. Urban centers play a crucial role as the essential environment in which economic capacities are created and human qualities encouraged or frustrated. Social unrest is seen as necessary pre-condition for change in the socio-economic structure as the urban dwellers join with others to project common interest and ensure collective progress. Urban centers provide ideal environment for scientific and technological innovations. Economic growth in urban centers creates a perspective in which development does not just increase capacities and production but also creates new quality of life.

Barbour (1979) tried to bridge the gap in knowledge on the volume of internal migration in Nigeria based on the census figures. Many of the past censuses were never designed to collect migration data, hence inferences that can be made from that are not reliable. It is easy to assume that industrialization is the major explanation for urban development. There is no doubt that industrialization has some relation with urbanization that as the level of industrial development in a country rises, so does the characteristic heterogeneity of the population.

Barbour sees urbanization as a process, which seeks to maximize specialization to increase the output of goods and services in a community. While the real decision to migrate is influenced by economic consideration, non-economic factors also influence the decision to migrate. These includes: political persecution by opposition group, oppressive laws, religion, and social scandal internal disaster and government policies.
Bashiru Salawu and Dagachi Aliyu Manbe

Olatunbosun (1978) traced the genesis of rural-urban migration in Nigeria to the oil boom of 1970s and consequently industrialization programmes of government. The developmental policies tended to concentrate industries in the urban centers.

Little (1974) established the theory of the town especially as it affects the young rural-urban migration. Coupled with this practice is the idea of the town being the center of civilization. Modern amenities like electricity, cinemas, bars, large shops and pipe borne water has strong repel for individuals whose mental horizon has hitherto been bounded by the limitation established with their village. Little emphasized a process whereby people acquire material and non-material elements of ideas, culture and behavior patterns and ideas that are distinctive of the city.

Caldwell (1960) pointed out that the factors that influence migration movement includes the desire to obtain money to pay taxes; the desire to join family members already in the town, the social prestige associated with living in an urban area; the pressure of labour recruiting agent administrators; pressure of population on the land due to shortage of land area per-capita as a result of recurring threat of famine; purchase of certain high valued consumer goods and implements; the desire to break away from monotony and strict control of tribal life; the attraction of urban life and its real and imagined opportunities for personal independence and advancement. Caldwell pointed out that the economic condition in the village, the deteriorating conditions in the rural areas which compel people to migrate to towns in search of better livelihood. Several forces work simultaneously to attract or repel migrants to towns or rural areas. Economic
drives are the dominant factor which encourages migration to urban areas, while non-economic motives attract people to the rural areas.

According to Kozti (1978), the excessive demands of accommodation are due to other forms of activities chasing residential accommodation. The housing problem is aggravated by the decision to convert residential houses into profitable uses like office, shops, hotels, schools and hospitals. Tenants are ejected and forced to look for alternative accommodation. This gave rise to shanty towns, slums and the growth of unauthorized settlements.

Rodney (1972) pointed out that, colonialism along with monetization of the economy established European presence in Africa and urban exploitation was an important feature of this colonization. The little that was known of indigenous African settlement declined and the urban centers was no longer self sufficient. Therefore the rural area produces food and raw material for the urban centers. More so, acceleration of economic development in Nigeria lead to increase rate of growth of towns and the spread of urbanization have become a major feature of the changing situation in Nigeria. This rapid growth of cities does not mean that African countries are urbanized because most of the population lives in the rural area. But it should be noted that cities are not only creations of colonialism. Urbanism is traditional with West Africa. Urban centers have long existed in certain parts of the regions as in the Yoruba of Western Nigeria. This old cities were however, always few in number and even today are quite different in their social, political and economic structure and cultural pattern. The advent of European traders and much later government officials in the region at that time, which made people to migrate into cities.
According to Jansen (1970) migration especially in modern times is a major symptom of social change. This view is very true especially for Nigeria and other developing countries where numerical strength of migration and rate of urbanization is said to be increasing. Migration is a common feature of both developing and developed countries.

Wilson (1972) pointed out that rural areas should be developed. More schools with good equipment should be built and teachers should be well paid.

Rave Stein (1985) pointed out that migrants move to improve their economic status. Economists generally regard the migration decision as one of which invariably lead migrants from rural, low income areas with few job opportunities and prospects to urban areas where they can improve their economic status.

Udo (1982) bridged the gap in knowledge on the volume of internal migration in Nigeria based on the census figures. Rural – urban migration attracted much interest because of the number of people involved but mainly because of rapid growth of urban countries. Most migrants from rural areas consist of young people who migrate to the urban centers because they are unable to obtain suitable employment in the rural area. Job opportunities are not growing as fast as the number of migrants. Begging for alms by able-bodied men is also a common feature in African cities as a result of rural – urban migration. The demand for housing exceeded the supply so that, those that pays for houses are obliged to lodge with friends and relatives. It is possible to find as many as seven people sleeping in a room meant for one or two persons. Many migrants roam the
streets by day selling goods like radio cassettes, handkerchief, toys and watches while others rob at night.

Prothero (1976) opined that economic motives account for 92% of migration from the remote parts of Northern Nigeria. Migrants leaves their home areas after harvest at the commencement of the dry season to seek for work elsewhere for a period of time and return to take up farming with the commencement of the raining season. Prothero pointed out that there are different classes of rural mobility: - Daily mobility; seasonal which may be related to period of reduced agricultural activities; and short term movement which leads to permanent settlement in the destination areas.

**MOTIVES FOR MIGRATION**

In lieu of the fact that migration could be forced or voluntary, there are some factors that call for people to move or change location from their present abode to new places such as:

a. **Natural Disasters:** The occurrence of some unforeseen ecological disasters causes people to move forcefully from their present location in search of new lands. Incidents such as earthquakes, volcanoes, floods and an example is the damaging of gas pipe in Edo State now where the villages have been compelled not to make fire of any kind, or expose any edible substance to the atmosphere or open air because of pollution has caused the village to move to neighbouring villages.

b. **Political Persecution:** Government people to move from one place to another especially when its not favourble. Movements are made compulsory, such as the
repatriation of Ghanaians from Nigeria in the Aliens quit order of 17\textsuperscript{th} January, 1983. This is due to the push factors which made almost all Ghanaians to leave Nigeria.

c. **Wars:** In situations where there is unrest as a result of religious reasons or racial factors even clan, tribal or inter ethnic clash could be a reason to migrate. An example is the Kaduna clash in Northern Nigeria between Muslims and Christians, this prompted the movement of people either to their home state or to neighbouring states and towns where their interest would be protected and their lives saved. On a global scale, the war between the Muslims and Hindus in Pakistan and India called for a large volume of migration in and out of India and Pakistan simultaneously.

d. **Lack of Food and Famine:** Man’s quest for basic and immediate need for food, shelter and clothing will cause him to move from areas where there is scarcity of food and prevalence of famine to areas where hunger will not be part of his problem.

e. **Religious Factor:** Migration could also be brought about as a result of performing the annual Holy pilgrimage to Mecca and to Jerusalem respectively.

f. **Over-population:** This could also cause people to move to areas where there is less problem of congestion, development of urban slums and prevalence of crime. Over-population may cause people to move to suburbs where pressure is less in the quest for basic social amenities.

g. **Availability of Jobs:** The search means of livelihood may cause people particularly the young and able bodied segment of the populace to move from one area to another. For example moving from a village to an urban area in search of white collar job.
h. **Higher Pay:** This is the case in British doctors moving migrating to the United States of America.

i. **Availability of Basic Social Amenities:** The availability of better schools, good medical services, stable water supply, good roads and electricity serve as pull factors that will ginger people to move from areas where these things are in deficit to where abundance is recorded.

   Other self explanatory motives for migration are:

   Trade, Economic expansion of a region, Territorial expansion, Tax avoidance, Resettlement, Opening up of new areas, Retirement, Redevelopment, Environmental factors such as climate

**TYPES OF MIGRATION**

It is clear that migration can take many forms. It could be *permanent*, it could be *semi permanent* (for several years), *seasonal* (for several months or week) and it could be *Daily* (commuters). However, there still exists several types according to Petersen (1976).

**Primitive Migration**

This type of migration is associated with groups which are unable to cope with natural forces related to their physical environment. Thus, one method of coping with the deterioration of the physical environment of an area is to move. This is generally done by a group of people and many times is related to hunting or gathering of food, when there is disparity between the produce of the land and the number of people who must subsist from that land, a primitive migration takes place. According to Peterson, “this can come
about either suddenly, as by brought or an attack of locusts or by the steady pressure of growing number on land of limited area and fertility.

**Group or Mass Migration**

Most of the major population movements, certainly until the seventeenth century, consisted of the movement of groups of people; group migration refers to the migration of a clan, tribe or other social group which is larger than a family. In some cases, armies invaded conquest areas and some of the soldiers’ settlement in the region of conquest. After the invasion, the native population was either assimilated or displaced.

Another type of mass or group migration is colonization. The early stages of the colonization process involves group migration however, during late stages most migration is by individual or families.

**Restricted Migration**

Over time free migration has slowly been replaced by restricted migration. Since the turn of the century, more laws have been enacted to restrict the migration of people. In some cases these restrictions involve a complete ban on all movements of certain types of people, whereas in other countries migration quotas have been set up to curtail movement into the country. A very good example of restricted migration is attempting to go to the United States from Nigeria which is usually very frustrating as a result of the laws processes involved.
Impelled or Forced Migration

When the State or some other political or social institution is the activating agent in migration, that migration is referred to as impelled or forced. There is rather a simple distinction between these two types: impelled migration involves some degree of choice held by the migrant whereas in forced migration, the migrant has no power or control over the situation. Forced migration generally serves one of two purposes, first it is a means whereby a potentially hostile group can be removed from a country and second. It is a means of furnishing an unskilled labour force for certain areas. The slave trade is a very good example of forced migration.

FORMS OF MIGRATION

Having accessed the various types of migration and noted that migration can either Internal or External (international). The forms of migration within a country can be either.

1. Rural to rural migration
2. Rural to urban migration
3. Urban to urban migration
4. Urban to rural migration

Rural to Rural Migration

This is movement from one rural area to another rural area within the same country. It can be as result of quest for farmland or expansion of household. A very good example is the Gwari people of the Federal Capital Territory that move more and more into the bush in search and acquisition of farmland. This could also be seen in the movement of nomadic people.
Rural to Urban Migration

This is also the same as rural depopulation. It is an instance in which people or group of individuals move from rural areas to urban centres in search to uphold a lifestyle which is being threatened. Pull factors such as jobs, higher pay, availability of basic amenities most times serve as the reason that co-opts this type of migration.

Urban to Urban Migration

This is a kind of movement that takes place from a city to another city. This could be as a result of resettlement change of jobs, search of higher pay or depopulation. An example is moving from Lagos to Abuja in Nigeria.

Urban to Rural Migration

This is movement from an urbanized area to the remote rural areas. This could be as result of retirement, preferable environment factors and also urban depopulation. Most times, this is not very evident in a typical Nigerian society because people do not actually want to go back to their villages on arrival in the urban centres.

THEORIES/MODELS OF MIGRATION

One of the most striking changes that occur in one’s life is changing location between nations. Some scholars such as E. G. Ravenstein in 1985, Lee and Isaac Newton have propounded their own models of migration which have been universally accepted until in the recent centuries where some other researchers have either modified
or proven them wrong. Still notwithstanding, a review of these theories and models are made by **E. G. Ravenstein**

Developed what he called “Laws of Migration” in the 1980s when he studied population movements in Great Britain and related migration to population size, density and distance. He extracted some of these factors and propounded as follows:

1. **Most migration is over a short distance** i.e. the longer the distance the fairer the migrants e.g. journey to the moon.

2. **Migration occurs in steps** i.e. it happens in waves e.g. travelling to Dublin from Abuja but the migrant proceeds to Lagos first, stops there for sometime before proceeding to Dublin.

3. **Long-range migrants usually move to urban centres** i.e. most migration usually takes place over long distance and usually ends up in an urban centres.

4. **Each migration produces a movement in opposite direction not necessarily in the same volume** i.e. for every movement, there is a counter movement e.g. as rural urban takes place too but non necessarily in the same volume

5. **Rural dwellers are more migratory than urban dwellers.**

6. **Within their own country, female are more migratory than men over short distances** but males are more migratory over long distances.

7. **Most migrants are adults**

8. **Large towns grow more by migration than natural increase** (births and deaths).

9. **Migration increases not economic development**

10. **Migration is mostly due to economic causes.**
Ravenstein’s findings stimulated an enormous volume of work and although the laws have been adjusted by succeeding researchers, they have not been totally rejected in some texts. What they recognize is just five out of all the Ravestein’s principles of migration.

**Intervening opportunity Model**

This theory was advanced by S.A Stouffer in (1940) and state that number of people traveling in a given distance is directly proportional to the number of opportunities at that distance and is inversely proportional to the number of intervening opportunities i.e. the number of chances of finding satisfaction in work or residence which may be encountered in the course of the journey. The concept indicates that opportunities nearby are more attractive than slightly better opportunities further away. One major drawback of this theory is the difficulty in measuring opportunity.
E. L. Ullman (1954) believed intervening opportunity to be one of three fundamental principles of SPATIAL INTERACTION, TRANSFERABILITY AND COMPLEMENTARILY.

In the sense that for migration to take place, there has to be spatial interaction between the two areas, these areas of origin and destination has to support the transferability of persons and their belongings from place to place for example having access road and in terms of access to basic amenities, availability of skilled personnel and the wants of the people in general, the area have to complement one another.

**Gravity Model**

This is a model of interaction between two population centres based on Newton’s law of universal gravitation. Two bodies in the universe attract each other in proportion to the product of their masses and inversely as the square, distance between them. i.e. interaction between city i and city j.

\[
K \propto \frac{Pi \times Pj}{Dij^2}
\]

Where

- \(Pi\) - Population of town i
- \(Pj\) - Population of town j
- \(Dij\) - distance between town i and j
- \(K\) - constant 100/1000

This model is widely criticized but is still used to predict future interactions. It is widely used in other fields of influence of settlements, trade, traffic flows, and telephone
calls in addition to migration. The severe criticism of this model is that it has no theoretical basis but based on observation only. Furthermore, planning on the basis of this model will only reinforce differences between places. People tend to interact more with larger towns.

**IMPORTANCE OF MIGRATION**

Migration where internal or international allow for:

i. The spread of information and makes the emergence of new settlements possible

ii. Migration brings about rapid industrialization and assists the urbanization process.

iii. Migration promotes cultural integrity i.e. it allows for racial mixture. It is a mechanism for diffusion of technology, culture and language.

iv. Migration helps in providing manpower to develop new resources i.e. bring in experts from other countries to develop new resources.

v. Migration serves as a mechanism of reducing regional imbalance or inequality.

vi. Migration assists in reducing the pressure on social amenities within one geographical region. It helps also to reduce the pressure on limited agricultural lands.

vii. Migration creates a wide range of market within region in ensuring flow of capital.

viii. Migration aids supply of labour in terms of skilled and unskilled personnel.

**PROBLEMS AND CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION**
Having access the types of forms migration in relation to the reasons or motives behind migration, all forms of migration either rural. Urban to rural, urban to urban or rural to urban and also international migration have the impacts felt either on the place of origin or destination.

CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION OF AREA OF ORIGIN

- The place of origin become depopulated and deserted in the case of rural to urban migration.
- At the rural source regions, there is the abandoning of primary source of income as in the case of Agriculture leading to massive reduction in food crop production.
- To many rural-urban migrants, “city life” is an escape from traditional rural life, an opportunity to embrace modernization, in such major urban areas, it has been observed that the cultural lag that exists between the needs of potential delinquents and the lack of inadequate institutions to channel their needs, place youths, especially young migrants in a marginal position in society.

Consequences of Migration on the destination

This is mostly evident in terms of rural to urban migration than any other form of migration.

i. The massive in-flux of in-migrants into the cities without an increase in the number of jobs created and social facilities or infrastructure of water, electricity, schools, facilities or infrastructure of water, electricity, schools and houses lead to the development of urban slums and squatter settlements.
ii. Migration leads to unemployment: In spite of the economic buoyancy of major urban areas in Nigeria, notably Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt and Kaduna, the levels of unemployment and under employment are beyond acceptable levels.

iii. This is the problem of over population and congestion on destination areas. There is stress resulting from long hours of transit to from work places, an example is what is being experienced on the Kubwa-Garki route and Lugbe-Garki route at peak hours of between 7am-830am and 4pm-5:00pm during work days in FCT, Abuja, Nigeria.

iv. There is the problem of insecurity emanating from violence of armed robbers and excesses of policing, i.e. breeding social vices.

v. Migration leads to high cost of living and pressure on social amenities. There is increase in cost of housing and transportation.

**THE EXTENT AND PATTERN OF MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION IN NIGERIA**

During the pre-colonial period, the few towns that existed were small in size. Usually, less than 15,000 inhabitants. Urban centres at this stage consisted of administrative centres which also carried our local and regional commercial activities and had large residential population of farmers. The causal relationship between migration and urbanization was not strong during this period. Consequently, pre-colonial urban centres grow very slowly, largely through natural increase due to births over deaths. In few cases, displacement due to inter-tribal wars fuelled urban centres such as Ibadan and Ife (Mabogunye, 1975; Udo, 1998).
Rural-urban migration was restricted largely because there were few job opportunity and few openings for apprenticeship in the cities. Rather urban centres served as “home” for socio-cultural and administrative purposes, which in particular resorted to a “resting place” after work in distant farmlands.

Urbanization which is a process of progressive and continuous concentration of population in towns and cities and also through an increase in the population of individual urban centres.

**TABLE 1.8 (i)**

**URBAN POPULATION GROWTH IN NIGERIA 1890-2004**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total national population (000)</th>
<th>No. of urban centres (20,000 +)</th>
<th>Urban population of 20,000 + (000)</th>
<th>% Urban population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>939</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>19,923</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1,345</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>19,923</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1,431</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>30,403</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>3,237</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>55,670</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>10,627</td>
<td>35.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>88,969</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>45.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000*</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>57,000</td>
<td>48.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004*</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>62,660</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Estimates

Table 1.8 (i) indicates the rate of growth in size of the population and of urbanization (the number of towns and the size of individual large towns) have been rather high. In 1890 there were 23 urban centres, defined as centres with population of 20,000 or more. By the 1921, 1952/53 and 1963 census, the number of such centres had increased to 29, 56 and 183 respectively in 1991, the number further increased to 359 and estimates based on 1991 census put the number of 2004 at 840. This suggests that the distribution of urban centres has altered so much that although the south-west is still the most urbanized part of Nigeria.

On the other hand, some agglomerations are being formed in the southeast of the country in response to changing dynamics of the social and economic development in the country.

Movement between cities and countries will continue also amenities such as climate and scenery will cause people to migrate. Most migrants tend to be young literate adults looking for jobs or economic engagement but not in the agricultural sector.

Regarding the fact that there will always be the need to migrate, the government should:

- Endeavour to plan properly for the populace such as opening up new districts and settlements so as to decongest the centre areas.
- Jobs should be created and in cases where the provision of jobs by the government is not sufficient, young graduates should be taught to be self employed by acquiring extra skills.
- In Nigeria the percentage of people living in urban areas is estimated to reach 60% by 2010 from the attained 35% in 1991, realistic planning is needed. Reducing and relieving poverty must be the main aim of urban development. There should be provision of basic amenities at the grassroots level to reduce rural urban migration and make an improvement in the lives of the rural poor.

- The Nigerian Government needs to substantially increase investment in human and social sector services especially health in order to improve human capital.

- The government needs to match population growth with available resources through appropriate social investments and creation of job opportunities not only in urban centres but throughout the country. This is applicable as migration is towards places where there are job opportunities.

- Based on the fact that poor health diminishes personal capacity, lowers labour productivity and reduces earning, the Federal government should improve on the provision of quality health care facilities and service in the country and neglecting the rural areas.

Having discussed what the Federal government should and should not do to curb the problems resulting from migration, the populace also need to be sensitized in terms of having cogent reasons to migrate and also making sure they have information about where they intend moving to and ensure that there are opportunities in the system for them to fit into. So as not to constitute nuisance and create problems of the destination areas.

Williams (1975) pointed out that the perception of rural areas on the push factors make rural life intolerable due to lack of amenities like good schools, health, electricity,
pipe borne water and recreation. These are the most important factors which encourage migration. Another problem facing the rural areas relates to the poor opportunities of wage employment leading to poor income earning prospects.

According to Famoriyo (1985), the rural community is always smaller than the urban ones. Rural areas are homogeneous in social and physiological characteristics with common pattern of behavior, languages, mores and beliefs. The major occupation of most rural dwellers is farming. Non agricultural activities are secondary. Farming in some rural areas is business but it operates largely as a way of life in a family. Occupational pursuit tend to be specialized in urban areas and mostly non agricultural.

Lee (1966) in his findings pointed out that the factors are unfavorable conditions at the origin while the pull factors are the attractive factors at the destination of the migrants. Lee enumerated four determinants of migration which includes: - factor in the area of origin; destination, interviewing obstacles and personal factors.

According to Imoagene (1974) said improved environment like sanitary facilities, roads, health services and street lights. More so rudiment of urbanization emerged as a way of life contrasting the traditional way of life.

Charles Tilly (1974) pointed out that there are three determinants of migration which includes: - opportunity, cast and information. According to Tilly, “greater opportunities and flow of information about opportunities elsewhere, increases migration. The smaller the number of migrants, the higher the cost of mobility. According to Tilly, the probability that a migrant will migrate depends on the fit between the needs and the
opportunity available in that place the channels of communication he has with that place, and the ties he has in his present location”.

According to Hanna (1976) contemporary urban and rural ways of life are both blends of traditional and modern. Urban areas have the characteristics of both modern and traditional. In studying urbanization in Nigeria, an attempt is made to view the impact and influence of cultural contact between Nigeria and the western societies. Greater part of Africa had developed before European interruption except Sudanese areas in the North, where Trans Saharan Trade and contact with the urban culture of the north led to the growth of such town as Kano and among certain groups living south of which the outstanding examples are the Yoruba of South West Nigeria and the Buganda of Uganda.

Hence Hanna (1970) pointed out that, urbanization which encourages the development and concentration of socio economic infrastructures to a strategic geographical location maybe regarded as an inherited colonial legacy. It can therefore be deduced that, migration patterns were significantly altered during colonization. Colonial social and economic systems encouraged large voluntary movement of people into mining areas, commercial and administrative centers. These factors alongside demographic forces, favorably contributed to the redistribution of population on the African continent, Curtain, (1969)

Curiosity has therefore emerged among scholars and observers. Migration of people into the federal capital is mainly to enjoy some of the privileges they could not get in their former places and some came as a result of punishments. Example of such
punishment is seen in the case of a man who was transferred to Abuja because he consumes a lot of alcohol. Since Abuja is the location of the head office of his organization, he immediately stopped the consumption of alcohol, since being drunk in office will lead to his dismissal from service. Therefore transfer by punishment acts as a corrective measure to the deviants.

Aderigigbe, (1975) opined that in 1914, the amalgamation of Nigeria with Lagos as its capital doubled in population as the commercial metropolis because of the concentration of industries and governmental agencies. In 1960, larger population of migrants into Lagos consisted mostly of technicians, engineers, commercial salesmen and businessmen.

Adefolalu and Sade (1975) opined that, the problem of Lagos are that of plainness and its numerous traffic jam and ghettos and may be regarded as one of the most densely populated city and may be regarded as one of the most densely populated city in Africa.

Addo, (1974) pointed out that, “the enumerated factors led to the restructuring of traditional societies and completely changed the scale of social and economic values”. Migration rate into Abuja is relatively high leading to doubling of its population within a short period, which leads to congestion.

The master plan for Abuja (1977), reported that the Federal Capital Territory had between 500 and 600 settlements and villages, which scattered relatively throughout the three major plains of the territory. Most of the villages were in extremely remote
locations through which foot paths remain the only means of accessibility. Some of these settlements include: - Garui, Garki, Gerki, Izom, Wuse, Karu, Abaji, Masaka, Dafia, Dangara, Bwari, and Gamu.

Gwari means hard work, accommodation, tolerance and hospitality. Gbagyi people are traditionalists who worshiped deities; which are done by performing rituals at regular intervals so that the gods are always appeased. They are also known as the Gwaris by other ethnic groups who have difficulties with its rightful pronunciation. The Gbagyi people are identified as the original settlers in Abuja, who are known to share a part of their territory with other ethnic groups such as the Mada, Gondara, Hausa and Fulani.

Abuja covers an area of about 8,000 square kilometers in the heart of the country. It shares boundary with four states namely: Nassarawa, Niger, Kaduna and Kogi states. It has regular boundaries on three sides with a ‘v’- shape cut into it on the Northern sector apparently to leave Suleja Township. The Federal Capital territory was created out of three States namely: Kwara (Kogi), Niger, Plateau (Nassarawa). The villages in these states were administered at the district level. This consists of six districts carved out from Niger state, one from Nassarawa and four from Kogi state. Seven developmental areas were first created which was latter increased to nine in 1984 and latter fused into four local government areas in 1985 by decree 12 of 1985. The local government areas are now known as area councils and are six in number today. The development areas still exists today but are attached to the area councils. These area councils includes: - Municipal area council; Kuje area council; Bwari area council; Gwagwalada area council; Kwali area council; Abaji area council.
Gaza, (1990), pointed out that with the creation of Abuja as the new capital of Nigeria, a new administrative system evolved. A local administrative system evolved capable of playing a positive role in identifying and meeting the needs of the inhabitants of the Federal Capital territory to open up the area for development.

The development of the Federal Capital was done in phases; with each phase having a required definition of activities, distribution of infrastructures and time frame for accomplishment. Phase one had a proper allocation of infrastructure, considering the fact that it represents the heart of the city and the nation as well.

Phase one outgrew its estimated population target with time. Infrastructures like housing, electricity, water supply, medical facilities; good road network and recreational amenities were over stretched. This lead to certain social problems like: the allocation of reserved areas which were considered green areas and utility lines; children play ground and neighborhood, were converted into residential areas and for commercial uses. Houses were built on these areas with and without government approval to meet up with the increasing demand for houses. This problem of housing was as a result of poor projection of the Federal Capitals developer as provision for housing was made between 15,000 to 20,000 migrants. Thus a total number of migrant house hold was to be approximately 300,000.

The majority of these occupants were federal civil servants associated with policy and technical supports, to legislative and executive functions; to be accommodated in phase one and two of the development plan, according to the Federal Capital Report in her “Digest of statistics” (December, 1990),
Expected public servants from Lagos to Abuja was about 190,089, (first batch) with the exclusion of about 9066 civil servants already in Abuja, was put at 200,061 excluding all those who are not government workers. The number of housing units made ready as at that time was as shown in the table below. This table shows the distribution of completed houses within the four residential areas of the central government of phase 1. Garki district contains about 5,258 houses, while Wuse contains 4,386 houses. Maitama is 261 and Asokoro is 261.

It should be noted that these districts constituted the core of Federal Capital. Garki and Wuse houses 70% of government ministries and agencies, banks, recreational centers and hospitals. Observation has revealed that a large number of government workers cohabit: multiple families share the same room or apartment. This is not a conducive environment because of lack of privacy.

**TABLE 1: DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSING UNITS IN PHASE 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/NO</th>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>HOUSING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Garki</td>
<td>5,258 Units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wuse</td>
<td>4,386 Units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Maitama</td>
<td>241 Units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Asokoro</td>
<td>241 Units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This is therefore a clear indication that the number of houses made available to the workers of Federal Capital is grossly inadequate. This shows that the available housing stock can be said to face the plaque of overcrowding due to high occupancy ratio. As a result of housing shortage, many people have to commune daily between the city metropolis and the satellite towns like Kwali, Abaji, Gwagwalada, Bwari and neighboring states like Nasarawa (Keffi) and Niger (Suleja) to work in Abuja municipal Area for work. A huge traffic generated between these work areas on one hand, and the residential districts on the other hand is one of the main sources of congestion.

Overcrowding gave rise to squatter settlements at the sub-urban fringe of the city and also the erection of illegal structures. More so, the location of work places has given rise to seemingly endless streams of traffic within the city. Distance between the main residential neighborhood and work places caused traffic which move slowly throughout the day. (FCT Department of Planning, Research and Statistics, 1990)

The possibility of the provision of the basic infrastructure like good transport system, electricity and water supply, sewage and telecommunication system was carefully considered. The proposals and studies carried out and recommendations made are followed as reasonably as possible. This includes the following:-

(a) **Trunk water lines:** Gwagwalada harbours a reasonable population. It is provided with medium scheme water treatment plant.
(b) **Water supply:** As provided for in the city master plan, the main source of water supply is the lower Usman Dam. This dam is designed to provide water for the city.

(c) **Housing development:** This is another area of Housing development in the Federal Capital City. The Federal Capital Development Authority has been able to provide accommodation to many civil servants on all grade levels. This ranged from one room units, two room units apartment in block of flats to six bedroom detached houses and duplex.

(d) **Electricity supply:** The sources of electricity supply mainly Shiroro Hydro Electric Scheme and private generating sets. Power from power holding company is stepped down at sub-station for distribution.

(e) **Sewage Scheme:** The sewage schemes for the city and the satellite town is provided in the master plan. The main objective of the cultural sewage scheme is to ensure that waste water is disposed of without polluting the stream, river courses and the environment. The sewage network is planned to follow the natural drainage and sub-drainage basins.

(f) **Flood control:** Measures in this area has been taken in the area of river course in order to avert future disasters associated with flooding. There has been construction and dredging of streams and river.

Telecommunication, transportation system, (road network, railway system, air transport) are all put in place in an effort to urbanize the Federal Capital City. The railway system have not actually taken place but has a place in the master plan to supplement the existing transport system in order to satisfy the movement requirement need of the future. (FCT Department of Planning, Research and Statistics, 1990)
About 300,000 resided in the Abuja upon its inauguration in 1986. This population was made up mostly of indigenes and a few numbers of migrants.

The high rate of migration into Abuja especially in the last decade, coupled with the frequent crises (social unrest) in the neighboring states, has greatly increased the population of the Federal Capital which is known to be ‘no man’s land’, with rear cases of religious and ethnic disturbances. The centrality of the federal capital also encourages migration. In 1996, Nyanya, Garki, and Gwagwalada had a population of twenty million. This number has greatly increased and with areas like Karshi, Kuje, Karu, Kubwa, Zuba and Kwali, Bwari, having large population. In 2005, the population of Abuja was estimated to be 558,870. (FCT Department of Planning, Research and Statistics, 1990).

Quoting from Abuja hand book (1998) “the seven wise men” immediately went to work with the determination to do their best for their country. The mood of the nation was open for Murtala Muhammed regime had rekindled the national morale. The committee embarked on extensive tour within and outside the country by all known means of transportation so as to see the terrain for themselves, in addition to calling for memoranda from members of the public. The response was enthusiastic, just as much as the committee members. The report of this committee was submitted ahead of schedule with the concentration of government ministries and agencies, firms and other organizations in Abuja, people will continue to migrate to Abuja to exchange their labour and services for money.

Conclusion and Recommendations
The FCT Administration should consider the review of Abuja Master Plan especially in the areas of development control, parks and recreation which must stick to constituted guidelines to avoid abuse.

Since traders and hawkers were displaced in order to decongest the city centre because they conduct their business illegally on the streets, government should provide them with a permanent place so that they can carry out their business without hindrance. Government should build more markets and neighbourhood centres with more shopping complexes within the municipality to accommodate the street traders, and ensure that the traders are given opportunity of owning the shops themselves. If the traders were relocated to more appropriate locations and more shops are built at affordable prices, the traders will be prevented from street hawking and the traffic on the road would be free.

In the effort to help control crime and maintain clean environment, government should reintroduce house to house environmental sanitation inspections in Abuja to enhance healthy living among residents. In the past sanitary inspectors had contributed a lot toward ensuring clean and healthy environment.

The level of crime in the society has been attributed to bad leadership. The trouble with Nigeria is the failure of our leaders to attend to their social responsibilities with a view to saving humanity. In order to prevent crime and improve security of lives and property, there should be a conscientious leadership at the national, state, and local government levels that will create jobs for youths to have means of livelihood and facilitate the provision of necessary infrastructures and other social amenities to all
Nigerians. When this happens Nigerians will be happy and the country will be peaceful and prosperous.

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