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THE EFFECT OF CATTLE RUSTLING ON NOMADS LIVELIHOOD IN KADUNA STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The research was conducted on the effect of cattle rustling on Nomads Livelihood in Kaduna State, Nigeria. Multi-stage sampling procedure was used to select 276 respondents in the four Agricultural zones of Kaduna State; Questionnaire was used to collect data from the respondents and analyzed by means of Descriptive statistics and Principle Component Analysis (PCA). The result revealed that 34% of the respondents fell within the age of bracket of 41-50 years with an estimated average age of 46 years. The findings further revealed that majority (93%) were male with about 88% being married, the result also revealed the averages of 6 people per household while 21 years of herding experiences were recorded. On educational background result showed that 53% of the respondents had nomadic education. Pastoralism was observed to be the major source of income with half of the households derived their income from livestock rearing. This also accounted for 48.4 % of their total income. The result further revealed that factor consisting of loss of cattle (PCA=0.902), fear of the business (PCA=0.897) and joblessness (PCA=0.699). the plausible implication of this result is that a loss of livestock through theft would make them jobless and hence fear of the business, while factor 2 was named as social factor, it had high loading factors on loss of life (PCA=0.952), loss of relation (PCA=0.888), threat to family (PCA=0.721), and lack of interest in the business (PCA=0.874). We recommend the need to recognize that to some extent cattle rustling intersects with other forms of rural banditry, which appear to have acquired a dynamic of their own when situated within the wider context of the challenges of human security interventions scheme in form of provision of facilities and training should be advocated among the Nomads in the area.

Keywords: Cattle rustling, Nomads, Livelihood, Kaduna

INTRODUCTION

Traditional herding predates colonial period in Northern Nigeria. It is a process where young men were tasked to take care of herding and were expected to be heavily armed to provide security to the cattle. In the Upper East region, animals were housed in the inner compound of the house to avoid being stolen or attacked by wild animals at night while in the Northern region cattle were housed in kraals made up of thorny branches of trees and logs (Okoli and Agada, 2014). However, herding is the part of herdsmen socialization processes, where they taught their children how to handle cows and bulls that went wild and could attack anybody who came close. They applied their bravery and skills in controlling dangerous domestic animals as herd boys. Among their duty was to ensure that animals were sent to the bush daily for grazing and water, ensure the protection of

the animals from wild animals and thieves, separate fighting animals and preventing them from destroying farm crops and going astray. (Okoli and Agada, 2014).

Livestock production, particularly ruminants, is concentrated in the savannahs and semi-arid zones mainly by pastoralist Fulani who control about 90% of the nation's livestock population through constantly searching for pasture, water, crop residues and market for his herd. While doing this, he must avoid tsetse fly, inclement weather, tribal enemies, livestock bandits and hostile social environment (Adisa and Badmos, 2009). Livelihood encompasses the activities, assets and access that jointly determine the living gained by an individual or household (Ellis, 1999). It is both the economic activities (agricultural and non-agricultural) and non-economic activities that people know own and undertake to earn income today and into the future (Oyesola and Ademola, 2012). Cattle rustling refer to the stealing of grazing cattle. The term has its history from United States colloquial etymology in which context pioneer farmers lost cattle while grazing on huge ranges that were difficult to patrol for policing (Okoli and Okpaleke, 2014). Traditionally, cattle rustling have been driven by the criminal intent to expropriate cow for meat or for sale. Pertinently, it must have served as a means of primitive accumulation of cow-herd in the contexts of subsistence and commercial pastoralism (Blench, 2004). However, the objective of this study was to determine the effects of cattle rustling on Nomads livelihood in the study area;

STUDY AREA

The study was carried out at Kaduna state, Nigeria. It occupies part of the Central position of the Northern part of country with Kaduna as its capital city, with an area of approximately 48,473.2 square kilometers and has a population of more than 6 million (NPC, 2006) and a projected population of 8,484533 at a birth rate of 3.2 in 2017. There are twenty-three local government areas (LGAs) in the state. The study employed a multi-stage sampling procedure in the selection of 276 respondents for data collection.. It was collected using a structured questionnaire on socio-economic characters, livelihood activities and cattle rustling occurrences were collected

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The result in Table 1 revealed that 34% of the respondents fell within the age of bracket of 41-50 years within an estimated average age of 46 years. The findings further revealed that majority (93%) were male with about 88% being married, the result also revealed the averages of 6 people per household while 21 years of herding experiences were recorded. On educational background result showed that (53%) of the respondents had Quranic and nomadic education. Pastoralism is the major source of income even though half of the households derived their income from livestock rearing which also accounted for 48.4 % of their total income. This agrees with the findings of Oladeji *et al*. (2013) who reported that males are often believe to be more energetic and could readily be available for energy demanding jobs. Another possible explanation is that male herders usually have more access and control over livestock which limits the involvement of female herders, because of cultural and religious setting of the area which limits the engagement of women to mostly agro-processing.

Table 1: Socio-economic Characteristics of the Respondents

Sex	**Frequency**	**Percentage**	**Mean**
Male	256	92.8	
Female	20	7.2	
Total	**276**	**100**	
Age			
<20	13	4.7	
21 – 30	56	20.3	
31 – 40	85	30.8	
41 – 50	95	34.1	46
>50	28	10.1	
Total	**276**	**100**	
Household			
<5	60	21.7	
6 – 10	85	3.8	
11 – 15	89	32.3	6
16 – 20	34	12.3	
>20	8	2.9	
Total	**276**	**100**	
Marital status			
Married	244	88.4	
Single	24	8.7	
Divorced	8	2.9	
Total	**276**	**100**	
Educational qualification			
Primary	36	13.0	
Secondary	51	18.5	
Normadic	43	15.6	
Quranic	103	37.3	
Tertiary	43	15.6	

Total	276	100

The result in Table 2 revealed that most of the respondents have engaged themselves in a diverse livelihood activities indicating that they don't rely only on farming and rearing. Other livelihood activities include trading, civil services and hunting. The result in showed that 48.4%, 38.0%of the households derived income from livestock rearing and crop farming, other livelihood activities engaged in by the respondents hunting, civil service and trading with 9.0%, 2,2%, and 1.4% respectively. This finding on the shares of income coming from crop and livestock rearing is at variance with the findings of Majekodunmi et al, (2017) who reported that livestock sales were the most important component accounting for 83% of cash income.

Table 2: Livelihood Activities of Herdsmen

Livelihood Activities	Frequency	Percent
Hunting	25	9.0
Crop Farming	106	38.0
Livestock Rearing	135	48.4
Trading	4	1.4
Civil service	6	2.2
Total	276	100

Two factors were confined through factor analysis for the effect of cattle rustling on herders using principle component extraction method. The eigenvalues of these two factors were >1 with a total variance 78.2%. In social science variance ≥ 59.85 is presumed sufficient (Ahsan, 2011). Table also portrays the two factors and their relevant loading items (having value>0.50). These factors are social factor and economic factor. Factor 1 was economic factor consisting of loss of cattle (PCA=0.902), fear of the business (PCA=0.897) and joblessness (PCA=0.699). the plausible implication of this result is that a loss of livestock through theft make them jobless and fear of the business failures, it also meant that the affected household lost the benefits from cattle consumption as well as the earnings from the sale of livestock (or the capital asset) and the products produced by (or the returns to capital) livestock. But many of these relatively rich households were also been impoverished as rustlers stole a large part of their livestock. This suggested that stock rustlers affected poor households in two different ways; loss of stock through rustlers and loss of household wealth, and an enforced cut back in own consumption and in the sale of animal products. This finding is in line with Dzimba and Matooane, (2005) who opined that cattle rustling caused widespread chronic poverty and effectively destroyed the ability to apply asset smoothing on the part of rural households. Disturbingly, livestock rustlers reduced the ability of household heads to invest in the human capital development of their children and also results in a deterioration of the household's nutritional status adding to health expenses. Apart from the economic effects listed above, the sociocultural effects of cattle theft could not be valued. Cattle

theft caused parents to be poor and unable to sponsor offspring to school and supply other family needs. Cattle theft could be violent causing the death of the cattle owners.

Factor 2 was named as social factor had high loading factors on loss of life (PCA=0.952), loss of relation (PCA=0.888), threat to family (PCA=0.721), lack of interest in the business (PCA=0.874). A later dimension of cattle rustling in the study takes the form of massive village raids whereby herding communities are attacked, through threat to family, loss of relation and consequently lead to loss of life. These attacks are mostly in retaliation for previous showdown by community vigilantes or collective resistance by community dwellers.

Table 3: Effects of Cattle Rustling on Herdsmen Livelihood

Effect of Rustling	Mean	Std. Dev	Extraction	Economic	Social
Loss of life	3.52	1.34	0.899	0.952*	0.1
Loss of cattle	3.84	1.46	0.865	0.902*	-0.11
Loss of relation	3.23	1.29	0.827	0.888*	-0.332
Loss of confidence on government	3.52	1.08	0.907	0.86*	-0.354
Joblessness	3.59	1.00	0.747	0.844*	0.184
Threat to the family	3.48	0.92	0.815	0.721*	0.544*
Fear of the business	3.72	1.03	0.783	0.035	0.897*
Lack of interest in herding	3.54	1.09	0.805	0.138	0.874*
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure of sampling adequacy	0.872				
Bartlett's test of sphericity					
Approx. Chi-square	2136.88				
Df	28				
Sig.	0.000				

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Base on the finding the following recommendation conferred: Government effort should be geared towards provision of facilities to reduce the drudgery of herding and to help in curving excess cattle rustling as a result of scouting for animal feeds. Training should be advocated in the area to create awareness on the modern practices for animal production and management.

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