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HIGHLIGHTS

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Food Crisis in Rivers State 1985 - 1990 A Critical Reflection

By Jones M. Jaja

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Abstract - One of the critical challenges facing the Nigerian polity today is the need to adequately feed her citizenry. Within the indigenous economies of pre-colonial ethnic groupings, most dwellers produced enough food to cater for the society and exchange. The colonial economy disarticulated the food production equilibrium to the extent that in recent times, rapid urbanization and environmental degradation occasion by the exploratory activities of multinational corporated have impacted negatively on food production activities hence the call for a state of emergency in this sector.

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Food Crisis in Rivers State 1985 - 1990 A Critical Reflection

Jones M. Jaja

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I. INTRODUCTION

“Food” is anything eaten to relieve hunger or sustain life; and we really hardly need any extra amounts of that at anyone time; say a bag of gari or a barn of yams. Assurance of daily subsistence is all needed in accordance with the prayer, “Give us this day, our daily bread”. It is when that assurance of availability of daily sufficiency is threatened, necessitating greater cost to achieve a desired quantity or quality of food, that crisis begins to manifest. To allay or eliminate anxiety, panic or similar crisis in the food situation, it is necessary that food be available, at affordable price in wholesome condition. The latter conditionality is usually taken for granted until crisis strikes emanating from poor food quality or contaminated food. Irrespective of the definition, the importance of food should not be taken for granted. Why is food important?

II. IMPORTANCE OF FOOD

Food is generally acclaimed as being next in importance to air and water for supporting life. Specifically, man takes food for the following reasons:

1. To provide energy for work
2. To provide heat and warmth
3. To replace worn-out cells
4. To facilitate growth

To accomplish the above objectives food after ingestion, is digested and its nutrients assimilated into the system. Nutrients, the only factor which gives relevance to food or the eating thereof, are:

- i) Sugars from the starchy foods such as the cereals (rice, maize, millet, guinea-corn etc).
- ii) Amino-acids from such protein foods as beans, fish, meat, eggs, etc.
- iii) Fatty acids from oils and fats.
- iv) Vitamins and essential salts from different sources including fruits and vegetables.

Students of history may recall that (King Jaja of Opobo's) main stratagem of winning the war against Bonny was to hurry up-river to the upper reaches of the Imo River estuary and plug the supply of food and economic power to the mother city-state of Bonny (Ofonagoro, 1979:40). He succeeded immensely, a coup begetting its own legality. Chief Will-Bride (Igbani) of Kalabari later followed suit in 1879 when the Kalabari dvii war erupted. His kinsmen followed in hot pursuit and thereby enacted the Kalabari civil war, not on Kalabari soil, but on Ikwerre land-on the banks of the New Calabar River which still bathes the shores of Choba in present-day Obio-Akpor Local Government Area (OBALGA).

Food, according to Ward Hunt, J. of the U.S. Supreme Court in Sewall V. Jones, 1 Otto (91 US), 187:

“Is less brilliant, but more useful, than all the inventions for the destruction of the human race that have ever been known”

III. FOOD CRISIS IN THE RIVER STATE

There is no doubt whatsoever that, in Nigeria, the food situation in Rivers State has attained alarming proportions that describing it as “critical” may be euphemistic. Whereas a 50kg bag of imported rice during the presidency of Shehu Shagari was ₦42.00, in 2008 the same weight costs ₦9,500. The locally grown stuff which costs ₦500.00 in 1979, in 2008 is ₦6,800. Even if indecorously, gari costs even higher – about ₦1,200.00 for the same quantity. Traditionally costlier than refined petroleum itself, palm oil stands at about ₦180.00 per litre. A bunch of plantain now sells for between ₦600.00 and ₦800.00 (Moro, 1976).

Whereas the gloomy picture above may be the spectre mocking at most Nigerians who neither produce their own food nor inject some other consolation into the mainstream of productivity, the picture is infinitely worse for the Rivers man whose last refuge is his home-state.

He certainly has basket-loads of other crisis waiting for him, especially when the Bible has made it

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abundantly clear that “man shall not live by bread alone” (Mathew 4:4).

A consideration of the food crisis in the Rivers State should be seen as more than a simplistic topic comprising and ending with the physical availability of food in the market place or on the table. It should be seen as a holistic subject – matter of interest, not just to the citizen of Rivers State but to others. This last aspect of the consideration of the food crisis, from the economic perspective, should be of ultimate concern to women who, through the ages have the major responsibility for growing food. For example:

- 1) When, following the abolition of the slave-trade and the consequent development of plantation agriculture over vast tracts of the heart land of Africa, “thousands of men were drawn to work on the plantations for very low wages, the major responsibility for growing food, caring for the elderly and bringing up children” was thrown on the women-folk.
- 2) Recall also how, during the ill-fated Nigerian Civil War, women in Port Harcourt were trooping right and left on reconnaissance missions for food and returned with cassava roots raked from abandoned farms.

When barn is bare, she rakes the roots, be it in peace time or in war”.

- 3) It has since been admitted that the bulk of farm labour is contributed by women, particularly land preparation after clearing and slashing by the menfolk, as well as weeding which accounts for a quarter of the time expended on the farms.
- 4) In some areas of Bayelsa State, the menfolk precipitate a chronic food crisis by habitually consuming food while deliberately refusing to subscribe to food production or other productive activity. It is women who absorb the resulting punishment by providing thankless meals for the droning husbands.
- 5) The case of Panya, the Bomu woman who went to Kula to support her fisherman husband, but ended up providing, in addition, Okra and other vegetables for herself and others. “She went, she saw, she conquered”. Casting the past behind us, we may prayerfully hope that the natives of Kula and other Kalabari settlements will copy Panya’s example and utilize the innumerable virgin lands dotting their geography.
- 6) Food crisis neither begins nor ends with the farm or barn. Food crisis can only effectively be dispelled or disproved on the table where food is shown to be available ‘as and when due”. Needless to say, it is woman who achieves this feat everyday without leave or respite, usually unclapped and unsung. What then is responsible for food crisis in Rivers State? We shall examine the immediate causes of the crisis. It is hoped that knowledge of these

causes would contribute immensely to the improvement of food production and consumption.

IV. OIL ACTIVITIES

In this regard, the effect of oil activities would embrace exploration, exploitation, spillages, etc and culminate in the Injection of inflation into the economy via payment of bloated staff salaries, fringe benefits, etc. No doubt seismic activities attendant to oil exploration affect the fragile vertebrae of insect life in the soil. Incessant gas-flaring for decades cannot but decimate insect life so vital to pollination, distort the day/night phenomena essential for a balanced photosynthesis and, by its unabating noise, upset the life scheme and pattern of the surrounding fauna. It is a living fact that leopards, elephants and other wild animals have been scared away to safer zones (Onyige *et al.*, 1989:152).

But the worst hazard concomitant on oil exploration and exploitation may be spillage. The effect is immediately visible and far-reaching. It decimates all life-plant, marine and animal – immediately and for the foreseeable future. Nor is potable water spared (Nzewtunwa, 1980).

The vanishing of cocoyams from our markets has long been blamed on oil activities. The same goes for fishing, although other factors may share the blame (Onyige, 1979).

Movement to the nation’s new capital of Abuja and the resultant decentralization of oil administration has caused an upsurge of population in Port Harcourt, the Rivers State capital. Discounting the effect of that lurch on housing and transportation in Port Harcourt and its environs as being outside our purview, the effect on an already hopeless food situation can better be imagined. The fantastic take-home pay and terminal benefits of oil workers would simply aggravate the crisis out of proportion.

V. THE NIGERIAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM

Unfortunately, the Rivers State shares the same economic system with the rest of the country. The system seems to have no room for micro units. For example, if you took a well-priced, good-quality product from some other part of the world and passed it through the Nigerian system, it would emerge transfigured, its former feathers becoming such vibrating quills, that you would not wait for advice to keep your distance. That magic-lantern effect has happened with rice, newsprint, cars and iron rods, to name but a few.

The siege on the Nigerian economy has been partly blamed on the exchange rate. Once at par with the pound sterling, the Nigerian naira (Which is also our own currency) is now about 1/50 of the former, reflecting the stupor into which it has sunk and the proportionate hardship for its adherents. A false, refracted economy propped on high prices that are ever soaring; an

economy in which anything that goes up/never comes down; that is the picture of the Nigerian economy.

Hence, it would appear that the worst calamity that can befall the Nigerian in the street is for the country to decide on the production of any article. Whereas rice was ₦42.00 per 50kg bag in Shagari's regime, the price rocketed immediately prohibition was slammed on the importation of the essential commodity in a bid to stimulate local production (Moro, 1976). The story is the same for any product one cares to name.

VI. LACK OF RURAL INFRASTRUCTURES

The Rivers State government cannot be commended too highly for its emphasis on road development, without which other facilities cannot develop. This fact underlies the wisdom in setting up DFRRRI, the Directorate for Food, Roads, and Rural infrastructure (Onyige, 1979).

If power, potable water, healthcare facilities, banking services and good schools for the proper education of the young are added to the rural package, it would re-direct the population drift to the village, to rejuvenate the stock of our dwindling food supplies. The very air is purer there and man, relaxed, tends to measure life with the ferrule, rather than with the wheel. With clean hands and pure heart, there may not be a better place to worship than the garden at the back-yard or the shrine in the woods where man can marvel afresh at the commonest mysteries of God – the re-enactments of creation. The absence of the needed infrastructure makes it impossible for those that would farm the land and settle. Their drift therefore have a direct bearing on the food situation in Rivers State.

VII. GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN AGRICULTURE

Apart from research institutions and rare ventures like Risonpalm, government's grandiose agricultural programmes and projects have ended in failures. The result is that instead of alleviating our food situation, they have compounded and aggravated the crisis. A few examples would illustrate this point.

- i) The integrated poultry project at Atali, complete with staff, a feed mill and hatchery capable of producing ten thousand chicks per day has collapsed, while day-old chicks are imported from private hatcheries outside the state.
- ii) At Rumuodarnanya, headquarters of Obio-Aicpor Local Government Area (OBALGA), is another feed-mill, the establishment of which can hardly be rationalized, considering the idling facilities at Atali and Elingbu.
- iii) Iriebe on the Port Harcourt/Aba Express Road hosts a modern gari factory, of capacity, but its impact on the dreary food situation in the state is yet to be felt.

- iv) There is another integrated poultry project at Aluu in the same OBALGA, with a hatchery to the bargain. Complete with silos and offices, the feed-mill alone is worth a fortune. But all these, the bore-hole and generator, tractors and other structures and some staff merely wasted away. Like others owned across the country by the many different river basin development authorities, the entire farm was slated for sale to the public in accordance with guidelines enunciated by the Technical Committee on Commercialization and Privatization (TCPC). There was a surfeit of farm equipment and other heavy machinery.
- v) The project at Isiokpo was an integrated piggery project complete with structures, cassava farm, generator, bore-hole and pump spread on about ninety-three (93) hectares of land. Even after payment, the host community refused its sale to the public.
- vi) Unlike the two projects listed under (iv) and (v) above and owned by the Niger Delta Basin Development Authority, the Peremabiri Rice Project owned by the same authority, before the Nigerian Civil War, was reputed to have a capacity to feed West Africa. Yet, nearly a quarter of a century after the cessation of hostilities in 1970, the Rice project is unable to feed the Yenagoa Local Government Area (Yelga).

What do the above catalogues add up to? Expensive structures including warehouses, offices and living quarters, which are in decay, miscellaneous equipment that are better seen than described superfluous, staff, wasting assets and depreciating gear, un-utilized resources that could have generated so much activity and employment and, in the process, created so much wealth. This could have thrown quantum of food into the market through the combined hustle and bustle of human activity and the melody of the various machines (Moro and Onyige, 1989).

From the latent resources above, particularly of land and materials on the ground, Rivers State would have been exporting feeds for poultry and other livestock; every poultry product up to the feather; pigs and bacon for sausages; and rice to Sierra Leone, of all places.

The failure in Nigeria of government participation in business has become proverbial, until the disproofs contained in the achievements of Nigerdock and Risonpalm where Engineer Showemi and Andrew Uchendu have respectively given the lie to the truism above. The message appears clear: Government should concentrate on providing infrastructure-s and support in the form of extension services. Thus motivated, the citizenry will spring into action.

Mobility is indispensable to such staff who, among other things, have to update the farmer's (or fisherman's) knowledge, try to reconcile the farmer's results in the fields with the latest research findings, to monitor the farmer's activities generally and to submit reports to headquarters.

To begin with, mobility is often lacking and, where the extension staff dares to use personal initiative to reach the targets, he is very likely not to be reimbursed or, if at all, after such agony that will dissuade him from a repetition. The frustration of the extension staff will undoubtedly seep to the farmer, whose production will inevitably diminish to the ultimate chagrin of the house-wife or even of the bachelor. Lack of funds, office stationery, farm equipments and input will all be part of the package of frustration with which the extension staff is confronted.

VIII. FREE EDUCATION

The concept of providing free education at all levels to the Nigerian citizenry is in accord with S. 18(1) of the 1979 Constitution and is reflected in S. 19(1) of the 1989 Constitution which came into effect on 27:8:93. Free education tends to shift emphasis to educational priorities, resulting inevitably in a decline in the workforce formerly available on the farm and, pro-rata, in the availability of food in the market (Nanka, 1979). The same rationalization would apply to fishing and, hence, to fish availability in the market.

The notion of free and universal education can hardly be faulted, even though some thinkers wonder the relevance of providing universal education without assurance of employment opportunities for all beneficiaries of the policy. Attention is only drawn to it here in an attempt to outline the morphology of the food problem, particularly in the Rivers State. When the loopholes and leakages in the apparatus are properly identified, it should be easier to re-deploy available resources to make up for resultant short-falls. We shall now examine the immediate causes of food scarcity.

IX. IMMEDIATE CAUSES OF THE FOOD CRISIS IN THE RIVERS STATE

a) *Paucity of Land*

With more than three-quarters of its 50,000 square kilometers occupied by water; with a considerable part of the remaining 12,500 square kilometers comprising wetlands, leaving very little of well-drained land for arable agriculture, with the proneness of the residue to flooding and erosion; with the dense vegetation which makes land clearing an intimidating exercise; even if we discount the host of a thousand other constraints on food production, it is no surprise that food scarcity in the Rivers State has degenerated into a crisis.

X. CLIMATIC FACTORS

Climate factors such as wind, rainfall and drought seem to have an immediate effect on food production.

XI. WINDS

A storm may not only have disastrous consequences for fishing crew and craft at sea, it may even prevent others from setting out to sea. The result in either case needs no further telling; scarcity of fish. But the effect of strong winds appears more telling on the availability of plantains in both the long and short run.

Strong winds occur in late February or early March every year in this part of the country, felling numberless plantain trees. Consequently, the markets are temporarily inundated with surplus plantain bunches. After the momentary glut, there follows a sustained scarcity till July when the oldest of the lucky survivors of the gale may have matured. This is the sequence every year.

a) *Rainfall*

More than the general importance of rainfall or water to plants, it is the pattern and quantity of rainfall which may have greater relevance to food production. There can be no better stimulus for the happy farmer than early rain. Early rain induces early planting and, hence, early harvest, examples are maize, vegetables and yam, the king of crops. Conversely, late rains signal late planting and late harvest, between which extremes there is bound to occur protracted food shortage.

Even early rain may sometimes need to be watched, for the periodicity of the available rains and also for the total rainfall in the year. Where, for example, a lull of drought follows a deceptive early rain which might have triggered early planting, the planted crops may be fatally scorched, necessitating a repeat exercise.

Moreover, the quantity of rainfall may precipitate flooding and even affect salinity and pH value of the sea, particularly in the brackish waters of Niger Delta. Thus, in the depth of the rainy season oysters around Abonnema, for instance, lose their taste, while many other fishes hibernate beyond the usual range of the local fishermen.

XII. NATURAL FACTORS

a) *Flood and Erosion*

Besides the cumulative and long-term effect of flooding and erosion prompting a resignation to the frustration attendant on frequent recurrence of such phenomena, there is the immediate agony of being condemned to unsettled living and concomitant planlessness. Such mode of living is clearly antithetical to farming or food production.

b) Vegetation

The high forest which succeeds the mangrove belt of the Rivers State makes land clearing a forbidding operation. The result is that the potential land clearing involved, limits the scale of farming to be undertaken and, hence, the quantity of food capable of production by a given farmer. The use of bull-dozers for mechanized clearing of land is less helpful than it may sound because of the scrapping, off the land, of the top soil by the equipment; the plant food being concentrated in the top soil. Also, the heavy rainfall of the state predisposes to the inevitable growth of weeds which, thereby, calls for constant weeding.

c) Pestilence

The development alone of veterinary medicine is enough indication of the importance which modern agriculture accords to the incidence of disease among livestock. Cattle, pigs, goats and poultry all have their prevalent diseases. Native chicken, for instance, are susceptible to fatal coccidiosis around December every year, about the time when they would have been most needed.

Although very rare, locust invasion is not completely unknown in these parts. So also is the attack of the mottled grass-hopper.

d) Weeds

Although, it might have been glossed over earlier, weeds constitute such a grave menace on the farm as to compel further attention here. About one-quarter of labour expended on the farm goes into weeding which is further aggravated by the heavy rainfall in the state. Some common weeds are the Guinea Grass (also called "elephant grass") and other types of grass.

XIII. HUMAN FACTORS

a) Abandoned Farms

Negligence and indolence, both of which have already been cited have short-term effects which seem to be compounded in the abandonment of farms. At Obigbo, and Degema, for example, there are hectares upon hectares of unharvested cultivated oil palm, not to mention the thousands of wild palm waving in the virgin high forests of the former DELGA. There can be no doubt that full exploitation of the yawning plantations could bring down the cost of palm oil which, funny as it may sound, costs twenty times as much as refined mineral oil, notwithstanding the sophisticated technology and incomparable cost involved in the production of the latter.

The case of idling facilities at Atali, Aluu, Etingbu, Isiokpo, Peremabiri, Rumuodamanya, etc have already been cited. During a recent conversation with an agricultural official, the discussion centred on a capacity production of 18,000 eggs daily. When I asked for the

possible effect of such injection into the market system, the extension worker replied, "it will bring down the price of eggs".

b) Lack of Enterprise

The "Concise Oxford Dictionary, Edition at page describes "enterprise" as:

- 1) An undertaking, especially one that needs courage or offers difficulty;
- 2) Innovativeness

Panya applied her knowledge of traditional agriculture, as practiced in Bomu in Gokana Local Government Area, to the virgin lands of Kula and reaped a roaring harvest, whereas the Kalabari natives of Kula, for want of enterprise, simply sat down and bought their vegetables, maize, etc from several distances away. The same common denominator of enterprise pushed several Ogbia communities to steal the show from the vicinity of Peremabiri. While some Izon men droned over draught boards, their more enterprising womenfolk scoured the fields and ponds to provide thankless meals for the husbands. The "cocoa" bean, seed of the plant "cacao", was introduced into Nigeria by a Rivers man from Grand Bonny, but what is the position of the Rivers man in the scheme of the cocoa business today? The foundation of industry, even before capital, labour or other elements of production, it is enterprise that introduced the cultivated oil palm from Nigeria to Malaysia. That country is now exporting palm oil whereas Nigeria has since stopped exporting the product. On the other side of the spectrum, it may even be added that it was "enterprise" of one that introduced the Nipper palms from Indonesia to the Imo River estuary. Today the Nipper palm has edged out its host (the mangrove tree) from the brackish waters of Opobo and changed considerably the ecosystem of the area. If one may refer dispassionately to history, late Chief Awolowo's reason for insisting on applying different strokes to cocoa and to mineral oil in computing revenue derivation was the investment of personal enterprise in the production of the former.

The coaxing flattery above is at best a euphemism. It does not even brush the tip of the iceberg.

c) Ignorance

It may not be readily appreciated how much of food scarcity can directly be attributed to ignorance. For, although empirical conclusions may have been established in the course of generations, yet the full import of certain factors may be lost while the bases are taken for granted. A few examples:

- i. *Ignorance of the Soil:*

The soil is generally assumed to be available to take our crops, but in reality we bother less about its nature, quality and attendant possibilities – the incidence of soil acidity and the danger of over-living.

ii. *Ignorance of Eugenics:*

While any crop may bring forth its kind, there is the fact of eugenics and the possibility of its profitable application. If some plantain bunches too hefty to be lifted by one man are compared to some low-yielding species, the most fitting retort may be "The difference is clear". Science seems to have come a long way in developing better rains of crops and livestock, making available higher-yielding, sturdier inputs as seeds, seedlings, cuttings and breed-stocks for the farmer's gratuitous use. It is for him to extricate himself from the web of ignorance and use what is his for the mere asking or taking.

iii. *Ignorance of the Potency of Chemicals:*

Ignorance of the potency of fertilizer could lead to its indiscriminate or wrong application with untoward consequences.

A fore-knowledge of weather conditions, gained through weather forecasts, may make it easier to preempt some "acts of God" like drought or flooding.

XIV. POPULATION GROWTH AND RURAL DRIFTS

Some demographic factors militate against food production and, therefore, induce food scarcity. Roads and infrastructure for industrial, commercial and residential accommodation are sine qua non for development. Simply put, land appropriated for such development purposes can no longer be available for cropping inasmuch as no one can eat his cake and have it.

To worsen matters, both the alienated citizenry and the influx of immigrants develop a distaste that tend to hold agricultural activity in disdain, although they continue consuming scarce food in order to keep alive. The end result remains the same: Vanishing food stocks without any hope of replacement.

In particular, the case of Port Harcourt may bear further amplification. At once the capital of the Rivers State and headquarters of the City Local Government Area (PHALGA); a railway terminus as well as a seaport and the only international airport serving Rivers and the other six Eastern States; the citadel of the oil companies, an industrial hub which boasts two refineries and a giant petrochemical plant, a vast fertilizer company, with another in the offing, and a countless host of other industrial concerns, hosting three universities and a ruyriad of ancillary educational institutions, three five-star hotels, sports stadia and inimitable conference venues; with a population of a million people, the City of Port Harcourt has since metamorphosed into a sprawling conurbation.

XV. DECLINING WORKFORCE

Labour is an indispensable component of agricultural activity or food production and will remain

so, no matter the level of mechanization employed. Conspiring to whittle the force available for work on the farms are several factors, a few of which may be mentioned.

XVI. RURAL DRIFT

The objective is to find greener pastures and the immigrants come from the countryside. Arriving at the city, they obviously continue to consume food, but now at others' expense (since they no longer produce anything), and more so before they gain another employment. In the context of food production, the immigrants who surge into the cities and other urban centres become a dead weight on those who remain back at home, wedded to the soil.

XVII. WANING FAMILY SIZE

Whereas an important reason for raising large families was to ensure a sufficiency of farm hands, the woeful national economy and a free nationwide education policy have rendered the average size of the Nigerian family ineffective for appreciable assistance on the farm. The result cannot be otherwise – reduced farm activity and consequent fall in food production.

XVIII. WOMEN'S UPLIFTMENT

Against a background in which culture and, even religion, ensured woman's confinement to inferiority and servility, the special roles of women in the home and on the farm may not be very surprising. However, the real shocker may be the scale of women's involvement in farming generally and, particularly, in food production. Apart from clearing the bush, planting and staking the king of crops, nearly every other job on the farm is done by woman: From planting nearly every other crop to weeding, harvesting, processing, (e.g. melon seeds) and marketing. Specifically, weeding takes not less than three tedious operations.

In the production of gari, it is women who harvests the cassava roots, conveys them home, peels and washes them for grating which, formerly done by men, is now done by machine, it is women who ties up the grated mash in sacks to squeeze out the water, later sift the fairly dry mash and ultimately try it to yield the final product, garri which is the most popular staple food in these parts (Hopkins, 1973).

But now many forces operate to diminish women's irreplaceable contribution in food production. Discounting the effect of death in reducing population generally, polygamy itself is on the wane, thereby reducing the necessary workforce. Education, apart from disenchanting recipients from the farm, takes such a long gestation these days as to look like a life sentence. Moreover, more women than men now go in for higher education. Similarly, more women than men

seem to opt for medical studies. There is hardly any facet of life that is not graced by a feminine presence from the judiciary and other branches of the civil service to the professions, and even in politics. The unfolding of the umbrella National Council for Women's Societies and the Better Life for Rural Women Programme seems to have capped the many laudable efforts and attainments in women's emancipation. If only it is remembered that from immemorial times food production was thrown on the female population after their male counterpart had been forcibly drafted to more physically challenging professions. The decline in food production is directly proportional to the stampede in women's education and consequent emancipation, reducing the number of hands earlier engaged in agricultural activities.

XIX. EDUCATION

Having glossed over the involvement of women in education and the possibility of such involvement in distracting that vital group of farm hands from food production; and rather than open up a can of "worms" by digressing to the relevance of education generally in the subject-matter of availability or scarcity of food; I would here attempt to concentrate on the effect of prolonged regimentation in reducing the necessary workforce which could otherwise have been deployed on the farms or in fishing thus boosting food" production. Apart from the diversion of their combined workforce away from food production, the distraction of children of school age, who otherwise would have contributed in the agricultural sector should not be overlooked (Duruji, 1980).

Another factor to contend with is the duration and pattern of children's education. Whereas, before 1970, the child might have to spend only eight years (living with the parents) to complete his primary education and even stop there at to seek employment, the child may now have to school away from home for six (3 + 3), ten (plus four additional years for university education) or more years, in the event of his doing post-graduate studies.

What do all these explanations add up to? Depletion of farm labour, less hectare planted and, as a result, diminished harvest, paving the way for food scarcity and higher prices for whatever may be available.

XX. AGRICULTURAL FACTORS

a) *Out-Dated Technology*

Because of the old-fashioned tools and methods used, the different processes of food production become tedious, laborious and the resultant yields necessarily small. Whether for land preparation, making mounds, weeding or some types of harvesting the most popular implements used are the machete and the hoe. Even the lowly rake is hardly used in our traditional farming, not to talk of the wheel-barrow to

lighten potterage. What poor matches these primitive instruments are against a D6 or D8 bull-dozer for land clearing, the tractor-driven plough and harrow for land preparation or the combined-harvester for harvesting. In such a situation, the consequences cannot be otherwise, fast-ageing practitioners and minimum and costly products in the market-stalls.

Some of the processes entailed are worth recapitulating, if only in acknowledgement of the pain and sacrifice which go to ensure the meals we almost take for granted.

- i) In the initial preparation of the land prior to making mounds and planting, the forest or bush has to be cleared and the debris allowed to dry before burning. In the packing which follows and which precedes a second burning, not even the humble rake is used in our traditional farming.
- ii) The next stage comprises making the mounds or heaps and the real planting of the crops which, apart from the usual yam sets, cassava cuttings, maize and okro seeds, may have to include melon (egusi) to act as cover-crop to minimize the need for weeding.
- iii) The different crops having been planted, the next stage is the very important one of maintenance when the three weeding must be done in due succession before the cassava leaves converge in a canopy. It is also at this crucial stage that yams (the main crop for men) are staked and their tender vines trained. In rice cultivation, this is the stage during which birds have to be incessantly scared from the farms.
- iv) The fourth stage, harvesting, involves a lot of carrying by head ("potterage"), whereas the wheel-barrow could come in handy here. Except for yam which may have to be stored in a barn on the farm, the harvests are invariably conveyed home on the head and by foot.
- v) Mechanical hulling has taken the sting off the processing of rice, but the processing of melon seeds from gourds and the extraction of "ogbono" seeds from their fruits (by splitting the fruits open with knives) yawn for mechanization. The mechanical production of gain from cassava roots, from peeling to frying, is a tearless operation in factories equipped with modern, electrically-operated machines. Yet, like the subsistence farmer who bears the brunt of feeding the Nigerian nation, practically all the gain we consume is produced by manual frying in slowly – heated, custom-made pots. The process is so laborious that, before now, the reward from garri production never justified the labour entailed. Although there is now the mechanical grain grater to ease the traditional production of garri, the entire
 - a) Uprooting the cassava.
 - b) Carrying the harvest home, usually on the head and by foot.

- c) Peeling.
- d) Washing.
- e) Grating, now usually done by the power driven garri grater.
- f) Tying to extrude the water and thereby facilitate drying of the grated mash.
- g) Sifting.
- h) Frying.
- i) Bagging.
- j) Conveyance to the market by foot, land or marine transport The Nigerian woman trekking long distances to the market, her garri or other commodity on her head, is a very familiar sight.

XXI. OVER CROPPING

It has been known from earliest times that planting on a given piece of land consistently for some years leads to a rapid degeneration of the soil and, accordingly, to a reduction in the yield from a given parcel of land. This is the bane of farmers in Gokana Local Government Area (of the state) due to insufficient land for the available farmers.

The knowledge of the danger of "over cropping" has given rise to the practice of "shifting cultivation" to allow the depleted land to fallow and thereby regain some of its lost nutrients. Another method is the application of fertilizer to the crops on the same land in order to boost production.

XXII. POST-HARVEST LOSSES

It may not readily be appreciated how much of food scarcity may be attributable to post-harvest losses. But the real scale of the frequent disaster appears frightening, judging from casual observations around the market-places. But for our purposes the term "post-Harvest losses" will be expanded to include any untoward event which overtakes an otherwise available food item "between the cup and the lip". The item of food could be meat, fish or other edible marine product-not only "food" per se.

Among farm products the following areas may be identified:

- a) Injuries inflicted on yams during harvesting predispose victims to rotting; hence the need to take the greatest possible care in harvesting yams in order to minimize injuries to the tubers. Such fleshy fruits as pawpaw, avocado pear, mango, orange, etc. which may fall to the ground during picking may start softening at the point of impact. Sooner or later, the fruit may start to deteriorate from the impact. A way out is to harvest the mature fruits before they ripen so that the ripening occurs in transit. A practical application of this technique is in the export of pineapples or bananas – both overseas and the latter "locally" from Akain in Abua-Odual Local Government Area (ABOLGA) to Kano to support religious fasting. The mature bunches are

brought in huge canoe-loads to Degema (in the same Local Government Area) from where they are loaded in lorries for the journey to Kano, ripening taking place in transit. This was the process adopted by the Colonial Development Corporation (CDC) even before the birth of the Cameroon Republic, although refrigerated vessels were used from Duala or Victoria (Jaja, 1986) to Europe.

- b) In the cattle trade, disease may strike before the animal is slaughtered and, consequently, (hopefully) declared unfit for human consumption. Not only will such disaster precipitate a fall in the stock of beef in the market, but the value of the loss will also be worked into the total value of the remaining head of cattle, thereby increasing the price of beef, and, hence, reducing the affordability of the product in the market.
- c) In fishing three points may be identified at which "post-harvest" loss may occur. (i) In trawling a breakdown of refrigerating facility may cause deterioration of the catch, whereas among local fishermen a surplus catch, i.e. a catch which is too much for the capacity of the canoe, may compel a rejection of part of the catch for reasons of safety, apart from which local fishermen these days seem to have little problem of post-harvest loss. (ii) Their catch is bought off them by fish-mongers (who dry the fish on their own for later sale) or by others who transmit their procurement by speed boat to Port Harcourt for disposal. Post-harvest loss may set in here from yet three other angles:
 - i.) The fish might have been caught by violent means e.g. by the use of dynamite or other explosive, leading to speedy deterioration of the harvest of the sea.
 - ii.) Undue time lag between the time of catch and arrival at the point of sale.
 - iii.) Delay in arriving at the point of sale due to the craft developing a fault on the way.

Often enough, the fish-monger who re-sells her stock to other users may be unable to do so fast enough or the fish may have been spoilt at source due to violent means of fishing. Thus the middleman ends up being saddled with a quantity of spoilt fish on her hands. (iii) At other times it is the consumer who ends up with the deteriorated fish on her hands, perhaps after cooking. To such a loser, the disaster may well be a double tragedy; he loses both the goods and the cost (money) as well.

XXII. TRANSPORT PROBLEM

Transport problems range from lack or unworthiness of roads to prohibitive cost of vehicles and maintenance, not to talk of looming fuel costs which at best may have been denied by the authorities. Without good roads it may be impossible to evacuate even available farm products, thereby precipitating a double

tragedy; non-availability or shortage of food items in the markets and impoverishment of the producer who remains saddled with the products of his labour, without any customer to buy them from him. In recounting the farmer's transport problems, it appears fashionable to forget the foot-paths that lead to the actual farms. The farm roads should be wide enough to take a motorcycle to the farms, as one sees around Abuja, to mitigate the tedium of the farmer, especially returning home after a hard day's job on the farm. Besides, farm roads would be invaluable for evacuating farm produce.

To facilitate fishing, all that need be done is general canalization to abridge meandering distances, align curves and bends of the creeks, dredge (where necessary) shallow creeks and provide berths and general navigational aids.

Apart from providing roads and improving routes, the cost of vehicles and spares are prohibitive. Needless to say, these costs are ultimately transmitted to the end user who is thus forced to pay higher prices for the available goods. Everybody should be grateful that wiser counsel prevailed on the issue of raising fuel prices. Any indiscretion on that could have sparked off a riot.

XXIII. EXTINCTION IN THE IMO RIVER ESTUARY

In 1987 a woman spoke in trenchant Pidgin English on Radio Rivers. She was blaming an oil company for the near extinction of periwinkles in the Andoni ecosystem. Poor shell, what a load to bear? I itched to reply the concerned woman immediately and offer a layman's opinion, not necessarily to mitigate shell's liability, but to suggest that the real culprit might be the ungrateful Nipper palm introduced over a century ago from Indonesia by one staff then working with John Holt. The obstinate palm has stifled the native mangrove tree, to extinction and completely colonized the area (Nzewunwa, 1980).

The densest mangrove jungles nevertheless permit rays of sunlight to bless the marsh beneath. Simultaneously, air filters through to aerate everything around. In such a system which allows sunlight and air to interact with the saline marsh of the brackish environment it is not surprising that other forms of nature thrive and happily reaffirm their faith in "live and let live". But it is not so with the Nipper guests. No streak of sunlight strays into a Nipper vegetation which, as a result, becomes an impenetrable, forbidding maze suggestive of a spreading denizen of dreaded reptiles. No crabs to gallivant on the mud flats or on the mangrove props, no mud-skippers to flirt around, no periwinkles to creep along. With no bestriding mangrove trees, there is no conch or whelk to clamp on to mangrove roots and trees, nor razor-edged oysters to adhere to interlacing mangrove roots. Where have these

delicacies gone, with the erstwhile superintendent of the brackish Imo estuary?

Without attempting to hold brief for the Kalabaris, I guess that their geography might have seduced them away from Agriculture. Used to raking immediate harvest from the sea over countless generations, they seem to have lost the patience of planting and having to wait for as much as three months to expect the earliest results, e.g. fresh maize. Nor is the impatience diminished by their arrogance of daring to close down, at times for considerable periods, alien markets which might have offended them, and the eventual arrival of emissaries from the "penalized" community suing for peace and consequent re-opening of their markets. Such bluff hardly conduces to subjecting oneself to the painstaking discipline of the hoe.

XXIV. LACK OF PROPER MOTIVATION

It is a known fact that it is the peasant farmer who feeds the Nigerian nation, It is the balance from his crop, after his domestic ration, which filters to the markets for sale. Therefore, it follows that, were his crop larger, his balance for the market would be larger, since his domestic ration would be fairly constant. Could the subsistence farmer think bigger, i.e. increase the scale of his farming, the market-places would be fuller with foodstuffs for sale, as would be seen from the following corollary.

The annual New Yam Festival is a very vibrant note of the Nigerian culture, even formerly among the Kalabari's who do not farm. They once had their "buru alali" (yam festival) which was, significantly, an annual event. The festival cuts across the former Eastern Region of Nigeria, i.e. the present seven Eastern States of the country. It surpasses Christmas festival among the Ekpeyes of Ahoada Local Government Area and Ogbas of Ogba/Ndoni/Egbema Local Government Area (ONELGA), for example.

But many cultures now seem to miss the kernel of the festival – the yam title called "Eze-ji" in Igbo language. Making much ado every year about the "New Yam Festival" without being famous for farming, reenacting the festival is very reminiscent of the nostalgia of watching a latter-day performance of the famous "Agiri" masquerade.

"The real actors have gone with the steps; now we merely watch the mask-heads."

Fortunately, the "steps" survive among some people today. At least in the former Obubra Local Government Area which now embraces Obubra, Yakurr and ABI Local Government Areas the yam title is the only accolade recognized by the communities. It consists of a display of four hundred ropes of yam, each rope carrying twenty yams. What this means is that an aspirant for the title will demonstrate his farming

prowess by displaying a barn of eight thousand (400 x 20) yams, excluding yams for the celebration and seed yams for the next cropping.

The point being pursued is that under the cultural stimulus of producing such a great surplus of yams, the title holder is contributing a lot to food availability in the community. It is about time we stopped chasing the shadow of merry-making attendant on the New Yam Festival and start chasing the substance, the "real thing", feeding the state, the nation and beyond. That is what others do, even without the fanfare of a festival.

XXV. CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, an attempt has been made at uncovering some of the challenges which inform food crisis in Rivers State. Some scholars no doubt would have thought that the period saw Rivers State food situation as vibrant. Based on the diversity and the dynamics of the food production, one can safely say that the people were able to evolve and engage in divergent viable economic endeavour that addressed their local needs.

Although one could add that like every other society, no matter how developed, they were not entirely self-sufficient. An investigation into the food situation reveal the poor productive level and the factors responsible for that. Whereas, one cannot deny various attempts made to shore-up food production in the state, however, these have become very infinitesimal as large numbers of people flow into the state to further increase demand for food which itself is not increasing. The hallmark of this argument is that Rivers State between the period under review, even with the rich endowment of natural environment were unable to develop the necessary food requirement to sustain the increasingly populace. Consequently, there is an urgent need to revolutionize food production within the state or between them and their neighbour or both.

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Attaining Millenium Development Goals (Mdg) Through Bus Rapid Transit (Brt) System (A Case of Brt Ticketing System in Lagos State, Nigeria)

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Abstract - Transportation in Lagos State, Nigeria is a major challenge that over the years had called for serious attention. Every attempt at solution seems to compound it. We conducted a review of the literature in the area of BRT systems to identify and subsequently classify their major aspects, and determine their linkages and trade-offs. Also, we developed from a theoretical point of view the basis of the BRT deployment planning framework, followed by collecting the necessary data to exercise the framework in the context of a site-specific case study (Lagos State). We adopted a system optimization approach in order to assist transit agency to decide on optimal deployment strategy to employ. The study reveals that the deployment of BRT systems relative to an array of factors ranging from large, small and site-specific cases among other things do not only ameliorate the challenge of transportation but also in a way attempted to do justice to the first MDG agenda of attainment of low-pollution Green House Gases (GHG). Also, reveals that ticketing system needs a radical approach to curb time-loss occasioned by validation of purchased tickets.

Keywords : BRT system, decision-making, MDG, modeling & ticketing.

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I. INTRODUCTION

According to Miller et al (2004), in U.S.A the transit industry nationwide has developed significant interest in BRT as currently there are in excess of 200 transit agencies that at least considering BRT alternatives and a few dozen properties are conducting planning exercises, utilizing planning methods such as Major Investment Studies (MIS). Fares should be integrated with the rest of the bus system, but they may not necessarily be the same. Miller & Buckley (2001) asserted that running ways for BRT include mixed traffic lanes, curbside bus lanes, and median bus ways on city streets; reserved lanes on freeways; and bus-only roadways, tunnels, and bridges. Most stations are located curbside or on the outside of bus-only roadways and arterial median busways. Similarly, BRT stations have low platforms since many are already or will eventually be served by low - floor buses. Conventional standard and articulated diesel buses are in wide use for BRT operations, though, there is a trend toward innovations in vehicle design, including environmentally

clean or green vehicles, such as diesel-electric vehicles and compressed natural gas-fueled vehicles, dual mode operations in particular environments such as tunnels, low-floor buses, additional as well as wider doors, and use of distinctive and dedicated bus rapid transit vehicles. Service innovations include fare collection procedures, station design and location, and more attractive vehicle designs. Intelligent transportation systems range from existing and more customary automatic vehicle locations systems, transit signal priority systems, and passenger information systems to more advanced systems including collision warning systems (frontal, side, and rear), and automation technologies including lane assist systems — precision docking and automatic steering systems — and automatic speed and spacing control systems.

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II. MATERIALS AND METHOD



Source: World Bank Transport Forum: March 30th – April 1st 2009, “Transport: Invisible Force – Visible Impacts” - A Presentation By Babatunde Raji Fashola (SAN) Executive Governor, Lagos State, Nigeria

BRT elements should be included in the system from the seven elements of any BRT systems namely Exclusivity of Running Way, Advanced Bus Technologies, Improved Fleet Management Technology, Distinctive Aesthetics or Amenities, Faster Fare Collection and Boarding, Integrating Transit Development with Land-Use Policy and Innovative Project Delivery Methods. Subject to budgetary, institutional and other constraints associated with the corridor, transit agencies have to cost-effectively configure their BRT systems, which must be tailored to site-specific characteristics. To achieve this goal, we adopted systems optimization approach with adequate and realistic objectives and constraints. A planning framework, reflecting this approach, was used to assist transit agencies with this task.

a) *The Physical Environment*

The physical presence of a BRT system may also raise institutional challenges. Many project areas, especially in older city centres, may simply lack the physical space to easily accommodate certain BRT implementation strategies. Bus rapid transit projects may also find themselves competing with other interests for high value real estate, which may not only inflate costs, but also complicate institutional dealings. Thus, availability and acquisition of right-of-way or physical space may be an issue. Image is also a strong marketing tool for BRT. While station area improvements are a popular BRT strategy, these improvements are typically being inserted into the existing urban design. Deng & Nelson (2010) in their findings that a high-quality BRT system can offer accessibility advantage

(specifically travel time saving) to adjacent properties, and thus increase their attractiveness. Interviews with stakeholders, including government officials, developers and real estate agents, and longitudinal analysis reveals that BRT line has positive development effects on adjacent properties, reflected by higher property values and accelerated development. The results further suggests that the housing near BRT stations enjoy a value premium, and development has been stimulated by the BRT opening. The findings also provide evidence that accessibility enhancement, rather than the type of transit system, is a far more important reason to influence land development. Organizations may find it a challenge to reach agreement or consensus to develop station improvements that promote a strong image, while being acceptable to numerous local interests.

In the domain of environmental management or policy, it is probably safe to say that most developers of eco-informatics tools or information *hope* that their work will be utilized in some form of rational decision-making processes or that at the very least, their tools and information are used to help inform incremental decision-making processes. For example, Tonn, et al. (2000) provide a framework to guide environmental decision-making in which goals and values are agreed upon, planning is pursued, and then decisions are developed and implemented.

The proposed deployment-planning framework is depicted in Figure 1.2-1,

The activities and corresponding methodology for each step are described below.

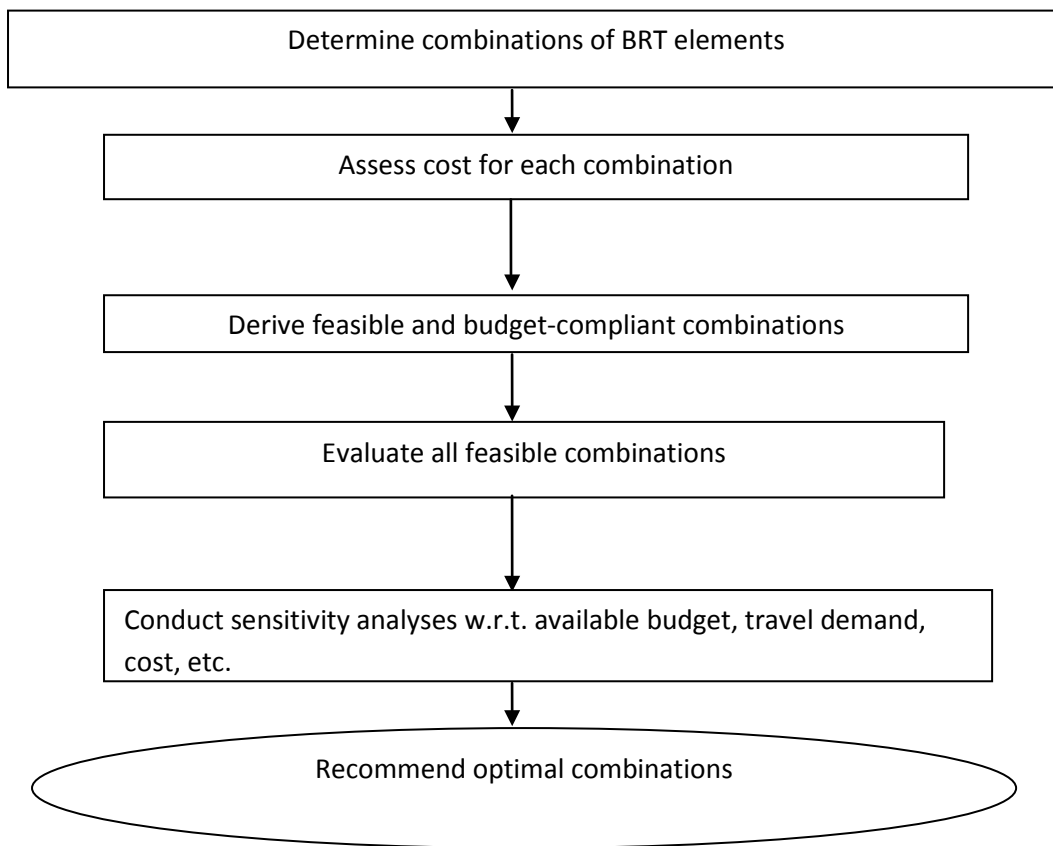


Figure 1.2-1 : A Framework for BRT Deployment Planning.

There are several combination of BRT elements, this of course tells on the need for each cost. For this purpose, it must be borne in mind that costs of BRT elements may vary based on the specific technology being used, integrated deployment of BRT elements may save significantly and that operating and maintenance cost must be considered. We focused on four aggregate performance measures and objective functions that may be used by agencies seeking to improve overall level of service. The objective functions are relatively easy to quantify and represent the combined views of passengers, the operator/transit agency and the community, which are the three primary stakeholders. However, these objective functions are only concerned with cost-efficiency of BRT-element combinations for an existing (known) passenger demand. In order to evaluate the cost-effectiveness, changes in ridership with respect to the implementation of selected BRT elements should be forecasted. This can be achieved either by a “learning curve” of an existing similar BRT system in operations, or via market research including potential system customers and non-users.

b) *ABMS and Traditional M&S Techniques*

According to Oyatoye & Magbagbeola (2010), Agent-based modelling system (ABMS) can provide an overarching framework for model based on other modelling techniques. For example, models may be composed of agents whose decision-making behaviors

are represented by formal optimization problems or by informal heuristics decision. According to Tonn et al (2000), heuristic decision, mean strategies that help produce correct solution. Heuristics don't always produce a correct answer, sometimes they are the reason why people make wrong decisions. Another example is agent behaviors represented as statistical models deriving agent behaviors from the agents' input information. Agent-based modelling can also be used as a complement to other modeling techniques: for example, an agent model that builds system behavior from the behaviors of the individual agents can be "docked" (used in conjunction) with a more aggregate Systems Dynamics model of the system, to see whether the two approaches yield similar results over a range of test cases. The goal of this study is to model a many-to-many demand responsive transit service without predefined itineraries and schedules. In this case, the fleet has to be dispatched exclusively on the basis of the list of requests, like in taxicab systems, the difference being the possibility of serving customers with some detours in order to share the ride. We believe that this kind of service is of particular interest for the possibility of offering a high quality service with an efficient allocation of the resources. To achieve this, we have modelled a service in which time windows are associated with each pickup and delivery point. The definition of time window is different from the notion of “time deadline” that can be found in previous works, for

example concerning hauling services Hall (1996). Although Daganzo (1987) modelled a distribution problem considering time windows associated with each delivery point, the suggested methodology is not suitable when temporal constraints are tight as in the case we are considering. Thus, we need a procedure that is not easily derivable from existing methodologies. For example, comparing our problem to the previously discussed ones, it can be observed that in our case, it is impossible to model it as a fixed-line service since we cannot define a “path” or a “headway” between the vehicles. On the other hand, the joint need of avoiding transfers for any pair of pickup and delivery points and

of limiting the maximum ride time for every customer prevents us from dividing the area into several service zones served by a single vehicle, hence, a “cluster-first, route-second” model is not appropriate.

This work may not include all the detailed procedures of deficit function theory and will concentrate rather on estimating the minimum fleet size required for a fixed schedule (shifting of departure times is not allowed), which will bring to focus the identified challenge of time-loss during ticketing and validation to departure time of any trip in our case study (Lagos state).

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION



Source: Field Survey (2011) - Queuing for BRT in Lagos State.

c) Modified Stopping-time Delay Model (MSDM)

Interestingly, according to Zhuo et al (2009) formula for basic model i.e. *Stopping-time Delay Model* (SDM) under the background of BRT system to realize “bus priority” by setting passing order of traffic streams at a cross. This was intended to allow for buses to go through the cross much quickly than before, and congestion is avoided. In our case study, the delay as expressed has other components as the ticketing is still manually handled. The validation of the tickets is left to the checkers attached to the drivers of the BRT. This alone is envisaged to be bedeviled by several ills ranging from the use of fake tickets to continuous delay in checking same and other attending vices. Our work shows this disconnect and we thus proposed the use of

our Modified Stopping-time Delay Model (MSD model) based on the work of Zhuo et al (2009). To prevent the bus delay caused by the initial congestion of getting on and off at bus station and its additional time-loss through ticket checking as validation, we built a model about the number of passengers getting on and off to control the stopping time. Our newly introduced variable t_{wt} (Time occasioned by ticket checking and validation) to the adapted model explains in clear term the otherwise latent time-loss unaccounted for in our case study. Our study reveals attempt at addressing this abnormality through deployment of relevant and timely model deployment and necessary suggestion(s) to ameliorate this lacuna occasioned by the choice of partial deployment of the BRT system in Lagos state.

Variable	Meaning
t_{st}	Time at bus stop
t_w	Waiting time (waiting for last bus leaving bus stop)
t_p	Time for passengers getting on and off
t_c	Minimum time from bus leaving station to next bus stopping at station
t_{wt}	Time occassioned by ticket checking and validation
N_{on}	Number of people getting on
N_{off}	Number of people getting off
K	Number of buses before this bus come into station
t_{pe}	Average time needed to get on (off), which is a constant
t_{oc}	Average time for each bus to close doors, which is a constant

$$\text{So } t_{st} = t_w + t_{wt} + t_p + t_{oc} + t_c \tag{1}$$

Let $N = \max(N_{on}, N_{off})$ Then

$$t_p = N \cdot t_{pe} \tag{2}$$

t_w is equal to the sum of t_{wt}, t_p, t_{oc}, t_c of early buses

$$t_w = (t'_{p1} + t'_{p2} + \dots + t'_{pn}) + k \cdot t_{oc} + (k-1) \cdot t_c + (k-2) \cdot t_{wt}$$

(n is the number of buses)

$$t_w = (N'_1 + N'_2 + \dots + N'_n) \cdot t_{pe} + k \cdot t_{oc} + (k-1) \cdot t_c + (k-2) \cdot t_{wt} \tag{3}$$

$$t_{st} = t_w + t_{wt} + t_p + t_{oc} + t_c = (N'_1 + N'_2 + \dots + N'_n) \cdot t_{pe} + k \cdot t_{oc} + (k-1) \cdot t_c + (k-2) \cdot t_{wt} + N \cdot t_{pe} + t_{oc} + t_c$$

In peak hours, $N \equiv N_{on}$

$$N_{be} - N_{af} + N_{in} = N'_1 + N'_2 + \dots + N'_n + N \tag{4}$$

(N_{be} is the number of people at this station when this bus is there, N_{af} is the number of people at the station after this bus leave this station, N_{in} is the number of people entering the station during this period). We collected some data,

Table 1 : Observed Data.

Symbol	N_{be}	N_{off}	N_{in}	t_{pe}	k	t_{oc}	t_c	t_{wt}
Value	100	55	15	2	2	3.6	4	4

Field Survey 2011

$$\text{We have } t_{st} = t_w + t_{wt} + t_p + t_{oc} + t_c = (N_{be} - N_{af} + N_{in}) \cdot t_{pe} + (k+2) \cdot t_{wt} + (k+1) \cdot t_{oc} + k \cdot t_c = (100 - 55 + 15) \cdot (2) + (2+2) \cdot (4) + (2+1) \cdot (3.6) + 2 \cdot (4) = 164.8s$$

Data presented in line with real situation as obtainable in our case study (Lagos state), but based on successful experience of foreign countries, the average stopping time of BRT system is 40 seconds according to Jun & Kangming (2007). So for the existing public transport system, the stopping time is far too long, it will amount to inefficiency of this system.

By using

$$t_{st} = t_w + t_{wt} + t_p + t_{oc} + t_c$$

$$\text{then } (t_{st1} + t_{st2} + \dots + t_{stm})/m \leq 40 \text{ seconds}$$

(m is the number of stations for a route)

Hence, we plugged in the related data to calculate stopping time and control the number of passengers, and hence make the buses run more quickly and conveniently.

c) Institutional and Policy Issues

This section has thus far focused on the more technical, design, and operational aspects of bus rapid

transit systems, ranging from system requirements, available technologies and practices, system architecture, and simulation tools for system testing to evaluation. Miller (2001) and Miller & Buckley (2001) stated that the implementation of bus rapid transit systems traverses numerous stages of system design, development, testing (simulation and field), evaluation, and deployment culminating in a completed and fully operational system. Moreover, all these activities take place in a context with organizational stakeholders participating at various levels. As each stage of BRT implementation proceeds through its more technological, design, and operational aspects, questions may arise concerning the impacts of actions to be taken or decisions to be made. These impacts are often of a non-technical nature and are referred to as institutional issues. Such less technical or operational questions and issues resulting from them need to be

considered and addressed as well to successfully implement a bus rapid transit system.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Fare collection system should facilitate multiple door boarding, at least at major stops during busy periods. Off-board collection (preferred) or on-board multipoint payment should be encouraged to alleviate the challenge occasioned by poor ticketing option currently adopted in our case study. Even the recently proposed newly introduced e-ticketing payment system into the public BRT, which is supposed to put end to the current use of paper payment system will not help to put to abeyance this challenge of time-loss occasioned by validation of tickets. Marketing should emphasize the unique features of BRT such as speed, reliability, service frequency and span, and comfort. We therefore recommend that the adopted deployment which is partial in nature should be revisited with a view to revisit the ticketing regime. We hereby recommend as a way out of the time-loss challenge the need for deployment and full implementation of e-ticketing that allows for the tickets to be obtained without stress to the commuters and also reduce drastically the queue generated by this exercise and the need for checking officers on board to carry out their traditional role of inspection of the tickets to ascertain if valid for the trip or not.

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Post-Cold War Conflicts: Imperative for Armed Humanitarian Intervention

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Abstract - Contrary to the predictions that wars would become obsolete in the post-Cold War world, they rather shifted dramatically from inter-state to increasingly intra-state manifestations. The world since then has become racked by ethnic and nationalist violence. The tragedies and gruesome atrocities concomitant with these eruptions have pushed the imperative for humanitarian intervention to the fore of contemporary international politics and practice, provoking a shift on the international right and necessity of using military force to protect civilians within sovereign states. A novel acceptance has now made its foray into the international scene, which is of emblematic significance for the evolving international humanitarian regime, that a war against a sovereign state can be initiated and justified on humanitarian grounds. The task of situating the imperative for armed humanitarian intervention within the context of the compelling nature and character of the post-Cold War conflicts engages the concern of this study. The paper posits that notwithstanding the fluidity of the concept, chances of misuse and the abounding probabilities of abuse in its practice, humanitarian intervention have in this age, carved a niche for itself, given the bloodbaths and horrendous genocidal incidences that have both wrecked and defined the post-Cold War world.

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Post-Cold War Conflicts: Imperative for Armed Humanitarian Intervention

Chuka Enuka

Abstract - Contrary to the predictions that wars would become obsolete in the post-Cold War world, they rather shifted dramatically from inter-state to increasingly intra-state manifestations. The world since then has become racked by ethnic and nationalist violence. The tragedies and gruesome atrocities concomitant with these eruptions have pushed the imperative for humanitarian intervention to the fore of contemporary international politics and practice, provoking a shift on the international right and necessity of using military force to protect civilians within sovereign states. A novel acceptance has now made its foray into the international scene, which is of emblematic significance for the evolving international humanitarian regime, that a war against a sovereign state can be initiated and justified on humanitarian grounds. The task of situating the imperative for armed humanitarian intervention within the context of the compelling nature and character of the post-Cold War conflicts engages the concern of this study. The paper posits that notwithstanding the fluidity of the concept, chances of misuse and the abounding probabilities of abuse in its practice, humanitarian intervention have in this age, carved a niche for itself, given the bloodbaths and horrendous genocidal incidences that have both wrecked and defined the post-Cold War world.

I. INTRODUCTION

International law has recently begun to fundamentally revise its traditional prohibition against military intervention in the wake of the recent wave of terrorism by states against their own people. The principles of sovereignty and non-intervention have long been bedrocks of the traditional Westphalian state system. Geared towards the maintenance of order and stability in the international system, these principles have frowned at foreign interference in the domestic affairs of states. But in today's world where many leaders, lacking popular sovereignty in their countries, have depended on coercion and intimidation of political opponents to stay in power, external intervention into domestic matters of sovereign states seems to have been a welcome development. The non-intervention norm of the Westphalian state system has therefore, meant the protection of the cruel and oppressive leaders at the face of massive human right abuses. Since the end of the cold war, the issues of human rights and state collapse have been brought to the center of international relations¹. Starting from 1991 US-led operations to protect the Kurds of Northern Iraq and the Shi'a of

Southern Iraq respectively from Saddam Hussein's intolerable repression, humanitarian intervention has emerged as a key policy option for international organizations, coalitions of states, regional organizations and big powers. For humanitarian purposes, the belief that governments have right, even obligation to intervene in the affairs of other states has won advocates, and today international law has defined military intervention as a right and duty to alleviate human suffering, stop genocide and ethnic cleansing, and prevent the repression by states of basic human rights and civil liberties². Sovereignty no longer seemed sacrosanct. The world has made a choice on genocide, declaring organized savagery illegal. Against the Westphalia principle, what a state does within its own boundaries is no longer entirely its own business. The years since the post-cold war have seen the rise of universal endorsed principles of conduct, defining humanitarian intervention as a legal right to protect human rights by punishing acts of genocide and by interpreting intervention as "a spectrum of possible actions ranging from diplomatic protest to military invasion, even occupation"³. Given this backdrop, this paper argues that the nature of the post-Cold War world, and the character of the new kind of conflicts concomitant with it, fuels the imperative for armed humanitarian intervention in states where such gross abuse and violation of human rights that shocks the conscience of mankind, has become evident.

II. HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION: A CONCEPTUAL ANALYSIS

On the definition of humanitarian intervention, Keohane⁴ wrote "Arguments burn fiercely...on the subject" And Welsh⁵ added that "the issue of humanitarian intervention has generated one of the most heated discussions in international relations over the past decades among both theorists and practitioners" As defined by Brownlie, humanitarian intervention is the use of armed force by states or an international organization, with the objective of protecting humanitarian right⁶. It is to respond militarily or non-militarily where victims of conflict are calling out for help, where human beings are suffering and dying regardless of borders. Lang⁷ captures it as the use of military forces to provide aid, ensure the protection of rights, and or enforce a peace settlement without the express permission of the political authority of the state in which

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the intervention occurs. Clearly, the whole basis for humanitarian intervention is provided by prior agreement about the existence of Universal Human Rights, International Bill of Human Rights as embodied in articles 55 and 56 of the United Nations charter. The Article 55(c) states that "The United Nations shall promote universal respect for, and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion" Article 56 states that "All members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action for the achievement of the purpose set for in Article 55."⁸ Stemming from this view, Nick conceptualizes humanitarian intervention as a response to denial or violation of universal human rights. The widely accepted definition of humanitarian intervention is that provided by Verwey:

*The threat or use of force by a state or states abroad, for the sole purpose of preventing or putting a halt to a serious violation of fundamental human rights, in particular the right to life of persons, regardless of their nationality, such protection taking place neither upon authorization by relevant organs of United Nations nor with the permission by the legitimate government of the target state.*⁹

Verwey stressed that the motive of humanitarian intervention should be solely humanitarian. This strict stipulation disqualifies any intervention as 'humanitarian' considering the political interests and processes that are also certain to be involved in practice. Other scholars like Wheeler and Teson¹⁰ object to this strict emphasis on motive as they argue that this approach takes the intervening state as referent object for analysis rather than the victims who are rescued as a consequence of the use of force. This brings to the fore, the question of what counts as humanitarian, and the question of the universality of human rights. Despite the frequent use of the term, a consensus on its one and consistent definition seems to be difficult. Isaac¹¹ defines humanitarianism as a feeling of concern for and benevolence toward fellow human beings. He went further to say that it is a universal phenomenon manifested globally and throughout the ages. Ramsbotham and Woodhouse link humanitarianism with international humanitarian law of armed conflict, international human rights law and emergency aid¹². But what level of humanitarian suffering requires outside intervention? Wheeler refers to what he called 'supreme humanitarian emergency'¹³ to describe a situation of extreme human suffering wherein the only hope of saving lives depends on outsiders coming to the rescue. He admits however, that there is no objective criteria for determining what counts as a supreme humanitarian emergency. Kabia defines humanitarian emergency to mean a situation of excessive violation of human rights by a repressive government or cases of uncontrolled anarchy and mass murder caused by conflict and or state collapse¹⁴.

Within the ambit of this conceptual discourse, another controversy throws itself open when reference is made to human rights. The controversial debate revolves mainly between those Kabia calls the *Universalists* and the *Cultural Relativists*¹⁵. Proponents of the universality of human rights argue that human rights norms and standards are applicable to all human beings in all human societies, whatever geographical or cultural circumstances and whatever local traditions and practices may exist. The main challenge to the notion of universality of human rights comes principally from Asia, Middle East and Africa. Advocates of cultural relativism claim that most or some of the rights and rules about morality are encoded in and thus depend on cultural context. Hence, notions of right and wrong and moral rules differ throughout the world because cultures in which they take root are different. To them, international human rights instruments and their pretensions to universality may suggest primarily the arrogance of cultural imperialism of the west. Practices considered violations of human rights in one part of the world may be viewed differently elsewhere. Be that as it may, while accepting the argument that human rights should be culturally sensitive, this study holds the view that there are minimum standards of human rights to be respected across the world. This includes the right to life, freedom of association, and movement etc.

Verwey's conceptualization of humanitarian intervention also rules out intervention by the UN and confines practice to action taken by individual states or groups of states without UN authorization¹⁶. While this form of intervention is still prevalent as evidenced by the recent US/British led intervention in Iraq, recent interpretation of the concept has expanded the agents to include regional organizations and action taken by the UN¹⁷. From its inception in 1945, the UN anticipated the involvement of such organizations in the maintenance of global peace. Chapter VIII of the UN Charter acknowledges the importance of such groupings and urges member states to seek pacific settlement of local disputes through such regional arrangements or by such regional agencies before referring them to the Security Council. Ramsbotham and Woodhouse further expanded the agencies to include NGOs and UN aid organizations like the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and UN Children's Fund, UNICEF¹⁸. Though intervention undertaken with the consent of the state is ruled out in Verwey's conceptualization of humanitarian intervention, nevertheless, post-cold war understanding of the concept and practice includes both. In most of the missions there is hardly a government with effective authority extending beyond the capital city. The threat or use of force has been a qualifying element of humanitarian intervention. The post-cold war conceptualization of the practice extends to include non-forcible strategies aimed at alleviating the suffering of those caught up in the middle of cross-fire and

mechanisms to prevent a relapse into conflict¹⁹. This study adopts the definition of humanitarian intervention as an external involvement in a state, in deviation to the Westphalia tradition, on the excuse of humanitarian abuses, uncontrolled anarchy, and mass murder caused by conflict or repressive regime.

The doctrine of humanitarian of humanitarian intervention owes its origin to the just war tradition. The doctrine as it is known today, has been shaped through the ages by contributions of lawyers, philosophers, theologians and politicians, dating back to Roman times²⁰. However, Christian conception of just war theory forms the core of just war theory, and had great influence on the present day conception of humanitarian intervention. Early Christians were predominantly pacifists. The increasing political and social influence of the church led Christian theologians to work on justifications for the use of force. This eventually developed over time in the form of just war theory. Modern and secular conception of humanitarian intervention dates back to the seventeenth century, and has been credited to the Dutch international lawyer, Hugo Grotius. In *De Jure Belli est Pacis*, Grotius put forward the proposition that outside countries can legitimately intervene to stop human rights abuses in a neighbouring state²¹. This proposition unleashed a heated debate among international lawyers of the eighteenth century. The first recorded case of humanitarian intervention came in 1827 when Britain, France and Russia intervened to protect the Greek Christians in the Ottoman Empire. Again, in 1860, France was authorized by other European powers to intervene in the Ottoman Empire to save the Maronite Christians in Syria against suppression in practicing their traditional religion. Other nineteenth century cases include Russia in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Bulgaria (1877), and the United States in Cuba in 1898²². The cold war era witnessed several instances of humanitarian intervention. The most cited cases are Tanzania in Uganda, in 1979 to oust the despotic and tyrannical regime of the dreaded Idi Amin. Vietnam also intervened in Cambodia in the same year. India intervened in East Pakistan to in 1971 to rescue its population from the intolerable repression of West Pakistan. Although the humanitarian outcomes of these interventions are apparent, the interveners were hesitant to declare them humanitarian interventions. This reflected the international uneasiness with the practice then. However, at the end of the cold war, there appears to be an international consensus in support of humanitarian intervention as evidenced by the unprecedented support to rescue the Kurds and Shiites in Iraq in 1991. Besides rescuing civilians from repressive regimes, the demands of the post-cold war era have also drawn humanitarian interveners into

situations that has been dubbed complex political emergencies, where conflict of multidimensional nature combines overwhelming violence with large scale displacement of people, mass famine, fragile and failing economic, political and social institutions, as has been the experience in Kosovo, Rwanda, Sudan, East Timor, Bosnia and other parts of Africa, Asia and Europe, where the cases have been breakdown of government authority and massive human rights abuses.

III. NATURE AND CHARACTER OF THE POST-COLD WAR WORLD

The post Cold War world is unarguably a world of wars and conflicts. The defining characteristic of the post-cold war era is unarguably that of increased civil wars and intra-state conflicts. Observing that the era of big wars between states in the world system seems to have been over, Shaw stated "A defining feature of world politics since the late 20th Century is the decline in frequency of warfare between states in the international system"²³. This observation is particularly striking given the long history of warfare between and among states in Europe, East Asia and the North Atlantic regions in the centuries prior to the 21st²⁴. In the 15 years period between 1990 and 2005, only four of the active conflicts were fought between states: Eritrea-Ethiopia (1998-2000); India-Pakistan (1990-1992, and 1996-2003); Iraq-Kuwait (1991), and UK-Australia (2003)²⁵. The remaining conflicts, 172 in number were fought within states. It makes sense to assert from the strength of the above observation that intra-state conflicts and internal wars increasingly define the post-cold war global landscape. The end of the cold war has been characterized by a wave of violent civil wars and armed conflicts that have produced unprecedented human catastrophe and suffering. Although mostly intra-state, these conflicts have spread across borders and threatened international peace and security through mass refugee flow, proliferation of light arms and the rise of local mercenary groups. However beneficial the end of the cold war has been in other respects, it has far reaching negative implications on conflicts. Inter-alia, it has let lose a global deluge of surplus weapons into a setting in which the risk of local conflict appears to have grown markedly. Since the end of cold war, from the Balkans to East-Timor, and throughout Africa, the world has witnessed an outbreak of ethnic, religious, and sectarian conflicts characterized by routine massacre of civilians. More than 100 conflicts erupted between 1990 and 2000, about twice the number for previous decades²⁶. These wars have killed people in tens of millions, devastated entire geographic regions, and left many more millions of refugees and orphans. Little of the destruction was inflicted by the tanks, artillery or aircraft

usually associated with modern warfare rather most was carried out with pistols, machine guns and grenades. During the cold war period, International Relations theorists and Strategic Studies analysts were preoccupied with inter-state wars and the bipolar confrontation between the East and West. However, the post-cold war period witnessed the eruption of new forms of conflicts, which do not fit into the traditional classifications. Terminologies to describe such conflicts include "Protracted social conflict"²⁷, "International social conflicts"²⁸, and "Complex political emergencies"²⁹. These 'new wars' according to Kaldor, "involve a blurring of the distinctions between wars...organized crime...and large-scale violations of human rights."³⁰ However, Smith³¹ dismisses 'the new' war thesis and posit that vicious civil wars sustained by identity politics, supported by diasporas and waged by paramilitary gangs, have rumbled on from one decade to the next. He went on to argue that post-cold war interest in civil wars amongst international relations theorists was a product of cold war displacement. While we accept that Smith's argument makes sense, in that intra-state war is not a new phenomenon, however, significant changes can easily be seen in the goals of, and tactics used by warring groups in many parts of the world where intra-state conflict has been the experience. Most intra-state conflicts during the cold war period were either liberation struggles or proxy wars. But at the end of the cold war we saw the emergence of new forms of struggles and warlordism. The post-cold war conflicts are characterized by unspeakable acts of violence and brutality. The rape, mass burial of living humans in a single grave, torture, widespread burning and destruction of property as was seen in Kosovo, Bosnia, Sudan etc, represents examples of what takes place in the post-cold war conflicts. In explaining the violence that gripped the post-cold war world, Robert Kaplan, interpreted it as new barbarism, an expression of senseless and irrational convulsions of violence, and a return to medieval forms of tribal war and warlordism³². Despite their seemingly internal nature, they have regional and international dimensions and ramifications evidenced by the destabilizing effects of small arms proliferation, mass refugee flow and cross border conflagrations.

The explanation for these conflicts, their character, and their frequency is *wombed* in the character and nature of the post-cold war world. The cold war, for all its risks and costs, and despite the reality of proxy wars and the potential for global holocaust, was not without its stabilizing aspects. Bipolarity or system based upon two poles, are arguably simpler and easier to manage than is the case in multipolarity, a system with multiple decision-making centers³³. Also the cold war was unique in that the fear of escalation to global nuclear war was an inhibiting

factor for both super powers. Rules of the road evolved, that limited the direct use of force by both countries, not only in Europe, but also in regional conflicts anywhere, lest they create circumstances where direct confrontation between them could arise. These rules also placed limits on what either super power could safely do in situations where the other had clear stakes. In the US-Soviet relationship, competition was structured and circumscribed, formally in the case of arms control, informally in the case of regional competition³⁴. But the end of the cold war altered much of this. First, the splitting up of blocs has resulted in a loss of political control. Decentralized decision-making and the diffusion of political authority increase rather than decrease the potential for international challenges and crises. Second, with the relaxation of external threats and alliance systems, and the erosion of both empires and multinational states, nationalism entered a new phase. Movements are defined more by ethnicity than by political ideology as warring groups turn their energies inward, against populations within their borders. Such struggles have fast become commonplace. The end of Europe's division and the demise of the Warsaw Pact provided an opportunity for Yugoslavs to redress long-held grievances. Similar sorting out of ethnic, political, and geographic questions can be seen in the former Soviet empire. The consequence is conflicts, especially of the kind within former states, frequently resulting in massive flows of refugees and human suffering on a major scale. The end of the cold war saw an era of intensification of international linkages, made possible by revolution in information technology. Since then, there has been a relative weakening of the state. Technology: television, computers, telephones, fax machines etc, increase the scope and impact of communications across state borders, making it much more difficult for governments to control what their citizens know and others know about them. These trends contribute to the difficulty and at times inability of existing governments to contend with challenges to their authority.

The end of the cold war saw a triumph of democracy and liberalization philosophy³⁵. Research and scholarship in International Relations has produced abounding evidence that there is a link between democracy, liberalization and conflict. In the statements of government policy makers and the writings of academics, especially in the 1990s, market democracy took on the qualities of a universal antidote to misery and conflict. Writing in 1995 for example, Larry Diamond posited that "Democratic governments do not ethnically cleanse their own populations, and they are much less likely to face ethnic insurgency."³⁶ Reiterating this position, Boutros Ghali in his *Agenda for Peace* expressed that "The practice of democracy is increasingly regarded as essential to progress on a wide

range of human concerns and to the protection of human rights.”³⁷ These human rights, he explained include “interstate and intra-state peace...” However, there are reasons to doubt that liberalization fosters peace. Although most liberal peace scholars tend to ignore this issue, a few have not, and their findings suggest that transitional countries may be prone to internal conflict³⁸. During the 1990s the world celebrated a series of democratic transitions in post-communist and developing nations, and the resultant effect was that the new, weak democracies proved more likely to fall into conflict under pressures of ethnic rivalries, demagogue politics, and the hardships of simultaneous political and economic transitions³⁹. There is a pool of evidence in which states between autocracy and democracy are more prone to war⁴⁰. Such states have a mix of democratic and autocratic features in a single political system, a condition that Lacinia calls *anocracy*⁴¹, i.e those that are passing through eras of political instability and transformation, and those that are simply weak states where would-be authoritarians cannot quite destroy the opposition. It makes sense therefore, to say that the spread of democratic transitions worldwide since the end of the cold war is the explanation for the prevalence of conflicts that painted the image of the era. The end of the cold war paved way for the dramatic changes in the world. A world hitherto driven by the divisions of ideology was to be integrated by markets and technology. Structural adjustment and the logic of the market, debt crisis and marginalization have all been intensified by the globalization process⁴². The current phase of globalization is accompanied by intensification of the structural adjustment programme and other economic reforms dictated by the IMF and the World Bank. These reforms aggravated the poor economic conditions of the people, causing impoverishment and desperation, which become a major cause of conflict in many countries. Against the Liberal bourgeois theoretical contentions, globalization has deepened economic underdevelopment, resulting to the emasculation of its provisioning power. Systemic frustration on its own ordinarily engenders aggression on the part of the frustrated. Problem thus arises for the political system when the disgruntled and the frustrated members of the polity are able to establish a linkage between their material depravity and the political system⁴².

IV. DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS OF POST-COLD WAR CONFLICTS AND THE IMPERATIVE FOR HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION

These conflicts and internal wars of the post-cold war era, have many other defining characteristics, centering on salient issues of ethnic groups seeking greater autonomy or striving to create an independent

state for themselves, such as the Kurds in Turkey, Chechens in Russia; religious conflicts involving especially intra-religious armed disputes between two or more sects of the same religion; failed states, where the authority of a national government has collapsed and armed struggle has broken out between the competing ethnic militias, warlords, or criminal organizations seeking to obtain power and establish control of the state; impoverished states, where there exists a situation of individual hardship or severe dissatisfaction with one's current situation, as the World Bank describes the syndrome, “Low-income countries, where about a billion people live, face greatest risk of civil war, about 15 times that of high income countries.”⁴⁴ The post-cold war intra-state conflicts have the tendency for countries that have experienced one armed conflict to undergo two or more subsequent eruptions. The eruptions are with seemingly endless repetition. Moreover, the average duration of internal armed conflicts increased, once they erupt. As Hironaka noted, intra-state conflicts dominate the global terrain because they start and re-ignite at a higher rate than they end, and they last longer⁴⁵. The examples of long-lasting civil wars in Burundi, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, and Kosovo, bear this out. Unlike classical conception of war which is fought between armies, a shocking feature of the post-cold war armed conflicts is that warring factions often deliberately target vulnerable groups of civilians and humanitarian aid workers. Another noteworthy characteristic of the post-cold war wars and conflicts is their severity. The number of lives lost in intra-state violence has always been very high, and casualties from conflicts since the post-cold war era have increased at alarming rates. As Kegley put it, “The most lethal civil wars in history have erupted recently.”⁴⁶ He went further to contain that “The cliché that the most savage conflicts occur in the home, captures the ugly reality as genocide and mass slaughter aimed at depopulating entire regions have become commonplace in recent civil wars”. That grim reality was illustrated by the Rwandan genocidal conflict, where the Hutu government orchestrated a genocidal slaughter resulting in the murder of about one million predominantly Tutsi and moderate Hutu people in a matter of months⁴⁷. Sudan provides another horrifying example of the mass slaughter of civilians that often occurs when governments seek to keep power by destroying minority opposition groups. The Arab-controlled Sudanese government, and government-backed *Janjaweed*, which seized power in 1989, suspended democracy, and undertook a divide-and-destroy campaign of state-sponsored terrorism against the black Christian peoples living in southern Darfur region. By 2006, at least about 3 million people were slaughtered and another 4 million became displaced refugees⁴⁸. As Scott would say, Darfur reveals the hollowness of the post-Holocaust promise of “never again.”⁴⁹

The conflicts of the post-cold war times have yet another characteristic: resistance to negotiated settlement. Study by Kegley⁵⁰, reveals that making peace is difficult among rival factions that are struggling for power, driven by hatred and poisoned by the inertia of prolonged killing that has become a way of life. Few domestic enemies fighting in a civil conflict have succeeded in ending the combat through negotiated compromise at the bargaining table. Most intra-state wars end on the battlefield, but rarely with a decisive victory of one faction over another⁵¹. For this, fighting often resumes after a temporary cease-fire.

In the light of the raging nature and character of the post-cold war conflicts, this study maintains that armed humanitarian intervention is imperative. Sovereignty no longer seemed sacrosanct. Sacrosanct legal principles can be trumped in the name of necessity. Among other things, developments since the 1990s, and the character of the post-Cold War world order which is that of incessant and internecine killings and bloodbath resulting from un-numbered intra-state squabbles and rancorous ethnic contestations, have contributed to the new sense of when and how to intervene. Crucially, it created a new precedent in international sovereignty⁵². Doyle argues that some civil wars become so protracted that a common sense of sympathy for the suffering of the noncombatant population calls for an outside intervention to halt the fighting in order to see if some negotiated solution might be achieved under the aegis of sovereign arms⁵³. Looking at such instances in most of the post-cold war conflict in which massacres become commonplace, it will be immoral for states not to intervene. The Rwandan genocidal conflict featured an estimated 43,000 Tutsis killed in Karama Gikoongoro, 100,000 massacred in Butare, over 16,000 people killed around Cyanguu; 4,000 in Kibeho; 5,500 in Cyahinda; 2,500 in Kibungo. In Taba, the Hutu militia group, *Interahamwe*, killed all male Tutsis, forced the women to dig graves to bury the men, and then threw the children in the graves. One woman survivor recalled "I will never forget the sight of my son pleading with me not to bury him alive. He kept trying to come out and was beaten back. And we had to keep covering the pit with earth until there was no movement left."⁵⁴ Hundreds of bloated and mutilated body floated on, and passed down the rivers on daily basis. Within the three short months of genocidal madness that took over Rwanda, a total of one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed. As the Liberian conflict surged, Monrovia witnessed the worst death and destruction ever in that annals of that country. The streets became littered with corpses. The civilian survivors could not come out of their houses to even look for food. Those who wished to escape at that stage could not because the sea, air and land routes were closed. Everything in the country came to a halt. Only gun fighters ruled. It would have been indeed bad for the helpless and

hapless Liberian and Rwandan population entrapped in such humanitarian emergencies to be denied intervention based on the sacrosanct observation of charter provisions that tend to limit intervention.

Justification for humanitarian intervention is also predicated on the obvious fact of the United Nations incapacitation to handle the conflicts alone, given their increased frequency and nature. Referring to the compounded and multiple global conflicts of the post cold war era, which limited the United Nations' interventions into African conflicts, Jinmi Adisa wrote, "The international community...is faced with broad array of conflicts... the intensity of those problems and the demand that they impose on the global system, threaten to overwhelm the institutional capacity of the United Nations."⁵⁵ Should others standby and look, many of the states embroiled in intra-state conflicts would have been exterminated from the political map of the world. Beyond this, the complex challenges of these conflicts do adversely affect the regional neighbours of the affected states and equally threaten global security. Referring to the Liberian case in West Africa, Babangida of Nigeria stated that

*"...chances are that such instability would spread into other neighbouring countries in the West African region. We the West African leaders said we were not going to allow such a thing to happen...Something has got to be done and this is what motivated everybody to get into Liberia."*⁵⁶

At the regional level, neighbouring states suffer from the devastating effect of massive refugee flow, spread of light weapons, local mercenaries and economic dislocation. Armed groups and local mercenaries use refugees as a cover to launch cross border attacks. At the global level, neglected internal conflicts even in the remote parts of the world can have negative impact on world peace and security. Reports have linked conflicts within states to the growing problem of international terrorism. Kabia contains that there existed a relationship between the RUF, an insurgency group in the Sierra-Leone conflict and Al Qaida⁵⁷. This underscores the need for humanitarian intervention in the growing dangers of internal conflicts. The obvious threats posed by internal conflicts to both regional and international stability suggests that they can no longer be regarded the internal affairs of the states in conflict. It should also be called to mind that most of the target states of humanitarian intervention are failed states lacking governments worthy of the protection of sovereignty. A government that is unable to offer protection to its citizens does not deserve the privileges and international recognition that comes with sovereignty.

V. A CRITIQUE OF POST-COLD WAR HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION

One possible objection to humanitarian intervention is that it makes intervention easier to undertake, and certainly easier to justify. There is an obvious danger here. Big countries like the United States can use humanitarianism as a pretext to justify aggressive actions that serve to advance its economic and geo-strategic position in the world. Great powers have long justified their self-interested acts in terms of a higher moral purpose⁵⁸.

"Perhaps the doctrine of humanitarian intervention is merely a way of excusing US aggression, and it should be viewed with the same cynicism that we now view Britain's 'white man's burden', France's 'Mission *civilisatrice*', the Soviet Union's 'defense of the Afghan people', or other great power rationalizations from previous eras."⁵⁹

The 2003 US invasion of Iraq and the extended war that followed has proven a vexing issue for the interventionist intellectuals. Some pro-interventionist figures have supported the Iraq war, since it was conducted against an obvious tyrant with a murderous record, Saddam Hussein. Long-standing neoconservative supporters of humanitarian intervention played a key role in organizing the Iraq war from within the Bush administration. And several Left-leaning figures supported the war, on the grounds that this was an authentic humanitarian action in defense of the Iraq people⁶⁰. Other interventionists however, opposed this particular intervention, particularly because they distrusted the motives of the Bush administration. And needless to say, the Iraq intervention occurred in a region, the Persian Gulf that was of obvious strategic and economic importance. The earlier arguments that humanitarian interventions do not involve selfish motive, great power interests are obscured by the Iraq case. As the Iraq war dragged on, and has produced negative effects from a humanitarian standpoint, the whole operation became more controversial for the general public and also for intellectual advocates of intervention. As Gibbs put it, the argument in favour of humanitarian intervention has been weakened by the Iraq experience⁶¹.

One of the requirements of the just war theory upon which humanitarian intervention is predicated is that of Right Intention. The requirement of right intention emphasizes that the intervener must have right and proper motivation which is to secure just cause and rescue those whose human rights are being massively violated. It has been contended that the reason for ECOWAS intervention into the Liberian conflict was beyond mere humanitarian factors⁶². Leaders like Babangida and Abacha were demonstrably accused of having vested personal interests in Liberia that sparked

their intervention interests, not necessarily the humanitarian debate⁶³. The just war demand of right intention is further than the simple restatement of the just cause criterion. According to St. Augustine, the intellectual grandfather of the just war thesis, the craving to hurt people, the cruel thirst for revenge, the unappeased and unrelenting spirit, savageness of fighting on, the lust to dominate and suchlike, are rightly condemned in wars⁶⁴. The intervention in Kosovo by NATO in 1999, was not motivated by genuine humanitarian objective, neither did it achieve an indubitable humanitarian ends. It exacerbated human rights abuses, spread the underlying conflict, and lowered the barriers to aggression everywhere⁶⁵. The principle of right intention in humanitarian intervention warns interveners against several misleading motives. The other element of right intention as suggested by Kant is that the intervener must, prior to intervening, commit itself to upholding, to the best of its ability, the norm of right conduct during war among others. It is difficult to admit that self-interest did not mix in the intervention by NATO into Serbia. If not, why must leaders of NATO countries justify sending young men and women to suffer and to die where no national interest is involved? Thus it is contended that the real motivation was to prove NATO credibility, and to cement American control over the newly expanded alliance, and to rub it in the face of Russia⁶⁶. As Hadjimichalis insists, "...humanitarian and ethical are well received and have a legitimate basis, they cannot convince us."⁶⁷ What was at stake in Kosovo was less the human rights of ethnic Albanians and much more geopolitical projects, and the project of USA global hegemony and the future political shape of Europe. Milosevic's policies provided an excellent opportunity to try out this new military dogma, the necessary companion of globalization. The long tradition of Marxist political economy and the notions like power, imperialism, barriers to capital accumulation and the like have been employed to situate NATO's presence and actions in Serbia. Thus Hadjimichalis concluded that the intervention was "...simply neo-imperialism which appeared clearly in the new NATO dogma signed by its...countries on the 50th NATO anniversary in Washington in May 1999 and practiced brutally in Yugoslavia."⁶⁸ We need to ask like Bideleux did what the relationship is between neo-liberal globalization and regional wars, since during the years of post-Cold War era, we have had more of such wars in all of which the USA was the leading actor?⁶⁹ What is the role of global financial institutions like the IMF in these wars, and particularly in the destruction of the former Yugoslav Republic?⁷⁰ What, and for whom, are the geopolitical benefits of the economic dependency of all former Soviet-dominated countries on international banks?⁷¹ In other to understand deeper things that border on the NATO's acclaimed humanitarian

intervention in Serbia in the acclaimed defense of the abused Kosovo Albanians, it is important to note that a particular characteristic of the former Yugoslavian Republic (especially Serbian part) is its non-alignment. There is strong belief in self-reliance and in independence from great powers, for which it has paid dearly since the Second World War when it broke away from the Soviet bloc. After 1989 and the defeat of Stalinist communism in Europe, all former socialist states became dependent ones, relying on foreign investors, on IMF, and the World Bank for their survival. This was less true of Yugoslavia, which managed to keep a relatively high standard of living, a strong cultural identity and a strong military presence in the Balkans. This was achieved via its policy of self-reliance, grounded partly in a developed industrial and agricultural base. In the neo-liberal globalized framework in which 'either you join or you will be wiped-out', the tendency became clear: the country turned a 'black hole' in the Balkans, a non-collaborating site of resistance among 'ready-to-give-all' neighbours. Human rights thus gave a cloak of legitimacy to more significant geopolitical reasons. Two points are in order: First, although Yugoslavia lacks important strategic resources, it possesses something more valuable for neo-imperialism: its strategic location in the middle of the historical road connecting Central Europe with the East and Black Sea. "This road is of a growing importance due to the future construction of new major oil and gas pipelines for the transportation of Russian resources from the Black Sea through the Belgrade plain to Central Europe and through Kosovo-Montenegro to the Adriatic sea."⁷² Secondly, political forces in Yugoslavia, including the democratic opposition, still belong to the communist, left-wing tradition of the Yugoslav route to socialism, which managed albeit with many deficiencies in social and regional equality, to promote a successful balance between central planning and market forces. It should be remembered that during the 1970s and early 1980s, the Yugoslav model was infant-gate of western planners, who saw it as the alternative to the authoritarian Soviet model. This tradition permitted Yugoslavia to remain, until this war, the only country in Europe unwilling to accept the neo-liberal capitalist model imposed by globalization. It became clear, therefore, that the combination of strategic location with a non pro-West government, the non-alignment tradition of the country plus the cultural-religious sympathy with Russians, could turn to a situation in which a crucial strategic area in central Europe could remain beyond the control of the USA-EU-NATO globalized interests. This researcher believes that the parallel project of neo-imperialism provides us with a possible explanation of NATO's war of intervention in Serbia. It also answers the question of why civilian infrastructure was destroyed. The country is now forced to turn to western banks and

financial institutions to rebuild what has been destroyed by NATO's bombs. Where neo-liberalism could not be imposed peacefully, it is now introduced by force, alongside the dependency of the country on Western interests. Even the involvement of Russia was due less to its cultural and religious links with Yugoslavia and more to its prime interest in the safeguarding of the oil route, the only valuable resource it can export. Russia is economically destroyed and totally dependent on the World Bank, while its army lacks the capacity of the past. So NATO and the USA, by playing the card of Yugoslavia's destruction, were also checking the various degrees of Russian resistance. The same is true of China. The bombs on the Chinese embassy in Belgrade were not an accident⁷³. The bombing happened while there was a major peace effort in progress, after the German initiative and the G8 formula for the UN Security Council. And it was a sign to Asia as to who has the upper hand in the new millennium.

VI. CONCLUSION

The whole basis for humanitarian intervention is provided by prior agreement about the existence of universal human rights as embodied in Articles 55 and 56 of the United Nations Charter. Article 55(c) states "The United Nations shall promote universal respect for, and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion", article 56 states, "all members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action for the achievement of the purpose set for in article 55". While subscribing strongly to the abounding chances and possibilities of abuse and misuse of the concept and practice of humanitarian intervention, this paper *thesizes* that given the reality of the global post Cold War era which featured a new pattern of conflicts, armed humanitarian intervention is imperative. Due mainly to the post Cold War disheartening situation of continued intra-state conflicts of internecine kinds with its concomitant devastating consequences on civilian population, especially women and children, the age long grasp of sovereignty as sacrosanct is being increasingly soft-pedaled. Compassion for the suffering of the helpless civilian population has evoked intervention and interference with the affairs of a state by another state, several states or a group of states. Where failed states exist, or genocide is threatened, outsiders should ignore sovereignty and assert a right to intervene to protect threatened people. Several responses to the question of humanitarian and recent states and international practice have indicated an emerging international consensus on humanitarian intervention. United Nations' response to India's invasion of East Pakistan in 1971, Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia in 1978, all reveal that the United Nations has been willing to acquiesce in unilateral and humanitarian intervention under certain

circumstances. The United Nations also acquiesced in military intervention by West African regional forces in Liberia in 1990 and in Sierra-Leone in 1997. NATO's intervention in Kosovo is adjudged not obviously illegal. Although the Security Council failed to endorse the action in advance, it did reject a resolution condemning it, and engaged in a form of retroactive endorsement through resolutions at the end of the conflict. The renewed global understanding on, and the perception of armed humanitarian intervention is well captured by the ex-Secretary General of U.N.O and ex-president of United States of America, Koffi Annan and Bill Clinton respectively: "Our job is to intervene: to prevent conflict where we can, to put a stop to it when it has broken out, or when neither of those things is possible, at least to contain it and prevent it from spreading." "...if somebody comes after innocent civilians and tries to kill them en masse because of their race, their ethnic background, or their religion, and it's within our power to stop it, we will stop it."⁷⁴

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Women Empowerment in Tamil Nadu Emerging Trends and State Initiatives

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Introduction - Women have had a long history in asserting their rights. It is a commonly accepted view that the male-dominated patriarchal society and power structure would usually keep the position of women low. This powerless situation of women has itself made them to look for a way out and liberation. Reformation thinking, feminist movements, freedom struggle have all contributed in awakening their consciousness. Women empowerment refers to strengthening women's position in social economic and political power structure of the society. It also implies capacity building with the leading role played by the State and non-state organizations.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Women have had a long history in asserting their rights. It is a commonly accepted view that the male-dominated patriarchal society and power structure would usually keep the position of women low. This powerless situation of women has itself made them to look for a way out and liberation. Reformation thinking, feminist movements, freedom struggle have all contributed in awakening their consciousness. Women empowerment refers to strengthening women's position in social economic and political power structure of the society. It also implies capacity building with the leading role plagued by the State and non-state organizations.

II. MODERN STATE AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

The modern state realized later that the women must be given their due. This state of development did not come up suddenly, there were a number of movements, struggles and society and the state. These led the modern states to upload equality of citizens and non-discrimination interims of gender. Besides, they follow protective discrimination for the welfare of the women. Modern states gradually realized the fact the women are powerless in relation to men in social, economic and political spheres. The emphasis is shifted from the concept of welfare to development and further to empowerment. Empowerment has its own economic, social and political dimensions.

The concept of women empowerment has been given much attention all over the world. Debates and writings are proliferating at global, national and local levels. International institutions, nations and non-governmental organizations have formulated policies, programmers and schemes for empowering women. They have found their own way for implementation with the support of the government. The state has abundance of policies that seek to achieve gender equality and to ensure empowerment of women, it seems that the source of empowerment remains confined to the domain of government A change in the social attitude towards women is also required for a meaningful achievement of empowerment of women.

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The subjugation of women to the oppressive order of society is clearly visible through different forms in both traditional and modern societies. During the eighteenth century, the west voices in Europe first paved the way for demanding women's rights. Since then a debate has been on between feminists and the state about the necessity of giving women their due civil, legal and political rights. By prolonged and intense struggle by women organizations in Europe and America throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries those women's demands have been met.

a) *Women's Liberation and Empowerment in India*

Movements in the West did affect India as well. Some of the liberal ideas like women's education were accepted. Reformist organizations such as the Brahma Samaj, the Prarthana smaj, the Arya Samaj and the Christian Missionaries all sought for women's liberation. As early in the nineteenth century, the colonial administration itself favored women's liberation within its agenda. Inspired by nationalist ideology, Indian women organized themselves into mahilla smites. The Indian National Congress itself organized women's wing and send delegation of women to England. In 1917, the congress session at Calcutta was presided over by Annie Besant and addressed by Sarojini Naidu with the presence of 400 women. The first national level women's organizations have become an imperative after that. Throughout the national movement, women's rights were addressed sympathetically. After independence and the end colonial rule, the new republic with written constitution assures equality of rights and special protection to women during the civil disobedience movement that the historic Karachi session of the INC in 1931 adopted a resolution of fundamental rights committing to the principal of equality to all its citizens irrespective of caste, creed or sex. This resolution was incorporated in the Constitution of India adopted in 1950. A report on women's role in planned economy was prepared under the guidance of Nehru as early in 1939.

A part from these developments, there was a general legal solution for the oppression of women in India. Women's welfare legislations in India were landmarks Empowerment. The sati Abolition act of 1829, the Hindu widow remarriage act of 1856, the Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1929. the Hindu women's Right to property act of 1937, the Hindu Marriage act of

1955, the Hindu Succession act of 1956, the suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women & Girls act of 1956-57, the Dowry prohibition act of 1961, the equal remuneration act of 1976. These legislations are the key instruments for improving the status of women in India. But most of them are limited to the Hindu women as Muslim women are limited to the Hindu women as Muslim women are governed by their own personal law. In fact, these measures set the Indian women in a better position as compared to the traditional society.

III. AGENDA FOR EMPOWERMENT

The United Nations declared 1975 as the International women's year. Subsequently the decade 1975-1985 was declared as International women's Decade. This led to a renewed interest in women's issues. The emergence of women's studies as an academic discipline is one of the achievements during this period. In 1979, the UN adopted a convention for the elimination of discrimination against women. This established not only an international bill of rights for women, but also an agenda for action by countries to guarantee the enjoyment of these rights. As one of the signatory nations, India was bound to follow the recommendations by suitable legislative and administrative action. The National Perspective Plan for Women in 1988 and the formation of National Commission for Women in 1992 are some of the steps in this direction. Since 1995, the Human Development Report has introduced Gender Development Index to measure the development of women in any country.

In 1992, women were given 33 percent reservation in local bodies through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendments. However, another effort for providing same amount of reservation in State Assemblies and Parliament is yet to be materialized. International agencies and Non-governmental organizations are taking leading participation in the empowerment process. They play a prominent role as mediators between the state and the grassroots women. The democratic institutions smoothly adopt the NGOs for implementing the schemes. In 2001, national policy for the empowerment of women was formulated. It increasingly involves the NGOs in the empowerment process. The emergence of self help groups and women entrepreneurs are the consequences of empowerment process. There is a qualitative shift from the elitist approach which was a characteristic during the pre-independence era.

a) Women Empowerment in Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu, a southern State of India having more than 30 million women, has had significant developments in the position of women. In ancient times women in general enjoyed dignity. They served as homemakers, literary and spiritual personalities, and

rulers as well. They also performed as good advisers for their spouse-kings. Till thirteenth century there was no caste discrimination. Most of the social evils prevailed in north India against womenfolk were absent in Tamil Nadu. Later, caste discrimination and gender inequality gradually infiltrated in the society. Consequently unequal power structure developed between men and women. The global and national women liberation thinking have had their corresponding impact on Tamil Nadu as well. Apart from the mainstream national movement, the so-called Dravidian Movement stressed women's liberation in broader perspective. As early in 1931, a Bill was introduced in the Madras Legislative Council by Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy to abolish Devadasi system (a kind of immoral traffic by religious sanction) Prevailing in Madras Presidency.

b) Empowerment in Progress

The State government has been set in impressive way to empower women through its policies, schemes and its liberal principles in involving non-governmental organizations. The State extends its welfare activities to women through the Department of Social Welfare. In 1983, a separate Corporation was established for the development of women (TNCDW), with a view to empowering the rural women. Since July 2006, this Corporation has been brought under the administrative control of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department in order to bring better coordination in implementing schemes meant for self help groups. In Tamil Nadu 30 per cent of seats are also reserved for women in education and employment since 1989.

Started in 1989 with the assistance of International Fund for Agricultural Development, the number of self help groups exceeds 3 lakes covering 50 lakes women. Following its success, 'Mahalir Thittam' was introduced in 1997 and is being implemented in partnership with NGOs and banks. Under this scheme, SHGs are formed and monitored through NGOs affiliated with the TNCDW. There are at present 638 approved NGOs under Mahalir Thittam. Training for the members and the group is given regularly. This women's development project focuses on the poor and disadvantaged women for providing social empowerment, economic empowerment and capacity building. Entrepreneurship development training programme is also in progress. The NGOs are also trained by the government. With the assistance of the World Bank, empowerment and poverty reduction programmes are being implemented. In Indian society, women and children have significant priority in all development efforts. In patriarchal societies, the quality of life of women will be determined by the economic factors as well as social and cultural factors, owing to their gender, they could not reap fruits of development on par with men. The plight of a rural women is far

worse than that of an urban women more cover, the excess burden of poverty has been borne by women because of responsibility of the survival of the household rests on the women Under these conditions women has to work for longer hours paid as well as unpaid and cut down her own consumption. Formulation and implementation of relevant strategies are needed to face the challenge of feminization of poverty.

c) NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development)

NABARD is set up as an apex development bank with a mandate for facilitating Credit flow for promotion and development of agriculture, small-scale industries, and cottage and village industries, handicrafts and cottage and village industries, handicrafts and other rural crafts. It has the mandate to support all other allied economic activities in rural areas, promote integrated and sustainable rural development and secure prosperity of rural areas.

d) Rural Development Activities NABARD'S Towards Self-Help Groups

In 1976 Prof. Mohammed Yusuf of Chittagong University in Bangladesh introduced the concept of 'Nijjenkori' means literally 'we do it ourselves' or 'self-help' stated the women's group and create thrift and savings among them. Now it has developed into a bank named Bangladesh Grameen Bank. These movements become a silent revolution within short span in the rural credit delivery system in many parts of the world. In India, NABARD has taken initiative to set up an action research project in 1987. This was aimed at providing financial services to the marginalized and neglected poor. In 1987 NABARD developed a delivery mechanism that encompasses financial relationship between informal organization of the poor like the self-help groups (SIGs) and formal organizations like banks. Consequently in 1992 like banks NABARD gave a fillip to the movement when it started the SHG-Bank linkage programme. This was the first major attempt to link the mainstream financial institutions with the informal groups thereby linking them with the market. Later on with the needed backup policy support from the reserve bank and the central Government, the SHG-Bank Linkage programme was launched by NABARD as a pilot project in February 1992. Encouraged by the success pilot project, the government of India also accorded importance to the programme of self-help groups as a tool for empowerment of rural people, increasing outreach of the banking system and alleviating poverty. The deposit and credit linkage program of NABARD actively engages themselves with facilitation group formation and group linkage for savings and deposits.

The self-help group has been defined by NABARD "as a group of about 20 people from a homogeneous class who come together for addressing

their common problems. They are encouraged to make voluntary thrift on a regular basis. They use their pooled resource to make small interest bearing loans to their members. The process helps them imbibe the prioritization of needs, setting terms and conditions and accounts keeping. It is gradually builds financial discipline in all of them. They also learn to handle resources of a size that is much beyond individual capacities of any of them. The SHG in certain multiples of the accumulate savings of the SHG. The banks loans are given without any collateral and at market continue to decide the terms of loans to their own members. Since the groups own accumulated savings are part and parcel of the aggregate loans made by the groups to their members, peer pressure ensures timely repayments". Forming and nurturing small, homogeneous and participatory self-help groups (SHG) of the poor has today emerged as a potent tool for human development. This process enables the poor; especially the women from the poor households, to collectively identify and analyses the problems they face in the perspective of their social and economic environment. It helps them to pool their meager resources, human and financial, and prioritize their use for solving their own problems.

e) Capacity Building

NABARD Sponsors capacity building programmes for various partners in the field of micro finance to sensitive and equip them with concept & nuances of SHG-Bank Linkage Programme". Besides it support to Government, NGO partners, NABARD coordinates micro finance efforts. Its other activities are providing Micro enterprise development programme for matured Shag's, Refinance support to banks for financing micro financing in India, Scheme for financing matured Shag's for farm production and investment activates and scheme for Capital/Equity support to Micro-finance institutions from MFDEF.

f) Success of SHG-Bank Linkage Programme

The SHG-Bank linkage programme launched by NABARD in 1992 continues to be the predominance. Micro-Finance model in the country. It is a proven method of financial inclusion, providing unplanned rural clientele with access to formal financial services from the existing bank in infrastructure.

g) Credit Linkage of SHG

During the year 68640 new SHG's were credit linked with banks as against 620109 during 2005-06 taking the cumulative number of credit linked SHG's to 2924973. The phenomenal outreach of the programme has enabled an estimated 409.5 lakhs poor households to gain access to MF from the formal banking system as on 31.3.2007 registering a growth of 24.2% over the previous year.

h) *Regional Spread*

In 2006-07 witnessed the spread of the MF programme in resource poor regions of the country indicating a marked shift from the initial concentrations in the southern region. The cumulative share of Non southern regions rose from 29% as on March 2001 to 48% as on March 2007. In order to reduce the regional imbalances in the spread of the SHG-bank programme, NABARD identified 13 states, which have a large production of the poor for focused attention. The Cumulative member of Shag's credit linked in these 13 states increased from 10.05 lakh in 2005-06 to 13.75 lakh in 2006-07, the number of Shag's credit linked in 13 priority states constituted 53.9% in the all India credit linkage of 6876408 Shag's. The concept to SHF has fully honored the needs, wisdom and discipline particularly of low income women, who were living under extreme economic pressure and uncertainties to manage their financial operations according to their day to day as well as their income generating needs. NABARD has enabled self help groups have become agents of empowerment promoting agencies in rural India. They have gained the momentum as a movement and they can make sustainable development a reality in rural areas. There should not be any discrimination amongst the members based on caste religion or political

affiliations. Empowerment among rural women through self-help groups can be significant step and a milestone in the history of rural development in our country suggestions.

IV. CONCLUSION

The emerging trends reveal certain significant development in the sphere of women empowerment in Tamil Nadu. With the help of state initiatives and the NGOs the empowerment process assumes positive achievement. The following points are obvious in the process of women empowerment in Tamil Nadu. Both tradition and modernity historically played a significant role in deciding the status of women in Tamil Nadu. Global and national policy decisions have had corresponding impact on the policy decisions of the state government. Tamil Nadu has its own social, economic, and political conditions apart from global and national trends for making policy decisions in empowering women. Non-governmental organizations have played a major role in implementing the policies in relation to women's empowerment. Empowerment of women is a level playing of various factors such as individual efforts, social attitude. State's initiative and the work of non-governmental organizations.

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- Line Spacing of 1 pt
- Large Images must be in One Column
- Numbering of First Main Headings (Heading 1) must be in Roman Letters, Capital Letter, and Font Size of 10.
- Numbering of Second Main Headings (Heading 2) must be in Alphabets, Italic, and Font Size of 10.

You can use your own standard format also.

Author Guidelines:

1. General,
2. Ethical Guidelines,
3. Submission of Manuscripts,
4. Manuscript's Category,
5. Structure and Format of Manuscript,
6. After Acceptance.

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- (c) Up to ten keywords, that precisely identifies the paper's subject, purpose, and focus.
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- (e) Resources and techniques with sufficient complete experimental details (wherever possible by reference) to permit repetition; sources of information must be given and numerical methods must be specified by reference, unless non-standard.
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27. Refresh your mind after intervals: Try to give rest to your mind by listening to soft music or by sleeping in intervals. This will also improve your memory.

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- Present a justification. Status your particular theory (es) or aim(s), and describe the logic that led you to choose them.
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Results:

The principle of a results segment is to present and demonstrate your conclusion. Create this part a entirely objective details of the outcome, and save all understanding for the discussion.

The page length of this segment is set by the sum and types of data to be reported. Carry on to be to the point, by means of statistics and tables, if suitable, to present consequences most efficiently. You must obviously differentiate material that would usually be incorporated in a study editorial from any unprocessed data or additional appendix matter that would not be available. In fact, such matter should not be submitted at all except requested by the instructor.

Content

- Sum up your conclusion in text and demonstrate them, if suitable, with figures and tables.
- In manuscript, explain each of your consequences, point the reader to remarks that are most appropriate.
- Present a background, such as by describing the question that was addressed by creation an exacting study.
- Explain results of control experiments and comprise remarks that are not accessible in a prescribed figure or table, if appropriate.
- Examine your data, then prepare the analyzed (transformed) data in the form of a figure (graph), table, or in manuscript form.

What to stay away from

- Do not discuss or infer your outcome, report surroundings information, or try to explain anything.
- Not at all, take in raw data or intermediate calculations in a research manuscript.



- Do not present the similar data more than once.
- Manuscript should complement any figures or tables, not duplicate the identical information.
- Never confuse figures with tables - there is a difference.

Approach

- As forever, use past tense when you submit to your results, and put the whole thing in a reasonable order.
- Put figures and tables, appropriately numbered, in order at the end of the report
- If you desire, you may place your figures and tables properly within the text of your results part.

Figures and tables

- If you put figures and tables at the end of the details, make certain that they are visibly distinguished from any attach appendix materials, such as raw facts
- Despite of position, each figure must be numbered one after the other and complete with subtitle
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- All figure and table must be adequately complete that it could situate on its own, divide from text

Discussion:

The Discussion is expected the trickiest segment to write and describe. A lot of papers submitted for journal are discarded based on problems with the Discussion. There is no head of state for how long a argument should be. Position your understanding of the outcome visibly to lead the reviewer through your conclusions, and then finish the paper with a summing up of the implication of the study. The purpose here is to offer an understanding of your results and hold up for all of your conclusions, using facts from your research and generally accepted information, if suitable. The implication of result should be visibly described. Infer your data in the conversation in suitable depth. This means that when you clarify an observable fact you must explain mechanisms that may account for the observation. If your results vary from your prospect, make clear why that may have happened. If your results agree, then explain the theory that the proof supported. It is never suitable to just state that the data approved with prospect, and let it drop at that.

- Make a decision if each premise is supported, discarded, or if you cannot make a conclusion with assurance. Do not just dismiss a study or part of a study as "uncertain."
- Research papers are not acknowledged if the work is imperfect. Draw what conclusions you can based upon the results that you have, and take care of the study as a finished work
- You may propose future guidelines, such as how the experiment might be personalized to accomplish a new idea.
- Give details all of your remarks as much as possible, focus on mechanisms.
- Make a decision if the tentative design sufficiently addressed the theory, and whether or not it was correctly restricted.
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- One research will not counter an overall question, so maintain the large picture in mind, where do you go next? The best studies unlock new avenues of study. What questions remain?
- Recommendations for detailed papers will offer supplementary suggestions.

Approach:

- When you refer to information, differentiate data generated by your own studies from available information
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- Submit to generally acknowledged facts and main beliefs in present tense.

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