

Glocalization Nature of COVID-19 Pandemic: The Nigerian Experience

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Abstract

COVID-19 has come as a global phenomenon with some globally agreed guidelines to curtail the pandemic, yet the approaches in each nation, localities, and communities differ, in order to embrace the peculiarities of local needs, which lead to the essentiality of the concept of glocalization. Although, the pandemic is global phenomenon, but the ideal approach and application is glocalized in nature. Nigeria nation adopts different measures to cushion the effect of the pandemic in accordance with WHO guidelines. The paper looks at the Nigerian experience and peculiarities as regards to the global standard. Primary and secondary source of data were utilized. The paper reveals some peculiarities in Nigerian localities in respect to face masking, lockdown order, hand washing, social distancing, palliative measures and other local innovations. The paper concluded that though, the vaccine for the pandemic has been detected globally but it has not been administered in Nigeria as of now, the citizens must continue to obey the WHO guidelines as they embrace the peculiarities of their local need.

Key words: COVID-19; Globalization; Glocalization; Localization; Nigeria; Pandemic

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1. INTRODUCTION

There is no doubt that Corona Virus Disease of the year 2019 (COVID-19) has come as a global disaster, despite its emanation from a city in China called Wuhan. It has come as a global phenomenon with some globally agreed guidelines to curtail the pandemic, yet the approaches in each nations, localities, and communities differ, in order to embrace the peculiarities of local needs, which lead to the essentiality of the concept of glocalization. Zharkeshov, (2015) was of the opinion that there is local origin for any global phenomenon which also has influence on each other. Odewale & Adepoju (2020) also opine that unless we begin to admit that our problems are not central and it cannot be solve centrally but at the source, place and by persons, where and whom is deeply felt, the fullness of good governance would still be a mirage. The COVID-19 index case was discovered in December 2019, in the city of Wuhan and within a short period of time, it became a global phenomenon by its spread across the continents and nations of the world including Nigerian nation.

The process of popularized concept of glocalization is inevitable; its relevancy in the field of humanities and social science is also enormous and cannot be overemphasized. More so, pandemics are no longer simply in the domain of public health and clinical medicine, but are social issue, developmental issue, and global security issue (Castillo-Chavez, Curtiss, Daszak, Levin, Patterson-Lomba, Perrings, & Towers, 2015). The impact of COVID-19 is not only on health issues but could also be viewed economically, politically, geographically, sociologically, psychologically, philosophically, culturally etc. The pandemic related crises have been associated with enormous negative impacts on health, economy, society and security of national and global communities. As well, they have caused significant political and social disruption. (Qiu, Rutherford, Mao, & Chu, 2017). It has a range of negative impact on the health, socio-economic, and political lives

of the people. Drake, Chalabi, & Coker, (2012) assert that pandemic events have a way of threatening almost all aspect of economic and social fabric. This Pandemic has constituted various negative impacts on Nigerians economically, politically, socially, psychologically, culturally etc since the index case in February, 2020. Moreover, after the declaration of corona virus outbreak as a pandemic by World Health Organization (WHO), the number one health global agency came up with certain universal measures as standards to check the widespread transmission of corona virus across the globe. The agency developed the global safety protocols and guidelines on the rational use of Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) strategies in health care and general community settings. The WHO protocols and behavioural standards were subjected to serial modifications by almost all the affected nations to suit the peculiarities of their population, basic social amenities, technological development, temperate, geographical location, economy and environmental conditions, in which Nigeria is not an exception. The primary function of any government is to provide essential services and to ensure the security of lives and property (Odewale & Badejo, 2018). In order to discharge this obligation, all concerned government agencies, both at the national and sub-nationals were on their toes in order to tackle the pandemic. Nigeria adopts different measures to cushion the effect of the total lockdown imposed on the citizens as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic such as palliatives distribution, home feeding of school children, and monetary assistance. To check the widespread transmission of COVID-19 pandemic both the Federal and State government issued directives in terms of preventive and precautionary measures such as hand washing, social and physical distancing, wearing of face masks etc. These preventive measures witnessed personal modifications across border lines. In view of the foregoing, this paper intends to look at the glocalization nature of this pandemic and explore the variations in multidimensional measures and approaches adopted to stem the spread of COVID-19 pandemic as it applies to Nigerian nation. Although, the COVID-19 pandemic is a global phenomenon, but the ideal approach and application is glocalized in nature. It is also expedient for all nations, but especially for developing nation like Nigeria to take into cognizance the slogan “Think global, act local”, in all the strata of governance in order to efficiently integrate global networking so as to adequately provide response to local needs.

2. METHODOLOGY

Both primary and secondary source of data were used. The Primary data were gathered through observation and interview methods. The secondary data were sourced through the use of content analysis of documents.

3. CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATION

3.1 Glocalization

The concept of glocalization is believed to have been derived from the Japanese word “dochakuka” which originally meant to adapt farming technique to one’s own local condition. Grigorescu & Zaif (2017) observed that it firstly appear in a publication of Harvard Business Review, conducted by Japanese scholar, Robertson in late 1980s. Robertson, (1995) alluded to the fact that glocalization blends local elements into global themes, products or services while globalization just aim at full homogenization of products or services.

Matusitz (2009) refers to glocalization as “the interface of the global and the local”. The interface between globalization and localization leads to the process of glocalization considering the political, socio-economic, cultural preferences and particular needs of the society. Grigorescu & Zaif (2017) defined glocalization as a process of “providing a global offer (brand, idea, product, service, etc), while taking local related issues into account. He also emphasizes that glocalization should not be regarded as a replacement for globalization, but as a process that gives unique, innovative and new insights that should be incorporated in the global marketing strategy.

Kraidy (2001) explicates the dynamism of glocalization in norms and practices, as the process of balancing convergence and divergence, cultural homogenization and heterogenization, universalism and particularism, standardization and adjustment, and above all, still be conscious of local needs. Maynard, & Tian (2004) defines glocalization as “the ability of a culture, when it encounters other strong cultures, to absorb influences that naturally fit into and can enrich culture, to resist those things that are truly alien, and to compartmentalize those things that, while different, can nevertheless be enjoyed and celebrated as different”.

Giampietro (2016) defines glocality as “experiencing the global locally or through local lenses (which can include local power relations, geopolitical and geographical factors, cultural distinctiveness, and so on)”. Each glocality is unique in many ways, and yet each is reciprocally influenced by global trends and global consciousness (Meyrowitz, 2005). Glocalization, is also seen as “a soft and subtle colonialism, a top-down adaption to the local, while still maintaining an unbalanced relation with the local, which remains subordinate to the glocal” (Ritzer 1993, 2003).

3.2 The Interlink among Glocalization, Globalization and Localization

Robertson (1994) asserts that the concept of globalization as the conflation of both universalizing and particularizing tendencies. In the same vein, Grigorescu & Zaif (2017) see globalization as “the tendency toward an international integration of goods, technology, information, labor,

capital, or the process of making this integration". While Eric, (2007) sees it as the "dynamics between cultural homogenization and heterogenization" in the same vein, Swyngedouw (1995) & de Nuve, (2007) agree that it is a "co-optation of the global and the local". Globalization is based on the omnipresence of corporate processes and worldwide standardization. Much more, glocalization embraces the peculiarities of local needs and details of a global idea, whereas globalization is based on the omnipresence of corporate processes and worldwide standardization (Kraidy, 2001). Robertson (1992), see glocalization as a way concept of globalization really operates. Grigorescu & Zaif (2017) see Localization as "the process of adapting a product or service to a particular culture, language, developing a local appeal and satisfying local needs"

The new trend of glocalization is trying to encourage the international organizations and institutions to "think global, and, act local", by globalizing the outfit, but tailored down its activities to meet specific local necessities.

Nevertheless, different scholars have analyzed the concept as an autonomous concept and not just mere appendage of globalization, cosmopolitanization, or theories of global diffusion (Giampietro, 2016). Giampietro also alludes to the fact that glocalization cannot be final or comprehensive without reconsidering its relationship with globalization which is seen as its older and far more established sibling. These Principles have been recognized and implemented by some international managerial authorities, worldwide organizations, religious enterprises such as Eastern Orthodox Christianity, Coca-Cola, McDonalds etc., despite the original standardization, local preferences is still taken into account (Giampietro, 2016).

Robertson (2013), asserts that it is only the glocal that exists, we are neither global nor local anymore, because the long historical struggle between global and local which resulted to loss on both sides gave birth to glocal, which is the interface between the two. In his view, glocalization emerges as a result of failure of globalization; globalization does not produce uniformity but differences and fragmentation of the world into a multitude of glocal realities. Ritzer (2003) also agrees that pure global and local no longer exist anymore. "Perhaps, the (conventional) pure local existed at one time; but, with the advent of capitalism, it disappeared after having lost the struggle with globalization". In the same vein, Schütte (2015) observes that the world was more globalized in the colonial period than it is today due to its homogenization tendency. Patel, & Lynch (2013) assert that "*Glocal* and *glocalization* refer to the merger of global and local perspectives on the socio-economic and political impact of all phenomenon that affects local and global communities". Boyd (2006) and Khondker

(2004) assert that "glocalization is a good description of blending and connecting local and global contexts while maintaining the significant contributions of the different cultural communities and contexts".

Backhaus & Ejderyan (2007) assert that institutionally, the concept of glocalization could be noticeable when local governments (municipalities, regions, etc.) take action to establish themselves as actors on the global stage. Glocalization is seen as a conceptual framework to help alleviate the difficulties of global-local (macro-micro) relationship by making a blend to accommodate each other.

3.3 Pandemic

The word "Pandemic" originated from the Greek words "pan" and "demos". Pan means "all" and demos mean "the people". The word is usually referred to a widespread of epidemic and contagious disease across a nation or one or more continents at the same time (Honigsbaum, 2009). The Epidemiology Dictionary defines Pandemic as "an epidemic occurring worldwide, or over a very wide area, crossing international boundaries and usually affecting a large number of people". Harris (2000) defines Pandemic as an epidemic affecting a large number of people spread over borders and boundaries worldwide. The consensus among the several scholars is that pandemic is an epidemic that affects a large number of people in a large geographical area.

Pandemic has some features which help to understand the concept better, among them are; wide geographical extension, novelty in nature, unexpected movement, severity in nature, infectious and contagious. It has a wide geographical spread because of its ability to extend to large geographical areas. Qiu, Rutherford, Mao, & Chu (2017) observe that the term pandemic usually referred to diseases that extend over large geographic areas. e.g. the Black Death of 14th century, cholera, influenza, HIV/AIDS among others. Pandemic is novelty in nature because it always comes with the newness. The term commonly use to describe diseases that are new, or at least associated with novel variants of existing organisms. In addition, the novelty nature of the term pandemic, could also move unexpectedly from person-to-person. The respiratory viruses such as SARS, influenza or enteric organisms, such as cholera have the potential of wide spreading beyond expectation. The severity nature of pandemic is circled in the fatality ratio of the disease. Donaldson, Rutter, Ellis, Greaves, Mytton, Pebody, & Yardley (2009) assert that severity of any pandemic is estimated by the case fatality ratio. Also, pandemic diseases are infectious and contagious in nature and it can be transmitted from one person to another. The transmission can be direct or indirect. Direct form is from person to person while the indirect form is from person to vector to person (Morens, Folkers, & Fauci, 2009).

3.4 COVID-19

The word or phrase COVID-19 is derived from the statement Corona Virus Diseases of the year 2019. The phrase “CO” from Corona, “VI” from Virus, and letter “D” from Disease, and “19” from the year 2019. It is a pandemic disease that broke out in the city of Wuhan, China in December, 2019. Although, there are different views on the source of this pandemic, some are of the opinion that the virus was intentionally or accidentally generated from Wuhan Institute of Virology, while other have objections to that views. The source of this virus remain invalidated, but scientifically, consensus is emerging to the origin of COVID-19 to be natural, and probably bat-to human infection from Chinese traditional medicine practitioners who use bat carcasses and guano in their production.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) started monitoring the outbreak of a new coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, which causes the respiratory illness now known as COVID-19.

Coughing and sneezing without covering the mouth can disperse droplets of the virus into the air. Touching or shaking hands with an infected person can pass the virus between individuals as well as making contact with a surface or object that is contaminated with the virus and then touching the nose, eyes, or mouth. Some animal coronaviruses, such as feline coronavirus (FCoV), may spread through contact with feces. However, it is unclear whether this also applies to human coronaviruses. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) suggest that several groups of people have the highest risk of developing complications due to COVID-19.

2019-nCoV is seen to be the third coronavirus to emerge in the past two decades. The Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (SARS-CoV) of 2002, the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) outbreak of 2012, and the 2019-nCoV which emerged in December 2019 has put global public health institutions on high alert (Shrikrushna, Quazi, Shubham, Suraj, Shreya, Rohit, Suraj, & Biyani, 2020).

Table 1
WHO COVID-19 global data as at December 17, 2020

Name	WHO Region	Cases - cumulative total	Cases - cumulative total per 1 million population	Cases - newly reported in last 7 days	Cases - newly reported in last 24 hours	Deaths - cumulative total	Deaths - cumulative total per 1 million population	Deaths - newly reported in last 7 days	Deaths - newly reported in last 24 hours	Transmission Classification
Global		72196732	9248.508692	4388108	585455	1630521	208.8721639	77127	11463	
United States of America	Americas	16245376	49079.29	1489380	204281	298594	902.09	17152	1754	Community transmission
India	South-East Asia	9932547	7197.47	196697	26382	144096	104.42	2736	387	Clusters of cases
Brazil	Americas	6927145	32589.22	303234	25193	181835	855.45	4518	433	Community transmission
Russian Federation	Europe	2734454	18737.55	193255	26509	48564	332.78	3846	596	Clusters of cases
France	Europe	2350207	36005.52	80539	11481	58700	899.29	2714	790	Community transmission
The United Kingdom	Europe	1888120	27813.09	137875	18450	64908	956.13	2875	506	Community transmission
Italy	Europe	1870576	30938.13	113182	14839	65857	1089.23	4617	846	Clusters of cases
Spain	Europe	1762212	37690.52	45250	5061	48401	1035.21	768	43	Community transmission
Argentina	Americas	1503222	33260.23	36913	5062	41041	908.07	1153	275	Community transmission
Colombia	Americas	1434516	28192.5	57416	8742	39195	770.3	1200	142	Community transmission
Germany	Europe	1379238	16461.84	160714	27728	23427	279.61	3495	952	Clusters of cases
Mexico	Americas	1255974	9741.31	73725	5930	114298	886.49	4224	345	Community transmission
Poland	Europe	1159901	30647.42	83721	12455	23914	631.87	3322	605	Community transmission
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Eastern Mediterranean	1123474	13375.81	61077	7704	52670	627.08	1753	223	Community transmission
Turkey	Europe	1084109	12854.17	212016	32102	16881	200.16	1567	235	Community transmission
Peru	Americas	986130	29908.24	11014	1157	36754	1114.71	430	77	Community transmission
Ukraine	Europe	919704	21029.61	74361	10622	15744	360	1540	264	Community transmission
South Africa	Africa	873679	14731.05	51790	7552	23661	398.95	1229	210	Community transmission

To be continued

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Indonesia	South-East Asia	629429	2301.19	42587	6120	19111	69.87	1111	155	Community transmission
Netherlands	Europe	628242	36664.53	58495	6682	10160	592.94	398	86	Community transmission
Belgium	Europe	611422	52755.99	12169	2	18178	1568.47	539	8	Community transmission
Czechia	Europe	594148	55481.28	37221	7897	9882	922.78	746	139	Community transmission
Iraq	Eastern Mediterranean	577363	14354.23	9225	1391	12614	313.61	137	11	Community transmission
Chile	Americas	575329	30096.41	11795	1499	15949	834.32	269	18	Community transmission
Romania	Europe	565758	29408.83	41083	6171	13698	712.04	1038	204	Community transmission
Bangladesh	South-East Asia	494209	3000.86	12264	1877	7129	43.29	223	40	Community transmission
Canada	Americas	468862	12422.77	45808	8119	13553	359.09	776	122	Community transmission
Philippines	Western Pacific	451839	4123.33	9054	1106	8812	80.42	142	55	Community transmission
Pakistan	Eastern Mediterranean	443246	2006.62	20067	2459	8905	40.31	418	73	Clusters of cases
Morocco	Eastern Mediterranean	403619	10935.05	19531	2793	6711	181.82	341	52	Clusters of cases
Switzerland	Europe	387195	44738.52	30074	4242	5674	655.6	575	102	Community transmission
Saudi Arabia	Eastern Mediterranean	360155	10345.16	1040	142	6069	174.33	80	10	Sporadic cases
Israel	Europe	357627	41317.72	10458	0	3002	346.83	73	0	Community transmission
Portugal	Europe	353576	34675.5	25600	2638	5733	562.24	611	84	Clusters of cases
Sweden	Europe	341029	33767.7	42834	2956	7667	759.16	125	6	Community transmission
Austria	Europe	325511	36142.2	19823	2954	4651	516.41	744	141	Community transmission
Hungary	Europe	288567	29871.27	28979	2804	7381	764.05	1101	144	Community transmission
Serbia	Europe	277248	39812.95	43221	5884	2433	349.38	371	53	Community transmission
Jordan	Eastern Mediterranean	265024	25974.76	17893	2547	3437	336.86	275	30	Community transmission
Nepal	South-East Asia	250180	8586.39	6803	936	1730	59.38	93	14	Clusters of cases
Ecuador	Americas	202356	11469.44	3604	176	13896	787.62	102	21	Community transmission
Georgia	Europe	198387	49731.44	24004	3487	1922	481.8	308	39	Community transmission
Panama	Americas	194619	45105.33	15389	1612	3382	783.82	170	26	Community transmission
Kazakhstan	Europe	187890	10006.55	5233	0	2609	138.95	67	0	Clusters of cases
United Arab Emirates	Eastern Mediterranean	187267	18934.22	8430	1226	622	62.89	26	4	Community transmission
Bulgaria	Europe	184287	26522.05	16122	2743	6005	864.22	849	167	Clusters of cases
Japan	Western Pacific	184042	1455.15	18202	2172	2688	21.25	268	45	Clusters of cases
Azerbaijan	Europe	183259	18074.35	29107	4273	2007	197.95	294	41	Clusters of cases
Croatia	Europe	179718	43777.42	24866	2360	2778	676.69	480	73	Community transmission
Belarus	Europe	164059	17361.98	13457	1911	1282	135.67	60	9	Community transmission
Dominican Republic	Americas	155797	14361.94	6167	613	2367	218.2	20	3	Community transmission
Costa Rica	Americas	153169	30067.82	6748	549	1936	380.05	111	15	Community transmission

To be continued

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Armenia	Europe	150218	50693.78	6152	1098	2556	862.57	163	27	Community transmission
Lebanon	Eastern Mediterranean	148877	21812.06	9742	1264	1223	179.18	87	13	Community transmission
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Americas	147345	12622.7	1688	195	9024	773.06	27	6	Community transmission
Kuwait	Eastern Mediterranean	146710	34353.72	1810	261	913	213.79	13	1	Community transmission
Qatar	Eastern Mediterranean	141272	49034.85	1069	151	241	83.65	2	0	Community transmission
Slovakia	Europe	139088	25475.66	17292	3565	1309	239.76	243	58	Clusters of cases
Guatemala	Americas	130082	7260.84	3609	677	4476	249.84	190	31	Community transmission
Republic of Moldova	Europe	128656	31893.2	9452	1403	2625	650.72	165	27	Community transmission
occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem	Eastern Mediterranean	128512	25191.45	13162	2307	1130	221.51	169	23	Community transmission
Oman	Eastern Mediterranean	126719	24814.62	1393	215	1475	288.84	21	3	Community transmission
Greece	Europe	126372	12124.28	8327	1199	3785	363.14	591	98	Community transmission
Egypt	Eastern Mediterranean	122609	1198.12	3328	523	6966	68.07	153	23	Clusters of cases
Ethiopia	Africa	117542	1022.43	3807	300	1813	15.77	58	4	Community transmission
Denmark	Europe	116087	20041.95	21288	2992	961	165.91	60	11	Community transmission
Honduras	Americas	114642	11574.61	2935	283	2989	301.78	39	14	Community transmission
Tunisia	Eastern Mediterranean	113241	9581.58	7796	1483	3956	334.73	288	41	Community transmission
Myanmar	South-East Asia	109512	2012.73	9081	1170	2292	42.12	160	24	Clusters of cases
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Americas	108125	3802.41	3683	339	960	33.76	41	6	Community transmission
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Europe	102330	31190.38	6309	869	3457	1053.7	376	66	Community transmission
Lithuania	Europe	99869	36685.67	19313	3417	907	333.18	203	44	Community transmission
Slovenia	Europe	98282	47275.1	10340	1525	2081	1000.99	168	22	Clusters of cases
China	Western Pacific	95279	64.76	779	112	4764	3.24	11	3	Clusters of cases
Paraguay	Americas	94223	13210.3	5500	641	1971	276.34	99	18	Community transmission
Algeria	Africa	93065	2122.3	3649	468	2623	59.82	84	14	Community transmission
Kenya	Africa	92459	1719.49	3880	404	1604	29.83	73	11	Community transmission
Libya	Eastern Mediterranean	92017	13391.51	4031	660	1319	191.96	64	5	Community transmission
Bahrain	Eastern Mediterranean	89444	52565.42	1151	177	348	204.52	5	0	Clusters of cases
Malaysia	Western Pacific	86618	2676.2	11312	1772	422	13.04	34	3	Clusters of cases
Kyrgyzstan	Europe	78151	11978.64	2139	241	1317	201.86	14	1	Clusters of cases
Ireland	Europe	76776	15548.67	2094	327	2134	432.18	37	8	Community transmission
Uzbekistan	Europe	75396	2252.7	1044	155	612	18.29	1	0	Clusters of cases

To be continued

Continued

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North Macedonia	Europe	74732	35870.56	5280	881	2169	1041.1	192	22	Community transmission
Nigeria	Africa	74132	359.62	3937	758	1200	5.82	18	3	Community transmission
Puerto Rico	Americas	63419	22167.86	5103	434	1294	452.31	88	12	Community transmission
Singapore	Western Pacific	58341	9972.24	56	16	29	4.96	0	0	Sporadic cases
Ghana	Africa	53386	1718.09	886	372	327	10.52	1	0	Community transmission
Albania	Europe	50000	17374.4	5564	809	1028	357.22	92	12	Clusters of cases
Afghanistan	Eastern Mediterranean	49703	1276.78	1337	219	2001	51.4	93	26	Clusters of cases
Kosovo[1]	Europe	47160	25349.65	3322	294	1210	650.4	83	17	Community transmission
Republic of Korea	Western Pacific	45442	886.34	6026	1078	612	11.94	56	12	Clusters of cases
Luxembourg	Europe	42249	67492.79	3773	349	418	667.76	58	8	Community transmission
Montenegro	Europe	42192	67177.65	2111	0	597	950.54	41	0	Clusters of cases
El Salvador	Americas	42132	6495.63	1787	252	1212	186.86	44	7	Community transmission
Norway	Europe	41334	7624.45	2631	331	395	72.86	34	2	Clusters of cases
Sri Lanka	South-East Asia	34121	1593.45	4743	643	154	7.19	12	0	Clusters of cases
Finland	Europe	31459	5677.78	3217	349	466	84.1	41	5	Community transmission
Uganda	Africa	28168	615.82	4968	402	225	4.92	18	1	Community transmission
Australia	Western Pacific	28047	1099.89	60	8	908	35.61	0	0	Clusters of cases
Latvia	Europe	26472	14034.58	4368	587	357	189.27	69	5	Clusters of cases
Cameroon	Africa	25472	959.55	509	113	445	16.76	2	0	Community transmission
Sudan	Eastern Mediterranean	21864	498.62	1396	0	1372	31.29	53	0	Community transmission
Côte d'Ivoire	Africa	21717	823.29	204	12	133	5.04	1	0	Community transmission
Estonia	Europe	18687	14087.08	3177	301	157	118.35	20	3	Clusters of cases
Zambia	Africa	18428	1002.4	497	106	368	20.02	4	1	Community transmission
Madagascar	Africa	17587	635.12	114	0	259	9.35	4	0	Community transmission
Senegal	Africa	17216	1028.19	620	70	350	20.9	10	0	Community transmission
Mozambique	Africa	17042	545.25	669	40	144	4.61	8	1	Community transmission
Namibia	Africa	16913	6656.29	1615	187	164	64.54	10	1	Community transmission
Angola	Africa	16362	497.84	633	85	372	11.32	17	0	Community transmission
French Polynesia	Western Pacific	15870	56495.37	538	123	97	345.31	11	1	Sporadic cases
Cyprus	Europe	15789	13077.3	2503	339	84	69.57	16	2	Clusters of cases
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Africa	14511	162.02	762	51	358	4	14	2	Community transmission
Guinea	Africa	13457	1024.69	193	26	80	6.09	1	1	Community transmission
Maldives	South-East Asia	13392	24775.04	144	13	48	88.8	1	0	Clusters of cases
Botswana	Africa	12873	5474.08	815	372	38	16.16	4	1	Community transmission

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Name	WHO Region	Cases - cumulative total	Cases - cumulative total per 1 million population	Cases - newly reported in last 7 days	Cases - newly reported in last 24 hours	Deaths - cumulative total	Deaths - cumulative total per 1 million population	Deaths - newly reported in last 7 days	Deaths - newly reported in last 24 hours	Transmission Classification
Tajikistan	Europe	12798	1341.84	206	0	87	9.12	0	0	Pending
French Guiana	Americas	11906	39861.79	393	51	71	237.71	0	0	Community transmission
Jamaica	Americas	11875	4010.24	604	83	276	93.21	11	3	Community transmission
Zimbabwe	Africa	11522	775.22	683	164	310	20.86	16	1	Community transmission
Cabo Verde	Africa	11395	20495.08	769	34	110	197.85	5	0	Community transmission
Malta	Europe	11303	25598.87	604	49	177	400.87	20	3	Clusters of cases
Mauritania	Africa	10971	2359.53	1455	0	225	48.39	37	0	Community transmission
Uruguay	Americas	10029	2887.1	2524	321	95	27.35	12	3	Clusters of cases
Haiti	Americas	9597	841.66	198	32	234	20.52	1	0	Community transmission
Cuba	Americas	9588	846.5	606	96	137	12.1	1	0	Clusters of cases
Syrian Arab Republic	Eastern Mediterranean	9452	540.09	872	150	543	31.03	85	13	Community transmission
Belize	Americas	9377	23582.34	1424	82	197	495.44	21	2	Community transmission
Gabon	Africa	9351	4201.31	73	0	63	28.31	3	0	Community transmission
Réunion	Africa	8534	9531.87	240	0	42	46.91	1	0	Clusters of cases
Guadeloupe	Americas	8498	21238.42	47	0	152	379.88	0	0	Community transmission
Bahamas	Americas	7698	19575.63	118	8	164	417.04	1	1	Clusters of cases
Andorra	Europe	7414	95955.48	287	32	79	1022.46	1	0	Community transmission
Guam	Western Pacific	6988	41404.24	98	10	119	705.08	6	0	Clusters of cases
Eswatini	Africa	6912	5957.78	349	87	132	113.78	8	2	Community transmission
Trinidad and Tobago	Americas	6885	4919.66	110	6	123	87.89	1	1	Community transmission
Rwanda	Africa	6832	527.48	595	85	57	4.4	6	1	Clusters of cases
Congo	Africa	6200	1123.58	151	0	100	18.12	1	0	Community transmission
Malawi	Africa	6080	317.83	29	10	187	9.78	1	0	Community transmission
Guyana	Americas	5943	7555.76	246	23	156	198.33	2	1	Clusters of cases
Mali	Africa	5878	290.26	436	42	205	10.12	25	4	Community transmission
Djibouti	Eastern Mediterranean	5749	5818.83	35	16	61	61.74	0	0	Clusters of cases
Mayotte	Africa	5616	20585.38	435	0	53	194.27	4	0	Clusters of cases
Martinique	Americas	5601	14925.45	48	0	42	111.92	1	0	Community transmission
Iceland	Europe	5578	16346.12	72	7	28	82.05	0	0	Community transmission
Suriname	Americas	5359	9135.2	34	6	117	199.44	0	0	Sporadic cases
Equatorial Guinea	Africa	5195	3702.82	29	10	85	60.59	0	0	Community transmission
Aruba	Americas	5056	47355.9	90	7	46	430.85	1	0	Community transmission
Central African Republic	Africa	4936	1022	9	0	63	13.04	0	0	Community transmission
Nicaragua	Americas	4709	710.84	0	0	162	24.45	0	0	Community transmission
Somalia	Eastern Mediterranean	4579	288.11	0	0	121	7.61	0	0	Sporadic cases
Burkina Faso	Africa	4300	205.71	831	91	73	3.49	4	2	Community transmission

To be continued

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Name	WHO Region	Cases - cumulative total	Cases - cumulative total per 1 million population	Cases - newly reported in last 7 days	Cases - newly reported in last 24 hours	Deaths - cumulative total	Deaths - cumulative total per 1 million population	Deaths - newly reported in last 7 days	Deaths - newly reported in last 24 hours	Transmission Classification
Thailand	South-East Asia	4246	60.83	120	9	60	0.86	0	0	Clusters of cases
Gambia	Africa	3786	1566.62	10	1	123	50.9	0	0	Community transmission
Curaçao	Americas	3661	22310.52	487	37	11	67.04	3	0	Community transmission
Togo	Africa	3295	398.01	163	29	66	7.97	1	0	Community transmission
South Sudan	Africa	3206	286.41	25	0	62	5.54	0	0	Community transmission
Benin	Africa	3152	260	62	62	44	3.63	0	0	Community transmission
Sierra Leone	Africa	2451	307.26	23	6	75	9.4	1	0	Community transmission
Guinea-Bissau	Africa	2447	1243.39	3	3	44	22.36	0	0	Community transmission
Lesotho	Africa	2285	1066.64	135	135	44	20.54	0	0	Community transmission
Yemen	Eastern Mediterranean	2089	70.04	6	1	607	20.35	0	0	Sporadic cases
Niger	Africa	2078	85.84	222	0	77	3.18	0	0	Community transmission
San Marino	Europe	2025	59667.63	193	43	54	1591.14	6	2	Community transmission
Jersey	Europe	1842	16930.15	504	63	32	294.12	0	0	Community transmission
United States Virgin Islands	Americas	1828	17505.39	148	21	23	220.25	0	0	Community transmission
Chad	Africa	1784	108.61	56	13	102	6.21	0	0	Community transmission
Liberia	Africa	1771	350.16	95	0	83	16.41	0	0	Community transmission
New Zealand	Western Pacific	1744	361.66	14	4	25	5.18	0	0	Clusters of cases
Liechtenstein	Europe	1633	42819.31	186	29	18	471.98	1	0	Sporadic cases
Viet Nam	Western Pacific	1405	14.43	28	3	35	0.36	0	0	Clusters of cases
Sint Maarten	Americas	1249	29126.44	94	17	26	606.32	0	0	Community transmission
Gibraltar	Europe	1082	32115.4	27	7	6	178.09	1	1	Clusters of cases
Sao Tome and Principe	Africa	1010	4608.53	5	0	17	77.57	0	0	Community transmission
Mongolia	Western Pacific	917	279.72	29	5	0	0	0	0	Clusters of cases
Saint Martin	Americas	899	23254.61	61	0	12	310.41	0	0	Community transmission
Turks and Caicos Islands	Americas	769	19861.56	13	0	6	154.97	0	0	Clusters of cases
Other	Other	744		0	0	13		0	0	Not applicable
Burundi	Africa	741	62.32	21	6	1	0.08	0	0	Community transmission
Papua New Guinea	Western Pacific	729	81.48	45	4	8	0.89	1	0	Community transmission
Eritrea	Africa	711	200.48	62	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Monaco	Europe	678	17276.53	30	7	3	76.44	0	0	Sporadic cases
Comoros	Africa	628	722.17	12	-1	7	8.05	0	0	Community transmission
Faroe Islands	Europe	530	10846.21	16	2	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Mauritius	Africa	514	404.16	9	0	10	7.86	0	0	Clusters of cases
United Republic of Tanzania	Africa	509	8.52	0	0	21	0.35	0	0	Community transmission
Bermuda	Americas	456	7322.6	150	25	9	144.52	0	0	Clusters of cases

To be continued

Continued

Name	WHO Region	Cases - cumulative total	Cases - cumulative total per 1 million population	Cases - newly reported in last 7 days	Cases - newly reported in last 24 hours	Deaths - cumulative total	Deaths - cumulative total per 1 million population	Deaths - newly reported in last 7 days	Deaths - newly reported in last 24 hours	Transmission Classification
Bhutan	South-East Asia	439	568.94	6	1	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Isle of Man	Europe	373	4386.58	3	3	25	294.01	0	0	No cases
Cambodia	Western Pacific	362	21.65	8	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Cayman Islands	Americas	302	4595.25	12	4	2	30.43	0	0	Sporadic cases
Barbados	Americas	297	1033.49	8	1	7	24.36	0	0	Clusters of cases
Guernsey	Europe	291	4604.72	3	2	13	205.71	0	0	Community transmission
Saint Lucia	Americas	278	1513.94	8	3	4	21.78	2	0	Sporadic cases
Seychelles	Africa	185	1881.09	3	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba	Americas	177	6750.31	10	0	3	114.41	0	0	Sporadic cases
Saint Barthélemy	Americas	172	17400.1	8	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Brunei Darussalam	Western Pacific	152	347.45	0	0	3	6.86	0	0	Sporadic cases
Antigua and Barbuda	Americas	148	1511.3	2	0	5	51.06	1	0	Sporadic cases
Northern Mariana Islands (Commonwealth of the)	Western Pacific	113	1963.27	0	0	2	34.75	0	0	Pending
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Americas	98	883.36	11	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Dominica	Americas	88	1222.38	3	0	0	0	0	0	Clusters of cases
British Virgin Islands	Americas	80	2645.77	7	4	1	33.07	0	0	Clusters of cases
Grenada	Americas	71	630.98	28	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Fiji	Western Pacific	46	51.31	2	0	2	2.23	0	0	Sporadic cases
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Western Pacific	41	5.64	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
New Caledonia	Western Pacific	36	126.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Timor-Leste	South-East Asia	31	23.51	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Americas	28	526.39	3	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Holy See	Europe	26	32138.44	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	Americas	19	5455.07	2	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Greenland	Europe	19	334.67	1	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Solomon Islands	Western Pacific	17	24.75	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	Americas	14	2415.88	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Montserrat	Americas	13	2600.52	0	0	1	200.04	0	0	No cases
Anguilla	Americas	10	666.58	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Marshall Islands	Western Pacific	4	67.57	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Wallis and Futuna	Western Pacific	4	355.68	1	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases
Vanuatu	Western Pacific	1	3.26	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sporadic cases

To be continued

Continued

Name	WHO Region	Cases - cumulative total	Cases - cumulative total per 1 million population	Cases - newly reported in last 7 days	Cases - newly reported in last 24 hours	Deaths - cumulative total	Deaths - cumulative total per 1 million population	Deaths - newly reported in last 7 days	Deaths - newly reported in last 24 hours	Transmission Classification
American Samoa	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Cook Islands	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	South-East Asia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Kiribati	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Nauru	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Niue	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Palau	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Pitcairn Islands	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Saint Helena	Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Samoa	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Tokelau	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Tonga	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Turkmenistan	Europe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases
Tuvalu	Western Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No cases

Source: World Health Organisation (WHO) as at 17th December 20, 2020.

The table above shows that community transmissions were more evident across the nations of the world, without exemption to Nigeria in terms of transmission of the diseases.

4. THE NIGERIAN EXPERIENCE

Though the COVID-19 is a global health emergency, yet the response, management and control are localized globally according to the intensity, persistence, and fierce nature of the pathogen. Governments of different nations across the globe understudy the global standards dished out by WHO and modify these measures to suit peculiar situations in their domains. In areas of dread intensity and severity of the pandemic, the WHO standards are locally modified to some of the measures by WHO to stem the spread of COVID-19 pandemic which spread across Face masking, Lockdown/Restriction of movement, Hand washing, Social Distancing, Palliative measures and other Local innovations.

4.1 Face Masking

The measure to stem the spread of COVID-19 pandemic was accompanied by multifaceted approaches across different cultures across the globe. The discoveries

or observations in this paper, however, illustrate different variations or deviations from the World Health Organization stipulated universal protocols and guidelines for COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria. For instance, in Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria, from our observation, and in deviance to WHO standards, after the relaxation of the stay at home order by the Federal government of Nigeria which lasted for about three months, the level of compliance with the appropriate wearing of face mask was generally relatively high majorly among almost all the stages of development immediately the stay at home order was lifted.

However, the level of compliance witnessed a dramatic decline particularly among individuals in their early adulthood and below middle adulthood after three to four weeks or thereabouts of relaxing the stay at home order. In contrast, the level of compliance for appropriate wearing of face mask remains relatively high amongst the elderly. This is observed majorly among the elderly aged from 50/60years and above as well as those who have underlying medical conditions. Also, most of the educated elites who understand the usefulness of the face mask adhered appropriately to the WHO and Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) guidelines, while some of the uneducated and the dregs of the society sometime

violated the protocols. These groups of people exaggerated the inconvenient aspect of using the face mask unless or until enforced by enforcement agents. It is also observed among some strata of the Nigerian society that, the face mask is being worn wrongly. Instead of using it to cover the nose and mouth, some use it for their mouth and jaw, or jaw alone, leaving their nose uncovered. It is also observed that a lot of people use the facemask more than necessary; some use it even when alone due to the fear of the pandemic. Another factor that could be attributed to determining the low level of compliance in terms of face masking is the belief that the virus is a pathogen for the elderly/older elites. This belief became pronounced when the death of some prominent Nigerians such as the Chief of Staff to the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, former governor, former NNPC Managing Director, former senator, etc., as a result of COVID-19 complications were announced. Their demise strengthens the belief that coronavirus is a disease for the elites. For instance, particularly in some rural areas in Ife North Local Government, face masking, hand washing and maintenance of social and physical distancing were at the lowest ebb among the youths whose age ranges from 16 to 35. Moreover, in many areas during the partial lockdown, a larger proportion of the populace observed the protocols in order to beat the security agents who were staged at strategic places to arrest violators or defaulters and not because of the susceptibility to the virus. This conclusion was arrived at because people were observed using the face mask to beat the security agents stationed at various posts or check points, and removed the face mask immediately after passing the check points. This defiant behaviour was observed to be relatively most common among adolescents, young adults and majorly among people who are below the age of 40. Majority of the inhabitants of these areas believed that COVID-19 does not exist.

4.2 Lockdown / Restriction of Movement

Residents of some States such as Lagos and Ogun, which are regarded as the epicenter of COVID-19 pandemic, were enforced to comply with the modified version of WHO COVID-19 protocols by their State governments during the partial lockdown which was necessitated by the public outcry due to economic hardship of the pandemic on the populace. It was observed that the level of compliance across States varied largely according to the level of severity of the pandemic in that particular area. For example, the level of compliance in Kogi State was relatively low. This could be attributed probably to non-discovery or late and low discovery of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State. It was observed that there was high level of compliance in areas where the COVID-19 casualty is high and vice versa. Example of States where confirmed cases of COVID-19 was high is Lagos State while Kogi represents one of the States where confirmed

cases of COVID-19 or casualty are low. Enforcement of COVID-19 protocols by government security agencies is total in areas where casualties are high. It is observed that at the beginning of lockdown order in March 2020, the lockdown order was strictly obeyed and this helped in curtailing the rate at which the pandemic was being transmitted. For instance, in Lagos State, the total lockdown order in the state helped immensely in reducing the rate at which the pandemic spread despite the choking level of the residents in some part of the state. However, the negative impact of the lockdown on the Nigeria residents varies, but much more it affects them economically and socially, because the larger percentages of Nigerians survive on daily income. Social gathering, in places like churches, mosques, festivals were prohibited. Also, some organizations encouraged their employees to work from home, especially for jobs that can be done online, while those on essential services were permitted to go to work.

4.3 Hand Washing

The WHO policy on hand washing stipulates that visibly dirty hands should be thoroughly washed with soaps under clean running water for a minimum period of 20 seconds. While the use of alcohol based hand sanitizer could be applied to disinfect relatively clean hands that have probably been used to touch different surfaces in the public. In consonance with the WHO policy, people were observed wash their hands with soap under clean running water even for more than 20 seconds, after the first relaxation of the lockdown, but a gradual decline in the level of compliance about this policy was observed with the passage of time. This was more common among the young adults. Hand sanitizer were widely accepted, but due to the high cost, some people especially commercial motorcyclists at the local level resolved to the use of alcoholic drinks to 'sanitize' their hands, with the belief that the coronavirus cannot survive in any alcohol based solution. These categories of people used alcoholic drinks more as hand wash due to its availability and affordability than hand sanitizer. In addition, from middle to late August 2020 upward, the water bucket and soap meant for hand washing at different public places were beginning to disappear gradually. The quality or potency of hand sanitizer was observed to have probably been compromised due to indiscriminate production of hand sanitizers by individuals who were not certified in the manufacturing of hand sanitizers but ventured into the mass production of hand sanitizer in order to make money. Observations reveal that a larger proportion of hand sanitizers in Ife Central Local Government of Osun State, Nigeria were not certified by National Agency for Food Drug Administration Control (NAFDAC) or Standard Organization of Nigeria (SON).

4.4 Social Distancing

Physical and Social Distancing: According to the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, the concept of physical and social distancing was revised as “remaining out of congregate settings, avoiding mass gathering, and maintaining distance (approximately six feet or two meters) from others when possible” By maintaining social distancing, it is believed that droplets from coughs, and or sneezes of an individual infected with the virus who is either at pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic stage is prevented from widespread transmission. One of the respondents interviewed, perceived that the social distancing measure was not fully observed by people living in remote areas of the community due to poor knowledge of the nature of the disease and there were doubt about the reports of confirmed cases announced by statutory body in charge of the disease control (i.e. Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). Also, the measure of social distancing was poorly practiced and not effective due to the economic impact and tons of people affected during the lockdown, especially those whom livelihood depends on daily income from market sales or menial labour. However, it can be said to have curtailed the widespread of the disease in major cities in Nigeria relative to other countries which has relatively reduced the total confirmed cases until recently. The essence is to stem the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is observed that the social distancing was much more followed at the formal setting than at the informal setting. For instance in formal setting like Commercial Banks across Nigeria, it is observed that the social and physical distancing is followed within the bank premises, while it is violated outside the bank premises, especially from the exit of some of the sampled banks. It is also observed that in most of the political campaigns in Nigeria after the lifting of ban on restriction of movement, there were low levels of compliance with the social distancing guidelines. The Edo and Ondo States gubernatorial elections were typical examples. Moreover, the #ENDSARS protest across the country witnessed a violation of the social distancing guidelines.

4.5 COVID-19 Palliatives

The inability of people to work freely especially people whose livelihood depends on daily income necessitated the need for government’s intervention through provision of financial aids and material resources. Though government attempted to provide some assistance that helped the citizens to come back on their feet economically, socially, psychologically in the post-COVID era. Undisclosed data of COVID-19 palliative resources provided by philanthropic efforts of wealthy individuals and corporate institutions were allegedly withheld by some state governments and later discovered during the #EndSARS protest. This led to the vandalization and looting of the government warehouses in Osun, Lagos, Kwara, among other states by angry youths. The resources which were

meant to cater for the needs of the people during the global crisis were hoarded which aggravated the decline in COVID-19 compliance.

4.6 Local Innovations

The covid-19 pandemic has challenged our collective humanity with fierce insistence. As part of its contribution toward the fight against corona virus, there were innovations from individual, and cooperate organizations in other to promote local contents. For instance, the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) donated a contact-less hand washing machine to the NCDC. The contact-less hand washing machine is a locally made solar powered hand wash/sanitizer, unlike the usual practice of touching the soap container, the tap and the hand sanitizer in the process of washing the hands. These hand wash stations operate without the user touching it which helps to further protect people against the virus. The hand wash stations are specially designed for use at schools, churches, mosques, event centres, government buildings, banks, shopping centres, commercial bus depots, political rallies etc. This approach represents one of the locally developed approaches to stem the widespread transmission of the pathogen. The use of facemask as a measure to curb the widespread of the deadly respiratory virus led to innovations of locally produced masks, using local fabrics and materials. The mass production of facemasks and the hand sanitizer also created business opportunities for youths and household in fabric works and soap making, among other business opportunities noticeable in the aftermath of the unprecedented pandemic.

Table 2
Reported COVID-19 cases in Nigeria as at December 17, 2020

State	Number of Cases
Lagos	25,436
FCT	8908
Plateau	4099
Kaduna	4098
Oyo	3773
Rivers	3217
Edo	2747
Ogun	2348
Kano	1965
Delta	1829
Ondo	1755
Enugu	1363
Katsina	1285
Kwara	1275
Gombe	1104
Ebonyi	1075
Abia	973
Osun	965
Bauchi	860
Borno	768
Imo	730
Nasarwa	581

To be continued

Continued

State	Number of Cases
Benue	515
Bayelsa	471
Ekiti	396
Jigawa	382
Akwa Ibom	364
Adamawa	329
Niger	307
Anambra	294
Sokoto	210
Taraba	203
Kebbi	138
Yobe	123
Cross River	92
Zamfara	79
Kogi	5

Source: Nigerian Center for Disease and Control (NCDC)

Total confirmed cases are 74,132 as at December 17, 2020, with mortality rate of 1,200 resulted to about 1.6 mortality rate from cumulative total cases. Lagos state has the highest number of cases, while Kogi state recorded the lowest number of cases.

CONCLUSION

COVID-19 pandemic has come as a global pandemic and WHO has also come with guidelines to curtail it. Each nations, localities and communities embraces the peculiarities of their local needs and details it to this global idea. The approaches in Nigeria, both from the governments and citizens have helped in curtailing the mortality rate, compare to the initial expectation. More so, there is divergence of opinion about how real the COVID-19 pandemic is. There is also a strong belief among many strata that the COVID-19 pandemic is majorly for the rich and elites and not for the dregs of society. Probably due to the fact that mortality rate of the pandemic could be seen more on the elite sides of the society. Nevertheless, all Nigerians must understand that COVID-19 is a pandemic indeed which has the capacity to spread without considering the rich or poor or white or black. Though, the vaccine for the pandemic has been detected globally but it has not been administered in Nigeria as of now, the citizens must continue to obey the WHO guidelines as they embrace the peculiarities of their local needs.

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