

## SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF HERDSMEN MIGRATION TO SOUTH-EAST: POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

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### Abstract

*The Fulani herders migrate from the northern part of the country to non-Hausa regions in search of grass to feed their cattle. This process sometimes leads to cattle grazing on farmlands, destroying crops, which creates conflict between herders and farmers in the affected communities or states. So, the recent herder migration to the Southeast has caused a severe conflict between the herders, the farmers, and the host communities. However, this migration has been interpreted by the people of the Southeast as an agenda to Islamize the region, and this has posed a security risk to the people. This paper interrogates herders' migration to the Southeast and examines its security implications and possible solutions. Conflict theory was adopted for the paper as its framework of analysis, while the documentary method of data collection, which is anchored on secondary sources, was employed. The paper investigates the reasons for the herder's migration to the Southeast implicated economic losses and attacks from the Boko Haram insurgency on the herders to avoid tax collectors, harmful insects, frequent droughts and desertification, rural banditry and cattle rustling; hence, they are in search of grasses for the grazing of their cattle. The paper suggests ranching as a global best practice based on the findings. As cattle-rearing is a private business, government should institute adequate security outfits and support community-based conflict resolution bodies in the respective areas.*

**Keywords:** Herdsmen, South-east, Grazing, Ranching, government.

### Introduction

The Fulani pastoralists migrated into northern Nigeria from the Senegambia region to non-Hausa areas down to the southeast region in search of grasses to feed their cattle. This resulted in feeding their cattle on people's farmland and crops and became a source of conflict between the herders, farmers and the host community. Moreover, migration has been posing a significant security risk and threat to the lives and property of the people in the Southeast. This has made them interpret the migration as a move to Islamize the region because they are searching for grasses to feed their cattle. For instance, between January 2016 and 2019, there was an estimated death case of more than 10,000 people from the herders attacks, which cut across the Southeast region to other zones. One would have expected the governors from the Southeast to condemn the herder's carnage and find a solution to such menace. Regrettably, events in the past only showed the confused state of Southeast governors and executive members who needed help understanding the nature of the problem. However, some of the governors followed the issue with standard security protocol. But then, it is the government's responsibility to solve the problem between

the herders and the farmers. Against this backdrop, this paper investigates why the herders migrate to the Southeast, its security implications for the farmers and the host community, and possible solutions.

Moreover, the migration has been interpreted by the people of the Southeast as an agenda to Islamize the region. The herders said they were in search of grasses for the grazing of their cattle, which led to the destruction of farmers' crops, but if that is true, the question is, why do they always carry AK45? Why do they attack, kill, rape and burnt down the people's houses? This has generated a severe conflict between the two parties, and the government has not intervened to settle the issue. Instead, the security men are supposed to protect the innocent farmers, and the host community indirectly intervenes on the side of the herders and their cattle.

Consequently, this gave birth to these research questions: "What are the reasons for the herdsmen migration to the Southeast? What causes the conflicts between the farmer/the host community and the herders, and what can be the possible solution? This gave rise to this paper's objectives, which aim to investigate why the herders migrate to the Southeast, the causes of the conflicts between the farmer/the host community and the herders, and possible solutions.

The methodology used to answer these research questions was qualitative; hence, the collected data were sourced from relevant materials and analyzed contextually. Thus, the historical analysis from literature formed part of this paper's background information, which involved investigating, recording, and analyzing past events related to related subject matter. Meanwhile, documented and archival data were extracted from the regime gazettes, textbooks, periodicals, internet sources, etc. Data generated from these sources were analyzed through content and context analysis, during which concrete information was distilled from the collections. In contrast, the paper's objectives present synthesized outputs from the study in different sections.

Conceptually, Iro (2014) sees the Herdsmen as the semi-nomadic Fulani people whose primary occupation is raising livestock. They are primarily located in the Sahel, a semi-part of West Africa. However, due to relatively recent changes in climate patterns, many herders have moved further south, down to the savanna and tropical forest belt of West Africa. The herders are found in countries like Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, Guinea, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Benin, Cote d'Vair and Cameroon. The Southeast refers to the Igbo people, one of the most famous people of Africa, whose homeland is within the Southeast region. The Igbo-speaking people of the Southeast constitute one of the largest ethnic groups in Nigeria. The Igbo territory is surrounded by the Ogoni, Idoma and Igala people on the northern side of the land. On the Eastern side by the Ibibio people, in the South by the Ijaw, and on the West by the Edo. The Igbo inhabit the entire Abia, Anambra, Enugu, Ebonyi and Imo states.

Grazing land is where animals graze or are grazed. In such a land or place, grasses are allowed to grow for animal feeding, mainly cows, goats or sheep. It is a place set aside for animal grazing. Ranching refers to or represents a large farm, especially one used or set aside for breeding animals of all kinds and sizes, like cows, goats or sheep. Government refers to a group of people in charge or control of a well-organized community, often a state or a country. In the case of its broad associative definition, government consists of legislature, executive and judiciary. Government can also refer to the people with the authority to govern a country or state. In effect, the government country is the group of people responsible for governing it, among others.

## **Theoretical Framework**

This paper is anchored on conflict theory as its analysis framework since the study concerns disagreement between herders and farmers in the South East. Conflict theory was developed by Karl Marx, who states that society is in a state of conflict because of competition over limited resources; thus, there is a constant struggle between the rich and the poor (the cow owners/the herders and the poor farmers) in effect, conflict prevention becomes a test of good leadership. Conflict theory is an aspect of enquiry in political science that attempts to understand and explain the various contradictions of both antagonistic and non-antagonistic, as in the case of herdsman and the local farmers in their relationship with states and political actors. Marx states that society is in perpetual conflict because of competition for limited resources. Marx holds that social order is maintained by domination and power rather than consensus and conformity. The theory examines the herder's menace as it affects the local farmers in the South East through the lens that there is a natural human instinct towards that. Marx is not saying that conflict is good or bad; rather, it is an unavoidable aspect of human nature that helps explain why things are how they are.

Conflict Theory can be used to look at wars, violence, revolutions and other forms of injustice and discrimination by explaining that there is a natural disparity in a society that causes those problems. This theory implies that those in positions of wealth and resources will protect and hoard those resources while those without will do anything to obtain them. This means there is a constant struggle between the rich and the poor (like the cow owners/the herders and the poor farmers). Accordingly, conflict is a universal and permanent attribute of nature, life, and society, as seen in the case of the herders, farmers and Nigerian people. Conflict is necessary and unavoidable; hence, it advances the positive evolution of unnecessary and avoidable phenomena when irresolvable and their consequences are negative for society and man.

On that note, conflict prevention becomes a test of good leadership, as everyone in the country today is asking our leaders to intervene over the continued killing of innocent citizens/farmers by the herders; thus, every conflict has fundamental or root causes which create and advance it. There is a time when conflicts between and within states have much to do with the unequal and unjust socio-economic, political, and allied structures of the international system and within the state, on the other hand. The issue here is that, whether in terms of conflict prevention, management, transformation, or resolution, the issue is whether ideal structure of relationships which evolves within or between states, groups, or individuals has not been considerably minimized. When the fundamental factors are sowed and allowed to germinate to its escalation, leaders are unable to intervene and arrest the situation due to bad leadership style and ineffective conflict management system, as we can see in the area of herders terrorists, terrorizing everybody in the Nigerian state. In contrast, our leaders pretend they do not know what to do. Instead of finding a permanent solution to these evil activities of the herders, they only take action in newspapers, which shows leadership ineffectiveness over conflict prevention and management, which hinders the immediate solution to the problem.

Relating Conflict Theory to this paper, we saw how the issue over the activities of the herders and farmers in Nigeria state and south -in particular, is a talk of the time and an issue that needs to be resolved through the intervention of the Federal and state government and other well-meaning/high powered people in the country. As an issue that goes with conflict management and conflict resolution between the herders and the farmers, we have seen how so many lives have been lost at the hands of the herdsman. We have equally seen how many people were injured by the herders as a result of the conflicts that have been arising between the two parties, which can easily be resolved through the intervention of the government and the Nigerian people in general. Karl Marx, who postulated this theory, states that "conflict is inevitable and unavoidable as long as human beings live together" To see that conflict always arises between the herdsman. Farmers are settled once and for all. The Federal Government, in conjunction with the then

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Audu Ogbe, in August 2019, came up with the issue of ranching, grazing and cattle colony/RUGA (Rural Grazing Area) in Nigeria's thirty-six states. However, to the Nigerian populace's understanding, introducing cattle colonies/RUGA in all the federation states as a solution to the herder's menace will do more harm than good to the host community and farmers. As a result, the idea may not work out fine, nor will it solve the issue of fighting and killing innocent farmers and herders. In the words of Marx, "conflict is unavoidable and inevitable". Hence, this theory seems to be suitable for this paper.

### **Why do herdsmen migrate to South East and what are the security implications?**

Recently, various conflicts and crises in the northern parts of the country have displaced herders to multiple parts of the country. These conflicts were linked to poverty, inequality, and religious extremism, which have been implicated in the herder's migration and menace in the Nigerian state. According to the North-East vice chairman of Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association (MACBAND), Alhaji Mafindin Danburam, the association members have lost over one million cattle to the Boko Haram Insurgency. In effect, "the economic losses and insecurity have compelled many herders to move to Southeast and other regions in the country having armed with sophisticated rifles, which they use for self-defence when there is an unexpected in the course of their activities in any place they enter.

The herders also move to the Southeast to avoid tax collectors, harmful insects, hostile weather, and social environments, as well as to maximize the availability of food resources for the cattle and reduce excessive grazing (Iro, 2014).

### **Climate Change (frequent droughts and desertification)**

Nigeria's far north is arid and semi-arid, with a long dry season from October to May and low rainfall (600 to 900 mm) from June to September. In Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Jigawa, Kanu, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, Yobe and Zamfara states, estimates suggest that 50 to 75% of the land area is becoming desert (Akinmwotu; 2018). These environmental changes have wrecked agriculture and human livelihood, forcing millions of pastoralists and others to migrate to the Southeast for productive land and grasses to feed their cattle. Recently, some have chosen to graze their herds there permanently.

### **Environmental Degradation and Crisis**

Deteriorating environmental conditions, desertification, and soil degradation are reasons for herder's migration to the Southeast and other zones. These situations have led the herders from northern Nigeria to change their transhumance routes to the south. It is often assumed that climate change drives the conflict, but the current study suggests that climate change does not automatically cause the conflict but has changed the herder's migration pattern. A northern region vulnerable to climate change has experienced less farmer-herder strife and less intense farmer-herder fighting (Akinmwotu, 2018).

### **The Land Use Act**

Nigeria's implementation of the Land Use Act of 1976 allowed the state and the federal government to assign and lease land and give indigents the right to apply for a certificate of occupancy to claim ownership of their ancestral Lands (Okillo, 2014). This placed the pastoral Fulani in a difficult position

because most of them needed to apply for lands of occupancy for their grazing routes, and recurring transhumance movements led to encroachment on the properties of others. From 1996 to 2006, about 121 people lost their lives in Bauchi and Gombe states as a result of conflicts between pastoralists and farmers (Abbas, 2014). Although Nigeria is chiefly known for its oil and gas production, agriculture employs about 70% of its labour force; here, over 90% of pastoralists reportedly are Fulani, and they own about 90% of the national herds, estimated at 19.5 million cattle, with about 975,000 donkeys, 28000 camels, 72.5 million goats, and 41.3 million sheep (Abbass, 2014). Thus, livestock represents 20 to 30% of the total agricultural production and about 6 to 8% of Nigeria's overall Gross Domestic (GDP) Product.

### **Loss of grazing reserves**

Most of the grazing reserves established by the northern regional government in the 1960s have been lost. Only 114 were formally documented; thus, the association demand for farmland was overrun by urban and other infrastructure or appropriated by private commercial interests. With the northern region's division into 19 states, reserves straddling two or more state jurisdictions lost collective management. Here, the communicative effect has been to reduce the availability of designed grazing reserves, forcing herders to migrate to Southeast and some other areas in search of grazing pasture to feed their cattle, and this has created a room for crisis and conflict in the Southeast, as the herders activities possess a significant threat to the lives and property of the people therein.

### **Rural banditry and cattle rustling**

Rural banditry is one of the significant factors that are driving herders to Southeast areas. Meanwhile, cattle theft reportedly has been a primary source of funding for Boko Haram in the Northeast. It was reported in 2013 that more than 64,750 cattle were stolen, while 2991 herders were killed in some states across the North-Central zone. From 2011 to 2015, bandits, cattle rustlers, and other criminals killed about 1,135 people in Zamfara State (Report from Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps).

### **What are the causes of the herdsmen-farmer's conflict in the South East?**

According to our findings a lot of factors were behind the herdsmen-farmer's conflict in the South East and this include among other factors:

- *Land ownership as one of the cause of the conflict:* Here, the herdsmen always like grazing their cattle on farmers' crops without minding its implication and this act has been generating a lot of problem in the South-east.
- *Herdsmen attacks and killing of the farmers and host communities:* A report from Abia State in the South East, revealed that communities of Uzuakoli in Bende Local Government Area, Ebem and Akanu in Ohafia and Umuchieze in Umunneochi have reported cases of deadly clashes between rural farmers and the herdsmen. This is as a result of an invasion of farm land in Ebem and Akanu communities by the herdsmen for the grazing of their cattle and this nearly resulted in blood baths
- In April 2016, Fulani herdsmen invaded Ukpabi Nimbo community in Uzo-Uwani Local Government Area of Enugu state in the South East, killing scores in the bid to take over the community land for grazing of their livestock (*ThisDay*, April 27, 2016).



- There was also an invasion of neighbouring Abbi, another Uzo-Uwani community by the herdsmen and this cause a serious clash between the host community and the herdsmen, among others.

### **Herdsmen Sponsors and their Operative Strategy**

Herder terrorists are Fulani, who are primarily non-Nigeria. There are 5 million Fulani people in Nigeria; about 3 million are Nigerian, while 2 million are non-Nigerians. Meanwhile, about 60% of the Fulani in Nigeria are governors, Pastors, Imams, Emirs, Sultan, House of Representatives members, Oil well owners, Lecturers, Vice Chancellors, Ministers, Military personnel, military boys and Senators. While 40% are poor immigrants and they are in charge of the cattle owned by the bourgeois Fulani. About 10% of the terrorists are in Nigeria; they live within the Hausa Fulani communities in Ama-Hausa and Garki in the Southeast, and these herdsmen terrorists do not own cattle. Their job is to kill. Most of them are employed by the cattle owners as "security men" who protect the cattle.

A few Nigerian Fulani middlemen were born in the Southeast, and they coordinate the cattle business. There are about 20 to 40 Fulani boys within the age bracket of 20 and 35. A group of herdsmen rear the cattle from the north to the Southeast; some do not speak English and are so poor that they are paid a stipend. They do not carry guns. They only carry arrows and machetes to navigate the bushes to the South. The Ama-Hausas and Garkis harbour 80% of the herder's killers. These herdsmen, "security personnel", dress differently from the real Northern Nigeria within these settlements. They are young and less religious, and most of them use drugs and consume alcohol. The majority of the herders are migrants from Chad, Niger, and other Fulani enclaves outside the Nigerian state. A small percentage of these Fulani youths are Nigerian-born in the states where they reside. They are the ones vested with the responsibility of leading these Fulani on their regular rampage, serving as compasses to the blood-hungry terrorists. These wealthy Nigerian Fulani increase their wealth through cattle rearing by using the poor ones from outside Nigeria to rear these cattle. Instead of investing in ranches and buying grasses from the Southeast, they prefer having their relatives imported from outside the country to take these cattle from the north to the Southeast as their grass kingdom.

### **Strategies Adopted in Attacking Farmers and Host Communities in the South-East**

Whenever there is a disagreement between the farmer or the host communities and the herders, the herders accompanying the cattle will locate the nearest Fulani settlement. They will identify the nearest Garki or Ama Hausa if there is none. When they arrive, they will narrate their story to the Fulani middlemen (cattle managers), who will notify their top Fulani herders like El-Rufai, some governors, and other top Fulani Bourgeois who own the cattle. At this point, a decision will be made about whether or not there should be an age. If an attack is sanctioned, modalities will be mapped out, and a date will be chosen. Most of the time, the Fulani in the military and police are notified, and they send a representative from their men to the neighbouring settlements. At this point, the arms cache will be opened, and arms will be distributed to the participants, who may be about 20 to 40 herdsmen who reside in the Garkis and Ama Hausas. These are the Fulani warriors whose job is to kill. Adisa noted that during an attack, every Fulani person in the area knows there will be an attack, and all will contribute to make sure it goes on successfully. Fulani in the higher levels of the military will ensure that all commands under them stand down, and the top Fulani police officers will do the same. At this point, the road will be clear for the herders to carry out their attacks.

## **Summary**

Herders' migration to the Southeast has never been an agenda to Islamize the region as speculated by the region's people. The people may be right in their thinking and reasoning because they would not want what happened to King Yunfa and Afonja to happen to the people of the East. King Yunfathe Hausa Sarki in Gobir (now called Sokoto) hosted a Fulani immigrant called Usman Dan Fodiyo and his men in February 1804, who later waged a war against him and his people around 1808. The same thing happened to the Afonja dynasty, which also compromised by allowing a Fulani warrior, JantaAlimi, to settle in Ilorin. As a result, the Fulani guerrillas killed Afonja in 1824, and Ilorin, a Yoruba town under the Oyo Empire, fell into Fulani hands, becoming an emirate under the Sokoto caliphate till today. All these attacks resulted in the loss of many lives, land, and property by the host communities to these immigrants, who then took over the entire place. This is the fear and thinking of the people of the Southeast in criticizing and fighting against the Fulani herder's migration to the region and their request for a grazing reserve land for their cattle through President Muhammadu Buhari, who is anxious over the establishment of Rural Grazing Areas in the 36 states of the Federation. Even outside the thinking of the people of the Southeast, the question now is: why are these herdsmen attacking their host communities with impunity, killing and injuring them and destroying their farm products and property? The answer to this question gave birth to the recommendation of this paper as a possible solution to the security implications of Herdsmen's migration to the Southeast.

## **Recommendations**

To curb these violent clashes between the herders and farmers/the host community in the Southeast, the Federal Government should endeavour to establish Grazing Reserves and encourage Ranching; hence, there should be an urgent need to reform and improve grazing arrangements. As a first step, the Federal Government, working with state governors, should jointly survey, demarcate, and officially document existing grazing reserves that have yet to be overrun by human settlements and infrastructure. The Federal Government should follow its plan to establish new grazing reserves in the ten northern states that have already provided 55000 hectares. The federal government should help state governors develop these areas following the model provided by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which funds three reserves in Sokoto state.

The Federal Government should also encourage ranching as it is the world's best practice, as we can see in other African and developed countries as cattle-rearing is a private business. The Federal and State Governments should intensify the implementation of the "Great Green Wall Initiative" for the Sahara and the Sahel. Here, Nigeria's National Agency for the Great Green Wall aims to rehabilitate 22500 square km of degraded land, which should be taken very seriously. The Federal Government and the state governors need to work together, take immediate steps to set up security outfits for herders' and farmers' protection, strengthen conflict resolution mechanisms, and initiate longer-term efforts to reform livestock management practices, address negative environmental trends, and curb cross-border movements of both cattle rustlers and armed herder. In effect, the following steps must be taken to avoid further conflict between the two parties in the South East and Nigeria.

An immediate step should be taken to improve security for herders, farmers and the host communities. At a minimum, the federal government and its security agencies should intensify operations against cattle rustlers, improve systems to track livestock movement and trade, arrest herders and individuals who carry illegal firearms, and prosecute suspected assailants. Government should strengthen police capacity to curb rustling and banditry; In recent years, the Federal Government and state governors of the Southeast

and governors of other affected states need to initiate several joint efforts against cattle rustlers and bandits, as witnessed in July 2015, when the governors of Niger, Kaduna, Kano, Sokoto, Kebbi, Katsina, and Zamfara states jointly funded an Anti-rustling Operation in the KamukuKuyanbana forests that straddle all six states. The operation involved four organizations: the Nigeria Army, Nigeria Police Force, Nigerian Security Service, Civil Defense Corps, and Directorate of State Security. Again, the government should consider shifting its strategy from curbing cattle rustling and other banditry from episodic military operations to steadily deploying more and better-equipped police units in rural and forested areas where bandit groups are based. This would allow police to respond rapidly to incidents and discourage further attacks on the farmers/host community.

The Federal Government should follow through on promises to stop herders' attacks on farmers and the communities in the Southeast. The police and Nigerian security and civil defence corps must focus on preventive measures, including community liaison mechanisms to upgrade intelligence gathering. Here, early warning signals and rapid response mechanisms should be incorporated into their system. Meanwhile, the foremost priority is to curb the influx and possession of illegal firearms.

- **Better coordination between Federal and State law enforcement agencies**

This would be another critical step; here, the Federal Government could set up an inter-agency task force overseen by the Federal Ministry of Justice to help states investigate significant cases of herder-farmer violence in the South East and Nigeria in general and bring culpable parties to justice. At a minimum, the Federal Government could investigate major high-fatality incidents that have occurred under its watch.

- **Support Community-Based Conflict Resolution**

Local and community-based dispute resolution mechanisms have proved effective in averting violence and helping communities recover from conflict; on that ground, the federal and state governments need to put in place a forum that can allow various constituencies like farmers, pastoralists, community vigilantes, and state security agencies to monitor, identify, discuss, and manage potential threats that can be helpful.

- **Regional Cooperation**

Some dimensions of the herder-farmer conflict can only be fully addressed within a regional framework. This will require the Federal Government to work closely with the neighbouring countries to manage human and cattle movements across borders and fight illicit arms trafficking. Following the revelation that foreign herders were involved in attacks on farming communities, the former Minister of Agriculture, Chief Audu Ogbeh, said the government would present proposals at the African Union to compel members' countries to take steps to prevent their herders from grazing into neighbouring countries, warning that there could be a major international crisis if something is not done to stop it now. On that note, the government should engage the governments of Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and the ECOWAS Commission to reach an agreement on how to collectively monitor and regulate international Transhumance pastoralists in accordance with relevant ECOWAS protocols. It should also strengthen regional cooperation in combating desertification caused by climate change. In addition, the government should prioritize taking firm and transparent steps to ensure better protection for herders and farmers in Nigeria and the South East. The Federal Government's failure to define a clear and coherent political approach to resolving the crisis or even acknowledge its scope puts Nigerian citizens at risk.



The government should establish grazing reserves in consenting states and improve livestock production and management to minimize contact and friction between herders and farmers. This will entail developing grazing reserves in the ten northern states where governments have already earmarked lands. In effect, formulating and implementing the ten-year National Ranch Development Plan proposed by the Stakeholders Forum, facilitated by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in April 2017, is a sure way to success. The Federal and State Governments should address the environmental factors that drive herders' migration to the Southeast. This will require implementing programs under the Great Green Wall Initiative for the Sahara and the Sahel, a Trans-African Project designed to restore drought and desert-degraded environments and livelihoods, including developing strategies for mitigating climate change impact in the far northern states. Thus, the Nigeria government should work with Cameroon, Chad, and Niger (the Lake Chad Basin Countries) to regulate movements across the border, mainly of cattle rustlers, armed herders and others that have been identified as aggravating internal tension and insecurity in Nigeria and South East in particular.

## **Conclusion**

Herdsmen-farmer conflict in the South East has mainly involved in disputes over land resources between herders, farmers, and the host communities across the zones. Since the return of democracy in 1999, series of attacks have taken place in the South East against farmers and the host communities, while the conflict has underlying economic and environmental reasons. It has also acquired religious and ethnic dimensions. Thus, thousands of people have lost their lives and property. Sedentary farming and rural communities is often target of attacks because of their vulnerability. There are fears that this conflict will spread to other geo-political zones, but this has often been down played by governments. In some zones, attacks on herders have also led them to retaliating by attacking other communities. Escalating conflicts between herders and farmers in the South-East has been the most pressing security challenges. This could generate blood shade on an even wider scale, unless the government makes ending to this violence a national priority. Meanwhile, South-East State governors need to formulate and implement steps to address the needs and grievances of all sides transparently, and equitably, strengthening law enforcement, supporting local conflict prevention, and resolution mechanism, establishing and protecting grazing reserves, would all make a significant and immediate difference.

In the longer term, the greater challenge will be curbing the arms influx and crucially addressing the environmental trends that are forcing herders to South East ward. Failure to take such step would spell greater danger for a region already battling other severe security challenges. Meanwhile, herdsmen migration to South Easts for the open grazing of their cattle. In this regard this practice, instead of giving birth to peace, love, unity and development, is giving birth to conflict, killing, raping, kidnapping and destruction of farmer's crops, property and attacking/killing of host communities. As a result, the idea of ranching has been offered as a solution to this herdsmen menace in the South East in particular as this is the international best practices in other African states like Swaziland, South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, among others. Moreover, the Archbishop of the Anglican Communion, Enugu Province, Most Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Chukwuma, requested the Federal Government to declare state of emergency in the South East over the herdsmen threat to security in the region.

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