

THE POWER OF CHOICE AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

WHO CARES?

A KEY NOTE PAPER PRESENTATION AT GOODLUCK JONATHAN FOUNDATION UK EVENT 2015

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In a country where the sole employer is the State, opposition means death by slow starvation. The old principle: who does not work shall not eat, has been replaced by a new one: who does not obey shall not eat. L. Trosky 1937.

But who cares? I can honestly look back and realize that everything happened for a reason. Everything that fell apart has fallen back into place beautifully and magically. Edie Brickell

Political leadership and electoral choice is the subject of this writing. We think of politics as those activities and behaviours associated with a group reaching 'collective decisions' and with individuals undertaking 'collective actions.'

The origin of politics may never be ascertained or established in view of its long debate. Some might believe it comes from our having fallen from grace by eating the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, with regards to first ever power struggle in the celestial or spiritual realm. My perspective leads to more empirical responses. Politics arises because groups of people have to do things together to achieve shared goals such as building a bridge, a community, or under certain circumstances, even to survive. There are things that we cannot achieve when we remain "unorganized." This is especially so when groups of individuals share a desire for something costly that they would accomplish as a group.

CHOICE

Politics as a game of rational choice, why choice is key determinant factor in selecting or electing democratic leadership and government.

Choice by the individual is presumed to follow her preferences but there are other variables that must be considered. So, for example, you may prefer to win the lottery rather than to pay for a bus ride, but since the cost of the lottery ticket can also lead you to gain nothing, you may find that the gamble isn't worth it. Your valuation is modified by the probabilities that are involved in a manner reflecting on the expected values as defined above. Similarly, you may wish to purchase both the bus ride and the lottery ticket, but discover that you don't have enough money in your wallet. Thus, your choice is constrained by the resources available to you. (This constraint is referred to as a budget constraint in economics, but in politics I tend to call it though constraint). Because when it comes to the effective use of one's voting right (One Vote Many Choice), the determinant of one's vote is the thought-mind as influenced by the visual/vocal expression within one's environment.

In other words, persons make choices over actions, to obtain valued outcomes (a presumption that - except when the actions themselves have positive or negative value - the ends must justify the means). The choices are made in some sort of constrained environment - usually constrained by three things: a defined set of outcomes, a budget or resource constraint, and some set of costs or prices. Social situations involve a set of individuals who presumably each have their own preference.

Thus, the differentiation is politicking between Nigeria and Britain is very wide, in terms ideological expressions and understanding which leads to a preponderant political party choice base on attributes and expectations.

PART I: THE LOGIC OF COLLECTIVE ACTION

We turn our attention to politics under two circumstances. Politics is vital when people share interests that are worth pursuing as a group but are too costly for any one individual or family to undertake alone. Politics also grabs our attention when politicians achieve things that are not in the people's interests. We would need to examine politics by analysing the positive basis for politics that grabs our moral attention. Why are political institutions needed when the interests of a group surpass the means of any single individual? And then we would consider how the political institutions can be driven toward other ends.

Politics enables us to achieve together what we can't achieve separately. This view enables us to connect the premises of rational choice with the political life we all observe. Mancur Olson, brilliantly used this connection to fashion the first models of collective action. He put the point clearly enough to catch political scientists' attention. As Olson put it in the opening of his 1965 blockbuster, *The Logic of Collective Action*:

"The idea that groups tend to act in support of their group interests is supposedly to follow logically from this widely held premise of rational, self-interested behavior. . . . But it is not in fact true that the idea that groups will act in their self-interest follows, logically from the premise of rational and self-interested behavior. . . . The notion that groups of individuals will act to achieve their common or group interests, far from being a logical implication of their individual interests, is in fact inconsistency.

PART II: COLLECTIVE CHOICE

We can see that groups can overcome inherent difficulties involved in providing themselves with public goods. Another aspect of the problem not discussed. Solving the dilemmas to achieve shared goals usually requires collective choice: a centralized decision. Just because unanimous support for some collective solution should always be possible, as all observers of politics have witnessed, rarely is collective choice of any sort - much less by unanimity - easy to come by. Frequently, more is needed than making sure the group is organized to collect and apply resources needed to carry out collective projects. Collective, binding decisions are required regarding what is to be done. This process is anything but simple. Some of the roadblocks that make for some of these difficulties are analysed in different context.

We humans have a long and difficult history trying to engineer 'good' political systems to reach collective choices. We have ruled ourselves with various sorts of regimes, which we might divide into two overly broad classes: authoritarian and democratic. And here, in spite of the contemporary Western bias to democracy, looking at the landscape of political history, one notices that humans have prospered under a variety of regimes. Civilization did not require democracy. But it did require an element of decent government. Since a degree of general prosperity is needed for the leaders, even the rare Stalins and Caligulas of the world have to consider constraints to their behavior in order to bolster the welfare of their

citizens. A true leader would sustain an active democracy, through a just and fair functional government, with a socially engaging society, which is the moving trend that the present administration of President Goodluck Jonathan is seriously achieving through his national policy frame-work, "Transformation Agenda".

They say he is weak and slow to action, some say he a Soft-Power leader, but has out-performed any past presidents/Head-of-State before him, in terms of deliverable projects in social-infrastructures and economic development in his four years in office. Here are most of his "Transformation Agenda" implemented nation-wide projects across the country. It important here also to note that before his fully inception of office in 2011, a project re-evaluation was carried out , to determine projects outstanding/abounded from previous administrations, the result showed that there were over 6,000 abounded and uncompleted federal projects by the Obasanjo's administration, and many of which his administration have taking on board in the good spirit of continuity and sustainability of government policy programs and good governance.

TRANSFORMATION AGENDA PROJECTS COMPLETED AND ONGOING 2015

EDUCATION

1. 125 Almajiri Schools in 13 Northern States.
2. 27 Special girl's school.
3. 12 New Federal Universities.
4. 34 new NCE awarding institutions.
5. 101 Presidential Special Scholarship for Innovation and development.
6. 10 Million increase in Basic education enrolment (UBEC)
7. 75% Increase in O'Level credit pass in Math and English.
8. 100 Innovation Enterprise Institutions licensed.
9. 7000 lecturers sponsored for post graduate studies home and abroad.

10. 51 Polytechnic laboratories rehabilitated.

11. Doubled increase on Education allocation.

12. 104 candidates scaled the final hurdle (First Class Graduates) for Presidential scholarship award and were asked to apply to study in any of the top 25 universities in the world approved for the scheme for their PhD.

LIST OF NEW FEDERAL UNIVERSITIES

1] Federal University, Lafia, Nasarawa State. - North Central.

2] Federal University, Lokoja, Kogi State. - North Central.

3] Federal University, Kashere, Gombe State. - North East.

4] Federal University, Wakari, Taraba State. - North East.

5] Federal University, Dutsin-Ma, Katsina State. - North West.

6] Federal University, Dutse, Jigawa State. - North West.

7] Federal University, Otuoke, Bayelsa State. - South South.

8] Federal University, Ndufe-Alike, Ebonyi State. - South East.

9] Federal University, Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State. - South West.

INDUSTRIS

1. Under GEJ, Nigeria has two automobile industries manufacturing vehicles, Innoson Moto's in Nnewi Anambara state and Nissan Group in Lagos.

2. Nigeria exports cement. Dangote has built the largest Cement factory in Africa, situated in Ogun State.

HOUSING

1. Mortgage - The Nigerian Mortgage Refinancing Corporation was set up to enable 200,000 affordable mortgages within 5 years at affordable interest rate.
2. Over 61,000 housing units have been built in six geographical zones.

SPORTS

1. Nigeria won the African Nations Cup (last won in 1994),
2. Nigeria won FIFA U-17 world cup (Last won in 2007)
3. World Athletic Championship 4 medals (No medal since 2000)

POWER

- Launch of the Roadmap for Power Sector Reform. The Roadmap launched sets out a clear implementation plan of the Electricity Power Sector Reform Act (2005) as a reaffirmation of the commitment to resolve the power crises and setting the path for power sector Improvement.
- The Re-instatement of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission. The regulatory body was strengthened with a new Chairman and Commissioners sworn in for the purpose of providing appropriate regulatory functions for the electricity market in Nigeria.
- The Jonathan administration unbundled the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) into 18 successor companies for greater efficiency and effectiveness in power generation and distribution.
- Creation of the Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Plc. The President inaugurated the CEO and board of the Nigerian Bulk Electricity Trading Plc (also known as the Bulk Trader) in August 2011. The requisite environment for private sector investment in the Nigerian Power Sector has been created by establishing a credit-worthy take-over of power, NBET Plc, who provides confidence to the power generating companies that they will be paid for power produced.
- The Jonathan administration launched the Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation Lighting Scheme. This is to promote and encourage the use of energy efficient bulbs and lighting systems in order to create an energy conservation culture

- The Federal Government of Nigeria entered into an MOU with worldwide leaders in the power sector, General Electric. The MOU stipulates that General Electric will invest up to 15 percent equity in power projects in the country summing up to 10,000MW capacity by the year 2020. General Electric also proposes to establish local packaging facility for small aero-derivative turbines in Nigeria which will promote job creation.
- Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the US- EX-IM. Bank. The EX-IM Bank of the United States of America signed an MOU with the Federal Government of Nigeria to provide an investment window of up to \$1.5BN for investors willing to invest in the Nigerian Power Sector. This is the first time such quantum of money will ever be made available by the US Exim Bank for a specific sector in Africa.
- The Goodluck Jonathan administration has improved the power generation from around 2000 megawatts to 4502 megawatts in December 2012 the highest since Nigeria returned to democratic rule in 1999.
- By July this year, power generation will hit 6,000 megawatts and by December this year it will hit 10,000 megawatts (assurance given last week by Minister of State for Power).
- All ten Power Plants under the National Integrated Power Projects (NIPP) scheme to be commissioned by the end of this year. At the moment, majority of them have reached 95 percent completion stage.
- Improved power supply has been boosted in part by the emergency declared in the Gas sector last year by President Jonathan. At the time gas supply was insufficient. But now, thanks to the intervention by Mr. President, Nigeria now produces more gas than is required for domestic consumption.
- For more efficient power supply, the Jonathan administration has privatized the power distribution companies (DISCOs) under a most transparent bid process.
- Today, large parts of an unprecedented number of cities and towns across the country are enjoying between 14 to 16 hours of uninterrupted power supply, except in some few areas where localized problems of power distribution network have created bottlenecks for smooth transmission.

AGRICULTURE

- In 2012 14 new rice mills with capacity to process 240 metric tons of rice were set up by the private sector while in addition, a sum of 1.2 billion dollars was secured by the Federal Government to install 100 large scale rice processing mills to produce 2.1 million metric tons of rice annually.
- This and other initiatives of government in 2012 resulted in the creation of about two million new jobs among rural dwellers. In 2013, the Federal Government will implement a Young Graduates Commercial Farmers Scheme, which will absorb 780,000 graduates in its first phase and provide an estimated four million jobs in the agricultural sector in the first year.
- Today, Nigeria has reached an unprecedented 60 per cent sufficiency in rice production, a feat, which the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) recently described as capable of raising world rice output to a record high in the next 12 next months.
- The Federal Ministry of Agriculture has set a clear goal to make the country self-sufficient in rice production by 2015 and end the N 356 Billion currently spent on importing rice annually, as well as replace up to 40% of the wheat imports for which the country spends over N 635 Billion annually, by 2015.
- The Nigeria Agricultural Bank is being restructured and recapitalized to provide loans to peasant farmers at single digit interest rates. This will be the most remarkable fund injection initiative ever undertaken by any government to empower rural peasant farmers and create wealth for rural dwellers.
- Export of dried cassava chips began in July 2012 and this represented the first time that Nigeria will achieve commercial scale export of dried chips, which will earn the country \$136 million annually in foreign exchange.
- The Jonathan administration is resuscitating the production of Cotton particularly in the Northeast and Northwest zones of Nigeria through the provision of improved cotton seedlings, which have been given free of charge to farmers. This will definitely result in the

resuscitation of the upstream and downstream cotton/textile subsector before the end of 2013.

- Nigeria is the largest producer of cassava in the world with 34 million MT produced per annum

- In the last one year following the efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture under the Agriculture Transformation Agenda of the Jonathan administration, around \$8 billion in private investments have been attracted to agro-business, crop production, processing and other forms of value addition.

- The Jonathan administration cleansed the rot in the fertilizer distribution system. Under the previous system, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development procured and distributed fertilizers to farmers. The system undermined the private sector and only about 11 percent of the farmers received fertilizers. The rest were sold to friends and 'political farmers' whom exported them. President Jonathan's intervention dismantled in 60m days, this corrupt system, which had existed for over 40 years and fertilizers are now sold directly to farmers and not to government.

- The Ministry launched a Growth Enhancement Scheme, where farmers receive 50% subsidy on fertilizers, for a maximum of two bags, through the use of their mobile phones or what we call Electronic-wallet system (or E-wallet). In 120 days, over 1.2 million farmers bought their subsidized fertilizers using the E-wallet system. Over 1.5 million farmers will be reached by the end of the dry season. A total of 138,802.7 metric tons of fertilizer and 10,974.78 metric tons of seeds in 517 active redemption centres out of all the 804 centres spread across all states of the federation. The E-wallet system is the first of its kind in Africa and already several African countries have indicated they want to implement the Nigerian system.

- Multilateral and bilateral agencies are providing donor-related investment support and have shown enthusiasm for the major reforms on-going in Nigeria's agriculture by committing more \$1 billion towards Nigeria's Agricultural Transformation Agenda. The World Bank Group is providing \$500 million. African Development Bank (AFDB) has committed \$250 million. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has selected Nigeria as a

priority country for its investment in agriculture. The International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) has put up \$80 million. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has committed \$60 million. The UK Government, through DFID has committed £37 million. The Tony Elumelu Foundation, Ford Foundation and UNDP are providing significant technical support facilities.

ROADS

- A total of 651km of roads was paved in bituminous layers in 2012.
- A total of 32 Highway projects were completed in 2012.
- Following the recent effects of floods in some parts of the country, the administration intervened by constructing new bridges and re-instating washed out embankments.
- The Ministry of Works on the order of President Jonathan unveiled Operation Safe Passage, a programme aimed at recovering deplorable sections of major roads in the country to ameliorate the sufferings usually experienced by road users during festive seasons. Under this programme, key roads in the six geo-political zones of the country, were rehabilitated.
- 80 projects prioritized in 2012 two have been completed, three are over 90 percent completed, five are over 80 percent completed, eighteen are between 50-79 percent complete while the rest are in different stages of completion.
- The radical intervention by the Subsidy Reinvestment Programme SURE-P in the road sector in 2012 resulted in accelerated work on the rehabilitation of the following projects:

Abuja-Abaji-Lokoja;

Benin-Ore-Sagamu dual carriageway;

Onitsha-Enugu-Port Harcourt dual carriageway;

Kaduna-Maiduguri dual carriageway;

East-West Road

The Second Niger Bridge for which a sum of five billion naira has been set aside.

These roads cover a distance of 1,664 kilometres and are at various stages of completion. Most of these projects are due for completion and commissioning in this year...

- As a major turnaround Federal Government also terminated the concessioning agreement with Bi Courtney Company on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Lagos-Ibadan expressway. The road rehabilitation work is currently been handled by two construction firms and will be completed by 2015.

- The Jonathan administration has entered into collaboration with multi-lateral agencies under the Road Sector Development Team (RSDT) scheme.

- Under this framework, the RSDT is currently implementing road rehabilitation, upgrading and maintenance, institutional strengthening and policy reform, and road safety improvements with the credit from the World Bank; and additional funding from the Africa Development Bank (AFDB).

- The RSDT in collaboration with multi-lateral agencies rehabilitated/ maintained a total of 257 kilometres of road length in 2012. Two projects under the scheme, the Mokwa-Bida Road and the Akure-Ilesha Road will have their contracts awarded in June.

- Also, the Ministry of Works is currently working out modalities for the execution of the dualisation of the Keffi-Lafia-Makurdi-Enugu (9th Mile) roads in Nasarawa, Benue and Enugu States with funds from the Export-Import Bank of China.

AVIATION

- The administration at the end of 2011 earmarked 22 airports for rehabilitation and reconstruction and by the end of October 2012, over 50 percent had been commissioned for public use with. The remaining eleven would be completed in 2013.

- In addition to re-modelling, the Jonathan administration has approved the sum of N106 billion for the construction of five new airport terminals in Lagos, Kano, Port Harcourt, Abuja and Enugu as well as six cargo terminals to be managed under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) Scheme

1. National Aviation Master plan and Road map was developed and is being implemented

2. Air Safety - INSTALLATION of cutting age navigational aids and Instruments Landing Systems, including runway lights and Total Radar Coverage (TRACON)
3. Airport Infrastructure - For the first time in three decades, ALL 22 federally owned airports are being remodelled and renovated.
4. Cargo Airport - 16 airports close to nation's food baskets designed to transport perishables.
5. New Terminal for 5 International Airports at Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt, Kano and Enugu.
6. Certification - US Category 1 Certification attained.

TRANSPORTATION

- The Jonathan administration inaugurated the Lagos-Kano train service, which had been moribund for almost a decade. This is a major feat considering the long years of decay in the rail transportation sector.
- The Eastern rail line from Port Harcourt to Maiduguri is being rehabilitated as well as the fixing of the Zaria/Kaura Namoda rail route.
- The Abuja to Kaduna 187 kilometre rail line is about more than 30 per cent completed.
- the Ajaokuta-Warri Standard Gauge Rail line will be completed any time now. This will provide a less than four-hour journey between the Middle-belt and the South- South.
- The Lagos-Ibadan new gauge rail line, which was also initiated last year is on course.
- The Federal Government has completed three feasibility studies and commissioned three others to open new railway corridors, which will be concessioned to local and foreign investors. An unprecedented investment of 200 billion dollars will flow into the Nigerian economy through these concessions in 2013 and 2014 with over 10 million new jobs of skilled and unskilled labourers (engineers, technicians, machinists, accountants) created in the next two years.

SURE-P PROJECTS

- In 2012 N9 billion was spent By the Subsidy Removal and Re-Investment Programme (SURE-P)on:

500 Primary Health Centres (PHC) across the 36 states and FCT of the Federation.

Employment and deployment of skilled Health Workers- Midwives, Community Health Workers (CHEWs), and Village Health Workers (VHWs).

Upgrading, Equipping and Supplying of Drugs to the 500 PHCs across the six geopolitical zones are being done.

Selection of 125 General Hospitals across the 36 states and the FCT. Equipping and upgrading their Maternity section to provide comprehensive intervention for complicated Maternal and Child cases from the PHCs is being done.

- 4,604 jobs created for health workers in 2012.

ECONOMY

- Statistics show that Nigeria has become the favoured destination of investors coming into Africa recording the highest investment of \$8.4billion (around 930 billion). Government's target is to attract \$20 billion worth of foreign investments in three years.

- The Jonathan administration's handling of the economy led to JP Morgan Chase the reputable American investment and Securities Company to list Nigeria on its Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets (GBI-EM). It is the second African company after South Africa to be listed. This inclusion of Nigerian bonds could mean an 'inflow of at least \$1.5 million of inflow into Nigeria's bond market'. The listing will also improve the profile of Nigeria's debt market.

- The Jonathan administration has in less than two years put Nigeria on the path of economic recovery. In 2011 for instance the Nigerian economy following International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecast, Nigeria was expected to witness 5.9 percent GDP growth but figures from the Federal Bureau of Statistics in Nigeria showed that by third quarter of 2011 the GDP growth stood at 7.3 percent

WATER

- The Jonathan administration has remained committed to the UN resolution in July 2010 on the “Right to Water”, which formally acknowledged the right of every human being to water.
- Pursuant to this, in February this year it organized a Presidential Summit on water to seek more effective ways of preserving national water and make same available to Nigerians.
- To check the menace of flooding and prevent a repeat of the flood disaster experienced last year, the Federal Ministry of Water Resources recently released the 2013 Annual Flood Outlook for Nigeria
- The document evaluated the flood scenario in 2012 and analysed the most likely areas to experience flood in 2013. It has also offered suggestions to all stakeholders and the general public on how to reduce the anticipated flooding as a result of expected increase in rainfall this year.
- The Jonathan administration has revitalized the 12 River Basin Development Authorities (RBDAs) nationwide.
- The RBDAs have helped in boosting food production through resuscitation of equipment, rehabilitation of production units such as processing of rice milling, palm oil, fisheries, palm oil, bottled water etc.
- The RBDAs have also helped in redistribution and redeployment of idle equipment, improvement of water management within basin catchment e.g. the Chad and Hadejia-Jamare basins, where the Ministry of Water Resources repaired the Challawa Gates for release of water downstream.
- Nine dams completed in 2012 and 125,000 jobs created in the process.
- Ten irrigation projects deployed in 2012 for crop production. Four other irrigation projects completed and ready for commissioning.

- Residents in 125 Local governments sensitized via sanitation programme for attitudinal change.

- 52,384 jobs created in 2012 four completed irrigation projects costing several billions of naira.

PENSION REFORMS

- Before the Jonathan administration came on board, the pension funds administration regime was one the major channels through which public funds running into hundreds of billions of Naira are misappropriated by corrupt officials.

- Problems associated with the pension management system include embezzlement, falsification of records, Ghost pensioners, obsolete administrative structure and denial of pensioners their due entitlements. This was what necessitated the setting up of the presidential pension Reform Task Team. The activities of this important task force resulted in the following:

- Detection and deletion of over 73,000 Ghost/Fake pensioners from the Head of Service/police pension office.

- Stoppage of a monthly theft of over N4 billion from the National treasury.

- Saving a monthly sum of over N1billion from the police monthly pension releases.

- Discovery of over 50,000 unpaid pensioners and immediate payment of their entitlement.

- Discovery of over N2.7billion fraud by the Nigeria Union of Pensioners.

- Seizure of about 200 properties including choice hotels and cash worth billions of Naira from corrupt public officials.

- Arrest and on-going prosecution of pension fraud suspects by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).

- Introduction of a more efficient tamper-proof pension funds management system.

OIL INDUSTRY REFORMS

- In line with global best practices and the principal aim of the Nigerian Extractive industry and Transparency Initiative (NEITI), President Jonathan recently forwarded the Petroleum Industry Bill to the National Assembly for passage into law.

- By the time the Petroleum Industry Bill is passed into law, Nigeria would have successfully broken the jinx of being a Nation where global business rules and practices are flouted with impunity. Estimated annual earnings of 680 billion dollars would be added to our Gross Domestic product. Crude oil theft and other sharp practices are also being combated with much vigor by various security and regulatory agencies on the president's instructions.

- Furthermore, the fuel subsidy regime which had been a conduit pipe through which huge funds were siphoned from the National treasury has been subjected to forensic scrutiny by various agencies and committees set up by Mr. President in the last twelve months.

- The Aig-Imoukhuede Presidential committee on verification and reconciliation of subsidy claims and payments led to the arrest and arraignment of a number of individuals and firms by the EFCC.

- It is also on record that the president, upon receipt of the House of Representatives subsidy probe panel report, forwarded same to relevant security agencies with a firm instruction that there must be no sacred cows in the prosecution of culpable individuals and corporate entities.

- The on-going implementation of this and other reports has resulted in huge savings of money hitherto stolen by corrupt public officials.

- These are initiatives which had not been taken by any other previous government.

ELECTORAL REFORMS

- President Goodluck Jonathan that this important process has been sanitized in a manner unprecedented in our political history.

- The reform carried out in this sector is responsible for the conduct of elections assessed by local and international observers as credible, free and fair.

- He has given the Nations electoral body a free hand to carry out its statutory duties without any form of direct or indirect manipulation. It takes a man who is committed to eradicating political corruption to do this in view of the apparent desperation of some politicians to capture power at all cost.

PORTS REFORMS

- Opportunities for bribery, documents forgery and other sharp-practices in the Nigerian ports have been substantially removed through a number of measures introduced by both the Ministries of Finance and that of Transport.

- A Presidential committee on ports reform and monitoring has worked assiduously to reduce congestion in our ports with the ultimate goal of a 48-hour goods clearing policy. The reforms in this sector are helping:

- To improve efficiency and transparency in ports operations and management.

- Reduce charges and promote competition.

- Facilitate the development of the transport sector.

- Eliminate ports congestion.

- Reduce government's financial burden.

LEGAL AND JUDICIAL REFORMS

- The Jonathan administration has since its inception been concerned securing convictions of suspects accused of economic crimes within a reasonable time frame.

- On the occasion of the swearing in of Justice Miriam Aloma Mukhtar as Chief Judge of the Federation in July 2012, President Jonathan admonished the new CJ to consider the creation of special courts and designation of special judges to adjudicate on corruption cases.

- In addition, the President as the head of the Executive Arm of government has also initiated a reform of the criminal justice system as a means of plugging loop holes often exploited by counsels to delay trial of persons accused of corruption.

- The office of the Attorney General and Minister of Justice has completed a new set of proposals which has been sent to the National Assembly. This bill, when passed into law, will remove incidence of frivolous injunctions, interlocutory motions, adjournments and other abuse of court processes by counsel employed by suspects in corruption cases.
- The CJN has keyed into the crusade for a reform of the judicial system by President Jonathan by taking steps to weed out judges who act on omission and commission are subverting delivery of justice.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

- The signing of the Freedom of Information Act into law by President Jonathan in May 2011 represents a water-shed in the anti-corruption crusade in Nigeria.
- This piece of legislation which had been virtually stalled by successive administrations since 1999 was signed into law by President Jonathan to usher Nigeria into the league of countries where transparency in governance is entrenched and citizens are granted access to unfettered information about government activities.
- It is noteworthy that the present administration took the bull by the horns to lay this very important foundation for the war against corruption in Nigeria in the early months of its inception and 24 hours after the bill was presented to him by the National Assembly.

CONCLUSION

Today President Goodluck Jonathan's transformation agenda is changing the social and economic environment of Nigeria that is impacting positively on the people after decades of neglect and rot. In spite of the security challenges Nigeria is facing, the president's achievements in his relatively short time in office speaks volumes. He has remained focussed on the policy approach, at the same-time working hard to limit and eradicate the spreading of Islamic fundamentalism, with terrorist insurgency across the country.

In his own words: “The urgent task of my administration is to provide a suitable environment, for productive activities to flourish. I therefore call on the good people of Nigeria, to enlist as agents of this great transformation”.

The chronicle here is based on Federal Government efforts as statutorily bestowed upon the President to carry out the duties and responsibilities; such as protection of properties and lives.

President Good luck Jonathan is the first Nigerian president to be warned publicly not to contest for elections on account of ethno-regional selfish interest, and promised mayhem and gridlock if he does. First president/head of state from the entire southern Nigeria, who is neither a northerner nor an ex-military man. First social media era president/ head of state.

First president/ head of state to evacuate Nigerians from trouble spots overseas by airlifting thousands of stranded citizens back home. First president/ head of state under whose tenure, multi-party system sustained a free/fair democratic processes; six different political parties have governors in Nigeria: Labour Party, ACN, PDP, APGA, ANPP, and CPC (please note: all court orders overturned in favour of opposition parties were all obeyed: Osun, Ekiti, etc).

The First president/ head of state to sign into law the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); replacing the 100 year old Official Secrets Act (OSA). 2011

The First president/ head of state to effectively outlaw toll-collecting of illegal police checkpoints on Nigerian roads.

President Goodluck Jonathan is also the first president/ head of state to introduce a National Tax Policy to create a self-sufficient economy that could bring development to the people.

President Goodluck Jonathan is the first president to summon the courage and real will-power to unbundle electricity distribution after 52 years. Problems inherited include (a) Low Capacity Power Generation, (b) Abandoned NIPP Projects, (c) Decadent State of Power

Distribution Administration, (d) Poor Gas Supply Initiatives, and (e) the inconclusive Power Privatization Plan.

In just under 2 years, power supply more than doubled after almost 100 years after amalgamation (met power supply at about 2,200 mw, now hovering between 3,237 mw and 4,000+ mw due to maintenance work after the completion of Power sector deregulation), and states have begun electricity distribution. 15 Private bidders have been presented their certificates for the first time in 100 years. The follow-up to a five year master-plan to boost and eventually increase the power generation capacity with help of the private investors from the present supply rate to over 40,000mw by 2019.

This election is going to be based on issues and purpose, driven expectations by the contesting candidates and party campaign team. They have all been speaking all over the place on their campaign train, trying to convince voters about what they stand for as a party and what they are going to do for the masses. But it is very clear and obvious that president Jonathan is on the move again for a successful election, over the rest because of the facts and figures evidently proven of his performance at the last election 2011, when he with a landslide victory, and PDP won majority of the states, proceeding that is his worthy achievements and developmental projects. The situation now is you and I to help support the voters to decide on how to cast their votes come with their heart in a rightful thinking place by Feb.14 2015. Who cares' then, well I care, and am sure that you too cares, and everyone that beliefs in the Nigerian project cares too.

If so, then let's use these tested formula in making our impact felt back in Nigeria, the formula is what we call RING4CHANGE. Call one member of your family or friends and tell them where to cast their vote on Election Day, and see the multiplier effect of such action would produce.

The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government. Thomas Jefferson

Whatever words we utter should be chosen with care for people will hear them and be influenced by them for good or ill. Buddha

Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care. Theodore Roosevelt

We are what our thoughts have made us; so take care about what you think. Words are secondary. Thoughts live; they travel far. Swami Vivekananda

If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself. Henry Ford.

“Who Cares about this great achievements by a modern day political ‘Realist ‘ with a stable “Soft-Power” approach to resolving national issues” . The people Cares; the whole nation Cares and we in the Diaspora Cares’....