

# The Causes of Pirate Attack on the Gulf of Guinea And the Adopted Solution in Africa

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## ABSTRACT

*In this paper, the research study on the causes of pirate attack on the gulf of guinea and the adopted solution in Africa is welcomed. This method was emphasized to solve and address the abnormal pirate attacks paraded on the gulf of guinea which involves the loss of lives, goods worth of millions, properties, ships, cargoes, income revenues, import and export materials and equipment that worth million dollars and investment, lost to pirates attacks especially the countries that sail across the gulf of guinea between the year 2004 to 2011. The experimental results were analyzed and validated from regional African statistical modules, the Nigeria statistical board, Guinea coastal board, the cry of good citizens who are victimized by pirate attacks, the vibrant NGO's and the local and the foreign media including television, Radio and New reports. The experimental method was conducted for validation on Pentium IV Systems, 40GB Hard disk, 3.2GB RAM, 2.5GB Processor and Microsoft office packages.*

**KEYWORD:** Guinea, Africa, Pirate, Attack, Foreigner, Sea, Ocean, Bounded, Gulf.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The operations of pirates have existed for more than 13 years and upto dates at different location, places, region, countries and the world at large. Pirate attacks have doubled its capability since the menace have not been controlled and rectified by the government, private establishment, NGO's and other bodies that could prevent such operations. The number of pirate attacks on the gulf of guinea has become African problem and the rest of the world and have not seen any vital solution to solve the trend. Pirate attack, as the name goes, is the severe and consistent attacks on life's, properties, ships, import and export goods and services by unscrupulous individual, group and people both on-shore and off-shore on countries bounded by the gulf. The gulf of guinea in Africa has been bedeviled by these illegal operations since 2003 and has brought numerous problems to the countries bounded by the sea. There are literature updates to these effects;

Olawale [1] discovered MEND attacks worsen piracy in gulf of Guinea. Nigeria coast rated second to Somalis'. Trans-national mafia fingered. He reported

that the recent attacks on security personnel by the movement for

the emancipation of Niger Delta (MEND) may have worsened Nigeria's rating on the handling of piracy in the gulf of Guinea. Nigeria is on the second place in the world after Somalia with a total of 58 pirate attacks on ships off Nigeria's coast in 2011 while Li [2] pioneered gulf of Guinea: Pirate attack mimic Somali tactics. He reported that the hijacking of a combined chemical and oil tanker off Benin has raised concerns that Somali tactics are being copied off West Africa. They hijacked the vessel and stole the cargo but did not take any crew members hostage as this is not really a trend in the gulf of Guinea.

Further more, Bockmann and Sheridan [3] discovered pirate's double gulf of Guinea attacks, Lured by tanker cargoes. They reported that pirate attacks in the gulf of Guinea doubled last month as more tankers were hijacked so their stolen oil-product cargoes could be solid on shore while Murdock [4] implemented piracy in West Africa's gulf of Guinea threatens local and world economics. He reported that from BBC reported two crew members were kidnapped and another injured on Tuesday, in the latest attack off the West coast Africa. A third crew member was missing after eight armed Dutch-owned cargo ship.

## 2. PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

This section highlights the causes of pirate attacks paraded on the gulf of guinea in Africa from 2004 to 2011.

### 2.1. JOBLESS YOUTH IN AFRICA

In Africa, about 58% of the youths are jobless and those with job are now out of jobs due to job cut by companies and industries as a result of economic meltdown experienced since 2002. As these youths are out of jobs, they become aggressive, angry, restless and starving. Series of wrong ideas and

imagination kept creeping in. As a result of these causes, they look for ways of surviving in order to feed themselves and their families. They join groups, gangs and factions that attack and terrorized people on the sea shore, across the boarder and on the coastal area of guinea. These groups used speed boats and pirate ships to attack, steal, loot and kidnapped citizen and foreigners for ransom of money on the sea shores.

## 2.2. UNSECURED BOARDER PROBLEM

Boarder checking and control are majorly carried out by immigration officers, NDLEA, military personnel, police force and special control team across the gulf of guinea. Each country that have access to this coastal sea of guinea in Africa are required to produce agents on the boarders to control import and export goods and services, investment into the country, save guard foreigners and trans-boarder control but unfortunately African continent in lacking in such areas. About 52% of the boarders in Africa are not properly secured against pirate's attacks, terrorist, hoodlums and illegal operations. As these boarders are not controlled, the pirates build up their camps, halts and hide out in caves, creeks etc. They import guns and ammunitions into the country through the weak boarders; they gather information from indoor informant about ships, goods, oil tanks and foreigner into the country. These immigrations and NDLEA agents etc are not properly motivated to give their best, leaving people, pirates and groups unchecked at the boarder and at the end, the pirate attacks kept expanding, causing havoc to the society and the foreigner on the gulf of guinea.

## 2.3. MULTIPLE POVERTY IN AFRICA

Africa is poor, know doubt about it. The level of poverty is growing tremendously and is springing up different negative effect on the people in Africa. One of the deadly effects of multiple poverty in Africa is pirate attack on the coastal sea of guinea. More than 52% of the people leaving in Africa are poor. Majority of them can't get correct square meal regularly. 22% of them get 3 square meals per day, 33% of them get 2 square meals per day and 45% of them get 1 square meal per day as a result of multiple poverty created by the government, corruption in Africa and money laundry. Poverty in many families can not be controlled. As families can not get access to basic amenities, social amenities and even proper education, they become poor. At the end of the day, the bread winner of each family is forced to look for

other alternatives which lead to pirating, kidnapping, stealing, raping and terrorism across the gulf of guinea.

## 2.4. UNFUNDED PATROL TEAM IN AFRICA

The governments in Africa are sole responsible for the funding of patrol team across the gulf of guinea. The police force, the naval force and the joint task force that comprise of civil defense, mobile police, and state security service (SSS) and surveillance team are responsible for the joint patrol across the gulf of guinea. It's very sad to say that these teams are not properly funded by the government and other allied. Little or no remuneration are provided for them, life assurance scheme are not offered to them and their families incase of sudden death on duty, adequate ammunitions, and fighting equipments are not provided to combat pirate attacks. Also, surveillance and patrol vans, cameras, vehicles, aircraft, helicopters are not provided etc. All these fact, boiled down to unfunding by government. As these patrol teams are not provided with these funding, they become weak and defenseless to combat the hidout and whereabouts of pirates on the shore and off-shore. Even, majority of the patrol connive with pirates by supplying them with guns and ammunitions and later becomes their commandant in kidnapping people, stealing, rapping and demanding for ransom of money.

## 2.5. HUMAN TRAFFICKING ON THE SEA- SHORE

The number of human trafficking across the sea-shore is increasing day by day on the countries bounded by the gulf of guinea. Nigeria, Ghana, Guinea and other countries that share the coastal sea are faced with such problems. Each day, the media kept reporting the level of human trafficking on the sea-shore and the boarders. During trafficking, many of traffickers never get to their destinations. Some of them end up half way, killed and left in creeks, caves and rock across the sea-shore and since they can not return or cross to the other developed countries they leave in the creeks and caves. Since there are no means to livelihood, they end up forming groups, pirating with speed boats and ships, kidnapping people, killing sailors, impounding on export goods and jumping from ships to ships, making the pirate attacks more intense and hard to control on the gulf.

## 2.6. INEFFECTIVE LAWS IN

## AFRICA

There are millions of Laws and Acts pronounced by the government in Africa which are not helpful to the society at large. These are wrong Laws which could not eliminate pirate attacks. Such Laws causes more pirate attacks on people while the useful Laws that should protect the people are not implemented and monitored. Laws like freedom of speech, Bridge of freedom, Terrorist acts, Pirates acts etc are not implemented and monitored. Pirate attacks are waxing stronger and people's lives and properties are not protected due to ineffective Laws. Africa is yet to get, the proper motive of Laws enactment, implementation and follow up. Until, the right Laws are pronounced, the menace of pirate attacks would persist and continue to exist on the country bounded by the gulf of Guinea.

### 2.7. THE FALLOUT OF WAR IN AFRICA

Few decades ago, African continent has been under war, is either the military is fighting the civilian or the civilian is fighting the government or rebels are fighting allied forces or military forces implement coup to overthrow the existing government or the president refused to step down after being defeated in an election. These are avenue that spring up fallout of war in Africa. As these wars are on going, people ran far to protect their life's, parents and youth, camps are setup for attacks etc. As the military and war fighters engaged in war battle, the whole country is disturbed. When the war is over, people become restless, starving, and angry and finally fall into hardship. Since the citizens can no longer secure their properties, wealth and children as a result of war fallout, they go pirating to survive. They spring up groups and gangs on the sea-shore, killing, stealing and attacking innocent people across the sea. This is a major cause of pirate attack experienced for so long on the gulf of Guinea in Africa.

## 3. SOLUTION PROPOSED

This section highlights the solution proposed that would solve the lingering problems emanating from the causes of pirate attack on the gulf of Guinea from 2004 to 2011 in section 2.

### 3.1. PROVISION OF COUNTLESS JOBS FOR THE YOUTH

It is the duty of the government, companies and industries owners to provide jobs for the jobless

youth. The youths need to be engaged in one or two jobs to make them responsible to the society. "An idle mind is a devil workshop", this is a popular saying in Africa especially in Nigeria. When youth are out of job, negative thought and thinking creep in. Many of these pirate groups are jobless youth who do not have government jobs, employment in companies, industrial jobs or be self-employed. When government and other agents provide jobs and 68% of the people are able to get employment, then the idea of pirate attack, killing innocent's people, kidnapping foreigners and citizens and capturing of sailors and ships with goods across the gulf of Guinea would automatically be eradicated on the gulf of Guinea.

### 3.2. ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN AFRICA



As mentioned in section 2.3, poverty in Africa needs to be eradicated to the fullest. "Imagine an African without poverty instinct", how wonderful it would look. Poverty is bad, know doubt about it, it should be eradicated gradually from Africa. The ways suggested in eradicating this poverty in Africa which serves as a tool to pirates on the gulf of Guinea includes; the government should stop corruption, Looting and Money laundry experienced in Africa should stop. The wealth generated should be disbursed to all quarters of the federation to improve infrastructure, facilities, management, implementation and welfare of the citizen. The citizenry should be educated to aid poverty eradication and uncivilized people should be made civilized. When all these points are put implaced, pirate attack experienced for so many years would vanish into the thin air.

### 3.3. ENACTMENT OF PIRATE LAWS

People are not meant for Laws but rather Laws are meant for the people to obey and adopt. The state house or the government in Africa should enact

pirate Laws that would eliminate pirate attacks on the gulf of Guinea. Laws like; jail terms to any pirate offenders, life sentence to any pirate person or group found guilty of killing innocent citizens and foreigners, jail term to any person found trafficking of human across the boarder and the coast of Guinea, 10 years imprisonment to any citizen that bridge freedom of expression and 5 years jail term to any citizen and foreigner found kidnapping for ransom of money. When all these Laws are forcefully implemented, on the countries bounded by the gulf of Guinea then pirate attacks would disappear.

### 3.4. FUNDING OF ANTI-PIRATE PATROL SQUAD

Anti-pirate patrol squad is group of people legally established by Law or act to fight the menace of pirates across the region, oceans, seas, borders, air or at rail terminal. This anti-pirate patrol squad required government backing and funding in order to execute their various functions. A maximum amount of money should be allocated to fund anti-pirate patrol squad and bridge insecurity in the state or country.

Figure 1. Anti-pirate patrol ship on the gulf of Guinea.

This anti-pirate patrol required total funding which include; welfare package, ammunitions, guns, weapons, ships, combat trucks, surveillance aircraft and helicopters, Laptops, cameras, web facilities, training kits, insurance package, oversea training and new techniques in combating crimes at the sea level. As a means of solution, other agencies, NGO's, United Nations and Africa union should deliberate on a round table discussion on ways and modalities of funding anti-pirate patrol squad on the gulf of Guinea. At the end, some conclusive measures should be taking which would automatically eliminate the pirate attacks on the coastal areas of guinea.

### 3.5. ERADICATION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACROSS THE BOARDERS

There are different boarders attached to the gulf of Guinea. Such boarders include; Nigeria boarder, Ghana boarder, Cameroon boarder, Guinea boarder, Angola boarder etc. These are boarders where human trafficking takes place on daily basis. As mentioned in section 2.5, human trafficking is also a major cause to

pirate attack. The question is? Can human trafficking be eradicated without yielding any pirate hide out on the gulf of Guinea? To eradicate human trafficking across the boarder, we should; improve boarder checking during the day and at night, prevent human traffic overflow on the borders, eliminate bribery and corruption carried out by agencies, eliminate the enthusiasm of greener pasture oversea presents in our society, importation of goods, human and services should be controlled and checked, Anti-pirate squad should be introduced to stop trafficking. When all these points are implemented, automatically human trafficking that causes pirate camps and hide out would be eradicated on the gulf of Guinea.

### 3.6. ELIMINATION OF WAR IN AFRICA

War in Africa should be eliminated and total discarded. The fallout of war is devastating and unpleasant. Tolerance should be encouraged, ethnic values, religion, culture and tradition of all in African should be encouraged. What so ever would spring up war should be eradicated from Africa. War out brake, is one of the factor that causes pirate spring up on the gulf of Guinea. All hands should be on desk to eradicate war in Africa so that pirate attacks recorded by the countries bounded by the coastal gulf sea would be eliminated.

## 4.0 RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This section highlights the result obtained from the samples analyzed from different quarters on the percentage level of the causes of pirate attack on the gulf of Guinea from 2004 to 2011 in Africa.

Table 1. The validation table of data sampled on the percentage level of the causes of pirate attack on the gulf of Guinea.

S/N	LC (%)	2004 (YR)	2005 (YR)
1	JOBLESS YOUTH	62	60
2	UNSECURED BOARDER	80	76
3	POVERTY IN AFRICA	70	67
4	HUMAN TRAFFICKING BY SEA	63	66
5	INEFFECTIVE LAWS	71	72

6	WAR FALLOUT IN AFRICA	63	59
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2006 (YR)	2007 (YR)	2008 (YR)	2009 (YR)	2010 (YR)	2011 (YR)
63	58	57	58	60	59
78	81	81	75	73	70
69	66	65	63	59	56
67	70	72	69	67	64
69	67	65	62	60	57
57	61	58	59	57	53

KEY:

LC (%) = % LEVEL OF THE CAUSES OF PIRATE ATTACK ON THE GULF OF GUINEA, YR = YEAR

Figure 1. Represent Anti-pirate patrol ship on the gulf of Guinea. It is a simple and standard anti-pirate patrol ship that safe guard life, send warning signal to pirate, rescue victim and ships captured by pirate and patrol 24/7 every day to ensure that the coast of Guinea is free of attack and loss of life.

Table 1. Represents the validation table analyzed from the samples collected at different location that justify the percentage level of the causes of pirate attack on the gulf Guinea.

In 2004, the percentage level of jobless youth is 62%, 58% in 2007, 60% in 2010 and 59% in 2011. There is a mix increase and decrease from 2004 to 2011 while on the percentage level of unsecured boarder, 80% in 2004 then from 2005 to 2007, there was increase from 76% to 81%, it remain static in 2007 and 2008 and then dropped from 75% to 70% in 2009 to 2011.

The percentage level of poverty in Africa was about 70% in 2004, 67% in 2005, then from 2006 to 2011, there was a sharp decrease from 69% to 56% while the percentage of human trafficking by sea shows that there was a sharp increase from 63% to 72% in 2004 to 2008 and then dropped from 72% to 64% in 2008 to 2011.

The percentage level of ineffective Laws increases from 71% to 72% in 2004 to 2005, then suddenly dropped from 69% to 57% in 2006 to 2011 while for war fallout in Africa, the percentage level decreases

from 63% to 57% in 2004 to 2006, 61% in 2007 until, it dropped to 58% in 2008, it increase to 59% in 2009 and finally dropped to 53% in 2011.

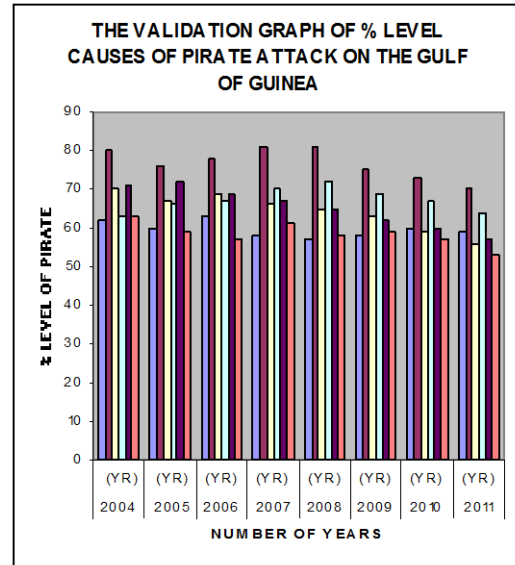


Figure 2. The validation graph of the percentage level of the causes of pirate attack on the gulf of Guinea.

Figure 2. Represents the validation graphs with respect to the causes of pirate attack on the gulf of Guinea in Africa. In the graph; the yellow spot represents the percentage of jobless youth which has a maximum of 62% in 2004. The pink spot represents the percentage of unsecured boarder, with a minimum of 70% in 2011. The blue spot represents the percentage level of poverty in Africa, with a maximum of 70% in 2004.

The brown spot represents the percentage level of human trafficking by sea, with a maximum of 72% in 2008. The light pink spot represents the percentage level of ineffective Laws in Africa, which has a minimum of 57% in 2011 and finally, the purple spot represents the percentage level of war fallout in Africa with a maximum of 63% in 2004.

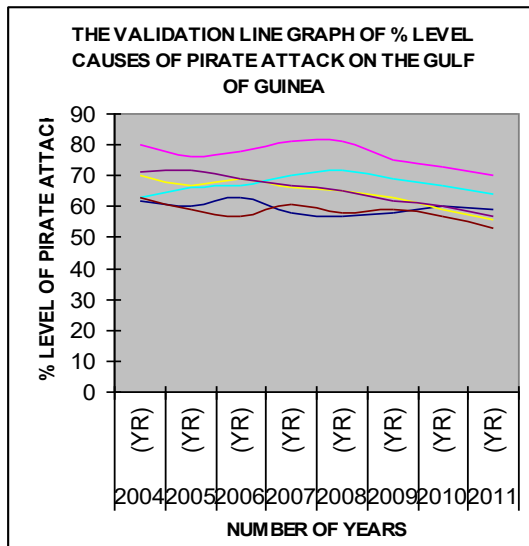


Figure 3. The validation line graph of the percentage level of the causes of pirate attack on the gulf of Guinea.

In figure 3, the line graph shows a wave form from 2004 to 2011. The red line represents the percentage level of jobless youth, the blue line represents the percentage level of unsecured boarder, the light green line represents the percentage level of poverty in Africa, the green line represents the percentage level of human trafficking by sea, the pink line represents the percentage level of ineffective Laws while the brown line represents the percentage level of war fallout in Africa.

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

We have simply analyzed and validated the results obtained from the samples. The experimental analysis has shown to be robust, authentic and effective to justify the causes of pirate attack on the gulf of Guinea and the proposed solution adopted to solve the lingering problems. The implementations of these solutions would automatically solve the challenges faced on the cause of pirate attack in Africa. The future papers expected include; the after effect of militant group in Niger delta and the effect of continuous bombing in Nigeria.

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