

# The Impact of Force Migration on Internally Displaced Persons and Housing Scarcity in Mashamari Ward of Jere Local Government Area, Borno State

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**Abstract:** Internally displaced persons (IDPs) are people who have been forced to flee their homes due to violence or conflict but still remain within the border of their country (UNHCR 2014). A serious source of concern however lies with internally displacement of persons arising from human induced violent clashes and conflict in recent times. IDPs arising from violent and clashes are victims of various kind of injustices or violent confrontations, perpetrated against them by their own government or agent of communal clashes, natural disasters, religious conflict among others. At the end housing scarcity is present when there is no sufficient housing to accommodate the population in an area. The main objective of the study is to identify the Impact of Force Migration on Internally Displaced Persons and Housing Scarcity in Mashamari Ward of Jere Local Government Area. The specific objectives of the paper is to examine the challenges facing by Internally Displaced Person (IDPs) living in the host community in terms of accommodation, to examine the causes and effects of high price rent in the host community, and to identify the Socio-economic characteristics of the Displaced persons in Mashamari ward of Jere Local Government Area. The study reviewed relevant literature after which conflict theory was used as the theoretical framework, the theory explained that those with wealth and power try to hold on to it by any means possibly to suppress the poor and powerless to become less privilege in terms of accommodation and good standard of living. The data were obtained from primary and secondary sources. The primary sources derived from the questionnaires, while the secondary data were obtained from the review of relevant literature such as books, newsletters, journals and articles. Purposive sampling techniques were used. A total number of 100 respondents comprising of 68 male and 32 female, aged between 18-60 years were involved. The data was presented in form of frequency and percentages. The results strongly suggest that most of the IDP's faced several challenges, problems, as well as bad attitude towards them in the host community in terms of accommodation. It was therefore recommended that, the IDP's lack strong support from the government and other humanitarian agencies to provide them with adequate shelter and means of livelihood before they return back to their homes.

**Keywords:** Impact, Forced Migration, Internally Displaced Persons and Housing Scarcity

## I. Introduction

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) are people who have been forced to flee their homes due to violence or conflict but still remain within the border of their country (UNHCR 2014). In other words, internal displacement of persons could be triggered by natural disasters or human induced conflict which leads to violent clashes. A serious source of concern however lies with internal displacement of persons arising from human induced violent clashes and conflict in recent times. IDPs arising from violent and clashes are victims of various kind of injustices or violent confrontations, perpetrated against them by their own government or agent of communal clashes, natural disasters, religious conflict among others (Hamzat,2013)

There are 3 types of displacement, and they are defined according to the root causes of population movement. The first type is the armed conflicted induced displacement this is either as a result of fighting and counter-insurgency operation or because of armed conflict has directly undermined human and food scarcity. Secondly, state-societal conflict induced displacement or post armed conflict induced displacement (caused by military occupation or development activities) due to land confiscation by armed group inducing in the context of natural resource extraction (e.g. logging and mining). This form of displacement is related to the use of force, but does not occur in the context of outright armed conflict. Thirdly, livelihood/vulnerability induced displacement because of inappropriate government policies and practices such as lack of available land and access to markets which can result in food

insecurity. Subsequently the first and second are product of conflict either directly or indirectly. However, the three types may not be mutually exclusive to conflict induced displacement (UNHCR 1996-2014).

The increasing incidence of forced displacement resulting from ethnic, religious, economic and boundary conflicts, various government decisions, natural and man-made disasters, and its attendant massive destruction to lives and property have compelled the Federal Government to embark on a search for durable solutions through the drafting of a National Policy on Internally Displaced Persons. (Gambo, 2012) Globally, during the last decade, the estimated number of Internally Displaced Persons as a result of armed conflicts and generalised violence, excluding natural disasters and development-induced displacement has been put at 68.5 million at the end of 2017. Unfortunately, more than half of these reside in Africa, and has repeatedly drawn the attention of the world to the growing danger of displacement as being capable of reversing the strides towards achieving a reasonable standard of living for all peoples and of reversing the gains of developmental efforts. (IDMC 2013-2015).

The causal factors of internally displacement of persons in Nigeria has been linked to many unfortunate development over unfounded argument on religious belief, under development, poverty, unequal distribution of wealth, ethnic tensions, unemployment, political and economic subjugation of minorities, absence of democratic procedure, intolerance and other factors.

The impact and effect of displacement is monumental, people flee their native place leaving behind their properties and possessions they had no certificate or any other identification document nothing can help them get employment and start all over again. Above all displacements nearly has devastating impact on families and societies and often affect surrounding country as well. It denies affected people access to basic necessities of food, shelter and medicine and exposes them to all manners of violence and insecurity (Festus 2001).

According to the World Bank report, a total number of 1.8 million people are currently displaced in northern Nigeria including an estimate of 1.1 million in Maiduguri; 4.4 million people are affected by food shortages (OCHA, 2015).

## **II. Statement of the Problem**

Today more than 1.1 million IDPs are living in Maiduguri According to International Organization of Migration (IOM), the insurgency led to force migration of IDPs in north-eastern states whereas 25% of them are living in host communities while 75% are accommodated in more than 10 official camps and multiple informal camps and settlement.

The problems faced by IDPs on scarcity of rental housing in Mashamari ward of Jere L.G.A of Borno State is as a result of inadequate houses or shelters to sustain their livelihood. Lack of family privacy in camps forced many IDPs to seek for shelter within the host community. Most IDPs find difficult to live and share their resources with other families or relations living in same compound which could forced them to rent a house and these could led to unavailability of rental housing within the host community.

However, some of the IDPs have taken rental houses and settled down within Jere. This has resulted into acute housing shortage because all the available houses have been taken up. This has caused untold hardship to people in search of a house to rent. Hence this study intends to find out the extent of scarcity of housing on IDPs in Jere Local Government.

## **III. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of this paper is to examine the challenges facing by Internally Displaced Person (IDPs) living in the host community in terms of accommodation, to examine the causes and effects of high price rent in the host community, and to identify the Socio-economic characteristics of the Displaced persons in Mashamari ward of Jere Local Government Area.

## **IV. Study Area**

Jere Local Government Area is located in Borno State, Nigeria. It is one of the 27 L.G.A in the state. It was created out of metropolitan council having its headquarter at Khaddamari in the year 1996. It shares boarders with Maiduguri Metropolitan council and Konduga L.G.A. it has a population of about 211,204 as at 2006 National Population Census covering an area of about 864 square kilometres. Geographical, Jere L.G.A is located between latitude 13<sup>0</sup>N and 95<sup>0</sup>E, longitude 11<sup>0</sup> 51<sup>1</sup> and 13<sup>0</sup> 15<sup>1</sup> of the equator, According to Borno State Ministry of land and survey (2010).

Most inhabitants of Jere Local Government area are kanuri, Shuwa, Fulani, Hausa, Babur, Marghi, Gwoza and many multiple tribes which consist of multi-lingual tribes scattered with in and around the fringes of the local government making it one of the most richest

in tribes after MMC. The most dominant cultural activity of the people is the Durbar festival which is celebrated on Sallah Days, in front of the District Head house. The people also engage themselves in commercial and Agricultural activities.

It has the climate of larger area. It is characterized by two distinct seasons, from the view point of moisture. These are dry and wet seasons. Some scholars are of the opinion that the dry season consists of two parts, one is the dry and cold, the other is dry and hot.

The cold dry (Harmattan) season occurs in (Oct-March) and the hot dry season occurs in (April- June). The rainfall is highly seasonal with the marked of wet and dry season. The wet seasons are associated with southwestern monsoon winds while the dry season is associated with the dry northeastern winds from Sahara desert.

Jere has (950sqkm) it is overlain in a place by recent deposit including sands which may comprise part of the upper Aquifer. The oldest sediments, at the base of the formation correspond to the lower Aquifer (up to 90m thick at a depth of 500mm-600mm below ground level) the geological information have suggested that the lower aquifer is lateral equivalent of the kerri-kerri formation (lower tertiary age) which outcrop over a large area at the edge of the chad Basin, some 200km west of Maiduguri (Dar-Al handasah, 1982).

The Jere region is drained by two groups of rivers; one is bound towards the south draining to the Benue system, while the other is towards Lake Chad. The region is generally drained by seasonally flowing rivers, whose peak flows are recorded during the raining season. The Biu plateau to the south is largely drained by the Hawul River, which flows southwards and discharges its water in to Gongola River (Daura and Ijere, 2000).

The vegetation of Jere is similar to Sahel Savannah surrounded by shrubby vegetation interspersed with tall trees woodland. Annual grasses form the vegetation cover in Maiduguri and Jere , especially during the rainy season. The grasses in most areas are thorny. The mean annual rainfall of the area is 570mm for the period 1960 to 2001. This rainfall promotes the growth of annual crops (Daura 2001).

#### Source of Data Collection

Both from primary and secondary sources were used for this study. The Primary data was obtained through the responses of IDPs residing in Mashamari ward of Jere Local Government Area. The secondary data sources were sourced from publications such as textbooks, journals and reports.

#### Population of the Study

Jere Local Government Area has a projected population of 211,204 persons with annual growth of 2.8% in 2006 and that 2011 was estimated for about 247,860 persons with the same annual growth rate of that of 2006.

The age groups of jere are 0-14 is 93,972, 14-64 is 109,924 and 64 above is 5,211 which has 107,714 number of Males and 101,393 of females. Also the population of jere has a broad base of pyramid which tell us that the fertility rate is high and the older population's that is 65 and above is less due to short life expectancy. The density of the settlement was decline slightly as the area of the city expands (National population Commission 2006 and 2011).

#### Sampling Size and Sampling Techniques

The sample consists of IDPs in age group of 18 years and above because this is the age of maturity. A total of 100 IDPs was questioned consisting of both males and females who are residing in the study area. A total of 68 Males and 32 Females were randomly selected for the study. Purposive sampling technique was applied for this study in other to get the actual targeted population.

#### Instruments of Data Collection

The instrument used for collecting the data in this research was the used of questionnaire which was completed and filled by the researcher and research assistants in a form of interview.

#### Method of Data Analysis

After a successful collection of the data, analysis was carried out and the data was presented in form of frequency and percentages. These were displayed in tables, and were used to determine the difference between the expected and observed outcome of the study.

### V. Results and Discussion

#### 1. Socio Economic Characteristics of Respondents

Table 1: Gender of the Respondents

GENDER	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
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Male	68	68%
Female	32	32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018.

Table 1 shows that majority of the respondents were male, while few of the respondents were female. It can be concluded that majority of the respondents are Males.

**Table 2: Age of the Respondents**

AGE GROUP	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
18-20	5	5%
21-30	35	35%
31-40	40	40%
41-50	17	17%
51-60	3	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018

Table 2 above shows that few of the respondents were below eighteen to twenty years, many of the respondents are within the age range of twenty one to thirty years, most of the respondents were within the age range of thirty one to forty years, some of the respondents were within the age range of forty one to fifty year, and few of the respondents were within the age range of fifty one to sixty years. It can be concluded that most of the respondents are within the age range of thirty one to forty years.

**Table 3: Marital Status of the Respondents**

MARITAL STATUS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Single	40	40%
Married	30	30%
Divorced	13	13%
Widowed	17	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018

This figure shows that majority of the respondents were single, most of the respondents are married, while few among the respondent were divorced and some were of the respondents windowed.

**Table 4: Academic Qualification of the Respondents**

QUALIFICATION	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Primary Education	10	10%
Secondary Education	21	21%
Tertiary Education	19	19%
Quranic Education	45	45%
Others	5	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018

The above table shows that few of the respondents had Primary Education, some of the respondents had Secondary Education, and some of the respondents are in Tertiary Education, while majority had Qur'anic Education which constitutes the highest frequency. And few of the respondents had no educational background that means they are illiterate. This study above reveal that majority of the respondents are educated only few among them have no education.

**Table 5: Occupation of the Respondent**

OCCUPATION	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Unemployed	32	32%
Traders	32	32%
Farmers	15	15%
Civil Servant	10	10%
Business	8	8%
Artisan	3	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018.

The above table indicates that majority of the respondents were unemployed and majority are traders which constitute the highest percentage. Some of the respondents were farmers, and some are Civil Servant, while few of them were Business men. And few are constitute of Artisan which form the lower percentage

**Table 6: Does it take a long process before the landlord agrees to give out accommodation?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Yes	77	77%
No	13	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work 2018

Table 6 reveals that, several of the respondents answered yes, while other few of the respondents ticked no. From the information it can be concluded that several of the response were yes it takes a long process before the landlord agree to give them an accommodation.

**Table 7: Did the landlord give you the utmost cooperation you needed?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Yes	30	30%
No	70	70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018

Table 7 show's that, few of the respondents tick yes, while several of the respondents answered no. This show that several of the response where no, the landlord didn't give them the utmost cooperation they needed.

**Table 8 Do you think the accommodation is adequate quality?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Yes	21	21%
No	79	79%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work 2018

Table 8 shows that, few of the respondents answered yes, while majority of the respondents tick no. This shows that majority of the respondents tick no, the accommodation is not adequate quality.

**Table 9: If No, what are the primary issues?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Leaking Roof	17	17%
Lack of Water	34	34%
Not Enough space	49	49%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: field survey 2018

Table 9 shows that, few of the respondent answered the primary issues is leaking roof, while some of respondents tick lack of water, and the majority of the respondents Answered that there is no enough space for them and their families which form the highest frequency of 43% of the respondents.

**Table 10: what attitude did you encounter within the host community?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Well	23	23%
Bad	77	77%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: field survey 2018

Table 10 revealed that few of respondents answered well, while majority of the respondents tick bad. From the information it can be concluded majority of the respondents encounter bad attitude within the host community.

**Table 11: what are the Challenges you are Facing as an IDPs While Living in the Host Community in terms of accommodation?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Social Harassment	8	8%
Negative Personality	15	15%
High Price of Food Stuff	57	57%
Bad Attitude Towards us	20	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: field survey 2018

Table 11 above show few of the respondents have faced social harassment, and some negative personality, majority of the respondents tick high price of food stuff, while some answered they encounter bad attitude towards them. This shows that majority of the respondents faced a challenges of high price of food stuff while living within the host community, which constitute of high percentage.

**Table 12: what problem did you encounter when searching for an accommodation ( house ) to rent?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Insufficient Fund to Rent a Shelter	40	40%
Gender Inequality	21	21%
Distrust by the Landlords	30	30%
Not Getting a Desirable Housing	9	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018

Table 12 above show majority of the respondents have problem of insufficient funds to rent a shelter, and some of the respondents that tick gender inequality, while several of the respondents Said distrust by the landlords, and few answered not getting a desirable house of their choice. Which concluded majority have problem of insufficient funds to rent a shelter, which had the highest percentage.

**Table 13 what causes the high price rent in the host community?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
High Demand of the Apartment	60	60%
Geographical Limitation	7	7%
Property Improvement	13	13%

Proximity of Natural Resources	20	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018

Table 13 above show that majority of the respondents tick high demand of the apartment which constitute the highest percentage, and few of the respondents tick geographical limitation, while some of respondents tick property improvement, while some tick proximity of natural resources.

**Table 14: what help should the government render for you in this problem you are facing?**

RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
To reconstruct and rehabilitate our native localities and improve the level of security so that we may return back to our various localities	40	40%
Provide us with enough food stuff and encourage the traders to reduce the price of food items.	4	4%
Improve the health care facilities and increase the number of health personnel that can attend us on daily basis.	7	7%
Enlighten the landlords against the increase in rental amount.	10	10%
Increase the level of security because criminal act is increasing within the host community.	10	10%
Government should restore peace back to our communities.	20	20%
Train our females in Artisan skills to reduce the level of street/ household begging.	5	5%
Improve our means of livelihood.	4	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Field Work, 2018

Table 14 above shows that majority of the respondents were with the opinion that reconstruction and rehabilitation of native localities and improve the level of security so that they may return back to their various localities, while 20% were with the opinion that government should restore peace back to their communities, other 10% opined that by enlighten the landlords against the increase in rental amount will minimise the rate of housing scarcity, another 10% supported the increase the level of security because criminal act is increasing within the host community, 7% said improve the health care facilities and increase the number of health personnel that can attend to them on daily basis will also help in reducing problems of force migration, 5% said by training the females in Artisan skills will reduce the level of street/ household begging, 4% said provision of enough food stuff and encourage the traders to reduce the price of food items will also assist in eliminating the menace, finally another 4% where with the opinion that improve the means of livelihood will eliminate all sort of force migration and housing scarcity in host community.

#### IV. Discussion of Findings

The finding shows that majority of the respondents were male, while few of the respondents were female in table one. Most of the respondents are within the age range of thirty one to forty years in table two. Table three above shows that educational qualifications of respondents' majority of them have Qur'anic Education. And majorities are unemployed and they are traders in terms of occupation.

The finding of the study revealed that majority of the respondents faced the challenge of high price of food stuff while living within the host community, which is the major issues or challenge they are facing in the host community.

The study further reveal that majority of the respondents had encounter problem of insufficient funds to rent a shelter. According to (World Bank) Poverty is the problem, in this sense it may be understood as a condition in which all the respondents living in the host

community is lacking is the basic needs for a minimum standard of well-being, particularly as a result of a persistent lack of income. Most IDPs responses that lack of good accommodation has been negatively impacted on them because those without a fund to rent a shelter live with their relative/friends premises, and those that have a source of getting income are able to rent a house even though the cost is high they manage to afford a single room for their own privacy. While those rely on government, the government made his effort to provide them a shelter. Such shelter include of temporal tents made of Zink or lather, school compound, UNICEF camp/tents.

Majority of the respondents tick high demand of the apartment is the cause of the increase in cost of rent by the landlords which led many to be homeless or live in overcrowded environment where the cost is less for them to afford a shelter. While those that were not well received were discriminated and stigmatized with bad attitude by the settlers of the host community.

Finally, in table 14 findings revealed that majority of the respondents were with the opinion that reconstruction and rehabilitation of their native localities and improve the level of security so that they may return back to their various localities is the best solution to their problems, followed by government intervention by restoring peace back to the host communities.

## VII. Conclusion

Having gone through the research work, on the impact of forced migration of Internally Displaced Persons and Housing Scarcity in Mashamari, ward of Jere L.G.A of Borno State, it is concluded that, at the end housing scarcity is present when there is no sufficient housing to accommodate the population in an area. It is when the supply of house cannot meet the demand. This rapid increase of cities population can be due to urbanization, where people from the rural areas move to the cities for the reasons such as a higher rate of standard of living, searching for better job quality, political stability among others.

Ajibua (2010) noted that the incessant outbreak of conflict in Maiduguri metropolis led to large Intra-Metropolitan population mobility and change of residence to areas perceived to be relatively safer for lives and property. The effect of this on rental value is three fold. Areas which experience net population gain had increased rental value due to increased demand for residential apartment and vice versa for areas with low net lost. In areas where population change is even, there was little or no change in rental pattern.

Eme and Ibiatan (2012) also noted that rent in major areas metropolises in Borno reduced significantly as the crises accelerated. This is normal as population depletes.

## VIII. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. High price of food stuffs is the challenges faced by the IDP's in host community, government need to intervene.
2. Insufficient funds to rent a shelter are the problem of the IDP's when searching for an accommodation in the host community, there is need for government to provide adequate means for fund to be very much available.
3. High demand of the apartment is the cause of high price rent in the host community, community leaders need to assist in fighting this menace.

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