

Background Study

Urbanization has come with various impacts on human settlements, resources and indirect and direct displacement as a result of supremacy for space management in our cities and urban environment. Literature emphasized that rapid urbanization is influenced by conflict and war, as people flee the violence in their home areas and seek refuge in cities. The entire world is increasingly becoming urban, so too are displaced populations increasing. Research needs in Understanding the nexus of migration and urban displacements are myriad. While this is a common occurrence, broad national policy and reform needs are yet to be domesticated. Therefore, detailed insights into underlying socio-economic aspects, vulnerability, homelessness and day to day living of the displaced persons are still lacking. At best these dimensions are interpreted through stereotyped lenses without adequate interrogation of issues. Yet it is these that precipitate the intractable everyday conflicts and challenges that eventually escalate into national, regional and global imbalances. As a result, problems remain unsolved despite frequent paradigm shifts in urban livability policy and other intervention thrusts. Based on known theories and concepts, this study focused on disparities in migrant land appropriations in Tarkwa bay in Lagos, Southwest, Nigeria to investigate the role of government and non-governmental actors in migrant displacement in perpetuating strategies towards evitable eviction of migrants in a typical African city. Lagos has experienced persistent escalation in evictions over time. There are more than six thousand people who have been evicted from their homes with many squatting in neighbouring communities. The high urban population growth rate results in sprawl. Increasing numbers of poor slum dwellers occupy congested, unplanned marginal areas prone to intermittent flooding and other hazards. Tarkwabay also offers a rich environment for evaluating effectiveness of and responses to various government and non-government interventions in evictions, displacement and re-settlements. Using secondary sources, key informant interview, Focus Group Discussion, and informal community representatives, the study identified the existence of multiculturalism which engenders economic trade interaction, politically motivated displacements strategies, and the use of intermediary in various evictions and displacements of migrants in Tarkwa Bay area of Lagos City.

Methodology

The model of describing, analyzing, interpreting and explanation is known as Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) (Armeyanti, 2019). It consists of distinct and methodological approaches towards a study construct and reveals the relationship between all parties of the discourse and pays sufficient attention to political, social and economic conditions as they affect individuals in the background for the purpose of information, discovery and creation towards policy formation, (Mudau & Sybing, 2022; Flowerdew & Richardson, 2017; Fairclough, 2013).

This study investigates, explains, analyzes, and critiques land issues and structures between the indigenous land-owning families, political actors, security agencies and responses using critical discourse analysis to show actions and reactions in land relationships, conflicts and in everyday life. In order to put the issues in perspective, the methodology draws on the interviews with Nigeria Port Authority (NPA), Navy, communities, local organizations, caretaker, investors within the locality and the indigenous landowners- the Onisiwo family (2020-2023) to explore the link between migration urbanization and conflict in African cities. During this study project, the study conducted 2 focus group discussions, 23 life histories with dwelling within the community and 5 key informant interviews with the pop beach owner, naval officer, association of informal settlers' leader, traditional head of the Onisiwo community and

the caretaker (the caretaker is someone who administrate over landed properties left behind by the colonial masters in the Tarkwa Bay Peninsula). Other information was sourced from media reports to compliment the findings taking into cognizance the geographical location with the heavy armed securitized location.

Emerging evidence from the study confirmed a significant relationship between urbanization and land-based resource contests. The implications of this study to city urbanization are reinforced by the consensus conflict pattern by both governments and labour migrants for land based resources in the study area. Insight and findings prove useful in developing a contextualized blueprint for curbing land-based conflicts and formulation of policies to prevent further conflicts on land-based resources which needs to be addressed to put an end to the bitter controversies and loss of lives when land-based conflict occurs. It implies that effective policies that protect the rights of communities and resources in the developing nations require to be put in place for efficient management.

Expected Research Findings

The study is expected to reveal if migration is a function of urban displacement.

Expected Conclusion and Recommendations

The study is expected to validate or render invalid the following research questions: is there a relationship between migration and urban displacement? How do government and non-government actors influence migrant displacement? Appropriate recommendation on migrant inclusiveness would be made

References

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