An Appraisal of Local Government Presidential System and Development: A Case Study of Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

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ABSTRACT

Previous studies touched on problems of presidential system of government both at federal and state levels with no research on application of presidential system of government in Nigeria's local government focusing on executive control, thus this research was carried out to cover the gap. Therefore, the study examines the relationship between executive control, god fatherism, corruption, leadership, presidential system as well as checks and balances on the development of Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Areas of Yobe State. Neo institution theory was used. Quantitative method was used, 400 questionnaires were distributed in both Nengere and Potiskum Local Government Areas, 380 were returned and analyzed using regression, SPSS version 25 was used in the analysis of data. The findings shows that there is relationship between Presidential system, Executive control, godfatherism, corruption and party financing and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Areas of Yobe State, with significance of .000, .034, .000,.047 and .000 respectively. While the findings rejected two hypotheses that is leadership and checks and balances with significance of .651 and .112 respectively. The study suggests ways of improving presidential system of government in Local Government and indeed Nigeria at large by way of good governance such as minimizing corruption, good leadership and check and balances.

Keywords: *Executive, leadership, legislative, local government, & presidential system*.

INTRODUCTION

The government system is determined by the operation of the legislative, executive and judicial powers, which are the means of exercising sovereignty. From the emergence of the state until the present day, it is possible to talk about the existence of government systems, regardless of how much democracy the state entails. The presidential system is based on the strict separation of powers between the legislature, executive and the judiciary Rasul & Rogger (2018).

Many countries have succeeded in adapting presidential system of government, the system is prevalence among western democracies. The presidential system is widely implemented in the United States as well as in Latin America notably Venezuela, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Brazil, etc.

The democratic ranking of the latter countries does not seem to be high. Thus, based on the tendency toward authoritarianism in the Latin American experience, there are several critics of the system (Yilmaz, 2018).

In the United States, separation of powers is pronounced, however, it could also be argued that the stability of the government is prioritized in the presidential system based on the fact that the president is elected for a fixed term and cannot be dismissed without impeachment. However, several institutional elements are required for the system to prevail. It is possible to mention the facilitating factors for the system, such as the democratic culture, electoral system, political party system, independent jurisdiction and operations, supervision of the executive by the public and secondary legal regulations (Yilmaz, 2018).

Nigeria embraced the system since second republic. The west minister model was a product of historical evolution of Nigeria (Akinola, 2018). The restoration of civilian rule in Nigeria on October, I979 after thirteen years of military rule was a landmark of great significance for Nigeria. What has given it quite exceptional

importance is the fact that Nigeria, turning its back on the Westminster model, chose to adopt a new political structure – the Washington model of executive presidential government. The euphoria that greeted the decision to opt for the presidential system revealed the hope that it would usher in clean political governance in the Second Republic. Unlike the preceeding military regime, the Second Republic was anchored on the 1979 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. It was predicated on a presidential single executive system of democratic governance. The Constitution Drafting Committee (CDC) was mandated by the government to produce a constitution that would discourage institutionalized opposition to the government in power and, instead, to develop a consensus in politics and government (Aiyede, 2005).

The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria came into force with effect from 29 May, 1999, the date of the military handover of governance to a democratically elected civilian regime. The document is based on the 1979 presidential constitution, with some amendments, and provides that Nigeria shall be a Federation made up of 36 States and a Federal Capital Territory (The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (CFRN), 1999). Following the adoption of the presidential system in Nigeria, therefore, no one arm of government is superior to the other, neither is any subordinate to the other. Each organ is independent within its own sphere of influence.

Nigeria operates a federal constitution with separate arms of government both at the federal and the state level of government. Following the federal model, each state's executive and legislature derive their powers from the constitution. The head of the executive branch at the federal level is the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and at the state level, it is the Governor. The legislative body at the federal level is the National Assembly consisting of the Senate and the House of Representatives while at the state level, it is the State House of Assembly. The executive branch at the state level is separate both in function and personnel from the State House of Assembly. However, for the purpose of government, these two institutions of government are expected to operate in an atmosphere of cordial relationship. In essence, flexibility, understanding and cooperation between the Governor who is the chief executive and the State House of

Assembly in the process of governance are mostly desired for effective governance at the state level. That is why over the years, scholars of intra-governmental relations at the state political system are very keen at expanding the frontiers of knowledge on the nature and implications of the relationship between the executive and the legislatures. Of particular academic interest has been the extent to which legislatures maintain viable, independent positions in public policy-making in the face of influence of the executive particularly, in a presidential system (Dibie,2018).

Many states in Nigeria are experimenting presidential system of government at local government in an attempt to find viable model of governance as a result of failure of local government to provide basic services to the generality of the populace, among which are Kaduna and Jigawa to improve service delivery to the people. But despite that the nature of relationship between Legislative and Executive is not cordial as well as development is still low in Jigawa State.

Part of the problems facing presidential system of government at local government level in Nigeria is that inability of the legislature to exploit the instrument of checks and balances provided in the Guidelines, rules and procedures as well as the constitution to check the excesses of the executive at level of government at times. The system of checks and balances is very weak at Local Government level which renders the implementation of presidential system of government ineffective (Ayenbe,2016).

In addition, excessive executive control is another problem facing presidential system of government in Local government, there are several instances where Chairman exercise tremendous powers over control of legislature which led to conflict among the legislature as a result creating problem to local government (Ayenbe,2016).

Also the nature of decision making in presidential system of government at Local Government is very poor, it takes time before passing the bill into law due to complexity as a result of the two organs which is affecting our young democracy at Local Government level Dibie (2018).

The relationship between the legislature and the executive in Nigeria has been characterized by mutual suspicion, acrimony and political rivalry.

Despite the unequivocal provisions of the 1999 Constitution aimed at rectifying the problems identified with legislature-executive relations in the preceding republics, managing executive-legislature relations has been the single most problematic issue both at the centre, state and the local Williams (2018). Though there are many studies on presidential system of government and conducted at federal and state level, but no research was conducted using executive control at local government as a unit of analysis, therefore this research intends to cover the gap.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

One of the major problems facing presidential system of government at local government level in Yobe state is executive's interference in the legislative business which is affecting the system. The interference was evidenced in the most of the activities of bills passed by the legislature which affect the operation of presidential system at local government level Dibie (2018).

Another problem of presidential system of government in Yobe state is check and balance, the essence of checks and balances is to prevent arbitrary use of power by another arm of government, the checks and balance is not judiciously utilize in Yobe state to enhance development at local government level.

Also problem of party loyalty is very prevalence between the executive and legislative, the two organs are elected under party plat form, as a result it affect the working of government at local government level because they are divided on party line rather than cooperating for the achievement of the aims and objectives of the local government, some competent staff were dismiss based on the fact that they voted for another party Williams (2018).

The problem of godfatherism also impacted on local government in Yobe state. The politics of godfatherism is attributable to the pattern and character of funding and campaign financing. Through this, the godfather is able to control the party and imposed anti-democratic whims and caprices evidenced by the imposition of virtually all principal officers and candidates for public offices in the party which affect the working of presidential system in Yobe state Rasul & Rogger (2018).

Another factor that accounted for the nature of presidential system at local government in Yobe state was leaders ship, personality clash or egoistic rivalry between the legislature and executive which affect service delivery in Yobe state Rasul & Rogger (2018).

Finally, corruption is very high especially in award of contract which was as a result of weak checks and balances at Local government, evidence also show that the issue of corruption is further compounded by selection of committee for the award of contract in which every member wants to be part of such committee which affect the working of local government Williams (2018).

RESEARCH QUESTION

The following research question will be tested and analysed:-

- What is the relationship between Presidential system and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- Is there relationship between Executive control and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- What is the relationship between Political godfatherism and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- What is the relationship between Leadership and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- Is there relationship between corruption and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- What is the relationship between Party financing and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- What is the relationship between checks and balances and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The following research question will be tested and analysed:-

- To examine the relationship between Presidential system and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- To describe relationship between Executive control and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- To look at relationship between Political godfatherism and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- To examine relationship between Leadership and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- To explain relationship between corruption and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- To describe relationship between Party financing and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- To examine relationship between checks and balances and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

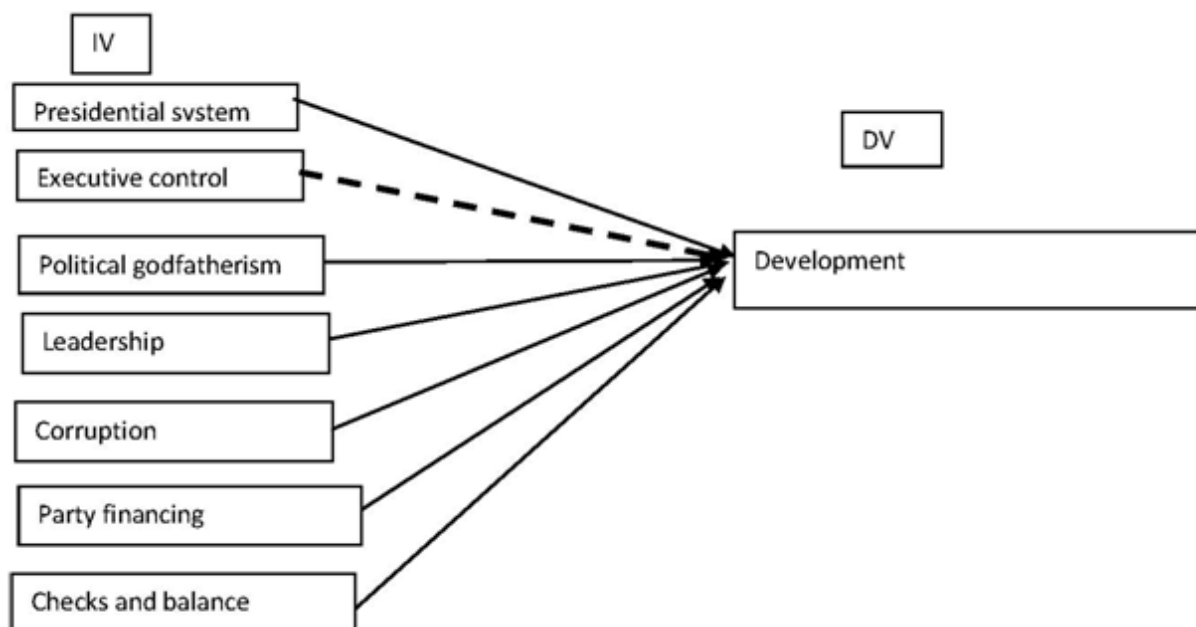The following research hypotheses will be tested and analysed:-

RESEARCH MODEL

- There is relationship between Presidential system and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- There is relationship between Executive control and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- There is relationship between Political godfatherism and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- There is relationship between Leadership and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

- There is relationship between corruption and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- There is relationship between Party financing and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.

- There is relationship between checks and balances and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State

Figure1.1.*Research model Adapted from*

LITERATURE REVIEW

Meaning of Presidential System of Government

The presidential system of government is a system of government in which same person holds the title of head of state as well as head of government. The political or executive power is combined with the ceremonial powers and are both exercised by a single man who is also addressed as the Commander in Chief of the armed forces. The president/Chairman is normally elected directly through popular votes or, indirectly via the collegiate system, otherwise known as the Electoral College and he is directly accountable to the electorate. The election to the office of the president is independent of the election to the legislature. The whole country constitutes a single constituency to the president. On assumption of office the president/chairman is seen as the symbol of national unity, a magnet of loyalty, a centre of ceremony and chief administrator for the nation (Dunmoye,2005). Presidential system is also defined as that type of government in which the three organs of government, that is the legislature, the executive and the judiciary are separated and co-ordinate in power, each of them acting independently within its own sphere. The holder of the office of president is often called executive president, because he is solely responsible for the implementation of legislative decisions. Examples of countries in the world that practice this system of government are U.S.A, Spain, France, and Nigeria. The tenure office of the president is fixed; he stays in office for a specific tenure and he can be re-elected for a second term. The number of years a president stays in office depends on the constitution of the country concerned. In Nigeria the fixed tenure for any president is four years.

Features of Presidential System of Government

The president exercises veto power under the presidential system of government, the President who has the whole country as his constituency is elected separately for a fixed term of four years,

and separately from the Congress. The President is the head of state, head of government and commander-in-chief of the armed forces. But in some respects despite having the whole country as his constituency, the President in exercising his major functions of legislations, appointments; treaty making and declaration of war shares his power with the Congress.

Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances: The presidential system of government is anchored on the twin mechanisms of separation of power and checks and balances. This is not the case in the parliamentary system where power what operate is a fusion of power among the three organs of government.

Fixed Tenure of Office the Chairman under the presidential system has a fixed tenure in office, usually a three-year period before another election is due, when he can seek for a reelection for another term in office.

Veto Power there is adoption of veto power by the Chairman in the presidential system of government, the Chairman is constitutionally empowered to refuse to assent any bill passed by the legislature that he considers to be against public interest.

Primacy is accorded to the Constitution: The constitution is the supreme law in the presidential system Anaegbunam (2003).

Advantages of Presidential System of Government

Quick and decisiveness in Decision-making: The presidential system of government makes for decisive actions.

Merits of Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances: The mechanism of separation of power enhances the effective performance of each arm of government in its functions while checks and balances also ensures that a Chairman who by nature is dictatorial can be brought under constitutional checks. The combination of the two devises will obviously improve the performance of government as whole and its capacity for optimal service delivery.

Fixed Tenure of Office: The fixed tenure in office enjoyed by a Chairman under the presidential system makes for the stability of the government and the continuity of policies. A stable government also allows for both medium and long term planning, rather than the instability that characterizes a parliamentary system of government.

Insulation from Party Politics: The Chairman is often described to be above party politics. This therefore offers him opportunity Mbah (2016).

Disadvantages of the Presidential System of Government

Prone to Dictatorship: The presidential system is prone to dictatorship or abuse of office, which is dangerous to the democratic process. This is a result of enormous power that is concentrated in the office of the Chairman. Presidentialism focuses too much on the personality of the Chairman and his capacity; and when that individual is undermined the office is undermine and the system may even be threatened.

Friction among Government Organs: Separation of powers can cause delays in the execution of government programmes, especially in situations where executive legislative relations are not properly managed. In less matured democracies of the developing world like Nigeria, this problem is more acute when different political parties are in control of the executive and the legislature. A water tight separation of power often inhibits the smooth running of government, especially if attempt by one organ to moderate the activities of the other through the mechanism of checks and balances is being resisted

Lack of flexibility in Tenure of Office: The operation of the presidential system has been criticized for being too rigid and not amenable to changing circumstances.

Very Expensive to Operate: Another disadvantage of the Presidential system is that it is very expensive to run.

Absence of Party Discipline: Unlike the parliamentary system where party discipline is very strong and which fuses the cabinet and the parliament into one like a Siamese twin which must swim and sink together, this is not the case in a the presidential model. The fluid party under the presidential system structure may make the relationship between the executive and the legislature prone to disagreements and less easy to manage; and thus hamper the operation of the business of government.

The process of Lobbying can encourage Corruption: Although lobbying, if decently applied, has become an acceptable means by which pressure groups influence public policies; yet it is also open to abuse or misuse by a more than determined chief executive who is determined to have his ways at all costs. This was very evident during the early days of the fourth Republic in Nigeria when 'Ghana Must Go' bags allegedly funneled from the Chairman and meant to bribe members of the legislature (Ekweme,2005).

The presidential system with its monocephalous executive is different. The executive authority and leadership are vested in a single individual, the president/Chairman, who is the chief executive. He is elected directly by the people and he is independent of the legislature. The ministers he appoints are directly responsible to him while he takes responsibility for the political and economic direction of the country. The U.S., many latin American countries and some African countries including Nigeria operate the presidential government. Three basic elements make the presidential system what it is and indeed without them there will be nothing but a personal rule of an individual who has usurped power or who has manipulated the electoral system to put himself in power. The basic elements are:

- The unity of the political executive as characterized by a single chief executive who exercises both nominal and real authority;

- The clear separation of legislative, executive and judicial powers of government; and

- The concept of checks and balances (Ayenbe, 2016).

Functions of the Chairman in a Presidential System of government

The Chairman is the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the Local Government. The functions of Chairman are as follows: -

- He has the power to sign a bill into law. He can however refuse signing a bill if he is sufficiently convinced that the content of the bill does not conform to his programmes or if it contain some anomalies, until the adjustments are made to make the bill conform to the Chairman's fancies.

- The Chairman prepares the annual budget or supplementary estimates for the consideration and approval of the Legislature, before any spending can be constitutionally made from the allocation of local government.

- The Chairman is the chief security officer of the Local Government, and in exercise of this power he sees to the maintenance of law and order in the country.

- He shall observe and comply with Financial regulations governing receipt and

disbursement of Public funds and other assets entrusted to his care and shall be liable for any breach thereof.

- He shall comply fully with the following guidelines regarding management of financial and material resources of the local government.

- All instructions relating to expenditure of public funds by the Chairman must be in writing.

- He shall be accountable to the Public Accounts Committee for all monies voted for each Department and shall be pecumually liable.

- He shall render monthly statement of income and expenditure of the Local Government to the State Government and Central Bank.

- He shall ensure that there is strict compliance with the spending limits of all concerned.

- He shall direct the affairs of the Local Government and shall allocate responsibilities to the Vice Chairman, Supervisory Councillors and Secretary to the Local Government.

- He shall concern and preside over the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Local Government at least once a week.

- He shall comply with the provisions of the Financial Memoranda regarding his fiscal responsibilities (Danjuma & Abdulhamid,2018).

Functions of a Councilor

- Legislative functions: The Council of the Local Government is empowered to perform legislative functions. The Legislative function is exercised by way of Bye – Laws. The Council just like any legislature is saddled with the responsibility of approving budget estimates and even amending them to suit the goals of the Local Government.

- The Councilor as an overseer: The councilor's role as an overseer involves monitoring and evaluating council's policies, programmes and services. It extends to ensuring that the council and its staff are doing the right things towards actualizing council's set goals. The overseer role can be summarized as assessing whether or not the local government is operating effectively and efficiently.

- Overseeing policy development:-It is the duty of the councilor to ensure that policies and programmes being initiated by the council are tailored towards the needs of his community and the council's capacity. This role can be sub-divided into the following:

- Meeting the needs of the people:- The councilor should ensure that the council formulates policies that meet the aspirations and needs of the people of the communities that make up the local government. The councilor is particularly empowered to do this because it is the closest elected government official to the people. As such, it knows the needs of the people and their aspirations.

- Meeting the capacity of the council:-The councilor has a duty to ensure that council's policies are such that the local government has the capacity to execute them. Most, if not all council's projects involve expenditure and as such, the appropriation of finances for projects.

- A councilor should have an up to date knowledge of council's finances so as to be able to advise the council and his colleagues on projects and policies. The second arm of this role is that the councilor should ensure that the council has the human capacity to execute the project, programme or policy. If the answer to the question as to whether the council has the human resources to execute a plan is in the negative, then the councilor will revert to the first consideration as to whether the council can conveniently hire and pay temporary hands in the form of experts to execute the job.

- The councilor should avoid falling into what is usually described as the 'feasibility trap'. This has to do with either under – estimating or over – estimating the cost or implications of project costs.

- Overseeing Implementation: -Overseeing policy implementation implies that the councilor is saddled with the responsibility of policy monitoring and evaluation. This role involves taking stock of what is on board to determine its efficiency and effectiveness. This is done through monitoring and evaluation.

- Policy Monitoring:- The councilor is to monitor the implementation of the policies

and projects as implementation of the policies and projects as earmarked and approved by the council. In his duty of monitoring policies, a councilor will have to ensure that the project as it is executed is effective and efficient (Danjuma & Abdulhamid,2018).

Theoretical Framework

Neo Institution Theory

North (1991) developed an analytical framework for explaining the ways in which institutions and institutional change affect the performance of economies. He stated that institutions are rules, organizations are players. The reason why institutions exist is due to the uncertainties in human interaction which consist of constraints that structure interaction. Institutions vary widely in their consequences for economic performance; some economies develop institutions that produce growth and development, while others develop institutions that produce stagnation.

He explored the nature of institutions and explained the role of transaction and production costs in their development. Institutions create the incentive structure in an economy, and organisations will be created to take advantage of the opportunities provided within a given institutional framework.

The kinds of skills and knowledge fostered by the structure of an economy will shape the direction of change, and gradually alter the institutional framework. Institutional development may lead to a path-dependent pattern of development. Also, North explained the implications of this analysis for economic theory and economic history. He indicated how institutional analysis must be incorporated into neo-classical theory and explored the potential for the construction of a dynamic theory of long-term economic change (North, 1991).

An institution is based on the rules of the game of a society or more humanly devised constraints that structure human interaction. They are composed of formal rules (statute law, common law, regulations), informal constraints (conventions, norms of behaviour and self-imposed codes of conduct), and the enforcement characteristics or both. The basic assumption of institutional theory is that:-

- The continuous interaction of institutions and organisation in the economic setting of scarcity and hence competition is the key to institutional change.

- Competition forces organisations to continually invest in skills and knowledge to survive. The kinds of skills and knowledge individuals and their organisations acquire will shape evolving perceptions about opportunities, and hence choices that will incrementally alter the institution.

- The institutional framework dictates the kinds of skills and knowledge perceived to have the maximum pay-off.

- Perceptions are derived from the mental constructs of the players.

- The economies of scope, complementariness, and network externalities of an institutional matrix make institutional change overwhelmingly incremental and path dependent (North, 1991).

The institutionalist approach has been a fundamental theoretical framework to the study of presidential system of government (O''Donnell, 1994; Linz, 1994; Fish, 2001; Hammond & Butler, 2003&Lijphart, 2004). This approach assumes that conflict and cooperation between the executive and the legislature are conditioned by fundamental questions of institutional design (Linz 1994). According to this theory, features of a country's institutional framework account for observed political, economic and social outcomes in the country (Hammond & Butler, 2003).

Institutions do not merely shape the strategies of actors, they also affect the probability distribution of certain political outcomes, and thus, a countries political structure therefore, has great implications on policy outcomes (Lijphart, 2004). While admitting the importance of institutional design as a predictor of presidential system, it is imperative to note that other informal or paraconstitutional behavioural factors equally shape the nature of presidential system observable in a political system. As argue by Hammond & Butler (2003) although institutional designs affect government capabilities, several other non-institutional factors sometimes mediate the impact of institutions. A more encompassing theory that will treat a larger number of relations and produce a more complex analysis is therefore desired.

Method of Data Collection

The method employed for the research is quantitative/survey research. Quantitative research which try to delimit variable into measurable that can generalize to all subjects or wider in similar situation.

Quantitative design provide numerical description of opinions, altitudes and trends of the population from simple result that can be generalize or make claim on the population (Creswell, 2008).Quantitative research is the type of research that uses statistics through large scale survey research and adhere to methods such as structured interview and questionnaires (Catherine, 2007).

Quantitative research method use numbers to analyses data instead of using prose to analyze data, it deals with detachment of observation especially in experimentation method from the phenomenon being observed(Mark and Peter,2001).

Therefore in this research survey method will be use in order to get empirical information from the respondents. The reason for chosen quantitative method of data collection is because of the advantage of generalization from a simple to a population inferences can be made about some characteristics and altitude (Cresswell, 2008).

Also survey is one of the method commonly used in social sciences, it is also use for a variable that cannot be directly observed.

Instrument of Data Collection

The research instrument was questionnaire; questionnaire was adapted from previous studies to answer questions that are related to the variables. The variables were adapted from the previous studies but modified by the researcher.

Validity of Measuring Instruments

Validity is the extent to which the measure does measured the construct of interest to the research (Keith, 2010). In order to validate the instrument, questions were adapted from previous studies that conducted similar researches in the field, the questions were based on the content of research questions and model, also a pilot study or pre-test was conducted and the questionnaires was given to an expert for verification.

Reliability of Measuring Instrument

In order to ensure good reliability, Cronbach's Alpha coefficient was used to explain how well an item in a set is positively correlated to each other. Alpha is use to measure internal consistency of a text or scale Mohsen and Reg(2011). It is given as number between 0 and 1. Internal consistency should be determined before a test can be employed for a research or examination purposes to ensure validity Mohsen and Reg(2011). There are different vision about the acceptability of value of Alpha ranging from 0.75-0.95. A low value could be as a result of low number of questions, poor interrelatedness between items or heterogeneous construct, if Alpha is high it suggests that some items are redundant as they are testing the same questions, a minimum Alpha of 0.90 has been recommended by Streiner cited in Mohsen and Reg(2011). Also reliability of 0.50 to 0.60 is good for early research stage. Sakaran (2003) recommended 0.60 as minimum in behavioral research.

Questionnaire Administration and Follow-Up

Questionnaires were adapted from previous researches which aimed at answering research**.** The study used hand to hand distribution of questionnaire that is direct handling of questionnaires to the respondents in the unit of analysis, the questionnaire were distributed randomly to the respondents. Also the questionnaire was retrieved through the same method.

Scale Dimension

The questionnaire comprises two parts; the first part contains demographic data of the respondents such as gender, qualification and working experience. The second part contains questions relating to objectives of the research, the questions was measure in 5 points likert scale which include strongly agree (SA), Agree (A), Undecided (UD)Strongly disagree (SD) and Disagree (D). The scale are categorized as 1,2,3,4 and 5. Study showed that five points scale is good as any, increase of point scale from five to seven points does not led to improve in reliability which is in line with what Elmore and Beggs cited in Sekaran and Bougie (2010) recommended.

Data Collection Procedure

The researcher collected data from two different sources that is primary and secondary sources.

Primary Sources

The researcher used questionnaire and distributed to the respondents in order to collect empirical data.

Secondary Sources

The secondary data were obtained using journals, text books and other relevant secondary materials.

Population of the Study

Population means the group of people, thing, place or event in which a researcher wants to study Sekaran and Roger (2010).

Therefore the population of the study encompasses two local governments i.e Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area in Yobe State.

Table1.1. *Population of Potiskum and Nengere*

Local government	Population
Potiskum	204,866
Nengere	87, 517
Total	292,383

Adapted from National Population Commision, 2010

Sampling

Sample is the representative of large population or subset of the population Sekaran and Roger (2010). In order to collect empirical data two local governments were selected as sample.

Therefore simple random sampling of probability sampling was used to get information from the field in line with what Sekaran and Bougie(2010).

Table1.2. *Sample size*

Population	Sample size
10,000	370
15,000	375
20,000	377
30,000	379
40,000	380
50,000	381
75,000	382
1,000,000	384

Adapted from Krejcie and Mogan Cited in Sekaran and Roger (2010)

The population of the study is 292,383, therefore the sample size for the research is 384 as suggested by Krejcie and Morgan cited in Sekaran and Roger (2010). Also 400 questionnaires will be randomly distributed to the target population.

TECHNIQUE OF DATA ANALYSIS

Regression analysis was used to test the relationship between independent variables and dependent variable. Also, a structural package for social sciences (SPSS) version 25.0 was used to analyzed data in line with the research hypotheses.

Multiple regression analysis technique was use to test relation between dependent and independent variable.

The Findings

Table1.3. *Demographic data of the respondents*

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	245	64
Female	135	46
Occupation		
Public servant	234	62
Trader	80	21
Farmer	66	17
Age		
18-25	110	29
26-35	123	32
36-45	86	23
46-55	25	7
56 above	36	9
Marital status		
Married	183	48
Single	62	16
Divorced	75	94
Widowed	60	16
Education qualification		
Primary	100	26
SSCE/NECO/NABTEB	104	27
NCE/OND/ND	96	25
HND/DEGREE	58	15
PG	22	6

Source: *Authors computation, 2019*

The above table shows that 245 that constitute 64% were males, while 135 that constitute 46% were females.

In another development, the table also shows that 234 respondents that constitute 62% were public servants, 80 that constitute 21% were traders, 66 respondents that constitute 17 were farmers.

In term of age distribution,18-25 (110) 29 %, 26-35 (123) 32%, 36-45 (86) 23%, 46-55 (25) 7 % and 56 above (36)9%. The table above also shows 183 that constitutes 48% were married, single were 62 that constitutes 16%, divorced

were 75 that constitutes 94% and widowed 60 that constitutes 16%. From the table above, primary school has 100 that constitute 26%, SSCE/NECO/ NABTEB has 104 respondents that constitutes 27%, NCE/ND/OND has 96 that constitutes 25%, HND/Degree has 58 that constitutes 15% and PG has 22 that constitutes 6 %.

Table1.4. *Reliability test*

Reliability test			
Variable	**Cronbach Alpha**	**N of item**	**Comment**
Executive control	.450	8	Reliable
Presidential system	.674	8	Reliable
godfatherism	.790	7	Reliable
Leadership	.806	9	Reliable
Corruption	.539	7	Reliable
Party financing	.782	4	Reliable
Checks and balances	.528	7	Reliable
Development	.527	10	Reliable

Source: *Authors computation, 2019*

From the reliability test conducted, it was discovered that variable such as Executive control has Cronbach Alpha of .450, Presidential system has Cronbach Alpha of. 674, godfatherism has Cronbach Alpha of .790, Leadership has Cronbach Alpha of .806 Corruption has Cronbach Alpha of .539, Party financing has Cronbach Alpha of .782, Checks and balances has Cronbach Alpha of .528 and Development has Cronbach Alpha of .527.

Table1.5. *Model Summary* [b]

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.583[a]	.340	.328	.08530
a. Predictors: (Constant), MeanCh, MeanC, MeanFi, MeanE, MeanFa, MeanPr, MeanLe				
b. Dependent Variable: MeanDe				

Source: *Authors computation, 2019*

From the summary table above, R has .583, R Square has .340, and Adjusted R Square has .328 and Std Error of the estimate has .08530.

Table1.6. *Coefficients* [a]

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	.324	.040		8.064	.000
	MeanPr	.289	.032	.470	9.115	.000
	MeanE	.107	.051	.097	2.123	.034
	MeanFa	.111	.028	.192	3.938	.000
	MeanLe	.016	.035	.025	.453	.651
	MeanC	.066	.033	.103	1.994	.047
	MeanFi	.147	.024	.277	6.050	.000
	MeanCh	.061	.038	.081	1.594	.112
a. Dependent Variable: Mean De						

Source: *Authors computation, 2019*

The above coefficient table shows that Executive control has B .107, Std Error .051 Beta .097, t 8.064 and Significance at .034. Presidential system has B .289, Std Error .032 Beta .470, t 9.115 and Significance at .000. godfatherism has B .111, Std Error .028 Beta .192, t 3.938 and Significance at .000., Leadership has B .016, Std Error .035 Beta .025, t .453 and Significance at .651.Corruption has B.066, Std Error .033 Beta .103, t 1.994 and Significance at.047. Party financing has B.147, Std Error .024 Beta .277, t 6.050 and Significance at .000. Checks and balances has B .061, Std Error .038 Beta .081, t 1.594 and Significance at .112.

Table1.7. *Discussion*

S/N	Hypothesis	Sig	Decision
1	There is relationship between Presidential system and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State.	.000	Accepted
2	There is relationship between Executive control and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State	.034	Accepted
3	There is relationship between Political godfatherism and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State	.000	Accepted
4	There is relationship between Leadership and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State	.651	Rejected
5	There is relationship between corruption and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State	.047	Accepted
6	There is relationship between Party financing and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State	.000	Accepted
7	There is relationship between checks and balances and Development of Local Government in Nengere/Potiskum Local Government Area of Yobe State	.112	Rejected

Source: *Authors computation, 2019*

CONCLUSION

The paper examines application of presidential system of government in Nigeria using two local governments in Yobe state as a unit of analysis. The study shows that the introduction of presidential system of government in Yobe state has brought changes from the way local government operated prior to the introduction of presidential system of government as well as development to the local government.

The findings also show that corruption is very prevalence in the local government despite checks and balances especially in the selection of committee for the award of contract as well as other activities.

The findings also shows that the relationship between the legislature and the executive in the local government is not cordial, there is interference from the Chairman especially in passage of bill and other developmental issues in the local government.

The findings also demonstrated that though presidential system of government promotes checks and balances but the checks and balances is not very much pronounced in the two local governments in Yobe State.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are some of the recommendations with the hope that if put in place will help in addressing problems of presidential system of government in Yobe state and indeed in Nigeria at large.

- The rivalry between the executive and legislative should be reduced so that both the legislative and executive can work together for meaningful development.

- The issue of corruption is still very prevalence in the local government despite the megger resource allocated to the Local government, therefore for meaningful development at the local government, there is need to enhance transparency as well as minimize corruption.

- Also to reduce corruption in the Local Government, there has to be strict compliance with the provision of financial memoranda.

- In another development, the local government should use the instrument of check and balance in order to prevent the abuse of power by the executive.

- Also, part of the problem facing local government is lack of autonomy, the autonomy of local government should be enhanced.

- The most important means by which the legislature effectively and efficiently carries out its statutory oversight functions of supervising and scrutinizing the activities of the executive is the committee system. The capacity of the council Committees especially those with direct responsibility for oversight and accountability should therefore, be strengthened in term of capacity building.

- Town Hall Meetings serve as a veritable avenue for public participation in law making process by way of public hearing. Unfortunately however, this avenue was only a medium of intimidation and expression of

grievances between the legislature and the executive in the Local Government, there fore both legislative and executive should explore it importance and make proper utilization of it.

- The role of opposition party in the local government council is imperative for effective legislative oversight. The constructive criticisms of the opposition lawmakers enhance quality decisions of the legislative assembly. The scope of the opposition lawmakers should therefore, be widened by making members of the opposition parties automatic heads of committees responsible for investigation and oversight roles of the council.

- The need for internal democracy among political parties in the local government is very germane to legislature-executive harmony in the presidential system of Nigeria. The idea of imposition of candidates is not only inimical to democratic principles but capable of exasperating political crisis among the institutions of governance. To this end therefore, political parties should as a matter of policy, practice internal democracy in the process of fielding candidates for political positions. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)/ State INEC should mandate political parties to, as a matter of urgency, institutionalize a guideline to be approved by the electoral body, for the operations and procedures for practicing internal democracy.

- Another recommendation is the presence of an empowered civil society that can demand that the executive always govern according to constitutional stipulations. Government should partner with civil society organisations to embark on aggressive awareness and enlightenment campaign towards enlightening the general public on the need for public vigilance on the activities of government and their power as constituents to recall their representatives adjudged to be non-performing in the Local Government.

- It is significant that both the executive and the legislature see their roles as mutually supportive. A separation of powers though, exists between the two organs, each needs the other to function properly. Thus a harmonious working relationship is the ideal that both should aspire and pursue.

- Political parties should be based on well defined ideology and concrete manifesto. These should be explicitly spelt out for members seeking for political position and which must be the legal compass for their actions in political offices. This will help both the executive and the legislature to pursue a joint agenda when elected.

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