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RESEARCH ARTICLE

ARE WE STILL BRETHERN IN AFRICA? INTERROGATING THE XENOPHOBIC ATTACKS AND NIGERIA-SOUTH AFRICA ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN THE RECENT TIME

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ABSTRACT

The quantum of xenophobia have been a major source of concern for the globalizing and liberal world at large. This is as a result of its recurring nature and complexities as it creates economic nationalism against preaches for opening of different nations' economies. In Africa, the reverse has been the case as lives and property of Africans had been lost, and tensions created between South Africa and other Africans, including Nigerians. Scholars who have done research on this area have not sufficiently criticized the status of imports and exports, and impacts the attacks may have had on trade agreements between both countries. However, it is against this backdrop that the paper examined xenophobic attacks in relations to importation and exportation that take place between Nigeria and South Africa, and the trade agreements between both countries, involving progressive steps to further improve trade. Methodologically, the paper utilized documentary method and data were generated through the secondary sources and analyzed in content. The framework of analysis for the study was anchored on the Complex Interdependence Model (CIM), developed by Robert O Keohane and Joseph S. Nye. The theory highlighted that Nigeria and South Africa will be willing to enter into cooperative alliances even in the times of anarchy and conflict. The finding of the study has adequately revealed that xenophobic attacks have not affected rate of importation-exportation activities, and has not undermined ongoing trade deliberations between both countries. The paper recommended amongst others, that the governments of both countries should ensure adequate opening and distribution of national economies to the contents and benefits of their citizens. Also, there should be provisions in immigration laws of both countries to enable for the foreigners.

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INTRODUCTION

Studies in Belgium, Portugal and some African countries have prove the existence of xenophobia in different dimensions. Racial discrimination can result from a variety of causes. It is more noticeable where people can be distinguished based on the physical outlook of nationality of origin, and it has existed before the formulation of racist doctrines. Individuals may express discrimination voluntarily to express a prejudice or as an observance of local custom; involuntarily because it is a higher-order, or even consciously to obtain an economic advantage. Analysis of these various causes can then be built up to interpret social trends and gain an understanding of which measures are most likely to succeed in reducing discrimination.

The ascription of individual members to racial groups brings with it different behaviours in different situations. For instance, in the Deep South of the United States, Whites and black servants had close personal relations despite that the latter may not sit with the former at tables. Whenever discrimination results in stratification, the ascription of identity usually varies as well. Interventions against racism have been successful at the most, but racist and xenophobic attitudes still exist in subtle ways such as at the workplace in less overt and more nuanced forms. Discrimination is also exhibited through unconscious views and actions, which are the basic signals that people with minority statuses are unwanted. Such actions include ignoring them in gatherings, avoiding eye contact with them and making no effort to pronounce their names correctly. In the history of human age, nations have continued to engage in trade as a crucial part of their economic interests toward each other. As a result of imports, Africans are steadily catching up with their counterparts; the developed countries every new turning day.

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Moreover, through importing and exchange of know-how, African countries continue to experience improved technologies and research methods and improvements whether through direct or indirect foreign investments – importation accounts to the rapid deployment of information and communication across almost all African countries. Today, mobile cellular coverage in Africa is at an all-time high with 75% of its population using a mobile phone device. Importantly, exporting and importing have opened trade and business opportunities to greater heights as African companies now easily export their products since the removal of unnecessary barriers for international trade by many state, and series of business reforms which were made to catapult the economies of Africa. Nigeria is believed to have benefited from its oil exports, which have earned the country large amounts of foreign exchange over the years, but has failed to effectively invest the oil wealth and hence boost the productive capacity of other sectors. This suggests why the country has failed in the past to achieve meaningful and purposeful development. Admittedly, Olusanya (2000:5) points out that since independence, successive Nigerian governments have battled against some inherent management problems militating against the development of the national economy, but with little success. There is little doubt, therefore, that the dwindling fortune of the country's real sectors could be largely attributed to the effect of "Dutch disease" in the economy. The import substitution and industrialization strategy adopted in the country is at variance with the industrial export-led development strategy pursued by other oil-exporting developing countries like Malaysia and Indonesia, to mention but two, which have become Newly Industrialized Countries (NICs). Thus, it is based on the premise established above that the study therefore, looks into theory as it applies on the subject matter. Also, the paper addressed the import-export index between Nigeria and South Africa, and the progresses or declines in the face of the xenophobic menace in South Africa.

Theoretical Framework of Analysis: Interrogating Robert O Keohane and Joseph S. Nye Complex Interdependence Theory:

Interdependence theory was developed by Robert O Keohane and Joseph S. Nye in the late 1970s. It was a major challenge to fundamental assumptions of traditional and structural realism which focused on military and economic capabilities to explain State behaviour in the international system. Complex Interdependence focuses on the rise of international regimes and institutions that compensated traditional military capabilities and the new importance of welfare and trade in foreign policy matters compared to status and security issues. Complex Interdependence is a central component of the neoliberal perspective and has been widely used in the analysis of international politics attempting to understand the willingness of States to enter into cooperative alliances with one another under conditions of anarchy and dependence. Under this mutual dependence, the relationship between the actors involved, including States as well as other transnational actors, is characterized by both cooperation and competition. In interdependence, there are costly reciprocal effects of transaction among the actors. The policies and actions of one actor have a profound impact on the policies and actions of the other actors and vice versa. Interdependence does not only mean peace and cooperation among actors, but a relationship between actors characterized by cooperation, dependence, and interaction in some different areas, and conflict as well.

Complex Interdependence is a theory which stresses the complex ways in which as a result of growing ties, the transnational actors become mutually dependent, vulnerable to each other's actions and sensitive to each other's needs (Genest 1996, p140). The first major assumption of the complex interdependence theorists is that multiple channels connect societies, including informal ties between governmental elites as well as formal foreign office arrangements; informal ties among non-governmental elites (face-to-face and through telecommunications); and transnational organizations (such as multinational banks or corporations). These channels can be summarized as interstate, transgovernmental, and transnational relations. Interstate relations are the normal channels assumed by realists. Transgovernmental applies when we relax the realist assumption that States act coherently as units; transnational applies when we relax the assumption that States are the only units. The second assumption of the complex interdependence theory is the absence of hierarchy among issues. In the world of Complex interdependence, there is no hierarchy among the issues. The dividing line between domestic and foreign policy becomes blurred and there is no clear agenda in interstate relations. There are multiple issues which are not arranged in a clear or consistent hierarchy. Among other things, military security does not consistently dominate the agenda (Keohane & Nye 1977, p25). The foreign affairs agenda have become more and more diverse now. As opposed to the realists' assumption where security is always the most important issue between the States, in complex interdependence, any issue-area might be at the top of the international agenda at any particular time.

The first two characteristics/assumptions relate directly to the third assumption of interdependence- the diminishing importance of military force. Not only is force more costly but it will rarely achieve a wide range of political objectives. This results from the diversity of issues and levels of economic interdependence shared by States across the world. Keohane & Nye argue that employing force on one issue against an independent State with which one has a variety of relationships is likely to rupture mutually profitable relations on other issues. This drives up the costs of using force. The diminishing importance of military force is especially relevant in Western democracies where popular opposition to prolonged military conflicts is very high'. Keohane and Nye's emphasis on democracies in an interdependent world is an important but underdeveloped aspect of "Power and Interdependence" as written by them. In this system of 'Interdependence', States cooperate because it is in their common interest and direct result of this cooperation is prosperity and stability in the international system

Application of the theory: There are issues of consequential relevance in the economic relations that exist between Nigeria and South Africa leading to a complex connection that cannot be easily unknotted. The application of military power -high politics- to solve challenges existing between Nigeria and South Africa will only result into more problems. Low politics of economic and social relevance have become high priorities for Nigeria and South Africa, as the globe is becoming increasingly interlinked. The relations between these countries are crucial to the development of both economies (particularly that of Nigeria and the region as a whole). One of the prominent clichés of contemporary diplomatic rhetoric is that the world is becoming increasingly

interdependent. This view reveals a certain Western myopia about who affects whom by what means in international relations, but it does contain enough truth in certain contexts to merit serious analysis. It is obvious that significant events and technological innovations in Nigeria and South Africa affect the economy of both do have serious consequences in other areas of the world. Interdependence is a prominent characteristic of the relations between more developed countries, and between them and other countries in Africa. Since 1999, South Africa has emerged among the top investors in many sectors of the Nigerian economy, their presence is visible in the Nigerian economy, especially in areas such as telecommunication, engineering, banking, retail, property development, construction and tourism to mention a few. In terms of technology and infrastructure, South Africa has an edge over Nigeria while Nigeria has an advantage of large market potentials for investments over South Africa. This is why there are lots of South African companies with huge investments in Nigeria. In August 2016, Nigeria was reported to have lost her position as Africa's biggest economy to South Africa, following the recalculation of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Few months from August, the IMF's World Economic Outlook for October 2016, puts Nigeria's GDP at 415.08 billion dollars, from 493.83 billion dollars in 2015, while South Africa's GDP was put at 280.36 billion dollars, from 314.73 billion dollars in 2015, thereby making South Africa the second-largest economy in Africa (Tony, 2016). Meanwhile, the Bi-National Commission (BNC), constituted the context for strategic partnerships to enhance bilateral relations and redeem Africa's economy.

Relations between Nigeria and South-Africa was to depend largely on the Bi-national Commission which was a strategic coordination of economic bilateralism between the two countries. The commission was formally established in October 1999, to be co-chaired by the Vice-President and Deputy President of Nigeria and South Africa respectively (Banjo, 2010). According to Adebajo, (2007), the Bi-national Commission has major objectives which he highlighted as being to provide a framework for joint efforts to bring Africa into the mainstream of global political, social, and economic developments; provide the basis for the government and private sectors of both countries to consult with each other to promote bilateral trade and industry; improve bilateral relations in the fields of technology, education, health, culture, youth, and sports; use both countries' human and natural resources to maximize socio-economic development through collaborative efforts; and establish the mechanisms to promote peace, stability, and socioeconomic integration in Africa. Military power and economic sanctions could have been employed against South Africa as a result of xenophobic violence against Nigerians to prove the discontent on the Nigerian government. However, no major face-off has been experienced in this dimension between both countries till 2018. Only in 2019 were some reactions exhibited by the government, aimed at protecting Nigerian citizens such as sending an envoy to engage in peaceful dialogue with South African representatives. A letter was also written by former President Olusegun Obasanjo to the South African government and a major Nigerian Airline, Air Peace offered to evacuate victimized Nigerians. This theory, therefore, applies in that economic ties, like other aspects of interrelations between Nigeria and South Africa, are more important than military reactions and sanctions as alternatives for the Nigerian government.

Nigeria- South Africa Import-Export Relations Under 2019 Xenophobic Regime: The touchy relations between Nigeria and South Africa due to the xenophobic attacks in the rainbow nation and the reprisal in Nigeria have affect the volume of trade between both countries currently put at over \$60 billion. The Consul-General of the South Africa High Commission, Mr. Darkey Africa, had put the official trade volume between both countries at \$60 billion. Also, the National Bureau of Statistics First Quarter 2019 Foreign Trade Statistics also revealed that South Africa is one of Nigeria's top five export destinations as the country exported goods with total value of N325.5 billion or 7.2 per cent to South Africa within the period. Nigeria and South Africa are recognized as the most influential states in Sub-Saharan Africa. This derives both from their economic prowess on the continent and from the roles they have play within their sub-regions and on the continent as a whole. Nigeria is commonly regarded as the 'giant of Africa' for its large size and massive population. Also, the country is a 'treasure trove' of natural resources. As of 2014, her economy is was largest in Africa as measured by gross national product. Nigeria's powers and influence are also reflected in its military capabilities, which have been deployed for peacekeeping operations around the continent and extra-African engagements by the United Nations on many occasions, and is the largest military among the states in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Similarly, South Africa emerged from the shackles of apartheid in 1994 as a relatively economically buoyant country. With its advanced infrastructure development, vast mineral wealth and diversified economic base, South Africa was long considered the leading economy on the continent, even with a smaller population (53 million estimated in 2013). With the global goodwill generated from the country's successful emergence from white-minority rule into a democratic state, South Africa has been able to exert its influence and play a leadership role, not only in the Southern Africa sub-region but also on the continent and globally.

Nigeria was a frontline state in support of liberation movements in Southern Africa because of her commitment to what she considered a just struggle for freedom in the region. To this end, Nigeria established the big brother project for Southern African Relief Fund (SARF) (Aremu, 2013). South Africa at freedom in 1994, engaged in an African Renaissance that saw her expand her neo-imperial interests in Africa. For example, South Africa's economic dominance in Africa is demonstrated through her production of approximately 80% of Southern Africa's GDP. A lopsided trade relationship exists between South Africa and her neighbours, with South Africa having a surplus advantage over fellow SADC members. South Africa's estimated economic output is US\$160 billion, far more than that of the other 13 SADC member states, which jointly produce only about US\$33 billion (Alden and Soko, 2005). South Africa has also emerged as the largest foreign investor in southern Africa. South Africa's direct investment in the 13 SADC countries has been estimated to be over US\$5.4 billion by 2000. According to Alden and Soko, (2005), South Africa's investment in Southern Africa is estimated to have amounted to R14.8 billion (US\$20 million) by South African Airways (SAA) for its stake in Air Tanzania; US\$6 billion by Eskom Enterprises in the Inga project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); US\$56 million by Sun International in its hotel in Zambia; US\$142 million by Vodacom in Tanzania, and an additional US\$139 million investment in the DRC; US\$53

million by Pretoria Portland Zimbabwe in merger activity in Zimbabwe; a US\$860 million investment by BHP Billiton, the IDC and Mitsubishi in the development of the Mozal aluminum smelter in Mozambique; and a further investment of US\$1.1 billion by Sasol in the Pande and Temane gas fields in Mozambique (Alden and Soko, 2005). South Africa's total trade with the rest of the continent is heavily skewed in her favour. South Africa's exports to Africa, mostly manufactured goods, increased from US\$1.3 billion in 1994 to US\$5.9 billion in 2003, while imports from Africa to South Africa increased from a low base of US\$0.4 billion to US\$1.2 billion during the same period (Alden and Soko, 2005). Umezurike and Lucky (2015), put it forward that South Africa's economic dominance in Africa has seen growth in trade and investment between the two biggest economies in the continent, South Africa and Nigeria, with South Africa taking the lead. Both countries are also Africa's major regional powers in economics and politics. Nigeria has become South Africa's biggest trade partner in West Africa and her third largest on the African continent after Zimbabwe and Mozambique. This compares poorly with a relatively weak balance of trade for Nigeria with South Africa. South Africa's economic foray into Nigeria has been encouraged at the highest political level, even though most firms have entered the country under their umbrella through the Nigeria-South Africa Chamber of Commerce. Aremu (2013) reported that South Africa paraded an estimated Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of \$368 billion in 2011 as Africa's biggest economy, while Nigeria, Africa's second-biggest economy by GDP, recorded some \$232 billion.

Nigeria has regrettably been pushed back to de-industrialization with just less than 4 per cent manufacturing value added to GDP, while South Africa, as the leading industrializing nation in Africa, parades the highest manufacturing value-added number of 24 per cent (Umezurike and Lucky 2015). In the past decade, over 100 South African companies- with the support of the Department of Trade and Industry- have penetrated the Nigerian market in different economic sectors. Several South African companies now operate in Nigeria. These include MTN, Eskom Nigeria, South African Airways, Stanbic Merchant Bank Nigeria Ltd., Multichoice Nigeria/M-Net, Umgeni Water, Refresh Products Nigeria Ltd., South Africa-Nigeria Communications and Systems Ltd., Grinaker-LTA Construction Ltd., Protea Hotels, Critical Rescue International, Global Outdoor Semces, Oracle Airtime Sales, and Digital Satellite Television. Only a handful of Nigerian companies have set up business in South Africa. These include Union Bank, First Bank, Philips Consulting, News Media, Financial Standard and This Day Newspapers (Adebajo, 2007; Zeleza, 2009; Aremu, 2013). With a population of about 58.3 million people and a GDP of close to 350 billion US Dollars, South Africa is considered as a buoyant economy. With its advancing technology, it is a suitable partner with Nigeria in the quest for growth and national development. With the fall in the price of oil, the seeming renewal of economic and diplomatic relations of Nigeria with South Africa will indisputably bring in positive results for the economy. South Africa has also been able to exert influence on Southern Africa and in the African region. Her prominence is traceable to the global goodwill generated by the country's successful emergence from white-minority rule to black-majority rule. It is equally remarkable that the South African government is offering its support to Nigeria in the war against terrorism.

Already, Nigerian defence officials have signed agreement with their South African counterparts for the deployment of the latter's Special Forces to assist in the war against terrorism. It is also pertinent to note that the new interest being developed in Nigeria by South Africa is easily traceable to political and economic re-engineering being carried out by the President Muhammadu Buhari administration. The openness and sincerity the president has brought to bear in statecraft has greatly restored the confidence of the international community to Nigeria (Vanguard Nigeria, April 11, 2016). Research conducted by Holden and Gouws (1997) showed that increasing returns in South Africa's export industries were found in motor vehicles, knitting, clothing, machinery and iron and steel manufacture. Although decreasing returns were found in forty-two industries, overall increasing returns were found to prevail in the manufacturing sector as a whole. The importance of a larger market -both domestic and foreign- therefore has important implications for the costs of production in the manufacturing sector. Significantly, market power was used in twenty-nine industries.

These industries included motor vehicles, knitting, spinning, pulp, carpets, other chemicals and more importantly due to its upstream position, iron and steel. The exploitation of such market power would have impeded the competitive position of the downstream domestic users of iron and steel, knitting and spinning products. Seventeen of the industries that exercised market power have been classified as exhibiting high concentration in the period 1982 to 1988 (Fourie and Smith, 1993). These results provide prima facie evidence that in the case of South Africa bigness has been associated with monopoly pricing policies. However, many firms in motor vehicles, knitting and clothing also enjoyed economies of scale in production. A notable exception to this was in the machinery subsector where protection was low, economies of scale high and market power was not exercised. The testy relations between Nigeria and South Africa due to the xenophobic attacks in the rainbow nation and the reprisal in Nigeria may affect the volume of trade between both countries currently put at over \$60 billion. Also, the National Bureau of Statistics First Quarter 2019 Foreign Trade Statistics revealed that South Africa is one of Nigeria's top five export destinations as the country exported goods with total value of N325.5 billion or 7.2 per cent to South Africa within the period.

While Nigeria's economic growth and development may not rank among the top economies globally, the country's economy has remained the biggest in the sub-region for decades. In comparison with others in the sub-region, the various economic indicators place Nigeria on the highest rung of the ladder. South Africa's case is even more pronounced. Unarguably, present-day South Africa's economy benefits greatly from the foundation laid by the apartheid administration. In comparison with the economies of other states in the Southern Africa region, South Africa's economy ranks as the most developed. Nigeria's military is regarded as the most advanced and sophisticated in the sub-region. The country's military has troops numbering 120, 000 men in addition to sophisticated arms and ammunitions. Similarly, South Africa boasts of the best military in Southern Africa. With an established military-industrial complex, the South Africa military is composed of 62,082 active personnel, 17,000 reserves and modern military hardware and equipment

(nigeriainfopedia.com, Chizoba 2019). This explains how Nigeria and South Africa have risen to hegemonic status, as they also play critical roles in the activities of both ECOWAS and SADC (Odubajo and Akinboye 2017). Between the years 2015 and 2018, issues of xenophobic attacks against enterprises of Nigerians in South Africa became an increasingly important part of Nigeria's national interest in protecting its citizens and their properties. However, such issues of grave importance received little attention from the government of President Mohammedu Buhari until 2019.

Towards Improving Nigeria-South Africa Trade Relations: NSACC as a Marching Order: The Nigeria – South Africa Chamber of Commerce (NSACC), was established in May 2000 in Lagos to serve as a forum for the encouragement of the Nigeria/South Africa bilateral trade and industry. It is mainly financed by the contributions of its members. The source of its revenue comes from surpluses from chamber's functions and trade mission organization. Though acting like a normal bilateral chamber of commerce, NSACC retains its status of a private organization limited by guarantee. The Membership strength of the Chamber as at January 2014 is Three Hundred and Fifteen, all of which are corporate members. Membership comprises fully of Nigerian owned firms and those with ownership by both Nigerian and South African investors. The Chamber has been performing the general objective of intensifying Nigerian/South African business relationships in the area of promoting bilateral trade and investment between Nigerian and South Africa. It also acts on behalf of /representing members affected by changes in Nigeria and or in South African legislation.

In an effort to consolidate trade between Nigeria and South Africa, the Chamber has also been at the forefront in lobbying for Nigerians and South Africans having commercial interest in Nigeria. Furthermore, it encourages contacts among members and with groups and organizations in Nigeria and South Africa, organizing functions on subjects of current relevance to the commercial Community and conducting of regular meetings of specialist groups to encourage members to meet and discuss problems of mutual interest. The Chamber has maintained close liaison with officials in government departments and representative bodies concerned with furthering Nigeria –South Africa trade and industrial relationships.etc. Since the inauguration of the Nigeria – South Africa Chamber of Commerce in the year 2000, trade between the two countries has grown tremendously. The Nigeria – South Africa Chamber of Commerce has been a veritable economic tool responsible for part of the increment in trade between Nigeria and South Africa. Through the Chamber activities, many South African firms have indicated interest in joint partnership with Nigerian firms and other forms of economic co-operation with several business establishments in Nigeria. South African firms or firms with South African participation are active in Nigerian business sectors such as telecommunications, broadcasting, petroleum, banking, hospitality and the like. The membership strength of the chamber as at January 2014 was 315 members all of which are corporate members. Membership comprises fully Nigerian owned firms and those with ownership by both Nigerian and South African investors. Nigerian-South African Chamber of Commerce's membership covers almost the whole spectrum of business activities in Nigeria including banking/finance services, manufacturing, insurance, advertising, accounting, auditing and management consulting.

Others are airline services, broadcasting, engineering, law, freight, hospitality, health/pharmaceuticals, oil and gas, property, telecommunication, stock brokering, and information technology. Membership is spread all over the country with specific presence in Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt, Kaduna, Kano, Gombe, Ibadan and Onitsha. The Managing Director and CEO Financial Derivatives Company Limited in South Africa, Bismarck Rewane maintained that plastics took the lead in South Africa's exports to Nigeria in 2017, with an export value of 24.3 per cent at \$104.4 million. Exports of machinery and mechanical appliances stood at 9.73 per cent to realize \$41.8 million revenue, while edible fruits and nuts stood at 7.66 per cent, with a value of \$32.9 million revenue. On the setbacks to Nigeria–South African trade, he cited political environment, border and customs logistics, security issues (xenophobia), tax and legal constraints and weak institutions as challenges to a healthy bilateral relationship between the two countries (guardian.ng, June 26, 2018). It is clear from the foregoing that economic relation between Nigeria and South Africa is very crucial to the development of both countries. The value placed on these relations is reflected in this chapter through an in-depth examination of trade deliberations that will lead to stronger, more positive South Africa-Nigeria bi-lateral economic relations. The data presented in this chapter has therefore served to reject the hypothesis that the attacks on Nigerians in South Africa have affected trade improvement agreements involving both countries.

The Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA): The Effort towards Reconciling Nigeria and South Africa Brotherhood: Countries generally are not self-sufficient and may require trade with other countries to take advantage of the other country's competitive and/or comparative advantages which may be natural resources, expertise or even size/geographical coverage. On realizing this, President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa signed the AfCFTA in June 2018 at the African Union summit in Nouakchott, Mauritania. At the annual meeting of the African Export-Import Bank, he urged the Nigeria Government to do sign the agreement since according to him, the continent is waiting for Nigeria and South Africa. The agreement, which will allow the free movement of goods and increase African intra-trade, represents a new dawn for the continent. Integration and the economic development is expected to accompany the agreement and will contribute towards the maintenance of stability, democracy, peace and development. (News 24, July 11 2018). Under the agreement, traders won't pay tariffs on 90% of goods, while 10% of "sensitive items" will be phased in later. Nigeria's president, Mohammedu Buhari also made his positive submission concerning signing the agreement on free trade within Africa which will involve Nigeria and South Africa. He declared to sign the agreement as soon as the process of consultations in this regard, is completed. (Eye Witness News, June 2018). On 7 July 2019, President Muhammadu Buhari signed the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The Agreement seeks to create a single market for goods and services by facilitating free movement of goods, services and investment within the African Continent. With the signing of the AfCFTA Agreement, Nigeria together with the other signatory states have committed to a progressive elimination of import duties and other non-tariff barriers on imports within the African continent. However, it is important to note that Section 12 of Constitution of the Federal Republic of

Nigeria provides that an international treaty or agreement would not automatically apply to Nigeria unless the agreement or treaty is ratified or domesticated by an Act of the National Assembly. Thus, it is expected that the National Assembly would ratify the agreement soon to ensure that it becomes operational in Nigeria.

Conclusion and Recommendation

The motivation for the study was borne out of the concern for the situation of economic exchange –namely importation/exportation activities and trade improvement strategies- between Nigeria and South Africa in the face of hateful violence against the citizens of Nigeria in South Africa. There have been intense attacks of xenophobic nature against Nigerian SMEs and Nigerian businessmen residing particularly in Johannesburg and Cape town and it is an interesting fact, as discovered in this research, that with the increase of such attacks, exportation of oil from Nigeria (and large scale economic activity by South Africa within Nigeria) went on a consistent increase. This was observed from 2009 to 2012, 2013 to 2014 and 2015 to 2017. More so, deliberations of diverse nature towards economic involvement and progress with the two countries were recorded in 2018 especially with the swap deal and free trade Agreement (and zones in Nigeria). It is clear that underlying the experience of xenophobic attacks is the movement of Nigerians from their homeland to South Africa, and the attendant fear of South Africans of competition with foreigners, for inadequate social resources.

The paper concludes that human security, economic empowerment and improved standard of living of people in South Africa must be accorded grave importance by the government of the country to prevent or reduce negative attitudes towards foreign nationals seeking better lives in South Africa. The same position must be held of the Nigerian government, as this will minimize movement to South Africa by Nigerians in search of better economic prospects.

Arising from the study, the paper recommends the following:

- As a matter of priority, the Nigerian and South African governments need to ensure the diversification of their economies. This will also make way for diversification of exports to both countries. Most of Nigeria exports to South Africa comprise mineral fuels, oils and distillation products (constituting no less than 98% of total exports to South Africa in 2018), and there has been no major impediment to exportation of oil from Nigeria to South Africa. Pretoria in 2018 had begun to demand more of Nigeria's oil and it has been established that oil exports to South Africa have greatly increased over the years, between 2010 and 2018. The indices on Nigeria's other exports to South Africa (rubber, oilseed, beverages, bird skin etc) are greatly negligible. The economy could be corrected to the end that more goods outside of crude oil can be exported to South Africa. This will ensure that Nigeria has more options and can make consequential decisions which would affect the economy of South Africa and spur the right authorities to take action with regards to protecting the lives and valuables of Nigerians.

- There should be an adequate provisional laws for immigrant, and greater support for anti-xenophobic efforts. In this case, there is a need for a Government-led approach to educate the police about xenophobia and to instruct them to act promptly in curbing xenophobic attacks. This necessitates the need to also provide appropriate information to the South African public on migration and its impact on the economy in terms of employment and health care. Most importantly, the Government should improve service delivery, particularly in poor communities, in terms of housing, electricity and other basic amenities to reduce uncertainty and anxiety among South Africans.
- The city authorities in South Africa should find ways to assist foreigners to acquire the necessary permits and documents needed. City officials need to be more vigilant when rendering services, and not allow personal views and prejudices to dictate the services rendered to black African foreign nationals. To avoid extortion from South Africans as mentioned in Chapter Four, African foreign nationals should be able to access City information without any challenges. The City should thus make information more easily available. This will also be beneficial to South Africans as it can help them to access assistance.

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