

The Roles of Traditional Rulers in Conflict Resolutions in South Eastern Nigeria

Udo Daniel Orji

Department of Political Science, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State, Nigeria.

Email:amabee232@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The techniques of taking conflict resolution decisions with the aid of using traditional rulers within the traditional African societies in south east Nigeria are as follows: mediation, adjudication, reconciliation, arbitration and negotiation. It additionally consists of using extra-judicial gadgets and utilization of legal maxims to steer or persuade the disputants approximately about the implication of their behavior or conduct. The structural functional theory propounded by Herbert Spencer and Robert Merton (1820-1903) became used as a framework of analysis. Data were accumulated by the usage of documentary technique and analyzed by the usage of content material analysis. The study relied on the Ex-post facto research design. The paper found out that those who organize conflict resolution exercises or meetings usually constitute the third party in a triangular arrangement and consist of traditional rulers (King, Chiefs, etc). Conflict resolution in the plural societies can be quite complex, principally because of the determinate effects of culture and language symbolism. The paper therefore recommended amongst others that there should be a principled, impartial and truthful traditional rulers to mediate and resolve conflicts within their respective communities.

Keywords: Conflict, Crisis, Mediation, Resolution, South East and Traditional Rulers.

INTRODUCTION

Globally, there has been a consensus amongst students and lay-men alike that the society exists to reap a plethora of predetermined ends which can be personal, financial, social or political [1]. That is, the society becomes normally made of human and cloth sources which can be harnessed to fulfill sure dreams for the coolest of all and sundry, specially within the society and the arena at massive [2]. Thus, there's no gainsaying within the truth that the important dreams of any society can most effectively be done whilst a wide variety of cloth and human sources have been efficaciously and successfully utilized [3]. In this feel, it follows that the society become essentially made up of various humans with one of a kind beliefs, backgrounds, character dispositions, pastimes, aspirations, wishes and expectations. In different words, there are man or woman variations which can exist from man or woman to man or woman in any society [4]. Nevertheless, each society become predicted to characteristic maximally with

the aid of using harnessing the variations amongst its human sources in step with the set goals [5]. To this give up, consequently, battle become sure to be a not unusual place social phenomenon in any given society [6]. In different words, battle become a universally obtrusive phenomenon that become associated with any shape of a collection hobby or social inter play amongst humans for a not unusual place reason [6]. Conflict hence refers back to the struggles, disputes, disagreements, fights, wars, quarrels, frustrations and structural imperfections current inside, among and amongst people and corporations in any given society [7]. Conflict may be appeared as organizational conduct that may be associated with electricity and politics [8]. It is disagreements as a consequence of human interplay due to the people and corporations understand troubles in a different way due to man or woman variations and opposition for allocation of sources of the society [9]. Conflict is the coronary heart of politics [10]. There is

sure to be a super deal of politics and political area wherein people, corporations can have interaction in political family members in and outdoor authorities. On the alternative hand wherein there's no freedom of interplay, the political area and politics is fantastically restrained and centralized. Nevertheless conflicts and politics will nevertheless exist [11]. Socio-cultural norms and values embedded in conventional establishments have remained an quintessential part of each prepared society in Africa [12]. Apart from being the effective human device for survival, the described cultural norms and values additionally shape the bases of life of each civilized society, as defined with the aid of using Thomas Hobbes, they create order which in flip makes the society without any country of lawlessness [13]. In pre-colonial Nigeria, those norms and values fashioned the bases upon which conventional rulers' exercised governance, electricity and authority or affect over their subjects [14]. Furthermore, those establishments of conventional rulers have been sincerely the most effective establishments of governance which performed important roles which includes custodians of normal regulation and communal assets, particularly land and sources; guardians and emblems of cultural values and non-secular practices; meting out justice, implementing contracts and additionally resolving conflicts [15]. The artwork of resolving battle is borne out of a notion that battle that is inevitable ought to and have to now no longer be left alone, it consequently wishes to be placed below manipulate with the aid of using

Conceptual Clarification

Before comparing the roles conventional rulers play within the decision of conflicts in south eastern part of Nigeria, it's

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, seventh edition, described conflict as a scenario where humans, corporations or international locations are concerned in a critical war of words or argument. [20] sees it (conflict) as: "a scenario wherein or extra people choicedreams which they understand as being available with the aid

interacting with applicable events to expand not unusual place generalization or standards and practices that could go back cordial courting towards violence [16]. During conflicts, conventional rulers consequently surely performed widespread roles in handling those conflicts informally and arranging peace-making conferences whilst topics get out of hand [17]. These governance establishments and systems have been managed with the aid of using sure unwritten legal guidelines which fashioned a part of the overall social shape, and, its equipment of implementing governance become properly-prepared to control affairs, administered justice and clear up anxiety within the society [18]. However, all through colonial era, there has been a position alternate as the jobs and workplaces of conventional rulers have been both usurped with the aid of using the colonialist or their topics. According to [19], conventional rulers earlier than the appearance of colonial rule in Nigeria have been the political, cultural, financial and social directors in their diverse domains. There become a brand new imposition of European Hegemony over the prevailing sovereign authority [20]. This new governance association granted the colonialist clean exploitation and manipulate in their territories.

The goals of this paper are:

1. To examine the role traditional rulers played to enforce peace in south eastern Nigeria.
2. To determine the conflict resolution techniques used by the traditional rulers to resolve conflicts in south eastern Nigeria.

farvital to apprehenda few key concepts in this study.

Conflict

of using one or the alternative, however now no longer reach; every celebration is mobilizing electricity to attain a goal, a preferred item or scenario, and every celebration perceives the alternative as a barrier to that goal". [21] describes it (conflict) as "the variations within the pastimes of humans

or among corporations of humans, which can be secular or non-secular, ethnic, ideological and every other factor that make humans, combat one some other". It can also additionally initiate wars that bring about depopulation and devastation. [22] sees conflict as a conduct supposed to impede the success of a few different man or woman's dreams. In different words, conflict is at the incompatibility of dreams and arises from opposing behaviors. It may be meted on the man or woman, institution or organizational stage. Conflicts exist every time when one's opinion or decision becomes perceived as stopping or interfering with the dreams, wishes or movements of some others. Conflict can stand up over a more than one of organizational reports which includes incompatible dreams, variations within the interpretation of facts, terrible feelings, variations of values and philosophies or disputes over shared sources [23]. Essentially, conflicts had been skilled within the Nigerian society for many years. In this wise, [24] notes that the reasons of conflicts within the Nigerian society are numerous and are premised on a wide spectrum of things which encompass opposition over dreams and pastimes that cannot be shared, usurpation or try to usurp the authority and role of an element with the aid of using some other element of a society, inconsistencies in dreams, growing choice for autonomy or authority with the aid of using the one of a kind people or corporations within the network, shortage

RESOLUTION

Wikipedia consequently conceptualized decision of conflicts as the techniques and procedures concerned in facilitating the non-violent finishing of battle. It can also be defined as measures taken in trying to clear up the underlying incompatibilities of a battle, together with tries to get the events to together take delivery of every others' life [12] Furthermore, it allows events expanding a non-unusual place, norms, regulations

TRADITIONAL RULERS

Traditional rulers may be defined as people or corporations of folks that

or inadequacy of sources to fulfill the wishes of the diverse components, diverse sorts of conversation destroy down amongst others. [25] classifies conflicts in line with their causative dealers viz: conflicts as a consequence of the struggles for the manipulate of scarce or restrained sources; conflicts as a consequence of perceived harm to our fee gadget which can also additionally occur in our possibilities for sure matters or approaches of existence or our ideologies, non-secular beliefs; mental wishes of the people and corporations in phrases of private and institution contradictions; and manipulation of records which can be used to incite humans for battle or peace building. Consequently, the inimical results of conflicts within the society are devastating and incalculable and as such, it's far germane for measures to be installed vicinity to slash the superiority of conflicts within the society [26]. As a result of this, the battle decision measures are vital situations for the control of conflicts within the society. As stated with the aid of using [24], battle decision is a technique which is geared towards the reduction, removal or termination of battle. More so, it includes a wide variety of sports which includes mediation, negotiation, bargaining, and arbitration which fall into the battle decision classes. In view of the direct or oblique significance of battle decision within the Nigerian society, the jobs of conventional rulers as top custodians of the tradition cannot be over emphasized.

and policies on utterances, attitude, movements and aspirations to permit peace to reign, in place of violence to reign [11]. As it's far unarguably authentic that, whilst battle arises, in maximum instances, its decision is mapped out with the aid of using sure precise humans. The pre-colonial Nigeria tagged those humans as conventional rulers. Therefore, there's want to offer a clean definition of a conventional ruler.

occupy communal political management positions with the aid of using immorality

and are via the consent of network individuals granted authority and legitimacy to direct the affairs of precise ethno-cultural or linguistic corporations in an ordered manner [6]. [9] regards a conventional ruler as "the individual that with the aid of using distinctive feature of his ancestry, occupies the throne or stool of a place and who has been appointed to it according with the customs and subculture of the place". Thus, a conventional ruler is someone who with the aid of using subculture occupied the best social and political positions of their respective societies over a given politically identified place. The idea of conventional rulers noted leaders or individuals with the aid of using distinctive feature of heredity or humans with tested tracked facts who're nominated, appointed and set up in step with the provisions in their local legal guidelines and customs [11]. Thus, conventional rulers keep the important thing to the fulfillment or failure in any political management in Nigeria due to the fact they perform on the grassroots of the society and have interaction carefully with humans of their each day sports, consequent upon which they have been fantastically reputable [15]. Traditional rulers are famous image of subculture, tradition, customs and their preservation, and as such, they may be instrumental in making sure increase and improvement of their groups via a properly-established gadget of conversation. A conventional ruler has additionally been described as a conventional head of an ethnic unit or extended family who in the meanwhile is the holder of the best conventional authority whose name is identified as a conventional ruler titled with the aid of using the authorities of the country [16,17,18]. Given that the essence of the conventional group is to keep the subculture, the customs, cultural history of the humans and to control, settle and resolved battles springing up inside or among individuals of the network with the aid of using the instrumentality of legal guidelines and customs of the humans in that precise network or society. Traditional rulers are visible and called

the custodians in their humans's norms, cultural values and practices [19,20]. [21] identifies 3 classes of conventional name holders in Nigeria that derived their titles from and via the traditions of the humans. However, the traditions range from time, vicinity and intensity of cultural roots. Firstly, the ones protecting actually honorific titles conferred on them with the aid of using advanced conventional rulers in reputation and appreciation of the carrier rendered to the society. This class has no schedules or particular capabilities visible as a very good chain of records and dealers of mobilizing humans whilst the want arises. The 2nd class become the holders of titles or positions because of late reputation or advent of such titles. In assessment to the above, they will have government capabilities however restrained with the aid of using the equal legal guidelines that created them or gave them reputation. The remaining class become complete time government conventional name holders who carry out government capabilities from traditions in large part rooted, respected and identified and exercising their government capabilities [22]. The purpose for the relative significance of conventional rulers within the technique of battle decision within the Nigerian society is premised at the truth that they have got a tremendous understanding of the applicable conventional techniques and methods had been handed from one technology to some other. Furthermore, conventional rulers have a deep know-how of the morals, values and ethics of the society. Indeed, there's absolute confidence that each society identified and mandated the conventional rulers the with a few measures of electricity to keep regulation and order, make sure protection, control, manipulate and clear up conflicts amongst people and corporations [23,24]. For instance, the south east Nigeria is made of many groups with numerous conventional rulers which have performed a fundamental position within the decision of a wide spectrum of conflicts amongst

individuals of the society for many years. Nevertheless, applicable research in extant literature have now no longer centered especially on the jobs performed with the aid of using conventional rulers in battle decision

South East Nigeria

The South East is one of the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria representing each a geographic and political area of the country's inland southeast. It incorporates 5 states which are: Abia, Anambra State, Ebonyi State, Enugu, and Imo. The region is bounded with the aid of using the River Niger at the west, the riverine Niger Delta at the south, the flat North Central to the north, and the Cross River at the east. It is split among the Cross-Niger transition forests eco-areas within the south and the Guinean forest-savanna mosaic within the drier north. Culturally, the tremendous majority of the region falls inside Igbo land, the indigenous cultural native land of the Igbo humans, a collection which makes up the most

Theoretical Framework

This study relied on the propositions of structural functional theory. The Structural functional principle, or functionalism, is a framework that sees society as a complicated gadget whose elements paintings collectively to sell cohesion and balance [24]. It appears at society via a macro-stage orientation, that is a wide recognition at the social systems that form society as an entity, and believes that society has developed like organisms [8]. Functionalism considers each social shape and social capabilities. Functionalism addresses society as an entire in phrases of the characteristic of its constituent elements; namely norms, customs, traditions, and establishments. The principle in addition asserts that our lives are guided with the aid of using social systems, which might be fairly strong styles of social conduct. Social systems deliver form our lives, for example, in households, the network, and vianon secular organizations. And sure rituals, which includes a handshake or complicated non

within the country. In the mild of the foregoing, consequently, this have a look at investigated the jobs of conventional rulers in battle decision for sustainable democracy in south east Nigeria [25,26,27].

important ethnic percent of the southeastern populace at over 90%. Although the South East is the smallest geopolitical region, it contributes significantly to the Nigerian financial system because of oil and herbal fuel reserves together with a developing industrialized financial system. The area has a populace of approximately 22 million humans, around 10% of the whole populace of the country. Aba and Enugu are the maximum populous towns within the South East in addition to the 10th and fourteenth maximum populous towns in Nigeria. Other massive southeastern towns encompass Onitsha, Umuahia, Owerri, Nnewi, Awka and Abakaliki.

secular ceremonies, delivers shape to our ordinary lives. Each social shape has social capabilities, or results for the operation of society as an entire. A non-usual place analogy, popularized with the aid of using Herbert Spencer, affords those elements of society as "organs" that paintings in the direction of the right functioning of the "frame" as an entire. In the maximum primary phrases, it certainly emphasizes "the attempt to impute, as carefully as viable, to every function, custom, or practice, its impact at the functioning of a supposedly strong, cohesive gadget". For Talcott Parsons, "structural-functionalism" got here to explain a selected level within the methodological improvement of social science, in place of a particular faculty of idea. Structural-functional principles is applicable in reading conflict decision techniques utilized by conventional rulers to clear up conflicts in south eastern part of Nigeria. This is due to the fact the conflict decision technique is a complicated technique, which affects a complicated environment, however

additionally calls for a specialized frame with described capabilities which the conventional rulers who are the custodians of norms and traditions of the society. Thus, they offer the premise for know-how, the character and shape of the network as a way to appraising their overall performance as an institutional

The Roles of Traditional Rulers in Conflict Resolution in South Eastern Nigeria
In the pre-colonial days there have seen many standards guiding battle decision within the conventional African societies. Those who need their conflicts resolved ought to trust within the tribunal that could clear up the dispute. These encompass elders, chiefs, priests, priestesses, mystery cult etc. The

This is the foremost importance of conflict decision. How might the alternative warring parties recognize that there may be no partiality? Both disputants ought to be straight forward. The mediator, arbitrator, choose within the man or woman of the conventional ruler ought to additionally be straightforward, the presence of the ancestral forces is a factor; a few can also additionally disintegrate or compelled to mention the reality due to the ancestral forces. The mediator, choose and arbitrator ought to be properly organized due to the fact reality isn't always static. Truth is likewise a covenant brand disputant or events in battle ought to no longer miss. For one of the conflicting celebration to have come to the tribunal, it manner that celebration is prepared or agreed to settle or clear up dispute. Although this is no longer continually the case in levels of battle decision amongst a few decided on ethnic corporations in Africa. In conventional African societies,

Mediation is a vintage technique of battle control surrounded with the aid of using secrecy. It includes non-coercive intervention of the mediators(s), known as third party to lessen or cross past or convey battle to non-violent agreement. [7], defined mediation as a way of battle decision that have been so important to standard society. The mediators normally endeavored that

shape accountable, upholding and securely guarding the notion gadget in addition to the cultural history and norms of the society. This may be very vital because the discharge in their capabilities has implications for the cohesion and balance within the country [27].

disputants ought to trust in them. The disputants ought to be prepared to post themselves to the constituted authorities. These conflicts can be interpersonal conflicts and inter-communal conflicts. These can also additionally vary from man or woman to man or woman, network and nation [23].

Truth

the regulation enforcement dealers, conventional police and courts have been accountable for making sure compliance with the legal guidelines of the land. Disputants frequently take their conflicts to elders and community mediators who may be depended upon to clear up conflicts with dispatch in neighborhood language, the usage of acquainted mode of conduct. For sensible purposes, 3 ethnic corporations in African societies will be examined. The techniques of acting battle decision with the aid of using conventional rulers within the conventional African societies in south east Nigeria are as follows: mediation, adjudication, reconciliation, arbitration and negotiation. It additionally consists of using extra-judicial gadgets and utilization of criminal maxims to steer or persuade the disputants approximately the implication or in any other case in their conduct [5]. These techniques have been powerful in conventional African Society and they may be:

Mediation

peace and concord reigned perfect within the society at the stage of mediation. This is likewise normally couched with the dictum of no victor no vanquished as buttressed with the aid of using the maxim [9]. If we apportion blame to the responsible man or woman we ought to do the equal to the alternative party in conflict. Mediators are sought from the groups or societies of the events

concerned. The conventional rulers are reputable as truthful mediators throughout south east Nigeria, due to their collected reports and wisdom. Their roles rely on traditions, instances and personalities, accordingly. These roles consists of, pressurizing, making

suggestions giving assessments, conveying hints on behalf of the events, emphasizing applicable norms and regulations, envisaging the scenario if settlement isn't always reached, or repeating of the settlement already attained [6].

Adjudication

In conventional African society, adjudication includes bringing all disputants within the battle to an assembly normally within the chambers or compounds of the conventional ruler,

region heads and palace courtroom docketas the case maybe. Dialogue become connected with the advert judicatory procedures in conventional gadget [8].

Reconciliation

This become the maximum widespread issue of conflict decision. It is the end product of adjudication. After the disputants had been persuaded to give up the dispute, peace becomes restored. This healing of peace and concord become continually anchored at the precept to deliver a bit and get a bit. This concept buttresses the concept of the disputing events to offer concessions. A dinner party become normally prepared to verify the readiness of the conflicting events towards achieving factors of compromise. At least, as feature of

African conventional society, battle decision technique is the usage of arbitration. The reconciliation characteristic is practiced with the aid of using an expert parent that mediates among conflicting events however is empowered to make binding judgments. The reason isn't always to render a judgment in regulation but however to reconcile the conflicting events and its norms. The courting among the authority and the network is cushioned with the aid of using network representatives who recommend authority [8].

Negotiation

Negotiation is the secret's to harmonize the interests of the events concerned. Thus, even if the battle includes a member towards his or her society, there's an emphasis on recovery and reinsertion of errant member returned into its vicinity in society. The healing of a dissident member can simply as properly be visible because the healing of the concord and integrity of the network, because the statement of fee consensus and social cohesion, in order that the control of the conflict favors the issues of each events
A Case Study of Umurebo-Umuokuzu and Umuleri-Aguleri land dispute in Igbo Land, South Eastern Nigeria

[6]. In conventional Igbo society, peace become negotiated. Apology for wrongs completed to people and the whole network become a function of negotiation. Such apology become channeled to the conventional ruler, compound heads and chiefs of excessive quality within the society. It is completed at the consultant stage or quasi-representation. The conventional ruler performed the position of a consultant within the feel of battle decision [8].

The Igbo conventional establishments for conflict resolution encompass: the own circle of relatives, Amala (council of elders), Okpara (eldest male), Umuanna (extended family), Umuada (lady born in a metropolis however married out), age grades, meeting of the humans, Ohanaeze (meeting of the humans and the king), hunters' association, and agbara

(neighborhood deities or oracles). These aren't one of a kind from the only discovered in different conventional African societies. However, Olurunsola, wrote that previous to European advent, the Ibos consisted of over hundred impartial territorial corporations divided into villages. The inner agency of those corporations rested upon patrilineal

clans and lineages. These corporations have been self-sustaining on the subject of governmental procedures, however social bonds have been robust amongst them [9]. Here, this phase shall undertake the decision of the Umurebo Umokuzu, and Umuleri-Aguleri land discard via conventional techniques. The piece of land is known as ala ihu okpaula or ala mkpoku, placed among Umenebo and Umuokuzu clans of Obokwu village in Obinze, that is within the Owerri West neighborhood authorities place of Imo State, Eastern Nigeria. Several peace efforts geared toward resolving this land dispute failed. Even the elders of Obokwu village made numerous futile third party mediation efforts. The Nwanwa institution (ladies and men whose mom have been born at Obokwu village) additionally intervened however failed. The self-sustaining conventional ruler (Obinze) and his cupboard additionally intervened. While those efforts have been heading for roots too, a caution have been acquired with the aid of using each clans from the ancestors via the leader priest of Obinze, the messenger of Ala (massive Earth deity) announcing that they may be seeing an drawing close to blood flow, insisting that there ought to be no bloodshed, and that the dispute over the land ought to be settled peacefully (Ibid). Since 1933, the pathetic measurement of the battle is that the Aguleri and Umuleri humans have one ancestral starting place in Eri, and have been residing peacefully side by side with Otuocha for many years earlier than the anarchy emerged. The land battle, earlier than the disastrous conflict had handed to the courtroom docket's method, political, bureaucratic, and army method without resolution and peace in sight [9]. However, the conventional system which brought about the non-violent decision of the Aguleri-Umuleri-Umuoba Annam conflict concerned oath-taking, assertion of no extra conflict peace treaty and the overall performance of a cleaning ritual known as Ikomue. The first conventional oath which befell on twenty fifth January, 2000 concerned most effective Aguleri and

Umuleri, at the same time as different groups latter be a part of so one can keep away from in addition wars and destabilization within the Omambala place. All the groups got here with their respective representatives, in addition to neighborhood deities (oracles) to be sworn to within the presence of gods and anyone present. The oath that is binding on each indigene of the collaborating groups become taken to the impact that the contracting event stake delivery of peace and there might be no extra conflict and bloodshed among and among the 5 groups. Violators of this oath face the wrath of the deities present, and the ancestors, who within the presence of god represent the supply of ethical sanctions and peace guarantors. This first Oath taking technique created anxiety within the conflict torn place and paved manner for his or her procedures that added the very last peace. The conventional technique of resolving the battle became followed by peace treaty making the aid of using conventional rulers and leaders of idea led with the aid of using Igwe Nzekwesi, for sanity and rigidity. It is therefore believed that the conventional leaders and rulers have been additionally being touched, recommended and propelled into motion with the aid of using the message of peace, and the direct venture to them in President Olusegun Obasanjo's speech whilst he visited Aguleri-Umuoba-Anam battle place. In his words;

"I may be addressing our conventional and non-secular leaders right here. What are we announcing within the groups where we are? What are we announcing, and what are we doing to definitely bring down those kinds of mindless killing, this sort of mindless destructions of lives and belongings? You most effectively want to move down there (Otuocha) and you may be shocked. I become shocked. In a small network like this and could absolutely everyone inform me that those 3 groups aren't related? Are they now no longer brothers and sisters? The governor instructed me that he got here right here and requested equal questions and also you stated you aren't

... A small network like this, you've got grown to become it into ghost metropolis. A network, that is aware of God because it has to be known, this sort of factor will now no longer be happening... what has happened to our conventional manner of existence where elders interfere and assist to clear up variations? Are there no extra elders within the network? If there are, have they deserted their responsibility? Then what are they doing?" (Olusegun Obasanjo mentioned in Nwolise, 2020). After the primary oath technique of twenty fifth January, 2000, a 2nd oath befell on sixth April of the equal year. In this 2nd oath, the leaders of Aguleri, Umuleri, and Umuoba Anam have been invited to the center of the field. Each party was requested to include a massive goat, a small he-goat, a few kola nuts, etc; together with image in their network deity and its leader priest (Ezemmo). After analyzing the contents of the oath, every party appointed one consultant to Oath on its behalf and within the presence of its deity, and

The Relevance of Traditional Rulers in Conflict decision presents a possibility to have interaction with the events concerned, with the wish of at least lowering the scope, depth and results of conflicts. During formal and casual conferences, battle decision physical activities allow a reassessment of perspectives and claims as a foundation for locating alternatives to disaster and to divergent factors of view. Those who prepare conflict resolution physical activities or conferences normally represent the third party in a triangular association and encompass conventional rulers (King, Chiefs, etc). Conflict decision within the plural societies may be pretty complicated, basically due to the determinate results of tradition and language symbolism. According to Airuch and Black [14], it's farrisky to relegate tradition to the history in battle decision. Although, tradition is a marker of social variations, it has appeared as an impediment to conflict

different groups' deities (oral interview with Igwe Okoro). Finally, at the Igbo conventional establishments, one cannot however agree that the 2 case research centered upon viz: Umunebo-Umnokugu, and Aguleri-Umuleri offer critical proof of persevered efficacy of each conventional techniques in addition to sanctions for battle decision. Even, the Christians in those groups have been known as out to swear in line with Christian doctrine, led with the aid of using the respective priest of the Catholics and the Anglicans with their Bibles. Each denomination appointed a consultant who took oath on behalf of others. Without sacrifice, it might have been tough for individuals of those groups to devour collectively. It is likewise believed within the Eri community that the spirit of those killed within the conflict might cross on vengeance on their own who devour collectively with their murderers. From that day, peace became restored, authentic reconciliation started out and social concord become restored among those groups [11].

Conflict Resolution in South Eastern Nigeria resolution in multi-ethnic/multi-cultural societies. Conflict resolution promotes consensus-building, social bridge reconstructions, and the re-enactment of order in society. Conflicts in frequently break up societies [17]. For conflict resolution, the plain implication is to view conflicts as non-isolated events in its social context. Such angle isn't always narrowly centered on a battle and its decision. It takes into consideration the cultural placing and the social context. It appears on there records of previous occasions that have brought about the battle concerned and at the same time concentrating at the conflict itself and technique of resolving it, it takes viable implications for the future seriously. A wider look is taken than one which just includes the disputing parties, possible consequences for others in their families and social network are also taken into consideration. Potential effects on relationship and interests are envisaged.

CONCLUSION

The study has taken a look at the jobs of conventional rulers in conflict resolution in south east Nigeria. However, in Africa, battle takes diverse paperwork and dimensions. It is worth to notice that battle does no longer have an unmarried definition from African angle. It can be a form of social unrest or relationships, whether or not fine or terrible. Consequently, conflicts are in importance of rage, rift, misunderstanding, own circle of relatives and marketplace brawls, skirmishes and wars. These sorts of conflicts are extensive and unfold in conventional African societies. Moreover, the essence of dispute agreement and conflict resolution in conventional African States encompass to get rid of the root-

reasons of the battle; reconcile the conflicting events genuinely; to keep and re-instate peace, and make every person concerned within the resolved battle glad and be at peace with every difference again, and this required getting at reality; to set the proper milieu for societal manufacturing and improvement; to sell accurate governance, regulation and order, to offer protection of lives and belongings and to reap collectively in happiness. These are one of a kind from what does attain these days where in no person cares approximately about the reality. If Africans ought to place the falling aside collectively, her unique values ought to be revisited.

RECOMMENDATIONS

From the fore-going, the study recommends that: Traditional rulers have to make extra attempt in resolving conflicts in the neighborhood levels, this manner of conflicts will no longer expand and lead to national insecurity. The traditional rulers should also strive to be impartial in their judgments as much as possible. This will give their subjects a sense of belonging and make them feel comfortable and see the need to report to the traditional ruler in the event of conflict. More effort

should be made by the traditional rulers in order to be closer to their subjects. This will enable them detect conflict at the nascent stage in order to nip it at the bud before it escalates, this will also enable the subjects to feel free to report conflicts to the traditional ruler for peaceful resolutions. The traditional rulers can achieve this through peaceful gatherings, meetings and interview of selected subjects.

Interviews

1. Oral interview with Traditional Ruler of Emii Autonomous community (Igwe Okoro), Emii, Imo State. Age: 53 years, on the conflict resolution techniques used to resolve conflicts, 27th July, 2022.

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