

Business Education and 7 Points Agenda in Nigeria

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Abstract: This paper tries to examine the business education and seven-point agenda of Nigerian President Musa Umaru Yar' Adua to ascertain the success or failure. But at the final analysis, it reveals that President Yar' Adua has a good plan for the nation but for the fact that Nigeria factor has lived with us for so long, it will be an unrealistic task for him to accomplish all, more so when considering the fact that he has eventually spent half of his tenure and there is nothing as much to show for the full implementation of his seven point agenda. If he is fortunate and God's permit, the seven points agenda may be accomplished during his second tenure. Because right now, eventually there seems to be no much significance difference between now and 29th May, 2007 he took over and the present economic situation in Nigeria. No success is achieved in the area of electricity, education, roads, employment and even security. How then could we have accepted that success is achieved?

Key words: Agenda, point, education, wealth, transport and security

INTRODUCTION

In an attempt to look into business education and seven points agenda of President Musa Umaru Yar' Adua, there is need to know what business education and seven points agenda entails. It will not also be out of play to know why Yar' Adua adopted seven-point agenda.

Business education, according to Nanassy, *et al.* (1977) is education for and about business. While the seven points agenda are power and energy, food and security, wealth creation, transport sector, land reform, security and education.

According to Chiedozie (2007) Vice President Jonathan Goodluck stated that the seven-point which the administration adopted is because we cannot do everything, but if we take the seven-point agenda and kept doing them very well, then Nigeria will succeed we must agree to cooperate to drive the country forward. The country is now moving forward and we must continue to drive the change.

According to Ochiama (2008) on assumption of office on May 29, 2007, President Musa Umaru Yar' Adua met a nation with vital infrastructure such as roads, power, water etc in comatose state, while key sectors such as manufacturing, agriculture, education and transportation were floundering.

According to the authors, the seven-point agenda is like beating a drum without dancers, that is no one in particular is responding to the call by the president in totality. When President Musa Umaru Yar' Adua assumed office on May 29, 2007, he enumerated the seven points agenda, but the question many are now asking is whether the formed seven points agenda is capable of lifting the

economy from the present situation having taking into consideration that Nigerians have seen so many such packages before which gave hope that never materialized. Such as Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) by President Ibrahim Babagida, President Shehu Shagari with Green Revolution and Austerity Measures. Buhari/Ideigbon, General Sani Abacha and President Olusegun Obasanjo all failed.

The authors perception here is that President Yar' Adua has a good plan for the nation but for the fact that Nigeria factor has lived with us for so long, it will be an unrealistic task for him to accomplish all, more so when considering the fact that he has eventually spent half of his tenure and there is nothing as much to show for the full implementation of his seven point agenda. If he is fortunate and God's permit, the seven points agenda may be accomplished during his second tenure. Because right now, eventually there is no much significance difference between now and 29th May, 2007 he took over and the present economic situation in Nigeria.

For power and energy, there is nothing to be celebrated as citizens stay without light for weeks and months. Do we now categorically uphold the fact that success has been achieved here? Arizona-Ogwu (2008) stated that seven-point agenda has been defined in many ways, but the most frequently quoted definition is from our common future, which energizes development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Omoregie (2008) view may not be totally isolated from the authors' view, which posited that the seven point agenda of Mr. President Yar' Adua has adequately addressed the very issues that are fundamental to the

socio-economic and political development of the nation. The president has good plans; they should allow him to implement them. So far, some of his actions portend hope. Secondly, it takes time for policy to yield results, particularly in our own environment where there are lot of inconsistencies in policy implementation.

On security, there is no remarkable improvement even in developed countries crimes are not totally ruled out but controlled within the frame work of the security agents. Crime too vary from place to place, therefore, judgment in this aspect will be based on the location of every individual. For instance, Ekpoma which is a university community used to be a war zone of criminals and as classified as one of the most notorious universities but today the crime rate has dropped from 100 per cent to less than 20 per cent. But crime rate of kidnapping and armed robbery have tremendously increased in Edo State of Nigeria. Mbamalu (2008) holds the same view with the authors who stated that Niger Delta has worsened. But in Lagos, security has improved a bit. It depends on where you are coming from, where you are looking at which state are you evaluating. But if it is nation wide may be, we score security 40 per cent, considering the situation in Lagos and Abuja where the security agencies are concentrated. The authors in analyzing the seven point's agenda stated that judgment should not be based as an entity but each of the agenda be discussed and evaluated separately and too every individual has his freedom to judgment based on experience, exposure, educational background.

Arizona-Ogwu (2008) says good governance rests on the following essentials: Rules of law, functions of the state, securing fair competition, internalization of external effects. Public goods, education, regional integration and global compatibility. Nigeria needs to implement the rule of law very well. This means that the law is above any Nigerian whether immunized or legally-labile, even the most powerful. The law must be equally valid for all of us. The Nigerian legal system must provide justice and equal treatment for all groups and individuals of the society. This includes the observation of human rights.

According to Bulama (2007) the 7-point agenda should not end as headlines on the pages of our news paper and media, but it is an agenda for the nation. Everybody must be well informed to ensure it success.

On the part of Education, the 7-point agenda is a total failure. Very many youths are rooming the street in search for admission into the university. But for those who are opportune, they are not comfortable with the ever increasing education financial expenses. In the past access to education was one of the challenges of the local, states and federal governments. Some of those who are in government today got in there when local, states and federal governments took education seriously. Scholarship and free education were granted freely. But today incessant strikes by primary schools teachers, secondary schools teachers, colleges of education lecturers,

polytechnics lecturers and universities lecturers because both states and federal governments insincerity to live up to their promises and agreement. This is because they do not bother about the common citizens as they (the politicians) have their children in schools outside the country Nigeria. The government has insensitive attitude towards the education of the children of those who are not politicians who cannot afford to send their children to schools outside Nigeria. For instance both the states and federal universities lecturers have been on strike since 22nd June, 2009 till date 2nd September, 2009 and the strike is still on over the federal government to sign an agreement which took them between 2001 to January, 2009 to produce a draft copy. Yet the government is not bothered, students have been at home since then. But their children are schooling.

In the area of food, is the food available? The national president, Nigeria institute of food science and technology, looking at the millennium development goals and targets set to meet them by 2015 with MDG. Eradication of extreme hunger and poverty as first, he said "if left unaddressed, hunger sets in motion an array of outcomes that perpetuates malnutrition, reduces the ability of adults to work and to give birth to healthy children and erodes children's ability to learn and lead productive healthy and happy lives".

On road too, it is also a total failure. Though Ajagu *et al.* (2008) stated that less than one year was too short to begin assessment of the president performance. Mbamalu (2008) however, maintained that Yar'Adua was definitely too slow. For instance, "in the power sector, he said he was going to declare a state of emergency. We are yet to see it one year down the line. Even now over two years. Same for roads, there are certain roads you must not allow to deteriorate. It doesn't take much. Get into it. If planning takes you one year, when there is emergency, only God knows how long it is going to take you to implement it. Those are very straightforward things. That Ore/Benin road, for instance, if it is fixed, the nation will have a sign of relief. Maybe he wants to err on the side of caution. But he should be more practical.

According to Omodudu (2008), may be the government bite much more than they can chew. Or maybe they just need to give the Nigerian people something to talk about. Audu (2008) says going by what the president have said, we pray that God Almighty give him the strength and wisdom so that he can actualize his 7-point agenda dream. Nigerians will be happy to see things happen this way in this country.

Echejoh (2008) says the agenda is good, but nothing on healthcare. Probably encrypted in one of them. Issue of health should not be treated with kid's gloves. A healthy nation is a wealthy nation. Idris (2008) stated that Mr. President should reduce those agendas from seven to only one, because there are a lot of criminals surrounding him that need to be wiped out from the system. The only agenda is the Metal Reforms of the Nigerian Leaders.

Martins (2008) view, the agenda is a very good one but hope this is a way of showing idiosyncrasy of our political leader who would promise us and at the end of the day we will not see any thing to count on. Or is it his ECONOMY! ECONOMY!! ECONOMY!!!. He promised us? Please action speaks louder than words, he should do and not his “bulldogs” singing 7 point agenda.

According to Okhaigbe (2008) the essence of the agenda is commendable, and if honest persons are injected into the system it will come to manifestation. Because several ideas like this have been embark upon, but the injection of wrong persons frustrate the whole efforts. You see what I mean! If they fix in good persons no matter their political affiliation, Nigeria will fly like the eagles wings. And our president, Umaru Musa Yar’ Adua, will be seen as the real hero Nigeria long be waiting for.

CONCLUSION

In summary, it is hereby concluded that 7-point agenda is yet to reach the promise land. Therefore, all rightful people hands must be on deck to arrive at destination safely. Having x-rayed all the analysis above, it shows that the present 7-point agenda of Mr. President has not seen the light of the day and may not until the first tenure of the president expired.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A drastic approach is needed to ensure food security, because failure which all attempts at achieving national food security would be a child’s play. This is in line with Adeyemi (2009) which says needless to say that development of infrastructural facilities and a holistic approach will be required to ensure food security, failing which all attempts at achieving national food security, the seven-point agenda of Mr. President and the objectives of vision 2020 would be a mirage.
- There should be more orientation concerning the 7-point agenda. This is also the view of Bulama (2007) which states that 7-point agenda has become our agenda as a nation. Everybody must be well-informed to ensure he or she plays a vital role in the success of this vision.
- Irrespective of the political affiliation, the president should be able to appoint only those who are capable and ready to work. This view is also supported by Ajagu, *et al.* (2008) which says there should be more practical. Play down theory. Assemble technocrats and hit the nail on the head.
- A decisive approach should be taken to energize the power sector; the president should as a matter of urgency declare the power sector an emergency. This is in line with Mojeed (2008) who stated that all hands must be on deck for a turnaround in the reforms of the power sector, energy, food security, rehabilitation of the Niger Delta and education.

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