RP006

Party Ideology and Governorship Performance in Nigeria: A study of Kwara State 2003-2018

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Abstract
The contemporary debates on party ideology and good governance are deeply stirred by the noteworthy of political processes that have taken position in Africa. Political ideology is a significant medium of a political party. Political Parties does not act in a vacuum but it is mostly prejudiced by party member's views. In countries like Nigeria, after years of political sovereignty, the challenges of good governance has eroded Nigeria dividend of democracy as a result of lack of party ideology been portray by her political parties. The paper focuses on necessities to improve party ideology in other to fabricate good governance. Ex-post facto research design was used for this study. Stratified random sampling was used to divide Kwara into three senatorial district which include; Kwara Central (KC), Kwara South (KS), and Kwara North (KN). The study concluded and recommended that party Political parties must evolve political ideologies and their activities must be guided by the ideologies they so represent. Party ideology should be established and be a guiding rule of the conduct for all political party members across the states in Nigeria.

Keywords: Political Party, Ideology, Governorship Performance and Good Governance

1. INTRODUCTION

Athwart globally, political parties are recognized by their ideology and philosophy. Ogunleye (2014) ideology is a body of ideas that guide the ways political parties see the political domain, that's a political parties that is structure around a specific ideology orientation, is seen therein regard and other people are ready to evaluate it better base on its ideology position, and in political discuss is in a position to defend various position base on its ideology.

Ideology is not just a belief system, attitudes or views about society but also is directed towards action. Freeden (1996) links ideology to 'thought-behavior' relationship. The purpose is not to pursue ideas for action randomly but to organize society, so action is intended to arrange the way society should be organized (Schwarzmantel 2008). There is "plenty of historical evidence that politics cannot be understand without intellectual capacity of ideas or correspondence of political ideas that have mobilised people to political activity, at whatever level" (Schwarzmantel, 2008: 4).

Ideologies feature a major part in political life, particularly in ordinary affairs of government life. Especially in relation to what factors motivate a specific decision. Hamilton (1987) explains that ideology facilitates choice or decision. This is described as a key function of ideology (Editorial 2001).

Nigerian parties appear to be affected by ideological barrenness unlike what's obtainable in advanced democracy. Except privileged leaders of political party's form a structure and uphold political ideologies on their position. it's only in Nigerian that candidate worked against their parties once they did not secure parties tickets to contest elections and more so, cross carpeting from one party to another continue to exist.

Taking a deep scrutiny at the way political system in Nigeria is structured since the adoption of democracy. It is more than obvious that political parties in Nigeria lack ideologies (Cited in Adebayo, 2018). Parties are no longer after the doctrines, myth or beliefs to differentiate themselves from others. It is sad that in Nigeria, the citizen are deprived the opportunity cast a vote base on party ideology rather vote for personality, in the absence of party ideology the citizen or voter decide to vote for the candidate of their choice.

2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Dosunmu (2015:5), political ideology deficiency by parties plying the Nigeria political routes have deprived the country solemn growth of her democratic consolidation. Nigerian parties, despite their presence through party manifestos, do not have comprehensible political ideologies (Omotola, 2009), Therefore, the parties have found it awfully difficult to emphasize politics of issues. Many scholars have continued to condemn the lack of ideologies been propagate by Nigeria political parties, the People's Democratic Party PDP are described as a fractious and ideologically inarticulate congeries of politicians (Suberu, 2007:101). Similarly, Soyinka (2014) described the All Progressive Congress (APC) as a political party of participating in political licentious. Nigeria as a country has been experimenting poverty of ideology.

3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. To what extent does a factor determine party ideology contribute to governorship performance in Kwara State?
2. Does party ideology affect the governorship performance in Kwara and Lagos State from 2003-2018?

3.1 Research Objectives

1. To examine the factors that determine party ideology on governorship candidate selection in Kwara State from 2003-2018
2. To examine the impact of party ideology on governorship performance in Kwara State from 2003-2018.

3.2 Research Hypothesis

H_{03}: There is no significant relationship between party ideology and governorship performance in Kwara and Lagos state from 2003-2018.

4. LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL DISCOURSE

The poverty of political ideology that has come to envelop Nigerian parties over the years, coupled with its attendant crisis and contradictions, has been of dramatic effect not only on the parties, but also on the entire project of national rebirth, integration, governance and sustainable democracy and development. Instead of parties contributing to the building of state structures and the consolidation of development, they have been reduced to tools for promoting sectionalism and opportunism.

The dominant themes in Nigerian parties appear in the direction of ethnicity, religion and money at the expense of a steadfast dedication to well-defined beliefs and principles of action. In the short and long run, it is the accompanying politics that suffers, crippling as it does, to midwife good governance and sustainable democracy. What we have encountered so far is the resort to the politics of "trial and error", based on the manipulation of ethnicity and religion and the dominance of money politics. Having proved to be very effective in mobilization and legitimization, the place of political ideology has been relegated to the background. This was well captured by the observation that:

Right from independence, the country has had political parties with ill-defined ideological base, if any at all. It appears that rather than improving on the structure of our established political parties, they have continued to diminish in terms of philosophy, content and objectives (quoted in Simbine, 2005:24 cited in Omotola, 2009: 630).

Nnoli (2003:) argued that ideology is a very vital aspect of politics, serving as a cognitive structure for looking at society generally and providing a prescriptive formula, it is, a steer to individual action and judgment, although is a powerful instrument of conflict management, self identification, popular mobilization and legitimization. It may, therefore, be correct to assert that the first and most important vehicle of a political party, under an ideal situation, its ideological stance. In reality, however, this is seldom the case. Perhaps, due to the triviality of democratic pedigree particularly in Nigeria and the developing countries as a whole, other force of identity particularly ethnicity and religion become visible to have taken the place of ideology. The intensifying sway of money politics represents a different dimension, limiting the essential of ideology in Nigeria politics.

According to Matudi and Mommoh, the chief problem or deficiency with political parties in Nigeria is the dearth or absence of political ideology (2013). According to Matudi and Mommoh (2013), political players and the electorates have very limited and poor knowledge and understanding of the true meaning and nature of political ideology and its importance in shaping the political culture and parties programmes. This licentious character of the Nigerian political elites is attribute to the fact that all the political parties in the country lack ideological beliefs, hence Simbine (2004:7) has pointed out this problem, that political aspirants cross carpet from a particular party to another for the flimsiest and selfish reasons to satisfy their ambitions a practice that has resulted in both inter and intra-party crises in the country.

More over, any parties lacking ideological content as a platform for action, identification, mobilization, legitimization and conflicts management (Nnoli 2003:181-183), such parties have turned to money identity, patronage, violence and bad governance. It seems that Nigerian parties, regardless of their pretence through party manifestoes**,** have

the challenges of political ideologies. For one, while party manifestoes and objectives could be a road-map to the ideological stance of a party, it is not inherently self-sufficient. Much of it depends on the extent to which such manifestoes differentiate the parties from another. This is rarely the case in Nigeria particularly beginning from the Second Republic. Simbine (2005:24) notes that:

An overview of the manifestoes of political parties in Nigeria shows that their objectives and strategies are not radically different from one another in their planks and are all virtually addressed to the same issue… the APP and AD manifestoes are almost a carbon copy of each other with the only difference discernible in them being the emphasis that they give to the programmes articulated or in few cases, the strategies for carrying out the objectives.

The lack of ideology accounts for the reason why politics is seen as an avenue for the primitive accumulation of wealth in Nigeria and the incessant rate of cross-carpeting as a result of clash of interest. Ideology, according to Momodu and Matudi (2013:7):
…is the force that fires the spirit which controls the actions and programmes of political parties. It is also central to the existence of political parties to the extent that the lack of it predisposes political parties to internal squabbles, lack of sense of direction and makes them to be mere platforms for actualizing personal interest of the few.

The poverty of ideology is further complicated by the deficit of internal democracy in the Nigerian political parties. The wisdom in the idea of internal democracy in a political party is "creating a level playground for the active participation of every member in the party affairs and to build a consistent party, that is vivacious enough to win elections" (Momodu and Matudi, 2013:7). The Nigerian experience, however, shows a culture of personalization of party. The syndrome of god-fatherism; monetization of primary elections and imposition of candidates are the forces that make intra party gravious in Nigerian politics. Most regrettably, the influence and power of incumbency continue to shape and reshape the nature of internal democracy within political parties (cited in Ibrahim & Abubakar, 2015: 116).

Political ideology helps people to make persuasive arguments convincingly to solicit popular support for a agreed public policy (Omotola,2009), ideology is a requisite component of politics, it is not only serve as a main instrument of persuading electorates, but it also function as a political salvation for the vibrancy of politics. Nigeria expedition to civic culture which is the best path to democratic consolidation has been lengthened rather unnecessary by non-ideological political space. Ideology enriches the substance of politics and as such facilitate in the development of democracy. Bode (2018) submitted that all Nigeria political parties did not have ideological differences, which can be refers to as far right, left or central right or central left. And this automatically affects the performance of the office holders.

5. METHODOLOGY

Ex-post facto research design was used for this study because it is best used to find out the conditions or relationship that exist, opinions that are held, effects that are evident or trends that are developed on a group of people under study by collecting and analyzing data from a sample considered to be representative of the entire group. Stratified random

sampling was used to divide Kwara into three senatorial district which include; Kwara Central (KC), Kwara South (KS), and Kwara North (KN).

From each stratum one local government was selected at random through dip and pick method. The purposive sampling technique was further used to select two political parties (APC and PDP) in the selected local government for the study. The instrument used for data collection was questionnaire. A total of 500 copies of questionnaire were administered and 411 were retrieved. Descriptive statistics of Frequency, Percentage, Mean and Standard Deviation were used to analyze the data on demographic characteristics of the respondents. The Pearson Correlation was used to analyze the hypothesis formulated for this research. An alpha level of 0.05 was used to accept or reject the hypothesis.

6. RESULTS

Research Question 1: Does party ideology affect the governorship performance in Kwara and Lagos State from 2003-2018?

Table I : Frequency, Percentage, Mean and Standard Deviation of Responses on Party Ideology on Governorship Performance in Kwara and Lagos State's from 2003-2018

S/	Items	SA F (%)	A F (%)	U F (%)	D F (%)	SD F (%)	Total	Mean	Std. Dev.
1	Political parties in Kwara State were drawn by specific party ideological system between 2003 and 2018	127 (30.9)	162 (39.4)	26 (6.3)	51 (12.4)	45 (10.9)	411	3.67	1.322
2	Membership of political parties in Kwara State from 2003 to 2018 premised on the ideology propagated by party leaders.	122 (29.7)	182 (44.3)	33 (8.0)	43 (10.5)	31 (7.5)	411	3.78	1.196
3	Governorship performance in Kwara State was based on self-ideology not party ideology from 2003 to 2018	108 (26.3)	153 (37.2)	43 (10.5)	69 (16.8)	38 (9.2)	411	3.55	1.292

4	The existence of party ideology has great influence on the performance of governorship candidates in Kwara State from 2003 to 2018	82 (20.0)	115 (28.0)	52 (12.7)	105 (25.5)	57 (13.9)	411	3.15	1.368
5	Governorship candidate/aspirant did consider party ideology before joining a political party in Kwara State from 2003 to 2018.	74 (18.0)	159 (38.7)	48 (11.7)	92 (22.4)	38 (9.2)	411	3.34	1.261
6	Imposition of party ideology was common on governorship administration in Kwara State from 2003 to 2018.	84 (20.4)	142 (34.5)	48 (11.7)	100 (24.3)	37 (9.0)	411	3.33	1.289

Source: Field Survey, 2020

The analysis in Table 1 reveals the response of samples on party ideology effect on governorship performance in Kwara state. This shows that majority 289 (70.3%) of the respondents agree that political parties were drawn by specific party ideological system, however; 304 (74%) of the respondents believe and agree that Membership of political parties premised on the ideology propagated by party leaders.

Furthermore, 261 (63.5%) of the respondent in Kwara state agree that governorship performance in Kwara was based on self-ideology not party ideology, In addition, 48% and (197) of the respondent indicates and agree that The existence of party ideology has great influence on the performance of governorship candidates, while 56.7% (233) believes and agree that governorship candidate/aspirant did consider party ideology before joining a political party and 54.9% which translates to (226) of the respondents agreed that Imposition of party ideology was common on governorship administration in the state.

Hypothesis one

$H0_1$: There is no significant relationship between party ideology and governorship performance in Kwara state from 2003-2018.

Table 2: Pearson Correlation of Party Ideology and Governorship Performance in Kwara State 2003-2018

Variables	**Me**	**SD**	**N**	**Df**	**R-cal**	**P-value**	**Remark**

Party Ideology	20.8	5.019	41	409	.234	. 000	Significant
Governorship Perfor mance	23.6	8.29	41				

P<0.05

The table 2 showed that there was significant relationship between party ideology and governorship performance in Kwara from 2003-2018 (r= .234; P<0.05). This means that the null hypothesis is therefore rejected, because the party ideology influences significantly the level of governorship performance.

7. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

Hypothesis one stated that there is no significant relationship between party ideology and governorship performance in Kwara state from 2003-2018. The outcome of the hypothesis one of the findings revealed that a significant relationship exist between party ideology and governorship performance in Kwara State from 2003-2018. This corroborates the findings of Mendilow (2003) who indicated that party ideology often affecting the performance of party representative while in office.

This also corroborate the finding of Brewer (2008) who assert that political party ideology is a true reflection of its candidate performance in any political position occupy by the party. Similarly, Ogunleye (2014) also submitted that political party performance in the office can be evaluate better base on its ideological position, and its able to defend various position base on its ideology. Abati (2018) assert that Nigeria politics does not base on ideology, the group of same bird of fellows comes together for the purpose of wanting to take power for the purpose of sharing formular which automatically affect there performance.

8. CONCLUSION

Party ideology is momentous because of the substance of ideology itself and the party link with democracy. Political Ideology is an imperative medium of a political party, and there is no political party devoid of one or more manifestoes throughout their electioneering campaign. The conventional view of party politics in Nigeria is that the political system is subjugated by individual aspiration and racial electioneering over ideological elections or moral governance.

The contemporary politics shows the proof in the decline responsibility of political parties in shaping politics; however it is tricky to think of national government functioning devoid of parties playing noteworthy role in linking various elements of the political process. The centrality of ideology in party politics is irrefutable. It can be plainly stated that “political ideas matter”, that “ideas matter in politics is beyond question” (Schwarzmantel, 2008: 3; Rueschemeyer, 2006: 227). It is difficult to understand political activity without understanding the ideas and visions that have caused people to act (Schwarzmantel 2008).

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All political party should resolutely stick to feature that contribute to the deed of party ideology. The tenets are very relevant towards party ideology system which invariable replicates effective governance and dividend of democracy.
2. Political parties must evolve political ideologies and their activities must be guided by the ideologies they so represent. Party ideology should be established and be a guiding rule of the conduct for all political party members across the states in Nigeria. Party manifesto should be strictly adhered to so as to actively response to the yearnings and aspirations of the electorate.

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