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AFRICAN MIGRATION PANACEA AND THE INTEGRATION OF NIGERIA AND SOUTH AFRICA SINCE 1994

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Abstract

For over a century, cross border movement of people has been ongoing between Nigeria and South Africa. The study adopts document analysis to investigate migration between Nigerians and South Africans. The study relied on oral interviews of former exiled South Africans, and former members of the National Action Against Apartheid, Newspaper reports, archival sources and written literature. The study found that Nigerians started immigrating to South Africa as early as 1905, and South African white Missionaries from the Dutch Reformed Church came to Nigeria in 1907, on the invitation of the Sudan United Mission, for evangelical work. It also found that the missionaries from South Africa were assigned the Benue region of Nigeria for missionary evangelical work. Additionally, the study established that Nigeria spent its resources in the fight against apartheid. In doing that, Nigeria did not only engage apartheid South Africa alone but used the instrument of diplomatic relation in canvassing support on the international scale through the United Nations, the Commonwealth and the formation of the OAU which

was largely funded by the Nigerian government. This study argues that although the migration phenomenon existed for over a century, the two countries are still unable to integrate for positive gains. Although the instrument of power lies in the hands of the black majority, the economy is still largely controlled by the white minority South Africans. This paper discusses the possibility of South Africa and Nigeria championing the possibility of economic and political integration of the two countries and argues that migration can be an instrument for uniting the entire Africa if the proper policies are put in place. The study concludes that rather than engaging in the Afro-phobic attacks against fellow Africans in South Africa, the panacea for Africa unity lies in the integration of the two countries.

Introduction

Nigeria, with a population of over 273,615,345¹, has been declared the largest economy in Africa², while South Africa has the infrastructural and technological advantage over other countries in the continent³. These advantages qualify both countries as centers of attraction for migrants, even from outside the continent. There are records of Chinese, American and European migrants in these countries. This is notwithstanding the fact that Nigerians are still the most mobile population on the continent. This migration pattern, which is mostly driven by economic parameters, triggers different forms of social problems such as drug trafficking, prostitution, repatriation of undocumented migrants, and xenophobia (the hatred and/or fear of foreigners). These bedeviling migration problems are now the dominant issues between Nigeria and South Africa.

Migration between South Africa and Nigeria started from 1907 when the white Missionaries from the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa came to Nigeria on the invitation of Sudan United Mission (SUM). Although the invitation came from SUM, it was the Nigerian colonial administration that made the covert request. It is worth noting that during the colonial period, the Dutch branch of SUM⁴, which was made up of South Africans, embarked on a missionary activity, thus evangelising the people around the central Nigerian area (the Jos Plateau), and later spread to the Benue areas. Their activities are still ongoing in the Central Nigerian areas. These missionaries also attracted South African businessmen who explored opportunities in the mining sector. This marked the beginning of formal relationship between colonial Nigeria and South Africa. Archival records reveal that white South Africans applied for positions in the colonial administration in Nigeria⁵. The relationship was reciprocal because Nigerians in colonial military service were also taken to South Africa. This is clearly evidenced by the archival record reports on Corporal Dogonyaro, a member of the First Nigeria Regiment who was buried in Durban (KwaZulu Natal) in South Africa⁶.

The scope of this study covers the period from the year 1960 to present. 1960 coincides with Nigeria's independence; it was also the year in which the Sharpeville massacre took place in South Africa. The massacre inspired Nigeria's increasing involvement in the liberation struggle not only in South Africa but also in other African countries still under colonial rule at the time. At that time, the international community was also up in arms against colonialism and every form of racial discrimination and apartheid⁷. This facilitated Nigeria's acceptance of exiled African National Congress (ANC) members from South Africa. The post-apartheid period, beginning from 1994, witnessed the mass immigration of Africans into South Africa. The repealing of the restrictive migration policies by the new government of Nelson Mandela allowed black African's easy entry into South Africa. The economic and political crisis in Nigeria also led many Nigerians, skilled professionals and businessmen, to migrate to South Africa. Many Nigerians migrated for various reasons, including, but not limited to, the economic opportunities offered by the new state.

Migration within the African States

South Africa's human mobility pattern is more complex than what can be found in other African countries. South Africa has progressively attracted not just refugees but also skilled professionals across the continent. This eventually culminated in suspicion and identity problem, which brings about tension, hatred (as witnessed in the series of xenophobia crisis), and diplomatic roar and animosity. Exploring the causes of the animosity between the two countries, as well as the cause of the tension in terms of national development is crucial. Examining the unity question as well as the nature of economic integration and its implications on diplomatic relationship is also very important. Migration studies have attracted the interest of many scholars from within and outside the discipline of history. Studies by scholars⁸ clearly demonstrate different migration patterns in Africa in their interaction and experience with the rest of the global South and the world. The Nigerian-South African migration pattern, which is found within the geo-political South-South, will add value to the global migration studies with specific focus on the African trajectory.

African migration patterns have become one of the major aspects of contemporary academic discourse on international migration and globalisation. Scholars including Adepoyu, Baggio,

Oliver Bakewell, and Lucas,⁹ have written on various aspects of migration in Africa, especially on the domestic and international dimensions of refugee and labour migration. Data on global migration flow, as reported by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), indicate that globally, in 2013, there were 232 million transnational migrants, representing 3 % of the estimated world population compared with 174.5 million in 2000. Looking at the global estimate of 150.3 million migrant workers, 112.3 million (74.7%) were found in nations regarded as high income states; 16.9 million (11.3%) were found in middle income countries; and 3.5 million (2.4%) in low income nations. These low income countries include Africa, Latin America, and Asia¹⁰. Due to lack of accurate data on intra-African migration, the ILO reports give no specific figure to indicate flow of human mobility within African states, which calls for more censuses to ascertain the current flow of migration within African countries. The reason for the inclusion of the ILO reports is to demonstrate the migration flow in the world, and indicate the omission of the reports on the flow of the South-South and intra African mobility. This shows that there is a need for adequate studies in the area.

The pattern of the Nigeria-South Africa relations is better understood when approached from the aspect of migration from both countries, especially from a historical perspective. It will be useful to know whether this has any effect on the current mobility of people between both countries and its impact on their governmental relations. An earlier investigation reveals that there are archival sources in both South African (NAP Pretoria) and Nigerian National (NAK Kaduna Nigeria) archives on this area. These archival sources reveal the historical importance of the political and economic relationships between the countries in terms of trade, the recruitment of colonial civil servants, military personnel exchange, and training/employment opportunities from South Africa to Nigeria during the colonial era – at least up to 1960 when Nigeria attained its independence.

Nigeria and South Africa are strategic countries in the sub-region of West Africa and Southern Africa respectively. They are major stakeholders on the African continent as a whole, the global South-south political dimension, and the post-colonial world, as Africa's economic and security strength. This study shows the significance of the history of migration of people between the two countries, Nigeria and South Africa. The long and beneficial relationship between the two

countries in terms of cultural, socio-economic and political cooperation and assistance therefore invites a close critical study. The nature of migration control in the two countries differs, and this study intends to also examine that within a historical context. In addition, this study also seeks to identify the implications of these migrations patterns and control and its significance for the diplomatic relations between the countries.

Government Response towards Integration

Nigeria within the ECOWAS region, and South Africa within the SADC region, have the moral burden to support their poor neighbours, control internal corruption in government circles, and face border security challenges to reduce political tensions leading to ethnic and religious crises. These have the potential of increasing migration, and reduce insecurity, poverty or financial competitiveness leading to further displacement of people. South Africa, post-apartheid, is faced with the problem of landlessness, and widespread poverty, especially among blacks, which are among some of the factors responsible for xenophobic violence in South Africa. Recent attacks on Nigerians, especially the extra-judicial killings are uncalled for in the Nigerian South African relationship. This situation, if left unchecked by relevant authorities, can lead to further escalation of insecurity within the South African state. Therefore, concerted effort must be made towards addressing the issues of national integration for economic, political and diplomatic relations within the African continent.

Sub-Saharan African countries generally maintain the highest number of intra-regional cross-border migration of people with the highest population of migrants circulating within its states and the minority migrating to Europe and other continents of the world. However, trade relationships which are one of the main factors of integration suffer setbacks. Africa's trade relations in high volumes mainly in raw materials are with the developed continents of the world. According to Draper;

The bulk of extra-regional exports are undifferentiated commodities that are generally not needed in regional supply-chains owing to the serious underdevelopment of manufacturing industry.¹¹

The desire to integrate African economies on a regional, and ultimately continental, basis is strong. It is shared amongst African elites and their international development partners. Consequently, many formal initiatives have been established to further this goal, under the overarching umbrella of the African Union's plan to achieve a continental common market by 2028.¹² However, often the rhetoric does not match with reality. African economic integration suffers from a litany of problems, ranging from overlapping memberships through unfulfilled commitments, to unrealistic goals.

For Africa to have veritable tool for the promotion of peace, security and stability, Nigeria and South Africa should cooperate with each other and collaborate and establish strong ties that would bring about economic integration, industrialisation, political stability using their joint military strength and capacity.¹³ They must also fight internal corruption and withstand global capitalist influence whose interest jeopardise African national interest. Nigeria and South Africa's positive response to the issues raise above would bring about the desired change, with considerable implications on the migration of its highly skilled diaspora spread all over Europe and America. This will serve as a boost for migration with a positive African agenda pursued by a pan-Africanist approach. This would give Africa a strong voice in international relations especially in the UN. As stated by former Nigerian Leader Goodluck,

South Africa and Nigeria are critical countries in Africa and must work together so that Africa can move forward in the drive to boost the standard of living for our people. The world expect so much from us, we must cooperate and work together so that we will not fail the world about these expectations.¹⁴

Indeed, the cooperation of both countries is the key to Africa's economic and political emancipation. A pan-Africanist posture would be of immense help to the African development challenge and offer a better perspective for integration of its people. What then is regional integration? And what is the response of the two sub-regional giants of Africa in the process of integrating its people? According to Abubakar Abdulsalami, Nigerian former military head of state,

Traditionally, regional integration implies co-operation among states in geographically proximate and delimited areas to foster economic, political and security interests.¹⁵

At the centre of integration is economic integration scheme, political and diplomatic interest of nations for a collective security network to secure their territory from both internal and external threat, and prosperity of those nations which takes different forms, depending on the level of co-operations among member nations, and the extent to which they are willing to surrender their national sovereignty in the interest of the co-operation. These include free trade zones for member states, custom union which should have common regulation for revenue drive in the interest of member states, common markets and economic union. Geographical closeness of states is necessary as a product of a successful regional integration, shared political system, for example, democracy, uninterrupted progressive economic growth, good governance that allows for public opinions led by enthusiastic leaders, cultural similarity, domestic political stability, shared historical experience and domestic social development, common level of military readiness and economic resources, shared perception of a common external threat to economic and political interests of member states, and removal of unnecessary bureaucratic bottlenecks and previous collaborative efforts in historical times of difficulty and prosperity.¹⁶ Although nations should not necessarily possess all of the listed conditions before thinking of integration; the absence of some few might hamper the success of integration. Nigeria and South Africa have the potential for all of the stated reasons. The absence of some can be complimented by the presence of the other shared experience, and exchange of political and policy guide by each other can lead to a good inter-regional cooperation that can lead to economic integration which has good potential for development. The Governments' response towards each other would go a long way in the realization of the regional integration.

The number of diplomatic crossing and commercial trade across borders is on the increase as more and more nations seek new forms of cross-border relationships for economic, political and defence reasons. The other factors are commercial trading and financial transaction, employment

and migratory shift for economic, humanitarian, or political cause.¹⁷ Nations and people are daily closing on differences emanating from race, colour and ethnic identity to a common humanity, although the rising threat of terrorism has become another concern. Despite terrorism's disadvantage, nations are closing ties with each other at regional and continental levels.

Africa cannot be left behind in this process, both internally and externally. African states should not only rely on their relationship with powerful nations, especially their former colonial authorities who cannot be compatible with them in terms of economic and military strength, but they have no choice than to embark on inter-regional cooperation for growth and economic stability. This has the potential for changing the economic fortune of the continent, and can reduce the challenge of poverty, illiteracy, and resolve the many conflicts surrounding it. Nigeria and South Africa as economic and political giants should set the ties for other African nations to join. Accordingly, nations are resorting to multilateral co-operative approach under conditions of interdependence. This unity aids nations in strengthening their security, economic and political system, especially at the regional level. They cooperate among themselves to foster regional governmental and military defence pact to maintain the spate of rising challenge of insecurity across borders and internally.

The African Economic Community proposed since 1991 with the signing of the Abuja treaty is yet to take effect. This is because African states emphasise more on what separate them rather than what unites them. The continent needs to identify their common area of strength, and work on it rather than emphasise on their weaknesses and what separates the African nations. However, African integration seems to be making more progress on the regional level than on continental level. Europe is an example, with the European Union having a common currency, free movement of its people and free trade zones among member nations. The proposed exit of Britain from the union has not stopped Europe from making its integration a success story. In fact, many Britons are reacting negatively to their exit and Africa can still learn in their success and failure to guide its cooperation with each other. Equally, the North American Free Trade Union (NAFTU) has been formalised since 1993.¹⁸ Similarly, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), established since 1967, became famous in integrating the region by

2003, which now has significant regional economic role with the prospect of an eventual emergence of a larger economic community. These are varying examples of successful regional integration which Africa should emulate to suit its purposes for regional economic cooperation.

Africa's regional integration is being made at the regional level under very difficult challenges, sometimes under the threat of the bigger capitalist economies of Europe, America and Asia. However, more progress is being made at the sub-regional level. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) founded in 1992 with member countries including Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe have all pledged to create a free trade zone and have a common currency; but this is not coming to reality because of differences in economic prospects. South Africa, for example, will not allow the entry of some products manufactured in those neighbouring countries and a common currency might only lead to the disappearance of the other countries' currencies. For example, the Zimbabwean currency has sadly, long disappeared from the economy of Zimbabwe in favour of the US dollar following the land reform policy.¹⁹ This and many other challenges are the issue affecting the integration process in the Southern African region.

The Economic Community of West African States came into being from the colonial history of the countries that were a mixture of Anglophone and Francophone countries, meaning former British and French colonies respectively. Since its establishment in 1958, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was aimed at cutting across Franco-British linguistic differences created by the colonial experience and legacy of European domination in West Africa. Attempts at a regional integration of the West African states in the post-colonial era started in the early 1960s when most of the countries became independent, beginning with Ghana. ECOWAS was an initiative by Nigeria and Togo after a series of diplomatic meetings and convincing among the independent West African states, leading to the signing of the Lagos treaty on 25 May, 1975 by fifteen heads of states and governments of independent West African countries.²⁰ ECOWAS vision was for a regional economic integration; its founding fathers envisioned thus:

Collective self-sufficiency through integration of the 16 member states of the West African region into an economic bloc with a single market organised around an economic and monetary union.²¹

This was followed by bilateral treaties among member states that sought to appeal to the entire member nations, with Nigeria playing a significant role because of its economic strength and population. These treaties were reflections of their desire to enhance bilateral and multilateral co-operation within the region and provide a road map towards the integration of the entire region and appeal for member states to make the necessary sacrifice. Of significance to this study is ECOWAS's adoption of the protocol on freedom of movement, where citizens are not only free to move about, but also free to settle and establish their businesses in any member state as far as they do not pose a threat to the peace and security of the states; this was established on 24 July, 1993. They had hoped to achieve this within the period of fifteen years. For the first five years, citizens would be free to visit member states for 90 days, provided they have valid travel documents and appropriate health certificates. In the second phase which was also a span of five years, citizens may reside for a longer period but without the right to establish a business, and more restrictions would be removed within the last five years. ECOWAS is at the last stage of this integration with an ECOWAS e-passport already in place to make the movement of people and businesses easier in the West African sub-region.²²

The ECOWAS experience should be replicated in the Nigerian South African integration for free flow of business and effective control of criminal elements that would use the opportunity created by the policies for criminal activities. What then are the recommendations for integration?

Nigeria and South Africa should reopen the sea transport line on the Atlantic Ocean which was used in the transportation of goods from Nigeria directly to South Africa. The current sea route from Nigeria via England to South Africa is not healthy for the two countries. If achieved it would reduce the cost of goods for the benefits of good business. Oil can also be easily transported on the same route to South Africa.

South Africa as an industrialised economy should be given the opportunity to build refineries in Nigeria which would refine the oil and sell the output from the production for the mutual benefit of all. Rather than lifting crude oil, Nigeria can export refined oil and other related products that come from the proceeds of these refineries.

Foreign direct investment in terms of automobile industries from South Africa should also be allowed to come to Nigeria where they could make good profits and produce new cars for the growing population of the Nigerian country. South Africa should also work on the high crime rate in its country especially the rising spate of xenophobia and allow Nigerian business men to also invest in the solid mineral industries and other sectors for the South African economy.

Finally, Nigeria South Africa and Kenya should strike out deals to allow South Africa to build a rail road linking Nigeria via east Africa for ease of transportation of goods and human beings just as it is done across European countries. Electricity must be worked on so that the three can have effective energy for the teaming industries with Kenya and South Africa supplying the technology and Nigeria providing the resources and human capital development from its numerous professionals spread all over the world, this can only happens if corruption issues are address on the continent.

If this integration process is achieved, the migration of African people will also be effectively controlled and there will be no need for xenophobia and other vices as this would lead to the development of the entire continent. Above all, Nigeria and South Africa should pull their resources together and work on what unite them more rather than fight for superiority on international politics. Nigeria and South Africa has no other option than to unite; draw from pan-Africanism and work on the things that separate them and integrate for the betterment of the entire continent

Government Response to Migration as a Development Agent

Migration and development are areas that have received less scholarly attention. Emphasis in recent literature is placed on the negative rather than the positive aspect of migration especially on crime, xenophobia and drug trafficking, rather than the aspect of migrant's positives economic venture and innovation by some highly skilled migrants in universities, research

institutes and industries, which bring development. In this section, migration as a development agent is looked into in order to make Nigerian and South African governments' response positive. They must change the negative perception of migration and rethink development through the migration of people especially African intra-regional migration as it affects the Nigerian South African relationship. The analysis given by Crush best captures the essence of migration as a development factor which Africa migration policy draft should keep in focus thus:

The first response of the government of South Africa on migration was to repeal all laws that restricted the entry of black Africans into South Africa. The aim was to gain from the skills of other Africans.²³

Since Nigeria has a large population of highly skilled people it only opened new opportunities to the Nigerian people as observed by Odubajo and Akinboye;

The goal was to make post-apartheid South Africa the hub of political and economic activities on the African continent. Moreover, this was in line with democratic South Africa's foreign policy priorities, which among other goals included the 'consolidation of the African agenda'.²⁴

This was indeed a welcome decision by all African states in view of the shortage of human capital among black South Africans. The government of South Africa responded in ways that encouraged the migration of highly skilled personnel especially from Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana and the SADC members' countries.

Wars and coups affected the process of development in Africa from inception of their independence, hence, their dependence on primary commodities. In Southern Africa two countries have relatively recently emerged from prolonged conflict (Angola and Mozambique) whilst a third has managed to avoid overt conflict at the expense of chronic political and economic instability (Zimbabwe). In West Africa, the emergence of terrorist threat in the ECOWAS region and in the region's most populated country, Nigeria, has the effect of further

threatening regional peace and economic integration in the region and, by extension, the continent as a whole.²⁵

As stated, Nigeria's response to South Africa was in three stages:

The first stage was marked by Nigeria's responses to South Africa's policies during the apartheid era. The second stage falls within the post-apartheid era, of which the major focus was on South Africa's responses to the vagaries of military dictatorship in Nigeria. The third stage is from 1999 to the present under a democratic Nigeria, with the consequent reactions of South Africa to an equally strong sub-regional leader.²⁶

The three stages have been researched by many scholars with the exception of the government response on the migration of people and the patterns of migration. The implication of this response to the current migration challenges has not been analyzed by scholars especially as it affects migration of people.

Nigeria is faced with the absence of a national strategic plan for the development of the nation. The vision 2020, which its proponent never believed in, was introduced as a political propaganda to win the interests of the people to see hope in the Nigerian nation. However, there appears to be no concrete and specific plans for achieving Nigeria's national development program and Nigeria's interest in the international system. The Nigerian state is currently threatened by many issues including anti-corruption crusade which seems to be a political witch-hunt of perceived political opposition, the war against insurgencies and terrorists in the North Eastern region, the upsurge of ethnic militia groups, the suppression of the Igbo separatist revival groups in the South-East; and the curbing of the Niger-Delta insurgency. These issues have implications on government response to development in the Nigerian state; therefore, the Nigerian government needs to focus on strategies for tackling the general embitterment of the people arising from the current economic recession.²⁷

South Africa, on the other hand, is also faced with the challenge of corruption charges against the President arising from the Nkandla scandal and the state capture by wealthy capitalists in South

Africa being the most prominent which led to exit of the president from office in 2018. These problems which are avoidable have implications on the further development of the country and therefore have the negative effects on furthering poverty and, by extension, affect migrants' relationship with South African peasants who feel threatened by their presence, and indeed make it impossible for the country to deploy its full potential for the African cause in the international system.(Ndukwe)

The migration train in Africa has continuously reflected a lack of institutions that are well-equipped to absorb especially high skilled Africans in the field of science and technology, thereby driving these professionals to look outside of their home countries leading to the brain drain from Africa and brain gain for the developed economies of the world.

Migration also exports unemployment and social claims and offer to the highly qualified an opportunity of jobs corresponding to their aspirations for wages and competences. Immigrants can become actors of development in their regions of origin thanks to initiatives of decentralized cooperation. The Nigerian South African migration patterns suit into the trajectory of the existence of unemployment in Nigeria, leading to emigration of highly skilled Nigerians, which offers South Africa the opportunity for having these Nigerian migrants contributing to the growth and development of South Africa. This is seen in institutions such as industries, universities, research institutes, hospitals and construction companies. Despite large capital investment by South African companies in Nigeria and the employment opportunities created for Nigerians by these companies, this has not replicated into any form of transfer of technology that could transform into development. Another challenge is that these investors from South Africa are not direct foreign investment which could draw large capitals to invest in productive industries. The companies rely mostly on finished goods and consumables. The impact of migration on development differs not only between short-term and long-term schemes, but also on the migrants' countries of origins. The links that migrants maintain across borders give way to free flow of information and management of high technical movement in the country of origin and so raises remittance.²⁸

For migration to be turned into positive venture that can lead to technological transfer and development in Africa, the migration policies must be reflective of ideals that allow migrants to

be used as vectors for the change. A critical look of the migration policies in both countries reflects negatively on the issues of development and integration.

The South African migration policy has its origin from the “Aliens Control Act of 1963 which was the legislative and policy instrument used to regulate immigration into South Africa.”²⁹ This Act was used to deny Africans entry into the South African apartheid state. This led to South African blacks being disconnected from other Africans. The effect of this policy therefore was that South Africans were unaware of the development taking place in other African countries and also cut off from Africanism. According to Crush, “this Act was a blatant and unashamed instrument of white racial domination or supremacy”³⁰. These migration policies affected the post-apartheid immigration according to Isike and Isike:

Since the advent of democracy in 1994, immigration policy has changed from one of selective restriction that was racialized to one of guided accommodation that is non-racialized. This is so because although post-1994 immigration policy and practice is open to and accommodative of anyone who can contribute to developing the new South Africa, it is a guided accommodation as it only encourages skilled workers, capital-owning entrepreneurs and wealthy retirees to emigrate to the country. Like its predecessor and its amendments, the Immigration Act, No.13 of 2002 and the Immigration Amendment Act, No.13 of 2013, the Immigration Regulations 2014 aim to regulate mobility as well as maximise the benefits of migration.³¹

The post-apartheid migration was a major shift from the patterns of restrictive immigration on Africans to regulated migration that allowed Africans from other countries to enter into South Africa.³² Migrants bring improvement in the socio-economic area by making their skills available where they are needed sometimes at the cheapest wages when natives will not supply their labour for such low wages. By this, they also bring in new sense and values and new mode of economic behaviour which make owners of production want to employ more since they could get value for their labour at low wages. They sometimes bring new skills to the economy sector

of the receiving countries by opening up new possibilities for profit; this, sometimes lead to technology transfer. Nigeria in recent years has witnessed political unrests coupled with the upsurge of the insurgencies in the North Eastern part of the country with a consequential effect spreading into the hinterland of Abuja with several suicide bombers killing many people in public space. This scary phenomenon has led to the withdrawal of many investors out of Nigeria and therefore the country does not attract further direct foreign investors into the economy. This means that those who were employed by these companies have been left without employment and new investors are scared of setting up their businesses in the country, a situation that results in a large population of the country's high skilled professionals seeking greener pasture outside the shores of Nigeria. The degeneration of peace and security in Nigeria not only discourage investors needed for development but also led to capital flight.

In conclusion, migration should be seen in the positive light. Nigeria and South Africa can improve on their poor relationship as it affects migrant productivity and business investors across each country for better and effective transfer of technology.

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