

## COVID-19 LOCKDOWN AND IT IMPLICATION ON POVERTY LEVEL OF COMMUNITIES IN JERE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, BORNO STATE, NIGERIA

<sup>1</sup>Alhaji Kolo & <sup>2</sup>Babagana Mohammed

<sup>1</sup>Division of General Studies, University of Maiduguri P.M.B1069 Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria

& <sup>2</sup> Department of Public Administration, Ramat Polytechnic Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria.

**Correspondence Email:** [Alhajiko2010@gmail.com](mailto:Alhajiko2010@gmail.com) and [Babaganamohammed7@gmail.com](mailto:Babaganamohammed7@gmail.com)

### Abstract

This study assesses the effect of COVID-19 lockdown and its impacts on poverty levels of small business owners, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and some community members in Jere Local Government area of Borno State, Nigeria. It examines how the Covid-19 lockdown affects poor people, people with special needs and income of small scale business owners at Jere during the lockdown in Borno State. The study used both primary and secondary data to obtained information; primary data were obtained through the administration of questionnaires, and focused group discussion with community members, IDPs and small scale business owners at Tashan Bama in Jere local government, while secondary data were obtained from journals, articles and Internet materials. Thus, data was analyzed using qualitative method and simple percentage was basically used for the analysis. This study found that the covid-19 lockdown has severely affected the income and capital of small scale business owners as the government enforced lockdown which forcefully halted business activity, consequently increases the poverty level of unfortunate people such as street beggars and daily pay workers (labourers). More so, it has crease poor heath do to starvation, lack of exercise among the IDPs and poor. The study adopts the Human Needs theory as a theoretical guide. Thus, circumstances have forced small business owners to consume what they sell, instead of the interest of their daily sales or spending their capital to support their families during the period of the lockdown. This study recommends that in circumstance of this nature government should always focus on the poor, beggars, people with special needs and small business owners when administering aids. Assistance to beneficiary's should be distributed by going to their houses and should be accompanied by security guards, and authorities should use video coverage/CCTV and biometrics devices when distributing food and monitoring the aid process to ensure transparency and prevent diversion.

**Key Words;** Covid-19, Government, Lockdown, Small Scale Business and Poverty

## INTRODUCTION

The greatest catastrophic disease of the 21<sup>st</sup> century known as the Corona virus or the Convid-19 pandemic which was discovered in china late 2019 in a town called WUHAN. This disease affects the respiratory system inflicting harm and spreading easily from one individual to the other through coughing. Therefore, it facilitates the spread due to human interactions with each other and the movement of people from one community to another and from one country to another.

Consequently with the outbreak of Covid-19 (Corona virus) the government, in its effort to curb the unfold of this virus its carries different measures like lockdown, distancing and others. Among other things, these government policies affect poor people who are dominate in economic sectors such as agriculture, small business owners, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the physically challenge who depend on their daily income or beg for survival because the world has been forced to adopt these lockdown policies that prevented people from moving, going to work, farming or engaging in commercial activities to prevent the spread of this virus.

Gopinath (2020) stated that the world has changed dramatically since the revolution of the World Economic outlook in January 2020, because this unusual catastrophe, corona pandemic precipitates the awful deaths of large numbers of people around the globe.

As a result nations have being imposed to adopt necessary quarantine and social distancing practices to manage the pandemic; the world has been placed into a major Lockdown. The level of deterioration in economic activities such as business, agriculture, education, movement of goods and tour is contrast to any catastrophe that has ever being experienced in the world history (Gopinath, 2020).

The extensive closing of businesses and stores in the United States and in the entire globe due to the Covid-19 is only one of its kinds ever experienced (Fairlie, 2020). Therefore,

so many business activities have closed by policy authorization and this shock on small businesses in the world is likely to be severe.

Moreover, Ozili (2020) said that the Corona virus outbreak was detected on December, 2019 in Wuhan, Hubei, China and was acknowledged as a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 11 March 2020. Therefore this situation of Corona virus is spreading swiftly around the world, although various measures such as Social Distancing, Complete lockdown and Curfew had been adopted in different places like China, Indian and Nigeria among others to contain the spread.

Thus, this policy, taken by the world leaders to prevent the spread of this disease has cause severe pain and has also aggravated the poverty level of the poor people who in particular depend upon their every day profits or turnover. These classes of poor people includes subsistence farmers, smalls scale business owners that comprise of cart pushers, vegetable vendors, process food vendors, saloon operators, shoemakers /shiners and street beggars found in all part of the world.

In Nigeria covid-19 was first confirmed when it was diagnosed in a visitor who reaches Lagos from Europe on twenty seventh February, 2020 and in response by the Federal government of Nigeria to curtail the spread of the virus. The federal authorities injected money in preparation for any outbreak of the covid-19 disease which was measured as the sum of \$27 million US dollars for funding the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC) to support laboratory testing and isolation capacity IMF as sited in (Rockville, 2020). Although the virus began to spread from Lagos to other states including Borno State, this circumstance has compelled the federal government of Nigeria to introduce the lockdown whilst states government where authorize to adopt same especially with the discovery of affected persons in their respective state.

What's more Ozili added that the COVID-19 (corona virus) has affected not only people but the international economy, as well as causing spill over's to African countries.

Therefore, forcing African countries to take measures in curtailing the unfold of the virus, even though this has come at a time when the health structure have subsided and the economic is experiencing recession.

This has without doubt affected the poor people, particularly beggars, farmers, small scale and commercial enterprise proprietors in Nigeria. This study examines some communities in Jere Local government area of Borno State where the communities is dominated by small skill business owners, poor farmers, government auxiliary staff, traders, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in host communities, whose sources of income either relies upon daily income, assistances and avenue begging.

Additionally, this study examines small scale enterprise owners who trade in places like Maimusairi Tashan Bama market, Custom (Ngamboru) Market, and Mona Garage Market. This markets listed are located in Jere Community besides Ngamboru Market which is partly in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC) and in Jere and is dominated by the Poor people who are either Farmers, Small Scale business Owners, IDPs in search of assistant and other people who beg to survive due to poverty.

Therefore covid-19 lockdown did not only prevent poor people from doing their work or business but has inflicted extra ache to them through stopping them to go out and look for their livelihood, consequently increases their poverty level via forcing them to consume the little savings and their capital instead of profit from their sells.

Although Borno State government (2020) has assisted in distributing palliatives to the poor people were 4,000 residents got food items in Bale-Galtimari, Maimusari wards of Jere Local Gov't by committee appointed by the State Government. Furthermore Governor Zulum of Borno State had flagged-off the state extensive palliatives distribution on Saturday, April twenty fifth as part of the measures to lessen the consequences of the lockdown policy imposed to control the spread of Corona virus disease among the citizens. The Governor informed the public that the palliatives were being distributed to

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and vulnerable groups in camps and some host communities.

In addition State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Borno State, expressed that the technique for the distribution of the palliatives is ten (10%) percent to persons with disabilities, 20 percent to the elderly, 20 percent to widows, and 50 percent to the poorest of the poor.

Besides, the palliative committee has distributed the food items to the targeted people at twelve (12) wards in Jere local government, this study is concerned on subsistence farmers, IDPs, people with special needs who beg to survive and Small scale Business owners in Jere Local Government Area who are mostly affected by the locked down policy.

Although irrespective of government effort in providing assistance to the less privilege in form of palliatives allot of people still suffer particularly the IDPs, people with special needs, Farmers and small scale business owners which comprises of folks who sales perishable items like vegetables, meat sellers, fruits sales, Food vendors, and non perishable goods like shore shiners, Barbers, News papers vendors, cat pushers, saloons among others.

It is on these grounds that this study examines the effect of COVID-19 lockdown and how it aggravated the poverty level of the unfortunate people of Jere Local Government area of Borno States.

## **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Corona virus (covid-19) outbreak in the world and the fast rate at which the virus spread make it necessary for global leaders to introduce the overall lockdown of human activities as a way to curtail the unfold of the pandemic. However this lockdown has affected all sectors of human life whether directly or indirectly, but the most stricken by the lockdown is the poor people in the societies who are either subsistence farmers, small scale business

owners, street beggars, and the IDPs, all these classes of people are found in Jere local government area of Borno state.

Although several measures had been introduced to thwart the spread of the virus like the hand wash, use of face mask, the distancing policy adopted in public places, production and test of so many vaccines and the self isolation method, nevertheless this has not stopped the unfold of the virus.

Despite all these measures taken by world leaders, Federal government of Nigeria and Borno state government, the covid-19 virus still spread, those motives make it essential to adopt the lockdown policy in 2020 which has aggravated the poverty level of the low income people particularly poor people.

Consequently, with the introduction of this lockdown in Borno state several people in Jere had been affected especially the poor ones, beggars and IDPs among others who rely upon their daily profits from their labour, sales and assistance from good citizens because business activities have been closed completely within the period of the lockdown.

Even though, with the advent of the lockdown the government of Borno state have distributed food stuffs as palliative to the poor, however due to large population size of the state, it's difficult to provide to all those in need of assistance in the state, as a result the lockdown has inflicted pains and also aggravated the poverty level of the poor.

Although, several studies have been conducted on the challenges of covid-19, problems faced by poor people and small scale business owners like Eze (2012) 'The Problems and Prospects Of Management Of Small-Scale Business In Nigeria, Omo and Eranga (2020) COVID-19 Pandemic in Nigeria, Palliative Measures and the Politics of Vulnerability and Gopinath (2020) The Great Lockdown: Worst Economic Downturn Since the Great Depression. However none was able to address the issue of the challenges of the covid-19 lockdown on the poor, IDPs and earnings of petty traders at Tashan Bama Market and other commercial enterprise at Jere.

It is on this ground that this study examines the effect of COVID-19 lockdown and its implication on the poverty level of communities in Jere Local Government area of Borno State within the period of total lockdown in Borno state, which began from twenty-second April to thirteenth May, 2020 whilst the lockdown was then partially relaxed in the entire State. However, this study covered up to 2022 being the period when the entire world was affected by the pandemic and authorities were forced by the deadly disease to introduce lockdown policy as a means to curtail the spread of the virus. So, Jere was selected because of the challenges the displaced people in area, farmers, petty business operators suffer due to the pandemic.

### **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The main objective of this study is to examine the effect of COVID-19 lockdown and its implication on poverty level of some communities in Jere Local Government, Borno State, Nigeria, while the specific objectives are to:

- i. assess the effect of poor Health and its Implications on poverty level in Jere Local Government Nigeria and to;
- ii. examine the effect of Covid-19 Lockdown on the Poverty Levels of the underprivileged in Jere Local Government.

### **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

- i. What is the effect of COVID-19 lockdown on the poverty levels of the underprivileged in Jere communities?
- ii. What are the implications of poor health and its implications on the poverty level of the people in Jere communities?



## **SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

This study will be beneficial to policy makers, particularly the government, students and academics who will conduct research in this area.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **CONCEPT OF POVERTY**

Though there's no single universal and conventional definition of poverty, nevertheless the idea of poverty is entrenched in distinctive societies and this may be understood base on the cause or factor that leads to the reason or growth in the poverty. The Ward Bank Group (2016) described poverty as those people who are living on less than \$1.90 dollar in a day, though this definition is considering the purchasing power of money in 2011.

While the Federal Safety Net (nd) defines Poverty as living with no essential necessities of life like food, clothing or housing. In another view in, the Federal Safety Net believed that poor countries of the world, poverty means living on less than \$1.90 per day. So, this is standard used by the World Bank, and it describes "extreme" poverty. The World Bank estimates about 10% of the people in the world lives below this doorstep, or in relation to 700 million people. Therefore the people who lacks adequate safe drinking water, poor or no access to education with small life span. Consequently covid-19 lockdown has created difficulties in access to adequate food, water, education and shortage of these basic needs therefore aggravated the poverty level of the people of Jere communities in Borno State.

### **CONCEPT OF LOCKDOWN**

Lockdown have existed at some points of human history in different forms and for different reasons: either to stop a plague, or to fight against terrorism or technological disasters. Lockdowns has been of great help to authorities, doctors, nurses, pharmacists



and states institutions in order to respond actively and positively to the dangers of a plague like Covid-19. In addition it's important to note that isolation, quarantine, and overall lockdown are identified public health measures which have been used for a very long time (Jahanbegloo, 2020).

Pandemics have usually been profoundly unpredictable scenario in history because of the colossal complexity of the interactions between viruses and humans .So those measures help to lessen the tendency of spreading and offer possibilities to provide assistance and manufacture vaccines to reduce or cure the disease.

Furthermore, the outbreak of SARS in November 2002 in China infected more than 5,300 people and killed 349 nationwide. However, the SARS disaster led the Chinese government to take draconian measures to strengthen its authority while sealing off villages, apartment complexes, and college campuses and putting hundreds of thousands of people in confinement. The anti-SARS lockdown policy in China in 2003, observed through a complete epidemic control plan, trained China how to contain the corona virus outbreak in 2020 (Jahanbegloo, 2020).

However, containing pandemics is not an easy task for governments and civil societies around the globe though, Successful containment might depend on many factors, including tracing exposed individuals, vaccinating the threatened population and decontaminating locations and things. Individual isolation and nationwide lockdowns have not been replaced thus far. Although Borno State had experienced curfew several times do to insecurity that emanated from the activities of Boko Haram in 2009 up to 2022 but this study is concern with the covid-19 lockdown of 2020 and how it affected poor people, small business owners at Tashan Bama Market, Maimusari ward Custom which are all Jere local Government area of Borno State.

## **CONCEPT OF GOVERNMENT**

Government according to Mbaya (2009) is the equipment of the state for the fulfillment of the desires and interest of the people of the state. Also government is refers to that uppermost organization of all state, manned by individuals and vested with the power to make binding rules, formulate and implements policies Usman (2014).

Therefore, government means an organized body established to protect and provide for the citizens as entrenched in the collective agreements called constitution that are put into practice through organizations stating it responsibilities and limitation in it operations within the agreed boundaries.

## **POOR HEALTH AND IT IMPLICATIONS ON THE POVERTY LEVEL OF THE PEOPLE IN JERE COMMUNITY**

Poverty is regarded as deprived access to enough food, Ngoma and Mayimbo (2017), states that is the inability to meet essential needs and that the poor suffer from ill health. Therefore Ngoma and Mayimbo posits that the poor die due to poverty and they commonly suffer from transmissible diseases and nutritional insufficiency. Therefore people are at risk from diseases and suffer from lifestyle health problems that are often found among communities.

Roberts (2018) observed that Poverty and poor health in the globe is impossible to untie. Poor health is cause due to injustice placed on millions of people in the world that is embedded in the political, social and economic. Poverty is both a cause and a consequence of poor health. Poverty increases the chances of poor health which turn traps communities in poverty. Infectious and neglected tropical diseases kill and weaken millions of the poorest and most vulnerable people each year like the corona virus which forces the lockdown and increase poverty like lack of adequate food to eat, water and poor access to health care services. Therefore many people were starve and are forced to break the

lockdown law enforced by government so as to get food to eat. More so, starvation cause poor health as a result affects productivity of people.

Fairlie (2020) said that even health services experienced a drop of 16 percent due to the covid-19 outbreak. As well he Fairlie posits that small businesses experiences early stage losses and threatens longer term consequence for economic inequality and job losses.

Therefore the effect of covid-19 is not only death but for survival it causes poor health and increases poverty because people who are sick and needs daily walk are restricted by lockdown, as a result deteriorate their health's conditions and creating more hardship and poverty do to business closure.

### **EFFECT OF COVID-19 LOCKDOWN ON THE POVERTY LEVELS OF THE UNDERPRIVILEGED IN JERE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

Mahler , Christoph , Aguilar and Wu (2020) revealed in their forecasts that COVID-19 might likely cause a new growth in world poverty since the last experience in 1998 , when the Asian Financial calamity hit. Consequently With the recent forecasts, worldwide poverty the share of the world's populace surviving with less than \$1.90 per day is projected to increase from 8.2% in 2019 to 8.6% in 2020, or from 632 million people to 665 million people.

Furthermore, Mahler et al posit that considering the changes brought by the pandemic, it means that COVID-19 is forcefully changing the 2020 estimate of the global poverty rate of 0.7 percentage points to (8.6%-8.2%)-(7.8%-8.1%). In a distinctive way to explain this is that the estimates propose that COVID-19 will drive 49 million people into severe poverty in 2020 and years to come.

So, IMF projects that those living close to the global poverty line like the underdeveloped countries will undergo the greatest suffering in terms of extreme poverty. Nevertheless Sub-Saharan Africa in 2020 experiences little hit by the covid-19 pandemic when view

from the health aspect, however the IMF projections in Mahler et al (2020) put forward that it will be the section hit severely in terms of increase in high poverty. Therefore 23 million of the persons forced into poverty are projected to be in Sub-Saharan Africa and 16 million in South Asia.

Additionally the World bank (2020) press release observed that large-scale extreme poverty is expected to increase in the world in 2020 for the first time in over 20 years as the distraction of the COVID-19 virus affects poverty reduction development that the World have achieved.

Thus, COVID-19 virus is approximated to increase other 88 million to 115 million people into severe poverty this year, with the entire number growing to score of 150 million by 2021, though this relies upon the rigorousness of the economic setback in the world.

Even though, covid-19 is a global pandemic but its effect on underdeveloped nations and the poor people depends on the economic strength of the nation, states and the individuals. Jere communities is among those local government with large IDPs displaced by the activities of Boko Haram insurgency who are both found in self settled camps, host communities or official camps. .

Therefore people in this local government are also stricken by covid-19 lockdown due to the fact that the community is also host of poor people such as IDPs, physically challenge people who relies on charity for surviving, small scale enterprise operators and subsistence farmers. More so, the government is already saddled with responsibilities of feeding IDPs in camps, spending on security and added with this calamity caused by Covid-19 which has increased the burden of the state to cater for Palliative to support the poorest people. Consequently, this has affected the people and economy of the state and Nigeria in general.

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

This study used Human Needs Theory as a theoretical guide; therefore Coate and Rosati (1988) posit that human needs are powerful source for accounting human behaviour and social relations. All human beings have needs they apply great effort to satisfy either by using the system acting on the fringes or acting as a reformist or a revolutionary.

This theory states that the basic reason of intractable conflict is the primary need of people to meet their needs on individual, group and societal bases. More so, according to this theory, human being desires certain essentials if they must live and attain well-being in any ramification of life. Such basics things are known as (basic human needs). These needs are necessary for the survival of human beings and they include food, water and shelter (Maslow, 1973). This needs are unavoidable while the covid-19 lockdown has made access to this needs tough therefore forcing the poor people to feed with their capital, while some consumed the items they sale within that period of lockdown so as to survive. Whereas, some people were forced by the circumstances to break the lockdown policy by coming out to search for food, water because the state of affairs has increased their poverty levels because movement have been prevented which stopped businesses activities.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The method of data collection was survey method via the use of both primary and secondary data, in Primary data, this study used questionnaire and focus group discussion in obtaining the information from petty traders, community members and IDPs. While secondary data were obtained from conference papers, Journals and reports from relevant materials. Note that community members, small scale business owners, beggars and IDPs respondents were reached in that area using convenience sampling method. This study was a pure qualitative study; so, data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistical

tools which consist of simple percentages, therefore simple percentage was use to analyze respondent's views. The study was conducted in Tashan Bama Market, Custom area and Fori community of Jere local government.

## **DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSES**

### **DATA PRESENTATION**

The sample sized for this study is two hundred and fifty (250), therefore one hundred and fifty (150) questionnaires was administered to respondents and were filled and retrieved successfully, although the questionnaires were read and interpreted to some of the respondents who cannot read nor write. While focus group discussions were conducted to one hundred (100) respondents for both the community members, IDPs, people with special needs and petty traders.

Table 1.1 Distribution of questionnaires and numbers retrieved

Variables	Questionnaires Administered	Questionnaire Retrieved	Percentage% of questionnaires retrieved
Petty business owners	50	50	33.3%
IDPs in self settled camps in host community	50	50	33.3%
Community members	50	50	33.3%
Total	150	150	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Table 1.1 showed the distribution of 150 questionnaires out of which 50 was administered to petty business owners of different small scale businesses and the total numbers of the 50 questionnaires were retrieved and used for the analysis. Furthermore, additional 50

questionnaires were administered to IDPs in self settled camps and another 50 too to community members in Jere community and all the questionnaires were retrieved successfully because the researchers read, interpret and in some circumstances respondents insist that researchers should wait and collect the filled questionnaire which the researchers complied.

Table 1.2 Consequences of poor health and it implications on the poverty level of the people in Jere community?

Poor health has effect on the poverty level of the small scale business owners, poor people, people with special needs and internally displaced persons. Therefore covid-19 virus does not only impinge on health but prevents business activities which consequently increases poverty.

Respondents Views	SA%	A%	UD%	D%	SD%	Total
Poor health has aggravates poverty level of people.	52(35%)	28(19%)	19(13%)	25(16%)	26(17%)	150(100%)
Covid-19 Lockdown prevents exercise that causes illness.	34(23%)	61(41%)	7(4%)	24(16%)	24(16%)	150(100%)

Source: Field Survey, 2021

Table 1.2 revealed that 35% of the respondents strongly agreed that poor health leads to the increase in poverty level of people, also 19% of the respondents too agreed that poor health aggravates poverty level of the people, while 13% neither agreed nor disagreed that poor health could increase poverty level of the people of Jere Community. However 16% of the respondents strongly disagreed that poor health increase poverty level of people in



Jere community and 17% respondents also disagree that poor health could increase poverty level of people in Jere community. Base on the majority views the study revealed that poor health increases the poverty level of the people because of their inability to attend to their business activities as a result of illness. These findings imply that poor health aggravates the poverty level of the people because they spend more on medications and hardly engage on business activities due to poor health.

At the same time, 23% of the respondent strongly agreed that Covid-19 lockdown has prevented people from exercising and therefore this causes sickness. Also 41% of the respondents too agreed that covid-19 lockdown prevents exercise which causes sickness; while 4% of the respondents neither agreed nor disagreed that lack of exercise could cause sickness. Although 16% of the respondents strongly disagreed as well as another 16% were of the view that lack of exercise could cause poor health.

Therefore, the majority views revealed that Covid-19 Lockdown which prevents movements also affect exercise, therefore causing illness. This means that restrictions which prevent movement like the covid-19 lockdown do the outbreak of the virus causes illness to the body and therefore affect poor people.

Table 1.3 the effect of covid-19 lockdown on the poverty levels of the underprivileged in Jere community.

The consequences of covid-19 lockdown on the poverty level of small scale business, people with special needs and the underprivileged during the lockdown.

Respondents Views	SA%	A%	UD %	D%	SD%	Total
Covid-19 pandemic has increases poverty of small business	63(42%)	41(27%) )	6(4%) )	22(15%) )	18(12%)	150(100%)
The covid-19 lockdown has forces poor people and small business owners to consume their capital	97(65%)	26(17%) )	0(0%) )	18(12%) )	9(6%)	150(100%)

Source: Field Survey, 2021

Table 1.3 revealed that 42% of the respondents strongly agreed that covid-19 pandemic leads to the increase in poverty of small scale business owners, also 27% of the respondents too agreed that covid-19 pandemic increases poverty level of small scale business operators, while 4% neither agreed nor disagreed that the covid-19 pandemic could increases poverty level of the people of Jere Community. However 12% of the respondents strongly disagreed that the covid-19 pandemic increase poverty of the people and 15% respondents also disagree that the pandemic could increase poverty level of people in Jere community. Base on majority views the study revealed that the covid-19 pandemic increases the poverty level of small scale operators because of the introduction of the total lockdown in the state as a result of the pandemic. These findings entails that covid-19 pandemic has increases the poverty level of the small scale business operators because they spend what they have for food during the lockdown.

At the same time, 65% of the respondent strongly agreed that Covid-19 lockdown has forced the small scale business owners to spend their capital. Also 17% of the respondents too agreed that Covid-19 lockdown has forced the small scale business owners to spend their capital. Although 6% of the respondents strongly disagreed that Covid-19 lockdown

has forced the small scale business owners to spend their capital and so also 12% of the respondents disagreed that Covid-19 lockdown has forced the small scale business owners to spend their capital.

Hence, majority views revealed that Covid-19 Lockdown which prevents movements of the people has forced the small scale business operators to consume their capital inside of the interest of their sales. This means that covid-19 restrictions have created poor health and poverty because petty business owners consume their capital during the lockdown period.

### **SUMMARY OF THE FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSIONS (FGDs) CONDUCTED**

This study conducted ten separate focus group discussion for people such as IDPs in private camps, host community and some small scale business operators such as Cart Pushers and etc. These FGDs was conducted as follows, 10 IDPs in private camps , 11 Cart pushers, people with special needs 9, Traders in Maimusari market 8, Galtimari community 9 people, 7 tomatoes sellers in custom market, 8 charcoal sellers in Simari ward and 7 IDPs traders each from Fori and Mairi ward respectively. Also 8 traders in Kaleri kasuwa Dare, 6 food vendor in Tashan Bama and 10 fish sellers.

What are the Challenges of Lockdown you experienced as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic?

Responds in both the IDPs group and host community member's states that it's the most difficulty experience especially in terms of food and water, so also applied to host communities. While respond from the cart push denied suffering because they were allow to continue their business of distributing water.

Did anyone of you benefited from government Palliatives distributed during the covid-19 lockdown?

Two IDPs in host communities and one in private camp in FORI and MAIRI ward reported they got some food items from government palliatives distributed during the Lockdown. While seven people among the Mairi and four people in Maimusari community denied getting anything from the covid-19 palliatives but however agreed that it was distributed to neighbours in Maimusari ward.

Did the Covid-19 Lockdown affect your business?

All the respondents says yes especially the first time it was introduced in Borno, the respondents said they eat most of the foodstuff they sale during the lockdown and were forced to break the covid-19 laws. However, few people like the number two and four believed that government effort in contributing food stuff during the pandemic is too small and it was politicized in Maimusari and Mairi community.

## **FINDINGS OF THE STUDY**

Therefore, findings such as the FGD conducted and interview in table 1.3 revealed that IDPs circumstance has forced them to violate the lockdown laws by going from one house to another in search for food and this is in line with studies conducted by Kolo, 2019, IDPs were forced to take to the streets to beg due to inadequate food.

Furthermore, this study revealed that poor health aggravate the poverty level of the people because lack of basic needs like food cause starvation that cause disease or leads to death, so this view is in line with what Ngoma and Mayimbo (2017) said concerning the negative effect of poverty on health. In addition, in an interview during FGDs with small scale business owners at Tashan Bama, community members and IDPs they complained of not benefiting from government palliatives that was distributed and that the condition compelled them to spend what they earn and use their capital to buy groceries during the lockdown. The Beggars interviewed also attest that they are really suffering because they

had nowhere to go and get what they want, so they decided to go from house to house begging for food and even water to use.

## **CONCLUSION**

This study concluded that the covid-19 lockdown has worsen the poverty level of the poor in Jere local government, particularly the Internally Displace Persons (IDPs), people with special needs who mostly relies on charity from public. As well, small scale business operators and subsistence's farmers were affected by the lockdown because they were prevented from moving or operating business activities although, with the exceptions of some businesses like water vendors.

This lockdown has affected the health's of the people do to lack of exercise because people were forced to stay at home and requires physical exercise for their health condition. Therefore developing forceful break on business activities, farming has forced some small scale business operators to consume the product they sale and their capital instead of the profit earned from their normal sales.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

In conclusion, this paper recommends that in a situation similar to the covid-19 lockdown, authorities should not only concentrate in assisting only the poorest of the poor, but provide food stuff in form of assistance to small scale business operators, subsistence farmers and daily pay employees like liberals, water vendors.

Finally, the Borno state government ought to use biometrics machines when distributing both cash and food items to prevent duplications among beneficiaries and avoid diversion from officials.

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