THE NECESSARY FOUNDATIONS FOR ANY ACCOUNTABLE MANIFESTO



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The manifesto of any political party is an explanatory outline of what the leader and the party promise to do, with the mandate of Nigerians, if successfully voted into office.

A manifesto is typically a declaration of convictions, defined by a purpose or goal and the means to reach it. The best human manifesto in history, is the manifesto of the communist party by Marx and Engels. It is simple, directional, with a clear target.

Democracy may have made it easier, by providing a regular constitution as well as the window for either a single, double or multiple **pathways** by political parties.

And the best campaign in history is the interaction between Late Gurin and a Teacher, at Haifa, in the State of Israel. The Teacher put it to the Leader that, Education is fundamentally what has made the State of Israel what it was, what is going to be his priority? Gurin, was **honest and blunt.** He said, she was right. But his priorities will be **economy and security.**

It is not our kind of disgraceful, wasteful, fanfare sessions often by only supporters, **where the crowd and noise are more important than interaction.** The music and dancing dramas betray any claim of seriousness in shaping our collective future and interest and the blessings of the God that we claim to believe in.

To be sure, to say that the size of Nigeria is the challenge, because the State of Israel is not more than Kaduna State, is not tenable. China, Russia and the United States of America are better managed than Nigeria, because they are driven by a collective identity consciousness discipline in each country.

Nothing stops members of a ward convening to **responsibly identify individuals of identity integrity by knowledge and discipline, as well as relevance for political practice.** Those so identified, **on non-partisan basis, can hold an open discourse in the presence of ward members, on best concerning questions to put to different contestants at different levels.** They can agree on three. Such representatives can constitute an assembly, for determining what to ask the contestants at State level. And their discourse should be able to produce three to five persons to question all contestants for State House, House of Representatives, the Senate and the presidential candidates. We would have achieved better than the experience of Israel.

At the party level, this is the kind of process expected of members, to produce **befitting** delegates.

For Muslims, how can praise singers not be agents of satanic diversion, in a serious process of leadership determination? The colours are really a slight to our collective identity discipline. The dancers are the priests. Neither Islam nor Christianity accepts a state of rowdiness as the condition for serious interaction and for the guidance and blessings of God.

And it is not knowledge of comparative statistics that is required. **It is a test of the leader's disciplinary embodiment in relation to our realities.** The best materials for such interaction will always be volunteers who are themselves embodiment of leadership discipline. But the quality of our town hall meetings reveals the quality of both our leaders and the polity. Only **identity knowledge and discipline Reorientation can make the difference.**

Up to this time, even an enemy to the State of Israel will appreciate and admit that **Education** has continued to be attended to, competing with other advanced polities,

security will continue to be a safety priority (given their landlocked location with their cousins), the **economy,** not economics, has not gone down. This is a country where **rich and abundant foods and drinks are enabling exports and the feature of nutritional supplements is almost non-existent.** And **international relations is struggling to become one.** This is an intelligent process of making history. This does not mean Israel is perfect, politically speaking. A head of government slapped his female staff on the buttocks. She later complained of sexual harassment and he was convicted and jailed. Trump had cause to plead with the **leadership of Israel** to at least suspend **disciplinary charges against Benjamin,** so that he can concentrate on their war with Iran. The leadership of Israel is **consistently in guard of the identity of Judaism,** as much as majority of modern Jews will want to differ. Outsiders who are either ignorant or naive of the implications of this will continue to miss, the **national readiness and commitment of the State of Israel, to its identity.** This is a country that is neither Islamic nor Christian and is high scientific.

A manifesto **must therefore not exclude the definition of its ultimate goal.** In the case, our constitution has clearly and sufficiently expressed this as **the safety and welfare of the entire citizens of Nigeria.** As a developing **economy,** it has gone further to **provide for private participation even as the Federal government holds the commanding heights.** And the **means of getting the authority and powers to do these, is by multi party partisanship.** We have been pursuing these with increasing painful failures, since 1999. And it has not been so disappointing, frustrating and confusing as from 2015. Any intelligent observer will see that we have become a helpless lot, **in spite of our intelligentsia, professionalisms, resources and continuous efforts.**

It is the satisfactory explanation for this stagnant state of history with the effect of continuous degeneration, that every political party manifesto must expressly, take off with or immediately after restating the constitutional provisions. No party has considered this, either out of ignorance, carelessness or naivety.

What has grown to be the **partial explanation is corruption.** Unfortunately, no leader or party **has given it as much attention as to conceptualize it with a solution relationship.** But it is not because it was not totally known. Obasanjo did not understand why his bills were not moving. He reverted to Shagari who directed him to Umaru Diko. And he experienced the difference, with Ghana-must-go gestures. Then when he had difficulty in getting a constitutional replacement for a ministerial candidate from a state, and the National Assembly had reasons of corruption against him, the same gestures worked. After him David and Makarfi called the same gestures drops. Buhari paid with Senate President Saraki **non-cooperation** and exclaimed: **I have to respect the processes of the rules and regulations, which is slow.** In the end Saraki got entangled in a legal battle of conduct. He escaped on technical grounds of law. This is not a challenge to Tinubu. He has tried a double-face approach of accommodating it and frowning at it. But we have not stopped sinking into worse challenges.

The consistent pattern of all the manifestos we have been pumped with, is an outline of blueprint policies, **in total isolation of the ground realities of our state.** These are universal elements that characterize **a poor and now crisis roped society.** Provision of electricity, more schooling, hospitals, drugs, agricultural inputs, access to loans, roads, houses, employments etc. As much as they cannot be denied to be good intentions, **they actually end up to be discretional favours that may be done for the electorate who gave the government its mandate.**

What are therefore missing, to meet up with the purpose and use of a manifesto, in our case?

The obvious first is Identity bankruptcy. Our leaders, prospective leaders and the electorate **lack a conscious recognized and accepted driving paradigm, ideology or set of principles, that defines and makes our discipline of unity predictable.** We are like a bag of untied potatoes. The content can easily be picked from by anyone. And the stability of the bag is inconsequential. Indeed, it can continue to be picked from after it has fallen.

And this requirement relates to every citizen of a country. It needs to be so established that everyone lives it by nature. What distinguishes the leaders is their ordinary superiority in the knowledge and discipline of the unity paradigm or ideology. In socialist societies, the party members are largely the above average communists. In democracies it is the captains of industry, professions, interest groups, **who fashion their trappings as the best route to the same unity of pursuing a better society,** or their representatives or sponsees, make them.

In Nigeria, this **has not been the case and is unlikely, in our present course, where there is no identity discipline on the part of all of us.**

The second is the **inevitable consequences of the bankruptcy of the first.** There is no **standard** for the definition of corruption. Wherever and whenever it is suspected or alleged, **the mode or process of dealing with it is as uncertain as the conclusion, as time consuming as it can be.** For instance, an accused can face a charge and it eventually gets dropped. Indeed, he can become entrusted again with a higher responsibility **which is really another opportunity.** Open rape of collective resources can be the trademark of an accounting officer in public office, and will get **clean internal and external audit reports.** A further questioning by a

government Director of Audit **can either bury the matter again or the Senate Committee on Finance will often throw it out or set it aside.** Known corrupt leaders or officers or citizens can have National Honours, Prison records or Discharge records. This inconsistency is the standard. And the greatest beneficiaries of corruption are political leaders, chief bureaucrats, captains of professional bodies and enterprises.

Thus, it is historically and meaningfully **useless to expect any different impact from any leadership, any political party, any manifesto, in our circumstance.** Any seemingly good policy offers **can not be guaranteed.**

And deliberate attempts to **reform** have consistently failed, because they were targeted **mainly at public servants, who are the most exposed, since they are the necessary instruments for realizing the constitutional goals of safety and welfare.** But they are only part of the problem. The provision of official quarters for National Assembly creatures did not add any value to their capacities or save our commonwealth from wasteful costs. They were eventually sold out to the lucky ones. Undeniably, the efficiency and effectiveness of public servants are **necessarily tied to the disciplinary disposition of the political class.** And the political class is **the making of the polity that is largely equally bankrupt in our unity consciousness and discipline.** This is why the reforms of rules, regulations, institutions, structures, processes as well as human capital developments **have not made any significant difference.** We experienced scraping of agencies, the merger of some and even ministries. Taxation reform is another that is blood sucking of especially those in the formal sector. The sure differences are **using up more of our commonwealth, increased welfare of the trustees and higher cost of living for the electorate.**

One example is the privatization policy and its execution. Take electricity, there has been no improvement in the amount of power generated, since the policy. But service has been worsening. The facilities have been facing crisis and challenges. The personnel have been transforming with more non-professionals engaged. Consumption rate **cannot change, but banditry has been introduced, to heighten profits.** When you combine this with the so-called professional reforms and restructuring that led to Petroleum Industry Act, you can only wonder at our lack of collective seriousness. The lead centre of corruption, **NNPC** has proven to impoverish Nigerians more. **The untimely, insufficient and expensive provision of electricity, fuel and gas, define the quality of family livelihood, especially because the price of fuel affects transport, food and drink prices, industrialization, works, etc.** To this end, when a policy like a millennium city comes on table, its difference with Mambila electricity project or Lagos-Calabar coastal road project **is not in the corruption that clothes each of them.** It is the different styles of weaving corruption.

The summary effective confusion that this state impacts is the expression by Bishop Mathew that presidents did not assume office, **prepared.** Then he later pointedly observed that Tinubu had for long nursed the ambition of leading and had prepared for it. As a result, he must deliver. The Bishop must have wondered when Tinubu said, he asked for the mandate to solve our problems and therefore has no right to complain. That is a National Democratic Coalition (NADECO) chieftain, long after Abacha. And he earned **BAD GOVERNANCE PROTEST.**

THE NECESSARY LOGICAL FALLOUTS LEADERS, PARTIES AND THE ELECTORATE MUST CONSIDER, FOR A POSSIBLE BETTER POLITICS

The **veil** covering any strong-willed leadership must be removed, **for equality and transparency that will establish responsibility.** This connects to the **eternal immunity of a leader.** The difference of a leader must not go beyond transforming into anything **beyond the respect he will earn, for not betraying the collective trust given to him.**

It was Buhari that was suspected to nurse the idea of probing and possibly arresting his predecessor. That may have taught us some lessons. Obasanjo assured Jonathan of his safety and cautioned Buhari against his facing the same. But it is realistically impossible to deal with a corrupt government without the head. Thus, Buhari sounded that **no one should invite him to answer any questions, after leaving office.** This is the worst part of our development.

The most responsible thing any political party must to do, is to proffer **the probing of corruption, with a responsible frame.** It will be unnecessary to probe **pre-1999** period, but not from 1999 to date. And it will be most reasonable to probe **from when Buhari took over to date.** The singular justification and superiority of this is that, from him **Nigerians gave all support for the best that Buhari and his Party promised. He was given a second term in spite of the pains of the first term, in trust. And Tinubu has continued from where he stopped.**

Anything less will **not help the improvement of Tinubu governance or that of whoever may succeed him.** How can the present be isolated from at least the immediate past, and expect that the future can be made better? That is ahistorical. Buhari **no doubt dug and found more than we are generally aware of. But we**

did not benefit from it because he refused or failed to act on the PRINCIPAL CHALLENGES, even if they were found to be personified by the same individuals or groups. If we continue to accommodate the same blood suckers, they will not stop growing and developing and become more difficult to deal with. Indeed, any record of their expansion by joining or inclusion of associates, that is **inevitable** is more criminal.

As for the public servants, the texture of human capital development and reforms must go along with **shrinking it to a responsive, responsible, effective and efficient size.** This cannot possibly mean more than forty five percent of the present, for the civil service. This will not amount to the same percentage for each unit. Proof for the collapse of the integrity of the accounting officers, is the introduction of Integrated Personnel Payroll System. A probe of its history will reveal worse waste of resources and fraud, differing only in fashion.

This will not be meaningful without accepting that the effect must cut across every employee, from the chief executive downward, because factors of disciplinary records of performance and adding value to the system along with costs all matter. And because those to be affected are citizens with rights of safety and welfare, the leadership must at the least provide immediate entitlement with bonuses to the worst group that cannot to **re-used.** The details of transition will be the creative challenge of the leadership.

And the reforms of the public service **must aim at fading the principle of federal character, by meaningful retirement provisions for at least members of the Director Cadre, to permanently relocate to any part of Nigeria by their lot – outside their geopolitical area.**

With the economy, the commanding heights shall be refashioned in participation **while ownership and control return to the collective.**

The entire citizenry **will be formatted for CONTINUOUS NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND ORIENTATION, according to our respective identity knowledge and discipline.** This will mean that from child birth through schooling, it shall be the responsibility of respective identities to **educate their members.** The state will strictly deal with abuses of our self-made laws, rules and regulations.

For example, in the case of Muslims, Shariah shall be adhered to and non-Muslims must help such compliance by **objecting to obvious abuse by cooperation with any Muslim.** This is because we have a responsibility to be our best **identities, to make Nigeria better for all of us.**

No leader or party at any level will exempt itself from any level of the above requirements. What applies to the Federal shall apply to the State and at the Local Government level. There is no vote that is inferior or superior to the other. And no mandate is expected to be used less, for our collective safety and prosperity.

Any leader, party or polity that rejects, shy away or ignores these **together, is a clear determination and commitment to continuing in the present hopeless course.** They are greater and worse enemies to our **collective** identity, unity, faith, discipline, safety and prosperity.

And no leader or party needs more than three years to achieve these, satisfactorily, along with a creative, national protecting policies and projects.

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