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Lagos – Nigeria

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1. Lagos: Geographical Background

The state is located on the south-western part of Nigeria on the narrow coastal flood plain of Bight of Benin. Lagos State is bounded in the North and East by Ogun State of Nigeria, in the West by the Republic of Benin, and in the South by the Atlantic Ocean. It has five administrative divisions of Ikeja, Badagry, Ikorodu, Lagos Island and Epe. Territorially, Lagos State encompasses an area of 358,862 hectares or 3,577sq.km.

Although Lagos state is the smallest state in Nigeria, with an area of 358,862 hectares of which 75,755 hectares are wetlands, it has the highest population, which is over five per cent of the national estimate.

Of this population, Metropolitan Lagos, an area covering 37% of the land area of Lagos State is home to over 85% of the State population. Current demographic trend analysis revealed that the Lagos population is growing ten times faster than New York and Los Angeles with grave implication for urban sustainability.

Lagos is now considered to be Africa's largest city, surpassing Cairo, with a population of roughly twenty one million. It has now become the centre of one of the largest urban areas in the world. Lagos generates about a quarter of Nigeria's total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and although the city has many multi-millionaires, it also has two thirds of its population living in slums. The infrastructure in the city is better than most Nigerian cities, mainly due to the success of its tax collection by a privatised company, whereby the taxes that are collected get redirected into improving the city's transportation systems, sanitation and other necessary infrastructure projects. However, the rate that the population is increasing will bring its own problems. More money needs to be put into education to create more jobs. Otherwise, as with any city that has a largely poor population, crime will become the only answer to some to make a living. Crime rates in Lagos have become extremely high, with violent robberies and corruption amongst the highest levels for that type of crime in Nigeria. In April 2013, a ban on motorcycle-taxis was implemented, as it was assessed that these helped to increase the crime rate, as many crimes were committed using these motorcycles.

In January 2014, Lagos implemented a ban on smoking in public places, with perpetrators facing a fine of \$62 or three months in jail.

The Port of Lagos is one of the busiest on the African continent. The port is split into three smaller ports to handle varied cargo. These include the container terminal located on Apapa Port, Lagos Port on Lagos Island and Tin Can Port on Badagry Creek. The port offers employment opportunities to thousands of Nigerians and other nationals. Note that Nigeria's oil exports are channeled through Lagos Port.

Lagos is Nigeria's financial, commercial and industrial nerve centre with over 2,000 manufacturing industries and over 200 financial institutions (Banks, Insurance companies etc.) including the nation's premier stock exchange, the Nigeria Stock Exchange.

The headquarters of multinational conglomerates like UAC, Unilever, John Holts, BEWAC/VYB, Leventis, Churchgate, Chevron, Shell, Exxonmobil and the nation's giant public enterprises are all located within the State.

Lagos also boasts some of the largest telecommunications giants, such as MTN, Globacom, Etisalat and Zain. Lagos has varied manufacturing industries. Of these, leather and textile manufacturing industries are the predominant. Textiles produced in Lagos and such other cities as Kano, Onitsha and Abeokuta, are some of the finest you can find and while some of the textile is exported, a big percentage is used locally.

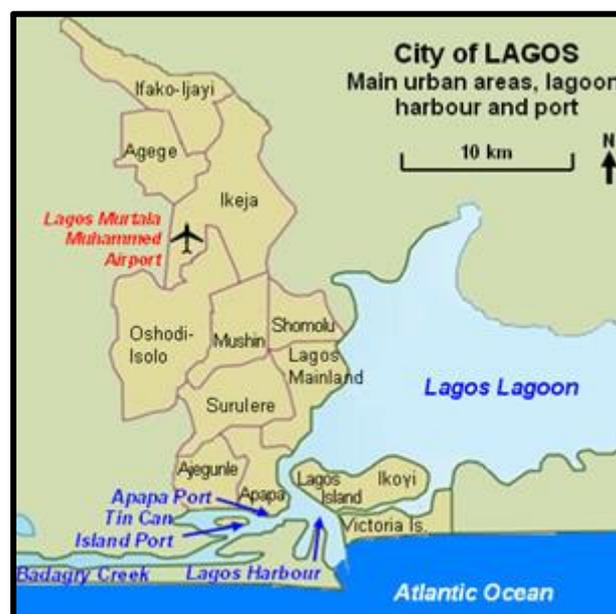
2. Climate

Generally, Lagos experiences tropical monsoon type of climate characterized by dry and wet weather conditions at specific times during the year. The city experiences two rainy seasons in a year. While heavily rains occur between April and July, the period between October and November brings light rains over the city and its surroundings. The city usually remains dry between December and March with another short dry spell in the months of August and September. Dry spells in Lagos are usually characterized by harmattan winds that blow from the Sahara Desert in the north. While temperatures in the city can be as high as 37 degrees centigrade during dry periods, the same can be as low as 13 degrees centigrade during rainy seasons.

3. City Layout

The city of Lagos is located on several Islands, lagoons and sandbars. The four main Islands include Lagos, Victoria, Iddo and Ikoyi. All these are interconnected creeks, landfills and bridges that also connect the Lagos Island to the mainland.

The mainland area of Lagos has become the city's nerve centre. Of the mainland suburbs, Ikeja is the main one.



Ikeja

The suburb is located some 20 kilometers north of Lagos City and although its establishment was meant to serve as the city's industrial center, it has turned into one of the city's major residential locations. The suburb has vital amenities and good infrastructure. Housing units in the suburb include luxurious homes in what is referred to as government area and flats of different sizes and styles. It has several shopping outlets, markets and recreational facilities. Note that apart from hosting Murtala Muhammed International Airport, Ikeja is the capital of Lagos State.

Surulere

Surulere suburb is located some 20 km from Ikeja. It is a vast and densely populated area with most residential buildings gradually being converted to commercial buildings. The suburb has come to be known as sporting city due to its hosting of National Theatre, Surulere National Stadium and other sports facilities. Various markets and shopping centers are to be found in Surulere including Tejuosho market and Ipunri shopping complex. Due to various facilities available, Surulere is generally a secure suburb with several police establishments around.

Ipeba

Located some two kilometers from Ikeja is the well planned and organized Ipeba suburb. This is a low density populated residential suburb where you will find some of Lagos' rich individuals. It is one of the most secure suburbs in Lagos. The suburb is fast becoming Lagos' leisure, entertainment and shopping center.

Omole

Six kilometers toward west of Ikeja is Omole suburb. This is a relatively new suburb that is largely private. Apart from excellent roads, the suburb has well lit streets and paved sidewalks. It is another suburb that is very secure as several police posts are located within.

Ogba

Further west of Ikeja past Omole suburb lies Ogba suburb. This is a densely populated suburb that is home to both low and high-income families. While most flats and other housing units are unfurnished, they are generally very pleasant. Its main market day happens to be on Sundays when it suddenly comes to life with many businessmen from all parts of Nigeria coming in to sell their wares.

Ikorodu

Located some 26 kilometers from Ikeja lies Ikorodu suburb whose location makes it one of the most visited places in Lagos by tourists. It has a beautiful lagoon shoreline lined with palm groves. It has some of Lagos' beautiful beaches in Baiyeku, Ipakodo and Ibeshe. This is in addition to many shopping outlets.

Lying across Lagos Island on the mainland is **Iddo**, a small suburb that also serves as railroad terminus. The suburb is not heavily populated.

Greater Lagos:

The greater Lagos area is further inland. The area includes Isolo, Agege, Egbeda, Bariga, Iju Ishaga, Ketu, Ipaja, Ejigbo, Mushin, Oshodi, Ikotun, Ajah, Maryland, Ikotun, Somolu and Oworonsoki.

Of these, **Ipaja** is the notable suburb. It is a densely populated suburb west of Lagos City with most housing units being state owned. A big population coupled with poor roads makes the suburb one of the most uncomfortable to live in because of heavy traffic jams during peak hours.

4. Islands of Lagos:

The Islands district is made up of three main islands; **Lagos Island, Ikoyi** and **Victoria Island**. Of these, Lagos Island is the largest and has several high-rise buildings.

Lagos Island

It is on Lagos Island where you will find the famous Idumota and Balogun markets, the National Museum of Nigeria, Christ's Cathedral, Oba Palace and the historical Tinubu Square where the north-south amalgamation ceremony was held in 1914.

Located west of Lagos Island is Apapa suburb. Apart from being the main sea port, Apapa suburb is also home to thousands of families who otherwise rely on public transport systems to move around the city.

Ikoyi Island

Toward the east of Lagos Island lies Ikoyi Island, home to some of the wealthiest individuals. It is connected to Lagos Island by a landfill. It is on Ikoyi Island where Nigerian government federal headquarters used to be located before it was moved to Abuja. The Island continues to host several government agencies including police, military and prison. You will also find various hotels, restaurants and night clubs on the Island.

Previously inhabited by British colonial rulers, Ikoyi later became home to Nigerian military rulers after the country attained independence. It is now home to expatriates working in the city. Houses here still occupy large compounds. Most houses are however being demolished to pave way for construction of high-rise residential buildings.

Victoria Island

Toward the south of Lagos Island, lies Victoria Island that is also connected to Ikoyi Island by creeks. It connects to Lagos Island through a bridge. Apart from shopping outlets, Victoria Island is home to luxurious apartments and condos. It is also on the Island where you will find Bar Beach, a reclaimed area of the Atlantic Ocean.

Victoria Island has come to be associated with expatriates working in Lagos City. Previously a slum area, Victoria Island now has modern furnished apartments and is fast growing toward the Lekki Peninsula with traffic jams during peak hours being a serious problem. There are also various manufacturing and hospitality industries on the Island including confectionaries, five-star hotels and shopping outlets.

Lekki Peninsula is toward east of Victoria Island. It still features relics of both Portuguese and Brazilian architecture though modern flats are fast coming up. Most of those living in Lekki are well to do and therefore do not rely on public transport systems. Its Ilasan market is famous for fresh fruits and vegetables not only from Nigeria but other parts of West Africa as well.

A recent development in Lagos is the construction of Eko Atlantic City. This is a 21st century city whose construction is on an area reclaimed from the Atlantic Ocean. The new city is intended to be the centre of Lagos's tourism centre, as it is planned to have varied accommodation facilities intended to be used by tourists visiting Lagos City.

5. Language Issues:

The number of languages estimated and catalogued in Nigeria is 521. This number includes 510 living languages, two second languages without native speakers and nine extinct languages. In some areas of Nigeria, ethnic groups speak more than one language. The official language of Nigeria, English, was chosen to facilitate the cultural and linguistic unity of the country. The choice of English as the official language was partially related to the fact that a part of the Nigerian population spoke English as a result of British colonization that ended in 1960. Many French speakers from the surrounding countries are influencing English speakers in Nigeria and a number of Nigerian citizens have become fluent enough to work in the surrounding countries. The French spoken in Nigeria may be mixed with some native languages but is most of the time spoken like the French spoken in Benin. French may also be mixed with English like it is done in Cameroon. Most of the population speaks English and their native language.

The major languages spoken in Nigeria represent three major families of African languages: the majority are **Niger–Congo languages**, such as Yoruba and Igbo; the **Hausa language** is Afro-Asiatic; and **Kanuri**, spoken in the northeast, primarily Borno State, is part of the Nilo-Saharan family. Even though most ethnic groups prefer to communicate in their own languages, English as the official language is widely used for education, business transactions and for official purposes. English as a first language is used only by a small minority of the country's urban elite, and it is not spoken at all in some rural areas. Hausa is the most widely spoken of the three main languages spoken in Nigeria itself (Igbo, Hausa and Yoruba) but unlike the Yorubas and Igbos, the Hausas tend not to travel far outside Nigeria itself.

6. Crime :

The crime rate in Nigeria is considered to be Critical. Crime is a risk throughout the country. All visitors and residents are experiencing armed muggings, assaults, burglaries, carjacking, rapes, kidnappings, and extortion. Due to the widespread poverty and perception of Western affluence, western visitors should take extra precautions when travelling. The mainland of Lagos has experienced periodic, violent clashes among street gangs known as "Area Boys."

Home invasions remain a serious threat, with armed robbers threatening even guarded compounds by scaling perimeter walls, following residents or visitors, or subduing guards to gain entry to homes or apartments. Armed robbers in Lagos have invaded waterfront compounds by boat. Westerners, as well as Nigerians and other expatriates, have been victims of armed robbery at banks and grocery stores and on airport roads during both

daylight and evening hours. Law enforcement authorities usually respond slowly or not at all and provide little or no investigative support to victims.

Armed robberies/attacks have targeted businesses operating in the immediate vicinity of Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos, and Nigerian law enforcement personnel operating in the Niger Delta region. Additionally, security forces that protect foreign business interests in the Niger Delta region discontinue their services without notice, often because of monetary disputes. Although these disruptions are usually resolved quickly, it points to a lack of continuity in the security apparatus.

Kidnap for ransom is big business in Lagos and Nigeria in general. Since January 2007, at least 25 British and dual British nationals, and more than 200 other foreign nationals have been kidnapped in the Niger Delta area. One British national has been killed. Most recently 2 foreign nationals were kidnapped in Ondo State in January 2014 and an Italian national was kidnapped in Cross River State in December 2013.

There is a high threat of kidnapping and other armed attacks targeting oil and gas facilities and workers. This also applies to ships and oil rigs at sea off the coast of the Niger Delta. There have also been reports of foreign business people being kidnapped for ransom in Lagos. In 2013, 2 British nationals were kidnapped in Lagos and 2 in separate incidents in eastern Nigeria.

British nationals of Nigerian origin visiting friends and relatives are often perceived as being wealthier than locals and are at particular risk of kidnap for ransom.

Many kidnaps for ransom go unreported as companies simply pay the ransom and the person is released, almost a common business practice.

Lagos and southern Nigeria still appear to be the epicentre of identity-related and financial crimes targeting Nigerians and expatriates.

Industry leaders and the expatriate community have noted that more crimes were being committed in highbrow areas such as Victoria Island, Lekki and Ikoyi. The group stated that armed robbery, car snatching and kidnapping were the most common in the areas, and that most of the crimes were often committed in the early or late hours of the day. Most crimes are even tolerated and hardly reported with victims shrugging it off as, "That's Lagos for you!".

Attempts are being made to try to assist in the reduction of crime. A practical response to the reality of the operational deficiency of the police and other Federal security agencies within the state, particularly in areas of funding and provision of modern equipment, has been the establishment of a security initiative known as the Safe City Project which resulted in the establishment of the Lagos State Security and Equipment Trust Fund- a public-private partnership framework for mobilizing and providing equipment and resources for effective operations of security agencies.

Despite these attempts, the crime rate in Lagos is extremely high, with people being robbed of their vehicles and equipment such as laptops and phones at gunpoint on a regular daily basis, with no visible police presence.

Most crime is committed as a result of extreme poverty and the overcrowding and high unemployment rate exacerbates this. The discrepancy between those who have and those that do not have is growing and this helps to fuel the rationale by many criminal gangs that they have a right to some of this wealth.

A Special Anti-Robbery Squad(SARS)has been set up to try to address the issues of 'robbery gangs' that operate throughout Lagos.

Police officers are not trusted generally in Lagos have been known to operate their own extortion rackets against stopping people accusing them of crimes and getting them to pay on the spot fines for crimes they have not committed or simply robbing them of their belongings.

7. Criminal gangs

- **Area boys** (also known as *Agberos*) are loosely organized gangs of street children and teenagers, composed mostly of males (but with a few females), who roam the streets of Lagos, Nigeria. They extort money from passers-by, sell illegal drugs, act as informal security guards, and perform other "odd jobs" in return for compensation. The groups are based in Lagos Island, a Local Government Area in Lagos and the most urbanised part of Nigeria.

One of the methods the groups use for extortion is to surround pedestrians, drivers, and passengers in vehicles, which are stuck in traffic, and force them to pay (for some actual or pretended service) before letting them go. To aid in collecting money during traffic jams, the area boys place nails in the road and dig up the streets. When the streets are flooded, however, they also aid motorists in avoiding ditches and pot holes.

Number of members: 35,000 approximately

Criminal activities: Drug trafficking, extortion, murder, inciting riot

- **Ijaw Youth Movement : Nationalists/ Separatists:**

The Iduwini Youths are the violent wing of the Iduwini National Movement for Peace and Development (INMPD), an advocacy group in Southern Nigeria that supports the rights of the Iduwini people. The INMPD and the Iduwini Youths are based in the swampy area between Bayelsa and Delta State in Southern Nigeria, the native home of Nigeria's fourth largest ethnic group, the Ijaw. This region is especially rich in Nigeria's chief natural resource, oil, and hence, has attracted the attention of many large oil companies. The INMPD and the Iduwini Youths oppose what they deem to be the exploitation of their indigenous environment at great cost to the local people. They assert that oil majors with contracts to drill and explore in Southern Nigeria (such as Shell and Chevron) disrupt indigenous life to an unacceptable extent. Local fishing has been hurt by the pollution caused by drilling activities, and the stark contrast between the massive profits realized by oil companies and the widespread poverty that characterizes the rest of the region only serves to exacerbate tensions. The Iduwini claim that despite several Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) signed by Iduwini leaders and representatives from oil companies, no new job opportunities have been created for locals and no significant investment in the local community has occurred to help ease the harmful effects of oil drilling and exploration.

Though it condemns the methods used by the Iduwini Youths, the Nigerian government certainly shares the same grievances, and on numerous occasions, has voiced its concerns to the parties involved. Tensions came to a head in August 2004, when the Nigerian Senate demanded that Shell Oil pay Bayelsa state \$1.5 billion dollars, an order that Shell found to be unacceptable, especially considering the poor level of protection the Nigerian government offers to exposed pipelines and offshore oil facilities. Two recent attacks are representative of the tactics used by the Iduwini Youths, who rely on kidnapping expatriate and Nigerian employees of oil companies with operations in their native territory to highlight their cause and bring about negotiations. On December 25, 2004, a Croatian contractor for Shell Oil and 15 Nigerian workers were kidnapped by Iduwini militants. The culprits demanded that Shell sit down and talk about the grievances of the Iduwini people. Shell declined the offer, stating that it "does not sign MOUs with terrorists," and after negotiations with local authorities, all

the hostages were released. On June 19, 2005, apparently with the same motives, the Iduwini Youths kidnapped and released 2 German and 4 Nigerian Shell subcontractors, an action that has not substantially furthered their cause.

Current Goals:

The Iduwini Youths are considered to be active, as negotiations with major oil companies have not yielded any significant results.

- **The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND):**

MEND is an active terrorist group that uses violent means to support the rights of the ethnic Ijaw people in the Niger Delta. In contrast to the healthy profit margins enjoyed by foreign oil companies operating in Nigeria, most Nigerians in the Delta region live in poverty, and many feel that they are being neglected by the government. These conditions have led to the proliferation of local terrorist groups, which at last count, numbered around 120. Of these organizations, MEND is one of the largest, and it works closely with other militant groups, coordinating and conducting joint operations. Notably, MEND has joined forces with the Niger Delta People's Volunteer Force (NDPVF), the Coalition for Militant Action in the Niger Delta, and the Martyrs Brigade to form the strongest anti-foreign oil terrorist alliance in the region.

Led by a notoriously shadowy and secretive elite cadre, MEND's ultimate goal is to expel foreign oil companies and Nigerians not indigenous to the Delta region from Ijaw land. In the short run, the group wishes to increase local control over money made from the exploitation of the region's abundant natural resources. For instance, the organization recently pressured the government to demand the payment of \$1.5 billion from Shell Oil for damage done to the local environment. MEND also wants the central government to provide basic services such as running water to the region and increase government investment in the area's infrastructure. Finally, MEND wishes to secure the release of imprisoned Ijaw advocates Alhaji Dokubo-Asari, a leader of NDPVF, and Diepreye Alamiyeseigha, the former governor of Bayelsa State.

MEND's tactics have evolved from crude kidnapping-for-ransom operations into more sophisticated and effective methods that combine actions such as hostage-taking and bombings with the effective use of local and increasingly international media propaganda campaigns. MEND bombings usually target key points in oil pipelines and facilities in the Delta to maximize disruption and cost to foreign oil companies. A recent car bomb attack on an urban military barracks in Port Harcourt, the regional capital, is an example of the growing diversity of MEND's methods and targets and reflects growing frustration with what the Ijaw perceive to be government indifference to their plight.

Following MEND's February 2006 declaration of "total war" on foreign oil and the subsequent "dark February" campaign of violence, the government took steps towards addressing the concerns of Delta locals. An April proposal by the Nigerian government to provide the region with a new motorway and one thousand jobs was rejected by Niger Delta militants as inadequate, and a spate of attacks occurring in the next several months made dealing with this issue an urgent priority for the Nigerian government.

The Nigerian government's \$1.5 billion fine levied against Shell Oil was seen to be a major step forward in addressing the concerns of militant groups like MEND. However, despite the Nigerian government's decision, Shell has refused to comply until their appeal is heard.

Recent worries over rising oil prices and world oil supply have made it easier for groups like MEND, which have demonstrated their ability to affect oil prices through disrupting production, to attract international attention to their cause. In fact, a series of attacks perpetrated by these groups in spring 2006 was estimated to have decreased Nigerian oil output by 25%. Due to these reasons, MEND is considered very likely to commit acts of terrorism in the near future. Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND):

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In 2009, members of MEND were offered an amnesty by the government to surrender their arms and receive a payment from the government. Many of the former leaders took up this offer and now work for the government. However, this has led to a new, more active group of MEND members, who have a deeply embedded mistrust of the government and its policies. They now regularly attack security patrol boats in Southern Bayelsa state in an attempt to disrupt oil exports from the region, which they say they are trying to stop altogether by 2015.

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- **Odua Peoples' Congress**: (formed in 1995 with the militant faction breaking off in 1999.)

The Odua People's Congress was founded in 1995 by Dr. Frederick Fasehun as a nationalist Yoruba advocacy group composed of activists and tribal leaders. However, an armed militant group split from the OPC in 1999 and since has become dominant over its peaceful parent organization, though the Nigerian government treats the two groups as one entity. This militant wing seeks to achieve the independence of all native Yoruba lands from Nigeria. Hailing from southwest Nigeria, the Yoruba people, who at 30 million make up about

21% of Nigeria's population, are the second largest ethnic group in the country behind the Hausa at 29%. According to Yoruba legend, Odua was the deity sent from heaven to create and inhabit the earth.

The year 1999 was a turning point for the OPC. The Presidential Elections held that February brought General Olusegun Obasanjo into office. Despite being ethnically Yoruba himself, Obasanjo was unpopular among Yoruba due to his career in the military, which is traditionally dominated by the northern Nigerian ethnic groups responsible for the oppression of many southern ethnic groups such as the Yoruba. Furthermore, allegations of "voting irregularities" led to violence and rioting in the city of Lagos after the election results were announced. Five police installations were bombed, several officers and civilians killed, and many injured.

Meanwhile, a militant faction of the OPC was mobilized by young firebrand Gani Adams (aka Ganiyu Adams), who then claimed legitimate authority over the whole group. In effect, this split the OPC into two branches, one violent and one non-violent. Adams has a separatist agenda, seeking full independence for the Yoruba people, and does not hesitate to use force to achieve his goals. Regular Nigerian citizens, who still believe in the powers of sorcery, rallied behind Adams' cause, enamoured with his ability to make eggs explode, when in reality, Adams had crafted small improvised egg bombs consisting of egg shells filled with sulphuric acid. During the post-election chaos, some protestors fearlessly charged police installations, waving white handkerchiefs, which they thought would protect them against bullets. Immediately after the riots, Adams was forced into hiding, and since then has been captured and released several times. The OPC's militant wing is known to conduct small-scale attacks on police targets with primitive explosives like gas and sulphuric acid bombs as well as small arms.

Though Fasehun quickly denounced the post-election violence, a manager and several guests at a hotel he owned were harassed by local police forces. The hospital that Fasehun owned and worked at received bomb threats from OPC militants critical of his unwillingness to use force.

Current Goals:

Observers assert that Adams' radical faction has hijacked the OPC and used it as a vehicle for its violent anti-government, anti-police, and anti-military vigilante agenda. Fasehun, mostly due to his disinclination towards resorting to violent means, is losing influence in the Yoruba community. Still, like Adams, Fasehun has been detained and released without trial several times by Nigerian authorities. As of December 1, 2005, Fasehun and Adams were both in prison on charges of treason, illegal possession of firearms, and membership in an "unlawful society." They are in the process of appealing their cases.

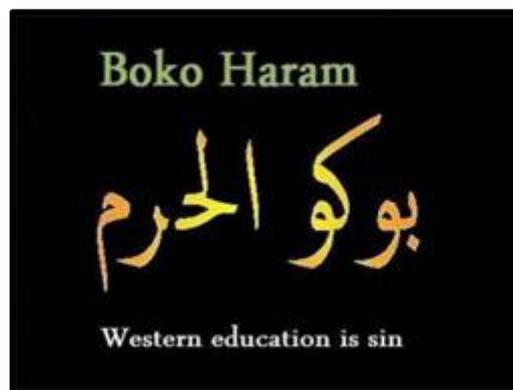
The Nigerian government has tried many different methods to respond to OPC-related violence. Several legislators have attempted to pass laws that would use OPC's militant branch as a local southern police force. Due to fears that having a government-sanctioned all-Yoruba force could exacerbate ethnic tensions, these efforts failed. On the other hand, a presidential shoot-on-sight order is still active for all OPC members. Every brutal police crackdown on OPC serves to radicalize the organization, effectively displacing the moderate elements that once existed in what has become a militant group.

As recently as January 2014, OPC have posted videos on social networking sights of the torture of young women by OPC members. They are still very active in Lagos.

- **Boko Haram**

Boko Haram is an Islamic jihadist and takfiri militant organization based traditionally in the northeast of Nigeria, north Cameroon and Niger. Founded by Mohammed Yusuf in 2001. The organisation seeks to establish a "pure" Islamic state ruled by sharia law, putting a stop to what it deems "Westernization." The group is known for attacking Christians and government targets, bombing churches, attacking schools and police stations, kidnapping western tourists, but has also assassinated members of the Islamic establishment. Violence linked to the Boko Haram insurgency has resulted in an estimated 10,000 deaths between 2001 and 2013.

Now, Boko Haram have been discovered in Lagos, as recently as June 2013 and are known to be using the city as a base and a recruiting spot. In January 2014, a bus with 320 suspected Boko Haram members was apprehended as it attempted to cross into the Rivers state. Their presence in Lagos State is seen as being very significant in the fight against such hard line terrorist groups.



In June 2014, Boko Haram launched an attack in Lagos. A female suicide bomber parked her car next to a gasoline tanker in Lagos' Apapa district, beside a fuel depot and blew herself up on June 25th. The Lagos bombings, which reportedly killed several people, were coordinated to coincide with a shopping mall bombing the same day in Abuja, the Capital, that killed 21 people. Luckily, the bomb did not ignite the fuel depot, which could have had a devastating effect on the area and effected the fuel supply chain and economy of Nigeria.

Boko Haram, a fragmented organisation, consists of different factions and cells operating independently. The leadership appears to give broad directions to militant allies and sympathisers and the authorities are struggling to gain a clear picture of those involved and where they operate from. Worryingly, many of the country's fuel depots are in Apapa on the road to the port of Lagos.

It is thought that Boko Haram's likely ultimate goal was Port Harcourt in the Niger Delta, hub of the crucial oil industry.

Nigerian authorities have tightened security in Abuja, Apapa and parts of Lagos. But in a city of 20 million, with teeming markets and crowded streets, terrorist attacks on "soft" civilian targets are almost impossible to prevent.

- **Ansuru –** (full name Jama'atu Ansarul Muslimina Fi Biladis Sudan, which translates to "Vanguards for the Protection of Muslims in Black Africa") is a splinter group of Boko Haram. In February 2013, they abducted seven expatriate road workers from a work camp in Bauchi state in northern Nigeria. After being in captivity for approximately three weeks, all seven hostages were executed. Additionally, seven member of a French family were abducted outside of a national park in northern Cameroon and were reportedly taken into northern Nigeria where they remain in captivity.

8. Road Security:

Driving is a major safety concern. Although traffic laws exist, enforcement remains almost non-existent. Authorities do not require safety inspections of either private or commercial vehicles. Accidents involving passenger buses, taxis, and personally owned vehicles are frequent and often have fatalities. Due to a lack of centralized traffic accident reporting, many accidents go unreported, and no reliable statistics exist on traffic fatalities. One newspaper quoted the figure of 400 deaths per month due to vehicle accidents. Vehicular accidents remain common and frequently draw large, confrontational crowds. The lack of traffic laws, poorly maintained roads, and unpredictable driving habits add to the risk of travel. All these elements work to the advantage of criminals. In addition to dangers posed by criminal gangs toward travellers, the lack of medical responses or adequate trauma facilities are a concern for all motorists. Residents and visitors alike should schedule vehicular travel, particularly outside major cities, during daylight hours.

Major roadways in close proximity to Consulates in Lagos and the residences housing of government employees have seen more robberies and attempted carjackings in early 2013. The most violent and brazen attack involved an armoured SUV belonging to an international company. Four armed assailants stopped the driver, who had just dropped off his passenger. When the driver refused to open his doors and pulled around the individuals, they opened fire on the driver's compartment with AK-47s. The driver escaped without injury; however the intent was to kill the driver.



The major congestion that occurs in Lagos city on a daily basis, creates a situation which allows groups of robbers and carjackers to ply their trade. This has also involved the police as the perpetrators and can leave victims injured, or at worst, killed.

9. Public Transport:

Public transportation is unsafe and discouraged. Of particular concern in Lagos are the motorcycle taxis, commonly known as “okadas.” These mainly unlicensed taxis present a significant nuisance to other motorists as the result of their unpredictable driving habits and lack of compliance with the rules of the road. Okada drivers and even their passengers often become confrontational and violent when involved in accidents with other vehicles. Okada drivers often engage in crimes, either as active participants (such as lookouts) or as means of escape for those perpetrating the crime. Westerners, Nigerians, and expatriates have experienced harassment and shakedowns at vehicle checkpoints and during encounters with Nigerian law enforcement officials.

RAIL



The Lagos Rail Mass Transit (LRMT) network is a major component of the Strategic Transport Master Plan (STMP) which has been developed to guide as a compass for the development of public transport infrastructures in the State. The STMP is a 30 year plan put together under series of intensive researches, studies and analyses of future transportation demands and needs of Lagos State as Nigeria's commercial and economic hub and one of the world's fastest growing mega cities.

BRT



BRT means bus rapid transit..

BRT is a transport option, which relies on the use of dedicated 'interference' free segregated lanes to guarantee fast and reliable bus travel. The BRT buses run on physically segregated lanes and thus make them run faster in a situation where there is traffic congestion. However, they are run down and prone to breaking down, but are vital part of Lagos' transportation network, with close to sixteen million bus trips made daily in the city.

The streets are teeming with over 75,000 minibuses known to locals as *danfos* (minibuses carrying 8 to 25 passengers) and *molues* (larger minibuses with a passenger capacity of 30 to 50). The Molue bus is also an avenue for drug peddlers to sell their wares, for beggars to beg for alms and for preachers' to preach the gospel to passengers. Many people buy and sell items on the Molue; items include health drugs and edible products. The Molue is the most uncomfortable bus in Lagos, but the cheapest. The same method of alighting at your bus-stop also applies to the Molue bus too.

Lag Bus: This is the most comfortable, organized and the most preferred transportation solution for many Lagosians. To board this bus, you'll purchase a ticket(s) to your destination from the ticket booth and simply hand your ticket to the conductor who validates it and directs you to an available seat.

The Lagos Urban Transport Project (LUTP) was designed with the objective to enhance the efficiency of the transport network in such a way that it contributes measurably to poverty reduction, and to sustainably improve the sector management capacity. So far, progress has been made and travel time has been reduced and cost has been reduced.

CABLE CAR



Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) can only directly serve part of the metropolitan area and in the short/medium term the MRT network will be relatively undeveloped. Hence, the development of MRT will need to be supported by complementary quality public transport networks, integrated with MRT. The Lagos Cable Car Project is designed to deliver such a system.

10. Hospital Facilities:

While access to emergency care is slightly better in Lagos than other places in Nigeria, serious ailments, and sometimes even seemingly simple procedures in the U.S. or Europe, cannot be handled adequately in Lagos. This includes treatment for severe forms of tropical illness, such as malaria. Many medical emergencies in Lagos result in med-evac flights to South Africa, Europe, or the U.S.

Contact Information for Recommended Local Hospitals and Clinics:

International SOS Clinic

23 A Temple

Ikoyi Island – Lagos

Dr. Pierre Bentesque

08035352559

Pierre.bentesque@internationalsos.com

Phone: +234 1 4625 600, 01-4617710, 01-4613608/9, +234-1-775-6080

Allyn Rogers (Business and Administrative Manager)
allyn.rogers@internationalsos.com

Lagoon Hospital

Modupe Dada, Clinical Manager
8, Marine Road, Apapa
Phone: 08023113522; 07029175512; 08087183137
dupe.dada@lagoonhospitals.com
Dr. Onakoya, Medical Director
08034020277 (Mobile)
Office: 01 870 7011, 01 628 3812-4
[customerservices @lagoonhospitals.com](mailto:customerservices@lagoonhospitals.com)
www.lagoonhospitals.com

Reddington Multi Specialist Hospital

Dr. Neil Davidson, Dr. Lawani and Dr. Owabowale
12 Idowu Martins Street
Victoria Island, Lagos
Near Mega Plaza
Phone: 234 0 806 004 5651 or 271 5340-3
info@reddingtonhospital.com
www.reddingtonhospital.com

Atlantic Medical Centre

8A Maroko Close
Off Oyinkan Abayomi Drive
Ikoyi, Lagos.
Dr. El-Harake
0803 400 2400 (Mobile)
01 7753838
atlantic@nova.to

First Cardiology Consultants

20A Thompson Avenue
Next to the British Council
Off Glover Road
Off Old Kingsway Road
Ikoyi, Lagos
Dr. Adeyemi Johnson
Phone: +234 (0)803 5250205; (0)17406284; (0)17406285; (0)8082114266
frontdesk@firstcardiologyconsultantsonline.com

The Children's Practice

25 Raymond Njoku Street,
Off Awolowo Road, Ikoyi, Lagos
Dr. A.L. Anga
Phone: +234 (0)1-460-1941; (0)1-893-0723; (0)8022235834

11. Useful Embassy Addresses in Lagos

Consulate - General of the United Kingdom in Lagos



British Consulate in Lagos, Nigeria

British Deputy High Commission in Lagos, Nigeria

11 Walter Carrington Crescent

Victoria Island

Lagos, Nigeria

City: Lagos

Phone: (00 234) (1) 2619531, 2619537, 2619541

Fax: (00 234)(1) 2614021 or 2625940

Email: consular.lagos@fco.gov.uk visa.lagos@fco.gov.uk

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 0730 - 1530 Friday 0730 - 1230

U.S. Consulate General Lagos

2 Walter Carrington Crescent

Victoria Island

Lagos, Nigeria

After Hours Emergencies number: (+234)-1- 460-3600 or (+234)-1- 460-3400

Fax: (+234)-1-460-3717

Email: LagosACS@state.gov

Services

- 
- ☛ **Hostile & Complex Environment**
 - ☛ **Close Protection**
 - ☛ **Maritime Security**
 - ☛ **Intelligence Services**
 - ☛ **Security & STCW Training Courses**



Travel-Safe

Travel - Safe is designed to mitigate risk through enhanced security and situational awareness by training and effective protective security.

- Are you planning a holiday or business trip to a high risk area?
- Do you know what risks you face?
- Have you got the correct security plans in place?
- What emergency contingency strategy has been employed?

Services Menu:

- Travel – Safe Training
- Travel Security Assessment
- Intelligence Reporting
- Insurance Advice
- Close Protection Teams
- Medical Support
- GPS Tracking
- Enhanced Communications
- 24/7 Operation Support
- Agent and Logistic Support
- Worldwide Concierge Services & Advanced Arrival Planning

Allmode will provide a non-intrusive security solution, as we understand that the risks facing clients are unique and fluid. We aim to provide a bespoke protective capability that mitigates these risks, thus providing a secure environment for you to safely conduct your holiday or business.

Offering competitive rates with a worldwide capability.

Make Allmode your first point of contact when it comes to your training and security needs.

For further information please contact us:

Email: admin@allmode.org | T: +44 (0)845 004 8000 | www.allmode.org



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON SECURITY OR INTELLIGENCE PLEASE CONTACT

General Enquiries: info@allmode.org

Phone: 0044 (0) 845 004 8000

Intelligence Support: intelligence@allmode.org

Website: www.allmode.org

