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## BUILDING A SECURE AND HARMONIOUS NIGERIA INSIGHTS FROM THE UPCOMING GENERATION

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It's an undeniable truth that Nigeria, our cherished nation, is no longer the tranquil haven it once was for its inhabitants. The ongoing issues that plague our society have persisted through various administrations, with citizens hesitant to adopt new perspectives and drive essential changes. Instead, many continue to operate within their established beliefs. But can these actions genuinely contribute to solving the nation's problems? Can our present mindset pave the way for a better future? As challenges persist, each individual must prioritize their safety and well-being. Especially for the younger generation, regaining their freedom and pursuing their aspirations becomes paramount. But how can this happen amidst the current state of the country?

Regrettably, when it comes to our nation's security apparatus, our society has yet to demonstrate commendable performance. Positive plans for the past and present remain elusive, and the prospects for the future remain uncertain. The excessive influence of society on our youth is alarming. Instead of nurturing the future leaders they are meant to be, the youth are engaged in trivial tasks, falling prey to substance abuse, and causing disturbances daily. In this context, can such behavior lead to a better Nigeria within the next five years?

## PERSPECTIVES: CAN NIGERIA'S FUTURE GENERATION ESCAPE THE TRAP?

In reality, regardless of the predicament, those entangled within it eventually find a way out. No one is destined to endure perpetual suffering, even though in the moment it might feel inescapable. People believe they can put an end to their challenges, and while the forms they take may vary, everyone confronts their problems head-on. While it may take time to discern the exact nature of the predicament, diverse paths will be found to overcome it. In my view, addressing the obstacles hindering our future generation's progress

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## Momolosho

involves addressing factors such as inadequate funding, flaws in the educational system, ineffective governance, rising crime rates, lack of employment opportunities, and negative influences.

Firstly, the allocation of a limited budget reflects a mindset that disregards the well-being of the nation's populace. How can a country with a significant population continue to allocate funds to unnecessary causes that don't enhance citizens' lives? Although the Nigerian constitution guarantees equal rights and responsibilities for all citizens, this principle often falters in practice. Despite creating new budgets each year, these budgets consistently prioritize government officials over citizens. This suggests that the officials serve their own interests rather than the people's. Consequently, Nigerians display unruly behavior daily. If action is not taken, this will negatively impact future generations.

Secondly, the educational system: The Nigerian education system should strive to be the best, not the worst, in the world. Why does the government consistently downgrade it? Shouldn't their responsibility be providing a top-notch education? The consequences on Nigerian students are undeniable, pushing many to abandon education. While the system benefits some, it hinders others. Affluent individuals thrive, while the impoverished lack support for success. The government's lack of assistance leads to their downfall. Who is responsible for this deterioration? If this trend persists, the underprivileged will continue to suffer.

Thirdly, ineffective governance: If Nigeria had experienced capable governance, many ongoing challenges might have been resolved. The government's actions continue to be self-serving, resulting in the rise of ineffective leaders. A nation with capable leaders should enjoy peace and security, yet Nigeria does not reflect this. So, why do leaders mistreat their citizens while indulging themselves? Is this the way it should be? Nigeria requires a competent, corruption-free government.

Fourthly, limited job opportunities: In a densely populated nation like ours, the absence of job prospects is disheartening. After enduring educational challenges, young individuals seek employment daily, receiving no support from governing figures. They are then held accountable for misconduct. Who instills such behavior in them? If the youth can't find jobs, what will become of Nigeria's future and its leaders?

In conclusion, Nigeria is a nation with immense potential. To enhance it, the administration must change its approach towards the people. Ignoring opportunities for national growth will leave no chance for future rectification. Nigerian authorities, remember your promises of progress, prosperity, triumph, and advancement. Do not disappoint the nation. I hold hope for an improved Nigeria one day.