An Assessment of the Socio-Economic Effects of Military Barracks on Host Communities in Kaduna State

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Abstract

This study investigates the socio-economic impacts of military barracks on host communities in Kaduna State from 2015 to 2024. Kaduna houses numerous key military institutions, including Ribadu Cantonment, Dalet Barracks, Jaji Military Cantonment, the Nigerian Defence Academy, the Armed Forces Command and Staff College, and the Nigerian Air Force Base. The presence of these institutions has significantly influenced the socio-economic dynamics of neighboring communities such as Kawo, Ungwa Dosa, Jaji, and Mando. This qualitative research relies on secondary data, revealing that military barracks enhance local economies by increasing the demand for goods, services, and informal employment, particularly in areas surrounding Mammy Markets and residential barracks. Furthermore, infrastructure improvements such as roads and healthcare facilities have arisen from military-related development initiatives. However, the study also underscores substantial challenges, including noise pollution, roadblocks, and occasional tensions between military and civilian populations. Despite the significant military presence, Kaduna State continues to grapple with high levels of insecurity in some communities in the state. This situation highlights the paradox of being in proximity to military might while facing ongoing security issues. The study concludes that while the military contributes to the economic and physical development of host communities, these benefits are often counterbalanced by socio-cultural disruptions and persistent security challenges. It recommends a more participatory and community-sensitive approach to military engagement, enhanced civil-military cooperation, and transparent land administration, all aimed at fostering harmonious coexistence and ensuring that host communities are not merely sites of military infrastructure but also inclusive beneficiaries of national security investments.

Keywords: Barracks, Military Barracks, Host Communities, Civil-Military Relations, Kauna

Introduction

The interplay between military institutions and civilian populations remains a critical and necessary focus of scholarly and policy discourse worldwide. While the existing literature on civil-military relations has extensively addressed governance, professionalism, and national security (Huntington, 1957; Feaver, 2003), newer studies are now investigating the socio-spatial and economic ramifications of military installations within civilian settings. Military barracks stand as tangible embodiments of state security architecture, inherently interconnected with their surroundings. Their presence in urban and semi-urban communities inevitably generates both opportunities and challenges for host populations spanning employment and infrastructure development, while also engendering spatial conflicts, social dislocation, and restrictions on civic access (Kingsdale, 1973; Omojola, 2020).

There is an urgent need to evaluate the interaction between state-controlled security structures and civilian life on a global scale. In nations such as the United States, Canada, and India,

military bases are often deeply interwoven into local economies through patterns of consumption, construction, and service requirements. However, they also bring significant issues, including noise pollution, environmental degradation, and disputes over jurisdiction and land ownership. In Africa, where civil-military boundaries are historically contentious and postcolonial state-building remains unsettled, military encampments frequently symbolize contested realms of authority and influence. Nigeria exemplifies this contradiction prominently, as a key West African power with a substantial standing military.

In Nigeria, military barracks are not merely strategic defense sites; they are socio-political landmarks that have shaped the country's narrative since the colonial era. The Nigerian military's profound influence on politics and civil life, especially during periods of military rule (1966–1999), is undeniable. Despite Nigeria's return to civilian governance in 1999, the legacies of military dominance continue to permeate the physical and institutional landscape. Notably, barracks such as Ribadu Cantonment and Dalet Barracks in Kaduna State fulfill critical military roles while simultaneously affecting the socio-economic realities of their host communities in both apparent and nuanced ways.

Kaduna, a historical military hub and the former capital of Northern Nigeria, presents a compelling context for analyzing these dynamics. Host communities around the military institutions have undergone significant transformations due to their proximity to military establishments. On one hand, military presence has stimulated economic activity through local market patronage, rental housing, and small-scale contracts. On the other hand, it has ignited recurring tensions over land allocation, restricted access to public infrastructure, and strained civil-military relations, particularly during periods of unrest or security operations.

Despite the clear significance of this issue, empirical research on the socio-economic effects of military barracks on host communities in Nigeria is alarmingly scarce. Existing studies tend to concentrate either on civil-military relations from security or governance viewpoints or broadly address the challenges of military-civilian coexistence without anchoring them in specific case studies or historical contexts. This gap is increasingly urgent, considering Nigeria's evolving internal security landscape and the rising militarization of civilian spaces in response to insurgency, banditry, and terrorism, particularly in the north. This study aims conduct an assessment of the Socio-Economic effects of Military Barracks on Host Communities in Kaduna State. It critically assesses the dual nature of military presence as both an economic driver and a catalyst for social disruption. By prioritizing the perspectives of host communities, this research will reveal how everyday life, community structures and socio-economic opportunities are fundamentally influenced by the presence of military institutions.

The implications of this study extend well beyond Kaduna State, contributing meaningfully to broader policy discussions surrounding civil-military coexistence, equitable urban planning, and the necessity for inclusive development. Understanding the intricate dynamics of these interactions is crucial for informing future strategies that effectively balance national security priorities with the rights and welfare of host populations.

Theoretical Framework

This paper adopts Interdependence theory. Interdependence Theory, articulated by Harold Kelley and John Thibaut in 1959, serves as a comprehensive framework for examining the intricate and reciprocal dynamics between military institutions and their surrounding civilian communities. Grounded in social psychology and social exchange theory, this framework posits that relational outcomes are shaped not solely by the actions of an individual, but rather by the interdependent behaviors of both parties involved. This conceptualization is particularly pertinent for analyzing the effects of military presence in civilian locales, such as Kaduna State, where interactions yield both mutual benefits and sources of tension.

Communities adjacent to military installations specifically Ribadu Cantonment in Kaduna North, Dalet Barracks in Kawo, Jaji Military Cantonment, and the vicinity of the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) have experienced noteworthy advancements in infrastructure, access to military-operated healthcare services, and heightened commercial activities, particularly through Mammy Markets and related enterprises (Ibrahim & Bello, 2021). These benefits underscore the economic and social reliance of the community on military establishments. The military's dependency on host communities manifests through the acquisition of auxiliary services, including food supply, informal labor, accommodation, and local intelligence, thereby fostering a relationship characterized by mutual dependence.

However, as Kelley and Thibaut (1978) highlight, such interdependence does not equate to parity. Power asymmetries often influence these interactions, with military authorities exerting significant control over land utilization, security protocols, and public governance. For instance, residents in Birnin Yero and Rafin Guza have reported recurrent disruptions from artillery exercises, restrictions on movement, and unresolved land conflicts stemming from military expansion (CLEEN Foundation, 2020). These dynamics illustrate the structural imbalances inherent in civil-military relations, where decisions made by one party can disproportionately impact the other's outcomes.

Nonetheless, the adaptability evident within these relationships such as military responsiveness to community grievances or the provision of limited health services to civilians illustrates the negotiation processes intrinsic to interdependent systems (Akinwale, 2022). Thus, Interdependence Theory offers a valuable lens through which to scrutinize the co-evolution of benefits and tensions in civil-military engagements within Kaduna State, revealing that socio-economic outcomes are most effectively analyzed through the framework of shared, yet unequal, reliance.

Methodology
This study employs a qualitative research methodology predominantly utilizing secondary data to analyze the socio-economic impacts of military barracks on host communities in Kaduna State within the timeframe of 2015 to 2024. This methodology is particularly effective for investigating documented trends, historical contexts, and institutional relations relative to military presence during the specified period. The research is guided by a descriptive and exploratory design, facilitating a systematic examination of the socio-economic transformations induced by military installations, particularly around key sites such as Ribadu Cantonment, Dalet Barracks, Jaji Military Cantonment, and the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA).

Data collection for this study encompasses a wide range of credible sources. This includes official government publications, such as reports from the Kaduna State Bureau of Statistics, demographic data from the National Population Commission, and strategic planning documents from the Kaduna State Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning. A thorough review of academic literature spanning journal articles, theses, and scholarly books was conducted to provide theoretical frameworks and empirical evidence regarding civil-military relations and regional development. Reports from media outlets, were also consulted as useful source of data for the study. Military publications and strategic documents were examined to elucidate defense policies and the broader role of military institutions in regional development contexts.

Conceptual Clarification

Military Barracks
The term "barrack" is derived from an English word that traces its origins back to the 17th century, through French and Italian influences from an older Spanish term, "barraca," meaning soldier tent. According to the Oxford Dictionary, barracks are defined as buildings constructed to house military personnel. Windham (2024) suggests that military barracks extend beyond simple living quarters; they function as active centers where soldiers rest, train, and prepare for their missions. It is within barracks that cohesive Army teams begin their development.

The concept of military barracks has evolved from a focus solely on defense to an understanding of their significance in the urban geography of states. Scholars such as Cope and Parnell (2011) argue that barracks act as socio-spatial enclaves "military cities within civilian cities" which change land use patterns and create unique demographic and socio-economic dynamics in the areas where they are located. These barracks often provide amenities like schools, clinics, and markets that can have both positive and negative effects on surrounding civilian populations. Traditionally, military barracks are seen as physical and institutional structures designed to house, train, and organize military personnel for operational readiness.

Finer (1975) noted that barracks serve as "nuclei of military culture," reinforcing discipline, hierarchy, and cohesion. In Nigeria, an estimated 250 to 330 military bases are spread across the 36 states and the federal capital territory, from which various operations have been projected over the past two decades. The conduct of personnel within and around these bases significantly impacts both the development and security of host communities, generating a mixture of resistance and support from the local populations (Oyewole, 2021). Military barracks serve as institutionalized living arrangements for military personnel, characterized by shared facilities and essential amenities. Typically constructed and maintained by military entities, these accommodations provide affordable rooms and are designed to house both commissioned and noncommissioned officers.

Host Communities
The concept of a host community pertains to a defined demographic living in proximity to major institutions, including universities, industries, refugee settlements, or military installations (Adeleke, 2015). Within the realm of civil-military relations, a host community encompasses civilian populations residing near military formations or cantonments, often subject to multifaceted influences economic, social, and environmental from the institutions they neighbor.

From a sociological standpoint, these communities are active participants rather than passive recipients of external influences, engaging in the negotiation of spatial dynamics, power relations, and resource allocation.

Nwankwo and Ifeanacho (2020) articulate this by defining a host community as a collectivity whose experiences and interactions are directly or indirectly formed by the operations of external entities within their milieu. The interaction between military establishments and host communities can yield both reciprocal advantages and potential conflicts, hinging on the nature of engagement and the efficacy of conflict resolution mechanisms. In military environments, host communities experience the dual impact of the proximity to state power, which may enhance security while simultaneously introducing challenges such as land encroachment, noise pollution, and overstretched infrastructure (Agbese & Okereke, 2021).

Civil-Military Relations
Civil-military relations refer to the complex interplay and power dynamics between civilian entities and military institutions within a given society. Gaya (2000), asserts that, civil-military relations are the interaction between the armed forces as an institution and sectors of society in which it is embedded. The relationship between military institutions and their host communities is multifaceted, characterized by various levels of interaction. This relationship can manifest as formal, institutional, and official engagements, wherein military personnel undertake actions that are sanctioned by relevant authorities, resulting in both direct and indirect impacts on surrounding communities. Conversely, civilian actions that affect military operations can also be influenced by local governmental approval and community consensus.

However, activities conducted by military personnel or civilians outside the purview of official sanction fall into the informal realm, lacking institutional endorsement. Local authority encompasses a range of entities, including local or provincial government bodies, traditional institutions, community organizations, and sometimes state governments (Penelope, 2013). The existing literature demonstrates that interactions between military bases and host communities can engender positive outcomes that foster cooperation while simultaneously inciting negative repercussions that may lead to conflict (Penelope, 2013).

According to Dankaro (2019), civil-military relations embody a philosophy that advocates for organizational strategies facilitating systematic partnerships and problem-solving methodologies aimed at proactively addressing public safety issues, such as crime and social disorder. In democratic contexts, civil-military relations are characterized by the military's obligation to subordinate itself to elected civilian leadership. Aboluwoye (2019) emphasizes that the military's access to coercive power positions it as a significant factor within democratic systems. This does not imply a direct political role; rather, the military is essential for the sustainability of democratic governance.

The delineation between civilian and military roles is well understood by both spheres, shaped by a variety of interconnected factors that influence their power relations. This complexity is reflected in the multitude of interactions occurring at different hierarchical levels—between military and society, political leaders and the military, as well as between military officers and

civilian elites (Dunmoye, 2011:9). Nwolise (2010: 17-19) identifies 17 dimensions that compose the landscape of civil-military relations, including human relations (mutual perceptions and security of lives and property), intellectual relations (the corpus of civil-military thought), political relations (praetorianism, civil control, and militarization of politics), strategic relations (involvement in Peace Support Operations (PSO) and Military Assistance to Civil Authority (MACA)), and legal relations (compliance with the laws of war and military subjugation to civil and military law).

According to Nwolise (2005), civil-military relations mean the total game of interaction between soldiers and civilians as individuals or groups. It assumes the interdependence of civil and military sectors based on the principle of civil control of the military organization as a fundamental requirement for a lawful, free and democratic society. Olonisakin and Ayoade (2011) argue that constructive civil-military cooperation can be fostered through structured engagement frameworks and inclusive dialogue, particularly in areas with a sustained military presence.

An Assessment of the Socio-Economic Effects of Military Barracks on Host Communities in Kaduna State
Kaduna State, situated in northwestern Nigeria, is recognized as the country's principal military stronghold, featuring a significant concentration of military installations such as Ribadu Cantonment, Dalet Barracks, Jaji Military Cantonment, the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA), the Armed Forces Command and Staff College (AFCSC), 1 Division Nigerian Army, and the Old Site Nigerian Air Force Base. While these facilities were primarily established for national defense and strategic training, they have become deeply woven into the fabric of their surrounding communities.

The presence of military installations has spurred local economies by creating jobs and increasing demands for housing, transportation services, and commercial activities. Additionally, military settlements often lead to infrastructure improvements such as roads, hospitals, and electricity which indirectly benefit civilians. However, the relationship between military and civilian sectors is not without its challenges. Issues such as land disputes, limited access to public spaces, rising living costs, and socio-cultural tensions have surfaced in various host communities. Moreover, the anticipated security provided by the military is frequently compromised by ongoing insecurity, highlighting a paradox regarding the military's impact.

Economic Impact
The military presence in Kaduna State has significantly impacted the local economy by enhancing employment opportunities, facilitating trade, and driving the growth of informal businesses. These effects manifest both directly, through military-associated employment, and indirectly via economic spillover in surrounding communities. Direct employment within military establishments encompasses civilian roles such as administrative support, maintenance personnel, artisans, vendors, and contract labor positions. According to Adeola and Oluyemi (2012), this civilian employment in military settings is crucial for providing income security to low- and middle-income households in the vicinity.

This dynamic is particularly observable around Ribadu Cantonment, where the local population is engaged in roles such as domestic support, driving, and facility maintenance. Mammy Markets, strategically located within or near military barracks, serve as vital hubs for small-scale enterprises. For example, the Mammy Market at Ribadu Cantonment supports more than 250 micro-traders dealing in perishable goods, electronics, beverages, clothing, and military official merchandise. Furthermore, Okonkwo (2015) highlights that military-oriented commercial zones play a crucial role in spurring microeconomic growth by lowering entry barriers for informal sector players, especially women and youth. These markets also contribute to the establishment of local supply chains for fast-moving consumer goods, fostering economic interdependence between civilian and military entities.

The transportation sector has similarly benefited from military infrastructure. Regions such as Kawo, Mando, and Jaji have seen an uptick in demand for motorcycle (okada) and tricycle (keke) services from barracks-based commuters. Many operators are either former military personnel or relatives of military staff, thus integrating into the local transport ecosystem surrounding military facilities. Additionally, the emergence of ride-hailing services like Max.ng and Bolt near Jaji Military Cantonment and the Air Force Base illustrates the evolving nature of transport services in response to military-civilian interactions.

The Nigerian Air Force Base's proximity to the Kaduna International Airport has further accelerated economic transformation. This strategic location has attracted aviation logistics, mechanical workshops, and technical training institutes. Areas such as Mando and Unguwan Kanawa have seen significant infrastructure enhancements and diversification of business activities, including the establishment of courier hubs, spare parts markets, and hospitality services tailored to military officials and contractors. Statistical data supports these observations. The Kaduna State Bureau of Statistics (2022) reported a 12.5% increase in informal sector employment within Kaduna North and Igabi LGAs between 2017 and 2022. This period coincides with the expansion of military infrastructure, including upgrades to Ribadu Cantonment, the expansion of Dalet Barracks, and the reinforcement of the Operation Whirl Punch Headquarters in Kawo. Additionally, the Bureau's employment data indicates that approximately 18% of newly created informal jobs during this timeframe are concentrated in the transport, trade, and service sectors associated with military activities.

In further support, Aiyede and Agbaje (2016) argue that the economic footprint of military institutions in urban centers like Kaduna promotes urban integration by easing market access, spurring entrepreneurship, and mitigating unemployment. However, they also caution that the benefits of this economic activity are often unevenly distributed, emphasizing the need for enhanced policy frameworks to ensure more inclusive development outcomes.

Infrastructure and Urban Development in Kaduna State
The military presence in Kaduna State, particularly through installations like Ribadu Cantonment, Dalet Barracks, and the Armed Forces Command and Staff College (AFCSC) in Jaji, has played a pivotal role in driving infrastructural advancements in adjacent civilian communities. These enhancements arise from military-led development programs and the consequent spillover effects that contribute to urbanization.

A key area of impact is the transportation infrastructure. The upgrading of roads that serve military bases and connect to regional highways has been essential for facilitating personnel mobility, logistical operations, and security patrols. The Jaji–Birnin Yero road exemplifies this, having undergone significant rehabilitation due to its strategic importance to the AFCSC. Improved access not only streamlines troop movement but also catalyzes economic growth and real estate development in the surrounding areas of Birnin Yero, Jaji, and Maraban Jos. Usman and Ibrahim (2021) indicate that military infrastructure projects often yield ancillary benefits, enhancing regional connectivity and reducing transit times, which integrate peripheral areas into broader urban economies.

In addition to transportation, the establishment of security infrastructure such as checkpoints and military-policed zones has enhanced safety in nearby communities. These measures, while primarily aimed at defense, have correlated with reductions in petty crime and armed robbery in areas like Kawo, Unguwan Dosa, and Rigasa. Chukwuma and Eze (2018) contend that military policing fosters a sense of safety and stability in urban fringe communities, which in turn stimulates investment in housing and commerce. A noteworthy aspect of military-driven development in Kaduna is the integration of military medical infrastructure with civilian healthcare sectors.

The 1 Division Hospital in Dalet Barracks, while primarily a military facility, provides limited emergency, maternity, and pediatric care to civilians in need. Furthermore, the AFCSC Medical Centre in Jaji collaborates with state health agencies to conduct immunization drives and health awareness programs for local communities. Ekanem and Obo (2020) emphasize that these semi-integrated service delivery models bolster civil-military collaboration and enhance community resilience in healthcare.

Moreover, military-affiliated educational institutions have significantly contributed to human capital development. Schools such as the Nigerian Army School of Artillery Primary and Secondary Schools in Kachia and Command Secondary Schools in Kaduna North are accessible to civilians, helping to close gaps in educational access. This trend reflects a broader pattern where military-civilian educational initiatives foster integration and upward mobility in host communities (Onuoha, 2014).

While the primary focus of military infrastructure is national security, the dual-purpose nature of many facilities illustrates their importance in urban planning, socio-economic development, and public service delivery in Kaduna State. However, scholars like Ajayi and Fatile (2016) caution that to ensure sustainability amid increasing population pressures, contested land claims, and the dynamics of militarized governance, these benefits must be institutionalized through comprehensive policies and active community engagement.

Social Disruptions and Civil-Military Tensions
The military's presence in Kaduna State has been a double-edged sword, facilitating economic development and infrastructural improvements while simultaneously generating social frictions within host communities. The nexus of these tensions primarily stems from land use conflicts, environmental disruptions, human rights violations, and strained civil-military dynamics, particularly in contexts where institutional oversight and community engagement mechanisms

are deficient. A significant aspect contributing to discord arises from land disputes due to the designation of specific areas as "military zones." This classification frequently leads to restricted access to agricultural and residential land, placing a disproportionate burden on smallholder farmers and indigenous landowners. Reports from residents in Kawo, Ungwan Kanawa, and Dalet indicate instances of forced eviction coupled with a lack of compensation as military facilities encroach upon civilian territories. Ikejiani-Clark and Alumona (2012) underscore that these alienation practices detrimentally impact local livelihoods and cultivate resentment, particularly when military authorities operate unilaterally without engaging traditional leaders or local government stakeholders. This scenario epitomizes the broader issue of militarized spatial planning, where defense priorities subordinate communal land rights.

Furthermore, noise pollution and environmental disruptions from military exercises exacerbate tensions between military installations and local communities. Regular live-fire exercises and artillery drills at the Armed Forces Command and Staff College (AFCSC) Jaji, the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA), and nearby artillery units create significant disturbances that unsettle residents, particularly vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly. Adebayo and Ajayi (2016) assert that such military activities, although crucial for operational readiness, contribute to a state of "everyday militarization," where civilian lives are inextricably impacted by the omnipresent nature of military operations.

Complicating civil-military relations are issues of accountability, arbitrary military conduct, and communication deficiencies. Documented instances of youth harassment, enforced curfews, and checkpoint abuses near military barracks like Ribadu Cantonment and Dalet Barracks have emerged, particularly during periods of escalated insecurity. Reports from Amnesty International (2021) and CLEEN Foundation (2019) highlight numerous violations of rights, including unlawful detentions, physical assaults, and extortion activities conducted by soldiers engaged in internal security mandates such as Operation Safe Haven and Operation Whirl Punch.

Moreover, the top-down security apparatus governing military operations neglects community involvement. Soldiers engaged in counter-banditry and anti-insurgency operations in Kaduna often fail to consult local governance structures and traditional leadership in their planning and execution processes. Akinyemi and Okeke-Uzodike (2014) argue that the disregard for community-oriented security frameworks alienates local residents and diminishes the legitimacy of military operations, fostering an environment rife with suspicion and discontent.

The inequitable access to justice for victims of military misconduct further exacerbates these tensions. Many affected individuals lack the financial resources or legal literacy necessary to pursue redress, effectively trapping them in a cycle of impunity as noted by Ezeani and Okafor (2020). The absence of accessible and transparent civil-military grievance mechanisms in Nigeria engenders deep-seated distrust and fear within these communities.

The ambiguous dual status of military zones as both service providers and enforcement agencies creates blurred boundaries between protection and oppression. This duality manifests in the policing roles assumed by military patrols in Kaduna North, where soldiers frequently encroach upon civil police functions, particularly during crises. While these actions may effectively

mitigate violence, they risk further militarizing civilian spaces and fostering reliance on coercive measures for local governance challenges.

The Security Paradox and Public Expectations in Kaduna State

Despite its status as a prominent military hub in Nigeria housing significant military institutions such as the 1 Division Nigerian Army Headquarters (Dalet Barracks), Ribadu Cantonment (Air Force Base), Armed Forces Command and Staff College (AFCSC) in Jaji, Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA), and the Nigeria Army School of Artillery (NASA) in Kachia Kaduna State paradoxically ranks among the most insecure states in the nation. This phenomenon can be understood through the lens of a "security paradox," where the concentration of military presence does not correlate with enhanced human security for civilian populations.

From 2020 to 2022, Kaduna State experienced over 1,500 fatalities and more than 3,000 cases of abduction, primarily attributed to armed banditry, terrorism spillover from the Northeast, and inter-communal violence. Vulnerable local government areas (LGAs) such as Birnin Gwari, Giwa, Kajuru, and Chikun have emerged as hotspots for these security challenges. Specifically, Birnin Gwari, despite its proximity to military installations, has become an epicenter of kidnapping, with bandits operating audaciously on highways and within rural communities. This scenario raises critical questions about the efficacy of passive military deterrence and highlights deficiencies in operational doctrine, surveillance capabilities, and civil-military coordination when addressing asymmetrical threats.

The juxtaposition of heightened insecurity with military saturation resonates with broader critiques in security governance frameworks, particularly within African contexts. Hendrickson (1999) posits that security institutions in post-colonial environments often prioritize regime protection and symbolic visibility over community-centric security, perpetuating insecurity despite military advancements. Similarly, Abrahamsen and Williams (2011) suggest that security is not just about presence but performance and legitimacy, emphasizing the importance of community integration and comprehensive threat assessments. The centralized command structure and resource allocation within Nigeria's security architecture frequently lead to delayed responses to local emergencies, as decisions navigate through extensive bureaucratic hierarchies. Communities adjacent to military establishments in Kaduna have routinely expressed frustration that such proximity does not confer tactical advantages, noting that security interventions often arrive post-incident, further eroding public trust and exacerbating perceptions of neglect despite a visible military presence.

Civil-military collaboration mechanisms are also underdeveloped. There is insufficient intelligence sharing among community-based vigilante groups, traditional power structures, and formal military entities. As Alozieuwa (2019) indicates, a lack of localized threat mapping and community trust-building has rendered the Nigerian military less effective in internal security roles. Okereke (2020) warns that an over-reliance on military force devoid of local partnerships may engender resentment and perpetuate cycles of resistance or silence within beleaguered communities.

Conclusion
Kaduna State's designation as Nigeria's military capital presents both opportunities and paradoxes. The establishment of major military facilities such as Dalet, Ribadu, Jaji, and NDA has catalyzed local economic growth, engendered employment opportunities, and facilitated infrastructural advancements across various host communities. Notable improvements in roads, healthcare infrastructure, and commercial activities have coincided with military investments in areas like Kawo, Mando, and Jaji.

However, these perceived benefits are undermined by systemic challenges, including land dispossession, social upheaval, and an enduring insecurity that belies the state's robust military presence. The expectation of enhanced safety absent timely intervention has resulted in disillusionment among communities such as Birnin Yero, Sabon Birni, and Ungwan Gimbiya, which continue to suffer frequent attacks. Military institutions in Kaduna must evolve from isolated entities into community-integrated actors, fostering collaboration with local stakeholders to promote shared security responsibilities. Thus, should strengthen early warning systems that incorporate civilian participation.

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