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Nigerian Failed Developmental Strides: Can Agriculture Break the Jinx?

Anthony Nkem Ede, Gideon Olukunle Bamigboye, Ben Uchechukwu Ngene

Abstract

All over the world, industrialization is the principal underpinning of sustainable economic growth. But the attainment of industrialization and the accompanying economic stability that guarantee wellbeing for the population have not been that easy for the developing nations. In the free-for all quest for economic advancement, each people, nation, and continent adopt strategies it deems appropriate to pursue its goal. Agriculture have been a common denominator for all nations of the earth, whether developed or under developed. That has been the starting point for the advanced nations through the primitive age to the industrial revolution age to the present information/knowledge worker's age. As they transitioned from one age to the other, they made use of acquired knowledge and available resources to move forward. Africa also started with agriculture through the primitive age to the current information/knowledge worker's age without much to show in terms of economic stability and wellbeing of its citizens. This can be traced to the various approaches they adopted towards industrialization. Before independence, most African countries experienced sustainable growth with agriculture as the core activity. After independence, the discovery and exploitation of various types of mineral resources made many African nations to lose focus in agriculture thereby turning them to major importers of food. Over the recent years, Nigeria being one of such nations is faced with the burden of increasing food importation bill which in the near future may become unsustainable, there by creating crises that will destabilize the nation.

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