

# INSTITUTIONAL ROLE IN PROMOTING PEACEBUILDING AND TACKLING INSURGENCY IN NORTHERN NIGERIA

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## ABSTRACT

The paper aims to provide a solution to tackle insurgency through institutional peacebuilding (PB) in Northern Nigeria. Terrorism in Northern Nigeria has become an issue that has drawn the attention of local and international communities around the globe. The study selected five variables: traditional, religious, educational, non-governmental organizations, and political institutions (PIs) toward PB. The study adopted structural equation modeling using confirmatory factor analysis based on adaptive theory for PB. Three hundred (350) respondents were gathered from different parts of the community, including traditional, religious, educational, and PIs, to justify the model with rigorous analysis. The finding provides insights into institutional activities, their significant role in PB, and how they have improved security challenges in society. A successful concentration on such institutions provides less crime activities within a community and integrates a society locally with its leaders. Further, the institutions should help better decide on security challenges and their respective solution to enhance such institutions and promote PB. This paper justified the key role of institutions in PB and constructed four institutions as new formation variables to tackle insecurity and provide PB.

**Keywords:** Institutional, Traditional, Religious, Educational, Political, Peacebuilding.

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## INTRODUCTION

The period and context in which a nation experiences violent extremism or terrorism shape its explanations and understandings of terrorism, informing the peacebuilding (PB) responses. Indeed, Boko Haram's (BH) emergence in northern Nigeria can be explained from various perspectives. Insecurity has remained one of the challenging problems in human relations since time immemorial. Human beings constantly search for security to ensure self-sustenance and societal development (Gusau *et al.*, 2020). The BH insurgency is deeply rooted in historical and contemporary socio-economic, socio-cultural, and political conditions prevailing in Northeastern Nigeria (Alhaji, 2018). There exists a significant positive relationship between perceptions of exclusion, inequality, widespread poverty, unemployment, disdain for education, religious bigotry, and the increased activities of BH insurgents in the form of violence and displacement of people, destroying lives, unemployment, livelihoods, and trauma (Yalmi, 2020). The effects of the insurgency activities ultimately lead to developmental and humanitarian crises that extend to education, particularly health and agriculture. Indeed, the crisis of BH insurgency going on in the Lake Chad Basin region since 2009 has affected the means of livelihood and relationships of the people and communities in the area. Almost every sector is affected by the cruelties of the BH group, and the governmental efforts to end it have not been enough as the rebels continue to launch attacks of different dimensions and are in control of some communities in the area (Warner & Lizzo, 2023). Present northeastern Nigeria, with its progressive economic endowment, political freedom, and social attachment, is now clouded in fear, helplessness, and social disintegration caused by the BH insurgency. This has had profound political, social, and economic implications on the lives of the people of the Northeast in particular and Nigeria in general (Agbormbai, 2021).

Indeed, the BH sect principally started its activities utilizing small arms in an assault against opportunistic targets before utilizing sophisticated weapons, grenades, and explosives against both armed and soft targets. Most of the sect's earlier weapons were obtained during attacks on government security outfits and smuggling from neighboring countries across the porous borders (Aliyu, 2023). Through its connection with

other terrorist organizations outside the nation, the group could accomplish more sophistication in its assault abilities that incorporated the utilization of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), particularly after the military forces' crackdown on the group in 2009. BH's activities have brought about an exaggeratedly unprecedented level of insecurity brigandage that is unsurpassed (Ali & Lawal, 2024). Tactically, BH has evolved dramatically since it first appeared in 2002. It did not begin conducting militant operations until 2009 after the extrajudicial killing of the sect leader Muhammed Yusuf. During this period, the group attacked police stations, security patrols, and prisons, freeing many incarcerated members. In the process of BH has since moved on; it now attacks other targets such as schools, mosques, and churches using small-arms assaults, arson, IEDs, and suicide bombers (Alhaji, 2020).

The activities of the BH insurgency pose security challenges to the country. Though the military force against BH is a viable option, its usefulness against terrorist ideologies has not yielded the intended results. After more than a decade of Nigeria's armed forces waging military operations against the BH group, the effort has only reduced the insurgents's conduct of offensive operations (Aliyu, 2023). This paper will assess institutions' roles, suggest ways to improve the process, and single out an institution as a major that will develop more empathy for PB.

## PB

PB produces the institutional context, and "reconstruction" measures operationalize new institutional context and give life to broader PB goals (Leib, 2024). Reconstruction entails revitalizing political, economic, and social structures and institutions following the conflict. It also attends to the protection of all citizens' rights, the development of necessary human resources, and the long-term process of social integration (Bilderback, 2024). While some writers have thought of PB and reconstruction sequentially, they constitute simultaneous and reinforcing activities with an intricate and organic relationship, like human rights principles relating to broad development goals. One cannot be done without the other. Therefore, it is important that all sectors of society, present in one way or another in all aspects of an ongoing conflict, are represented in negotiations and actions that

seek to lay the foundation for peace and post-conflict reconstruction (Nathan, 2022). Peace processes have been described as including informal activities and formal activities. Informal activities include peace marches, intergroup dialogue, and the promotion of intercultural tolerance and understanding (Tronvoll, 2022). Formal activities include conflict resolution, peace negotiations, reconciliation, infrastructure reconstruction, and provision of humanitarian aid. Informal activities generally involve a range of United Nations entities, national/regional/local institutions, and grassroots organizations. Formal activities are conducted by political leaders, the military, international and regional/subregional institutions, and various governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). While women's involvement in informal activities is well documented, they are seldom included, reflecting that they are usually not represented among decision-makers and military leaders (Shemella, 2021).

### **Educational institution (EI)**

PB through education has been identified as one of the major challenges in promoting Millennium Development Goals and building long-term, sustainable peace in post-conflict and divided societies (Clarke, 2021). The importance of education for PB has been recognized in such societies, as evidenced, for example, by the recent International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World (2001–2010), which declared formal and informal education as necessary means to instill in children and young people the knowledge, values, attitudes, and skills required for living peacefully together. However, despite the growing appreciation of the role of education in promoting a culture of peace, there remains an array of ambiguities in our understanding of the key concepts involved. There is also a lack of compelling theories that underpin education for PB across the academic disciplines. Furthermore, it is increasingly recognized that education should play a key and proactive role in creating a culture of peace in schools and communities. However, there are peace-related programs in formal and informal educational settings. They are often born out of the need to meet immediate intervention demands and hence lack theoretically informed strategies and rigorous evaluation (Hessari *et al.*, 2024). The situation thus reinforces the oft-lamented disconnection between PB practice, theory, and research (Clarke, 2021). In this article, we review and analyze key issues in PB educational initiatives to identify a theoretical framework that helps to bridge the above divide. The article first explores literature relating to PB and the role of education, followed by an investigation into some of the existing peace-oriented pedagogical practices, especially within post-conflict societies. The review identifies a major theoretical underpinning of PB education, as in Paulo Freire and others' seminal works, on critical dialogue and education as humanization.

Recognizing these ideas and their theoretical contribution to the field is crucial to conducting empirical research that can further develop our understanding of how PB educationally can be implemented effectively in divergent socio-political and educational contexts. PB as a transformative process PB is challenging to define as a concept and achieve in practice (Sharma *et al.*, 2022). To better understand the concept of PB for our purpose, we have chosen not to enter the minefield of contested definitions. Instead, we focus on the literature conceptualizing PB as a transformative process. Christofis (2023) introduced PB and distinguished peacemaking and considered the immediate response to conflict from PB as building a sustainable, PB, and peaceful future. Thus, it goes beyond the notion of 'negative peace' (as an absence of war). It involves the development of 'positive peace' characterized by conditions in a society that promote harmony between people, including respect, justice, and inclusiveness, and 'sustainable peace' that incorporates processes to address the root causes of violent conflict (Sharma *et al.*, 2022). Similarly, Clarke (2021) stresses the importance of conceptualizing PB as part of the more significant process of sustainable social transformation, which is firmly rooted 'in the relationship of involved parties' (Krahn, 2021).

In this regard, PB strategies must stress the centrality of building relationships and relational transformation alongside structural

transformation. For Lederach, lasting peace is a creative vision of human society at the heart of reframed relationships between people, institutions, social space, natural environment, and re-imagined relationships between our past, present, and future. Many authors join Galtung and Lederach in recognizing the importance of PB as a transformative process. Tàbara (2023) considers such transformation within structural, personal, and relationship changes that engender societal moral growth. Clarke (2021) advocates a holistic understanding of PB (materialistic, sociopolitical, cultural, philosophical, local and international, and institutional) that concerns civil society and its individuals, promotes human values, and is future-oriented and hope-inspiring. This holistic view of PB is based on understanding conflict, its root causes, relationship building, and reconciliation, and how these concepts play out in human society (Krahn, 2021). Indeed, such conceptualizations of PB may be ideological in their unsubstantiated hope for the potential role of education in promoting long-term sustainable peace. Critics pointed out that they may hinder the development of realistic strategies for reducing conflict and division, failing to address political and cultural constraints and imbalances and thereby serve to maintain the status quo (Tàbara, 2023). However, hope and idealism are essential for pedagogical attempts to promote positive human relationships, foster a sense of common humanity, and, ultimately, make the world a better place (Christofis, 2023).

### **Traditional institution (TI)**

The existence of TIs in Nigeria predates the coming of Europeans, and their powers are derived from the norms and values of their societies. The importance of TIs in promoting peace and security cannot be underestimated. TIs are cherished and very important in mobilization and are relied upon to promote ethical values in society. This is mainly due to the legitimacy enjoyed by these institutions, which are seen as the custodians of the customs and traditions of the people (Mawuko-Yevugah & Attipoe, 2021). TIs are those political institutions (PIs) predating the coming of British colonialism in Nigeria that cater to their people's economic, social, and political aspirations, which today have become part and parcel of our cultural heritage (Foster & Saleh, 2021). In pre-colonial Nigeria, TIs played a key role in ensuring the security of their domains.

TIs were conferred with legislative, executive, and judicial powers, which they discharge diligently without dictatorial tendencies. However, the chiefs ruled with the advice of a council, which was variously termed an inner or Privy Council. The system functioned well; these institutional checks and the Queen Mother safeguarded against dictatorial tendencies (Mawuko-Yevugah & Attipoe, 2021). The coming of the Europeans stripped the traditional rulers of some of their powers. They were subjected to the control of the colonial authority, where the ultimate authority lies. The attainment of independence brought a new set of people (the educated and political class) who took charge of the country's political affairs. TIs' status as administrators was replaced with advisers in their different communities (Bienen & Fitton, 2023). The newly emerged class saw the TIs as a threat to their grip on power and, therefore, clamped on the powers of the TIs. The neglect of the TIs in the general administration of their communities significantly contributed to the security challenges facing Nigeria today.

### **Religious institution (RI)**

Religion is considered a peace driver and policy-oriented; scholars discuss national and international religions, which are seen as affairs of all, while others argue that religion is valuable and necessary for achieving lasting peace in society. Religious leaders and faith-based organizations have enormous potential to promote peace in any society (Thomte *et al.*, 2022). In fact, "faith-based" is diplomatically created globally, as indicated by (Brandywine and International Affairs). It also recorded that the United States Institute of Peace has produced substantial innovation for interfaith projects; recently, the US has created religious offices in the State Department for religious engagement (Lehmann & McLarren, 2023). At the same time, some of the ideas for emerging veins are in progress in Europe (Muhammad &

Al-Shaghdari, 2024). In addition to literature, different faith groups and NGOs are also mobilized, developing policy reports in promoting and enhancing the direct and indirect contribution of religious actors to development and reconciliation are also sound.

The camp of those arguing that the religious dimension needs to be included in conflict resolution work is vast, but different authors highlight different reasons, aspects, and priorities. Hence, we have divided the following sections according to theme, religious beliefs, and values in the Ambivalence of the Sacred, Thomte *et al.* (2022) emphasize that ethics and ethical convictions, as expressed through religious beliefs, are the main drivers for peace. Regardless of which religion may be prevalent, religion's ethical power can help unite divided societies. Thomte *et al.*, (2022) stated that religion has a role to play, primarily as it can facilitate a dialogue about "virtues" to shape a better society. However, acknowledging this and the valuable characteristics of faith-based networks and NGO warns against a reductionist approach. An instrumentalist perspective of religion and logic of problem-solving prevail. At the same time, the need to address other issues and involve other actors is downplayed or discounted. References to the Christian contribution to non-violence and PB are abundant. There is a relationship between social justice and reconciliation, which cannot happen without another. This helps explain the vital work of Muslims and Christian denominations in mediation and promoting transitional justice (Munyao, 2021). However, Muslim values are vital and at the heart of the local community. In addition, Islam is one of the most influential religious groups, which is part of the religious that have also made explicit their pacifist stance and rejection of violence (Royal *et al.*, 2021).

## PI

Political activism is a PB approach for the youth worldwide to promote and project their views, ideas, and grievances to political leaders. Those leaders hold their country's PIs for leadership (Weyland, 2021). The bad government and corruption covering almost the entire leadership and political class supervising the PIs were terrified and disgraced. Therefore, today's youth are developing several ways of fighting the issues in Nigeria through different means and ways (Akanle & Shittu, 2022). For instance, EndSAS protests in Nigeria mainly take action to protect human rights, prevent various forms of human rights abuse denunciation, and suggest alternatives to governance issues that might lead to conflict outbreaks in the future. This was mainly based on the assumption that "peace" is more than the mere absence of war and encompasses different dimensions, including respect for all human rights and access to public services. Youth organizations used different methods under this approach, including advocacy, denunciation letters, demonstrations, sit-ins, strikes, and petition initiatives (Moussa, 2024).

In many cases, security forces reprimanded youth activities that wished to denounce bad governance issues and anti-constitutionalism in the country. To escape this governmental repression, some young activists have conducted their social actions online through blogs and social media. Through these media outlets, the youth expressed their opinions, denounced the prevailing bad governance issues, and shared information on peace-related issues with reduced risk of arrest (Akanle & Shittu, 2022). This is the case with blogs and social media groups. Young people from all political tendencies communicate freely throughout the country on the different governance and political issues prevailing in their country.

## NGO

The prime value in contemporary Nigeria today is peace. It is the most valuable public good, yet elusive (Nwosu, 2024). The 3 years of civil war and the recent disturbances in various parts of the country, namely the Niger Delta regions of the South-South, the Jos Bauchi Regions of Bauchi and Plateau States, and the Ebonyi States of the SouthEast States are at different levels of intensity and peace settlement. These have had devastating effects on Nigeria in terms of considerable loss of human life, human suffering, the destruction of infrastructural facilities,

the disruption of economic and agricultural activities, and the coming anarchy that threatens Nigeria's internal peace and security but also internal peace in Africa and beyond. Alarming, most of these areas of conflict lack the political will to maintain past peace agreements and have fallen prey to continuous armed clicks and ethnic conflict (Islam *et al.*, 2022). Peace has become the most pressing challenge faced by Africa and Nigeria. This situation is partly due to the unwholesome merger of multi-ethnic people by the colonial masters and partly due to ineffective conflict management. Despite some government, corporate bodies, civil society, and national university commissions to reduce conflict situations in Nigeria, peace has continued to elude Nigeria and consequently, sustainable development. This work aimed at X-raying the place of NGOs in conflict and PB in Nigeria and proffering a way forward to PB in Nigeria.

There is a lack of studies describing the relationship between institutions and PB among institutions that propose PB. We found from the literature review that there is a need to assess the institution's standards and competencies to check the level of performance among institutions for the betterment of institutions' performance. This need comes from the in-depth study of the literature review worldwide, in this age of information revolution, where security challenges are paramount and solutions are needed all over. Many proposed solutions still keep the traditional image of approaching security challenges. We will utilize the required level of institutions' performance and their relationship with PB. Up to the date of this research, there was no study on the relationship between PB as the dependent variable and the independent skills of TIs, RIs, EIs, PIs, and NGOs (Saud & Margono, 2021).

Loehr, *et al.*, (2022) propose a general view of PB of institutions and its growing influence on security systems management. His method was primary and forms impact analysis, assessment, and literature review. The researcher used three variables, which he classified based on security, EIs, religious, NGOs, and PB. There is insufficient evidence to justify the relationship between the independent and dependent. Thus, it is recommended that some variables be added in future studies to justify the wide superior ranking of others.

## Conceptual model

A conceptual model discusses the possible courses of action of the research idea. It works like a map by giving indications around all conceivable stages of the study and linking the research actions. This model is a structure that defines, creates, and explains the interrelated activities of the research, from problem definition to data analysis (Akour *et al.*, 2022). The theoretical framework shows that the model consists of the main predictors of relationship effects conceptualized as TIs, RIs, PIs, EIs, and NGOs. However, the current study considers the possibility of a new successful exploration of adding the effect relationship as a factor that influences the ranking performance of the institutions. The PB will be further investigated to determine to what extent the five independent variables (TIs, RIs, PIs, EIs, and NGOs) are indispensable in influencing its direction.

A research structural model was developed in this study to specify the research hypotheses targeted in the table below. The research structural model is intended to test five hypotheses related to the direct effects between TI, RIs, PI, EIs, and NGOs. The study will also examine the relationship effects of PB on the other variables. Fig. 1 illustrates the hypothesized direct impact in the research structural model.

Previous literature indicated that no past studies contained these five independent variables formed in a single model to generate the effects on the ranking relationship between five independent variables of PB in Northern Nigeria security challenges. Earlier discussions of the importance of each variable provided evidence that they can create good relationships and management in PB in Northern Nigeria. Hodgkinson (2024) has indicated similar findings. The current research will combine five factors and fuse them into one model to create more

relationship management, bring out PB in Northern Nigeria, and consequently improve the issue of the performance of Institutions.

A hypothesis is a proposed explanation or solution to the research question or statement. It predicts the relationship of the variables defined in the research question. A reasonable hypothesis should be logical, concise, and perceived so that it can be naturally derived from the research process. Usually, the researcher can use two types of hypothesis: the null and alternative hypotheses; after statistical analysis, if the null hypothesis is rejected, we can typically say that the alternative hypothesis is accepted and vice-versa. They indicated that the codes and description of the research hypotheses are represented below:

- $H_1$ : TIs significantly promote PB
- $H_2$ : RI promote PB
- $H_3$ : EIs significantly promote PB
- $H_4$ : PIs promote PB
- $H_5$ : NGOs significantly promotes PB.

## METHODS

### Sample

To achieve the research objectives, the study collected data from five different institutions in six other states, including Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, and Yobe. The demographics of the sample are reported in the table below. The participants were asked based on their position in society, various aspects of their understanding of the respective variables as stated above, and their overall satisfaction in society. A total of 350 respondents completed the questionnaires.

### Measures

The research was investigated using a Likert scale from very unsatisfied (measured 1) to very satisfied (measured 5) and overall satisfaction (measured on a 5-point scale). The questionnaire includes questions regarding demographics (gender, age, education, and position in society). Researchers tested reliability as needed in the SEM model for strong reliability scores (Kline, 2012).

### Data analysis

Data analysis was performed based on a confirmatory factor analysis that was carried out based on individual satisfaction factors and to test the scales. Furthermore, the asymmetric relationship between factor-level performance and overall satisfaction was measured using regression analysis. The confirmatory factors analysis was chosen, and structural equation modeling was computed with SPSS 20 and

AMOS 24.0, which report the relationship structure among construct variables and the standardized loading of the latent variables, shown in the Table 1 below and the diagram. The fit indices and model fit were tested for the best and reasonable outcome that comprises the root mean square error of approximation, the goodness-of-fit index (GFI), the adjusted GFI, the Tucker-Lewis index, and comparative fit index for model fit.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data were analysed on the basis of the demographic.

The demographic of the respondents of the study indicates the characteristics of the customers based on age, marital status, and education and societal position to determine possibility or not in terms of assess the individual perception on PB based on their on their various perceptions; however, the category that contains the large participants is 31–55 years old which is 60% of the respondents. The male respondents were the large percentage of 69% while the other 31% is female. In addition, the married category takes a large rate of 50%. Furthermore, the level of societal position is totally considered differently which indicates the capacity of any individual of understanding basic term used, that means TI, RI, EI, PI and NGO can be seen as the basic term needed.

- $H_1$  - TI significantly affects PB: As shown in the above Table 2 the results indicates a significant relationship between TI and PB, The probability of getting a critical ratio as large as 0.277 in absolute  $p=0.000$ . In other words, the regression weight for TI in the prediction of PB is significantly below  $<0.000$  at two-tailed and therefore accepted ( $H_1$ ).
- $H_2$  - RI significantly affects PB: The critical value and  $p$ -value of RI in predicting PB, the probability of getting a critical ratio as large as 2.460 in absolute value is  $<0.05$ . In other words, the regression weight for RI in the prediction of PB is significantly different from zero at the 0.02 level (two-tailed) and supported ( $H_2$ ) with critical ratio of 0.123 and shows the positive relationship.
- $H_3$  - EI significantly affects PB: The probability of getting a critical ratio as lower as 1.506 in absolute  $p=0.132$ . In other words, the regression weight for EI in the prediction of PB is significantly above the level  $>0.05$  (two-tailed) and therefore rejected ( $H_3$ ) and indicated negative relationship.
- $H_4$  - PI significantly affects PB: The critical value and  $p$ -value of PI in predicting PB at below  $<0.05$ . Thus explain the probability of getting a critical ratio as large as 2.942 in absolute  $p=0.003$ . In other words, the regression weight for PI in the prediction of PB is significantly

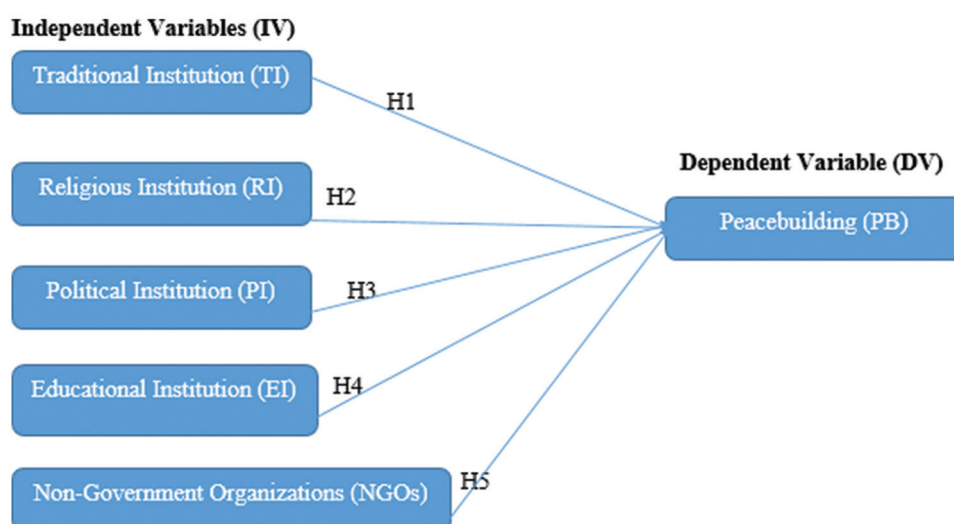


Fig. 1: Research hypotheses in research structural model



**Table 1: Demographic analysis of the respondents**

Variable	Categories	Frequency	Percentile (%)
Age	18-30	69	20
	31-55	207	60
	56-above	69	20
Gender	Male	238	69
	Female	107	31
Education	Secondary	103	30
	Degree	173	50
	Postgraduate	69	20
Societal position	Traditional institution	35	10
	Religious institution	41	12
	Educational institution	104	30
	Political institution	61	18
	Non - government organizations	104	30

Source: Authors designed

**Table 2: Regression weights and hypotheses analyses**

Path	Unstandard estimate	S.E.	Critical ratio	p-value hypothesis result
TI -> PB	0.277	0.047	5.356	0.000 ( $H_1$ ) Supported
RI -> PB	0.123	0.050	2.460	0.02 ( $H_2$ ) Supported
EI -> PB	0.104	0.062	1.506	0.132 ( $H_3$ ) Rejected
PI -> PB	0.166	0.050	2.942	0.003 ( $H_4$ ) Supported
NGO -> PB	0.123	0.054	2.180	0.02 ( $H_5$ ) Supported

Designed by author. PB: Peacebuilding, TI: Traditional Institution, RI: Religious Institution, EU: Educational Institution, PI: Political Institution, NGO: Non-governmental organization, S.E.: Standard error

different from zero at the 0.05 level (two-tailed) and supported ( $H_1$ ) and indicates the standardized Estimate of 0.166 and shows the positive relationship.

- $H_5$  - NGOs significantly affects PB: The critical value and p-value of NGOs in predicting PB shows both values 2.180 and 0.02 respectively. The probability of getting a critical ratio as large as 2.180 in absolute value is 0.02. In other words, the regression weight for NGOs in the prediction of PB is significantly different from zero at the 0.02 level (two-tailed) and supported ( $H_5$ ) and the standardized Estimate was 0.123 which indicates the positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between TI and RI

The standardized Estimates relationship between the TI and Religious Institution (RI) have direct standard estimation of 0.410 with SE of 0.44 on Satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 9.241, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . The p-value of the indirect (relationship) is significantly different from zero at the 0.000 level ( $p=0.000$  two-tailed). This is a bootstrap approximation obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between TI and EI

The standardized Estimates relationship between the TI and EI have direct standard estimation of 0.365 with SE of 0.45 on Satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 8.149, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . The p-value of the indirect (relationship) is significantly different from zero at the 0.000 level ( $p=0.000$  two-tailed). This is a bootstrap approximation obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between TI and PI

The standardized Estimates relationship between the TI and PI have direct standard estimation of 0.495 with SE of 0.45 on Satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the

two groups indicates high performance of 8.336, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . Dividing the covariance estimate by the estimate of its standard error gives  $z=0.379/.045=8.336$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 8.336 standard errors above zero. This is a bootstrap approximation obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between TI and NGOs

The standardized estimates relationship between the TI and NGOs have direct standard estimation of 0.320 with SE of 0.42 on Satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 7.693, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . Dividing the covariance estimate by the estimate of its standard error gives  $z=0.320/.042=7.693$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 8.336 standard errors above zero. This is a bootstrap approximation obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between TI and PB

The standardized estimates relationship between the TI and Peacebuilding (PB) have direct standard estimation of 0.362 with SE of 0.41 on Satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 8.821, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . Dividing the covariance estimate by the estimate of its standard error gives  $z=0.362/.041=8.821$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 8.821 standard errors above zero. The obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between RI and EI

The standardized estimates relationship between the RI and EI have direct standard estimation of 0.576 with SE of 0.50 on Satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 11.582, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . Dividing the covariance estimate by the estimate of its standard error gives  $z=0.576/.050=11.582$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 8.821 standard errors above zero. The obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between RI and PI

The standardized estimates relationship between the RI and EI have direct standard estimation of 0.438 with SE of 0.46 on Satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 9.565, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . Dividing the covariance estimate by the estimate of its standard error gives  $z=0.438/.046=9.565$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 9.565 standard errors above zero. The obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between RI and NGOs

The standardized estimates relationship between the RI and NGOs has direct standard estimation of 0.416 with SE of 0.43 on satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 9.700, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . Dividing the covariance estimate by the estimate of its standard error gives  $z=0.416/.043=9.700$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 9.700 standard errors above zero. The obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between RI and PB

The standardized estimates relationship between the RI and PB has direct standard estimation of 0.416 with SE of 0.43 on satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 9.700, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . Dividing the covariance estimate by the estimate of its standard error gives  $z=0.416/.043=9.700$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 9.700 standard errors above zero. The obtained by constructing two-sided bias-corrected confidence intervals and

Table 3: Property of the scale measurement

Construct	Item no.	Factor description	Loading factor
TI	TI1	Traditional institutions role in promoting PB	0.661
	TI2	Traditional Institutional titles and their capacity based on ruler power	0.700
	TI3	Traditional ruler can control over people and play a vital role in promoting PB in the community	0.670
	TI4	Traditional institution has historically background in addressing conflict and promoting peace in society	0.750
RI	RI1	Religions plays a significant role in promoting PB	0.647
	RI2	Religion can work effectively in the face of insurgency and adapt a proper solution	0.603
	RI3	Religion identifying problems and develop a relevant solution with scripture guidance	0.737
	RI4	Religious decisions always check an initiate causes of the problem and propose an appropriate solutions for the promotion of PB	0.704
EI	EI1	Educational institutions promote PB	0.687
	EI2	Academics promotes awareness and research in various forms of PB	0.676
	EI3	Education Institution can be a source of generating solutions to any conflict issues and retrieval for PB	0.650
PI	PI1	I have knowledge of the basic structure of political institutions, content and its role of promoting PB in society	0.777
	PI2	I have knowledge of major trends in political landscaping, including the rule of law and other networking areas for PB	0.650
NGOs	PI3	Political institutions acquired and managed strength toward peace within the community or society.	0.604
	NGO1	I have knowledge skills on how NGOs influence and motivate communities or societies on PB.	0.633
	NGO2	I am familiar with the principles of planning and budgeting of NGOs toward PB in respective locations of operations	0.635
	NGO3	I am sure building up collaboration and partnership with NGO, and community stakeholders bring lasting peace and harmony in the communities	0.718
PB	PB1	I believe with a strong relationship between PB and traditional institutions in promoting PB	0.615
	PB2	I believe a strong relationship between PB and religious institutions in promoting PB.	0.686
	PB3	I believe in a strong relationship between PB and educational institutions in promoting PB	0.707
	PB4	I believe a strong relationship between PB and political institutions in promoting PB	0.769
	PB5	I believe a strong relationship between PB and NGO in promoting PB	0.778

Source: Author design. PB: Peacebuilding, TI: Traditional Institution, RI: Religious Institution, EU: Educational Institution, PI: Political Institution, NGO: Non-governmental organization

Table 4: Internal consistency of CR and AVE

Construct variables	CR	AVE
Traditional institution	0.777	0.695
Religious institution	0.769	0.672
Educational institution	0.761	0.671
Political institution	0.739	0.677
Non-government organizations	0.751	0.662
Peacebuilding	0.789	0.711

Source: Author design. CR: Composite reliability, AVE: Average variance extracted

Table 5: Discriminant validity based on correlation of latent variables and square root of average value extracted

Variables	LFSTY	JAF	JGC	JHA	JHF	SATIS
Traditional institution	<b>0.458</b>					
Religious institution	0.004	<b>0.451</b>				
Educational institution	0.152	0.158	<b>0.450</b>			
Political institution	0.222	0.194	0.496	<b>0.458</b>		
Non-governmental organization	0.211	0.227	0.361	0.411	<b>0.368</b>	
Peacebuilding	0.121	0.172	0.335	0.362	0.322	<b>0.447</b>

Source: Author design. Bold value Indicating the absolute discriminant relationship

positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between EI and PI

The standardized estimates relationship between the EI and PI has direct standard estimation of 0.434 with SE of 0.47 on satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 9.179, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 9.179 standard errors above zero.

The obtained by constructing two-sided bias- corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

#### The covariance relationship between EI and NGOs

The standardized estimates relationship between the EI and NGOs has direct standard estimation of 0.418 with SE of 0.44 on Satisfaction. Therefore, the critical ratio under relationship perception between the two groups indicates high performance of 9.431, with a positive  $p=0.000$ . In other words, the covariance estimate is 9.431 standard errors above zero. The obtained by constructing two-sided bias- corrected confidence intervals and positive relationship.

As indicated above, the standardized factors loading of the six exogenous variables are manifested based on the stipulation ranged from >0.5 to 0.9 as recommended by (Bryne and Wålinder, 2010; Hair *et al.*, 2013). The higher the factor loading, the positive the constructs as opposite the lower the factor, the obsolete the constructs as indicates by (Krishnan and Ramasamy, 2011).

Krishnan and Ramasamy (2011) used such method for internal consistency of a model; Table 4 composites reliability (CR) and average variance extracted (AVE) have met the criterion for AVE as above (>0.50) and CR which in another way comparable with Cronbach alpha that considered reliable at  $CR > 0.70$  as recommended by Hair *et al.* (2012). The highest the CR indicates the reliable data and the variable PB with (0.789) followed by TI (0.777) RI (0.769), NGO (0.751) and EI (0.739), and lowest being PI with (0.739). Similarly, the AVE value for all constructs exceeded the recommended value of 0.50, that means the convergent of the constructs analyses is satisfied. The highest AVE amongst the constructs is two different latent PB with (0.711), and the lowest was NGO (0.662).

Table 5 explained and detailed discriminant validity results test the latent constructs variable indicates the correlations amongst the latent based on AVE square root, which means the diagonal and off-diagonal element. The table shows that AVE square root is greater than the

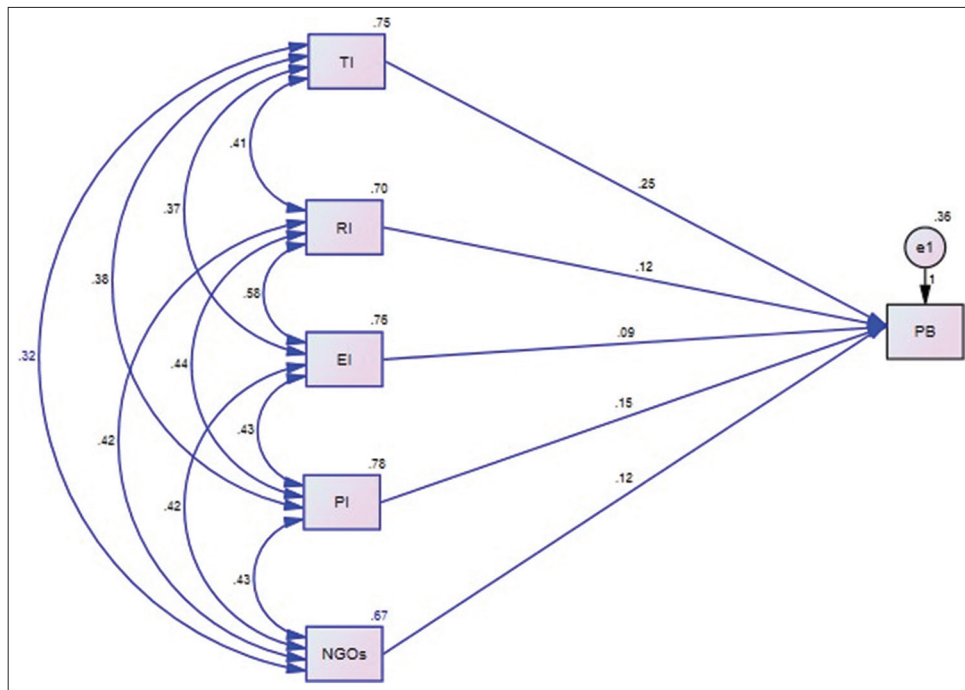


Fig. 2: Testing measurement

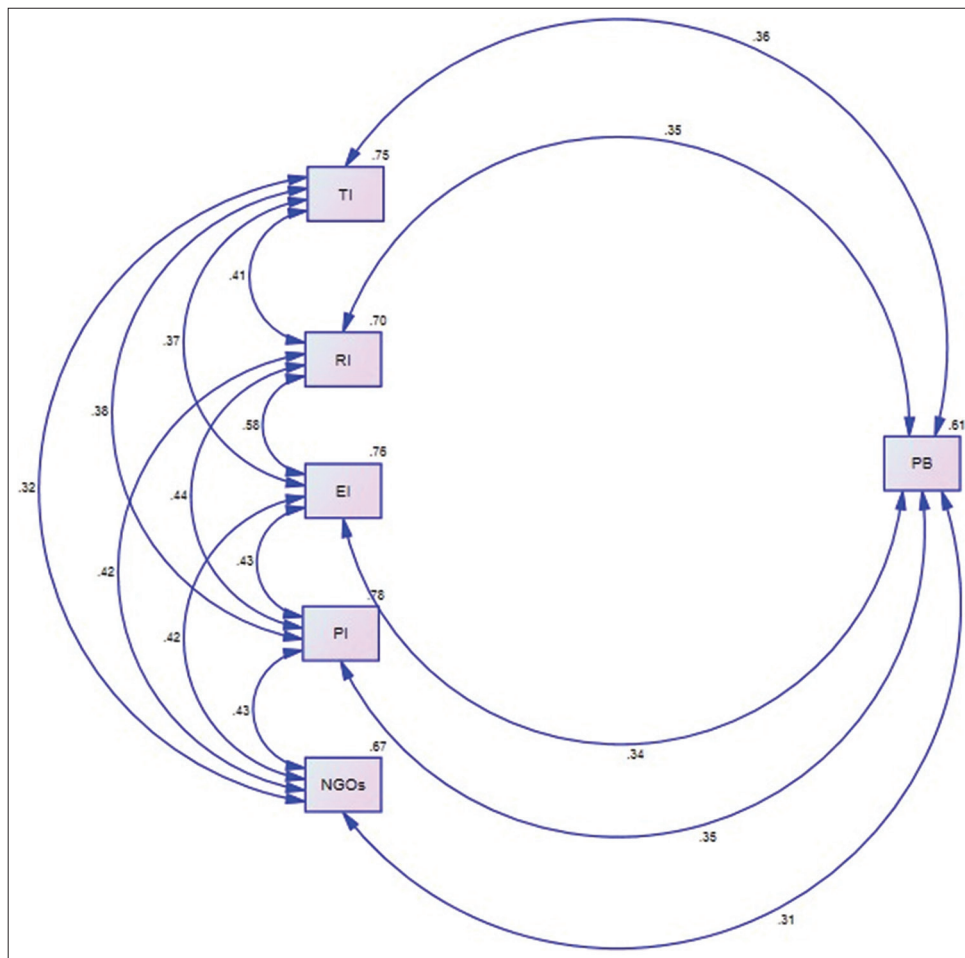


Fig. 3: Covariance relationship

off-diagonal across the row and column, the result shows all items indicates good loadings in different constructs compare to their cross-loading; therefore, it is confirmed the discriminant validity with strong construct level with different from other latent.

## CONCLUSION

A solution to PB in Nigeria has become a critical issue that needs to be checked and produced a strong base that eliminates insecurity challenges and promotes PB in the Northern region while much experienced difficult situations. The research provides insights on institutional activities and their significant role in PB and how it is improved security challenges in society. It suggests that a successful concentration on such institutions. The institutional role in promoting PB and tackling insurgency in Northern Nigeria is critical, given the region's complex socio-political dynamics. Government bodies, NGOs, and community institutions must collaboratively address the root causes of conflict, such as poverty, unemployment, and ethnic tensions. Effective governance and law enforcement play vital roles in restoring public trust and ensuring accountability. Promoting dialogue through community engagement initiatives can foster reconciliation and understanding among diverse groups. Els are crucial in promoting peace literacy, equipping young people with conflict resolution skills, and countering extremist narratives. Furthermore, international partnerships can enhance local capacities, providing resources and expertise to strengthen PB efforts. Sustainable economic development initiatives must also be integrated to address underlying grievances that fuel insurgency. Ultimately, a multifaceted approach involving various stakeholders is essential for achieving lasting peace and stability in Northern Nigeria.

## CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

There is no conflict of interest.

## AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

The paper written by JIG and supervised KAZ.

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