

Human Rights, Threat to Humanity and International Management of Covid-19: *The Unanswered Questions.*

AUTHOR

Abstract

When Corona Virus emerged in Wuhan China in 2019, several Nations, including the very technologically advanced, nay, the world powers received the news with indifference, referring to it as 'China's affair'. But like the Nazis movement in Germany that snow-balled into the Second World War and its holocaust trademark, the virus soon gained International recognition as a pandemic that beat hollow the boastful capacity of the World Health Organization and all subscribing Nations. The poor handling of the scourge by most nations and the volume of casualty and fatality before the world purported to evolve vaccines against the virus show that the world today is as unprepared to contain certain emergencies as happened in the events leading to the Second World War. By doctrinal approach therefore, this paper deciphered why it took the world such intensive but rather late effort to find solution to the scourge but more seriously, the fear of repeat of a more potent attack on humanity for which the paper raised questions on the DNA of the virus; whether it evolved from a chemical laboratory; what its biological evolution is all about; whether it was humanly orchestrated and whether it was a natural phenomenon. The paper found that if, as in the past, the world concentrates on proffering reactionary solution without getting to the root of such a threat to humanity. Such error could be weaponized with a more horrendous result to humanity than the world has ever seen. The paper thus recommended that the world should go beyond its claim to finding vaccines to determining the biological components of Covid-19 and all its mutations, to avoid similar strains taking the world hostage in an era where all forms of fanaticisms are rife.

Key Words: Human Rights, Threat, Humanity, Management of Covid-19, and Unanswered Questions.

Date of Submission: 07-03-2021

Date of Acceptance: 20-03-2021

I. Introduction:

In 2019, various Nations of the world woke up to what sounded like a theatrical rumor in far away Wuhan in China, which appeared initially harmless but in no time, France was no more romantic, the business network of New York no longer matter; the delicacies of Chinese Restaurants no longer counted; the fantasies of Japanese automobiles become meaningless; mecca became suddenly empty; hugs and kisses suddenly became weapons; not visiting loved ones became an act of love; power, beauty and money suddenly became worthless; the medical advancement of Germany became inadequate and the avowed hostilities of Islamic fundamentalists all over the world were themselves intimidated.¹ The scourge put the world in cages; with muzzled and masked faces. The World Health Organization initially took its potency for granted so it loathed settling for a proper designation for the scourge.² By the time this world body pronounced it a pandemic, it was obvious that even a kindergarten child already decoded the wild capacity of the virus whose DNA the world is yet to come to terms with, despite the pride this generation took in its Nobel laurels in sciences and technology.

Man's inhumanity to man in this century may not be calculable in the same magnitude with the Second World War in any single war but with the unprovoked attacks arising from all forms of fundamentalism and quest by world economies to outrun one another at all cost, the world must wake up to the possibility of human orchestration of this kind of plague, regarded as *scientifically settled* as a natural phenomenon, as weapon against humanity. This is why this paper, by doctrinal approach interrogates the need to pry into several questions about the DNA, the genetic specifications and peculiarities; and the biological and biochemical constituents of Corona Virus. Thus, the significance of this paper is emphasized by the need to put the world on its toes, away from the ugly trend that trampled human rights under foot in form of the First and Second World Wars especially now, with all the impurity of the same powers that are supposed to be watchdogs of human right values, threatening to drag the world into a more catastrophic disaster than the world witnessed in the previous world wars.

¹ K. Kapur, 'Dr. WHO and Mr. Hyde' <<https://www.orfonline.org>> accessed on 15-02-2021.

² P.J. Heijmans; B. Predhan et al; 'Caged, Beaten and Shamed – How Covid-19 Law are Being Abused Around the World' <<https://www.theprint.in/world>> accessed on 15-02-2021.

Conceptual Clarification

For clarity, it is imperative to put in perspective, some of the concepts used in this paper. For brevity however, only human right and humanity are clarified at this stage, while others are discussed in the main body of the paper.

Human Rights and the Concept of Humanity

Human right has come to be variously defined as “the right one holds by virtue solely of being a human person... right naturally inhering in the human being”,³ “those claims made by men, for themselves or on behalf of other men, supported by some theory, which concentrates on the humanity of man as a human being, a member of mankind”,⁴ “rights and freedom which every person is entitled to enjoy, possibly deriving from natural law”,⁵ “rights one has simply because one is a human being”,⁶ “rights which all persons everywhere and at all times equally have by virtue of being moral and rational creatures”.⁷

Ogbu summed up human rights as rights that are:

inherent in any human being simply because of his humanity-the birthright of all mankind. The expression “human rights” in its widest connotation embraces those civil, political, economic, social, cultural, group, solidarity and developmental rights which are considered indispensable to a meaningful human existence.⁸

The word “human” with its derivative, “humanity” is variously understood as importing the characteristics of being a human being, as opposed to animals; the entire human race or the characteristics that uniquely relate to human beings; the human race which includes everyone on earth.⁹ It is of essence to note here that the word “humanity” is from the Latin word, “humanitas” meaning “human nature, kindness”.¹⁰ From the insight thus far, it is apparent that the world seems to over-concentrate on *rights* with little or no attention to the concept of *humanity*. Where authors lavish efforts to define import and scope of rights, they simply draw *humanity* to the scene by a wave of hand by presenting human right as rights that attach to man by virtue of his being human.¹¹

What all these attempts sum up to is that the word “human” underpins the basis of globalization, and by inference, the universality of international human rights. This is what ties humanity in an inescapable thread and network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny where what affects one, affects all.¹² Impliedly therefore, looking at the meaning of humanity as all human beings, collectively in its noun form, and characteristically as “all human kindness and benevolence”, it is obvious that human right is not a creation of any man but an effort of man to collate and codify the intrinsic nature of all humans.¹³ Further inference from this is that in the characteristic nature of human or humanity, racism, discrimination and cruelty have no part in the nature of humanity, meaning that where any of these vices manifest, there should be a concerted effort of the entire human race to arrest and contain them. This is the understanding that informs discussion of what this

³ Rutherford, L, and Bone,S., (eds) *Osborne Concise Law Dictionary*, (8th edn Sweet and Maxwell, 1993) 293

⁴ Donnelly, J., ‘Human Rights and Human Dignity: An Analytic Critique of Non-Western Conceptions of Human Rights’. *American Political Science Review*. [1982] vol.76. 305

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Nwabueze, B., *Constitutionalism in the Emergent States* (C, Hurst &Co; 1973) p.83 See also Ogbu, *op.cit*

⁷ Nwabueze, *op.cit* at 83.

⁸ Ogbu, *op.cit* at 3.

⁹ Eyyasu G, “Humanity and Human Rights: The Contours of International Law” <<https://nome.unak.is.wordpress/huma...>> accessed on 12-05-2020.

¹⁰ Wikipedia; “Right and Humanity”. <<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right...>> accessed on 22-04-2020.

¹¹ Jim, I; *Rethinking Human Rights*, *op.cit*.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ McApreko, PFY; “The Status of Universal Human Rights in the 21st Century: an Appraisal”. <<https://dox.doi.org/106035/ForumRecerca.2014.19.3>>. accessed on 15-02-2021.

paper perceives as antithesis to humanity and human rights in the manner several nations of the world handled the Covid 19 pandemic and the danger such neglect portends for humanity.

Human Right and International Management of Covid-19

No doubt, the concept of human rights has enjoyed global acceptance since inception and thus given succor to the vulnerables of the society but the issue goes beyond that. The clamor for relativism of the administration of universal human rights had generated the notion that the perception of human rights by Asian, African and Arab Nations on Human Rights was the greatest challenge to the import of human rights but recent developments seem to suggest otherwise.¹⁴ Instead, indices on ground point to lack of culture of human rights beyond the perception of the people of each nation, some of which believe that human right is only a product of Western oppression in as much as it undermines some of their local values.¹⁵

When Ebola struck some West African Countries beginning with Guinea, in 2014, it was regarded as an African affair for which the developed world did so little to help; with some lameduck World Health Organization's resolution in that behalf.¹⁶ Within the period, Africans who fled to Europe and other parts of the world were treated as lepers that must not be allowed to perch.¹⁷ In spite of Europe's obsession about human rights but the way E.U Nations treated African Immigrants from perceived Ebola ravaged nations within the period cast aspersion on European values, including the philosophy that midwived universal human rights. We had cases where ships carrying Africans were either not allowed to dock and where they did, the immigrants were either starved in disused Reform centers or in refuse trucks despite protestation by the Red Cross.¹⁸ This time around, with the Corona Virus Pandemic, Africans once again are on the receiving end, even from China that is the epicenter of the holocaust.¹⁹

In the peak of Covid-19 scare in 2020, the list of cases of Xenophobia, discrimination and racism relating to the pandemic against Africans in China called to question the concept of "humanity" that underpins the essence of Universal Human Rights.²⁰ Beyond the case of Africans were instances of discrimination and recrimination against other Nationals all over EU and Middle East Countries, on account of Corona Virus, in a manner that cast doubt on the world sincerity on globalization and any concept arising from the import of humanity.²¹

Indeed, world's response to the Pandemic seemed to drive the essence of universality of human right farther into the abyss when two French Doctors who claimed to create a vaccine for Corona Virus cited Africa as the test ground, without the normal procedure of laboratory confirmation and then a test process on mouse and pigs before humans; as if Africans were to be reckoned as Covid-19 pigs.²² Even when the Director General of World Health Organization, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus condemned the move as racist and neocolonialist, yet, sponsors of those killer-vaccines pumped several doses to Africa, , but for stout opposition by Africans in Diaspora and some pockets of domestic protests which truncated their administration.²³ With such development, it is difficult to decipher where Africa comes in, in the perception of the developed world in terms of universal human rights and more particularly, whether the concept of globalization that was the thrust of world campaign on development in the twentieth and twenty first centuries related only to Internet

¹⁴ F. Anjum, 'Human Rights, Cultural Relativism and Islam' <<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/31>> accessed on 15-5-2021; Polity, 'Asian and African Values: The problem of Human Rights' <m.polity.org.za/article/asianandafrican...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

¹⁵ A. Shaheed and R.P. Richter, 'Is Human Right a Western Concept?' <theglobalobservatory.org/2018/10/ar...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

¹⁶ Brookings; "Covid-19, Africans Hardships in China and the Future of Africa-China Relations". <<https://www.brookings.edu/2020/04/17/>>; accessed on 18-04-2020. See also The National Interest; The Corona Virus Threatens Africans and China's Hold on Africa". <<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/cor...>>... Accessed on 18-04-2020.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ Wikipedia; List of Incidents of Xenophobia and Racism related to the 2019-20 Corona Virus Pandemic" of various developed counties against African Nations like Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopic, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and several others. <<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/list>> accessed on 18-04-2020.

²¹ Rosman, R; (Aljazeera News) "Racism Row as French Doctors Suggest Virus Vaccine Test in Africa" <<https://www.aljazeera.com/2020/04/ra...>> Accessed on 20-04-2020.

²² Euro news; "WHO Director General Lashes out at French Doctors; What French Doctors and WHO really said about Africa and Vaccine Testing..". <<https://www.euronews.com/.../world>>. Accessed on 20-04-2020. Also at <<https://www.nydailynews.com/ny-coro...>> accessed on 20-04-2020.

²³ *Ibid.*

Technology, and no more. One would want to ask why each time the developed world would sneeze, they expect the whole world to catch cold but whenever the third world, especially African Continent is facing any heat, the developed world looks away, under the cover of waiting for the UN to take a position. The world needs to be told what humanity is all about when the third world is only good as a tool to be used and dumped; or be made a scape-goat for the developed world as we saw China do to Africans at the height of the Covid-19 Pandemic. What this points the world to is that the developed economies only talk of universal human rights as long as it is convenient for their domestic needs.

In issues of National Interest as affect each Nation's Security and National Economy, there have been cases where human rights were sacrificed on the altar of National advancement but the scale of Xenophobia and abuse of human dignity that greeted the world on the heels of *Covid 19* suggest a missing link in the values of human rights in the c21st that must be addressed speedily.²⁴ In the midst of mistrust of human rights philosophers on the justification of each other's theory and in the face of human right activism that took the better part of humanity by which the world almost forgot that anything could go wrong as to make humanity forget everything about human rights, came Covid 19 with its storm that stripped naked the insincerity of the world by the rate of Xenophobia and other vices that call for a rethink on the philosophy of human rights. The question then is, where is the world missing out in its perception on strategic programs on human rights?

From the preambles of the UN Charter and that of UDHR, it appeared that the main purpose for Universal Human Rights was to avoid anything that could bring another world war. But when *Covid-19 war* came, the world was at a loss as to the value that should inform her approach in the prosecution of that war. Eventually, the world threw the values of human rights to the wind as if they no longer matter or that they were not deep enough to be relevant to the threat of Covid-19 Pandemic. The way emergencies were declared and enforced in some countries call for a rethink on the import of human rights in this century.²⁵ Under some national Constitutions as in the case of Nigeria, certain values could be suspended in the face of national emergency but the circumstances of such declarations in the past were for state of war, danger or some form of national insecurity.²⁶ One wonders if health challenge was of a class for which human right values could be suspended or denigrated so wantonly without any serious reaction by renowned human right watchdogs. The *Siracusa principles*, adopted by the UN Economic and Social Council in 1984, and UN Human Rights Committee General Comments on *states of emergency* and *freedom of movement* provide authoritative guidance on government responses that restrict human rights for reasons of public health or national emergency, with a rider that any measure taken to protect the population and which limits people's rights and freedoms must be lawful, necessary, and proportionate.²⁷ States of emergency need to be limited in duration and any curtailment of rights needs to take into consideration the disproportionate impact on specific populations or marginalized groups.²⁸ But that was not the case in most countries of the world in their response to Covid-19 scourge.

One question that must be addressed is the ineptitude arising from corruption of several African leaders who neglected health care development for their selfish corrupt reasons only to resort to a declaration of state of emergency, in the face of Covid-19. Indeed, in Nigeria, there were reports of corrupt practices of false diagnoses of those suffering from other health challenges who were fraudulently declared Covid-19 positive to swell Federal Government allocation to Disease Control Agencies at state and Federal levels.²⁹ Some of the unfortunate victims were quarantined for months, without being afforded any copy of their lab-test results; and yet, such voices were shut down under the guise of national emergency.³⁰

²⁴ Ikhuona, E; "Tension from Lockdown Response to Covid-19 in Africa". <<https://www.one.org/international/blog>> accessed on 20-04-2020.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ See Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) Section 305.

²⁷ ICJ, *Siracusa Principles on the Limitation and Derogation Provisions in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (ICCPR)1984.

²⁸ DCAF, 'What is a State of Emergency? What are the Key Components?' <www.files.ethz.ch/isn/136000/backgroundar...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

²⁹ Deloitte, 'Covid-19- A Backdoor to Increased Fraud Risk?' <www.2deloitte.com/pages/articles/c...> accessed on 15-02-2021; IESBA, 'Navigating the Heightened Risks of Fraud and other Illicit Activities During the Covid-19 Pandemic' <www.ifac.org/publications/files...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

³⁰ O. Ramonu, "Benue's Alleged Covid-19 Index Case rejects diagnosis, says its not hers" <<https://healthwise.punchng.com/Bumastate>> accessed on 20-05-2020; Idayat Hassan, "The other Covid-19 Pandemic: Fake News-African Argument" <<https://africanarguments.org/2020/03/26>> accessed on 20-05-2020.

As the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet put it, this pandemic is a test of our principles and shared humanity³¹ and in the words of the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, Human Rights can and must guide Covid-19 response and recovery because, it is a human crisis with human right dimension which must therefore place the people and their rights in the front and centre, instead of violating such rights under the guise of exceptional emergency measures.³² Again and again, non-performer governments of several corrupt African countries, including Nigeria, followed their counter-parts in the developed world to emphasize the need to wash hands regularly as a measure against the Covid-19 plague, without remembering that most of their citizens lack clean drinkable water. They gave orders of total lock-down and insistence on wearing face-mask without any material or financial support for the people, most of who live below poverty line.

While it is conceded that the scale and severity of the Covid-19 pandemic clearly rises to the level of a public health threat that could justify restrictions on certain rights, such as those that result from the imposition of quarantine or isolations limiting freedom of movement but it is the same position of this paper that careful attention to human rights such as non-discrimination and human rights principles in form of transparency and respect for human dignity must be ensured to foster an effective response amidst the turmoil and disruption that inevitably results in times of crises and to limit the harm that can come from the imposition of overly broad measures that do not meet the value we all profess.

Covid-19 and Threat to Humanity

Covid-19 is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered virus whose surface structure presents it like a crown, thus earning it the description, Corona Virus.³³ The virus, with a novel pathogen, reportedly manifested for the first time, in Wuhan province, China in 2019 thus explaining its christening as Covid-19 by the World Health Organization.³⁴ In its attack, it manifests symptoms like mild to moderate fever and respiratory illness, usually upgrading into life-threatening complications for the elderly, children, pregnant woman and those with under-lying medical problems like diabetes, hypertension, major organs impairment, cancer, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases.³⁵

This virus primarily spreads through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose, through cough and sneezes, by an infected person.³⁶ As at 9th February, 2021, available data showed that there have been over 105.4million confirmed cases of Covid-19 and over 2.3million deaths worldwide from the scourge.³⁷ Before then, the world's management of this plague had been rather helpless, with resort to draconian laws on total or partial lock-down, all forms of social distancing, hand washing and compulsory wearing of facemasks in all public places. In quarantine centres of most third world countries, victims had stories of sordid experience of a concentration camp without any medication, either because none was available or because the Agencies saddled with the handling of suspected or confirmed cases didn't know exactly what to do.³⁸

In Nigeria, for example, it was an opportunity for corrupt public officials to loot public funds while government exploited the gory situation to plunge the already deplorable economy of the Nation into further debt, through unwarranted loans that Nigeria may never be able to recover from in the next generation; for which the citizenry have nothing to show for it.³⁹ At a particular point in Nigeria, private clinics reportedly exploited this grim situation to demand as much as ₦50, 000.00 to test suspected cases and demanded for as much as ₦6m for symptomatic treatment of confirmed cases.⁴⁰ That means, it was and still a hopeless situation

³¹ Michelle, "Human Rights Concerns Dimensions of Covid-19 Response" <<https://reliefweb.int/files/resources>> accessed on 20-05-2020.

³² A. Guterres, 'Covid-19 and Human Rights' <www.un.org/sites/un-h...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

³³ WHO, 'Novel Corona virus outbreak in China-What does it Mean for Europe?' <www.euro.who.int> accessed on 15-02-2021.

³⁴ WHO, 'WHO Director General's opening Remarks at the Media Briefing on Covid-19-March 2020' <www.who.int.../speeches/Detail> accessed on 15-02-2021.

³⁵ Mayo Clinic, 'Corona virus Disease 2019' <www.mayoclinic.org/syc.20479963> accessed on 15-02-2021.

³⁷ WHO, 'Weekly Epidemiological update-9 February, 2021' <www.who.int/publication/m/item> accessed on 15-02-2021.

³⁸ Times, 'Covid-19: Why People flee Quarantine Centres' <www.m.timesofindia.com/india/articleshow> accessed on 15-02-2021.

³⁹ O. Onuwukwe, 'How well has Nigeria Responded to Covid-19?' <www.brookings.edu/blog/2020/07/02> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴⁰ O.D. Williams, 'Covid-19 and Private Health: Market and Governance Failure' <<https://www.link.springer.com/article>> accessed on 15-02-2021.

for the common man in Nigeria who is never sure of the next , because of the level of poverty and corrupt devastation of the economy.

In December 2020 into January 2021, some Organizations and countries announced a breakthrough in finding vaccines against Covid-19, some of which were yet to be approved by World Health Organization.⁴¹ Up and until the end of January 2021, not much has been achieved in the distribution and administration of the vaccines, let alone their mass production for export to the vulnerable, impoverished countries.⁴² Such a slow pace, no doubt point to how distant the world remains in the ladder, towards conquering this arrow-head of death. Quite unfortunately also was the announcement by Britain, in December 2020, and South Africa in February, 2021 confirmed in the US and thirty other countries of the discovery of another mutated strain of the virus, said to be more contagious than the original strain.⁴³ The question then is, where is the world going; how deep is the world's claim to success over nature and what is the world doing to decode the DNA or RNA of several of such virus that may either be nature-based or human orchestrated? Until the world is able to provide answers to these questions, the danger that stares the world in the face may not be easily deciphered, as yet.

Unanswered Questions

While the world grapples with how to contain the devastation of this enemy of humanity, the world seems to look away from a greater horror of so many unanswered questions of this so-called virus. No doubt, an enemy we know little or nothing about is a greater threat than the one we know well, even if formidably armed with state-of-the-art weapons. Ignorance of capacity of an enemy, its kind of formations and tacts; its resilience and invincibility; the training background of its senior ranks and other ranks and topography of the war should give cause for fear, even for the most formidable world power.⁴⁴ This is why intelligence gathering determines the resolve to go to war or not, and in some cases, the concentration of initial attacks by air or sea.⁴⁵ To pretend that such investigative and pre-emptive tactical measures do not matter is to spell doom for even the stronger side. Such projection, no doubt, partly explains failure of American outing against Vietnam for which this world power does not seem to forgive itself till date.⁴⁶ But that is the same error the world is fast devolving into, in its management of Covid-19.

As earlier mentioned, when Ebola Virus struck some African Countries, beginning with Guinea in 2014, it was regarded as an African scourge for which the developed world did so little to help except to explain its source and how it propagated itself from its surrogates to humans; but almost three years into the devastating scourge of Covid-19, arising from Wuhan, China, the world continues to busy itself with search for a so-called dependable vaccine without anyone, not even the World Health Organization raising serious issues on the biological and chemical components of this latest enemy of humanity, probably because China, a world power is involved. But such an approach does not only amount to a desecration of the values of the United Nations but an abuse of whatever humanity represents in the entire build-up of the United Nations. As part of explanation of what the world is up to, it may be helpful to examine evolution of human understanding of virus thus far.

Decoding a Virus

Viruses are microscopic parasites, generally much smaller than bacteria.⁴⁷ They lack capacity to thrive and reproduce outside a host body.⁴⁸ According to Weser, a Professor of Biology at Davidson College, *polio virus* is about 10,000 times smaller than a grain of salt.⁴⁹ Virus are the smallest of all the microbes to the extent

⁴¹ Oxford University, 'Oxford University breakthrough on Global Covid-19 Vaccine' <www.ox.ac.uk/news/2020-11-23-oxf...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴² A. Markowitz, '7 Reasons the Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout has been show' <www.carp.org/health/info-2021/slo...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴³ CDC, 'About Variants of the Virus' <www.cdc.gov/transmission/variants> accessed on 15-02-2021; G. Steinhauer "South Africa Covid-19 Strain: What we Know About the New Variant" <www.wsj.com/world/Africa> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴⁴ Rand, 'Objective Analysis and Effective Solution: Military Intelligence' <www.vand.org/topics/military-intellig...> accessed on 15-02-2021; FAS, 'The Role of Intelligence' <www.fas.org/irp/off006> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴⁵ A. Tishler, 'The Value of Military Intelligence' <www.researchgate.net/publication/22...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴⁶ BBC, 'Why did US Tactics Fail in Vietnam?' <www.bbc.co.uk/guides/revision> accessed on 15-02-2021; K. Eschner, 'How Robert Mc Namava came to Regret the War he Escalated' <<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news>> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴⁷ NCBI, 'Viruses: Structure, Function and uses' <www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/NBK21523> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴⁸ A. Vidyasagar, 'What are Viruses?' <www.livescience.com/52272-what-is-a...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁴⁹ M.B.C, 'What is Microbiology?' <microbiologysociety.org/viruses> accessed on 15-02-2021.

that 500 million rhinovirus (which cause the common cold) could fit on to the head of a pin.⁵⁰ They are unique because they are only alive and able to multiply inside the host cells of other living things.⁵¹ A virus is made up of a core of genetic material, either DNA or RNA, surrounded by a protective cover whose capsid is sometimes surrounded by an additional spiky coat, referred to as envelop.⁵² Virus are not classified according to the diseases they cause. Instead, they are grouped into different families based on whether the nucleic acid is single or double stranded; whether a virus envelop is present and their mode of replication.⁵³

Lacking in mechanisms required for metabolic function, they are classified as biochemical mechanisms rather than living organisms, a departure from the pre-1930 findings of the study of viruses that rated them as biologically alive.⁵⁴ Viruses need to access the inside of a host's body respiratory passages and open wounds as gateways for their operation.⁵⁵ Sometimes, insects provide the mode of entry while hitch in an insect saliva into the host's body through insect bite could introduce a virus in which case, such viruses can replicate inside both insect and host cells, ensuring a smooth transition from one to the other. That is the working of viruses that transmit yellow fever and dengue fever.⁵⁶

From study over the years, it is obvious that human knowledge is still emerging. For instance, until 1992, the notion that viruses were much smaller than bacteria, with tiny genomes was taken for granted.⁵⁷ Commenting on how *Mimi* virus, about 750nm size, *Mama* virus and *Mega* virus evolved, Dudley said "it is not known how these large viruses evolved...they may be degenerate cells which have become parasites of other cells (Mini virus infect amoeba) or they may be more typical viruses that keep acquiring additional host genes."⁵⁸ In 1886, Adolf Mayer, a German Chemist in a tobacco Research found that whatever was causing Mosaic disease was of a bacteria origin in the leafy juice which in 1892, Dmitri Iwonosky, a Russian student virtually confirmed except that he described what he filtered as "either bacteria or a soluble toxin".⁵⁹ But in 1898, a Dutch scientist, Martinus Beijerinck while confirming Ivanosky's results with a vaccination said that the cause of tobacco Mosaic disease was not bacterial but a "living liquid virus".⁶⁰

According to a 2009 finding, once the Electron Microscope was developed in 1933 by Ernst Ruska and Max Knoll, German Scientists, the first virus was vitalized with the new high resolution technology.⁶¹ This technology showed the *H1N1* influenza virus under a transmission electron microscope.⁶² In 2009, this virus, then referred to as the *swine flu*, caused pandemic.⁶³ As a scholar observed:

*Understanding the relationships between viruses began noting similarities in size and shape, whether viruses contained DNA or RNA, and in which form. With better methods to sequence and compare viral genomes, and with the constant influx of new scientific data, what we know about virus and their histories is constantly being fine-tuned.*⁶⁴

⁵⁰ L. Tojouri, 'What is a virus? How do they spread? How do they make us sick?' <www.theconversation.com.what-is-a-virus-he...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵² Vidyasagar, *op.cit*

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ News Medical, 'History and Recent Advances in Corona virus' <www.new-medical.net/health/what-i...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ J.S. Kahu, 'History and Recent Advances in Corona virus Discovery' *Pediatric Infections Disease Journal*, Nov. 2005, vol.24 Issue 11 at p.s 223-227 <www.journal.lww.com/pidj/fulltext.histo...> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁵⁹ J.P. Dudley, 'Lessons learned from Mouse Mammary Tumor virus in Animal Models' <www.pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov...> accessed on 15-02-2021; A. Mayer 'Agris' <www.agris.fao.org>; D.I. Iwonosky, 'Virus and Virology' <www.en.m.wikipedia.org> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁶⁰ M.W. Beijerinck, 'Contagium virum fluidum' <[en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki.Martinus.Be...](http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martinus.Be...)> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁶¹ ASMB, 'Clinical Microbiology' *Journal of American Chemical Microbiology Reviews*, 20-04-660 <www.cmo.asm.org> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁶² E. Ruska, 'Electron Microscope' <www.nobelprize.org/prizes/physics> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁶³ CDC 'H1N1 Pandemic (H1N1pdm 19 virus)- CDC' <www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁶⁴ D. Wessner, 'The Origins of Viruses' <www.nature.com.scitable/topicpage> accessed on 15-02-2021; OPEMON, 'Investigating the Concept and Origin of Viruses: Trends in Microbiology' <www.cell.com/microbiology/fulltext> accessed on 15-02-2021.

What is obvious from these revelations thus far is that the world has not heard the last of viruses, including Corona Virus. The world needs to go beyond the notion that these attackers of humanity, especially those in the potentially fatal class like Corona Virus are nature-induced, to query their orchestration from a biological, atomic or chemical warfare property. The world must seek to decode its chemical constitution; its exact *Deoxyribonucleic Acid* (DNA) property; its chemical combination; its biological and biochemical insignia. In a world where all forms of unprovoked attacks arise from the quest of world powers and world economies to dominate one another; in a world where competition of world powers to dominate each other in the space and in a world where all forms of fanaticisms and fundamentalisms are rife, the world must stop at nothing to exclude possibility of human orchestration of what the world assumes as one of those innocent, normal virus attack. As it is, the world may not need any bomb to rick havoc on humanity today but could conjure the stars and atmospheric cooperation to launch the world into a virus-based disaster that even the launchers may have no control over. With such trend, man's inhumanity to man may not be calculable in the same magnitude with the Second World War in any single war in this century but could aggregate and sum up to the human catastrophe of the First and Second World Wars put together, thereby. Only in December 2020, the United Kingdom claimed to identify its mutated strain, which was described as more infectious, although not more fatal.⁶⁵ In January 2021, South Africa also discovered another strain of the virus which, as at February 2021 has been confirmed in the US and 30 other countries.⁶⁶ Nothing emphasizes the emergency of getting to the root of this virus than such ability to replicate itself in different strain because, such development could rubbish claim of the world to some vaccines.

Before now, it was about arms race that drove world powers to every accessible space in every planet but now that it is becoming clear that some so-called natural existence could delve greater catastrophe on humanity than all arms put together, the world must sit up, either to block such exploitation by mischief makers or to find antidote to their deployment, as and when they are explored against humanity. With all kinds of meaningless insurgencies and religious fundamentalisms pervading and threatening almost every nation of the world today, some without any well defined ideology, the world must sit-up and take a position ahead of mindless self-seekers.

II. Summary and Recommendations

This paper interrogates international management of Covid-19 with particular reference to the approach of each Nation State of the United Nations to the scourge. The paper found and berated the travesty of justice and impunity exhibited by various States in handling both their citizens and aliens and queried how far away International Community seems to be driven from the humane aspect of the values that originally informed the birth of the United Nations.

With so much effort of the world to evolve World Health Organization-approved vaccines without any serious breakthrough, the paper bemoaned the world's complacency in such *success* without any effort to determine the biological and bio-chemical constituents of this killer-virus, including its *DNA* or *RNA* and the possibility that it could have been humanly orchestrated. The paper thus recommended as follows:-

- a. That the world re-assess the values upon which the United Nations is built and run, with a view to recentralizing the human content in its values.
- b. That as a matter of International emergency, the United Nations through the World Health Organization should go beyond the present scientific claims that virus is nature-based.
- c. That the world should find out the *DNA* of Corona Virus with a view to determining the possibility or otherwise that it evolved from a chemical laboratory accident, or over-sight.
- d. That the United Nations and her relevant agencies, including the World Health Organization should outgrow their reactionary trend to such health emergencies to precautionary measures that could arrest this kind of pandemic, especially in a world where all kinds of insurgencies and fundamentalisms continue to put the world on its toes.

Works Cited

- [1]. Anjum F. 'Human Rights, Cultural Relativism and Islam' <<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/31>> accessed on 15-02-2021
- [2]. ASMB, 'Clinical Microbiology' Journal of American Chemical Microbiology Reviews, 20-04-660 <www.cmo.asm.org> accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [3]. BBC, 'Why did US Tactics Fail in Vietnam?' <www.bbc.co.uk/guides/revision> accessed on 15-02-2021
- [4]. Beijerinck M.W. 'Contagium virum fluidum' <[en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki.Martinus.Be...](http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martinus.Be...)> accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [5]. Brookings; "Covid-19, Africans Hardships in China and the Future of Africa-China Relations". <<https://www.brookings.edu/2020/04/17/>>; accessed on 18-04-2020.
- [6]. CDC, 'About Variants of the Virus' <www.cdc.gov/transmission/variants> accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [7]. CDC 'H1N1 Pandemic (H1N1pdm 19 virus)- CDC' <www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources> accessed on 15-02-2021.

⁶⁵ CDC, 'About the Variants of the virus' *op.cit*, f/n 43

⁶⁶ G. Steinhauer, 'South Africa Covid-19 strain' *op.cit* at f/n 43

- [8]. DCAF, 'What is a State of Emergency? What are the Key Components?' <[www.files.ethz.ch/isn/backgroundar...](#)> accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [9]. Deliotte, 'Covid-19- A Backdoor to Increased Fraud Risk?' <[www.2deliotte.com/pages/articles>c...](#)> accessed on 15-02-2021
- [10]. Donnelly, J., 'Human Rights and Human Dignity: An Analytic Critique of Non-Western Conceptions of Human Rights'. American Political Science Review. [1982] vol.76.
- [11]. Dudley J.P. 'Lessons learned from Mouse Mammary Tumor virus in Animal Models' <[www.pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>...](#)> accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [12]. Eschner K. 'How Robert Mc Namava came to Regret the War he Escalated' <[https://www.smithsonianmag.com.smart-news>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [13]. Euro news; "WHO Director General Lashes out at French Doctors; What French Doctors and WHO really said about Africa and Vaccine Testing..." <[https://www.euronews.com>...>world>](#). Accessed on 20-04-2020. Also at <[https://www.nydailynews.com>ny-coro...>](#) accessed on 20-04-2020.
- [14]. Eyyasu G. "Humanity and Human Rights: The Contours of International Law" <[https://nome.unak.is.wordpress>huma...>](#) accessed on 12-05-2020.
- [15]. FAS, 'The Role of Intelligence' <[www.fas.org>irp>off006>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [16]. Gutters A. 'Covid-19 and Human Rights' <[www.un.org>sites>files>un-h...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [17]. WHO, 'Novel Corona virus outbreak in China-What does it Mean for Europe?' <[www.euro.who.int>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [18]. Heijmans P.J; Predhan B. et al; 'Caged, Beaten and Shamed – How Covid-19 Law are Being Abused Around the World' <[https://www.theprint.in>world>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [19]. ICJ, Siracusa Principles on the Limitation and Derogation Provisions in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).
- [20]. Idayat Hassan, "The other Covid-19 Pandemic: Fake News-African Argument" <[https://africanarguments.org>2020/03/26>](#) accessed on 20-05-2020.
- [21]. IESBA, 'Navigating the Heightened Risks of Fraud and other Illicit Activities During the Covid-19 Pandemic' <[www.ifac.org>publications>files...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [22]. Ikhuna, E; "Tension from Lockdown Response to Covid-19 in Africa". <[https://www.one.org>international>blog>](#) accessed on 20-04-2020.
- [23]. Ivonosky D.I. 'Virus and Virology' <[www.en.m.wikipedia.org>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [24]. Kahu J.S. 'History and Recent Advances in Corona virus Discovery' Pediatric Infections Disease Journal, Nov. 2005, vol.24 Issue 11 at p.s 223-227 <[www.journal.lww.com>pidj>fulltext.histo...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [25]. Kapur K. 'Dr. WHO and Mr. Hyde' <[https://www.orfonlinne.org>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [26]. Markowitz A. '7 Reasons the Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout has been show' <[www.carp.org>health>info-2021>slo...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [27]. Mayer A. 'Agris' <[www.agris.fao.org>](#)
- [28]. Mayo Clinic, 'Corona virus Disease 2019' <[www.mayoclinic.org>svc.20479963>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [29]. WHO, 'Weekly Epidemiological update-9 February, 2021' <[www.who.int>publication>m>item>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [30]. M.B.C, 'What is Microbiology?' <[microbiologysociety.org>viruses>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [31]. McApreko, PFY; "The Status of Universal Human Rights in the 21st Century: an Appraisal". <[https://dox.doi.org/106035/ForumRecerca.2014.19.3>](#). accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [32]. Michelle, "Human Rights Concerns Dimensions of Covid-19 Response" <[https://reliefweb.int>int>files>resources>](#) accessed on 20-05-2020.
- [33]. National Interest; 'The Corona Virus Threatens Africans and China's Hold on Africa'. <[https://nationalinterest.org.feature>cor>...](#) Accessed on 18-04-2020.
- [34]. NCBI, 'Viruses: Structure, Function and uses' <[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>NBK21523>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [35]. News Medical, 'History and Recent Advances in Corona virus' <[www.new-medical.net>health>what-i...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [36]. Nwabueze, B., Constitutionalism in the Emergent States (C, Hurst &Co; 1973)
- [37]. Onuwjekwe O. 'How well has Nigeria Responded to Covid-19?' <[www.brookings.edu>blog>2020/07/02>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [38]. OPEMON, 'Investigating the Concept and Origin of Viruses: Trends in Microbiology' <[www.cell.com>microbiology>fulltext>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [39]. Oxford University, 'Oxford University breakthrough on Global Covid-19 Vaccine' <[www.ox.ac.uk>news>2020-11-23-oxf...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [40]. Polity, 'Asian and African Values: The problem of Human Rights' <[m.polity.org.za>article>asianandafrican...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [41]. Ramonu O. "Benue's Alleged Covid-19 Index Case rejects diagnosis, says its not hers" <[https://healthwise.punchng.comBumastate>](#) accessed on 20-05-2020
- [42]. Rand, 'Objective Analysis and Effective Solution: Military Intelligence' <[www.vand.org>topics>military-intellig...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021
- [43]. Rosman, R; (Aljazeera News) "Racism Row as French Doctors Suggest Virus Vaccine Test in Africa" <[https://www.aljazeera.com>2020/04>ra...>](#) Accessed on 20-04-2020.
- [44]. Ruska E. 'Electron Microscope' <[www.nobelprize.org>prizes>physics>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [45]. Rutherford, L, and Bone S. (eds) Osborne Concise Law Dictionary, (8th edn Sweet and Maxwell, 1993)
- [46]. Shaheed A. and Richter R.P. 'Is Human Right a Western Concept?' <[theglobalobervatory.org>2018/10>ar...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [47]. Steinhauer G. "South Africa Covid-19 Strain: What we Know About the New Variant" <[www.wsj.com>world>Africa>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [48]. Times, 'Covid-19: Why People flee Quarantine Centres' <[www.m.timesofindia.com>india>articleshow>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [49]. Tishler A. 'The Value of Military Intelligence' <[www.researchgate.net>publication>22...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [50]. Tojouri L. 'What is a virus? How do they spread? How do they make us sick?' <[www.theconversation.com>what-is-a-virus-he...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [51]. Vidyasagar A. 'What are Viruses?' <[www.livescience.com>52272-what-is-a...>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [52]. Wessner D. 'The Origins of Viruses' <[www.nature.com.scitable>topicpage>](#) accessed on 15-02-2021

- [53]. WHO, 'WHO Director General's opening Remarks at the Media Briefing on Covid-19-March 2020' <www.who.int.../speeches/Detail> accessed on 15-02-2021.
- [54]. Wikipedia; List of Incidents of Xenophobia and Racism related to the 2019-20 Corona Virus Pandemic" of various developed counties against African Nations like Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopic, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and several others. <<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/list>> accessed on 18-04-2020.
- [55]. Wikipedia; "Right and Humanity". <<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right...>> accessed on 22-04-2020.
- [56]. Williams O.D. 'Covid-19 and Private Health: Market and Governance Failure' <<https://www.link.springer.com/article>> accessed on 15-02-2021.

XXXXXX, et. al. "Human Rights, Threat to Humanity and International Management of Covid-19: The Unanswered Questions." *IOSR Journal of Mathematics (IOSR-JM)*, 17(2), (2021): pp. 57-66.