

POLITICAL ECONOMY OF CHINA-NIGERIA TEXTILE MARKET AND THE STATUS OF NIGERIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

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Abstract: International trade and economic relations has remained vital to the economy of states in their relations across borders. Sino-Nigeria trade relations are aimed centrally at the development of the economy of the both countries among other things. This work investigated the status of the Nigerian textile industries in the trade relations of China and Nigeria at the global south. China-Nigeria diplomatic relations since February 10th 1971, have advanced political and economic cooperation in their bilateral ties. Among other sectors, the Nigerian textile market has been highly affected by the presence of the Asian economic giant. The paper made a thorough examination of the effects of China on the development of Nigerian textile industries. Methodologically, the paper employed commercial liberalism theory as a fitting analytical lens. Documentary method of data collection adopted, enhanced our access to resources from secondary materials such as journals and internet resources, while content analysis was employed. Findings of the paper among other things, showed China's domination of the Nigerian textile market; hence, the moribund state of Nigeria textile industries. The paper recommended inter alia revitalization of the Nigerian textile subsector; while the government should ensure due payment of salary and other entitlement to Nigerian textile workers.

Keywords: Textile relations, development, liberalism, textile subsector, and market

I. Introduction

This study examines the hypothesis that the China-Nigerian textile trade and market relation has undermined the productivity of the textile industries of Nigeria. Being a developing economy, Nigeria has experimented trade and economic cooperation with many countries, especially countries of the West and later Asia. Notable among the countries are the United States of America, and China, with China being the currently Nigeria's major economic and trade partner. The need for this can be seen in the notion of Hausman (2008:28) as cited in Alston et al (2010:14) that:

A state that is overburdened by obligations in the form of a large set of entitlements and other commitments, in order to fulfill these obligations, the state resorts to all of the instruments it can muster, especially low public investment... (Alston et al., 2010, p.14)

Hence, the Nigerian state, in order to respond to rising domestic obligations to citizens, resorted to reliance on international cooperation with China and the United States of America at varying times, to improve the economy via international economic relations with foreign investments. Therefore, since 1971 when Nigeria and China formerly established trade and economic cooperation; the two countries have advanced bilateral ties across sectors of their respective economies. Nigeria's choice of China for more foreign relations especially in market, trade and investments, as championed by the military administration of the late General Sani Abacha over the United States, was largely due to unfavourable Western conditions to Nigeria. Prior to the Abacha administration, Nigeria had long developed lasting trade and economic ties with the west, which to a large extent was of costly economic implication to Nigeria. As Alston et al (2010) observed:

Any economic actor pursuing productive activities will at some point or other almost certainly come up against incentives and constraints created directly and indirectly by the country's political actors and policymaking process. These incentives and constraints come in a rich variety of forms and mechanism, (Alston et al., 2010, p.19)

In order to discontinue with the protracted times of huge economic deficit in the North-South relations of the west and Nigeria, the Abacha administration, in the pursuit of productive investment came up with the economic policy that shifted from the North-South ties of Nigeria and the west represented by the United States to a more South-south relations of (Nigeria and China). With the pursuit of mutual benefit and development, in 2006, the Obasanjo administration, by endorsing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on strategic partnership, enhanced the trade and economic ties of the both countries. The MoU covered areas such as trade, culture, science and technology, investment, agriculture, poverty reduction, energy, power and environment. However, there exists sharp economic development disparity between the both countries to the advantage of China. Eneji et al., (2012, p.1) noted that:

The bilateral trade between Nigeria and China has grown steadily since 1971 as the volume of trade between the two countries in 2009 hit \$6.373billion, in favour of China. Giving a breakdown of the trade relationship between the two countries, China's export to Nigeria stood at \$5.476 billion, while import from Nigeria was \$0.897 billion. (Eneji, et al, 2012, p.1)

One commodity in the trade and economic relations of Nigeria and China is textile. The performance of the textile sectors of the both countries has been a focus in the analysis of the political economy of China and Nigeria. Muhammad et al (2017) observed that the increasing relationship of China and African states is a notable transformation in the world political economy. While the oil discovery has reduced the focus of Nigeria on the viability of textile manufacturing, China has taken advantage of the negligence of the Nigerian textile sector. Though China has become to Nigeria a preferred trade and economic partner to the west, recent character of China in relation to the economy of developing countries especially Nigeria, has shown that same capitalist spirit of unhealthy competition and economic imperialism, has remained the driving motive of the huge presence of China in the economies of the developing states of Africa especially Nigeria. Reen (2015) (as cited in Muhammad et al 2017) has posited that the currently poor state of the Nigerian textile sector is traceable to China's trading imperialism.

II. Literature Review

For the purpose of this paper, this study will review of relevant literature based of the following sub-theme:

China in Developing Economies: A Development Ploy

The character of China in developing economies has in recent times received growing scholarly attention. China has attained a height of global competence as a developed economy, with notable influence on the economies of many developing countries of Africa including Nigeria and some states in the developing countries of Latin America. In the twenty-first century politics of international economic relations, China stands tall as a notable player in the economy and politics of many developing states. However, the economic character of China in developing economies of the global south remains the character of covert imperialistic exploitation for the economic interest of Beijing in the long run. Mendez and Turzi (2020, p.2 & 3) in a study of the political economy of China-Latin America relations rightly posited that:

China so far has only needed "names" to validate its scheme, not only for international but also domestic consumption: – "China is changing global governance and policy". It is hard to keep up with institutions connected to China, because they are constantly evolving and changing...their focus is on extraction of natural resources from the global South, not "connectivity" – the promise China has used... (Mendez & Turzi 2020, p.2 & 3)

Mendez and Turzi (2020, p.2) rightly noted the character of Chinese in the relations of Beijing to the less developed economies of the global south to be that of "*Chinese economic statecraft*." This economic character has been China's access to the raw materials and resources of developing economies of the global south including Nigeria. The economic implication is the weakening of the economies of developing states while Chinese economy boosts a case in point is the textile subsector of the Nigerian economy. Muhammad et al (2017) in a study of the impact of Chinese textile imperialism on Nigeria's textile industry and trade, has premised the moribund status of Nigerian textile sector on China's presence in the economy of Nigeria. Thus: "In Africa, and Nigeria to be specific, the economic impact of globalization is seen in the expanding predominance of Chinese manufactured goods in local markets." (Muhammad et al 2017, p. 4). He further noted that:

The recent decline of the Nigerian textile industry is very much associated with huge imports of textiles from China. These imports have considerably weakened the sector and consequently forced it to regress. The present state of the industry is not satisfactory. Many textile firms have been forced to close down owing to the difficulties of competition. (Muhammad et al 2017, p. 3).

Muhammad et al (2017) in the above note, has rightly shown the effect of China's imperialism on Nigeria's textile market. However, his observation is rather unbalanced as the character of the Nigerian state toward revamping of the textile sector remains unclear.

Aminu (2016) examining why Nigerian textiles are not competitive in African market, similarly noted among other factors that high cost of production, excessive importation of textile from Asia and prevalent use of outdated technology in the industry have all undermined the competitive capacity of Nigeria's textiles in Africa. He also posited as follows:

The loss of market to imported textiles in Nigeria, especially from China is because the imported Chinese textiles cost 25% less than Nigeria's local textiles. Due to its size of the market, Nigeria has the largest dose of Asian textile imports effect and this has strangled textile industry in the country. (Aminu, 2016, Ps. 13 & 14)

Muhammad, Buba, Agboola and Lola (2018) observed that the influx of Chinese textiles into Nigeria is due to policy negligence of the nation's manufacturing sector. They pointed out that internal challenge, lack of supportive policy, and inadequate infrastructure among others, have resulted in the industrial decline of the nation's textile sector. These have made Nigeria a market to textile importations from China. Muhammad et al (2018) stated that:

The country has become textile imports hub rather than an investment destination. China has substantially increased its textile exports on annual basis to the Nigerian market. This mass influx of textile products deprive the local industry its competitive advantage. Moreover, imports from China to Nigeria dominate the trade relations between the two countries when compared with meager or nonexistent exports from Nigeria to China. (Muhammad et al, 2018, p.18)

Muhammad, et al (2018) further blamed the poor status of textile firms in Nigeria on poor support from the government; noting that it has affected the competitive drive and productivity of the firms to challenge foreign influence. Also the wave of neoliberal capitalist economic globalization which has increased border openness to foreign influences across time and space has shifted the comparative advantage of textile firms in Nigeria to competitive disadvantage especially when faced with Chinese textiles.

Theoretical Underpinning

Issues in the political economy of international market relations and capitalism can among other theoretical bases be explicated with theories such as dependency approach as propounded by Sam Amir and Theotonio Dos Santos and complex interdependency postulated by Keohane and Nye. This paper appropriates the theory of commercial liberalism. The central thesis of commercial liberalism as an economic theory is that it advocates free market and removal of barriers to the flow of trade and capital as the driver of prosperity (Stiglitz, 2011) as cited in (Ezeibe, 2015).

The theory has the proposition that market interdependence enhances peaceful relation between states in the international space and increases high level of trade and investment. Also, the theory agrees that man's natural inclination is to cooperate in order to increase prosperity and enlarge individual's liberty under law (Ezeibe, 2015). It finally assumes that in the process of mutual beneficial exchange, people gain, and the problems of capitalism-boom and bust cycles, trade war, poverty, inequality and unemployment can be resolved.

The above theoretical proposition of commercial liberalism captures the dynamics of Nigeria- China trade and textile market relations. The trade link between them is aimed at fostering interconnectedness and mutual economic benefits. The textile market relations of China and Nigeria, is a market exchange necessity for the two continental giants as Nigeria craves for increased Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and China aggressively yearning for external market for finished products, and Nigeria's deficit of industrial productivity, creates a good market for China's market quest. However, negative effects of the capitalist innate character of profit maximization plays out to the currently weak and moribund state of Nigerian manufacturing sector, especially in the textile market relations of the duo, as China currently occupies and stands tall in the textile market space in Nigeria.

China-Nigeria Trade Relation and the Textile Industries of Nigeria

This section makes an analytical assessment of the China-Nigeria trade relations to see its economic effects on the economy of the both countries. It also examines if the China-Nigeria textile markets have undermined the textile industries of Nigeria or rather enhanced their operational efficiency. It is therefore important we have a good understanding of the areas of bilateral market links between China and Nigeria as the following table rightly shows:

Table 1: Bilateral Trade Agreements and MoU between Nigeria and China

Agreement Terms	Month Signed	Year Signed
The Bilateral Trade Agreement	27 th , August	2001

Memorandum of Understanding on Investment Cooperation between the Ministry of Commerce of both Countries	28 th , February	2006
Memorandum of Understanding on Economic Cooperation Agreement between Nigeria and Guandong Xinguang International Group of China	15 th , March	2006
Nigeria and China signed Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA)	Ratified, December, 2002	2001
Memorandum of Understanding between Federal Ministry of Industry Trade and Investment of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Asia and, Africa International Investment Company on Investment in Automobile, Exhibition Centers, Construction of Industrial Zone and Eco-Agriculture Zone	11 th , July	2013
The Bilateral Currency Swap Trade Agreement	27 th , April	2018

Source: Authors' Compilation

Genesis of Textile Industries in Nigeria

Nigeria had viable textile industries in Africa such as the Kaduna Textile industry Ltd (KTL), Arewa Textiles, United Nigerian Textiles Ltd (UNTL) and Nortex among others, with significant contributions to the nation's economy. The political elites of northern Nigeria, officials from the then Ministry of Trade and Industry which then oversaw trade and investments in the northern protectorate and the Northern Regional Development Corporation, (NRDC), all in collaboration with the then colonial government, the British textile manufacturing firm, David Whitehead and Sons Ltd, pioneered the establishment of the Kaduna textile industry in 1955, which was the first of its kind in Nigeria. Maiwada and Elisha (2013) observed that prior to the establishment of the KTL; there was no modern textile industry in Nigeria. Notable about the establishment the (KTL) was the consistency of policy that helped in achieving the establishment of such a large firm and commencement of massive production, with world-best equipment, in line with international best practices in textile production, within the short period of two years, 1955-1957. The progress of the KTL in Kaduna led to the establishment of some other textile firm in the north. Prior to the founding of the KTL, textile raw materials were extracted from Nigerian, exported to Britain, processed and quality textile materials used in Nigeria were imported into the country through the British marketing agents. However, in the 1950s, British manufacturers began to see the need to establish manufacturing firms closer to the source of raw materials. Industrial development in northern Nigeria was remarkably the effort of Sir Ahmadu Bello, who was the then premier of the Northern Regional government and major force behind the development of northern Nigeria. Maiwada and Elisha (2013) noted that Sir Ahmadu Bello's visit to Zimbabwe gave rise to his interest in the David Whitehead and Son's British manufacturing firm.

The table below is an array of textile industries of Nigeria starting with the KTL and others from the mid-50s to late-60s; their various locations and the years they were established.

Table 2: Textile industries in Nigerian, their locations and years of establishment

Textile Industries	Location	Year Established
Kaduna Textile Limited (KTL)	Kaduna	1955
Nortex	Kaduna	1962
United Nigerian Textile Limited (UNTL)	Kaduna	1964
NICHEMTEX	Lagos	1971
Arewa Textile Plc	Kaduna	1963
African Textile Manufacturers Limited (ATM)	Kano	1980
Femro 3 Nigeria Limited	Lagos	1985

Haffar Industrial Company Limited	Lagos	1969
Sunflag Group Nigeria Limited	Lagos	1960
Dangote General Textile Products Limited	Lagos	1978
AAJ Textile Design	Lagos	1988
Table Source Nigeria Limited	Lagos	
United Nigeria Textiles Plc	Kaduna	1964
Woollen And Synthetic Textile Manufacturing Limited	Lagos	1968

Source: Authors' compilation

It is important to note that the textile companies listed above are not in production any more in Nigeria. Consequently, majority of textile materials currently in use in Nigeria are produced in China and other external sources. Some of the pictures show the public notice for the sale of some of the textile mills once operative and the influx of Chinese textiles into Nigeria.

The Pre-SAP Years and the Growth of Textile Industries in Northern Nigeria

The current state of the Nigerian textile firms is traceable to a number of factors. One of such factors is the 1986 adoption of Structural Adjustment Program (SAP), which among other effects, opened up the economy of Nigeria to the unhealthy influence of western economic liberalism. The above notion is validated by an understanding of the standard of operation the textile industries in Nigeria had before the adoption of SAP, and the quality of textile products made in Nigeria, in the pre-SAP years.

With the opening of the KTL in 1957, production of high quality textile products in Nigeria started. Textile products of Nigeria were exported to many other countries of Africa. The KTL, UNTIL and the Arewa Textile industries, were notable for their production of competent textile products in Africa. Some of the textile products included Superwax, Africa Print, Veritable Real Wax and Arewa Superwax. Apart from these, special materials on request such as army Khaki and branded textile products among others were as well produced in Nigeria. Maiwada and Elisha (2013) noted a staff of the KTL as stating that at the early years of the company, power supply for the operations of the KTL was perfect; the nation's economy was good, the currency had a high value and a worker could be proud to be called a Nigerian textile staff. A combination of these logistics was manifest in the production of high quality textile products in Nigeria.

Besides the fact that the Nigerian textile market in the years before the introduction of SAP had a huge domestic patronage, many other African countries were dependent on Nigeria for the supply of quality textiles. Nigerian textiles products were widely accepted for their high quality in many countries. Found below is a sample of the textile products of Nigeria.

Figure 1: A Sample of Textile Products of Nigeria



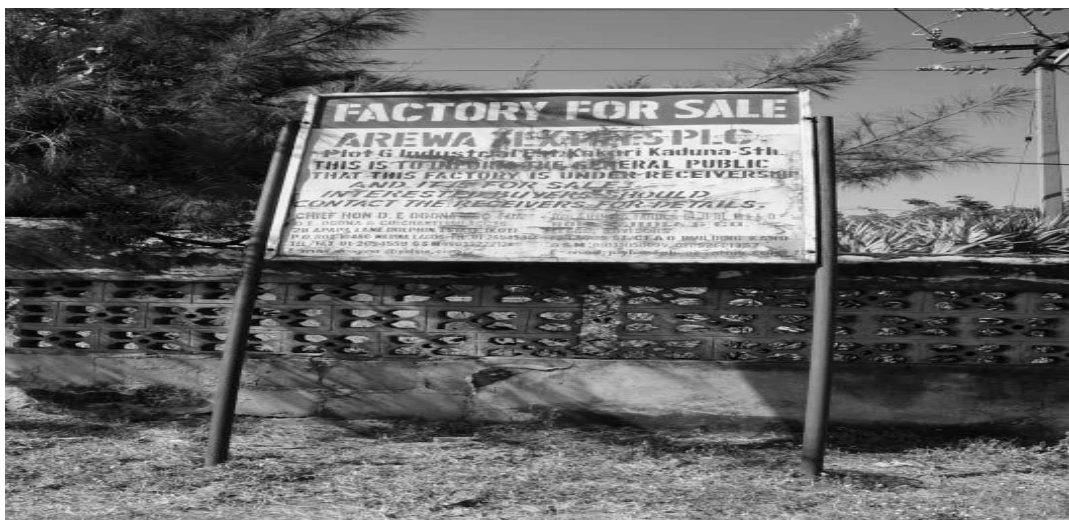
Source: (Maiwada & Elisha, 2013, P. 10)

The above picture is a sample of high quality textile product made in Nigeria. However, the introduction of SAP in Nigeria gave rise to the decline of domestic production of textiles; as the inflow of foreign products into Nigeria weakened domestic textile industries.

Chinese Market Competition and Nigerian Textile Industries

The increasing rate of China's quest for market in Africa, has led to the rising dominance of the market in many countries in the continent. Various sectors of the Nigerian economy, especially the textile sub-sector, have been under the domineering influence of the Chinese textile market. With the 2010 lifting of the textile import ban of 1977 by the Nigerian government, which further reflects the idea of the 1986 SAP in Nigeria, textile businesses in the country came under a drowning influence by foreign actors. China, among other countries began to establish strong market influence to the detriment of Nigerian textile manufacturing. Maiwada and Elisha (2013) revealed that in spite of the 1977 ban, textile importation into Nigeria was however carried out by smugglers through the porous borders. The cumulative effect is the saturation of the Nigerian textile market with Chinese textiles. Hence, firms such as the Arewa Textile Industry and many other textile industries in Kaduna began to close due to foreign influence, high influx of similar products from abroad with reduced prices, nonpayment of workers' entitlements on the part of the Nigerian government among others. The picture below shows the status of the Arewa Textile Industry as at 2012.

Figure 2: Announcing the sale of Arewa Textiles Industry in Kaduna South



Source: (Maiwada & Elisha, 2013, P. 17)

China has established a strong market influence in Nigeria, dominating virtually all areas as textile suppliers, distributors and textile retailers in the country. Chinese market strategy is that of direct imitation of high quality which are mass-produced in reduced quality and exported to Nigeria. Maiwada and Elisha (2013) noted Abdullahi Wada, a textile dealer as saying that Chinese textiles were a huge market in Nigeria due to large quantity and affordability of the products among many Nigerians. Abdullah Wada observed that the textile imports from Indian and Pakistan were initially a viable business in Nigeria, due to the high quality of their products. However, these products were not as widely patronized as that of the Chinese. This, he attributed to the variance of quality as Chinese textile products are widely affordable among lower income class of Nigerians. Wada also observed that Chinese textile traders are currently found in all area of the textile value chain in Nigeria such as production, trade and marketing.

Maiwada and Elisha (2013) observed that at the Kantin Kwali market, in Kano State, Chinese textile trading agents operate with the Nigerian textile brokers buying bundles of textiles in wholesale which they divide up and further sell to individual Nigerian textile retailers. Majority of their textile wares are virtually Chinese products. It is obvious that the neo-liberal trade reforms that has made Nigeria a rich market to the Asian giant (China), has followed the 1986 SAP imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the 2010 rescinding of the 1977 textile import ban with the aim of improving the Nigerian economy. SAP proponents have held the view that increased competition would create massive improvements in Nigerian textile market. Prior to the December 2010 lifting of the ban on importation of Chinese textiles into Nigeria, Maiwada and Elisha (2013) noted that indeed, many of the textile manufactures of China had made-in-Nigeria written at the selvedge as a means of passing the products at the customs.

Nigerians, especially the low income class have gained from affordable Chinese textiles. However, rising unemployment, consequent upon the collapse of many textile firm of Nigeria, has resulted in reduced demand for textiles even among the low income class. The increasing presence of China in the Nigerian textile market does not only show the 2010 lifting of the ban on textile imports by the Nigerian government; it also shows the interest of Nigeria in advancing neo-liberalism through the Nigeria-China trade textile market relations. Currently, several textile mills in Nigeria are owned by Asia. The Hong Kong textile company- CHA Textiles, owns many textile mills in Nigeria, including the Kaduna UNTL. China currently has made a successful colony of the Nigerian textile market. The increasing influence resulting in the collapse of Nigerian domestic textile industries can among other factors be traced to the failure of Nigerian government, especially in the areas of power and other needed infrastructure maintenance failure. The following figure is a sample of the degree of Chinese presence in the Nigerian textile market.

Figure 3: Imported Bales of Chinese Textiles at Kantin Kwali Market in Kano as at November 2012



Source: (Maiwada & Elisha, 2013, P. 19)

China in Developing Countries: A political economy reference to Nigeria and Latin American Countries.

China today, is a developed economy and has a wide influence on the economies of both developed and developing countries as a global factory. An analysis of China's involvement and role in the economies of developing countries such as Nigeria and many Latin American states, would reveal a hegemonic involvement and imperialistic role that in the long run, advances the economy of the Asian giant. A study of the Trade Value Index (TVI) of China and Nigeria and the following observation of Mendez and Turzi (2020) in their study of the political economy of China-Latin America relations, picture the economic direction in the relations of China and developing regions and their countries. Accordingly, Mendez and Turzi (2020) posited that:

China's imports from Latin America amounted to about US\$158 billion in 2018 or 7.5% of China's overall imports; while China's exports to the region amounted to US\$148 billion, or 5.9% of its total exports. Imports from Latin America in 2017 consisted primarily of natural resources, including ores 31%, soybeans 19%, petroleum 16%, and copper 9%. Exports to Latin America consisted of electrical machinery and equipment 21%; machinery and mechanical appliances 15%; motor vehicles and parts 6%; and a wide array of industrial and consumer products. China has become the top trading partner of Brazil, Chile, Peru, and Uruguay. The import basket from the region is primarily composed of minerals and foodstuffs. These are critical assets for continued development, social stability... (Mendez & Turzi, 2020, p.71)

From the above submission of Mendez and Turzi (2020), it can be understood the imbalance of trade in the market relations of China and Latin America, and the character of China in her relations to the developing economies of Latin America. While China explores Latin American's raw materials, it exports finished goods to the developing countries, thereby sustaining systematic dependency of Latin American countries. This character is also

noticed in the market relations of China and Nigeria as the study so far has shown. The following table pictures the imbalance to the gains of China as noted in Mendez and Turzi (2020) above:

Table 3: Trade deficit of Latin America to China in 2018

Source: authors' computation

China–Latin America imports 2018 (US\$)	Latin America–China Export 2018 (US\$)	Latin America Trade Deficit 2018 (US\$)
158 bn	148bn	10 bn
Year	Nigeria's TVI with China (degrees)	China's TVI with Nigeria (degrees)
2011	37.20	62.29
2012	36.93	62.26
2013	35.80	62.37
2014	36.84	66.11
2015	34.18	65.48
2016	14.45	54.88
2017	13.08	49.52

In the Nigerian experiment of bilateral relations with China, a wide gap of trade deficit and imbalances exists to the benefit of China. A clearer understanding of this can be made from the details of the Trade Value Index of China and Nigeria below

China-Nigeria Trade Value Index (TVI)

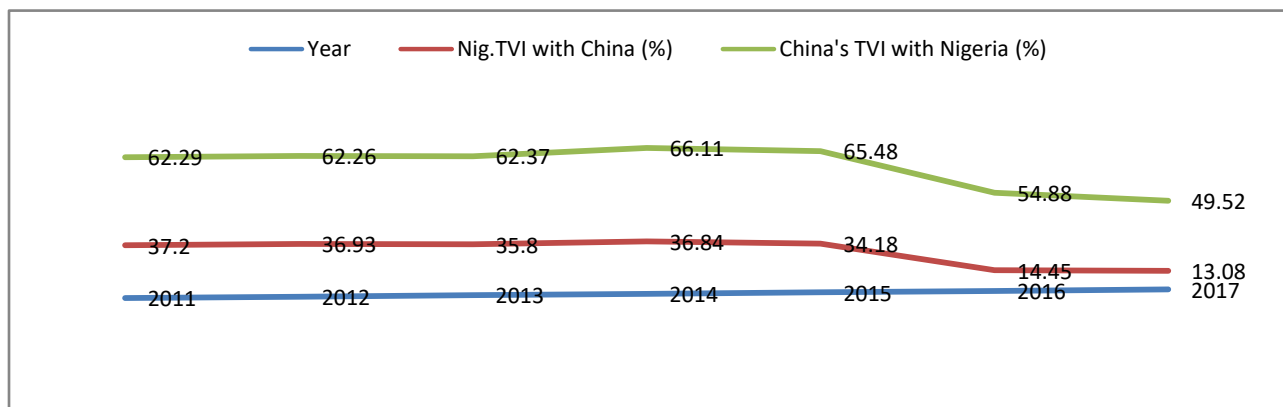
It is essential we understand the direction of the market relations of China and Nigeria, in terms of the value index. This will help us concretize the direction of the trade relations in terms of the economic performance and the value which either country adds to the economy of the other. The following table is a pointer to the TVI of China and Nigeria in the relations of both countries.

Table 4: Trade Value Index of China-Nigeria: 2011-2017

Source: Ibrahim & Iorember (2018)

From the above table, it is seen that from 2011 to 2015, there was a sustainable increase in China's total trade value index. This is traceable to the liberal economic policy of the then President Goodluck Jonathan with China. However, there was a decline in the percentage value from 2015. This followed the change of government which saw the current presidency of Muhammadu Buhari and more importantly, the nationalist protectionist economic policy, such as the closing of borders to certain foreign importations among others. The graphical table below shows China's TVI with Nigeria:

Figure 4: Lineal Graph of the TVI of China and Nigeria



Source: Authors' Computation

The chart above shows a lineal graph of the percentage TVI of China and Nigeria. From the figures, the value index of China was on the increase from 2011-2014. However, it began to fall from 2015. This fall is traceable to the

increased border regulations against excessive importation. From the graph, Nigeria's TVI has been unstable and quite below that of China.

Table 5: Status of some textile firms of Nigeria from year 2000:

Textile Industries	Place Located	Year Established	Current Status
Aba Textiles Ltd	Aba	1962	Closed 2000
Afprint Nigeria	Lagos	1964	Closed
Arewa Textiles Ltd	Kaduna	1963	Closed 2000
Asaba Textiles Ltd	Asaba	1964	Closed (2004)
Enpee	Lagos	1968	Closed 2000 (2004)
Kaduna textiles Ltd	Kaduna	1955	Closed (2002)
Nigerian	Lagos	1960	Closed (2007)
United Nigeria textiles Ltd	Kaduna	1964	Closed (2007)

Source: Authors' Computation

The huge market gap created by the closure of these textile firms is the attraction of foreign textiles imported from China and some other external sources. The economic implication of this is that Nigeria has become a viable textile market to foreign textile producers, mainly China.

III. Methodology

The paper utilized documentary method. Data for the study was gathered via secondly sources such as official gazettes, books, journal articles, internet sources among others. Data from these sources were analyzed in content.

IV. Conclusion

The study has deeply examined the productive deficiency of Nigerian textile firms in the currently South-south bilateral relations of China and Nigeria. The aim was to see the direction of the political economy of China-Nigeria textile market and the status of Nigeria textile industries. Reviewed literature showed that the textile industries of Nigeria have immensely suffered competitive defeat with the presence of China in the textile market. This is due to neglect on the part of the Nigerian government to revitalize the textile sector. The study utilized the theoretical lens of commercial liberalism to examine the subject. This enabled us see the basis of the moribund state of the Nigerian textile industries today as the claim of international economic cooperation, mutual exchange, market benefit, development and assistance has resulted in the market imperialism of Nigeria textile industries and wide gap of trade deficit to the benefit China. The study, among others recommended revitalization policy and domestic patronage of Nigerian textile materials.

V. Findings and Recommendations

The textile market relation between Nigeria and China is one of the areas of economic relations of the duo, aimed at increasing the gains of international economic relations between the both countries. However, the economic might and hegemony of the Asian giant dominates the developing economy of Nigeria. The effect of China's economic imperialism of developing African economies such as Nigeria is manifest in the moribund status of textile industries in Nigeria, as the study has unfolded. Among other findings, the paper observed that currently, China has consolidated a foothold in the Nigerian textile market and has down domestic textile productivity and made Nigeria heavily reliant on Chinese imported textiles of mixed qualities. Arising from these observations, it is our recommendation that:

- The Nigerian government ensures the revitalization of the textile industries of Nigeria as a matter of policy urgency. Hence, government should incorporate textile industries revitalization in the national budget.

- Government should establish mechanisms and set up strategies to ensure domestic patronage of Nigerian textile market. Hence, the institutions of the Standards Organization of Nigeria, (SON) and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, should ensure competent textile quality and domestic utilization of Nigerian textiles.
- Nigerian textile workers should be adequately remunerated and their due welfare ensured. This will increase their effectiveness and efficiency in the performance of duty.

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