

Is Nigeria's Democracy Working?

It is necessary to breakdown the component elements that make up this question. The key words here are "Nigeria's" and "Democracy" which suggest that there is a peculiarity with the nature of Nigeria's Democracy different, probably, from the kind practiced in other places and especially the American system which Nigeria's system is modeled after. This therefore shows that failure to provide the indices which should allow smooth running of the system as in the US will ultimately lead to a failure of the entire system of government, democracy. Apparently, these indices are not in place in Nigeria, practically.

Nigeria's Democracy is not working by many standards. Democracy is supposed to be a system of government which allows the majority among the citizens to have their way but not stopping the minority from having their say but this is not the case with Nigeria's democracy. The democracy in Nigeria bestows too much power on the few political office holders to the detriment of the masses.

In a democratic system, peaceful protest and other forms of civil resistance against bad leadership or what the citizens consider violation of their (human) right is a major way of registering their dissatisfaction and it is never treated lightly or with hostility. However, in Nigeria, civil resistance in has never gone down well for the citizens against the political office holders and no government official is ever held accountable for such violation of human right. An example can be taken from the recent saga between the Nigerian Police and the Bring Back Our Girls (BBOG) team.

The points stated above and many more as shown on our Daily news are proof enough that Nigeria's Democracy is not working. The system needs to be restructured to allow for decentralization of power.