**IF I COULD INVENT SOMETHING NEW**

Many persons in the past have come up with new innovations to tackle different pressing and emerging human problems. The process followed to bring the idea to birth gives rise to the concept of invention. To invent means to produce or design something that has not existed before. For someone to invent something, they must have been an issue or a new problem to be solved. Different people, even right from the olden days, have made attempts to invent things that will solve human problems. Some of the things invented are still very useful to us today. For instance, Alexander Graham Bell invented Telephone in a bid to break the distance barrier in communication, Michael Faraday solved the issue of electricity by inventing electricity, Carl Benz invented car to solve the problem of transportation and Thomas Edison found out the need for light and invented bulb. All these men followed processes that involved problem identification, problem analysis, cost of problem solving and problem solving. It is against this backdrop that I have made up my mind to invent something new after identifying a given problem around me.

Electoral malpractice all these years has been a major social issue in Nigeria. From the 2nd republic till date, a lot of electoral malpractices has been recorded and it has caused a lot of distrust between the voters and the electoral umpire. Many eligible voters believe that their votes will not count, so they do not bother to cast their votes during the election. This has caused serious voter apathy because all the attempts made by the government to forestall this ever-reoccurring electoral issue has proved abortive.

Therefore, I wish to invent a device I would like to call ‘VOTE DETECTOR’. Vote detector is a machine that will be of about 14 meters wide and about 20 meters high. It will also have the storage capability of about 900 billion (900,000,000,000) votes and will be network connected. Vote detector will work in a way that when you thumbprint on your ballot paper and slot it in, it can detect your vote, record it and store it at the appropriate party. For this to work, before the election day, all the registered candidates will be saved in the machine with their party name and logo, and immediately the vote is slotted in as I stated earlier, it will be able to record it appropriately and at the end of the election it will automatically display the ward’s result and the electoral officer will send it to INEC office without manipulating it. When all the vote detector from different wards have sent their records, the INEC central vote detector will calculate the total votes sent to it server and on announcing, the INEC chairman will call the result and figures as displayed by the vote detector. I will also ensure that it has a strong security that will make it very difficult to hack or manipulated.

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