

**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY**  
**SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES**  
**INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND SECURITY STUDIES**

**EXPLORING THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF ILLEGAL MIGRATION  
TO SAUDI ARABIA: THE CASE OF LIDATA AND KIRKOS SUB-CITIES IN  
ADDIS ABABA CITY ADMINISTRATION**

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**FEBRUARY 2015**

**ADDIS ABABA**

**ETHIOPIA**

**Addis Ababa University**

**School of Graduate Studies**

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**Exploring the Causes and Consequences of Illegal Migration to Saudi Arabia: The Case of Lidata and Kirkos Sub-Cities in Addis Ababa City Administration**

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**A thesis submitted to the School of Graduate Studies of Addis Ababa University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in peace and security studies**

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**February 2015**

**Addis Ababa**

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## **Acknowledgements**

My deepest gratitude goes to my advisor Getahun Kassa for his sincere comments and feedback without hesitation throughout this study. My next gratitude goes to the following institutions for their innumerable contribution in this study. They include; Addis Ababa City administration office, Addis Ababa City administration police commission office, Addis Ababa City administration Social and Labour office, Forum for Social Science and organization for Migration for their unrelented support during data gathering and Institute for Peace and Security Studies for financial support to carry out the study. I am also indebted to thank the participants of focus group discussion and key informant interviews whose friendliness and hospitality during data gathering helped me carry out my study. Last but not least, my deepest gratitude goes to my wife Mrs. Fikerte Mengiste.

Thank you all!

## Table of Contents

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
Acknowledgements .....	I
Table Contents .....	II
Abstracts .....	IV
Acronyms .....	V
<b>Chapter One: Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background of the Study .....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem.....	2
1.3 Objective of the Study.....	3
1.3.1 Specific Objectives.....	3
1.4 Research Questions .....	3
1.5 Methodology and Methods.....	4
1.5.1 Method of Data Collection.....	4
1.5.2 Sampling Techniques.....	5
1.5.3 Target Population.....	5
1.5.4 Method of Data Analysis.....	5
1.5.5 Study Site.....	5
1.6 Significance of the Study.....	6
1.7 Delimitation of Study.....	7
1.8 Limitation of the Study .....	7
1.9 Operational Definition.....	7
1.10 Organization of the Study .....	7
1.11 Ethical Considerations.....	8
<b>Chapter Two: Literature Review</b> .....	<b>9</b>
2.1 International Migration.....	9
2.2 Irregular Migration.....	10
2.3 Illegal Migration.....	12
2.4 Patterns of International Migration.....	13
2.5 Human Smuggling.....	13
2.6 Migrations in Ethiopia .....	15
2.7 Causes of Migration.....	16
2.8 Perceptions of Hosting Countries.....	18
2.9 Consequences of Migration.....	18

2.10 Tackling Illegal Migration.....	19
<b>Chapter Three: Illegal Migration from Addis Ababa to Saudi Arabia.....</b>	<b>21</b>
3.1 Causes of Illegal Migration .....	21
3.1.1 Economic Cause .....	23
3.1.1.1 Poverty .....	23
3.1.1.2 Success Stories .....	24
3.1.1.3 Unemployment .....	25
3.1.2 Community Influence .....	26
3.2 Main Routes of Illegal Migration .....	28
3.3 Challenge Facing Migrants During and After Journey .....	30
3.4 Consequence of Illegal Migration .....	31
3.4.1 Physical and Sexual Violence .....	31
3.4.2 Communication Problem and Confrontation with Physician .....	32
3.4.3 Inadequate Supply of Food and Water .....	33
3.4.4 Overwork sleep deprivation & withholding of migrants salary .....	34
3.5 The impact of illegal migration on the sub-cities (Lidata and Kirkos).....	35
<b>Chapter Four: Management of Illegal Migration .....</b>	<b>36</b>
4.1 Institutional Response to Illegal Migration .....	36
4.2 Suggestions of Participants.....	40
4.3 Awareness Creation .....	41
4.4 Legal Private Agencies .....	42
4.5 Challenge in Management of Illegal Migration .....	43
<b>Chapter Five: Conclusions .....</b>	<b>47</b>
References .....	49
Appendix: Interview Guidelines -----	I
List of officials-----	III
Profile of key informants -----	IV

### **Abstract**

*The objective of this study was to examine the cause and consequences of illegal migration to Saudi Arabia from Addis Ababa city administration by taking Lidata and Kirkos Sub- cities as a case study. To this end, qualitative research method which encompasses key informant interviews and focus group discussions were employed for primary data gathering. Purposive sampling techniques were used to select members of focus group discussions under two categories which have six members each and key informants. To contact some key informants especially returnees from Saudi Arabia, snowball purposive sampling techniques were used. The data gathered from the participants were analyzed carefully and the results of focus group discussions were analyzed through categorization and labeling method system. The results of the study indicated that people of the study area are motivated to go to the kingdom of Saudi Arabia due to poverty, lack of employment opportunity, the need for improving economy, success stories of returnees from Saudi Arabia, and trends have contributed for massive out flux of illegal migration of people from the study area. Communication with brokers, borrowing money to pay for their journey via illegal migration and using fake document were some of mechanisms used by illegal migrants in pre-departure. Confrontation with brokers, physical violence, insecurity of basic needs, and theft of migrants organs by trained physicians, torture, and language problem were some major consequences hosted by illegal migrants throughout their journey and in Saudi Arabia. Creating awareness in collaboration with religious leaders, training returnees and organizing them under different micro-enterprises were some of the measures implemented to mitigate illegal migration to Saudi Arabia despite few challenges that hinders management of illegal migration like brokers, illegal private agencies and awareness creation problem.*

*Key words: migration, immigration, illegal migration, irregular migration, smuggling, brokers, agencies*

### **Acronyms**

CSA	Central Statistical Agency
DFID	Department for Foreign International Development
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
ICHRP	International Covenant on Human Rights Protocol
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
IGAD	Inter- Governmental Authority for Development
IOM	International Organization for Migration
RMMS	Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat
TVET	Technical And Vocational Education Training
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drug and Crime
KSA	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Migration is a multi-faceted and complex global issue which today involves every country in the world. All sovereign states of the world are now points, origins, transits or destinations for migrants; or all at once (Adamnesh, 2006). The world is changing at an unprecedented speed, challenging society to react with adoptability and creativity. Migration is one of the ways in which the exchange of talent, service, skill and diversity of experience is achieved. Yet, migration remains politically sensitive and often publicly misunderstood in contradiction to the way societies and economies are evolving (World Migration Report 2011).

Throughout its history, Africa has experienced important voluntary and forced migratory movements which have contributed to its contemporary demographic landscape. Significant internal migratory movements such as rural-urban migration add to the complexity of the picture. Population of many border regions live in inherently unstable situation, in part due to war, ethnic conflict and or are also engaged in perpetual cycle of migration due to cross border economic activity and pastoralist tradition. Cross border migration in Africa also represents an important source of livelihood and a coping strategy for ecological and economic down turns (IOM, 2012). Sub-Saharan Africa has also generated significant out flows of inter-continental migration mainly to Western Europe, but also to North America and the Arab region. International migration has diversified; however and increasingly include unskilled labor migrants who emigrate in significant numbers to Europe, North America and the Middle East (ibid).

According to International Centre for Migration Policy Development /ICMPD/ report of 2008, the population mobility in and from the Horn of Africa has a longstanding tradition. This report also adds that, like most countries in the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia is both a sending and receiving country of migration, while inward migration is marked by refugee movements. Therefore, this implies that refugee flows into Ethiopia are primarily the result of political and civil unrest and recurring natural disasters in the neighboring countries.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

The problem of illegal migrants is global and they often are vulnerable to abuses and violation of their human right. Despite this, migration need not be viewed as a problem, but an opportunity for development. According to IGAD report (2008), regional consultative process has also shifted the understanding of migration as it affects various continents of the world. Indeed, migration of people, minds and culture had and continues to be the corner stone of human civilization. The issue of migration also exists in Ethiopia. Specially, illegal migration is widely exercised in Ethiopia.

Basically, the push factor that contributes to illegal migration from Ethiopia to other countries is multi-faceted. For instance, Adamnesh, (2006) argues that Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in the world undergoing constant poverty. The causes for this poverty may include social, political, economic and environmental factors. Thus, people opt to migrate to more developed countries in search of better opportunities to get education and employment, and access to better living facilities. In relation to this, Sonja *et al* (2009, p 9) described that;

*Ethiopia has experienced political instability, war, famine, and economic hardship over the course of its history. These issues characterized the entire Horn of Africa region. As a result, Ethiopia has known many types of migration over the years. It has been both an origin and a destination country for either voluntary or involuntary migrants, and many migrants have also used it as a transit area. Moreover, Ethiopia has known large internal migration flows.*

Ethiopian is witnessing wide spread economic problem following high unemployment rate which forces its youth to migrate to other countries in search of a better life. Even if certain families of the migrants are benefiting economically, majority of migrants are suffering either from vulnerability to diverse obstacles while migrating or from abuses by their employers in the form of denial of enough food to eat and their salaries. What worsens the problem is the inhuman treatment by their employers such as pouring boiled water on the body of migrants and throwing them from buildings which lead to disability and sometimes; ending up in the death of the victim. According RMMS (2012), most of the Ethiopians arriving in Yemen are enroute to Saudi Arabia. They normally travel along the eastern side with smugglers (benign or violent) up to Haradh area in order to cross into KSA. The incidences of kidnapping, torture, rape and extortion of new arrivals is very high.

Migrants who follow the illegal channel of migration for the fact that there was no one to be held responsible as an agent are facing ill treatment and untold incidents. Even, sometimes those private legal agencies are facilitating the illegal ways of migration through invisible hand due to the fact that the money they collect from legal migrants are less than those migrants who decided to leave the country illegally. It doesn't also take more time as compared to legal means of leaving the country. The fact is that people choose the illegal route to reach their destination countries in short period of time even though they are being exposed to different incidents. Hence, the study is intended to examine the cause, course and consequences of illegal migration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by taking Lidata and Kirkos sub-cities as case study from Addis Ababa city Administration.

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

The main objective of this study is to examine and explore the causes and consequences of illegal migration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; the case study of Lidata and Kirkos sub-cities.

#### **1.3.1 Specific Objectives**

- ☞ To examine the reason that push the youth to migrate illegally to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the study area.
- ☞ To describe the consequences of illegal migration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the study area.
- ☞ To examine the institutional responses to illegal migration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the study area.
- ☞ To discuss the challenges that hinder management of illegal migration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the study area.

### **1.4 Research Questions**

- ✎ What are the reasons for illegal emigration from the study area?
- ✎ What are the challenges that illegal migrants face during journey and at the destination country?
- ✎ What are the institutional responses to illegal migration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the study area?
- ✎ What are the challenges that hinder management of illegal migration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the study area?

## **1.5 Methodology and Methods**

Qualitative research design was employed to draw necessary data for the realization of the study. Qualitative research designed due to the fact that it allows the researcher to look in to the information gathered from different perspectives.

### **1.5.1 Method of Data Collection**

In this study, both primary and secondary data was used to collect information. In primary data collection, key informant interview and focus group discussions were eloquently employed. In case of secondary source, books, records from concerned office, journal articles, internet and newspapers were used. Key informants were approached through snowball sampling techniques as a means of contacting those returnee informants from Saudi Arabia who witnessed challenges during and after the process.

Participants of key informant interview were selected from all segment of the study area society because the affair of migration is a concern for all stakeholders. From administrative bodies; Federal police, Social and Labor Affairs Office, and Officials working in the Addis Ababa City administration Office and Sub-cities' officials were interviewed. Elders, returnees and family of victims also took part irrespective of their gender, ideology, ethnic and religious backgrounds. The criterion to encompass them in this study were set in two ways. The first and foremost was through Police Commission and Social and Labor Affairs Office and the second one is through experiences of migration by using snowball method of contacting informants. The place for interview was arranged based on the interest of key informants and this contributed to avoid the hesitation of key informants to provide with the necessary information.

Focus group discussions were conducted in two categories at different places. The first category is of returnees and the second one is families of victims and elders. Each category has six participants selected based on their maturity in giving the required information or argument. Finally, the same question were posed by researcher and participants giving equal chance and discussed freely. Here, the main role of the researcher was organizing, posing question in a precise way and appreciating the participants' views. Tape recorder and field note were used to avoid inadequate information and figure out sound information used both for key informants' interview and FGDs. Data gained from focus group discussions were held for analysis through labeling and categorizing.

### **1.5.2 Sampling Techniques**

In this study, non-probability sampling procedures were used. Among non-probability sampling procedure, purposive sampling was used due to the fact that it is advantageous to access particular subset of people. To do so, snowball purposive sampling techniques were employed as a bridge, because it is important to find those people who can give the required information. Addis Ababa City Administration has ten sub-cities. However, for the purpose of this study, two sub-cities namely; Lidata and Kirkos sub-cities were chosen. Ten informants from each sub-city were selected; that are twenty informants and again, nine officials from different government office were qualified for interview. Focus group discussion encompasses twenty-four participants from Lidata and Kirkos Sub-City Administration under two categories having six members each. Therefore, twenty four participants from focus group discussions and twenty-nine participants from people qualified for key informant interviews and in general, fifty three participants were part of the study.

### **1.5.3 Target Population**

The target population in this study was victims of illegal migration, families, officials, legal experts and elders targeted to gain information for questions posed by the researcher.

### **1.5.4 Method of Data Analysis**

In this study, different approaches were used to analyze data. Both Key informants interview and focus group discussions were compiled separately and combined after field visit. Then, these data were critically analyzed. After analysis was made, the data were interpreted in combination with secondary source, where applicable, so as to produce the intended document and the researcher employed inductive generalization method of data analysis. As stated above, data produced from focus group discussions were analyzed by using categorization of the answers of participants for posed questions and to develop thematic idea from overall discussions made by participants.

### **1.5.5 Study Site**

The site of this study was Addis Ababa City Government with case study in Lidata and Kirkos Sub-city. According to City Government of Addis Ababa, Bureau of Finance and Economic Development (2011), Addis Ababa lays 9°1'48"N latitude and 38°44'24"E longitude. The city is located at the heart of the country, at an altitude ranging from 2,100 meters at Akaki in the south to 3,000 (9,800 ft) meters at Entoto Hill in the North. This makes Addis Ababa the third highest city in the world, after La Paz and Quito in Latin America. Its time zone is categorized in East Africa Time (UTC+3). The city occupies a total area of 540 Sq.Km<sup>2</sup>. Addis Ababa is the largest as well as the dominant political, economic, cultural and

historical city of the country established in 1887 by emperor Menilik II. It has the status of both a city and a state.

According to City Government of Addis Ababa, Bureau of Finance and Economic Development (2011), it is the capital of federal government and a chartered city. It is where the African Union and its predecessor, the OAU are based. It also hosts the headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and numerous other continental and international organizations. It is the largest city in Ethiopia. The city is divided into ten sub-cities. In terms of area coverage Bole is the largest sub-city followed by Akaki- Kality and Yeka. Addis ketema is the smallest and followed by Lideta and Arada Sub-cities. The sub-cities are also divided into weredas, which are the smallest administrative unit in the city. There are 116 weredas in the city administration. The number of weredas varies based on their size.

Hence, among the ten sub-cities, the study only focused on Kirkos and Lidata Sub-cities. To start with Kirkos, the sub-city is bordered by Arada and Lidata sub-cities in the north, Bole and partly yeka sub-cities in the south, Nifas-Silk Lafto sub-city in the west and Yeka sub-city in the east. According to data acquired from City Government of Addis Ababa, Bureau of Finance and Economic Development, Kirkos sub-city has eleven *Woredas* or districts covering 14.72 km<sup>2</sup> of the 540 km<sup>2</sup> of Addis Ababa City Government. The sub-city has a total population of 246,194 according to the 2014 census by CSA. Among this, male accounts 115,177 and female account 131,017.. In case of Lidata, the sub-city is bordered by Kolfe Keranio sub-city in the west, Kirkos sub-city in the east, Addis Ketema sub-city in the north and Nefas Silk Lafto sub-city in the south. Lidata sub-city has ten *Woredas* or districts covering 9.18 km<sup>2</sup> of the 540 km<sup>2</sup> of Addis Ababa City Government. The sub-city has total population of 224,471 according to the 2014 census by CSA. Among this, male accounts 107,134 and female account 117,337.

### **1.6 Significance of The Study**

Currently, the issue of migration is a hot area where different stakeholders like the media, scholars and government institutions are taking part to manage its prevalence in Ethiopia. Especially illegal migration is very common in Ethiopia as we see and hear daily from mass media. Hence, this study is intended to contribute in identifying the causes, actors and the implication of illegal migration on the security of the migrant. As the country is losing its energetic youth due to illegal migration shortcomings, it has its own impact on the security of individuals specifically and state in general. Hence, this study is expected to contribute to

knowing the causes of illegal migration and looking in to works done by different stake holders and pointing works to be done by same to alleviate or mitigate illegal migration problem and the creation of awareness among the public. Therefore, this study is expected to be an input for scholars, policy makers and practitioners on the area of migration.

### **1.7 Delimitation of the Study**

This study is delimited to exploring causes and consequences of illegal migration to Saudi Arabia. The study is also delimited to Addis Ababa City Administration with specific area to Lidata and Kirkos sub-cities. Hence, the study is confined to illegal migration of citizens to Saudi Arabia from Addis Ababa City Administration.

### **1.8 Limitation of the Study**

While conducting this study, there were certain limitations to produce the intended documents. Among the other, difficulty to obtain people returned from Saudi Arabia and their repetitive appointment for interview, and expectation on the part of returnees' researcher experience to conduct research on the topic of study, bureaucracy of getting concerned officials and budget allocated for the study were the main hindrances during data gathering phase.

### **1.9 Operational Definition**

Migration: The movement of people from their area of residence to another place.

Mixed migration: A migration which includes a regular, irregular, asylum seekers etc

Illegal emigration: It is the movement of emigrants without having the required visas to enter into a certain country.

Irregular migrants: Migrants dislodged by a real and/or perceived inability to thrive (economic migrants) or driven by aspirations, a desire to unite with other family members or some other factor.

### **1.10 Organization of the Study**

This thesis is divided into five chapters. Chapter one focuses on the background and purpose statement of the research, objectives and research questions, significance of the study, study site and research methodology. Chapter two presented review of literature on the area of topic of the study. Chapter three deal with illegal migration from Addis Ababa to Saudi Arabia. Chapter four discusses about management of illegal migration and challenges facing management of the same. The last chapter deals with conclusions.

### **1.11 Ethical Considerations**

Due to little previous experience in researching migration issues on the part of the researcher, the researcher made many attempts to avoid biases to ensure the objective analysis and interpretation of the collected data. In view of this, both for participants of FGDs and key informants interviews, the researcher gave due respect to the rights, needs, values, and desires of participants. Moreover, participants were informed that the information they gave for researcher will be used only for the purpose of this study and the security of confidentiality. Last but not least, due attention were given to avoid plagiarism and to uphold the trustworthiness of the study.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Introduction

In today's globalized world, people of different countries who are under different economic and development level together with different political situation and scores of other factors are tempted or even forced to cross national borders in search of better situation as compared to theirs. These movements might take different forms, which includes legal and illegal, the later one mostly calling for smugglers to cross borders to reach their respective destination countries.

According to Alkire (2003), migration can be seen as an integral part of labor markets and livelihoods across much of the African continent for at least the last century. Over time, and in different places, it has taken a number of different forms. It has included internal, regional and international movements. It has cut across class and skill boundaries, and exists in widely different demographic contexts. Most of these migration flows are generally of a heterogeneous nature, labor migration, asylum migration and irregular migration. Therefore, this chapter attempts to see into literatures, which have been written by different academicians, institutions and organizations in relation to the topic of the study.

#### 2.1 International Migration

Migration refers to a change of usual place of dwelling where it can be across city, regional state or international boundary lines. According to Caritas Europa report (2010), it is movement of people either across an international border, or within a state. It is a population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes; it includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, uprooted people and economic migrants. Having this definition in mind, an important aspect of migration worth examining is whether it is voluntary or forced (Adamnesh, 2006). On the other hand, Akokpari, (2000) explained international migration as:

*In general voluntary migrants are those who change place within or beyond their country of origin at their own discretion rather than for other uncontrollable factor. Voluntary migrants mostly, though not always, are people seeking better social, economic or environmental conditions in other regions or countries.*

International migration is defined by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) as the movement of persons who leave their country of origin or the country of habitual residence, to establish them either permanently or temporarily in another country. Since at least the emergence of the Westphalia state, migration from one country to another has been primarily regulated by the decisions of the sovereign regarding who is allowed into and out of their national boundaries (Vietti *et al*, 2013).

Therefore, international migration is a migration which is conducted internationally and it encompasses many aspects of migration. It crosses international boundaries and many concerned bodies from local government to international organizations think of how to manage international migration. States and the international community should ensure that people have the opportunity to meet their basic needs, exercise their rights, and realize their potential. Vietti *et al*, (2013) claims that people should not be forced to migrate in search of the conditions that would allow them to live secure and dignified lives. International migration should be managed more effectively through greater consultation and cooperation between states at the regional level, and more effective dialogue and cooperation among governments and between international organizations at the global level. According to Alonso (2011), little progress has been made in designing and promoting a normative and institutional framework to allow a better global governance of international migration. The economic crisis has added new concerns in relation to migrant situation particularly in the countries more affected by the decline of economy. It is likely that migratory pressures continue beyond the crisis, as international asymmetries that promote international migration have not been overcome.

## **2.2 Irregular Migration**

There is no clear or universally accepted definition of irregular migration. From the perspective of destination countries, irregular migration is illegal entry, extended stay or work in a country, meaning that the migrant does not have the necessary authorization or documents required under immigration regulations to enter, reside in or work in a given country. Horwood, (2009) claims that an irregular migrant is someone who, owing to illegal entry or the expiry of his or her visa, lacks legal status in a transit or host country. The term applies to migrants who infringe a country's admission rules and any other person not authorized to remain in the host country. Irregular migration, then, is movement that takes place outside the regulatory norms of the sending, transit and receiving countries. RMMS (2014) report explains irregular migration as the movement that takes place outside the regulatory norms of the sending, transit and receiving countries.

Therefore, it is easier to conclude that from the perspective of destination countries it is illegal entry, stay or work in a country, meaning that the migrant does not have the necessary authorization or documents required under immigration regulations to enter, reside or work in a given country. From the perspective of the sending country, the illegality is for example seen in cases in which a person crosses an international boundary without a valid passport or does not fulfill the administrative requirements for leaving the country.

Distinct from regular migration, it is not simple to have accurate number of irregular migrants due to its inherent nature. In relation to this, Koser (2005) argues that presenting data on irregular migration is something of a “double-edged sword”. On the one hand the numbers are undeniably significant, and their presentation runs the risk of fuelling further public and media overreactions to the phenomenon. On the other hand, if these data are put in their proper context, then irregular migration is not necessarily the overwhelming problem as it is so often perceived to be. That irregular migrants threaten either state sovereignty or security is often unfounded. It needs to be corrected through careful and objective analysis and presentation of the available evidence, and concerted dialogue between governments and citizenry (Ibid).

ICHRP (2010) in its part defines an irregular migrant as a person who lacks legal status in a transit or host country by entering the territory of the state without authorization, as well as to those who entered the country legally and subsequently lost their permission to remain. Similarly, National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) of South Africa (2009) defines irregular migration as the movement of a person to a new place of residence or transit using irregular or illegal means, without valid documentation or by carrying forged documents.

According to RMMS (2014) report, irregular migrant is someone who owing to illegal entry or the expiry of his or her visa, lacks legal status in a transit or host country. The term applies to migrants who infringe a country’s admission rules and any other person not authorized to remain in the host country (also called clandestine/ illegal/undocumented migrant or migrant in an irregular situation). An irregular migrant/undocumented is ambiguous, since sometimes it is used to denote migrants who have not been documented and sometimes to describe migrants without documents. Neither situation applies to all illegal migrants. Furthermore, undocumented migrants who apply for asylum are not illegal according to Marlou *et al* (2008). Similarly, not all illegal migrants are necessarily unauthorized, and so this term, too, is often incorrect. The term ‘irregular’ is problematic since it is not clear to which rules or regulations it refers. Furthermore, this term leads to confusion, because it is also used to describe migration that takes place at irregular time intervals, as opposed to regular (seasonal) migration (Ibid).

On the other hand, Koser (2005) summarizes that irregularity takes many forms and include a wide range of migrants, such as those who enter or remain in a country without authorization, those who are smuggled or trafficked, unsuccessful asylum seekers who fail to observe a deportation order and people who circumvent immigration controls through the arrangement of bogus marriages. This implies that overcoming the nature of irregular migration is difficult because of its covert nature. UNODC (2011) portrayed that irregular migration is a complex, ever-changing crime that takes different forms in different parts of the world. The criminals who smuggle migrants operate with varied levels of organization and there are not only mafia-like, hierarchically structured organized criminal groups, but also more loosely connected networks of criminals, all playing their own particular part at various points in the irregular migration process.

### **2.3 Illegal Migration**

Illegal migration is a migration which crosses the international border illegally usually led by smugglers/facilitators/. It is understood by different researchers and institutions in different way. Even though they define illegal migration from different perspectives, their central ideas are not mutually exclusive, but rather mutually inclusive. For instance, illegal migration is defined by the United States Migration Services as:

*Migration across national borders in a way that violates the migration law of the destination country. An illegal migrant is either a foreigner who has illegally crossed an international political border, or a foreigner who has entered a country legally but then overstays his /her visa (cited in Lieutenant Colonel Salaheddine Rezouni, 2010).*

Migrants may enter countries illegally using the help of smugglers. According to Stalker (2005), smugglers act as extra-legal travel agents hiding people in trucks for example, or supplying false passports, or bribing immigration officials. This is a dangerous, but usually very profitable, business. Illegal migration as one of the problems facing our world has got its multi-dimensional causes and most of the time these causes might differ from region to region and even from country to country. In relation to this, Lieutenant Colonel Salaheddine Rezouni (2010) argues that the economic collapses of some countries under the pressure of globalization and the lack of competitiveness, especially for the source countries' agribusiness industry, which employs the large percentage of lower-skill workers, causes an inflow of illegal immigrants to the developed countries. The issue of illegal migration is of growing importance worldwide.

According to ILO estimates, illegal migrants represent 10 to 15 per cent of total global migrant stocks. In developed countries, illegal migrants have been estimated to account for even one-third to one-half of new entrants, with an increase of 20 % over ten years. However, not all illegal migrants intend to stay in their destination country forever (Kemnitz, 2012). This shows that significant number of people is using this route to escape fee paid to migrate legally.

#### **2.4 Patterns of International Migration**

International migration take place in different ways and cutting these mechanisms is the concern of all stakeholders. Starting from the origin country to destination country, migrants go through different routes to reach their destination country. The usual trend is from the underdeveloped to the developed world. Migration is clearly a major issue across the world and specifically, Africa is both the sender and receiver of inter country migrants within the continent Alonso (2011). Indeed, migration both within countries and across borders can be seen as an integral part of labor markets and livelihoods across much of the continent. Over time, and in different places, migration has taken a number of different forms.

For instance, Silj (2001) stated that as international migration continues, the pattern has now become from less developed to the industrialized countries, while flows are also taking place between developing countries. In addition, more countries are senders or receivers of international migration than in the past. This may be attributed to the improvements in international communication resulting from globalization. Thus, the level of International migration has grown being a significant part of social change globally.

Today migration is one of the great issues driven by globalization and development while spreading cultures and ideas around the world. For instance (UNODC, 2011) explain that the exploitation of movement of people by profit-seeking criminals represents a darker side of the phenomenon. As natural disaster and conflict create unsafe situations for the people affected, and as unemployment and poverty increase, demand for movement far exceeds the possibilities to cross borders legally. The need for people to move may be exacerbated by human rights violations and persecution. Migrant smugglers supply to this demand, preying on vulnerable people for profit.

#### **2.5. Human Smuggling**

Human smuggling is the recruitment, facilitation and transportation of individuals. The protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and whose purpose is to

prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants defines human smuggling in the following way:

*Smuggling of migrants shall mean the procurement, to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident (Article 3 (a) of the UN Human Smuggling Protocol, 2000).*

The above definition provided by the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air is the most widely accepted definition of human smuggling in academic literatures and expert reports published by governmental and nongovernmental organizations. In addition, smuggled migrants may be refugees forced to rely upon the services of smugglers in a bid to seek asylum. Smuggled migrants may become victims of crime during or as a result of the smuggling process. The fact that a person has consented to being smuggled does not mean that he or she has necessarily consented to the treatment he or she receives throughout the process (UNODC, 2011).

Smuggled migrants are vulnerable to exploitation, with many beginning their journey as smuggled migrants and becoming victims of trafficking. One criticism of the UN Protocols on Smuggling and Trafficking is that they emphasize the human rights abuses associated with trafficking but underplay those that can arise as a result of migrant smuggling (Koser 2001). Research on the smuggling of asylum seekers in particular has demonstrated that smuggling can expose migrants to sources of economic, social and political vulnerability (Koser 1998).

It is not just the process of moving in an irregular fashion that can jeopardize migrants, but also their irregular status. Irregular migrants often work in precarious and dangerous jobs; they are excluded from health, education and other social welfare provisions, and they can be subject to exploitation in the housing market (le Voy *et al.* 2004). Their status often makes them unwilling to engage with authorities, and this is a particular concern where they may have a valid asylum claim.

Criminal activities of smugglers undermine the capacity of states to safeguard their own sovereignty and combat crime and corruption both within and across their borders. Where States respond to migrant smuggling by tightening their immigration policies, the result may be reduced opportunities for regular migration and increased demand for smuggling services to circumvent increasingly strict immigration regimes. This can simultaneously hamper the

ability of States to fulfill their domestic and international obligations to protect their citizens at home and abroad and other people within their jurisdiction (UNODC, 2011).

## **2.6. Migration in Ethiopia**

Ethiopia is a land-locked country located in East Africa. It shares boundaries with Sudan in the west, Kenya in the south, Eritrea in the north, and Somalia in the east. It is the third largest country in the continent, covering a total of 1,127 square kilometers. Ethiopia is endowed with diverse topography ranging from the highland mountains (the highest being Ras Dejen at 4,620 m above sea level) to the Dankil Depression, the lowest point in the world (125 m below sea level). The highland massif, which begins in northern Eritrea, runs all the way to southern Ethiopia, with an eastern extension forming the Arsi, Bale and Harar Plateaus (Bezaiet, undated ). The Horn of Africa is an area of origin or transit for several types of migration flows. Migration flows simultaneously involve different types of migrants using the same means and routes but as a result of different motivations. Most migrants come from Somalia and Ethiopia, where they escape from physical violence, threats to life, forced marriages, lack of access to basic services and livelihoods, and arbitrary arrests and detention (IOM, 2014).

Moreover, the migration in the Horn of Africa is different from other migrations in the world, due to different factors. First, the area has seen substantial interventions by external, international actors, which often led to an intensification of conflict. Second, due to inter-linkages of political issues in the region, most of the migrants were migrants from Ethiopia, moving to neighboring countries which includes Somalia, Djibouti, and Sudan. The country has experienced tremendous displacement of people, compared to other African countries according to (Bariagaber, 1999, p. 601). This indicates that Ethiopia also sends productive labour force to other country for the sake of better job.

Ethiopia has experienced political instability, war, famine, and economic hardship over the course of its history. As a result, Ethiopia has known many types of migration over the years. It has been both an origin and a destination country for either voluntary or involuntary migrants, and many migrants have used it as a transit area. Moreover, Ethiopia has known large internal migration flows (Sonja *et al*, 2009). The major factors driving Ethiopian migrants over the years were economic, political, and environmental, factors that were all heavily interlinked and intertwined with regional issues. This mixture of causes, and the magnitude of the refugee crisis that it generated, is what makes the Horn of Africa, and Ethiopia in particular, such a complex case in terms of migration (Ibid). Migration flows have shown variations over time and over countries, but variations can also be seen within countries

over time (Bariagaber A. 1999). Particularly, the study of female Ethiopian migrants to the Middle East showed that many women are trafficked to destinations outside Ethiopia and are left in vulnerable positions, partly due to the strict laws surrounding the migration of women. When in the Middle East, most of the women work as maids or nannies, in jobs with little security or protection (Alkire, 2003).

According to Ahmed (2008), nowadays, Ethiopians are observed to travel to everywhere and anywhere. They could be economic migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, trafficked persons, unaccompanied children, marginalized groups, etc. Their destinations include, but not limited to, countries such as Sudan, Egypt, Kenya, South Africa, Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Kuwait, Qatar, etc; and some countries are more popular and /or easier to enter than others.

In addition, Ahmed (2008) explained that this pattern of migration comprises mainly migrant women - in addition to a smaller number of men -who are purposely recruited to work as domestic workers for Arab employers. Migrants who have been recruited to work abroad obtain these work opportunities through an array of public and private employment agencies and brokers.

## **2.7 Causes of Migration**

According to Mehdi (2010), human beings have always been on the move and their migration due to a variety of factors including wars, conflicts, violence, environmental hazards, hunger, disease, indignity and quest for a better future have been both voluntary and forced and regulated and unregulated. Issues concerning illegal migration of people from one country to another, within the states, and across the borders are at the centre of contemporary migration discourse at international, regional and national level. These are also among the major concerns of the receiving, transit and sending countries, evolving international migration and human rights regimes, concerned civil society organizations (CSOs) and teaching and research institutes focusing on such matters. The developing regions are now experiencing increasing pressure of populations on the move (Ibid).

Here are multi-dimensional causes of migration and these causes are different from country to country. According to Berhanu B. and White M. *et al* (2000), apart from political violence, ecological degradation, famine, and poverty are historically among the major causes of migration in Ethiopia. As a result of low opportunities or poor living conditions migration is often seen as a form of household income diversification Some household members migrate to areas with better opportunities while other household members stay at their original location

and benefit from, for example, remittances. This has also been the case for some Ethiopian households in drought-prone areas (UNDP, 2009, cited in Sonja, 2009).

Migration involves considerable costs and risks, and also requires, besides knowledge and social networks, the necessary aspirations. This explains the paradox that socio-economic development in the form of rising incomes, educational levels, and access to information tends to be initially associated with increasing migration. Rather than absolute poverty, a certain level of socio-economic development, combined with relative deprivation in the form of spatial inequalities in life opportunities, seems to be the more fundamental cause of migration (Gebrehiwot *et al*, 2012). Certain source countries' economies are highly dependent on fluctuations in international prices and weather conditions. In a parallel way, other natural disasters are causes which could give a rise to illegal immigration, notably in failing and weak states which do not have enough resources to face the huge damages and to provide services to victims in a manner that meets their essential needs (Lieutenant Colonel Salaheddine Rezouni, 2010).

Researchers claim that migration is the result of poverty, in practice, however, the link between migration and poverty is often viewed more negatively. It is assumed across much of the continent that it is poverty that forces poor people to migrate, rather than migration being a potential route out of poverty. For instance, (Black *et al*, 2006 ) argues that, the poor are also generally seen as those worst affected by conflict-induced migration. The movement of skilled and/or wealthy Africans is also generally viewed negatively (e.g. there is long-standing concern on the African continent with the impact of the 'brain drain' of African professionals. For instance, the number of Malawian medical professionals found in Manchester city of England is greater than those professionals found in Malawi according to Caritas Europa report (2010). This implies that migration itself can play in reducing poverty or of the possibilities for 'mobilization' of the African Diasporas in the fight against poverty. In addition, Caritas Europa report (2010) portrayed that Ethiopian Professionals who live abroad has been mobilized under the motto "Diaspora for Development" to contribute in their countries' socio-economic development.

In Ethiopia, interesting information on the relationship between migration and poverty is available from work on livelihoods. This has shown that the poor migrate more than the better off, in order to supplement income from the land, and repay or avoid incurring debts. Although permanent or semi-permanent migration was seen by most families as an option of last resort, temporary seasonal migrations were often actively encouraged as right of passage for young

men. However, it is those with some assets, rather than none, who were found most able to migrate (Alkire, 2003).

## **2.8 Perceptions of Hosting Countries**

Countries of destination are frequently perceived as less concerned with the problem of trafficking. They view the problem as having an origin outside their jurisdiction and in relation to which they do not have much of a role to play. Public opinion and policy makers in countries of destination tend to view the problem of trafficking as clandestine migration organized by foreigners, a reality which should not divert political attention from the needs of their own citizens (Unicef, 2005). Victims of trafficking are generally isolated within the destination countries, where they have no social ties and are often unable to speak the local language and fearful of approaching the authorities. Traffickers take advantage of their vulnerability and usually maintain the isolation of victims in order to prevent them from creating contacts or relationships with the local population (Ibid).

## **2.9 Consequences of Migration**

In many instances, individuals and families may find themselves experiencing harassment and violence, and facing increased poverty. Despite this, migration remains a controversial issue. Discussions about the consequences of migration take place in communities and societies all around the world in both developed and developing countries. People talk about the impact of irregular migration, the loss of much-needed skills, social tensions and the rights of newcomers (DFID, 2007 ). The recruitment process of illegal migration involves a number of dangers and risks for migrants, especially for women who lack access to reliable and timely information. Lack of preparation for employment abroad, including lack of pre departure training; forced/coerced recruitment, including being kidnapped or sold to illegal or traffickers; hazardous journey to the country of destination (Beydoun, 2006 ). According to Horwood (2009), millions of people being transported annually across national boundaries under false pretences, or, allegedly, by corrupt government officials, has obvious implications with regard to border security and creates dysfunctional organs of the state as well. Additionally, some argue that the unregulated movement of large groups of people poses possible threats to human health, through the spread of sexually transmitted and other diseases.

Illegal migration, in the last ten years, has known an incredible expansion, particularly with the emergence of globalization that emphasized the regional disparities. Consequences of illegal immigration fluctuate from beneficial to disadvantageous. Considering the security aspect, for

example, three of the four terrorists' pilots in the 9/11 attacks were in the US illegally. Economically speaking, illegal migration may have a positive impact in the reception countries via low salaries. Illegal immigration can be a factor of destabilization in the next decades in the reception and transit countries as well (Lieutenant Colonel Salaheddine Rezouni, 2010). Economically speaking, illegal migration may have both negative and positive impacts in both destination and sources countries. On the one hand, some specialists argue that illegal migrants reduce the number of unemployed in the departure countries while increasing that rate in the host countries (Ibid)).

According to (UNODC, 2013), illegal migration has different impacts on both destination and source countries; particularly regarding the emergence of new threats and challenges. The most important consequences of illegal migration in the current environment are undoubtedly the security and the economic aspects. Indeed implication of some illegal migrants in terrorist attacks and organized crimes in many destination countries seem to confirm this trend. This indicates that despite its contribution in supporting implicitly both the source and host countries' economies, illegal migration may be involved in an increase rate of unemployment, especially in economic stagnation period.

According to UNHCR (2013) report, deaths continue to be reported on several borders as a result of shooting of persons engaged in irregular border movements. Systematic torture and inhumane treatment, including through extortion and hostage-taking by kidnappers/ traffickers are commonly reported. In short, illegal migration and related activities can endanger the lives and safety of migrants, while generating enormous profits for the criminals involved and fuelling corruption and organized crime in countries of origin, transit and destination. Illegal migration is therefore a multifaceted transnational crime requiring a multifaceted transnational response. The dangers and risks they face include: overcharging of fees; debt bondage; falsification of documents; deception with regard to the nature and conditions of employment, including contract substitution and the mail-order bride trade; exploitation and abuse while waiting for the job to materialize or to be sent abroad.

## **2.10 Tackling Illegal Migration**

Managing the smuggling of migrants requires a comprehensive approach. Efforts targeting one element of the phenomenon may not necessarily result in reduced smuggling. For instance, where efforts are focused primarily on strengthening border controls, irregular migrants may increasingly resort to services provided by profit seeking smugglers. Where authorities of countries of origin, transit and destination do not effectively cooperate in their efforts to

prevent migrant smuggling, smugglers may simply take advantage of weak criminal justice responses in some of those countries to forge new routes through which to commit their crimes (UNODC, 2011). Commission on Human Security, ( 2003) in its part argues that creating economic opportunity, including dignified working conditions and the absence of exploitation of workers and the environment, would be an important step in providing a long term solution to human insecurity. Easing some of the underlying causes of human insecurity would, in turn, ease some of the pressures that promote international migration. With this in mind, from a human security and human rights perspective the movement of people should be looked at comprehensively, taking into account the political, civil, security, economic and social dimensions affecting people's decision to move.

Increasing reports of the dire consequences of abuses related to smuggling and trafficking of human beings along the East and Horn of Africa to the Middle East, North Africa and Europe led the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to establish a Working Group in late 2011. The objective was to assess the impact of this phenomenon on UNHCR's persons of concern and encourage mobilization of harmonized and consistent efforts to address it. UNHCR Offices in the region have continued to work, in consultation with state authorities and other organizations, to address the impact of the smuggling and trafficking activities on refugees and stateless person who are moving alongside other migrants (UNHCR, 2013).

According to the report of the United Nations General Secretary (2002, cited in Vietti et al, (2013), rather than trying to deal with migration on the back-end, as the state-security model tends to do, the human security model seeks to identify and alleviate threats that lead to forced and irregular migration. The UN former Secretary General, Kofi Annan called on the international community to take a more comprehensive look at the various dimensions of the migration issue, which now involves hundreds of millions of people and affects countries of origin, transit and destination [and] to understand better the causes of international flows of people and their complex interrelationship with development. Given the complex nature of the evolving humanitarian crisis, featuring severe human rights violations with a direct impact on refugees and asylum-seekers, an effective Regional Strategy to combat this phenomenon is imperative. The UNHCR Strategy suggests targeted interventions to address the protection needs of refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons affected by smuggling and trafficking in the region, through coordination and partnerships for a regional and solutions-oriented approach (UNHCR, 2013). Therefore, a concerted and participatory effort is indispensable to overcome negative side of illegal migration.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **ILLEGAL MIGRATION FROM ADDIS ABABA TO SAUDI ARABIA**

#### **Introduction**

People move to Saudi Arabia in the hope of improving their life. There are a number of factors that contributed to illegal migration from Ethiopia to Saudi Arabia particularly Addis Ababa. As Addis Ababa is the capital city of Ethiopia, many country side people use Addis Ababa as transit either by bus or airline from all corners of the country. They also contact with their brokers in Addis Ababa and deal some agreement to complete their journey successfully, besides the journey being challenging and illegal migrants also faced problems in destination country, some came back with certain amount of capital and this initiates others to go to Saudi Arabia illegally. According to RMMS (2014), majority of Ethiopian migrant workers who were recently deported from Saudi Arabia were male (97,666 out of 158,125, or 62%) as compared to female (52,119 or 33%). This shows that migration of female predominantly occurred through regular migration channels, while males seem to opt for irregular migration to Saudi Arabia more often. The main reason for choosing irregular migration is that potential migrants think the cost of irregular migration will be lower. The availability of the services of local brokers who facilitate irregular migration is another reason and finally the potential migrants believed irregular migrants would find better jobs and wages.

Although it is hard to conclude that most of the illegal migrants are male based on the data of returnees the conclusion seems to have an element of truth owing to the fact that female domestics are inclined to use the legal route often than not as compared to men. Therefore, this chapter discusses about the causes of illegal migration, challenges facing illegal migrant during and after journey. The major findings discussed in this chapter are mainly on the cause of illegal migration, main routes that illegal migrants follow challenges or consequences of the journey from home country to Saudi Arabia.

#### **3.1 Causes of Illegal Migration**

Illegal migrations are driven by push and pull factors. According to Aronowitz (2001), the causes that force people to leave their country either through reasonable or unlawful channels are the same for

illegal and legal migration. Traditionally, countries of origin are developing nations or those in a state of transition. Migration takes place from poorer countries to wealthier, more stable states. The pull of promises of a better future is powerful. Major migration waves, both legal and illicit, are propelled by the same 'push' factors. The root causes of illegal migrations are various and often differ from one country to another. It is a complex phenomenon that is often driven by social, economic, cultural and other factors. There are, however, many factors that tend to be common to illegal migration in general. Some of the common factors are local conditions that make populations want to migrate in search of better conditions: poverty, lack of social or economic opportunity.

Migration undertaken by an individual is not the same as migration by an entire family nucleus; the characteristics of migration driven by migrant's economic poverty are not the same as those of a migration promoted by people's desire to improve their living standards and finally, migration aimed at obtaining a more secure and profitable job is not the same as migration fuelled by the desire to flee violence, persecution and discrimination. The means of migration are as diverse as the reasons behind each case. Despite that, when economic reasons are referred to for migration thereby excluding political, religious and cultural reasons the migration is thought to be conditioned by two opposing factors: the opportunity for economic progress that change implies, and the cost and risk associated with the move (Ibid).

Discussions with key informants and focus group discussions participants has identified the cause of migration as the desire to improve economic situation as one of the reasons for leaving Ethiopia and this is aggravated by the lack of employment opportunities at home, supporting this statement, lack of employment opportunity is a major push factor for illegal migrants. FGDs participants also confirmed that the desire to improve economic situation, and limited employment opportunities were the primary factors that drive illegal migrants to migrate to Saud Arabia, success stories and expectation of employment opportunities increases the likelihood that illegal migration will occur in the future. In the study area, the aforementioned driving causes/factors for illegal migration are distinguished and hence, this will get due attention in this sub-section. There are a number of causes raised by participants of focus group discussions and key informant interviews that initiates Addis Ababa City Administration youth to migrate to Saudi Arabia. Hence, this section discusses the causes that make the Addis Ababa city Administration youth to leave their country.

### **3.1.1 Economic Cause**

The economic push factors behind irregular migration are for the most part identical to those affecting regular migration: unemployment, low income, dissatisfying working conditions or lack of career opportunities. Some of the pull factors of regular and irregular migration, however, differ. First, irregular migration is more often driven by network effects; this is because irregular migrants more often need support from other migrants already in the country to find jobs and accommodation (Düvell 2011). This implies that economic issues contribute to illegal migration due to the fact that those who are living under poverty are also unable to finance their legal travel expenses which leave them to the only alternative, illegal way of entering to their destined country. The case is also true in the study area. According to data acquired from City Government of Addis Ababa, Bureau of Finance and Economic Development (2011), both sub-cities are least developed in terms of economic and social development as compared to other sub-cities. As a result, the following factors exacerbated illegal migration in both sub-cities.

#### **3.1.1.1 Poverty**

Poverty, limited opportunities at home, lack of education, unstable social and political conditions, economic imbalances, and war are seen as the key driving forces of the supply of illegal migration (Düvell 2011). These factors underscore the importance of strategic interventions that take a proactive approach to dealing with these issues in both source and transit countries according to majority of key informants. In Lidata and kirkos sub-city Administration, participants of key informants identified poverty as a driving force for them to migrate to Saudi Arabia urging them to challenge whatever is in their way rather than living with poverty and hunger at home. They reported that even though poverty is not root cause of illegal migration, it contributed a lot for driving the study area youth to migrate illegally to Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries for the fact that they cannot afford the legal way of reaching their destined countries.

In relation to this, a key informant, Tad, comes up with the information that imply people forced to migrate to other country when they are unable to discharge their responsibility to feed their family. As a result, these people will leave no stone unturned on their way to satisfy what is lost in their home and to save their family from separation for the loss of basic necessities. To this end, they used illegal

way of migration being unable to finance their departure going through the legal way which was also shared by participants of focus group discussions. In support of this, Tad<sup>1</sup> stated that:

*I am from a very poor family. I tried to work some minor works here in Ethiopia that didn't add or can't change my family's living standard. In our home, it was tough to have a meal three times a day leave alone to have decent clothing and other fundamentals as a result of poverty. Due to this, I decided to go to Saudi Arabia. Knowing that no one was ready to give me the amount needed to fly legally, I took the other option of going there using the illegal route.*

In support of this, Mul<sup>2</sup> also stated that:

*I quit my studies at grade 7 because my family was unable to finance my education for we were living under extreme deprivation, poverty. The reason was the death of my father who was the only bread winner of our home.*

As indicated poverty as a cause was also stated by participants of focus group discussions along with key informants therefore one can conclude that people of the study area go abroad if they have no choice for improving their life standard and use the mechanisms of leaving the country which coincides with her/his financial capacity. It is based on the view that poverty is a multidimensional concept with economic and social aspects and implications. To a large extent, illegal migration may be viewed as a symptom of absolute and relative poverty, particularly poverty among young people and women. It also exposes women and children for various forms of exploitation. Therefore, combating illegal migration also involves addressing the causes of poverty.

### **3.1.1.2 Success Stories**

It is obvious that the success stories of returnees can influence others to do the same and be someone in the society in which they reside. In addition, success stories of returnees create a sense of competition among the youth in the vicinity. What was exercised in Lidata and Kirkos Sub-cities is

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<sup>1</sup> Key informant who live in Lidata Sub-City, Interviewed on 4/2/2014 at Abinet Hotel

<sup>2</sup> Key informant Mul who live in kirkos sub-city on interview on 12/02/2014 at AA. Labour & Social Affairs Bureau.

not different from the aforementioned experience. Majority of FGDs replied that looking into their old friends or neighbors who returned back or hearing to the remittance or Furniture's and garments they send to their families initiated the idea of travelling to where these people went and be part of the same success stories. Members of focus group discussion further confirmed that looking the life style of returnees especially those who were their friends and people from their surrounding inspired them to leave the country using the existing opportunity at hand. In relation to this, Lem,<sup>3</sup> and AB<sup>4</sup> have the following to say:

*I am residing in a place called Coca Mazoria around Tor hailoch Hospital. I can confidently say that it was not only me but most of the people whom I know around who were highly motivated to migrate looking in to the ones who returned with good clothing and ornaments. Similarly AB said that I heard that a friend of mine who was driving Taxi with me here in Addis is making a lot traveling to Saudi which convinced my mind to go there with whatever means available.*

Therefore, success stories could be considered as pull factor for those who keep on hearing and looking to the success of those who have already migrated.

### **3.1.1.3 Unemployment**

According to the Central Statistical Agency Analytical Report on the 2009 Urban Development Unemployment Survey 10 years and above age the unemployment rate of Addis Ababa city is in 2003(32), 2004(29.1) ,2005(31.4), 2006(28.6) and 2009 (27.9) 2013 (24.2) furthermore the 2013 June report puts the number of unemployed in the city to 409,467 male 138,635 and female 270,833 the unemployment in Lideta totals to 29,074 male 10,524 and female 18,550 Kirkos sub city is also home to 30,125 unemployed male 11,217 and female 18,908. Unemployment is a challenge faced by most youth who completed high school and graduated from higher educational institution. As a result of this, many youth attempt to leave the country in search of job opportunity either legally or illegally using the service of brokers. As majority of key informants reported, they have some reasons for wanting to leave their place of birth. They identified unemployment as the main driving factor for immigrating to the Saud Arabia and Middle East countries. They further stated that they left Ethiopia to find work to improve their economic situations and their family.

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<sup>3</sup> Key informant who live in Lidata Sub-City Administration, Woreda four, Coca Cola round about. Interviewed on 4/2/2014 at her residence

<sup>4</sup> Key informant who live in Kirkos Sub-City Administration, Woreda two. interviewed on 6/2/2014

In this regard, members of focus group discussions in both sub-cities and a key informant confirmed that unemployment is currently the main factor that forced the people in the study area to go to other countries to widen their work opportunity and to fulfill their dreams, they were willing to negotiate with anyone who can facilitate the condition for them to get a job abroad without looking in to its legality. Mel<sup>5</sup> stated that:

*I have completed grade twelve. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend higher education due to poor result. Hence, I was forced to search a job for my survival and support my family. However, I cannot get job opportunity in our country and decided to go to Saudi Arabia together with my colleagues. Even if, with whom I contacted was an illegal one who latter make me suffer from several problems, I was able to have job until I was deported.*

As the key informant's response has got similar support by most of the participants of focus group discussions it would be appropriate to rank unemployment as the leading factor which drives people from the study area to Saudi Arabia illegally because of lack of knowledge as to the legality of agencies providing their services in shorter time using various types of visas for example, tourist visas which ultimately urges them to be illegal because they can't over stay the short time visa to work legally.

### **3.1.2 Community Influence and Peer pressure**

Migration has long been an important livelihood strategy and plays a crucial role both in the survival of the poor and as income accumulation for some rare livelihood situation of the better off household and their family (Gebrehiwot *et al* (2012). Another recent study, on knowledge, attitudes and practices of migrants confirmed that community influence are the most common migration drivers, followed by a sense of responsibility and positive perceptions of migration which relates to the culture of migration (RMMS, 2014). There are many influences that push people to go abroad and come back with certain amount of capital in the study area. Among this, peer pressure and community influence takes higher position. Especially in case of community attitudes towards going

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<sup>5</sup> Key informant who live in Lidata Sub-City Administration, Woreda four, 08 kebele. Interviewed on 5/2/2014 Coca Cola round about

abroad and the expectation of these people that the youth should help their parents by going where ever a job opportunities are there.

Coupled with this, the trend of migration in search of a better life which has deep root in the community of the study area exacerbated the youth migration to different corners of the world from Ethiopia. participants of focus group discussions, two elders and three house wives argue that the attitude of the community towards migration is positively seen since the migrant is expected to move for the betterment of himself/herself and due to this, belief people around the would be migrant support both psychologically and economically . According to the information gathered from the group discussions, the migrant women themselves usually make the decision to migrate and their families support that decision. Sometimes families push them to go abroad and make money. In other cases, migrants involve their families once they have started the process of migration. Family support is important because the family must usually help in raising the money paid to the agents. Usually, families borrow the money from relatives or from lenders with interest. And migrants pay back the money from their monthly salaries.

Furthermore, majority of key informants reported that the community in which you live has a sort of influence for a child either to help his /her family being employed in his country or do the same by traveling to Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries especially for women. Peer pressure has also its role coupled with a witnessed trend of seeing in to a number of young migrating girls to the Middle East in their neighbours. Mae<sup>6</sup> has the following to say:

*I am a resident of kirkos Sub-city Administration. I attempted to cross the Ethiopian border through Somalia rather than sitting idle at home. People who used to come to our home from our neighborhood advise me indirectly to go abroad even if they don't dare to order me to go and help my family using the way my peers has done.*

There are also conditions where students who completed higher education and failed to score expected result and high school dropouts decided to migrate. Sen<sup>7</sup> was one of the key informants who

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<sup>6</sup> A key informant who live in kirkos Sub-city Administration, Interviewed on 6/2/2014 at kirkos Sub-city Administration office of Labor and Social Affairs

<sup>7</sup> A key informant who live in lideta sub-city interviewed on 01/03/2014 at her home.

failed grade ten national examinations and went to Saudi Arabia driven by her peers. She has the following to say:

*I was born around lideta area named Tollosa sefer. When I was 18, I left school after failing grade 10. Even if I was told by my mother that I could continue my education in evening classes, I was not willing to do so for the fact that I was ashamed to be seen in evening classes in a high school in which I used to practice in an artistic club in a day time and besides being an active participant of the group/ club. This was the time when I and the group members, my peers talk each other to move where my peers took the lions share in convincing me for the migration.*

This indicates that the mentality of the community to praise migration to a country believed to be richer than their's coupled with peer pressure leads people to migrate and find means of generating income as a way of substituting what the migrant lost in his/her country by means of remittance.

### **3.2 Main Routes of Illegal Migration**

According to RMMS, (2014) report, it is assumed that most Ethiopians who leave the country travel east towards and through Yemen and onwards to Saudi Arabia. The cumulative volume of Ethiopians arriving in Yemen since 2006 is at least 230,000, with 84,000 Ethiopian arrivals on the shores of Yemen in 2012 alone. According to this report, in 2013 the number of Ethiopians who arrived in Yemen decreased significantly approximately 30% lower than in 2012. These people are using the illegal route to reach their destinations. According to members of focus group discussions and key informants, there are three main routes used by illegal migrants. Brokers used these routes interchangeably to hide their activity. There are also many brokers participating in this illegal migration throughout the journey. The first and foremost route starts from Addis Ababa to Harar as transit and then Jigjiga. They use public bus from Addis Ababa to Harar town and it takes one day. From Harar to Jigjiga, again public bus is their choice and the first smuggler hands over his customers to the second one. So that he would continue the journey from Jigjiga to Somali land which take approximately five hour. A one day travel from Somali land to Burho makes the migrants take a five days rest which also is used by the smugglers to wait for some additional migrants to come and join them. From Burho another broker will take his assignment of taking care of the emigrants

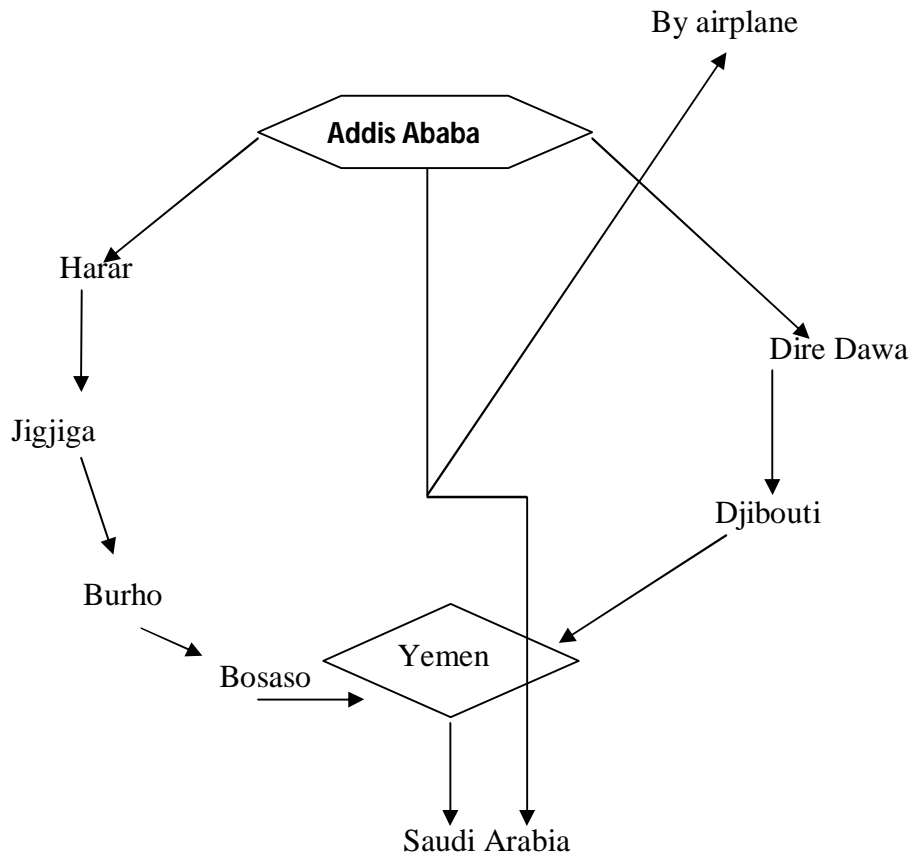
with a three days journey to Bosaso /a maritime port/. Then, a twelve hour Sea travel puts all to a Yemen port and further some ten days are needed for them to reach Saudi Arabia with another two brokers consecutively.

The second route is from Addis Ababa to Dire Dawa city administration which takes one day travel using public bus. The second broker takes his customers from Dire Dawa to Djibouti by truck and gives them to another smuggler on the chain for a week long journey on foot to reach a sea port where there are two types of Boats with a capacity of 120 and 60 people to choose from based on the number of migrants. After six hours Sea travel, the migrants reach Yemen border and additional two days of journey on foot enables them to reach a Saudi Arabian border called Dizan or Serte.

The third seemingly legal route, but turns to be illegal sooner or later is a travel by airplane which is the safest of all illegal routes. It takes place by a covert arrangement by an irresponsible agent and fake employer/bought Visa/. For instance, Emebet (undated) illustrated that people used the religious ceremony particularly the Haji and Oumra of Islam (pilgrimage) and overstays their visa limitation in Saudi Arabia to join the illegal category. She further stated that:

*Oumra and Haji (Moslem pilgrimages) as a pretext to go to Saudi Arabia and, from there, to other Arab countries. These pilgrimages occur twice a year. Most of the women who leave the country through Haji and Oumra use the Moslem pilgrimage as a pretext to migrate for employment in the Arab countries. As women are not allowed to travel alone on such a pilgrimage, they pay men who are travelling there to pose as their husbands and process visas for them.*

This is the summary of the routes of illegal emigration to Saudi Arabia from the study area.



### 3.3 Challenge Facing Migrants During and After Journey

Participants of key informants and focus group discussion reported that illegal migrants to Saudi Arabia have experienced many challenges from local people. However, few informants indicated that some of the illegal migrants get chance to pass these all challenges and solve their immediate problem and open door to improve their livelihood in a sustainable way. As it is aforementioned in different part of this study, some brokers' link migrants with good brokers abroad to search for residence and help them in finding job. Besides, majority of key informants agree that brokers' are crucial for what the fate of their respective customers will be. On the other hand, some agencies do not respond to challenges facing their customers abroad because if they attempt to respond, their acts will be revealed to government and they select silence for challenges facing migrants during and after journey. As a result, all illegal migrants did not get support from the government and helping agencies. Everything was done through themselves, their friends, and relatives.

The issue of migration is sometimes a decision of household, rather than an individual decision, especially in case of female migrants. But most of the youth emigrants in the study area decide alone without informing their respective families. According to data collected from Addis Ababa City Labour and Social Affairs, currently high illegal youth migration to Saudi-Arabia is the dominant livelihood strategy of the people in the study area and, these results in exposing migrants to severe challenges and complex problems. While brokers get significant amounts of money by smuggling migrants, exposing migrants to numerous suffering has psychological and socio-economic impact on the livelihood of families of victims and the community in particular and the country at large.

As attempted to discuss above, there were a number of accidents hosted by illegal migrants on their journey to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. According to the participants of FGDs point of views, these accidents were commenced as soon as they crossed the Ethiopian border and the intermediaries or brokers were the main sponsors of these accidents. Among other things, the sinking down of traditional boat due to overloading in the gulf of Eden, lack of sanitation which results in health insecurity, sex violence which results in fistula and many other problems. Migrants were also raped by local civil police; local armed people and even killed by their respective brokers'. According to Feven Gosay<sup>8</sup> a victim who visited our office has been raped by seven police men in Saudi and our office in collaboration with the health bureau of the sub-city has done its best to treat the victim.

Asefa Demise<sup>9</sup> reported that with regard to the consequence that illegal migrants face in Saudi Arabia, because of no training given to the migrants about their work such as bathing children, changing diapers and the like, there developed a saying that for one Philipino domestic worker a Habesha domestic is added showing their inability to stand by themselves and thereby seen as inferior.

### **3.4 Consequence of Illegal Migration**

#### **3.4.1 Physical and Sexual Violence**

Illegal migrants repeatedly experience pronounced robbery and physical violence along the way and for them robbery and physical violence was two sides of a coin, because the robbers use physical

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<sup>8</sup> Head o the social affairs bureau kirkos sub-city Administration interviewed on 04/03/2014 at kirkos sub-city Administration.

<sup>9</sup> Head of the employment services section of bureau of Lidata sub-city labour & social affairs interviewed on 10/2/2014

violence to take money and other valuable possessions from migrants during journey. As a result, migrants had been injured from physical violence. Smugglers/brokers were also abandoning migrants in dangerous environments. This may be either intentionally to expose them to elements like robbery and criminal violence by dealing with robbers or unintentionally to escape from security forces or to search food for their customers according to Samuel (2012). Most of my respondents share almost similar confrontations or consequences in their voyage. Abe<sup>10</sup> who was born in Gondor was working in small cafeteria around Geja Sefer of Ledeta Sub-City Administration. The main reason for her to go to Saudi was poverty with the vision to have a better living standard. Abe continues:

*I tried the illegal route for the second time through Dire Dawa via Somalia to Yemen, but unfortunately a tragedy happened when the one who was showing us the way led us to an old house after a day long voyage. He was repeatedly going in and out and we suspected that it was his house then after we saw two people coming and instantaneously ordered us to get in and close the door by the one who was showing us the way who can speak both Amharic and Somali.*

She continued saying that one of the new comer threw a grenade upon 70 of us, all Ethiopians male and female which ended in killing and wounding several of us. I was left wounded on my two legs when the Red Cross brought me to Djibouti hospital with other victims where my both legs were amputated and sent back to Addis Ababa.

According to key informants who returned from Saudi Arabia, there were also incidents of sexual harassment. For instance, Ast<sup>11</sup> reported that she was sleeping in a room next to the toilet and sons of the family repeatedly harassed her in the night when they go to the toilet. Therefore, one can conclude that physical and sexual violences are some of the consequences of illegal migration.

### **3.4.2 Communication Problem, Abuse and Confrontation with Physician**

There is also communication barrier in Saudi Arabia by Ethiopian illegal migrants and this led them to job insecurity being unable to express themselves and their feelings to employers. According to majority of key informants, since the Ethiopian illegal/legal migrants didn't took training on the local

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<sup>10</sup> A key informant who live in Lidata sub-city Administration, around Geja Safer. Interviewed on 7/2/2014 at Geja Sefer

<sup>11</sup> A Key informant who live in kirkos sub-city, interviewed on 27/5/2014 at the sub-cities bureau.

language of the destination country, they are vulnerable to multi-dimensional challenges as compared to other foreigners' in Saudi Arabia. Due to this, the local people order the Ethiopian illegal migrants to overwork day and night without rest. As Mah<sup>12</sup> reported, they insult Ethiopian illegal migrants by saying that “you Habasha....you are our slave....You have to do twenty four hours, Habasha do not tire/ need rest”. This indicates that the attitude of local people toward the Ethiopian illegal migrants and this ends with confrontations between the Ethiopian illegal migrants and local people, police and officials of Saudi Arabia. With regard to organ theft, particularly in Yemen desert, a migrant meets physicians who makes a Surgery and steal some organs to be sold. In relation to this, the English Reporter news paper (April 05, 2014:27) stated that:

*Understanding of the Global problem may assist national level efforts, so organizing public discussions in Ethiopia on the issue of human and organ trafficking and its consequences is important, Parallel to this poverty alleviation and widening job opportunity can minimize illegal migration which leads humans to be trafficked.*

According to Asm:

*A friend of mine told me that her employer took her to three hours Drive to a place which she hasn't been before. Without feeling of any Pain and unaware of what was going on. She found her left abdomen operated which makes us suspect theft of certain organ.*

Respondents said that Ethiopian female migrants are received by their male compatriot migrants at Yemen border forcing them to be hired in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as if they were their wives to take their salaries, besides they weekly make them rest at their place for sexual exploitation. This is mainly attributed to a deficiency in language on the part of female migrants. Language barrier is the greatest evil that makes Ethiopians inferior to other domestics. Such problems as reported by my key informants are the consequences of migration where people migrating from the study area face.

### **3.4.3. Inadequate Supply of Food and Water**

Respondents of this study who choose the land route have reported that they were running out of food & water repeatedly. The reason they put is that since the way to Yemen is a dry and somehow desert

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<sup>12</sup> A key informant from kirkos sub-city interviewed on 14/03/2014 at her home.

thirst was the main problem they encountered with when they try to divert their way to escape border patrols the further kilometers are obviously in need of additional strength, food & water urging them to share till the last and tolerate until the smugglers give solutions.

Regarding this, Hai<sup>13</sup> reported that “while trying to cross borders we were in short of Food and water for which the broker was unable to respond until it was so hard for us to continue our Journey where he found a solution after a day and half”.

#### **3.4.4. Overwork Sleep deprivation and withholding of migrants salary**

While conducting the research there were incidents of overwork and withholding of migrant’s salary common among domestics. There were practices of denying enough rest hours by assigning works beyond their capacities and withholding of their salary.

According to Asm:<sup>14</sup>

*contrary to what I was told to work in I was sent to a ground plus one big house with two families in which I was forced to work the whole day till late mid night where I can hardly rest in between. On top of this I was denied my one year and three months’ salary by the employer.*

Similarly Alg<sup>15</sup>. has the following to say

*“I sometimes wonder whether my employer considers me has a human being or not because I was expected to work the whole day and night I don’t even remember a day where I slept before mid night to wake up early in the next morning to go through the same routine The extent to which employers want to exploit labour is mostly manifested on their unwillingness to pay salaries for the one who wants to leave specially on a fasting season, Ramadan, where there is a lot of work to do even if they want to fire her in the near future.*

Over work sleep deprivation and withholding of salaries are among the many consequences of illegal migration which led one of my key informants to enter to litigation to get her salary at Yeka first instance court.

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<sup>13</sup> A key informant from lideta sub-city interviewed on 22/02/2014 at Abinet Hotel.

<sup>14</sup> A key informant from lideta sub-city interviewed on 07/03/2014 at her residence.

<sup>15</sup> A key informant from kirkos sub-city interviewed on 18/03/2014 at the sub-cities bureau

### **3.5 The impact of illegal migration on the sub-cities (Lidata and Kirkos)**

Illegal migration has its own influence on socio-economic condition of one community. The case is true in the study area and this is due to multi-dimensional nature of illegal migration. Among the others, it has psychological impacts on overall residents of the sub-cities. In particular, youth learn unpleasant characteristics from illegal migration and they might drop their education due to propaganda advocated by brokers stretched at different levels. It is no doubt to conclude that money drive the world and youth in particular is vulnerable to false information set by brokers which includes that if they go to Saudi Arabia, they will be rich in short period of time with less effort. The implication of this bondage is that many youth leave the school and attempt to go abroad through illegal migration and its impact is not on individuals only; but the family and relatives of that particular individual and community in the sub-cities in general. In addition, it has also impact on decreasing of product labour of the sub-cities due to the fact that human resource is one factor of production.

Furthermore, illegal migration has implication on local community to be optimistic about it and remittance plays a great role in diverting the negative attitude of local community to positive or advantage of illegal migration. The problem here is the issue of analyzing the cost benefit of illegal migration in all aspects. This is why majority of focus group discussions participants argue that those who were recruited for illegal migrations are not taking into consideration about the advantage and disadvantage of illegal routes to leave the country to search better life which also encompasses employment opportunity. They give attentions for the deceiving information of brokers and resulted in unexpected consequences which have impacts on individual, family and community level in general.

In addition, majority of key informants also argue that apart from a few migrants who were able to finance themselves many returnees who came empty handed are increasingly becoming dependent on their families and relatives this economic dependence worsens the wellbeingness of their respective families ultimately posing a threat to the community unless and otherwise these people are reinstated permanently.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### MANAGEMENT OF ILLEGAL MIGRATION

#### Introduction

Management of illegal migration is not something done overnight or not the task implemented by government only, but it needs the active participation of all concerned bodies. Many factors result in the failure of government to control illegal migration according to data gained from focus group discussions. One reason for the failure of the state to control illegal migration is that both employers and governments profit from the cheap labour.

The willingness to reduce illegal migration is thus influenced by the demand for cheap labour and debates on illegal migration and protection of the labour market from foreign workers tend to broaden out to issues of security. Roberts *et al* (2013) argue that border enforcement increases the costs and reduces the benefits of entering the destination country illegally. Border enforcement increases the chance that someone attempting illegal entry will be caught and subjected to punishment. Interior enforcement increases the chance that someone who has successfully entered will be either unable to find paying work or caught and subjected to punishment.

Enforcement also creates deterrence which can be broken down into two elements. First, specific deterrence focuses on an individual committing a crime; arresting and punishing the individual may prevent him from committing another crime. Second, general or indirect deterrence discourage potential criminals from committing a crime in the first place. Therefore, this chapter deals with management of illegal migration to Saudi Arabia and views of participants together indicate that steps being taken by different stakeholders in relation to illegal migration management will also be discussed in depth.

#### **4.1 Institutional Response to Illegal Migration**

Management of illegal migration is not a task of one office because migration by itself has multi-dimensional characteristics and due to this, it needs multi-dimensional mechanisms to handle it from its very root. As a result of this, all concerned bodies are expected to actively participate in the management of illegal migration to realize the positive thinking of other countries toward Ethiopia. The Addis Ababa City Administration Labour and Social Affairs Office as the leading stakeholder established in 1955 and it has two divisions. The first division deals with the causes of social

problems, prevention and rehabilitation and the second one handles employee and employer affairs administration. The office gives services on work allocation, creating work opportunity, giving training on capacity building for agencies, creating awareness about criminal nature of illegal migration, solving dispute between employees and employer, creating contact between private employment agencies and citizens and the like.

According to Nigussie<sup>16</sup>, the office is mandated on:

- Controlling the recruitment of unemployed by an agency for a foreign work opportunity.
- Conducting pre departure orientation.
- Based on grievance looking into the functions of agencies.

The bureau has put forward the following solutions to fight illegal migration.

- Updating policy and legal frame work.
- Strengthens Cooperative working culture among all stake holders and the community at large in search of multi-dimensional responses to problem.

The office is working in awareness creation within the youth, women, and senior citizens upon the issue and, has started teaching the youth to participate in their own countries job opportunities through small scale micro-enterprise and other jobs they want to participate and the government is helping them in all aspects. However, if there is an individual who want to travel to Saudi Arabia via legal way for the work, he/she should get training on domestics, child care, and household services in the future and the agency would not let anyone migrate who is not certified with one of these professions. Assefa Demissie also reported that their office has started to work with health extension workers door to door, “*denb maskeber*” and police to teach about the problems of illegal migration in addition to their main duty.

Feven Gossay reported that their office has given training to returnees from Saudi Arabia under different professions to manage them not to go back illegally. As per her report, 106 out of 158 were trained by different professions and took certificate after completion. Among 106 trainees, 90 of them were organized in groups and the rest are left to find work by themselves after taking seven days training which was organized by six stakeholders namely TVET, Social and Labour Office Affairs, Mayor’s Office, Small and Medium Enterprise, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and IOM.

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<sup>16</sup> Labour expert at Addis Ababa city labour & social affairs interviewed on 27/03/2014

Majority of these trainees have participated in tailoring, leather works, mushroom, construction, precast, and cobblestone in Kirkos Sub-city.

According to Nigussie, the office attempted to discuss with households and gave them training on the worst face of illegal migration and the Office did the same thing with Idir Heads. The researcher on the course of his study has also participated on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 a religious leaders conference organized by Addis Ababa Labour and Social Affairs Office under the theme “illegal migration and the bad side of begging” held at Addis Ababa Cultural Center. In this conference, all religious leaders have promised to teach their followers about the shortcoming of illegal migration and migration as a whole. The office organized this conference mainly to manage the flow of illegal migrants because society accepts the message of their respective religious leaders. From these attempts, one can conclude that, illegal migration can be tackled if all concerned body actively participate in the process of awareness creation about the negative side of migration at grass roots level.

According to Birhanu Tadesse<sup>17</sup>, if we take Kirkos sub-city till now, around 11,000 people were given work opportunity by organizing them individually and in groups and these sums up to 465 micro-enterprises. He also reported that their Office is ready to host those unemployed who are organized in groups and willing to work in their country by availing capitals and shades rather than leaving their country illegally risking their lives.

### **Courts and police**

According to Yimaneh<sup>18</sup>, even if cases of crimes related to illegal migrations are handled at the high court, there are cases which are under process and also finalized. As to the management, although people know that illegal migration is bad they usually keep on going for example they criticize the returnees by saying “they conceal their shoulder by new clothes not to show the scar due to carrying heavy weight” but they do not refrain from going to Saudi Arabia.

The police have been investigating different criminals with regard to illegal immigration according to inspector Wondimu Chama there are 19 cases under investigation brought forward from year 2006 E.C and the same number of files in the current eth calendar. As to the courts the researcher has got

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<sup>17</sup> Employment services section head at kirkos sub-city interviewed on 13/10/2014.

<sup>18</sup> judge at the Federal First Instant Court, interviewed in Lidata, 13/6/2014

the chance to see in to files already decided on an agency who sent people illegally based on article 598 of the FDRE criminal code reference proclamation No 414/2004 in which.

### **Under Investigation**

1. Hewan Agency VS Asmite Rediay the case is under investigation in Yeka first instance court under file no. 89142 the plaintiff says she has been deceived by the sender that she was going to a couples house but after reaching there she was taken into a ground plus one house with a family of fifteen she was told there will be telephone to talk to her family but there was not one allowed to her she was also been told that there would be a day off every fifteen days this was also false promise.

Furthermore, the employer denied my one year and three months salary around Birr 50,000.00 while claiming my salary the employer locked on me and I escaped staying two months in Ethiopia Embassy in Saudi and two weeks at a shelter in the Airport having a single meal a day I had no one to ask for my rights for the fact that the agency has not a representative in Saudi Arabia.

### **A Decided Case.**

2. Frehiwot Gezahegne Vs Aster Shewarega the defendant without having a valid license to send citizens to a foreign country has sent Aster Shewarga to Beirut the case after being investigated by the federal high court under file number 141223 owing to her admission of the crime she was sentenced to two years & 6 months imprisonment and fined Birr 500.00.

Judge Berhanu Amenu<sup>19</sup> of the Supreme Court is of the opinion that the material and financial expectation of families and victims is targeted on recovering their financial losses only. Here in the Supreme Court there are not many cases seen as compared to the vast violation of human rights in connection with migration these prevents the criminal from being punished for their crimes.

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<sup>19</sup> Judge at the supreme court interviewed at the premises of the court on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

## 4.2 Suggestions of Participants

Measures to manage borders include the imposition by states of visa requirements, carrier sanctions against transportation companies bringing irregular aliens to the territory, and interdiction at sea. International standards require a balancing between facilitating the entry of legitimate travelers and preventing that of travelers entering for inappropriate reasons or with invalid documentation (RMMS, 2014). Based on the discussion made with key informants and FGDs, management of illegal migration is not the sole responsibility of one body because its implication includes all stakeholders/concerned body. Taking measures to raise levels of social awareness about the likely impacts of illegal emigration and creating good environment for employment opportunities for all and developing programs that present the livelihood options like basic education on migration, breaking down the line of communication between migrants and brokers at different level and reducing barriers to entrepreneurship needs inclusive participation by all concerned body.

Some key informants. Alg, Sen also claim that endorsing flexible financing and access to credit which also encompasses credit at low interest, good governance and transparency should be respected at all level, endorsing legislative which exclusively deal with the issues of illegal migration and human smuggling. In order to more effectively combat the practice of illegal migration, it is very important to understand the characteristics of brokers and people participating in illegal migration. Thus, it is important to gain a better understanding of the economic and political conditions and problems on government offices like migration Office that make illegal migration more prominent in our country by restructuring migration office to be customer oriented. Besides the government should try to arrange a rest place “Shega”, in Arabic in collaboration with the Saudi government for those who quit their legal employment until they get another legal one otherwise they will switch to be illegal for the lack of shelter to stay in.

Giving an opportunity for religious community to raise awareness on illegal migration plays a great role to mitigate the current situation, because religion is a very powerful rallying force which cuts across race, gender, and culture of local community. Significantly, religious beliefs and teachings do shape the behavior of followers/adherents to some extent. Based on this, participants of focus group discussion claims that government agencies and civil society organizations should associate with religious leaders to combat illegal migration by using times of religious activity (in Mosque and

Church) to inform the people, about the impact of illegal migration on individual, community and state sovereignty in general.

Some key informants. Mel, Ast in the study area argue that government should give due attention for border control than ever. They also said that strong and appropriate policy should be designed by policy makers on the area of illegal migration including punishing both smugglers' and smuggled people. Participants of FGDs also reach the same conclusion and the most effective way of bringing illegal migration under control is to promote development in the origin countries'. There by giving employment opportunities to citizens which enable them to live a descent life in their home countries.

#### **4.3 Awareness Creation to Elders and People of Border Area**

Key informants Tad and Mae identified elders as the back bone of one society in dealing with the overall fortune and challenges. For instance, local elders can manage illegal migration in collaboration with government and community living on the main routes used by illegal migrants. It is clear that, local people play a great role if they are empowered and get deep awareness about the likely effect of illegal migration. But, misunderstandings about illegal migration underscore the need to raise awareness and understanding of the illegal migration as a criminal activity. Therefore, awareness needs to be raised, not only among the actors who deal with that crime but also among local people who are the main victims of illegal migration. Especially, giving awareness for community living in border areas will help the government for effective border management arrangements; highlighting the dangers of a high risk sea voyage to potential irregular migrants; discovering parties involved in complex chain of illegal migrants; and bringing them in front of law for punishment as a means of teaching others.

Participants of FGDs claim that community committee should be created to deal with illegal migration. In this regard, local communities and government have to work together to address the issues of illegal migration at the grassroots level. They further went to say that women must also be encouraged to participate actively at all levels because they are also victims of illegal migration. It is important to support efforts to establish comprehensive policies.

#### **4.4 Legal Private Agencies**

In many cases, migrant women do not sign employment contracts before departure. According to Beydoun, K. (2006), the only information the migrants have is that they will work as housemaids and will earn monthly salaries between USD 100-125. The agents paint a picture of relatively easy working and living. Once they reach their destination, some are made to sign contracts in languages they do not understand, thereby unknowingly forfeiting their rights. They sign contracts based on what their agent tells them are included, quite often, not the real terms of the contract. For example, an employment contract that was found in a travel agency that had been conducting labour trafficking from Ethiopia clearly stated that the worker was not allowed to leave the house of employment for the entire duration.

However, government allowed agencies who fulfill the requirements of being agencies to facilitate legal migration to keep the security of migrants both in origin and destination country. Although there are legal private employment agencies in Ethiopia, migrants still use illegal agencies channels due to the quick service rendered by their brokers starting from the origin country to the destination country. According to key informant's points of view, they have to wait a long time to get visa through the legal employment agencies. This contributed to enhance illegal migration by using illegal agencies channel tolerating different problems.

Participants for instance Asm and Abe further depicted that the problems faced by illegal migrants usually begin in their home countries, especially through unethical practices by illegal brokers and private employment agencies. Migrant workers end up in exploitative working condition due to a lack of accurate information on the living and working conditions in receiving countries.

However, as returning migrants have indicated, agencies do not properly communicate the real working conditions for fear of losing business, so they paint an idealized picture which encourages workers to migrate and this needs to get more emphasis by government official working at different capacities. The problem with such illegal migration is that workers are expected to pay high fees and, since most of them cannot afford the payment, it generally causes them to enter in to debt. Hence, the debt causes workers to work for a certain period of time without receiving a salary to cover these fees. Due to this and other bureaucracies seen in legal private agencies, participants standpoints

depicted that government should follow up what is taking place in legal private agencies to manage illegal migration and to ensure the security of migrants in destination countries.

According to Ham<sup>20</sup> point of view, the legal way of leaving the country took up to six months and this leads migrants to come to Addis Ababa to complete the process exposing them to unwarranted expenses. Due to this, migrants use illegal way of leaving the country which took maximum of one month and they believe that they do many things within six months which would have been lost waiting for visa had they used legal private agencies. Here what should be taken into consideration is the calculation of money and the safety of migrants by using legal means of leaving the country. In addition to this, the aforementioned reality is not always true due to the flexible nature of human migration and giving the priority for money than safety undoubtedly leads the migrants to danger. according to participants of FGDs and key informants point of views, government is expected to consolidate the supervision of legal private agencies where corruption and unethical characteristics are widely exercised. Mohammed Yasin<sup>21</sup> owner of Al Zahab agency found around Gojam Berenda said that the employer usually sends us 500 USD which will be paid to Airplane Birr 6,000.00 and 400 Birr for insurance but I know some agencies who collect around 6,000.00 from migrants on top of what they received from the employers (500 USD). Unless the government controls these people there is no point that migrants use their service through broker to pay additional amount rather than going through illegal way.

#### **4.5 Challenge in the Management of Illegal Migration**

##### **✎ Reluctance of victims in transferring illegal brokers to police**

The relationship between illegal migrant smugglers and migrants are two distinct phenomena, they can be closely linked with each other. Many illegal migrant begin their journey as with close support of smugglers or brokers due to the fact that brokers accomplish the process of crossing the border as compared to the legal way of leaving country of origin. According to Wondimu Chama<sup>22</sup> the relationship between migrant and smuggler is voluntary and ends upon the migrant's arrival in the destination country. Due to such complex chain between migrants and their respective brokers, searching brokers and bringing them to law takes long period of time and this augments the number

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<sup>20</sup> Key informants and returnees from Saudi Arabia, 17/6/2014; Lidata Sub-city Administration

<sup>21</sup> Owner of Al Zahab Agency interviewed on 20/08/2014.

<sup>22</sup> Addis Ababa Police commission, organized crime investigation staff interviewed on 18/08/2014

of illegal migrants to Middle East country especially to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Participants of FGDs also confirmed that even though police made many efforts to search brokers who facilitate illegal migration, the community at large and victims in particular do not label the name of such brokers and this created the gap in management of illegal migration. If at all, they mention the name it's for civil suit not for crime investigation. This also has been confirmed by Wonidimu Chama that the victims do not know their right and are not willing to sue for crimes made upon them other than civil suit so he is arguing requesting how can we investigate and get the criminal punished so that it would have a deterrence effect unless the victims collaborate with us?

### ✎ **Corruption**

The process of illegal migration seems as if it is exclusively conducted by brokers and migrants. However, there are many stakeholders facilitating the process through invisible hands or by taking bribes. According to Wondimu Chama key informants' point of views, majority of brokers has smooth relationship with officials working in different stage and they strengthen this relation by paying them corruption. They stated that cutting the line between brokers and officials is tiresome due to the flexible nature of the process of illegal migration which directly hinders the policy, rule and regulation adopted to manage illegal migration in all aspects.

### ✎ **Remittances and speed as triggering factor for initiating others**

According to majority of key informants and participants of FGDs point of views, remittances that migrants send home are another important challenge which hindered management of illegal migration. They stated that when migrants in Saudi Arabia send money to their families, other people are tempted to send one of their families illegally. Equally important, those migrant people who live abroad do not also give genuine information about the challenges in destination country and rather, they inform that they earn a lot without much effort and suffering as compared to the origin country. Therefore, this implies that hearing in to the remittance sent by those who were their friends is a challenge in management of illegal migration and money is one of the potential factors which change the mind of human being with less effort. As to the speed of arrival according to Yemane Woldegebreal, some send a message to their friends *"It only took us 15 days to reach. It is your chance and God not your agency abroad who facilitates your fate so why wait there for more than 6 months"* this undoubtedly tempts the would be migrants to follow the same routes as their friends did.

### ✎ **Inability of the government to get public attention as compared to brokers**

Due to the nature of migration, majority of illegal brokers easily get the attentions of their customers. Brokers used different mechanisms which support them to deceive their customers directly or indirectly. They use different propaganda to attract migrants in particular and the family of migrants in general. However, such kind of propaganda most of the time ends with insecurity of migrants which probably results in loss of life. On the other hand, even if the government is implementing reliable mechanisms to manage illegal migration, the time consumed to process the whole steps legally is by far more than that of the brokers and this created good atmosphere to divert the attention of migrants to give their full attention for illegal brokers and this by itself challenged government to manage illegal migration according to the point of views of participants of FGDs and key informants interviews.

Some key informants', Mah, Abe and Hai argued that, the campaign of government against illegal migrants, illegal brokers and illegal agencies is most of the time event targeted and inconsistent as compared to the severity of illegal migration flow from time to time. Due to this, illegal migration is augmenting by using the gap created by government's event targeted campaign of managing illegal migration. Therefore, government is expected to have flexible rule and regulation which covers the rift used by brokers to recruit migrants illegally to send them to Saudi Arabia and other countries. According to Mengistu<sup>23</sup>, what we observed as an institution and personally is that the public is more at the hands of brokers than the government in relation to migration.

### ✎ **Insufficient prevention, medical problem (unfit) and awareness creation**

Often, the general public as well as relevant authorities have no adequate awareness about illegal migrants. Similarly, without a full understanding of the reasons why a person chooses illegal journey to Saudi Arabia, it is difficult for the government to manage illegal migration. Providing adequate awareness and addressing causes of illegal migration is both a means to combat illegal migration and teaching others not to use illegal migration as a means to leave the country. According to Wondimu Chama there are reasons that one is left with the only option of using the illegal route where most of the time is not given due consideration, the pre-departure procedure requires medical test and some job-seekers might not be permitted to work abroad if diagnosed with serious illness or if proved to be HIV positive and due to perhaps a scar on his lung because of healed Tuberculosis. Previously

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<sup>23</sup> Expert on migration in International organization for migration (IOM) interviewed on 23/05/2014

deported ones cannot also return back by airplane this is a potential threat for the 153,000 returnees unless some mechanisms are employed to keep them in the country. The researcher also recently read the Amharic reporter news paper dated 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 which wrote that a draft bill is presented for discussion stating that the minimum education level that a migrant should be in to migrate legally is grade 8 which the illegality doesn't seem to be minimized any time soon for the fact that many country side women might not be able to fulfill the requirement for the mere reason that the same factor which forced them to migrate have the potential to deny them to come up to the expectation that the bill requires them to be.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### CONCLUSIONS

#### 5.1 Conclusion

Illegal migration has become a significant structural phenomenon at the end of the 20th century. There appears to be a strange and unintended relation between migration, restrictions, continuing migration and its irregularisation, as the restrictions, instead of having a restriction effect, are more likely to provoke migrants to dive deeper into invisible activities and stay longer (Düvell, 2006). This implies that states and the international community need to work together to ensure people have the opportunity to meet their basic needs, exercise their rights, and realize their potential. People should not be forced to migrate in search of the conditions that would allow them to live secure and dignified lives. International migration should be managed more effectively through greater cooperation between states at the regional level, and more effective dialogue and cooperation among governments and between international organizations at the global level according to Vietti *et al* (2013). The main objective of the study was to examine the cause and consequences of illegal migration to Saudi Arabia. Focus group discussions and key informant interviews were employed to come up with logical finding and fifty three participants were directly participated to this end. The finding indicates that illegal migration is a complex situation that is often driven by social, economic, cultural and other factors. Many of these factors are specific to individual migrant's life style and to the area in which they occur. Some of these common factors were limited to local conditions that make people want to migrate in search of better conditions to escape from the yoke of poverty and lack of social or economic opportunity.

The study also revealed that trends and unemployment are the other key factors for illegal migration and majority of the migrants were youth of both sexes choosing illegal way to enter into Saudi Arabia, because if they attempt through legal way, they might not afford money necessary for payment of visa card and airplane ticket. The study comes up with the issues of creating economic opportunity, including distinguished working conditions and the absence of mistreatment of workers and the environment, would be an important step in providing a long term solution for management of the current level of illegal migration to Saudi Arabia. The relevance of border controls for containing illegal migration is often no visible because most migrants arrive legally to Saudi Arabia

and then overstay. The study revealed that there are a number of people who went to Saudi Arabia through airplane for religious ceremony called Hajji and Oumra and join illegal migrants. In addition to this, there were also conditions when the government officials sponsor illegal migration through hide and seek.

Consequences of illegal emigration on the livelihood of the local people include death of migrants; losing productive labor, increasing domestic dependency, and opening the door for the wide spread of HIV/AIDS. The finding shows that development strategies should take place in order to plan incorporated involvement that contribute to reducing poverty and backwardness which are the main causes for illegal migration in the study area. Having this in mind, from a human security perspective the illegal movement of people should be looked at comprehensively, taking into account the political, civil, security, economic and social dimensions that affect people who decided to go to Saudi Arabia.

The finding of the study shows that in the long run, the issue of illegal migration can only be effectively managed by addressing the root causes in the countries of origin. Illegal migration to Saudi Arabia will only be mitigated if Ethiopia is able to employ its population and to offer them a decent living as much as possible. In particular, government is expected to give much emphasis for improving the economic and employment situation in the origin country.

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## **Appendix: Interview Guidelines**

### **Summary of questions for FGDs and Key informant interviews**

1. What are the major reasons that pushed you to migrate to the kingdom of Saudi Arabia? Please, can you characterize these root causes?
2. Who facilitated your migration? How did you meet the facilitator?
3. Was there any payment for the travel? If yes, please specify details of payments.
4. Explain the route and means of transport used from your original point of exit to the destination.
5. Explain the borders crossed and how this was achieved?
6. Can you explain the time taken for the whole journey (break down by time and place if possible)?
7. Explain conditions concerning basic needs (food, water, shelter and cloth) during the course of journey and how did you deal with these problems?
8. Did you or others who were travelling with you experience emotional abuse or other forms of psychological abuse, violence or threats during your journey?
9. Who received you immediately up on your arrival?
10. Did you have a job there? If yes, what type of job (formal or informal sector)? Would you please describe the working conditions in detail?
11. Did you find the job opportunity in the Saudi Arabia as you expected? Explain it.
12. Would you please describe your relationship with the native in terms of friends, neighborhood, community, and police in your stay?
13. Did you experience discrimination in your stay? If yes, in which areas and in what conditions? Are there any other challenges that you experienced in your stay? If yes, would you please describe the nature of the challenges and type of the challenges?
14. How did you return to Ethiopia?
15. What do you advise other potential migrant people to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia?
16. What do you say on the Management of illegal emigration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia?
17. What are the factors that challenge management of illegal emigration to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the study area?

### **Questionnaire to police officers**

1. What challenges do you face on the investigation process?
2. What different roles do the participants on the illegal migration route play?
3. What patterns and trends does the emigration follow?
4. Why do returnees go back again? Is there another driving factor?
5. Is there a change in the set up for the illegal emigration to continue after the November mass deportation?

### **Questionnaire for legal professionals**

1. What in your opinion are the causes consequences and effects of illegal emigration?
2. Who is taking the initiative in lodging a suit on illegal immigration?
3. What kinds of cases are regularly seen in the court?
4. Any challenge in litigation?
5. Any peculiar personal observation about such cases?

**List of Officials participated in the research**

<b>Ser. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Interviewed on</b>
1	Assefa Demissie	Head of Employment service section of Bureau of labour & social affairs Lideta sub city	10\02\2014
2	Nigussie Mekonnen	Labour Expert in Addis Ababa city Labour & Social Affairs	27\03\2014
3	Yemaneh W\Gebreal	Judge at the Federal 1 <sup>st</sup> instance Court	13\06\2014
4.	Berhanu Amenu	Judge at the Federal Supreme Court	20\10\2014
5	Chief Inspector Wondimu Chama	Police Officer at Addis Ababa Police Commission	18\08\2014
6	Mengistu Tessema	Staff of International Organization for Migration	23\05\2014
7	Birhanu Tadesse	Labour section head at Kirkos sub-city	13\10\2014
8	Feven Gossay	Head of Labour & Social Affairs Bureau kirkos sub-city	04\03\2014
9	Mohammed Yassin	Owner of Al Zahab Agency	20\08\2014

**Profiles of key informants**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Sub City</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Payment</b>	<b>Travel route</b>	<b>Stay in Years</b>
Hai	Male	Lideta	25	9	12,000.00	Land & Sea	4
Tad	Male	Lideta	31	10	10,000.00	Land & Sea	3
Mae	Female	kirkos	23	6	10,000.00	Land & Sea	3
Ast	Female	kirkos	28	4	10,000.00	Land & Sea	4
Mel	Female	Lideta	30	12	5,000.00	Plane	4
Lem	Female	Lideta	25	12	6,000.00	Plane	3
Naf	Female	Lideta	29	12+2	5,000.00	Plane	4
Alg	Female	kirkos	37	7	6,000.00	Plane	9
Tse	Female	Lideta	28	10	5,000.00	Plane	4
Asm	Female	Lideta	22	8	5,000.00	Plane	<b>1yr &amp; 3months</b>
Rah	Female	Kirkos	27	7	5,000.00	Plane	5
Sen	Female	lideta	25	10	10000/00	Plane	7
Ham	Male	Lideta	28	8	10,000.00	Land & Sea	5
Nur	Female	Kirkos	22	4	5,000.00	Plane	3
Mah	Female	Kirkos	23	10	6,000.00	Plane	3
Keb	Male	lideta	28	7	10,000.00	Land & Sea	4
Ber	Male	Kirkos	29	10	10,000.00	Land & Sea	5
Ab	Male	Kirkos	27	8	10 000.00	Land & Sea	4
Mul	Female	Kirkos	26	7	5,000.00	Plane	4
Abe	Female	lideta	28	12	12,000.00	land	5