



ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

ASSESSING THE INTEGRATION AND INTERACTION EXPERIANCE OF THE YEMENI
AND SYRIAN URBAN REFUGEES INTO HOST COMMUNITIES IN ADDIS ABABA, THE
CASE OF BOLE AND LIDETA SUB-CITY, ETHIOPIA

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ADVISOR: MESELE MENGSTEAB, (PHD)

JUNE, 2025

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This is to certify that the thesis is my work entitled “Assessing the integration and interaction of Yemeni and Syrian refugees into host communities in Addis Ababa” submitted to the school of social work, Addis Ababa University, College of Social Sciences in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Masters in Social Work complies with the regulations of the university and meets the accepted standards with respect to originality and quality.

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Acronym

CBOs: Community Based Organizations

DRC: Democratic Republic of Congo

ESDP: Education Sector Development Plan

GOs: Government organizations

NGOs: Non-Governmental Organizations

OICE: Opportunities Industrialization Centers Ethiopia

PCA: principal component analysis

RCCs: Refugee central committee

SPSS: Statistical Package for Social Sciences software

UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

WASH: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Abstract

This study assesses the integration and interaction of Yemeni and Syrian refugees into the host community in Addis Ababa. It focused on how the Yemeni and Syrian refugees interacted and integrated into the host community, the barriers they encountered, and mechanisms used to overcome. The research employed a mixed research approach, involving 18 in-depth interviews and, with a sample size of 350 survey participants selected through purposive sampling, including Yemeni and Syrian refugees and members of the host community. Data collection methods included in-depth interviews, and surveys. The qualitative findings highlighted that cultural interaction between Yemeni and Syrian refugees and the host community in Addis Ababa is shaped by shared spaces, mutual curiosity, and practical communication needs. While formal participation in host community structures is limited, informal interactions, especially in housing and religious settings, offer meaningful opportunities for interaction. Language barriers, cultural differences, and limited institutional support remained key challenges to deeper integration. Moreover, quantitative finding implied that tackling legal factors yield the most substantial improvements in integration, while also pointed the significance of cultural as well as economic barriers. These findings emphasize the importance of legal competence in social work practice and the need for policymakers to prioritize implementing legal rights for refugees. Social workers also crucial in promoting interaction with addressing legal barriers and advocating equal access to resources. Policymakers should prioritize reducing these barriers, and future research could explore additional factors influencing integration. Policymakers should also consider these findings to develop inclusive policies that foster social integration and interaction between Yemeni and Syrian refugees and the host community in Addis Ababa.

Key Words: Barrier, Yemeni, Syrian, Ethiopia, Host community, Interaction, Refugee

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background overview of the Study

The UN 1951 Convention defines a refugee as “any person or people who are forced to flee their homes due to persecution, whether on an individual basis or as part of a mass exodus due to political, religious, military, or other problems” UNHCR, (2008). Refugees are individuals crossing international borders to escape conflict or human rights violations, which have become a significant global challenge Tesfaye, (2021). Globally, more than 100 million people have fled their homes as refugees, internally displaced persons, or asylum seekers due to conflict and persecution (UNHCR Global Trends, 2022).

More than one third population in Africa reported to be displaced from their homes and cross international boundaries (Qalanjo, 2020). According to Tufa et al. (2021), the East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lake region is the major source of figures with more than 4.5 million people in 2021.

Recently Ethiopia become among the forerunners of countries with refugee crisis, in agreement with this idea, Wondwosen, (2022) documented that Ethiopia hosts more than 850,000 people from neighboring countries. According to UN DESA data, most of these individuals originate from neighboring countries, with over 97% from Somalia, South Sudan, Eritrea, Sudan, and Djibouti. However, official statics are likely to undercount certain groups, for example, migrants who have crossed into Ethiopia informally or unregistered refugees in urban areas.

Data from April 2024 shows that there are More than 9,106 refugees, including 6,322 Yemenis and 2,784 Syrians, in Addis Ababa. making them the second and fourth largest groups of refugees in Addis Ababa, following Eritrean refugees, who number 71,558 (92%) and occupy the first rank, and Somali refugees, who total 1,140 (1%) and rank third UNHCR, (2024). Another unique characteristic of Yemeni and Syrian refugees is that they come from outside the African continent, far away from Ethiopia.

The long and shared history between Eritrean and Ethiopia makes the direction of Eritrean refugees' flight mainly to Ethiopia Wogene, (2017). Tufa et al. (2021), also further proves that due to the strong historical ties and geographic proximity, the primary destination of Eritrean refugee is Ethiopia, followed by Yemen, Syria and Sudan. Furthermore, due to unstable situations in Yemen and Syria, the relatively secure path to Ethiopia, established with the recent border opening, has become the preferred crossing option since 2018 Tufa et al.,(2021).

More to presenting the figures and the dynamics of refugee in a given country or community researchers and scholars have made various efforts to explore and explain the nature of interaction of refugees and host community and drawn different characterization and conclusions regarding this.

Interaction is the mutual relations exist between thevarious community members, which result to influence behavior. Some scholars and researchers believe that refugee represent just a burden to the host communities (Ahmed, 2020). In contrast, the refugees benefit the host communities and contribute in one way or the other to the host state across the globe and Africa. Fajth et al. (2019) illustrates how greater socioeconomic interaction between the Congolese refugees in Rwanda helps increase trust between refugees and host communities over time, host

communities argue that economic and social support given to refugees plays a key role in reducing and preventing conflict between the two groups. According to Vemuru et al. (2020), refugees and hosts enjoy positive relationships in Ethiopia. But, there is significant difference between the groups. Somali refugees report to having the best relationships with host community members, while the South Sudanese are less likely to report positive relationships with their hosts.

Research has mentioned above shown that shared cultural and ethnic ties between certain refugee groups and their host communities can significantly enhance positive relationships and interactions. For instance, studies indicate that in diverse settings, longstanding social connections and intermarriage often facilitate interactions between refugees and their hosts.

Social work is fundamentally concerned with the dynamics between refugees and host communities, reflecting the discipline's core value of fostering human relationships. Both groups encounter various social, psychological, and economic challenges during their interactions. Therefore, social work addresses the needs of both refugees and host communities, recognizing that social workers play a crucial role in promoting harmonious interactions. Understanding these dynamics is essential for fostering a positive impact.

Unlike many refugees who are situated in camps, Yemeni and Syrian refugees typically adapt to urban settings and live outside traditional camp structures. This unique circumstance underscores the need for immediate and sustainable interventions. This study investigated the interactions, barriers, coping mechanisms, and conditions strengthening the interaction of Yemeni and Syrian refugees within the host community in Addis Ababa, focusing on developments since on 2025.

1.2. Research Problem

Multiple research works have investigated the social and economic relationships of the refugees along with the host communities in Ethiopia. For that matter, Zakaria (2020) used qualitative approaches to study the case of Somali urban refugee integration in Addis Ababa, and he reported that these refugees were generally well integrated. The positive relations with the host community greatly contributed to successful integration. There was intertwined economic interaction and culture, particularly religion and social practices. Those cultural practices like dressing and social interactions helped people to meet and interact a lot.

Urban refugees are a fast-growing group related to conflict, drought, political violence and persecution (Qalanjo, 2020). The level of development of host communities is a predominant factor in determining the extent to which African refugees are settled in towns (Salem, 2013). It is important to study the type of social and economic relations that exist between areas populated by refugees and the host community because the better integrated they are, the more positive effects there will be for society as a whole, reducing the consequences associated with minimal engagement.

The socio-economic benefit and the host community are having of refugees has been studied by Tesfaye (2021) at Bambasi camp in Benishangul-Gumuzregi. Other studies, such as Brown et al. (2018), have addressed the livelihood challenges faced by urban refugees in Addis Ababa. Their findings revealed that many skilled refugees struggled to find employment in a competitive job market characterized by high unemployment rates and discrimination. Solomon (2013) focused on the socioeconomic relationships between Eritrean refugees and the local population in the Asaita camp, noting that while interactions were generally amicable, low economic engagement contributed to rising food prices in the area.

Despite the wealth of research on refugee-host community integration, there remains a significant gap in understanding the specific dynamics of social and economic interactions between Yemeni and Syrian urban refugees and their host communities in Addis Ababa. Most existing studies have concentrated on Somali refugees in the Bole sub-city, primarily focusing on middle-class neighborhoods and neglecting the broader socioeconomic spectrum, particularly low-income areas. Additionally, many studies have been conducted in camp settings, which do not adequately reflect the complexities faced by urban refugees.

Furthermore, previous research has often focused on refugees' perspectives, overlooking the mutual nature of interactions that involves both refugees and host community members. By examining the relationships, obstacles, and coping strategies of Yemeni and Syrian refugees in the Addis Ababa host community, this study aims to close these gaps. In order to give a thorough grasp of the socioeconomic dynamics at work, this research highlights the experiences of both refugees and members of the host community in an urban setting by using a mixed concurrent approach that combines descriptive and multiple case study designs. Emphasizing that no previous research has specifically addressed these interactions in the context of Yemeni and Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa, this study was carried out in 2025.

1.3. Objective of the Study

The study has general and specific objectives.

1.3.1.General Objective

The general objective of this research is to assess the interaction and integration of Yemeni and Syrian refugees into the host community in Addis Ababa.

1.3.2. Specific Objectives

The specific objective of this study included among the following;

- To explore how the Yemeni and Syrian refugees interact into the host community in Addis Ababa.
- To identify conditions that facilitates interaction and integration of Yemeni and Syrian refugees into the host community in Addis Ababa.
- To identify barriers that negatively affects the smooth interaction between the Yemeni and Syrian refugees and the host community in Addis Ababa.
- To assessing the coping mechanisms adopted by the Yemeni and Syrian refugees use to address barriers of their interaction with the host community.

1.4. Research Questions

- How did the Yemeni and Syrian refugees interact with the host community in Addis Ababa?
- What are the conditions that facilitate the interactions of Yemeni and Syrian refugees with the host community members in Addis Ababa?
- What are barriers that negatively affects the smooth interaction between the Yemeni and Syrian Refugees and the host community in Addis Ababa?
- How did the Yemeni and Syrian refugees managed to overcome barriers encountered with barriers to interact and integrate with the host community in Addis Ababa?

1.5. Significance of the Study

The findings of this study were significant in facilitated insight into the engagement of urban refugee activities with the community, the government, and non-governmental. In line

with the growing concerns about urban refugees in Ethiopia, various research has emerged to understand and reverse the situation. Studies in Ethiopia appear to give little attention to the interaction and barriers of refugees with host communities. As a result, it also contributes as a point to initiating researchers and academicians to think about the potential of the area to be researched further in Ethiopia.

The study also has social work implications for advocacy. So, the policymakers have given due attention on the issue to bring positive impact between the interaction of refugees and host communities in urban settings. Furthermore, the findings have provided key assumption that needs to be considered by NGOs while designing intervention plans.

1.6. Scope of the study

Thematically: This study aims to explore the interactions of Yemeni and Syrian refugees within the host community in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. **Methodologically:** The research will employ a mixed concurrent approach, utilizing both descriptive and multiple case study designs to capture the complexities of these interactions comprehensively.

Theoretically: the study was Social Identity Theory, which focuses on how individuals' sense of self is molded by their enrollment in social bunches and the intergroup flow that emerge as a result. Additionally, Acculturation Theory was employed to analyze the method of social alter and adjustment that happens when people from distinctive social foundations come into contact with one another. **Geographically:** the study was conducted in Addis Ababa city administration, Ethiopia, a significant urban center where many Yemeni and Syrian refugees reside outside traditional camp settings. While the timeline for this research spans since 2025,

allowing for an in-depth examination of the evolving dynamics between the refugee populations and their host communities.

By integrating these thematic, methodological, theoretical, geographical, and temporal dimensions, the study seeks to provide a nuanced understanding of the interactions between Yemeni and Syrian refugees and the host community in Addis Ababa.

1.7.Limitation of the Study

This study, while comprehensive in its exploration of Yemeni and Syrian refugee interactions in Addis Ababa, faces several constraints. Geographically, its focus on an urban context limits insights into rural or camp-based refugee dynamics and excludes other refugee populations in Ethiopia, narrowing comparative perspectives.

Only a time of interactions is provided by the 2025 timeline, which may overlook long-term changes in integration paths, socioeconomic circumstances, or policy. Self-report biases, where participants may hide difficult experiences, and language barriers, which may dilute subtleties in Arabic-speaking refugees' responses, further limit data collection. Perceptions of integration difficulties may also be distorted by contextual sensitivities, such as Ethiopia's changing refugee policies or social norms that forbid criticizing refugees.

1.8.Operational Definition/Key Terms

- **Yemeni refugees** are people who have fled Yemen because of violence, persecution, or conflict and have taken sanctuary in Ethiopia, particularly in cities like Addis Ababa. These people may come from particular social, cultural, and economic backgrounds, which affect how they interact with the host community.

- People who have fled Syria as a result of the ongoing civil war and associated crises are known as Syrian refugees. Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa, like Yemeni refugees, frequently reside outside of traditional camps and interact with the local population, contributing their distinct cultural identities and experiences.
- **Host Community:** The Addis Ababa locals engage with and assist the refugee communities. The diverse ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic groups that make up this community have an impact on how people interact with the refugees.
- **Interaction and Integration:** The spiritual and social interactions
- **Interaction barrier:** any situation or condition that makes difficulty to facilitate a smooth interaction between Yemeni and Syrian refugees with the host community of Addis Ababa. This interaction barrier includes an economic barrier, social barrier and legal barrier.
- **Condition strengthening the interaction:** any situations that makes a smooth environment to catalyze an interaction between the Yemeni and Syrian refugees with the host community.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1. Empirical Review

Block & Kasinitz (2017) examined the education life of migrant and displaced student learners in the U.S. within the backdrop of government movement arrangement reforms. The researchers conducted qualitative interviews with worker and displaced student learners, teachers, and school officials to look at the hurdles and hindrances encountered in accessing and achieving in education. They considered and determined that vulnerability that entailed migration arrangement adversely affected the educational experiences of migrant and outcast students, causing further stretch, fear, and frailty. Moreover, shifts in movement authorization practices lead to lower attendance at school and educational performance among the concerned students. The creators suggested that instructive education offer return administrations and resources to deal with the particular needs of migrant and outcast students, for example, counseling, language support, and valid promotion. Bloch & Requiré (2016) investigated the social experiences of displaced people and refuge seekers in the UK amid a period of austerity measures.

Ethnographic fieldwork and interviews among displaced persons, asylum seekers, and local collaborators were conducted by the researchers to probe their social prohibition, having a place, and integration experiences. They pondered and confirmed that austerity policies and welfare benefit reforms increased social prohibition among displaced persons and refuge seekers in the UK, resulting in enhanced destitution, vagrancy, and marginalization. In any case, support structures in the community and grass-root movements played a central role in instilling a sense of belongingness and solidarity among affected populations. The authors advised policymakers to prioritize the protection of social welfare programs and make donations towards community-

based support administrations to mitigate the effects of austerity measures on outcasts and asylum seekers.

Esses, Hamilton & Gaucher (2017) reviewed common attitudes toward outcasts and span the adequacy of strategies aimed at advancing displaced person resettlement results. To assess changes in open attitudes toward displaced people over time, the authors presented a meta-analysis of aggregate data from multiple countries. Additionally, they monitored popular research on outcast resettlement initiatives and their effects on integration outcomes. The study discovered that open minds to outcasts differed between countries and were influenced by exposure to various attributes, media context, and political belief systems. Additionally, more positive attitudes and high levels of social incorporation were associated with contact and interaction strategies with community members and among outcasts. In order to achieve integration outcomes, the authors recommended that policymakers give priority to initiatives that aim to promote intergroup contact and foster positive relationships between outcasts and their communities. Inglis (2018) showed the media representation of in Japan and its effect on displaced person strategy and open attitudes.

To investigate the framing of the refugee crisis and its ramifications, the author interviewed journalists, policymakers, and leaders of civil society and performed content analysis of Japanese news reports on refugee crises. The study came to the conclusion that refugees were sensationalized and portrayed in the Japanese media as a threat to the country's economy and national security. Negative public perceptions of refugees and the persistence of restrictive refugee policies were caused by these representations. The author recommended that reporters apply more balanced and refined representations of refugees, focusing on their

accomplishments and resilience, in a bid to neutralize stereotypes and trigger sympathy and comprehension from the Japanese society.

(Koehler & Schmid 2018) investigated the impact of urban development policies on displaced person accommodation and uped-methods consider, such as quantitative analysis of accommodation data and qualitative interviewing of displaced persons, with risks being anchored in German cities. Urban planners, mix policymakers, were interviewed by researchers to evaluate the influence of neighborhood educate in addressing displaced person accommodation requirements and avert uprooting. The consider found that swift urban advancement and gentrification of German cities worsened accommodation reasonableness problems among displaced persons, escalating the risk of vagrancy and relocation. However, proactive measures by local teach, for instance, affordable lodging activities and community arrive trusts, played a pivotal role in mitigation of relocation risks and fostering social incorporation. The authors suggested that policymakers prioritize reasonable accommodation and community-driven improvement practices in order to address the needs of accommodation of displaced people and prevent resettlement in fast-changing urban settings. (Ruiz & Vargas-Silva 2020) investigated displaced person temporary labor exhibition outcomes in high-income nations and determine factors that encourage or discourage their economic integration.

The analysts conducted a comparative analysis of displaced person labor advertise data in numerous countries, and an audit of existing literature on displaced person labor show integration. The consider found considerable variation in labor advertise results among displaced person migrants in different have countries, where variables such as language proficiency, recognition of overseas certifications, and availability of business back services played crucial roles in determining integration outcomes. Aside from this, policies that encouraged employer

engagement and focused on professional preparation programs were linked with higher amounts of business among outcast transients.

The designers suggested that policymakers diversify efforts toward promoting dialect preparation, credential acceptance, and get to work back services with the aim of catalyzing the labor marketplace integration of excluded vagrants Simon (2018) mentioned supply arrangement proposals for continuing social consideration and integration of outcasts in have communities. The analyst conducted a survey of the existing arrangements and activities aimed at building social incorporation and integration of outcasts, along with interviews with policymakers, professionals, and groups of outcasts. The think about varied reach of promising hones and intercessions aimed at encouraging social participation and integration of outcasts, such as community-based activities, intercultural exchange programs, and financial empowerment activities. In addition, the think about emphasized the importance of participatory mechanisms and organizations among government, benevolent society, and refugee communities in shaping strong integration arrangements. The author prescribed that policymakers give top priority to enterprise in community-led integration activities and be given comprehensive and rights-based approach to refugee integration that addresses the complex needs of displaced people and develops social cohesion.

2.2. Definition of the Concept of Refugee

Based on Geneva Convention of 1951 article, a refugee as an individual who, due to a genuine fear of persecution on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or particular opinion, finds himself outside his home state and is unwilling or unable to avail the protection of said country due to such fear. Thus, by this definition, a refugee is defined by one's country of origin and her/his failure to return to his/her country of origin instead of the privileges or rights that a host country will be ready to offer her or him.

The flow of refugees over the past few years has been accelerated, particularly in developing nations. For instance, Qalanjo (2020) points out that Sub-Saharan Africa is home to 67% of the refugees and 20% of the world's refugees. The East and horn of Africa and the great lakes areas accommodate about 5 million refugees. In Ethiopia, 1.7 million individuals were recently displaced by conflict and violence in 2020, the third highest number after Syria and DRC that the country tops following two years. On the other hand, the country is the fifth country with the largest number of refugees in the world, following Turkey, Pakistan Lebanon, and Iran (Wondwosen, 2022). According to the author's view, Ethiopia hosts more than 850,000 refugees.

Individuals fleeing generalized violence and civil wars are considered refugees. Betts and Loescher (2011) considered refugees as prima facie proof of human rights violations and vulnerability in defining refugees as "people who cross international borders to flee human rights abuses and conflicts." Whittaker et al. (2015) stated that some conditions should be considered in deciding refugee status on the basis of the above rough definitions. First, a person must cross over the border to find refuge in another nation. i.e., one must be a victim or target of a certain

type of harassment. Second, the fear must be "well-founded." Repatriation of the returning refugees to their point of origin will harm the individual. Third, states shall not forcibly expel refugees. The authors also argued that refugees and asylum seekers are among the most debated international issues in international politics. It affects the socio-political as well as socio-economic status of host and source nations and communities.

2.3. Interaction between Refugees and Host Community

Most states face difficulties when many refugees come to the nation. Refugees require their fundamental needs that constitute clothes, food, and shelter. The host society will normally offer such with the majority of cases. Such issues will offer different difficulties to the members of the host society. That is the scenario of developing states as they have diverse difficulties regarding money and administrative capacities. Normally, most of the refugees will bring economic shock to the host community. At the same time, refugee will also come up with different economic alternatives to support their livelihood, even within the host community.

Refugees' level of integration is the extent to which individuals who have left their countries of origin due to persecution, war, or for other causes are welcomed and integrated into their host communities. It encompasses differs .such as economic engagement, social integration, ease of access to education and healthcare, and cultural acclimatization. Integration within the U.S., which has long been a major destination for refugees, has been ambiguous in its outcome. According to Hainmuller and Hopkins (2014), resettled refugees in the U.S. have faced issues obtaining access to employment opportunities due to language challenges, the lack of recognition of foreign credentials, and discrimination. Despite these challenges, statistics from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services indicate that over 75% of refugees who arrived in the

U.S. during the period between 2012 and 2017 had been employed in their first five years of arrival U.S. Department of Health and Human Service, (2019). This indicates a rather significant level of economic incorporation among refugees in the U.S. (Hainmuller& Hopkins, 2014).

Refugee integration has also been a matter of concern in the United Kingdom, particularly in the case of the Syrian refugee crisis. Bloch and Levy (2016) highlights the social network and the role of community support in integrating refugees in the UK. However, fears have been expressed about the impact of state policies, such as austerity and welfare cut benefits, on the likelihood of refugee integration. Despite this, UK Office for National Statics data show that between 2012 and 2019, refugee workers in the UK as opposed to non-EU migrants had higher employment rates, with around 56% of employed refugees (Office for National Statistics, 2020). This suggests that there is some degree of economic integration of refugees within the UK.

In Japan, a country with relatively low levels of refugee acceptance compared to western nations, attempts at integration have faced stern resistance. Ingils (2018) referred to Japan's strict immigration policies and cultural homogeneity as barriers to refugee integration. Despite attempts to resettle additional refugees, such as the government's acceptance of a couple of hundred Syrian refugees, Japan's recognition ratio of refugees is low, statistics by Japan's Ministry of Justice show that the employment rate among recognized refugees in Japan is relatively low, with recognized refugees being actively employed at a mere 16.5% as of 2020 Ministry of Justice, (2020). This indicates minimal economic integration of refugees in Japan.

Within African countries that host a considerable number of refugees from neighboring conflict zones, integration within the countries has been determined by several factors including political stability, economic resources, and sub-regional coordination. (Ong'ayo and Were 2017)

emphasizes the influence of inclusive policies and civic engagement in advancing refugee integration in host African countries.). Despite resource constraints and competing priorities, there have been successes in activities such as access to education and health care by refugees in some African countries, Data on economic integration are less forthcoming for African countries due to data constraints and country-specificity. Anecdotal evidence still suggests that refugees in some African countries engage in informal economic activities and earn economic (Ong'ayo & Were, 2017). Host community policies and attitudes play a significant role in determining the extent of integration of refugees within a given society.

Host community attitudes towards refugees influence much of social acceptance and incorporation of refugees, while policies by the government can accelerate or retard their integration process. Above all, a good attitude towards refugees, which is being empathetic, tolerant, and culturally sensitive, is capable of facilitating an environment that promotes their integration. Esses, (Hamilton, and Gaucher 2017) proposed that while negative attitudes, such as xenophobia or a fear of cultural change, can hinder the integration process by fostering discrimination and exclusion, positive attitudes in the host community are linked to more social support and contact with refugees and, as a result, better integration outcomes. Government policies, in addition to attitudes, play a crucial role in determining how well refugees integrate and interact with society. The successful integration of refugees is ensured by welcoming and inclusive policies that offer social services, health care, work opportunities, and education.

For instance, Hainmueller and Hangartner (2016) suggested that by giving refugees the necessary resources and support, inclusive welfare policies and job support programs can lessen their economic interactions. Strict regulations that restrict refugees' access to fundamental rights and services, on the other hand, can hinder their social integration and interaction and prolong

their marginalization. Policies for language and cultural integration are essential for promoting refugees' involvement and assimilation into the host community. The language proficiency is typically a critical determinant in facilitating refugees to access education, employment, and social services.

Language training programs and cultural orientation programs are therefore central to facilitating refugees' language and cultural integration. Research identified the positive effect of language classes and cultural orientation programs on refugees' social integration and sense of belonging. On the other hand, the lack of these programs or insufficient support for learning languages can be a challenge to communication and social activities and hinder refugees' integration (Block and Kasinity, 2017).

2.4. Economic Integration and Interaction

Schneiderheinze and Lucke (2020) had examined theoretical as well as empirical literature to discuss the ways in which refugees affect the livelihood of the host communities. There shall be a wide array of interactions among host communities and refugees covering all socio-economic interactions. In the words of the Authors, the immediate economic effect of a stream of refugees is a shock to the local labor market. But the nature and extent of the impact depend on the volume of the refugees, their character compared to the hosting population, and the likelihood of being integrated into the host economy, for example, an ability to obtain work permits. Schneiderhenze and lucke (2020) state that the effect of refugees with access to a work permit will be worsening if the refugees are too qualified for most of the formal and informal jobs and compete with the residents. This result has resulted in the findings of (Perry 2014), who has studied the effect of migration on a particular group of residents. The net effect of migration

on the labor market for a specific set of citizens is found to be negative. However, if there were international fiscal support for migrants, it would have an effect on labor demand. Akgunduz et al. (2018) and Miller (2018) also agree with the above study that when refugees overwhelm the informal economy, the host population will be eligible for higher-quality jobs so that it can gain positively.

Taylor et al. (2016) examined the economic impact of refugees on the basis of the kind of aid they have received employing Monte Carlo methods. Findings indicate that cash aid to refugees has major positive economic effects on the business and households of the host country. However, in-kind assistance to refugee camps had no major effect on the economic welfare of the host community. Therefore, it can be concluded that the economic effect of refugees on the host community depends on the type and kind of assistance the refugee community is receiving. On the other hand, in the African context, Bilgili and Loschmann (2018) have analyzed the effects of Congolese refugees on the Rwanda host communities' labor market with the consideration that Rwanda has a radical integrative policy towards the refugees.

Their main research conclusion is that the refugees, especially the Congolese refugees have the right to work but employers request them to present documents proving that they are Rwandans. Therefore, refugees from the Congo are significantly more likely to be unemployed in relation to residents. The reason behind it is simply that refugees from the Congo are not aware of the right of such refugees to work. Similarly, Omata (2018) has studied refugees, integration with host economies in Uganda.

Uganda has a self-reliant approach towards refugee hosting. It hosts one million refugees from DRC, Somalia, Rwanda, and South Sudan currently. They also enjoy the right to work,

freedom of movement within the country, and access to basic services. However, the economic interaction between the refugees and nationals differs across different geographical locations. For example, in the camps of Kyangwali and Nakivale, refugees play a major role in exporting and importing goods and services. Refugees in such places are said to produce commercial agricultural products and market them to local and foreign economies. But in Rwamwanja, the economy has not yet grown, and the economic contribution of refugees is insignificant, though their presence, along with that of aid workers, keeps the economy moving. But such a relationship is not straightforward and absolute.

For example, Alix-Garcia and Saah (2009) and Taylor et al. (2016) examined the effects of flows of refugees from Rwanda and Burundi on Tanzanian host communities. Accordingly, the price of non-aid food items increased, whereas a minor change in the price of aid-related food items. Besides, it has been observed that the arrival of refugees has favorable economic impacts on rural households residing near refugee settlements, with unfavorable economic impacts for urban households. The economic impact of refugees to the host community in Ethiopia is no different from the above-mentioned cases. (Vemuru et al. 2020) analyzed the impact of refugees on the host community. They have identified that the refugees bring their construction, interior design, and information technology skills to the host community, and this brings about cultural change. But in pursuing secure income earning opportunities for the hosts and the refugees. But the effect is different for urban and rural environments. "Refugee livelihood are the most constrained in Gambella and Benishangul, which spurs contestation over resources, environmental degradation, localized insecurity, theft." . Refugees are more reliant on assistance than hosts, whose livelihood is wage employment, and agriculture," which stands in contrast to Addis Ababa's case. Refugee remittances have triggered local inflation, Khat, and

alcohol consumption in Addis Ababa. While refugee involvement in economic activity is very low, local market interaction is present.

For example, (Solomon 2013) has found that the extent of Eritrean Afar refugees' participation in Asaita, Afar region is very minimal, and are entirely dependent on the host community. However, it is clearly illustrated that the host community sells domestic goods to the refugees, including livestock, milk, firewood, and the refugees supplied food rations for barter. Zakaria (2020) has also explored the integration of the local community with Somalia refugees. The finding shows that there exist intensive interaction in market with people share same cultural characteristics, including dressings style religion, and language. Tesfaye (2021) has also demonstrated that the refugees are residing in Bambasi camp respondents who buy different products and services from the market using money they earned through remittance and the money they received from employer to buy the original product from the market.

This phenomenon creates rivalry between the refugees and the local people regarding the local product. As a result, local commodities are not sustained for a very extended period. This leads to an escalation of the goods and services price within the area. Overall, the economic relationship between refugees and the locals remains at the mercy of the domestic refugee legislations, refugees' compatibility of skills, productivity, as well as the economic status of the local community.

2.5. Social Integration and Interaction

The interaction between the host community and refugees is not purely economic. Refugees have social relationships with the host community. Social relationships, however, is multiform and situational to the social dimension on the host community. According to Fajth et

al. (2019), long-term survival of refugees incorporates the social interaction between different groups into the daily lives of the community. The social contact between the refugees and the receiving society decides the behavior and interaction of the society as a whole. Therefore, the political view of refugees and refugee policy is decided by the social context and vice versa. For example, as place et al. (2021) illustrates, refugees in high-income countries receive care for the conditions that attract stigma to a lower extent than the rest of the host population while the reverse is true in low-income countries. This kind of behavior involves an interpersonal encounter with health practitioners, traditional healer or social networks, and other socioeconomic service facilities in the community that can increase the contact with the host community. On the other hand, social contact between refugee and host community depends upon refugees' attitude of community and policies towards refugees among the host community (Ogude, 2018; Dadush&Niebur, 2016).

For example as per Fajth et al. (2019), political attention and government commitment of Rwanda decide overall social contact of refugees with the host community. The government has implemented a quite open policy aimed at the integration of the refugees through the provision of greater mobility rights, access to social services like health and education, and economic rewards. These policies serve to enhance social interaction between the host population and the refugees. Betts et al. (2021) and (Anar et al. 2021) studied the extent to which inter-group interaction leads to social cohesion within refugees and host populations. While host populations in the neighboring refugee camps in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda were taken into consideration by Betts et al. (2022), Ansar (2021) considered Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh to study determinants of social interaction and solidarity.

In both of these research studies, even though they are from different contexts, findings have proven that host belief regarding refugees is significantly and positively related to social interaction among them. Social interaction will greatly be enhanced when host and refugee groups have ethno-linguistic closeness and there is economic and social support. Refugees have a good social relationship with the host community in Ethiopia, which is documented by Vemuru et al. (2020). There is, however, a striking diversity between groups.

Although South Sudan will be less likely to show a good social relationship with the host, Somali refugees suggest that they have the best relationship. Refugees and the host community members are socially interactive during commerce, religious celebrations, social occasions like weddings and funerals, and games. As the author has claimed, trade and market gatherings are the most influential forms of social interaction within the camp environment. They also claimed that intermarriage is vital when establishing social relations among communities. This will also create a livelihood opportunity for refugees. This has been observed especially in the Somali context. But especially in Gambella and Kebrydahar, the nature of social integration is unclear since there is ambiguity regarding integration policies (Carver, 2020). Social interaction between refugee and host society generates to gain new cultural traits in Ethiopia. According to Tesfaye (2021), their day-to-day exposure to refugees of BenishanugulGumuz region's Bambasi refugee camp, had given them an opportunity to learn English language in addition to Arabic language.

Working habit hard has also been acquired by the local people from refugee and thus they are reaping even during summer season in their small garden. Concurrently, local communities have earned their motivation for education. Furthermore, there have been interactions, and most are involved in collaborative activities for the welfare of Yemeni refugees and the host Ethiopian community. In their paper, (Minaye.M.et al 2023) spoke about the challenges women from

Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa faced. The study revealed that the refugee women encountered various challenges that were detrimental to their well-being, including language issues, limited earnings and career opportunities, documents of identification that were not valid and price increases, and housing challenges.

In addition, the study also acknowledged refugee women experienced social exclusion as well as sexual harassment. According to the study, Yemeni refugee women confronted challenges in Addis Ababa impacting their well-being, which needs immediate intervention.

2.6. Barriers of the Integration between Refugees and Host Community

There are different types of barriers to facilitate a smooth interaction between members of the host community and refugees. It is not easy for the refugees to establish social and economic interactions. Some of the barriers restrict refugees from different forms of interaction with the host community.

Anti-refugee perception among the host society members is one of the barriers that affect the interaction. There are various factors that have resulted the development of anti refugee sentiment. For example, Ansar et al. (2021) studied the barriers to interaction between Rohingya refugees and the host Bangladesh community. They found that there is anti-refugee sentiment among the host population. Three possible reasons for the development of this sentiment were found to be: economic insecurity resulting from declining wages and inflation, unequal access to humanitarian services, and unfair distribution of opportunity generated by massive humanitarian intervention. With the said agreement, Bloom et al (2015) also argued that religious differences have created negative attitudes towards refugees among the host community.

Social stressors were also among the barriers which limit interaction between communities. (Kasier et al. 2015) held that Haitian refugees' life in a host community in Dominican Republic can entail various psychosocial stressors including adjustment to a new culture, identity changes, and institutional and interpersonal discrimination.

Residential concentration of the refugees affects limiting the interactions that may take place between host community residents and the refugees. Bolt et al. (2010) illustrate, for example, how residential segregation of the Eritreans in Rome hinders integration, not only limiting the socioeconomic and political engagement but also the Eritreans from absorbing the implicit norms and practices in native society.

Mobility restrictions, availability of work permits, and language and resources are some of the limitations that characterize the socioeconomic relationship between refugees (Khasalamwa-Mwanda (2021), Mbanya et al. (2020) and Vemuru et al., (2020). Their access to health services and education is also affected by these limitations. In Uganda especially, the language limitation is one of the main causes of failing to finish high school for refugee students. Khasalamwa-Mwanda (2021) asserted that the physical and economic assets dearth in rural regions is a chief impediment to sustainable livelihood and local integration. Refugees face multidimensional barriers to social and economic inclusion in the host population; the most significant are anti-refugee perception, capital shortage, language barrier, and legal restrictions. Zakaria (2020), also further confirms that exposure and integration of Somali refugee in Bole sub-city were minimal due to limited linguistic capacity as well as lack of initiation on their side.

The Government of Ethiopia emphasized local integration by access to service such as education and water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH). Carver (2020) contended that the policy attempts to reunite the refugees and the host communities through social services access that is similar to theirs. However, since they are accessed through short-term humanitarian programs, they do not contribute to local integration and sustainability.

Carver (2020) outlined five challenges that inform the involvement of refugees and the host community. The first was the cited geographical positioning of the camp that might affect availability of productive land and cause inter-communal tensions. The other one is local kinship structure and ethnic identification enter the picture, where refugees of the same ethnic groups as the host community interact more easily. The third barriers are the local livelihoods and economies become affected from the denial of refugees to work legally, and language becomes an integration hindrance. The fourth barriers are institutional capacity and experience in service delivery can also pose a challenge for the integration of refugees. The final, fifth obstacle is that political and historical factors, such as the timing and circumstances of the refugees' entry, can determine the extent to which they become integrated into the host population.

2.7. Conditions Facilitating Integration between Refugees and Host Community

Strengthening bonding and bridging social capital among refugee and host communities can exacerbate the interaction, For example, (Kaiser, et al. 2015), explained that the social bond that has been created between Haitian refugees and Dominican host communities was a key means to improve interactions. They have recommended sharing activities with neighborhood, creating positive contact events like community meetings, and leisure time among the Haiti and Dominican communities will create bonds and social capital to further strengthen the interaction. Chica et al. (2018) further affirms that community dialogue has strengthened the interactions

between refugee and host communities in Jordan through participation in mutual social and economic support groups within community-based organizations. As a result, improved mutual understanding and communication, and reduce isolation and the extension of social support, enhanced empathy and reduced prejudice shall be maintained.

In a study by Betts et al. (2022) on inter-group interaction and host community attitudes toward refugees in East Africa, it was found that ethnic and linguistic connections between refugees and host community play a crucial role in shaping attitudes, perceptions, and interactions, the research highlights that when there is greater ethnic diversity, support from refugees tends to decrease, indicating that contact and interaction between the two groups may be limited. Therefore, the level of interaction between hosts and refugees is influenced by the proximity of ethnicity and language between them.

Socio-economic integration is very crucial to creating a conducive environment for the interaction between refugees and hosts. The integration is manifested through creating employment opportunities, learning new cultural traits, including language, and assimilation of residential location. (Oucho & Williams 2019) studied challenges and solutions to migrant integration in Africa. The findings explore that diversity is the established difference between the migrants and the host communities, which is inevitable. These distinctions are formed through reciprocal communication conducted in a friendly manner and with polite gestures, which often commence with compliments. The diversity of migrants and host communities needs to be assessed to adopt favorable aspects that may not alter or violate traditions increase interaction. The adoptions of host community's cultural values enrich and expand knowledge of the wider environment at large. Thus, Refugees might contribute to social and economic development through meaningful interaction and participation in both social and economic

activities. Idris (2020) found out that the integration process in Uganda contributes to the relationship and interaction between refugees and the host. The negative attitude of the host towards refugees, which has been hindering the interaction, was changed due to integration.

In addition, countries, refugee policy plays a very pertinent role in the interaction between hosts and refugee. Countries that allow refugees the right to work, mobility and the right to use public services with the host community shall interact with host communities more than other countries that don't have such socioeconomic rights. The next section will clearly discuss the refugee policies in different countries context.

2.8. Coping Mechanism for Interaction Barriers

2.8.1. Governmental Refugee Assistance Policies in Uganda

In September 2016, the UN summit for refugees and migrants held in New York discussed a global shift away from the prevalent humanitarian model; it provides temporary assistance, toward a development model that enhances refugee agency. This transition marked an international response to protracted refugee situations in various settings, prompting long term development plans that promote refugee autonomy and refugee-host integration. Since a massive influx of refugees from south Sudan began in the same year, Uganda's treatment of refugees has received attention from the international community. Since then, major donors and international organizations have praised Uganda refugee support policy as "tolerant" regarding accepting refugees even when their financial resources are scarce (Murahashi, 2021).

Uganda government refugee policy was found to be unique for the following reasons. First, the 2016 refugee act and 2010 refugee regulations grant refugees the right to free movement and business activities within the country and equal access to public services such as education and

health care. Further, under these laws, the Uganda government allocates lands in refugee settlements for homesteading and farming to registered refugee households. Land allocation aims to reduce refugees' high reliance on humanitarian aid and facilitate their economic independence through agricultural livelihoods. Since the government demarcates refugee settlements near the local communities, geographical proximity is the first key aspect of Uganda's refugee policy.

Second, Uganda refugee policy intends to facilitate local economic growth by integrating refugees into the host community. Hence, the national development plan two set out to integrate refugees into socioeconomic development plans at national and local level in 2015. Additionally, in 2016, the government launched Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHoPe), a supportive strategy to create mutual development for both refugees and their host communities, thereby local integration and interaction. ReHoPeI the central component of Uganda's Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF), which was declared at the UN summit in September 2016 and rolled out in march 2017. The CRRF enhance refugees' autonomy through effective collaboration between humanitarian and development actors to meet short term emergency needs and achieve long term development (UNHCR, 2018). A series of programs encourage refugee-host interactions through economic and social activities, the policy's second noteworthy feature. These progressive refugee policies are collectively called the "Uganda Model" and are praised in the international community as among the best examples of refugee treatment (Bohnet and Schmitz-Pranghe, 2019).

2.8.2. Refugee Economic Integration in Uganda

As mentioned on the above, geographical proximity between refugees and hosts characterizes Uganda's refugee policy. Typical refugee settlement policies adopted by many

other refugee-hosing countries set up refugee camps in peripheral regions near refugees' point of border entry Salemi, (2021); (Coniglio et al., 2022). Under such encampment policies, refugees have few chances to interact with locals. In contrast, refugees in Uganda are not confined to the camp area. Having granted refugees freedom of movement throughout the country, the Uganda government locates refugee settlements near native residential areas. Another essential feature of Uganda's refugee policy framework is that the issue of promoting or facilitating refugees' economic and social interaction and integration with the host community at the local level. The government provides refugees with the same social services to which locals have access and allows the displaced to engage unrestrictedly in economic transactions with the host community. The recent influx of refugees from South Sudan strengthened economic interactions between refugees and locals. Considering these dynamics, the Uganda model, aimed at fostering refugees' self-reliance, has far-reaching implications for refugee and host communities around refugee settlements.

From the economic perspective, Taylor et al., (2016) estimate the spillover effect of humanitarian aid on average income in the local economy within a 15 km radius of refugee settlements by applying a general equilibrium model to survey data from inside and outside two refugee settlements in Uganda. Their cost-benefit analysis shows that the income gains of hosting refugees outweigh aid distribution costs. Favorable income spillovers from refugees come from stimulated demand for local goods and services after refugees receive aid and engage in income generating activities, mainly intensive farming. These scholars' results indicate substantial economic interaction between locals and refugees in markets, which generates favorable income multiplier effects in the local economy.

D' Errico et al. (2021) complement Taylor et al. (2016)'s finding of positive spillovers into the local economy by relating hosts' outcomes to refugees' proximity. They found favorable impacts of hosting the displaced on wage labor income and food expenditure among local hosts, indicating job opportunities linked to refugees. However, their results also show that such favorable impacts are confined to nearby refugee settlements withing roughly 5 km radius.

Kreibaum (2016)also finds positive externalities from hosting the displaced populations. Exploiting sudden refugee inflows from the DRC, here difference-in-deference analysis shows improved welfare indicators such as consumption and primary school accessibility among Ugandans living near refugee settlements. However, her results are more nuanced because the influx of DRC refugees generated negative perceptions of host regarding the current economic situation, she also confirmed a strengthened ethnic rather than national identity among local hosts. The negative impact on hosts' subjective perceptions may stem from possible prejudices and resentments linked to food aid and generous governmental support for refugees.

Zhou et al. (2022) examine another spillover through the expansion of public service delivery and find significant improvements in local hosts' access to education, health care, and road infrastructure. More relevant to this paper's central theme, they also find no association between proximity to refugee settlements and local's attitudes toward migrants. Thus, their evidence illustrates that positive externalities, including these public expenditure shocks, might outweigh potential negative externalities, alleviating the burden of hosting refugees.

2.9. Theoretical Framework

2.9.1. Social Identity Theory

Social Character Hypothesis, proposed by Henri Tajfel and John Turner within the 1970s, investigates how individuals' sense of self is molded by their enrollment in social bunches and the intergroup flow that emerge as a result. This hypothesis suggests that individuals endeavor to preserve a positive social character by comparing their bunch favorably with others and looking for to enhance the status of their in bunch. Within the setting of outcasts in have communities, Social Personality Hypothesis gives profitable bits of knowledge into the elements of intergroup relations and the arrangement of social characters among displaced people and have community individuals. Displaced people may encounter challenges in exploring their double personalities as individuals of both their ethnic or national bunch and the broader have community, driving to sentiments of belongingness or avoidance. Understanding these flows through the focal point of Social Personality Hypothesis can shed light on the variables that impact social cohesion and integration inside have communities (Tajfel& Turner, 1979).

2.9.2. Acculturation Theory

Acculturation Hypothesis, at first proposed by John Berry within the 1980s, analyzes the method of social alter and adjustment that happens when people from distinctive social foundations come into contact with one another. The hypothesis recognizes between diverse acculturation techniques, on absorption, integration, partition, and marginalization, which people may receive to changing degrees depending on their preferences and the setting of intercultural contact. Within the setting of displaced people in host communities, Acculturation Hypothesis gives a system for understanding how displaced people explore the method of social adjustment and integration. Outcasts may confront pressures to absorb to the overwhelming culture of the

have society, but they may too look for to preserve components of their claim social personality. By investigating the acculturation techniques embraced by outcasts and their affect on integration results, analysts can pick up experiences into the complexities of social differing qualities and intercultural intelligent inside have communities Berry, (1997).

2.9.3. Ecological Systems Theory

Environmental Frameworks Hypothesis, created by UrieBronfenbrenner within the 1970s, emphasizes the significance of understanding human improvement inside the setting of different association frameworks, extending from the microsystem (individual-level factors) to the macrosystem (broader social, political, and financial contexts). This hypothesis proposes that individuals' encounters and behaviors are impacted by the energetic exchange between different natural components, counting family, peers, community, and societal standards. Within the setting of displaced people in have communities, Biological Frameworks Hypothesis gives a all-encompassing system for looking at the multifaceted impacts on refugees' encounters and integration results. This approach recognizes that outcast integration is formed not as it were by individual-level components such as individual versatility and adapting procedures but too by broader systemic variables such as government approaches, community bolster systems, and societal demeanors towards displaced people. By receiving an biological point of view, analysts can pick up a more nuanced understanding of the interconnected layers of impact that shape refugees' encounters inside have communities Bronfenbrenner, 1(979).

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Description of study area

The research was conducted in Addis Ababa City Administration Bole and Lideta Sub-City, Ethiopia, an ideal urban area for refugees. For refugees looking for access to basic services like jobs, education, shelter and healthcare, the city acts as a safe haven. More than 9,106 refugees, including 6,322 Yemenis and 2,784 Syrians, were living in Addis Ababa as of 2024; they frequently did not reside in the official refugee camps (UNHCR, 2024). A thorough examination of the refugees' integrations into the host community is necessary due to the demographic diversity among them, which is influenced by things like war and economic instability in their home countries. These communities are actively supported by a number of organizations, including the UNHCR and regional NGOs, which concentrate on the provision of vital services like livelihood development, protection, and registration. The selection of study participants and the general approach to data are influenced by the researcher's field experience as well as discussions with the Refugee Central Committees (RCC).

3.2. Research Design and Approach

To investigate how refugees interacted with the host community, a mixed research approach using a sequential strategy was used. This method has the benefit of offering both quantitative and qualitative data, which is crucial for examining the intricacy of the research issue (Creswell, 2009). The study there for employed two separate phases were carried out in succession as part of the mixed research approach.

In the first phase, data was gathered through in-depth interviews using a qualitative methodology. Finding out how Yemeni/Syria refugees interact with the host community and carefully choosing informants for the second phase were the objectives of this phase. The qualitative approach was essential in interpreting the outlooks and meanings given by each refugee and host community member and categorizing them into diverse themes. In the second phase, second phase a quantitative approach was used to collect data through survey questionnaires. This approach has provided a general picture of the research problem, i.e., what barriers/ factors contribute to or impede the interaction of refugees with the host community. The results from this type of data highlighted the numerical aspects of the interaction between the Yemeni/Syria refugees and the host communities in the study area, expressed in terms of the descriptive statistics and inferential statistics to analyses i.e cultural, economic, legal barriers and condition that strengthen the interaction and cope up mechanism of the interaction.

Overall, the mixed research approach with sequential strategy is appropriate for this study because it enables understanding the interaction of refugees with the host community using quantitative and qualitative data.

A. Qualitative Phase

3.3.1. Sampling Technique and Sampling

From the specified study population, participants were chosen using a combination of purposive and probability sampling methods. Purposive sampling was concentrated on those who explicitly fit specific requirements essential for qualitative insights, whereas probability sampling guarantees that a representative portion of the refugee community is included. Participants were chosen for the qualitative phase using a saturation assessment formula

described by (Guest et al. 2020). Starting with at least four participants, two from the host and two from refugee groups, this approach was to pinpoint important themes that surface during preliminary interviews.

3.3.2. Sample Size

For the qualitative component, the study aims to conduct in-depth interviews with 18 participants and participants should be above 18 and willing to participate in the study. This range allows for the exploration of diverse perspectives and fosters data saturation through iterative questioning.

3.3.3. Methods of data collection

The data-gathering instruments were used to obtain pertinent qualitative data on interaction. The tools were in-depth interviews. Given below is a brief description of these tools.

3.3.4. In-Depth Interview

An in-depth interview is important for a detailed collection of information about a phenomenon under study. It also provides a comfortable situation between the investigator and the study's participant because the information is gathered through conversation (Neale and Boyce, 2006). In this study, In-depth interviews were used to gather detailed information and insights about the socioeconomic activities and interactions between refugees and the host community. This approach involved engaging with 18 participants from both refugee and host communities in a neutral manner by asking open-ended questions, listening carefully to their responses, and asking follow-up questions to clarify and deepen understanding. The use of in-depth interviews allowed for a more comprehensive exploration of the participants' perspectives

and experiences on the topic of interest, providing valuable insights into the complexities of refugee-host community interactions.

Open-ended questions focused on the interaction between the host and refugees were used during an in-depth interview with participants.

The in-depth interviews were conducted in the study area where the refugees and host communities reside. The exact location was at home and the spiritual location compound of the participants. The working place was also used to interview some of the participants. The interviews were conducted at a time convenient to participants during weekends and working days.

During the interviews, the participants were asked neutral questions, and the interviewer listened attentively to their responses. Follow-up questions were also asked to better understand their experiences and perspectives. The interviews ranged in length from twenty-seven minutes for the shortest to an hour for the longest.

To guarantee accurate data collection, a voice recorder was used during the interviews. The information gathered from the interviews was translated into English and transcribed. The interview process was made easier for Arabic speakers by using a translator.

3.3.5. Data Analysis

Thematic analysis was chosen as the method of analysis for the qualitative phase of the study due to its ability to identify and analyze patterns of meaning within the data that are relevant to the research questions. Thematic analysis was carried out using Braun's six-step process, which consists of getting to know the data, creating preliminary codes, looking for

themes, evaluating themes, defining and labeling themes, and creating the report Braun, (2012).

The activities were conducted in line with Braun's six-step process is as follows: First, the data was transcribed and translated into English. second, it were read and re-read to become familiarized through the content. Third, initial codes were generated, which were grouped into themes. Fourth, themes were reviewed and refined to accurately represent the data. Fifth, the themes were defined and named based on their content. Lastly, the themes were organized and presented in the results section of the report.

Emerging six major themes from the data were included. One of major themes identified in the study was cultural exchange which includes language interaction, and dressing style as emerging sub themes. Besides, Interaction in public places, are also described as major themes which elaborate further by attending community meeting as sub theme. Moreover, intermarriage and experience in collaboration with the host community were also analyzed as major themes with their respective emerging mutual support sub theme of the finding. Furthermore, attending religious in religious event was another emerging major theme. Finally, economic interaction was the emerging major theme with sub themes of participation in iqub and running business activities jointly.

Thus, the thematic analysis was justified based on its ability to identify and analyze patterns of meaning within the data relevant to the research questions. The steps outlined by Braun were followed to ensure a rigorous and systematic analysis of the data, and the emerging major themes, sub-themes, and sub-sub themes were identified and analyzed.

3.3.6. Ensuring Data Rigor

To ensure data rigor, it has been engaged in several activities during the data collection process. An impartial, independent peer with no personal stake in the research findings participated in the peer debriefing. This procedure entailed giving the peer permission to examine and evaluate the research findings, methodology, and transcripts. This made it easier to spot any biases or inconsistencies that might have compromised the data's validity. Additionally, surveys and in-depth interviews were used in a triangulation process to collect data. By contrasting and comparing the data gathered using various techniques; this assisted in validating the conclusions. These activities facilitated to guarantee the reliability, transferability, dependability, and conformability of the study findings, making the research trustworthy and reliable.

B. Quantitative Phase

The 2nd, quantitative stages of the study were focused on identifying barriers and conditions establishment the interaction of refugees with the host public. The descriptive survey design was applied to describe the numerical aspects of interaction between the Yemeni and Syria refugees and the host communities in the study area

3.4.1. Data collections tools

Survey questionnaire data gathering instruments used to obtain pertinent quantitative data on the barriers and conditions strengthening the interaction between the refugees and hosts. Given below is a brief description of each of these tools.

3.4.2. Samples and Sampling Techniques

The study employed the stratified sampling technique. This category of sampling technique was from a heterogeneous population (Yemeni/Syria). The study population was stratified into a number of non-overlapping groups, and sample items selected from each stratum by using simple random sampling procedure. The stratified sampling is more appropriate, which further facilitates comparisons strategy. Therefore, the number of people was first stratified, and then simple random sampling used.

For the quantitative aspect, based on the UNHCR's reported figure of 9,106 in 2024, a survey will determine representational findings. The sample size were calculated using Yemane's formula (1967) at a 95% confidence level with a 0.05 margin of error: $n = \frac{N}{1 + N(0.05)^2}$

$$= \frac{9106}{1 + 9106(0.05)^2}$$

$$= 384$$

Where:

$$N = \text{Total population size} = 9106$$

$$e = \text{Accepted error}$$

3.4.3. Method of Data Collection

3.4.3.1. Surveys

Survey used to get the quantitative type of data and helps to see the correlation of dependent and independent variables. Closed-ended survey questionnaires were developed and tested with 35 participants before the actual data collection. The data collected from surveys is then statistically analyzed to draw meaningful research conclusions on the barriers and conditions strengthening the interaction of Eritrean refugees with the host community.

The survey questionnaire contained items five point Likert type questions. Based on the qualitative data received in the first phase, the survey questionnaire was refined to secure the content validity of the survey instrument. The questionnaire consisted of different sections. The first section of the survey asked questions related to the background information of the participant, and the second and third sections consisted of different barriers hindering and strengthening the socioeconomic interaction respectively. The instrument measured on a five point Likert type scale from “Strongly disagree” to “Strongly agree” and provided data regarding how certain factors hinder and strengthen interaction.

The survey questionnaire was translated into Amharic and printed in a hard copy, which was provided to participants fill in. One of the main advantages of paper surveys is that they can generate much higher response rates than web questionnaires. Furthermore, a significant number of participants expressed the belief that printed surveys offer greater anonymity compared to online surveys, leading to the perception that respondents may be more truthful when completing printed surveys. In the study, contact details were provided for all potential participants, and an informed consent form was included on the survey's initial page. Participants were asked to sign, expressing their compliance to participate in the study and complete the survey.

3.5. Data Collection Procedure

A gatekeeper, in this case the Refugee Central Committee (RCC), was involved to help connect with potential participants and start the data gathering process. By explicitly outlining the goals of the study and getting people's informed consent, the researcher was establish rapport. The gatekeeper was continuously helped with the selection of study participants, making sure they are treated with dignity and cultural sensitivity. Interviews and the administration of the

survey were scheduled at a time and place that works best for the participants. Before collecting all the data, pilot testing.

The data collection process was conducted in the local language, Amharic and English and a translator was deployed for Arabic speakers. Finally, after obtaining adequate data, the researcher was end the interview session by considering the participants.

3.6. Data Quality Assurance

To enhance the reliability of the gathered information, the researcher employed peer debriefing. This process involves collaboration with an impartial peer who is not personally invested in the research findings. The peer reviews and evaluates the research findings, methodology, and transcripts, providing objective feedback that helps ensure accuracy and validity.

Additionally, the researcher strengthens data trustworthiness through prolonged engagement in the field until saturation of data is achieved. This extended presence allows for a deeper understanding of the study's context, reducing potential biases that may arise from the researcher's influence. By spending more time in the field, the researcher builds trust with respondents, facilitating more open and honest communication.

To further enhance the robustness of the data, triangulation is employed, incorporating in-depth interviews and surveys. This multifaceted approach enhances the data gathered and offers a thorough understanding of the cultures and contexts of the participants, which eventually adds to the research's overall credibility.

3.7. Data Analysis

Descriptive statistics like mean, frequency, chart and table were employed for this study. Before the statistical analysis of the quantitative survey results, the screening of the data was conducted. Data screening includes descriptive statistics for all the variables, information about the missing data, and other correlations.

Descriptive statistics for the survey items were summarized in the text and reported in tabular form. Frequencies analysis was conducted to identify the valid percent for responses to all the questions in the survey. Furthermore, linear regression is employed to identify barriers and enablers of social interaction. The results of the analysis reported in the form of the discussion. All statistical analysis of the quantitative results was conducted with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences software (SPSS v27).

3.7.1. Reliability and validity

To ensure the reliability and validity of the quantitative data, several strategies were employed. Firstly, Cronbach's alphas were calculated to examine the reliability of each variable of the study. According to Joseph A. g. and Rosemary R. G. (2003), cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient normally ranges between 0 and 1. However, there is actually no lower limit to the coefficient. The closer Cronbach's alpha coefficient is to 1.0 the greater the internal consistency of the items in the scale. Cronbach's alpha is a measure used to assess the reliability, or internal consistency, of a set of scale or test items. In most social science research situations, the general rule of thumb is that a Cronbach's alpha of .70 and above is good, .80 and above is better, and .90 and above is best. This study's Cronbach's Alpha result was .9186.

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	No. of Items
.816	48

Cronbach's Alpha: The value of 0.816 indicates a high level of internal consistency among the 48 items in the survey. A Cronbach's Alpha above 0.7 is generally considered acceptable, while values above 0.8 are regarded as good. Thus, the score of 0.816 suggests that the items reliably measure the same underlying construct. This reliability is essential for ensuring that the findings from the survey are trustworthy and that the items are effectively capturing the intended dimensions of the research topic.

3.8. Ethical Consideration/ Research Ethics

The researcher was assured that participants are well-informed about the purpose of the study and obtain their informed consent. The researcher communicated and received prior consent to use a voice recorder. Participants were also aware of the right to withdraw from the study and should not be required to disclose an explanation to the researcher. The researcher was also assured that the information received was confidential; the data was for the intended purpose and used pseudonyms to keep confidentiality and anonymity. Finally, the researcher acknowledged all sources used in the study.

CHAPTER FOUR

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Response rate

The researcher in attempt to collect data relevant to the study distributed 384 copies of questionnaires to respondents. Out of 384 (238 for Yemeni and 146 for Syria) questionnaires distributed, it's not able that 350 which are 91% of the total filled and returned. This indicates that the response rate is acceptable and conforms to Mugenda and Mugenda (1999) stipulation that a rate of 70% and over is excellent.

Table 4.1 Response Rate of the Questionnaire

Category	Questionnaire distribute	Questionnaire responded	Response rate (%)
Yemeni	238	210	88.2
Syria	146	140	95.8
Total	384	350	91

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

4.2. The Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents

Table 4.2. Sex of Respondent

Sex of Respondent				
			Frequency	Percent
Valid	Yemeni	male	133	63.4
		female	77	36.6
	Syria	male	89	63.5
		female	51	36.5
	Total male		222	63.5
	Total female		128	36.5

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

The table displays the gender distribution of Yemeni and Syrian refugee respondents in Addis Ababa. Among Yemeni respondents, males are 63.4% (133) against 36.6% (77) for females. In the Syrian sample, the males are also leading at 63.5% (89) against 36.5% (51) for females. The males constituted 63.5% of the overall respondents, with 36.5% for females.

This gender imbalance is striking and may shape the view of integration experiences among refugees in the host country. The predominance of male respondents may indicate that men are more visible or available in these communities, perhaps due to socio-cultural expectations of male participation in public and community affairs. This trend can stifle the voice of women on integration challenges and successes.

In the implication of assessing the issue of integration in the context of Yemeni and Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa, the insights from a predominantly male sample may neglect critical issues for women, such as access to healthcare, education, clean water, shelter and the labor market. Women may face alternative barriers to integration due to cultural expectations, personal safety, or lack of mutual support networks.

4.1.3. Age of Respondent

Table 4.3. Age of Respondent

Age Composition of Yemeni and Syrian Respondents in Addis Ababa

Age Group	Yemeni Respondents		Syrian Respondents		Total Respondents
	Frequency	Percent (%)	Frequency	Percent (%)	Frequency
Up to 20	8	3.8%	6	4.3%	14
21–30	74	35.2%	50	35.7%	124
31–40	105	50.0%	69	49.3%	174
41–50	23	11.0%	15	10.7%	38

		%			
Total	210	100.0%	140	100.0%	350
		0%			

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

The age analysis of Syrian and Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa shows that most are in the socially and economically productive ages of between 21- 40 years, representing over 85% for both groups (Yemeni: 85.2%, Syrian: 85%). In particular, there is a predominance of the 31-40 age group among both populations (Yemeni: 50%, Syrian: 49.3%). This is followed by the 21-30 group, signifying youthful workers and population.

Such a population structure can positively influence integration in multiple ways such as:

Possibility of active participation; Refugees within these age range brackets stand a better chance of partaking in social, economic, and cultural activities which increases chances of engaging with the host community. Acquisition of language and competency; Younger adults tend to be more flexible and thus are suited for more easily picking up the local languages such as Amharic and Ethiopian cultural paradigms. Employment and Education: This population is most able to access vocational education, informal employment, and community work in Addis Ababa. Family formation and social integration; Those within the 21-40 bracket are active at critical points of family formation which increases the chances of intermarriage and deeper social integration with Ethiopians.

Table 4.4. Educational Background of the Respondents

Educational Level	Yemeni (n = 210)		Syrian (n = 140)		Total (N = 350)	
Grade 1–8	34	6.2%	22	5.7%	56	6.0%
Grade 9–12	34	6.2%	23	6.4%	57	6.3%
University/College	46		31		77	

Students		1.9%		2.1%		2.0%
Diploma/Degree	96	5.7%	64	5.7%	160	5.7%
Total	210	00%	140	00%	350	00%

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

The educational status of the studied Syrian and Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa show that a very high proportion of both groups have achieved higher education levels, with 45.7% of both groups holding a diploma or degree and 22% were studying at University or College. This is a very well-educated refugee group, which has a very positive influence on integration possibilities into the host society.

A strong education background enhances language acquisition, employment opportunities, and participation in public life, all of which are significant to integration. Shared educational backgrounds between Syrian and Yemeni refugees also imply that the two groups are likely to take similar paths to integration, such as being enrolled in local schools, seeking formal employment, or learning literacy and communication-type services.

In Addis Ababa, such educational basis also has the prospect of inter-understanding, cross-cultural engagement, and active membership in host country institutions. It also implies that with proper assistance such as language training, employment linkage, and recognition of qualifications both Syrian and Yemeni refugees would settle more readily and be capable of contributing substantially to their new setting.

Table 4.5. Marital status of the respondents

Marital Status	Yemeni Frequency	Yemeni Percent	Syrian Frequency	Syrian Percent
Single	50	23.8%	30	21.4%
Married	140	66.7%	90	64.3%

Widow ed	10	4.8%	5	3.6%
Separat ed	10	4.8%	10	7.1%
Total	210	100%	140	100%

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

Marital status data showed that the majority of Yemeni and Syrian respondents (66.7% and 64.3%, respectively) are married, which reveals stability in these populations. The fact that there is a high percentage of respondents who are married demonstrates that family connections matter in integration.

23.8% the sampled Yemeni individuals were single and this may reflect a younger age group or a group that has not yet formed families. Where, 21.4% Syrian interviewees were single, again reflecting a similar pattern. The fairly low values of widowed (4.8% for Yemeni and 3.6% for Syrian) and separated (4.8% for Yemeni and 7.1% for Syrian) indicate that family unity is typical, something that can be a key to successful integration.

The high marriage rates would enhance the social support groups and mechanisms necessary in the face of challenges of adjusting to resettlement in Addis Ababa. Children might provide emotional care and resources, helping the people to adjust to their new environments. Single or divorced people might suffer more in the sense of loneliness or absence of care, which would hinder their integration process.

Overall, the results on marriage status indicate the importance of family and social ties in the integration of Yemeni and Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa. These considerations must be considered in devising aid programs to facilitate refugees' integration into their host country.

Table 4.6. Previous residence of respondents

Previous Residence/nationality		
	Frequency	Percent
Yeme	210	60

alid	ni		
	Syrian	140	40
	Total	350	100.0

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

Over half of the respondents were Yemeni in national. This suggests that Yemeni refugees make up a marginally larger percentage of the refugee community in the study sample. Reasons may vary from the level of conflict in Yemen during the migration period, more established refugee networks, or simpler access to Ethiopia from Yemen. While Major Syrian Presence (40%) Syrians also make up a large portion (nearly half) of the refugee population. This indicates that the Syrian refugee crisis has also led to large-scale displacement to Ethiopia, despite geographical distance.

Cultural and Linguistic Similarities: Syrian and Yemeni refugees share Arabic as a common language and often share religious and cultural backgrounds. This can foster solidarity among the refugee population as well as integration into the already existing Muslim or Arab-speaking population in Addis Ababa.

Interaction with Host Communities: Despite similarities, each group may interact with the host community in various ways based on factors such as: Migration experience, Education levels, Family structures and Legal status. The creation of inclusive and adaptable support networks is guided by issues unique to a given nation. For example, programming tailored to Yemen may need to cover legal assistance, employment, and integration with other Middle Eastern diasporas. Support for Syrian refugees may focus more on providing access to education, language instruction, and psychosocial counseling because they may have more children and students.

Table 4.7. Professional Career of Respondents

Occupational background of respondents	Yemeni Frequency	Yemeni Percent	Syrian Frequency	Syrian Percent
Agriculture	10	4.8%	11	7.9%
Education	4	1.9%	3	2.1%
Health Care	30	14.3%	18	12.9%
Art, Craft, and Construction	70	33.3%	58	41.4%
Trade and Commerce	96	45.7%	50	35.7%
Total	210	100%	140	100%

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

Important information about Yemeni and Syrian respondents' integration into Addis Ababa can be gleaned from the data on their occupations. 45.7% of Yemenis and 35.7% of Syrians work in trade and commerce, which represents a sizable portion of both groups. This implies that a large number of refugees are using their entrepreneurial abilities to create a living, which is essential for their economic assimilation in the host nation.

Furthermore, a sizable portion of respondents—12.9% Syrian and 14.3% Yemeni respectively were employed in the medical sector. This could suggest that some refugees had expertise in the medical field, which could help the community's health system and meet its needs.

The fact that there were a sizable percentage of respondents working in construction, art, and craft (33.3% Yemeni and 41.4% Syrian) emphasize the adaptability of these refugees, as they engage in sectors that are often in demand in urban environments.

However, the comparatively low percentage of Yemeni and Syrian refugees employed in the agriculture (4.8% and 7.9%, respectively) raises the possibility that they were not involved in farming, which could hinder their capacity to integrate into Ethiopia's rural economy and society.

The occupational distribution as a whole suggests that both Syrian and Yemeni refugees were actively engaged in the host economy, especially in the fields of commerce and healthcare. In addition to offering a source of income, these industries promote community integration and establish social ties, which help to engage local residents feel like they belong. Their integration experience can be further facilitated by efficient support programs that acknowledge and develop these professional skills.

Table 4.8. Religious Identity of the Respondents.

Religion	Yemeni Frequency	Yemeni Percent	Syrian Frequency	Syrian Percent
Islam	180	85.7%	48	34.3%
Shia	40	19.0%	12	8.6%
Christianity	5	2.4%	40	28.6%
Sunni	3	1.4%	21	15.0%
Druze	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
Total	210	100%	140	100%

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

While the Syrian respondents exhibit a diversity in their religious identities, with 34.3% identifying as Muslims and 28.6% as Christians, the religious distribution data shows that a significant majority of the Yemeni respondents (85.7%) identified themselves as Muslims. The two groups' disparate cultural upbringings and life experiences might be reflected in this discrepancy in religious composition.

The preponderance of Islam may help Yemenis build support systems and a sense of community, both of which are essential for refugees to integrate into the host community's culture. Their sense of belonging can be increased by fostering relationships with nearby Muslim communities in Addis Ababa through their shared practices and beliefs.

On the other hand, the religious diversity of the Syrian respondents—including a sizable Christian population—may offer both advantages and disadvantages. Christians' presence may encourage interfaith cooperation and communication, strengthening the host community's social cohesion. But depending on one's religious identity, this diversity may also result in different integration experiences.

In general, both groups' integration into Addis Ababa is greatly influenced by their religious affiliation. While Syrian refugees' varied religious beliefs may present both special challenges and opportunities for social integration, strong religious ties for Yemeni refugees may strengthen community support. Creating successful support plans that recognize and value each refugee's unique religious identity requires an understanding of these dynamics.

Table 4.9. Refugee's Duration of Residence in the Host Community

Duration	Yemeni Frequency	Yemeni Percent	Syrian Frequency	Syrian Percent
1-3 years	20	9.5%	29	20.7%
4-6 years	90	42.9%	61	43.6%
7 years and above	100	47.6%	50	35.7%
Total	210	100%	140	100%

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

According to the duration of stay data, a significant percentage of respondents who were Syrian and Yemeni had resided in Addis Ababa for a long time. Remarkably, 42.9% of all respondents have lived in the city for seven years or longer, suggesting a high degree of stability and possible assimilation into their host communities.

47.6% of Yemeni refugees were lived in Addis Ababa for seven years or longer, indicating that many have had time to establish social networks and adjust themselves to their new surroundings. Greater access to resources, jobs, and community support networks all necessary for a successful integration may be made possible by this extended period.

However, 20.7% of Syrian respondents have stayed in Addis Ababa for one to three years. This suggests that some Syrians might still be in the early phases of their integration process and might encounter challenges integrating and building a network of support.

All things considered, the data shows how different the integration levels of the Syrian and Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa are. While Syrians' varied in the lengths of their stay suggest a mix of long-term residents and recent arrivals, many of the Yemeni respondents' longer stays in Addis Ababa indicate a higher level of integration. In order to customize support services that meet the unique requirements of each group and promote a more seamless integration process in the host nation, it is imperative to comprehend these dynamics.

4.2. Descriptive Analysis of the Study

Table 4.2.1: Disincentives Refugees' interactions with the host nation

The degree to which refugees engage with local communities is a critical factor in their successful integration into host communities. The interaction between refugees and host communities is crucial for fostering social cohesion, understanding, and peaceful coexistence in cities like Addis Ababa, which are home to diverse refugee populations, including Syrians and Yemenis. However, a number of interrelated factors may hamper the prevalence of smooth interaction between refugee and host community members. Together, these legal, cultural, and economic factors will significantly influence the interaction. In order to build inclusive

communities where refugees and host populations can engage, work together, and prosper together, it is imperative that these issues are recognized and addressed. In the next section I will examine those hamper/prevent smooth interaction between the refugees and host communities.

In order to measure these factors on a five point Likert scale from "very much" to "not at all," the study used a household survey. The survey responses provided data on various barriers that hinder interaction between the refugee and host communities. The analysis focused on 3 key barriers: cultural, legal, and economic. The study considered these barriers to explore their impact on the relationship between refugees and the host community.

According to (Al-Sayaad et al. 2006), an item's mean score was classified in ranges to fit the five-scaled Likert's measure of responses (Strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, and strongly agree) or (not at all, slightly, moderate , much and very much) as shown in the Table (4.10) below. Hence, every item for all variables was given a response according to its calculated means score result. For all dependent and independent variables, the estimated mean scores were used to measure the level of response to performance elements based on the criteria in the Table (4.10) below. Thus, the employee's response level for each statement is illustrated below.

Table 4.10. Mean Score Range for Five-Scale Likert's Response

Mean	Response
From 1.00 to less than 1.8	Strongly disagree (not at all)
From 1.80 to less than 2.60	Disagree (slightly)
From 2.60 to less than 3.40	Neutral(moderate)
From 3.40 to less than 4.20	Agree(much)
From 4.20 to less than 5.00	Strongly agree (Very Much)

Source: Al-Sayaad et al., (2006)

Table 4.11.Socio-Cultural Barriers

o	Cultural barrier	Respondent level of response					Central tendency	
	Indicators	Not all	Slightly	Moderate	much extent	G/extent	Mean	S/D
	To what extent do you think that cultural differences prevent refugees and host communities from integrating socially	0	0	11	188	151	4.34	0.595
	How difficult is it for refugees to communicate with members of the host community because of language barriers	0	4	6	206	134	4.39	0.599
	To what extent do Syrian and Yemeni refugees find it difficult to comprehend and fit in with the host culture	0	4	17	207	122	4.40	0.551
	To what extent do cultural barriers hinder Yemeni/Syrian refugees' access to healthcare and education	0	0	1	200	149	4.34	0.574
	How much do cultural stereotypes affect social interactions between Yemeni/Syrian refugees and the host community	0	9	19	170	152	4.28	0.606
	To what extent does cultural understanding among host community influence their willingness to support refugees	0	0	22	184	144	4.42	0.500
	How strongly do cultural barriers affect the overall perception of Yemeni/Syrian refugees within the	0	4	9	183	154	4.26	.672

	host community							
	How much can opportunities for cultural exchange reduce cultural barriers between refugees and host communities	0	8	21	192	29	4.33	.696
	Over all mean/ Stand. Dev						4.35	0.6

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

Table (4.11.) presents quantitative data on refugee perceptions of cultural barriers affecting their interaction with host communities in Addis Ababa. Responses are measured using a Likert scale ranging from “Not at all” to “Great extent,” with mean scores and standard deviations provided for each item. The overall mean score is 4.35, with a standard deviation of 0.6, indicating a high level of agreement among respondents that cultural barriers are significant obstacles to integration.

High Agreement on Cultural Barriers to Social Integration: Statement 1, which assesses the general role of cultural differences in preventing social integration, has a mean of 4.34, suggesting that refugees overwhelmingly believe cultural differences are a strong barrier.

Language as a Major Obstacle

Statement 2, receives one of the highest mean scores of 4.39, indicating that language barriers are seen as a serious difficulty in communication with host community members. This is a key finding because language is fundamental to everyday interaction and service access.

Challenges in Adapting to host Culture

Statement 3, addressing difficulty in fitting into the host culture, has the highest mean of 4.40. This shows that most refugees feel culturally disconnected and struggle to adapt to local norms and values. **Cultural Barriers in Service Access:** According to Statement 4, mean of 4.34, cultural differences also make it more difficult to obtain basic services like healthcare and education.

This might be the result of discrimination, a lack of familiarity with institutional procedures, or a misunderstanding. **Impact of Stereotypes:** According to Statement 5 mean of 4.28, cultural stereotypes have a major impact on social interactions. It emphasizes how preconceived ideas can impede social inclusion, cooperation, and trust. The significance of host community comprehension is indicated by Statement 6, which has the highest mean of 4.42 and the lowest standard deviation 0.50, indicating that host communities' readiness to assist refugees is significantly impacted by their knowledge of their culture. This suggests that host population awareness and education can have a beneficial effect on integration.

Cultural Barriers Shape Perception: Statement 7, mean of 4.26 demonstrates that cultural barriers also points that cultural barriers also affect how refugees are perceived by locals, which may contribute to stigmatization or exclusion. **Possibility of Cultural Exchange:** Statement 8 mean of 4.33 indicates a strong sense of hope that cultural exchange initiatives can lower these obstacles, pointing the way toward better integration.

Policy Development and Multicultural Education: Starting in schools, the government should support multiculturalism by implementing educational programs that instill tolerance and diversity across cultural boundaries. **Investing in Language and Orientation Services:** To assist refugees in navigating local society, provide free Amharic language courses and cultural orientation sessions.

Legal Protections against Discrimination: Make sure that refugees are treated equally by enforcing anti-discrimination laws, especially when it comes to housing, employment, and social interaction. **Building Bridges through Dialogue:** To foster understanding between host communities and refugees, NGOs should host forums for community dialogue and cultural exchange events.

Support Programs for Refugee Integration: Create and administer integration initiatives, such as support groups, intercultural training, and peer mentoring. Campaigns for targeted awareness; Use community influencers and local media to dispel myths and highlight inspiring tales of refugees. **Language and Translation Support:** Provide interpreters and translation assistance in public services (clinics, schools, municipal offices) to ease access barriers.

Implications for Host Communities and Stakeholders

Community Engagement: Local stakeholders should encourage inclusive community initiatives, like mixed sports teams, arts programs, and business cooperatives. **Religious and Cultural Leaders' Role:** These leaders can help shape positive narratives about refugees and promote peaceful coexistence grounded in shared values. **Academic and Civil Society Research:** Encourage universities and think tanks to study integration and publish data-driven recommendations.

This study much consistent with studied by By agreeing with the above, Bloom et al (2015) added that religious difference has induced negative attitudes towards refugees in the host community. Social stressors were also among the barriers which limit interaction among communities. According to Kaiser et al. (2015), Haitian refugees' life in a host community in Dominican Republic can entail multiple psychosocial stressors, including adjustment to a new culture, changes in identity, and institutional and interpersonal discrimination.

Other study also supported by As Bolt et al. (2010) illustrate, residential segregation of Eritreans in Rome hampers integration, which limits not only the socioeconomic and political participation but also the socialization of Eritreans to the implicit norms and practices within native society. In conclusion the data clearly show that cultural barriers remain a major hindrance to refugee-host community interaction in Addis Ababa. However, the high agreement on the

value of cultural exchange and host community understanding points to promising pathways forward. By acting collaboratively, government bodies, NGOs, and civil society can create a more inclusive, empathetic, and integrated urban society.

Table 4.12.Economic Barriers

o	Economic barrier	Respondent level of response					Central tendency	
	Indicators	Not all	Slightly	Moderate	much extent	G/extent	mean	S/D
	To what extent do you agree that Yemeni/Syrian refugees' ability to obtain work is hampered by economic barriers	0	3	23	132	192	.47	0.658
	To what extent do you believe that access to financial resources is limited for Yemeni/Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa	0	6	3	155	186	.49	0.609
	To what extent do social relationships get impacted by economic differences between host communities and refugees	0	0	32	134	184	.43	0.656
	How significant are the challenges in accessing affordable housing for Yemeni/Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa	0	2	37	135	156	.21	0.871
	To what extent do you believe that cultural differences influence the economic integration of Yemeni/Syrian refugees	2	4	17	205	122	.26	0.654
	To what extent does cultural understanding among host community influence their willingness to support refugees	2	0	1	199	148	.40	0.562
	How strongly do you agree that the economic status of host community members impacts their willingness to assist refugees	0	7	41	187	115	.17	.706
	How much do you think community support programs can alleviate economic barriers for Yemeni/Syrian refugees	0	11	15	129	195	.45	.723
	Over all mean/ Stand. Dev						.36	.67

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

This table presents quantitative data on refugee perceptions of economic barriers affecting their interaction with host communities in Addis Ababa. Responses are measured using a Likert scale ranging from Not at all to Great extent, with mean scores and standard deviations provided for each item. The overall mean score of 4.36 on a 5-point Likert scale indicates a high level of agreement that economic barriers significantly affect the integration and well-being of Yemeni and Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa. The relatively low standard deviation of 0.67 suggests consistent responses across the refugee population.

Barriers to Employment with mean of 4.47 are strong consensus that economic barriers significantly limit employment opportunities for refugees. Legal status, lack of recognition of qualifications, and discrimination may be contributing factors. Limited Financial Access mean of 4.49, refugees report severe difficulty accessing financial services, such as banking, loans, and credit, which restricts entrepreneurial efforts and financial independence.

Economic Differences Impact Social Relations mean of 4.43, economic inequality between refugees and hosts appears to strain social cohesion, possibly leading to resentment or marginalization. Affordable housing challenges mean of 4.21, refugees face difficulty accessing low-cost housing, a common urban issue worsened by their vulnerable status and income limitations. Cultural Barriers Affect Economic Integration with mean of 4.26, Cultural misunderstandings and differences are perceived to hinder economic inclusion, such as workplace adaptation and business interaction.

Host Cultural Understanding Encourages Support with mean of 4.40 when hosts understand refugee backgrounds, they are more likely to offer economic assistance, including housing and job referrals. Host economic Status Affects willingness to Help mean of 4.17 Community

members' own economic struggles influence their ability or willingness to assist refugees.

Community Support Programs help reduce barriers mean of 4.45, there is strong belief in the positive impact of support programs, such as job placement, vocational training, and microfinance, to alleviate economic challenges. Policy Reform for Legal work Access, Allow refugee's legal work permits and recognize foreign qualifications to integrate them into the labor market effectively. Include refugees in urban low-income housing schemes and public-private housing development programs.

Access to Banking and Credit, Work with financial institutions to allow refugees access to basic banking services, such as savings accounts and microloans. Job Matching and Skills Development: Establish public employment programs that assess refugee skills and match them with job openings, particularly in labor-shortage sectors. Livelihood Support Programs: To increase self-reliance, NGOs should create focused entrepreneurship and vocational training initiatives. Financial Literacy and Inclusion: Work with banks to provide refugees with training in financial literacy, microfinance, and mobile banking. Subsidized Rental and Shelter Programs: Assist vulnerable refugee households with temporary housing assistance or rent subsidies.

Close Cultural Gaps in the Workplace: To improve integration and lessen workplace miscommunication, provide intercultural training to both employers and refugees. Empowerment of the Community via Collaborative Projects: To foster social and economic ties, plan cooperatives and trade shows that bring together refugees and locals. Engagement of the Private Sector: Use incentives like tax breaks or corporate social responsibility initiatives to persuade companies to hire refugees and offer on-the-job training.

Advocacy and Monitoring: Civil society organizations can monitor economic discrimination, support refugee rights, and suggest evidence-based interventions. This result is in line with

research by Ansar et al. (2021), which examined the barriers to communication between the host community in Bangladesh and Rohingya refugees. They discovered that the host community has anti-refugee sentiment. Economic instability brought on by falling wages and rising prices, unequal access to humanitarian aid, and an unfair distribution of opportunities brought about by large-scale humanitarian operations were found to be the three potential causes of this sentiment. In conclusion, the results unequivocally show that one of the biggest obstacles to the successful integration of Syrian and Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa is economic inequality.

Table 4.13. Legal Barriers

o	Legal Barriers	Respondent level of response					Central tendency	
	Indicators	Not all	Slightly	Moderate	much extent	G/extent	mean	S/D
	How strongly do you agree that legal barriers hinder Yemeni/Syrian refugees from accessing essential services	45	243	30	11	12	.10	0.817
	How much do you think refugees' employment prospects are impacted by their lack of legal documentation	0	327	5	6	12	.15	0.608
	How much do you think legislative constraints impact the ability of Yemeni/Syrian refugees to assimilate into the host community	26	252	33	3	0	.93	0.550
	How significant is the role of the legal system in protecting the rights of Yemeni/Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa	22	284	8	20	16	.21	0.826
	How much do you agree that fear of legal repercussions affects refugees' willingness to seek help from local authorities	26	244	40	4	0	.96	0.580
	To what extent do you believe that knowledge of legal rights among refugees influences their interactions	1	132	4	12	11	.17	0.637
	How strongly do you agree	6	206	44	14	18		.

	that the economic status of host community members impacts their willingness to assist refugees	6					.17	958
	How much do you think advocacy programs can reduce legal barriers faced by Yemeni/Syrian refugees	6 2	218	40	14	16	.15	917
	Over all mean/ Stand. Dev						.10	0.73

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

Legal Barriers to Essential Services, with a mean score of 2.10, 243 respondents, or a significant majority, agreed that legal barriers prevent refugees from accessing essential services. This suggests that policy reform is desperately needed to guarantee that refugees can obtain healthcare, education, and other essential services without facing legal obstacles. To make access easier, governments should endeavor to streamline legal frameworks.

Effect of Legal Documentation on Employment, with a mean score of 2.15, the majority of respondents (327) believed that the absence of legal documentation significantly affects employment prospects. Legislative Restraints on Assimilation, with mean score of 1.93 indicates that a significant portion of respondents 252 said that legislative restraints impede assimilation. This emphasizes the necessity of enacting laws that encourage social integration and inclusion. A more welcoming atmosphere can be achieved through cooperation between the community, NGOs, and the government. Role of the Legal System: Response: Although 284 respondents thought the legal system was important in defending the rights of refugees, the mean score of 2.21 indicates that there may be inefficiencies. It is crucial to strengthen the legal system and make sure refugees understand their rights. Programs for legal aid can be helpful, and educating local officials about the rights of refugees can improve protection.

Fear of Legal Repercussions: With a mean score of 1.96, a sizable portion (244) concurred that refugees' willingness to seek assistance is impacted by their fear of legal repercussions. This draws attention to a significant obstacle to receiving support services. Stakeholders must create an atmosphere where refugees can seek assistance without worrying about facing legal ramifications.

Knowledge of Legal Rights: Response: Only a few respondents 132 believed that knowledge of legal rights influences interactions, with a mean score of 2.17. Enhancing legal literacy among refugees is vital. NGOs can implement awareness campaigns to educate refugees about their rights, promoting better interactions with host communities. Many (206) agreed that the economic status of host community members impacts their willingness to assist refugees, with a mean score of 2.17. Economic challenges within host communities can hinder support for refugees. Programs that improve the economic situation of both refugees and host communities can foster cooperation and mutual support.

Advocacy Programs: Response: A considerable number (218) believed advocacy programs could reduce legal barriers, reflected in a mean score of 2.15. There is a clear opportunity for NGOs and advocacy groups to push for legal reforms. Collaborative advocacy efforts can lead to significant changes in the legal landscape for refugees. Overall Analysis of mean score of 2.10 indicates a slight perception of legal barriers affecting refugees' interactions with host communities. The standard deviation of 0.73 suggests variability in responses, indicating that while many recognize these barriers, experiences may differ based on individual circumstances. This finding much consistent with study by Edlegnaw A.(2023) by his finding The study indicates that legal barriers do not significantly impede the interaction between Eritrean refugees

and the host community. Respondents strongly refute the idea of legal restrictions on refugees' mobility and work access

Government Action: Implement legal reforms to simplify access to services and work permits for refugees. Strengthen the legal framework to ensure rights protection. NGO Initiatives, Create initiatives centered on legal aid and education, and promote refugee rights locally and nationally. Community Engagement, to increase mutual understanding and support, encourage communication between the host and refugee communities. The goal of economic initiatives should be to raise both groups' standard of living. In conclusion, the government, non-governmental organizations, and local stakeholders must work together to address the legal obstacles that Yemeni and Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa must overcome. It is possible to greatly improve the integration of refugees into host communities by expanding legal access, raising awareness, and improving economic conditions.

4.3. Conditions Strengthening Interaction

Exploring the elements influencing interactions between Yemeni/Syria refugees and the Addis Ababa host community was another goal of the study. To gather information, the study used a household survey. These factors were then measured using a 5-point Likert scale that went from "strongly disagree" to "strongly agree," or not at all to very much. Data on a number of factors that influence interactions between the host and refugee communities were obtained from the survey responses. These factors were taken into account in order to investigate how they affect interactions between the host community and refugees.

Table 4.14. Conditions Strengthening Interaction

Conditions Strengthening Interaction	Respondent level of response	Central tendency
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o	Indicators	Not all	Slightly	Moderate	much extent	G/extent	mean	S/D
	To what extent do you think community projects improve Yemeni-Syrian interaction	0	306	4	18	22	.30	0.833
	To what extent do you believe that shared cultural activities promote positive interactions between refugees and local residents	62	244	40	4	0	.96	0.580
	How much do you think access to education for refugees strengthens their relationships with the host community	0	4	8	169	169	.44	0.601
	How significant is the role of local NGOs in facilitating interactions between Yemeni/Syrian refugees and host community members	0	0	44	180	126	.23	0.657
	How much do you agree that positive media representation of refugees influences community attitudes and interactions	0	4	9	183	154	.39	0.599
	To what extent do you believe that language exchange programs improve communication between refugees and host communities	0	0	11	188	151	.40	0.551
	How do you agree that collaborative economic initiatives enhance integration	0	4	6	206	134	.34	.574
	How much do you think community dialogue sessions can strengthen cooperation between refugees and host communities	0	4	17	207	122	.28	.606
	Over all mean/ Stand. Dev						.8	0.62

Source: (author's own filed Survey data, 2025)

Important information about the dynamics between refugees and locals can be found in the table exploring the interaction of Yemeni and Syrian refugees with host communities in Addis Ababa: Conditions Strengthening Interaction. Community Initiatives and Communication, with a mean score of 2.30, respondents believe that community projects only marginally enhance

relations between Syrian refugees and Yemenis. The creation and execution of community projects that are more interesting and pertinent to both host and refugee communities should be funded by governments and non-governmental organizations. More specialized programs that cater to the unique requirements and preferences of both groups might be required.

Cultural Activities: The perception that shared cultural activities foster positive interactions is low, with a mean score of 1.96. In order to improve social cohesion and promote understanding and appreciation of diverse backgrounds, stakeholders should think about planning frequent cultural exchange events. **Access to Education:** With a high mean score of 4.44, it is clear that people believe that having access to education is essential to building stronger relationships. Policies in education that help refugees integrate should be given top priority by governments. In order to foster inclusivity, NGOs can contribute by giving resources and assistance to educational institutions that serve both local and refugee students. **Function of Local NGOs,** Respondents acknowledge the important role that local NGOs play in promoting interactions, as indicated by their mean score of 4.23. Since NGOs play a crucial role in bridging gaps between communities, they should be encouraged and given funding to increase their outreach and programming. Working together, NGOs and government agencies could improve impact and resource allocation.

Media Representation, with mean score of 4.39 indicates a strong conviction that favorable media portrayal shapes public opinion. This emphasizes the necessity of well-planned media campaigns that present refugees in a positive light, dispelling myths and promoting a friendlier atmosphere. To share success stories, media outlets should work with governments and non-governmental organizations. **Language Exchange Programs,** the average score of 4.40 suggests that people have a favorable opinion of language exchange programs. Since these programs

promote relationships and communication, they ought to be expanded. Stakeholders could encourage participation from refugees and locals alike and offer resources for language instruction.

Economic Initiatives: Strong agreement regarding the significance of cooperative economic initiatives is indicated by a mean score of 4.34. Cooperation and mutual reliance can be fostered by supporting cooperative economic endeavors. The government can enact laws that encourage local companies to hire refugees or give them resources to start their own businesses.

Community Dialogue Sessions: A mean score of 4.28 indicates that participants believe dialogue sessions are effective. Regular community discussions can resolve complaints, promote cooperation, and increase trust. These meetings should be led by stakeholders to guarantee that a range of viewpoints are heard. With grand mean of 3.80, the results indicate that although there are opportunities to enhance interactions between Syrian and Yemeni refugees and the host community, much more needs to be done. Governments, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders play a critical role in fostering an atmosphere that promotes mutual understanding and integration. Establish mechanisms for routinely evaluating the success of initiatives meant to enhance interactions, making sure they continue to be responsive to the needs of the community. Stakeholders can greatly enhance the integration process and promote a more peaceful coexistence in Addis Ababa by addressing these findings and their implications.

Table 4.15. Coping mechanisms

o	Coping mechanisms	Respondent level of response					Central tendency	
	Indicators	N ot all	Sli ghtly	M oderate	m uch extent	/exten t	ean	/D S

	Do you rely on your domestic friends and family to assist you in overcoming obstacles in your relationships with the host community	0		1	200	149	.42	0.500
	Do you make any effort to learn the local language and culture in order to facilitate your interaction with the host community	0	8	21	192	129	.26	0.672
	Do you take part in community events or activities offered by local organizations with the aim of getting to know the host community better	0	9	19	170	152	.33	0.696
	Do you try techniques like meditation or mindfulness to cope with stress resulting from your interactions with the host community	0	3	23	132	192	.47	0.658
	Do you contact local NGOs or help groups to help you deal with the difficulties of interacting with the host community	0	6	3	155	186	.49	0.609
	Do you try to concentrate on the positive things and can deal with the difficulties you face in trying to interact with the host community	0	0	32	134	184	.43	0.656
	Have you come up with plans to deal with the obstacles you face when trying to interact with people from the host community	13	16	6	164	51	.21	.961
	Do you let other members of the host community know about traditions and cultures from your side to enhance understanding and respect	0	7	21	16	05	.35	.960
	Over all mean/ Stand. Dev						.37	.57

Source: (filed Survey, 2025)

Coping Mechanisms, dependence on domestic Family and friends, With a mean of 4.42, it is evident that there exists an intense reliance on family and friends to cope with relationship barriers. Governments and NGOs need to realize the part social networks play in refugee well-being. Community-building activities and such interventions that strengthen these social

networks can enhance support among refugees. Efforts to Acquire Local Language and Culture: With a mean score of 4.26, it suggests that most refugees try their best to learn the local language and culture so that they can engage comfortably. Stakeholders need to provide accessible language and cultural learning programs. Not only does it facilitates integration but also allows refugees to engage more confidently with locals. Participation in Community Life, with a mean of 4.33, participation in community life is considered an essential means of learning about the host country. Local organizations and NGOs need to increase outreach so that refugees can be involved in community activities so that friendship and understanding are fostered.

Coping Mechanisms like Meditation: a very high mean score of 4.47 indicates that refugees utilize mechanisms like meditation to cope with stress generated through interaction. Mental health support programs must incorporate stress management techniques. Mindfulness and coping skills training workshops tailored for refugees can be conducted by NGOs. Reaching Out to NGOs for Help: having an average score of 4.49, it shows that refugees tend to reach out to local NGO for assistance in managing issues. NGOs should make adequate resources and readily accessible service provisions available and training the staff to become culturally aware has the ability to improve the effectiveness of these services.

Focus on Positivity, the mean score of 4.43 indicates that refugees try to be positive when they face adversity. Resilience support and positive thinking interventions can prove effective. Workshops for success stories or community forums could extend the focus on this attitude. Planning to Overcome Problems, with the average score of 4.21, it means that refugees actually do make plans to overcome interaction issues. Stakeholders should provide problem-solving resource provision and planning ability development. This is the one that prepares refugees with the capability to do things proactively in their integration process. Sharing Traditional Culture: A mean of 4.35 shows refugees share their traditions in order to bridge gaps. Cultural exchange programs have the potential to enhance respect and tolerance. Governments and NGOs can host events where refugees share their cultures, where dialogue and learning are made possible.

In Conclusion With an overall mean of 4.37, the findings indicate that refugees employ different effective coping strategies to enhance their engagement with the host society. This indicates their resilience and receptiveness to integration, and therefore the significance of supportive systems.

4.3.1. Recommendations

Develop programs that connect refugees with neighboring families and society members to facilitate supportive relationships. Language and Cultural Training: Implement accessible language classes and cultural orientation courses to facilitate refugees in their communications.

Implement mental health programs that include stress management skills appropriate to the refugee context. Promote Community Participation: Invite participation from local groups in creating more accessible community activities open to inviting refugee participation.

Implement events that allow refugees to exchange cultures, building increased understanding and respect. Through responding to the observations and their consequences, stakeholders can play a great role in improving the integration process of Syrian and Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa towards a more cohesive and responsive community environment.

2.4.1. Econometric model

To identify enabling factors or barriers to interaction, it is imperative to use inferential statistics. This method helps to determine the factors (cultural, economic, legal barriers) which hinders to interaction between Yemeni/Syria migrants and the host community. The dependent variable in the model is the social interaction between Yemeni/Syria refugees and the host community. . Since the dependent variable is a limited dependent integer ranging between 1 and 5, by using transpose method of the value and get average mean score, the study employed

2.4.2: Regression analysis

Table 4.16. Regression Analysis

Model Summary ^b					
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the	Durbin-Watson

b. Predictors: (Constant), Legal barriers, cultural barriers, Economical barriers

Survey (2025) Spss Version 27

The ANOVA table reveals a high relationship between the predictor's legal barriers, cultural barriers, and economic barriers and the dependent, integration (Integrationave2). The regression sum of squares is 49.311, which denotes variation explained by the model, while the sum of squares of residuals is 58.063, showing unexplained variation. The total variation in scores for integration is 107.374. The degrees of freedom are 3 for regression and 346 for residuals, and the total is 349. The mean square values are 16.437 for regression and 0.168 for residuals. The value of F is 97.948, confirming the overall significance of the model, with a p-value of .000, indicating an extremely small probability that the observed associations are due to chance. The model explains approximately 45.9% of the variance in integration, which means that while a lot of the variation is explained, over 54% remains unexplained. This suggests that interventions toward these barriers have a high likelihood of enhancing refugee integration, and policymakers should target such areas. The future research should investigate other factors, like social support or involvement in community activities which can affect integration outcomes. Overall, ANOVA results underscore the importance of understanding the determinants of refugee integration and also signal the need to further examine unmeasured variables in order to increase policy effectiveness.

Table 4.18.Coefficients

Coefficients					
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
	(Constant)	-	.219	-	.

		1.952			8.898	000
	Cultural barriers	.425	.048	.232	.9524	.000
	Economic barriers	.116	.041	.135	.8452	.005
	Legal barriers	.238	.052	.440	.1948	.000
a. Dependent Variable: Integration						

Survey (2025) Spss Version 27

The coefficients table investigates the relationship between the predictors cultural barriers, economic barriers, and legal barriers—and the dependent variable, integration (Integrationave2). The unstandardized coefficients show that the constant is -1.952, the expected integration value when all the predictors are at zero. For cultural barriers, an increase of one unit is linked with a 0.425 increase in integration scores; economic barriers show an increase of 0.116, whereas legal barriers are linked with an increase of 0.238. The standard errors indicate precision of these estimates, at 0.048 for the barriers of culture, 0.041 for economic barriers, and 0.052 for legal barriers. Standardized coefficients represent relative contributions of each of the individual predictors, which are evidenced to be legal barriers (Beta = 0.440) with the strongest impact on integration, followed by cultural barriers (0.232) and economic barriers (0.135). The t-statistics confirm all the predictors are statistically significant ($p < 0.01$), with a significant influence on integration. The findings show dropping legal barriers may lead to the largest improvements in integration outcomes, with special attention being given to cultural and economic barriers. Policymakers should tackle these barriers, and future studies can explore additional determinants influencing integration. In spite of the strong correlations witnessed, the coefficients must be viewed under the context of the study with the understanding that each one's experience can be different. Generally, this analysis calls for specific interventions to improve refugee integration.

4.2 Qualitative analysis

4.2.1. Profile of study participants

This section contains profiles of study participants who have participated in in-depth interviews. It includes age, sex, nationality, marital status, family size, educational level and means of livelihood. The study involved 18 participants, (11 male, 7 females) respondents of whom were selected for in-depth interviews. The participants were drawn from both the Yemeni/Syria refugee and host communities in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

4.2.2. Economic integration

The study highlights the complex and multifaceted economic interactions between Yemeni and Syrian refugees and the host community in Addis Ababa. These interactions manifest through participation in local saving systems, informal trading, and collaborative business activities.

4.2.2.1 Participation in Equb

The traditional saving group called "Equb," which is prevalent in the host community, was reported to have little participation by many refugees. There are a number of reasons for this lack of involvement. For some refugees, Addis Ababa is only a stopover, and their time in Ethiopia is only temporary. "I don't know how long I will be here, so I prefer not to tie up my money in a savings group," said two refugees; their names are "Zakar and his friend Mohamad" from Yemeni. If I decide to leave, I need to be able to access my money quickly. They said we had made money and involve petty trade as of fulfilling our daily consumption. Furthermore, some refugees like "Zahara and her brother Nezif" from Syria feel left out of Equb groups, which are frequently made up mostly of members of the local community. Their participation in regular

meetings and social events may be hampered by linguistic and cultural barriers. They explained even if this equib are vital for saving and enhance our integration the local community have meeting with short time and planned with that issue so we don't have access to share or communicate with them.

Some refugees like “Zamzam and Muntessim” from yemani who take part in Equb find the experience fulfilling in spite of these difficulties. They value the chance to build relationships with members of the host community and save money, both of which improve their social connections. As Zamzam said she lived in for the last six year and rent house and involve in local market by making buy and sold local product. Therefor she's staying enable her to participate in such types of economic activity easly with local community.

4.2.2.2. Engagement in Business Activities

Business operations are a major way that the two communities interact economically. Due to the lack of formal employment opportunities, refugees frequently participate in informal trading. They can trade goods and services with locals thanks to their involvement in the unorganized sector, which helps them, develop social capital and business relationships. For example, local community members offer marketing and management expertise, while refugees offer special skills like cooking traditional foods. Successful joint ventures that benefit both parties have resulted from this collaboration. "Working with the refugee women on our small business project was enlightening," said two local participants his name is Ashenafi and Melkamu". Our varied skill sets enhanced one another, and we gained a great deal of knowledge from one another.

4.2.2.3. Varying Levels of Engagement

The study discovered that refugees engaged in business activities to differing degrees. Some run small businesses, such as market stalls, while others are employed by larger companies that are owned by members of the host community. However, there are obstacles that restrict economic interaction, such as legal limitations, language barriers, and capital access.

Accessing formal employment and educational opportunities has proven to be extremely difficult for refugees, which limits their economic mobility and ability to integrate into the local economy.

4.2.3.4. Participation in Economic Associations

Self-help groups (SHGs) and cooperatives are examples of traditional economic associations in which five refugees like “Sadik, Menahil, Tesnim, Sara and Abas” two of from Syria and else from Yemeni reported little participation. Despite obstacles like language barriers and difficulties integrating culturally, some refugees expressed a wish to join these groups. Their capacity to fully participate in and profit from local economic systems is impacted by this limited participation.

4.2.3.5. Learning Livelihood Activities

The above five Refugees reported that the host community taught them a variety of livelihood skills, such as marketing tactics, cooking methods, and business management. These abilities have improved their economic prospects and helped them better navigate the local economy. They reported that we had experienced and get local community feeding and food preparation with their components.

4.2.3.6. Contribution to the Local Market

Many refugees think that the local market benefits from their presence. They bring in a variety of goods and services that enhance the cultural and economic fabric of the neighborhood. According to one refugee, his name is “Ousman” their distinctive products and services with fast food preparation with simplified preparation boost local demand, which eventually helps both communities. According to Ousman report he come from yemmani, theirs daily walking alongside the road and sold different portable product like perfume, cosmetics product are made local community appreciable and make them interact easily.

4.2.3.7. Collaboration in Business Activities

Collaborative business endeavors constitute a noteworthy mode of economic interaction. Many refugees reported from both countries are trade and start their own businesses informally because they are unable to obtain formal employment. Both communities gain from this partnership, which cultivates social capital and economic ties. For instance, locals offer marketing and management experience, and refugees frequently contribute their special culinary talents, resulting in profitable joint ventures.

Notwithstanding the benefits of these contacts, refugees encounter a number of obstacles, such as restricted financial resources, regulatory limitations, and difficulties navigating the local labor market. Many Yemeni and Syrian refugees reported that having trouble finding formal work and educational opportunities, which limits their ability to integrate into the host community and move up the economic ladder.

In conclusion, the economic exchanges between Syrian and Yemeni refugees and the Addis Ababa host community show a cooperative and adaptable environment. Despite ongoing difficulties, these interactions' reciprocal advantages show the possibility of community growth and economic integration.

4.2.3. Social Interaction

4.2.3.1. Community-Based Organizations

The majority of Syrian and Yemeni refugees stated that their communities lacked formal community-based organizations like Mahiber and Edir, which are typical among Ethiopians. Although some were aware of these associations, they pointed out that the host community was the primary user of them. Although they weren't active members, a few refugees mentioned that they occasionally interacted with local organizations, mostly through host neighbors or cooperative charity events.

One of my Yemeni informants explained this situation as follows: whose name is "Ahmad" "We don't have Edir like the locals, but sometimes we are invited to attend meetings or events when we live in the same condominium." According to Ahmad report due to different restriction like language, information and time to participate we don't engage in practice with such social association."

4.2.3.2.Membership and Participation in Community Organizations

Participation in host community organizations was minimal. According to Ahmad and Ousman reported that Refugees expressed unfamiliarity with the structure and purpose of such groups, and many felt excluded due to language barriers or lack of invitation. However, some Syrians and Yemenis participated indirectly when their neighbors invited them to fundraising or communal cleaning activities in shared housing areas.

4.2.3.3. Participation in Cultural Festivities and Rituals

Cultural festivities of the host community, such as Timket (Epiphany) and Meskel (Finding of the True Cross), and Irrecha were occasionally attended by Yemeni and Syrian refugees. However, participation was often observational rather than active. Refugees appreciated the public celebrations but expressed challenges in fully engaging due to cultural differences and unfamiliar rituals.

“Rana”, a Syrian refugee, said: “We enjoy watching the festivals on the streets, especially Timket. It is colorful and joyful, but we don’t really take part. We don’t know the customs.” Rana and Sultan Reported that during such festival as feeling enjoy and making the obvious daily petytrade different product by selling with local community.

4.2.3.4. Participation in Social Occasions (Weddings and Funerals)

Few refugees reported participating in weddings or funerals within the host community. When such participation occurred, it was usually due to close proximity or friendships with Ethiopian neighbors. For the most part, Yemeni and Syrian refugees held separate social ceremonies within their own communities, often shaped by their religious and cultural traditions.

4.2.3.5. Participation in Religious Festivals

Participation in religious festivals was more common among refugees who shared the same religious background with the host community. For example, Muslim Syrian and Yemeni sometimes shared greetings during Eid and Ramadan with Muslim Ethiopians.

A Yemeni refugee explained: thier name is “Ahmad and Tesnim “We say Eid Mubarak to our Ethiopian Muslim neighbors, and sometimes we share food, and sometimes we pray together in mosque.” Unfortunately such conversation are similar with Muslim community all over the world.”

4.2.3.6. Communication with the Host Community

Communication with the host community was generally limited to essential interactions, such as in markets, clinics, or residential compounds. Most refugees relied on basic Amharic phrases or non-verbal communication. When both parties made an effort, communication improved.

“sadiq”, one of my Yemeni informants stated that: “I use simple Amharic or English to talk with shopkeepers or taxi drivers. Sometimes it’s hard, but people help. According to Sadia report always we have tried to learn and speak local language Amharic by reconciling with English language in order to easily understand.

4.2.3.7. Language Learning

Most Yemeni and Syrian refugees had limited proficiency in Amharic or Afaan Oromo, the dominant languages in Addis Ababa. Those who had been in Ethiopia for several years

learned Amharic through daily interactions, TV, or neighbors. Some children picked up the language faster through school or play with Ethiopian peers.

One of my Syrian informant noted that “sofiya”: “My children speak better Amharic than me. They learn from their friends in school and help me translate.” Syria mothers “Sofia” reported that even if we engage in market and social activity our children had communicate and understand local community through negboring children and looking Ethiopian film and tv.

4.2.3.8. Intermarriage between Refugees and Host Community

Intermarriage between Yemeni or Syrian refugees and members of the host community was reported as rare. Cultural and religious differences, as well as community pressure, were cited as major barriers. However, a few cases were mentioned, especially involving Syrian Christian refugees and Ethiopian Orthodox Christians, often where shared faith eased integration. According to “Sara And abas” report the formers refuge of their friend his name is Elias Married with Ethiopian Girl her name is Genet.

4.2.3.9. Places of Contact with the Host Community

Most interactions with the host community occurred in public spaces such as markets, public transportation, health centers, and residential compounds. These were typically brief and transactional, though some meaningful relationships developed in shared living spaces.

Two of my Syrian study participant explained that “Maria”, and “ousman”: “We live in the same building with Ethiopian families. At first, we just greeted each other, but now we share coffee sometimes.” Marria and ousman reported that contact and communication are better in house or condominium rather than working place or alongside road due to business.”

4.2.3.10. Feeling of Safety in Interacting with the Host Community

Most Yemeni and Syrian refugees like” sara and Ousman” reported feeling relatively safe in Addis Ababa, though some expressed anxiety in unfamiliar neighborhoods or crowded public spaces. Negative experiences were rare but included occasional discrimination or suspicion, particularly around times of heightened political tension. The refugees reported this there is little discrimination and make aloneness from local community except there is political tension and around times.

4.2.3.11. Relationships with Host Community Members

The nature of neighborly relationships varied. Refugees living in integrated condominiums tended to have better relationships with host community members. Sharing common spaces such as corridors or compounds created opportunities for daily interaction. These relationships were described as cordial, though not deeply personal.

4.2.3.12. Cultural Traits Learned from the Host Community

Several refugees reported adopting elements of Ethiopian culture, including food, dress, and aspects of social etiquette. Syrian and Yemeni women in particular mentioned wearing Ethiopian-style dresses such as habeshakemis during special events. Some also adopted coffee ceremony traditions or gender norms, such as increased independence of women in public life.

Suhad, a Yemeni refugee, said: “I like the Ethiopian dress. I wear it sometimes when we are invited to local events. It makes me feel included.” The other refugees like Zamazam reported that host community wearing or clothing style are good but our religion are restricted to adopt it.

In summary the findings highlighted socio-cultural interaction between Yemeni and Syrian refugees and the host community in Addis Ababa is shaped by shared spaces, mutual curiosity, and practical communication needs. While formal participation in host community structures is limited, informal interactions especially in housing and religious settings offer meaningful opportunities for connection. Language barriers, cultural differences, and limited institutional support remain key challenges to deeper integration. However, the gradual adoption of local customs and language, particularly by children and youth, suggests that longer-term coexistence is fostering mutual understanding.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Conclusion

The present study had three specific objectives, i.e., examining the mode of interaction describing the barriers to interaction, identifying factors that support interaction, and coping mechanisms between Yemeni/Syrian refugees and host populations.

The majority of the Yemeni and Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa have been in residence for more than four years, which suggests a trend towards semi-permanent to permanent settlement. This lengthy duration has implications for plans for integration, urban policy, and relations between communities, and suggests that there is a need for durable solutions that extend beyond emergency assistance.

Cultural barriers remain the primary obstacle to host community-refugee relations in Addis Ababa. Nevertheless, the high level of consensus on the significance of cultural exchange and host community awareness (cultural comprehension by host community influences their acceptance of welcoming refugees) provides areas for improvement.

The chief hindrance to the successful integration of Syrian and Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa was economic barriers. The statistics also demonstrate that community support and awareness play a major role in minimizing such challenges.

The regression analysis indicates the relationship between economic barriers, cultural barriers, legal barriers, and integration of Yemeni and Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa. The result indicates that legal barriers contribute most to integration, followed by cultural barriers and economic barriers.

The study confirms that bridging legal barriers can significantly improve integration outcomes. Policymakers are invited to assign top priority to undertaking measures to reduce these barriers, considering their utmost importance in fostering refugee integration. Neither cultural nor economic barriers are to be ignored because they also significantly contribute to influencing integration scores.

The statistically significant coefficients emphasize the strong impact of the predictors on integration and state that interventions in such areas may lead to positive outcomes. More factors that may affect integration among refugees should be researched in the future and deepen our understanding further.

These coefficients should be interpreted in light of the research with consideration that individual experiences and nuances may influence integration in various ways. Despite the differences, the findings highlight the necessity for interventions with specified designs for better integration of Syrian and Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa. By removing legal, cultural, and economic barriers, policymakers can make it more favorable and welcoming for refugee populations to integrate into host society.

While opportunities for strengthening contacts between Yemeni and Syrian refugees and host populations do exist, much remains to be done. Establish systems for regularly assessing the effectiveness of programs to strengthen contacts so that they will remain responsive to community needs.

The results showed that refugees utilize multiple effective coping strategies to improve their relations with the host society. This is a demonstration of their strength and adaptability to integrate, and thus there is a requirement for supportive structures.

5.2. Recommendation

- The intervention of NGOs and the local community is vital to counter legal challenges faced by refugees. Governments need to make legal access, sensitization, and economic empowerment their priority to integrate refugees into the host community.

Social Work Education implication

- Cultural competence training should be provided under social work education programs to enable practitioners to negotiate cultural divides in interactions between refugee-host communities effectively. The culture sensitivity is the critical tool for empathy building and construction of inclusive society.
- Towards social work education that prepares students to advocate for policy changes that can minimize economic barriers for refugees. Policy advocacy training can prepare social workers to make system-wide changes that expand economic opportunities for refugees.
- Social work policy should advance a combined, multi-sector effort towards addressing economic barriers to refugee integration. Policy reform, nongovernmental organization advocacy, and civic participation must be integrated to enable economic empowerment of refugees and foster coexistence with host communities.

- Policies have to be developed for setting up supportive frameworks that facilitate the adoption of effective coping mechanisms among refugees. Social work policies have to describe priorities for the development of programs and services enhancing refugee resilience and facilitation of good relations with the host community.
- Social workers may engage in joint interventions with government organizations, NGOs, and civil society to break through cultural, economic, and legal barriers that impede integration. Social workers can thus help build more inclusive and empathetic urban societies.
- There is a need for social work professionals to institute programs of regular review of interventions aimed at encouraging interactions between the local community and refugees. This will ensure that interventions are sensitive to changing needs in the community as well as meaningfully contribute to integration outcomes.

5.3. Future Research

Future Research Directions

Long-term integration impacts of Syrian and Yemeni refugees in Addis Ababa, considering the trend towards semi-permanent to permanent settlement, can be studied in future. The long-term impacts of sustainable solutions on integration programs, urban policy, and social relations should be studied by such researches.

Decomposition can further examine the impact of cultural exchange on refugee-host community relations. How cultural understanding influences refugees' acceptance and integration can provide insights into effective methods of promoting inclusive urban societies.

Economic barriers and community assistance studies on enhancing economic opportunities among refugees are needed. Future studies can determine whether multi-sectorial responses to

economic concerns and peaceful coexistence between host communities and refugees are effective.

Investigating the role of legal barriers to integration outcomes and the role of cooperation approaches toward enhancing access to law is most crucial. Future research could focus on implementation of legal reforms towards promoting integration and developing a welcoming atmosphere for the refugees' community.

Future research is needed to determine other factors influencing refugee integration that go beyond economic, cultural, and legal barriers. Investigating these factors has the potential to provide a deeper understanding of the complexities of refugee integration and inform targeted interventions.

Future studies could focus on evaluating the effectiveness of programs aimed at enhancing interactions between refugees and host communities. Assessing the responsiveness of these programs to community needs and their impact on integration outcomes can guide the development of more effective interventions.

Research on effective coping mechanisms employed by refugees to enhance interactions with the host community can shed light on resilience and integration processes. Understanding these mechanisms can inform the development of supportive frameworks that empower refugees to thrive in their new environment.

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Appendix

Appendix 1: Informed Consent Form

My name is BesufkadTadese, and I am a graduate student at Addis Ababa University, School of social work. Currently, I am conducting thesis titled “Assessing the integration and interaction of Yemeni and Syrian refugees into the host communities in Addis Ababa” for the partial fulfillment of Master of Social Work (MSW).

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary, and you can choose not to participate in the interview or withdraw your consent anytime at the middle of the interview. I would like to ask you questions that will not take long-time if you kindly allow me. To voice-record your answers so that I can change it in two written forms and use it as an input in this study. I would very much appreciate your participation. The voice recording will be discarded appropriately after the completion of the study. Your answers will be confidential, and I will not record your name so that your answers will be anonymous. If you are agreed to participate in this study, may I have your signature here please?

Respondents agree to interview _____ date ____/____/____

Appendix 2: Interview Guides for In-depth Interviewees of refugees and host community members

Case Identifier: _____

Section 1: Respondents Profile

1. Sex: _____
2. Age: _____
3. Educational Level: _____
4. Marital Status: _____
5. Family Size: _____
6. Previous residence/citizenship: _____
7. Occupation/ Profession: _____
8. What is your religion? _____
9. How long have you lived in Addis Ababa? _____

Section 2: Refugees Experience

1. What are the pulling and pushing factors to come to Addis Ababa?
2. How did you come to Addis Ababa?
3. How do you describe the life of refugee since your departure?

Section 3: On the form of interaction:

1. How have you been economically interacting with community of Addis Ababa?
2. How do you secure your means of living in Addis Ababa?
3. Have you been working with the host community?

4. Where did you buy goods and services mostly?
5. Do you borrow goods and services from the host community?
6. Do you engage in business activities?
7. If yes for the above question, How competitive is it, would you explain it in detail?
8. Have you ever been participated in Equb with host/refugee communities?
9. Are there any economic associations (SHGs, cooperatives) host community and refugees participate?
10. What livelihood activities you learned from host community?
11. What do you think the contribution of refugees to the local market?

Section 4: How have you been socially interacting with community of Addis Ababa?

1. Is there community based organization in your community? (Edir, Mahiber)
2. If yes, are you a member/participant of community-based organization?
3. Do you participate in the cultural festivity/ rituals in your hosting community?
4. Do you participate on social occasions (wedding/funerals) in Addis Ababa?
5. Have you participated in religious festivals with the host community of Addis Ababa?
6. How do you communicate with host community of Addis Ababa?
7. Do you speak languages spoken in Addis Ababa? How you learn those languages?
8. Is intermarriage common between refugees and host community of Addis Ababa?
9. Where do you contact with host/ community members most? (public transport, sport events, social service centers)
10. Do you feel safe to make contact with host community members?

11. How do you characterize your relationship with your neighbors of the host community?
12. What cultural traits learnt from host community? (dressing style, gender role)

Appendix 3: Survey questionnaire

Dear respondents

My name is BesufkadTadese, and I am a graduate student at Addis Ababa University, School of Social Work. Currently I am conducting thesis titled “Exploring the interaction between Yemeni and Syrian refugees with host community in Addis Ababa” for the partial fulfillment of Master of Social Work (MSW).

This questionnaire will take approximately 20 minutes of your time. And we are grateful for your kind participation in the enrichment of this research.

Please tick; rank at the provided space below, any comment or suggestions are greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact me with the address given below.

Name -BesufkadTadese Mobile phone no- 0920078773

Email Address- besufkadt10@gmail.com

Instruction: please read each of the following questions carefully and respond your opinion based on your knowledge. There is written answer request on the given blank space for detail information needed, tick on the box (*) which approximately fit for you and grading the question by encircle the option given.

Case identifier: _____

Section 1: Respondent profile

1. Sex: _____
2. Age: _____
3. Educational Level: _____
4. Marital Status: _____
5. Previous residence/ citizenship: _____
6. Occupation/profession: _____
7. What is your religion: _____
8. How long have you lived in Addis Ababa: _____

Section 2: Barriers of the interaction

2.1 Cultural Barriers:

	Cultural Barriers	1 (Not at All)	2 (slightly)	3 (Moderate)	4 (very much)	5(ex treme)
	To what extent do you think that cultural differences prevent refugees and host communities from integrating socially?					
	How difficult is it for refugees to communicate with members of the host community because of language barriers?					
	To what extent do Syrian and Yemeni refugees find it difficult to comprehend and fit in with the host culture?					
	To what extent do cultural barriers hinder Yemeni/Syrian refugees' access to resources (such as healthcare and education)?					
	How much do cultural stereotypes affect social interactions between Yemeni/Syrian refugees and the host community?					

	To what extent does cultural understanding among host community members influence their willingness to support refugees?					
	How strongly do cultural barriers affect the overall perception of Yemeni/Syrian refugees within the host community?					
	How much can opportunities for cultural exchange reduce cultural barriers between refugees and host communities?					

2.2 Economic Barrier:

	Economic Barrier:	1 (Not at All)	2 (slightly)	3 (Moderate)	4 (very much)	5(ex treme)
	To what extent do you agree that Yemeni/Syrian refugees' ability to obtain work is hampered by economic barriers?					
	To what extent do you believe that access to financial resources is limited for Yemeni/Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa?					
	To what extent do social relationships get impacted by economic differences between host communities and refugees?					
	How significant are the challenges in accessing affordable housing for Yemeni/Syrian refugees					

	in Addis Ababa?					
	How much do you agree that the lack of economic opportunities affects the mental well-being of Yemeni/Syrian refugees?					
	To what extent do you believe that cultural differences influence the economic integration of Yemeni/Syrian refugees?					
	How strongly do you agree that the economic status of host community members impacts their willingness to assist refugees?					
	How much do you think community support programs can alleviate economic barriers for Yemeni/Syrian refugees?					

2.3 Legal Barriers:

	Legal Barriers:	1 (Not at All)	2 (slightly)	3 (Moderate)	4 (very much)	5(extreme)
	How strongly do you agree that legal barriers hinder Yemeni/Syrian refugees from accessing essential services?					
	How much do you think refugees' employment prospects are impacted by their lack of legal documentation?					

	How much do you think legislative constraints impact the ability of Yemeni/Syrian refugees to assimilate into the host community?					
	How significant is the role of the legal system in protecting the rights of Yemeni/Syrian refugees in Addis Ababa?					
	How much do you agree that fear of legal repercussions affects refugees' willingness to seek help from local authorities?					
	To what extent do you believe that knowledge of legal rights among refugees influences their interactions with host communities?					
	How strongly do you agree that the legal status of refugees affects their social relationships within the host community?					
	How much do you think advocacy programs can reduce legal barriers faced by Yemeni/Syrian refugees?					

Section 3: conditions Strengthening Interaction

	Question: conditions	1	2	3	4	5(e
	Strengthening Interaction	(Not at All)	(slightly)	(Moderate)	(very much)	xtreme)

	To what extent do you think community projects improve Yemeni-Syrian interaction?					
	To what extent do you believe that shared cultural activities promote positive interactions between refugees and local residents?					
	How much do you think access to education for refugees strengthens their relationships with the host community?					
	How significant is the role of local NGOs in facilitating interactions between Yemeni/Syrian refugees and host community members?					
	How much do you agree that positive media representation of refugees influences community attitudes and interactions?					
	To what extent do you believe that language exchange					

	programs improve communication between refugees and host communities?					
	How strongly do you agree that collaborative economic initiatives enhance relationships between Yemeni/Syrian refugees and the host community?					
	How much do you think community dialogue sessions can strengthen understanding and cooperation between refugees and host communities?					

Section4: Coping mechanisms for the interaction barrier

	Question: Coping mechanisms	1 (Not at All)	2 (slightly)	3 (Moderate)	4 (very much)	5(e xtreme)
	Do you rely on your domestic friends and family to assist you in overcoming					

	obstacles in your relationships with the host community?					
	Do you make any effort to learn the local language and culture in order to facilitate your interaction with the host community?					
	Do you take part in community events or activities offered by local organizations with the aim of getting to know the host community better?					
	Do you try techniques like meditation or mindfulness to cope with stress resulting from your interactions with the host community?					
	Do you contact local NGOs or help groups to help you deal with the difficulties of interacting with the host community?					
	Do you try to concentrate on the					

	positive things in your situation so that you can deal with the difficulties you face in trying to interact with the host community?					
	Have you come up with plans to deal with the obstacles you face when trying to interact with people from the host community?					
	Do you let other members of the host community know about traditions and cultures from your side to enhance understanding and respect?					

Thank you for your time and all the valuable information!!!

Table 1: Work plan of the study

Appendix 5: Budget Breakdown

No	List of Items	Unit	Quantity	Unit price (Birr)	Total price (birr)
1	A4 paper	Packet	2	1000	2000
2	Pen	Packet	1	180	180
3	Pencil	Packet	1	60	60
4	Sharpener	No	4	10	40

5	Eraser	No	5	10	50
6	Ruler	No	2	15	30
7	Notebook	No	4	35	140
8	Mobile card	Card	30	50	1500
9	Binder	No	2	50	100
10	Photocopy	Page	600	1	600
11	printing	Page	150	4	600
12	Flash-disk	No	2	450	900
13	CD	No	4	30	120
14	Binding	No	2	100	200
15	Transportation	Birr	-	800	800
16	Miscellaneous cost	Birr	-	-	-
Total			-	-	-



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School of Social Work

Date April 14/4 2025
Ref: SSW/133/2025/2017

TO: whom it may concern

Student Besufkid Tadesse ID No. SSW/133/15 is conducting a research for his/ her MA thesis project as a partial fulfilment of the requirement for MA degree in Social Work. The title of his /her thesis Exploring the interaction of Yemeni and Syrian refugees with the host Communities in Addis Ababa

Therefore, we kindly request your esteemed office to provide relevant information to the student. Thank you in advance for your cooperation

Sincerely

[Handwritten Signature]

Eshcol Teferra (MSW)

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SEEK WISDOM, ELEVATE YOUR INTELLECT, AND SERVE HUMANITY