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# **ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

**MPA THESIS**

**ON**

**CAUSES, IMPLICATIONS AND REMEDIES OF CRIMES  
IN ADDIS ABABA SINCE 1991**

**A Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Addis Ababa  
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of Master of Public Administration (MPA) in the Department of  
Public Administration and Development Management (PADM)**

**BY: Woldegebriel Beyene**

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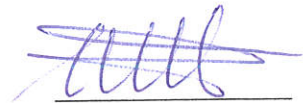
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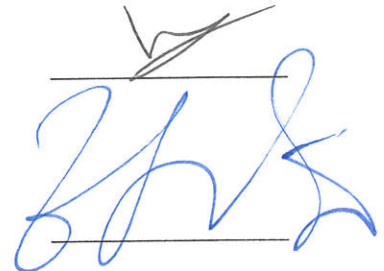
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Graduate Committee

Jemal Abayissa  
Advisor

\_\_\_\_\_  


Benouk Mesfin  
Internal Examiner

Getachew Assefa  
External Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_  




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## **List of Acronyms**

AU	African Union
CSA	Central Statistics Authority
EPRDF	Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Democratic Front
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
NGOs	Non- Governmental Organizations
OAU	Organization of African Unity
SALWs	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SIRAA	Security, Immigration and Refugee Affairs Authority
SNNP	Southern Nations, Nationalities and peoples
UN	United Nations
UNCHS	United Nations Center for Housing and Settlement
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
WPE	Workers Party of Ethiopia

## **Abstract**

It is easily understandable that the problem of crime is very serious issue threatening the normal life of citizens. In Addis Ababa, crimes have been causing loss of lives and property. Different types of crimes were committing in the city, which affected directly many victims and their families. Apart from the losses inflicted on human beings and property, acts of criminalities are also known to have several ramifications among which destabilizing peaceful and secured life of residents, hampering development and democratic governance and ruining the positive image of Addis Ababa in particular and Ethiopia in general are the major ones.

Furthermore, Addis Ababa as a capital city has various significances. It is economic and political center of the whole nation which is home to more than 3 million populations. Moreover, important international organizations like AU, UNECA and other wide ranging diplomatic missions are residing in the city. For these main reasons, Addis Ababa is selected to be a study area.

The researcher is in a strong belief that the root causes of crimes and their implications have to be identified so as to propose remedial solutions for tackling the prevailing problems of crime. Various types of acts of criminalities have been committed in Addis Ababa. But for the purpose of this study, records of only seven types of crimes were collected. These are homicide, attempted homicide, aggravated assault, robbery, attempted robbery theft and illicit possession and trade of arms. Crime statistics of suspected offenders were collected starting from 1993/94 up to 2006/2004 and the trend for these types of crime was not consistently increasing or decreasing.

Comparative analysis of crime was made for the Regional States of Ethiopia. Countrywide criminal analysis including for Addis Ababa have shown that male offenders were the highest compared to female counterparts. For Addis Ababa the highest offenders by educational qualifications were the illiterate and elementary levels, while the age category of offenders was 19-30 years. Similarly, the unemployed individuals were the highest crime committers in Addis Ababa.

In this research the root causes of crime have been identified. The first possible explanation for the commission was unemployment. Many individuals in the city involve in various crimes to satisfy their economic necessities. On the other hand, legal shortcomings and loopholes together with illicit proliferation, circulation and use of arms were other causes of crime.

Finally, certain policy options have been devised as means to tackle the problem of crime. The proposed policy options are believed to be used as possible remedial solutions to mitigate problems of unemployment, capacity, regulatory limitations and gaps, implementation and other problems.

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# Chapter one

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Background to the Study

The central theme of this study is to assess the prevalence of major types of crimes in Addis Ababa since 1991, with special focus to the causes, implications and remedial solutions. This research has attempted to identify the root causes and the consequences of the most important types of crimes committed in the city of Addis Ababa. More over, countrywide assessment of crime situation in general and report of the prevalence of major crimes in the study area in particular is also provided in this research thesis. Out of the various kinds of crimes that are known to take place in the capital city, the writer will deal only with the most important types of crimes namely, homicide/murder, attempted homicide, aggravated assault or injury inflicted on persons, robbery(armed and unarmed), theft and illicit possession and trade of firearms. These crimes are chosen for two main reasons. From the preliminary assessment in the Addis Ababa Police Commission and related secondary data that was made by the researcher, the aforementioned crimes have been committing frequently in the city which deserve to be studied with special focus. For the second reason, due to broadness of the topic and vastness of data, it was unmanageable and difficult to conduct research on all types of crimes that are prevailing in the entire city of Addis Ababa.

For various factors Addis Ababa is chosen as a study area in the theme of crime. For one reason Addis Ababa is rapidly growing and increasingly expanding city which has a population which is many times greater than the other large urban centers in Ethiopia such as Diredawa, Nazareth, Mekele, and others. For another reason due to several economic and other reasons, there is still continuous flood of people to the capital city dominantly from rural areas and to some extent from other small urban settlements. Though the number of population is increasing at an alarming rate, the job opportunities created are almost negligible compared to the increasing number of unemployed people

in the city. On the other hand, the necessary social utilities and facilities available in the city of Addis Ababa are not commensurate with its residents as a result of which accommodation of all the urging demands is becoming a challenging task. This in turn is creating a threatening situation particularly to city administrators and to the residents at large. These all discrepancies between actual capacity of the city and increasing demands have direct or indirect contribution to the prevalence of crimes in the city because of which Addis Ababa became the first option for the writer to undertake this study. Hence, in the objective of creating a stable, peaceful and crime-free Addis Ababa that can effectively play its role of serving as national, regional and international political and economic center, the writer has decided to conduct research on the “causes, Implications and Remedies of Crimes in post 1991 Addis Ababa.”

After the demise of the military regime in 1991, Ethiopia changed from unitary into a federal form of government. The 1994 Ethiopian constitution gave rise to the present ethnic-based federalism now in place. According to the constitution which became effective in 1995, Ethiopia is structured into nine by-and-large ethnically based states and Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa are under the direct control of the federal state. The constitution also affords legislative, judicial and executive powers for the central and state governments.

Addis Ababa was founded in 1886 primarily selected for the purpose of military strategy. Since 1889 the city is serving as the seat of the central government of Ethiopia. Minwuyelet (2004) has clearly indicated that Addis Ababa has been experiencing a highly accelerated population growth of 443,728 in 1961 to 1,423,111 in 1984, 2,112,737 in 1994 and 2,805,000 in 1990. Currently, the total population of the city is estimated to be more than 3 million. Addis Ababa has also been exhibiting speedy physical expansion and the trend is still continuing. The growth of the city is not properly guided by appropriate planning intervention which gave rise to the development of a great deal of slummed houses and squatter settlements. This situation may also have much contribution to the prevalence of different socio-economic problems including crime.

Nowadays the city of Addis Ababa has various significances. It is the capital city, commercial and investment center of Ethiopia. Addis Ababa is also diplomatic center of Africa. It hosts many international, regional and diplomatic missions making it a major international metropolis on the African map. Moreover, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, AU and various UN agencies are located in Addis Ababa.

Ethiopia had existed as a state for thousands of years, growing, shrinking, transforming and reinventing itself as the centuries passed by. At present, Ethiopia is a country of more than 60 million people with an area of about 1.2 million square kilometers. It is larger than most European nations. In 1994 Ethiopia's form of government became federal, a radical departure from the tradition of unitary central administration that has characterized the Ethiopian government from its earliest moments. With the brief exception of Ethio-Eritrean Federation from 1952-1961, Ethiopia has been a kingdom, an empire or a dictatorship through out its history of long years. This has been so despite the fact that the country, which calls itself Ethiopia in fact is a mosaic composed of more than 60 different Ethno-linguistic groups. According to the Federal Negarit Gazeta, Proc. No. 2/1992, a proclamation that provides for the establishment of National/ Regional Self-Governments, there are 63 different nations, nationalities and peoples in today's Ethiopia (Donovan, Dolores and Getachew Assefa, 2003: 510).

Ethiopia is an east African developing country neighboring to the Sudan to the west, and Eritrea to the north, and northeast, Djibouti to the east, Somalia to the east and south east and Kenya to the southwest. Ethiopia is one of the least urbanized countries in the world having or showing lower level of urbanization than most African countries. According to the Population Reference Bureau World Population Data Sheet (2002), the average level of urbanization for Africa in general was 33 percent. Ethiopia had only 15 percent of its population living in urban areas. Although the rate of urbanization is low in Ethiopia and the country is predominantly rural, there is rapid rate of urban growth, currently estimated at 5.1% per year. But the urban population of Ethiopia is concentrated in few urban centers and urban system of the country is dominated by the primate status of Addis Ababa. Further more, according to the estimation made by the Central Statistics

Authority; the estimation of the urban population of Ethiopian for the year 2001 was 9.9 million, constituting 15.1 percent of the total population. Out of this nation-wide urban population, Addis Ababa constitutes close to 30 percent or one-third of the total urban population, having first rank with clear domination in the urban hierarchy.

The modes of life of the various Ethiopian peoples are influenced by the geography of the lands, which they inhabit. Those who live on the high mountain plateau of the country in the North, West, South-West, South-central and North-West are settled agriculturists engaging in some amount of animal herding from time immemorial. Customary law still, to a large extent governs the lives of these settled farmers, especially those living in the far corners of the highland states. They are predominantly the Amharas, the Tigrians the majority of the Oromos and many others such as the Gurage, Sidama, Kembata, and Wolayta, living in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional State, one of the federating units of Ethiopia (Donovan, Dolores & Getachew Assefa, 2003: 511).

In other words, the highlanders or highland settlers of Ethiopia are settled peasant farmers, semi-urban and urban dwellers. But the lowlands of Ethiopia are inhabited by peoples the significant majority of whom are nomadic pastoralists. These predominantly are the Somalis, the Afar, some part of Oromo, Agnuwak, Nuwer, Gumuz and some groups in the Southern Ethiopian State. Their lives are governed by their traditional systems of customary law (Ibid).

Arms have got diverse traditional uses and values among the peoples of Ethiopia. The ethnically diverse Ethiopian peoples have accordingly various traditions bearing varied impact on the illicit proliferation, possession and use of arms in the highland and the lowland areas of the country.

The impact of firearms in Ethiopian society was on any showing immense. Historically, guns were more or less the first mechanical instruments with which Ethiopians became familiar. In Ethiopia the significance of modern weapons is evident enough and firearms have special place in the tradition of the country's population.

Rifle is, therefore, considered as the most valuable item, source of an economic and social advantage to those who possess it. Thus, possession of a rifle is an issue of life and death for the lowland nomadic people. Disarming, therefore, is impossible without transformation of cultural and life style, which requires long time to happen. This makes disarming, in near future, very difficult, if not impossible.

Since pastoralist rove season after season in search of grazing land and water, there is high probability of conflicts - mostly armed ones. Conflicts of such are not only interethnic and inter-clan group but also intra-clan. The state on the other hand is unable to render the state monopolized services - administration, security and control over means of violence as well as justice- crucial for stable and orderly society. These are legitimately expected public services. In the presence of such violent competition and in the absence of the said public services especially security, the pastoralists are forced to gain the services via their own way arming themselves. This, in turn, led to the creation of extremely militarized traditional populations. These can be taken as the main reasons for illicit proliferation and use of arms.

Therefore, it is safe basically to the larger degree that the deriving reasons for the illicit proliferation and use of arms are highly related to security of life, family and property. Besides, competition of the control of scarce resource by traditional populations except with cases of robbery, theft, political and religiously motivated movements.

There are many historical and cultural reasons related to the illicit proliferation, possession and to some extent use of arms in Ethiopian highland population. Rifle, in the highlands, is a sign of prestige and a warrior family. A person who owns a rifle is respected and considered as a "great heroic man." In such areas, it is often said, "a man must have one wife, one rifle and farm land". During cultural ceremony especially on wedding, when an old man or the bridegroom is dancing, a man carrying a rifle accompanies them. In some instances, it is also fired for the honor of the individual who is dancing. Rifle is also used during funeral ceremonies. On such occasions, five to ten riflemen escort the corpse to a tomb. It is believed that firing during a funeral ceremony

kills bad spirit that might prevent the soul of dead man from going to heaven. Another event where a rifle is used is during religious ceremonies. The Christian highlanders use rifle to escort "Tabot" (Ark of the Covenant) on their religious holiday especially on the epiphany day (*Former Ethiopian Ministry of Interior, 2005*).

The flow of firearms in the Horn of Africa region dates back to colonial period and the cold war era. During the colonial periods, arms that were brought into the region were used to protect the colonizers and for the purpose of hunting. During the cold war era, arms were used as a key instrument of diplomacy. East west blocs employed arms to gain influence and compete for the allegiance of certain developing countries. Arms sales in essence became a substitute for the traditional means of seeking these goals such as alliances and the deployment of forces in other countries for their protection. Arms delivered during the period were not serving as ideological pundits but created and/or enhanced regional hostilities and increased internal instabilities within nations. Weapons bought during this period have become difficult to account for and also more challenging to control (Sabala, Kizito, 2002).

With regard to the Ethiopian context, the types of firearms, used in criminal acts must be situated within the long history of war and foreign relation of the country. Introduction of arms into the Ethiopian soil dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, following the arrival of the Portuguese expedition followed by the Egyptian and finally English invasion in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. From that time onwards, firearms were imported in an alarming rate into Ethiopia. Such importation and proliferation reached at the highest stage, during the attempt of the Italians to colonize Ethiopia at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century during the Second World War.

The first firearms were introduced into Ethiopia during the reign of Libna Dengel (1508-1540). Firearms were still relatively scarce at the opening of our period. Later on Firearms were able to be introduced into Ethiopia in excessive number mainly from Italia, France, Turkey, Great Britain Belgium and Russia at different times by different emperors and rulers (Pankhrust, Richard, 1962:2).

The 1974 Revolution culminating in the demise of the emperor and introduction of socialists regime led the country to heavy imports of arms from the eastern bloc particularly, Soviet made weapons. With the support of the Soviet Union to the newly emerging military regime, variety of weapon systems ranging from heavy weapons to different small arms and light weapons were imported into the country until the collapse of that regime. Most of the former Soviet made arms is still found in the hands of many Ethiopians either in legal or illegal possessions.

The worldwide flood of arms and light weapons has in recent years raised rapidly on the arms control and disarmament agenda. Aside from their role in armed conflicts, these small arms and light weapons are widely used to terrorize and control populations, to influence politics, and to gain a livelihood. In many places around the world, desperate and impoverished people often turn to violent means to gain a foothold in society, the result being, insecurity and a culture of violence and the collapse of state (Abebe Zegeye, 2006).

- ∨ The proliferation of small arms and light weapons exacerbate conflicts, enhance violent crimes undermine development, further intensify wars and destabilize peace and security across Africa in general and in the Horn of Africa in particular. The problems causing due to small arms and light weapon are further complicating because of the easily availability, sophistication and cheapness of arms in the Horn of Africa including Ethiopia. This time small arms and light weapons are promoting many types of crimes threatening to the stability of the nations and peaceful coexistence of their peoples.

According to the United Nations Report (2001), guns pose a serious threat to peace reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels. The report has also indicated that poverty and underdevelopment may have implications to gun-related crimes. The report stressed that the uncontrolled availability of firearms sustain conflicts, exacerbate violence, contribute to the displacement of civilians, undermine respect for human rights,

impede humanitarian assistance to victims of armed conflict and fuels crime and terrorism and causes child soldiers. By the same token, it is described in the Bamako Declaration of Common African Position on Small Arms & Light Weapons drafted in Mali, Bamako in 2000 that gun related crimes have adverse effects on security and development, especially on women, refugees and their vulnerable groups of societies as well as on infrastructure and property. As per the declaration, crimes committed by firearms undermine good governance, peace efforts and negotiations and hinders economic development.

The damage caused by arms is estimated to be more than 300,000 deaths each year worldwide. In Between 1950-2000, 6.52 million people died on account of combat related incidents and 33.4 million people were displaced. It was also estimated from the survey of small arms conducted in 2005 that 60 and 90 per cent direct deaths in violent conflicts are caused by small arms and light weapons. The availability of firearms encourages some individuals and groups to resort to violence instead of relying on non-violent means of resolving conflicts to achieve their goals (Abebe Zegeye, 2006: 4-5).

Elmer Johnson (1978) in his explanation of "crime as dimension of public issue" described:

*No public issue excites more horror, hot debate and curiosity than crime. No social barometer-public welfare rolls unemployment rates, epidemics of disease, and soon- exceeds the impact of "crime wave," whether genuine or imagined, in mobilizing public demands for rapid fire remedies. No realm of institutional life tells the historian more about the fundamental values of a people than their choice among patterns of misconduct for the label "criminal". In short, no field of human behavior raises more provocative questions for theoreticians; no field of practice presents more difficult issues in implementing public policy.*

The aforementioned scholar in his explanation indicated that the issue of crime has the highest place and is priority area in policy making process and public agenda.

Many other scholars have also similar outlook to this idea. According to Don Gibbons (1992), crime is a topic of enduring interest to most Americans, as any quick perusal of the mass media will show. In the words of Elmer Johnson (1978):

*Crime always ranks high when a public opinion asks people what social problems are most troublesome. To him, crimes generate excitement as personal and social problems. Gut feelings are aroused by the experience of victimization or the anticipation of being victimized. The poignancy of the victim of murder, brutal beating, or violent rape, is a great resource for play writes, movie producers, and newspaper publishing that need large audiences. Whether real or illusory, crime waves stimulate hot political debates over the state of the social order and, if the social order is in crisis, over the source of the difficulty.*

It is understandable from the above explanations that in any country, irrespective of its level of development, geographic location, etc crime problem is public issue, which occupies the upper hand in agenda setting.

When considered as dynamic process of change, development and crime or deviant behavior become inseparable. Industrialization accompanied by population redistribution, dissipation of traditional forms of social control social mobility and technological changes and improved mass communications are some of the factors of development which tend to increase opportunities for deviant behavior, poor housing, disorientation of family life, unemployment, rapid population growth and special labor needs of some enterprises also are conducive to crime & delinquency. Further more, many large urban areas in some African countries are known to be virtually under a state of seize and residents are forced by thieves to impose on themselves what is tantamount to a curfew (Sesay, Lamin, 1977: 42 & 46).

Crime commission is deviant behavior and society has never been free from this undesired behavior of crime and delinquency. Despite the variation in extent and degree of crime from onc generation to another, it has always been prevailing with the existence of mankind. Many literatures on the theme of crime and delinquency indicate that the origin of crime dates back to the emergence of human being in this world. Society had

always been experiencing acts of criminality that do not conform to its accepted norms, customs and ethical principles. With no exception different peoples living in different parts of the world had been suffering from various types of crimes committed by members of the societies having or showing deviant behavior.

For many years the crimes prevailing had been causing severe social, economic, cultural and political problems in the entire world population. Let alone in the developing world lacking the necessary financial, technological and skilled manpower to prevent crimes, even in the so-called civilized world, which has better capacity in all aspects, the prevalence of crime is high and challenging. In less developed countries like Ethiopia having very serious shortages of all aspects to combat crime, the problem is causing devastating effect in some African countries reaching at the extent of threatening the government of the day. Due to various factors the problem of crime is worsening in big urban centers like Addis Ababa, which must be handled with greater focus and mobilization of substantial amount of resources.

At global level crime is becoming hot issue causing deep-rooted and devastating effect on peaceful coexistence and basic rights of citizens. Hence, greater emphasis must be given to curb all types of crimes including gun related ones before destabilizing the normal life of citizens. Crimes are perpetrated for various reasons and the extent of the major types of crimes are showing increasing trend in urban centers having many population. With rapid growth of population and expansion of the urban settlements, the act of crime and delinquency is steadily becoming serious issue posing big challenge to city administrators and dwellers, which calls immediate solution.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The Horn Africa sub-region, which includes, Ethiopia, Somalia, the Sudan, Djibouti and Eritrea are known to have complex and multidimensional problems mainly, interferences by the superpowers in the internal affairs of the countries, inter and intra-state disputes and conflicts, prolonged civil war, economic backwardness and recurrent drought are the

major ones. Because of the prevalence of such socio-economic, political and natural problems in the region, inter-state and intra-state conflicts and violent crimes are common scenarios mushrooming here and there almost all over in the region.

Addis Ababa is the capital of a vast and populous country which is located at the center of the Horn Region shares tremendous impacts from the problem prone region. With no doubt, significant amount of the firearms illicitly trafficking and proliferating in the region reach into the city of Addis via the porous and vast borders, particularly from the failed state of Somalia. Moreover, illicit arms do have significant impact and contribution on the prevalence of various crimes in Addis Ababa.

Nowadays, the problem of crime is increasingly becoming sensitive issue. Especially, in big urban centers like Addis Ababa having millions of populations the prevalence of crime and delinquency are challenging to city administrators, and to the law enforcement agents. In cities of developing countries where people are forced to live in congested slummed houses and their living standard is low, the commission of crime is increasing at an alarming rate that reached beyond the tolerable limit. With the rapid advancement of technology the extent, severity and sophistication of crime is becoming serious issue and more complex, which calls for urgent solution.

In Ethiopia for many reasons, various types of crimes are committed causing many damages. According to the Federal Police Crime Statistics obtained in 2006, out of the various types of crimes committed nation wide, there were 3,840 (in 2001), 4,422 (in 2002), 4,370 (in 2003), 4,316 (in 2004) and 4,746 (in 2005) homicide incidences within five years time not to mention other types of crimes inflicted on human beings and property. This indicates that the homicide cases showed increasing trend. In five years a total of 21,694 lives were lost by the harmful acts of criminalities in the city.

In the study area, i.e., Addis Ababa the crime situation is even worse than in any other place in the country. This is because Addis Ababa is a very big city which has greater numbers of population and with many unemployed youth compared to other cities and

towns. There are also many poor people living in destitute without jobs and lumpens who are prone to commit crime with the cheap prices and easy accessible guns. Therefore, this and other similar reasons can make them to resort for the evil act of committing crimes with guns and other means. On the other hand the unprotected flooding of peoples from rural areas to Addis Ababa in search of better living conditions is also creating additional complexity to the already existing problems.

The prevalence of different types of crimes and their poor administration by the concerned authorities require immediate solution based on empirical study. If the occurrences of crimes and delinquencies continued without taking appropriate measure, it may reach to the level of destabilizing peaceful coexistence and secured life of residents of the city. Similarly, if crimes are rampantly continued, they may pose serious threat to the democratic rights of citizens, exacerbate violent conflicts and hamper good governance, democracy and development of the city and this may have serious negative impact for security of the nation in general. In a similar development, if there is persistence of crime in the capital city, tourists, investors and other visitors may refrain from coming to Ethiopia. Crimes have also direct negative impact in discouraging investors who need peace and stable work environment.

Therefore, to minimize the debts of crime trying to understand its root causes and consequences and proposing to policy recommendations through undertaking in depth study in Addis Ababa is timely and very important to tackle and solve the problem of crime which occupies the highest stage in public agenda setting.

Though the issue of crime is serious one, in Ethiopia in a paradoxical situation, criminology and correctional administration as fields of study have been very much neglected until recently. This is quite apparent from the dearth of information on those subjects. On the other hand, the available police and court statistics shows that the problem of crime and delinquency are becoming serious problems that need the attention of pertinent government institutions. However, apart from a few foreigners and a negligible number of Ethiopians, the field could not attract researchers due to several

reasons. In the first place in Ethiopia statistical information in general and criminal statistics in particular has always been treated as confidential issue and has not been made accessible to interested researchers. Secondly, neither the government over the years nor the public gave any attention to the problem of crimes as priority problems to be dealt with based on available knowledge and method of correctional administration (Andergahew Tesfaye, 1988:1)

The aforementioned problem of protecting and retaining crime related information and data from the reach of the researchers in the name of confidential issue is still, continuing that is known to have harmful effect in the continued improvement and modernity of system of crime administration. The writer is fully aware that the law enforcement bodies of Ethiopia protect from displaying crime related information for different reasons that could not convince to researchers and others who demanded such information for various purposes. The authorities usually fail to understand the right of citizens to get information which is not sensitive vis-à-vis national security. Therefore, the researcher is in a strong belief that the problem of defending criminal data can be minimized passing through obstacles and upon self-involvement. For this reason anticipating the challenges faced in the process of collecting the required data in the name of confidentiality and other unfounded reasons, I decided to undertake my research thesis in the theme of gun related crimes in Addis Ababa with a secondary objective to contribute for the avoidance of deterrence of criminal information and to urge the authorities to work in the principle of transparency & accountability.

### **1.3. The Objectives of the Study**

The general objective of this study is to assess the major types of crime in Addis Ababa and to further find out their root causes, implications and to propose remedial solutions.

The specific objectives are:

- To give analyzed information on the prevalence of country wide criminal situation.
- To assess the most common types of crimes in Addis Ababa in post 1991 period.

- To understand the magnitude and severity of the most important crimes perpetrated in the study area within the specified period.
- To find out the possible causes and rationale behind the criminal acts done with various means including firearms.
- To know the consequences caused as a result of commission of crimes against persons, property, security, stability, human rights and development.
- To make brief assessment of the operational and institutional capacity of the law enforcement agents and evaluate preventive and regulatory mechanisms and administration of crimes by law enforcement agents.
- To assess the judicial proceedings and pertinent criminal codes with regard to the commission of crimes in the city of Addis Ababa.
- To suggest possible policy options and recommendations that would help to curb crime related problems.

To realize the aforementioned objectives, the following research questions are designed.

#### **1.4 Research Questions**

- a) What are the major types of crimes commonly committed in Ethiopia in general and in the city of Addis Ababa in particular since 1991?
- b) What are the main contributing factors for the prevalence of armed and unarmed criminalities in the city?
- c) Which section and income group of the society are involved in criminal activities in the study area?
- d) What are motivating factors and rationale behind the culprits' deviant acts?
- e) What is the assessment of the operational and institutional capacity of the law enforcement agents in relation to the prevalence of crimes?
- f) What administrative mechanisms and systems of judicial proceedings are in place?
- g) What are the causes and resultant implications of the frequently committed major types of crimes?

- h) What possible solutions would be recommended in order to mitigate the problems of crimes in Addis Ababa?

## **1.5 Coverage and Significance of the Study**

The study aims to assess the condition of the most important types of crimes and to identify the root causes, implications and possible remedies that can be applied to solve such problems. From the preliminary assessment made upon discussion with the concerned authorities and through review of related literatures of available secondary crime data, the writer has concluded that it is not easy to undertake study on all types of crimes in the city. Even the crime statistics accumulated year after year is too much and vast as a result of which conducting manageable study on different types of crimes in the city is very difficult. Therefore, in order to simplify the problem by making it easily manageable, specific and in depth study, the topic is narrowed to “Causes, Implications and Remedies of Crimes in Addis Ababa in the post 1991 period.”

The major types of crimes studied are crimes of violence (crimes committed against people) ranging from homicide/murder and assault, crimes targeted against property mainly armed/unarmed robbery and theft and illicit possession and trade of firearms. The research is restricted to crimes perpetrated since 1991 during the present government in Addis Ababa.

On the other hand restriction of the study to the major types of crimes and to specific period of time will help to produce thorough and detail study by avoiding broadness of the topic. Hence, the city of Addis Ababa is chosen instead of the entire country or any other vast area with a firm belief of producing reliable and detail study. This is because the broader the area of study or topic of study is, the less depth and unreliable the result of the study will be. Therefore, having this important logic in mind, the coverage of the study is limited to the city and specific types of crimes committed within the specified time.

In other words, in order to draw workable general principle based on the result of the study for the Ethiopian context, a focused study on specific types of crimes is conducted in the capital city of the entire nation. The writer is in a strong belief that the prevalence of various types of crimes are by far greater in number and more complex than in any other Ethiopian cities. For this reason Addis Ababa became first option to conduct study on crimes committed with different means. Importance of the city as economic and political center of the country and diplomatic capital of Africa is another explanation for choosing Addis Ababa to be an area of study.

Despite the efforts being made by the concerned bodies of government, various crimes are still committing in Addis Ababa. The various offenses which cause loss of life, physical injury and property damages need to be addressed properly. Moreover crimes pose serious threat to the basic rights of citizens and further lead to multidimensional political and socio-economic problems.

Further more, the sensitive issue of commission of crimes in the city calls to devise comprehensive solution by understanding their root causes. Hence to arrive at workable remedial solution, it presupposes to undertake empirical study on selected crimes prevailing in Addis Ababa so as to grab correctly the motives behind and other contributing factors. All the negative impacts and consequences caused by the culprits must also be known. To this end, this research is believed to have its own contribution in identifying the real causes, manifestations and implications of the crimes committed on human beings and property. This study will also give clear guide to understand causes of crimes perpetrated in the city. Similarly, in this study an attempt also made to find out the consequences caused as a result of crimes and the possibilities at hand to tackle such criminalities. Further more, based on the findings obtained from the result of the study, generalizing principles are drawn which are believed to be used as a start for other researchers. In addition to this, the final outcome of the study may also serve as a reference material for policy makers and academicians. Above all, the finding of the research can be used by concerned law enforcement agents and criminologists to improve

their operational and institutional capacities in their continuous effort to prevent and further study offenses.

## **1.6 Limitations of the Study**

In practical sense the writer has faced limitation of required information. Information on various types of crimes committed in the city was not collected from the branch police stations correctly and timely. Besides to this, the existing crime data found in the police crime data center and archive were not recorded systematically by using modern equipments like computers, not to mention inconvenience of the offices of crime record centers. Every thing is performed by manual and the record system is still traditional. The writer could not even get permission to take photo copy of the hand written pertinent documents.

In a similar development, the designed questionnaires which have been distributed to the sample population drawn from pertinent government officials could not be completed on time for various reasons possibly ranging from workload on the side of the police officers, judges and public prosecutors, lack of sense of urgency and concern and other personal problems. Similar problems have encountered to the researcher with regard to the conduct of interview. Another serious shortcoming faced was lack of knowledge and awareness on the side of the law enforcement agents, particularly the concerned police officers with regard to various issues of crimes and regulatory laws of firearms. This has created noticeable negative impact on the result of the completed questionnaires and response given for the interview.

It will be a mistake to omit another clear fact that could affect the quality of the research is absence of enough previous researches and well-recorded data on criminal acts. Hence, the scantiness of previous researches in the field and modern database system of crime information would certainly limit the writer to produce the desired quality.

## 1.7. Methods of Data Collection and Analysis

The research was conducted in the city of Addis Ababa and the data on crime has been collected and reviewed from recorded documents and criminal statistics from pertinent bodies. It is exploratory study which was focused on major types of crimes targeted against human beings and property.

In order to achieve the objectives of the study, both primary and secondary data were employed. The primary data was obtained through questionnaire and face-to-face structured interview. In general, the primary data was obtained entirely from police officers of the Addis Ababa Police Commission, public prosecutors and prominent judges who have been dealing with criminal cases. While the secondary data were extensively collected mainly from books, articles and other research works.

To gather essential primary data, police officials working at different levels, judges handling criminal cases and public prosecutors have been used as important sources of this research. In designing the questionnaire, maximum care was taken to make it comprehensive, inclusive, clear and understandable to all respondents. The first target of sample population who completed the questionnaire was concerned officials from the Addis Ababa police commission. These officers are comprised of the Head of Crime Investigation Department, other staff members of the department found at various levels who occupied important investigative positions, persons working at crime data/information center, and officers working in forensic, technical and administrative issues were involved in filling the questionnaire. Similarly, police officers assigned in all the ten Sub-cities of Addis Ababa who are in charge of crime investigation and other staff members have participated in filling the designed questionnaires. A total of forty five (45) police officers found at various levels who occupied mainly the responsibility of crime investigation and other important ranks have participated in completing the questionnaires.

The second group of population was senior judges having a minimum of five years of experience in adjudicating criminal cases. The third group was public prosecutors assigned in all the ten Sub-cities and Federal Public Prosecutors in charge of Addis Ababa. A total of twenty two (22) judges and thirty five (35) public prosecutors were involved in filling the questionnaires.

In addition to the secondary data collected from different police departments and stations of the city administration, Federal Police, Office of the Public Prosecutor, Prison Administration, Court Statistics and other sources, first hand information was collected from concerned individuals mainly, comprising of law enforcement agents and judges. Other primary crime statistics was collected by various means from officials in federal police, individuals who ever conducted research in similar topics, and other individuals who are known to have direct or indirect experience as it deems necessary.

The second type of primary data was collected through interviewing pertinent police chiefs/officials of the Addis Ababa Crime Investigation Department and Public Prosecutors. This primary data was collected using face-to-face interview. In this carefully designed and operationally supervised direct contact interview, seven police officials chosen for their key positions in the Department of Crime Investigation were interviewed. These persons have been heads and members of the investigation department. On the other hand five public prosecutors have been interviewed.

The questionnaire has included required information on the root causes and implications of crimes committed against persons or crimes of violence and crimes against property. The sampling technique applied in this study was disproportionate stratified sampling method which involved various strata as indicated above.

In addition to the sources of data mentioned in the above explanations, additional sources were obtained from various government authorities and officials mainly,

Federal Police, Penitentiary administration, Ministry of Justice, Office of the Federal Public Prosecutor, Central Statistics Authority, Addis Ababa City Administration, Bureau of Works and Social Affairs and other bodies have contributed towards the positive end of this research.

Finally the data collected from primary and secondary sources were edited, put in tabular and graphic form and changed into quantifiable figures expressed in number and percentage. Then the data were being processed and analyzed by using simple mathematical measurements presented in tabular and graphic form. Throughout the study both qualitative and quantitative methodological assessments were employed as it deemed necessary. Such methodology served to reinforce the quantifiable and non-quantifiable impacts of the crimes under investigation, i.e., gun related crimes. Loss of life, physical injuries inflicted on the body of persons and property damages were some of the best examples for quantifiable ones while the non-quantifiable effects of crime are expressed in the pain sustained and the agony experience as a result of the different crimes committed in Addis Ababa.

In order to get detail records of crimes, secondary data were extensively used. The secondary data compilation included thorough examination of written documents, official records, books, articles, legal documents and similar works of others.

## Chapter two

### 2. Review of Related Literature

#### 2.1 Overview of crime and criminology

##### 2.1.1 Background and definitions of crime

Crime is an action prohibited by law or a failure to act as required by law. However, different scholars define crime in various ways; however, the meaning is more or less the same. Andargachew Tesfaye (1988) put exclusive definition of crime and delinquency with referring to different schools of thoughts and contexts. According to him, the classical schools of thought prefer to insist on defining crime in terms of the law, which says "no crime without law." But the positive school rejected the legal definition of crime. Instead they accepted the concept of natural crime or crimes offending the natural law. To them natural crime is defined as an act that offends the moral sentiments of pity and probity in the society.

As a result of rejection of the legal definition of crime by the positive school, today there is no universal agreement as to what crime is though different countries follow and accept different definitions of crime; they all agree that an act becomes a criminal act if and only if there is a provision in the criminal code of a particular country. Since crime is an act made punishable by law, a criminal is a person who has committed a legally forbidden act. However, there are a number of legal criteria that help us to determine whether a person may be considered as a criminal or not.

The first criterion put the individual concerned to be of competent age, which varies from country to country. In the case of Ethiopia, the individual has to be in between the ages of nine and fifteen to be charged as a delinquent person. However, in many countries the age limit is between seven and seventeen or eighteen years.

The second criterion for an act to be considered as a crime is that the act of criminality must be committed voluntarily and performed without compulsion. In other words, the

person who carries out the criminal act should not be compelled by another person or third party to commit crime. But in such a case, past influences may not be taken into account in deciding the act of criminality.

Whether the criminal act is perpetrated deliberately or not is taken as third criterion. This means that the intention or intent of the person who commits crime which is confirmed by the person's knowledge of right and wrong and the nature and consequences of his behavior is very important input.

The fourth criterion takes into consideration legal classification of the criminal act as injury to the state but not simply as a private harm for an act to be considered as a crime. In general crimes committed against individuals are tantamount as injury to the state and should not be avenged by the injured party or his families. That is why individual forgiveness is rejected.

The last criterion calls for a legally prescribed punishment for the act of criminality. For an individual who commits crime voluntarily without being compelled by another body a threat of punishment is required.

In addition to the aforementioned definitions of acts into criminal offenses, there are certain socially accepted ways of behavior that put some degree of impact on criminal law. For instance, two individuals having opposite sexes may commit adultery or incest upon their free will. But socially recognized and accepted patterns of behavior that define the moral code of society in all civilized ones accept adultery and incest as criminal acts. This is because these acts are in direct contradiction to the societal norms and ethical behaviors as a result of which they offend the moral values of society.

Another important point worth mentioning here is that, criminal acts are punished not to balance accounts with individual offenders or to take revenge against them, but it is for the main purpose of giving a lesson that the act of criminality may not be repeated. Therefore, punishment is applied only if there is assurance of deterrence or prevention of

crime or other perpetrators of criminal act from commission of crime. For this reason, now days some criminologists are arguing that the study or definitions of crime must not be determined in terms of law, but should be studied based on sociological behavior of individual offenders.

Most criminology texts take a legal definition of crime as their starting point. At its simplest: crime is act prohibited by law upon pain of punishment. Classicist statement goes further: crime is an intentional act or omission in violation of criminal law (statutory and case law), committed with out defense or justification, and sanctioned by the state as a felony or misdemeanor. This idea shares an ecological space with the classicist assumption that humans are rationally calculating individuals capable of acting with intent. The legal definition tells us:

The legal definition of crime incorporates the assumption of its 'naturalness' to free and rational human beings. Indeed if the actions are not deemed free and rational (in the sense that the offenders are capable of understanding their nature, moral meaning and consequences) then they will not usually be defined as crimes in legal terms (Henry, Staurt and Milovanovic, Dragon, 1996:99).

In the words of Elmer Johnson (1978:1), crime is a part of all human behavior and that crime control is a part of making our society an instrumentality, serving the interest of its members. To Don Gibbons (1992:2), crime is a merely left handed form of human endeavor. According to Richard Quinney (1979:22), crime always involves both human behavior (acts) and the judgment of definitions (laws), customs, mores) of fellow human beings as to whether specific behavior is appropriate and permissible or is improper and forbidden. Crime and criminality lie in the area of behavior that is considered improper and forbidden. There fore, always there is a dual problem of explanation that of accounting for the behavior, as behavior and equally important, accounting for the definitions by which specific behavior comes to be considered as crime or non-crime.

From the above explanations with regard to the definition of crime, various scholars define the term crime in different ways. Though crime is defined in various ways, their meaning is more or less similar. That is, crime is deviant behavior committed for

different reasons. Moreover, for a certain act constituted as criminal act, it has to be seen in the context of five points specified above.

Apart from the adult crime, offences are also committed by young people known by juvenile delinquency. Andargachew Tesfaye (1988:29-32) has put clearly the meaning of juvenile delinquency.

According to the above mentioned scholar, juvenile delinquency cannot be confined to the legal provisions alone; but the social conditions in which it occupies is also relevant in understanding the problem. In fact the sociological definition of juvenile delinquency is getting more acceptance than is the case with adult crime. Legally a juvenile delinquent is a minor who has broken the law. The term minor for this purpose varies from country to country. There is minimum and maximum age limit. Generally a child below the age of seven will not be liable for its act.

The maximum age for a person to be classified as juvenile also varies from one country to another. In countries under the influence of the British legal system, seventeen years of age is usually the upper limit while in these countries under the influence of the French legal system, eighteen years of age is usually accepted as the upper limit. In any case the issue of juvenile delinquency is sensitive one, which must be handled with great care. Because young criminals need special treatment in the efforts made to correct the acts of juvenile delinquency.

### **2.1.2 Historical Development of Criminology**

Crime and criminal acts have marred social life for all recorded history. Over the long span of human experience, two general views of criminality have been advanced: the demonological and the naturalistic. Demonological views hold that "other world" powers and spirits are at the root of criminality, where as naturalistic theories claim that events and characteristics of the observable physical world produce crime. Criminology, defined

as the scientific study of crime and social responses to it, is concerned with naturalistic explanations and observable evidence about lawbreaking (Gibbons, Don; 1992: 15).

Criminology is the scientific study of crime. Richard Quinney (1979:5) indicated in his book that modern criminology began in 1830's when crime was first studied as a social not as individual phenomenon. But the most important ideas in criminology before the nineteenth century came from thinkers in the group commonly called the classical school.

Discovery of the causes of crime and juvenile delinquency is a principal task of the sociological criminologist. His or her major aim is to develop generalized propositions accounting for criminality. Although this task is many faceted, it has two main components. The first involves developing explanations for the kinds and degrees of criminality observed in a society. The other centers on discovering the processes involved in the acquisition of criminal behavioral patterns by specific individuals (Gibbons, Don; 1992: 35).

Andargachew Tesfaye (1988: 7-17) described the historical development of criminology by referring to several books.

According to him, criminology as a systematized profession, compared to other fields in the social sciences, is of recent origin. However, the problem of crime has existed from time immemorial. For several thousands of years primitive and preliterate societies associated crime with some kinds of possession by evil spirits or ghosts. It was assumed that the criminal bodies were possessed by evil spirits or devils that push into committing evil deeds.

Gradually as human knowledge expanded, the problem of crime started drawing the attention of some members of the society. Concerned individuals in various fields of studies (lawyers, biologists, psychologists, sociologists, administrators, architects, etc) had shown interest in various aspects of crime and criminals.

According to Andargachew Tesfay (1988:9), contemporary criminology is the result of the works of many pioneers differing in places of origin, background, and theoretical approaches to the problem of crime. At present criminology is studied under different disciplines but mainly under sociology, psychology, psychiatry and law. In many countries it is mostly studied in faculties of law and in few cases in faculties of medicine. On the other hand in England and to a large extent in North America it is studied in the department of sociology and sometimes in the department of psychology and/or psychiatry. Hence, it is clear that variety of disciplines contributed to the early development of criminology.

The appearance of a separate profession of criminologists, theoretical and practical, is a comparatively recent development, and even nowadays, the foundations of this calling are far from secure. The contemporary ferment in both branches may be endemic because of the recent origin of the field. Modern criminology began only about a century ago. A more probable cause is that the grounding of contemporary criminology in positivism merits serious reconsideration (Johnson, Elmer, 1978: 56).

Crime grew rapidly along with the growing cities. In the late nineteenth century several authors wrote about the problems of urban crime. These authors found out several types of urban crimes and their causes, other writers viewed crime as a pathology that resulted from an industrial society devoid of human and religious values. On the other hand another European system of ideas greatly molded the development of criminology as culminated in the positive school of criminology, according to which society can be described and understood by the application of methods of physical sciences (Quinney, Richard, 1979: 6-7).

During the 1920s and 1930s a sociological criminology was advanced by sociologists at the University of Chicago. Their theme is that criminal behavior is similar to any other social behavior. However, by the late thirties, three distinct conceptions of crime had been formulated into theories: differential association, social structure and anomie and cultural conflict. On the other hand the most recent individualistic trend in studying crime

is found in psychiatry. Most psychoanalytic behavior, replacing a thwarted or repressed behavior with another that may be more dangerous or criminal. The most significant development since 1970 is a critical Marxist. Criminology following the system of philosophical analysis devised by Karl Marx (1818-1883), with which we can critically examine our common assumptions about crime: crime is understood in relation to the historical development and contemporary operation of capitalist society (Andargachew Tesfaye, 1988: 17).

### **2.1.3 Nature and Scope of Criminology**

One core assumption of mainstream criminology is that most lawbreaking is produced by structural defects in modern societies. In this analysis, the social order is seen as relatively viable. Although many contemporary criminologists concede that social structural defects play a major role in crime causation, they view these as eradicable through social repair. However, criminogenic influences are exceedingly pervasive and intimately bound up with the core institutions of modern society. The contemporary criminologist is aware that crime causation is exceedingly complex and extraordinarily difficult to uncover, often projects cynical stance. Many present day criminologists remaining markedly pessimistic about reducing crime observe that social organizations often operate quite different from the ways shown in organizational charts. Many correctional agencies show marked resistance to restructuring along rehabilitative lines. Mainstream criminologists are skeptical about the perfectibility of criminal justice and correctional machinery (Gibbons, Don, 1992: 108-9).

Broadly speaking criminology includes all the subject matter necessary to the understanding and prevention of crime, together with the punishment or treatment of delinquents and criminals. In restrict sense it is simply the study of the attempts to explain crime. It raises, questions like, why do people commit crime? What are the causes of juvenile delinquency? It raises these and other related questions to explain the "why" and "how" of crime and delinquency. If the narrower definition of criminology is taken, related fields like penology that includes the treatment of criminals and delinquents and

also the prevention of crime and delinquency have to be considered (Andargachew Tesfaye, 1988:18).

One of the major controversies regarding the scope of criminology is whether criminology should confine itself on the study of crime in the legal sense or whether it should also be anti-social behavior which is legally not treated as crime. This resulted in various exponents advocating the legal definition of crime and delinquency as the starting point for the study of criminology while others advocated wider sociological definitions of anti-social behavior as a point of departure for any criminological study. In reality, we agree with the first group because whether we like it or not we have to accept the legal definition of crime which reflects the reaction of the society through the state against crime and delinquency. However, the general reaction of the society against the problems of crime and delinquency must be taken into consideration. That is why the inclusion of sociology of law is gaining currency in the training of law enforcement officers. It is hoped that such an approach would lead to the adoption of a wider view of the causes of crime and delinquency and thus lead to the adoption a broader definition (Ibid).

## **2.2 Theories of Crime**

The particular conceptions of crime and criminal justice that emerged in the eighteenth century are collectively known as the classical school of criminology. The classical school is characterized by (1) an emphasis on free will choices and human rationality, (2) a view of behavior as hedonistic - maximizing pleasure and minimizing pain, (3) a focus on morality and responsibility, (4) a concern with political structure and the way in which government deals with its citizens; and (5) a concern for the basic rights of people. These generic ideas and concerns were applied to criminal justice to produce concepts such as deterrence, civil rights, and due process of law; but it is the general characteristics not the specific ones of criminal justice, that contain the essence of classical thought (Mcshane, Marilyn, 1994: 14 & 21).

To understand criminal justice, it is necessary to understand crime. Most policy-making in criminal justice is based on criminological theory; whether the people making those policies know it or not. In fact, most of the failed policies that do not work in criminal justice are due to misinterpretation, partial implementation or ignorance of criminological theories. Much time and money could be saved if only policymakers had a thorough understanding of criminological theory. Almost all criminologists today use a legalistic rather than normative definition of crime. A legalistic definition of crime takes as its starting point the statutory definitions contained in the penal code, legal statues or ordinances.

A crime is a crime because the law says so. There are concerns about over criminalization (too many laws) and under criminalization (not enough laws), but at least on the surface, a legalistic approach seems practical. It is also advantageous to a normative definition, which sees crime as a violation of norms (social standards of how humans ought to think and behave); although there are times when criminology can shed light on norms and norm violators (Coser, Lewis, N.Y.; Internet).

According to Lewis Coser, there are various identifiable types of criminological theories, out of which only three are considered "main stream" conventional criminology (strain, learning and control). The oldest theory (biochemistry goes back to 1876 and the last four theories (left realism, peacemaking, feminist and postmodern) have only developed in the past twenty-five years.

**Ecological criminology:** was the first sociological criminology, developed during the 1920s at the Department of Sociology at the University of Chicago. Hence, it is also called Chicago School sociology. Ecology is the study of relationships between an organism and its environment, and this type of theory explains crime by the disorganized eco-areas where people live rather than by the kind of people who live there.

**Learning theories:** tend to follow the lead of Edwin Sutherland's theory of differential association, developed in 1947, although ideas about imitation or modeling go back to

1890. Often over simplified as "peer group" theories, learning is much more than that, and involves the analysis of what is positively and negatively rewarding (reinforcing) for individuals.

**Control theories:** in criminology are all about social control. Only those called containment or low-self control theories have to do with individual psychology. Control theory has pretty much dominated the criminological landscape since 1969. It focuses upon a person's relationships to their agents of socialization, such as parents, teachers, preachers, coaches, scout leaders, or police officers. It studies how effective bonding with such authority figures translates into bonding with society, hence keeping people out of trouble with the law.

**Conflict theory:** holds that society is based on conflict between competing interest groups; for example, rich against poor, management against labor, whites against minorities, men against women, adults against children, etc. These kind of dog-eat-dog theories also have their origins in the 1960s and 1970s, and are characterized by the study of power and powerlessness.

**Radical theories:** from the 1960s and 1970s, typically involve Marxist (referring to Karl Marx 1818-1883) critiques of capitalist society which allows things to exist like millions of billionaires and millionaires while the vast majority of people live in poverty or just get by such fundamental economic disparities reflect basic contradictions in the way work is organized into demoralizing, brutalizing, and oppressive conditions. Crime is seen as a reflection of class struggle, a kind of primitive rebellion with criminals behaving as rebels without a clue. Only through praxis (informed action based on theoretical understanding) will the new socialist society be formed and crime will go away.

**Peacemaking criminology:** came about during the 1990s as the study of how "wars" on crime only make matters worse. It suggests that the solution to crime is to create more

caring, mutually dependent communities and strive for inner rebirth or spiritual rejuvenation (inner peace).

**Feminist criminology:** matured in the 1990s, although feminist ideas have been around for decades. The central concept is patriarchy, or male domination as the main cause of crime. Feminists also tend to call for more attention to female points of view.

**Postmodern criminology:** matured in the 1990s, although postmodernism itself (as a rejection of scientific rationality to the pursuit of knowledge) was born in the late 1960s. It tends to focus upon how stereotypical words, thoughts, and conceptions limit our understanding, and how crime develops from feelings of being disconnected and dehumanized. It advocates replacing our current legal system with informal social controls such as group and neighborhood tribunals.

Andargachew Tesfaye (1988: 92-240) made in depth assessment of the major types of crime theories. According to him, the search for the causes of crime has been going on since human beings realized the evils of crime. However, it was during 1700s and the 1800s that some kind of systematized thinking about crime was developed. During this period human relationship was governed by moral issues and was mainly the concerns of social philosophers and social critics. The early thinkers believed that human behavior is governed by rational choices based on humanistic decisions. On the other hand social contract individuals give up some autonomy to the state so that freedom of the majority could be protected. But, protagonists of the classical thought criticized that it merely advocated that criminals were individuals that were faced with the moral question of doing right or wrong, and freely opted to do wrong. According to the classical reformists the punishment should fit the crime and it should never be severe. Deterrence should be major aim of punishment.

**Anthropological and biological theories:** Crimino- anthropological research is mainly interested in the occurrence of innate peculiarities in criminals. It is concerned with

physical somatic, anatomic and morphologic) characteristics that can be measured, weighted and counted in order to identify criminal tendencies of individuals.

**Psychological theories of crime:** These theories include both psychiatric and psycho-analytic explanations of crime and delinquency. Such theories have strongly influenced by the writings of Sigmund Freud who based all explanations of behavior on the unconscious, or the world of inner feelings.

**Economic factors for the cause of crime:** This theory put economic necessity for the cause of crime. Studies conducted confirm that economy is the only major factor that causes criminality and delinquency. Thus, studies that go back for more than 150 years could not fully explain why both people in economic distress and those that are not get involved in behaviors that are considered illegal by society. Yet, the argument that crime is the result of unequal distribution of wealth still persists. However, modern economic theories of crime and delinquency start from two major assumptions regarding the relationships that may exist between economic conditions and crime. The first assumption is that the relationship is direct or positive. Under this assumption the amount of crime should increase and be at its highest in period of prosperity and should decrease during periods when there is lessened economic activity. But according to the second assumption the relationship is inverse, which means that when economic conditions are good, the amount of crime should be low and vice-versa. This theoretical assumption is accepted by the Marxists and the leftist school of criminology.

**Sociological theories of crime:** The central focus of the sociology of crime is the relationship between society and its individual or corporate members. Besides, the criminological significance of certain social institutions (the family, the community, church, etc), some areas (neighborhood, etc), and the age and the sex factors are also within the scope of the sociological approach to crime and delinquency. The interdependence between the culture of society and its crime has been the principle tenet of the sociological school of criminology for the past one and half centuries. Structural, conflict, differential opportunity, socio-psychological, containment, direct learning of

criminal behavior, differential association, social labeling and socialization process of crime, theories are sub-categories or types of sociological theory.

**Social control theory:** It is a theoretical approach most closely matching the public's conception of why people become criminals. Whether one believes that a person becomes criminal because of associating with the wrong-friends, because of an improper family bringing, because of lack of religion, or lack of education, social control theory can be seen to reflect that belief. Further, for criminologists themselves, this theory contains bits and pieces of the theories of social disorganization, differential association, and anomie, making it especially attractive to those criminologists who have been reluctant to embrace conflict, theories. Positioning a moral, or a conventional framework in society, this theory finds common social institutions that strengthen that bond. When these institutions are weakened, whatever the cause, the bond that ties individuals to the moral order, is also weakened. This weakened bond automatically permits a greater degree of deviance to occur (Williams, Frank and McShane, Marilyn, 1994: 191).

Crime theory should assist crime prevention. Recent opportunity theories of crime have emphasized principles, which are close to the real world easy to explain and teach, and ready to put into practice. They include the routine activity approach the rational choice perspective and crime pattern theory. These theories should build on the old saying that opportunity makes, the thief. According to this theory opportunity is the root cause of crime and illustrates how these theories assist about crime prevention (Felson, Markos and Clarke, Ronald, 1998: V).

### **2.3 Overview of the Major Types of Crimes**

A number of criminologists attempted to categorize crime as part of their day-to-day activities. The most common crime type in research studies has been index offences, taken from the FBI Uniform Crime Reports. These are some times broken down into property and personal categories. Others had also classified crimes as: violent personal, occasional property, public order, conventional, political, occupational, corporate,

organized and professional. There are also crime types, such as white collar, political, etc crimes (Gibbons, Don, 1992: 196-197).

Andargachew Tesfaye (1988: 255-269) has presented summary of the most common types of crimes by referring to different books. According to him there are no accepted ways of classifying crimes. It has been found more practical to categorize crimes into different types and describe the general characteristics of each category with illustrative examples of each type of crime.

### **2.3.1 Crimes of Violence**

Crimes of violence are crimes that are committed against people and are prohibited by law and by the accepted societal values. Criminal violence could simply be defined as harm-producing acts committed against people. This definition excludes acts of violence committed in times of war. People usually assume that violence involves the more conventional acts such as murder aggravated assault, forcible rape, abduction and kidnapping, robbery, burglary, assault, and non-negligent manslaughter. But such dangerous acts should not be disregard as the marketing of drugs, illegal sale of contaminated and spoiled food, stuffs, death and injury due to violation of housing codes, death and injury from dangerous, working conditions and violence due to grass traffic negligence. Thus, violence is an act that pervades society in most parts of the world, though there may be degrees of differences.

Studies indicated that crimes against the person in Ethiopia have been more than crimes against property. In general, various studies have shown that crimes of violence are high in less developed countries. There is high rate of homicide cases in these countries. According to the studies conducted, economic and cultural factors have a lot to do to crimes of violence. A typical study by Toro-calder of Puerto Rican male offenders who had committed crimes of violence identified that more than two-thirds (68.3%) had a predisposing socio-cultural background.

Table 2.1: Rate of violent crimes in FDRE.

No	Types of crimes	Annual Crime Rate					
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
1	Homicide	3840	4422	4370	4316	4746	21694
2	Attempted Homicide	4031	4560	4464	4892	5013	22960
3	Assault & grave willful injury	79901	68685	77363	78901	66048	371898
4	Negligent Homicide	140	161	159	196	152	808

Source: Abebe Zegeye, 2006:9.

As it is indicated in the above crime statistics, assault and grave willful injury are the highest crimes while negligent homicide crimes are the least crimes in frequency.

### 2.3.2 Crimes against Property

Crime against property is an act of obtaining the wealth or property of other person by illegal means. It usually consists of a larger group of crimes in many societies. Crimes against property are of different types ranging from some property offenders who occasionally violate the law while others make a career out of it. However, the violators of law do recognize the importance of private property. Usually occasional property offenders show little sophistication in crime techniques, that is, they have little knowledge about crime. They do not show desire and make effort to progress to other types of crime requiring greater knowledge or skills. These occasional crimes include petty thefts, simple shop lifting, non-professional check forgery, etc.

Vandalism is another type of occasional property crime. Vandalism includes many acts of willful destruction of property. Schools, libraries, public properties, etc are often vandalized by disgruntled youth who may be committing the act for no apparent reason. It is a worldwide phenomenon.

There are also career property offenders who commit such offenses as robbery, burglary and various types of larcenies. Such offenders usually operate out of areas, of poverty in

big urban centers where juvenile gangs are often very active. Usually the victims of these crimes are the poor classes.

On the other hand there are professional property criminals who make property crime their way of life. These include: picking pockets, shoplifting, and sneak thieving from stores, stealing from jewelry stores by substituting articles from hotel rooms, etc. Professional criminals have usually the most highly developed criminal careers, social status and skills compared to other property criminals. They are well organized and carry out their criminal activities with full and thorough knowledge of their criminal activity. They justify their activities by advocating that all people are dishonest and that they would all violate the law if they had the skills and the opportunity.

The other type of property crime is white-collar crimes. These crimes are committed by person who are respectful and in high social status in the course of their occupation. Occupational crimes committed businessmen, politicians, government, employees, leaders of labor unions, doctors, lawyers belong to this category. Embezzlement of public property violation of tax, laws, import-export and currency control regulations and misappropriation through various illegal and corrupt methods are also white-collar crimes.

### **2.3.3. Crimes against the State**

In practical sense, all societies irrespective of their political and economic systems designate certain acts as crimes against the state. Governments enact laws against acts, which are considered by the incumbents as endangering the state. In general, criminal attempt to alter, in one way or another, the existing social structure. There are various acts that are included as crimes against the state, such as treason, sedition, sabotage, assassination, violation of military draft laws, perjury violations resulting from advocacy and support of radical ideas, failure to conform to certain laws because of religious beliefs.

Treason is defined as the atrocious crime of endeavoring to subvert by violence those institutions which have been ordained in order to secure the peace and happiness of society.

Sedition means all the practices whether by word, deed or writing which fall short of high treason but, tend to excite discontent and dissatisfaction; to excite ill-will between different classes; to create public disturbances and bring into hatred and contempt the sovereign or the government, laws and constitution of the realm; to incite people to unlawful associations, breaches of the peace, or to use any form physical force in any public affair connected with the state. However, all these should not be an attempt to prevent candid and free discussion of any public matter.

Sabotage is an act or a process to undermine or hurt the normal functioning of the affairs of a nation. Sabotage is usually destructive and is mostly aimed at things like a nation's defense or economic enterprises.

Assassination is to mean the act of murdering political leaders or political opponents by sudden or secret attack with the intent of removing them from power or to prevent the state from taking certain actions it intends or threatens to take. The government may also conduct assassination to eliminate certain individuals considered as threats to the continuity of the government in power.

Perjury is an act in which a person lawfully sworn as a witness or as an interpreter in a judicial proceeding willfully makes a statement materials in that proceeding which he knows to be false or does not believe to be true.

In general, crime against the state is mostly committed to improve the existing political system. For this reason political criminals are different from conventional criminals because they commit offenses in pursuit of their particular ideals which they believe will improve the prevailing political system.

### **2.3.4 Victimless Crimes**

Victimless crimes are crimes by which there are no injured persons with possible exception of those individuals involved in these acts. There are arguments and counter arguments in leveling these crimes as victimless or not. A large number of criminologists feel that these activities have to be taken out from the statute books. Because the prosecution of victimless crimes is an invasion by the state, into the private lives of individuals as long as these individuals engage in these activities upon their own free will. The major victimless crimes are: drug abuse, prostitution, gambling, homosexuality, drunkenness (alcoholism) and disorderly conduct and vagrancy.

## **2.4 Brief Assessment of Criminal Statistics in Ethiopia**

### **2.4.1 Significance of Criminal Statistics**

Most criminal statistics have been gathered for purposes other than those of a specific criminological research project, so that the appropriate use of criminal statistics by the criminologist is an important issue. All criminal statistics, of course, represent the operations of agencies charged with administering criminal law. Most criminologists and the general public have attempted to use criminal statistics as measures of the actual amount of criminality in geographical area or country as a whole. However, the statistics about crime and delinquency are probably the most unreliable and most difficult of all social statistics. It is impossible to determine with accuracy the amount of crime in any given jurisdiction at any particular time. Some behavior is labeled crime or delinquency by one observer but not by another. Obviously, a large proportion of all violations go undetected. Other crimes are detected but not reported, and still others are reported but not officially recorded. Consequently, any record of crimes known to the police, arrests, convictions, or commitments to prison can at most be considered an index of the crimes committed. But these indexes of crime do not maintain a constant ratio with the true rate. The extent of crime is measured with elastic rules whose units of measurement are not defined (Quinney, Richard, 1979: 55-56).

Andargachew Tesfaye (1988:35), put summary of the value of criminal statistics as follows:

*Among several purposes and uses, crime statistics should serve three crucial functions. First, they should promote the construction and evaluation of theories about the origin and causes of crimes. The function usually takes the form of establishing certain correlates of crime (location climate) or criminals (age, sex, social status) which are then assumed to reflect the process by which differential rates of deviant behavior are produced...this use of crime statistics has been especially important for sociological theories of crime which have concentrated or explanations of collective behavior. This use of criminal statistics is hazardous venture ... all statistics on the incidence of crime, regardless of their source bear an unknown relation to the actual amount of crime. Most scholars recognize this fundamental weakness of official criminal statistics which involves numerous sources of error that intrude between the actual occurrence and the recording of deviant behavior. However, despite this problem, they continue to use some type of official statistics to support or to reject the particular criminological theories in which they are invested.*

In order to attain better accuracy of crime statistics at this time would be to use both police records and survey data conjointly in the spirit of multi-method assessment. The second age of criminal statistics, official or otherwise is to evaluate the effectiveness of a vast number of criminal justice system programs or practices. Do certain kinds of police pay rolling practices reduce incidents of street crime? Do alternative correctional programs differentially reduce recidivism? What effect does special anti-narcotic legislation have on drug related crimes? Is there a general difference value associated with mandatory prison sentences? The unknown amount of error interposed between the commission of crimes and their official recordings is no less of a limitation for evaluating a research than for theory construction.

However, the use of cost of crime or incidence of crime data for justice system of evaluation is plagued by an additional source of measurement error. Finally, crime statistics can be used to guide policymaking, the setting of priorities and the rational allocation of limited resources within the separate components of the criminal justice system.

On the other hand it is difficult to collect reliable statistics pertaining to the types, distribution and frequency of crime and delinquency mainly because criminality takes place in secret. Most criminals are not discovered. In some cases crimes may be reported but no criminals are apprehended. Besides, criminal statistics suffer from various controversies due to interpretations based on different ideological assumptions. Criminal statistics must be seen from different points of view depending on the ideology or the school of thought to which the person interpreting the figures belong to.

Most statistics on crime available to the public and to criminologists come from official sources, i.e., from the statistics gathered by agencies of the government. Due to this fact, criminologists often equate criminal statistics with official statistics.

#### **2.4.2 Police Crime Report as Fundamental Source of Criminal Statistics**

Among the various types of criminal statistics, the most common and probably, the most reliable ones are crimes known to the police. These are crimes reported to the police by victims or witnesses recorded by the police. But it is inadequate for the fact that not all crimes are reported to the police. Such statistics are based on complaints, observations or information from which it can reasonably be concluded a statutory violation has been occurred.

However, crimes known to the police are not complete for the following reasons:

- The victims themselves may be involved in the crimes due to which they may not dare to report to the police.

- Victims of sex offenses, assault, extortion cases, etc are not all reported by the victims for their tendency to run out of public expose and undesirable embarrassment, or they may be scared of further reprisal by offenders after reporting.
- Petty thefts and burglaries may not be reported because victims may not be aware of their losses and if they lack confidence on the police organization, they prefer to sustain their losses rather than passing through trouble.
- Crimes like bribery, blackmail, white-collar and others are not readily known to the general public or even to the law enforcement agents and are not reported.
- Victims and witnesses may not report criminal violations because of lack of knowledge of criminal law and its procedures.
- Law enforcement agencies may not want to reveal certain offenses for their own reasons due to political procedure.

Because of the aforementioned main reasons, the police would not know the total volume of crimes committed which is a clear indication of shortcoming.

According to Andargachew Tesfaye (1988), there are four categories of crime:

- Crimes against the person (homicide, assault, violent sexual offenses, etc).
- Crimes against property (theft, burglary, robbery, etc).
- Crimes against the state (sedition, treason, coup d' etat, etc).
- Crimes against the state and/or municipal regulation (black market operations, trade rule, violations such as price hiking, hoarding of goods in demand, etc).

Among these broad categories, crimes against the state and crimes against the person are most likely to be reported. This is because the government in power is highly watchful on the crimes against the state. Similarly, emphasis is given to the crimes against the person due to which are better reported than property crimes because much focus is given to human life than property. On the other hand, the police are likely to refrain from recording certain crimes which they feel they can not solve. Police is another method of compiling criminal statistics. But it is far less reliable from crimes known to the police because the police mostly arrest quite a small proportion of crimes reported to them.

Maintenance of accurate statistics has not been a long-standing tradition in Ethiopia. In fact, crime statistics were considered highly confidential for a long time, if they ever existed in usual conditions. Since there has not been uniform method of reporting, the accuracy of the available police statistics in Ethiopia may be doubtful. The methods of reporting have been changing whenever there were changes in the personnel of the responsible department. Despite these shortcomings, the available police statistics are indispensable in determining some broad trends of the nature and extent of crime in the country.

In addition to the shortage of personnel, the quality of training of police force affects the accuracy of statistics maintained. Even though the educational qualification; of police recruits has been progressively improving from time to time, the lack of adequate training in statistical methods can not be denied. The seriousness and accuracy of the maintenance of daily registers, especially in remote police posts is questionable.

Lots of errors are also committed in transmitting annual statistics from the lowest police posts to the police headquarters passing through various hierarchies of offices. However, the most serious drawback is the lack of uniform methods of reporting.

*Table 2.2: The ten most prevalent crimes for the pre-and post-revolution periods.*

Pre-revolution		Post-revolution	
1. Assault	17.96%	1. Violation of regulations	25.50%
2. Theft	17.73%	2. Theft	24.64%
3. Violation of regulations	10.26%	3. Assault	21.42%
4. Threats (Against persons)	6.25%	4. Breach of Trust	6.60%
5. Damage to property	3.95%	5. Homicide	6.17%
6. Homicide	3.95%	6. Attempted homicide	3.08%
7. Attempted Homicide	3.43%	7. Crime against the economy	3.03%
8. Burglary	2.19%	8. Fraud	2.81%
9. Abuse (Insult)	1.59%	9. Manslaughter	2.14%
10. Argon	1.59%	10. Abduction and rape	1.62%
Total	69.37%	Total	97.01%

*Source: Andargachew Tesfaye, 1988: 67.*

As indicated in the above table, the ten prevalent crimes in the pre-revolution period make up 70 percent of the total crime committed while in the post-revolution, the crimes make up close to 97 percent. In the post revolution there appears a tendency of crimes to concentrate on fewer acts of breaches of the law.

### **2.4.3 Court Crime Statistics**

Court statistics may be another source of criminal statistics, but this statistics does not show the total number of crimes committed because some criminals that could be arrested may not have been prosecuted for various reasons. On the other hand, questions such as what percentage of the crimes reported to the police end up in court? What percentage of the criminals appearing before the courts gets sentenced, for the crimes they were indicting for? However, in the previous regimes, no court statistics exist in usable forms. Neither the courts nor the attorney general's office compile criminal statistics that could officially be available for public usage.

### **2.4.4 Prison Statistics**

Prison records are other sources of criminal statistics. If it is made available in usable manner; criminal statistics obtained from prison would reveal the types of offenses frequently committed and the kind of sentences prisoners are usually awarded and what percent of criminals sentenced by courts and up in prison. However, prison statistics are not only difficult to obtain but also highly un-systematized whenever available. The administration of prisons in the past regimes had been under the Ministry of Interior and statistics on prisoners were considered as highly confidential information and if available were not used for public consumption.

## Chapter Three

### 3. Administration of Crime and Criminal situation in Addis Ababa

#### 3.1. Crime Control, Prevention and Conditions of Criminality in Ethiopia

##### 3.1.1. Historical Establishment and Background of the Ethiopian Police Force

After the downfall of the Dergue regime in May 1991, the previous police force was disbanded and the country was left without policemen for some time. Instead, what were referred to as the Peace and Stabilization Committees were established by EPRDF to maintain peace and order in the country. In January 1992, under Art.10 (8) of proclamation No. 7/1992 that established National/Regional Self-governments, the regions were given the power to establish their own police. This power was provided for as follows:

*to establish and direct in accordance with the relevant policy and directives of the Central Transitional Government Security and Police Force for maintaining peace and security of the people.*

Pursuant to the aforementioned provision, the Transitional Government, on January 16, 1992, issued proclamation No. 8/1992, A proclamation to Provide for the Deployment of the State Defense Army of the Transitional Government and for the Establishment of Police Force, and a police force was gradually reestablished in each region. The newly established police force, unlike in the previous years, is mainly ethnic based and completely decentralized and is put under the control of the National/Regional Self-governments. This is provided for under Art.5 of Proclamation NO. 8/1992 as follows:

*There shall be established new police force in each National/Regional Self-government which shall, under the direction of the latter be responsible for the preservation of peace and security, and the maintenance of law and order of the self-government.*

According to Art.8, recruitment of the Police Force is carried out with the full participation of the local community to ensure that undesirable individuals are not recruited. The article also excludes the recruitment, in the Police Force, of former Dergue party members (WPE), former leadership of kebele associations and former members of the same forces. Some members of the former police Force could be stayed in their position with the newly established police force provided that they were certified by the community to be free from any crime during the Dergue period.

According to the Council of Ministers Regulation No 96/2003 for the establishment of Addis Ababa Police Commission, it has the following powers and functions:

1. Except the jurisdiction given to Federal Criminal Court in line with Art.4 of the Federal Courts Establishment Proclamation No. 25/1998 (as amended) has a power to prevent and investigate any crime in the city of Addis Ababa.
2. Investigate and prevent crimes and petty offences that fall under the jurisdiction of the Addis Ababa Municipal Court that are stated under Article 41 sub-Art (2) of the charter of Addis Ababa.
3. Prevent any activities that jeopardize the administration by violating the charter of the City Administration.
4. Prevent crimes against the interest and, institutions of the City Administration.
5. Safeguard the institutions of the City Administration.
6. Give security protection to the higher officials of the City Administration.
7. Execute orders or decisions of the Federal and Municipal Courts.
8. Execute orders issued by the Federal Public Prosecutor and City Administration Public Prosecutor in regard to the investigation of crime.
9. Conduct citywide studies to enhance crime prevention and investigation and submit to the Federal Police Commission and to the City Administration.
10. Collect and analyze criminal data that fall under the jurisdiction of the commission and to the City Administration.
11. Exchange information and undertake coordinated activities with security organs.
12. Enforce the rules and flows of traffic in the city.

13. Give patrol services to public and religious ceremonies, to sporting and other similar events.
14. Enter into contracts, sue and be sued in its name.

As per proclamation No. 96/2003, Art 7 (structure of the Commission), which says, the commission of Addis Ababa city Administration shall have:

1. A commissioner and Deputy Commissioner to be appointed by the Minister of Federal Affairs as per the recommendation of the Federal Police Commissioner.
2. A management council comprising of the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Department Heads; and
3. Other staff necessary for its activities.

### **3.1.2. Organizational Structure and Functions of the Addis Ababa Police Force**

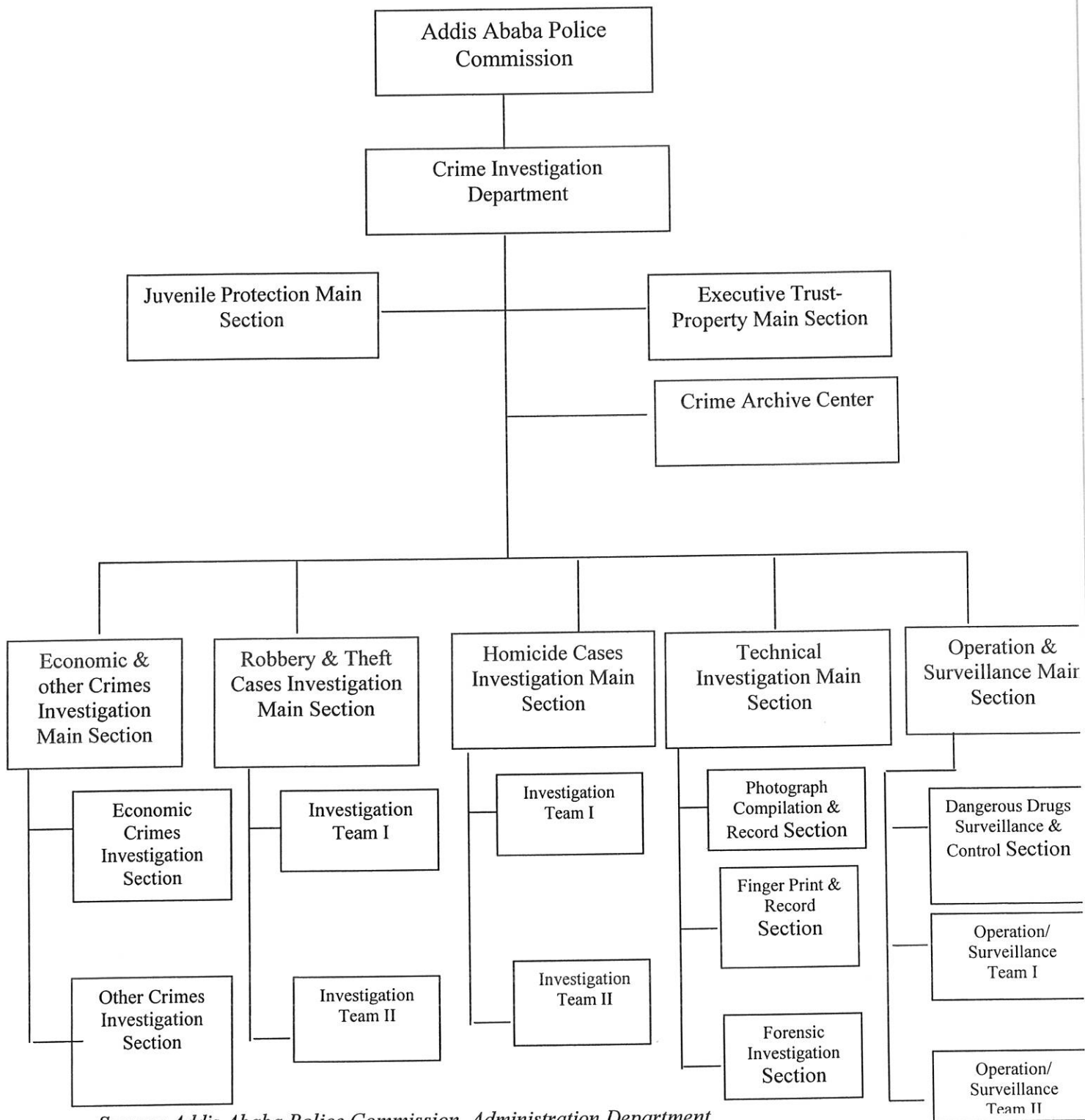
Pursuant to Art.7 (3) of Proclamation No. 96/2003, the Addis Ababa Police Commission had established the following organizational structure to ensure its responsibility by conducting detail activities.

The role of the police is to maintain peace within carefully established framework of individual liberties. However, preservation of peace is more complex than simply preventing crimes, making arrests for violations of law, recovering stolen property and providing assistance in the prosecution of persons charged with acts of criminality. Police force can be more effective in crime control by devoting more resources and reducing rights; however, the system of government may be in compatible with such a choice. Because policing is an institution that does not stand alone; it is part and parcel of the larger society.

The two major tasks of the police force are crime control and prevention of crime. The main objective of crime control is to protect the society against aggression of abnormal and habitual offenders by holding the volume of crime in check, i.e., by keeping it from

spreading and breaking out in new places. The police are expected to perform such task by identifying the extent and types of crime, the areas where crime are concentrated, the periods of commission of crimes and the methods of operation of criminals, and reacting to the problems correctly. Hence, the police must be organized and deployed in order to be effective and efficient in crime control. On the other hand, the objective of crime prevention is to stop, as much as possible, the occurrence of any sort of crime. To be effective in crime prevention, the possible causes of crime need to be identified by the police, the community and the concerned bodies of the government. Therefore, good police-community relations are essential elements of an effective crime prevention program. An important aspect of prevention involves education of the public about the values of law and order and that the role of the police is the protection of the interests of the total community. Public education will in turn enhance building good image of the police in the community (Andargachew Tesfaye, 2004: 32-33).

# Organizational structure of the Addis Ababa Police Commission, Crime Investigation Department



Source: Addis Ababa Police Commission, Administration Department.

In order to ensure its task of protecting the urban population and property against offenders, the city police force tries its level best through deploying and patrolling its personnel in various areas of the city. Similarly, the police force makes maximum effort to prevent potential crimes by detecting and apprehending violators of law. The City Administration has created various institutional frameworks and assigned responsibilities so as to maintain peace and order in the entire municipality.

Police as an institution need to focus mainly on crime prevention than investigation after crimes are being committed and damages are caused. In other words, the police force or the law enforcement agents should be proactive than reactive. When the Addis Ababa police force is seen in this respect, there has been and there are still criticisms that it focuses on post incidence activities, mainly on arrest of criminals rather than working on preemptive assessment of potential threats and prevention systems.

The primary focus of the police has to be on crime prevention mechanisms. Moreover, the police as an effective institution must have well organized and capable crime instigation department. It is widely acceptable principle that crime offenders have to be punished by the impartial judicial system so that convicted criminals will get good lesson and this may deter potential violators. On the other hand the victim has also the right to see justice to be made correctly. Moreover, the adjudication system requires sufficient evidence from the law enforcement agents, particularly from crime investigation wing of the police.

In the process and procedures of crime investigation and performance, these institutions have to take into account prevention, identification (investigation), analysis and interpretation and clarification of crime. This is to mean the crime investigator has to indicate the means and methods of crime prevention mechanisms. Conducting thorough crime analysis and interpretation using an appropriate method is also equally important. Finally, explanation or clarification to the stakeholders or the public at large would end up in increasing participation of the society in crime control (Yilma Zeleke, 1996: 16).

The model of public investigation has to make use of three tools, namely; information, interrogation and instrumentation. It is suggested by many authors that the application of the three aforementioned terms in varying proportions, enables the investigator to gather required facts which are necessary for establishing the guilt of the accused in criminal trial (Sahlu Birri, 1974:35).

The word information is used to describe the knowledge which the investigator gathers from other persons. Among the above-mentioned three terms information is by far the most important, because it answers the question of who did it. On the other hand, the term interrogation includes the skillful questioning of witnesses as well as suspects. The success of information depends on the intelligent selection of informative sources; the effectiveness of interrogation varies with the craft, logic and psychological insight with which the investigator questions a person who have information pertinent to the case. Finally, instrumentation is meant to include application of instruments and methods of physical sciences for detecting crimes. For instance, physics offers aids such as microscopy, photography, and optical methods of analysis. The role of chemistry is well known for elaboration. Biology and pathology are particularly important in crimes of physical violence. Therefore, by so doing the police have to assist the public prosecutor in discovering the commission of offences and apprehension of offenders (Ibid: 35-36).

In line with the above-mentioned working procedures and general concepts, the Addis Ababa Police Commission has Crime Investigation Department, established as one of the four important departments in its organizational set up. It is directly accountable to the Deputy, Commissioner. The Crime Investigation Department has five sections, mainly established in accordance to the major types of crimes committing and these sections have six units and six teams. The five sections are: Investigation of Homicide cases, Robbery & Theft Investigation, Economic and various Crimes Investigation, Technical Investigation and Operation & Surveillance Investigation. Based on the primary and secondary data collected from this department, the researcher came to understand that various criminal cases are being investigated in the specialized sections. For instance, all

murder/homicide cases are investigated only in the homicide investigation section and soon. Cases which are different from homicide, robbery and theft like economic scandals and other crimes are investigated and handled by Economic & other Crimes Investigation Section. On the other hand the Technical Investigation Section gives technical support or professional assistance to the rest of all. Similarly, the Operation and Surveillance Section is engaged in arrest and pre-arrest follow up activities of suspected criminals.

The Addis Ababa police are entrusted to maintain sustainable peace and order of city administration by conducting effective preventive mechanisms. Furthermore the metropolitan police have also shouldered to control incidences of crime, arrest offenders and provide concrete evidence to the judicial institutions. The police have to undertake comprehensive investigative measures through employing, various methods and applying modern technological instruments of crime investigation.

However, several shortcomings are noticed in the Addis Ababa police force among which the major ones revolve around:

1. Lack of operational and institutional capacity;
2. Manpower shortage;
3. Financial constrain and lack of incentive scheme;
4. Absence of conducive work environment
5. Lack of appropriate recruitment, selection promotion and retention policy; and
6. Other related challenges are currently facing the police institution.

A study conducted in December 2006 by the Addis Ababa Police Commission, Human Resource Administration Section confirmed that the aforementioned shortcomings prevail in the Addis Ababa Police Force. The primary objective of the study was to find out the root causes of employees turn over, which has been increasing from time to time and to propose solution to tackle the problem. Questionnaires were distributed to selected members and ex-members of the police force based on purposive sampling method. It was indicated in the finding of the research that the major causes for the prevalence of police turnover were due to various administrative, economic and social problems, prolonged work hour and stagnation or lack of promotion. Based on the result of the

study, proposed solutions were recommended by the researchers (*Addis Ababa Police Commission, 2006*).

## **3.2. Prevalence and Analysis of Major Crimes**

### **3.2.1. An overview of Criminal Situation in Ethiopia**

In any country, the negative impact of crime is high on political, economic and social conditions. The prevalence of crime destabilizes peace and tranquility, undermines and hampers democracy and development and threatens the normal life of citizens. Moreover, criminal incidents cause loss of life and property, disability and injury, psychological damage, social crises and other related problems. That is why Art.23 (1) of the criminal code FDRE, Proclamation No 414/2004 says “A crime is an act which is prohibited and made punishable by law.” Therefore, in order to prevent the consequences caused by the evil acts of crime, it is imperative to take all necessary measures to protect or safeguard the life and property of citizens. To this end government of the day has shouldered big responsibility of ensuring sustainable peace and stable condition by taking appropriate preventive measures. The real causes of crimes have to be assessed and studied that will help to draw workable solution.

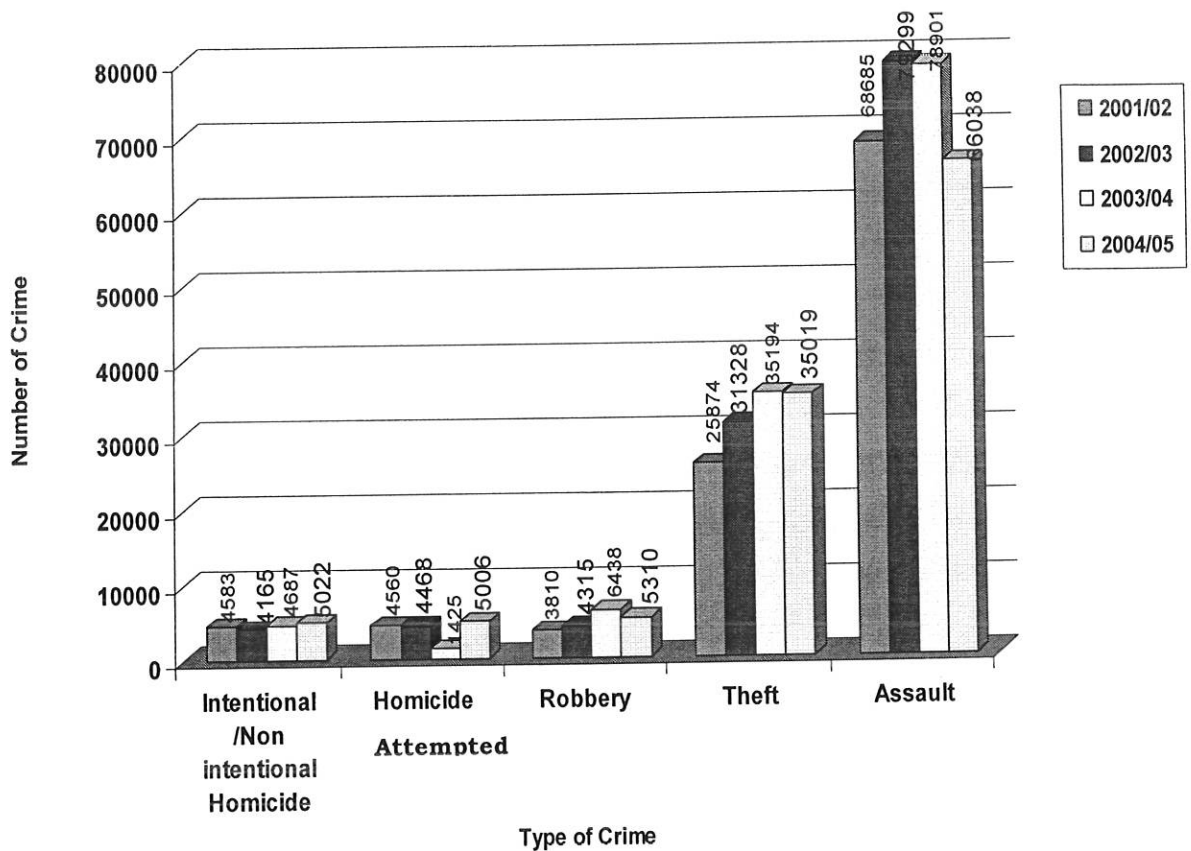
With the demise of the Dergue regime in 1991, a change had been made in the police institution. Most of the former police staff members who are believed to be affiliated to the Dergue regime were replaced by members and patrons of the new government as a result of which it took almost three years to restructure the police institution to work in its full capacity. For this reason, crime statistical data were started since 1993/1994. From 1990/1991-1992/1993, a gap was created in crime record system.

From 1993/1994 up to the current time, there are forty three (43) types of crimes committed at national level which were continuously recorded by the Federal Police Commission and Regional Police Offices. Though, there is fluctuation in the sequence of the record of crimes each year. Generally, crimes of assault and disabling were the highest in number every year. Theft and rule breaking take second and third stage

respectively. Embezzlement, fraud, robbery, homicide, etc take the next stages in their sequence.

Due to its past history of war and conflict, vast and porous border and other related explanations, Ethiopia had been suffering from illicit proliferation, circulation and possession of firearms of various types. As it was indicated in the introductory part of chapter one that in Ethiopia people carry guns for different reasons ranging from cultural orientation assuaging feelings of insecurity. However, there is one much dangerous reason for possessing arms. This relates to the utilization of arms in unlawful activities of earning living and meeting several wants.

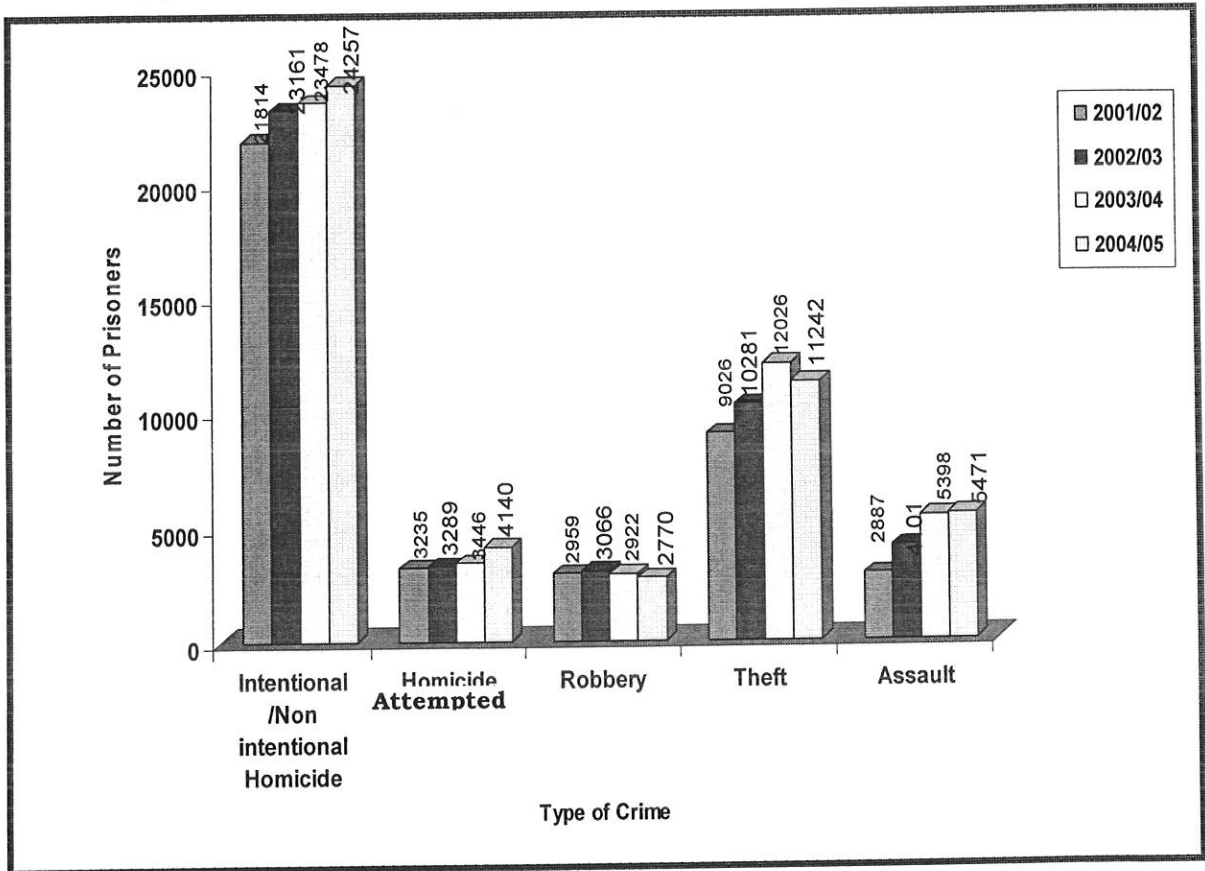
Figure 3.1: Number of Crimes Recorded at National Level by Crime Type: 2000/2001-2004/2005



Source: Tsehay Wada, 2006.

The crime statistics recorded between the years 2000/2001- 2004/2005 showed that assault crimes have attained the highest number followed by theft. The rest types of crimes, i.e., intentional/non-intentional homicide, homicide attempted and robbery have almost comparable numbers.

Graph 3.2: Number of Prisoners in Regional and Central Prisons and Types of Crimes Committed (2001/02-2004/05).



Source: Tsehay Wada, 2006.

The above graph of prison statistics shows that prisoners who have been in custody committing intentional/non-intentional crimes have the highest number followed by theft, assault, homicide attempted and robbery respectively in the four consecutive years. This statistical data also shows that most of the suspected offenders were not sent to custody because these were only convicted criminals. Others could be acquitted, their cases might be pending or freed for lack of solid evidence.

Table 3.1: Number of Offenders Recorded at National Level by Age Group and Sex (2002/03- 2004/05).

Age Group	Number of Criminals		
	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
All Cases			
Total	384,007	407,634	370,692
Male	334,639	356,057	325,264
Female	49,368	51,577	45,428
Adults			
Total	335,272	180,942	315,203
Male	293,755	159,552	277,735
Female	41,516	21,390	37,468
Juvenile			
Total	48,735	226,692	55,489
Male	40,884	196,505	47,529
Female	7,852	30,187	7,960

Source: Federal Police Commission

- The 2004/05 information does not include for Gambella Region

As it is easy to understand from above crime records, adult crime record was greater than juvenile delinquency. Similarly, male offenders were greater than females ones in the three years shown above.

Table 3.2: A countrywide Crime Report of Three Consecutive Years (1997/98 – 1999/00).

Crimes Reported	Accused Persons (No. of cases pending in court)		
	Male (M)	Female (F)	Total
4386	6806	213	7019

Source: Federal police, Central Investigation Department.

It is understandable from the above table that very few female were involved in crimes recorded at country level.

Table 3.3: Number of Criminal Incidences and Crime Trend in each Year (1993/94-2001/02).

Year	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Number of Crimes	96995	140294	143159	178008	191073	159293	149153	187339	219539
Number of Population (10 years and above)	•	37703353	38858299	40028139	41212671	42414333	43639375	44881502	46141989
Crime Rate	-	372	368	445	463	376	342	417	476

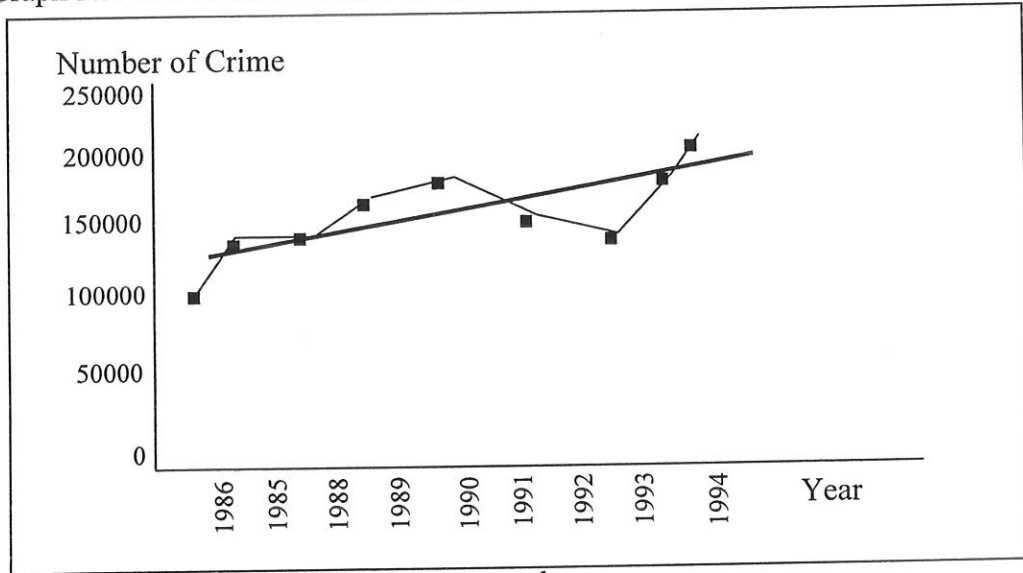
Source: Federal Police Crime Record

- Number of population not available

$$\text{Crime rate} = \frac{\text{Number of Crimes}}{\text{Number of population}} \times 100,000$$

There are important factors that should be considered to infer on the increase or decrease of crimes within specific period. It has always been said that crimes are increasing from time to time. But in real sense, before concluding on increasing or decreasing trend of crimes, it has to be seen with the increase in the number of population, political, economic and social developments. When the number of crime is assessed in line with the rise in population from 1993/94- 1997/98 it showed increasing trend, but crimes were declining in the next two years within 1998/99 to 1999/00. In the rest two years, i.e., 2000/01 to 2001/02, incidences of crime have shown increasing tendency. Therefore, it is easy to deduce that due to the aforementioned factors, it is not possible to conclude on the increase or decrease of crimes. This is because there have been fluctuations of crimes in almost every year. In other words, to arrive at final conclusion, on the extent of crime, all parameters mentioned above that have direct or indirect impact have been considered.

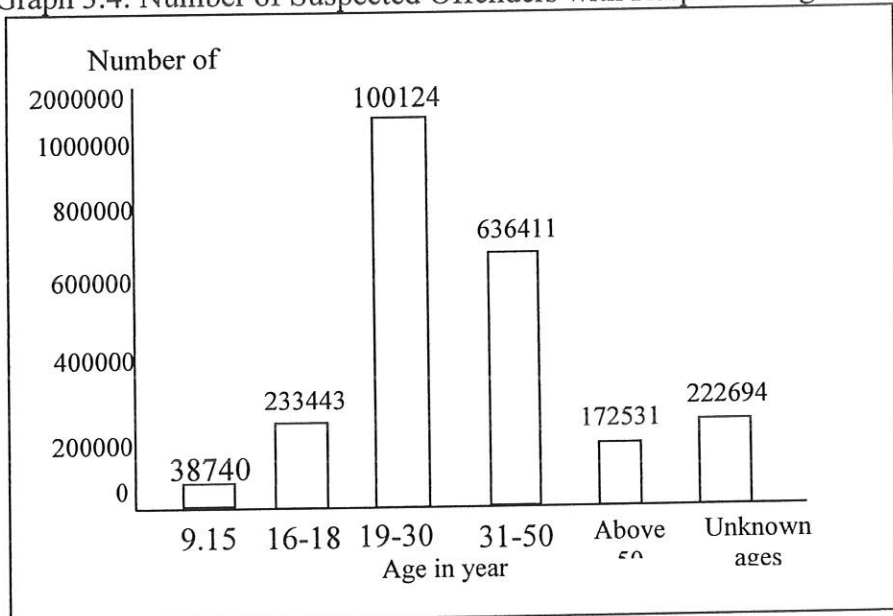
Graph 3.3: The Trend of Crime within Nine Years



Source: Federal Police Crime Record

The above graph shows that when criminal incidences are observed without considering population increase, the general trend in the rate of crime is increasing in an oscillatory movement. When the accused persons are assessed with respect to age group, in between 1993/94-2001/02, a record of 2305064 suspected criminals were taken among which the ages of 2082370 individuals had clearly been registered. This means that more than ninety percent of the total numbers of the suspected offenders were identified by their age. The accused individuals were categorized into four (4) age groups.

Graph 3.4: Number of Suspected Offenders with Respect to Age Category.



Source: Federal Police Crime Record

Out of the total number of suspected rule violators, the highest numbers (43.4%) or were individuals whose ages lie between 19-30, followed by the age category 31-50, having a share of 27.6%. The age interval between 16-18 was in the third stage, that is, 10.1% of the total crime records. Accused persons whose ages were not identified (9.7%), people above 50 years of age (7.5%) and in the age category 9-15 (1.7%) stood fourth, fifth and sixth in number respectively. Hence, recorded data of suspected criminals have shown that the highest frequencies of crime were in the age category 19-30. On the other hand, less numbers of crime records were observed in the age intervals 9-15 and above 50.

Table 3.4: Number of Accused Criminals by Educational Qualification.

No	Education	Number of Offenders	Percentage of Offenders
1	Uneducated (illiterate)	819,947	35%
2	Primary complete	664,749	29%
3	Junior and secondary (middle level) complete	319,962	14%
4	Comprehensive secondary complete (high school)	250,076	11%
5	College or tertiary level	37,109	2%
6	Unspecified	213,221	9%
7	Total	2,305,064	100%

Source: Federal Police, Crime Investigation Department.

- Uneducated means people having neither formal nor informal educational training.
- Primary level is 1-6 grades including.
- Middle level is 7-8 grades including.
- High school is 9-12 grades including.
- Tertiary level is education of higher institution after taking the matriculation for high school.

The statistical data shown in the above table indicate that among the accused persons whose educational qualifications were known uneducated individuals had the highest number in the police crime record followed by primary, middle, high school and territory levels respectively.

Besides, the statistical data of offenders manifest that with the increase in educational qualification or as people are exposed to education, they show decreasing trend in their involvement in criminal acts.

Another crime data obtained from the Federal Police database showed that out of the total number of 2305064 accused individuals, 2056007 (89.26%) were male and 249057 (10.8%) were female. This indicates that male involvement of crime is by far higher than female involvement. Among the accused persons, 2091843 of them had been known in marital status. Out of the suspected individuals whose marriage condition was specified, 1220443 (58.3%) were married while 871400 had been unmarried or single persons. Among the 1220443 married individuals, 1081053 (88.6%) were male, whereas 139,390(11.4%) were female. Further more, out of the unmarried 871,400 people, 783,774 (89.9%) were male while 87,626 (10.1%) were female.

According to the analysis made based on the above shown data of accused people, it is clearly seen that male involvement in criminal acts is higher than female.

Table 3.5: Category of the Accused by Occupation

No	Occupation	Number of Accused	Percentage of Accused
1	Farmers	968,435	42%
2	Unemployed people	424,765	19%
3	Self-supporting workers	261,888	11%
4	Private employees	237,154	10%
5	Government employees	129,601	6%
6	Unspecified occupations	283,221	12%
Total		2,305,064	100%

Source: Federal police Crime Record.

As shown in the above table, among the police accused cases in the past nine years (1993/94- 2001/02), the highest numbers were farmers followed by unemployed or jobless individuals. Self-supported workers, private employees and civil servants were in the third, fourth and fifth in descending sequential order. Crime record of accused farmers was the highest in number probably due to fact that more than 85% of the Ethiopian peoples are peasants.

Federal Police Commission receives crime data from various Federal and Regional Police institutions. These crime data were: cases under investigation, investigated, cased decided by the public prosecutors and courts and pending cases.

Table 3.6: Cases Under Investigation, Closed, pending, Convictions and Acquittals.

No	Sex		1994/ 95	1995/ 96	1996/97	1997/ 98	1998/ 99	1999/ 00	2000/ 01	2001/ 02
1	Case Under Investigation	Number	28641	36344	48755	56100	40359	29584	46346	53466
		Percentage	20.41	25.39	27.39	29.36	25.34	19.83	24.74	24.35
2	Closed Cases	Number	11981	8688	11727	10049	5916	4873	6635	6301
		Percentage	8.54	6.07	6.59	5.29	3.71	3.27	3.54	2.872
3	Pending Cases	Number	64355	71210	75918	75423	74258	76697	91117	122291
		Percentage	45.87	4974	42.65	39.47	46.32	51.42	48.64	55.70
4	Convictions	Number	21604	16019	21651	21103	14812	14947	17211	10088
		Percentage	15.40	11.19	12.16	11.03	9.30	10.12	919	4.60
5	Acquittals	Number	5368	3339	3155	3100	2532	2252	2680	2667
		Percentage	3.83	2.33	1.77	1.62	1.59	1.51	1.43	1.21
6	Accused not found	Number	8345	7559	16802	25298	21416	20800	23350	24726
		Percentage	5.95	5.28	9.44	13.24	13.44	13.95	12.46	11.26
Total			140294	143159	1178008	191073	159293	149153	187339	219539

Source: Federal Police Crime Record Center

The statistical data of crime demonstrates that it showed increasing tendency from 1994/95 up to 1997/98. But the criminal data were declining in years 1999/1999 up to 2001/2002. The “closed cases” indicate that such crime cases were shut down by the decision of the public prosecutors for lack of enough evidence. This means that such

cases have been submitted to the prosecutors' office by the concerned police without sufficient evidences because of which they were closed.

Table 3.7: Criminal Records which had been decided by Office of Public Prosecutors in 2001/2002.

No	Type of Decision Passed by Prosecutors	Number of Cases	Percentage
1	Cases sent with directives	1587	19
2	Closed cases for lack sufficient evidence	857	10
3	Accusations sent to courts	6018	71
	Total	8462	100

Source: Ministry of Justice, Office of the Public Prosecutor.

### **3.2.2. The Prevalence of Crimes and Judicial proceeding in Addis Ababa**

#### **3.2.2.1. Report of Criminal incidences**

The collected pertinent primary sources showed that different types of crimes are committed in urban areas including Addis Ababa. Recently the crimes prevailing in the city administration mainly include:

- Homicide;
- Attempted homicide;
- Armed /unarmed robbery;
- Theft;
- Aggravated assault;
- Burglary;
- Illicit possession and trafficking of firearms.
- Arson;
- Juvenile delinquency;
- Fraud /counterfeiting/ check forgery;

- Larceny
- Injury and disabling; and other types of crimes are perpetrated by offenders in Addis Ababa. But the researcher will focus only on major types of crimes associated with firearms which include mostly homicide/murder, robbery/theft and illicit possession and trade of arms.

According to the primary data collected through questionnaire and interview, most the crimes in Addis Ababa are committed with various firearms and lethal weapons ranging from small arms and light weapons to sharpened/pointed metallic substances, wooden materials, chemicals, bombs, physical force, stones and soon. These are frequently used to commit crimes of various types in Addis Ababa.

The primary sources have shown that the offenders obtain most of these arms and lethal or dangerous weapons, especially firearms through illicit purchase from around Merkato areas. Some of the firearms are also fall to the hands of illegal possessors and criminals by theft and illicit transfer. Small numbers of armed criminalities are also committed by the law enforcement agents and members of the defense force of the present government. There fore, the sources of the illicit arms found in Addis Ababa are members of the ex-combatants, neighboring countries and transferred from legal to illicit possessions.

Table 3.8: Number of Crime Records by Sex in each Type of Crime (1993/94- 2006/07).

Type of crime committed	1993/94		1994/95		1995/96		1996/97		1997/98		1998/99		1999/00		2000/01		2001/02		2002/03		2003/04		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Homicide	271	41	215	19	214	17	211	17	206	18	289	52	260	20	278	16	209	9	195	16	241	28	195	15	198	11	171	6
Attempted homicide	713	31	674	33	856	23	1327	18	1090	25	943	22	1124	23	1276	40	1357	93	1486	51	1611	34	935	35	843	21	581	17
Aggravated Assault	6464	643	8538	1019	7364	708	17395	1949	23272	2658	23829	2714	25894	3166	27485	3662	32222	4269	32847	5343	32592	5214	16526	3034	13554	2549	10976	1811

Robbery and Theft	3188	16	724	634
Attempted robbery and Theft	59	-	54	28
Burglary (day and night)	2545	50	683	334
Illicit Possession and Trade of Firearms	45	-	20	15
	2249	56	514	295
	25	-	23	19
	3092	134	375	254
	11	-	11	4
	2508	210	362	243
	13	3	5	4
	1836	158	294	213
	6	3	4	9
	1700	214	430	177
	5	1	14	5
	1713	207	1419	162
	9	2	14	4
	2092	261	269	141
	10	-	3	6
	2450	333	355	187
	13	1	7	-
	3278	373	378	222
	20	8	8	3
	1977	243	412	94
	5	1	3	2
	2817	219	473	226
	5	-	4	8
	2377	191	468	168
	7	1	5	7

Source: Addis Ababa City Administration Police Commission, information/Database Center.

In each seven types of crimes, crime record of male and female offenders is shown in the table displayed above. The fourteen year crime statistical data manifests that male offenders were by far greater than females in each year which means that female involvement in criminal activities was lesser than male.

Crimes committed against people or violent crimes such as homicide, attempted homicide and aggravated assault did not generally show either increasing or decreasing trend in each year steadily, rather there observed fluctuating trend. For instance, homicide cases in each year for both male and female were in one time increasing and the other time decreasing. In the same token, attempted homicide crimes were increasing from 1998/99 - 2001/02. Similarly, aggravated assault showed increasing tendency from 1996/97-2002/03 and were declining up to 2006/07. But it is safe to conclude that violent crimes did not show increasing or decreasing trend.

Crimes committed against property are robbery (armed and unarmed), theft and burglary. Crimes targeted against property were not steadily increasing or decreasing but fluctuated in almost each year. One thing which has to be noticed is that there were lesser numbers of attempted robberies than cases of robberies and thefts which implies less prevention against such criminal acts. In other words, the plans of the offenders to commit robbery and theft in most cases ended up in favor of the culprits' selfish demands.

Finally, there were less crimes of illicit possession and trade of arms which generally showed decreasing trends in the final years, particularly from 2003/04-2006/07. This means illegal possession of firearms and trade in the same years was decreasing.

Table 3.9: Category of the Accused by Age

Age	9-15		16-18		19-30		35-50		Above 50		Remark
Sex	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Crime data	12	2	196	38	2520	90	2944	80	1112	18	Male involvement is much higher than female

Source: Addis Ababa Commission, Crime Investigation Department

Table 3.10: Comparison by Age and Educational Qualification of the Accused Homicide and Robbery Criminal Cases (2001/2002-2006/07).

Types of Accusations	Age					Education					Total
	9-15	16-18	19-30	31-50	Above 50	Illiterate or zero level	1-6	7-8	9-12	Above grade 12	
Homicide accusations	2	5	36	17	20	9	21	5	18	7	60
Robbery Accusations	0	3	39	15	3	2	13	17	22	6	60

Source: Addis Ababa Police Commission, Crime Investigation Department

Cases of homicide and robbery were randomly taken from among the crimes committed from 2001/02 up to 2006/07. In both types of crimes, the highest numbers of accused persons were in the age limit 19-30 and less numbers of offenders were individuals in the ages below 19 years and above 50 year. On the other hand the highest numbers of offenders were in educational qualifications elementary, junior and high school levels. There were less suspected criminals in tertiary levels (college and university levels).

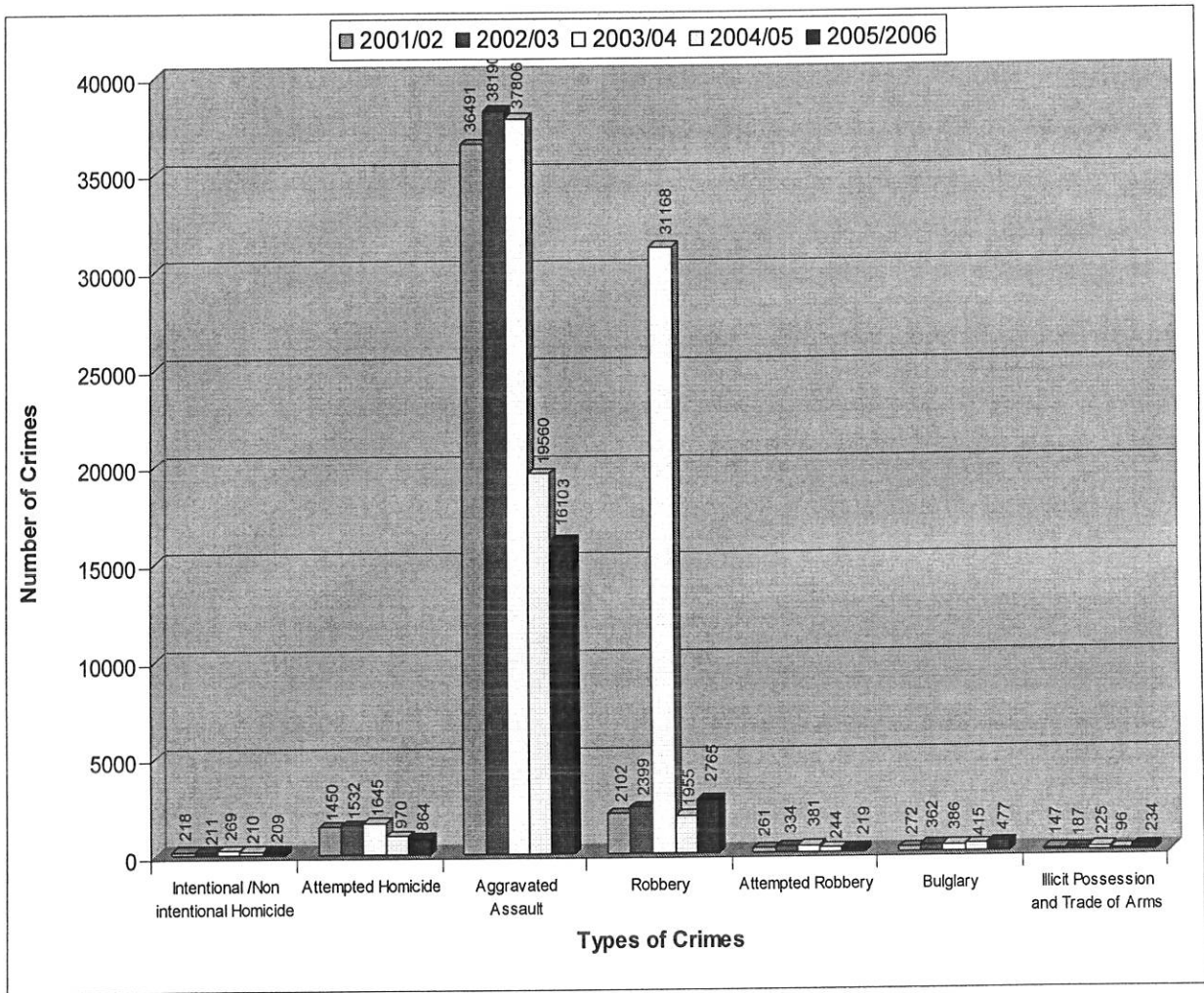
Another data of crimes committed since 1991 obtained from the Federal Police show similar correlation and involvement in crime as indicated below.

Table 3.11: Educational Qualification of Accused Individuals.

Uneducated		Primary level		Middle level		High school		Tertiary level	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
3061	120	2440	46	593	19	583	20	92	5

*Source: Federal police, Crime Investigation Department*

Graph 3.5: Number of Crime Records in Seven Types of Crimes (2001/02-2005/06).



Source: Addis Ababa Police Commission Information/Database center

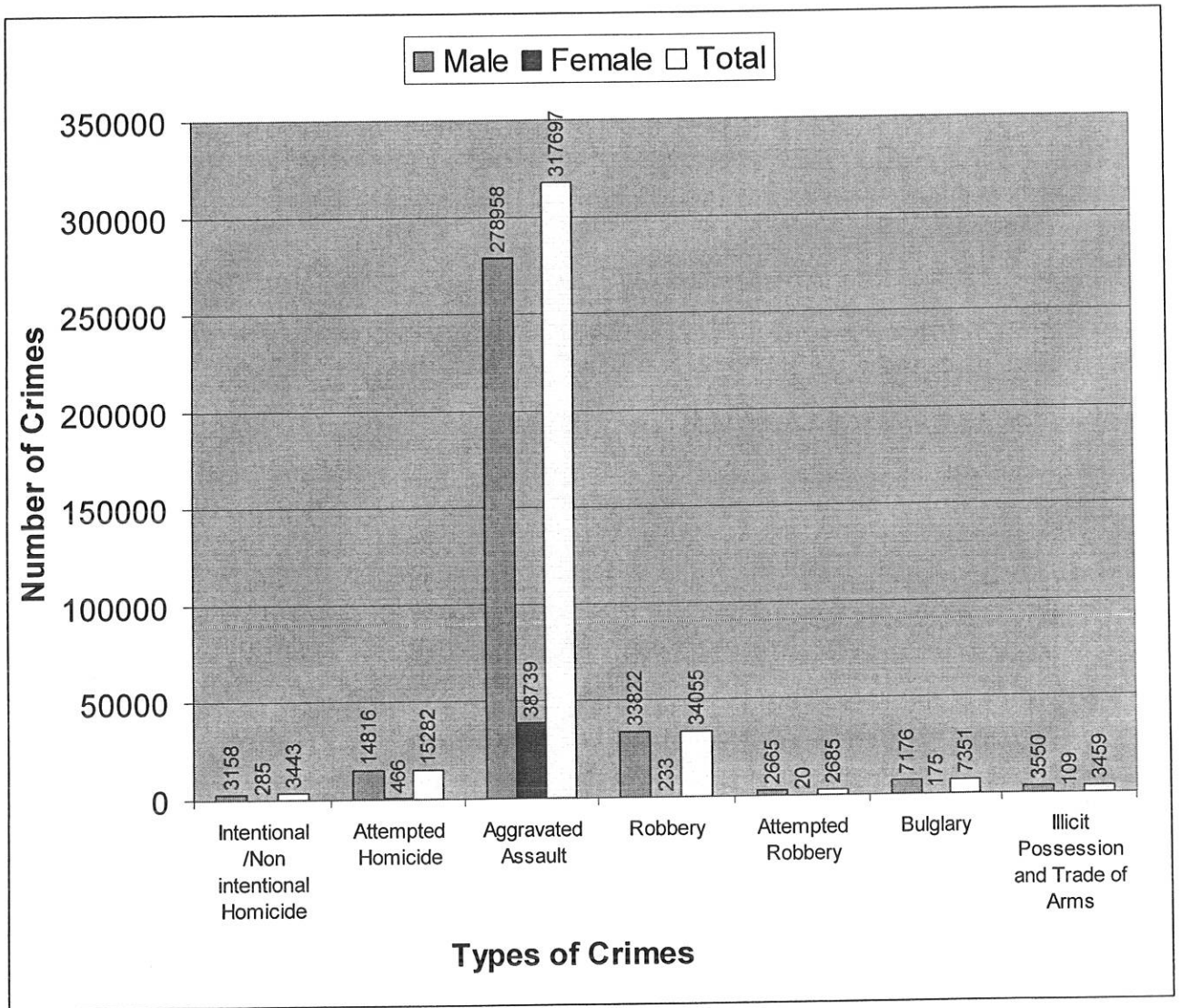
Table 3.12: Numbers of Crime Records in Addis Ababa by Sex for Seven Major Types of Crimes (1993/1994-2006/07).

Homicide			Attempted Homicide			Aggravated Assault			Robbery			Attempted Robbery			Bulglary			Illicit possession & Trade of firearms		
M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
3158	285	3443	14816	466	15282	27895	38739	31769	33822	233	34055	2665	20	2685	7176	175	7351	3350	109	3459

Source: Addis Ababa Police Commission Crime Database Center

The data showed in the above table had been recorded within the years 1993/94 – 2006/07 for seven types of crimes. In each type of crime, the number of male offenders was higher than female which indicated more involvement of male in these crimes. On the other hand the highest crime record was seen under aggravated assault followed by robbery and attempted homicide respectively. Burglary, illicit possession and trade of firearms, homicide and attempted robbery were in fourth, fifth, six and seven stages respectively. It can be concluded from the aforementioned crime records that in the past fourteen years there were more violent crimes, or crimes targeted against people mainly injury and disability than crimes against properties like robbery and theft.

Graph 3.6: Number of Crime Records for Seven Types of Crimes by Sex -Male and Female Offenders (1993/94-2006/07).



Source: Addis Ababa Police Commission, Crime Data Center

### 3.2.2.2. Comparative Analysis of Criminal Situation in Addis Ababa and Regional States

Police commissions of the nine regional states and the two administrative cities (Dire Dawa and Addis Ababa) regularly send crime records to the Federal Office of Public

Prosecutor. This office maintains regularly crime records using various parameters like age, sex, education, marital status, urban and rural, etc.

Table 3.13: Comparison by Age

Regions and Administrative Cities	Tigray	Afar	Amhara	Oromia	Somali	Benshangul Gumuz	SNNP	Gambella	Hahare	Addis Ababa	Diredawa	Average
Average Age of the Accused	32	30	34	33	29	28	32	26	33	28	31	30

Source: Office of the Public Prosecutor

In the above table, the average age of criminals in Addis Ababa is 28 where as the average age for entire country is 30 years. Compared to other regions, the average age of offenders for Addis Ababa is smaller except for Gambella (26 years).

Table 3.14: Comparison by Sex (in percentage)

Regions	Tigray	Afar	Amhara	Oromia	Somalia	Benshangul Gumuz	SNNP	Gambella	Hahare	Addis Ababa	Diredawa	Average
Male (%)	88	95	94	96	83	97	94	97	90	87	83	89
Female (%)	12	5	6	4	17	3	6	3	10	13	17	11

Source: Office of the Public Prosecutor

In above percentage of crime data the involvement of male and female in criminal activities for each region is shown. In every region including Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa, male crime involvement is still higher than female. The average percentage of criminals by sex for Addis Ababa was near to the percentage at national level. There was higher numbers of female criminals in Dire Dawa and Somali compared to other Regional States.

Table 3.15: Comparison by Education (expressed in percentage)

Educational qualification	Tigray	Afar	Amhara	Oromia	Somalia	Benshangul Gumuz	SNNP	Gambella	Hahare	Addis Ababa	Diredawa	Average
Illiterate	22	13	19	6	35	53	-	-	-	4	22	8
1-6	31	24	28	24	22	28	32	30	32	22	26	23
7-8	10	11	8	10	9	3	11	22	11	19	17	17
9-12	11	22	25	20	11	3	42	28	26	40	24	33
Above 12	1	2	5	5	2	-	8	7	10	9	2	7
Unspecified	25	28	15	35	21	13	7	13	21	6	9	12
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Office of the Public Prosecutor

The above table shows that in most of the Regional States and the two Administrative Cities the number of accused by percentage was high in the elementary level (grades 1-6) followed by secondary level (grades 9-12). However, in Addis Ababa City Administration the highest percentage of accused persons were in secondary or high school level.

Table 3.16: Number of Crimes Recorded and Number of Persons Registered as Offenders by Sex and Region in 2004/05.

Region	Crimes Recorded	Number of offenders		
Tigray	23,577	34,118	6,000	40,118
Afar	737	1,064	150	1,214
Amara	41,527	65,256	6,164	71,420
Oromia	62,547	96,760	13,658	110,418
Somlaie	1,249	1,429	103	1,532
Ben-Gumuz	3,007	4,380	482	4,862
S.N.N.P	37,258	59,263	6,921	66,184
Gambella	234	405	36	441
Harari	4,166	3,593	1,218	4,811
Addis Ababa city Adm.	50,674	52,397	8,713	61,110
Dire Dawa Adm. Council	5,391	5,408	1,813	7,221
Federal Police	1,031	1,596	204	1,800
Total	231,398	325,669	45,462	371,131

Source: Federal Police Crime Record Center

In the above table country wide record of offenders by sex is provided in the nine Federating States, Dire Dawa Administrative Council, Addis Ababa City Administration and Federal Police in the year 2004/05. It is easy to understand from the annual crime data that the study area Addis Ababa had the highest crime report next to Oromia compared to other regions in proportion to its actual number of population.

Table 3.17: Number of Prisoners Found in Regional and Central Prisons by Crime Committed and Sex in 2002/03.

	Types of Crimes Committed											
	Intentional/ Non-intentional Homicide		Homicide Attempted		Robbery		Theft		Assault		Disabling	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tigray	927	28	235	3	165	0	1464	29	1229	45	86	2
Afar	128	5	9	0	16	0	80	2	9	1	0	0
Amara	6059	199	812	5	443	0	2181	73	797	31	1190	38
Oromia	8438	264	1152	32	1222	7	3230	63	1718	92	1389	61
Somalie	795	18	145	3	0	0	773	39	137	19	84	8
Ben-Gumuz	603	13	89	2	22	0	146	1	30	0	79	2
S.N.N.P	4587	206	1250	30	747	7	1932	38	1259	25	572	15
Gambella	212	16	53	0	71	0	115	0	17	0	15	0
Harari	128	2	22	0	0	0	81	5	23	0	13	4
Addis A. City	1097	47	189	9	32	0	794	2	1	0	220	6
Dire Dawa Cuncil	105	6	35	0	20	0	40	0	15	2	40	2
Central Prison	374	0	65	0	18	0	154	0	21	0	42	0
Total	23453	804	4056	84	2756	14	10990	252	5256	215	3730	138

Source: Federal Penitentiary Administration

Analysis of primary data have shown that most of the criminals in Addis Ababa were at lower educational levels namely, illiterate, elementary and junior levels. In fact, most of the crime committers have been individuals having no formal education and at elementary educational qualifications. On the other hand the same sources have indicated that the age category of more than 70% of the suspected and convicted offenders was 16 to 35 years. Similarly, the primary data have shown that 89% of the accused individuals were male by sex and most of them were also poor.

The sample populations who put their opinion in the questionnaires and interview have indicated that the Addis Ababa police had several weaknesses and shortcomings mainly, such as lack of operational and institutional capacities, manpower, financial, administrative problems. It has also been indicated that the police was mostly reactive

than proactive in discharging its task of crime prevention and control. The police had noticeable problem to work in close cooperation with the residents under community policing by insuring public participation.

### 3.2.2.3. Judicial Prosecution

The Addis Ababa Police commission Crime Investigation Department examines and tries to identify suspected criminals. Upon conduct of detail activities of investigation by the investigative police, identification and arrest of the suspected of offenders is made. Further more, after investigation is concluded, the police send criminal cases with the result of investigation report to the pertinent office of the public prosecutor for its decision and further adjudication by the court.

The office of the public prosecutor is a public official who represents the government and presents to the court, the case against the defendant. It decides whether or not to prosecute a particular criminal case. The decision to charge an offender is made after the police arrests is made and detail information is presented to the prosecuting attorney. The prosecutors have discretionary power to decide whether to charge a suspect or dismiss the case, after thorough assessment of police evidence. If the public prosecutor concludes that the evidence is not sufficient, it is highly likely that he may dismiss the case. This is referred to as a “no pallor” action, which means that the prosecutor has decided there is insufficient probability of a conviction” on the basis of existing evidence presented by the police, and there is no reason to file any information. (Andargachew, 2004: 5-6)

Table 3.18: Arrest and Judicial Prosecution (1997/98- 1999/00).

Cases under investigation		Closed cases		Pending cases		Convictions		Acquittals	
938		277		215		936		59	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1767	53	436	11	3145	109	1318	34	83	3

Source: Addis Ababa Police, Crime Investigation Department

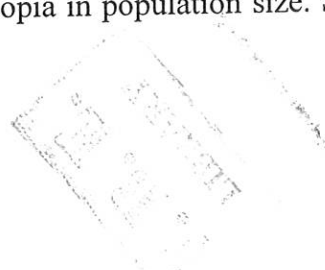
Among the cases under investigation, most of the accused persons were convicted as guilty indicating the presence sufficient evidence. However, 447 individuals accused under 277 cases had been closed by decision of the public prosecutor most likely for lack of sufficient police evidence. Similarly, 86 individual who were accused under 59 cases were acquitted by the court decision which again raises question on the operational capacity of police investigators to provide solid evidence.

Table 3.19: Comparison of Decided Crime Case with the Number of Public Prosecutors.

No	Title	Tigray	Afar	Amhara	Oromia	Somali	Benshangul Gumuz	SNNR	Gambella	Harare	Addis Ababa	Dire Dawa	Total
1	Number of decided cases	233	84	388	1062	53	19	38	44	19	5713	809	8462
2	Number of public prosecutor	6	3	8	12	3	3	7	2	4	58	7	113
3	Number of cases decided by a prosecutor per annum	39	28	49	89	18	6	5	22	5	99	116	75
4	Number of cases decided by a prosecutor per month	3	2	4	7	2	1	1	2	1	8	10	6

Source: Office of the Public Prosecutor Archive

As it is illustrated in the above table, in comparison to other regions, the number of decided cases and public prosecutors handling such cases were the highest in Addis Ababa followed by Oromia, the biggest region in Ethiopia in population size. Similarly,



criminal cases decided by a prosecutor per annum and per a month were the second highest in the study area after Diredawa. This clearly shows that the prevalence of crime in Addis Ababa was high and public prosecutors had been working under pressure in Addis Ababa.

Table 3.20: Comparison of the Accused Offenders by Occupation

Stage	Tigray	Afar	Amhara	Oromia	Somali	Benshangul Gumuz	SNNR	Gambella	Harare	Addis Ababa	Dire Dawa
1	Farmers	Driver	Farmer	Farmer	Jobless	Farmer	Tradesmen	Jobless	Tradesmen	Jobless	Day laborer
2	Day laborer	Farmers	Tradesmen	Tradesmen	Tradesmen	Jobless Police military	Civil servant	student	Civil servant Private employee Police military	tradesmen	farmer
3	Student	Tradesmen	Day laborer	Driver	Day laborer	Day laborer	jobless	Farmer	Day laborer	Day laborer	Tradesmen
4	Tradesmen	Day-laborer	Civil-servant	Civil-servant	Driver	Tradesmen	Guard	Tradesmen	Driver Student Self-supporter	Student	jobless
5	Driver Jobless	Guard	Driver	Day laborer	Housemaid	Student Civil-servant	Student	Civil servant		Self-supporter	Civil-servant

Source: Office of Public Prosecutor Archive

The category of the accused individuals by their occupation demonstrated in the above table reveals that unemployed group occupied the first stage in crime records in Addis Ababa. Tradesmen, day laborers, students and self-supported individuals were in the second, third, fourth and fifth stages in number in the city of Addis. Therefore, it is safe to deduce that joblessness and criminality seem to have direct correlation in Addis Ababa.

Primary data gathered from different sources have clearly shown that the judicial system in Addis Ababa administration has serious problem of delay in its proceeding. The sources have confirmed that due the problem of unnecessary delay in courts proceeding, citizens could not get fair justice on time as a result of which criminals get could not important lesson on time and be deterred from further involvement in crime. It was confirmed from the primary crime related data that court judges and public prosecutors have too much work load as a result of which many cases are still pending for prolonged time without being decided. The police officers, judges and public prosecutors have expressed in the questionnaires they filled that due to the prolonged court proceedings crime in the city is showing increasing tendency.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### **4. Causes, Problems and Implications of Crimes**

#### **4.1. Possible Causes of Crime in Addis Ababa**

According to the primary information unemployment, urban poverty, absence of stringent laws for controlling and licensing firearms and judicial delay are the main causes for the prevalence of various crimes in Addis Ababa. Most of the sources have indicated that the problem of unemployment takes the lion share in becoming possible causes for commission of crimes. Particularly, large numbers of youths are simply sitting without jobs and become criminals after a time mainly for economic and other reasons.

As it was presented in the second chapter, literature review of this study, different writers theorized various causes of crime and delinquency. These scholars have constructed their own theories in explaining why offenders commit crimes. Some of the causation theories were phased out and had been replaced by most recent theories. However, in the Ethiopian case, the writer is of the opinion that there are certain real causes of criminal offences in the capital city since the demise of the military regime in 1991. A few possible causes of crime will be dealt with one by one in the following way.

##### **4.1.1. Unemployment and Poverty**

Though urbanization provides opportunities, it also creates formidable problems to its residents. These political, economic and social problems, which are manifestations of urban poverty are intense and highly charged and can often lead to social and political instability. Urban poverty is both a major cause and consequence of urban problems. With the increasing population growth and rural-urban migration urbanization has increased in Ethiopia and simultaneously urban poverty has been on the rise. It was estimated in 1994 that out of a total of 8.1 million or 60.5% were below the poverty line. The trend in urban poverty is not encouraging either. The 1998 World Bank Report

showed that the situation in urban areas was marked by declining income and well being, increased insecurity, rising crime and prostitution. The same report also indicated that there was rising in rate of unemployment due to demobilization of soldiers, layoffs from public enterprises and civil services, increased school learners and dropouts, business closures due to high shop rents, increased casualization of the labor markets and increased food prices in 1993/94-1995/96. In addition, inability to produce new jobs and inadequate development of private investment and others are factors for the rise in unemployment. (UNCHS, 2000:4)

In Addis Ababa the population is increasing at an alarming rate- estimated by the Central Statistics Authority at about 3% per annum in 1984. As a result of rapid population growth as well as immigration, the proportion of the unemployed persons in Addis Ababa is rising fast. Despite large numbers of job seekers entering the labor market, low levels of additional jobs are created each year. Previous studies have indicated that the majority of the unemployed population falls in the age group 15-29 years these studies have also concluded that these unemployed youth, in a struggle to survive on incomes, may be compelled to involve in various morally and socially disapproved activities- conspicuous examples political, social and economic problems such as instability, delinquency, prostitutions etc. (Manpower Research and Unemployment Adviser, 1995:1)

The unemployment problem in Addis Ababa is very serious and has increased at high rate recently. Migration accounts for a significant portion of the growth of the city. In 1994, 46.4% of the populations were migrants. Similarly, according to a recent national labor force survey of 1999, migrants in Addis Ababa accounted for 46.9%. The labor force survey estimated that migrants who have lived in the city for less than 5 years 5 to 10 years, and more than 10 years account for 18.46%, 20.38% and 61.15% respectively. The main reason for high migration to the city of Addis Ababa is economic reason as the city enjoys a relatively higher concentration of facilities, infrastructures and industries compared with other parts of the country. The data obtained from Central Statistics Authority (CSA: 1999) revealed that recent migrants come from urban areas (50.80%) and rural areas (49.19%). (UNCHS, Jan. 2000:14). This shows that urban – urban and

rural- urban migration have greater contribution to the rapid increase in the number of unemployment in the city.

In Addis Ababa the total unemployment rate in 1976 was 9.6% percent. While in 1984 the rate of unemployment was 10.5 percent and in 1994 the total unemployment sharply increased to 34.7 percent, an increase of 24.2% percentage points between two census periods. The unemployment rate is consistently higher for females than males in 1984 and 1994.

Table 4.1: Population, Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment by Sex for 1984-1994.

Year/sex	Population size	Population aged 10 years and over			Unemployment rate	Participation rate
		Labor force	Employment	Unemployment		
1984	1423111	470305	421027	49281	10.5	33.0
Male	685184	296034	271700	24334	8.2	43.2
Female	737927	174274	149327	24943	14.3	23.6
1994	2084558	890015	628635	312743	35.1	42.7
Male	1008928	524314	400921	160860	30.7	52.0
Female	1075660	365701	227714	151883	41.5	34.0
Average growth rate per annum	3.8	6.2	4.0	14.6		

Source: United Nations Center for Human Settlements (Habitat), January 2000.

On the other hand, another study conducted by the Addis Ababa City Administration Labor and Social Affairs Bureau in Cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and the Italian Cooperation (December 2002) has drawn similar conclusions with what is mentioned above. In this study it was indicated that unemployment is pressing problem in Ethiopia in general and in Addis Ababa in particular, the situation is continuing from bad to worse. Addis Ababa is the most affected administration registering 33.6% unemployment problem. With regard to the age composition, the unemployed populations were predominantly young men and women. Nearly 76%

percent of the jobless were between the ages of 15 and 29. This fact leads to a general observation that the youth have been experiencing serious problems in finding jobs.

According to the study conducted by the UNCHS (Habitat) in January 2000, the age distribution of the unemployed in 1994 revealed that the age groups 15-19 and 20-24 were among the highest unemployed people. The age groups 15-19 and 20-24 accounted for 21% and 35% of the unemployed people respectively. The corresponding shares of these groups in the labor force were 13.8% and 22.2%. The unemployment rates for these age groups have been 51.8% and 54.52% respectively. On the other hand, the educational status of the unemployed people in Addis Ababa revealed that the majority has completed grade 12 followed by secondary education and primary education respectively. (UNCHS, 2000:22).

It was shown in chapter 3 in the judicial preceding topic of table 3.25 that the accused individuals were categorized based on their job classifications or occupations for every region including Addis Ababa. The data of suspected criminals in the city have clearly shown that crimes were most frequently perpetrated by unemployed persons. In other words, the highest numbers of suspected criminals in Addis Ababa were the jobless which showed positive correlation with the prevalence of crime.

Table 4.2: Rank of the Accused Offenders in Addis Ababa by Occupation.

Ranks of the Accused Criminal Record	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
Category of the Accused by Occupation	Jobless/ unemployed	Tradesmen	Day laborers	Students	Self-supporting

*Source: Office of the Public Prosecutor Archive*

Table 4.3 Sample of Suspected Homicide Criminals by Occupation in Addis Ababa

Number of homicide cases	Total Number of offenders	Category of the accused by occupation			
		Unemployed/jobless	Employed	Tradesmen	Members of Police/Military
35	60	36	6	4	14

Source: Addis Ababa Police Crime Investigation Department

Thirty-five sample of homicide cases were randomly taken from the Archive of Crime Investigation Department. Analysis of the sample showed that sixty individuals have been accused as suspected offenders in these crime cases. The result of the analysis showed that among 60 numbers of accused individuals, 36 of them (60%) were unemployed/jobless persons, while 10% employed, 6.67% tradesmen and 23.33% police/military servicemen. This indicates that more than half of the suspected offenders were not having formal jobs.

Table 4.4: Sample of Suspected Offenders in (Armed and Unarmed) Robbery by occupation

Number of Robbery Cases	Total Number of Accused Offenders	Category of the accused by occupation			
		Unemployed/jobless	Employed	Tradesmen	Members of Police/Military
23	66	39	10	7	10

Source: Addis Ababa Police Commission Crime Investigation Department

It is clearly illustrated in the above record of suspected offenders that in 23 robbery cases, 66 suspected offenders have been identified by the crime investigation department. Moreover, among these accused individuals, 39 were unemployed (jobless), 10 employed, 7 tradesmen and 10 members of the existing government's police and military.

Further more, the two sample crime cases have succinctly shown that the contribution of unemployment to the prevalence of crimes in Addis Ababa was substantial in number. Thirty six individuals out of sixty suspected homicide offenders (60%) were not having jobs. In almost the same figure, thirty nine out of sixty six suspected criminals (59.1%) of

them were jobless or unemployed individuals in the crime sample that was taken from cases of robbery. For the two types of crimes (homicide & robbery), comparable or similar percentages of the culprits were individuals having no jobs.

The previous analysis made on occupation of offenders in the city have also indicated that the first row of criminals were jobless individuals. The two sample cases that were taken randomly from crime records of homicide and robbery also confirmed that most of the criminals were in the unemployed occupational category. Therefore, based on the analysis made on the primary data gathered by using questionnaires and interview and the secondary data collected from police and public prosecutors crime record, it is safe to conclude that the situation of unemployment had great contribution on the prevalence of crime in the study area. In other words, joblessness and poverty conditions have a lion share in causing various crimes in Addis Ababa.

Primary data sources have also shown that more than 60% of the crimes in Addis Ababa were committed for economic reasons and the dominant numbers of the criminals were people at their young age having no formal jobs. Based on the primary sources the young who are idle gradually become alcoholic and druggists as a result of which turn out to be criminals. In other words the unemployed individuals are susceptible to be involved in crimes.

#### **4.1.2. Illicit Proliferation, Trafficking, Possession and Use of Arms**

The primary sources have shown that illicit circulation, possession and use of small arms and light weapons were possible causes of crimes in Addis Ababa. Absence of comprehensive firearms legislation used to register, control and licensing arms had exacerbated the problem of illegal trafficking and possession of SALWs.

As it was explained in the previous discussions, people carry guns for reasons varying from cultural orientations of assuaging feelings of insecurity. However, there is one much dangerous reason for possessing arms. This is related to the utilization of arms in

unlawful activities of earning living and meeting several wants. Primary data gathered from different sources of the Addis Ababa Police showed that armed robberies and thefts in the city were committed mainly to earn living. According to these sources, considerable numbers of crimes in city of Addis Ababa have been committed to fulfill the selfish interest of the offenders for getting money or property by illegal means from others. Most of these individuals relied on crimes for supporting their livelihood.

Ethiopia had been flooded by SALWs for a long period of time. The major sources were the Cold War, the demise of the Dergue regime, effects of neighboring countries, impact of insurgent movements, the culmination of civil war in the Horn of Africa and illegal trade conducted at around common border areas of Ethiopia with other neighboring countries. Eritrea, Sudan and Somalia have been engaged in destabilizing Ethiopia by providing different types of firearms to the opposition groups. In return, Ethiopia has also supplied arms to the opposition groups of these countries. These conditions have further contributed to the problem of proliferation and circulation of SALWs in Ethiopia (Abebe Zegeye, 2006: 47).

As it has been said earlier the main reason for illicit proliferation, circulation, possession and use of arms in Addis Ababa unlike other parts of the country is for reasons other than safety and security. Proliferation and possession of arms is highly probable to be related to the culture of the Ethiopian people, while the illicit usage of arms is completely different, that is, mainly crimes that are of privately motivated without legitimate aim and public cause. Demobilization of the soldiers of the former military regime and disbanding other semi-military institutions such as the so-called "Revolutionary Guards "*Abiot Tibeka*" has increased illegal trafficking and proliferation of arms in Ethiopia in general and in Addis Ababa in particular.

Abebe Zegeye (2006:46) in his research thesis has mentioned that the demise of Mengistu regime had contributed to the proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons in Ethiopia. He further underscored that 500,000 former soldiers plus 22,500 OLF soldiers had been demobilized following the downfall of the military rule in 1991. Among the

500,000 ex-combatants about 88% of them were registered and returned their firearms. This indicates that 12% of the former soldiers with their 60,000 arms went to their home without submitting their firearms. Besides there was a heavy plundering of military stockpiles by ordinary citizens, which made the number of dispersed SALWs indefinite.

Table 4.5: Crime Cases of Illegal Possession of Arms (2000/01- 2001/02) in the Regional State and Administrative Cities of Ethiopia.

Regional State/Administrative City	Tigray	Afar	Amhara	Oromia	Somali	Benshangul Gumuz	SNNR	Gambella	Harare	Addis Ababa	Dire Dawa	Total	Percentage
Number of Decided Cases	-	-	7	22	-	-	1	1	-	26	-	57	0.7

Source: Office of the Public Prosecutor

Among the record of criminal data of illicit possession of arms that have been decided in one year at country level, 26 out of the total 57 cases were from Addis Ababa. Hence, the percentage for Addis Ababa was 45.6%, indicating that close to half of the total crimes of illicit possession of firearms in the country were committed in Addis Ababa alone. The percentage share of this type of crime vis-à-vis other crimes was 0.7.

Table 4.6: Crime Record of Illicit Trade of Arms in Addis Ababa in the Years (1993/94-2006/07).

Year	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	Total
Number of cases	662	349	314	258	247	222	182	166	147	187	225	96	234	170	3459

Source: Addis Ababa Police Commission, Crime Investigation Department

The crime record shown above indicates that the number of suspected offenders in illicit trade of arms were decreasing from 1993/94 to 2001/02, it showed increasing trend from 2001/02 to 2003/04 and became exceptionally small in 2004/05, then grown high in 2005/06 and finally nine months crime record of this year (2006/07) was less than that of the preceding year. In spite of the fact that illicit trade of arms in the past few years have shown decreasing general trend, they have caused many damages on the life, property and security of residents of the city.

Table 4.7: Illicit Trafficking and Possession of Arms in Six Years (1996/97- 2001/02).

Year	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	Six years total
Number of cases per year	173	192	169	137	129	114	914

*Source: Addis Ababa police commission, crime Investigation Department*

The illegal possession and trafficking of firearms had shown decreasing trends. However, this data refer only to cases of illicit possession and trafficking that could not be identified even with several surprise searches that have been conducted every year. The Addis Ababa Police Commission conducts random and incidental searches of persons, their possessions and vehicles in major junction points and squares of the city. Such a search is performed once in a year with the aim of tracing illegally possessed arms and explosives. Recorded documents obtained from the Addis Ababa Police commission revealed that in 1999/2000, a total of 60 variety of pistols and 332 ammunitions were found by surprise searches. The fate of such suspected offenders was decided by the court and their firearms have been confiscated by the police.

Records of sample criminal cases which took place from 2001/02 confirmed that 87% of the robbery cases were performed with various types of firearms and 75% of these guns were in illicit possession, circulation and use by different individuals. By the same token, 40% of homicide crimes were perpetrated by means of firearms and 71% of such arms were illicit ones.

It is understandable from the above explanations that noticeable numbers of crimes were committed by firearms which did not have legal license from the concerned law enforcement agents. Therefore, illicit proliferation, circulation, possession and use of small arms and light weapons had their own contribution on the prevalence of crimes in Addis Ababa City Administration since 1991.

#### **4.1.3. Existing Legal Shortcomings and Judicial Delay**

Even though it is clearly put and enacted in the federal Negarit Gazeta, Proclamation No/1995, Art.5(8) that the responsible government body for the control, licensing and enforcement of the regulation of arms possession and use is the security, immigration and refugee Affairs Authority recently known by the National Intelligence and Security Agency. But the practice is completely different from what is stipulated in the proclamation. In the whole country police offices at various levels including, the Addis Ababa Police Commission exercise the power of controlling, giving temporary arms license and overall enforcement of possession and use of firearms. This is an indication of serious legal loopholes and gaps between what the law orders and what is being practiced by the law enforcement agents.

In a similar development, until recently no implementing directives of firearms register control, and licensing mechanisms have been promulgated by the concerned bodies of government. Because of this legal shortcoming, there is no uniformity in such practices. In other words, there is no comprehensive firearms legislation and detail working or guiding procedures for handling possession and use of arms either at national and/or regional levels including Addis Ababa.

Moreover, citizens could not exercise the right to possess firearms by legal means by fulfilling the criteria. The normal practice in Addis Ababa with regard to arms licensing is that only a few selected individuals obtain temporary legal license which is not regularly renewed. It is the discretionary power of the police in charge to allow or disallow firearms license. In general, there is no permanent, uniform and legally enacted arms

license in the country. For this and other related reasons many citizens are inclined to the illicit possession and use of guns.

Besides to this the penalty clauses related to illicit firearms possession, trafficking, trade and use stipulated in the revised Criminal Code of FDRE (Proclamation No. 414/2004 are not stringent enough to punish armed criminalities as a result of which it could not serve as deterrence against potential criminals and neither could give good lesson to gun related perpetrators.

In Ethiopia in general and in Addis in particular the judicial proceeding is known by unnecessary delays and long time adjournments of criminal cases. Because of such unnecessary delay in the judicial process, criminal cases stay for several years without court decision. This problem of delay could undermine the right of citizens to get speedy and impartial justices. Because “justice delayed is considered as justice denied”.

The World Bank Report of October 1998 on Anti-corruption indicated that in April 1996, the Federal Supreme court took over 2,815 cases, the Federal High Court over 8,916 cases and the Federal First Instance Court over 40,937 cases. While the mission did not visit the regional courts, the case loads, according to the interviewees were probably as much. The researchers were also informed that the case loads in the criminal benches have been much higher. There were also a myriad of procedures required to be followed to file a claim in any of the courts. It was indicated that the Federal Supreme Court was required at least 23 separate steps to file a claim. The protracted procedures result in unreasonable delays which leave many parties, including the government, unable to enforce their legitimate rights under the law (World Bank Report, 1998:25).

It was explained in the previous chapter that in comparison to other Regional States of Ethiopia, the highest number of criminal cases or 5713 were decided by the office of the public prosecutor in charge for Addis Ababa followed by Oromia (1062) cases. The same data also showed that a public prosecutor for Addis Ababa has been deciding the second highest numbers of criminal cases (8) next to Diredawa (10) in a month. These all

explanations show that there has been much workload of prosecutors assigned in Addis Ababa in contrast to other regions of Ethiopia that may create delay in decision and other resultant problems of gun related crimes.

Another data of criminal cases obtained from the office of public prosecutor in charge of Addis Ababa confirmed that 7662 new criminal accusations were made up to the beginning of December, 2006 and 7360 crime cases were pending in the court proceeding. However, 826 have been remaining in the office without being appointed in the court. Both crime related primary and secondary data indicated that there were too much work loads in the public prosecutor and court judges in Addis Ababa until recently.

Similarly, thirty five homicide and twenty three robbery cases committed in Addis Ababa from 2001/02 to 2006/07 (nine months for the year 2007) were all pending in the court. In other words, these cases stayed as pending issues for almost six years. Even some suspected criminals were accused in three different cases as serial crime perpetrators.

The other problem worth mentioning in relation to the problem of judicial process is punishments and exit system of suspected of criminals. It is quite clear that an individual is presumed innocent until proved guilty. In most cases, there is unnecessary delay in the courts proceeding due to which accused offenders could be freed from police custody on bail and may again commit another crime being encouraged by the unnecessary delays. Many people question out on the easy exit system of suspected offenders, particularly robbery and thefts crimes on bail in the country including Addis Ababa.

In a nutshell, the aforementioned legal shortcomings and loopholes together with unnecessary delay in judicial proceeding encourage potential criminals. On the one hand due to the absence of comprehensive and stringent firearms legislation, firearms were easily proliferating, circulating and were in possession and use by many citizens. These illegal arms have been used by several offenders. On the other hand, suspected offenders were forced to stay for a long time without fair conviction/acquittal which encouraged

such and other potential criminals to prepare for other crimes. Hence, legal lacunas and judicial delay became causes for the commission of gun related arms.

## **4.2. Regulatory and Implementation Problems**

### **4.2.1. The Law, Possession and Use of Arms**

Ethiopia has been embroiled in all kinds of conflicts during the last quarter of the 20th century. The war against Fascist Italian occupation (1936-1941), the national struggle against the last emperor's governance, the struggle against the Dergue military rule (1974-1991) and recently the Ethio- Eritrean war (1998-2000) are the chief among the many wars fought in Ethiopia. The nationalistic patriotic feeling created and developed as a result of the successful defense and repulsion of the European colonizers created a sense of pride on its citizens and had well established and consolidated arms culture on the population of Ethiopia. Citizens tend to bear firearm to defend their country from any invading force.

As mentioned in the previous chapter under the rubric of arms tradition of the lowlanders and highlanders compounded by the inability of the state to render effectively security of its entire peoples, the state monopolized services such as administration, security and police control over the means of violence as well as justice that is required for stable and orderly society had compelled people to find their own solution. Many citizens are forced to get security services by their own way through arming for themselves. This, in turn has led to the creation of extremely militarized societies.

In Ethiopia, previously the Security, Immigration and Refugee Affairs Authority, its present name became the National Security Service Agency is the responsible regulatory government body for the control, licensing and enforcement of the regulation of arms possession and use Federal Negarit Gazeta, Proclamation No. 6/1995, Art.5(8). However, Federal Police Commission has been discharging the responsibility of registering, licensing and controlling of firearms in the country without empowered by the law. In contrast to its mandate the police have been engaged in giving temporary arms

license to some residents of Addis Ababa who are Ethiopians. While the Security Agency gives arms license to foreigners working in diplomatic missions and international organizations. This means that the law and the practice are different showing clear loophole. There fore this calls for taking immediate adjustment measure by the legislative body.

The Ethiopian legal system in general and the newly enacted criminal code Proclamation No. 414/2004 include, Art. 477(2), Art (808) and Art (809)each concerning on possession of weapons, possession of firearms or ammunition in contravention to the law and Art (809) and carrying an unauthorized arm on public places respectively. But these firearms related articles in particular and the penal law of 2004 in general is not complete, comprehensive and accommodative vis-à-vis the culturally diversified peoples of Ethiopia. The laws lack severity to prevent offenders and should be in harmony with the different cultures of the Ethiopian peoples living in different geographic locations who have significant difference in arms culture.

The possession of firearms as a human right issue and the right of the defense of life and property may be seen as a positive phenomenon. Where as, the use of firearms for endangering the interest of the society or public rights, violent actions and in encouraging militancy should be seen as negative aspects. The basic principle justifying self-defense for the protection of life and property has been challenged and its acceptance is being eroded by use of these weapons for illegal or criminal purposes.

The pros and cons of the possession of firearms, in fact, has remained a subject of debate among experts, politicians and it is an unsettled issue in which no one expects an absolutely acceptable solution to the debate in the near future.

In the Ethiopian context, the legal system does no absolutely disallow the possession and use of firearms. As a matter of general legal guiding principle, what is not disallowed is right and therefore, not legally punishable. Hence, possession of arms, under the Ethiopian law is allowed as a matter of norm. It is an exception to be disallowed to possess on arm. However, this is not the end of the matter; the law puts stringent requirements under which possession of arms is legal. These preconditions are as strong

and tantamount as a tacit legislative intention of prohibition or/and discouraging possession of arms. Some of the stringent criteria required to qualify for possession of firearms are indicated below:

**1. The legitimate purpose test**

This test or criterion is a general governing principle in which a possession of arm is possible. It dictates that arms possession is allowed as far as its use is limited to legitimate objective such as protection of life from illegal deprivation of one's life. In other words, there has to be a means of confirmation that arms are possessed only for defense of legitimate fundamental rights from illegal interferences by illegal societal forces and individuals.

**2. Technical regulatory formalities**

The possession of arms is possible only with a valid legal license which ensures the registration and knowledge of the appropriate state organ of the possession of the arms, type, number, manufacturing date and number of bullets.

**3. Age limit**

Possession is allowed only for a person with legal capacity, which refers mostly to people with 18 years and above. Under exceptional cases a person under the age of 18 years may be licensed to possess arm. Since this exception is narrow and strict, the implementation is of rare in number.

**4. Jurisdictional prohibition**

Possession and use of arms may be limited in terms of local jurisdiction. The law provides prohibiting provisions of carrying arms to legal possessors in some delicate and sensitive places like public places that may pose greater danger to the public at large. This is basically for the sake of the public safety and the absence of security problem in such places.

**4.2.2. Legal Limitations**

Legal limitations are existing shortcomings and problems related to the nature of the existing law. It refers to problems that are identifiable in the process of implementation

and comparison with laws of other jurisdictions. One of the possible critiques on the law governing proliferation, possession and use of arms is the absence of effective mechanism and inclusive clauses to keep the pace with changes of technological and trade developments, as well as the ways and means of curbing effectively the demand and supply of arms.

Some alleged that the severity of the penalty is not deterrent enough to effectively curb and suppress the illegal possession and use of arms in criminal activities. However, the issue of deterrence in the modern philosophy of laws is not as such convincing rather it is the preventive mechanisms and correction of dimension of criminal justice system winning the hearts of people of the legal profession. The following points are often cited limitations and legal shortcomings on the laws governing small arms and light weapons in Ethiopia (*Federal Police Record Center, 2005*).

1. Regarding the empowerment and nature of specific powers of regulatory authority under the Ethiopian law, there has been series of changes and difference, on which agency of the executive has to be assigned. Thus, there is lack of settled customs and precedence of dealing with the problems and legal control on the proliferation, possession and use of arms. Therefore, there is a need for clearly identifying the responsible agency of government it is necessary to include some provisions.
2. The relationship between the police and the security authority must be clarified so as to ensure uniformity of rules and procedures related to the jurisdiction of issuance of license and centralized database of the possession of arms.
3. The licensing and registration procedures are not clearly defined, detail enough and attentively implemented. Therefore, it would be necessary to lay the necessary and adequate procedures from application to the granting and withdrawal or revocation. Basically, the registration process is first of all not clear to the whole public. Many don't know which government agency is empowered and concerned with registration and issuance of license. Moreover, for these who have a clue about the law, it is confusing that both the security authority and the police are involved and can register and issue license, not to mention contravention of the law and the practice which is

mentioned above. This shows that the process and operations of the concerned organs of the government are not transparent enough. Because the public has the right to be aware of the procedures and criteria there of.

4. The process of registration is cumbersome, which may take many days and even months. This prolonged process arms registration is neither deterring possession nor curbs proliferation. Rather it encourages people to refrain from being registered and have official license, which can enhance the use of arms in criminal activities.
5. Refusal of issuance of arms license is possible in arbitrary way without clear explanation and justification of any sort from concerned authorities. Denial of arms license is not officially provided in a written form.
6. The present legal instruments do not incorporate grievance or appeal procedures in case of denial, revocation or withdrawal decisions.
7. The existing legislation does not include provisions on the management of firearms, firearms stockpiles, collections, seizure and destruction of obsolete or excess arms. There are only non-promulgated orders and customs regarding the management of arms.

#### **4.2.3. Problems of Implementation**

By problem of implementation it is to mean problems arising in the process of putting the law into practice .It include problems as to the lack of awareness of the population on the dangers related to the proliferation, possession and use of arms, the incapacity on the part of the law enforcement agencies, and inadequacy in the knowledge of the law. Once again, one has to be aware of the existing laws be it comprehensive or not, modern or old is not enough to the end result of disentangling the problems mentioned earlier. In deed, the participation of citizens and their awareness towards the negative effects of firearms and ammunition is pivotal in the enforcement of the law. Their attitude towards the respect of the laws depends on their understanding and awareness. There fore, citizens must be involved in the process of preparation of the law that touches on small arms and light weapons and to accept and implement the laws as their own.

## **4.3. Implications of Crimes**

### **4.3.1. Loss of Life and Property Damage**

Nowadays, the prevalence of crimes remains a threat to human security and development. Particularly, possession of arms is both a cause and an effect of insecurity. For instance, in cases of homicide people are killed, injured, disabled and properties are stolen, looted and damaged by the prevalence of robberies. In short, the loss of life and property caused by the evil acts of crimes are significant.

The fatalities in the civilian populations are caused directly or indirectly by the use of arms or armed forces and other lethal weapons. During combat fatalities, we find populations caught between two or more armed groups, populations decimated by terror tactics and armed banditry, populations whose food supply is destroyed or stolen by armed bands, violent and fatal crime caused by armed groups, individuals attacked and killed by armed by armed criminals. In cities and in rural areas, groups who face the challenge of armed cattle rustlers, and people who die because they have been cut off from emergency assistance and relief by the interposition of raced groups (Virginia, Gamba, 2002:3).

The Ethiopian constitution of 1995 in its title “Human Rights”, Art 14, says rights to life, the security of a person and liberty. Every person has inviolable and inalienable right to life, the security of a person and liberty. However, many crimes are committed in violation of the basic rights of citizens.

In Ethiopia in general and in Addis Ababa in particular, the effects of crimes in past years were substantial. At both levels, various types of crimes have been committed by various means including guns. First, let’s see the major implications of crimes at national level in three years period.

Table 4.8: Total Numbers of Crime Cases and Offenders Recorded within three Years at National level (2002/03 – 2004/05).

No	Type of crime	Total number of criminal cases	Total number of offenders	Remark
1	Homicide	13,874	28,266	Crime against human beings
2	Attempted homicide	10,899	28,896	Crime against human beings
3	Robbery	16,061	28,731	Crime against property
4	Theft	101,541	146,605	Crime against property
5	Assault and disability	224,238	344,738	Crime against human beings

*Source: Federal Police Commission*

The above crime data show that the crimes against human beings (crimes of violence) were homicide (13,874), attempted homicide (10,899) and assault and disability (224,238). In these criminal incidences, 13,874 lives have been lost and 224,238 individuals were injured and disabled within three years. This indicates that human casualties and the damages caused on the body of person or various injuries were serious at country level.

On the other hand, the two types of crimes, i.e., robbery and theft caused loss and damage in property. Within three years, 16061 robberies and 101,541 thefts were perpetrated at

national level, which showed more theft cases than robberies. It is clear to understand from crime data that there were more offenders than that of the criminal cases, which means that in some incidences two or more people were involved in single crime.

Table 4.9: Total Number of Criminal Cases and Offenders in Addis Ababa (1993/94-2006/07). **N.B:** Only nine months crime record was taken for the year 2007

No	Type of crime	Total number of crimes	Remark
1	Homicide	3,443	Crime against humans
2	Attempted homicide	15,282	Crime against humans
3	Assault and disability	317,697	Crime against humans
4	Robbery and Theft	34,055	Crimes against property
5	Attempted Robbery Theft	2,685	Crimes against property
6	Burglary	7,351	Crimes against property

*Source: Addis Ababa Police Commission, Information/Database Center*

In the table shown above, crimes committed against city dwellers and their properties have been recorded. The highest crime record was assault and disability followed by attempted robbery and theft, and robbery and theft. Attempted homicide, burglary and homicide were in fourth, fifth and six ranks respectively. The loss and damage in both life and property have been serious in the city administration in the past fourteen years.

As a result of the crimes committed in the city, the consequences inflicted on the lives, properties and the agony and suffering caused directly on the victims were beyond imagination. Besides, various implications have been caused on the victims' families. Such serious crimes had serious repercussions on people who face the direct consequences.

### **4.3.2. Destabilizing Effect of Criminal Acts on Peace, Security and Development**

Citizens have the right to live in peace and secured environment. In addition to this, people also demand to exercise fully their basic political, civil, economic and social rights.

However, criminal offenses have destabilizing effect on peace and security of people. The prevalence of crimes creates serious negative impact on peaceful coexistence among societies and may nourish tension by aggravating conflicts. Similarly, perpetration of crimes may threaten the political, economic and social security of citizens. If crimes are rampant in a country, people could not live and work in peace.

Citizens can only exercise fully their rights and enjoy good governance and democracy if only there is prevalence of peace and stability. This is to mean they have to be free from the evil acts or practices of crimes. If there is prevalence of criminal situation, then people will feel that they are not secured. Similarly, if peace and security is destabilized by the prevalence of crimes, then human rights, good governance and democratization process will be in problem.

Throughout much of the world, the wide availability and use of arms are associated with great suffering and insecurity, small arms and light weapons have been the primary source of deaths and injuries in wars, particularly in the civil wars and conflicts that became prominent since the end of cold war. Large accumulations and flows of arms, legal and illegal, have destabilized regions, escalated intensified and prolonged conflicts and banditry, crime, terrorism and social violence. In recent years, there has been increasing awareness of the terrible misery caused by small arms and light weapons worldwide. (Kassem, Mahmoud, 2000:2).

In general crimes and in particular gun related crimes destabilize peace and security, hamper good governance, democracy and development and exacerbate conflicts and

tension among people Therefore, crimes have serious implications on peace, democracy and human rights of citizens.

It has been confirmed from police crime record that in the year 2003/04 alone, 269 homicide, 1645 attempted homicide, and 37,806 aggravated assault cases have been committed in Addis Ababa. This means that a total of 39,720 violent crimes were committed against residents of the city, including loss of lives. In one year 39,720 individuals have been affected directly by the evil act of crimes without considering the indirect implications caused on the families of victims. Whenever crimes are perpetrated, consequences such as loss of life and property, psychological trauma, displacement and dispersion of the victim's families, and other similar consequences are followed. Hence, the prevalence of crime threatens peace and stability and human rights of citizens. For instance, immediately after the 2005 Ethiopian Election there followed civil unrest, which became real cause for the death, imprisonment and property damage in the capital city. In addition to this, residents of Addis-Ababa were forced to stay at home under house arrest for sometime without work and freedom of movement.

In conclusion, commission of various types of crimes in Addis Ababa in the past few years had serious consequences on safety and security of the residents. Commissions of crimes have also caused various implications on peace, human rights, development and democratization process in Addis Ababa.

### **4.3.3. The Impact of Crime on Development and Positive Image of a Country**

Apart from loss of life and property, destabilizing effect on peace and democracy criminal acts had devastating effect on the development and positive image of a country. Crime and delinquency have clear negative impact on all development and good name of any nation. Lamin Sesay (1977:45) described that the maintenance of law and order, protection of life, prevention and detection of crime, apprehension of offenders and the

enforcement of all laws and regulations all these functions have a direct bearing on economic and social development.

The prevalence of crime has direct impact on sustainable development because economic, social, political, etc development presuppose stable environment. In order to bring about progress, people should work in a stable and peaceful environment.

Small arms and light weapons remain a threat to human security and development. Firearms exacerbate tensions prolong and intensify conflicts, halt and even reverse political economic and social development. Furthermore, the presence and use of small arms contribute to an environment of fear and insecurity that not only undermine hopes for development but also have serious repercussion on peaceful co-existence of citizens (Sabala, Kizito, 2002:2).

Excessive and destabilizing accumulations of these weapons nourish tension and aggravate conflicts. They endanger the political, economic and social security of citizens. They impede the reconstruction and functioning of a post conflict civil society. They undermine long-term development. Furthermore, they seriously jeopardize peace agreements, put humanitarian and peacekeeping efforts at grave risk and threaten to rekindle conflicts, which have already been settled. Even after armed conflicts have ended, the suffering of the civilians often continues due to the unrestrained availability and use of these weapons.

Recently, more than half a billion light weapons estimated to be currently in circulation worldwide have a direct impact on civilian populations and often are used in flagrant violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. Ak-47, rifles, grenades and light artillery fuelled much of genocides in the world. (Pulkol, 2000:5).

In our modern age, the link between development and security is becoming crucial. If crimes are rampant in a country, then it poses serious threat to development and good governance. This is because, development in all aspects, democracy and good governance

require peace and stability. Good governance and development can only be practiced in a good way in a secured and crime free environmental condition. For this reason, crime in general has greater negative impact on development and progressive betterment in life.

Furthermore, crime and delinquency have direct influence on positive image of a country. When a country is known to be stable and having relatively less criminal incidences, then citizens and other foreigners can build confidence on the stable country. Visitors, particularly tourists may regularly come without fear and feeling of insecurity. Crime is known to have serious consequence towards positive image of countries and this will, in turn, affect the income and economic prosperity of the nations. Tourists and investors require maximum security for their lives. For instance in the Ethiopian context, investors and tourists were not coming into Ethiopian during the Dergue regime, mainly due the unstable situation in that time.

To conclude, crime has noticeable negative implication on sustainable development and positive image of countries. Crime engulfs the life and property of a country, causes disability and threatens to stable work conditions which can affect the economy of country. On the other hand, the problem of crime would discourage tourists and investors who need peaceful environment and tranquility.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **5. Policy Options and Conclusion**

#### **5.1. Policy Options**

##### **5.1.1. Tackling the Problems of Interpretation**

###### **5.1.1.1. Preparation of Supplementary Manuals and Orders**

Manuals on how to implement laws, regulations and prevent commission crimes can prove very potent in bridging the discrepancies of interpretation. One has to make use of the laws and their element as well as ways and means of implementation and teaching other organs in an easily comprehensible way. Clearly defined working procedures, manuals and directives must be devised in line with the firearms laws and regulations to implement all relevant registration, control and licensing activities.

###### **5.1.1.2. Conduct of Training and Workshops Programs**

One of the most serious causes of inefficacy in the enforcement of the law is inadequacy of competent expertise and professional human resources. In order to enhance the capacity of the law enforcement agents to be effective persons with the necessary skill and knowledge, who can make use of highly technical and professional methods of crimes, it is imperative to undertake series of training and workshop programs. Extensive training programs, both formal and informal, on crime prevention and investigation, firearms control, license and registration systems as well as on the use of appropriate modern technologies are parts of the capacity building programs. Experience exchanging workshops with participants from other state and non-state bodies of the regions, including Addis Ababa will enable to share the wealth of knowledge.

## **5.1.2. Tackling Problems of Implementation**

Embarking upon effective fight against illicit proliferation, possession and use of gun related crimes requires well equipped and institutionally built effective law enforcement agents. Materialization of working facilities and equipping the relevant bodies with the state-of-the art tools are basic inputs. But above all educated human resource and leadership is crucial. What is more is the institutionalization of functions of all the different bodies of the government. Without institutional efficiency, accountability and transparency, continuity of purpose are difficult if not impossible. Of course, these prescriptions include legislative amendments and promulgation of new laws and undertaking police, security and judicial reforms at various levels. Apart from these areas of reform the following can be taken as areas that demand serious and urgent considerations.

### **5.1.2.1. Firearms Registration and Disarmament in Addis Ababa**

As mentioned earlier, in Ethiopia possession of firearms signifies prestige and gives many economic, political and social advantages. Hence, the issue of disarming of arms should be seen in this context. Curbing the demand side of arms by the people necessitates uprooting the deep-rooted traditional value people attach to arms.

Considering seriously the deep-rooted respect attached towards possession of arms, any attempt to control arms possession has to be done with full care. Disarming where ever possible, control wherever necessary must be the slogan. Care must be taken and serious attention has to be given to ensure the right to self-defense of any community including the pastoralists. Balance has to be maintained in any disarmament effort of the neighboring communities. Disarming one community while its contending party is untouched or encouraged to bear more firearms may set a more difficult precedence establishing what many call the case of prisoner's dilemma. Every initiative towards necessary disarmament measure must maintain the balance and to build mutual trust and faith in the bordering communities. Equitable sharing of the limited resource is also

another area for serious deliberation and action. Averting conflict triggered by resource between the neighboring populations has to be addressed in just and equitable manner.

As it was confirmed by the primary and secondary data collected from various sources, small arms and light weapons that had been disseminated, mainly immediately after the collapse of the Dergue regime are still found in the hands of many citizens. There fore, to legalize these and other arms, extensive registration and licensing programs has to be conducted. Such programs have to be undertaken in decentralized manner in every Sub-cities of Addis Ababa so as to encourage arms possessors to be registered in their vicinities.

Furthermore, maximum care must be taken not to put strict criteria during the process of registration for individuals who possess firearms without fulfilling formal license. This is because it has been found out from analysis of primary data and review of literature that many residents of the city have been refraining from coming to the registration places for fearing the prescribed criteria or preconditions required to be eligible for registration. Hence, many people including the law enforcement agents are in a strong belief that many residents preferred not to be registered in the action to escape from the consequences of their failure to meet the criteria for getting temporary arms license upon registering their illegally possessed firearms.

#### **5.1.2.2. Community Policing as a Regulating Mechanism**

Community based policing is a partnership between the police and the community to solve safety and security problems. This is achieved through community police forums and working together with other institutions, statutory and voluntary groups and community representatives.

It is now widely believed that community policing can largely contribute towards prevention of crime thereof curbing the illegal proliferation, possession and use of arms. Another dimension of the advantages of community policing is that it can also serve as a

manifestation of democratic participation and good governance as the effectiveness of the program itself depends on the magnitude and quality of the popular participation. It can also serve as a bridge between the community and the government especially the regular police. For both have to mutually understand each other to effectively prevent proliferation, illegal possession and use of arms as well as crimes, including gun related ones.

The first step should be changing the tradition and outlook that people have towards arms. Practical efforts should be made for people to realize that possession of arms is justified only for public cause - to protect peace and security as well as stability that are sine qua non for facilitation of economic development, democratic system and for the protection of human rights. The next step which has to be taken is to convince residents of the city to register their arms to the concerned authorities. Subsequently, maximum effort must be exerted to convince that individuals don't own rather possess arm - the community is the sole legal owner of all arms. Similarly, the residents of Addis Ababa have to build firm confidence that the community is not only the sole owner of arms but also the main authority of arming individuals to be responsible and trustful to their community. Gradually, controlling arms may also lead to disarmament and demilitarization programs upon provision of necessary assistance and incentives.

On the other hand the community policing should have appropriate institutional frameworks at every administrative levels and has to be incorporated in the legislation. However, community policing necessarily demands a full-fledged public participation of the locality or kebele community. Active participation of the community is essential for its full acceptance, success and full implementation. Community policing as a system requires the participation and contribution from all segments of the local population; including elderly and prominent personalities, NGOs, the youth the women and the disabled as well as the administrative body and of course the regular police. It can also harmonize the society at large. A performance reporting and appraisal system is to be essential part of the policing system itself. Arms possession and regulation has to be decided and informed by such body with strict Federal State guidelines of

implementation. As community policing is new institution; the federal and regional governments as well as all stakeholders have no streamline all assistance in the area of capacity and institutional building.

More over, the advantage of community policing system is the room for accommodation, it provides for the diverse cultures and life style. This is an important institution to be respected and promote the principle of the margin of appreciation. It will also reduce the state expenditure for it doesn't demand all time oversight and involvement of the state. Naturally, such programs by government fail only if the government intrusion on the local population life style is too much. Community policing system rather avoids a daily friction of government and the local population. It will provide a self-regulatory, peer review mechanism among the forces of the local community.

Strict code of community policing conduct with clear principle of ethics and stringent accountability procedures for those serving as community police has to be devised. The community, the local police and administrative bodies should play important role in drafting and enhancing the code of conduct of community policing. In order to be fit to the Ethiopian context, the most relevant model of community policing has to be adapted in line with the objective reality in Addis Ababa in particular and in Ethiopia in general.

General guiding procedures and working manual must be prepared so as to make the code of conduct legally acceptable and popularly legitimate as well as inclusive of all arms regulation. The common modality and format as well as principles have to be supplied to the office of the Addis Ababa Police so as to give direction and overall uniformity of purposes.

### **5.1.2.3. Insuring Effective Border Control**

Ethiopia is a vast country bordering to five countries. To the west is the Sudan, to the southwest Kenya, South and to the Southeast with Somalia, to the east with Djibouti, to the north and northeast Eritrea. Much of the Ethiopian borders are porous with out

sufficient and regular border patrol and checks. These porous borders are ideal means for illicit proliferation and circulation of arms from neighboring countries.

Moreover, the communities residing on border areas share many common destinies and life style; for example the Afar people in Ethiopia, Eritrea and Djibouti and the Somali people in Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia and Kenya. Such border related issues allow for the proliferation of arms and gun related crimes by letting the criminals evade the jurisdiction by leaving the country to join kith and kin on the other side of the border and go unpunished.

Illegal infiltration of arms by contrabandists from neighboring countries has to be curbed. The above-mentioned measures are not only of national nature but regional level measures requiring harmonized mechanism at regional level. Early Warning System has to be developed among the neighboring countries in the borders to solve conflicts before exacerbation and other collective crimes around the border. Agreements on extradition of criminals, customs as well as border patrol has to be reached. On the other hand to ensure the peaceful coexistence of the population residing around border is of paramount importance.

### **5.1.3. Tackling Legal Limitations and other Shortcomings**

#### **5.1.3.1. Arms Regulation and Promulgation of New and Comprehensive Legislation**

The Researcher is of the opinion that the key solution for the intractable problems of gun related and other problems is to make a progressive assessment of firearms regulatory mechanism and devise modes operandi for regular reporting and stringent regulations on the possession of arms. This law has to include on the prohibition of firearms possession by irresponsible citizens and people with bad and deviant social behavior.

However, such law has to contain two main legal and democratic principles in it. The firearms regulations to be implemented at country level and in Addis Ababa have to

provide complaint lodging and handling system. Since any government body decisions have to be constitutionally accountable and judicial review of such administrative decisions has to be guaranteed. The law has to empower the courts to oversee such decisions based on citizens' right of appeal. The second principle and perhaps most important for countries like Ethiopia with divisive different societal values and ethnic federalist constitutional legal and political arrangement is the principle of cultural accommodation. One of the most essential and paramount value of the Ethiopia 1994 ethnic federalist constitution is the principle of accommodation. This principle goes hand in hand with other important legal norms such as toleration and decentralization as well as respect for cultural relativism. Hence, laws in such legal and political context have to be cultural sensitive and accommodative.

However it is very necessary to mention here that this is not only because it is democratic and legal to be like this but also will play a crucial role in the efficacy of the law. Of course, the prevalence of democracy should not be construed as an absolute guarantee to the adverse effect of the use of arms. Thus, the researcher agrees with the utilization of an effective mechanism of control supported with public participation and awareness.

Analysis of primary and secondary data showed that the existing laws and penal codes pertinent to the control and license of firearms have several loopholes and shortcomings both in terms of coverage and severity of punishment. Developments related to firearms and ammunitions, these days reveal the need for an effective and workable legislation. Important legislative measures can really mitigate the problems that are now rampant due to the lack of direction and action. Enhancement of sustainable peace and stability by solving prevalence of crimes in Addis Ababa in particular and in the country in general is crucial. Achievement towards this aim is possible by fostering the strict regulation of arms by the state. One and essential step in this direction is the promulgation of new detailed and compressive national legislation of arms. Thus, work towards preparing a comprehensive legislation is very important. All issues mentioned above in relation to small arms and light weapons are not covered in the existing law and the articles stipulated in the penal codes including the 2004 revised one are not strong enough.

Therefore, the writer strongly proposes enactment of comprehensive and modern regulatory laws of firearms in the shortest time possible so that problems regarding firearms will be tackled.

More over, before the new firearms legislation is devised, it has to be prepared by referring two important issues: firstly, it is necessary if it is prepared by sharing and referring to the best experiences of certain countries. Secondly, it has to take in to consideration to include the national experience through panel discussions encompassing all important stakeholders, the public at large and the law enforcement agents. In other words, the new draft legislation must be devised based on past experiences of Ethiopia and by considering the best practices and experiences of other selected countries.

Finally, the future firearms legislation has to be enriched and accepted by the public at large so that it will be complete, effective and to be implemented smoothly and successfully. Furthermore, the new comprehensive legislation has to be promulgated to the best advantage of the country's ethnic diversities. The researcher is of the opinion that it has to be cultural sensitive in accommodating various cultures and way of lives and norms of the entire Ethiopian population. This will be of great help in the future efficacy of the law. Otherwise, as the old saying goes on "Unenforceable laws are not laws at all."

To this end the government of Ethiopia has to undertake extensive change of law and institutional improvement towards effective coordination mechanism that will guide and facilitate the implementation plan of the coordinated action on the problem of the proliferation of arms and light weapons.

Therefore, the new and comprehensive legislation to be enacted in the future, measures and implementation programs have to consolidate the already existing laws, regulation and practices experiencing in the country. The national legislation, implementing directives and administrative measures has to:

- Provide for effective registration, control and license of small arms and light weapons, including the storage and usage thereof,
- Monitor and audit licenses held by persons in possession of licensed firearms and the restriction on the number of arms that may be owned;
- Prohibit the pawning and pledging of small arms and light weapons;
- Prohibit the misrepresentation or withholding of any information given with a view to obtain any license or permit.

### **5.1.3.2. Judicial and Security Reform Programs**

#### **Institutionalization and Capacity Building**

Institutionalization and capacity building include supplying the police and security organs with the necessary financial, material and office equipments. Effective and swift information exchange and communication between the center and regions, between center and peripheral, the federal region and local government police bureaus is pivotal for effective coordination and control of crimes and arm proliferation at national level. On the other hand similar type of communication between the Addis Ababa Police Commission and the sub-cities and between the Sub-cities and the local/kebele police stations is equally important.

Research center and centralized databases system with well-equipped recording scheme is another part of operational and institutional capacity building. These will do much in improving the security and policy organizational and operational competencies of the police force. Easy access of information and simplicity of getting information are the basic advantages of such schemes and systems. The research center on the other hand will enable the organs to be equipped with new and recent information and implementation schemes as well as knowledge necessary for effective mechanisms of regulating and prevention of crimes in the capital city.

National coordination agencies or bodies and the appropriate institutional infrastructures responsible for policy guidance, research and monitoring on all aspects of arms



proliferation, control circulation, trafficking and possession must be in place. Besides, it is important to enhance the capacity of the law enforcement and security agencies and officials who deal with all aspects of firearms related activities, including appropriate training on investigative procedures, border control and specialized actions and upgrading equipment and resources.

Developing proposals for potential joint operations for weapons control and reduction is needed. Some of the implementation problems could be solved by taking the following measures.

- Regulating and centralizing the registration of all firearms owned by civilians;
- Regulating and controlling and licensing illicit proliferation, circulation, transfer, brokering, possession and use of small arms and light weapons, ammunition and other related materials.
- Implementation of educational and awareness programs concerning with the objective of curbing of illicit proliferation, possession and use of small arms and light weapons;
- Improving the control over arms owned by the state, including the development and adoption of programs for the collection, safe storage, destruction and responsible disposal of redundant or obsolete arms at national and regional levels including Addis Ababa.

Judicial and security/police reform programs have to focus on the operational and organizational capacity building programs for effective implementation and creative interpretation of law of the country. This demands first and foremost a strict assessment of the local operational capacity of judicial and law enforcement agencies. Establishment of firearms database centers at national and in each regional states including Addis Ababa, with equipped and modern state-of-the-art technological equipments.

#### **5.1.4. Creation of Job Opportunities and Minimizing Rural Urban Migration**

A study conducted on national level of the occupational background of criminal offenders showed that in Addis Ababa, jobless or unemployed individuals were the first in number compared to other groups. The analysis that was made on various criminals based on their age in chapter three have also indicated that most of the criminals in Addis Ababa were young people. Therefore, the unemployed young people have been engaged in different types of criminal acts in Addis Ababa.

Therefore, to alleviate such sensitive problems of crime in Addis Ababa, an appropriate strategy has to be devised to create new jobs. These future jobs have to be commensurate to the number of unemployed persons found in the capital city and comprehensive study should be conducted in advance to make the task successful and viable during implementation process.

To achieve the objective of creating new employment opportunities, all pertinent stakeholders should participate with hot pursuit and self-encouragement as it deems necessary. These are the government, the unemployed individuals, NGOs, civil society organizations, donors and other concerned bodies. A system has to be designed to conduct continuous discussions among the pertinent stakeholders in the process of devising projects that can ensure employment opportunities. In the discussions to be undertaken to create viable projects, special emphasis must be given for those who are direct beneficiaries by the projects. Hence, empowerment of the unemployed young population is imperative to develop sense of belongingness in advance among the young and unemployed individuals.

To alleviate the constraints and problems related to resources to run the projects, mobilization of the populations is very important. Many amounts of resources in various forms can be obtained from indigenous population upon creation of mutual consensus among citizens. Donor countries will also play major role in funding the projects.

Another related problem, which deserves to be solved, is rural urban migration. Many people come from countryside to Addis Ababa and other cities due to various push and pull factors. The main push factor is the precarious living condition in many rural areas. The deep-rooted poverty in these areas has pushing effect on rural dwellers. Other possible causes for rural-urban migration are the pull factors in many cities. There is belief on the side of the rural population that there exist better living conditions and job opportunities in cities.

To minimize rural-urban migration and to eradicate poverty, the living standards of peasants have to be improved. The government should make practical effort to change the unfavorable and precarious living conditions of the Ethiopian peasant population. Social utilities such as clean water, electric, telephone, schools and health centers have to be established. Farmers should get these opportunities similar to that of urban dwellers.

## **5.2. Conclusion**

One of the problems facing Addis Ababa today is crime. To address this sensitive problem, this research is conducted in the entire city. The main focus of this research is on the causes, implications, and possible remedial solutions of the major types of armed and unarmed criminalities committed in Addis Ababa since 1991. But since there was no compilation of crime record in the city for almost two years due to the change of government immediately after the down fall of the Dergue regime, the required data for analysis was made starting 1993/1994.

Even though there are other big cities in Ethiopia on which the acts of crime and delinquency are common, Addis Ababa was chosen to be a study area for various reasons. Above all, Addis Ababa is the capital city of a multi-ethnic country and political, economic and investment center of Ethiopia. In addition to this, it is also the biggest city in the nation with greater number of population. For another reason, the city is the seat of

AU and UNECA. Further more, various international organizations and diplomatic mission reside in the city of Addis Ababa.

Therefore it is important to understand the root causes, severity and frequency of crimes in Addis Ababa. The researcher is of the opinion that the study made on the prevalence of major types of crimes in the city is imperative to propose helpful policy options based on the research findings.

Due to the interest of the superpowers during the era of the cold war, firearms have widely been disseminated in the Horn of Africa in excessive amount, conflicts and wars were common in countries of the sub-region because of the separatist and freedom movements. The intra-state and inter-state conflicts have been supported by many countries having strategic interests which supplied arms and other equipments used to conduct remote wars.

Introduction of firearms into the Ethiopian territory dates back to sixteenth century. The importation and proliferation of arms reached at its highest stage during the Italian invasion. There after, gradually introduction of firearms into the Ethiopia soil increased at an alarming rate from the eastern and western countries.

As an important country of the Horn of Africa having strategic importance, Ethiopia was the main victim of the contest between the major super powers to expand their ideology and hegemonic power. For this reason, firearms were coming into Ethiopia from the former Soviet Union, West bloc and other ideologically affiliated countries to the two rival super powers. After the demise of the Dergue regime in 1991, firearms were freely dispersed into the hands of the population.

In Ethiopia arms have various traditional uses and values. The Ethiopian multiethnic societies experience different traditional bearings of small arms and light weapons which are believed to have tremendous impact on the illicit proliferation, circulation and use of arms. The whole population of Ethiopia is divided into two categories namely the

highlanders and the lowlanders based on the way of life and geographic settlements. The highlanders are permanently settled peasant farmers, semi-urban and urban dwellers, located mainly in the northern and central highland areas. On the other hand lowlanders are pastoralists found in the eastern, southern and western lowland areas who wander from one area to another in search of food for their animals.

In both the non-urban highlanders and lowlanders of the Ethiopian peoples, the main reason for the illicit circulation and use of arms is to safeguard the security of their lives, families and property. Besides to this competition for the control of scarce resources and to get prestige and acceptance are other explanations for the illicit proliferation and possession of firearms.

However, unlike other parts of the country, the main reason for the illegal circulation and use of arms in Addis Ababa is for reasons other than safety and security. In the capital city, crimes are in most cases privately motivated without legitimate aim and public cause. Many of the criminal acts in Addis Ababa stem not from grievances based on the violations of basic rights and freedoms. Most of the crimes were committed for economic reasons and to satisfy selfish interest of the perpetrators. Others originate from the lack of knowledge and confidence on the justice system. Most of the crimes are related to homicides assaults, robberies and thefts.

Research activities for the causes of crimes have been continuing since human beings realized the evils of crime. But the scientific and modern approach to the study of criminology began in the 19<sup>th</sup> century after which many findings have been obtained on the real causes of crime. Different scholars formulated various theories of crime causation, ranging from anthropological and biological geographic and environmental, psychological, economical and sociological. These grand theories are further split into several branches or specific theories. The specific theories mainly include, classical, positive and Chicago schools, differential associations, anomie, subculture, labeling, conflict social control, social learning, rational and gender theories. Scholars in the field of criminology have also identified future criminological theories. The aforementioned

theories of crime are classified as old and modern theories but both of them have their own constitutions to the causes of crimes.

Various crimes are committed in Addis Ababa. However, the research has mainly focused on seven types of crimes perpetrated against human beings and property. These are crimes of violence namely, homicide attempted, homicide and assault and disability. On the other hand the crimes committed on property are armed and unarmed robbery, attempted robbery and theft. The other type of crime which is studied in this research is illicit possession and trade of arms.

Like other institutions in the country, the Ethiopian police have been changing with the change of governments. As per Proclamation No 7/1992, Art. 10(8), the Regional Self-governments were given the power to establish their own police forces, which was a major paradigm shift from the previous centralized system of government in the past Ethiopian history.

In a similar development, the Addis Ababa police commission was restructured to have various powers that generally ensure safety and overall security of the residents of the city. Like the nine Regional States of Ethiopia, the Addis Ababa police force was reorganized into the status of a commission led by a commissioner and his deputy. But since Addis Ababa is directly accountable to the prime minister, it was later changed to be less autonomous than the other police commissions of the other regional states. The Addis Ababa police force has two major tasks of crime prevention and control. Criminal acts committed in the city are investigated by the department of crime investigation, which has specialized investigative sections mainly for homicide, robbery, theft, economic and other crimes. The department has also technical investigations, operational and surveillance sections. In general, the operational capacity of the city police is not to the expectation of its dwellers for various financial and administrative reasons.

Analysis of countrywide crime situation has shown that male involvement of crime was by far higher than female. Assault and disability crimes were the highest numbers of

crimes followed by theft, rule breaking embezzlement, fraud and homicide. But data of criminals collected from central prison indicated that intentional/non intentional homicide prisoners were the highest in number succeeded by theft, assault, attempted, homicide and robbery in their sequence.

Among the criminals whose ages had been identified, the highest numbers laid in the age category 19-30 followed by 31-50, 16-18, above 50 years and 9-15 years in sequential order. Moreover, the same analysis of crime of record of accused criminals showed that the illiterate individuals were the highest in number succeeded by primary (1-6), middle (7 and 8), secondary (9-12) and tertiary(above grade 12) respectively. This implies that exposure to formal education decreases the trend for crime commission.

In Addis Ababa, crime did not show either increasing or decreasing trend throughout the years steadily, rather it showed fluctuating trend. The highest crime record was seen in aggravated assault followed by robbery and attempted homicide. The rest types of crimes namely, attempted robbery, homicide, illicit possession and trade of arms and burglary had comparable numbers. Similar to the national trend, in Addis Ababa males were the highest offenders compared to that of females. The average age of criminals in the city was 28 years, lesser than the average age for the entire country (30 years). Except for Gambella (26 years) criminals in Addis Ababa were youngest of all the Regional States and Diredawa Administrative Council.

In most cases, the accused individuals in Addis Ababa were found guilty and have been convicted. But some cases were closed due to insufficient police evidence and other explanations, noticeable numbers of cases were ended up in acquittals. In fact, the work loads of judicial bodies in Addis Ababa were higher than the other regional States. For instance, one public prosecutor in Addis Ababa decided 99 cases per annum. But in all the Regional States of Ethiopia, including Dire dawa, a public prosecutor at an average decided 75 criminal cases per a year. With regard to the occupation of offenders, the highest number of offenders in Addis Ababa were the unemployed or jobless succeeded

by tradesmen, day laborers, students and self-supporting individuals. Therefore, joblessness has many things to do with the act of criminalities in the city.

The root cause of crime in Addis Ababa was unemployment. The young who simply sit without job opportunity, resort to commit crime. Migration in general and rural-urban migration in particular had its own contribution to the increased number of unemployment in the capital city. Legal shortcomings and illicit trafficking, circulation, possession and use of arms were the other causes of crimes in the metropolitan city.

Criminal activities in Addis Ababa had various implications. One serious consequence of crime is loss of life. Other implications committed on human being mainly, include assault and disability. The damage caused on property and theft has been crimes committed against property.

Destabilization of peace and security, psychological trauma caused on the victims and their families and disintegration of families were other consequences. Violations of basic rights, hindrances of development, good governance and democracy and undermining the positive image of the country in general and that of Addis Ababa in particular were implications of crimes in Addis Ababa.

Ethiopia does not have comprehensive firearms legislation and implementing directives and manuals. Recently, there is no promulgated arms legislation that helps to register, give license and control arms in Ethiopia as a whole and Addis Ababa in particular. In addition to this, there exists clear confusion with regard to what is stipulated in the proclamation and practical experience. This means that Federal Negarit Gazeta, Proclamation No. 6/1995 Art. 5(8) say that the power to give licensing and control firearms and explosive was given to the security, immigration and refugee Affairs Authority. However, the police force is still discharging these tasks without having legal ground. Besides, the proclamation does to have implementing regulation, directives or procedures approved by the pertinent body of government. The Addis Ababa police and

other police bureaus in Ethiopia perform these activities simply by written orders which were not officially enacted.

In order to tackle the sensitive problem of crime, various remedial solutions are proposed based on the finding of the study. The researcher is of the opinion that the prescribed policy options will help to mitigate the existing problems of interpretation, implementation and regulatory shortcomings in the effort to tackle crime related problems.

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# *ANNEXES*

## *Annex I. Definitions of Terms*

In order to avoid ambiguities of certain key concepts, the following terms are contextually defined.

Rifle is a small arm fired from the shoulder, having spiral grooves cut into bore.

Firearm means any portable lethal weapon that expels, or designed to expel a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of burning propellant, any device which may be readily converted into a weapon, and any small arm and any light weapon.

Illicit proliferation means the import, export, acquisition, sale, delivery, movement, or transfer of firearms, ammunition and other related materials, without a license or permit from a competent authority of the state.

Light weapons include portable weapons designed for use by several persons serving as a crew: heavy machine guns, automatic cannons, howitzers, mortars of less than 100mm caliber, grenade launchers, recoilless guns, and shoulder fired rockets, anti-aircrafts weapons, launchers and air defense weapons.

Small arms means light machine guns, sub-machine guns, include machine pistols fully automatic rifles and assault rifles and semi-automatic rifles.

Ammunition means the complete cartridge including the cartridge case, unfired primer, propellant, bullets and projectiles that are used in a firearm, provided those components are themselves subject to authorization in the respective state parties.

Brokering means acting for a commission, advantage or cause, whether pecuniary or otherwise; or to facilitate the transfer, documentation or payment in respect of any transaction relating to the buying or selling of firearms, ammunition or other related

materials; or dealing in firearms, ammunition and other related materials and buyer or recipient thereof

Robbery is the act of theft or looting of others' possession or property by forceful means with or without using arms.

Disarming is disbanding or depriving a combatant or a fighter of his arm/weapon.

Tracing means the systematic tracking of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components, ammunition from manufacturer to purchaser for the purpose of assisting the competent authorities of state parties in detecting, investigating and analyzing illicit manufacturing and trafficking.

Small arms and light weapons are conventional weapons that can be carried by an individual combatant or a light vehicle, and includes pistols, rifles, sub-machine guns and their ammunition. In this research arms can textually refer to small arms and light weapons.

Community policing is to mean a partnership established between the local law enforcement agents, mainly the police and the community to solve common safety and security problems.

Gun related crime is the act of crime committed by arms and lethal materials such as knives, machetes, spears and sharp or pointed items made of metallic substances of various types and shapes.

## *Annex II. List of Interviewees*

### 1. Police Officers in Addis Ababa Police Commission Crime Investigation Department and Database Center

No	Name of Interviewee	Responsibility
1	Commander Girma Kassa	Head of Criminal Investigation Department
2	Chief Inspector Tesfaye Mengesha	Homicide Cases Investigation Main Section Head
3	Inspector Alemaya Ayalke	Theft and Robbery Cases Investigation Main Section Head
4	Inspector Derbie Gedda	Theft and Robbery Cases Investigation Section Head
5	Chief Sergeant Melaku Shebie	Theft and Robbery Cases Investigator
6	Constable Yared Tarekegn	Homicide Cases Investigator
7	Chief Sergeant Alemayehu Berihun	Intelligence and Database Administration Secretary

### 2. Public Prosecutors

No	Name of Interviewee	Responsibility
1	Ato Mehammed Ahmed	Deputy Chief of Federal Public Prosecutor in Charge for Addis Ababa
2	Ato Tadele Disassa	Public Prosecutor in Nifas Silk Lafto Sub-city, Addis Ababa
3	Ato Timotiwos Hassen	Federal Public Prosecutor in Charge for Addis Ababa
4	Ato Fikadu Tsega	Federal Public Prosecutor in Charge for Addis Ababa
5	W/rit Aster Tekle	Federal Public Prosecutor in Charge for Addis Ababa

*Annex III. Questionnaire filled by police officers, senior judges and public prosecutors.*

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am conducting research thesis on "The causes, Implications and Remedies of Gun Related Crimes in Addis Ababa in Post-1991 Period." I have designed a questionnaire that includes some questions related to the theme of my research. I anticipate you are too much busy handling urgent matters. However, your genuine and diligent response is indispensable for the successful completion of my study. Hence, you are kindly requested to help me in filling the questionnaire.

Thanks in Advance,

1. General Information (optional)

1.1 Position \_\_\_\_\_

1.2 Responsibility \_\_\_\_\_

1.3 Work experience \_\_\_\_\_

2. Questionnaire

1.1 Please List all types of crimes committed in the country in general and in Addis Ababa in particular?

1.2 What do you think are the most common gun related crimes committed in Addis Ababa since 1991?

1.3 Apart from firearms what other means do criminals make use of to commit crimes in the city of Addis Ababa since 1991?

1.4 Would you please enumerate the guns and other lethal weapons commonly used to perpetrate crime in the capital city?

1.5 How and where do suspected criminals obtain the firearms used to commit crime?

1.6 What is the educational qualification of most of the offenders of gun related crimes?

A) Illiterate/uneducated

D) College/University

Elementary(grade 1-6)

E) All educational levels

B) Secondary(grade 9-12)

F) Other comment \_\_\_\_\_

- 1.7 How do you describe the involvement of gun related crime with regard to sex?
- A) Most criminals are male.
  - B) Most criminals are female.
  - C) Men and women are equally involved in gun related crimes.
  - D) It is not possible to differentiate.
- 1.8 What is the age category of the suspected or convicted criminals?
- 1.9 What is the economic status of most of the criminals?
- A) Very poor
  - B) Poor
  - C) Middle income
  - D) Rich
  - E) Very rich
  - F) Mixed economic background
- 1.10 Are most of the criminals' permanent dwellers of Addis Ababa or else individuals who are migrants or late comers?
- 1.11 What justifications are provided by criminals for their involvement in armed criminalities?
- 1.12 What are the major causes or the motives behind gun related crimes?
- 1.13 What are the sources of illicit small arms and light weapons in Addis Ababa?
- 1.14 For what major objectives are gun related crimes committed in the city?
- A) For economic reasons
  - B) For non-economics causes
  - C) Due to economic and non-economic reasons
  - D) For unknown causes
  - E) Most of the crimes are committed because of incidental conflicts.
- 1.15 What other explanations are given in relation to armed criminalities?
- 1.16 How do you evaluate the operational and institutional capacity of the law enforcement agents and the judicial system in tackling gun related crimes?
- 1.17 Is there comprehensive firearms regulatory mechanism and implementing directives/working procedures in the country in general and in Addis Ababa in particular?
- 1.18 Are there complete firearms register, licensing and control systems promulgated in Ethiopia in general and being implemented in Addis Ababa City Administration in particular?
- 1.19 Is there well-developed firearms database center in the capital city?
- 1.20 Are there any institutional frameworks and experience of community policing in the city that involve important stakeholders and the public at large?

- 1.21 Is there clear definition and separation of functional/jurisdictional power between the police and the security institutions with respect to firearms licensing and control?
- 1.22 How do you evaluate the judicial proceeding and pertinent penal codes that help to fight armed criminalities?
- 1.23 Please give your comment on the comparison between crimes committed against persons and property?
- 1.24 List the major consequences of gun related crimes?
- 1.25 What possible solutions would you propose to curb illicit possession and trafficking of small arms and light weapons?
- 1.26 Give brief elaboration on the implications of gun related crimes in the city since 1991?
- 1.27 Provide possible remedial solutions to the problems of armed criminalities?
- 1.28 What important measures should be taken to fight the evil act of crime in the city?
- 1.29 Give your suggestion pertinent to gun related crimes in the city.

### Annex III. Interview conducted with sample population selected from Addis Ababa Police Crime Investigation Department and Public Prosecutors.

Dear interviewee,

My name is Woldegebriel Beyene, Candidate for Masters of Public Administration (MPA). My research topic is on "The Causes, Implications and Remedies of Gun Related Crimes in Addis Ababa in Post-1991." I have designed a few questions concerning to the topic of my study. Please be patient to stay for few minutes with me sacrificing your busy time. Since your frank and straightforward response is crucial to my study, I would like to ask you kindly for your thoughtful cooperation.

Thank you in advance,

#### 2. Content of interview

2.1 Please give your opinion on the condition of crime in Addis Ababa?

2.2 Would you please suggest your observation on the extent of crimes in pre-1991 and post-1991 period?

- 2.3 Besides to firearms, what other means are used to commit crime in the city?
- 2.4 What are the major sources of illicitly trafficking and illegally possessed firearms?
- 2.5 How do criminals get access to guns in Addis Ababa?
- 2.6 What is your evaluation on the government's policy with regard to firearms register, license and controlling mechanisms?
- 2.7 Are the law enforcement agents proactive or reactive in their effort to fight gun related crimes?
- 2.8 How do you evaluate the judicial system in adjudicating armed criminalities?
- 2.9 In your opinion, what are the major causes of gun related crimes?
- 2.10 What is your suggestion on the role and participation of the public in combating gun related crimes?
- 2.11 What major implications do you observe in relation to armed criminalities?
- 2.12 What measures should be taken to minimize or solve the problems of gun related crimes?
- 2.13 Give whatsoever opinion you have related to the causes, implications and remedial solutions of gun related crimes?

Thank you!

## Declaration

I, the undersigned, declare that the thesis is my original work, has not been presented for a degree in any other university and that all sources of materials used for the thesis have been duly acknowledged.

Declared by:

Confirmed by:

Name Woldegebriel Beyene

Signature W Beyene

Date of Submission 14/08/07

Name Jemal Abagissa

Signature J Abagissa

Date August 14/2007