



School of Journalism and Communications

**A comparative Analysis of Coverage of Human Rights Issues
in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter English
Newspapers**

BY

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June 2024

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**A Comparative Analysis of Coverage of Human Rights Issues in The
Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter English Newspapers**

A Thesis Submitted to the School of Journalism and Communications

**In Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in
Journalism and Communication (Multimedia Journalism)**

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Declaration

I, Ephrem Welay Berhe, as a witness person to announce that the research entitled “A comparative analysis of Coverage of Human Rights Issues: in the Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter English Newspapers” is my original and submitted for the award of Master of Arts in Journalism and Communications (Multimedia), Addis Ababa University. Under this study, a fellowship of other equivalent titles of any additional college or university of all sources of information utilized for the research has been suitably recognized and noted.

Name of the candidate

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Certification

This is to certify that Ephrem Welay's thesis, titled "Coverage of Human Rights Issues: On the Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter Newspapers," which was submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Journalism and Communication, complying with the University's regulations and meets the recognized requirements of originality and quality.

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Acknowledgements

I am grateful to my adviser, Agaredech Jemaneh (PhD), for her excellent feedback, recommendations, advice, and direction during this research project. I'd want to thank her for her thorough assistance in offering expert advice on how to deal with the general study issue. I also appreciate her involvement in picking the research title, designing the framework for the study, and commenting on the research objectives. My greatest thanks goes to the staff of the examined public and commercial institutions, particularly The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter Newspapers, for providing valued and important information. My heartfelt gratitude to my family for their financial support, help, time, and patience. Special thanks go to them for their unwavering and incomparable love, commitment, and confidence, which will continue to serve as the foundation for my self-determination. Finally, I'd want to express my deepest gratitude to my favorite lecturers and other members of the university community, especially librarians.

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

BC	Before Christ
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ENA	Ethiopian News Agency
EPA	Ethiopian Press Agency
GFHS	Global Forum on Human Settlements
ICCPR	International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICHRP	International Council for Human Rights Policy
IPU	International Parliamentary Union
OHCHR	The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Nd	no date
UDHR	The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	The United Nations
UNECA	The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Abstract

Media plays a vital role in promoting, protecting and shaping and influencing public perception. The primary goal of the study is to investigate the coverage of human rights issues in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter English newspapers. In order to conduct stratified random sampling for this study, a population was split into two groups, known as strata, which were editorials and news. This study incorporated both quantitative and qualitative approach. It analyzed two English newspapers published during a specific period; July 1, 2019 and December 30, 2019. Quantitative Content analysis was employed to examine extent, and types, placement, and sources presented while covering human rights issues in the selected newspapers. The quantitative content analysis was performed using SPSS. The qualitative content analysis was employed to investigate framing. The quantitative results are given as tables of information, percentages graphs, and other methods of statistics. The study reveals that The Reporter newspaper allocated maximum attention in coverage of human rights issues than The Ethiopian Herald newspaper. While both newspapers extensively covered the socio-economic and cultural aspects of human rights, they paid little attention to civil and political rights. According to the study's findings, government representatives were the primary news sources utilized to shelter human rights issues in the Ethiopian Herald than the Reporter newspaper. The conflict frame and the value frame were the most dominant frames employed in Ethiopia's two English-language publications. Newspapers organizations, government agencies and advocacy groups must change their media policies and practices to allow for the coverage of human rights since they are critical to the defense and progress of human rights. When reporting on human rights issues, journalists must be compassionate.

Keywords: Agenda-setting, Coverage, Ethiopia, Framing, Human Rights, Newspapers

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Chapter one

1 Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

Sahu and Ahmed (2018) showed that the media is a useful asset to change the general public as it raises awareness among individuals concerning their privileges and obligations. Presses have obligation to not only observe but also inform the public about various forms of human rights violations, including political violence and economic, societal, commercial, and ethnic abuses (Alaimo, 2016).

In Africa, prolonged human rights crises, such as the one in South Sudan, where the transitional government has not made any headway in executing long-overdue commitments and there is an on-going stream of subnational violence, have resulted in death and suffering (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2024).

Bayeh E. (2015) studied social media and blogging as a means of expressing oneself, as well as the extent of online activism in Ethiopia for political engagement and the advancement and defense of human rights.

In Ethiopia, the government established a federal state body as per the constitution and reports to the House of Representatives with the mandate for the advancement and safeguard of human privileges (Beyene, 2020). Media professionals and international human rights groups have strongly denounced the Freedom of Mass Media and Access to Information Proclamation No. 590/2008 for being incompatible with both the FDRE Constitution and international human rights standards (Abera, 2016).

Serious human rights abuses have occurred in Ethiopia since 2018 and earlier in Somalia, Oromia, Amhara, and the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region (SNPPR), which have resulted in the displacement of 2.3 million people due to inter-communal strife (Center for International Human Rights Law and Advocacy, 2018).

According to Tseganesh Mulugeta (2014) analysis of Ethiopian Television Police's coverage of child abuse and prevention, the vast majority of news stories and shows did not center on the rights and abuses of children.

Several studies conducted in the Ethiopian context have mostly addressed marginalized voices of the poor than comprehensive views and representation of poverty (Ali & Freeman,

2021). As to the researcher expertise, there is little or no study conducted on coverage of human rights issues. This shows the significance to conduct a study on the respective topic and area.

Thus, the study concentrated on the coverage of human rights issues in Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter English newspapers. This study's primary goals are to determine how much media coverage human rights concerns receive, namely the sorts of topics addressed, themes (focus) of issues in human rights reporting, story placement, and source utilization. Furthermore, the study will look into how human rights concerns are presented in Ethiopian print media, including the Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter.

1.2. Statements of the Problem

Media plays a vital role in its discourses and activities in a manner that, either assists human rights protection, consciousness, and argument; or overlooks and distorts human rights issues across the globe; or even in dangerous conditions like provoking hate, massacre, and criminalities against humanity (McChesney, 2012).

The media frequently abandons covering human rights stories, despite the importance of these issues for human well-being (Sahu and Ahmad, 2018). In Nigeria, journalists pay minimal attention to the legal framework of human rights, demonstrating a lack of knowledge and analytical depth (Farra'u, 2017).

The press plays influential role in their supporting or undermining of human rights issues, particularly in Ethiopia, an analysis of its impact is essential.

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission effectiveness is hindered by a number of significant issues, including political influence, limited accessibility, a lack of human rights awareness, weak institutions such as the media, and strict regulations governing civil societies (Mengist, A. 2020).

Mulatu (2017) found that the number of stories in Ethiopian newspapers reporting on internal conflict was not only minimal, but some issues were also ignored and silenced. Ethnic-based media in Ethiopia are now adopting the same patterns and representations as media in Rwanda and Yugoslavia (Gessese, A. 2020).

Various studies conducted in Ethiopia indicate that even Ethiopia has a stronger legal and policy framework, the media is criticized for ignoring human rights issues (Seble, 2011;

Tseganesh, 2014; and Bayeh, 2015). As a result, there is a need for a thorough systematic examination of how human rights concerns are disregarded and portrayed while the rights media handles them.

Regarding the researcher's expertise, a limited study has yet been conducted on content-driven media coverage and framing of human rights studies in Ethiopian print media. A study of framing individuals with disabilities conducted on Ethiopian by (Gezahegne, 2018) and a study on media performance and democratic governance (Kalyango, 2008) states that media studies in Ethiopia focused on single issues than an extensive variety of human-rights related topics.

Overall content-based press reporting of human rights concerns in Ethiopian press, specifically The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter publications receives little or no attention. Therefore in consideration of the research gap discussed above and the ongoing internal ethnic-conflict in Ethiopia, the researcher decides that it is significant to investigate coverage of human rights issues in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter English Newspapers.

1.3 Research Objectives

1.3.1 General Objective

The main objective of this study is a comparative study of human rights issues in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter English Newspapers.

1.3.2 Specific Objective

- To discover coverage of human rights issues in The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter English newspapers between July 1,2019 and December 30 2019.
- To examine what types human rights issues are dominantly covered in the selected media.
- To identify dominant sources in covering human rights issues by the two newspapers to recognize who is behind the story.
- To evaluate how human rights issues are framed in The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter newspapers.

1.4 Research Question

1. How much coverage do The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter publications provide on human rights issues?
2. What sorts of human right concerns are dominantly reported in the selected media?
3. What are the primary sources employed in covering each human rights issue in selected newspapers?
4. How human rights concerns are represented in The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter newspapers?

1.5 Scope of the Study

The research study is aimed on the examination of coverage and framing analysis of human rights issues in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter (English-biweekly) publications. Researcher's Investigation only focuses on the news stories published in these newspapers between July 1, 2019 and December 30, 2019. News and editorials are the section of newspapers that are selected as unit of analysis for this investigation requirement.

The reason behind deciding the time frame and unit of analysis in this study is in order to come up with up-to-date information and manageable data respectively, so it will not be overlooked. Moreover, this study is only focused on two Ethiopian print media, to assess extent of coverage and framing of human rights problems in chosen newspapers.

The study provided two justifications for the publications it chooses. First of all, newspapers serve as other media's main information source and secondly, unlike the internet, radio, or television, newspapers offer a steady stream of information since previous issues are accessible (Manning, 2000). The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter, two English-language biweekly publications that serve a particular audience that includes human rights organizations and international organizations, were the publications of choice for the researcher. In general, publications are considered as an important secondary source for comprehending both historical and contemporary events (Paul, 2022).

1.6 Study Limitation

The first challenge is timing because scholars agree that the nature of the content analysis is time-consuming and costly to do with large data. In addition, as this study relies on various coding categories it is time-consuming to give training to coders, and as mentioned earlier the

method by itself is tedious. So the researcher believes time will be the drawback in the study. So a predetermined or interactive collection of concepts and categories was created by the researcher. The researcher decided to code for every word that appeared, whether it was a positive or bad word or just the ones that she felt were most pertinent to human rights issues. A further study drawback was the possibility that reporters harbored biased and opinionated personal beliefs in an attempt to sway their audience. National biases, political and sociocultural prejudices, and editorial positions can all lead to biased reporting that aims to elicit positive reactions from the public. The researcher tried to review the news organizations and their editorial policies and media practices of The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter, two English-weekly publications. Finally, as human rights issues are emerging concepts in the field of journalism shortage of research or literature which is done on related topics in the case of Ethiopia about press and human rights is the drawback of the study (Ali & Freeman, 2021).

1.7 Significance of the Study

The majority of related research in Ethiopia focuses on a single issue of human rights, such as the rights of women, the rights of children, and the rights of those with disabilities, which does not provide a complete picture of the media's treatment of human rights concerns in Ethiopia. This is why the researcher is focusing on the general coverage of human freedom issues in Ethiopia.

On the other side, the study adds to what other investigators have done and will assist in identifying journalists' attitudes and views of rights for human concerns. The findings will also encourage other researchers to conduct more research on framing, human rights, and the media in many nations throughout the world. Thus, the researcher believes the following elements are the main significance of the study. Firstly as few studies have been done on the subject matter the study contributes to filling the gap that existed in the literature and adds some contribution to the field. It also gives some knowledge and understanding about the practice and performance of the Ethiopian print media in covering human rights issues.

Furthermore, it enables journalists, politicians, and non-governmental organizations to assess the quantity and scope of human rights coverage and framing. This research also identifies the

strengths and flaws of Ethiopian print media in terms of their responsibilities to disclose and safeguard human rights violations, particularly during times of crisis.

1.8 Organization of the Study

The study paper is divided into five chapters. The first chapter discusses the study's history, statement of problem, aims, and hypothesis, as well as its rationale, operational definitions of words, scope, and limits. A review of earlier studies on coverage and framing of human rights issues, a list of research needs, and a conceptual framework are all outlined in Chapter two. In Chapter three, in addition to other resources and methodologies used to address the research topic, the study methodology and design, population, sample size, sampling strategies, data collecting methods, variable measurement, and data analysis procedures are all discussed. The fourth chapter summarizes the findings, beginning with a descriptive examination of how human rights concerns are covered and framed. It also includes a discussion of the study's findings, which is enriched by allusions to similar studies and the context necessary to comprehend the findings. The data analysis results reported in Chapter five are consistent with the study's aim. This chapter summarizes the findings and recommendations from the research. A list of references and appendices is available at the end.

Chapter Two

2 Review of Literature

2.1 Introduction

This chapter includes both an empirical and theoretical review, a synopsis of the literature studied, and a theoretical structure. It discusses human rights principles, media coverage and framing, and other related concerns, such as agenda-setting and framing.

2.1 Concepts of Human Rights

According to Kumari (2016), human rights are explained as being universal in the sense that most cultures and values have upheld them for the majority of their histories and all civilizations have cross-culturally and archaeologically verifiable notions of these rights . It is also explained that human rights are typically understood as norms that hold universally across historical time and social space, but it is important to remember that they are also a recent addition to our ethical discourse (Peksen, D., Peterson, T. M., & Drury, A. C. (2014).

"Human rights are generally regarded as being those rights which are inherent to all human beings, without distinction as to race, color, sex, verbal, political, or other view, across the nation or societal birth, items, birth, or other social standing," according to Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (n.d.). The first official statement outlining fundamental human rights that should be upheld internationally was the 1948 United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (United Nations, 1948).

De Albuquerque, (2017), states that the International Bill of Rights is composed of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the two agreements, the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant for Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. In terms of content, human rights encompass fundamental principles of humanity as they are underpinned by core values such as fairness, respect, equality, dignity, autonomy, universality, and participation that can be found in almost every culture, civilization, religion, and philosophical tradition (Balabanova, 2015). Thus, governments and other duty-bearers are under an obligation to respect, protect, and fulfill human rights, which form the basis for legal entitlements and remedies in case of nonfulfillment (Huizenga et.al, 2016).

2.1.1 Origin of Human Rights Conventions

According to Okeibunor, (2021), humans have been considered honorable since antiquity and law and religion created notions about man's inherent dignity thousands of years ago, and it includes concepts such as avoiding lying, stealing, employing arbitrary force, or breaking commitments. Ancient people integrate "barbarians" to human race and respect for women and children through practice of advocacy for tolerance and empathy (Farra'u, 2017). When parliaments were established in Scotland, Poland, the kingdom of León, and Paris beginning in the 12th century, the concept that members of the people had an obligation to the government was already in force in Greek city-states like Athens, but it was lost for many years after that (Angela, 2023).

During the 19th century, socioeconomic rights and the eradication of slavery were upheld. In the 19th century, rights to protection in the domains of work and unemployment evolved as a result of pressure from the labor union movement (Peksen et al., 2014). Men and women had equal rights in the early 20th century and New Zealand (1893) was the first country to provide women the right to vote (Sahu et al., 2016). The United States (1920), the United Kingdom (1928), the Netherlands and Russia (1917), and other countries came after (Peksen et al., 2014). The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights serves as the foundation for a continuous series of international human rights treaties, declarations, and monitoring bodies, as demonstrated by universal norms since 1948 (Paul, 2022).

2.1.2 Types of Human Rights Issues

Kumari (2016) argues that human rights which encompass civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights are implicitly seen as "indivisible," and that achieving the goal of putting in place an efficient human rights system requires addressing each of these rights. Ahmad and Sahu (2019) state that although the original goal was to create a single document known as the International Bill of Rights, the human rights provisions were split into the Universal Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). Kumari (2016) argues that civil and political rights have been incorrectly referred to as the 'first generation' of human rights, while economic, social, and cultural rights are the so-called 'second generation'; thus, the so-called 'third generation' refers to collective rights like the right to development. It is underlined that the

African Commission on Human Rights (1986) interprets the African Charter's provisions, which include economic, social, and cultural rights.

2.2 Concepts of Media Coverage and Framing

The mass media, which includes radio, television, newspapers, and other outlets, are crucial in educating the public about pertinent problems. Information distribution is one of the main roles of the mass media in every society (Gezahegne, 2018).

2.2.1 Concepts of Media Coverage

Media coverage is the amount of attention and exposure a person, brand, event, or issue receives in print, broadcast, and digital media (Silas & Barth & Iyora, 2021). Media coverage is a key influence in shaping public perception, reputation, and awareness (Gezahegne, 2018). Media publicity benefits both individuals and companies by increasing visibility and reach, allowing them to reach a bigger audience and acquire exposure outside of traditional networks (Sahu and Alam, 2016). It also helps us obtain the respect and confidence of our target audience by being noticed or acknowledged in credible media outlets. It also allows us to control the narrative and present a good image of our brand, which boosts our market standing and reputation (Mwai, 2016).

2.2.2 Agenda Setting Theory

According to Farra'u (2017), the process of generating agendas involves issue advocates constantly vying for the attention of politicians, media professionals, and the general public. The press's role in favoring one event or issue over another, mostly by the volume of coverage the media gives to that subject or event, is known as agenda-setting. In this way, the media is very important in influencing public conversation and opinion. Agenda setting is another word for effectively completing the first goal of framing, which is to identify issues that the public and government should pay attention to (Entman R., 2010). When an issue becomes more or less important in the media, that's when the agenda is set. Policy, the agenda of the public, or both

This prominence on the media agenda informs viewers, readers, and listeners "what issues to think about." Individuals or groups of people who campaign for attention of a matter play vital role in determining its place on the agenda, often at the expense of another topic or issue (Mlenga, 2023). It is defined as the media's agenda-setting impacts on the public's perception

of the day's priority concerns, which emerge from the high degree of duplication in media messages received by the public concerning the day's priority issues. Journalists, as agenda setters, select what news is essential, how to deploy resources, which stories to cover, which to cover in-depth, which to handle in brief, and a thousand more decisions every day (McCombs, Shaw, & Weaver, 2014).

2.3 Media Coverage of Human Rights

McLuhan, (2007), as cited in Pandey et al., (2017) a variety of medium including print, radio, television, and in which the spread of information and display took place called media'. Human rights organizations and government public affairs departments are both engaging in this type of media engagement when they release reports (Mlenga, 2023).

Human rights issues are framed in different ways and emphasis is given according to the specific issue, environment, and audience (Meriläinen, 2014). Media choose which happenings and spaces in the world we acquire to know about; they decide what constitutes 'news'; they filter and frame the issues; they contextualize the problem; they set the political agenda; and they create both a consciousness and a conscience about human rights issues (Scheufele, and Tewksbury, 2007). Pandey et al., (2017) states that assisting an informal means of recording exploitation, forms of public view, effecting foreign policy and strategically growth are performed by newscast reporting of human rights.

Public indignation and perceptions may be generated against the government by media reporting and attention to human rights abuses, which can educate the public about issues they were either unaware of or denied earlier (Apodaca, 2007).

It is no longer sufficient to describe "human rights news" as only material released by media outlets; instead, it is now necessary to include information from "NGOs, civic groups, or indeed even individuals" (Silas et al., 2021). According to Winston & Pollock (2016), in order to forward human rights agendas, it's critical to strike a balance between the necessity of ongoing professional gatekeeping and the thrill of expanded chances for involvement in human rights reporting.

2.4 Concepts of Media Framing

Entman (1993) offers one of the most important definitions of framing; "Selection and salience as the two main components of framing:

In a communication text, “framing refers to highlighting specific aspects of a perceived reality in order to bolster a particular issue description, causal interpretation, moral assessment, and/or therapeutic recommendation for the item being given” (P. 27).

Entman (2010) identifies three types of framing biases in the media: (1) "distortion bias," which refers to news that purports to misrepresent reality; (2) "content bias," also known as slant, which refers to news that supports one side over the other rather than treating both sides equally; and (3) "decision-making bias," which refers to the zeal and mindsets of journalists who purport to produce unfair content.

The simplest definition explains that framing is the process of emphasizing some information and giving it more prominence or a noticeable location in a news narrative while leaving out other information. By organizing the data from a news occasion into an interpretation, framing helps the reader understand the key points of the story (Unruh, 2020).

2.4.1 Framing Theory

According to Entman (2010), frames usually serve four purposes: issue characterization, causal analysis, moral judgment, and remedy advocacy. The framing was conceived as a tactical tool to highlight certain issues and make others less important, such as casting an event in a particular light. Kuypers (2017) argues that since framing and priming are considered to be an extension of agenda setting, framing has also been referred to as second-level agenda setting. Media content is essentially a social fabrication; it can never be compared to an external standard or used as a "mirror" of reality (Shoemaker, 2013).

The framing notion is helpful because it offers a framework that links several fields that must interact, such as academic and professional, empirical and interpretive, psychological and sociological, and quantitative and qualitative (Mlenga, 2023).

Framing's emphasis on providing a context within which information is presented and processed allows framing to be applied across a broad spectrum of communication situations (Mwai, 2016). It is said that elites keep an eye on public opinion because they want people to act in ways that support or submissively accept the decisions made by the elite.

2.4.2 Types of Media Framing

A central organizing idea for news content that supplies a context and suggests what the issue is through the use of selection, emphasis, exclusion, and elaboration" is how) define media frames (Tankard et al. (1991, cited by Iyengar & Kinder, 2010).

Seven prominent news frames are employed to conduct the framing analysis conflict framing; human interest framing, economic framing, morality framing, and attribution of responsibility framing, attribution framing and thematic framing that have been recognized in previous researches.

According to Mwai (2016), the conflict frame is the one that draws attention from the audience by emphasizing the conflict between people, organizations, or groups. The Human Interest Frame gives news coverage of an event, topic, or issue a human face or emotional component (Munoriyarwa & Chibuwe, 2022). When someone challenges a press quote, it frequently alludes to moral frameworks in an oblique manner and places events and concerns within the framework of moral or religious precepts (Kuypers, 2017). Similar to this, accountability frames a problem or issue such that the government, a person, or a group is held accountable for its cause or remedy (Peksen et al., 2014).

Similar to this, some traits and qualities of things and people are highlighted while others are disregarded, which biases the processing of information in terms of the targeted traits (Brandle, 2018).

"Attributions" of frames have been shown to have an impact on a wide range of social beliefs and interpersonal and therapeutic attributions. There are two different frames or forms of presentation used in news coverage of political issues: the thematic news frame and the episodic news frame (Iyengar & Kinder, 2010). The episodic news frame presents problems in terms of particular incidents, such as a terrorist attack on a homeless person or a drug-related case (Mlenga, 2023). By contrast, the thematic framework gives a more general and abstract view of political issues by placing them in an adequate context such as geography or other suitable contexts; (Iyengar & Kinder, 2010.). Issue specific frames are of particular relevance only to certain subjects; therefore, each issue may contain a different set of special questions. The generic frames are not restricted by the thematic limitations, as they can be distinguished from each other on a variety of issues (Brandle, 2018).

According to Whitten-Woodring (2009), how the media presents news concerning abuses of human rights will also affect how the general public responds to the violations. Framing "highlights some features of reality while omitting others" because it works by emphasizing some information over other information. The media must choose how to frame a story: they can present the story in a way that reflects their worldview, what they believe their audiences want to hear, or if they can do so accurately how to present the viewpoints of those who are writing or speaking about the subject (Kuypers, 2017).

2.5 Freedom of the Press in Covering Human Rights

Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ensures the right to free expression by declaring that "everyone has the right to liberty of view and expression; this right includes the right to hold opinions deprived of interference and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers" (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 2015).

According to Brandle (2018), if an impartial and free press is presumed to serve as the checking for those in the state's power by notifying people about the state's activities; it is seen as indispensable to human rights and democracy. In his speech at 1999 World Press Freedom Day Kofi Annan emphasized freedom of the press as the cornerstone of human rights and has a greater responsibility to play a constructive role as the fourth estate in a democracy. It can be understood from Kofi Anan's speech that while saying the press needs freedom, it is to justify that the media will act as a watchdog over the government in response. Whitten-Woodring (2009) suggests that in the absence of democratic conditions, independent media will serve in respecting human rights because the free press in their coverage of public problems, works in mechanisms to hold the government accountable and push it to be responsive. According to Apodaca, (2007), coordinated and independent explanations and analysis by the media, that assist in stopping human rights abuses can be achieved through access to information and views.

2.6 The Extent of Media Coverage of Human Rights

2.6.1 Media and Human Rights

(Farra'u, 2017) states human rights journalism is seen as analytic style of reporting, which contributes a serious image on the skills and desires of the victims and agents of human rights

abuses of all kinds physical as well as social and organizational in order to stimulate thoughtful of the reasons for these violations and to solve or protect them in ways that would not create more human rights inequalities or damages in the future.. According to the International Council on Human Rights, there are two main ideas about how the media and human rights are related: first, a lot of reporting deals with issues that either directly or indirectly relate to human rights, and second, freedom of the press is a human right in and of itself (Huizenga et al., 2016).

Politics and media have long intersected: on the one hand, a company's business interests will directly affect how the media covers human rights issues (McCombs et al., 2014). However, there is an overlap in the issues raised by journalists and human rights advocates (Farra'u, 2017). According to Apodaca (2007), human rights violations can be influenced by the mass media by being shown prominently on the front page, serving as the main topic of a newscast, providing live reporting from the area, and disrupting regularly scheduled programs with a "breaking story.

The author makes it clear that nations are now subject to intense public examination of their human rights policies on a worldwide scale as a result of the media's globalization. According to Balabanova (2015), contemporary cases where it has been said that the media has been used to instigate violence, murder, and genocide, such as in Rwanda, Somalia, and the Former Yugoslavia, are commonly cited to support the idea that the media is accountable for or involved in human rights violations.

2.7 Media Responsibility in Human Rights Reporting

Mass media serves a crucial purpose in societies through the effects of distributing information, conveying different opinions and interpretations, assisting public view to form on issues, and enabling debate (McCombs et al., 2014). Media have a duty, as a check on the state's power, to inform, report truthfully about governmental misconduct, and expose abuses of public authority (Apodaca, 2007).

There are three key points in relation to the role of media in serving the public interest. Firstly, the media, like that of the government, has to be used in a legitimate way, which is not far removed from the notion of responsibility. Secondly, a certain transcendent quality attaches to the notion of the public interest. Thirdly, notions of the public interest must work

in an imperfect and impure world (McCombs et al., 2014). There appears to have been a good deal of consensus on the fundamental elements of the public interest in the press, going much beyond the bare minimum of causing no harm, as it is explained in the practice of media politics, legislation, and regulation (Farra'u, 2017). According to Pandey et al. (2017), the media may be a potent tool in the fight against violence. Journalists have an ethical duty to observe and document violations of human rights in all its manifestations.

2.8 Role of Media in Human Rights Report

The International Council on Human Rights Policy emphasizes how press has become concerned not just with human rights violations, but also with the structure of institutions established to promote and protect human rights (Abera, 2017). According to Whitten-Woodring (2009), the media's essential duty is to work as a watchdog, monitoring and critiquing government actions, since when it does this, it may operate as a platform for political discourse irrespective of any limits on its freedom.

Journalists play an important part in human rights and are responsible for reporting on them. It is important to consider these challenges because how journalists deal with them will affect their approach to human rights reporting (Pandey et al., 2017). Human rights groups engage with the news media in a variety of ways, including publicly shaming human rights offenders, educating policymakers and the general public, and striving to attract international funding. Mwai (2016) suggests that values, ideologies, ideas and images can be used as teaching tools for understanding the world through a range of media messages. Misrepresentations in recognized media sources are caused not by willful deception, but by the unavoidable discrepancies that occur when human rights violations are publicized as a result of armed, financial, or other interests (Mlenga, 2023).

2.9 Media and Use of Sources

The meaning of news is mostly determined by politicians, editors, and journalists who collaborate informally with the viewers of news programs, publications, or other content. Therefore, for a story to be considered news, all parties concerned must agree to some extent (Farra'u, 2017). Additionally, it details how journalists are frequently silenced when human rights violations occur for fear of retaliation by the dictatorship, whose security apparatus, the

armed forces, and the military, are frequently involved in the violence as well as the extortion and looting of items from civilians (Abera, 2017).

According to Brandle (2018), NGOs' efforts, can draw media attention to human rights issues even in situations when governments are not actively seeking coverage. They can provide access and information without going through government-based gatekeepers, but not all non-governmental organizations are created equal and not all of them are successful in getting media attention. According to Whitten-Woodring (2009), some might contend that because the news media rely on official sources, they are nevertheless susceptible to government control even though they are not explicitly censored by the government.

2.10 Empirical Literature Review

The media has the potential to successfully transform society by increasing people's understanding of their rights and duties. To put it another way, the media can ensure that governments listen to the opinions of those who are marginalized in society.

2.10.1 Media Coverage

Angela (2023) investigates how national newspapers with opposing editorial viewpoints presented the “Black Lives Matter” social problem in protest news articles to attract readers and differentiate themselves from the competition. Analysis of the press coverage of the cultural movement indicated coverage disparities among newspapers, with conservative daily publications reporting the movement more contextually and liberal-leaning newspapers more likely to engage in sensational coverage (Abera, 2017).

Ahmad and Sahu (2019) aimed to apply content analysis to analyze the human rights concerns that were reported in newspapers. Using a rigorous random sample mechanism, the contents of The Times of India and The Indian Express about human rights problems were selected between January 1 and June 30, 2017. The study's findings demonstrated how frequently human rights breaches were reported by The Times of India and The Indian Express. The newspapers also included a few stories that highlighted positive features of human rights during the study period. During the study period, a few news stories that highlighted the good aspects of human rights were also carried by the papers.

Mlenga (2023) examines how 14 Malawian media outlets cover human rights issues from a variety of angles. A survey was distributed to various levels of journalists at different media

outlets to collect information on the study. The results show that a few of the problems impeding the nation's coverage of human rights stories are a lack of specialized units in newsrooms, poor reference resources, and officials' unwillingness to provide the necessary information. The study also examines recommendations put forth by journalists to enhance Malawi's human rights reporting.

Farra'u (2017) examined that how Nigerian newspapers covered human rights issues throughout fifteen years, from 2000 to 2015. As a result, human rights coverage in the newspapers focuses on a very narrow definition of human rights, providing supplemental but insufficient information about systematic human rights abuse in Nigeria. In essence, Nigerian news media adhere to the traditional focus on human rights by focusing attention primarily on civil and political rights. Beyene (2020) looked at Ethiopia's and Addis Zemen's standing in reporting violations of human rights. The study found that there were notable variations in the nation's reporting of violations of human rights. When it came to reporting on humanitarian crises, Ethiopia was significantly superior to Addis Zemen. Every week, the Ethiopian Journal highlighted significant reasons for violations of human rights. But Addis Zemen stayed silent about the humanitarian catastrophe. Another discrepancy found by the poll was that Addis Zemen's articles on the topic supported the government, while nearly all of Ethiopia's articles were critical of it. Addis Zemen tales abound about government officials; victims, on the other hand, were in Ethiopia. The most effective communication tool for raising public awareness nowadays is the media (Mercy, 2016). Because they replicate dominant and alternative social norms, beliefs, discourse, ideologies, and values, the mass media are also significant socialization agents (Alaimo, 2016). As a result, the media is crucial in raising public knowledge of a given problem and gathering opinions, data, and attitudes about it. It is the most effective tool for communication since it can highlight and portray society as it truly is (Paul, 2022).

2.10.2 Media Framing

Unruh (2020) investigated the focus and amount of news about race integration at the University of Mississippi to see if an influential black-owned newspaper, the Chicago Protector, and a nationally famous white-owned newspaper, The New York Times, covered the events in the same way. Although a similar conflict frame was used to emphasize a

dispute between two or more people or groups, a content analysis of newspaper articles from the New York Times and the Chicago Defender published between September 15, 1962, and October 15, 1962, reveals that the conflict's focus and content differ significantly.

It was proposed that agenda setting and framing effects are not only connected, but that agenda setting itself is an extension of framing. It was put to use The influence of salient features of media coverage on how viewers understand these news items is referred to as second-level agenda-setting (Kuypers, 2017). According to Entman (2010), framing is a technique that is used often in both policy analysis and politics. It entails picking out a few elements of a reality as experienced by the individual and weaving them together into a story to support that interpretation.

2.11 Research Gap

According to Ahmad and Sahu (2019), newspapers are thought to be crucial for educating readers about their political, social, and economic rights. The public's perception of a subject and its agenda are greatly influenced by the media. Prior studies have concentrated on issues impacting individuals with impairments in mainstream print media and gender-based violence. Studies like Gezahegne (2018) have examined how these topics are portrayed and the level of importance given to them in different countries.

According to Ali & Freeman (2021), reporting about conflicts in the 1990s was more likely to refer to them as "human rights violations" than it was in the 1890s, although this does not always imply that subsequent wars were covered more accurately. Although Silas et al. (2021) concur that the media is more willing to talk about human rights concerns; they differ in their assessments of the quality of the coverage. According to both research, the growing usage of the term "human rights" may just be a reflection of society's wider acceptance and application of it.

This study examines how mainstream print media in Ethiopia presents human rights issues, focusing on the consistencies and inconsistencies in their coverage. Previous research like Angela (2023) has shown differences in coverage between newspapers, with conservative outlets providing more contextual information. Others like Silas et al., (2021) have been highlighted as important tools in addressing government abuses and human rights violations.

While there have been studies on human rights issues in various countries, few have

specifically looked at framing in the Ethiopian print media. In addition, Mlenga (2023) stated that studies on television news coverage have been less reliable than studies about the print media. Thus, this research aimed to fill this gap in academic scholarship by critically analyzing how human rights issues are covered and framed in Ethiopia

2.12 Conceptual Framework



Figure 1. Conceptual framework.

(Adopted from: <https://lms.su.edu.pk/lesson/213/agenda-setting-theory>)

Figure 1 above depicts the schematic typology of agenda-setting and agenda-building metrics as proposed by Kalyango (2008), which is based on media performance, regime legitimacy, and the rule of law. Four main questions serve as the study's compass. This study first attempted to comprehend how Ethiopian media views human rights. The extent to which human rights issues are covered in The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter publications was discovered. It made an effort to look at the kinds of human rights topics that are frequently addressed by the chosen media. Thirdly, it examined the sources that are used while reporting on human rights matters in order to identify the main players. Finally, it examined how the human rights problem was covered by the Ethiopian Herald and Reporter newspapers using descriptive statistics that showed the volume and kind of reporting on human rights.

Chapter Three

3 Research Methodology

3.1 Introduction

This chapter covers the following topics: research design, target population, sample size and design, data collecting instruments, data gathering procedure, data analysis and presentation, and ethical issues. Investigating how human rights concerns are covered by The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter Newspapers is made easier thanks to this..

3.2 Selection of the Publications

The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter English newspapers were chosen because they have a large readership, wide coverage, and are popular among decision makers. These newspapers are known for their coverage of governmental, financial, and societal issues. It also plays a role in setting the agenda for other media sources. The researcher focused on the English version of the newspapers because, they are supposed to have alike audiences, i.e., they target international and diplomatic communities, elites, academia and others who understand English (Ward and Ayalew, 2011).

3.2.1 Ethiopian Herald

The Ethiopian Press Agency, which also publishes the Addis Zemen in Amharic, manages the government-owned English-language Ethiopian Herald. It was originally published as a weekly on July 3, 1943. It was originally edited by an Englishman named Jan Hoy Simpson. American writers arrived later. It, like Addis Zemen, became a daily newspaper by the end of 1958. The Ethiopian Herald is owned by the Ethiopian Press Agency, Ethiopia's national media agency established in 1940. It is the sole producer of Addis Zemen, the Amharic-language daily newspaper. The company also publishes The Ethiopian Herald, an English-language regular newspaper that is published except on Mondays (Source: Ethiopian Herald, 2023/24).

3.2.2 Reporter English Newspaper

A private newspaper printed in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, The Reporter is also commonly recognized as The Ethiopian Reporter, is a private daily printed in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Adem, 2021). It is held by the Media and Communications Center and available in both

Amharic and English. Amare Aregawi created the journal and now acts as its general manager (The Reporter, 2023). Media and Communication Center (MCC), a private limited media company, was created in 1995. MCC, headquartered in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, publishes a biweekly Amharic newspaper named "Reporter," a weekly English daily called "The Reporter," and monthly print and digital Amharic and English publications (Adem, 2021). MCC employs 137 full-time and part-time staff, and a sister institution named the Horn of Africa Press Institute does media-related research. MCC believes itself responsible to its readers, in general public, and the individuals who depend on The Reporter for news both inside and outside of Ethiopia (The Reporter, 2023/24).

3.3 Time frame

The researcher examined how human rights issues were discussed in the newspapers published in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter between July 1 and December 30, 2019. This time period was chosen because there was ongoing ethnic and religious conflict in Ethiopia, and there was a higher level of public attention during this period. The researcher aimed to understand how human rights problems were addressed during times of crisis in the country. They analyzed articles from The Ethiopian Herald, selecting one edition per week for a total of 24 editions over six months. They also compared the coverage to The Reporter, which is an English newspaper published weekly. In total, 48 editions were included in the analysis.

3.4 Research Philosophy

Wimmer and Dominc (2011) discuss the differences between the positivist and interpretive approaches in research. The interpretive paradigm focuses on understanding how individuals create meaning in their everyday lives, while the positivist approach sees reality as objective and separate from researchers. Positivist researchers believe in breaking reality into parts to understand the whole, while interpretive researchers view reality as holistic and indivisible. Positivist researchers seek general laws of behavior, while interpretive scholars aim to provide unique explanations for specific situations. The study used a deductive approach, starting with a literature review and comparing it with empirical evidence to address human rights issues.

3.5 Research Design

Research design is a plan that outlines how a research study will be conducted (Creswell, 2014). It provides reasons for using certain research methods and outlines the techniques that will be used to answer the research questions (Kothari, 2019). Therefore, the purpose of this study is to examine how human rights concerns are covered in The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter media. Using a descriptive study methodology, the researcher looked at how human rights concerns are generally covered and interpreted, as well as the subjects that the newspapers reported on. The goal of the study helps to accurately describe the current situation.

3.6 Research Methods

Different methods such as qualitative, quantitative, and mixed research approaches are commonly used in research (Creswell, 2014). Qualitative research focuses on understanding the meaning persons give to social or human problems, while quantitative analysis looks at concrete media products (Bryman, 2016). Mixed methods involve collecting and integrating both types of data to provide a more comprehensive understanding of research problems (Kothari, 2019). In this study, both quantitative and qualitative approaches were used to analyze news coverage and framing of human rights issues in Ethiopian print media. Qualitative textual analysis was chosen by Bryman (2016) to identify and describe the frames used in media discourse surrounding human rights issues.

3.7 Data Sources

In order to examine the coverage and framing analysis of human rights issues, the researcher uses The Ethiopian Herald newspaper and Reporter English newspaper, from state owned and the private media respectively. These newspapers were chosen based on a variety of factors, including their publication history, level of circulation, accessibility, level of popularity, and coverage of social, political, and cultural concerns. Additionally, newspapers are chosen as the study's sources since they are a more popular topic for research in both qualitative and quantitative content analysis than broadcast media (Mercy, 2016).

3.8 The Unit of Analyses

In this study News and editorials, were utilized as special area and elements of analysis in in the process of selecting and collecting stories. The reason for selecting these units is; because,

it is difficult to examine and manage all the data in terms of time and finance so, the researcher considers only on these sections of newspapers.

3.9 Sampling Techniques

Sampling is the process of choosing units from a population to represent the whole, and there are two main types: probability sampling and non-probability sampling (Alvi, 2016). Both types are used in this study, with non-probability sampling used to select significant media contents and probability sampling used to select relevant news stories and editorials. The researcher collected statistics from 24 publications from each newspaper, resulting in a total population of 188 articles. To create a representative sample, the researcher used Yamane's (1967) formula to calculate the sample size based on a 95% confidence level and a precision of $\pm 5\%$. The formula is presented below:

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2} \quad n = \frac{188}{1+188(0.05)^2}$$
$$= 128$$

Where :

n= sample size

N= population size

e= level of precision

Thus this study obtained N=188 e=0.05; therefore the sample size for analysis under this study is 128 articles from both newspapers. In consideration of the given sample size the researcher was taken 36 articles from The Ethiopian Herald and 92 from The Reporter. The total numbers of articles selected for analysis from both newspapers are presented in a table here below.

Table 1. Sampling Technique

Name of newspaper	Number of Active Reports	Proportion 128/188	Sample size
The Reporter	135	0.681	92
News	123		84
Editorials	12		8
The Ethiopian Herald	53	0.681	36
News	41		28
Editorials	12		8
Total	188		128

Source: The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter, 2023/24

3.10 Data Collection Tools

The researcher measured the frequency of media coverage on human rights, including the themes, location, types of issues, and sources of news in selected newspapers. Qualitative framing analysis was also used to understand how human rights issues are presented in the media. Various data collection techniques were employed to investigate the coverage and framing of human rights issues. Articles that are related to human rights issues are identified based on keywords like "human rights," "economic rights," "civil rights," and "political rights."

3.10.1 Media Coverage as Quantitative Content Analysis

Content analysis has three distinguishing characteristics as content analysis is an empirically grounded method, exploratory in process, and predictive inferential in intent (Creswell, 2014). Therefore, in order to provide a numerical representation of human rights concerns and subsequently aid in their full qualitative description, quantitative content analysis was employed to quantify the media coverage in the chosen media.

3.10.2 Interview

For the study's qualitative data collection, an interview checklist was created as shown in Appendix A. In this study, twelve (12) who were journalists and editors from The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter selected purposefully were therefore interviewed for the study from

December 2023 to January 2024. This interview selects 3 journalists and 3 editors or 6 interviews from each newspaper. Semi-structure interviews are were used to allow flexibility and to ensure the key subjects are discussed. The aim of conducting the interview is to get in-depth understanding about why the professionals did the way they did while covering or ignoring human rights issues on the aforementioned print media.

3.10.3 Media Framing Analysis

According to Kuypers (2017), the field of framing studies in communication research is expanding quickly. In essence, framing is about salience and selection. The communicator approach, the public discourse approach, and the media effect approach are the three ways to frame things. The communicator approach concentrates on the thinking of journalists or media coverage; the media effect approach studies how media framing affects the attitudes, emotions, and decisions of media recipients or users; public discourse deals with political actors who can launch their frames in the media. Therefore the researcher uses a qualitative framing analysis in order to gain an interpretive result which gives the actual meaning or intention of the stories covered in the selected media.

3.10.4 Coding Schemes

In order to have reliable and valid data findings the researcher follows the following activities that are identified here. Initially, purposefully prepared and designed coding sheet and manual is used to analyses the contents of newspaper stories. In addition operational definition for the units of analysis used in this study is provided. To conduct the study two coders are assigned by the researcher and the coders are chosen based on their educational level academics and their knowledge toward the area under study. In order to achieve reliability of the study first detailed instructional categories sheet are prepared , second coding or putting of how many human rights issues are occurred under each categories is done by a trained coders , finally the researcher checked and compare their results with another coders in order to achieve inter-coder reliability of data (Creswell, 2014).

3.11 Data Analysis Techniques

A method of inquiry called content analysis is utilized to objectively and quantitatively examine communication in a methodical way. It involves selecting content based on specific rules, ensuring consistent evaluation procedures, and maintaining objectivity in the analysis.

Content analysis can be used to examine the importance of news topics in media coverage and their impact on audience perception. This study examines how human rights problems are covered in The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter newspapers using quantitative content analysis. Data from interviews about the framing and coverage of human rights problems in newspapers was analyzed using qualitative analysis.

Thus as it can be inferred from the above concepts the researchers used an inductive approach of framing analysis to discover the possible frames and the contextual meaning of these frames in covering human rights issues. Conflict was discovered by Brandle (2018) to be the most often utilized frame in American news reporting. Lastly, it featured an obligation frame, which frames a problem or issue by placing blame for its origin or resolution on the governing body, a specific person, or a group of people.

3.12 Data Analysis Procedures

Based on economic, political, and social topics, the investigator chose news and editorial pieces from The Reporter and The Ethiopian Herald publications. The selected articles were published within a six-month period and focused on common parameters of human rights issues. The study aimed to investigate the coverage and framing analysis of human rights issues in the media. A total of 128 news stories were selected, and both quantitative and qualitative methods were used for analysis. The content analysis involved categorizing the articles based on various aspects, and the framing analysis examined how human rights issues were presented in the articles. The study found that the language and words used in the articles played a significant role in framing the issues.

3.13 Validity and Reliability

In this study, two coders are assigned to work on different categories independently to eliminate researcher bias. Typically, content analysis studies involve a small number of coders, usually two to six. The researcher needed to have a very clear understanding of what he wanted to learn and accomplish from the interviews before he could begin crafting the interview questions. This made it easier for him to avoid offering pointless or ambiguous queries and to match his inquiries with his study objectives. Before conducting the real interviews, the researchers tested the interview questions on two respondents from the private weekly Fortune Newspaper. They then revised the questions in light of the comments and

findings. This enhanced the prepared questions' legitimacy by removing any potential issues or mistakes. As a result, two questions with binary answers of "yes" or "no" were removed since they provide insufficient details. Lastly, the researcher completed a two-day online course that taught them precise rules and directions on how to conduct the interviews. This made it easier for the research to verify that the interviewers are knowledgeable, assured, and reliable.

To ensure the reliability of the study, coders undergo extensive training to understand the study's categories, definitions, coding instructions, and procedures. In addition, the researcher pertinently considered and checked the sources of the news and editorials, periodically assessed their relevance, and reviewed the ethics. Inter-coder reliability is also assessed by comparing the coding decisions of independent coders using Holsti's formula (Wimmer & Dominick, 2011). The study's reliability is achieved by preparing detailed category sheets, having trained coders' code the human rights issues, and comparing results for inter-coder reliability. To enhance validity, fresh coders are sometimes used to prevent artificially high inter-coder reliability among long-term coders.

3.14 Ethical Considerations

The researcher prioritized ethical values throughout the research process to maintain academic integrity and contribute meaningfully to the research community. The researcher obtained informed consent from Addis Ababa University and consulted with their advisor on ethical concerns. They kept the information confidential, respected the anonymity of participants, and provided clear explanations of the study's purpose and methodology. The researcher also respected the cultural beliefs of respondents and avoided bias, leaks, exaggeration, or understatement in their research.

Chapter Four

4 Data Presentation and Analysis

4.1 Introduction

To ascertain how human right issues are framed and covered in Ethiopian major English print media, the chapter includes research findings, data analysis, and discussion of the findings in line with the study objectives.

4.2 Characteristics of the Sampled Stories

This study analyzed a total of 128 stories which dealt with human right issue. These news and editorials were published between July 1, 2019 and December 30, 2019 in two Ethiopian English language newspapers, namely, The Reporter weekly private English language newspaper as well as, that is, Ethiopian Herald, daily government English language newspaper. In consideration of The Ethiopian Herald, which published 36 articles, and The Reporter, which published 92 articles, the study received 100% of the answers rate and examined 128 articles from the two newspapers in a span of the study time frame.

4.3 Rationalizing of the Framing Selection

As a standing point, the researcher wisely read all the news and editorials (N=128) and look for the collective words or expressions dominantly used in the news and editorials which formed usual thematic zone. Understanding this condition in mind, the investigator purposely selects nine (9) news and editorials to study systematically. But, it is important to recognize beforehand that the investigator thoroughly reads the articles and took important notes.

The definitions given to ideas like autonomy, justice and dignity are examples of how the human rights framework is put into practice in this study. The study goals as well as more remote elements like the political and economic environments as well as the prevailing cultural norms in Ethiopian society all had an impact on this selection procedure. The study's selection of news and editorials has been heavily influenced by the availability of different information sources and their unique characteristics (e.g., perceived legitimacy, credibility, power standing, etc.). Therefore, the nine (9) news articles that were chosen for frame analysis helped to illustrate the main topics surrounding the study's topic.

Consequently, the primary focus of this study was the newspaper's headlines and leads because, according to Alaimo (2016), these sections of the news and editorials demonstrated experiments showing that the position of a story exerted a more profound agenda-setting effect than non-leads and that leads were generally more influential than non-lead. According to Pandey et al. (2017), the title is the most noticeable cue to get readers to think about specific semantically relevant themes. The second most crucial tool to utilize, they said, is a lead. A strong lead will offer a narrative a noteworthy vantage point and a specific viewpoint on the event being covered.

While the frame analysis creates a macro or general perspective, the content analysis offers a micro analytical perspective. Furthermore, among the nine (9) news items selected for in-depth examination, three (3) and six (6) were selected from The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter, respectively.

4.4 Human rights coverage in the Ethiopian Herald and Reporter newspapers

The data gathered from the sampled newspapers The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter which span the period from July 1, 2019, to December 30, 2019, is presented and analyzed in this chapter. It focuses on to what extent human rights concerns are presented and covered. There are two primary sections to the chapter. Quantitative content analysis data gathered from the chosen media is presented, examined, and discussed in section one. The data from the framing analysis are presented and discussed in the second part.

The subjective interpretation and critical observation of the news and editorials covered by the newspapers on development-related topics was the main emphasis of the qualitative method. It addressed the news' and editorials antecedent-consequent patterns and latent structures. The qualitative approach focuses more on intentionality and its implications, whereas the quantitative method converts observations of discovered categories into quantitative statistical data (Mlenga, 2023). Excel software was used to study the stories that were categorized through content analysis as the many characteristics of development were examined.

4.4.1 The extent of the newspapers coverage on human rights issues in The Ethiopian Herald and The reporter

From the newspapers circulated in the already mentioned time duration, 128 articles were displayed for data analysis.

Table 2.Coverage from 128 News and Editorials

CR * CEH Cross tabulation

Coverage		Herald		Total	Pearson Chi-Square
		No Report	Yes Report		
The Reporter	Count	24	13	37	.161 Asymptotic Significance (2- sided) Value 1.961a
	No Report % within CR	64.9%	35.1%	100.0%	
	Count	70	21	91	
Yes Report % within CR	76.9%	23.1%	100.0%		
Total	Count	94	34	128	
	% within CR	73.4%	26.6%	100.0%	

The aforementioned Table 2 suggests that The Reporter, a privately held publication, covers and prioritizes human rights topics more than the Ethiopian Herald. Table 2 illustrates that 71 percent of the articles were published by the privately held Reporter, an outlet that specializes on political and social topics. The government owned Ethiopian Herald, which focuses on political and social issues, 36 percent of the total articles on human rights issues (See Table 2).

The human rights report and no report about human rights are the two categorical variables in the crosstabs analysis above. There are two potential values for each variable: Yes indicates a human rights report for the reporting variable, and No indicates no report regarding human rights. In our fictitious investigation, the null hypothesis states that these variables are independent of one another and have no relationship. We can test this hypothesis using the chi square test. The Pearson Chi-Square statistic seems to be exactly to the right of the chi square statistic in the Value column. The chi square statistic in this investigation has a value of 1.961.

The row containing the p-value (.161) in the "Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)" column appears to be identical. If this value exceeds the designated alpha threshold (usually .05), the result is significant. The null hypothesis, which states that the two variables are not independent of one another, cannot be rejected in this instance since the p-value is higher or more than the conventional alpha value. In other words, the data indicates that the factors the Ethiopian Herald and Reporter use to report on human rights issues are unrelated to one another, making the outcome inconsequential. This indicates that the two publications covered human rights concerns in different ways. In order to attract readers and differentiate themselves from the competition, Angela (2023) concluded that Newspaper coverage of the cultural movement was analyzed, and it was found that different newspapers covered it differently. The liberal-leaning newspaper was more likely to engage in sensational coverage, while the conservative daily covered the movement more contextually. One of the interview responses from a Journalist in The Ethiopian Herald indicated that

“Rather than discussing human rights concerns, we have addressed a broad range of international topics. This is due to the ease with which we can obtain information. For example, the last (2023) year's major news stories included Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, which left residents across the nation injured in horrifying atrocities. In addition to documenting possible laws-of-war crimes, we tried to tell the tales of people on the ground, particularly those who were stranded in Ukrainian territory under Russian occupation” (The Ethiopian Herald, December, 2023, Addis Ababa).

Interview with Journalist from The Reporter also indicated that

“These were the top stories in our newspaper for the year 2023, covering all the same topics as in 2019: reports of people being killed or detained arbitrarily by security forces; people killing others due to their ethnicity; unexplained disappearances; arbitrary detention and arrest by security forces; cruel and dangerous prison conditions; and illegal interference” (The Reporter, December, 2023, Addis Ababa)

On the other hand, one of the editors from The Reporter publications indicated that

“I argued that human rights abuses can arise from poverty as well as from it, which means that in addition to poverty being a source of human rights breaches, poverty itself can also exacerbate them. When it comes to the administration of justice, prejudice against the poor is

particularly common. Because they lack the funds to hire an attorney, those in poverty frequently are unable to get court protection” (The Reporter, editor, December 2023, Addis Ababa)

Even in situations when free legal aid is offered, underprivileged individuals might not have the knowledge or self-assurance to approach the court for justice. Furthermore, empirical evidence indicates that impoverished individuals are disproportionately accused of criminal activity, and their presumption of innocence is more likely to be violated (Mlenga, 2023). Since human rights are interconnected, interdependent, and indivisible, eradicating poverty requires addressing all human rights. Nonetheless, a few rights stand out as being especially crucial in this situation (Paul, 2022). Therefore, eradicating poverty has nothing to do with the wealthiest states' altruism or good intentions; rather, it has everything to do with upholding human rights. A human rights report's objective is to highlight violations committed by responsible parties. It is often written by advocacy groups for human rights, who then report their findings to oversight bodies entrusted with overseeing the implementation of international human rights treaty obligations (Ali & Freeman, 2021).

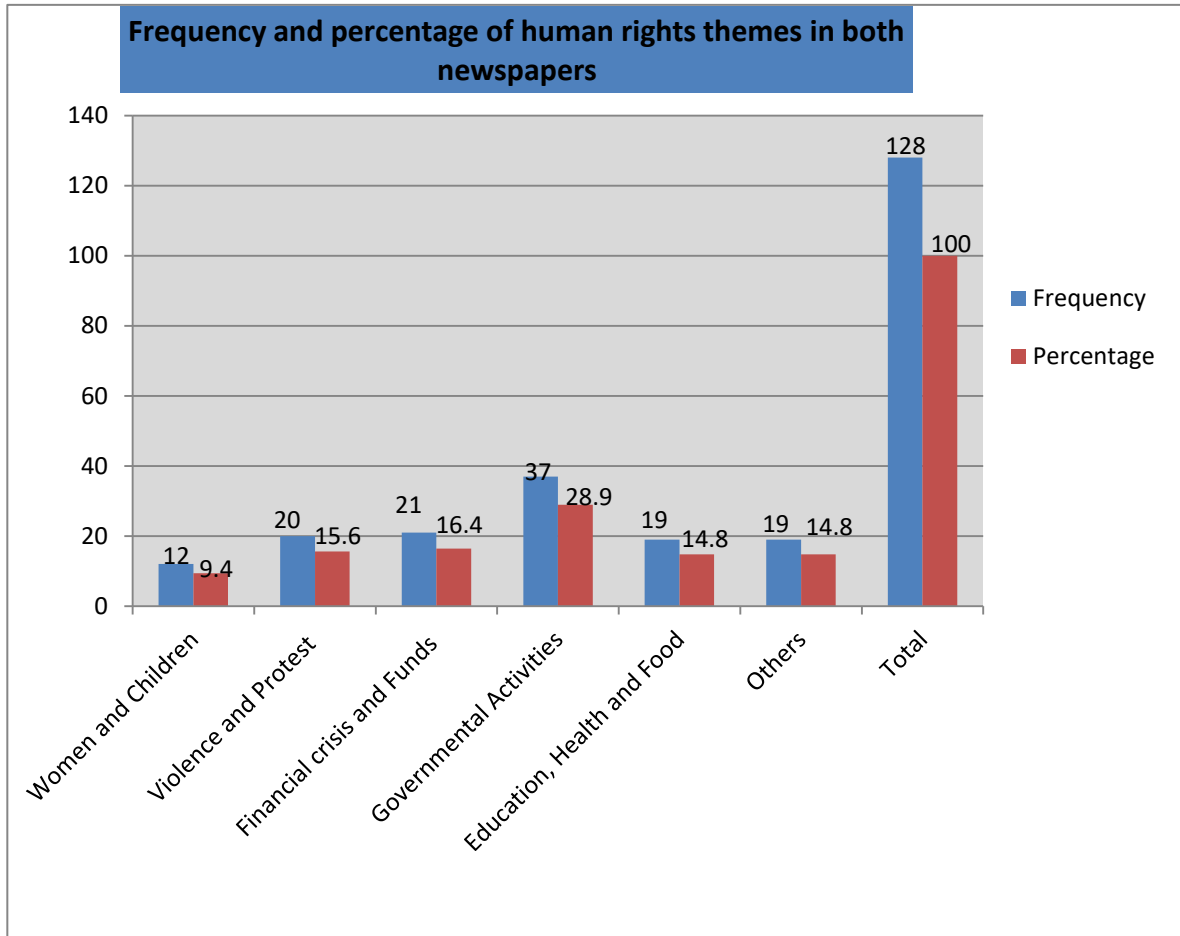
4.4.2 The nature of the newspaper coverage on human rights issues

From the analysis made on the newspapers The Reporter and The Ethiopian Herald five core themes were found out. These human rights themes categories include, woman and children, violence and protest, financial crisis/funds, government activities/issues, Education health and food themes. Moreover Human rights articles that did not categorized under these five major themes are coded as others.

4.4.3 Total human rights themes covered in both The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter

While the researcher analysis on the contents of the newspapers five human rights themes that are mainly appeared as being necessary categories to conduct the study.

Figure 2. Total frequency and percentage of human right themes covered in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter



As shown in **Figure 2**, the most frequently covered theme was government activities, accounting for nearly 29% of the articles. This indicates a strong focus on how government actions relate to human rights, likely reflecting the state media's influence in shaping narratives around governmental initiatives. In addition the above data implies that as the newspapers were mostly focused on government agenda than propagating the public agenda. Significant themes included financial crisis and violence/protests, which together accounted for more than 31% of all coverage. This shows how socioeconomic circumstances and human rights are intertwined, indicating that topics pertaining to economic hardship and social instability are important concerns for both media.

The equal coverage of education, health, and food-related issues (14.8%) indicates a balanced approach to reporting on essential social rights. This suggests that both newspapers recognize the importance of these themes in the broader context of human rights.

The least covered theme was women and children’s rights, with only 9.4% of articles dedicated to this critical area. This underrepresentation raises concerns about the visibility of issues affecting vulnerable populations and suggests a need for more focused reporting on gender-based rights. Ahmad and Sahu (2019), provide that media freedom is definitely linked with women's rights, notably their political and physical security, but only in areas where the number of Internet users is rising.

Table 3. Human rights themes covered across each newspaper

Human right themes	The Reporter (N=92)		The Ethiopian Herald (N=36)	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Women and Children	8	8.7	4	11.1
Violence and Protests	17	18.5	3	8.3
Financial Crisis and Funds	16	17.4	5	13.9
Governmental Activities	25	27.2	12	33.3
Education, Health and Food	12	13.0	7	19.4
Others...	14	15.2	5	13.9
Total	92	100	36	100

Based on the analysed data about human rights themes on Figure 2, the Ethiopian Herald and the Reporter covered 33.3 percent and 27.2 percent of its articles on government activities theme respectively. (See Table 3)

Women and children theme was given a minimum coverage with 11.1 percent on the Ethiopian Herald and 8.7 percent on the Reporter, indicating a need for greater focus on these vulnerable groups. Based on the analyzed data it can be indicated that The Ethiopian Herald has given a maximum coverage to government activities theme of human rights than The Reporter. Moreover, next to that the Ethiopian Herald has given a considerable amount of coverage to women and children with a little difference comparing to The Reporter. However, The Reporter has given a maximum amount of coverage to violence and protest theme with 18.5 percent, while the Ethiopian Herald devoted a little amount of coverage with 8.3 percent. This indicates a willingness from The Reporter to address civil unrest more openly.

Articles related to financial crises accounted for **17.4%** in The Reporter and **13.9%** in The Ethiopian Herald. This suggests that both outlets recognize the significance of economic issues in the context of human rights.

Themes related to education, health, and food received moderate attention, with The Reporter covering it in **13%** of articles compared to **19.4%** in The Ethiopian Herald. This reflects recognition of the importance of social rights. The "Others" category accounted for **15.2%** in The Reporter and **13.9%** in The Ethiopian Herald, indicating coverage of various other human rights issues not explicitly categorized.

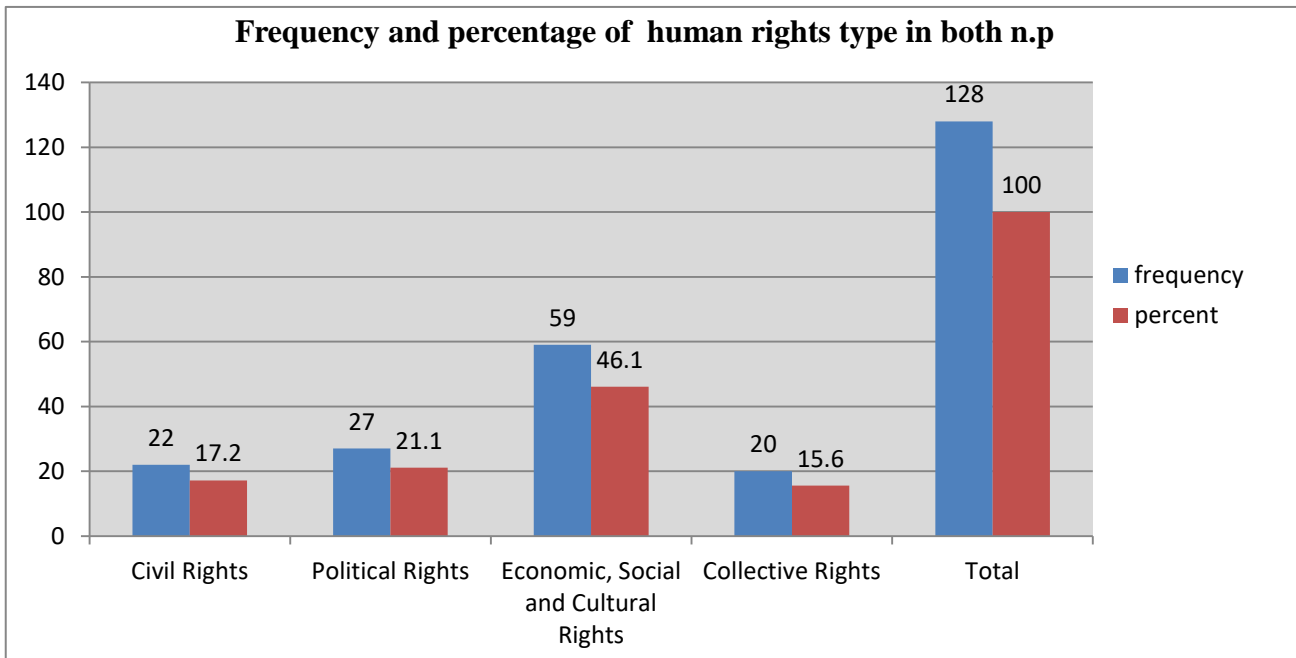
According to one of the interviewees with Journalist from The Ethiopian Herald responds, *“Naturally, official government media consistently cited government strategies as one economic scarcity within the designated time frame. It may be argued that, before the 2018 change, a similar tendency started at the national level of poverty reduction. By highlighting state growth and development, the official media today promotes economic development and the reduction of poverty. The news media covers subjects and events that both reflect and affect public and , political opinion, thereby intersecting the agendas of the public and policy makers”* (The Ethiopian Herald, Journalist, December 2023, Addis Ababa). According to The Reporter Journalist,

“We prioritize human rights stories, especially those that expose violations or injustices. Our coverage is more extensive than that of state media because we have the freedom to investigate and report on sensitive topics without as much fear of censorship” (The Reporter Journalist, December 2023, Addis Ababa).

4.4.4 Human rights type coverage in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter newspaper

The researcher identifies four standardized categories for the analyses namely, economic-social and cultural; political rights; civil rights; collective rights as main types of human rights. In 1966 UDHR adoptions two separate covenants: one on civil and political rights and the other on economic, social, and cultural rights (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 2015). Each and every human right, including the political, social, and cultural as well as the economic, is interconnected, according to the Office of the High Representative for Human Rights (2024).

Figure 3. Total frequency and percentages of human right type coverage in both newspapers.



Out of total 128 stories 59 (46.1%) were about economic, social, and cultural rights; 27 (21.1%) were about political rights; 22 (17.2%) were about civil rights; and 20 (15.6%) were about collective rights, according to the data that was studied (See Table 4). Thus based on the above data the type of human rights dominantly covered on both newspapers was economic, social and cultural rights. However collective, civil and political rights were given minimum coverage compared to economic social and cultural rights. Uneducated persons

usually have greater difficulty than literate people in realizing their full potential in terms of work or political participation.

The two newspapers mostly concentrated on the economic, social, and cultural components of human rights concerns rather than the collective, civil, and political dimensions, according to the data that was studied.

Table 4. Frequency and percentage of types of human rights covered across each newspaper.

Types of rights Covered	The Reporter (N=92)		The Ethiopian Herald (N=36)	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Civil Rights	17	18.5	5	13.9
Political Rights	20	21.7	7	19.4
Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	42	45.7	17	47.2
Collective Rights	13	14.1	7	19.4
Total	92	100	36	100

On the table presented the economic, social and cultural rights category The Ethiopian Herald published 47.2 percent while The Reporter published 45.7 percent.

It is possible to recognize from the above analyzed data that a slightly little difference existed in covering economic, social and cultural rights across the two newspapers. This indicates a strong emphasis on issues such as access to education, healthcare, and economic stability. The reporter newspaper dedicated 21.7 percent of articles to political rights and 19.4 percent of articles to civil rights (See Table 4). This suggests that both newspapers recognize the importance of political participation and civil liberties in the context of human rights.

Civil rights received moderate coverage, with The Reporter at **18.5%** and The Ethiopian Herald at **13.9%**. This reflects an awareness of fundamental human rights issues but indicates that there is still room for increased focus on civil liberties.

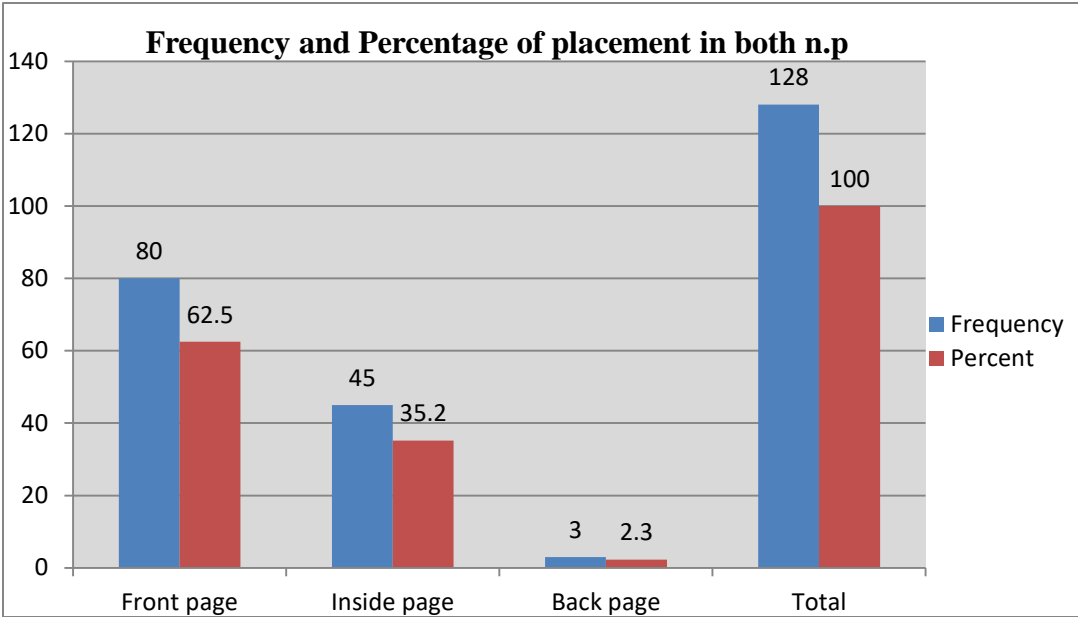
Collective rights were the least covered category, comprising **14.1%** in The Reporter and **19.4%** in The Ethiopian Herald. This suggests a need for more attention to issues affecting groups rather than individuals, particularly in a diverse society like Ethiopia. Political and collective rights are covered to the same extent in the Ethiopian Herald. Furthermore, compared to the Ethiopian Herald, the Reporter daily has covered political and civil rights more extensively. According to journalist from The Reporter,

“I cover a variety of social and cultural rights problems that are important to our community as a journalist for Ethiopian Reporter. We often cover the right to education, highlighting the obstacles that kids encounter, particularly in rural regions where there is little access to high-quality education” (The Reporter, journalist, December, 2023, Addis Ababa).

4.4.5 Placement of human rights issues in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter

The positioning of stories in the examined newspapers can be regarded as a crucial element in the coverage of human rights concerns as it may highlight and highlight the significance of the topics.

Figure 4. Placement of human rights in both newspapers



As the figure 3(2.3%) pieces were on the back page of both newspapers, 45 (35.2%) on the inside page, and 80 (62.5%) on the front page of the 128 stories that were chosen for study. A

relatively tiny amount of items were found on the back page, as can be seen from the data analysis. The fact that sports and advertisements were kept on the back page of both publications explained why there wasn't much coverage.

Table 5. Placement of human rights issues across each newspaper

Placement of coverage	The Reporter (N=92)		The Ethiopian Herald (N=36)	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Front page	68	73.9	12	33.3
Inside page	24	26.1	21	58.3
Back page	-	-	3	8.3
Total	92	100	36	100

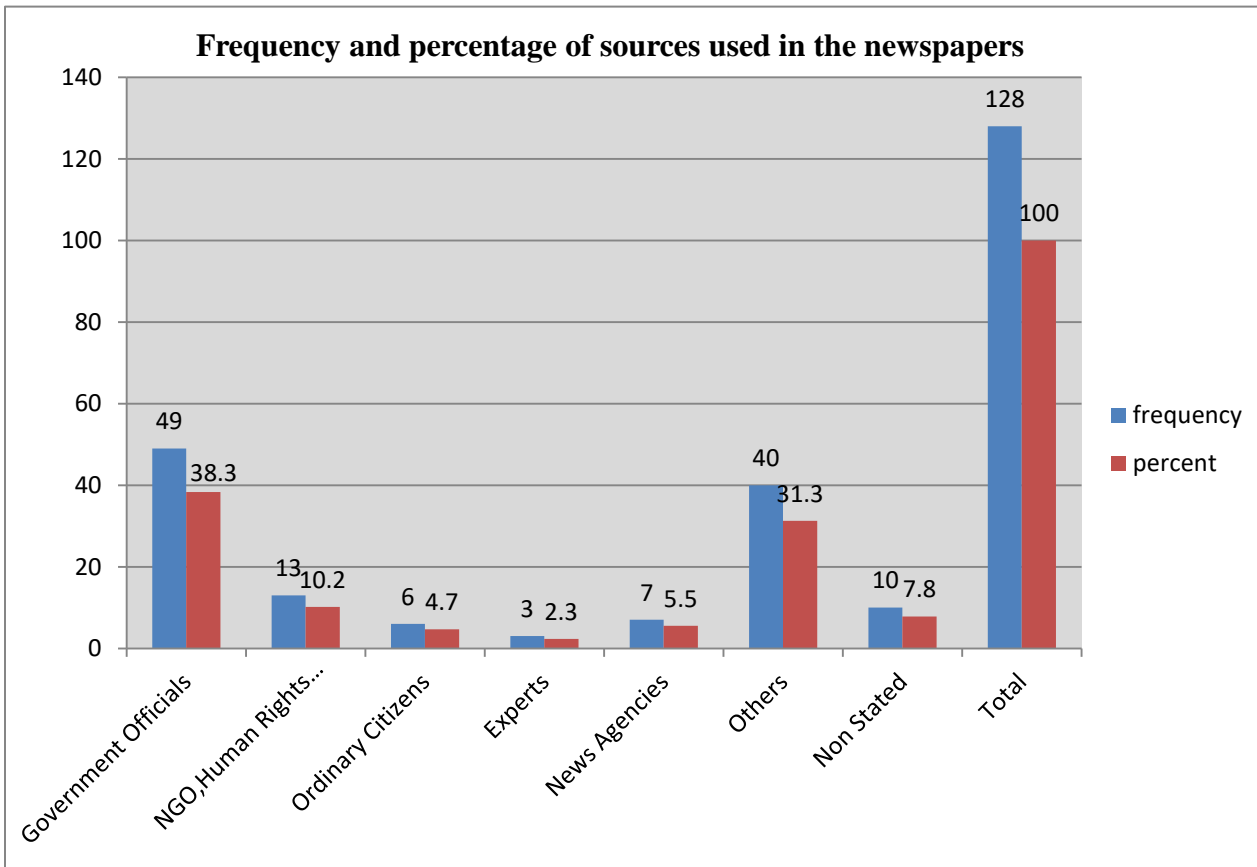
A significant majority of articles in The Reporter (73.9%) were placed on the front page, compared to only 33.3% in The Ethiopian Herald. This indicates that The Reporter prioritizes human rights issues as major news stories, reflecting a commitment to raising awareness about these topics among its readership.

In contrast, The Ethiopian Herald featured a higher percentage of articles (58.3%) on inside pages compared to The Reporter (26.1%). This suggests that while human rights issues are still reported, they may not be considered as urgent or critical by the state media compared to the private outlet.

The back page coverage was minimal overall, with no articles in The Reporter and only three articles (8.3%) in The Ethiopian Herald. The reason can be these back pages of the newspapers allocated for advertisement and Sport news in The Reporter and The Ethiopian Herald respectively.

4.4.6 News Sources Used in The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporters

Figure 5. Frequency and Percentage of sources used in both newspapers



Based the above table 49 (38.3%) of articles used government officials, 40 (31.3 %) others, 13 (10.2%) NGO, 10 (7.8) none stated, 7 (5.5%) news agencies, 6 (4.7%) ordinary citizens and 3 (2.3%) experts as news sources during its human rights issues coverage on both newspapers. The data analysis indicates that government officials were the primary news source for reporting on human rights concerns. Following to that, other types of sources also took a higher share on both newspapers. News sources that are not mentioned, news agencies and sources from ordinary citizens share little percentage in which not more than 10 percent. Moreover news sources coming out of experts were used as the least sources of news in covering human rights issues on both newspapers.

Sources of News	The Reporter (N=93)		The Ethiopian Herald (N=36)	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Government Officials	30	32.6	19	52.8
NGO, Human Rights institution	8	8.7	5	13.9
Ordinary Citizens	5	5.4	1	2.8
Experts	2	2.2	1	2.8
News Agencies	5	5.4	2	5.6
Others	35	38	5	13.9
Non Stated	7	7.6	3	8.3
Total	92	100	36	100

Table 6. Percentage of news sources distribution across each newspaper

From the analyzed data it can be claimed that most of the news sources used in covering human rights issues were government officials. This includes 52.8 percent on The Ethiopian Herald whereas, 32.6 percent lied on The Reporter newspaper. This indicates a significant reliance on official narratives in both newspapers, particularly in the state media.

However, ordinary citizens (5.4 percent), experts (2.2 percent), and news agencies (5.4 percent) were the least news sources used while covering human rights issues. The analyzed data indicates these kinds of news sources were constituted not to more than 6 percent on each newspaper. In addition, official sources that were used as dominant sources of news in the Ethiopian Herald comparatively took higher percentage than Reporter newspaper.

The interview responses indicated that the government newspapers are more optimistic about the press's ability to dominate the priorities of official government sources. The press exhibits moments of critical independence within an overall pattern of dependence on government for

the raw materials of news and the legitimization of 'acceptable' viewpoints, rather than careful and continuous scrutiny.

According to a newspaper editor from The Reporter response,

The press and broadcast media in a given society have a tendency to create narratives about events that are shaped by the prevailing values and desires of that society (The Reporter, editor, December 2023, Addis Ababa). According to Journalist from The Ethiopian Herald For every resident in Ethiopia, television news remains the most popular news source despite the tiny advantage that online sources now hold. In a poll on news consumption and trust in our country, I think television news and newspapers placed first and second, respectively; high levels of confidence in government and commercial media sources are highly appreciated (The Ethiopian Herald, December 2023, Addis Ababa)

According to journalist from The Reporter response,

“I think that NGOs have been suggested as a means of drawing private media attention to human rights concerns even in absence of active coverage efforts by governments. Not all non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are the same, and not all of them are successful in getting media attention, however, they can offer access and information to private media without going through state gatekeepers”(The Reporter, Journalist, December 2023, Addis Ababa).

Moreover, NGO representatives are quoted in all media outlets, citing government and official sources; they don't generate coverage; instead, they offer info "where the media spotlights already shine (Angela, 2023). Brandle (2018) supports this point by studying interest groups operating in Europe. Their research demonstrates that access to social media and the Internet does not always create equal opportunities for NGOs and other different-sized groups. Large organizations continue to have significant resource advantages that enable them to more successfully utilize new free or inexpensive technology and platforms. Human rights NGOs often cannot compete with states to influence media coverage; only the largest groups even come close. Thus we can infer that states are the gatekeepers of press coverage on human rights problems. According to editor from The Ethiopian Herald,

“Not every occurrence is deemed newsworthy, and prejudice poses the same difficulties for media covering human rights as it does for other news stories. Even when there is chance for

human rights to receive press attention, how various groups are addressed has more to do with the relative socioeconomic advantages of those engaged than it does with the seriousness of the issues being reported” (The Ethiopian Herald, editor, December 2023, Addis Ababa)

4.5 Human Rights Framing Coverage in the Newspapers

As the aforementioned discussion makes clear, the researcher examined and deliberated on the quantitative content analysis segment, endeavoring to demonstrate the degree to which human rights concerns are addressed and the degree of focus placed on them in each newspaper. Subsequently, the researcher presented the findings from the framing analysis. In order to do this, the researcher examined each of the 128 tales to see if the chosen articles' framing differed from one another. It also looks at the terms that are used often in the chosen articles. This section so focuses on examining the qualitative element that forms the main framework in the chosen articles.

It is significant to note that the researcher closely examined every section of the news item, including the title, lead, body, and supplementary material, in order to determine the dominating frames employed in the stories.

The Six prominent frames that were revealed during the frame analysis were detailed by the study's data. These include the frames of human interest frame, conflict frame, attribution of blame, values or morals, and economics and thematic frame. The researcher employed Paul's concept (2022) to define these frames, which surfaced during the 56-step research procedure and were mentioned in the literature review and methodological chapters. As the main conclusions show, there are dominating frames that should be utilized in the news frames for each item chosen for study.

4.5.1 The Reporter Newspaper Framing Analysis

Headline 1: *"Death caused and injuries confirmed by Sidama Zone Police"*

Frame Type: Conflict Frame The headline employs a conflict frame by highlighting the death and injuries resulting from unrest. This frame draws attention to the violence and disorder in the Sidama Zone, emphasizing the severity of the conflict.

Lead 1: *"According to local police in the southern regional government at least 53 people were killed and 54 were injured during the recent unrest in the Sidama Zone” (July 2019, Issue Number 2018, Page 1, vol 24).*

Frame Type 1: Conflict Frame The lead continues with a conflict frame by providing specific details about the casualties resulting from the unrest. The mention of the number of deaths and injuries emphasizes the violent nature of the conflict and the human cost of the turmoil.

Frame Type 2: Responsibility Frame The lead also incorporates a responsibility frame by attributing the cause to Sidamas calls for unilateral declaration of statehood involving officials from south Ethiopian people democratic movement.

Frame Type 3: Human interest: The news in the Reporter news entitled above the phrase that describes “at least 53 people have died and 54 more were injured” and terms such as indicates as the news tries to mention the number of people in the incidence and adds words like “death” and “injuries” to grab attention or humanity. The Reporter's human interest frame was the most prominent frame in this news piece.

Discussion and interpretation:

Conflict Frame: Both the headline and the lead story prominently feature a conflict frame, emphasizing the violent clashes in the Sidama Zone. Focusing on the high number of deaths and injuries, this frame highlights the intensity and seriousness of the conflict. The frame appeared in this news presentation was conflict frame which is employed at the last sentence of the lead with a reference word such as during “unrest in the Sidama zone, where "government offices and churches were set on fire, robbed, and destroyed."

Responsibility Frame: The lead story attributes the reported casualties to the local police in the southern regional government, using a responsibility frame. This frame suggests that the authorities are accountable for managing the unrest and implies a need for further action to prevent such violence in the future. It places responsibility on local government and law enforcement to address and mitigate the conflict.

Human Interest Frame: This news uses these phrases as the most important point of the article in order to incite people emotion in to the story.

By focusing on these specific frames conflict, responsibility and human interest the newspaper presents the story in a way that underscores both the immediate and broader implications of the unrest in the Sidama Zone. The conflict frame draws attention to the severity and human cost of the violence, while the responsibility frame highlights the role of

local authorities in managing and reporting the situation. This dual approach ensures that the story is both dramatic and informative, encouraging readers to consider the urgency of addressing the conflict and the accountability of those involved in maintaining peace and order. Among the dominant frames, it is a human interest frame that brings a story into a human face and grabs some emotion. In this news even though two dominant frames are appeared human interest frame shed a light than conflict frame.

Headline 2: "Ethiopian Airlines Accused of Discrimination"

Frame Type: Attribution Frame: The lead story incorporates an attribution frame by attributing the accusations by a Kenyan activist for handicap rights. This frame identifies the source of the allegations, providing context for the reader to understand the origin of the claims and potentially assess their credibility.

Lead 2: *"A Kenyan activist for handicap rights has accused Ethiopian Airlines of discriminating against him. In response to The Reporter, the airline expressed sorry for the incident and promised to 'continue reaching out to the customer and make amends,' but it declined to officially confirm or refute the charges"* (31 August 2019, Issue Number 2013, Page 3, Vol 24).

Frame Type 1: Conflict Frame: By emphasizing the tension between the charges of discrimination and Ethiopian Airlines' answer, the lead also uses a conflict frame. This frame emphasizes the disagreement or opposition between the parties involved, dramatizing the situation and suggesting the presence of a contentious issue.

Frame Type 2: Human Interest Frame: Similarly, while the accusation may evoke empathy and concern for the potential victim, the Kenyan activist, the headline does not explicitly emphasize the personal or emotional aspects of the situation. Instead, it primarily focuses on the factual assertion of the accusation and its attribution to Ethiopian Airlines. Therefore, while a "human interest frame" could be relevant in broader narrative of the story, it is not as prominent in headline itself.

Discussion and interpretation

Attribution Frame: The lead story employs an attribution frame by directly attributing the accusations to a specific source, the Kenyan activist for handicap rights. By identifying the origin of the claims, the news article provides readers with context to assess the credibility of

the allegations. This attribution frame allows readers to understand the source of the conflict and evaluate the motives and credibility of the accuser.

Conflict Frame: Additionally, by emphasizing the tension between Ethiopian Airlines' reaction and the charges of discrimination, the lead adds a conflict framing. This frame emphasizes the disagreement or opposition between the parties involved, dramatizing the situation and suggesting a contentious issue. The conflict frame adds depth to the story by portraying the differing perspectives and interests at play, inviting readers to consider the complexities of the situation.

Human Interest Frame: While the accusation may evoke empathy and concern for the potential victim, the Kenyan activist, the headline itself does not explicitly emphasize the personal or emotional aspects of the situation. Instead, it primarily focuses on factual assertion of accusation and its attribution to Ethiopian Airlines. Therefore, while a human interest frame could be relevant to broader narrative of the story, it is not as prominent in the headline itself.

Three frames appeared in this news piece. However, The Reporter newspaper's two main frames were attribution and the human interest frame. The headline which refers to word "discrimination" is implemented in the article in a sense of showing as decimation was morally believed to be the wrong act in society. Next to that there is a phrase that states "A Kenyan activist for handicap rights is accusing Ethiopian Airlines of discriminatory practices." this statement was included in the news article to show the responsible body of the discrimination as Ethiopian airlines.. Based on these claims, it follows that the news article's second main frame is the frame of responsibility. Last frame appeared in this article was human interest frame. The newspaper news article shows photo about disability person and include phrase like "disability rights activist "in order to incite human feeling to the story.

The use of attribution and conflict frames in the news content sheds light on the dynamics of the accusation against Ethiopian Airlines. By attributing the accusations to a specific source, the news article provides transparency and context for readers to understand the origins of the conflict. Additionally, the conflict frame highlights the disagreement between the accuser and Ethiopian Airlines, emphasizing the contentious nature of the situation. Overall, the framing techniques employed in the news content serve to inform readers about the accusation of

discrimination against Ethiopian Airlines and the ensuing conflict between the accuser and the airline. The attribution frame allows for transparency and context, while the conflict frame adds depth by portraying the differing perspectives involved in the dispute.

Headline 3: *"human rights council is concerned about the latest wave of widespread arrests."*

Frame Type: Responsibility Frame: The headline uses a responsibility frame by focusing on the Human Rights Council expresses alarm about latest round of mass arrests. This suggests that the Council is holding relevant authorities accountable for the situation and is signaling a need for action or change.

Lead 3: *"The nation's human rights situation has occasionally become worse despite occasional improvements when Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) took office, and the Ethiopian Human Rights Council (EHRC) says that things are currently at a very dangerous point. Stated"* (20 July 2019, Issue Number 2006, Page 1, Vol 24)

Type of frame 1: Thematic frame: The lead also utilizes a **thematic frame** by placing the current human rights issues within the broader context of recent political history. It mentions the improvements under Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and the subsequent decline, framing the situation as part of an ongoing trend rather than an isolated incident.

Type of frame 2: Human Interest Frame The description of the situation as "very critical" employs a human interest frame. This frame aims to evoke an emotional response from the reader, creating a sense of urgency and concern for the people affected by these human rights conditions

Type of frame 3: A conflict frame is present, emphasizing the on-going struggle between progress and regression in human rights under different political circumstances. This highlights disagreements and opposition between various stakeholders involved in the issue

Discussion and interpretation:

Responsibility Frame: By highlighting the Human Rights Council's concerns and suggesting that the Council anticipates action from the appropriate authorities to resolve the widespread arrests, the headline assigns blame. This frame suggests that the issue requires urgent attention and solutions from those in power.

Thematic Frame: The lead's historical context about human rights situation in Ethiopia serves informing readers about broader, ongoing issue. By mentioning the improvements and subsequent derailments under Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, the lead suggests that these issues are part of a larger pattern, encouraging readers to think about systemic problems rather than isolated events.

Conflict Frame: By highlighting the contradiction between the early advancements in human rights and their subsequent downfall, the lead also emphasizes conflict. This dramatizes the issue, making it clear that there are opposing forces at play progress versus regression which adds a layer of urgency and engagement for the reader.

Human Interest Frame: Describing the situation as "very critical" introduces a human interest angle, aiming to evoke emotions such as sympathy, concern, or even anger from the reader. This frame humanizes the abstract issue of human rights violations by suggesting severe impacts on individuals' lives.

Through these framing techniques, the newspaper creates a narrative that is not only informative but also emotionally engaging and thought-provoking. The combination of responsibility, thematic, conflict, and human interest frames ensures that the issue is presented comprehensively, encouraging readers to consider both the immediate and broader implications of the human rights situation in Ethiopia. This multifaceted approach helps to create a more compelling and memorable story, guiding public opinion and fostering a deeper understanding of the complexities involved.

The news created frames to help its readers to understand what actions are significant to the conflict, why the parties act as they do. The Ethiopian Human Rights Council (EHRC) said that although the country's human rights situation had somewhat improved when Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) took office, it has since occasionally gotten out of hand and is currently in a very dangerous scenario. The council then revealed its evaluation of the nation's current political landscape and stated that, although there has been some improvement in the first few months' current government, the state of human rights is rapidly declining. The huge arrests of journalists, Addis Ababa members, and opposition party members were among the concerns raised by the council. The imprisonment, according to the council, would affect not just the actions of political parties and individual people but also the country's broader reform

effort. Council declared that Sidama concerns should be resolved by dialogue and asked the government, elders, academics, and question organizers to convene and engage in conversation to reach a mutually agreeable resolution.

Headline 4: *“Report finds exploitation and marginalization of African females persist”.*

Frame type: Conflict Frame: The headline employs a conflict frame by highlighting the on-going struggle and opposition faced by African girls against societal exclusion and exploitation. This frame dramatizes the situation by focusing on the persisting issues despite progress, emphasizing the disparity between legislative intent and actual outcomes.

Lead 4: *“Even though there has been progress in ending discrimination against girls, millions of African girls continue to endure exclusion and exploitation because the legislation fails to protect their rights, according to a new research published by Plan International in Ethiopia”* (23 November 2019, Issue Number 2042, Page2, Vol 25).

Type of frame 1: Responsibility frame: The lead utilizes a **responsibility frame** by attributing the on-going exclusion and exploitation of African girls to the failure of legislation. This frame assigns blame to the inadequacies in the legal system and suggests that stronger legislative measures are needed to protect the rights of these girls.

Type of frame 2: Thematic Frame is included in the lead, giving a more comprehensive background by bringing up the advancements made in eradicating prejudice among women. This frame situates the issue within the larger narrative of on-going efforts and setbacks in achieving gender equality.

Type of frame 3: Human interest frame: The lead incorporates a **human interest frame** by focusing on the plight of "millions of African girls" enduring exclusion and exploitation. This frame aims to evoke empathy and concern from the reader, making the issue more relatable and emotionally impactful.

Discussion and interpretation:

Conflict Frame: The headline uses a conflict frame to emphasize the ongoing battle against exclusion and exploitation faced by African girls. By focusing on the contradiction between progress and the current situation, the frame highlights the continuous struggle and opposition within the societal and legislative frameworks.

Responsibility Frame: The lead assigns responsibility to the legislative failures, suggesting that the protection of African girls' rights is insufficient. This frame implies that the government or relevant authorities need to take more robust actions to address the gaps in the legal system and ensure the rights of these girls are upheld.

Thematic Frame: By referencing the progress made in ending discrimination, the lead provides a thematic frame that places the current issues within a broader context of gender equality efforts. This helps readers understand that while there has been some advancement, significant challenges remain, highlighting the complexity and persistence of the problem.

Human Interest Frame: The mention of "millions of African girls" enduring hardships introduces a human interest frame, designed to evoke an emotional response from the reader. This frame personalizes the issue, aiming to generate feelings of sympathy and urgency, thereby encouraging readers to care about the plight of these girls and the need for effective solutions.

Through these framing techniques, the newspaper crafts a narrative that is both informative and emotionally engaging. The combination of conflict, responsibility, thematic, and human interest frames ensures that the story resonates on multiple levels, making it compelling and memorable for the audience. This multifaceted approach helps to create a deeper understanding of the issues at hand, encouraging readers to consider both the immediate and broader implications of the exclusion and exploitation faced by African girls.

It was emphasized that despite significant progress made in ending discrimination against girls, "millions of African girls face exclusion and exploitation on a daily basis because the law discriminates against them and fails to uphold their rights." African girls experience prejudice on two fronts: as children and as women. Girls are frequently overlooked by laws and regulations that primarily target women. In addition, the report stated that blatant legal discrimination that is, laws that perpetuate deeply ingrained political, social, and cultural beliefs and practices intended to subjugate girls' remains a uniform-like problem that needs to be addressed.

Headline 5: *“Ethiopia denounces the horrific act of violence committed in South Africa against immigrants”.*

Frame type: Morality Frame: The headline employs a morality frame by using the word "heinous" to describe the act of violence. This term conveys a strong moral judgment, suggesting that the actions are not just illegal or harmful but deeply immoral. This frame guides readers to view the violence through a lens of moral outrage and ethical condemnation.

Lead: *"The horrific acts of violence and property theft committed against immigrants, particularly Ethiopians, in South Africa have been denounced by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs."* (September 7, 2019, Volume 24, Issue Number 2020, Page 1.

Types of frame 1: Responsibility Frame: By claiming that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has denounced the violence, the lead uses a responsibility framing. This assigns accountability to the South African authorities for the violence and looting and suggests that the Ethiopian government is actively responding to the situation, holding those responsible accountable.

Types of frame 2: The lead clearly has a **conflict frame**, highlighting the contrast between the violent criminals and the Ethiopian government. This frame highlights the discord and struggle between the affected foreigners and those committing the violent acts, dramatizing the situation and underscoring the tension.

Frame Type: Human Interest Frame: The headline clearly demonstrates a human interest framing by mentioning how Ethiopians are particularly impacted. This element personalizes the broader issue, aiming to evoke empathy and concern from readers by highlighting the individual and national impacts.

Discussion and interpretation:

Morality Frame: The headline's description of the violence as "heinous" introduces a morality frame, which guides readers to view the violence as not just harmful but morally unacceptable. This framing sets a tone of moral outrage and ethical condemnation.

Responsibility Frame: The lead attributes responsibility to the perpetrators and the South African authorities by noting the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' condemnation. This frame suggests that these groups are accountable for the violence and have a duty to address it, implying the need for immediate action and intervention.

Conflict Frame: The lead emphasizes the conflict between the Ethiopian government and the perpetrators, using a conflict frame to highlight the ongoing tension and struggle. This frame dramatizes the situation, presenting it as a significant clash that requires resolution.

Human Interest Frame: By mentioning the specific impact on Ethiopians, the lead employs a human interest frame. This frame personalizes the issue, making it more relatable and emotionally engaging for readers, particularly those with a connection to Ethiopia or concern for the welfare of foreigners.

.In this news, the horrific acts of violence and property theft committed against immigrants, particularly Ethiopians, in South Africa have been denounced by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The President of the Republic of South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa, has expressed his condemnation of these violent crimes and pledged to apprehend and prosecute those responsible, which gives people hope. They also want the South African government to take firm, long-lasting action to stop the violence and protect the safety and security of its people. A wave of violence and looting mostly targeted immigrants was decried. It also created to development of the issues through the naming or labeling of attacking of foreigners, and it implies blame, and explanations about the nature of a situation.

The use of these specific frames morality, responsibility, conflict, and human interest ensures that the issue is presented in a way that is both informative and emotionally compelling. Each frame contributes to a comprehensive understanding of the situation, encouraging readers to recognize the moral, responsible, and personal dimensions of the violence against foreigners in South Africa. This multifaceted approach helps to create a deeper and more urgent sense of the issue's importance and the need for effective responses

Headline 6: “Public Universities rocked by violence”

The headline uses a conflict frame by emphasizing the violence affecting public universities. This frame highlights the turmoil and disorder, drawing attention to the disruptive and contentious nature of the events.

Lead 6: *“Following the terrible deaths of two students at Woldiya University last week, public campuses around the nation were shaken by violence. Dozens of students were beaten after what is believed to have been an ethnically motivated altercation between students on November 9, 2019 late at night on university property”* (16 November, 2019, Issue 2040, Page 1 and Vol 25).

Frame type 1: conflict frame: The lead further employs a **conflict frame** by detailing the violent clashes in public universities, particularly focusing on the ethnic nature of the conflict.

This emphasizes the disputes and oppositions between different student groups, dramatizing the event and underlining the severity of the situation.

Frame type 2: Human Interest: Frame The lead also employs a human interest framework by bringing up the terrible student deaths and injuries. This framing humanizes the problem by emphasizing the human cost of the violence in an effort to arouse readers' empathy and concern.

Discussion and interpretation:

Conflict Frame: Both the headline and lead prominently feature a conflict frame, emphasizing the violent clashes and ethnic tensions within public universities. This frame draws attention to the strife and discord among the students, making the events appear more urgent and dramatic.

Human Interest Frame: The lead's mention of the tragic killings and injuries introduces a human interest frame. This frame seeks to elicit emotional responses from the readers, making the abstract issue of university violence more tangible and relatable by focusing on the personal suffering involved.

This study appears to be a feature article that explores the emotional aspects of people. It portrays individuals and their issues, worries, or accomplishments in a way that piques the reader's or viewer's curiosity and inspires empathy or motivation. Following the terrible deaths of two students at Woldiya University, public campuses around the nation were shaken by acts of violence. Dozens of students were beaten during what is believed to have been an ethnically motivated altercation that occurred late at night on university property. Similar confrontations in several universities, especially in the regional states of Oromia and Amhara, occurred again after this. At universities in Metu, Jimma, Medawelabu, Debre Tabor, Wello, Dembi Dollo, Dire Dawa, and Debre Brehan, reports of similar student altercations have surfaced.

The newspaper focusing on these specific frames conflict and human interest the newspaper presents the issue of university violence in a way that is both engaging and thought-provoking. The conflict frame highlights the severity and drama of the clashes, while the human interest frame personalizes the story, encouraging readers to empathize with the affected students. This combined approach ensures that the story is not only informative but

also emotionally impactful, prompting readers to consider the broader implications of ethnic violence in educational institutions. According to editor from The Reporter, *“Our strategy is focused on making people answerable and stressing how critical it is to correct injustices. While elevating the voices of individuals affected by them to encourage discussions and action on these pressing issues”* (The Reporter, editor, December, 2023, Addis Ababa).

4.5.2 The Ethiopian Herald newspaper framing analysis

Headline 1: *“The necessity of birth certificates is highlighted on Second Africa CRVS Day”*

The headline uses a **value/morality frame** by emphasizing the importance of birth certificates. It implicitly suggests that recognizing and promoting the value of birth certificates is a moral imperative, fundamental to human rights and inclusion.

Lead 1: *“Under the theme Birth Certificate for All: Fundamental for Protecting Human Rights and Promoting Inclusion, Africa will celebrate the second Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Day on Saturday. This is based on the understanding that obtaining a birth certificate, in particular, is a crucial step toward ensuring that an individual's rights are upheld for the duration of their life. The peace commission's objectives cannot be achieved without the support of religious institutions”* (August 11, 2019 (ECA), Volume LXXV, Page 5, Issue No. -288) .

Frame type 1: Value/Morality Frame: the lead story continues with a **value/morality frame**, reinforcing the idea that birth registration is a fundamental human right. The emphasis on "safeguarding a person's rights for the entirety of their life" aligns the content with moral values about human dignity and legal recognition.

Frame type 2: Thematic Frame: The lead also employs a thematic frame by placing the issue of birth registration within the broader context of human rights and social inclusion. This frame situates the importance of birth certificates within a larger narrative about systemic efforts to promote and protect human rights across Africa.

Frame type 3: responsibility frame: The news assigns responsibility for causing and/or considering safeguarding a person's rights to different influence levels such as individuals, social relationships or society are defined as responsibility frames.

Discussion and interpretation:

Value/Morality Frame: Both the headline and the lead story emphasize the moral imperative of birth registration and birth certificates. By framing birth certificates as "fundamental for protecting human rights and promoting inclusion," the article suggests that ensuring everyone has a birth certificate is a moral duty and essential for human dignity and legal recognition. By focusing on these specific frames value/morality and thematic the newspaper presents the issue of birth certificates in a way that underscores both its ethical importance and its broader societal implications.

Thematic Frame: The lead story situates the importance of birth certificates within a broader human rights framework, using a thematic frame. This frame helps readers understand the systemic significance of birth registration as part of ongoing efforts to promote inclusion and protect human rights in Africa. It highlights the larger trend and context, emphasizing the long-term benefits of universal birth registration.

Responsibility frame: This event was based on the understanding that a person's right to birth registration, and particularly their right to a birth certificate, is a fundamental means of ensuring that their rights are protected for the duration of their lives. Member states were encouraged to commemorate the day to demonstrate their continued commitment to establishing efficient registration systems. The declaration was made during the fourth Conference of Ministers, which took place in Nouakchott, Mauritania, in December 2017. It was designated as the inaugural CRVS day, with the subject "Encouraging Innovative Universal Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System for Good Governance and Better Lives. Everyone is entitled to have their births registered. Both article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and paragraph 2 of article 24 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights acknowledge it as a fundamental right (OHCHR, 2024).

The above newspaper content by focusing on these specific frames value morality and thematic the newspaper presents the issue of birth certificates in a way that underscores both its ethical importance and its broader societal implications. The value/morality frame appeals to readers' sense of justice and human rights, while the thematic frame provides a comprehensive context for understanding the systemic impact of birth registration. This dual approach ensures that the story is both ethically compelling and contextually informative,

encouraging readers to appreciate the vital role of birth certificates in protecting human rights and promoting social inclusion.

Headline 2: “Nation to host global forum on human settlements”

Economic Consequences Frame: The headline uses an **economic consequences frame** by implying potential benefits for the nation hosting an international event. Hosting such a forum can have positive economic implications, such as increased tourism, international exposure, and potential investments.

Lead 2: “According to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Ethiopia will host the Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS 2019) for its fourteenth edition” (Issue Number 309, Page 2, Volume LXXV, Sept. 5, 2019).

Frame Type 1: Economic Consequences Frame: The lead continues with an **economic consequences frame** by highlighting that Ethiopia will be hosting an important international event. This suggests various economic benefits, such as boosting local businesses, creating networking opportunities, and enhancing Ethiopia’s global standing.

Frame Type: Thematic Frame 2: The lead also employs a **thematic frame** by situating the event within the broader context of global efforts to address human settlements issues. This frame places the forum in a larger narrative about sustainable development and international cooperation on urban and rural development challenges.

Discussion and interpretation:

Economic Consequences Frame: Both the headline and the lead story emphasize the economic implications of Ethiopia hosting the Global Forum on Human Settlements. This frame suggests that the event will bring various economic benefits, such as increased international exposure, potential investment opportunities, and a boost to local businesses and tourism.

Thematic Frame: The lead story also situates the forum within the broader context of global human settlements issues, using a thematic frame. This frame helps readers understand that the forum is part of ongoing international efforts to address urban and rural development challenges. It emphasizes the importance of such global cooperation for sustainable development and highlights Ethiopia’s role in these efforts.

The newspaper content focusing on these specific frames economic consequences and thematic the newspaper presents the story in a way that underscores both the immediate and broader significance of Ethiopia hosting the Global Forum on Human Settlements. The economic consequences frame highlights the potential benefits for the nation, while the thematic frame provides a comprehensive context for understanding the importance of the forum in addressing global human settlements issues. This dual approach ensures that the story is both economically relevant and contextually informative, encouraging readers to appreciate the multifaceted impact of hosting such an international event.

Potentially shape the public perception regarding responsibility attributions for the relations between networks for human's movements and human settlements as a whole. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) declared that Ethiopia will be the host country for the fourteenth edition of the Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS 2019). This year's forum subject is "Sustainable Development of Cities and Human Settlement in the Digital Era". This global congress is one of the most significant on the urban agenda, sustainable cities, and human settlements. Additionally, it pledges to support different regions of Africa and beyond, enhance capacity building, create new alliances, encourage urban innovation, and expedite successful initiatives.

Headline 3: *“The nation seeks to enhance refugee lives.”*

Frame Type: Human Interest Frame: By emphasizing the country's initiatives to enhance the lives of refugees, the headline employs a human interest frame. This frame aims to evoke empathy and highlight the positive impact of these efforts on individual refugees, making the issue more relatable and emotionally engaging.

Lead 3: *“After six months of training, 74 first-time refugees from five different countries graduated from Nefas Silk Polytechnic Vocational College yesterday”* (26 July, 2019, Issue Number 274, Page 2, Vol LXXV).

Frame Type 1: Human Interest Frame: The lead story continues with a human interest frame by providing specific details about the graduation of 74 refugees from five countries. This personalizes the issue, emphasizing the positive outcomes of the training and the potential for these individuals to improve their lives through acquired skills.

Frame Type 2: Economic Consequences Frame: The lead also employs an economic consequences frame by implying that the vocational training could lead to better economic opportunities for the refugees. This frame suggests that equipping refugees with vocational skills can have positive economic implications for both the individuals and the broader community.

Discussion and interpretation:

Human Interest Frame: Both the headline and the lead story emphasize the human aspect of the nation's efforts to improve refugee lives. By focusing on the graduation of refugees and their training, this frame aims to evoke empathy and highlight the personal success stories of the refugees. It emphasizes the transformative impact of vocational training on individual lives, making the story more emotionally engaging and relatable for readers.

Economic Consequences Frame: The lead story also implies economic benefits through the vocational training program. By equipping refugees with skills in four different fields, the training could enhance their employability and economic self-sufficiency. This frame highlights the potential economic advantages of such initiatives, suggesting that they contribute to the economic integration and productivity of refugees within the host country.

The newspaper being focusing on these specific frames human interest and economic consequences the newspaper presents the story in a way that underscores both the personal and economic significance of the vocational training program for refugees. The human interest frame makes the issue emotionally engaging and relatable, while the economic consequences frame highlights the broader economic benefits of such initiatives. This dual approach ensures that the story is both compelling and informative, encouraging readers to appreciate the multifaceted impact of efforts to improve the lives of refugees through vocational training.

This initiative provided assistance to refugees that we had received from several nations. With 900,000 refugees being housed in Ethiopia and given basic necessities, this program is the first of many that we intend to carry out in the future to better the lives of the refugees. The German Society for International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), which has been collaborating with the Ministry of Sciences and Higher Education, has provided support to the institution in its endeavor to provide the refugees with pertinent training. The graduates who are refugees and

come from Yemen, Sudan, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Ivory Coast received training in auto repairs, food preparation and bakery, welding, and garments. According to editor from The Ethiopian Herald,

“We examine human rights issues within a framework that emphasizes the significance of stability and advancement in our country. Even if we acknowledge that infractions do happen occasionally, we frequently focus more on the government's response or actions for improvement than the actual transgression” (The Ethiopian Herald, editor, December, 2023, Addis Ababa).

4.6 Presentation and Discussion

Examining how human rights concerns are covered and represented in The Reporter and Ethiopian Herald was the study's goal. The investigation's coverage portion included an analysis and discussion of the topics and types of human rights covered, as well as the sources of news. As a result, the study's findings are examined and explained in the part that follows.

4.6.1 Coverage of Human Rights Discussion and Results Level of Attention Given to Human Rights Issues

To understand how regularly human right issues are covered, it is important to begin with a quantitative analysis of the overall coverage of human rights issues (Farra'u, 2017). Consequently, the quantity of news articles indicates how important a certain study topic is in relation to the media agenda in this study.

4.6.2 Extent of Human Rights Coverage

Media coverage is helpful in the current paradigm of human rights news because it may embarrass those who violate the law, increase public awareness, and strengthen the reputation of organizations. (Angela, 2018). A helpful tool for gauging the amount of attention that various media outlets devote to human rights is to count the number of stories that contain the word "human right" (Brandle, 2018). The finding indicates the Reporter newspaper has published the maximum amount of total articles on human rights issues, with 71.9 percent: whereas, the Ethiopian Herald has published towards a minimum amount of coverage, with 28.1 percent.

The higher coverage of human rights issues by the highly circulated newspaper in the country enables to reach to wider readers. As it is stated in the Literature chapter two, the extent of

coverage on human rights would impact the response the problems received from the public and the policy makers. Thus, in comparison, the Reporter newspaper has given greater emphasizes to the human rights issues and made them as important issues of the public agenda and policy agenda than the Ethiopian Herald newspaper.

4.6.3 Placement of human rights issues

Looking at the placement in different sections of the newspapers enables to understand the level of prominence attached to human rights issues.

Out of the total articles published by the Reporter newspaper 73.9 percent were placed on the front page; were as 26.1 percent of it made to the inside page. Compared to the Reporter newspaper The Ethiopian Herald newspaper placed nearly half of it with 33.3 percent on the front page; whereas 58.3 percent that was most of the articles located at the inside page .when we looked to placement of articles at the back page the Reporter has not any story on it; whereas the Ethiopian Herald has got 8.3 percent of its total articles. The reason behind to little or no amount of stories published on the back page of both newspapers was the Ethiopian Herald preserved most for sport issues while, the reporter for advertisement space.

Thus, from analyzed data it can be recognized that the Reporter located most of its stories during its human rights issues coverage on the front page. To the contrary, the Ethiopian Herald placed most of its stories on the inside page. The most important stories are placed at the front and back pages (Farra'u, 2017). So that when a story placed at the front and back page of newspapers it catches greater attention. The lower front-page coverage by The Ethiopian Herald suggests a more cautious approach to reporting on human rights issues, likely influenced by government oversight and the prevailing culture of self-censorship within state media institutions. These findings highlight the contrasting roles of state versus private media in Ethiopia's complex political landscape. While both outlets cover human rights issues, their strategies differ significantly based on their operational contexts state media often prioritizing alignment with government narratives, while private media seeks to challenge and inform public opinion.

Therefore, from the above data results it can be implied that The Reporter newspaper considered human rights issues as the most important issues during its coverage. This enables The Reporter newspaper to catch a greater attention of its reader on the subject matter.

However, it can be inferred from the given results that the Ethiopian Herald considers human rights as less important issues of the day during its coverage. In conclusion, the analysis of coverage placement reveals significant differences between The Reporter and The Ethiopian Herald regarding how human rights issues are prioritized in their reporting. The prominence given to these topics in The Reporter underscores its commitment to advocacy and public awareness, while the more reserved approach of The Ethiopian Herald reflects the constraints faced by state media in Ethiopia.

4.6.4 Coverage of Human Rights issues in the Newspapers

Journalists ought to give human rights priority over all other types of information because they are more significant. People in the audience most likely assess an issue's relative importance based on how frequently they see media messages about it. But it is doubtful that people will see human rights breaches to be significant if there is little information available about them, and political elites are unlikely to spend much time on the subject if the public does not value human rights (Farra'u, 2017).

This research has identified six themes of articles focused on issue of human rights from the two sampled newspapers. These themes are; 1) Women and Children, 2) Violence and Protests, 3) Financial Crisis and Funds, 4) Governmental Activities, 5) Education, Health and Food, 6) Others.

The substantial coverage of governmental activities by both newspapers highlights a tendency to report on state actions regarding human rights, which may reflect a broader narrative that aligns with government interests, especially within the context of state media like The Ethiopian Herald. This could also indicate an attempt to portray government initiatives positively while potentially downplaying critical violations. According to Ali & Freeman (2021) the writings of news outlets, activists, and human rights organizations were dominated by three main themes: the reason behind the demonstration, the government's response to the protest, and the demand for action.

The higher percentage of coverage on violence and protests by The Reporter suggests that private media may be more willing to engage with contentious issues that resonate with public concerns about civil liberties and unrest. This contrasts with the more cautious approach observed in state media, which may avoid such themes due to potential repercussions.

Both newspapers recognize financial crises as significant human rights issues, reflecting an understanding that economic stability is closely tied to social rights and overall well-being. The focus on these themes may also be a response to public interest and on-going events within the country. The mass media decisively shape global perceptions about human rights, yet fail to reflect the realities of global violations (Heinze & Freedman, 2010).

The low coverage dedicated to women and children's rights is particularly concerning, as these groups often face systemic challenges that require urgent attention in media discourse. Both newspapers should consider increasing their focus on these vulnerable populations to promote awareness and advocacy. Given the historical context of media repression in Ethiopia where independent voices have faced significant challenges there is an opportunity for both state and private media to play a crucial role in advocating for comprehensive human rights reporting.

The moderate attention given to education, health, and food suggests that both newspapers acknowledge the importance of these social rights within the broader human rights framework, although there remains room for improvement.

In conclusion, while both The Reporter and The Ethiopian Herald provide valuable insights into various themes related to human rights issues, there are notable differences in their coverage approaches particularly regarding contentious topics like violence and protests versus government activities. The underrepresentation of women and children's rights calls for a concerted effort from both media outlets to enhance their reporting on these critical areas, ensuring that all aspects of human rights are adequately represented in public discourse in Ethiopia. Future research could explore how these coverage patterns influence public perception and advocacy efforts related to human rights in Ethiopia.

4.6.5 Types of human Rights Covered

Public opinion is influenced, foreign policy is formed, and abuse is unofficially documented through human rights reporting. According to academics, the public's growing knowledge and support for human rights is, at least in part, due to the greater coverage of human rights violations.

The researcher identified human rights subjects using four categories after realizing that human rights do not fit well into any one category. The first category covers civil rights,

which include the freedom of expression, of religion, of movement, of trial by jury, and of minority rights. As a second category, political rights comprise, among other things, political demonstrations, elections, political engagement, and political imprisonment. The third category was economic, social, and cultural, which covers, among other things, the rights to housing, health care, education, and labor union activities as well as an appropriate quality of life. The rights to peace, a healthy environment, and solidarity are all included in the fourth category, which examines collective rights.

The study reveals that dominant coverage of economic and social and cultural rights indicates recognition of the pressing socio-economic challenges facing many Ethiopians. This focus aligns with public interest in issues such as poverty alleviation, access to education, and healthcare services, which are critical for improving overall living conditions. As to scholars media in developing countries gave a higher coverage to economic, social and cultural rights because; first media in these countries requires development agendas to eradicate poverty second, the problem related with exercising democracy and freedom of speech in developing countries. Consequently, the coverage of human rights issues under the topic of economy, socialization, and culture may indicate a contextualized influence on the journalistic agenda.

While civil rights are acknowledged, their moderate coverage indicates that there may be barriers to reporting on these issues comprehensively potentially due to fear of government retribution or societal pressures against discussing sensitive topics like arbitrary detention or freedom from torture. The lower focus on collective rights highlights a gap in addressing the needs and rights of specific groups within society, such as ethnic minorities or marginalized communities. This underrepresentation calls for more targeted reporting that emphasizes collective struggles for justice and equality.

In the Study it is observed that little attention was given to civil rights on the Ethiopian Herald and to collective rights on the Reporter newspapers. The emphasis on economic and social rights is commendable; however, there remains a critical need to enhance reporting on civil liberties and collective rights to ensure a comprehensive understanding of human rights challenges in Ethiopia. Both newspapers had a similar view of human rights by focusing more on the second generation of rights. Stories generally do not focus on the protection of first and third

generation rights, rather on the denial of critical issues on political, civil, collective rights and mistreatment of those seeking to promote first or third generation rights. Hence, the small number of references to these first and third generation rights, and the manner in which they are addressed often seemingly within the context of economic-social rights, highlight the fact that these rights are not understood by the media (Farra'u, 2017).

Future research could explore how these coverage patterns influence public perception and advocacy efforts related to human rights within the country, as well as how they align with international human rights standards and practices.

4.6.6 Sources of News used in covering human rights issues

All these sources are good media sources of human rights information. It is observed below that media coverage of human rights is heavily focused on state actors as potential perpetrators of abuse and therefore, pushing them in the defensive becoming important sources for media reports. Also, non-governmental organizations and other pressure groups play an important role in the advancement and safeguard of human rights. They will often use the media as informal sources of information, and as a means of transmitting their message and goals. The media benefit from this relationship by having an additional source of information on human rights conditions.

The category systems for sources directly cited in the stories include: 1) governmental officials, 2) NGO and human rights institutions, 3) ordinary citizens, 4) Experts, 5) news agencies, 6) others and 7) non-stated. Official or governmental sources received the largest number of references in the newspapers, with 52.8 in the Ethiopian Herald and 32.6 in the Reporter. According to studies, political leaders and governments frequent references to human rights is what led to government personnel paying close attention to these rights (Jensen and Jankowski, 2002). This supports the claim that government agencies and authorities were mostly depended upon to report on human rights concerns for both periodicals.

The overall result of source usage on both newspapers dominantly used government officials as their main sources of news with 38.3 percentages. Farra'u (2017) that founds lack of familiarity or investigative depth in human rights reporting and the newspapers rely on

official sources. This trend may limit critical reporting on government actions and reduce the diversity of perspectives presented to the public.

The minimal coverage from ordinary citizens indicates a gap in grassroots reporting that could provide valuable insights into public sentiment and lived experiences related to human rights violations. Additionally, the low use of expert opinions suggests a missed opportunity to enhance the credibility and depth of reporting through informed analysis. According to editor from The Ethiopian Herald, Our sources primarily include official government statements and reports from recognized organizations. We also try to incorporate testimonies from individuals affected by human rights violations, but this can be challenging due to fears of repercussions (The Ethiopian Herald , editor, December 2023, Addis Ababa).

The Ethiopian Herald dominantly relied on official sources whereas the reporter newspaper on other kinds of news sources. The high percentage of articles categorized as "Others" in The Reporter indicates a reliance on informal or less conventional sources, which can enrich reporting but also raises questions about reliability and accuracy.

However, ordinary citizens, experts and news agencies were used as the least news sources in covering human rights issues on each newspaper. The analyzed data indicated these kinds of news sources were not weighed to more than 6 percent on each newspaper. Engaging more with civil society, ordinary citizens, and experts can enhance journalistic integrity and contribute to a more informed public discourse.

In conclusion, while both The Reporter and The Ethiopian Herald provide valuable insights into human rights issues, their sourcing practices reveal significant areas for improvement particularly regarding engagement with diverse perspectives beyond government officials. By enhancing their sourcing strategies to include more voices from civil society, ordinary citizens, and experts, these newspapers can foster a more comprehensive understanding of human rights challenges in Ethiopia. Discouraging well-known digital activists through the imposition of terrorist charges, the Ethiopian government promotes self-censorship in the context of Internet content control (Bayeh E.2015,).

4.6.7 Framing Analysis of human rights issues in the Reporter and The Ethiopian Herald

In The Reporter Newspaper's News Articles Framing Analysis, the news article discussed multiple frames used in news presentation. The dominant frames were human interest frame and conflict frame. The article focused on topics such as discrimination, responsibility, and hate speech. The frames were used to evoke emotion and highlight the importance of the issues discussed.

The value frame was the most prominent, as the article emphasized the importance of various institutions (education and international organizations) and leaders in promoting peace and reconciliation. The responsibility frame was also present, highlighting the role of the Ethiopian government in advancing gender equality. The article also briefly mentioned the conflict frame, emphasizing the need to resolve differences. Overall, the dominant frame in the article was the value frame.

According to Kuypers (2017), framing functions by emphasizing certain information over others. As a result, it highlights some features of reality while omitting others. Framing has an impact on how the public perceives things, and it is a potent instrument that may be used to influence other actors' perceptions of problems or concerns, as well as raise public involvement with the subject.

However, some news reports contain information on human rights but exclude the word "human right," therefore even when reporters cover human rights topics, they do not utilize the term "human rights" (Brandle, 2018).

Chapter Five

5 Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation

5.1 Introduction

On this chapter a brief summary of the research process, conclusion of major findings and recommendations are provided. Moreover after the summary and conclusion are presented possibility of future research are presented for further studies. The recommendations are believed to broaden our understanding of the Ethiopian media coverage and framing of human rights issues.

5.2 Conclusions

First Objective – Coverage

Media coverage of human rights shapes public opinion, influences foreign policy development, and serves as an informal means of documenting abuse. As per the study, the dominant themes of the news items were rape and attempt to violations and trainings followed by crimes caused by carelessness. Court trials and police reports were not the common sources for the news. Less consideration has been specified to families, communities, experts like social workers and psychologists as sources to glean up news/information. This investigation came to the conclusion that The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter publications only cover a little amount of human rights issues.

Second Objective – Dominance

Media practices and discourses are crucial to this process because they can promote, protect, and raise awareness of human rights issues globally, or, in more extreme situations, they can incite hatred, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. The study came to the conclusion that the media outlets that were chosen primarily covered problems related to social and cultural rights. Regarding location, the Ethiopian Herald was put inside the newspaper, but The Reporter newspaper primarily placed human issues on its front page.

Third Objective – Source and Placement

The media can play a salutary role in creating larger awareness of the concept of human rights. Media can make people aware of their rights, expose its violations and focus attention on people and areas in need of the protection of human rights and pursue their case till they achieve them. This study concluded that the data analysis shows that government officials

were the main news sources used in covering human rights issues, particularly in the Ethiopian Herald. The Reporter newspaper relied more on other types of news sources. Ordinary citizens, experts, and news agencies were the least used sources in both newspapers. The ability of the press to act as an outlet for free speech, allowing opposing viewpoints to be noticed, providing alternative information, and arranging independent clarification and evaluations benefits human rights. The free exchange of news and opinions helps prevent violations of human rights. This study concluded that the Ethiopian Herald had a higher percentage of official sources compared to the Reporter newspaper. Overall, government officials were the most commonly used news sources for reporting on human rights issues. Other sources also had a significant presence in both newspapers, while sources that were not mentioned, news agencies, and ordinary citizens had a smaller percentage.

Fourth Objective – Framing

Media framing may be related to the enduring cognitive, interpretive, and presentational patterns of choice, emphasis, and execution that symbol managers regularly employ to organize the spoken or visual discourse. Differently, media framing results in some aspects of an issue being more prominent and visible than others. The study concluded that there were differences in the ways the news was presented in the two newspapers that were assessed. The rights of children and girls, education, accountability, and conflict and human interest frames were the reporter's main areas of concentration. The study also looked at a news story from The Ethiopian Herald, which focused mostly on the value frame. In general, the understudy newspapers made an effort to raise readers' awareness of human rights by featuring a substantial amount of articles regarding the topics.

5.3 Recommendations

First Objective --Coverage

- This investigation came to the conclusion that The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter publications only cover a little amount of human rights issues. Accordingly, this study implies that public outcry against the government may be sparked by media reporting and coverage of human rights infractions, which may educate the public on a subject that was previously unheard of or ignored. As it need to cover human rights issues fairly, it is at least satisfactory to see that various editorials, letter to the editor, special stories, or columns should be

published in the two newspapers. The concerns of human rights that include bonded labor, brutality against tribal groups, women's reproductive rights, the condition of the aged, and other crimes, violence, murder, molestation, and harassment, etc. should receive more attention. The majority of news items that dealt with child abuse, child labor, and justice for rape victims should be presented briefly.

Second Objective – Dominant

- The study concluded that issues pertaining to social and cultural rights were the main topics covered by the selected media sources. Therefore, this study also suggests that these newspapers expand their social media presence (Twitter, Facebook, TikTok, and others) in order to support advocacy programs that track and document human rights violations, raise awareness of these problems, spread human rights messages, and improve access to information and knowledge.
- The media is deeply involved in human rights concerns, for better or ill. As a result, these publications ought to express the norms and journalistic ethics of the news industry. In addition, this study suggests that Newspapers, government agencies, and other organizations should support free media, which is tasked with disseminating information and assisting in its accessible, understandable explanation to the general public. It is also the responsibility of the media to hold the powerful responsible. Having access to the media is a human right, and having free media is crucial to upholding human rights because without knowledge, people are unaware of what is happening locally, nationally, or worldwide. Ignorance limits their capacity to react to laws, regulations, and events, including abuses of human rights.

Third Objective – Source and Placement

- Given that this study's data analysis revealed that government representatives were the primary news sources utilized to cover human rights issues, newspapers ought to have a basic understanding of these topics before reporting on them. Many people mean well, yet their attempts may backfire if they don't have correct information. These newspapers must to include reliable sources, such the World Health Organization, the United Nations, and reputable news outlets. Remember that no source is flawless, and even reputable companies can make mistakes. It is their duty to read extensively, pay attention to the tales of others, and understand that learning never ends.

- According to this study, more incident or investigation reports should be published in these newspapers. These reports should include a thorough account of the events based on all information that has been gathered, including direct observations and on-site visits by HROs, written documentation, and other sources. They should also specify whether or not any human rights provisions have been violated.

Fourth Objective – Framing

- The majority of private own newspapers and run the national media outlets, and their only goal is to make money. Under these circumstances, the freedom of expression of opinions on various matters is restricted for journalists employed by these organizations. Newspapers have to adapt their practices to allow for the coverage of these topics because they should be vital to the defense and advancement of human rights. When reporting on human rights abuses, journalists must have empathy. Given the critical role that communication plays in human rights issues, it is imperative that both Ethiopian newspapers under study incorporate human rights topics into their business as well as communication strategies.
- According to this study, Ethiopia should carry out a helpful exercise in which journalists are trained in media standards enhancement, behavioral rather than structural solutions are developed, and programmers are designed to increase media standards.
- The study indicates that journalists who cover human rights issues should know that these stories should be handled differently than other news, and newspapers should know that reporters need to have a general understanding of the socioeconomic conditions of the public, the rights that are inalienable to humans in society, and the complexity of the issues they cover. A dedicated group of reporters who are committed to the promotion of human rights would be extremely helpful in achieving this aim.
- By holding workshops, training sessions, seminars, lectures, and other events, this study also suggest that media organizations particularly associations and the government can raise the awareness of human rights problems among its reporters. It is necessary to confront the subtleties and complexity of the long-standing history of pervasive oppression and injustice meted out to common people, farmers, minorities, women, children, etc. in a larger context.

- Newspapers have to adapt their practices to allow for the coverage of these topics because they should be vital to the defense and advancement of human rights. When reporting on human rights abuses, journalists must have empathy.

5.4 Future Studies

Subsequent investigations of human rights coverage across many formats and platforms will juxtapose this coverage with other forms of media to ascertain the circumstances and rationale behind its appropriateness. Subsequent research endeavors ought to furnish additional proof of the government-dominated media's viewpoint on the individuals who decide news coverage, thereby diminishing the press's autonomy as an impartial monitor of the government about human rights in both public and private media. Journalists and readers alike must pay close attention to, thoroughly research, understand, and comprehend problems and concerns pertaining to human rights.

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Appendix A – Interview Checklist

Agreement of consent

Dear Interviewee, please note that I am conducting a research study on ' Coverage and Framing Analysis of Human Rights Issues: On the Ethiopian Herald and the Reporter Newspapers. I have few questions regarding this study. The data taken will be used purpose used for research and Academic purpose.

Below are the questions?

Interview questions

The following Questions Considered while conducting the interview

1. To what extent human rights issues are covered in The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter newspapers?

.....
.....

2. What types of human right issues are dominantly covered in the selected media?

.....
.....

3. What are the sources of stories employed in covering each human rights issue in selected media?

.....
.....

4. How human rights issues are framed in The Ethiopian Herald and Reporter newspapers?

.....
.....

Appendix B. Types of Frames Employed

The subcategories of the sort of frame utilized in the tale have the following operational terms. This section aids in determining the primary frame type that was employed in the prime minister-related story building.

1. **Mark a Conflict frame** - to draw in the audience if the tale is about disputes or conflicts that have happened between people.

2. **Mark Human interest** - if groups of people, organizations, or nations. If the tale is about a human face or an emotional element to the portrayal of an event, topic, or problem,
3. **Mark an Economic Frame:** if the story's concerns or events center on how they affect a person, a group, an institution, or a nation economically.
4. **Mark the Value/Morality frame:** - if the main theme of the tale highlights moral, social, or religious settings of a problem or incident.
5. **Mark Attribute frame:** - if the narrative illustrates how views may be influenced by news media's attention on specific aspects of a problem or a person.
6. **Mark Attribution of Responsibility frame:** if the main concept of the tale portrays a problem or issue in a way that assigns blame for its occurrence or resolution to the the state, a person, or a group.
7. **Thematic Frames** - position concerns within a larger framework or pattern such as, society as a whole.

Appendix C. Categories of Human Rights Issues

Full Name of coder _____

Educational level _____

Field of study _____

Graduated school _____

Consent and agreement: first and foremost, I would like to thank you for being voluntary to participate in this study as a coder. In the following table presented below there are sample news stories which are collected and selected from The Ethiopian Herald and The Reporter newspapers for the purpose of this study.

Please code the following news stories and editorials carefully and mindfully.

Your overall action and effort towards coding this material has great value for adding reliability of this study. In addition your effort to cod this material through careful reading and comprehending helps me to achieve the proposed result (validity). In addition if you miss the meaning of the item or issue under category please look back for the operational definition of the terms from the prepared codebook or code guidance at the end of this page.

I. Instruction

Please read the following news stories carefully and after you decide under which type of human rights issue it is categorized, please write the code number only in front of the news stories, in the empty box provided before it.

The two digit code of five categories for each types of human rights issue is provided below as the following, so code accordingly;

1. Write 01 for civil rights
2. Write 02 for political right
3. Write 03for economic ,social and cultural rights
4. Write 04 for collective rights
5. Write 05 for non-stated (if any or if the news doesn't belong to any of the above types and comment why it doesn't belong to this category).

1. Operational definition

Below are the **operational definitions** of the categories of human rights issues, designed for clear coverage in media. These definitions include detailed explanations of each type, along with examples of what they encompass.

01: Civil Rights

Definition

Civil rights are the personal liberties and protections granted to individuals by law, aimed at safeguarding them from discrimination and ensuring equality. These rights are fundamental for the dignity and freedom of individuals and are generally enshrined in constitutional or legal frameworks.

This category Includes:

- Right to life and security (freedom from torture, cruel, or degrading treatment).
- Freedom from discrimination based on race, gender, religion, etc.
- Right to privacy, property, and personal freedoms (movement, marriage, etc.).
- Protection from arbitrary arrest or detention.

02: Political Rights

Definition

Political rights enable individuals to participate in the governance of their country and include the mechanisms by which governments are held accountable to their people.

This category Includes:

- Right to vote and run for public office.
- Freedom of speech, expression, and assembly.
- Right to participate in political processes (petitions, protests).
- Freedom of the press and access to information.

03: Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights**Definition**

these rights address the socio-economic and cultural well-being of individuals and communities, focusing on equitable access to resources, opportunities, and cultural preservation.

The category Includes:

- Right to work, fair wages, and safe working conditions.
- Access to education, healthcare, and housing.
- Rights to food and water security.
- Cultural rights, including the right to participate in cultural life and preserve cultural heritage.

04: Collective Rights**Definition**

Collective rights pertain to groups rather than individuals and are crucial for the protection of marginalized or indigenous communities and the preservation of their shared heritage and environment.

The category Includes:

- Rights of indigenous peoples (land, resources, and cultural autonomy).
- Environmental rights (protection against pollution or destruction of habitats).
- Right to self-determination and community development.
- Protection of minorities and vulnerable populations.

05: Non-Stated (Other)

Definitions

This category is used for news or issues that do not align explicitly with any of the above-defined human rights categories. It also includes cases where the subject matter is ambiguous or multi-dimensional but not clearly categorized.

I. Instruction

Please read the following news stories and editorials carefully and after you decide under which theme (focus) of human rights issue it is categorized, please write the code number only in front of the news stories, in the empty box provided before it.

The three digit code numbers for each themes (focus) of human rights issues are provided below as the following, so;

1. Write or code 001 for rights of women and children, migration and refugees
2. Write 002 for death, human tragedy ,demonstration, protest or strikes ,violence and arrest
3. Write 002 for financial crisis , fund or aid
4. Write 003 for governance ,policies debate, election and peace call or deal
5. Write 005 for education , health , food and water
6. Write 006 for Others include; such as rights of disability and mental health , forceful eviction of families or displaced people, celebration, tribute or success, deprivation, poverty , famine, combat, battle ,war dep't or strategy , threat or risk , human rights award

001: Women and Children rights

Definition:

This category addresses the protection, empowerment, and welfare of women and children, along with the rights of migrants and refugees. It covers gender equality, child protection, and the legal and humanitarian dimensions of migration.

The category Includes:

- Women's rights: (equality, reproductive rights, freedom from violence).
- Children's rights: (protection from abuse, access to education, and basic needs).

0002: violence and protests (Death, Human Tragedy, Demonstration, Protest or Strikes, Violence, and Arrest)

Definition;

This theme involves events related to loss of life, social upheaval, and conflict. It includes public demonstrations and the consequences of violence or police actions.

This Includes:

- News about deaths caused by human tragedies or natural disasters.
- Reports on protests, strikes, riots, or arrests resulting from civil unrest.
- Coverage of acts of violence, including terrorism or police brutality.

002: Financial Crisis, Fund or Aid**Definition;**

This theme highlights the economic dimensions of human rights issues, focusing on financial crises, humanitarian aid, and funding for critical initiatives.

This Includes:

- Coverage of global or national financial crises and their impact on vulnerable populations.
- Stories on international aid, relief efforts, and charity interventions.

003: Governance, Policies Debate, Election, and Peace Call**Definition;**

This category covers issues related to political governance, public policies, electoral processes, and efforts to achieve peace or broker deals to end conflicts.

Includes:

- Debates on public policies affecting human rights.
- Coverage of elections, political campaigns, and governance reforms.
- Peace negotiations or treaties to resolve regional or global conflicts.

05: Education, Health and Food**Definition;**

This theme focuses on socio-economic rights to essential services, including education, healthcare, food security, and access to clean water.

Includes:

- Coverage of access to or lack of education, particularly for marginalized groups.
- Stories on public health crises, hunger, or water scarcity.

006: Others (Disability Rights, Mental Health, Evictions, Success Stories, Poverty, Famine, War Strategy, Risks, Awards)

Definition;

This catch-all category addresses human rights issues not explicitly classified above, including unique or niche topics such as disability rights, mental health, or celebrations of human rights achievements.

Includes:

- Rights of individuals with disabilities or mental health challenges.
- Forced evictions or displacements.
- Coverage of poverty, famine, and strategic discussions on war or combat.
- Recognition of human rights achievements or tributes.

II. Instruction

Please read the following news stories and editorials carefully and after you decide under which type news sources it is categorized, please write the code number only in front of the news stories, in the empty box provided before it .The four digit code numbers for each types of sources are provided below as the following, so;

1. Write or code 0001 for government offices , organizations or institutions
2. Write or code 0002 for NGO and human right institutions
3. Write 0003 for ordinary citizens ,individuals or victims
4. Write 0004 experts or researchers
5. Write 0005 for News agencies
6. Write 0006 for other type of sources

Below are the **operational definitions** for the specified source types, categorized to ensure clarity and consistency in identifying and coding sources for human rights coverage. Each source type is defined with examples and referenced for credibility.

- **0001: Government Offices, Organizations, or Institutions**

Definition:

This category includes official governmental bodies, ministries, or agencies that provide information, policy statements, or reports relevant to human rights. It also covers information released by intergovernmental organizations (e.g., UN, EU).

Includes:

- National or regional government offices (e.g., Ministry of Justice, Health Departments).
- Law enforcement agencies or judicial bodies.
- Statements, reports, or data from international bodies (e.g., United Nations, World Bank).

Reference:

- UN Human Rights Council. (2022). *Annual Report on Human Rights Practices*.

0002: NGOs and Human Rights Institutions**Definition:**

This category includes non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), and independent human rights institutions that actively monitor, report, and advocate for human rights.

Includes:

- Human rights advocacy organizations (e.g., Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch).
- Local or international NGOs focused on humanitarian aid, advocacy, or development.
- Independent watchdogs or commissions (e.g., ombudsman offices).

0003: Ordinary Citizens, Individuals, or Victims**Definition:**

This source category refers to firsthand accounts, testimonies, or perspectives from individuals directly affected by human rights issues, including victims, witnesses, or community members.

The category Includes:

- Testimonies of survivors of violence or discrimination.
- Perspectives of community leaders or affected populations.

- Voices of grassroots activists or marginalized individuals.

Reference:

- Ellmann, S. (2021). *Voices from the Margins: Testimonies in Human Rights Reporting*.

- **0004: Experts or Researchers**

Definition:

This category includes information or commentary from academic researchers, human rights experts, legal professionals, or specialists in relevant fields. It emphasizes evidence-based insights or analysis.

This category Includes:

- Academic studies, expert opinions, or legal analyses.
- Input from university professors, legal experts, or subject-matter specialists.
- Contributions to think tanks or policy institutes

Reference:

- Brysk, A. (2020). *The Politics of Human Rights: A Global Perspective*.

- **0005: News Agencies**

Definition:

This category encompasses national and international news organizations that gather, verify, and disseminate information on human rights issues.

This category Includes:

- National newspapers, TV channels, or online media (e.g., BBC, The New York Times).
- International wire services (e.g., Reuters, Associated Press).
- Investigative journalism platforms focusing on human rights.

Reference:

- Knight, A. (2021). *Media and Human Rights: Challenges in Reporting*.

- **0006: Other Types of Sources**

Definition:

This category includes any sources that do not fit neatly into the above categories, such as blogs, social media posts, or unverified third-party accounts. It may also cover cultural figures, artists, or unique sources of information.

Includes:

- Social media posts, blogs, or independent online platforms.
- Statements from celebrities or cultural influencers advocating for human rights.
- Unverified or unconventional sources requiring further validation.

Reference:

- Freedman, D. (2019). *Digital Activism and the Future of Human Rights*.

III. Instruction

Please read the following news stories and editorials carefully and after you decide, please write the code number only in front of the news stories, in the empty box provided before it. The three digit code numbers for each types of human rights issue are provided below as the following, so;

1. 00001 front page
2. 00002 inside page
3. 00003 back page