



College of Education and Behavioral Studies
School of Psychology

**Ethnic Conflict: Perceived Causes, Actors, Psychosocial and
Economic Consequences and Challenges of Displaced Persons
The Case of Sululta Site IDP Shelters**

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Advisor:-Dame Abera (PhD)

March 2021

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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**A Thesis Submitted to the School of Psychology, Addis Ababa University in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Social
Psychology**

Advisor: - Dame Abera (PhD)

March 2021

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

DECLARATION

I submitted this thesis in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Social Psychology, to the School of Psychology, College of Education and Behavioral Studies at Addis Ababa University.

I hereby declare that the thesis on the title “Ethnic Conflict: Perceived Causes, Actors, Psychosocial & Economic Consequences and Challenges of Displaced Persons. The Case of Sululta Site IDP Shelters” is my original work and has not been presented in any other university or college for examination purpose.

All scholarly matters that are included in the research have been acknowledged through citation.

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March 2021

Approval Page

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Abstract

The conflict that took place between the Oromo and Somali communities in Ethio-Somali region between 2017 through 2020 was one among the many waves of conflicts that displaced citizens. The present study attempted to examine the perceived causes, main actors psychosocial, consequences and challenges of those people who were displaced from their habitual places of residence and resettled at three Sululta IDP camp sites. The study has employed concurrent triangulation research design which means both qualitative & quantitative data were collected from both primary and secondary sources.

Participants were selected using stratified random sampling technique, and a representative sample size of 297 (only 220 responses returned back) adults were drawn through simple random sampling technique for the quantitative data and purposive sampling was employed for the qualitative data. The quantitative data was collected through a questionnaire, and the qualitative data through FGD, unstructured interview questions and household observation. As to the method of data analysis, the thematic approach was used for the qualitative data, and the quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages with the help of SPSS Version 24.

The result of the study revealed that ethnic based systematic conspiracy of political authorities at local, regional and central levels were mostly found to be one of the main causes and major actors for the conflict and gave way for their eviction from their original places of residence. Furthermore, economic impoverishment, malnutrition, shortage of potable pipe water, poor housing, lack of health facilities & sanitation and absolute poverty were mentioned by the respondents to be their present critical economic problems, and loss of lives of loved ones; feeling of negative emotions like hopelessness; despair & bitterness; separation from family & relatives; lack of trust in the state; feeling of distress & development of victim mental attitude & traumatic mental experiences have been marked as the most serious psychosocial problems they faced at their campsite and that need an urgent call of both the GOs & NGOs in order to prevent their life from further deterioration to a more severe economic and psychosocial disorder levels.

Key words: *ethnicity, ethnic conflict, politicized ethnicity, ethnic mobilization.*

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List of Abbreviations& Acronyms

AAU	Addis Ababa University
ANRS	- Amhara National Regional State
BGNRS	Benishangul Gumuz National Regional State
BIRI	British International Research Institute
BoFED	Bureau of Finance and Economic Development
CSA	Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia
DFED	Department of Finance and Economic Development
DLSA	Department of Labor and Social Affairs
DMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Center
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix
EPRDF	Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front
EUP	European University Center for Peace Studies
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GO	Government Organizations
GRID	Global Report on Internal Displacement
HH	House Holds
HoF	House of the Federation
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPSS	Institute of peace and security study
LGs	Local Governments
MoFA	Ministry of Federal Affairs
NFI	Non-Food Items
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OFED	Office of Finance and Economic Development
ORD	Office of Rural Development
OSSREA	Organization for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa

PTSD Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
SCA Strategic Conflict Assessment
SIDA Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SNNPRS Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional State
SPSS Statistical Package for Social Sciences
TPLF Tigray People Liberation Front
UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
WaSH Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO World Health Organization
WOGAGODA Wolayta, Gamo, Goffa, and Dawro

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

This chapter addresses the introductory part of the research which includes the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, the scope and significance of the study, limitations of the study, definition of basic terms, and organization of the study paper.

1.1. Background of the Study

Ethnic conflicts were and are common feature of the world we live in. Almost all of them were accompanied by tremendous loss of lives, destruction of properties and displacement of people from their habitual places of residence which in turn were followed by a number of consequences i.e. economic, social, political and psychological crises.

Conflicts occur in developed and in non-developed world countries as well. For instance, Canadian social life was disrupted in the late 1960 and early 1970 by the violence of French Canadian separatists. Mexico has experienced violent uprising by indigenous population in southern state of Chiapas. Descendants of the indigenous people of central and South America continue to be violently subjugated and continue to fight back. This condition was repeated in Asia and Africa. Some of these are still capable of flaring into violence today even as new ones arise (Hossien, 2016).

In short, all existing social systems, independently of political regime or level of development, exhibit, to variable degrees, inter-ethnic conflicts. If we give attention to the map of world understanding, we can see that many countries are multiethnic. In some countries relation of ethnic groups and governments is suitable and we have not any sign of violence and conflict. But, in reality many of them encounter with some form of ethnic problems. These problems were continued and are becoming big challenges for governors.

Asia has experienced similar ethnic problem especially in Iraq, Turkey and India. There is also conflict where large modern nations have subsumed the historic territory of ethnic group like China and United Kingdom. There are ethnic conflicts in France with the Bretons, in Spain with the Basques separatists motivated by the belief that their region of the Pyrenees should not

be controlled by Spaniards, and in the Americas with the indigenous people, in China with Tibet, and Hong Kong. In the Mexican state of Oaxaca, indigenous groups want self-determination and degree of independence from Latin-based national government.

Kurdish struggle for autonomy in Iraq and Turkey, Guerilla wars in El Salvador and Nicaragua, insurrection in Chechnya are all forms of conflict that have caused and are still causing a number of loss of lives, displacement of people from their habitual places of residence, and destruction of properties.

Furthermore, conflicts in the Balkans, Chechnya, Iraq, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and India, as well as in Israel, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip, the conflict between Hutus and Tutsis in Rwanda were among the best-known and deadliest examples from the late 20th and early 21st centuries (Duffy, 2004, Schlichting, 1997, Fearon, 2003). However, it is apparent that certain places and states are more prone to ethnic conflicts, while others experience essentially none. But, Ethiopia is one of the countries where the problem is rising at an alarming rate and accompanied by severe consequences of violent conflicts.

Conflicts can be mono-causal or multi-causal depending on the country's existing situations. It depends on the political, economic, social (heterogeneity of the people); geographical and settlement situation of people. Hossien (2016) in his research classifies the causes of conflict as cultural factors (language, religion & customs); discrimination factors in (political, economic & social i.e. injustice & inequality); consensus (media)

Of course, racial conflicts have also existed for centuries in Africa and have been at the heart of many violent struggles. Ethnic conflicts in Africa also have continued to fuel violence in Rwanda, Congo, Nigeria, Somalia, Kenya, Darfur, Ethiopia and elsewhere. The destabilization of provinces, states, and, in some cases, even whole regions is a common consequence of ethnic violence.

In a similar manner, ethnic conflict has even become one of the major threats to national and regional peace and security in Ethiopia. Ethnic conflicts are often accompanied by unexpected internal displacements, gross human rights violations, such as genocide and crimes

against humanity, and by economic decline, state failure, refugee flows and environmental problems, and violent ethnic conflict leads to tremendous human suffering.

Ethiopia has adopted an ethnic based federal system since the overthrow of the military Dergue Regime by the TPLF led EPRDF party in 1991. Since 1991, the EPRDF led government redesigned and structured the country along ethno-linguistic lines as a means to accommodate ethnic diversity and solve social, economic and political problems. However, empirical studies and realities on the ground showed that ethnicity didn't solve the problem, rather ethnic based conflicts were and are mounting, recurring and becoming more decentralized and protracted for over the past two decades (Daniel, 2015)

To mention some of the major post 1991 violent inter-ethnic conflicts observed in Ethiopia: the *Silte-Gurage* conflict that requested the Silte's independence from the rest of the Gurage zone; the *WaGaGoDa* language based conflict in Wolaita in North Omo zone; the *Sheko-Majang* conflict, the *Anuak-Nuer* conflict for regional hegemony; the *Berta-Gumuz* conflict in Benishangul-Gumuz for control of the regional government's power between the two major groups; the inter-ethnic conflict between 'Amhara' and 'Kemant' around Gondar in the area of 'Chilga' which caused the death of many people and the *Gedeo-Guji* Oromo conflict, the Sidama-Wolaitas conflict for power; the *Oromo-Amhara* conflict, the *Borana-Garreh (Somali)* conflict, the *Afar-Issa* conflict, and the *Oromo-Somali* conflict were some among the many ones, which caused the death of many people and also displaced many others. (Moreshe Wogene 2016) And this ethnic warfare can be concrete evidences for the destructive effects of ethnic based federalism.

Consequentially, in the last two decades researches have shown that such ethnic conflicts and violence have caused the deaths of hundreds and thousands of civilians; much destruction of properties and the displacement of multitudes of thousand citizens in which the Sululta IDPs are included.

As the researcher was informed through the discussion with the community leaders, in all, over several people were killed, thousands more injured, over 1,000,000 people were displaced and hundreds of houses& lots of businesses were robbed and destroyed. It made a total mess in their lives. It was accompanied by overwhelming consequences of economic, social and psychological devastations.

In reality, research on racial & ethnic dynamics spans across many social science disciplines, including anthropology, sociology, peace & security, political science, law & governance and organizational psychology. Each of these fields offers a unique perspective on the dynamics of race & ethnic conflicts and their consequences. In this research, the researcher has tried to investigate the causes, psychosocial & economic consequences of ethnic conflict with regard to few social psychology theoretical frameworks such as social identity theory, social categorization theory, Social dominance theory, realistic conflict theory and cognitive theories.

To this end, even though, there were several studies done on the causes and economic and social consequences of ethnic conflict, there are insufficient researches dealing with ethnic conflict and its consequences in relation to the socio-psychological perspectives. Particularly, there aren't any researches done on this topic on Sululta site IDP shelters. Furthermore, most of those researches done on other areas related to the causes, consequences and challenges of IDPs were qualitative in nature and do not address the psychological aspects of conflict induced displacement up on the life of IDPs.

But, this study attempted to follow a mixed approach and tried to address the present psychological & economic consequences and challenges of internally displaced persons (IDPs) living at Sululta site shelters i.e. as to what they are facing in addition to addressing the perceived causes, main actors and consequences of ethnic conflict.

In this light this thesis was intended to fill these gaps and explore the perceived causes, main actors, psychosocial and economic consequences and present challenges faced by the IDP population who were relocated to Sululta site shelters.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

In Ethiopia, ethnic conflicts have resulted in tremendous devastations of property, substantial loss of lives and massive displacement of people from their habitual places of residence to newer resettlement areas where life might be hard for them. These people are reaping the dire fruits of what they didn't sow which are the consequences and challenges of ethnic conflict induced displacement. In every conflict situation, no matter how violent they are,

there is always displacement, loss of lives and lots of human suffering including economic, social and psychological crises.

The issue of ethnicity & ethnic identity may look simple and normal but they have deep social and psychological roots and will continue to damage and disrupt the social life of the society if not properly understood and addressed well. Ethnic conflicts continue to pose a threat to the security of the state aggravating mass poverty, economic bankruptcy, abuse of human rights, limited access to resources, and weak concept of national identity and integration.

According to Habtamu, (2013) in fact, ...putting people into groups and categories is a normal cognitive process. However, what makes the situation worst is the way we shape the perception of the people about national identity, with respect to their ethnic identity. The difference mainly related with the way elites interpret the historical road to modern Ethiopia and the key they provide for unity & integrity. In this regard, Bekker (1993) as cited in Habtamu (1998) states that ethnicity is probably becoming the greatest enigma (mystery) of our time that should be clearly discussed and properly addressed if nations are going to be politically stable and economically developed.

In this regard, different academic scholars and humanitarian aid organizations conduct and produce different reports on the ill effects of ethnic conflict and its consequences.

Report from Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (September, 12/2018) revealed that, Ethiopia has seen the highest number of people forced to flee their homes within their country in the first half of 2018. According to this report, the conflict has uprooted some 1.4 million Ethiopians from their homes since the start of the year. This has been largely due to new ethnic clashes in Gedeo and West Guji region in southern Ethiopia, and continued violence in the Oromia-Somali border region. The report further elaborated that, the violence that continued to sparkle in the Oromia-Somali border region forced over 200,000 people to flee their homes in the first half of the year, and even before that some 500,000 people fled clashes in the quarter of 2017.

According to the above report, the inter-communal conflict that started on the 4th August in Jigjiga quickly spread to Degahbur, Warder, Kabridahar, Gode and Babile areas and has left approximately 141,410 IDPs in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. An initial rapid

assessment led by the Regional Government on 8 and 14 August 2018 in Jigjiga identified critical needs on food, WaSH, Health and NFI items and services. Some 35,450 IDPs in Jigjiga city who were sheltered in churches and its surroundings and the Garab'ase military camp were living in terrible situations (mass media reports of that time).

According to the 10th round, March to April report of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) of 2018, at least 1, 073, 7642 people were displaced by conflict as of mid-April 2018. While some IDPs were displaced since 2012, the vast majority of the displacements occurred post-September 2017 in Oromia and Somali regions. Particularly, the conflict that took place between the Oromo and Somali communities in Ethio-Somali region and along the borders was one among the many waves of conflicts that took place between 2017 through 2020. This conflict was accompanied by periodic waves of massive internal displacements, numerous losses of lives and destruction of properties. Totally, the inter-ethnic conflict that happened between the Somali and Oromo communities since 2017 has resulted in the displacement of close to 700,000 people. Those displaced people from across regions were mainly hosted in transit or collective centers, while those displaced within the region were settled along border areas.

Generally, those conflicts evicted IDPs were hosted in 601 sites in Oromia and Somali regions. Those displaced from across regions were mainly hosted in transit or collective centers, while those displaced within a region were settled along border areas (either in woredas of origin or in other woredas within the same region).

One of these IDP groups were relocated to and settled at Sululta site shelters at three sites: Ashewa, Kajima and Gelana sites, which are the focus of this study. Having been evicted from own houses and places of habitual residence due to ethnic conflict, these people were &are still facing different types of life challenges in their past and present situations. Largely, they are suffering from psycho-social and economic problems which are the consequential results of the conflict that happened in the Ethio-Somali region and along the border areas.

In view of this, there are some empirical studies such as Mehari (2017; IDMC, (2018, 2019) that have tried to assess the causes and background figures of internal displacement in Ethiopia. However, these studies have given less emphasis to further explore multiple factors of IDPs and multiple negative consequences of those internal displacements.

Particularly, there are a few studies of both academic scholars and that of humanitarian aid organizations documented in the areas of addressing the social-psychological consequences & challenges of ethnic conflicts based displacement on IDPS residing at camp sites. Most of academic scholarly studies try to focus on identifying the causes, actors, triggering factors and economic & social impacts of those conflict induced displacement. On the other hand, those humanitarian aid organizations try to address the issues of conflict induced displacement with regard to its economic & social consequences only. That means, most of the time they do not address the complicated psychosocial dimension of IDPs problems, rather they do focus on fulfilling only the basic necessities of food, clothing and shelter.

For instance, an assessment conducted by UNHCR (2006) states that conflict induced displacement dramatically disrupts livelihoods, and leads to a severe reduction in access to the basic necessities of life including food, clean water, shelter, adequate clothing, health services & sanitations and disrupts children's education. That means, it denies innocent persons access to food, shelter, and health & education services and exposes them to all manners of violence. Even from this assessment, we can see that apart from efforts made to assessing the economic & social impacts of the conflict, it doesn't show any psychological and emotional effect of the conflict induced displacement. Thus, little is known about the extent and nature of the psychosocial consequences and challenges of conflict induced displacement up on the life of the displaced population living in camp site shelters.

In this regard, Tesfaye (2019) states that it is important to address the psychosocial challenges that the IDPs are experiencing in order to make appropriate interventions that can fully address the problems of IDPs. However, little is known about the extent & nature of psychosocial consequences and challenges of the displaced population living in camp site shelters, let alone at Sululta IDP Site shelters.

Therefore, in order to fill up these gaps from social psychology perspective and be part of a foundation for further research, it was deemed essential to conduct such kind of research. That means, the researcher intends to fill up those existing gaps and try to address at least some of the existing socio-psychological & emotional problems in addition to addressing the perceived causes, main actors and economic consequences & challenges faced by those internally displaced persons (IDPs) and be a voice for these voiceless community.

Therefore, it is in this light that this study sought to explore the perceived causes, main actors, psychosocial & economic consequences and present challenges faced by the IDP's who were relocated to Sululta site shelters.

During the time of settlement these IDPs were provided with life-saving supports such as shelter provision, food and material support by the government, host community and humanitarian agencies. Though there were life-saving supports provided to these communities at the beginning, today they are facing multiple, social, psychological and economic challenges that need an urgent intervention strategy & programs. Thus, the challenges being faced by these IDPs should be systematically assessed and properly addressed for appropriate intervention strategies by the concerned bodies. In line with this the following research questions were posed.

1.3. Research Questions

This study attempted to answer the following basic research questions:

RQ1 What were the major perceived causes of the ethnic conflict that happened between the two community displaced from Ethio-Somali region & from border areas?

RQ2 Who were the major actors involved in the ethnic conflict and played a key role for eviction of those people from their habitual residence places?

RQ3 What were the major social psychological & economic consequences that the IDPs experienced as a result of the conflict induced displacement?

RQ 4 What are the major present challenges that the IDPs are facing or experiencing at their newer settlement site?

RQ5 What kind of interventions should be employed at each level in order to address those problems and prevent the life of victims from further deterioration in to a more severe condition (economic & psychosocial disorder levels)?

RQ6. What measures do you think should be taken to improve the situation of ethnic conflict and the life of the IDPs?

1.4. Objectives of the Study

1.4.1. General Objectives

The general objective of the study was to examine the perceived causes, main actors and the psychosocial & economic consequences of the conflict, and to examine the present challenges faced by internally displaced people (IDPs) in the case of the Oromo community displaced from Ethio-Somali region, and resettled at Sululta site shelters.

1.4.2. Specific Objectives

More specifically, the study is intended:

1. To investigate (figure out) the main perceived causes of the ethnic conflict that happened in the area between the two communities.
2. To identify the main actors involved in the ethnic conflict and played a key role for the eviction of the people from their habitual residence places.
3. To identify the psychosocial & economic consequences of the conflict that the IDPs have experienced as a result of the conflict induced displacement.
4. To investigate the present challenges that the IDPs are facing in their newer settlement site.
5. To suggest some possible interventions that can address those problems and prevent the life of victims from further deterioration into a more severe condition (economic & psychosocial disorder levels).

1.5. Scope of the Study

There were many communities who were affected by ethnic conflict, and who were evicted from their habitual places of residence and settled in different sites. However, the present study was delimited to those people who were displaced from their habitual places of residence in Ethio-Somali region and sheltered at Sululta site in three shelters: Ashewa, Kajima and Gelana sites. The reason for selecting this site is due to the fact that the researcher is engaged in teaching activity in one of the private schools in Addis Ababa, which doesn't give extra time to do other additional things, time constraint was a main challenge to get the necessary basic information by moving far away from Addis. In addition to shortage of time, resource availability (or financial

constraints) was also another limiting factor that thwarted the works of this research. So, because of these reasons, the Sululta site was chosen purposively in order to be able to collect meaningful data from the nearby location. The researcher has traveled to the study area several times and all the costs were covered personally by the researcher.

Generally, these sites were selected purposively due to issues of resource limitation, contingency, proximity and practicality to gather the necessary information needed for the research output.

Similarly, though the IDP at Sululta shelter might be passing through a number of miserable life situations; this study mainly focuses on identifying the perceived causes, main actors of the conflict that evicted the people; and exploring its psychosocial & economic consequences as well as the challenges those displaced community are facing at present in their newer places of settlement or in their temporary shelters.

1.6. Significance of the Study

This study is a step in the right direction as it comes at the time when there is a public outcry against ethnic conflicts and violence taking place here and there in the country.

In line with this the findings of this study may be expected to have both theoretical and practical importance and will specifically benefit the following parties:-

Contribute to fill the gaps in the literatures: regarding the causes, main actors and psychosocial and economic consequences and challenges of conflict induced displacement that have been faced by IDPs displaced from their habitual places of residence or for those who were settled at different parts of the country in different shelters.

Broaden the knowledge base: This study is significant for its contribution to the existing body of knowledge on the topic under study. The evidence gathered from this research will contribute to a better understanding of ethnic conflicts overall; a better understanding will then allow for more effective policy and broader knowledge when addressing the issues of ethnic conflict, consequences and the challenges of IDPs living in temporary shelters at camp sites.

For Policy framing & decision making: The study findings and recommendations will be important for policy makers working on the areas of conflict prevention, resolution, IDP rehabilitation and peace building, because it will help them undertake the necessary corrective actions and enable them to make such corrections and endorse appropriate policies, and strategies. Furthermore, it is assumed to serve as policy frame work and provide relevant and reliable information for government bodies or policy makers, development partners, civil society groups. Besides, it will help any community based humanitarian organizations in their efforts to address the complicated issues of IDP including the psychological aspect and point out implications for future IDP policies that might be considered by the Ethiopian government for designing& implementing the necessary interventions to rehabilitate or reintegrate those internally displaced and resettled communities found at different settlement sites in the country.

For communities or groups engaged in ethnic conflict: it can demonstrate at least something to those communities or groups engaged in ethnic conflict about the futility of ethnic conflicts, their negative consequences and therefore accelerate the process of conflict prevention or resolution; IDPs rehabilitation, reintegration and peace building efforts among the conflicting communities and among others experiencing conflict and displacement.

For further research: The study can be used as reference material for other researchers that can work on the topic with more comprehensive data set. Furthermore, it can stimulate further researches for those aspiring or interested to conduct research on this topical area.

1.7. Operational Definition of Key Terms

IDPs - persons who flee from their own houses or places of habitual residence to other places due to man-made factors such as ethnic clashes and border conflicts.

Ethnic identity - refers to the sense of belonging to this or that ethnic category or group.

Ethnocentrism – the notion that one’s culture is more sensible than or superior to that of other ethnic groups or a high regard for one’s own ethnic group.

Ethnic Conflict – refers to violent encounters between and/or among two or more racial or language groups. It is a dispute between two or more ethnic/tribal groups caused by the politicization of tribal identity by self-seeking politicians.

Vulnerable/victim – the people who were attacked or affected by the ethnic conflict

Federal system of government - is a system of government in which there is a division of power between one central government and regional governments.

Politicized ethnicity - using ethnicity as a tool for achieving a given political purpose (motive)

Ethnic mobilization - mobilizing ones ethnic group to achieve a given group's political aim

Ethnic outbidding - the competition between ethnic groups for control of the government's political power.

In-group - a group of people who share a sense of belonging and a feeling of common identity.

Out-group - all groups outside of the in-group.

1.8. Organization of the Thesis

This thesis is organized into 5 chapters. The first chapter covers the introduction, background of the study, problem statement, and objectives of the study. It also entails the research questions, the scope, and significance of the study. Chapter two is entirely devoted to the review of literature. This chapter reviews the conceptual and empirical documents: journals, theses papers, reports and reviews made by scholars on ethnic conflict, its causes and its consequences & challenges including the gaps and ambiguities identified in their reports and reviews. The chapter concludes with an implication of how this study fills the gaps that has been created by the previous studies.

Chapter three is devoted directly to the research design & methodology which includes the method of data collection and analysis of the gathered data. The fourth chapter emphasizes on dealing with data presentation, analysis and discussions. The fifth & final chapter deals with the summary, conclusion and recommendations of the study.

CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This section discusses about the concept and theories of ethnic conflict, its causes, nature and effects & consequences of ethnic conflict in Ethiopian context and the different conflict resolving mechanisms with reference to different studies and literatures.

2.1. Conceptual and Theoretical Frameworks on Conflict

The literature review of this study spins around analysis of the issues of ethnicity, inter-ethnic conflicts, causes and dynamics of ethnic conflict, and the consequences and challenges of ethnic conflict which affects the economic, social and psychological wellbeing of internally displaced individuals in a multi-ethnic society. The purpose of reviewing scholarly studies is to show the interrelations between the elements of inter-ethnic conflict and conflict situations. Over the last century, many scholars have dealt with the above issues from different perspectives. However, there has never been a consensus on the definition, causes, manifestations, and effects of inter-ethnic conflicts and conflict resolution mechanisms. Indeed, the concepts of ethnicity, ethnic group and ethnic conflicts as used in contemporary studies are vague and often mysterious. The subsequent analysis aims to provide some direction through the jungle of conceptual and essence of ethnic conflict; its causes, main actors, and its consequences or effects and challenges along with its resolution mechanisms.

2.1.1. Defining Concepts & Terms: Ethnicity, Ethnic Group, Ethnic Conflict

Ethnicity

Ethnicity as a key concept of discussion in social identity has got a prevailing recognition among scholars and entered the academic arena since the middle of twentieth century. Since then although a lot has been written and debated about ethnicity, there is no agreement among scholars on its meaning, its expression in social or group dealings and the role it plays in group mobilization.

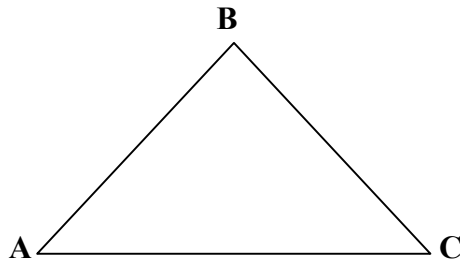
Ethnicity is a word derived from the Latin ‘ethos’ which literally means a “tribe” or a “nation” Tonkin et al (1996) cited in (Melkamu, 2016). The terms “ethnicity” and “ethnic group” are controversial concepts among scholars. To some, “ethnicity” is “objective” or primordial in defining ethnic group as a “category of human population that shares attributes

such as common origin, history and culture, language and territory” (Barth, 1969). For them, the core of “ethnicity” resides in the myths, memories, values, symbols and the characteristic styles of particular historic configurations Smith (1999). In the same vein, Geertz (1996) defined, “ethnicity” as sharing innate and biological characteristics, an external world with distinct categories existing independent of interpretation, with an absurd identity based on blood, language, religion, territory and common understanding about the criteria of membership. Greetz presumed that an ethnic community shares empirically verifiable similarities among themselves and differences with ‘others’. Hence, “ethnicity” and “ethnic group” are fixed at birth and are not subject to any alteration. Whereas to others it is subjective and situational in which “ethnicity” and “ethnic group” are socially constructed with changing phenomenon and are flexible (Isajiw, 1994). Unlike the objectivist, subjectivist and situational thinking focuses more on nation and nationality than on ethnicity. Therefore, the term “ethnicity” is fluid and subjective. Similarly, there are some who conceive ethnicity as a matter of individual choice in which an individual can choose to be or not to be a member of an ethnic group and has the right to choose his ethnic identity based on his own criteria with no biological or societal demarcation to ethnic identity (ibid).

Different scholars define conflict differently; however, Galtung (2011) defines conflict in terms of incompatibilities with “A-B-C” triangle. For him, full scale conflict can be described in conflict triangle with three corners, where corner “A” refers to conflict attitudes, “B” to conflict behavior and “C” the conflict context or contradiction itself. He defined contradictions as actual or perceived incompatibility of goals between the conflicting parties. Attitudes are the perceptions and misperceptions that the parties pose towards self and others while behaviors defined as actions and measures that the parties take in the pursuit of their goals. Hence, when these three conditions are in place there would arise a conflict.

The conflict or ABC triangle is a simple framework for exploring the causes and impact of conflict. It is a tool that helps us understand how best to work in situations of conflict. The theory was developed by Prof. Johan Galtung and was published in Journal of Peace Research in 1969. One should complete one triangle for each of the major groups involved in the conflict. In the ABC label, A shows attitude of the people (includes feelings, perceptions, prejudices, and beliefs) and can also represent the roots of the violence, which again can be shallow or deep

rooted; B shows behavior of the people (people's actions, statements, offences, insults and attacks etc), and C shows context(political, cultural, economic and historical background) or contradiction .



Conflict Triangle Model

So, according to this definition and explanations there are at least potential conflicts in Ethiopia everywhere because of the deep rooted attitude of ethnicity formed as a result of the way the political elites interpreted it and shaped the perception of the people for over two decades for the purpose of manipulating political power and achieving economic ends and which is supported by the instrumentalist's theory of ethnic conflict and also supported by the findings of this study. So, in order to solve the problems of a given ethnic conflict, it is better to heal first the attitude of the people; then work on changing the behavior and finally we need to cure the political, economic, social, cultural & psychological environment in which it takes place.

Ethnic Group

The concept ethnic 'originated from the ancient Greek word *ethnos*, meaning a nation in the latter's immaculate sense of a group characterized by a common descent. With regard to this concept Smith, defines an ethnic group as - named human populations with shared ancestry myths, histories and cultures, having an association with a specific territory and a sense of solidarity (Smith, 1991:21). Likewise, Gursel characterizes that, ethnic groups are historically given collectivities or psychological communities whose members share a persisting sense of common interest and identity that is based on some combination of shared historical experience and valued cultural traits - beliefs, culture and religion, language, ways of life, a common homeland (Gursel, 2009:51).

Also, Phandis and Ganguly, define an ethnic group as either a large or small group of people, in either backward or advanced societies, who are united by a common inherited culture (including language, music, food, dress, and customs and practices), racial similarity, common religion, and belief in common history and ancestry who exhibit a strong psychological sentiment of belonging to the group (Phandis, and Ganguly, 2001:19), explicitly, stating that the term ethnic group includes both small and large group of people.

Ethnic Conflict

Conflict is a struggle or contest between people with opposing needs, interests, ideas, beliefs, values, or goals. Likewise, ethnic conflict is said to exist when two or more groups engage in a struggle over values and claims to status, power and resources in which the aims of the opponents are to neutralize, injure or eliminate the rivals (Jeong, 2000). Similarly, Robert as cited in Gurr states, “ethnic conflict is the tendency for opposing groups to describe themselves using ethnic criteria like language, cultural elements, territorial claim, the myth of common ancestry, racial ties, and using this identity to claim equal status within a state or autonomy from it” (Gurr, 2000: 53). Thus, when the boundaries between the in-group’ and the ‘out-group’ are hardened, identities are formed in an antagonistic way where the other is constructed as an existential threat through successful securitization, and violence becomes more likely (Tigabu, 2015). Ethnic groups are formed based on categorization theory; according to this theory people are grouped into the ‘we’ and ‘they’ or ‘us’ and ‘them’ groups. (Habtamu, 2013). But, it is not the categorization of people into groups that causes ethnic conflicts but the way they are communicated to the groups by their leaders for power motives & for economic gains.

Interethnic conflicts between and within national states, are the renewed forms of racism and ethnicism (ethnic discrimination), acculturative stress. And ethnic identity conflicts illustrate the extent to which ethnic problems constitute nowadays important contemporary social issues. That review includes an account of the main historical and ideological features behind the linguistic shift from "race" to "ethnicity." The uses and changing meaning of the term "ethnicity" are appraised in the realms of anthropology and sociology (Hossien, 2016)

2.1.2. Theoretical Perspectives on Ethnicity and Ethnic Conflict

The various definition of ethnicity emerges out of the specific anthropological and sociological theories and approaches. Based on the anthropological views, there are three main theories of ethnicity. These are the primordial, instrumentalist and constructivist approaches. All of these three approaches have their own outlooks to the constituent elements of ethnicity which are slightly different from each other. These theories broadly reflect changes of approach in anthropology in the past, i.e., the shift from cultural evolution theories, to structural-functional theories, to conflict theories, and finally to postmodern theories. These changes (Wan & Vanderwerf (2009) cited in Amare (2013) are related to the twin forces of modernity and globalization. In the subsequent section we'll have a snap look at each of them.

a) The Primordial Approach

The primordial approach to ethnicity is the oldest in sociological and anthropological literature. It is also called naturalist or genealogical and socio-biological approach. It describes ethnicity as a group's self-identification and/or ascription by others to belong to a certain ethnic group on the basis of common primordial identities such as kinship, language, culture, customs and sometimes religion). Primordialists believe ethnic identity as a biologically given or naturally ascribed phenomenon (Berghe, 1995; Geertz, 1963; Taras & Ganguly, 2010). For primordialists ethnicity is a fixed and permanent characteristic of individuals and/or groups of communities established at birth and will stay until they die (Horowitz, 1985). Accordingly, primordialists view ethnicity as natural and innate to human identity based on fixed deep primordial attachments to a group or culture. Cultural norms and blood relationships determine for one's identity and to the relationship between members of an ethnic group (Sisay, 2007). Whether due to inherited biological traits or due to centuries of accumulated past experiences, ethnicity is always there in its place and now not becoming beyond one's capability to determine (Van den Berghe, 1981 cited in Yang, 2000).

The advocates of primordial approach consider conflicts as an outcome of ethnic differences, and therefore, not necessarily with further explanation. Smith (1993) underlines the same fact indicating that inter-ethnic conflicts take their roots from ethnicity itself. For primordialists, the primordial attachments inherent in ethnicity, which are seen as stable and

constant, cause communal action or conflict (Aalen, 2008). Indeed, primordialists claimed that ethnicity is a cause for inter-ethnic conflict. Moreover, at the heart of this school of thought, Yang (2000) in his book titled “Ethnic Studies: Issues and Approaches” identified the following three basic arguments. First, ethnicity is an ascribed identity or assigned status, something inherited from one’s ancestors. Ethnicity is a very deeply rooted, primal bond to one’s ancestral bloodline. Second, such an ascribed identity which results in ethnic boundaries that demarcate who is a member of an ethnic group and who is not, are fixed or immutable. Ethnicity is static. If you were born a Sudanese, you will be forever a Sudanese, and you cannot change your membership to another group. Finally, common ancestry determines ethnicity. In other words, people belong to an ethnic group because members of that group all share common biological and cultural origins (*Ibid*). Due to their argument of ethnicity as static (fixed) and, their further failure to take into account for un-escapable variations in nature and level of conflicts both in a space and time the primordialists could not escape from serious criticism. *First, they fail to account for changes in the ethnic group that could result in its dissolution or adaptation to new circumstances and technological developments. Second, they overlook the economic, political and social relationships between members of an ethnic group. As Barth (1969) argued, ethnic groups are never in isolation and individuals or collectives pass across the border even if they maintained some stereotypes to keep their identity and to exclude outsiders. Third, they are criticized by the changes that have occurred in many ethnic groups due to colonization, frequent migration and intermarriage relations (Tigist, 2014).*

b) Instrumentalist Approach

Unlike the primordialist or objectivists’ approach, proponents of instrumentalism view ethnicity as something that can be changed, constructed or even be manipulated by specific political elites for power and economic ends. According to this theory, the elites in the modern state use and manipulate perceptions of ethnic identity to further their own ends and stay in power. For them, “Ethnicity” is created in the dynamics of elite competition within the boundaries determined by political and economic realities; and ethnic groups are to be seen as a product of political myths, created and manipulated by cultural elites in their pursuit of advantages and power (Jonas, 1997). Instrumentalism, hence, conceives ethnicity as a dependent variable, externally controlled according to its strategic utility for achieving more secular goods.

It is artificially created human sectarian which is shaped, flexible, changeable and manipulated or framed based on the advantages of the elite, (formally in the name of the group, in fact solely to the elites' advantage). The instrumentalists coined those elites who manipulate and create a new societal section ethnicity as "Social Engineers" and who try to single out the manufacturers of nations among those social groups that have most to gain from it (ibid).

The instrumentalists view ethnicity as a deliberate tool used by individuals or elite groups for manipulating a given ethnic group to obtain some larger or wider material and power motives (Taras & Ganguly, 2010). Instrumentalists, also view ethnic identity as flexible and malleable that individuals or groups may use ethnicity to achieve political, economic and other goals (Brass, 1991; Glazer & Moynihan, 1975).

Instrumentalists focus on the flexibility of an ethnic identity and the role of elites in politicization of ethnicity. For instrumentalists, ethnic identity can be changed in the pursuit of economic interest and wealth. The elite groups (political entrepreneurs) create identity-based differences and manipulate or politicize those differences for their own benefits (Cohen, 1996; Brass, 1996). Politicized ethnic identity is thus the creation of elites, who draw up on, distort, and sometimes fabricate materials from the cultures of the groups they wish to represent in order to protect their well-being or existence or to gain political and economic advantage for their groups as well as for themselves (Taras & Ganguly, 2010). Some instrumentalists of course conceive the world as composed of rationally calculating individuals seeking to maximize their security, economic welfare, social position or power over others. For instrumentalists, conflict is largely stimulated by elites who could mobilize ethnicity in pursuit of their own narrow motives. In ethnic conflict, there are some instrumental goals and practical benefits that are promised, or threatening deprivations averted for members of ethnic communities, if their struggle should succeed (*Ibid*).

Nonetheless, the instrumentalist approach is criticized for two reasons. First, it fails to account for the deeper social structures that allow manipulation of the grievances of the ethnic group by their elite leaders. Second, it reduces ethnic identity to cost-benefit oriented economic choices (Vayrynen, 1999).

c) Constructivist Approach

The basic notion in this approach is that ethnicity is something ‘negotiated’ and ‘constructed’ in everyday life and continues to unfold. Ethnic identity is not something people “possess naturally” but something they “construct” in specific social and historical contexts to further their own interests (Isajiw, 1993). They focus more on nation and nationality than on ethnicity. It is therefore fluid and subjective.

According to Grosby, as cited in (Hossien, 2016) proponents of this account point to Rwanda as an example since the Tutsi/Hutu distinction was codified by the Belgian colonial power in the 1930s on the basis of cattle ownership, physical measurements and church records. Identity cards were issued on this basis, and these documents played a key role in the genocide of 1994, (Grosby, 1994).

Barth (1969) in his work on “Ethnic Groups and Boundaries” found a convincing evidence of how ethnic group boundaries were actually permeable and changeable. He also claimed that ethnic groups are constituted through construction of social boundaries i.e. a self-ascription and ascription by others. Constructivists emphasize the subjective manipulability, flexibility and strategic quality of ethnicity.

Constructivist theorist Aalen (2008) views ethnicity not as objectively given, but rather as socially constructed, fluid, flexible, susceptible to change over time, situationally defined and rational socio-cultural construction. Ethnicity can be made through fission in which some groups left the existing society to have their own group and fusion in which two members form new ethnicity via assimilation either vertically or horizontally (Aalen,2008; Sisay,2007). Moreover, as Esman (2004) noted ethnic groups may pass from history and new solidarities may be created by new circumstances. Intermarriage could be a good example here and even individuals or groups coming as strangers and be affiliated to a certain group, “guests becoming brothers, first metaphorically and then in a more and more binding sense” (Shlee & Shongolo, 1995:8). Myth and history are used to help to legitimize such construction.

Hence, constructivists argue that ethnicity is constructed from dense webs of social interactions. For constructivists ethnicity is not an individual attribute, but it is rather a social

phenomenon. A person's identity remains beyond the choice or control of that individual and hence ethnicity according to this approach is an endless process of becoming (Brubaker, 1995).

Social constructionists regard ethnic solidarity as the creation of human imagination, an intellectual construct, not an objective reality. However, it has no basis in nature, it can be regarded as real to the extent that people treat it as reality and behave accordingly. Thus, ethnic communities are likely to be transitory, as individuals "negotiate" their identity and may find it beneficial to be affiliated with more than a single ethnic group and to move easily among them. In its perspective, social constructivism is closely linked to post-modernist beliefs that the world we experience is composed mostly of intellectually invented symbols and that notions of objective reality are false and illusory (Esman, 2004).

Constructivists categorically reject the notion that ethnic identity is both a natural phenomenon and a tool that is manipulated by ethnic entrepreneurs for individual and collective political ends. Constructivists contend that ethnic and national identities are enduring social constructions. In other words, ethnic identities are products of human choices rather than biologically given by nature (Taras & Ganguly, 2010; Jenkins, 2008; Esman, 2004).

For constructivists, conflicts happen because of certain types of what might be called pathological social system, which individuals could not control. In this regard, the social set up that breeds violent conflicts are not individuals. Constructivists see ethnic identity as a social construction and thus each conflict has its special social origin (Chipman, 1993; Xu, 2012).

To conclude, ethnicity and ethnic-conflicts are such complex phenomena of the world we live in today. The debate between and/among these three theoretical approaches is ongoing and never ending. Which theory drives a given ethnic identity and conflict may vary in place and time based on the social, cultural and political context of each community, ethnic group and country at large. But, these theories on ethnicity can only provide clear starting point while thinking about the nature of ethnicity, its causes, dynamics and impacts. Otherwise, there is no scholarly agreement on the essence of ethnicity and ethnic conflicts. As a result, the nature and causes of ethnic conflict are debated among political scientists and sociologists. Explanations generally fall into one of the above three major theories (approaches) that enable to answer

questions of how ethnic identity is formed, why it persists and what causes ethnic conflict (Bantayehu, 2016)

In reference to empirical researches, personal observation and practical experiences the researcher claims that somewhat the constructivist and particularly the instrumentalist view of ethnic identity and ethnic conflict is more expressive, appropriate and best fitted to ethnicity and the interethnic conflict that has been seen in the research area in particular and in Ethiopia in general since 1991 for about three decades. That means, in understanding of ethnicity and ethnic conflicts, based on the results obtained from the data analysis, the researcher is forced to take the position that ethnic identity and ethnic conflicts in Ethiopia are largely socially constructed but can be manipulated or instrumentalized by political elites or few political entrepreneurs for achieving their own ideological, political or economic goals. As a result, this ethnic based rhetoric has developed a generalized ethnic prejudice and stereotypes that provoked controversies that led to ethnic conflict and ethnic antagonisms.

In ethnic politics, people tend to look at other people and categorize them (the out-groups) as their natural antagonists and distance them, while benefit those in their group and get closer to them (in-groups). But when we see the reality on the ground people live together and socially interact, in order to overcome the challenges of life. Hence, it is so important to respect ethnic diversity however; it shouldn't be politicized for the sake of achieving few individuals' or group's hidden political motives.

In fact, in Ethiopia, it is true that there are crosscutting social identities due to the movement of people throughout the different parts of the country in search of better life, for trade and many other reasons which created intermarriages, assimilation and integration of people. For instance, religion and ethnic identity are the two most important social identities largely crosscut across the country. However, we can notice a complex form of intermarriage and assimilation within the Ethiopian society which can be easily identified by the color of the people.

Thus, in the researcher's point of view there is no primordially pure "A", "B", or "C" or "other" ethnic group to be identified in black and white in Ethiopia. Because, the Ethiopian society is not as it was or static for a long period of time, rather it is mixed, assimilated, changed

and modified across time. Therefore, the emerging ethnic identities and their recognition from time to time can be an example of such social construction and instrumentalization of ethnic identity. For example, we can notice the recent ethnic identity formation (social construction) and recognitions given by the EPRDF led government to the newly recognized ethnic groups in some Southern Nations and Nationalities State such as the Alle of SNNPRS and Kemant of Amhara National Regional State (ANRS) and others (Sisay, 2007) cited in Bantayehu.

2.1.3. Social Psychological Theories on Ethnic Conflict

Apart from anthropological and sociological views, social psychologists also have their own views regarding the issues of racial/ethnic conflict. According to social psychologists there are a few social psychological theories that help examine (study) the individual and intergroup processes that drive ethnic conflict: realistic conflict theory, social identity theory, social dominance theory and social distinctiveness theory. (See Table 1 for a comparison of the processes driving ethnic conflict proposed by these theories)

Realistic Group Conflict Theory

According to realistic group conflict theory (Bobo, 1983, 1988), group conflict and ethnocentric attitudes and behaviors are primarily functions of realistic competition between groups over scarce resources and perceived threats to group position. For instance, whites, as members of the dominant group in the United States, develop attitudes and beliefs that defend their privileged, hegemonic social position. The dominant group seeks to legitimize the current inequalities through these group-interested ideologies and to perpetuate them by engaging in discriminatory behavior. In this light, whites' opposition to redistributive social policies like affirmative action is viewed not as a reflection of negative feelings or beliefs about minority groups per se, but rather as a reflection of defense of group privilege in a conflict over valued

social resources, status, and power. From this perspective, the affirmative action debate is one about the place racial groups should occupy in American society. Consistent with realistic group conflict predictions, Bobo (1997) found that the more whites perceive that the advancement of blacks (in terms of employment and housing opportunities, political influence, and economics) comes at the expense of the advancement of members of other groups, the more they perceive that affirmative action for blacks has negative effects.

Social identity theory

According to social identity theory (Tajfel & Turner, 1986), individuals hold conceptualizations of the self at both an individual and a group level. Personal identity refers to those aspects of the self that differentiate one individual from others within a given social context. Social identity refers to those aspects of the self that relate to group membership, or that are defined in terms of the groups to which one belongs. When group boundaries are made salient, individuals categorize people as members of their own group (in-group) or as members of another group (out-group), and start to compare their group to other groups on the basis of some evaluative criteria. Individuals are motivated to achieve and maintain a positive image of their in-group. One way they may do so is by comparing their in-group with out-groups perceived to be inferior or superior on some evaluative dimension. This preference or favoritism places their in-group at an advantage relative to other out-groups. When there is a power differential, in-group favoritism can have dramatic implication for the unequal distribution of economic and social resources. For example, social identities based on race will trigger evaluative comparisons with other racial groups. Individuals are motivated to achieve a positive social identity by favoring their own racial group over other racial groups. This, in-group favoritism may translate into resistance to affirmative action policies when these policies are perceived to benefit members of other racial

groups at the expense of one's own racial group. Members of groups with greater access to resources may thus oppose redistributive social policies like affirmative action because such policies threaten to reverse the favorable evaluation of their group relative to other groups.

Table 1: Comparison of the Processes Driving Racial Conflict Proposed by Four Social Psychological Theories

	Theory	Primary Force Driving Racial Conflict
	Realistic group conflict theory	Competition between groups over scarce resources and perceived threats to group position.....
	Social identity theory	individuals' motivation to achieve a positive social identity by favoring their own group over other group
	Social dominance theory	Individuals' desires for group inequality and the domination of "inferior" groups by "superior" groups
	Optimal distinctiveness theory	Individuals' motivation to identify with optimally distinct groups, i.e., those that are large enough to satisfy an individual's need for belonging and inclusion and small enough to satisfy the need for distinctiveness and differentiation

Optimal distinctiveness theory

Optimal distinctiveness theory (Brewer, 1991) is an extension of social identity theory that views social identity as a compromise between opposing needs for similarity to others and differentiation from others. Social identification and group loyalty will be strongest for groups that are optimally distinct, i.e., those that are large enough to satisfy an individual's need for belonging and inclusion and small enough to satisfy the need for distinctiveness and

differentiation. Groups that are in the numerical minority are more likely to be optimally distinct because they offer both a sense of being similar to fellow minority group members and a sense of being different from members of the majority group; minority group members are therefore more likely to exhibit strong in-group identity and loyalty. The greater sense of belonging found among minority group members may explain the benefits derived from participation in any racial/ethnic organizations and minority support programs (Hurtado, Dey, & Trevino, 1994). Membership in the majority group of whites, on the other hand, is too inclusive an identity to stimulate feelings of belonging. From this perspective, members of the majority group are more inclined to identify themselves in individual terms rather than as part of an overly inclusive category (Tajfel, 1978). Since whites are less likely to identify themselves in terms of their racial group membership, they may be more opposed to affirmative action policies because such policies require the identification of people by race.

Social dominance theory

According to social dominance theory (Sidanius, 1993; Sidanius & Pratto, in press), individuals differ in the degree to which they desire unequal status relations between groups in society.

Individuals who want groups at the bottom of the social hierarchy to be kept down and dominated by groups at the top of the hierarchy endorse a variety of ideologies which justify greater levels of social inequality, such as racism, individualism, and the Protestant work ethic. Racist beliefs reinforce the social hierarchy because they portray racial-status differences as being legitimately based on inherent differences in group members' ability and potential. Other ideologies like individualism and the Protestant work ethic lack specific racial content but still function to reinforce racial inequality because they attribute the lower status of blacks to lack of ability and lack of motivation. Individuals who desire group-based dominance are expected to

show more support for ideologies like racism, individualism, and the Protestant work ethic, and their support for these “system-justifying” ideologies is expected to translate into greater opposition to redistributive social policies like affirmative action. From this perspective, then, the primary driving force behind opposition to affirmative action is individuals’ desires for group inequality and the domination of “inferior” groups by “superior” groups. This approach directly contradicts claims that opposition to affirmative action is rooted in “principled” adherence to ideologies like individualism and the Protestant work ethic. Rather, endorsement of these ideologies is viewed as a way for individuals who want to maintain the social hierarchy to justify their racially motivated opposition to affirmative action. Consistent with social dominance predictions, several studies have found that opposition to affirmative action is driven in large part by desires for group-based dominance (Sidanius, Levin, Rabinowitz, & Federico, in press; Sidanius, Pratto, & Bobo, 1996; Singh, Sidanius, Hetts, & Federico, 1997).

In sum, given the current racial status hierarchy, “colorblindness” will perpetuate the racial status quo due to the operation of unintentional racial biases, group identity processes, group competition, and group dominance motives. These processes contribute to the unequal treatment of minority groups and generate opposition to redistributive social policies designed to ameliorate their condition. Social psychological research therefore suggests that a race-neutral or colorblind approach is unfair because it ignores the many ways in which race matters in society.

Social Categorization

Objections to affirmative action stem not only from beliefs that the policy is unfair, but also from beliefs that treating people differently on the basis of their group membership is antithetical to the goal of achieving a society in which opportunities and outcomes are independent of group membership. From this perspective, categorizing people into ethnic groups highlights group

differences and thereby engages people's natural tendency to identify with their group, favor their own group over other groups, and defend their group's interests in conflicts over resources like university admissions.

A great deal of social psychological research has demonstrated the profound effects of social categorization. Creating group boundaries or highlighting existing ones can strongly influence the perceptions, evaluations, and judgments of both members of one's own in-group and members of other out-groups. For example, categorizing people into in-groups and out-groups causes people to view members of out-groups as more similar to one another (Wilder, 1981), and generates more negative evaluations (Tajfel, 1981), stereotypic perceptions (Rothbart, 1981), and negative attributions (Pettigrew, 1979) for the behavior of out-group members than in-group members. However, other research has shown that there may be advantages to recognizing the social category membership of individuals. For example, Freidman (1989) found that, in an organizational setting, making people in the dominant group pay attention to categorical information about people in the subordinate group (i.e., information related to their group membership) did not lower evaluations of subordinate group members. Rather, white managers evaluated Hispanic managers most positively when they were presented with both individuating and categorical information, and least positively when they were presented with individuating information alone. In another study, Clayton (1996) examined attitudes toward social categorization among two samples of college students and found that, while students were generally opposed to categorizing people on the basis of their group membership, opposition to affirmative action: (1) varied depending on whether the group of beneficiaries was a racial, gender, religious, sexual orientation, or college major group, and (2) was not based solely on objections to social categorization. Affirmative action for ethnic minority group members

received more negative ratings than did affirmative action for women, replicating earlier findings (Clayton, 1992; Smith & Kluegel, 1984).

These results disconfirm the view that objections to affirmative action policies are based on a reluctance to identify people according to their social group. They also indicate that resistance to affirmative action, while apparently based on objective standards of justice, is actually influenced by subjective reactions to the group who will benefit from the policy. Consistent with these findings are those indicating that among the most important predictors of opposition to affirmative action are negative racial attitudes, in the form of modern racism (McConahay, 1986), symbolic racism (Jacobson, 1985; Kinder & Sears, 1981), aversive racism (Dovidio, Mann, & Gaertner, 1989), social dominance orientation (Singh, Sidanius, Hetts, & Federico, 1997), and perceived threat to the privileged position of whites (Bobo, 1997). The preponderance of empirical research therefore suggests that fairness requires taking race into account in affirmative action policies, because race influences social perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors in ways that disadvantage members of minority groups.

In sum, the social psychological research literature presents two main predictors of affirmative action opposition: racial attitudes and fairness beliefs. Dovidio and Gaertner's aversive racism framework further contends that racial attitudes and fairness beliefs are intimately related: Their research demonstrates that "although concerns about the fairness of affirmative action programs may be articulated as reasons to oppose these programs, subtle [racial] biases may be operating by influencing these perceptions of fairness, which in turn affect the intensity of the negative reactions" (Dovidio & Gaertner, 1996). Sidanius, Levin, Rabinowitz, and Federico (in press) drew similar conclusions from a comparison of the social dominance and principled conservatism approaches to affirmative action opposition. While proponents of the principled

conservatism model argue that political conservatives are ideologically opposed to affirmative action because the policy violates ideals of fairness and individual responsibility, Sidanius and his colleagues (in press) found that conservatives' opposition to affirmative action was driven primarily by their desires for group inequality and group based dominance, rather than by their political ideology per se. If beliefs about fairness are driven by racial attitudes, then some people who claim to oppose affirmative action policies because they are unfair may be using the fairness argument in order to justify racially motivated opposition to affirmative action policies.

2.2. The Causes and Actors of Ethnic Conflict in Multi-ethnic Societies

Depending on the context of each country or society, ethnic conflict can be caused by different factors such as economic, political, and socio-cultural and security factors. According to Sisay as cited in Bantayehu, in ethnically divided societies like Africa, ethnic conflict is not the result of only a single factor rather it is caused by variety of factors.

Similarly, in Ethiopia ethnic conflicts are caused by multiple factors such as historical factors, politicization of ethnicity, ethnic bias & favoritism, competition for economic resources, lack of economic and social opportunities, poor governance, lack of fair&equal political representation, lack of security, ethno-centric federalism and politics (Sisay, 2007).

Conflict actors are all those engaged in or being affected by the conflict. In ethnic conflict, there are different actors that differ as to their goals and interests, positions and capacities Norwegian Church Aid (NCA, 2012). Thus, the actors of ethnic conflict are varied across different countries or societies, which include internal and external actors. The dominant players among these actors are those which flare ethnic clashes between and among the different ethnic groups with their hidden motives of seizing and maintaining their power and maximizing their own benefits, otherwise the rest others (the community) are the minor players of the game.

Conflict dynamics is the resulting interaction between the context, causes and actors of the conflict (Department for International Development (DFID, 2002). Conflict dynamics in

Africa are complex and involve a multiplicity of inter-locking local to international actors (Nasongo, 2015).

In general, the dynamics of ethnic conflict is described in the escalation and de-escalation of the conflict, the windows of opportunity and scenarios of the conflict. Brown as cited in Tigabu (2018) has identified four main categories of contextual factors that make —...some places are more predisposed to violence than others: structural factors; political factors; economic/social factors; and cultural/perceptual factors (Brown, 1996).

Hossien (2016) classifies the causes of conflict as ethno-cultural factors that include language, religion & customs; discrimination factors which includes political, economic & social factors in relation to inequality and injustices; and consensus the influence of media.

Gurr and Moor (1997) use a synthetically model built on relative deprivation that gives attention to discrimination concepts, which can be divided into political, economic and cultural discrimination. The causes of conflicts can be explained differently by different scholars however, they can be categorized into the following headings:

Political & Ideological Factors

Conflict is explained by greed or grievances where there are feelings of ethnic or political marginalization as one group becomes advantaged while another group becomes disadvantaged in terms of access to natural resources (Macartan, 2005). We can also call this ethnic bias & favoritism. According to Tigabu (2018) the most striking political factors of interethnic conflicts in a multi-ethnic federation like that of Ethiopia... is the tension between the claim of indigenous ethnic groups to control the whole political seats on the one hand, and the call by non-indigenous minorities to be accommodated in the political institutions. Moreover, the claim for fair political representation, participation, and equal opportunity of appointment (power-sharing) and self-rule are the main factors. The other striking political factor is the ambiguity on the implementation of constitutionally settled principles of unity in diversity. Also, the claim of identity recognition related issues are other political factors for inter-ethnic conflicts to arise. For instance, the claim of Wolene ethnic group for identity recognition in Gurage zone; the claim of Danta-Dubamo people for identity in Hadiya Nationality Zone are some of prominent inter-ethnic conflicts in SNNPRS (ibid)

Economic Factors

With regard to Economic factors the resource based theory of conflict stems from the presence of inequality, i.e. economic inequality. Likewise, Markakis underlines the role of economic resources in creating ethnic conflict. As to him, regardless of the form it may take, the real causes of ethnic clashes in the Horn of Africa is the desire to secure access to resources..., in a situation where there is scarcity of resources and unequal distribution of those resources among different ethnic group is the major factor for the cause of ethnic conflict (Markakis, 1994).

Social Factors

According to Kymlicka, as cited in Tigabu (2018) the social factors like culture, language, history and the likes are also the factors for the ethnic conflict. Kymlicka (2006) argues that a societal culture is defined as: a culture which provides its members with meaningful way of life across the full range of human activities, which include educational, religious, recreational and economic life encompassing both public and private spheres. These cultures tend to be territorially concentrated and based on a shared language. Thus, these rights of societal culture if not accommodated properly, it can be a cause for inter-ethnic conflicts (Tigabu, 2018). But these factors are categorized as socio-cultural factors by other scholars.

The Ethnic Security Dilemma

The ethnic security dilemma refers to competition between ethnic groups for control of the government's power which Cohen's (1997) also called ethnic outbidding. Under such situations, any attempt by one state to increase its security threatens its neighbors' security. Thus, the dilemma is that any efforts to increase one's security tend to leave all players worse off (Jervis, 1978; Waltz, 1979). This will by any means instigate and exacerbate ethnic conflict. Because groups may fear that others control the government and may use its resources (the army, the secret police, the courts, economic influence) against them. Thus, the search for security motivates groups in divided societies to seek to control the state power or secede if the state's neutrality cannot be assured. Obviously, these efforts can exacerbate the situation, because one group's attempts to control the state will reinforce the fears of others, so they respond by competing to influence and even control the government. In the ethnic security dilemma, then, essentially occurs when the efforts of one group to control the government cause all to be worse

off. The competition between groups creates the risk that a relatively neutral or harmless government will fall into the hands of one group that could dominate the others.

The core notion of the ethnic security dilemma is the fear that another group may attempt to control the state at one's expense. Although the capture of a government by a hostile ethnic group can occur in both authoritarian and democratic regimes, the temptation is perhaps greater in a democracy in which leaders often compete with each other to be the best defender of their ethnic group. Ethnic outbidding is a well-known dynamic in ethnically divided democracies (Horowitz, 1985; Rabushka & Shepsle, 1972; Rothschild, 1981).

Un-proportional Political Representation of Ethnic Minorities

In particular, government systems with un-proportional representation systems have much more ethnic conflict than those with proper representation. Because, under proportional representation system minority ethnic groups are more likely to have at least some representation in the legislature, and their members are thus more satisfied that their concerns are being heard within the existing political arrangements. Thus, neither large-scale demonstrations nor violence is required for groups to have some say over their destinies (Seidman, 2008)

Unequal Power Balance: Social Dominance Theory

Political differences matter because groups that cannot act through ordinary political channels or are limited in their ability to do so engage in larger protests and more violence if their rights are misjudged. So, political domination exacerbates ethnic conflict because those groups which are dominated may raise the questions of equal representation. So, if the reduction of conflict is the goal, then leaders should not dominate the power by their own ethnic group and discriminate against other groups politically. Institutional design has important implications for the stability of most political systems. The problem, of course, is that politicians making choices about institutional design worry about not only what is best for their country and what is best for each ethnic group's security but also what is best for themselves OR for their political system. The real challenge ahead is to encourage politicians to adopt constitutional changes that might lead to more ethnic peace even if such modifications threaten incumbents' positions (Seidman, 2008)

2.3. The Effects and Consequences of Ethnic Conflict

Ethiopia had long suffered from ethnic conflict between different ethnic groups. The ethnic conflict between different ethnic groups or communities in different regions continued for more than two decades and has resulted in a number of internally displaced people (IDPs) which are sheltered at different sites or camps. The displacement of the Oromo community from Somali region can be traced as one among the many and this internal displacement was accompanied by a number of problems on the wellbeing of the life of those internally displaced people. In this section we will try to see only few empirical studies on the effects of conflict on the life of internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Kellas, Hashmi & Majeed have estimated that due to ethnic conflict/violence ten million lives were lost during 1945 to 1975 in the post-Cold War. Likewise, Ibrahim (1998) also stated that since 1945, ethnic conflicts have claimed some 16 million lives, several times more than those dead in inter-state wars. Moreover, from 1990 to 94, nearly 800,000 people lost their lives in ethnic warfare between Hutu and Tutsi tribes in Rwanda and Burundi (Kellas, Hashmi & Majeed, cited in Bantayehu (2016). The impact of ethnic conflict has a very direct effect far beyond its epicenter. It creates instability, refugees, organized crimes and international terrorism. It also creates other ethnic conflicts in the same country or elsewhere in the region, and at times because of spillover effect of the conflict. Ethnic conflict usually forces people to be displaced from their habitual places of residence and seek refuge in the neighboring countries/regions. Moreover, the crossing of state borders because of inter-ethnic conflicts created ‘internationalized ethnic conflict’ (Moe, 2009). For example, the Hutu and Tutsi group of Rwanda and Burundi have connected both countries and the conflicts in them to others. Moreover, in Asia, Balkans and Caucasus the conflicts happened in one country endangers the neighboring country’s peace and stability. The insecurity because of ethnic conflicts created in individual states and the entire regions create conditions in which organized crime can aggravate (Wolff, 2006). In Africa due to inter-ethnic conflicts, a very large number of people are displaced from their home countries and became refugees in the neighboring countries (*Ibid*).

Conflicts have their own positive or negative impacts Zartman (1989) as cited in Kifle (2007), argued that conflicts may have functional (positive) or dysfunctional (negative) effects.

The negative effect of conflict threatens or damages growth and development of the country. The positive effects of conflict can actually strengthen group relationships. According to Zartman the adverse effects of violent ethnic conflict can be classified into three general categories: political, economic and socio-cultural impacts.

Dagne, on his part illustrates the detail aspect as follows: First, the political effect of ethnic conflict could be the weakening, disintegration and possible collapse of the central government. What is hinted here is that ethnic conflict can play a crucial role both in the collapse of the central government; and at the extreme cases, can result in the disintegration of the country as a whole, because, ethnic conflict leads to the breakdown of law, order and stability in the first place. Second, from economic aspect ethnic conflicts destroy the very bases of development: environmental resources, economic infrastructures, deter long run investment and the productive labor force will be drained, which in turn results in production and productivity declines (Dagne, 2009)

The social consequences of inter-ethnic conflict results in loss of social services, displacement of people as refugees, humanitarian crisis, and vulnerable groups such as women, children, and the elderly as well as the disabled will often be affected seriously. Ethnic conflict claims the lives of many people, destroys property, and diverts human as well as financial resources away from development. It can also cause displacement of people from their habitual residence or home on both sides of the rival groups (Daniel, 2015).

Displacement has various consequential impacts on the life of the displaced people. That means, ethnic conflicts can impact the life of displaced ones in a number of ways and some of them may include social, economic, political, psychological and even cultural impacts. And some of the social impacts can include the loss of human life, displacement of people from their area of habitual residence and violation of human rights are some to be mentioned among the many. Furthermore, it leads citizens to lack of education, cultural and religious discrimination, overpopulation, unemployment and corruption. Also it implies living on marginal or fragile environments, without access to social services such as health facilities & clean water or sanitation, in the camp setting and lack of power to decide up on their future and nonexistence of institutions that deal with their issues (Dereje,2019).

During conflict, families, clans and communities are displaced and separated. Conflicts have led to the breakdown of customary and cultural values such as councils of elders, common property resources, grazing rights, religious ceremonies, marriage rights and other indigenous systems of organization and social control (Cheruiyot, & Sabala, cited in Tesfaye, 2019).

Economic Impacts

Considering the kind of attacks launched during ethnic violence it is undeniable that insurmountable property is lost and infrastructures are destroyed in the process. Destruction, looting and devastation of property, homes and farms imply that victims are left in a state of destitution and in a state of total dependency. Thus, Ethnic violence does negatively affect both individuals and the country's various economic sectors in general leading to economic deterioration & bankruptcy of the whole country. Individuals lose jobs; businesses cease to operate or operate at reduced frequency in fear of looting, economic sectors come to a standstill, etc (Tigabu, 2018).

Economic problems IDPs are facing can include not having enough to feed and clothe a family, not having the land on which to grow one's food or a job to earn one's living, economic insecurity, and exclusion of individual households and communities. Poverty, which is a fundamental denial of choice and opportunities as a major indicator of socio-economic problems also leaves those conflict affected people in a total deprivation.

In general, as ethnic conflicts are not caused by single factor, so do they have no single effect, rather they do have multiple effects, consequences and challenges such as social, economic, political, and psychological and also security impacts. Therefore, from empirical researches and the researchers' observation and experience ethnic conflicts can affect the life of citizens in a number of ways as seen above and the above points are only few ones among the many.

Psychosocial Problems of Internal Displacements

When conflict is accompanied by internal displacement, it results in a number of crises in the life of those displaced persons and one of these is the feeling of separation and loss of

belonging. According to Maslow's need hierarchy theory humans naturally have the need for belonging, which refers to a sense of attachment or connection and involvement to the surrounding environment both socially and physically, it is the feeling of being fit and valued through shared characters within a given social system (Williams, Coyne, & Early, 1996). So, detachment from the feeling of belongingness can be a painful psychological experience for an individual. In the process of forced migration a person may experience tremendous losses that may shatter the sense of security and confidence in the world, which can affect one's decision making power (Murray, 2001). The world can be an unpredictable and unreliable place for those who experience major losses such as their loved ones, traditions, native language, values, social status, significant relationships, financial security, familiar pattern of being and safety that is the direct experience of many immigrants (Akhtar, 2001; Litjmaer, 2001; Marlin, 1994; Yaglom, 1993). These are some of the evidences showing the psychological effects of conflict on the life of displaced persons whatever the causes of the conflict may be.

Ethnic conflict has an adverse psychosocial effect on the wellbeing of IDPS & their children, however, many studies focus on refugees' traumatic experiences and the effects of these experiences on their mental condition as well as on their process of adaptation to their new environments, but internally displaced people (IDPs) who are relocated due to conflict have been neglected and given much less attention in this regard.

In the process of forced displacement people encounter many losses and feel various sense of loss. So, due to such emotional feelings life among these IDPs may not make sense anymore. Therefore, the individual may experience the feelings of confusion, helplessness, and lack of control over one's life. This may lead to negative emotional outcomes such as anxiety, depression and low self-esteem. Anxiety is a sense of isolation and homesickness which is a frequent problem that easily become chronic when not treated or resolved properly, and can present serious implications for overall psychosocial wellbeing, including depression and psychosomatic functional disorders such as stress-related ulcer, migraine and disabling back pain (Carballo, Divino and Zeric 1998). Together with the challenges of resettling in new societies and cultures and doing so under difficult conditions, these problems often lead to a heavy reliance on alcohol, tobacco & other addictive substances, and in the case of males who move alone, recourse to sex workers.

Some researchers also suggest forced migration could negatively impact the psychological wellbeing of the person, and put the individual at risk of mental disorders, such as PTSD (Leopold & Harrell-Bond, 1994) and (Dereje, 2019) which can also be true for those who were displaced due to interethnic conflicts.

2.4. Summary and Implications of the Reviewed Literatures

The purpose of reviewing those scholarly literatures is to show the link between the causes, actors and consequences of ethnic conflict in a given conflict setting. Thus, in the review of literature it has been tried to provide some directions through the jungle of conceptual definitions and theoretical frameworks, which are common in the fields of conflict studies. First, the concepts of ethnic identity; ethnic groups and ethnic conflict along with theoretical approaches were defined. Then, due emphasis was given to the underlying causes, triggering factors, consequences and effects of ethnic conflict in view of different scholarly empirical studies and how different scholars explained the issues of ethnic conflict and on ways of managing and resolving those conflicts. Then, based on those evidences the researcher has tried to shape the research questions and objectives of the present study in order to deal with the conflict situation that happened in Ethio-Somali region and along the Oromia-Somali border between the two ethnic communities and as to how to go about addressing the problems i.e. identifying the causes, the main actors and consequences of this conflict on the wellbeing of those internally displaced people that were relocated to Sululta site as a result of that conflict. And some of the main research outcomes or the research findings can be traced as follows:

First, from all the documents reviewed and from the findings obtained, the researcher could comprehend that ethnic conflicts have different causes& triggering factors behind the scene and these causes/factors can be shortly explained in terms of different variables such as political, economic, socio-cultural and security factors, which in turn can further split down into multiple sub-factors such as the claim of identity recognition, power dominance, politicization of ethnicity, ethnic-favoritism, competition for economic resources, lack of economic and social opportunities, historical narrations, poor governance, lack of fair & equal political representation, lack of security, etc. These are some of the mostly stated causes of ethnic conflicts by most of the scholars in the literatures.

Seen with another perspective based on empirical evidences the concepts of identity and competition for resources, power dominance and identity recognition were found to be at the heart of any ethnic conflicts as the major causes. That means, as elsewhere in other African countries, in Ethiopia also ethnic conflicts are caused by multiple factors such as politicization of ethnicity, competition for economic resources, historical factors, lack of economic and social opportunities, poor governance, lack of fair/equal political representation, lack of security, ethno-centric federalism and politics (Sisay, 2007). Thus, these factors that cause ethnic conflict can be generalized into the following major heading categories: ethno-linguistic & cultural factors; political factors; economic factors; social factors; historical factors and geographical and territorial factors.

Similarly, when it comes to the effects and consequences of conflicts, it is obvious that these violent inter-ethnic conflicts can be accompanied by multiple effects and consequences. But, they can generally be categorized into economic, social & psychological consequences, and these can be explained in terms of loss of lives of loved ones, physical attacks, destruction and plundering of properties and infrastructures, displacement of multitudes from their habitual places of residence to newer areas where life may be hard for them; human rights violations and which in turn can cause psychological problems such as negative feeling of emotions like anger, hatred, resentment and grievances, victim mentality and vengeance, suspicion & mistrust against others up on the life of those internally displaced people and traumatic experiences such as PTSD if the conflict case is violent & the worst in case (Teskaye, 2019)

So, if not studied well and proper remedial and/or preventive solutions are sought, it may lead to a profound political, economic and social turmoil and disintegration of the country like that of the then giant USSR.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH DESIGN & METHODOLOGY

It is obvious that relevant and necessary data are needed for any research to answer the intended research questions and to achieve the set objectives and reach the final outcome. Thus, this section of the study deals with the research design, the study area, sources and instruments of data collection used; sample size & sampling techniques employed; and selection of research participants. In addition, the fieldwork experience and the methods and procedures of data analysis and interpretation were discussed. Finally, ethical considerations were presented in this section.

3.1. Research Design

In the present study concurrent triangulation research design which involves mixed research method was employed. That means, both quantitative and qualitative data were collected in order to answer the intended research questions. Concurrent triangulation research design is characterized by two or more methods used in a single research to confirm, cross-validate, or corroborate findings within a study. In this research data collection is concurrent which means both methods are used to overcome the weakness in using one method with the strengths of another.

According to Luthan (2005) cited in Meskerem (2014) employing both research methods in a research study is highly advisable for the reason that the findings of the study would become more realistic for further applicability and adds to the significance of generalizing from the findings of the study. Besides, using mixed approach allows the advantage of triangulation of data using different methods or techniques in order to get better research results. In addition, it may enable the researcher to triangulate or contrast whether his/her research is in congruence with other empirical studies or not (both in the qualitative & quantitative)

Furthermore, according to Hanson et al. (2005), and Yauch and Steudel (2003), in concurrent triangulation design, the collection and analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data can be done simultaneously by giving equal priority to both forms of data, and data analysis can usually be conducted separately, and integration usually occurs at the data interpretation stage. For Creswell et al (2003), the advantage of concurrently gathering both quantitative and

qualitative data is that it allows the researcher to compare the themes identified in the qualitative data analysis with the statistical results obtained in the quantitative analysis so as to search for congruence of findings (Tesfaye, 2019). This might consist of open-ended information that the researcher would gather through focus groups, interview and observations along with the close ended questionnaires.

With regard to the methodology, descriptive survey method was adopted for the present study. The population selected for this study consisted of IDPs who were displaced from Ethio-Somali Region & from along the border areas and resettled at Sululta site shelters.

3.2. Description of the Study Area & Conflict Area

Sululta Town Administration is a town that is located, 23kms to the North of Addis Ababa city. It is found in the Oromia regional state, in the Special Zone of Oromia surrounding Finfine. The town was founded in 1929 E.C. According to information obtained from the town's administration, the total population of the town was 129,000 according to the census made in 2007 E.C. But, the exact number of present population is not known for sure, because no census was made since the year 2007. However, it is estimated to be 130,000 (Sululta Town Administration, Mayor's Office)

Its astronomical location lies between $9^{\circ} 17' 84''$ N Latitude and $38^{\circ} 75' 79''$ East Longitude. It has linear shape, which means the houses are concentrated mainly along the main road on the way from Addis to Gojjam. Topographically, its altitude lies between 2600 – 3230 m. a. s. l. with mean annual temperature to be 18° C and mean annual rainfall of 800-1200mm, which means it, has a relatively lower temperature throughout most of the year. The surrounding mountainsides are covered with forest dominated by *Juniperus procera*, and the lower slopes supported groves of acacia species. However, most of the hillsides around Sululta are now covered with plantations of Eucalyptus trees, with only odd native trees remaining, except for the groves protected by the Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

These IDPs were displaced from Ethio-Somali region due to ethnic clashes that happened between the two communities (Somali & Oromo) and these displaced people did arrive to this area in September 2017 and made to settle in this town, along the main road at three site shelters:

Ashewa, Kajima and Gelana site shelters. The sites are situated at a distance of ½ to 2 kilometers far apart from one other.

Hence, the target participants of the present study were selected from those three sites to be the representative households of IDPs that have been relocated to Sululta Town at three sites.

The conflict area encompasses mainly the Somali Regional State and the border areas in eastern Hararghe Zone of the Oromia Regional State. So, as it is reasonably stated in the limitation section, because of its distance & COVID-19 pandemic actually participants from the conflict area were not included.

3.3. Data Sources and Target Population Selection

In this study, all the necessary data were obtained from both primary and secondary data sources. The secondary sources were collected through document analysis and are used to supplement the primary data. The primary data for the quantitative data were obtained through a self-developed Likert scale questionnaire, consisting of three instruments that measure the perceived causes of the conflict (19-items); main conflict actors (6-items), and the psychosocial & economic consequences of the conflict (15-items). While, the qualitative data were obtained via focus group discussion (FGD) guides consisting of 12 questions, 5 unstructured interview questions and household observation and visits paid to the IDPs shelter settings & houses where IDPs are currently living a miserable life.

In addition, the secondary sources were obtained from conflict situation official reports, theses, dissertations, journal articles, books, newspapers and academic literatures.

3.4. Study Participants, Sampling Technique & Sample Size Determination

Totally, 6527 internally displaced persons did arrive and allowed to settle at Sululta site in 1164 households (HHs). The sites are Ashewa, Kajima and Gelana sites which are located along the main road.

Out of these total 1164 IDP households resettled at the three site shelters, a sample size of 297 households were selected to be the research participants. By using stratified random sampling technique 297 households were selected to respond to the quantitative questionnaire;

and 14 informants for the focus group discussion; and 7 interviewees for unstructured interview were selected using purposive sampling to secure the most resourceful individuals from the IDP community, and the data collection process was accomplished with the help of community leaders and research assistants.

In the study both random and non-random sampling schemes were employed in the present study because, as it is suggested by Onwuegbuzie and Collins (2007), sampling scheme consisting of non-random sampling for the qualitative component and random sampling for the quantitative component is the common combination in mixed methods research design.

A self-developed questionnaire related to the causes, actors and key psychosocial & economic consequences of the conflict on the life of those vulnerable IDP people were prepared and used for data collection. Taking into consideration the medium of communication of the participants the main questionnaire was prepared in English language and was translated into Oromiffa language by language translators at translation house and then verified by a language professional.

For the quantitative data in order to sample the population the researcher used stratified probability sampling technique and selected a sample size of 297 households out of 1164 total household population. To accomplish this the study has applied a simplified formula provided by Yamane, (1967) to determine the required sample size at 95% confidence level, degree of variability = 0.5. Thus, the calculation to determine the sample size was done as hereunder:

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

Where:

n = Desired sample size

N = Total population size

e = Accepted error limit (0.05) on the basis of 95 percent degrees of confidences put into

decimal form:
$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{1164}{1+1164(0.05)^2} = \frac{1164}{1+2.91} = n = 297.6982; \quad n = \sim 297$$

See table 1 below for the details of how sample proportions were drawn from each of the study sites. The sampling procedure was done in the following way:-

Sample proportion for site 1 (As01) = Number of households from Ashewa site multiplied by 297 divided by the total population: $= \frac{380 \times 297}{1164} = 97$

Sample proportion for site 2 (Kj02) = Number of households from Kajima site multiplied by 297 divided by the total population: $= \frac{292 \times 297}{1164} = 75$

Sample proportion for site 3 (Ge03) = Number of households from Gelana site multiplied by 297 divided by the total population: $= \frac{492 \times 297}{1164} = 125$

Sampling procedure using stratified & purposive sampling techniques

Table 2: Summary of samples that were drawn from each of the sampling frame

S.N	Name of site/Shelter	Proposed participant households for the study from each study site					
		No of Sheds	No of HHs	Sample size for Questionnaire	Family size	For FGD	For interview
1.	Ashewa site (As01)	95	380	97	1190	7	2
2.	Kajima site (Kj02)	75	292	75	2785	7	2
3.	Gelana site (Ge03)	125	492	125	2852	-	3
	Sub-Total	295	N=1164	n=297	6827	14	7
	Grand Total = 318						

3.5. Data Collection Instruments

In the present study, the researcher intended to triangulate and complement from both qualitative and quantitative methods. So, in order to achieve this goal he has employed a mixed approach which included such data collection instruments as: observation- to see what the IDP households are doing and how they are behaving; focus group discussion (FGD) - to investigate what the informants perceive about their experiences and other households pertaining to the causes, actors and immediate consequences of the conflict as well as the challenges they are in at present in their settlement sites; and self-developed questionnaire - to explore what the households do perceive, think, or feel about the causes, actors and immediate consequences of the ethnic conflict.

3.5.1 Household Observation

Observation is the tool that was used in the study, for the reason, “If observation is done accurately and subjective bias is eliminated, the information obtained relates to what is currently happening; it is not complicated by either the past behavior or future intentions or attitudes and this method is independent of respondents “willingness to respond” (Kothari, 2004). Hence, observation was employed to get firsthand information. Then, the researcher paid personal visits to the selected households in order to authenticate information obtained through other data collection tools and to observe the reaction of households. To achieve this observation checklist which contains the observed characteristics of the victim participants was prepared. The observed characteristics of the victim participants included the physical appearance of individuals and how well they were dressed; whether they were undernourishment or not; observing their physical and mental health condition; how they relate or communicate with the researcher and with others; observed their non-verbal behavior; type & condition of their shelters both from outside & inside in terms of its quality; hygiene & sanitation conditions were also observed; toilets & water sewerage systems were observed. For detail see the observation checklist.

3.5.2. Focus Group Discussion (FGD)

Qualitative information offers participants an opportunity to describe the lived experiences through group discussion. It gives the researcher a chance to gain insight into the human experience. Focus groups were integrated into the research to understand the real experiences of people. Thus, a major theme essential to the use of focus groups is that communication among individuals who share similar characteristics can help each other express their feelings in ways that are less likely to occur in an individual dialog (Gray, 2009)

In this study, the incorporation of a focus group was used as an intervention to explore the real causes, main actors and the key psychological & economic consequences of the conflict among IDPs who were settled at Sululta IDP shelters. The focus group discussion allowed the participants to get an opportunity to share their lived experiences in a non-threatening environment.

For the FGD 12 semi-structured items were prepared by the researcher which was tested after the approval and the group discussion was held with two FGD groups at two sites composed of 7 participants each. In this FGD guide, items assessing the psychosocial& economic consequences as well as their present challenges being practiced by IDPs at their camp sites were assessed.

Prior to conducting FGDs, the study participants were contacted in person to get their consent to participate in the study and to explain the purpose of the study in some depth.

3.5.3. Questionnaire

The questionnaire contains three items: the one that assesses the causes of the conflict (19-item questions); the main actors of the conflict (6-item questions); the psychological & economic consequences of the conflict (15-item questions), while the challenges they are in at present in the new settlement site were explored via the FGD questions which contains 12 questions (open end) and 7 interview questions supported by household observations.

The study questionnaires were prepared to explore what those displaced households do perceive, think, or feel about the causes, main actors that evicted the vulnerable IDPs and the psychosocial and economic consequences of the ethnic conflict.

How/who developed them? The researcher developed the questionnaire by himself and in order to do that different source were consulted. First, the document *Guidance Note on Conflict Analysis* produced in June 2013 by the Institutional Learning Team of SFCG was used as a foundation in the development of the analytical questions. Second, the Strategic Conflict Analysis (SCA) framework adopted by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA, 2006) was used. Furthermore, Meskerem's research questions prepared for qualitative data were consulted (Meskerem, 2014).

How was its reliability & validity established? In order to establish its reliability a pilot test of 50 participants was conducted first and then its reliability coefficient was calculated after the collected data was processed using SPSS version 24, and then it was found to be fit and workable. In addition, with regard to establishing its validity, a group of five Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) were invited to provide their written comments on the clarity, adequacy, appropriateness and contextual relevance of each items based on subjective judgment in line with what literatures say. Therefore, each one of them have evaluated each question by subjectively judging the contents, and then finally it was checked& approved by the advisor for its content validity; and it was found to be fit and workable.

3.5.4. Unstructured Interview

Unstructured interview is one that does not use any fixed format; however, the interviewer may have a few planned questions prepared beforehand. As the interview is unplanned, it has an informal approach where a friendly conversation takes place between the interviewer and interviewee.

3.6. Data Collection Procedures

First, the respondents' willingness was asked by introducing the researcher's name and the objectives of the study. Then, the required data was collected according to the time schedule

with the available resources via the HH observation; FGD discussions were made and the self-developed questionnaire instruments were administered to the participants with the help of two data enumerators.

3.6.1. Instrument Validation Procedure

Immediately after getting approval from the advisor, the researcher conducted validity test and pilot test on the instruments. Wallace et.al (2003) wrote that collecting data by instruments with established validity and good psychometric qualities enables one to obtain valid and reliable data. So, in the current study, the content validity of the data collection instruments (questionnaire scales, FGD, interview, and observation) was established by using appropriate techniques.

Instrument validation for the quantitative data: for the quantitative approach first the researcher developed a questionnaire with three instruments that would enable to measure the perception of participants on the causes of the conflict; the main actors of the conflict and the psychosocial & economic consequences of the conflict. In order to validate these instruments the researcher first invited 5 subject matter experts (SMEs) to judge & examine the test items, and review the content validity of the instruments. That means, the researcher invited them to provide their written comments on the clarity, adequacy, appropriateness and contextual relevance of the items, and give directions. Moreover, to recommend which items need to be reworded, meet the context, added, or eliminated and corrected; then, got approval with some corrections & adjustments. In fact, in practice the evaluation of content validity, is usually a subjective judgmental procedure" (Shaw & Wright, 1967).

Subsequently, 50 randomly selected individuals were involved in the data collection process in order to conduct a pilot test and then after the data was collected, it was processed using SPSS version 24 for internal consistency or reliability check. Finally, to obtain this validity the researcher calculated the content validity ratios by using the most common & widely used method of calculating Cronbach Alpha by using an SPSS version 24. Then, compared the result obtained with the standard value reported in literatures. For instance, according to Pallant (2003) a scale has a good internal consistency when a Cronbach alpha of .70 or above is reported. For the present instrument, the researcher has found a Cronbach alpha of .74 before cascading. And

this shows that all the instruments (the scale) are valid and can measure what they are supposed to measure. So, it is possible to apply it for collecting the desired data for this study.

Instrument validation for the qualitative approach: - some open-ended FGD item questions were developed and discussion was made with purposively selected 14 participants in a group and then some additions and adjustments were made on the content and number of questions to be asked.

Instrument Translation Procedure: - almost all of the target participants are speakers of Afan Oromo as their native language and most of them could speak Amharic & Somali languages too for most of them were displaced from town areas like Jijiga, Degebur, Aweday, and other towns. However, most of them were unable to read, understand and give their contextual responses in English, though there were few individuals who could do so.

So, after the approval of the originally prepared English version of data collection instruments to be used in this study, the instruments were translated into the target language i.e. Afan Oromo at translation house by translators and then validated by a language professional. This was done in order to make the participants feel comfortable, though most of them can speak fluent Amharic as they came from town areas. Then, all the data collection procedures were held with native language with the help of two data enumerators, whom the researcher got from that community. The two enumerators can speak both Oromiffa and Amharic languages, and also they had good English language skills and this facilitated the process of data collection..

3.6.2. Pilot Testing Procedure

In order to check the feasibility of the study and the adequacy of the instruments, a pilot study was conducted. The test was required to make sure that the clarity, specificity, relevance, appropriateness and validity of the items are in line with the purpose of the study. Besides, before trying out the instruments an expertise review of both the FGD & interview questions was done by group of five subject matter experts and then it was reviewed by a group of these subject matter experts (SMEs) and then came up with feedback from the SMEs. Finally, the researcher also has checked the language preference of participants of the study by moving around in some selected shelters and contacted the heads of the households. Almost all purposefully selected

households revealed that it wouldn't have any problem if Amharic language could be used as a means of communication as most of them were displaced from town areas of Jigjiga, Degahbur, Warder, Kabridahar, Gode, Babile and others. But, finally Oromiffa was selected to be used for administering the questionnaire to the participants.

Immediately after the approval from the advisor and from the subject matter experts (SMEs), and after the translation work was completed, the researcher conducted a pilot test at Ashewa site with 50 participants for the quantitative scale and conducted an FGD with 7 participants before administering the questionnaire and the FGD to the sample population. This was done in order to verify the practicality and adequacy of the data collection instruments, which would enable the researcher to detect and improve the defects of the instruments, and computing the reliability of the questionnaire scales.

According to DuPlessis and Hoole (2006) as cited in (Tefaye 2018) a pilot test allows the researcher to compute the scale's reliability; check whether the questionnaire's length, wordings and instructions were acceptable enough to complete the questionnaire and determine the initial response rate.

To assure the reliability of the scales and a smooth course of the actual instrument administration, as Neuman (1997) suggests a small set of samples ($n \geq 20$) are normal in a pilot study, however, based on the advisor's guidance the researcher conducted a pre-test among a total of 50 IDP participants for the quantitative section and an FGD held with 7 participants and an oral interview was also conducted and few household observations were also undertaken which could all together help shape the nature of the research.

On top of that, before administering the instruments for pilot testing, the participants were briefed with the objectives of the entire research; about ethical considerations and they were ought to give their oral consents.

Then, after collecting the pilot data the researcher had run the Cronbach alpha reliability test using the reliability command in SPSS Version 24 and found out the following results: For the tool selected to measure the major causes of the conflict, the Cronbach alpha reliability test result was found to be 0.745; for the tool selected to measure the main actors of the conflict, the Cronbach alpha reliability test result was found to be 0.726 and finally for the tool selected to

measure the consequences of the conflict, the Cronbach alpha reliability test result was found to be 0.809, and these all depicted that the researcher could proceed dealing with the sample population and collect the required data for the final study.

According to the results obtained from the pilot test, the Alpha reliability index for each item was summarized in Table 2 as follows:

Table 3: The item reliability index

Item	Cronbach Alpha item reliability index
Causes of the conflict	0.745
Consequences of the conflict	0.809
Main actors of the conflict	0.726

Note: Table 2 shows the results of item reliability

After the completion of the pilot testing the instruments were revised further and some additions and adjustments were made and the instruments were ready to be used adequately and found to be fit with the purpose of the study and can answer the research questions appropriately and adequately, and finally the instruments were used in the final study.

3.6.3. Instrument Administration

Following the selection of the study site and preparation of the necessary instruments, the settlement camp administration was asked for permission. Then, permission was obtained to conduct the research on condition that it would by no means affect the life of the IDPs. Then, orientation was given to the data enumerators on how to administer the questionnaire, the FGD and the interview and record the responses. In addition, prior to the actual data collection, an attempt was made to contact the study participants to get their consent to participate in the study and to explain the purpose of the study and to understand their overall feelings. Then, orientation on how to respond to the questions was provided by the researcher for participants supported by the two enumerators. In addition, the respondents were encouraged to respond honestly & freely to all the items as the personal information they provide was going to be used only for the purpose of this study, and not be shared with and/or disclosed to anyone outside the study.

The instruments are composed of both the quantitative and qualitative tools, and the quantitative part consists of the questionnaire that has two parts i.e. the first part of the questionnaire is about demographic factors or background information in which the questions were designed to obtain data on sex, age, marital status and level of education. While, the second part consists of questions directly related to the conflict situation which included questions designed by the researcher to determine the details on the causes, main actors, and consequences of the conflict situation up on the IDPs. For the questionnaire part responses were scored on a 1 to 5 points Likert scale where 1 stands for strongly disagree, 2 for disagree somewhat, 3 for no response, 4 is for agree somewhat and 5 is for strongly agree, and then it was administered to the sample household respondents.

The second part of the tool consists of the FGD with 12 items in which the opinions of the participants about the conflict were reflected by the community members selected purposively from the total population. Finally, the third part consists of an interview and household observation which were done systematically hand in hand on the way of conducting the FGD discussion, but administration of the quantitative data was held later separately by the enumerators with the guidance of the researcher.

Administration of the FGD Guide: Using 12 FGD guide questions this study was mainly intended to generate information on the causes, main actors and consequences of the conflict that happened as well as the major psychosocial and economic consequences of the conflict and challenges these IDPs are facing at their shelters in Sululta site.

To achieve this goal, two FGDs were conducted at two sites at their shelter settings. But, all the FGDs were facilitated and moderated by the researcher with the help of those two data enumerators. Community members with 14 participants (7 members of participants for each) of the two sites were selected and asked to express their perceptions and experiences freely with regard to what they went through during, and after the conflict that happened between the two communities. Furthermore, in order to secure the confidentiality of the participants' responses, both in the transcription and analysis of FGD data, the participants' actual names was not used, instead such codes as As01, As 02,...As 07; Ka01, Ka02....Ka07 and P1, P2, P3..., P7, representing Ashewa site, Kajima site, and participant1, participant2..., and participant7 were used respectively.

Moreover, transcription of the FGD was organized in accordance with four major topics or themes: causes, main actors, major consequences and present psychosocial & economic challenges of internally displaced persons at their shelter residences.

Administration of Questionnaire Scales: In order to make the participants feel at ease in understanding each item of the questionnaire and give their responses appropriately, the questionnaire was translated into the local language of the participants, Afan Oromo. For those participants who are totally unable to read and write in Afan Oromo, data enumerators were assigned to read the questionnaire items for them and record their responses properly.

Generally, the questionnaire was administered at all the three sites in a face-to-face approach, where the main researcher was personally available in most of data collection times along with assistant data enumerators to elaborate the purpose of the questionnaire and clear out any doubts that the participants may raise on the questionnaire.

Administration of Observation procedures and interview guide: In the current study, the household observation was held in accordance with the check list and 7 interviews were conducted, and during the observation period the researcher has tried to observe the overall living condition of those IDPs as per the observation check list, their housing condition, economic situation and the psychosocial & emotional feelings of the target IDPs. While undertaking the observation, in each observation notes were taken on what was observed i.e. on their economic condition and the behaviors & emotions they were displaying at that moment were observed. Besides, the interviews were held appropriately with selected participants.

3.7. Data Analysis Procedure

In this study, data analysis techniques were triangulated and complemented from both qualitative (thematic) and quantitative methods.

The qualitative data generated through FGD, interview guide and household observations were analyzed by transcribing and coding the responses of the respondents, and organizing them into central themes. In analyzing qualitative data, the thematic analysis method was employed for it helps organize the data into similar categories in terms of the causes, main actors, consequences and the present economic and psychosocial challenges of the displaced people which are also in line with the research questions. While, the quantitative data were collected

through questionnaire scales and analyzed using simple descriptive statistics such as the frequency and percentage methods using software of the ‘Statistical Package for the Social Sciences’ (SPSS version 24).

3.8. Ethical Considerations

Research ethics is the “moral” principle guiding research from its inception through the completion and publication of results and beyond. In principle a social science researcher has an obligation to respect the rights, needs and desires of the informant(s) (Creswell, 1994) cited in (Bantayehu,2014). Thus, the researcher has followed the necessary ethical guidelines from the beginning to completion of this study and treated those who participated in the study appropriately as much as possible. That means, in the first place, to get informed consent from the study participants, the purpose of the study was briefly disclosed to the participants and they have been also informed that the data taken from them would be used for academic purpose only, and the researcher tried to create a friendly environment with those internally displaced participant members & with the community leaders. In addition, questionnaire, FGD, and interview participants have been informed to freely respond to the questions and that they did have the right to withdraw from the consent whenever they felt any form of discomfort and inconvenience.

The other ethical consideration taken into account was to care about confidentiality of participants’ and the data they offered. Because displacement is a politically sensitive issue, thus, information and identity of the participants have been promised to be kept confidential. The participants were also assured that pseudonyms or codes, rather than their actual names, would be used in this research report. In addition, they were told that they have the right to know the result of the study.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND PRESENTATION

4.1. Result of the Quantitative Data Analysis

This chapter attempted to make analysis and interpretation of the obtained data from the already prepared questionnaire, FGD held with participants and unstructured interviews held with the informants.

Thus, in the first part the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents have been analyzed mainly using percentages and frequency tables since they are quantitative in nature. The rationale behind collecting the demographic data is to get a full picture of the research participants and have an understanding of the nature and overall condition of those displaced people.

In the second and third parts where ranking of the responses was necessary, rating methods based on the five points Likert scale, the responses were rated as strongly disagree, disagree, no response, agree somewhat and strongly agree scales and the variables were analyzed in descriptive and frequency tables because of their quantitative nature.

As it was stated in the first chapter, the general objective of the study is to assess the causes, main actors, psychosocial consequences and present challenges of the IDPs at their present newer settlement camp sites. Thus, in order to achieve the stated objectives successfully, the researcher has analyzed and interpreted the data set as shown in the subsequent section.

4.1.1. Analysis of Socio-demographic Characteristics (sex, age, educational level and marital status)

297 self-developed questionnaires were distributed to the participants with the help of two assistant enumerators who were members of the displaced community with high school and college level education. These two enumerators supported the researcher and also the participants to complete the questionnaire appropriately. Finally, out of the 297 questionnaires only 220 papers were collected back with the overall response rate of 74 % because of participants' unwillingness to continue with the research i.e. participants' interest to withdraw from the research, all the papers were not fully returned back.

Table 4: Disaggregated socio demographic distribution of respondents with regard to their sex, age, marital status, educational level and family size category (n = 220)

	Variables	Frequency			Percent		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
	Sex:						
		93	127	220	42.3	57.7	100%
	Age description	Male	Female				
	18-30	13	17	30	5.9	7.7	13.6
	31-45	45	55	100	20.5	25	45.5
	46-60	30	49	79	13.6	22.3	35.9
	61& above	5	6	11	2.3	2.7	5.0
	Total	93	127	220	42.3	57.7	100%
	Marital status	Male	Female				
	Single	15	17	32	6.8	7.7	14.5%
	Divorced	3	3	6	1.3	1.4	2.7%
	Widowed	5	7	12	2.3	3.2	5.5%
	Married	68	98	166	30.9	44.5	75.4%
	Separated	2	2	4	1	1	2%
	Total	93	127	220	42.3	57.8	100%
	Educational Level	Male	Female				
	No Education (illiterate)	25	63	88	11.4	28.6	40%
	Literate	30	22	52	13.6	10	23.6
	Primary level	30	20	50	13.6	9.1	22.7%
	Secondary & prep.	20	2	22	9	1	10%
	College & above	8	0	8	3.6	0	3.6%
	Total	113	107	220	50.9	48.6	100%
	Family size						
	1-4	43	61	104	20	27.3	47.3
	5-8	42	49	91	19.1	22.3	41.4
	9 -12	8	16	24	3.6	7.3	10.9
	13& above	--	1	1	--	0.4	0.4
	Total	93	127	220	42.7	57.3	100%

Source: Survey conducted at Sululta site in 2020

Hence, the socio-demographic data summarized in the above table showed that about three quarter 57.7 % (n= 127), of the study participants were female and 42.3% (n= 93) of them were male participants. As can be seen from the information obtained more females participated in the study as compared to males and the reason for this as explained by the respondents during the FGD discussion was that due to the worsening of their families financial conditions many of the male household heads, particularly in Ashewa site have presently returned back to their original places of residence in Ethio-Somali region and to the Oromia region of Hararge zone searching for job opportunities in cities like jigjiga, Harar, Dire Dawa, and other bigger towns.

With regard to the respondents age category majority of the respondents are in the age group of 31–45 years 45.5% (n=100) and followed by an age group of 46-60, which is 35.9% (n=79), and 13.6% (n=30) of them belong to an age group between 18-30, and 5.0% (n=11) of them belong to an age group of 61 above, with minimum age of 22 and maximum age of 76. From this, we can conclude that majority of the participants were found in their youth and early adulthood ages.

With regard to their marital situation more than half 75.5 %, (n=166) of the respondents were married, and 14.5%, (n=32) of them were single while the rest 5.5%, (n=12), 2.7%, (n=6) and (1.8%, n=4) were widowed, divorced and separated respectively.

With respect to their educational status the above table shows us that majority of the study subjects i.e. 40%, (n=88) of them were with no education, 23.6%, (n=52), of them were only literate, and can read and write, while 22.7% (n=50) of them belong to primary level and 10%, (n=22) of them belong to secondary level education and only 3.6% of them have achieved a college and above education level and this comprises only of the males. From this we can see that there is no woman with tertiary level education among the sample population.

When we see their family size majority of the families have a family between 1 to 4, 47.3% (n=104), followed by a family group of 5 to 8, 41.4% (n=91), and 10.9% (n=24) of them have a family size of 9 to 12 and there is only one family that has a family size of above 12 in the sample population. (Table 1)

Generally, as mentioned above the rationale behind collecting the demographic data is to get the full picture of the participants and have an understanding of the nature and overall condition of the respondents and which can be an indicative of the characteristics of those displaced population, and which in turn might be helpful in some ways in addressing the problems of those displaced people appropriately. In the next finding and result sections the responses of the participants were analyzed for every response in relation to the corresponding research questions and presented accordingly.

4.1.2. Result of Quantitative Data Analysis (Questions Directly Related to the Research)

The major purposes of the present study was to examine the perceived causes, main actors and the major psychosocial & economic consequences of the ethnic conflict as well as to examine the present challenges faced by those internally displaced people (IDPs) sheltered at Sululta camp site. In line with these objectives the research was intended to answer the following basic research questions:

RQ1. What were the major perceived causes of the ethnic conflict that happened between the two communities displaced from Ethio-Somali region & from border areas?

RQ2. Who were the major actors involved in the ethnic conflict and played a key role for eviction of those people from their habitual places of residence?

RQ3. What were the major psychosocial and economic consequences that the IDPs faced as a result of the conflict induced displacement?

RQ4. What are the major present challenges that the IDPs are facing or experiencing in their newer resettlement sites?

RQ5. What kind of interventions should be employed in order to address those challenges and prevent the life of those victims from further deterioration in to a more severe condition (psychosocial & economic disorder levels)?

RQ6. What measures do you think should be taken to improve the situation of ethnic conflict and the life of the IDPs?

Based on these research questions to be answered the results of this study were classified, organized and presented as in the subsequent section of the thesis paper.

Accordingly, research questions 1, 2 and 3 were designed to be answered by the questionnaire prepared for this purpose while research questions 4 and 5 were designed to be answered by the FGD and interview questions, supported by personal observation made to some of the households in the site.

Thus, first an analysis of the quantitative data was undertaken followed by the qualitative data. Hence, the results obtained from the quantitative data can be presented as here under:

Q1. The Major Causes of the Ethnic Conflict

In order to achieve the objectives of the study, quantitative data were collected from the participants and, they were first provided with a 19-item questionnaire focusing on the causes of the conflict. Then, in line with the first questionnaire participants were asked as to what was/were the perceived causes of the conflict. Thus, as can be seen from the information obtained from an SPSS data analysis, a dominant number of respondents agreed that the main causes of the conflict were in the first place, more of political than any other reason, and these political factors can be further expressed in terms of many other sub-factors.

With regard to the political factors, ethnic based and elites led systematic conspiracy of politicians (political officials) to seize & maintain their own political power & hegemony has been marked as the first and the most dominant cause of the conflict up on which 81.6%, (n=180) of participants agreed strongly and 15.5% (n= 34) of them agreed somewhat, in which both together account 97.1% (n= 214) of the respondents, while none of them disagreed and only 2.9% of them gave no response at all on the issue under consideration. A further explanation and interpretation for this is given in the discussion section.

According to the information obtained from the data analysis, the next political cause of the conflict was found to be ethnic mobilization caused by politicized ethnicity, on which 74.5% (n=164) of participants strongly agreed, and 17.7% (n=39) of them agreed somewhat, while only 5.4%, (n=12) of them disagreed and 3.2% of them gave no response, which in sum constituted (92.2 %) (n=203) of the participants to agree with the point under consideration.

The third, political cause of the conflict was found to be widespread corrupt practices and efforts to conceal those corruptive crimes up on which 70.9% (n=156) of participants strongly agreed, and 20.8% (n=46) of them agreed somewhat, while only 5.0%, (n=11) of them disagreed and 3.3% of them gave no response, which in sum constituted (91.7 %) (n=202) of the participants to agree with the point under consideration.

Next, the presence of poor or weak political governance was also found to be the cause of ethnic conflict up on which 50.9% (n=112) of participants strongly agreed and 25% (n=55) of them agreed somewhat, while only 14.1%, (n=31) of them disagreed and 9.5% (n=21) of them strongly disagreed. Further explanation is given in the discussion section.

Next, the analysis revealed that unbalanced historical narrations of the past based on fabricated premises could be the triggering factors of the conflict and to assert this 53.6% (n=118) of participants agreed strongly and 36.8% (n=81) of them agreed somewhat, while only 5.9%, (n=13) of them disagreed and 3.6% (n=8) of them disagree strongly, and such a response in sum constituted 90.4% (n=199) of the participants agreed while 17.9% of them disagreed on the point.

Next, the analysis revealed that the presence of bias in the political administration could be another triggering factors for the conflict and to assert this 45.9% (n=101) of participants agreed strongly and 44.1% (n=97) of them agreed somewhat, while only 6.8% (n=15) of them disagreed and the remaining 3.2% of them constitute strongly disagree and such a response in sum constituted 90% (n=198) of the participants.

The data obtained from the analysis also showed that tensions over language & ethnic identity factors could also serve as triggering factor that magnified the conflict up on which 56.8%, (n=125) of the participants strongly agreed, and 30.4% (n=67) of them agreed somewhat, while 9%, (n=20) of them replied disagree on the issue, and 3.6% of them didn't respond at all, and which in sum constitutes (87.3%) (n=192) of the participants to agree on the issue.

Next, the analysis revealed that, deliberate social exclusion & marginalization of the non-natives by the native inhabitants were found to be another triggering factors for the conflict and to assert this 35.0% (n=77) of participants agreed strongly and 24.1% (n=53) of them agreed somewhat. On the other hand, 35.5% (n=78) of them disagreed somewhat, and 3.6% (n=8) of

them disagree strongly, and this in sum constituted 59.1% (n=130) of the participants to agree and 39.1%, (n=86) to disagree on the issue. This can be contrasted in line with what the respondents in the FGD and interview section reported.

Next, the analysis revealed that, amplified competition over shared resources could also trigger the conflict and to assert this 45.0% (n=99) of participants agreed strongly and 34.1% (n=75) of them agreed somewhat. On the other hand, 12.5% (n=28) of them disagreed somewhat and 7.4% (n=16) of them disagree strongly, and this in sum constituted 79.1% (n=174) of the participants to agree and 19.9%, (n=44) to disagree on the issue. But, from the result obtained from the FGD and interview questions competition over shared resources was not as such a serious problem in most of these waves of conflicts, because such problems arise in border areas only.

On the other hand, the other factors listed in the questionnaire were found to have less impact to flare ethnic conflicts and such factors include: a motive to retaliate & revenge for the past action; presence of hatred & revenge traced from ancestral lines; intentional expansion or border invasion efforts; non-existence of well-defined borders & clear cut demarcations; absence of cross cutting social & civil society organizations; legacy of previous unresolved ethnic conflicts; inequality & injustice in economic resource use & benefit sharing; presence of wide spread poverty & unemployment; All these factors have their own roles to play in flaring ethnic conflicts but they were not as influential as those political factors stated above in these waves of conflicts under study.

On the other hand, cultural factors (differences) and religious factors (differences) have not been totally marked as the source of the ethnic conflict and this was asserted by 48.3% strongly disagree and 35.2% agree somewhat, which in sum constituted 83.5% (n=184) of the participants to disagree on the issue, and this is in congruence with the result obtained from the qualitative data analysis (FGD, interview & HH observation) in that the reason for this could be accounted to the existing similarity between the two, communities in religion and culture. That means, both communities belong to the same Islam religion and do have non-conservative and social life oriented liberal cultural practices.

Generally, from the above analysis, one can notice that ethnic based political factors were perceived as the leading & most dominant causes of the ethnic conflict and the economic & the social factors come in the second and third place respectively as the causes of the ethnic conflict in their order of severity and seriousness.

Q2. The Main Actors of the Conflict

In line with the second question participants were asked to identify the main actors of the conflict. Based on this, as one can see from the information obtained from an SPSS analysis, a dominant number of respondents agreed strongly that ethnic based political leaders' (elites) were the dominant & direct agents to flare the conflict (as supported by information obtained from FGD analysis), and which can be expressed in terms of political leaders' conspiracy at central, regional & local levels were identified to be the main actors of the conflict, and took the first place with 67.5% (n=149) of the participants strongly agreed, and some 29% (n=64) of them agreed somewhat, while only 3.5% of them disagreed on the issue, which totally constituted 96.5% of the participants to agree on the point indicated here.

On the other hand, activities of political activists working behind the scene was marked as the second actor of that ethnic conflict up on which 65% (n= 143) of the participants strongly agreed and 30% (n= 66) of them agreed somewhat, while 5% (n= 11) of them could disagree on the issue, which totally constituted 95.5% of the participants to agree on the point under consideration.

Next, the peoples' interest from the native indigenous Somali ethnic groups was taken as the third actor of that ethnic conflict up on which 22% (n= 48) of the participants strongly agreed and 29.5% (n= 65) of them agreed somewhat, while 45.5% (n= 100) of them could disagree on the issue and 3.2% (n= 7) of them didn't give any response.

In this regard the result obtained from the qualitative data analysis revealed that the Somali people as people were/are not the direct enemies of the Oromo communities but it was the result of political conspiracy plotted by political elites and public mobilization for the purpose of achieving their own political& ideological agenda; and attaining economic ends.

Next, existing political instability in the country contributed its share for the conflict to arise, and at the same time neighboring political tensions and external intervention of insecurity

forces working secretly contributed for the conflict in which 22% (n=48) of the participants agreed strongly and 25% (n= 55) of them agreed somewhat, while 36% (n= 79) of them disagreed and 17% (n= 8) of them gave no response at all on the issue under consideration. On the other hand, 36% of the participant disagreed strongly, and 17% of them disagreed on the idea that both groups contributed to flare that ethnic conflict.

Q3. The Main Psychosocial and Economic Consequences of the Conflict

In line with the third research question participants were asked to identify (mark out) the main consequences of the conflict which can be generalized into five main heading categories: economic, social, personal (physical), political and psychological consequences.

With regard to the psychological consequences, the participants marked the following factors as the major psychological consequences of the conflict: It was strongly agreed by 63.6% (n=140) and agreed somewhat by 33.2% (n=73) of respondents that loss of lives of loved ones has been marked as the first severe psychological consequence that flared the conflict, and it hurts and burns the hearts of their family and nearest ones as it was also confirmed by interview and FGD participants, while 8.6% (n=19) of them disagreed and 13.2% (n=29) of them gave no response. In sum 96.8% (n=213) of them agreed that this point is the most serious psychological consequence of the conflict.

The next factor which has been marked or taken as the second psychological consequence of the conflict was feeling of negative emotions like hopelessness, bitterness & helplessness upon which 55%, (n=121) of the participants strongly agreed and 35.9%, (n=79) of them agreed somewhat while only 6.4% (n=14) of them didn't give any response, and 2.7% of them disagreed. In sum 90.9% (n=200) of them agreed that this point is the next severe psychological consequence of the conflict.

Next, separation from family & relatives has been marked as the third psychological consequence of the conflict upon which 89.9%, (n=198) of the respondents agreed strongly; and 6.4%, (n=14) of them agreed somewhat, while only 2.8% of them replied or disagreed at all.

Next, 42.2% (n=93) of the participants agreed strongly and 42.5% (n=94) of them agreed somewhat, while 9% of them disagreed and 6.3% of them gave no response that suspicion & mistrust against other ethnic groups was marked as the next psychological consequence of the

conflict. From information obtained from an FGD discussion and interview held with participants, this suspicion & mistrust emanates from what has happened to them by the people they knew & trust; and by the people, with whom they lived, guided by the political agitation from their ethnocentric minded political leaders and the regional military and police forces.

Next, feeling of statelessness & erosion of trust in the state was marked or taken as the psychological consequence of the conflict and this was asserted by 54.8%, (n=121) of participants with strongly agree; 36.4% (n=80) agreed somewhat, while only 5.1% (n=11) of them could disagree and 3.7 (n=8) gave no response. In sum 91.2% of them considered this point as one of the psychological consequences they experienced due to the conflict.

Next, feeling of distress & development of victim mental attitude was strongly agreed on by 55.5%(n=122) of participants and somewhat agreed by 38.2%, (n=84) of them to be the psychological consequence of the conflict while 6.4% (n=14) of them gave no response. In sum 93.7% of them agreed it to be the psychological consequence of the conflict.

Finally, development of mental traumatic experiences such as PTSD was strongly agreed on by 54.5%, (n=120)of the participants and somewhat agreed by 41.8%, (n=92) of the participants to be the last but not least psychological consequence of the conflict. In sum 96.3% of them agreed that this point is a consequence of the conflict.

With regard to the social consequences, one can see from the information obtained from SPSS analysis that displacement from favorable habitual places of residence has been marked as the first consequence of the conflict up on which 94.1 %, (n=207) of respondents agreed strongly; and only 5% (n=11) of them agreed somewhat, while almost none of them could disagree. In sum 99.1% (n=218) of them agreed that it is a direct social consequence of the conflict.

Next, breakdown of customary& cultural values has been marked to be the other social consequence of the conflict up on which 35.5%, (n=78) of respondents agreed strongly and 52.3%, (n=115) of them agreed somewhat, while 6.4% (n=14) gave no response and 5% (n=11) of them disagreed somewhat.

With regard to gross human rights violation, it was strongly agreed by 76.4% (n=168) and agreed somewhat by 18.6% (n=41) of respondents that it has been marked as the next social

consequence of the conflict, while only 3.2% of them disagreed and 1.4% of them gave no response.

With regard to the economic consequences, one can see from the information obtained from SPSS analysis, 94.5% (n=208) of the respondents agreed strongly that loss of property & possessions has become the most severe economic consequence of the conflict, and 4.1% (n=9) of them agreed somewhat, while only 0.9% of them disagreed. In sum 98.6% (n=217) of them agreed that it is a direct consequence of the conflict. From this one can conclude that it is one of the most severe economic consequences of the conflict.

Next, loss of jobs & income has been marked as the second economic consequence of the conflict up on which 93.2 %, (n=205) of respondents agreed strongly and 5.5% (n=12) of them agreed somewhat, while only 0.9% of them gave no response. In sum 98.7% (n=217) of them agreed that it is a direct economic consequence of the conflict.

Next, deterioration of living standard has been marked to be the third economic consequence of the conflict upon which 90.9% (n=200) of the respondents agreed strongly; and 6.8% (n=15) of them agreed somewhat, while only 1.4% of them did not want to respond in all. In sum 97.7% (n=215) of them agreed that it is a direct economic consequence of the conflict.

In line with this, an assessment conducted by UNHCR (2006) found that displacement as a consequence of ethnic conflict dramatically disrupts livelihoods, and leads to a severe reduction in access to the basic necessities of life including food, clean water, shelter, adequate clothing, health services, and sanitations. It leads to food insecurity and a high rate of acute malnutrition in Ethiopia. This humanitarian crisis disrupted vulnerable households' access to food and livelihood activities by worsening food insecurity and malnutrition conditions in the country.

With regard to the political consequences, one can see from the information obtained from SPSS analysis that pervasive instability and chaos in life has been marked to be the first political consequence of the conflict up on which 75.5%, (n=166) of respondents agreed strongly and 15.9%(n=35) of them agreed somewhat, while 3.8% of them gave no response and 4.8% of them disagreed somewhat. In sum 91.4% (n=201) of them agreed that it is a direct consequence of the conflict.

Generally, the malicious consequences & effects of conflict induced displacement on individuals, families, and communities are wide-ranging and include ‘impoverishment, social isolation, exclusion from health, welfare and education provision, the breakdown of social relationships and support structures, and the undermining of authority structures and social roles. Above all, displacement disrupts children from education and psychologically affects both children as well as women, and make them at a sharp risk of abuses, acts of violence and human rights violations, including round-ups, forced conscription and sexual assault (Mooney, 2005; UNHCR, 2006).

Among the factors listed in the questionnaire all of them were regarded as factors that consequentially affect the life of IDPs negatively. Particularly, as it was noticed from the qualitative data analysis from among the factors of conflict that contribute as the consequences of the conflict, however, the most pressing consequences adversely affecting the life of evicted people are those of psychological and economic consequences that seriously and severely affect the present life of those displaced people at their settlement site shelters.

By and large, the results of both the qualitative & quantitative study were organized and discussed based on the major themes of the stated research questions. Of course, the analyses of quantitative and qualitative data were done separately, but the researcher has somewhat tried to integrate them in some cases.

4.2. Result of the Qualitative Data Analysis

4.2.1. Thematic Analysis of the Qualitative Data (FGD Questions)

In this section of the study both the FGD and interview data were transcribed and then major themes were identified from each of the field notes. With the help of the FGD and interview instruments, the first through the last research questions i.e. (RQ1 to RQ6) were answered, i.e. in the first place perceived causes of the conflict and the main actors of the conflict were discussed or answered. Then, the major psychosocial & economic consequences as well as the present challenges of those IDPs were discussed. That means, the FGD and personal interview participants were asked general questions about the sorts of psychosocial & economic challenges they experienced and the present challenges they are facing at their residence site

shelters and their words of mouth was transcribed and presented based on the research variables as follows:

Table 5: Socio demographic characteristic distribution of FGD respondents

Code	Sex	Age	Educational Background	Remark
Ka01	F	35	Primary	Ka01=Code for Kajima site FGD participant No 01
Ka 02	F	53	No education	
Ka 03	M	55	Literate	
Ka04	F	35	Primary	
ka05	F	28	High school	
ka06	F	33	High school	
ka07	M	56	No education	
As01	F	43	Literate	As01= Ashewa site FGD participant No 01
As02	F	29	Diploma	
As03	F	37	Literate	
As04	F	48	Literate	
As05	M	38	Literate	
As06	M	39	Literate	
As07	M	37	Primary	

As it is depicted in the table above, most of the research participants who participated in the FGD were women and the reason for this is that many of the male households have returned back to their previous places of residence in search of jobs in major cities such as Harar, Dire Dawa, in Jigjiga and other major Oromia & Somali region towns. Regarding age, most of the participants were in their youth and early adulthood age. In terms of educational background, most of them were found to have literate, primary and high school levels educational background. Furthermore, the thematic analysis of the qualitative FGD guides was undertaken as here under:

Q1. The Major Causes of the Ethnic Conflict

With regard to FGD participants' views or perceptions on the causes of the ethnic conflict, the majority of the respondents agreed that the primary causes of the conflict were political conspiracy plotted by political authorities at local, zonal, regional and even central levels, and it didn't purely emanate from the desire of the people of both communities. With regard to this one of those FGD participants with code number As03 reported that:

The causes of the conflict between the two communities are the political leaders themselves and not the people. There was even fighting between the two region's police forces; the Somali police forces were shooting & killing the Oromos'. Many were killed both men and women but finally the government defense army arrived and rescued our lives. They took us out and then the government moved us to this place.

In addition, another participant with code number As01 reported that:

These politicians (officials) were playing political games at the expense of the life of common people or the community. With regard to the main actors, she mentioned those political leaders to be the main actors playing in the field with their own hidden agenda of maximizing their own political interest & economic benefits. There were no any visible clashes that originate on the basis of ethnic identity differences alone between the two communities. But it is the politicians' hidden conspiracy & agitation that caused the conflict to happen because they were sowing the seeds of hatred and marginalization in between the two communities in order to achieve their own political motives & attain economic goals. The people from both communities as people have even similar religion, cultural affiliation and ways of life in many aspects except their ethnic differences, even when it comes to language differences, many of the Oromo community are speakers of Somali language as their own native tongue. In case of some of them even their children were more oriented with Somali language than Oromiffa language as they were born and grown there. We were considering ourselves as natives to the region but finally we were told that we were aliens and we should leave the area, and we were mistreated as landless and non-citizens.

As it was discussed during the FGD session, their children have got problems in their education as they came to this shelter and joined schools because previously they started education in Somali language and it took them time to learn in Oromiffa language and cope up with the host community's children.

Generally, according to these participants' perception, the root causes of the conflict were intentionally induced by extremist political elites. The participants claimed that politicized ethnicity and ethnic mobilization were the major causes of the conflict. Political manipulation of ethnicity for the purpose of achieving their own political and ideological goals and achieving economic ends were the ultimate target of those political perpetrators.

Q2. The Main Actors of the Conflict

With regard to participants' opinion or perception on the main actors of the ethnic conflict, most of them agree that political factors i.e. the conspiracy of political elites both at local, regional and central levels were found to be the main reasons that caused the conflict and gave way for their eviction from their original residence places as indicated by the participants. And this is in congruence with the result obtained from the quantitative questionnaire administered to and an interview discussions held with the sample community representatives.

With regard to participants' opinion on the main actors of the ethnic conflict, most of them agree that the conspiracy of political leaders was found to be one of the top and most serious main actors that were putting on fire & adding fuel to the ethnic clashes in order to aggravate the situation so that they can seize & maintain their power; conceal their corrupt practices as well as benefit their nearest and dearest ones.

With regard to the main actors in a similar manner another informant (code number As02) asserted the following:

Those elite politicians and their agents i.e. so called activists are the main enemies who put people into ethnic clash with a hidden motive to create a gap and antagonism between the two ethnic groups and then divide them. The rule of the

game is that they intend to divide and rule. So they are trying to apply the principle of divide and rule. In order to achieve this end they try to create gaps intentionally first, by flaring clashes between ethnic groups; second by creating gaps in the areas of good governance, i.e. they sow the seed of poor & weak governance by themselves and then try to solve it. Third, by creating gaps in terms of biases they divide us too; fourth by trying to benefit their nearest, dearest ones. So, the community must be aware of such strategies, and continue with the previous values of caring for one another and sharing what they have. We are one, we must not be divided. The Somali people as people are good but there are some fierce animals who intervened in between us. For instance I don't have any grievance against any Somali people because I know that the people didn't attack us without any agitation (propagator) working behind the stage.

Q3. Major Consequences of the Conflict

FGD participants' views or responses on the consequences of the ethnic conflict revealed that many things happened during the conflict time and on their journey and even in their life experiences in the new settlement sites. Generally, as it can be seen from the analysis of the data, most of the participants agree that the major consequences of the conflict can be categorized as physical harm, economic, social & psychological consequences.

With regard to participants' responses on the consequences of the ethnic conflict; & challenges faced by vulnerable (victim) displaced communities & their life experiences in the new settlement sites one informant (code number As04) indicated that:

We have passed through a dangerous life situation right after we were evicted from our residence areas. The participant explained that we have gone through a variety of fears of death on our journeys and the thought didn't leave our mind even here in the sheds. We consider ourselves as worthless, below the living and above the dead; we do have no feeling of future hope. We suddenly lost our possession & treasures that we accumulated over years within a short period of time. Furthermore, we are detached from our neighbors; we could never forget such a misfortune which left us empty handed, we do not want to

remember that evil day which has snatched away all what we had. It is something that crosses my mind time and again on my part.

The following are quotes taken from another FGD transcript (code As07) as supportive evidences to the summary of the findings indicated above.

We have gone through a series of serious challenges since we were relocated to this site shelter and even before that on our journey. When we were brought to here there were lots of promises; we were told that we'd stay in this area only for a year. But, after a year we would be reintegrated into new and permanent residence places with durable houses, not in sheds like this. In addition, previously we were provided with some food-stuff rations but now we get nothing and thus, life is becoming miserable to us; we have nothing to feed to our children. Some among us who have relatives from overseas might have something for daily consumption but we who do not have any relative are starving. So, the government and the concerned bodies must care and visit us and understand the life we are living and support us.

Another displaced person was from Jigjiga town. Now he lives in Kajima site. His code is (Ka 06). He is 45 years old adult. He was also a first year college student and he responded:

I'm 45 years old. I was a first year distance education student at Haromaya University. But due to that wave of conflict I lost my hope and quitted my education, presently I do regret for that because I didn't at least withdraw. I do have 8 children. Also I had a house and farming land there, I had also a business. But now these all have gone and I'm left bare handed. I have no job, no farm. But, with the help of Alah I have recently opened a small retailing shop with little money I collected from relatives and so I'm retailing onion, carrot, potato and other vegetables as you see it here at Sululta town.

Besides, he mentioned a number of problems such as water, toilet, clinic & nutrition problems. These problems are commonly mentioned by all the respondents of the research.

In another group from Ashewa site one of the informants (code number As05) pointed that:

The Oromo and Somali people are people who coexisted together with good company & neighborhood for ages, despite minor occasional clashes on border areas. Even when clashes happen between the two people due to water and grazing land for their cattle they used to settle their disputes via traditional conflict resolution methods with the help of chosen elders from both groups in order to resolve their problems; but what has come recently is something that we do not know filled with mass murdering & brutality and characterized by mass killing of another ethnic group, which is out of our culture and what we normally know before, and we curse it. It is at odds to our norms. They say that the two people are intermarried and intermixed; and are with similar religion and culture. We have never experienced such kind of cruelty, let Alah keep us all of such kind of ruthlessness and heartlessness!

4.2.2. Result of Household Observations and Unstructured Interview (Thematic Analysis)

Q 4: Participants' view with regard to the major present challenges that the IDPs are facing or experiencing at their newer settlement sites

In the most general sense the researcher observed that the life of these displaced people in the shelters was distressing even to the observer, let alone the vulnerable ones. To put it in few words, the researcher observed that the houses i.e. temporary shelters in which they live are wholly made from corrugated iron and they are not good to stay in during hot day times, and not good shelters to sleep in specially during the night, chilly & rainy times. Moreover, most of the settlers were clothed in filthy and torn clothes and physically weak and skinny but sociable & friendly (extrovert), as they were people who came from the eastern part of the country; moreover, most of them were observed chewing khat or chat.

So, these people are presently undergoing or experiencing a number of challenges which can be explained in terms of shortage of potable pipe water, malnutrition, and lack of health facilities, sanitation and other problems. In addition, they do display some psychological & emotional

distresses as they lost many things in life. That means, as they were taken off their possessions; lost their loved ones; displaced from places of habitual residences, and hence, the researcher observed that they were displaying sorrowful, angry, irritated & furious faces when talking about the conflict. They were really telling to the researcher that how furious they were due to what happened to them and the miserable life they have been leading as a result. Besides, they were complaining against the government for not visiting their life and intervening in their life to adequately support them. Most of them hate politics and politicians because they believe that it is not the Somali people who did such evil acts against them but those evil politicians who were living for the purpose of maximizing their own benefits.

The researcher observed their houses and as explained earlier the wall of their houses were made of corrugated iron and their roof/ceilings were also covered with the same, while, the floor was dusty but some of them have cemented it roughly; but still it is not as such good-looking & attractive to the eyes. Many of them were sleeping on the ground just by lying mats made of local materials, and they were sleeping and at the same time living & cooking there in the same room. There is nothing new & better seen in their life. This is their usual and routinely practiced aspect of life in their shelters. They complain that three years have been elapsed since they came and settled in this site but there is no change at all and even no hope of change. They complain that all the promised words by those government bodies which moved them to this place were broken and forgotten. They used to claim that they were told and promised, if possible to return to their original places of residence with compensations or else if not possible to be transferred to another place into durable & permanent houses after some time, most probably after a year. But, now three years have been elapsed and they could see nothing.

Based on FGD discussion and interviews held with the participants on the present challenges, these displaced people are facing or experiencing at their shelters, the participants identified a number of problems. With regard to the causes, main actors and psychosocial consequences the responses of the participants were almost similar with the results obtained from the questionnaire & FGD discussions. Therefore, the researcher believes that it would be better to focus on the present challenges the IDPs are facing here in the shelters.

Hence, critical present challenges that these IDPs are facing and that need urgent response or intervention were discussed with the participants in the study site and could be

highlighted into economic, social, political and psychological domains (thematic areas) as follows:

First, shelter conditions were poor:-

The vulnerable settlers (IDPs) have housing problems in that the sheds they are living in at the moment are totally made of corrugated iron & become too hot during the day time and too cold during the night time. In addition, the area in which they settled is swampy & marshy land with no sewerage & drainage system, and becomes floody during the rainy season and the area is covered with floods which makes going in & out of their shelters very difficult, (this situation worsens particularly for those living in Gelana site). So, especially during the rainy season these people have to leave the area and their sheds and move away to another area in order to escape the impacts of the flood and this will produce another displacement in their life, which means they are displaced a second time. Thus, they are making an urgent call for an intervention from the concerned organizations of both GOs & NGOs, so that they can be transferred to other durable and permanent places. Based on the household observation made by the researcher, the type of shed in which those IDPs live would seriously affect their life. That means, it would greatly affect the health condition and quality of family life of these displaced people, and hence he recommends that it requires an urgent strategic intervention to be designed and programs implemented.

Second, lack of sufficient nutrition was reported and observed:

The vulnerable settlers (IDPs) have lack of sufficient nutrition even to sustain the life of their children (food for sustenance) – previously they received food ration for some time but now they get nothing from anywhere. Thus, they speak that they are suffering from malnutrition which was proved evident with personal household observation. So, they need to get sufficient food (nutrition) support to save the life of their children.

Third, shortage of clean potable pipe water and sanitation problems, were observable and reported. Sometimes, potable water becomes a serious challenge to the IDPs and their children, so, this also calls for an urgent response.

Fourth, clinic problem was observed and reported, even two of the sites, Ashewa and Gelana sites do not have any clinic at all while Kajima site has a clinic but there is not any medicine left in the store, and almost it has stopped providing proper services. So, they are in need of medicines to start service giving to the community.

Fifth, problems related to disruption of children's education was noticed: as most of them were displaced from Somali region, their children were used to speak Somali language and started their education in Somali language but now when they came to Oromia region, they faced some challenges in terms of learning in Oromiffa language. It took them longer time to accustom themselves to learning with the language and cope up.

Sixth, toilet and sanitation problems were observed: the toilets they are using are also made of corrugated iron and become too hot in day time and too cold in night time; coupled with this the lack/shortage of water and proper sanitation have limited their access to functioning latrines and made it difficult to use the toilets properly because of their horrible smell.

Seventh, all the above problems coupled together are disrupting the psychological and emotional dimension of their life and they are suffering from feeling of negative emotions such as hopelessness, helplessness, bitterness and traumatic mental experiences as observed on few of the members of the IDP community.

With regard to what should be the intervention and the way out, as explained earlier, currently the vulnerable are living in temporary shelters made of corrugated iron and suffering from day's heat and from the night's chill of Sululta elevation. So, the concerned bodies must rehabilitate or reintegrate them permanently or return them back to their original places of residence by dealing with the current Somali regional government and by laying down proper grounds for their reintegration into their previous belongings, and with proper compensations if possible, otherwise life in this camp site is becoming hard & miserable for these people.

As an alternative option, if they have to stay in the site, the participants suggested that the government must provide them with arable land for farming for those who can till. Another option is organize them into associations and provide them with credit and help them engage in micro & small scale businesses of their own in groups. Or else provide them with appropriate jobs in government offices such as ministerial offices and city and town administrations based on their qualifications, skills and interests. Furthermore, replace their corrugated iron made houses with durable and permanent houses and relieve them from these corrugated iron sheds. On top of that as they were people who lost many things in life. So, they must get proper psychological support systems & treatment that can redress & heal their psychologically hurt emotions.

As an implication from the results of this study (from both quantitative & qualitative) one can learn that the problems & the challenges that were & are being faced by those IDPs are real and serious and need urgent intervention & support system in order to reach out them during these days of lack and deprivation.

Thus, this study sought to fill up these gaps and expand research in this area and improve the economic and social life of these IDPs and enhance their psychological well-being.

Q5. Participants' responses as to whether they feel gained or lost something, one participant (code Ka03) reported:

Almost all of us have lost everything what we had, at least we lost all our belongings and we are displaced; some of us lost families or relatives; by now we have nothing, neither farm, nor business nor job, nor income. We are bare handed. So what's left for us? Nothing! And we are all sorry for such a bad luck that happened to us. We don't know why Alah has allowed such a bad misfortune to happen against us. We don't know to whom we should complain!

Next let's see the most serious cases of two displaced persons' responses for they are the most severe and lesson giving. One of them is female and the other one is male.

An FGD held with displaced persons from Somali region and settled at Ashewa site was reported as follows:

She was 40 years old. She was displaced from Jigjiga town. She has four children. She had a small business there, and her husband was government employee. But now she has nothing to feed to her children. She (code number Ka01) says that:-

There was killing of husband and wife or either of the two. The Somalis supported by the soldiers wanted to kill us because we were Oromo, but we lived there for many years and even some of us were born there. We never thought such kind of misfortunes to happen against us; we never thought ourselves as aliens, we were considering ourselves as natives. But finally things turned out to be the opposite. In fact this all was not the wish of all Somali people rather it is a plot and systematic political conspiracy plotted by few political leaders in the area & in coordination with higher political elites at regional & federal levels, in connection with some people who had racist views in order to achieve their own hidden political agenda & gain and benefit individual interests. Otherwise we know that the Somali and Oromo people are people who co-existed together and lived intermingled, intermarried and mixed together with the Oromo people, speaking each other's' language for ages despite minor clashes

along the borders between cattle herders (nomadists) in search of grazing land and water for their cattle but this one is special and unique in its characteristics. Even some of our children are more fluent in Somali language than Oromiffa language, because they were born and grew among the majority Somali community & culture.

Another woman with (code number Ka05) reported as follows:

We left behind all of our properties and possessions and fled to save our lives only. Then everything of us has gone and we were left empty hand. We have nothing; my husband is jobless; I'm jobless too. Nobody is helping us. Four months ago and during the corona pandemic lock down period the government was providing us with little ration of foodstuff and sanitation materials like soap. But now four months have been elapsed since the government has quitted provision of any ration. As a result recently my husband gave up hope and returned back to Jigjiga to search for a job if in case he is lucky. If not in Jigjiga, he may try to find jobs in other bigger towns like Harar & Dire Dawa. May be if Allah wills he will find a job, and give us rest.

Q6. Participants' suggestions on measures to be taken to improve the situation of ethnic conflict & the life of the IDPs:

With regard to responding to this question, one participant from Kajima shelter (with code numberKa04) spoke the following words:

The government by all means and efforts must change this misfortune into a fortune. Any funding organizations and even prominent individuals and the well to do people must help us because we are citizens of this country. We don't have any other country. Even you must be a voice on behalf of us because you have seen our life. This evil situation must turn into good not only for us but also for the people like us who were displaced and who live in shelters. I'm saying this because we do have relatives who settled in other areas and who live similar life with us. So, I suggest that the government must take strong actions and shouldn't be reluctant or lenient in taking strong legal actions in order to ensure the rule of law. Previously in Somali region in particular and in Ethiopia in general it was not the rule of law that was at work but the rule of men i.e. the rule of few individuals was dominantly at work and

they were killing whoever they want; and imprison whoever they didn't want to see. So, those extreme ethnic propagandists who killed and let many people to prison or ordered others to kill or let others to prison must come before the court and inquired. Citizens should have full freedom of life and work wherever they want. Polarized ethnicity is not good; it benefits only few elites who have that motive of maintaining status quo of their power; otherwise it doesn't help ordinary people like me. besides, the government must build new and consolidate existing institutions working on conflict prevention, resolution and peace building; also must improve the policy and conditions of the displaced people; must revise the situation of displaced people like us because we are living in sheds made of corrugated iron. Up till what time ought we to live in such houses? How long should we suffer more hereafter? I think that is enough. Moreover, the government must work hard towards drying all sources of ethnic conflict by educating and training the people and raising the awareness level of all citizens.

The government must replace bad governance and ensure good governance; to achieve this, the government must work hard and citizens must support the process of good governance to prevail in the country both in principle and in practice.

Accordingly, in one way or another all informants of the FGD and interview respondents suggested the following important points:

The government and other stakeholders who are directly and indirectly concerned must work hand in hand towards drying the causes or sources of ethnic conflict and ensure a lasting peace, stability and development to the country because peace is the foundation for everything. In order to achieve those things Ethiopia needs to understand how to handle the so called ethnic federalism and get into experiencing full democracy by strongly engaging into the process of ensuring good governance. In this regard, we have to learn from the experience of different countries which had similar experience in the areas of dealing with ethnicity and ethnic conflict problems.

Q7. Are you satisfied with your present life in this IDP shelter? Or else you want to return back to your habitual place of residence, would you be happy in case if you return?

FGD held with displaced person from Aweday town and settled at Kajima site revealed the following result: (respondents were selected purposively.)

Her code is (Ka 02), she is 32 years old. She graduated from Asela University 9 years ago with diploma in law and as she graduated she worked for five years in Aweday town administration office in the security department. But she says that:

I was unfortunate because I was displaced from my place of residence & lost my job and expelled from the town because I was one of those who resisted undemocratic political system & governance in the area. I do have three kids, my husband was a business man but he was killed as a result of the ethnic conflict that arose between the Oromo & Somali communities in Somali region & along the border areas with the Oromo. I think they did it intentionally. Presently I do have a bitter life, because I don't have anything to feed to my kids, one of them being a breast feeding infant. You see, this boy needs additional cow milk for food, but I don't afford to buy a liter.

She sobs as she tries to remember the situation of the conflict and eviction, and she speaks bitterly; she is despaired & hopeless at this time. Even she doesn't want to remember the situation, when she remembers those incidences she gets sad. She is bold and fast speaker and a kind of orator woman, but she says that all her hopes have gone now because of her husband's no longer in life, he was killed during the conflict and she continues saying:

My life has become empty and bitter because of those bad things I saw. She asked the researcher, 'why did you come? Why do you ask us all these questions while you have nothing to do for us? Or else did you come to play another political game?', and the researcher genuinely & honestly explained the purpose of the FGD questions. But finally, she said, 'whether you are asking for good or for bad I don't care, but I will speak the truth, because I'm determined even to die. But, if you can please try to understand the life situation we are in here and be a voice for us, the voiceless. We are living a miserable life as you can see because we are living in a shed made of wholly corrugated iron, and imagine the situation we are in. The shed is too hot during the day time and too cold during the night and rainy seasons, even our site, Gelana is covered with flood because the area becomes

swampy & muddy during rainy times and sometimes we leave the area to other shelters to get a refuge, and we are displaced second time, which means we're facing double displacement, you see. So, doesn't it hurt? Don't you feel anything?'' She asked the researcher with anger.

With regard to whether she wants to return back, she asserts:

“if situations are made convenient and favorable working & living conditions are created & ways are paved; under safe political ground & economic support system; etc. yes, I'm happy to return back” she said. “But we are willing to return only under fulfilled preconditions, not without any guarantee.”

Q8. Do you think that the interventions or the support system from NGOs and GOs provided by these agencies dealing with IDPs here are adequate?

With regard to responding to this question, one participant from Kajima shelter with (code number Ka07) spoke the following words:

“In the former times as we arrived here the government gave us 20,000 birr to each one of us and we used that money for different purposes; particularly during the COVID-19 lockdown announced by the government some of us used that money. In addition, previously the government used to provide us with little ration but now six months have been elapsed since they stopped that support, and now we do have nothing to feed to our children. So, in short the support system is not adequate, and even there is no support as such given to us both by the government and non-governmental aid organizations; but rarely some people come and interview us promising that they would bring donor organizations who can help us but so far we didn't see anything, but only talk and talk doesn't buy a loaf of bread, Ok!”

Q9. What improvement do you recommend to be done by the concerned government bodies & other stakeholders?

With regard to this question the above participant with (code number Ka07) tried to propose the following points:

The government should: first, organize us into association and help us create our own jobs with proper training & credit facilities, or else offer us jobs in government & ministerial offices, even at town levels, based on our qualifications, skills and capabilities.

Second, provide us with plots of farming land and engage some of us in farming or other economic activities based on each person's preferences and interest.

Third, return us and reintegrate us permanently fulfilling all the basic things necessary for life in our original places of residence with guaranteed peace and security. We need changed life, we are exhausted of such a miserable life for the last three years, now we don't know what tomorrow will happen in our life, some of us may die of starvation, because we do have no income.

Fourth, all those officials and individuals who were killing us and who made all those evil things of evicting us must be punished and imprisoned (jailed) and get the right, appropriate judgment otherwise we will live with all our scars, trauma and pains.

Fifth, government officials at higher level must come down and discuss with the people on the ground because more problems are found not at the palaces but at the ground, at the grass-root level.

Q10. With regard to who is to be blamed & be ultimately responsible and accountable for all such evil actions & ruthless crimes that happened against these IDPs, participant with (code Ka02) affirmed that:

Politicians and officials who were in charge of authority at that time must be ultimately responsible and accountable for all such evil actions & ruthless crimes that happened against us i.e. killing of people and looting of properties, and mass eviction of people from where they lived for ages. She is blaming and condemns the then Somali regional government led by the ex-governor Abdi Illey and the then TPLF led EPRDF central government of Ethiopia, because all these things happened with hidden agenda & systematic conspiracy planned

behind the stage by those politicians who wanted to make smooth the process of corruption so that they can achieve their purpose of corruption & to quench their deep rooted thirst for power control over all the political, social affairs in our town and that was what I opposed boldly at that time.

Q12. Which conflict resolution method(s) would be better in order to solve such kind of ethnic conflict problems? In response to this question one informant (P1) asserted:

Integrated approach, it is better to integrate the local and indigenous conflict resolution methods with the modern ones in order to discuss well and arrive at an important and fruitful decision that can agree both the parties in problem. Besides, as ethnicity was preached and advocated for over 27 years, unity with balanced national identity must be preached and advocated from top level to the bottom level to all the citizens. The attitude of the people and the thought pattern must change from ethnicity to a national identity with some kind of balance.

With regard to the previous consequences of the conflict & present challenges they are facing they mentioned some major problems as the most common & serious issues in their IDP site shelters.

Generally, participants mentioned different types of psychological, social and economic challenges and inner grievances they have been encountering since the start of the conflict. They mentioned being in situations in which they were scared of killed by armed soldiers or getting arrested by authorities and robbed their properties and displaced from their jobs, businesses and possessions or belongings.

The following are quotes taken from one interview informant (P3) of Ashewa site transcript as supportive evidences to the summary of these findings:

Our daily life was filled with night mare and worries. Our children saw many of the killings/murdering carried out by Somali soldiers and are still facing night mares in the middle of their sleep. The hosting community sees us as different people (strangers), though we do speak the same language and have no interest to interact freely with us. As Harerghe people, we do have a habit of eating and drinking collectively, talking openly and freely about what we see & feel but now

things are different. Nobody is interested to open their door for help. Our children were obstructed from their education, we lost everything of us, and we are in a complete mess now. What wrong did we do? We are citizens, why not government officials care for us? How come we do lack people who do care and concerned about us? Why doesn't the Oromia Regional Government provide us jobs or farming land or provide us with other options? Why do we suffer here?

4.3. Discussion

This section is concerned with discussion of the major findings based on the research questions and the review of literature in accordance with the purpose of the study. The purpose of this study was to investigate the perceived causes, main actors, the major psychosocial & economic consequences of the conflict as well as to examine the present challenges faced by IDPs that are resettled at Sululta site in temporary shelters.

In line with this the results obtained from the quantitative data analysis indicated that the main causes of the conflict were found to be the political factors which can be further explained in terms of political elites led systematic conspiracy to seize & maintain their political power. Based on the analysis this has been marked as the first and dominant cause of the conflict up on which 81.6%, (n=180) of participants agreed strongly and 15.5% (n= 34) of them agreed somewhat, in which both together accounted 97.1% (n= 214) of the respondents, while none of them disagreed and only 2.9% of them gave no response at all on the issue, and this shows that primarily the causes of the conflict are political than any other factor. This is also supported by the result obtained from the qualitative data analysis in which the participants perceived or believed that political & ideological causes were the leading & dominant factors to flare those ethnic conflicts. Out of this again the idea that political elites conspiracy and politicized ethnicity manipulated by the same were found to be the dominant causes that flared the conflict.

And this result is in congruence with what Hossien (2016) in his journal on the causes of ethnic conflict in multi-ethnic society in Tehran affirms. This person asserts “...it is not the cultural differences per se that lead to conflict but the political, ideological, and economic goals of the actors, regardless of whether these actors are states or ethnic group leaders. This is supported also by the instrumentalists’ theory of ethnicity and ethnic conflict which states that

the elites in the modern state use and manipulate perceptions of ethnic identity to further their own political & economic ends and stay in power (Jonas, 1997). Social psychological theorists also agree with this idea, particularly, the social dominance theory goes with this idea.

In addition, in line with this Hong Joe Woo (2005) said: in some occasions problems with power-sharing systems can backfire and they possibly cause even serious ethnic conflicts. However, the test results also suggest that designing proper institutions for power sharing and implementing their functions and practical applications should be only peaceful and available alternative in the long run.

According to the information obtained from the data analysis, the next political cause of the conflict was found to be ethnic mobilization caused by politicized ethnicity up on which 74.5% (n=164) of participants strongly agreed, and 17.7% (n=39) of them agreed somewhat, while only 5.4% (n=12) of them disagreed that it could be the next political cause of the conflict, which in sum constituted (92.2%) (n=203) of the participants to agree with the point under consideration. In line with this Nurbulat Masanov, in his study on the Perceptions of Ethnic and All-national Identity in Kazakhstan asserts that virus of ethnicity was firmly rooted in the consciousness of local authorities and cultural-educational elites of the society, as they belonged to the tribal world, and in the end, there occurred an infection of the barbaric ethnic virus against modern civilization and which led to ethnic conflict. Furthermore, Masanove asserts "... ethnicity is used as an effective means for mobilizing crowds and the masses in the struggle for gaining power".

The next political cause of the conflict was found to be widespread corrupt practices and efforts to conceal those crimes up on which 70.9% (n=156) of participants strongly agreed, and 20.8% (n=46) of them agreed somewhat, while only 5.0% (n=11) of them disagreed and 3.3 % (n=7) of them gave no response. This is in congruence with the information obtained from an FGD discussion, and it is something done intentionally in order to stay in political power and achieve economic ends and benefit their nearest and dearest ones.

Next, the presence of poor or weak political governance was also found to be the cause of ethnic conflict and this is consistent with the information obtained from an FGD discussion with one participant (Code No As02) who said that some local, regional and even central level

government officials purposefully weaken the governance system and the rule of law in order to achieve their hidden agenda, and such a response in sum constituted 75.9%, (n=167) of the participants.

Next, the analysis revealed that the presence of bias in the political administration could be the cause of the conflict, which can be supported by the social psychological theory of in-group favoritism. Next, the analysis revealed that unbalanced historical narrations of the past based on fabricated premises could be the cause of the conflict. In addition there were also some other political factors that were marked as the cause of the conflict. But the major ones are the ones stated above.

Therefore, as can be seen from the result section, one can notice that the political factors are the leading and most dominant causes of the ethnic conflict and the economic & the social factors come in the second and third place respectively as the causes of the ethnic conflict in their order of severity and seriousness.

With regard to the main actors of the conflict, as can be seen from the information obtained from an SPSS analysis a dominant number of respondents strongly agreed that internal actors which can be expressed in terms of political leaders' conspiracy at central, regional & local levels were identified to be the dominant actors to flare the conflict, and took the first place (which is also supported by information obtained from FGD analysis). In addition, the contributions of other actors such as activists and community leaders have also aggravated the situation. Generally political leaders and activists were found to be the leading agents involved in the conflict.

In line with this, Hong, Joe Woo affirms that Ethnic activists and political entrepreneurs, operating within groups, build upon these fears of insecurity and polarize the society. Political memories and emotions also magnify these anxieties, driving groups further apart. Together, these between-group and within-group strategic interactions produce a toxic brew of distrust and suspicion that can explode into murderous violence.

Similarly, according to the information obtained from qualitative data i.e. participants interview and an FGD discussion, presently in Ethiopia the virus of ethnicity has firmly deep-rooted in the minds of local, regional and central government political elites and this has been

transferred even to the so called the intelligentsia group and even down into the society at the grassroots level particularly to the youth group, and this is causing conflicts which lead to mass eviction, ethnic killing & murdering of citizens and destruction of properties.

As a result of those ethnic conflicts some areas in the country are still beaten by & becoming a hotspot of ethnic based violence and mass killing of innocent citizens. From these evidences we can even conclude that the problem of the study area was polarized and politicized ethnicity which is aimed at attaining some political goals and achieve economic ends. Therefore, the country has to move from an ethno-nationalistic ideology to civic-nationality ideology and keep the balance between the two extremes. Otherwise, taking either extremes would not bring a lasting solution in solving the diversity-unity problems, (an ethno-nationalism politics focuses on ethnic autonomy or ethnic self-rule while a civic-nationalism politics focuses on national unity).

So, keeping the balance in between the two is very crucial for those who are playing the game at the expense of the common people, otherwise in one way or the other they would be responsible tomorrow for whatever they are sowing today.

With regard to the major consequences of the conflict, the result has revealed that the conflict followed by the displacement had created the following consequential problems in the life of the victim IDPs; which could be expressed or generalized into the following major heading categories:

First, with regard to the economic consequences, the information obtained from SPSS analysis showed that 94.5% (n=208) of the respondents agreed strongly that loss of property & possessions has become the most severe consequence of the conflict. Next, loss of jobs & income has been marked as the second consequence of the conflict up on which 93.2 %, (n=205) of respondents agreed strongly and 5.5% (n=12) of them agreed somewhat and in sum 98.7% (n=217) of them agreed that it is a direct consequence of the conflict; which was followed by significant deterioration of living standard as their major economic consequence.

In line with this, an assessment conducted by UNHCR (2006) found that displacement as the consequence of ethnic conflict leads to massive loss of commodities, such as the home, income, land or other forms of property, and less tangible symbolic goods, such as cultural heritage, friendship and a sense of belonging to a particular place of residence. Its malicious effects on individuals, families, and communities are wide-ranging and include 'impoverishment,

social isolation, exclusion from health, welfare and education provision, the breakdown of social relationships and support structures, and the undermining of authority structures and social roles. Moreover, displacement disrupts children from education and psychologically affects both children as well as women and make them at a sharp risk of abuses, acts of violence and human rights violations, including round-ups, forced conscription and sexual assault (Mooney, 2005; UNHCR, 2006).

Second, with regard to the social consequences, one can see from the information obtained from SPSS analysis, that displacement from favorable habitual places of residence has been marked as the first consequence of the conflict up on which 94.1 %, (n=207) of respondents agreed strongly; and only 5% (n=11) of them agreed somewhat, while almost none of them could disagree. In sum 99.1% (n=218) of them agreed that it is a direct consequence of the conflict.

Next, separation from family and relatives has been marked to be the other social consequence followed by breakdown of customary & cultural values of the society.

In line with the above findings, a similar assessment conducted by UNHCR (2006) found that displacement as the consequence of ethnic conflict dramatically disrupts livelihoods, and leads to a severe reduction in access to the basic necessities of life including food, clean water, shelter, adequate clothing, health services, and sanitations. It leads to food insecurity and a high rate of acute malnutrition in Ethiopia. This humanitarian crisis disrupted vulnerable households' access to food and livelihood activities by worsening food insecurity and malnutrition conditions in the country.

Third, with regard to the political consequences, one can see from the information obtained from SPSS analysis, that pervasive instability and chaos in life has been marked to be the first consequence of the conflict; followed by gross human rights violation.

In terms of psychological consequences of the conflict on the life of the displaced people, the first consequence is that it killed many of their relatives and loved ones which in turn hurts and burns the hearts of their family and nearest ones; they lost their residence houses and habitual places of residence and detached them from their previous social life and strong social ties; so, its psychosocial impacts have both direct and indirect effects on their life as it was reported by interview and FGD participants too.

The next factor which has been marked or taken as the second psychological consequence of the conflict was feeling of negative emotions like hopelessness, bitterness & helplessness followed by other factors such as separation from family & relatives; suspicion & mistrust against other ethnic groups. From the information obtained from an FGD discussion and interview held with participants, this suspicion & mistrust emanates from what has happened to them by the people they know & trust, and by the people with whom they lived, based on the political agitation by their ethnocentric minded political leaders and the regional military force and the police forces.

Next, feeling of distress & development of victim mental attitude was marked as another psychological consequence, and finally development of traumatic experiences such as PTSD, was also taken as the most serious psychological consequence and is strongly related to their life and have a negative impact up on their life.

Furthermore, in their response to the FGD discussion and interviews held with the participants, they reported that the households were suffering due to similar problems but were not provided with any kind of guidance and psychological life adjustment orientations. This is in congruence with what Tesfaye (2019) indicated in his study that most of FGD and interview participants were going through feeling of worthlessness and confusion of life. This was also observed by the researcher by moving through the villages within the community.

Furthermore, this is also consistent with the works of Mesfin, (2004) on post conflict internally displaced persons in Ethiopia, which stated: as they were victims of violence, they consider themselves as isolated and neglected segment of the population; affected by feelings of guilt or low self-worth, disturbed sleep or appetite, and poor concentration. They are at high risk of psychological problems because of forced eviction, traumatic events, and resettlement in unfamiliar environments.

With regard to the present economic & psychological challenges the IDPs are facing, the result from an FGD and interview has depicted that those IDPs are facing severe economic and psychosocial problems which must be addressed urgently as they are suffering from such problems as shortage of potable pipe water, malnutrition, poor housing condition, lack of proper sanitation & health facilities, lack of jobs & income (unemployment), presence of wide spread poverty and worthlessness were raised as the most critical economic & psychosocial problems that challenged their life severely and need an urgent intervention from the concerned bodies.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Summary

The main purpose of this study was to investigate the perceived causes, main actors, psychosocial & economic consequences and the present challenges faced by internally displaced people (IDPs) of the Oromo community displaced from Ethio-Somali region and resettled at Sululta site in temporary shelters.

In order to achieve the above objectives the following research questions were generated:

RQ1 What were the major perceived causes of the ethnic conflict that happened to the Oromo community displaced from Ethio-Somali region & border areas?

RQ2 Who were the main actors involved in the ethnic conflict and played a key role for eviction of those people from their habitual residence places?

RQ3 What were the major psychosocial & economic consequences that the IDPs experienced as a result of the conflict induced displacement?

RQ 4 What are the present challenges that the IDPs are facing in their newer resettlement sites?

RQ5 What kind of interventions should be employed in order to address those challenges and prevent the victims from further deterioration of life to a more severe conditions (economic & psychosocial disorder levels)?

RQ6. What measures do you think should be taken to improve the situation of ethnic conflict and the life of the IDPs?

With regard to the research design and methodologies the study has employed concurrent triangulation research design which involves both qualitative & quantitative research methods in which the data were collected from both primary and secondary sources. The quantitative data was collected through the study questionnaires prepared by the researcher and the qualitative data through FGD, unstructured interview, household observation and document review. As to the method of data analysis, the thematic approach was applied for the qualitative data, and the

quantitative data were analyzed by using descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages with the use of an SPSS Software version 24.

Based on the basic research questions, the result of the present study revealed that first, the major causes of the ethnic conflict were mostly found to be political factors; which can be further expressed in terms of systematic conspiracy of political elites both at local, regional and even at central levels for the purpose of achieving political motives & attaining economic ends as indicated by the participants.

Second, the information obtained from the qualitative data is in support of this truth. That means, it was the politicized & polarized ethnicity geared towards mobilizing a given ethnic group towards achieving some set political & economic goals by elite groups that caused the ethnic clashes and led to the eviction of these people from their areas where they lived for ages. Otherwise, the two people lived together for ages, even some of the Oromo communities were born and grew there and considered themselves as native & indigenous to the area, because they were born in & culturally they were more similar with the Somalis and they can speak the language as fluently as natives. However, those political authorities (elites) tried to put on fire & add fuel to the ethnic clashes in order to aggravate the situation so that they can seize & maintain their power; conceal their corrupt practices as well as benefit their nearest and dearest ones. That means, the political leaders & elites were playing political games at the expense of their ethnic groups' interest in order to achieve their political goals and attain their economic ends.

Thus, according to the participants perception political conspiracies aimed at building political hegemony and supremacy of few individuals or groups over the majority mass was marked as the key cause of ethnic conflicts in the area. From what has been observed this can be the main source of most ethnic conflicts that happened in the whole of Ethiopia, let alone in the Somali region.

Third, with regard to the consequences of the conflict different empirical literatures showed that there were multiple consequences of ethnic conflict and those ethnic conflicts were often accompanied by tremendous human suffering which can be expressed in terms of massive displacement, loss of lives, gross human rights violations, such as genocide and crimes against humanity, and by economic decline, state failure and environmental problems. Hence, in line with this the findings from the qualitative data also revealed that displacement of multitude of

people, loss of lives of loved ones, gross human rights violations and psychological traumatic experiences were found to be the consequential results of the conflict. This can be generalized as economic, social psychological and political consequences of the conflict. Out of these the economic & psychological consequences were marked to be the leading and most dominant consequences of the conflict.

In addition, with regard to the present challenges these displaced people are facing at their camp site, the result of the study showed that shortage of potable pipe water, malnutrition, poor housing, lack of proper sanitation & health facilities, lack of jobs & income (unemployment), presence of wide spread poverty were raised as the critical economic & social problems that challenged their life severely.

Similarly, when it comes to psychological & emotional harms, it can be explained in terms of loss of their loved ones & separation from their families or relatives and from their habitual residence places which exposed them to nostalgic experiences; feeling of negative emotions like hopelessness, bitterness & helplessness; suspicion and mistrust against other ethnic groups; feeling of distress & victim mental attitude and which in turn led them towards development of traumatic experiences can be mentioned as some of the psychological challenges they faced & are still facing at their shelter site and that needs an urgent call of both the GOs and NGOs in order to prevent their life from further deterioration in to a more severe psychosocial and economic disorder levels.

Thus, in order to escape the impacts of all these problems, recently many of the male house heads have started returning back to Hararghe (where their relatives are found) looking for jobs in bigger cities like Dire Dawa, Harar, Jigjiga and other bigger towns and this in turn is also causing another separation of families which also separates husband from his wife & from his children; and children are deprived of the love of their fathers and this has its own negative psychological impact in building strong family relationships; most of them are also suffering from emotional feelings of distress, grievance and bitterness in their life, which may lead to severe traumatic experiences such as PTSD as they continue to stay & suffer in these corrugated iron made shelter houses.

Generally, this study revealed that the ethnic conflict & the conflict induced displacement disrupted the normal life of the IDPs & dismantled their previous strong social ties and intimacy;

led them into homelessness & worthlessness; economically affected them and made them dependent; brought into their life economic destitution; and led them to be more vulnerable to psychological violence of hopelessness, despair and distress which needs an urgent remedy.

5.2. Conclusions

The purpose of this study was to investigate the perceived causes, main actors, and psychosocial and economic consequences as well as the present challenges of the IDPs settled at Sululta site shelters. Therefore, as it was reported by interview and FGD participants and based on the result of the research, the researcher has drawn the following conclusions with their corresponding implications:

With regard to the perceived causes of the conflict the results of the present study obtained from both qualitative & quantitative data showed that the main causes of the ethnic conflict in the area were predominantly found to be political factors; which can be further expressed in terms of systematic conspiracy of political elites or leaders; politicized ethnicity & manipulated power for the purpose of attaining political ends & achieving economic gains as indicated by the participants. This coincides with the idea of the instrumentalists' theory of ethnicity & conflict that asserts the elite groups (political entrepreneurs) create identity-based differences and manipulate or politicize those differences for their own benefits (Cohen, 1996; Brass, 1996). Also that is in line with the social psychological theories of social dominance & social identity theories. From social psychological perspectives, in the most generalized sense the main reasons that mislead people towards stereotype, prejudice and ethnic & racial discrimination are the following:

1) Social categorization - grouping people based on certain attributes such as ethnicity leads to:

a) Out-group homogeneity effect - the tendency to view members of out-groups as more similar to each other than we see members of in-groups (Linville, Salovey, & Fischer, 1986; Ostrom & Sedikides, 1992; Meissner & Brigham, 2001)

b) In-group favoritism effect - the tendency to respond more positively to people from our in-groups than we do to people from out-groups.

In order to achieve this; the government should work on ways of reducing stereotype, prejudice, and discrimination by taking the following measures: Social re-categorization which focuses on avoiding the effect of in-group favoritism and avoiding out-group homogeneity effects.

2) Social identity theory - when the social esteem of a group is threatened the members may try to maintain it through in-group favoritism. Social identity refers to the positive emotions that we experience as a member of an important social group (Hogg, 2003; Oakes, Haslam, & Turner, 1994; Tajfel, 1981). Hogg, M. A. (2003).

3) Social dominance theory - when there are unequal power balance and status difference some members may enjoy the benefits and gains due to their social dominance.

4) Realistic conflict theory - competing for scarce resources that are found within the regions as possession of a given ethnic group.

5) Erroneous socialization of children: as they grow from childhood to adolescence children acquire negative thinking, attitudes or views about others from parents, friends, teachers and mass Medias and this would create a devastating effect in their later lives within the society they live in.

6) Ignorance - as ancient Greek philosophers like Socrates said ignorance is the greatest enemy of human kind. So, human beings should realize the fact that all humans are mortal and live only short life on this planet earth. But, because of ignorance they are despising each and one another on the bases of some biases such as ethnicity.

7) Lack of exposure and barriers to contact or communication- communication in this sense is an exchange of information between/among two or more individuals or groups. So, having enough knowledge and understanding about each other is so crucial. When people know and understand each other's identity, culture and way of life well, differences may not be as such exaggerated as it is notably the case in city life. In order to achieve this, the government, the concerned organizations and prominent individuals must operate on the basis of the contact hypothesis theory. The contact hypothesis theory is a theory that states people should come together through direct and frequent closer contact for longer duration of time.

8) The role of Media – the role of media in bringing people together and serving as cohesive agent or on the contrary dividing the people into different groups is immense. On the other hand, if the media becomes biased or professionally unethical or if they don't abide by the rules and principles of what the media professional ethics requires it will have a devastating consequence. This includes the impact of both governmental & private media. Particularly, nowadays the impact of social media in spreading different falsified information results in a serious devastating negative effect in dividing peoples' ideologies and putting the unity of the country under question.

9) Authoritarian personality- when authorities become rigid and concerned more about their power rather than the people's normal life and citizens' rights. In such cases danger is at the door! Because, sooner or later conflicts would become inevitable.

According to Asnake (2014), trends in Africa show that ethnicity has been manipulated by rulers for political appointment, economic control, political supremacy and cultural domination. This has led to the rise of a number of ethnic conflicts and tensions here and there in Africa in general and in Ethiopia in particular. These conflicts were and are still even geared and propagated by few interest groups, and this calls for urgent technical and psychological remedy. Because, apart from loss of lives, destruction of properties and displacement of people, it is changing the attitude, thought pattern and behavior of citizens. That means, people are becoming more stereotyped, more prejudiced and discriminated on the basis of ethnicity, which in turn could change the sociological and psychological imagination of people. Therefore, the government must try to work hard on the basic ways of solving current ethnic conflicts; drying the sources of potential conflicts and avoiding the causes of displacement and must address the psychosocial problems of IDPs along with the economic problems with proper intervention strategies & provide holistic and inclusive support systems.

Those humanitarian aid organizations (NGOs) should also help these needy IDPs not only in terms of fulfilling their basic necessities of food, clothing & shelter but also in terms of treating & healing their psychological trauma as well, for displaced people often times face different psychological problems in addition to social & economic problems and need many things to be fulfilled for them.

With regard to the **main actors** of the conflict as indicated above the findings of the study from both data sets also indicated that mainly it is the intervention & conspiracy of political elites or authorities working with a hidden agenda of satisfying their hunger for power & economic gains and such perpetrators can be found at local (woreda), zonal and even central government levels. Because, those politicians were flaming on fire & adding fuel to the ethnic clashes in order to aggravate the situation so that they can seize & maintain their power & hegemony; conceal their corrupt practices as well as benefit their nearest and dearest ones. That means, few political elites were playing political games at the expense of their ethnic groups' interest in order to attain their political goals & achieve economic ends. Furthermore, building their political hegemony and supremacy of few individuals or groups over the majority mass was found to be the most triggering factor (source) of those ethnic conflicts that happened in the area and even in the whole country let alone in Ethio-Somali region. Participants reported that it is not a mere ethnicity that caused the conflict but political conspiracy, politicized ethnicity and abusive ethnic mobilization geared by a few political entrepreneurs or groups that inundated the region with those waves of conflicts and damages.

Thus, the government must try to work hard on the basic ways of changing citizens' attitude & thinking by teaching and providing awareness creation trainings to politicians and the common people. Particularly, changing the attitude & views of the youth group in order to produce a renewed generation in the near future must be taken seriously. Otherwise, it would be too difficult to uproot the vinegary roots of ethnicity.

With regard to the **consequences** of the conflict different empirical evidences show that there were multiple consequences of ethnic conflicts which can be categorized into economic, political, social, and psychological headings. Also, in this study the result obtained showed about four/five main categories of consequences of conflict: namely, economic, social, political and psychological & emotional consequences. Out of these the economic and psychological consequences were found to be the most pressing which greatly influenced the life of IDPs.

Generally, with regard to the consequences of conflicts, as what is true often times, those ethnic conflicts were accompanied by tremendous human suffering which can be expressed in terms of massive displacement, loss of lives, economic turn down; gross human rights violations,

such as genocide and crimes against humanity, and by economic decline. On top of that it is followed by a long-lasting psychological trauma & distress or scar.

Thus, all the concerned bodies and stake holders must discharge their responsibilities and intervene by any possible means to deal with and extinguish the flames of ethnicity & ethnic conflicts and supporting the displaced and impoverished people residing at settlement camp sites.

Furthermore, the concerned stakeholders must work on how to enhance positive behavioral changes among the actors of the conflict; How to make the situation no longer violent, hostile and exploitative; How to redress or recompense for the past grievances (objections, grumbles & complaints, and resentment or (offenses, dislikes, bitterness & hatred); How to recompense for the past injustices, imbalances & ill-treatments or mistreatments that happened to the victims, and how to heal the psychological traumatic experiences between the parties that were in conflict. Finally, strong work on how to achieve a lasting or sustainable peace & security in a given locality in particular and at country level in general is required.

With regard to the present challenges of the IDPs at their camp sites, the result also depicted that those IDPs are facing severe psychosocial and economic problems. The psychological problems can be further elaborated in terms of feeling of negative emotions like hopelessness, helplessness & bitterness; suspicion and mistrust against other ethnic groups; feeling of distress & development of victim mental attitude and traumatic experiences.

Likewise, the economic problems include shortage of potable pipe water, malnutrition, poor housing condition, lack of proper sanitation & health facilities, lack of jobs & income (unemployment), presence of wide spread poverty were raised as the critical economic problems that challenged their existence severely.

As a way forward, both the preventive and the curative methods should be implemented and applied as a strategy. That means, curing the consequences of the conflict and the scars of displacement and pay proper interventions & provide holistic support systems in terms of not only fulfilling the basic necessities of food, clothing & shelter but also addressing and healing their psychological wounds as displaced people face different psychological and social problems in addition to economic problems. Particularly, with regard to the psychological challenges, they need to get a higher form of support systems.

5.3. Limitations of the Study

The researcher faced some challenges at the time of collecting the necessary primary data for this study. Some of the main challenges of the study can be traced as follows: First, it was a challenge to get the consent of the study participants as they had fear that the study topic would have political connotation. Thus, even getting a letter of permit from the Sululta City Administration, and explaining the purpose of the study to and convincing the participants was a time taking process.

Second, it was also a little bit challenging to collect data & conduct the research amid the pandemic of COVID-19 fears. The people were suspicious of the researcher again for two reasons: the first one was for fear of COVID-19 pandemic, and the second one was for political sensitivity issues. That means, firstly, they did fear people who come from cities and bigger towns such as Addis Ababa, as they thought & limited the Corona pandemic to exist in bigger urban areas only. Secondly, for political sensitivity issues means for ethnic conflict was a sensitive and volatile issue at the time. Hence, they did perceive that it was as a result of ethnic conflict & political malice that they were displaced and suffered a lot and paid unnecessary costs in their life. Even some of them boldly told to the researcher that they did fear two level officials to give information; first, those at Sululta City Administration, and second political officials at the higher level administration. With regard to this, they even complained that they were afraid as to whether their problems were well known by the higher level officials of the present central government. This has created some kind of gaps to collect information freely; nevertheless, some of them were even bold enough to speak out what was there in their mind.

Otherwise, the topic is an interesting topic that grabs the attention of any citizen because it is a volatile issue and directly or indirectly affecting the life of every individual and threatens the national unity and sovereignty of the country in the long run if not treated wisely very soon.

Third, another limitation was that after problem identification, it was a great challenge to get the necessary data collection tool. Because, almost all of the researches done on exploring the causes & main actors and consequences of ethnic conflict induced displacements were based on

qualitative data. So, developing quantitative data measurement tool was a difficult task despite there exists ample qualitative researches.

Fourth, due to its distance (about 700 -800 kms from the capital) and due to COVID 19-pandemic, and financial constraints the researcher couldn't travel to the conflict area i.e. Somali region and incorporate the views of the Somali ethnic groups (rather included the views of vulnerable IDPs only).

Finally, there is also another limitations associated with the study i.e. only 74.3% of participants replied to the survey questionnaires and it might decrease the extent to which the results could be generalized to all the IDP populations living at camp sites. However, these limitations in their entirety may reduce the accuracy of the findings; efforts were made in order to dig out accurate & relevant information. So, it is hoped that these questions and interviews could provide a perspective as close to the ground as possible.

At last, to minimize those limitations future research should attempt to use more samples of data set to address the total population of IDPs. And it is advisable for researchers to consider preparing alternative methods of data collection tools in advance to get more reliable research outputs.

5.4. Recommendations

In light of the findings of the study, a few recommendations were put forward as approaches to alleviate the problems with regard to the causes, main actors, consequences of the conflict and the present challenges of the vulnerable IDPs. The recommendations are:

First, in relation to the present challenges those displaced people are facing various forms of economic& psychological problems. Thus, as the participants also suggested primarily in the short run these displaced people need their immediate economic & psychological problems be addressed well. Therefore,

a) Economic support systems should be in place in terms of provision of basic nutrition, water, clothing, health care, and other related services in order to rectify the short term needs of the IDPs. That means, as usual the government must answer their basic question of survival by providing them with urgent support in terms of food, clothing, and durable shelter, including

fulfilling their sanitation & health facility requirements. But, these alone are not enough, rather they need further support systems to be incorporated:-

b) Psychological support systems should be provided as they are people who suffered lots of challenges (killings, losses, violations of rights, insults, hunger, and detachment from relatives & habitual places of residence etc.). Therefore, at least they must be visited and treated with positive words of encouragement by immediate government officials. Added to this health workers, & psychology professionals, community counselors, volunteers and teachers must be involved to provide counseling services to these households and should be actively strengthened by providing counseling, guidance and encouragement for those who developed victim mental attitude and who were under traumatic situations to enhance their problem-solving skills, for it is their present question. In other words, ways must be designed to make them be able to speak out and share the life challenges they faced as it may relieve them from any form of distress and may develop or improve their life skills.

c) In the long run, the government should reintegrate or return these vulnerable settlers back to their habitual places of residence and reintegrate them on durable and permanently basis and change the life of these displaced citizens by discussing with the Somali Regional State. When it does so it must return & rehabilitate them permanently along with all or at least most of their possessions they had before compensated i.e. the houses, farm land, businesses in their habitual places of residence must be returned to them. Or else it must provide them with durable & proper houses, farm land or offer them with government jobs based on their qualifications, abilities & skills here in their settlement site; or else organize them into associations and create jobs in micro & small scale businesses for some of them here in their new places of settlement.

Second, in relation to the causes and main actors of the conflict, as suggested by some participants the government must recognize and abort any potential conflict in its earliest stage. That means, working towards drying the root causes or sources of ethnic conflict before they arise and responding right at the spot is crucial to bring a lasting peace, stability and the long awaited development within the country.

Third, political conspiracies aimed at building political hegemony and supremacy of few individuals or groups, which were the source of most ethnic conflicts in Ethio-Somali region (including the conflicts that happened in many parts of Ethiopia) over the majority mass, should

be suppressed at any cost, and also the politics that emphasizes on polarized ethnicity shouldn't have a place in the country any more in order to get out of the vicious circle of ethnic problems.

Fourth, any attempt to seize political power without democratic election must be constitutionally knocked out of the political system of the country and the terms of elections must be limited to only two terms so that any individual or any single party could not stay in power for more than two terms. In addition, as data from documents and practical observations depict, what is in the document about ethnic federalism is not totally compatible with what is seen in practice in Ethiopia; accordingly if in case ethnicity must be there, it must be based on genuine ethnicity i.e. that accommodates unity in diversity in reality and be in accordance with what is written in the constitution that practically ensures the principles of equity and impartiality in terms of power & resources, benefits and burden sharing between the regions based on their population proportion.

Fifth, building independent institutions and systems that work to keep the balance between ethnic politics and citizenship politics (a political system that really keeps the balance between unity and diversity) must be there in place. Besides, designing proper institutions & laws for power sharing and implementing their functions and practical applications should be available alternative.

In line with these it is necessary to build appropriate institutions that can properly execute these truths and those institutions should be free from any political intervention, and accomplish their responsibilities independently of any political imposition.

In order to achieve those things both the regional governments and the central governments need to understand how to maneuver a balanced ethnic federalism and get into experiencing full democracy. In addition, they must engage in the process of ensuring good governance that guarantees the rule of law (knock down the rule of men) through building proper institutions with workable systems starting from the top up to the grassroots level. Because, the success and sustainability of any country's development strategy and endeavor solely depends on the solid ground of good governance embedded in the government systems and structures.

Generally, in order to put into action all those things, Ethiopian leaders have to learn from the experience of different countries which have gone through ethnic conflict and

displacement problems both at regional and national levels. For instance, we have to learn good lessons from Russia, South Africa, and Rwanda as to what happened to them & how they could manage to heal their ethnic, economic and psychosocial ills for lessons learnt in one area could serve as an eye-opener for another if well harnessed.

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APPENDIX-A

English Version of the Questionnaire

PART-I: Demographic Information

QUESTIONNAIRE

Request for Consent to Participate in this Study

Dear respected participants,

This study is intended to assess “the perceived causes, main actors &the major psychosocial& economic consequences of conflict induced displacement and to examine the present challenges faced by internally displaced people (IDPs): in the case of IDPs displaced from Ethio-Somali region & along the borders, and resettled at Sululta site shelters.

This questionnaire is designed to generate information for the master thesis on the topic written above. The aim of this study is to understand the perception of internally displaced people with regard to the causes, actors& consequences, and challenges of the conflict upon their life.

So, you are kindly requested to give relevant information on the topics under study with complete freedom & independence. Please be cognizant that all the information you provide for this study will not be disclosed to anyone rather it will be treated with high confidentiality. In addition, it is used for academic purpose only.

Please, be honest in all your responses for your co-operation, truthfulness and assistance will be highly appreciated for the needed outcome.

If you have fully understood the above information about the study and if you are willing to participate in the study please indicate your consent by putting a tick mark (✓) in the box given below and then complete the questionnaire.

I agree to complete the questionnaire

Thank you so much in advance for your precious time and kind cooperation!

General instruction: Please put a tick mark in the appropriate box and fill up the open spaces as necessary.

Part I: Socio- Demographic Information of the participants

1. Sex

Male

Female

2. Age in years:

3. Marital Status

Single

Divorced

Widowed

Married

Separated

4. Educational Level: Literate High School
 No education Primary College & above

5. Family size/No of children

Note:-The rationale behind collecting the demographic data is to get the full picture of the respondents and have an understanding of the overall situation of those displaced people.

Part II: For the following Likert scale questions, there are no rights or wrong answers. **So, please** indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each item and tick (✓) or check the appropriate cell to express your opinion on the following 5-points Likert scale shown below to the best of your knowledge.

Rating Scale: _____

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree (SD)	Disagree	No response	Agree	Strongly Agree (SA)

Tool 1: Items assessing the main causes of ethnic conflict that erupted in the area based on the perception of IDPS.

For the following listed possible causes of ethnic conflict rate based on your experience that caused the violence that erupted specifically in your locality		Likert Scales				
		1	2	3	4	5
	ECONOMIC FACTORS					
i.	Amplified competition over shared resources (farming or grazing land, water well etc)					
ii.	The presence of wide spread poverty, unemployment, etc					
iii.	Inequality & injustice in economic resource & benefits distribution/sharing					
	POLITICAL FACTORS					
iv.	Political elites led conspiracy to seize political power & state institutions					
v.	Presence of bias in the political administration					
vi.	Ethnic mobilization caused by politicized ethnicity					
vii.	The presence of poor political governance					
viii.	Widespread corrupt practices & efforts to conceal them					
	SOCIAL/RELATIONAL FACTORS					
ix.	Deliberate social exclusion and marginalization of the non-native minority by the native inhabitant community					
x.	Legacy of previous unresolved ethnic conflicts					
xi.	Absence of cross cutting social and civil society organizations					
	GEOGRAPHICAL FACTORS					
xii.	Non-existence of well-defined borders and clear-cut boundary demarcations					
xiii.	Intentional expansion or border invasion efforts					
	HISTORICAL FACTORS					
xiv.	Unbalanced historical narrations of the past based on fabricated wrong premises					
xv.	The presence of hatred and resentment traced from ancestral lines					

xvi.	A motive to retaliate and revenge for the past actions by the native inhabitants					
ETHNO-LINGUISTIC & CULTURAL FACTORS						
xvii.	Tensions over language & ethnic identity factors					
xviii.	Religious factors or differences					
xix.	Cultural factors or differences					

Tool 2: Items assessing the possible psychosocial and economic consequences of the ethnic conflict that erupted in the area based on the perception of IDPS.

Items assessing the possible consequences of the ethnic conflict that erupted in the area & the challenges of IDPs.		Likert Scales				
		1	2	3	4	5
i.	The loss of jobs and income (financial impoverishment)					
ii.	Loss of property and possessions					
iii.	Declining/deterioration of living standard					
iv.	Displacement from favorable habitual place of residence					
v.	Separation from family & relatives					
vi.	Breakdown of customary & cultural values					
vii.	Pervasive instability and chaos					
viii.	Human right violations					
ix.	Loss of lives of loved ones					
x.	Physical violation/harm and other health problems					
xi.	Feeling of statelessness & erosion of trust in the state					
xii.	Feeling of negative emotions like hopelessness, bitterness..					
xiii.	Suspicion and mistrust against other ethnic groups					
xiv.	Feeling of distress & development of victim mental attitude					
xv.	The development of traumatic experiences such as PTSD					

Tool 3: Items assessing the main actors of ethnic conflict that could evict the people from their habitual places of residence.

S.N	Items related to main actors for the ethnic conflict	Likert Scales				
		1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ethnic based political leaders' (elites) systematic conspiracy from the host group					
2.	The people's interest from the native inhabitant Somali ethnic group					
3.	The people's interest from the non-native Oromo ethnic group					
4.	The people's interest from both ethnic group					
5.	Political catalysts' (activists) working behind the scene					
6.	Intervention of external insecurity forces working secretly					

APPENDIX-B

Part III: An FGD Guide Items for Community members/Opinion Leaders

- Facilitator's Name: _____
- Place of Meeting _____ Date _____ Time _____

1. In your opinion and experience, what do you think was/were the major cause(s) of the ethnic conflict in your locality? _____

2. Who do you think were the main actors of the conflict?

Internal actors _____

External actors _____

Other (please specify) _____

3. Generally, what were the major consequences of the conflict during and after displacement on you and your family's life? (economic, political, social and psychological) How did it hurt you?

4. What are the major social, economic as well as psychological (emotional) challenges that IDPs are facing at their newer resettlement camp site? _____

5. What do you suggest as the most effective methods that could be used in managing, resolving or ending

such ethnic conflicts in your local area? _____

6. Do you feel that as if you gained or lost something (improved/worsened) since you were displaced?

7. Are you satisfied with your present life in this IDP site/shelter? Or else do you want to return back to your habitual place of origin? Please specify. _____

8. Do you believe the interventions (support systems from GOs, NGOs) provided by the agencies dealing with IDPs here are adequate? _____

9. If no, what do you recommend as improvement to be done for you from the concerned government bodies and other stakeholders? _____

10. What interventions should be employed in order to address those challenges and prevent the victims' life from further deterioration in to a more severe condition (economic & psychosocial disorder levels)?

11. Who do you think is to be blamed and ultimately responsible & accountable for all the bad things that happened to you? _____

12. Which conflict resolution methods do you think would be better to solve such kind of conflict problems accompanied by displacement? _____

APPENDIX-C

Part IV: Unstructured Interview Question Items

1. In your opinion and experience what do you think was/were the major cause(s) of the ethnic conflict that happened in your locality?

2. Who do you think were the main actors taking part in & aggravating ethnic conflict? What do they benefit from such chaos?

3. What were the major consequences of the conflict during and after displacement on you and your family's life?

4. What are the major social, economic as well as psychological (emotional) challenges that IDPs are facing at their newer resettlement camp site?

5. What type of interventions do you think would be appropriate & can address such conflicts and prevent your life from further deterioration in to a more severe condition (economic & psychosocial disorder levels)?

Thank You for Your Sincere Cooperation

Appendix-D

Part V: An Observation Checklist of IDP Households:

In this part of the study, the researcher wanted to make a serious observation of the physical, psychosocial & economic behaviors or situations of IDPs and how they naturally act at their environments and shelter settings.

Time of observation _____ Residence area/type of Shed: _____

	Description	Put a (tick) mark	Comment
	1. Appearance:		
a.	Well dressed and clean		
b.	Torn cloths, but clean		
c.	Torn and filthy (dirty) cloths		
d.	Other (specify)		
	2. Health:		
a.	Healthy and physically strong		
b.	Weak and skinny		
c.	Not well or malnourished		
d.	Other (specify)		
	3. Most striking non-verbal behavior:		
a.	Cold and friendly		
b.	Shy/Reserved		
c.	Sad/unhappy		
d.	Alert/active		
e.	Smiling/happy		
f.	Friendly/open		
g.	Mischievous/delinquent		
h.	Other (specify)		
	4. Type & condition of shelters/sheds		
a.	Tidy & conducive		
b.	Untidy & not conducive		
	5. Substance use:		

a.	Yes		
b.	No		
	6. Household's sociability/friendliness		
a.	Extrovert		
b.	Introvert		
c.	Ambivalent		
	7. Level of Co-operation		
a.	Very good		
b.	Good		
c.	Fair		
d.	Bad		
	8. Observer's comments		

APPENDIX-E

The Oromiffa Version of the Questionnaire

YUUNNIVARSIITII ADDIS ABABAA KOLLEEJII BARUMSAA FI QO'ANNOO AMALAA MANA BARUMSAA SAAYKOOLOJII

Gaffii Baareeffamaa

Qo'annoo Kana Irratii Hirmaachuudhaaf Fedhii Gaafachuu

Hirmaattota Kabajamoo,

Qoa'annoon kun sababa fi bu'aa walitti bu'iinsa sanyii irratti hundaa'ee fiduu danda'u namoota buqaatota biyya keessatiin (IDPS) ibsame madaaluuf kan yaadameedha.

Sababa buqqaatoota Oromoo-Sumaaleedha buqqa'an fi Sulultaa irati safaranii.

Gaffiin barreeffamaa kun mata duree armaan olitti barreeffamee irratii teesisii maastariitiif (MA degree) odeeffannoo burqisiisuudhaf kan karoofameedha. Kaayyoon qo'annoo kanaa hubannoo namoota buqqaatoota biyya keessaa miidhaan buqa'uu jireenya isaanii quunname hubachuudha.

Kanaafuu, fedhii guutuudhaan fi giddu galummaa tokko malee mata duree qo'annoo kanaa irate odeeffannoo faayidaa qabeessa ta'e akka nuuf kennitan kabajaan isin gaafanna. Odeeffannoon nuuf kennitan hundi nama kamiifiyyuu dabarfamee kan hin kennamnee fi iccitidhaan kan qabamu ta'uu isaa isiniif mirkaneessuu barbaana. Dabalataan kayyoo barumsaatiif qofa kan oolu ta'uu isaa isiniif mirkaneessina.

Deebiin gaafii kanaaf kennitan, deeggarsi, fi deebii dhugaa kennuun keessaan bu'aa barbaaddamuuf baay'ee barbaachisaadha.

Kanumaafuu waa'ee qo'annichaa odeeffannoo armaan olii guutummaan guutudhaan yoo hubattani fi qo'annicha irate hirmaachuudhaaf fedhii yoo qabaattan mallattoo (✓)kaa'uudhaan gaafii barreeffamaa kana guutaa.

Gaafii barreeffamaa kana guutuudhaaf waliigaleera:

Yeroo keessaan mi'aawaa ta'ee nuuf laatanii fi deeggarsa nuuf taasisitaniif baay'ee sin galateeffanna.

Ajaja waliigaalaa: Saandduuqa armaan gadii keessa mallattoo kaa'uudhaan akkaataa barbaachisaa ta'een iddoo duwwaa armaan gadii jiruu keesatii guuti.

Kutaa 1: Odeeffannoo Hirmaattotaa.

1. Saala

Dhira

Dubara

2. Umurii _____

3. Haala fuudhaf heerumaa

Kan hin fuunee

kan fudhee

Kan hikee

Kan abbaan manaa irraa du'ee

4. Sadarkaa barumsaa _____

5. Baay'ina maatii /baay'ina daa'immanii _____

Hubachiisa:-Kaayoon odeeffannoo armaan oli guuruu keenyaa waa'ee hirmaattoota sirriitti hubachuu fi haala waliigalaa buqqaatotaa beekuudhaf qofa.

Kutaa II: Gaafii arman gadii irratti yaada keessaan ibsuudhaaf gaafiSkeelii Liikarti 5n armaan gadi keessaa tooko isaa irrati malattoo (✓) kaa'uudhaan deebii keenni.

Rating Scale: Skeelii Liikarti 5n

1	2	3	4	5
Baay'ee				
Waliihingalu	waliihingala	Yadda Hinkennu	Waliihingala	Baay'een waliigala

Meeshaa 1: Akkaataa hubannoo buqqaatotaatiin sababa walitti bu'iinsa sanyii naannichatti uummame qorachuudhaaf wantoota barbaachisan:

Sababa walittii bu'iinsa sanyii naannichatti uummame keessattuu naannoo keetti kan uummame irraa ka'uudhaan deebii armaan gadii deebisi		Skeelii Liikarti				
		1	2	3	4	5
	Sababa Diinagdee					
i.	Qabeenya waliin itti fayyadaman (lafa qonnaa ykn lafa margaa, boolla bishaanii fi kkf) ilaalchisee waldorgomii keesaa galuu					
ii.	Hiyyummaan ol'aanaa ta'e jiraachuu isaa					
iii.	Qabeenya diinagdee haala walqixa ta'een raabsuu dhabuu					
	Sababa Siyaasaa					
iv.	Namoonnii barataan ol'aantummaa siyaasaa fudhachuuf					
v.	Bulch'iinsa siyaasaa keessa walqixxummaan dhabamu					
vi.	Politicized ethnicity and ethnic mobilization					
vii.	Bulchiinsa siyaasaa dadhabaa ta'u					
	Sababa Hawaasummaa ykn Walitti Dhufeenya					
viii.	Jireenya hawaasummaan cunqurfamuu fi gareen xiqeenya qabu babalachuu					
ix.	Dhaadanoo walitti bu'iinsa sanyii duraanii hin furamnee					
x.	Dhaabbanni hawaasummaa fi siivilii jiraachuu dhabuu isaa					
xi.	Babalachuu namoota hidhatanii fi meeshaawaraanaa sasalphoo ta'anii					
	Sababolee Haala Naannoo					
xii.	Daangaan sirriitti addan bahee fi gargar qoodduun daangaa ifa ta'e jiraachuu dhabuu isaa					
xiii.	Sababa ta'ee jedhanii daangaa babalisuu					
	Sababolee Seenaa					
xiv.	Wa'ee seenaa darbee haala sirrii hin taanee fi dogoggora ta'een himuu					
xv.	Jibba fi haaloo abboolii irraa dubbatamaa dhufee fi isa san haaloo bahuu.					
	Qoqaa Sanyii bu'uura Godhatee fi Sababolee Aadaa					
xvi.	Qoqaa fi eenyummaa sanyii					
xvii.	Sababolee amantaa fi garaagarummaa					
xviii.	Sababolee Aadaa					

Meeshaa 2: Akkaataa hubannoo buqqaatotaatiin sababa walitti bu'iinsaa sanyii

naannichattii uummameen irraa ka'ee miidhaan (diinagdee, hawaasummaa, fi saayikoolojii)uummata irraati gahee qorachuudhaaf wantoota barbaachisan.

Sababa walitti bu'iinsaa sanyii naannichattii uummamee irraa ka'ee miidhaan diinagdee, hawaasummaa, fi saayikoolojii uummata irraati gahee qorachuudhaaf deebii armaan gadii deebisii		Likert scale			
i.	Miidhaa diinagdee fi qabeenya dhabuu				
ii.	Hojii fi galii dhabuu				
iii.	Sadarkaan jireenyaa gadi ba'uu				
iv.	Sababa tasgabii dhabuu siyaasaa fi jeequmsa				
v.	Miira mootummaan dhabamuu				
vi.	Miidhaa qaamaa ykn rakkoo fayyaa biraa				
vii.	Lubbuun namoota jaalannuu darbuu				
viii.	Gargar bahuu maatii fi firaa				
ix.	Soonawwani fi adaawwan kabajamuu hafuu				
x.	Amantaan mootummaa irate qabnu hir'achuu				
xi.	Miira haguuggii dhabuu				
xii.	Wal shakkuu fi walsodaa uumata keessattii fiidduu				
xiii.	Miirri miidhamuu guddachaa adeemuu				
xiv.	Muuxxannoon miidhamuu kan akka PTSD guddachuu				

Meeshaa 3: Wantoonni sababa walitti bu'iinsa sanyii ta'an

S.N	Wantoonni saba walitti bu'iinsa sanyii walin walitti dhufiinsa qaban	Skeelii Liikarti 5n			
1.	Namoonnii barataan ol'aantummaa siyaasaa fudhachuuf				
2.	Fedhii were abaabiiyaa ummata Summaalee				
3.	Fedhii were ummata Oroomoo				
4.	Fedhii ummata lachuu biyicha keessa jirata tuurani				
5.	Fedhii geggeessitoota siyaasaa rakko umame keessa irraa harka qabuu				
6.	Gidduu gaalinsa namoota garee sanyii allaa				

APPENDIX-F

An FGD Questions in Oromiffa

Kutaa III: Qajeelfama FGD Geggeessitoota Hawaasaa fi Geggeessitoota Yaadaa

Maqaa haala mijeesitootaa: _____

Iddoo walgahii _____ Guyyaa _____ Sa'aatii _____

1. Akka yaada keetti ykn akka muuxxannoo keetti, akka naannoo keettii sababni guddaan walitti bu'iinsaa uummattichaa kanaa maali jetteet yaadda?

2. Haala fi ulfaatina walitti bu'iinsa naannoo keetti uummaamee akkamiin ibsitaa?

3. Walitti bu'iinsa naannoo keetti uummaameef sababni guddaan iisa kamii jetteet yaadda?

Sababa keessa _____

Sababa alaa _____

Lachuu _____

4. Akka waliigalaatti miidhaan walitti bu'iinsa jireenya kee fi jireenya maatii kee irraan gahee maalinni? (miidhaa diinagdee, hawaasummaa, fi saayikoolojii)? Halaa kamiin miidhaa sirran gahe? _____

5. Walitti bu'iinsa naannoo keetti uummame furuudhaf malli bu'aa qabeessa ta'e maalinni jeetteet yaadda? _____

6. Erga buqqaatee iddoo biraa qubattet booda wanti argatte ykn wanti dhabde jirra/maalinni?

7. Kaampii buqatoota (IDP) kana keessa jiraachuun sitti tolaa jiraa? Ykn gara iddoo dhaloota keetti deebi'uu ni barbaaddaa? Yada kee keeni:

8. Deeggarsi/ giddu galummaan ejensii buqaatootaa (IDPs) waliin hojettun tasifamee gahaadha jettee ni yaaddaa? _____

9. Yoo hin taane, qaama mootummaa dhimmi ilaalu irraa ykn abboli gahee biroo irraa fooyya'iinsi maalii akka siif taasifamu yaada keennitaa?

10. Wantoota hamaa jireenya kee irra gaheef eenyu komatta ykn eenyu itii gaafatamaa taasistaa?

11. Akka yaadda keetti rakkoo walitti bu'iinsaa kana furuudhaf mala walitti bu'iinsi ittiin hiikkamu keysa kamtu gaariidha jeetteet yaadda?

Deeggarsa nuuf taasiftaniif isin galateeffanaa

APPENDIX-G

Figure-01: Map of the study area



The current Political Map of Sululta Woreda

Source: Sululta Town Administration Mayor Office

Figure 02: Picture of Sululta site corrugated iron made IDP shelters(Kajima site)



Source: Site Photograph (2020)

Figure 03: Picture of Sululta site corrugated iron made IDP shelters (Gelana site)



Source: Site Photograph (2020)