



**COLLEGE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
CENTER FOR FOOD SECURITY STUDIES**

**OROMO TRADITIONAL RURAL LAND HOLDING CONFLICT
RESOLUTION (JAARSUMMAA) AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO HHs
LIVELIHOODS AND FOOD SECURITY: PRACTICES AND ADOPTION
STRATEGIES IN SULULTA WOREDA, ETHIOPIA**

DAWIT ABDISSA HORDOFFA

**JULY, 2020
ADDIS ABABA**

Addis Ababa
University

(Since 1950)



**COLLEGE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
CENTER FOR FOOD SECURITY STUDIES**

**OROMO TRADITIONAL RURAL LAND HOLDING CONFLICT
RESOLUTION (JAARSUMMAA) AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO HHs
LIVELIHOODS AND FOOD SECURITY: PRACTICES AND ADOPTION
STRATEGIES IN SULULTA WOREDA, ETHIOPIA**

BY

DAWIT ABDISSA

THESIS ADVISOR

MESSAY MULUGETA (PHD)

MSC THESIS SUBMITTED TO

CENTER FOR FOOD SECURITY STUDIES, COLLEGE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES,
ADDISABABA UNIVERSITY

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER
OF SCIENCE IN FOOD SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

JULY, 2020

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
CENTER FOR FOOD SECURITY STUDIES

DECLARATION

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for MA/MSc degree in any other University and that all the sources and materials used for the thesis have been properly acknowledged.

Declared By: Dawit Abdissa

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: Addis Ababa University College of Development Studies, Center for Food Security Studies

This is to certify that the above declaration made by the candidate is correct to the best of my knowledge as an advisor.

Dr. Messay Mulugeta

(Advisor)

Signature

Date

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
CENTER FOR FOOD SECURITY STUDIES

This is to certify that the thesis proposal prepared by Dawit Abdissa Hordoffa entitled *Oromo Traditional Rural Land Holding Conflict Resolution Jaarsummaa to The Contribution of Livelihoods and Food Security: Practices and Adoption Strategies in Sululta Woreda, Oromia Region* and submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Science in Food Security and Development Studies complies with the regulations of Addis Ababa University and meets the accepted standards with respect to originality and quality.

Signed by the examining committee:

External Examiner: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Internal Examiner: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Advisor: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Name of Chairman _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Chairperson of the Center or Graduate Program Coordinator

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I thank my God, my good Father, for giving me the power, energy and his continuous blessings upon my life through all the difficulties. I have experienced your guidance day by day. You are the one who carrying throughout the research paper process successfully.

I would like to express my special appreciation to my Advisor, Dr. Messay Mulugeta, for his excellent direction, invaluable feedback, his constructive suggestions, detailed corrections, support and encouragement from the proposal to final work that he played enormous role resulted in this paper, especially it is remarkable in my life that his convenience while I am faced with private complications.

My deepest gratitude also goes to my friends Dr Nega Shibeshi and Mr Tesfaye Tegegnetwork for encouraging me to improve my carrier and indicated me that my future is bright.

I would especially like to thank Bureau Land Administration and Use of Oromia and staff memebers for all tolerance during my study period and to support me for collected data for my MSc thesis.

Finally a special thanks to my parents, and numerous friends who endured this long process with me, always offering support and love. Words can not express how grateful to my wife Roza Desalegn, my mother Shewaye Lemma and my aunt Tejitu Negeri for all of the sacrifices that you've made on my behalf. Your prayer for me was what sustained me thus far. I would also like to express my thanks to my beloved daughters Ayantu and Amerti for being such a good girls always cheering me up.

Dawit Abdissa

July 2020

Table of contents	Page
Abbreviations	viii
List of Tables	ix
List of Figures	x
Abstract	xi
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Background of the study	1
1.2. Statement of the problem.....	4
1.3. Objective of the study.....	5
1.3.1. General objective.....	5
1.3.2. Specific objectives	6
1.4. Research questions	6
1.5. Scope and limitations of the study.....	6
1.6. Significance of the research.....	7
1.7. The research ethics	7
1.8. Structure of the thesis	8
CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE.....	9
2.1. Rural land conflict : The concept.....	9
2.2. Empirical studies in Ethiopia	13
2.3. Theoretical and conceptual frameworks	15
2.3.1. Theoretical framework.....	15
2.3.2. Conceptual frame work.....	15
2.4. The gaps	17
CHAPTER THREE: DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA AND THE RESEARCH METHODS ..	18
3.1. Description of the study area	18
3.1.1. Location	18
3.1.2. Topography	18
3.1.3. Population	18
3.1.4. Socioeconomic characteristics of Sululta <i>woreda</i>	18
3.2. Research methods	20
3.2.1. Research design and approaches.....	20

3.2.2. Sampling techniques and sample size determination	21
3.2.3. Techniques and tools of data collection	24
CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS	26
4.1. Demographic and socio-economic characteristics of sample respondents	26
4.1.1. Demographic profile.....	26
4.2. Major findings.....	28
4.3. The major rural land conflicts and its causes in Sululta woreda	28
4.3.1. Types and causes of rural land conflict in Sululta <i>woreda</i>	29
4.4. <i>Jaarsummaa</i> and its importance for local economic development	31
4.4.1. <i>Jaarsummaa</i> (Arbitration).....	31
4.4.2. Importance of <i>jaarsummaa</i> for local economic development.....	36
4.4.2.1. Benefit of <i>jaarsummaa</i> with resolved land conflict case	39
4.4.3. Factors affecting households’ traditional land conflict resolution in the study area.....	42
4.4.4. The gap in rural land administration with regard to solving rural land conflicts in the area. 43	
4.4.4.1. Challenges with unresolved land conflict case	44
CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATIONS	46
5.1. Conclusion.....	46
5.2. Recommendations.....	47
Appendixes	50
Glossary	68

Abbreviations

- ADB: Alternative Dispute Resolution
- CDR: Collaborative Dispute Resolution
- DA: Development Agent
- DFID: Department For International Development
- FAO: Food and Agricultural Organization
- FDRE: Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- JAERD : Journal of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development
- LAC: Land Adminstartion Committee
- LAND: Land Adminstration to Nurture Development
- LGA: Land Governance Activity
- LIFT: Land Investment for Transformation
- NGO: Non Government Organization
- WFP: World Food Programme
- PA: Peasant Association
- UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme
- UNHSP: United Nations Human Settlements Programme
- USAID: United State Agency for International Development
- VGs : Vulnerable groups

List of Tables

Table 3.1:	Sample size.....	23
Table 4.1:	Demographic profile of the respondents	27
Table 4.2:	Rural land related cases resolved through <i>jaarsummaa</i> in Sululta <i>woreda</i>	36
Table 4.3:	Rural land certificate issued in Sululta <i>woreda</i>	38

List of Figures

Figure 2.1: Conceptual framework.....	16
Figure 3.1: Location map of study area.....	19
Figure 4.1: The roots of land conflict.....	30
Figure 4.2: Rural land conflict situation in Oromia	31

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to explain traditional rural land holding conflict resolution in Sululta woreda with prominence of Jaarsummaa customary institution. This study intended to investigate the types of the rural land conflicts, exploring the importance of traditional rural land conflict resolution for livelihoods and local economic development, identify factors affecting households' traditional/local rural land holding conflict resolution (arbitration) in the study area and examine the gap in formal rural land administration with regard to solving rural land conflicts in the area. Data for the study was gathered from both primary and secondary sources. The interviews and case studies were conducted with 76 respondents; accomplished through qualitative methods of data collection and analysis, such as household interview, key informant interview and case studies. The data obtained from both primary and secondary sources were organized thematically and analyzed qualitatively. The findings of this study disclose the existence of traditional rural land holding conflicts and Jaarsummaa practices among the study community. Jaarsummaa as traditional institution of land conflict resolution has vital role in that it saves time and resource for the livelihoods of the community. It is also confirmed that rural land conflicts occurred from different sources, among the communities of Sululta woreda. The existence of rural land conflict of any level leads to disputing from individuals to social structure, so that its resolution is also the concern of the existing traditional system. Therefore, the traditional rural land holding conflict resolution mechanism with the up right of Jaarsummaa customary needs to be regulated and well acknowledged in the land laws to have binding influence at the level of joint clear-cutting of the society in terms of ensuring social harmony and keep the unity of the next generation.

Keywords: *Rural Land Conflict, Jaarsummaa, Livelihoods and Food Security*

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the study

Arbitration is the determination of disputes or the settlement of conflict traditionally by the decision of not of regular and ordinary court but by the decision of one or more persons who are called arbitrators (Tefera and Mulugeta, 2009).The substitution by the consent of the parties of another tribunal for the tribunal provided by ordinary process of law, a domestic tribunal as distinct from regularly organized court, proceeding the course of the common law depending upon the voluntary acts of the parties, disputants, on the selection of judges of their choice. According to Tefera and Mulugeta (2009), it is one of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) means which helps the parties to adjudicate without going to the court litigation or some administrative tribunal. Traditional arbitration seems more rigid than the other ADR means and also more flexible than court litigation. Even though that may not be typically the same with the court proceeding and also the third party in the conflict or the arbitrator give binding decision over the conflict.

Ethiopia has been using traditional mechanisms of conflict resolution for centuries. The institutions of *Gada* among the Oromo, *Joburas* of Agnuak and the *Shimagelle* by the Amhara are among others (John, *et al*, 2018). Even though cases are submitted to court system, they are usually pushed back to local elders and other mechanisms of peaceful resolution of conflict. This implies the fact that traditional mechanisms of land conflict resolutions are a better option than modern court system in that it saves the the resource and production time. John,*et al*, (2018), shows the practice of traditional land conflict resolution is chiefly depends up on arbitration systems. *Jaarsummaa* is one of the traditional mechanisms by which land conflict is resolved among Oromo Communities. In Oromia, traditional conflict resolution mechanisms are most manifested in the form of *jaarsummaa*, among others. It is a system of reconciliation which is administered by the community elders. Selections of the local elders are determined by reputation they held, deep understanding of the local custom, individual talent and conflict resolution experience.

They listen actively and openly to the other person's explanation and find the solution together. At last, they teach social norms in all cases and thereby making conflicting parties to go in harmony with societal values.

At informal level, land conflicts can be dealt by *jaarsa biyyaa*, which literally means 'elders of the community'. The elders are not a fixed group of people, as they can be composed of any member of the community. Nor are they necessarily of old age. The term *jaarsa*, which literally means 'elder', is used more as a symbol here. Among the Oromo, elderly members of the community are respected for their knowledge of customary laws and are assumed as symbols of wisdom, peace and reconciliation. It is because of this symbolic significance of the elderly that any person who is involved in conflict settlement and reconciliation process is called *jaarsa* regardless of his actual age(Mamo,2005).

The *jaarsa biyyaa* are of two types. One category is volunteer *jaarsaa*. This kind of *jaarsaa* settles conflicts between individuals or groups through its own initiatives. It intervenes either on the spot when and where a conflict occurs. The other category is solicited *jaarsaa*. As the name implies, this is *jaarsa biyyaa* that either of the disputants approaches and solicits to get help to settle the dispute. However, the two categories of *jaarsa biyyaa* are not mutually exclusive. Volunteer *jaarsaa* frequently join conflict settlement settings of the solicited *jaarsaa*. And also solicited *jaarsaa* may be invited to join conflict settlement settings already initiated by volunteer *jaarsaa*. According to Mamo (2005), *jaarsa biyyaa* (both volunteer and solicited) frequently handle land conflict cases transferred to them from the formal structures for conflict settlement. The *jaarsa biyyaa* takes the initiative (without being invited by either of the disputants) to reconcile the disputants by taking the case back from a formal structure; and a formal structure invites (solicits) the *jaarsa biyyaa* to take the case and settle it outside the formal settings.

As a whole, land is a critical aspect in many conflicts and it is a limited scarce resource all over the world which needs effective protection for further utilization in that it plays a prominent role in the life of the people of the country and development of its economy. More of the populations drive their economy from agriculture, social and cultural norms in rural

areas are largely shaped by land use practices (Wehrmann, 2017). Conflict and land are often and increasingly intertwined in that conflicts over the land and land-based resources may be the root cause of a conflict, or part of a conflict that has other roots. Problems over land may cause a conflict to flare up again, or may hinder stabilization and recovery after the violence is over. It often results in the widespread abuse of land and property rights through evictions and displacement (UN-Habitat, 2018).

African economy is largely driven by the agriculture and extractive in which agriculture alone employs an estimated 65 per cent of the active labor force (Bugri and Yeboah, 2017). In this situation, secure access to sufficient productive land amongst rural producers is critical for sustaining livelihoods, for food security at the household level, and for national development. For many, land is also a source of identity and belonging. Human population is progressively increasing in some cases unbearable and pressure on the land and it is related to natural resources (Wehrmann, 2017). An increasing urgent need to match land types and land use in the most rational way possible and to maximize sustainable production and satisfy the diverse needs of society, at the same time conserving ecosystems and our genetic heritage.

According to Wehrmann (2017), over the past decade, a well-documented global rise in demand for farmlands, pastures and forest resources has led to increased investments in agriculture by private sector actors and by international development and finance agencies. While some investments and donor-backed projects have created new economic opportunities for local communities, others have imposed significant costs; local people have lost control over and access to land, suffered violations of human rights and experienced environmental and other social harms. As to rural land administration and use secure access to land, whether through formal, customary or other means is necessary to enjoy sustainable rural livelihoods, and it is an important part of sustainable development. Rural land tenure problems and conflicts are the challenges to rural households that could be exposed them to poverty. Secure access to land should thus be considered when designing solutions to specific rural development challenges or food insecurity situations. This requires recognizing and tackling land tenure related problems even in the earliest stages of a rural development (FAO, 2002).

There is typically a close link between rural land tenure security and conflict over land. Within a society, competing claims for control and use of land may provoke land conflicts. Population growth and changing economic factors can in turn increase competition for access to land. According to FAO (2002), competition is usually regulated by a society's tenure rules which are developed in response to dynamic social, economic and political relationships. When these tenure rules are unable to adjust sufficiently rapidly to changing circumstances, the chance of conflict arising is increased. On the other hand, tensions over land may also be closely related to, or manipulated by political interests. Addressing land and conflicts is fundamental to creating sustainable peace. International assistance should prioritize the early and sustained engagement in land issues as part of a broader conflict prevention strategy. Such early attention can reduce the human, economic, social, environmental costs of conflict (UNDP, 2012).

Historically, the origin of many conflicts in Ethiopia may be traced back to disputes over land. Up to now little attention was given to land administration in general, and land conflict settlement mechanisms in particular (Zerfu, 2016). Even if land conflict constituted much of the courts cases starting from the imperial period, cases were supposed to be handled through the formal judicial system. According to Zerfu (2016), during the period of the military government, rural land conflict settlement was handled mainly by a local peasant association (PA) without a right to appeal to formal courts, and as a result the process was failed with corruption and inefficiency. Hence, this study is planning to investigate and address the *jaarsummaa* and its effectiveness to the contribution of rural livelihood and food security in Sululta *woreda* through investigating practices, and adoption strategies in the area.

1.2. Statement of the problem

In Ethiopia, most of the rural land conflicts are due to competition for expansion of farm land to their livelihood which in turn make pressure on fertile land and different natural resources including forest and pasture land. Today most of the Ethiopian high lands are densely populated and most of the young people are land less and their livelihoods are under question. In the rural land administration part, in spite of all the impressive gains of the land registration and certification activities in Ethiopia, the number of land conflicts among landholders and family members are increasing at an alarming rate (Zerfu, 2016). It is reported that land related conflicts

are claiming more than 70 percent of civil litigations. Indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms are one of the practical tools for rural land use management and its aspect on the resolution of rural land conflict has however been recognized and to the extent that there are supportive in rural conflicts within the community residents in rural Ethiopia (John, *et al*, 2018).

In Sululta *woreda* rural land conflict between individuals is the most common type of conflict, and yet in many cases, conflict at this level lacked big attention from the community and authority that it results to the individual and community time and asset loss. Sometimes the land conflicts occur at different level and between the two parties ended at local level and across the local level which leads to the formal courts at different level that it destroys excess resource and waste production time of the farm households. According to my observation at Sululta *woreda* Court and land administration and use office the rural households were wondering to get the solution due to land conflicts which repeatedly occurring at *woreda* court for litigation. Some of them continue to be extended to high court and Supreme Court for appeal. In the *woreda* not only the land conflict between the individuals, but also there is some land conflict over the communal holdings between the community and individual. Some cases may take several months and some years to resolve the conflicts after destroying the resources and these are also the challenges over the land uses in the study area, because the individuals are ambitious to occupy more land by expanding their farm lands or forming new farm lands which results the deforestation and pressure on pasture lands. Many of the cases pulled to the court to get the solution and the litigation may take a longer time. The researcher initiation to this study is to investigate the alternative rural land conflict resolution (traditional land conflict resolution/*jaarsummaa*) and fill the gap of research on rural land conflict resolution. It is in this regard that this study proposes to investigate the role of traditional rural conflict resolution mechanism in Sululta *woreda* of Oromia Regional State.

1.3. Objective of the study

1.3.1. General objective

The overall objective of this study is to investigate the contribution of traditional rural land holding conflict resolution which is traditional arbitration/*Jaarsummaa* in the context of the

socioeconomic that to improve economic advantages of the livelihood of households and what are the factors that make traditional land conflict resolution method preferable.

1.3.2. Specific objectives

The specific objectives of this study are to:

- ✓ investigate the types of the rural land conflicts in Sululta *woreda*
- ✓ explore the importance of traditional rural land conflict resolution for local economic development
- ✓ identify factors affecting households' traditional/local rural land holding conflict resolution (arbitration) in the study area.
- ✓ examine the gap in formal rural land administration with regard to solving rural land conflicts in the area.

1.4. Research questions

The study has the following research questions:

- How is conflict resolution mechanism across different formal procedures? What are the cause of rural land conflict (especially among the local farmers) in Sululta *woreda*?
- Are the rural land conflict resolution mechanisms similar across the *woreda*? or different from the context of the region or the country? Do households from different *kebeles* (Warerso Malima, Gorfo, and Alamtena Kara Dire) interact with land conflicts?
- Are there the probabilities for households to be exposed to land conflicts?
- What are the factors influence households' to choose traditional land conflict resolution mechanisms for settling the problem.?
- Do land conflict influence production activities households' livelihood in Sululta *woreda*?

1.5. Scope and limitations of the study

This research targets at identifying types of rural land conflicts at local level and mentioning the best practice of traditional rural land conflict resolution for the rural households in study area as well as good practices for nationwide. It has some limitations in that it will focus only the traditional rural land conflict resolution focusing on individual land holding boundaries. Thus, this research being one of the few preliminary works, it has limitations in generalizing findings

to broader scope. There could be limited samples and selection processes in selecting knowledgeable persons in the area that could hinder during the measurement. This study may also have limitation with regard to data acquisition on conflict arising from cultural biasness and other personal behavior and finally as a result of limited available of financial resources will also be the challenge to accomplish the output.

1.6. Significance of the research

Systematically there have been studies that examine the problem of rural land conflict and some evidences show the impact of conflict on production time and the advantages of traditional land conflict resolution. However, there are no as such a number of researchers on traditional/*jaarsummaa* with empirical evidence in Ethiopia.

The results of this particular research, therefore, will indicate importance of traditional rural land conflict resolution among the rural communities, considering interactions between problem solving and production activities. This will also fill the knowledge gap at local level in view of conflict resolution that will help the communities in saving their production time in the sense this practices, as a country it is helpful for designing new policies and strategies for policy makers of the nation to achieve the development goals, researchers and scientific communities to scale up the local practices and experiences in combining with science towards both to focus on their production activities to ensure food security.

1.7. The research ethics

In case of data collection, ethical considerations will be seriously taken to ensure the protection, integrity, anonymity, consents and other human elements of the informants. In this research paper the ethical clearance that will be considered are whether this research is funded and its sources, that it is project, the way this research is conducted in person or remotely, whether the information will be collected directly, about publication of this research, whether the research for acquiring knowledge, similarity with other project that could be approved elsewhere and that it has received ethical permission for the research or not. Particularly, as per the guarantee that I will make to my research participants; the research problem has a rational for its importance, the utility to the area in particular and to the nation at large. In general the respondents will not identified by names, their consent will be required during interview, discussions and the

respondents' privacy and their responses will not individually analyzed and included in the final report.

1.8. Structure of the thesis

This research is organized into five chapters. The first chapter focuses on the background of the traditional rural land conflict resolution arbitration/*jaarsummaa* and problem statement at local level. It also determines the scope of the paper and sets out its objective and significance as well. The scope of the research extends to the households who live in three kebeles. In addition, scope and limitation of the study were also included in this chapter. Finally the chapter consists of research ethics and that is the core value for the researcher which should be considers throughout the research period.

The second chapter assesses related literature review that focuses on the concept of land conflict and resolution mechanisms that consists of global and national practices. It focuses on the practices and adoption strategies of traditional rural land conflict resolution/*jaarsummaa* that could contribute to the livelihoods and food security of rural households in Sululta woreda. The theoretical study and the conceptual framework of the study were also included in this chapter.

The third chapter elaborates the description of the study area, i.e. location, biophysical and demographic profile, ecology, climate profile, socioeconomic characteristics of the study area. The research methodology, validity and reliability of the research were covered in this chapter.

The fourth chapter contains the research results and discussions that are emanated from the first and secondary data sources.

Finally the fifth chapter presents the conclusion and recommendations that are drawn from the study.

CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter discusses on the theories and concepts of different ways of rural land conflict and traditional arbitration/*Jaarsummaa* at local level and its contribution to food security and livelihoods at household level. The chapter also reviews the empirical literature and attempts to show analytical framework and the relation between rural land conflict resolution and food security and livelihoods of the households to the Ethiopian context.

2.1. Rural land conflict : The concept

Land conflict is a distinct social fact in which more than two bodies are participated and whose roots have differences in interests regarding a given plot of land, probably intensified by differences in the common position of those interested bodies that could hinder the production activities as well as the livelihoods of the households (Wehrmann, 2017). Rural land conflicts may be caused among individuals because of their locations and means of acquisition at different times that could be the causes to be dispute each other. According to Wehrmann (2017), as far as rural land conflicts concerned, it indicates diverse interests over more than one property rights to land: the right to use the land, showing interest to manage the land, for income generation purposes, excluding the others from the land, to hand over the right to return from it. A land conflict, therefore, also assumed as a misapplication, limitation and disagreement over property rights to land. Depending up on the situation and behavior of the conflict the society use alternative ways of rural land conflict resolution mechanisms which are relevant to address the problems. Among the conflict resolution mechanisms at the local level that the society could recognize traditional way of rural land conflict resolution/*jaarsummaa* and it has different definitions. Traditional conflict resolution arbitration/*jaarsummaa* is cost effective and efficient land conflict resolution and management. Resolving land conflict traditionally increase likelihood and could bring to effective harmony and facilitating the return and reintegration of society(UNEP,2012).

Fundamental to settlement, food security and economic reform, access to and control over land following conflict can present significant challenges to a peace process. The importance of land

to peace building and food security is relevant in developing countries, where decades of civil war has triggered large-scale displacements, exacerbated multiple famines, and led to the complete breakdown of socio-political and economic institutions (Matthew, 2013). Africa's annual urban growth rate of three per cent makes it one of the world's fastest urbanizing regions. But it remains largely rural; about 60 per cent of the population lives in the rural areas (ADB, 2013). African economies are largely driven by the agriculture and extractive sectors. Agriculture alone employs an estimated 65 per cent of the active labor force (World Bank, 2014). In this context, secure access to sufficient productive land amongst rural producers is critical for sustaining livelihoods, for food security at the household level, and for national development. For many, land is also a source of identity and belonging. Yet land is becoming an increasingly scarce resource and this has far-reaching implications for citizens' land access and use, particularly among the rural poor. Therefore, competition for land amongst different actors and users is the extent to which multiple drivers are combining to put pressures on land in recent times

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and Collaborative Dispute Resolution (CDR) are procedures that parties to a dispute, grievance or conflict use to cooperate and find or develop mutually acceptable solutions to settle their differences traditionally. These procedures include: conflict coaching, fact-finding or joint fact-finding, facilitative mediation, conciliation and arbitration (Arraiza, *et al*, 2019). Because ADR procedures have traditionally been defined as alternatives to taking a conflict to a court for a judicial decision, and CDR refers more generally to processes used by parties to cooperate to resolve their differences and is not tied to a specific institution. Arraiza, *et al*, (2019), indicates the experience in many countries around the world traditional way to resolve difficult and contentious land conflicts and grievances are often significant components of conflict resolution mechanisms. Mechanisms are institutions with structured procedures personnel established to prevent and resolve disputes or grievances. Today around the world, governments, companies, NGOs and civil society organizations are establishing institutions, mechanisms and procedures to more effectively prevent and resolve conflicts over land (Arraiza, *et al*, 2019). Some of these are designed to address and resolve common land issues in communities between and among members, such as differences between family members over inheritance, neighbors or villages over boundaries, or people who possess

different privileges or rights related to land use such as the right to a house plot, agriculture, pasture and forest in rural areas. Land conflicts will affect meeting food security, livelihood of the people and governance needs. According to UNEP (2012), where land conflicts exist, customary institutions may be the first point of reference for addressing land conflicts where they function effectively, accountably or equitably.

Dealing with the rural land administration and use issues, there are some experiences and limitations in the formal land conflict settlement system all over the world. Under the constitutions in power in many African countries, formal courts and traditional institutions are responsible for the resolution of land conflicts (Alinon, 2010). The judge has the legal supremacy to give land related decisions to the conflict cases as it recognized in the rural land laws (FAO, 2007). As theory indicated that, the settlement of land conflicts through legal procedures has many benefits, it has neutral processes, after decision the implementation of a clearly and previously established rule of law with well-defined penalty and proficiency of judges. However, in some cases the judiciary is blamed for the enforcement of rules that are uniform and thus rarely adapted to the different local conditions. In land conflict resolution process a legal system is inevitably results in the recognition of a “loser” and a “winner”, which is not easily accepted among rural communities in Africa. According to Alinon (2010), the neutrality of the procedure is some times entitled into question, incase of continous complaints related to unethical practices within the judiciary. Furthermore, due to the court is congested with land conflict cases, formal courts and hearings might be, a condition that reflects the limited effectiveness of the judicial system. In addition, because of costliness of procedures, bureaucratic formalities and limited coverage of the judiciary to the national territory, the existing justice system is not accessible for the poor.

The land cases can be seen at different channels and procedures. According to Wehrmann (2017), regarding the land cases, a number of channels exist through which the disputants can manifest their land case interests. These channels are: Judiciary, Special Land Courts, and Administration of the Government structure, Political institutions and Party system in the structures, Customary institutions according to the community norms, Religious institutions of the society, Civil societies who work on the charity and development and Private sector

mediators who have interests on the land matters. Many of these channels can be addressed or accessed at different levels; others are restricted to only one or two levels. Regarding the land issues some of these channels are more formal and regulated, while others are rather informal and unregulated. Especially in Asian countries, whether a land conflict resolution body is considered as a formal or informal, at the local level it varies greatly among different countries. Even if these channels exist in most countries, they do not definitely have a decree to resolve land conflicts. According to Wehrmann (2017), within a community the safeguarding and re-establishment of living together and social relationship among the society is very crucial in order to realize a conducive environment that could enable for living together. It is well indicated that many of the traditional conflict resolution bodies were the part of the process. Based on the traditional norm of the society, majority of the traditional rural land conflict resolutions are method that preferred to resolve land conflicts at local level in that they could save time and cost, trustful among the disputed parties and have the power of implementation for the decision made by the arbitrators.

Similar to *Jaarsummaa* in Oromia and other traditional ways of conflict resolution in Ethiopia, different African countries have their own traditional ways of conflict resolution at local level. In Burundi *Bashingantahe* had to manage in finding of the truth, keep justice and guarantee the well-being and safeguard the property, deliver direction and stability to officials in the application of their mandates (Leeuwen and Haartsen, 2005). According to Leeuwen and Haartsen (2005), traditionally, disputes around land tenure in Burundi were being mediated by the *Bashingantahe*. This 'Council' was composed of the most respected community members on a hill. Its traditional roles were to settle local disputes, to reconcile individual persons and families, to authenticate all sorts of contracts (such as marriage, inheritance, sales, and gifts), and to represent the local population at a higher level. The wide variety of customary legislations exists in southern Sudan, reflecting the differences in ethnicity, tradition, geography and livelihoods. This network of customary laws has maintained different land conflict characteristics of flexibility, continuous improvement and interaction for many centuries among the community (Nucci, 2004).

2.2. Empirical studies in Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, livelihoods and food security is closely related to access to land tenure security and collective user rights. Major challenges to land governance are demand for land driven by the growing population, land fragmentation and the small size of land holdings in many areas, the pressure on natural resources, the weak institutional arrangements responsible for land governance and the policy to attract foreign direct investment in land (Betsema, 2016). As landlessness in rural areas is widespread, rental markets have become important. Although in the past years Ethiopia has made much progress with registration of user rights over farmland, the rural land conflicts are still remains the challenge for many of households and diminishing their assets. Land conflicts can result from historical injustices, ill-advised government policies, conflicts of interest, corrupt leadership, or generally from competition over land and resources. Conflicts can be clearly apparent, involving violence or damage to property or may be dormant. By rising of economic stakes in the rural area, new commercial or development projects can revive old conflicts, and ignite ongoing tensions (WFP, 2014).

Rural land conflicts have their own behavior in they can be resolved based on the dispute type and disputant character in their living conditions and these conflicts can be settled using different ways. Depending up on its behavior, rural land conflict resolution has different ways in Ethiopia. According to the FDRE Rural Land Administration and Use Proclamation (2005), where dispute arises over land holding right, effort shall be made to resolve the dispute through discussion and agreement of the concerned parties. Where the dispute could not be resolved through agreement, it shall be decided by an arbitral body to be elected by the parties or be decided in accordance with the rural land administration laws of the region. In the meantime, Oromia Region Rural Land Administration and Use Proclamation (2007) stated that any conflict or disputes arising on land shall be resolved by the selection of arbitrary elders through the two parties, and the result given by the arbitration shall be registered at the *kebele* administration and a sealed copy shall be given to both parties. This shows that the land laws at different level have given the recognition to the tradition land conflict resolution at local level.

According to WFP (2014), land conflicts indicate that they take many forms including its resolutions. Some common land conflicts that may negatively impact the food security of the rural communities include the followings: conflicts between traditional leaders and the population they serve, conflicts between youth and elders, boundary conflicts between villagers on their farm land, inheritance conflicts between family members, conflicts due to issuance of multiple certificates over the same plot of land, and conflicts between marginalized groups such as: women, disabled, elders, orphans, minorities. The land based research, particularly effective rural land registration, dispute settling institutions and laws, including proclamation, regulation and directive play a significant role in avoiding unnecessary disputes on rural land and provide effective justice system when disputes become unavoidable. However the research did not focused on the traditional mechanisms of rural land conflict resolution, rather he has focused on the land institutions and legislation (Haftom, 2011).The most acceptable rural land conflict settlement mode is informal conflict resolution, particularly in some developing nation's alternative along with the customary. According to Haftom (2011), even if it is crucial and relevant to livelihoods and food security the system was not implemented appropriately in some regions.

In traditional African justice systems were concerned with resolving conflicts with the aim of bringing about unity and harmony within the community, which also motivated to promote a sense of fairness, because these values were in keeping with the accountability of the traditional leader to the people (Desalegn,2018). This method pursues a consensual result, working on the principles of community participation, discussion, agreement and an acceptable level of transparency through the village council, consultative meetings. Similarly, Ethiopia has been using traditional methods of conflict resolution for centuries. During the Haile Sillase's regime land conflicts were entertained by formal courts. After the Dergue regime came into power being in 1975 the regime had enacted the Public Ownership of Rural Lands Proclamation No. 31/1975. It is also provided under this proclamation that peasant associations shall establish judicial tribunals to hear land disputes arising within the area. It is the Village (PA) Social Affairs Court called "Fird shango" that dealt with land disputes cases and these disputes had never appeared before these conventional judicial structures. Since this Dergue regime lost power in 1991, this country started following the federal system of government. The Federal Democratic Republic of

Ethiopia, which was established by the constitution, consists of different member states and these states were empowered to administer land. In 1997, the Federal Government had enacted specific proclamation that had simply put the overall framework and endorsed the regional governments to issue laws that govern the mechanism of rural land dispute resolution.

Therefore, it is with this understanding the researcher has carried out this research and investigated Oromo Traditional Rural Land Holding Conflict Resolution to The Contribution of Livelihoods and Food Security: Practices and Adoption Strategies in Sululta *Woreda*.

2.3. Theoretical and conceptual frameworks

2.3.1. Theoretical framework

The theoretical framework of this research shows the relationship between important concepts (Land, land conflict, traditional conflict resolution, food security and livelihoods) of the households through the traditional rural land holding conflict resolution framework. These have shown the contributing factors to land conflict and its impact to food security and livelihoods of the households and after conflict resolution traditionally what are the benefits of this community or households towards their food security. The result or the traditional land conflict resolution */jaarsummaa* in the sense of this research have measured by food security and livelihoods.

2.3.2. Conceptual frame work

The conceptual framework for this research has many relationship aspects and depends up on the idea of the research targets. The conceptual framework of this research tried to show link and integration of four important grand concepts (land conflicts, the role of community elders in the land conflict settlements and traditional conflict resolution/*jaarsummaa*/, processes, negotiation, agreement, the regularization of the existing social issues among the disputants, and finally the settlements of the conflicts) with the traditional rural land holding conflict framework. The researcher has also related the specific objectives of the study and that the following conceptual framework has set up to show the interdependence between both independent and dependent variables. It had looked in to the relation between traditional rural conflict resolution/*jaarsummaa*, elders/*jaarsolii* and land conflict in the study area.

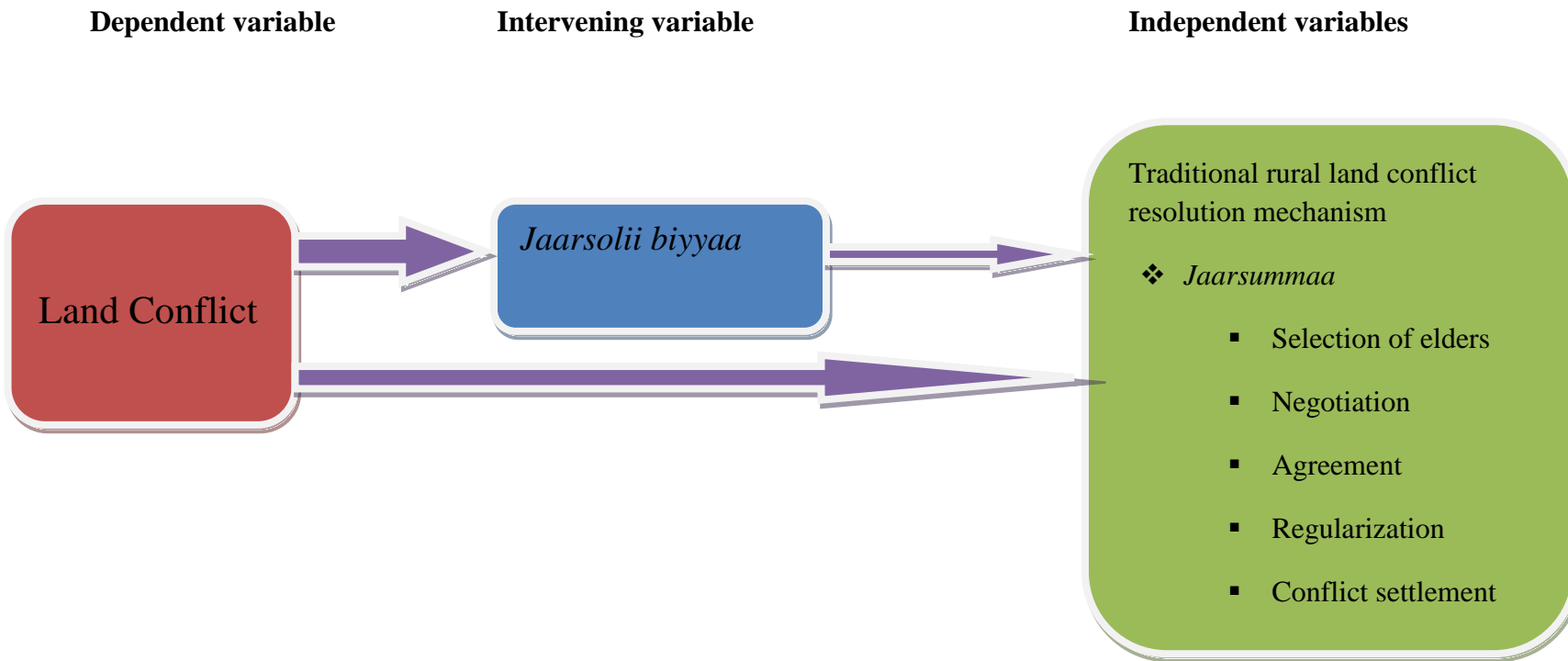


Figure 2.1: Conceptual framework. /Source work of my own, May 2020/

2.4. The gaps

To note the gaps regarding the land conflict resolution it is better to see different success scenarios in the country. Here in Ethiopia, most of the literatures have done their publications on general conflict resolution associated with competition over grazing land and water resources, boundary conflicts on farm lands, problems of access to water irrigation, sense of superiority, and women's abduction. However, at local level most of the land holding conflicts have been solving through different conflict resolution mechanisms.

Among the traditional conflict resolution mechanisms, Gadaa system was the first and most in Oromia Region. It is a system of classes that succeeded each other every eight years in assuming military, economic and spiritual responsibilities (Zelalem and Endalcachew, 2015). Among the Oromo people because there is a belief of traditional society that elder person has more accumulated knowledge than young person. Gada institution could be mentioned as an indigenous conflict resolution mechanism. According to Zelalem and Endalcachew (2015), conflicts have been resolved through knowledgeable and respected elders, religious leaders, and marriage relationships, ceremonies observed by the community, women reconciliation mechanisms, and highly respected and feared clan leaders. The gap is that in Oromia the concern of *Guma* has got recognition among the society and more or less most of the dealings have been published. However, rural land conflict resolution issues should be incorporate under this Institution and published. Here research paper will fill the gap as a national level as to promote the contribution of different rural land holding conflict resolution at local level.

CHAPTER THREE: DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA AND THE RESEARCH METHODS

3.1. Description of the study area

3.1.1. Location

Sululta *woreda* is one of the *woreda* in Oromia Special Zone around Finfine of Oromia Regional State. The administrative center for the *woreda* is based in Chancho town which is located 40 km to the north of Addis Ababa. According to JAERD (2018), its geographical location extends from 9⁰ 07' to 9⁰ 52'N and 38⁰ 53' to 38⁰ 98' E.

3.1.2. Topography

Agro-ecologically Sululta *woreda* exhibits three major agro ecological conditions. These are highland (*baddaa*) which covers 71%), mid-altitude (*badda-daree*) comprises 25.4% and lowland (*gammoojjii*) accounts 3.6% zones. The altitude of the *woreda* ranges between 1500 to 3571meter above sea sea level(m.a.s.l).The mean annual temperature is 15.36°C with the mean minimum of 6.2°C in December and maximum 22.9°C in February and May (CSA, 2013).

3.1.3. Population

As per to CSA (2013), population projection from 2014-2017, the total population of the *woreda* is estimated to be 160,837 and out of this 80,097 are male and the remaining 80,740 are female. About 138,552 (86.1%) are rural dwellers and 50.2 % are females. Population density of the area is 147 people per km².

3.1.4. Socioeconomic characteristics of Sululta *woreda*

Administratively the *woreda* is divided into 2 urban and 23 rural *kebeles*. Of the rural *kebeles* 9 are in highland, 11 in midland and 3 are in the lowland altitude. Sululta *woreda* is known for its mixed farming. Overtime, non-farm sectors investments are altering the livelihood combination of rural households in the area. Dairy farming, pasture development, and woodlot production are predominant in the *woreda*.

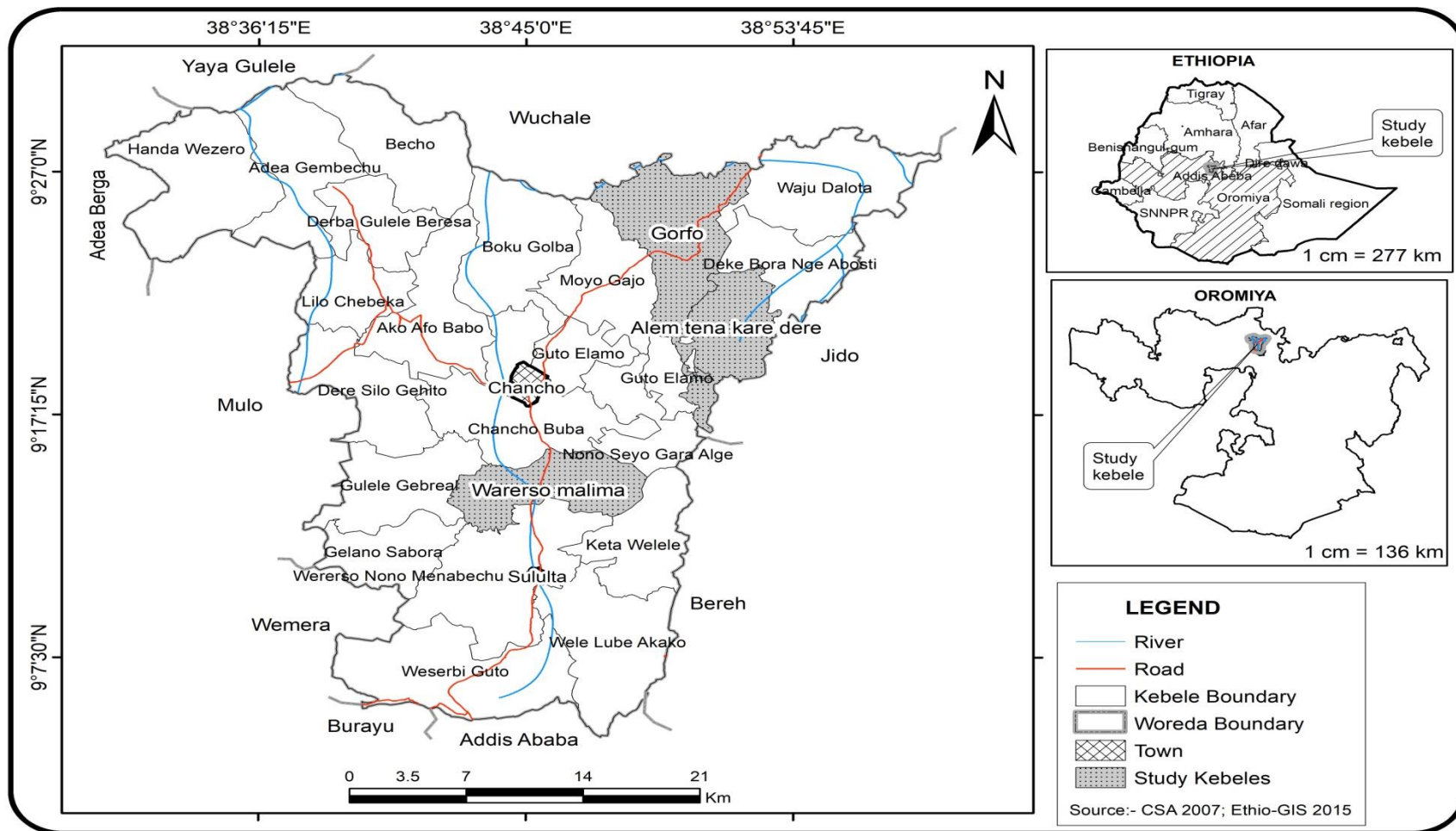


Figure 3.1: Location map of study area

3.2. Research methods

In this research for getting relevant responses on the topic qualitative method has been carried out to accomplish the process. Qualitative method is best for describing, interpreting, contextualizing, and gaining in-depth insight into specific concepts or phenomena (McCombes, 2019). In a qualitative case study, it is better to produce contextual real-world knowledge about the behaviors, social structures and shared beliefs of a specific group of people. According to McCombes (2019), this methodology is less controlled and more interpretive, and it needs to reflect on the position as researcher, taking into account how participation and perception might have influence the results. Qualitative research method is also used to identify the way people interpret and make sense of the problems observed in the process of resolving conflicts, the types of rural land conflicts that undergo the procedure of mandatory conciliation, the people's knowledge of the procedure, the people's preference of the mechanism, the requirements to be elders, the basic challenges and accessibility (Desalegn, 2018). It consists of interviews that describe where, when and how the interviews have been conducted: how participants were selected, how many people have taken part, form of interview (semi-structured), and how long were the interviews and how they have been recorded.

In this study, the usefulness of traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanisms were investigated, how the conflict affect their livelihoods, why they choose this traditional mechanisms. In this method how conflict affect production time and the balance between economic benefit and traditional conflict resolution mechanisms with regard to saving the time and resources in the study area were identified.

3.2.1. Research design and approaches

3.2.1.1. Research design

The design for this research was explanatory in nature and has been employed including investigation of the study sites. This type of research design is appropriate to these planned objectives. This type of research design will clarify the ideas or opinions of those could be raised on the issue of conflict among different social categories. Explanatory research set out to analyze "how is" questions and looks at the study issues with the aim to analyze the entities and the events that constitute the study. It was based up on the severity and the choice of the

households in conflict resolution traditionally using *jaarsummaa*. Different socio-economic and other situations were analyzed and observation study method enabled the researcher to analyze the phenomenon.

3.2.1.2. Research approaches

With regard to research design there are two approaches: deductive and inductive approaches. Here in this study the researcher implemented the qualitative research approach that was inductive in nature. Therefore, the inductive approach was used in which it has begun with observation of the phenomenon and has shown the process of traditional land conflict resolution of the society.

3.2.2. Sampling techniques and sample size determination

3.2.2.1. Sampling techniques

For this study non probabilistic purposive sampling technique has been used. None probabilistic purposive sampling involves dividing the target population into stratum with the goal of discovering elements that will similar or not across. The study area was selected purposively that it considers only the households who live in these kebeles. The three study rural *kebeles*, Warerso Malima, Gorfo and Alem Tena Kara Dire were selected by purposive sampling method. As to preliminary assessment to *woreda* land administration an *woreda* court the the three *kebeles* are the place were more land conflicts seen and the the number of households were at average level. The sample of key informants were drawn using purposive sampling technique based on researcher's knowledge about different educational levels among interviewees, their different life styles, experiences and ages, level of victims on the rural land conflicts. Purposive sampling was chosen here; because, it enabled the researcher to reach a targeted samples.

Therefore, in order to acquire appropriate information for the study, the researcher has selected respondents purposively from individual farmers, elders, *kebele* leaders from each *kebele*, individual persons whose cases have been resolved and unsolved by *jaarsummaa*, venerable groups, women and youth in the study area. In addition, governmental employees (professionals) who are working as judges at *woreda*, zonal and regional level, land administration and use workers at *kebele* level, agricultural extension workers, prosecutors in

Sululta *woreda*, and experts on land administration and use, agriculture and natural resource office have been selected purposively. In addition regional land administration and use bureau experts, prosecutors from the regional bureaus and offices have been interviewed during the the research process. Participants who were included in this sample have been selected based on their experience, willingness and who have worked at least for more than two years in the study area.

3.2.2.2. Sample size determination

In qualitative study, the validity, meaningfulness and insights generated from such studies have more to do with the information richness of the cases selected, and the analytical qualities of the researcher than with the sample size. Sampling in qualitative research in its broadest sense is the selection of specific data sources from which data are collected to address the research objectives (Gentles,et,al, 2015). In line with this, the researcher has selected five individual farmers, two elders from each kebele from each *kebele*, two abba gadas/clan leaders as *woreda* level/who represents the three *kebeles*, three individuals whose cases had been resolved by *Jaarsummaa*, three representatives of venerable groups, two women and two youth representatives from each *kebele* in the study area. This study was also employed by interviewing four government employees who are working as judges and four prosecutors at *woreda*, zone and regional level, three land administration and use workers and three agricultural extension workers at *kebele level*. Two experts of land administration and use, and two experts of agriculture and natural resource both from *woreda* and zonal office have been selected purposively. Two experts from regional land administration and use bureau and two experts from bureau of agriculture and natural resource, two participants from *woreda*, women, child and youth office, two from zonal office, and two from regional bureau were interviewed. In order to strengthen the scope of this research the researcher has been selected purposively and interviewed three officers from three civic organizations/NGOs who are working on the land administration and use issues those have deep knowledge on at regional level. Therefore, the total participants for this study were 76 in number.

Table 3.1: Sample size per each activity

No	Target respondents	Unit	Method			
			Individual Interview	Key informants	Case study	Total
			Activity	Activity	Activity	
			Interview	Interview	Informants	
1	Individual farmers	No	15	0	0	15
2	Elders /who participated in <i>Jaarsummaa</i>	“	0	6	0	6
3	<i>Kebele</i> leaders	“	0	6	0	6
4	<i>Kebele</i> land ad/committee	“	0	6	0	6
5	Agri/Ex/Workers & <i>kebele</i> land ad/workers	“	6	0	0	6
6	Youth,women & VGs at <i>kebele</i> level	“	9	0	0	9
7	Agriculture & natural resource experts and Land administration experts	“	10	0	0	10
8	Women,child & youth affairs	“	6	0	0	6
9	Legal officers/ judges & public persecutors	“	0	4	0	4
10	Experts from civic organizations /NGOs	“	0	2	0	2
11	Beneficiaries of <i>jaarsummaa</i>	“	0	0	3	3
12	Victims of land conflict	“	0	0	3	3
	Grand total	“	46	24	6	76

3.2.2.3. Data types and sources

In this study to attain the aim of this study, both primary and secondary data have been used.

Primary Data Sources: The Primary data was gathered from sample respondents who were selected through purposive sampling technique from the target population by conducting interviews, key informant interview and analysing real cases.

Secondary Data Sources: The main sources for secondary data were literatures that inform *Jaarsummaa* and national and international practice and models similar to the traditional rural

land conflict resolution mechanisms. In addition, different book in the area of traditional land conflict resolution, internet (web sites), data obtained from court, land administration institutions and other documents been used as sources for secondary data.

3.2.3. Techniques and tools of data collection

This research has been carried out using household survey/sample respondent interview, key informant interview, and case study in primary data collection. As a secondary data sources document review also been used. The justification of using these methods is to get more explained and further information from purposively selected sample participants of these processes. The detailed data collection techniques are discussed as follows.

3.2.3.1. Individual interview

To generate information at household level/sample respondent, formal survey was undertaken using semi-structured questionnaire survey. Before proceeding to the formal survey (i.e. inter-view) questionnaire/guiding questions were translated to *Afan Oromo* and pre-testing of the interview schedule was carried out and accordingly revision was made and finalized. Three enumerators were recruited based on their proficiency in communicating using local language, educational background and prior exposure to land administration were seen accordingly. Training was given to enumerators on the content of the schedule and procedure while conducting the interview. In this research paper 46 individuals were interviewed and their responses were analyzed.

3.2.3.2. Key informant interview

Interview as a qualitative research method involves conducting intensive individual interviews with small number of respondents to explore their outlooks on a particular idea. Key Informant Interview (KII) involves interviewing a selected group of individuals who are likely to provide needed information, ideas, and insights on a particular subject (Kumar, 1989). Applying this technique was helped the researcher to gather additional ideas from knowledgeable personnel's that could help to apply best practice on strengthening the traditional rural land conflict resolution. According to Kumar (1989), such informants are selected because they possess information or ideas that can be asked by the investigator. In this research 24 key informants have been selected based on the level of expected knowledge about the local conditions of the land issues to obtain important information. The individuals who were active and

knowledgeable were also been included. In-depth interviews using semi-structured questions with selected key informants is crucial to get primary data regarding the structure, procedures, and actors in the indigenous conflict resolutions (Daniel, 2016). In this paper the researcher applied a purposeful sampling technique to select persons who are knowledgeable, and familiar with land administration as well as the traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanisms.

In this study semi-structured questions have been used to conduct detailed personal interviews with 70 respondents (both household and key informant interview). These were 15 households, 6 elders, 4 judges and public prosecutors, 6 land administration committee (LAC), 6 kebele leaders, 15 experts from land administration, agriculture and natural resource and experts from women, child and youth affairs, 6 DA's and finally 2 team leaders from NGOs whose mandate is closely related to rural land holding matters. The questions were regular with the intention of guiding the informants, rather than restricting those to answering have been asked. Thus, through this method important information were collected accordingly.

3.2.3.3. Case studies

In order to obtain reliable data on the role of traditional rural land conflict and *Jaarsummaa*, two case studies have been conducted in *Afan Oromo* and translated during the analysis of the findings. The cases that have been selected were one best practice in rural land conflict resolution/ *jaarsummaa* that has been resolved recently with beneficiaries consists of six persons and the other is one which was directly connected to victims of land conflicts consists six members to get practical and detailed information about what types of conflicts and what was the role of *jaarsummaa* in traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanisms as well as the what was the complicated and long process arrived in the case of land conflict victims?.

CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The study revealed that *jaarsummaa* is mainly managed by *jaarsolii araaraa*. This is often done by bringing the conflicted parties together to discuss the cause of their conflict, find a solution and reach a settlement. This process is supported by Machingambi, *et al*, (2015) traditional leaders' role in conflict resolution is that of mediation and arbitration. According to Machingambi, *et al*, (2015) forgiveness and reconciliation are not easy to attain in all conflicts as memories of certain cases were not always easy to live with. In this study thesis a number of common findings have emerged together that they designate the types of rural land conflict and the role of *jaarsummaa* in rural land holding conflict resolution centering the ability of *jaarsolii araaraa* to arbitrate the cases in relation to the facts, stating rules of law in traditional conflict resolution, then applying them as a way of restoring harmony within a conflicted parties.

4.1. Demographic and socio-economic characteristics of sample respondents

This section presents the demographic characteristics of the respondents to give a brief explanation on the respondents to analyze the findings.

4.1.1. Demographic profile

In this study household survey, KII interview and case studies were designed. Among total population of 76 informants, 70 of them in face to face interview, 2 case studies with 6 informants containing 15 respondents from households, 9 women, youths and VGs at *kebele* level, 16 experts from government structure, 6 DA's, 6 Elders, 6 LAC, 6 *kebele* leaders, 4 public persecutors, 2 respondents from NGOs, 6 respondents from victims of land conflict and beneficiaries of *jaarsummaa*, were undertaken. Depending up on the research method the researcher categorizes different characters of this demographic situation. Age of the respondents is that the victims and beneficiaries of the land are from youth up to the elder and in the survey is was based up on the criteria of rural land acquisition in the region is the above 18 and to be the farmer households are mostly in between the age 18 up to 60 and based on the their experience to know the situation in the area that to be the elder in the rural land conflict resolution *jaarsummaa* elders who are above 60 are preferable. The land holding matters were

considerable for this research in that those who have land use right and have a plot of land can speak about the conflicts related regarding the work experience of the experts at institution level, it was considered those who are above 5 years work experience on the rural land administration and laws were selected deliberately. Finally, the demography characteristics of the respondents with appropriate formats for this study were listed on the table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Demographic profile of the respondents

No	Character	Category	Number of respondents
1	Sex	M	56
		F	20
		Total	76
2	Age	18-30	15
		31-45	27
		46-60	18
		>60	16
		Total	76
3	Marital status	Single	9
		Married	54
		Divorced	7
		Widowed	6
		Total	76
4	Educational Status	Unable write and read	17
		Non formal	13
		Formal Education	16
		Diploma	4
		BA/BSc /LLB	20
		MSc/MA/LLM	6
		Total	76
5	Work experience	5-10 years	14
		>10 years	13
		Total	27
6	Land holding/ha	0.50-1.0	25
		1.0-2.0	11
		> 2.0	12
		Total	48

Source: Field survey of my own, May 2020.

Regarding the quality of data the researcher distributed questionnaire and aware informants about the guiding question and receive their feedback as inputs for conducting the data gathering tools.

4.2. Major findings

The general objective of this study was to investigate the contribution of *jaarsummaa* and its Contribution to the Livelihoods and Food Security. This part of the study presents the analysis and discussion of the data collected done with face to face interview and case study all through the field work investigation at the study area and grouping of main findings in the context of the socio economic that to improve economic advantages of the livelihood of households and what are the factors that make traditional land conflict resolution method preferable.

The study has dedicated on the economic effects of traditional rural land holding conflict resolution (*jaarsummaa*) at Sululta *woreda* of rural community. As it was indicated in the literature review, Oromia Region Rural Land Administration and Use Proclamation (2007) stated that any conflict or disputes arising on land shall be resolved by the selection of arbitrary elders through the two parties, and the result given by the arbitration shall be registered at the *kebele* administration and a sealed copy shall be given to both parties. In this paper types of rural land conflicts, cause and means or mechanism of traditional rural conflict resolution (*jaarsummaa*) were discussed in detail with demographic characteristics of the respondents. Land grievances are interrelated to broader security, livelihood, political and identity issues (UNDP, 2012). According to (UNDP 2012), leadership, land institutions and the quality of land governance will have a significant impact on whether conflicts are transformed into violent conflict and international assistance should focus on monitoring and rapidly addressing land-related conflicts within a broader strategy of conflict

4.3. The major rural land conflicts and its causes in Sululta woreda

This topic discusses the major rural land conflicts and their causes among the rural communities of Sululta *woreda* based up on the information obtained from the informants using the designed tools. For respecting the over view of the reader the topic focuses on rural land holding conflicts occur among the individuals that help to deal with customary rural land conflicts resolution mechanisms.

4.3.1. Types and causes of rural land conflict in Sululta *woreda*

As it was described in the literature review, rural land conflicts could always exist in the history of human beings, as society live together and land conflicts probably occur among the rural communities where it has different characteristics. According to Wehrmann (2017), land conflict is a distinct social fact in which more than two bodies are participated and whose roots have differences in interests regarding a given plot of land probably intensified by differences in the common position of those interested bodies. According to literature review of this paper land conflicts take many forms: inheritance conflicts between family members, conflicts due to issuance of multiple certificates over the same plot of land, and conflicts between marginalized groups such as: women, disabled, elders, orphans, minorities (WFP,2014). As of my informants' discuss the type of rural land conflict among rural communities of Sululta *woreda*, are inheritance case with in the family members. After the death of the principal household, one or more family members monopolizing the family members holdings and disputing the rest of their family members, and this type of land conflict has negatively impacted food security of family members and the rural communities. The other land conflict includes conflict between *kebele* leaders and the population that could be described as a conflicts between youth and elders, as well as land conflict between villagers on the parcel/land plot boundary of farm land.

According to this finding from these respondents, economic resources especially land resources and related social interests to rural land rental cases are among the cause of rural lands conflicts in the *woreda*. As it was emanated from the field of conflict management, using a number of tools with which to analyse conflicts, it is evident that at the root of conflicts there are attitude/position of the parties, interests, material/emotional needs, psychological fears and desires (e.g. fear for existence, fear of insecurity, desire to be acknowledged, favored for and loved resulting in material and emotional needs like: need for shelter, need for a production base, desire for self esteem or seeking power and wealth (Wehrmann, 2008). The gap in the economic status and interests of the community/households could also make the land conflicts among the society. According to Wehrmann,(2008), these needs form people's interests, which then the consequence results in their attitude and positions change and finally describe the behavior of these parties (see figure 4.1).

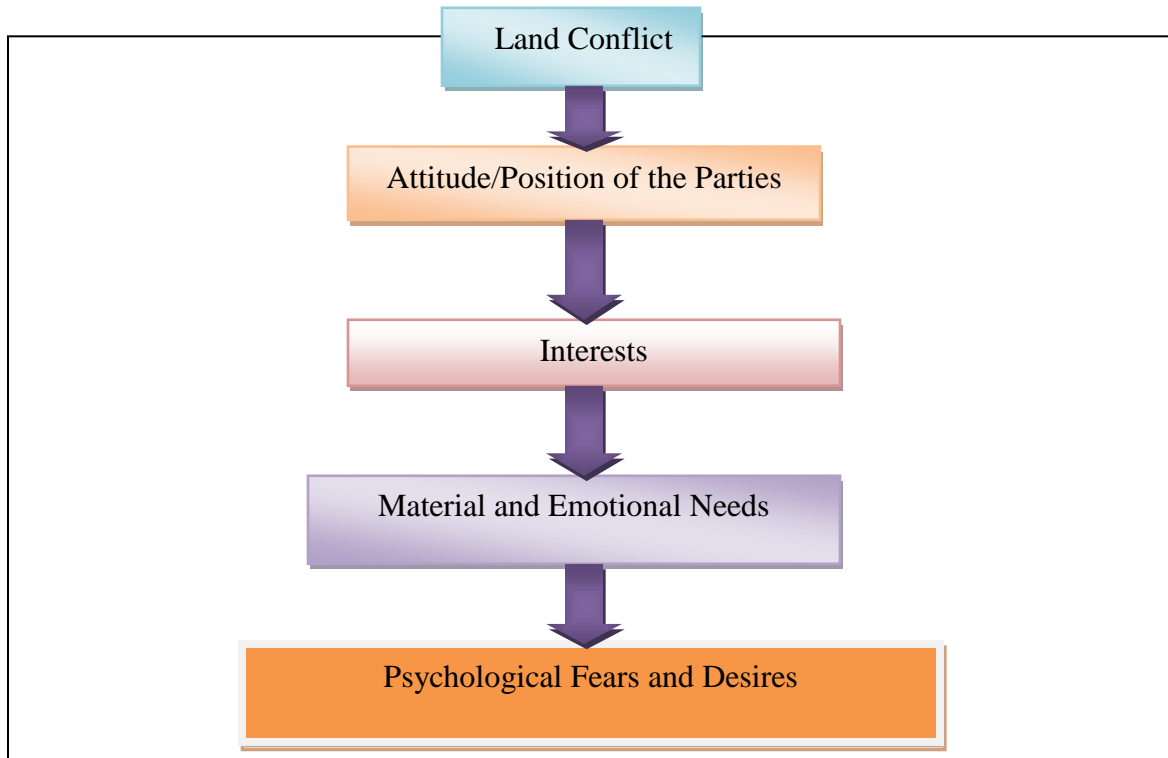


Figure 4.1: The roots of land conflict. /Source: modified from Wehrmann (2008)/

The land conflict matters gathered from my key informants are from *Woreda* and High Court, and these were three judges and one public persecutor. The responses of key informant centered on their cumulative experience and all of them describe as follows; in rural land tenure security the sources of rural land conflicts which lead to conflict in the community are pressure due to increased population on rural lands, the long tradition and customs on holding rights including on rural land use rights, i.e. patriarchal (male dominated) land holding in the society and lack of reputable implementation mechanism based on the regional rural land administration proclamation and regulation.

According to these key informants, access to land and land resources competition, the same land could be registered, occupied and certified by two or more persons at different times. These informants indicated that, practice of land management system, the manner of transfer land use right from one to another were the sources of rural land conflicts

4.3.2. Rural land conflicts in Oromia Region

According to the data obtained from Oromia Land Administration and Use Bureau indicated that, in all administration zones and *woreda*'s rural land conflict occurs due to different reason. Inheritance cases, parcel boundary, holding and land rental cases are among the major ones. If we see the number of rural land conflict cases recorded among the rural households in Oromia Region during the last four years(2016-2019), in 2016 the recorded conflicts were 11,263, in 2017 the recorded cases were 6,669, in the year 2018 rose to 24,328 and in the year 2019 declined to 14,443.

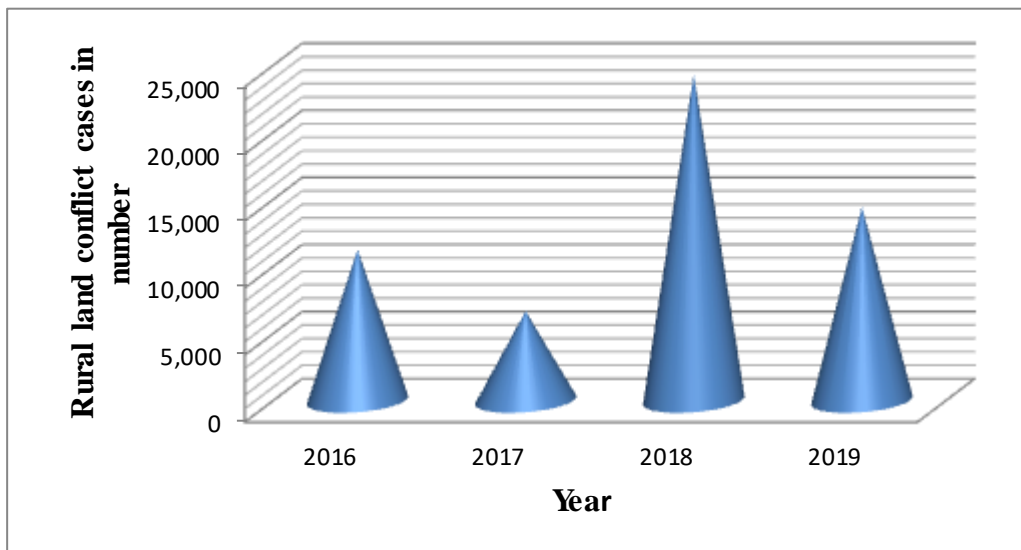


Figure 4.2: Rural land conflict situation in Oromia, Source: Oromia Land Administration and Use Bureau May 2020, Finfine.

4.4. Jaarsummaa and its importance for local economic development

4.4.1. Jaarsummaa (Arbitration)

Key informants at *kebele* level are 6 *jaarsolii* of three *kebele*, 6 *kebele* LAC (*koree shallagii lafaa gandaa*) and 6 *kebele* leaders, that information was gathered from the total of 24 (75%) key informants. Knowledge of the village, land conflict, age, to be farmer and resident in the area and land holding matters are the factors to be the key informants for this study.

According to the data gathered from these key informants, the best and important traditional mechanism of rural land conflict resolution which is common among the villagers as well as in Sululta *woreda* community as a whole, *jaarsummaa* institution is the system for resolving

land conflicts which is structured by *jaarsolii* and influential persons who have experience of resolving conflicts and having knowledge of *seera*. *Jaarsummaa* permanently act to create conducive environment to enhance peace and full relationship between family, neighbours and community. Data gathered from these key informants also tells that, social norm among society inspires the individual land conflicts in the families and groups settled by their own. The nature of this kind of land conflict resolution mechanism is parallel to negotiation as it is done between the two parties in conflict by themselves. The key informants have also indicated as *jaarsolii*, land administration committee and *kebele* leaders could participate whenever the conflicts occurred among disputants to settle the conflicts in order to intervening through *jaarsummaa*. The key respondents also explained the process of *jaarsummaa*, in that some of them have participated up 15 years and above as an arbitrator.

As to key informants, *jaarsolii* should be neutral, having awareness about the disputants disputing each other and having fear law of *waaqaa*, because they referring norms and values of *waaqaa* to come with agreement and solution for the case they reconciling. The number and ability of *jaarsolii* to be selected to arbiter case varies in number depending on the magnitude of the conflicting case. Sometime two or three *jaarsolii* from one side, the total four to six *jaarsolii* could be selected from both sides to settle the case. Unless the disputants refused to see their case through *jaarsummaa* they settle the land cases with in few days. Conflict like family land cases which are simple could be solved by family elders. The *jaarsummaa* institution established heavily with accountable manner on the free will and agreement of the two parties. The parties have the right to choose their own *jaarsaa* from their close relatives or individuals who know the parties very well. They have also the right to change the *jaarsa* if there is hostility between them.

The *kebele* land administration committee has a big role from land demarcation to certification in administering the land administration which contributes to awareness creation for the land conflict prevention and settlement at local level. Oromia Rural Land Administration and Use Regulation No. 151/2012 article No 30/5, 6, 7 on duties and responsibilities of *Kebele* Rural Land Administration and Use Committee says that, “*Strengthen the awareness of the people regarding solution of conflicts and disputes on boundaries and holdings of the land, keep*

measured and registered data's of land, cause land holder to get land holding certificate up on confirmation by the kebele administration and sending it to the office". According to the finding from key informants live in the area *jaarsummaa* is desirable in that it can watch out the truth behind the land conflicts; it could build good relationship among the disputants, real forgiveness will created among them.

Based on the literature review above Alinon (2010) says the settlement of land conflicts through legal procedures has many benefits, it has neutral processes, after decision the implementation of a clearly and previously established rule of law and it has well-defined penalty, proficiency of judges. In land conflict resolution process a legal system inevitably results in the recognition of a "loser" and a "winner", which is not easily accepted among rural communities in Africa. The good scenario that these respondents elaborated was that, during the *jaarsummaa* process *jaarsolii* could know the case closely solving the cases near by the disputants and comparing with the formal court in that it has a long process since some courts are far from the disputants that the case would be pulled to supreme court and cassation division through appeal.

The key informants also prompted their feeling regarding the effectiveness of *jaarsummaa* in comparison to formal justice system in relation to cost time and sustainability in that it could save time, resource, and create a good relationship and harmony among the disputants after they settle their cases through *jaarsummaa*. The key respondents were noted that no to back the cases and the enforce decision of *jaarsummaa* mechanism in that the *jaarsolii* use verbal for implementation, and they use the norm that society use to promise after reconciliation. According to Alinon (2010), indicated in literature review of the paper, the judiciary is blamed for the enforcement of rules that are uniform and thus seldom adapted to the different local conditions. However, the aim of the indigenious conflict resolution is not punishing the wrong doer; rather it is directed toward the restoration of former relationships and harmony between disputants (Daniel, 2016). As a justice practitioner, the key in formants noted that *jaarsummaa* is under taken by participation of local persons who know about the history of the conflict occurred and it is relevant than other means of conflict resolution, that is because of it is a vital to resolve land conflicts through *jaarsummaa*. However, both the proclamation and regulation

have not been fully address the way, manner and binding of *jaarsummaa* institutions applied and it is under taken at local level to resolve land conflict by *jaarsolii*.

The contribution of *jaarsummaa* in creating sustainable reconciliation among conflicting parties are due to the long-standing believe and trust of the local communities on “*jaarsummaa*” institutions coupled with multiple roles on multiple functions, disputants are often mentally prepared and ready to accept the decisions passed by “*jaarsummaa*”. Indeed, if one of the parties failed to comply with the decision, the social pressure including the possibility to be excluded from social norms is immense and therefore the decisions often complied by both parties. *Jaarsummaa* institutions with a high prospect to attain a sustained peace between the disputants on the one side and the wider community on the other side. These key informants also stated that basically *jaarsummaa* is preferable in that it avoids the feeling of being looser and hostility and much concerned aspects in that the effectiveness is in comparable with legal procedure in that it undertaken around (near) the residence of the conflicting parties and mostly take few days to run their production activities. Comparing with formal court the key informants stated the desire of it in that people like to solve their land conflict through *jaarsummaa*. But the difference in bargaining power and the loose (non-binding) force of it lead them to the formal court is the concern of these key informants. Regarding the contribution towards creating sustainable reconciliation among conflicting parties these key informants elaborated that, *jaarsummaa* is the means used as reason based persuasion which is basically depends on the true value and norm of the place. The more it is effective the better individuals create a respecting norm, in such norms one could avoids conflicts being under fear of social exclusion.

These key informants as a legal professionals explain the current status of *jaarsummaa* in that it is underutilization in the society, specially the pressure through the government rural land laws’ articles and the recognition of its force by other substantive and procedure and in most cases the two disputed parties look for it at early stage un less the other party rejects the initiation. They also stated that, unlike in formal court proceeding in which case parties argue only to win their case, in *jaarsummaa* they only present the real facts under conflict and the Oromia rural land administration and use law recognize and give priority in that the rural land conflicts to be seen

by *jaarsummaa* first. Therefore, as the informants explained during the survey, the Regional Rural Land Administration and use law is one of the evidence for proceeding traditional rural land conflict resolution among the society.

In the literature review of this paper the concept of *jaarsummaa* was stated in the direction of arbitration between the disputants. According to Arraiza, *et al*, 2019, traditional land conflict resolution arbitration/*jaarsummaa* to address a grievance or conflict resolution process in which disputants or grievant voluntarily submit issues in dispute to an acceptable individual or group for either a non-binding recommendation for a settlement or a binding decision. The finding from respondents during data collection has shown that in *sululta woreda jaarsummaa* is basically and usually undertaken by participation of local persons who know about the background of the land under conflict significant than other means, and it is better to avoid the feeling of being looser and totally avoids hostility. The finding has also indicated that in *Sululta woreda* the effectiveness of *jaarsummaa* comparing to formal proceeding, and that it was undertaken around (near) the residences of the conflicting parties and mostly takes only an hour or few days. Even if it lacks bargaining (non-binding) forces people like to solve their conflict through *jaarsummaa* which is persuasion based that it is basically depends on the true value and norm of the place and avoids costs for pleading including all costs throughout the formal proceedings, saves time and resource of both parties and the concerned justice system.

Table 4.2: Rural land related cases resolved through *jaarsummaa* in Sululta *woreda*

Land Cases Resolved by <i>Jaarsummaa</i>													Remark	
No	Rural land conflict	Year												
		2016			2017			2018			2019			
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	
A	Case 1													
1	Happened case	158	92	250										
2	Referred to <i>jaarsummaa</i>	135	79	214										
3	Resolved by <i>jaarsummaa</i>	96	56	152										71%
4	Resolved by Court	39	23	62										
B	Case 2													
1	Happened case				291	140	431							
2	Referred to <i>jaarsummaa</i>				97	47	144							
3	Resolved by <i>jaarsummaa</i>				59	43	102							70.80%
4	Resolved by Court				38	4	42							
C	Case 3													
1	Happened case							389	261	650				
2	Referred to <i>jaarsummaa</i>							371	249	620				
3	Resolved by <i>jaarsummaa</i>							256	171	427				68.80%
4	Resolved by Court							115	78	193				
D	Case 4													
1	Happened case										860	368	1228	
2	Referred to <i>jaarsummaa</i>										224	96	320	
3	Resolved by <i>jaarsummaa</i>										183	79	262	81.80%
4	Resolved by Court										41	17	58	

Source: Sululta *woreda* instant court and *woreda* land administration and use office, May 2020

4.4.2. Importance of *jaarsummaa* for local economic development

The contribution of *jaarsummaa* to the livelihood and food security of the households in terms of time, labor, resource saving and minimizing load from the court/justice system is that it avoids costs for pleadings including all costs throughout the formal proceedings and resource of both parties and the concerned justice system. Moreover, the essence of land conflict settlement in traditional African States includes to remove the root-causes of the conflict; reconcile the conflicting parties genuinely; to preserve and ensure harmony, and make everybody involved in the resolved conflict happy and be at peace with each other, and this required getting at truth; to set the right situation for societal production and development; to promote good governance,

provide security of lives and property to achieve collective well-being and happiness (Theresa and Oluwafemi,2014). As the key informants expressed during an interview, traditional institutions/*jaarsummaa* will continue to have a significant roles and functions to resolving rural land disputes provided their roles is supported by the legal regimes. Cost and benefit factors are the determinants that influences whether to settle conflict cases to traditional/customary institutions or formal institutions at local levels. In most cases, regarding to their livelihoods,disputants prefer to present land related conflict cases to traditional/customary institutions, such as “*jaarsummaa*” as in a case of Oromia region.

During my questionnaire survey the respondents indicated for their wellbeing and livelihoods traditional formalities and values among the communities, *jaarsummaa* is one of the methods of resolving/settling any dispute, including land conflict among individuals or parties. According to the respondents, *jaarsummaa* and its benefits should be maintained in order to minimize land conflicts for the future of community’s livelihoods and social aspects. It has been playing a prominent role for settling different conflict among Sululta rural communities. For the process of *jaarsummaa*, *jaarsolii* are local elders who are influential/have respected among the *woredas*’ the communities, and who are knowledgeable how to arbitrate any conflicts in the area.

The contribution of *jaarsummaa* in creating sustainable accomplishments for wellbeing of the households and among conflicting parties land holders and societies in regulating peace and stability as well as economic development. The respondents have stated that it is crucial in creating peace and stability by avoiding and stabilizing conflicts and contributes to economic development through saving time for production, resources and labor for livelihoods. According to the information gathered from the respondents dealing with traditionala rural land conflict resolution/*jaarsummaa* was the primary solution for settling land conflicts before formal court and other means. As indicated in the literature review of this research paper, land based research, particularly effective rural land registration, dispute settling institutions and laws, including proclamation, regulation and directive play a significant role in avoiding unnecessary disputes on rural land and provide effective justice system to enhance economic development (Haftom,2011). In order to minimize land conflicts that could occur due to boundary,

inheritance and other cases, simultaneously with *jaarsummaa*, land cadastre and land registration are the contributing factors for effective land use, and sustainable economic development

Therefore, Oromia Land Administration and Use Bureau in collaboration with the stake holders including LIFT who support land cadastral survey, a lot of rural land certificates were issued in Sululta *woreda* for individual land holders at *kebele* level (See Table 4.3).

Table 4.3: Rural land certificate issued in Sululta *woreda*

<i>Woreda</i>	Land Certificate issued			Households		
	Target	Issued	%	Male	Female	Total
Sululta	117,198	114,791	97.9	14,862	8,909	23,771
Total	117,198	114,791	97.9	14,862	8,909	23,771

Source: Sululta *woreda* LAUO and OLAUB, 2020

The source indicated that, in Sululta *woreda* the issuance (land tenure security) of rural land certificate for rural land holding approaching to 100% and it shows that it could minimize the land conflict which occurs between villagers of rural households.

According to the key informants, the main reasons for preference to settle land conflicts at *jaarsummaa* is, long standing trust and believe of the communities on “*jaarsummaa* /customary institutions” was, the lengthy and costly procedures associated dealing with the case at “Formal Institutions”. Continuing their justification these key informants added, the part/role of local government (regional), civil society or NGOs to enhance/promote *jaarsummaa*/traditional rural land conflict resolution at different levels is decisive.

It is very important to undertake evidence-based studies to honestly identify the key roles and functions of *jaarsummaa* in rural land related conflict resolution mechanisms; and actively participate in rural land policy making and implementation processes and lobby for recognition of the *jaarsummaa* institutions in the regional rural land policy and legislations for economic development.

With regard to the contribution of *jaarsummaa* the key informants were also added comparing the process with formal court in that customary institutions has being continuing to be the principal institution for resolving multiple rural livelihoods aspects in that resolving land conflicts including disputes related to rural land right transfers could save the resources. Principally transfer of use right through inheritances, resolving boundary disputes and opening land rental/share cropping arrangement for better production, and recognizing the customary law could have accelerate the change and minimize the burden and encourage the local economic development as well as the country's economy in saving revenue is the key aspect to economic development. In terms of cost, time, and resource the key informants appreciated *jaarsummaa* that it has been contributing in household livelihood by settling conflicts through this customary institution that relatively less cost, less time consuming and trusted by local communities compared with the formal justice system.

In this paper the researcher conducted two case studies to show the benefit of *jaarsummaa* and the wastage which has been occurred during the litigation at the formal court in order to compare two scenarios.

4.4.2.1. Benefit of *jaarsummaa* with resolved land conflict case

Case study 1

This is regarding the individual whose case was resolved through *jaarsummaa* in Sululta *woreda* warerso malima *kebele*. *Aadde* Yadani who is 37, marital status divorced, educational back ground grade 6 and land holding is less than one hectare. The case study has been conducted in *Afan Oromo* and the finding was then translated to English

The event was in December 2019, which has been occurred in Sululta *woreda* warereso malima *kebele* farmer association. According to my observation, it was the rural land conflict between mother and daughter. *Aadde* Yadani has got her land holding from her late father with her older sister through inheritance and was using the farm land together up to the last crop season. Unfortunately her sister died of her illness and immediately after the death occurred her mother was denied of her inheritance land holding as if she has no share and use right from their late father. The finding indicated that after a few days she demanded her mother to come to the regular position to use her holding, however her mother *Aadde* Kule refused and denied again

to hand over or prohibited her to use this land. Again the land holding right was failed under the conflict and the livelihoods of this young woman *Aadde* Yadani was totally complicated.

According to the finding from this case study she was tolerating her mother's unfair action and hoping to get her right, but things were diverted to conflict and she decided to discuss the issue with "*jaarsa firaa*" and looking for "*jaarsa araaraa*". After continuous tolerance she used to visit her neighbor *obboo* Raga who is *jaarsa araaraa*, and told him that her mother Kule neglected the issue of her using right and share of land holding. Immediately after analyzing the case *obboo* Raga decided to pull the case to "*jaarsolii araaraa*" and has fixed the date for arbitration through selection of *jaarsolii* from both sides to proceed arbitration using the traditional value fearing *Waaqaa* that could settle their case peacefully in the line of what the society call *waliigalttee* and they have settled the case through *jaarsummaa* within 15 days this year on 16 January 2020.

The finding revealed that during the last cropping season as a result of *jaarsummaa* she was becoming successful, and has done worthy farming activities and has got good harvest for her livelihoods. The young woman who has disputed with her mother due to her holding was quite happy with *jaarsummaa* efforts made by *jaarsolii araaraa*. During the investigation of the case, she has shown her deep impression by *araaramuu* process and decision of *jaarsummaa*. Nowadays she has got approval and secured her holding right due to the accomplishment of the case within 15 days, and during the process time and cost was very minimal. With regard to *jaarsummaa*, in this case study, the evidence is that Oromia Region Rural Land Administration and Use Regulation No.151/2012 Article 18/1-10 on the dispute and Conflict Resolution says that, "The *kebele* administration shall call the charged person within five days and order conflicting parties to elect elders and their cases to be mediated by elected elders, the elders to submit their decision within 15 days and the *kebele* administration shall make the decision within 15 days".

This finding shows that, the land laws both at national and regional level have given the recognition to *jaarsummaa* which could be made at local level. As it was stated in the literature review of this paper, the FDRE Rural Land Administration and Use Proclamation (2005), where

dispute arises over land holding right, effort shall be made to resolve the dispute through discussion and agreement, and where the dispute could not be resolved through agreement, it shall be decided by an arbitral body to be elected by the parties or be decided in accordance with the rural land administration laws of the region. Similarly, Oromia Region Rural Land Administration and Use Proclamation (2007) stated that, any conflict or disputes arising on land shall be resolved by the selection of arbitrary elders through the two parties, and the result given by the arbitration shall be registered at the *kebele* administration and a sealed copy shall be given to both parties.

Jaarsolii of the three *kebeles* who are key informants and commonly participate as arbitirants were confrmed for this study that *jaarsummaa* process based up on the volunteer and with the demand of disputants. According to these *jaarsolii araraa* the over all *jaarsummaa* is the traditional way conflict resolution in the *kebeles* as well as in the *woreda*. Their number of *jaarsolii* who parsticipate in *jaarsummaa* process is usually four in number that two respresentative from both sides. They find the truth according to the value of the community that could be trustful. During an interview with these key informants they were also expressed based up on the economic benefit of *jaarsummaa*. *Jaarsummaa* saves the land preparation, ploghing, seeding and harvesting time of households at time of crop production.Usually they conduct *jaarsummaa* of land not only before it goes to the court but also the cases directed by the formal court. As the assessment and questionnaire survey in the *woreda*, *jaarsummaa* was fruitfull in Sululta *woreda* in that many land conflict cases were seen through arbitration arbitration.

Dueto the sevierity of rural land conflict in Sululta *woreda* wasting of the farming activities time were clearly seen on the land cases under the adjourments. According to the key informants of the three *kebeles* from land preparation up to storage the process of farm activitiea on on on hectare of land will approxim ately takes 98 people through out the process. The average cost of per preson per day was birr 70. If a house hold managing on hectare of land throughout the production year he use to pay birr 6440. Therefore, a person or a household whose land conflict case is being solved through *jaarsummaa* he is benefited or gain 70 birr

daily. Traditional rural land conflict resolution in the study area was the contributor of economic development, food security and livelihoods of the households.

4.4.3. Factors affecting households' traditional land conflict resolution in the study area

In Ethiopia many of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms do not have written law, not well organized to resolve conflict and enforce its decision. Due to lack of binding and enforcement for the the decision made by *jaarsummaa*, the traditional conflict resolution mechanisms are highly dependent on consents of the disputant norm and spiritual belief of the community (Daniel, 2016). According to the survey under taken in the study area the importance of *jaarsummaa* is the trust and believe of the communities towards *jaarsummaa* compared to formal justice system. Even if it lacks *dirqisiisaa* force, most disputants prefer to deal dispute cases at the “*jaarsummaa*” institutions rather than the Court System. In some of the cases, disputants take into account cost and benefit factors to deal with specific land related dispute cases. However, the weakness of *jaarsummaa* in the study area is sometime lacks *dirqisiisaa*/binding force to implement the decision after negotiation through *jaarsummaa*, but conciliation. Concerning the sustainability, though it requires formal research *jaarsummaa* is with full of recognized as to the end decision it is more sustainable since the parties totally avoid revenge unlike the one through legal proceedings forcefully applied. But the absence of the institutions or the limited role of some institutions is also one of the main challenge that affect rural land conflict resolution in the area, hence lack of good institutionalization might also hinder the existence of effective rural land administration system.

The respondents also stated that, the current status of *jaarsummaa* in rural land conflict resolution mechanism is still under implementation, the challenge in the area was lack of support or encouragement for *jaarsummaa* and it was very minimal during its processes and implementation. The concern of the respondents is that, it needs strong support from the Government side to encourage customary institution like *jaarsummaa* without any interference. Lack of clarity in the land laws is also one of the causes for the dispute resolution as it isn't uncommon to see ambiguity and inappropriate standard of compensation in the event of expropriation (Haftom, 2011). Finally the respondents noted that the organizational role of the

concerned body is vital to encourage such interests in settling the conflicts locally without any difficulties for the local communities who are struggling for their livelihoods.

4.4.4. The gap in rural land administration with regard to solving rural land conflicts in the area.

In most developing countries and transitional economies, regarding the land administration matters, many constitutive and controlling organization lacks an important and practical implementing tool. Fragmentation of the land use rights through the issuance of multiple use right for the land holders are those hinder the establishment of modern land administration system (Wehrmann, 2017). According to the key informants, with regard to solving rural land conflicts in the study area are; lack of good land management system, the gap in the land laws that some articles are controversial. Both in Oromia Rural Land Administration and Use Proclamation No.130/2007 and Regulation No. 151/2012 has clearly stated that the traditional arbitration could contribute to settle the land conflict and the law has given the recognition accordingly. In regulation article No.18 the evidence for the above recommendation is, that the prejudice and the penalty were on constraint to bind the decision passed through *jaarsummaa*.

Here in this study under Alem tena kara diree *kebele* of Sululta *woreda*, after the arbitration the other party fail to accept the arbitration made by *jaarsummaa*. The articles in the regional land administration and use regulation were not included in proclamation that the punishment issue was controversial for binding the decision. As a gap to implement any rural land deal the article about the penalty regarding the illegal holding which leads to conflict did not mentioned in proclamation first, but stated in the Rural Land Administration and Use Regulation No 151/2005. For example the article which was not in the proclamation has been stated in the regulation describes that it punishes those who fail to implement the regulation. To show how it was serious, the Rural Land Administration and Use Regulation No. 151/2012 article No.33/1, on the penalty regarding to any person who violet the rural land laws' that could contribute for conflict of rural land in the region stated that, "*Squatting rural land or attempting or fences, cultivating or attempting is for bidden by law, unless it is punishable with more penalty in other laws, shall be punished with 1-5 years (one year up to five years) imprisonment and 2000-6000 Birr (two thousand up to six thousand Birr) fine*". Even if the article has given the recognition to

protect and punish the one who attempt the land laws', lack of implementation could have led to serious and complicated land conflicts in the study *kebeles*.

The gap that would also hinder the implementation of *jaarsummaa* in the study area was, the gap which has seen both in Proclamation and Regulation is that it is not fully recognizes the outcome and encouraging this local customary institution, specially for the implementation. The other gap under the customary institution was also the punctuality during the arbitration of the case, lack of rationality, partiality and sometimes demanding for per diem which was beyond the scope of *safuu* in the society. Though sometimes the expenses during *jaarsummaa* process was also another gap that could hinder the credibility of the *jaarsolii*. The indigenous rural land conflict resolution mechanisms in general, is centered on the values of truth, justice, forgiveness, reconciliation, addressing the affected relationship, voluntary participation and give more emphasis for personal change above complaint behavior.

4.4.4.1. Challenges with unresolved land conflict case

Case study-2

The second case study was regarding the land holding conflict happened between two disputants and still under adjournment to high court and the case was not yet solved either by *jaarsummaa* or by court. It was in Sululta *woreda* Alem tena kara dirree *kebele*. Aadde Damile is the elder of 70 years, marital status widowed and taking care for her families by herself. Her educational back ground is unable to read and write, land holding size is less than two hectare. According to the finding, the case was happened three years ago that a person who has no parcel boundary with her land holding disputed her because of farm land exchange made with her and cooperative on pasture land and farm land around her homestead. The agreement has been made for five years that she negotiated with *kebele* and the cooperative who organized on animal husbandry in the *kebele* on her holding which was less than 0.25 hectare. As it was mentioned above, after months the members of the cooperatives manipulated the loan fund which was disbursed for them to run the business. The government structure who organized them decided to sell the property of the cooperative in order to return the fund.

After many complications the high court decided that she and her disputant has no right on this holding and concluded that the holding right was given completely for *kebeles'* structure. Then she has lost her holding right without *ol'iyannoo*/appeal to the consecutive court /Cassation division. The next phenomenon was that her disputant accused her to the high court with case of 80,000 ETB due to the damage of the fence on her former holding. Since 2017, 13 family members moved to the high court for 13 adjournments. She has told the researcher, due to another case/which was related to this holding she paid the price with 13 family member's average daily expenditure of 400 ETB for 13 adjournments ($13 \times 13 \times 400 = 67,600$ ETB). They have lost a lot of asset that could have been injected to their livelihood has gone for nothing. As to her *jaarsummaa* is preferable in all cases regarding the cost, time and labor and she could have prefer *jaarsummaa* to settle her case instead of formal court. She has disappointed by the decision which has been made by the court, because her land holding that was under less than five year agreement was gone in such a way.

Finally the victim's son, victim's daughter, elder of the village and *kebele* administration have confirmed that the case was complicated, evil to their *nagaa* and immoral for *Aadde Damile* as well as to the society and should decide to prefer *jaarsummaa* in order to maintain the economic and livelihoods status as well as social harmony.

CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATIONS

5.1. Conclusion

This study points out the types of rural land holding conflicts and how they happen among Sululta *woreda* rural communities. The rural land conflicts are because of inheritance between the family members that in the case of one or more family members monopolizing the land holding right and disputing the rest of family members. Boundry conflicts, and some times with economic causes especially land resources and related rural land rental cases, social problems, the resource interests were causes of land conflict and loss of assets among the rural community of Sululta *woreda*. This study approached with type of rural land holding conflict resolution the actors, of conflict resolution *jaarsolii*, and the role of *jaarsummaa* among Sululta *woreda* community, further the procedures of *jaarsummaa* institution for the mechanism of *walii-galtee* briefly.

Similarly this study came up with assistances of *jaarsummaa* in agreement, peace building and in restoring long lasting reconciliation and social life in between the disputant. This study was conducted with *safu* (moral respect) whichi is fear of Waaqaa, obeying for the truth, respecting the elders, and principle of tentative theory like *dhugaa baasuu*(*finding the truth*); values customs traditions and *walii-galtee* among the households that could bring stability and sustainable social interface in this specific arrangement. The traditional institutions for land conflict resolution have always applied customary rules, to conflict between individuals that belong to a given community and contribute to the rules and the culture of that community (Nakayi, 2011). People mostly respect the authority to perform its functions for the good of the whole community and each of them individually.

The same is true that traditional rural land conflict resolution of Sululta *woreda* reveal how the society preserves the societal stability to end the conflict dueto land with the existing costumes, norms, values and traditional institution/*jaarsummaa*.

To summarize, traditional rural land conflict resolution among Sullulta *woreda* community is the valuable and best pactice that it well kept up to date for livelihoods of the households. Considering this fact, all the government and the people representatives, the judiciaries, the land

administration and use institutions should give attention for this customary institution for the benefits of the community as well as state.

5.2. Recommendations

Jaarsummaa has a prominent role in maintaining social harmony, peace building, economic development and backing in saving time, labour and resources both for the households' livelihoods, as well as saving Government revenue. Supporting justice and reducing the potential responsibility of the formal justice court.

With regard to land conflict resolution at local level, the existing Rural Land Administration and Use Proclamation at Regional level was introduced since 2007 and supported with perspective, but not revised yet in that it has the nature of controversial in some articles. The rural land conflict resolution at local level is extremely needs binding nature, simultaneously with *safuu* at traditional level. *Jaarsummaa* customary institution among the society in particular which discovers *dhugaa*/ truth.

Hence

1. The land policy makers should revise the article which are controversial in the land laws for decision making process and have to promote and advance the wisdom of *jaarsummaa* customary institution role and the regional state; should give special attention and recognition according to the article in the land law.
2. This study of rural land holding conflict resolution/*jaarsummaa* is not the final outlook in the study area. Further study should be recommended by a researcher especially on the establishment of *jaarsummaa* customary institution through land administration and use institutions.
3. The traditional rural land holding conflict resolution/*jaarsummaa* should be well maintained for the next generation, through the role of both central and regional government, clan leaders and current generations.

References

- Alinon, K. (2010). Alternative land tenure conflict management mechanisms: Analytical tools, Rome, Italy, pp1-2
- Arraiza, Rani et al (2019). A Feasibility Assessment on The Introduction of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and Collaborative Dispute Resolution (CDR) to Resolve Land Dispute in Myanmar, Norwegian Refugee Council, pp 8-10
- Auma, S. (2016). Land Conflict, Gender and Agricultural Production: A Case of Apac District Northern Uganda, Norwegian University of Life Sciences Faculty of Social Sciences Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Oslo, Norway, pp 8
- Betsema, G. (2016). Food Security and Land Governance Factsheet, Ethiopia Utrecht University, The Netherlands, pp5-12
- Boudreaux, K., Vhugen, D and Walter, N. (2017). Community Land Conflicts: How local land disputes affect private sector investments and development projects, USA, pp 15-16
- Bugri, J and Yeboah, E. (2017). Understanding changing land access and use by the rural poor in Ghana, International Institute for Environment and Development, London, UK.
- Daniel, M. (2017). Major Features of Indigenous Conflict Resolution Mechanisms In Ethiopia, Debre Marekos University, pp.29
- Desalegn, B. (2018). Rural Land Disputes Resolution Mechanisms in Oromia Regional State: A case Study of Dugda Woreda Court in Eastern Shoa Zone, A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of The Requirements for the Masters of Laws (LLM) Degree in Business Law. Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Erhopia, pp.44
- FAO (2002). Land tenure and rural development: FAO Land Tenure Studies, Rome, Italy, pp. 41-55
- Gentles, J, Charles, C, Ploeg, J, and McKibbin (2015). Sampling in Qualitative Research: Insights from an Overview of the Methods Literature, McMaster University, pp.6
- Haftom, T. (2011). Rural Land Dispute Settlement Mechanisms in Tigray: The Case of Humera, A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of The Requirements for the Masters of Laws (LLM) Degree in Business Law, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Erhopia.
- John Tiah Bugri and Eric Yeboah (2017). Understanding changing land access and use by the rural poor in Ghana, International Institute for Environment and Development, London, UK.
- Leeuwen, M and Haartsen, L. (2005). Land disputes and local conflict resolution mechanisms in Burundi: A research for CED-CARITAS Burundi, Bujumbura, Burundi.
- Mamo, H. (2005). Land Disputes Settlement in a Plural 'Institutional' Setting: The Case of Arsii

- Oromo of Kokossa District, Southern Ethiopia, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University, Japan, pp.8
- McCombes, S. (2019). How to write a research methodology. p.5
- Nucci, D(2004) Land and Property Study in Sudan. Study on arbitration, mediation and conciliation of land and property disputes, Nairobi, Kenya, pp.15
- Nakayi, R. (2011). The Role of Traditional Institutions and Local Council Courts. Resolving Land Disputes in Post-Conflict Northern Uganda. Danish Institute for Human Rights, Copenhagen, pp.21
- Pritchard, M.(2013). Land Tenure Reforms for Food Security in South Sudan, Juba pp 2-16
- Tefera, E, and Mulugeta, G. (2009) Alternative Dispute Resolution: Justice and Legal System Research Institute, Addis Ababa. Ethiopia, p.30
- UN-Habitat (2018). Land and Conflict. United Nations Human Settlements Programme, Nairobi, Kenya, p.22
- UNDP (2012). Land and Conflict. Toolkit and guidance for preventing and managing land and natural resources conflict, New York, USA
- UNEP (2012). Toolkit and Guidance for Preventing and Managing Land and Natural Resources Conflict. Rwanda.
- Wehrmann, B. (2017). Understanding, Preventing and Solving Land Conflicts, Eschborn, Germany, pp.12-34
- Zerfu, H. (2016). Land Governance Assessment Framework Implementation in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Zelalem, M, and Endalcachew, B.(2015). Traditional Conflict Resolution Mechanisms among Ambo *Woreda* Communities, Addis Ababa

Appendixes

Appendix 1: Overview of respondents

Individual survey

Household respondents									
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the household	Land holding size/ha	Time he/she lived in the study area	Remark
1	M	70	Non formal	Alem tena	Married	Head	< 0.50	>10 years	Farmer
2	M	43	Illiterate	Alem tena	Married	Head	1.0-2.0	5-10 years	Farmer
3	M	45	Non formal	Alem tena	Married	Head	0.5-1.0	5-10 years	Farmer
4	M	40	Non formal	Alem tena	Divorced	Spouse	< 0.50	5-10 years	Farmer
5	M	38	Illiterate	Alem tena	Married	Head	< 0.50	> 10 years	Farmer
6	M	50	Non formal	Gorfo	Married	Head	0.5-1.0	5-10 years	Farmer
7	M	66	Non formal	Gorfo	Married	Head	0.5-1.0	Birth place	Farmer
8	F	60	Illiterate	Gorfo	Divorced	Head	0.5-1.0	Birth place	Farmer
9	M	60	Non formal	Gorfo	Divorced	Head	0.5-1.0	>10 years	Farmer
10	M	58	Non formal	Gorfo	Divorced	Head	1.0-2.0	<10 years	Farmer
11	M	46	10 th	W/malima	Married	Head	>2	>10 years	Farmer
12	F	55	Non formal	W/malima	Married	Spouse	0.5-1.0	> 10 years	Farmer
13	F	38	12grade	W/malima	Married	Spouse	>2	> 10 years	Farmer
14	F	65	Illiterate	W/malima	Widowed	Head	1.0-2.0	> 10 years	Farmer
15	F	45	5th grade	W/malima	Married	Spouse	1.0-2.0	> 10 years	Farmer
Women, youth and venerable groups at kebele level									
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the household	Land holding size/ha	Time he/she lived in the study area	Remark
1	M	43	Illiterate	Alem tena	Married	Head	< 0.50	Birth place	Farmer
2	M	28	8th grade	Alem tena	Married	Head	0.5- 1.0	Birth place	Farmer
3	F	34	Illiterate	Alem tena	Divorced	Head	0.5-1.0	Birth place	Farmer
4	F	56	Illiterate	Gorfo	Widowed	Head	0.5- 1.0	Birth place	Farmer
5	F	31	Diploma	W/malima	Married	Spouse	< 0.5	More 10	Farmer
6	M	32	10th grade	W/malima	Single	Family member	< 0.5	More 10	Young
7	F	21	Grade 5	W/malima	Single	Family member	< 0.5	More 10	Young
8	M	21	5th grade	W/malima	Single	Family member	<0.5	Birth place	Young
9	M	32	BA	W/malima	Married	Head	< 0.5	Birth place	Farmer

Development Agents								
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility	Work Experience	Remarks
1	M	35	Diploma	Gorfo	Married	DA	>10	Kebele
2	F	26	Level 4	Gorfo	Married	DA	>5	Kebele
3	M	35	BA	W/malima	Married	DA	>5	Kebele
4	M	32	BA	W/malima	Married	DA	>5	Kebele
5	F	36	BA	W/malima	Married	DA	<5	Kebele
6	M	26	BA	A/tena	Single	DA	>5	Kebele

Experts/ team leaders/directors of Land ad/ and Use, Agriculture and Nat/ Resource								
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility	Work Experience	Remarks
1	M	51	LLM	Ne/silk/La	Married	Director	>10	Bureau
2	M	26	BA	Holota	Married	Expert	<5	Bureau
3	M	52	BSc	Sebeta 01	Married	Expert	<10	Bureau
4	M	52	LLB	Sebeta 02	Married	Expert	>10	Bureau
5	M	32	BA	Chanco 01	Married	Expert	<10	Woreda
6	M	32	10+3	Chanco 01	Single	Expert	<5	Woreda
7	M	35	MSc	Sebeta 01	Married	Director	>10	Zone
8	M	29	BSc	Sendafa 01	Married	T/leader	<10	Zone
9	M	30	BSc	Chanco 01	Married	D/head	>10	Woreda
10	F	25	BSc	Chanco 01	Single	T/leader	<10	Woreda

Experts of Women, Child and Youth Affairs								
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility	Work Experience	Remarks
1	F	52	BA	Akaki Kalitii	Divorced	Expert	>10	Bureau
2	M	38	BA	Sebeta 01	Married	Expert	>10	Bureau
3	F	29	MA	Burayu	Married	Expert	<10	Zone
4	M	27	BA	AA/N/S/L	Married	Expert	<10	Zone
5	F	30	BA	Cancho 01	Married	Head	<10	Woreda
6	F	49	BA	Cancho 01	Divorced	Expert	>10	Woreda

Key Informants

Elders									
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the household	Land holding/ha	Time he/she lived in study area	Remark
1	M	70	Illiterate	A/Tena	Married	Head	>2.0	Birth place	Farmer
2	M	45	Non formal	A/tena	Married	Head	>2.0	Birth place	Farmer
3	M	66	Illiterate	Gorfo	Married	Head	>2.0	Birth place	Farmer
4	M	78	Non formal	Gorfo	Married	Head	>2.0	Birth place	Farmer
5	M	68	Non formal	W/malima	Married	Head	>2	Birth place	Farmer
6	M	53	6th grade	W/malima	Married	Head	0.5- 1.0	Birth place	Farmer
Kebele Land Ad/Committee members									
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the Committee	Land holding size/ha	Time he/she lived in the study area	Remark
1	M	43	8 th	Alem tena	Married	Member	0.5-1.0	Birth place	Farmer
2	M	40	Non formal	A/tena	Married	Member	1.0-2.0	Birth place	Farmer
3	M	62	Non formal	Gorfo	Married	Member	1.0-2.0	Birth place	Farmer
4	M	49	5th grade	Gorfo	Married	Member	1.0-2.0	Birth place	Farmer
5	M	40	3th grade	W/malima	Married	Member	1.0 -2.0	More 10	Farmer
6	F	65	6th grade	W/malima	Married	Member	>2.0	Birth place	Farmer
Kebele leaders									
No	Sex	Age	Educa tion	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the Committee	Land holding size/ha	Time he/she lived in the study area	Remark
1	M	36	Illiterat e	Alem tena	Married	Head	0.5-1.0	Birth place	Farmer
2	M	30	10th grade	Alem tena	Married	Head	1.0 -2.0	Birth place	Farmer
3	M	47	9th grade	Gorfo	Married	Head	>2	More 10	Farmer
4	M	49	7th grade	Gorfo	Married	Head	1.0-2.0	More 10	Farmer
5	M	40	10th grade	W/malima	Married	Head	>2.0	Birth place	Farmer
6	M	50	Diplo ma	W/malima	Married	Head	>2.0	Birth place	Farmer

Judges and Public persecutors								
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the Institution	Work experience/ years	Remark
1	M	29	LLB	Chancho 01	Single	Judge	<5	Woreda
2	M	30	LLB	Chancho 01	Married	Public perscuter	>5	Woreda
3	M	33	LLM	AA/N/S/L/58	Married	Judge/Team leader	<10	Zone
4	M	31	LLB	AA/N/S/L/58	Married	Judge	>10	Zone
Civic Organization and NGOs								
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the Institution	Work experience/ years	Remark
1	M	62	LLM	AA/ Akaki -Kaliti W-4	Married	Team leader	>10	(USAID) Land Governance
2	M	61	MSc	A.A/Bole/W/ 10	Married	Team leader	>10	(LIFT) Land Investment for Transformation

Case study

Case study-1 Solved cases through <i>jaarsummaa</i>									
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the household	Land holding/land size/ha	Time he/she lived in study area	Remark
1	M	43	Non formal	A/tena	Married	Head	0.5-1.0	Birth place	
2	M	47	9th grade	Gorfo	Married	Head	>2	Birth place	
3	F	37	6th grade	W/malima	Divorced	Head	0.5-1.0	5- 10 years	Solved on 8/5/12 Ec
Un Solved cases through <i>jaarsummaa</i>									
No	Sex	Age	Education	Village	Marital status	Responsibility in the household	Land holding /land size /ha	Time he/she lived in study area	Remark
1	F	70	Illiterate	A/tena	Widowed	Head	1.0-2.0	Birth place	2009 up to now
2	F	65	Non formal	W/malima	Widowed	Head	0.5-1.0	Birth place	
3	M	56	10th grade	Gorfo	Married	Head	>2	Birth place	

Appendix 2: Estimated farming activities implemented per household on the rural land of Sululta

No	Farming Activity	Unit	Number of person /labor	Unit cost /birr/day/person	Total cost /birr
1	Land preparation				
	Ploughing 1/ha	No	8	70	560
	Ploughing 2/ha	"	6	70	420
	Ploughing 3/ha	"	4	70	280
	Ploughing 4/ha	"	4	70	280
2	Seeding/ha	"	12	60	720
3	Weeding/ha	"	10	60	600
4	Crop protection/ha	"	4	80	320
5	Harvesting/ha	"	20	70	1400
6	Treshing/qt	"	16	60	960
7	Transporting to storage/ha	"	8	60	480
8	Storing/ha	"	6	70	420
	Total	"	98		6440

Source: Survey of my own, May 2020.

Appendix 3: Guiding questions for all data methods

Guiding questions for farmer households at *kebele* level.

1. Have you ever experienced or heard land conflict in between a community in your area?
2. Describe the formal and traditional land conflict resolution mechanism in your area?
3. Do you know about *jaarsummaa* regarding land conflict?
4. Have you ever attained the *jaarsummaa* process in your area? If yes what is your lesson from the process?
5. How you feel about the effectiveness, efficiencies and sustainability of *jaarsummaa* comparing with formal justice system?
6. What part of the society more affected by land conflict? Why?
7. If you engage in to a conflict do you bring your case to *jaarsummaa* or you take it to formal court? Why?
8. Have you experienced *jaarsummaa* case on your land conflict? Solved? on process? Is there any partiality seen on your case?
9. What are the merits and demerits of *jaarsummaa*?
10. How do you compare the *jaarsummaa* with formal justice system in terms of cost time and binding?
11. How do you evaluate the contribution of the *jaarsummaa* in consolidate social relation?
12. What is the rationale of traditional land conflict resolution in providing decision during conflict?
13. If you engage in to a conflict do you bring your case to *jaarsummaa* or you take it to formal court? Why?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

A. Guiding questions for Youths, Women's and VGs at kebele level

1. Have you ever experienced or heard land conflict in between a community in your area?
2. Describe the formal and traditional land conflict resolution mechanism in your area?
3. Do Youths/Women/VGs take part in *jaarsummaa* process? If yes what was the part/role?
4. Have you ever attained the *jaarsummaa* process in your area? If yes what was your lesson from the process?
5. How you feel about the effectiveness, efficiencies and sustainability of *jaarsummaa* comparing with formal justice system?
6. Do you think women particularly affected by land conflict? Why?
7. Do you think vulnerable group/women, children, elders; disables are likely exposed to land conflict? How?
8. If you currently experience land conflict what about your case? Solved? On process? Is there any partiality seen on your case?
9. What are the merits and demerits of *jaarsummaa*?
10. How do you compare the *jaarsummaa* with formal justice system in terms of cost time and binding?
11. How do you evaluate the contribution of the *jaarsummaa* in consolidate social relation?
12. What is the rational of traditional land conflict resolution in providing decision during conflict?
13. If you engage in to a conflict do you bring your case to *jaarsummaa* or you take it to formal court? Why?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

B. Guiding questions for kebele land administration and use workers and agricultural development agents (DAs)

1. What are the common types of rural land conflict in the community?
2. Based on your record or information do land conflicts occur frequently? Month? Quarter? Six months/ once in a year?
3. What is the cause of land conflict in this area?
4. Based on the land administration issues what are the common types of rural land conflict resolution mechanisms in your community?
5. At the local level to which institution/ of land conflict resolution do the communities go after conflict? Why?
6. As the severity of rural land conflict what is the part of local government to enhance *jaarsummaa* traditional rural land conflict resolution?
7. How do you evaluate the relations of *jaarsummaa* and traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanisms in the community?
8. What is the current status of *jaarsummaa* traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanism in your evaluation?
9. What are the merits and demerits of Jarsuma resolution mechanisms in case of land conflict?
10. According to your observation what are the challenges and obstacles for *jaarsummaa* traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanisms in the community?
11. Are there any principles in formal land conflict resolution law, which influence the *jaarsummaa* indigenous conflict resolution?
12. What is the contribution of *jaarsummaa* to the livelihood/food security of the households? In terms of time, labour and resource saving?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

C. Guiding questions for experts/ team leaders/directors of Oromia Land administration and Use Bureau, Oromia Special Zone around Finfine Office, Woreda and Oromia Agriculture and Natural Resource Bureau and Oromia Special Zone around Finfine Office.

1. In our society there are many traditional, formalities and values. Among them can you give me a brief about rural land conflict resolution mechanism in general and about *jaarsummaa* in particular?
2. What do you think about the contribution of *jaarsummaa* in creating sustainable accomplishments among conflicting parties of land holders and societies in regulating peace and stability as well as development?
3. How do you evaluate the relations of *jaarsummaa* and traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanisms in the community?
4. What is the current status of *jaarsummaa* traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanism in your evaluation?
5. What are the merits and demerits of *jaarsummaa* resolution mechanisms in case of land conflict?
6. What are the challenges and obstacle for *jaarsummaa* traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanisms in the community?
7. Are there any principles in formal land conflict resolutions law, which influence the *jaarsummaa* indigenous conflict resolution?
8. Do the government provide any support or encouragement for *jaarsummaa* land conflict resolution mechanism for its sustainably and functionality?
9. What is the organizational role or intervention of your organization on the subject of the encouragement of that *jaarsummaa* traditional mechanism of land conflict resolution?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

D. Guiding questions for Women, Child and youth affairs experts from region up to woreda level

1. Describe the traditional land conflict resolution mechanisms you experienced in your region/ Zone/Woreda area?
2. Do Women take part in *jaarsummaa* process? If yes what is that part?
3. How do you feel about the effectiveness of traditional rural land conflict resolution/ *jaarsummaa* for the benefit of rural women comparing with formal justice system?
4. Do you think women special affected by rural land conflict? Why?
5. What are the merits and demerits of *jaarsummaa* in rural area ?
6. How do you evaluate the contribution of the *jaarsummaa* in consolidate social relation between rural women and men ?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW

A. Guiding questions for elders and abba gada/clan leaders at kebele level

1. What are the major types rural land conflicts in the *woreda/kebele*?
2. What are the major causes of rural land conflict in the kebele?
3. Have you ever participated in traditional rural land conflict resolution process/ *jaarsummaa*? For how long?
4. What are the source of land conflict in your area and what conflict prevention mechanisms' are practiced to minimize rural land conflict?
5. Explain the mechanism of land conflict resolution in your area?
6. Which indigenous conflict resolution people commonly use to resolve land conflict? Why?
7. If you have an alternative or choice to resolve your case between traditional mechanisms' and formal justice system which one do you prefer? Why? How do you evaluate the *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ to consolidate the social relationship?
8. How do you evaluate the process of *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ and the process of formal justice system?
9. How do you evaluate the effectiveness of *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ in comparison to formal justice system in relation to cost time and sustainability?
10. What mechanisms are used in *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ to enforce decision?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

B. Guiding questions for *kebele* land administration committee(LAC)

1. What are the major types rural land conflicts in the *woreda/kebele*?
2. What are the major causes of rural land conflict in the *kebele*?
3. Mechanism to prevent land conflict?
4. Have you ever participated in traditional rural land conflict resolution process/ *jaarsummaa*? How? What was your role ?
5. Explain the mechanism of land conflict resolution in your area?
6. Is there any indigenous conflict resolution mechanism people commonly use to resolve land conflict? Why?
7. How do you evaluate the *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ to consolidate the social relationship?
8. How do you evaluate the process of *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ and the process of formal justice system?
9. How do you evaluate the effectiveness of *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ in comparison to formal justice system in relation to cost, time and sustainability?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

C. Guiding questions for *kebele* leaders

1. What are the source of land conflict in your area and what conflict prevention mechanisms' are practiced to minimize rural land conflict?
2. Explain the mechanism of land conflict resolution in your area?
3. Which indigenous conflict resolution people commonly use to resolve land conflict? Why?
4. What is the difference between traditional mechanisms' and formal justice system in terms shortening the process? which one is preferable? Why?
5. How do you evaluate the *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ to consolidate the social relationship?
6. How do you evaluate the process of *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ and the process of formal justice system?
7. How do you evaluate the effectiveness of *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ in comparison to formal justice system in relation to cost time and sustainability?
8. What mechanisms are used in *jaarsummaa* /traditional land conflict resolution/ to enforce decision?
9. How do you intervene/participate in the process to achieve the goal?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

D. Guiding questions for Judges and Public Persecutors

1. According to your practice/experience on rural land tenure security what are the sources of rural land conflicts that lead to conflict in the community?
2. As a rural holding conflict practitioner, what is your opinion in a relevance of the decision passed by the indigenous institution during land conflict resolution process? Specially *jaarsummaa*.
3. At local level to which institution/ of land conflict resolution the communities go/prefer after conflict? Why?
4. As the severity of rural land conflict what is the part/role of local government/regional/ civil society or NGOs to enhance/promote *jaarsummaa* traditional rural land conflict resolution?
5. What is your evaluation about the process of *jaarsummaa* land conflict resolution as compared to formal court?
6. How do you evaluate the effectiveness of *jaarsummaa* traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanism in comparison with formal justice system in terms of cost, time, and resource?
7. What are your observation about the desire of people between court and indigenous land conflict resolution mechanism?
8. Do you think that there is any contribution of *jaarsummaa* in creating sustainable reconciliation among conflicting parties? Explain briefly.
9. How do you evaluate the contribution of traditional rural land conflict mechanism in strengthen social relationship in enhancing justice.
10. What is the contribution of traditional rural land holding conflict resolution for the livelihoods/food security in terms of time saving, resource and labor as compared to formal court?
11. Is the result of indigenous of conflict resolution is more sustainable than formal justice system or formal justice system is more sustainable in contrast? Why?
12. What is the weakness or strength of *jaarsummaa* traditional land conflict mechanism?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com Tel.No 0911319089

E. Guiding questions for Officers/Co-coordinators from Civic Organizations /NGOs

1. According to your practice/experience on rural land tenure security what are the sources of rural land conflicts that lead to conflict in the community?
2. As a rural holding conflict practitioner, what is your opinion in a relevance of the decision passed by the indigenous institution during land conflict resolution process? Specially *jaarsummaa*?
3. At local level to which institution/ of land conflict resolution the communities go/prefer after conflict? Why?
4. As the severity of rural land conflict what is the part/role of local government /regional / civil society or NGOs to enhance/promote *jaarsummaa*? traditional rural land conflict resolution?
5. What is your evaluation about the process of *jaarsummaa* land conflict resolution as compared to formal court?
6. How do you evaluate the effectiveness of *Jaarsummaa*/traditional rural land conflict resolution mechanism in comparison with formal justice system in terms of cost, time, and resource?
7. What are your observation about the desire of people between court and indigenous land conflict resolution mechanism?
8. Do you think that there is any contribution of *Jaarsummaa* in creating sustainable reconciliation among conflicting parties? Explain briefly.
9. How do you evaluate the contribution of traditional rural land conflict mechanism in strengthen social relationship in enhancing justice?
10. What is the contribution of traditional rural land holding conflict resolution for the livelihoods/food security in terms of time saving, resource and labor as compared to formal court? How?
11. Is the result of indigenous of conflict resolution is more sustainable than formal justice system or formal justice system is more sustainable in contrast? Why?
12. What is the weakness or strength of *jaarsummaa* traditional land conflict mechanism? Contact address:

Appendix 4: CASE STUDY

CASE STUDY-1

A. Guiding questions for case study of those individual whose cases were resolved through *jaarsummaa* /beneficiaries.

1. According to the information from your community elders, you have resolved a conflict of land holding happened between you and your disputant, through traditional conflict resolution or *jaarsummaa*. Is it right? If so when it was happened? When it was settled
2. How the conflicts were taken to *jaarsummaa* resolution mechanism
3. Who leads you to resolve the conflict that way or through *jaarsummaa* processes?
4. What procedures and activities were takes place by then?
5. What is your feeling of the decision given through *jaarsummaa* at all
6. Are you satisfied by the decision passed through *jaarsummaa* during your resolved cases?
7. How do you evaluate the efficiency of *jaarsummaa* in land conflict resolution mechanisms in general? How do you evaluate the effectiveness of *jaarsummaa* traditional rural land conflict resolution system in terms of cost, time, and resource?
8. From the formal government court and the *jaarsummaa* which one do you prefer? Why?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

CASE STUDY-2

B. Guiding questions for case study of victims of land conflict and unsolved cases

1. According to the information from your community elders, your land conflict case did not settled Is it right? If so when it was happened? Why? How you experienced/happened the conflicts on your land holding?
2. Currently what is the status of you case?
3. Who leads you to the formal court?
4. What is your feeling of the decision passed through the court in general?
5. Are you satisfied by the decision passed through formal court during your resolved cases?

6. How do you evaluate the efficiency of formal court in land conflict resolution mechanisms in general? How do you evaluate the effectiveness of formal court rural land conflict resolution system in terms of cost, time, and resource?
7. If you know *jaarsummaa* /Traditional land conflict resolution from the formal government court and the *jaarsummaa* which one do you prefer? Why?
8. Do prefer if it was settled by *jaarsummaa*? Why?

Contact address: E-mail- Qonnaa@yahoo.com

Tel.No 0911319089

Glossary: Meaning of *Afan Oromo* words

<i>Afan Oromo words</i>	English meaning
<i>Aadde</i>	Mrs
<i>Aanaa</i>	<i>Woreda</i> /District or administrative structure, organized at 3 rd level in the region
<i>Araara/Araaramuu</i>	Peace making
<i>Beellama</i>	Adjournment
<i>Daangaa</i>	Boundry
<i>Dirqisiisaa</i>	Binding
<i>Dhugaa</i>	Truth
<i>Dhugaa baasuu</i>	Find the truth
<i>Gadaa</i>	Democratic Political Institution of Oromo
<i>Ganda</i>	Administrative structure, organized at 4 rd level in the region
<i>Gumaa</i>	Traditional norm to negotiate/pay compensation after agreement
<i>Jaarsa</i>	Elder
<i>Jaarsolii</i>	Elders
<i>Jaarsa firaa</i>	Family elder
<i>Jaarsa araaraa</i>	Arbitration elder
<i>Jaarsolii biyyaa</i>	Community Elders
<i>Jaarsummaa</i>	Traditional conflict resolution/arbitration
<i>Koree Shallaggii lafaa gandaa</i>	<i>Kebele</i> Land adjudication Committee
<i>Lafa</i>	Land
<i>Mana Murtii Ijibbaataa</i>	Cassation division
<i>Mana Murtii Ol'aanaa</i>	High Court
<i>Mana Murtii Waliigalaa</i>	Supreme Court
<i>Nagaa</i>	Peace
<i>Obboo</i>	Mr
<i>Ol'iyannoo</i>	Appeal
<i>Safuu</i>	Moral respect
<i>Seera</i>	Traditional norms (Law)

<i>Waadaa</i>	Promise
<i>Walii-galtee</i>	Reconciliation
<i>Walii-galuu</i>	Reconciliate
<i>Waaqaa</i>	God

Source: Survey of my own, May 2020.