

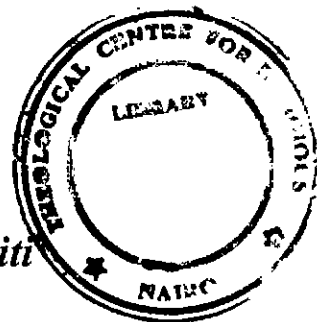
**CHRIST THE TEACHER INSTITUTE FOR
EDUCATION**

ST: MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

**TOPIC: THE EFFECT OF WAR IN FAMILY
DISPLACEMENT IN ERITREA**

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NAIROBI-KENYA

MAY 2001

DECLARATION

The undersigned, do formally declare that this is my original work and that it has never been submitted to any other institution for academic consideration.

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Supervision: *Mr. Gaiti David M.*

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Date: 14/05/2001-----

It has been accepted by: Christ the Teacher Institute for Education.

Name: Robert Smith Fsc, PhD.

Signature: -----

Date: 14/5/01-----

DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to TEKLAY ABRAHA a Dear Brother and Eritrean martyr who offered his life during the war for liberation.

May he rest in Peace.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I owe a lot of thanks to many who have made it possible for me to undertake this work. Their contribution was timely, appropriate and relevant to my topic. Not all can be thanked individually here, only a few will be mentioned.

I am grateful to my superior General Sr. A. Virginia Sinagra who gave me opportunity to study at CTIE at Tangaza College. I am also profoundly indebted to my Superior Sr. A. Anselinina Ruggieri and to my fellow sisters who helped me in all aspects.

I express my thanks, first to Mr. Gaiti for accepting to be my supervisor. The role he played was unique in laying the strong foundation that this work enjoys and reflects at this present stage.

My thanks also go to Reverend Br. Andemariam-Michael from De La Sale brothers for his readiness to assist me in my research made it easier for me to have access to the relevant materials.

It would be an oversight if my lecturers and colleagues at CTIE were left out without mention. I must thank them all for the good lectures and good company. They created an atmosphere that was conducive to my studies and reflection.

I am grateful to all respondents, especially thanks to Musie-Takel, Yonas-Amanuel Estifanos-Helafu and Paulos-Habtemariam for their support and encouragement throughout my writing of this work.

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on the effect of war and displacement on family life and property.

The main objectives of the study are:-

i) To investigate the effect of war in Eritrea on family displacement during the Ethiopian occupation.

ii) To assess the impact of insecurity of war on family life,

iii) To suggest possible solution to overcome the problem of insecurity. In order to achieve these objectives the researcher use primary and secondary Sources. For primary data collection, interview and questionnaire were used as instruments. Extensive library work was used as data collection instruments for secondary source. For the sampling technique the researcher used stratified random sampling.

Displacement has a detrimental effect through shortage of Labour Power Pressure on land, poverty, poor infrastructure, loosing of culture values, violation of identity, Immorality, unemployment, problems with travel and oppressive politics against civilization.

To solve the problem of family displacement, the causes of these problems must be addressed. Family displacement can only be solved through a meaningful peace between the two countries. This will create a sense of trust and understanding and enhance the capacity for people to develop their talents without fear of displacement.

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ABBREVIATION

C.T.I.E =	Christ the Teacher Institute for Education
E.P.L.F =	Eritrea People Liberation Front
E.R.R.E.C =	Eritrea Relief and Refugee Commission.
A.M.C.E.A =	Association of Members Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa.
U.N =	United Nations
E.L.F =	Eritrean Liberation Front
C.U.E.A =	Catholic University of Eastern Africa.
O.A.U =	Organization of African Unity.

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CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The family displacement is not a new problem. It is a re-current phenomenon. It has been addressed several times but nothing seems to change. Several measures have been undertaken, for example, medication efforts by local nationals and international groups such as Australia, Korea, Italy, Norway, and so on. It is because of this that this study on the “effect of war in family displacement in Eritrea has been undertaken.

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROBLEM

Family displacement in Eritrea is mainly the result of war. This is made worse by the violation of the human rights because some people belong to a particular social or economic group. Africa is plagued with many social evils. One of these is the displacement of people from their homes, other calamity are earthquakes and disease outbreaks. This has been influenced by political, ideological, economic and socio-cultural differences. No one can deny this and so it is our task to overcome this menace by offering practical solution to this phenomenon that effects millions of people in Africa.

The world refugee survey of 1996¹ and 1998² gives the refugee population in Africa as 5,222,000 and 12,944, 000 respectively. Though there was a marked drop in the number of the refugees from 1996 to 1998, the current number is still big. The above figures pose a challenge to the continent that seems to be helpless in trying to put its house in order. This situation can be overcome when the readers and the peoples concerned consider it a top priority. Africa must end the conflicts that read people to be driven away from their homes.

ITALIAN COLONIZATION AND THE ORIGIN OF ERITREA.

1.2 Historical Background of the study.

Eritrea, like so many other African states, is a creation of colonialism. As Trevaskis put it: Before (Italian colonization) Eritrea had never enjoyed any form of unity, had never had a government of its own, and had never even had a name (Trevaskis; 1960: 49).

Part of Eritrea lies in the Ethiopian highland and this area had been part of historical Abyssinia, the lowlands had sometimes been under Abyssinian sovereignty but – except for the coastal towns – mostly ruled by independent tribes.

When the scramble for Africa began in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, Italy claimed the coast of Ethiopia. It possessed in what is now Eritrea only the flimsiest foothold; the Port of Assab, where a private Italian trading Port had existed since the 1860s' it was declared Italian territory in 1882. On the ground of this interest it staked its claims in the Horn of Africa at the Berlin Conference of 1884 – 85, where Africa was divided up among European powers. These claims were supported by the British, who saw in Italy a counterweight to French influence in the region.

The Italians managed to establish their rule by intrigue in Ethiopians domestic politics. Eritrea was added to them by the emperor Menelik, in return for Italian support in his accession to the throne (1889). During the 1890s the Italians extended their rule further inland, making Asmara the capital of the colony. That expansion was stopped by their defeat against Menelik in 1896 mentioned above.

The prime motivation of Italian colonization was probably political rather than economic. The desire of a nation that had only recently become a unified state to play a role as a major power, and grabbing vacant territory before someone else did, were more important than any prospect of economic gain. However, once the colony of Eritrea had been created the Italian government took an interest in its development, in the first place to make it pay for the cost of administering it. It was developed in the familiar way of colonial economies, with emphasis on the production

of primary goods for the Italian market: cotton, sisal, coffee products from the sea, and gold. Even more important was Eritrea's function as a clearinghouse for Italy's trade with Ethiopia, the Sudan and the Arabian Peninsula (Trevaskis, 1960: 36).

1.3 British Rule: The beginnings of our Eritrean question.

The Italian occupation of Ethiopia was of short duration: the participation of Italy in the Second World War resulted in the reconquest of Ethiopia and Eritrea by British troops, in 1941. Ethiopia was returned to its emperor, while the British temporarily administered Eritrea. This situation was formalized after the war by a mandate from the United Nations. The Eritrean economy boomed during the war years, but after 1945 it slumped (Markakis, 1987: 62). The Italian policy of subsidiary social services and the supply of consumer goods to Eritrea were discontinued. These developments led to considerable discontent among the urban people, which could be expressed because the British permitted political activity. Political consciousness was further enhanced by increased access to education (under the Italians Eritreans had been restricted to four years of schooling) and by the employment of Eritreans in the colonial administration. There was unrest in the highlands where land shortage was a problem due to population growth as well as Italian land settlement. Troubles occurred also in the lowlands: among the Beni Amere, a revolution took place in which the Tigre serfs overthrew the rule of their *Nal-tal*, masters; and there was fighting between the Beni Amere and the *Hadendoa*. All these changes had momentous consequences for political developments in Eritrea. Political parties and trade unions were soon established and the issue of self determination emerged as it did elsewhere in Africa at this time.

The issue of independence versus union with Ethiopia was complicated also by the intervention of other countries that had strategic interests in the Red Sea area. Emperor *Haile Selassie* naturally made the reassertion of Ethiopian power in Eritrea the cornerstone of his foreign policy. The Ethiopian government intervened in Eritrea through support to the Unionist Party and through the Coptic Church, which exerted pressure on the faithful to oppose independence. The British proposed partition between the Muslim lowlands, which would be joined with the Sudan, and the Christian highlands, which would be reunited with Ethiopia. Eventually, the UN General Assembly decided to make Eritrea a territory with its own government and parliament,

but federated with Ethiopia and under Ethiopian sovereignty. This meant that the emerging Eritrean national consciousness was enhanced by an internationally recognized statute, but at the same time Ethiopia was given full powers to do with Eritrean as it liked. A better recipe for conflict is hard to imagine.

1.4 From Federation to Annexation

The political struggle between those who favoured full union with Ethiopia and those who wanted independence continued, as the ambitions of neither group had been realized. Initially, the latter were by a narrow margin the stronger (they had a majority in the Eritrean parliament), but this was reversed as a result of the policy of the government in Addis Ababa, which gradually eroded Eritrean autonomy. It quartered troops in Eritrea, prescribed the rights of assembly movements and expression, abolished the official languages of Eritrea, rigged elections in order to fill the Eritrean parliament with pro-Ethiopian politicians, dismantled economic institutions; and lowers the Eritrean flag (Markakis, 1987: 93 – 94). These moves did much to alienate even the former unionists – especially the imposition of Amharinya (Mesfin Araya, 1990: 94) Finally, Eritrea was formally annexed by Ethiopia in 1962. Domestic opposition to this move was minimized through political oppression, while potential protests from the side of the UN were prevented by making the Eritrean parliament approve the union with Ethiopia. But by that time armed opposition had already begun, albeit on a small scale.

1.5 The Eritrean War

The struggle against Ethiopia. The Eritrean war began in 1961. Initially, it was mainly confined to the Muslim – majority lowlands and its scale was limited. However, one notable development of the 1960s was the disenchantment of those groups, which had been largely pro-Ethiopian during the period of federation. At that time, they had enjoyed a position of power thanks to the support they received from the government in Addis Ababa. After annexation, Amhara officers sent from Addis took over most of the important posts in the government apparatus and started to run Eritrea in the interests of Ethiopia. As a result, many of those who had supported union now turned against Ethiopia, even if they did not immediately join the armed struggle.

Meanwhile, the war in the lowlands gathered momentum. In 1967 the Ethiopian army carried out a large offensive against the guerrillas, which caused the first mass flight of terrorized villagers to the Sudan; but it failed to break the strength of the freedom fighters. Another major offensive took place in 1970.

In 1974, Ethiopia went through a revolution, which is described in the next section. For a time, there was hope that this revolution would lead to a settlement of the Eritrean question, particularly as the first leader of the new military regime (known as the Derg), general Aman Andom, was himself an Eritrean. This hope was soon thwarted: Andom would not consider independence for Eritrea. He was soon murdered and eventually an Amhara came to power who stubbornly opposed any form of autonomy for Ethiopian minorities.

That same year the Ethiopian army, now reinforced with Cuban troops and Soviet weapons, launched a major campaign. They succeeded in driving the Eritrean forces from all towns except the small town of Nacfa in western Eritrea and in securing the main roads, but the war continued. For ten years, the freedom fighters held the entire northwestern part of the province, in the rest of the country (except the land of the Ajor in the east) they launched several offensives, but in spite of occasional successes they failed to dislodge them. Since 1988, the Eritreans were in the offensive they broke through the Nacfa front, inflicting large casualties on the Ethiopians and advancing through in the lowlands. In early 1990 they succeeded in taking Massawa, and in 1991. The Ethiopian army collapsed, although its final surrender was to a different insurgent group as we shall see in the next section, the Eritrean fiasco contributed in large measure to its defeat. The EPLF, which for the last ten years had been the leading independence movement, took control of the province. Formal independence came after a referendum in 1993.

As is the case with all wars, enormous destruction was visited upon the country, not least because of the Ethiopian air raids on the liberated parts of Eritrea aimed at ruining the economy of those areas; loss of life, family displacement, family separation have run into the hundreds of thousands (cf. Matthies, 1981: 83).

1.6 Statement of the Problem

The world has witnessed the great wars, the first world war and the Second World War. After that, the world community sought ways to stop these kinds of wars from reoccurring. Solutions were sought which apparently have achieved very little. Even after repeated efforts, in the not so distant past, we have witnessed war once again. There is war in Bosnia Herzegovina, in Yugoslavia, the Gulf war, the hundred days of genocide in Rwanda, the war in Angola and the war between Eritrea and Ethiopia just to mention a few. From all that, the question of family displacement and human person merits a large measure of security. My thesis will therefore, be a contribution towards this end, especially from the context of Eritrea.

All individuals or a whole community might take a rapid, unplanned decision to flee the country, as an anxiety reflex or a crisis syndrome, in response to some major disorder in the country where some tragedy is closing up on them. Sometimes the flight is quickly planned, individuals taking time to pack a small bundle of clothes and food and collect any reserves of cash from home or bank.

So then, for humanity's progress, this problem is a real issue at stake. Given also the direction, in which the contemporary society has taken, and is still taking, this topic cannot be ignored. This is a current problem whose solution can be achieved only if it is honestly reflected upon.

Therefore, people are forced to leave their homes, familiar environment, friends and relations, occupations, established social services and all the comforts of their country of origin, however minimal, to face an unpredictable future which holds all sorts of dangers.

This study will investigate the causes of family displacement, forms of effects on families. The war is one of the problems that causes people not to settle and develop and their lives in their country from (1962 - 2000).

1.7 Objectives of the Study

The following are the objectives of the study.

- i) To investigate the effect of war in Eritrea on family displacement during Ethiopian occupation.
- ii) To assess the impact of insecurities of war on displaced families.
- iii) To suggest possible solution to overcome the problem of insecurity on family displacement.

1.8 Justification of the Study

This work will study the root causes and immediate causes of insecurity and forms of violence, brought by armed conflict. We will also attempt to look at other types of insecurity on which the current situation is based on leads to. We hope that once we have discovered and analyzed the causes and effects of the problem, attempts can be made to find possible solutions.

The purpose of the study is also to try to show the need for an effective governance by the state. The task of the state is mainly to guarantee security for human life and property.

1.9 Research Question

- 1) The following are the main questions guided the study.
- 2) What is the cause of war in Eritrea?
- 3) To what extent does war affect on the family?
- 4) Does family displacement effect on cultural values?
- 5) Do you believe that displacement has a great effect on employment?

1.10 Hypothesis

1. War has had varied impacts on the family.
2. Insecurities of war have great impact on displaced families.
3. The problems of family displacement have impact of insecurity on family life.

1.11 Scope and Limitations of the Study

The study focuses on the effect of war in Eritrea family displacement during the Ethiopian occupation (1962 – 2000). It covers five provinces namely Hamasien Senhit, Akerleguzaai, Barka and Serae.

Due to time and financial constrains the study will be limited to Eritrea residents involved in various universities, colleges and institutions in Nairobi.

The study will also be conducted among Eritrean employees in different institutions and displaced families in Nairobi.

1.12 Definition of Key Terms

Family: It is the most fundamental human union of love, solidarity and respect for one another. Family is the way in which human beings live together, ordering their lives to law and custom, helping each other and working together for the family members.

Displacement: Means a person forced out of his home by some tragedy in search of a safe haven many find one within the boundaries of his country, and continue to benefit from the protection and assistance of his government. It is also a person who have fled their country because their lives, safety or freedom have been threatened by generalized violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order.

War: A socially recognized situation, in which armed hostilities of considerable magnitude are conducted between the recognized governments and a political fraction within a given country or countries.

Insecurity: The term refers to an undesirable and dehumanizing experience whose origins and sources are more external and very destructive both internationally and externally, to life especially to human life and property.

1.13 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

1. The entire work comprises five chapters. Chapter one is the introduction to the study. It discusses the background of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, premises; significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, definition of key lessons and organization of the study.
2. Chapter two: Deals with impact of war in family displacement on family life and property.
3. Chapter three: Provides the research design and methodology. The first part is about area of study located by a map of the provinces and under focus. The second part is about description of samples and sample procedure. The third part deals with instruments. For primary data collection interviews and questionnaires are used while for the secondary sources library work is used as instrument of data collection on. The fourth part deals with administration and collection procedures. The last part is about data analysis.
4. Chapter four: Is about data presentation and discussed of findings. In this chapter the research followed the order of objectives and assumed the major questions one by one. The responses are presented in tables which include frequencies and percentages. Diagrams are used where necessary.
5. Chapter five: deals with summary, conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with literature review. In this chapter there are four parts. The first part is about physical characteristics of the study area including climatic condition, temperature, and evapotranspiration and slope soil erosion and wind.

The second part deals with the family values in according to the Eritrean tradition, and the effect of war in family displacement exposed to different type of shortage of community.

The third part is about displacement and related effects of labour power, poverty, poor infrastructure, loss of cultural values, violation of identity, immorality, problems with employment, problems, with traver and Ethiopia oppressive rule against civilizations.

Part four is about treatment of displaced family, action by the United Nations, Decision-making and steps involved in conflict resolution and importance of conflict revolution and conclusion.

2.2 Physical Characteristics

Eritrea is a country in the Horn of Africa on the Western shore of the Red Sea. It's latitudinal position is between 12⁰ 42N (Ras Dumeira and 18⁰ 02N (Ras Kassor). Its longitudinal position is roundly between 36⁰ 2E and 43⁰ 10E. It is bounded by the Red Sea on the East, the Republic of Djibouti on the South – East, Ethiopia on the South, and the Sudan on the West and North.

The strategic position of Eritrea depends on the Red Sea's geographical position. The Eritrean Red Sea Coast stretches for about 1216 km along the Western shore of the Red Sea. The Eritrean principal parts, namely Massawa and Asseb are found along the Coast.

This strategic position gives Eritrea a dominant position because it commands the sea route between the straits of Bah-el-Mendeb on the Southern tip of the Red Sea which serves as a gate way to the Indian Ocean, and the Suez Canal in the north which leads to the Mediterranean sea.

Most commercial lines directed to Europe and the Mediterranean region from the Persian Gulf, East Africa and Asia must pass through the Red Sea. Thus all kinds of commercial activities are intimately connected with the strategic utility of the Red Sea region in which Eritrea plays a dominant role. (Ministry of Education 1995: 14).

2.3 Climatic conditions

Eritrea is a tropical country with significant physical diversity. It is characterized by highlands and lowlands. Thus, its climate is influenced by its tropical location and physical diversity.

The climate of a region is influenced by several factors such as latitude, altitude, wind direction distance from sea and ocean currents.

Besides the 30 years of war, the climatic situation of Eritrea were caused by different climatic conditions geographical features as well as man made problems had a great effect in human settlement. The problem of Eritrea settlement however had different factors. These factors consist of land feature, lack of enough rain, latitude, altitude and atmospheric condition. Eritrea is divided into two geographical features namely high land and low land. The density of the population in the high land is greater than the population of the low land. The occupation of the people in the high land mostly consists of agriculture. The highly density populated areas of the high land of Eritrea is maintaining with poor agricultural land with traditional agricultural method. The land feature and the method of land use exposed to settlement problems. The rural settlement of the high land generally are organized in nucleated villages. The houses of this settlement are called Hidmos with some modern roofed houses. This type of settlement however has a definite center and known boundaries. Most of these settlements have the basic institutions such as churches, small shops, primary schools or traditional church, sponsored schools with village administrative council.

However, all of these settlements depend on agriculture. The Eritrea rain has geographical seasonal pattern. The rainfall season extends from June to August for three months. Eritrea has one rain season which is not very reliable, it varies from season to season the beginning and the ending of the rain. Eritrea gets rain from the Southern Hemisphere of Atlantic and Indian Ocean

low-pressure belts. The wind of this low pressure belts of Southern Hemisphere blows toward the high pressure of the Northern Hemisphere. Since this wind crosses a vast part of the continent, by the time it reaches Eritrea loses its moisture. However, it does not give adequate rainfall as needed. This type of rainfall does not even reach the coastal line areas and the eastern escarpments of Eritrea. Besides the war this type of climatic contributed a negative impact to the Eritrean settlement. The high lands of Eritrea, since they are mountains do not hold the little rain that it gets. It is very much exposed to water and wind erosion. (Ministry of Education: 1995:88).

The low lands of Eritrea are less populated. Most of the low land settlers of Eritrea consist a great deal of nomadic life and partial agriculturist. The type of their settlement can be categorized as dispersed settlement. However, in the low lands there are fertile agricultural area like Goshsetit. Tesenei in the South west of the country. In the North West of the country there is a fertile area called shibgedy. Due to the 30year war agricultural investment were not possible during the Derg time. These however, increased the problem of the settlement in the country. The SouthWestern fertile land of Eritrea gets rain in summer that is from June to August. The Northern West fertile land with all the Red Sea Coasts including the Eastern escarpment gets rain in winter from January to March. This wind originated from the northern low pressure areas and blows down to the Indian Ocean low-pressure area. However, when it reaches the Arabian Desert, it loses its moisture. But when it crosses the Red Sea, it carries moisture and gives rainfall to the coastal area and to the eastern escarpment of Eritrea. This topographic type of rainfall is inadequate for crops. And a vertical it causes problems of settlement.

2.4 Temperature and evaporation

According to Master (Eritrean profile 1996) Eritrea's climate varies from very hot in lowlands to temperate in the highlands. The sun shine is abundant in all parts and there are only few weeks that are partly cloudy or raining, Eritrea being an arid and semi arid country it has high rare of evaporation. According to Amleson (Eritrea profile 1996). Eritrea's annual range of evapotranspiration is from 1300 to over 2000 mm while its annual rainfall average excluding the Green Belt zone (see in p.30) is 700mm. This impropotional evapotranspiration rate inhibits Eritrea's agricultural activities particularly around the marginal lands.

2.5 Slope, soil erosion and wind

In the highlands of Eritrea, population density is higher than the lowlands. Because of high density in the highlands, farmers were forced to cultivate even steep slopes which made the vulnerable to soil erosion. Farming activities in those steep slopes encourages soil erosion which in turn reduces productivity of the soil by removing nutrients, damaging the soil diet and lessening in water holding capacity (Eyasu Eritrea profile, 1966).

Winds throughout the year affected the productivity of the soil. Strong winds particularly around mid-September increased evapotranspiration rate, which allows the soil to dry out to become vulnerable to erosion (Waugh 1994). Though it is very difficult to quantify the degree of soil erosion and wind damage, their effects were immense on agricultural promotion.

2.6 Conflict

War is one of the problem that causes people not of settle and develop their lives in their country. In the event of an international or inter-ethnic war, many lives are at risk. If the people or the country are at war either within nation or one tribe fight with causing lives and insecurity. People move about looking for safety and food. The same obtains when one country fights with its neighboring: it causes instability and movement of people from one country to another as refugees. There are many examples from our continent given that some parts of the continent are torn apart by war. Eritrea is a young nation: it has fought for the her independence for last thirty years.

Eventually, Eritrea People Liberation Front (EPLF) defeated the Ethiopians army. During this period, the effect of war enormously affected the people. Almost all the activities were paralyzed. There was hardly anything that could function properly. The war had a more serious effect on food production. The military conflict was created difficulties for farmers and grazers like. Farmers near Ethiopia-held areas, risked losing their crop and food stocks during advances by Ethiopian forces. Time and labor had to be spent to make safe hiding places for food and other possessions. The seventh Ethiopia offensive of 1983, in which the Ethiopian army, over a six months period, made thrusts into Borka and Senhit provinces severely disrupted the farming and led farmers to abandon cultivation and instead flee to safe areas.

Eritrea and Ethiopia are at war since 1998 again over some kilometers of border dispute. Right now, over one million of Eritreans are displaced and have fled to neighboring Sudan and Kenya. Between these two countries thousands of people have lost their lives. The effect of war has been felt in all aspects of life, economically socially and environmentally.

2.7 Family Value in Eritrea

The family is of great value to any society. It is the most fundamental human union of love, solidarity and respect for one another. The family is the way in which human beings live together for the welfare of all family members. It is obvious that human beings have always found partnership with others to organize themselves in family life. In so doing, both partners co-operate harmoniously and responsibly to bring children into the world. Therefore, they form a small unit, which in turn grows into larger forces the society and then into the nation, the union of many families into the family of nations.

The value of family message is supported by the Africans synod: “You know what the family means to us in Africa. It is a place where the deep African values of life come to be, where one is protected and nourishable a place of belonging where sharing and solidarity are the heart of daily life, where each one feels himself or herself to be truly at home.”³

Eritrean parents devoted themselves to an even harder situation of passing love on to their children. Parents had to make their children feel they belonged to and forced part of the family, perceiving themselves as gifts of God. They felt challenged to exercise their duty to prepare for the future society and to love their family members as well as their whole society. Eritrean parents educated their children to words reverence, honour, obedience, service and gratitude. In Eritrean families, meals are eaten with all the family members. All of them share from the same dish, the same plates.

Sharing everything is a gift in the Eritrean family. The joy and hope, the grief and anguish of their times are all shared. They share with those who are poor and afflicted. They share with all, the joy and hope, the grief and anguish of being the followers of Christ. Nothing that is genuinely human fails to find each in their hearts.⁴

Assistance of outside society does not relieve the community of the duty towards its own members. Helping the poor, the disabled and the aged is a duty as it is hospitality. People eat and drink together, helping one another financially in the celebrations of weddings and funerals as well as sharing their joy and sadness in each occasion. They take care of orphans and administer their property.

The Eritrean society recognizes the need for belonging and the responsibility to help each other during the harvesting of crops and building of a house in the village, among others. In harvesting, for instance the farmer who needs help invites the villagers to work as a group, each with his/her own tools doing the kind of work specified. They work the whole day joyfully, singing and chatting. Such assistance is free of charge; the host provides only food and drink for the day. The neighboring women bring coffee, tea and bread. In this way, they show their unity, solidarity and love of each other.

In African life, the family was the nucleus for the individual and the source of corporate existence of its members. It is the context within which a person really experienced personal consciousness of oneself and the other members of society. This is no longer universally true. The family is the most severely injured institution in the African society today.

The child who has learned to honor his/her parents will be promoted to adopting caring and helping attitudes towards others. So, the basic education is from home, the larger society nurtures a patriotic attitude. One is formed to be responsible for his/her nation. Eritreans have strong feelings to defend their society and nation against danger, whether bodily or moral, for the welfare of the whole society. They have inherited this tradition from their family and society. It is from this context that we can best understand the Eritreans' zeal in defending themselves against any perceived aggression.

2.8 Displaced family

We have seen the value of family in Eritrea. At the same time we are going to see the effect of war in displacement of family. So then to escape death, many people in war turn areas flee to

safe zones within the same country. In most cases, men stay behind and send women and children away from the dangerous area but sometimes parents send children.



The result is a large influx of people in towns villages distant from the war areas. These children suffer from poor health and lack of adequate educational facilities. The displaced usually leave without any assets and due to poverty, many parents cannot support their children once they are away from the family's homelands.

Sudan is hardly adequate for the settled population, let alone for the displaced. In most settlements for the displaced health facilities are non-existent except where NGOs are working, but even these tend to be inadequate and uncoordinated. The implications of this are that diarrhea, vaccine preventable diseases. Acute respiratory infections and malnutrition are common among displaced children.

Therefore lives of children in the war areas in the countries of the Horn are directly endangered by raids, bombings and shooting. They also suffer from the disruption and destruction of the infrastructure, production activities and other food supply channels. Many children have lost their lives in the course of raids by the fighting groups in villages.

In recent years, thousands of civilians in war affected areas in Eritrea were in dire straits. Harvests have been non-existent and grain stores empty. In addition, there has been a shortage of water in some areas and consequently poor hygiene. The result of these conditions has been a high infant mortality rate of 52 per cent in some areas. Cases of extreme and moderate undernourishment are reported.

In a displaced family, roles change. Women may find themselves as heads of households, undertaking activities and assuming responsibilities which are new to them. Men have to come to terms with a change in their traditional status and participate in surveillance duties. Assigning to displaced children numerous responsibilities unrelated to their age constitutes child abuse. They may, however, adapt more quickly to the new way of life. But this causes a lot of pain for parents who wish to safeguard their culture. In many displaced settlements, frustration and stress lead all too often to violence within the family.

2.9 Cruel and Inhuman Conduct: Break up of Families

The area where the ethnic factor becomes blatantly clear is in regard to marriage and family organization. Ethiopian authorities have ruthlessly and recklessly broken up families in order to push the anti – Eritrean campaign to its logical but absurd limits. If the new order says that all Eritreans must be rooted out of Ethiopia and if many Eritreans are married to Ethiopians the logical but absurd conclusion is to break up those couples and depart the undesirable half.

As indicated earlier, no less than 12% of the ethnic Eritrean citizens of Ethiopia who have been deported during the last six months were, and still are married to native Ethiopians. In the great majority of those cases the families have been broken up and the Eritrean member of the couple has been deported.

Another variation of this absurd procedure is to depart both spouses and their children. All the justification that is needed is for officials, informers or neighbours to declare them to be a “sha’ biya family”. (Asmorom 1999: pg. 27).

Mothers have been torn away from their sucking infants, separate from their children, elderly parents from adult children who look after them, disabled family members from their care-providers, monks and nuns from their monastic communities, priests from their congregations, the full range of atrocities committed against the Eritrean family and community cannot be adequately documented at this stage. We are still gathering in-depth qualitative data and life histories, which will be capped with a scientific survey at a later stage. What we have documented statistically at present gives only a partial picture (Asmorom 1999: pg. 27).

Deported parents left behind children. Most parents pleaded to be allowed to take their underage children with them, but their pleas fell on deaf ears. As is clearly revealed in the following tables, the situation of the children is pathetic: 19.2% of them were abandoned with siblings, neighbors, and maids or with no caretakers at all. That corresponds to 3989 abandoned children in the total population of 6880 households. It is important to note that 1412 of those 3989 children were left with no caretakers of any kind. That represents 6.8% of the households of deportees who left their children in that state (Asmorom 1999: pg. 27).

Among children are several diseases, which are, considered side effects of undernourishment. Of the children examined, 43 per cent suffered from protein deficiency, 67 per cent had clinical signs of anaemia, and 23 per cent were clearly at a low level of physical and mental activity. (March and Tool, 1984).

Although such a survey may not have been representative of the situation in general, it indicates a serious condition which needs to be considered.

2.10 The Camps

The families are exposed to live in camps. There are currently thirty settlement camps in Eritrea hosting rural expellees and internally displaced persons. Eritrean expellees from Ethiopian and Eritrean internally displaced civilians comprise 10% of the Eritrean national population. Despite costly engagement in a war imposed on it by Ethiopia, the Government of Eritrea is striving to prevent the impending human catastrophe of deploying human and material resources in response to the emergency.



A guaranteed supply of food, water, shelter, health care education from the international community are the fundamental requisites of survival for over 300,000 Eritreans dependent on emergency relief. The existing transport and communications infrastructure will significantly ease the successful delivery of and yet without substantial investment in the logistics of distribution, crucial aid will sadly not reach those who require it most (ERREC: 2000.6)

Health

A diverse selection of health related services and medical supplies are urgently sought in the camps. These include primary health services, training for health workers and the erection of medical and sanitary facilities.

If substantial loss of human life is to be prevented, the refugees must be able to rely on a continuous supply of drugs and medical services. At the present time, there are grossly inadequate sanitary provisions; detergents, latrines and bathing facilities are desperately required.

The state of the affected population's health is generally poor owing to the combined lack of a balanced diet, a dearth of adequate shelter and the high prevalence of malaria and upper respiratory infections.



Most of the health services in the camps suffer from a lack of adequate or appropriate clinical facilities and storage capacity.

Attempts are made to register all children in the camps with a nutrition observation unit to assess their needs. Funding is required to train local staff to operate these units and equip them adequately. (ERREC: 2000.7).

2 Water

As expellees are arriving continuously and settlement camps for the internally displaced are being expanded or newly established, the installation of new water resources is a priority. The water distribution system in the camps and water storage facilities within temporary households is rudimentary and requires renovation and upgrading to ensure adequate and safe water supply to the entire temporarily housed population.

In many instances a single borehold, sometimes over four kilometers distant from the camp, services a population of many thousand. It can take hours to procure and transport a barely sufficient supply of clean drinking water.

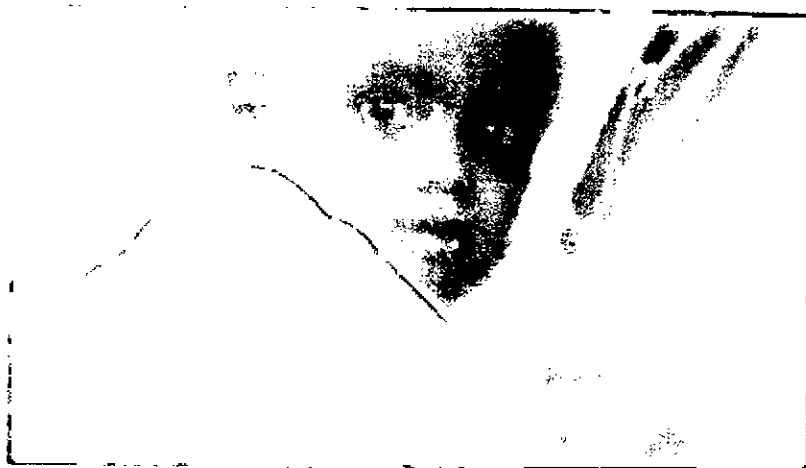
Some settlements, such as the camp at Filho, have no wells at all. The entire water supply arrives by tanker on daily basis. Expensive and unreliable, the over land transportation of water suppliers is also difficult to sustain over extended periods.

More over, by investing in the training of regional beneficiaries, the management of water distribution can be placed swiftly and constructively into local hands (ERREC. 2000 8).

Food

Over 700,000 Eritreans, including internally displaced persons, expellees lost communities and those affected by drought are totally dependent on food relief. While the causes of their deprivation remain unresolved, they will continue to rely on international assistance. Their condition will deteriorate rapidly if a sufficient response is not immediately forthcoming.

In addition, to the acute shortage of staple foods required for general distribution, the provision of supplementary foods for vulnerable groups with special nutritional needs such as children, the elderly and lactating and pregnant women is crucial.



Most of the areas inhabited by the afflicted population, in particular the re-settlement camps, are situated away from urban areas in remote locations. They urgently need grinding facilities to process basic grain suppliers.

The current climate of insecurity in the border areas has severely disrupted normal economic activities. These internally displaced persons are predominantly subsistence farmers; they have lost the opportunity to exploit the only cultivation seasons available, rendering them desperately reliant aid provisions (ERREC: 2000. 10)

Education

In towns and cities, existing resources allocated for education has been grievously, taxed by the unremitting influx of expellees crossing from Ethiopia. In rural areas, the educational needs of the young expellee from Ethiopia had not received any formal education prior to their expulsion. Provision of more books, teacher training and a general expansion of the educational network are required urgently.

Due to disruption caused by expulsion and conflict, thousands of students have been particularly badly affected. If immediate additional funding is not forthcoming, they will fall still further behind.



In addition to the formal program of education, there are also schemes promoting awareness on the key issues concerning sanitation, nutrition and children. Due to an acute shortage of resources, only a small percentage of the expellees and internally displaced population are able to benefit from these initiatives.

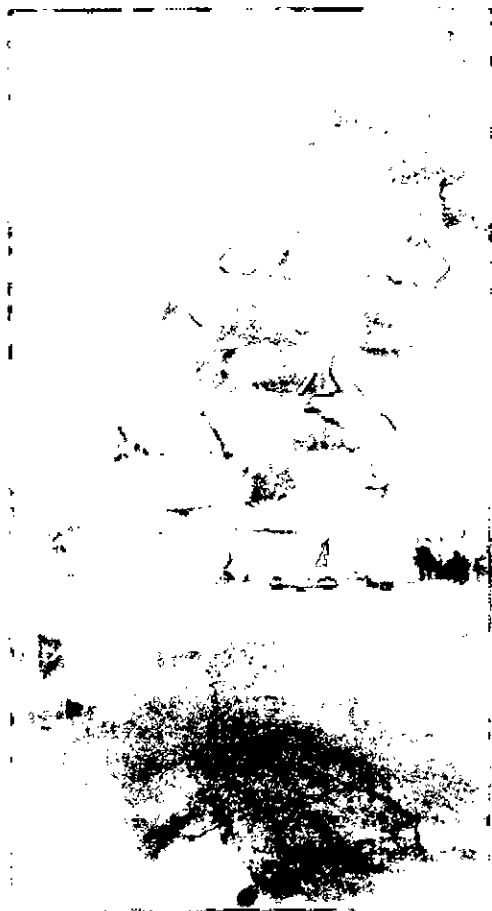
Nevertheless, elementary education is usually obtainable. The schools need not be permanent structures; the main inputs are facilitators with some educational lack or and adequate basic teaching materials. Beyond the level of primary education, more funds are required to meet the cost of scientific materials, more durable structures for assembling equipment and remuneration for well trained teachers. Many countries are unable to provide these adequately even for nationals. In Sudan, for example, they are restricted by inadequate facilities and the inability of local educational institutions to absorb them. (Kuhlman and tom, 1994: 42)

Shelters

Provision of adequate shelter for over 150,000 of the internally displaced and rural expellees currently housed in temporary settlements camps is crucially important if the spread of disease is to be halted, and infant mortality reduced.

The rudimentary plastic sheeting that serves as shelter for the majority of internally displaced and expelled Eritreans is unable to offer protection from the elements of weather. Constant exposure to the elements has led to a high incidence of upper respiratory tract infections among the camp residents, the single greatest cause of child death in the camps.

Sturdy tents and supplies of blankets in conjunction with the materials to construct more durable shelters



will greatly relieve the suffering of both the adult and in front population of the camps.

The vast majority of the expelled and internally displaced were forced to leave their homes empty handed, unable to bring with them any of the essentials of domestic life such as clothing, bedding, kitchen utensils or furniture. Consequently, they are barely equipped to meet the minimum requirements necessary for survival in their new environment. In order to ameliorate their precarious living conditions, adequate supplies of clothes and other basic provisions must be provided. (ERREC. 2000 14).

2.16 Family Displacement Exposed to Shortage of Labour Power

As effect of war for independence and Ethiopia economic policies in Eritrea, there was lack of labour force. Tens of thousands joined the liberation fronts or fled to the neighboring countries. According to (Habtesellassie 1990). Eritrean economic development dragged down ward and agricultural development was hampered as a result of war for independence. According to about 500,000 Eritrean fled the country and lived in Sudan as refugees, about 85% of them were from rural areas and they were engaged in agriculture.

2.17 Poverty

Eritrea had enjoyed periods of great economic development in the last hundred years both under the Italians and in the early years of the British military administration (Price 1996). However, the combination of war, poor prolonged drought and others (Eritrea profile 1996) has put the country into the list of the poorest countries on earth. According to AMCEA (1996) about 53 percent of the people live under poverty level. Poverty hindered Eritreans' agricultural development because poor farmers, labor power, family displacement, were unable to purchase modern agricultural inputs. They were also unable to invest on their farms because they lacked capital.

2.18 Poor Infrastructure

Poor roads and storage facilities (Maranga 1992) hampered the development of agriculture. Because of poor roads or in existence of transport means hindered the agricultural production not

to reach the market centres and farmers unable to buy modern agricultural inputs. Because of lack of property and built storage of grains, most of them are being spoilt by insects and pests.



2.19 LOSS OF CULTURAL VALUES

Families are displaced from their cultural background and were exposed to different cultures. Values that are supposed to be the foundation of any given African society are slowly dying. For example, according to Timothy G. Kiogora, (1996). People were born and grew up in familiar surroundings and around with kith and kin. “Strangers,” from time to time were incorporated in the village structure through marriage and sheer human necessity.⁵ Kiogora’s statement no longer holds true in Eritrea as people are becoming more and more strangers to each other due to the loss of trust among themselves, and also because the majority have been displaced from their familiar villages and homes.

The family has been disintegrating in such a way that even the home, a symbol of unity in any given society is either falling apart or has been destroyed. The effect of war exposed the people to be killed, abducting and destroying people’s property such as houses, by setting them ablaze. Destruction of homes has taken place in areas like Ethiopia. Whereas some of the victims who manage to survive have taken refuge with friends and relatives in the neighboring areas, the

majority of the people now live in “protected” camps. This has resulted into a lot of difficulty in maintaining the family as a single entity.

2.20 VIOLATION OF IDENTITY

The Ethiopian government replaced Eritrean laws with the Ethiopian penal code. Eritrean administrations and executive were changed for Ethiopian. The Ethiopian regime voided law and justice. It rendered the courts meaningless, particularly in cases of political ‘crimes’ and questions of civil liberties. It ensured that Eritreans suspected of such offences suffered per trial detention and torturous treatment in the hands of the police. The rule of law was gradually replaced by the rule of men, with the extension of imperial power to Eritrea. But not without resistance. The mass of Eritrean workers, students and teachers protested. Their protest was met with further violation of fundamentals of human rights. Shooting, arbitrary arrests, the banning of labour union activities, and the closing of industries became common.⁶

All of this affected the dignity of the Eritrean people. Unemployment dramatically rose increasing the insecurity of their lives. Many left their own country. Workers emigrated to Saudi Arabia, Sudan and the Middle East in search of employment.

Strikes and demonstrations broke out in the streets and in schools all over Eritrea. Many people were displaced, died and hundreds were injured.

The unrest did not attract much international attention. But it did mobilize the people into a political force. The UN Commissioner who drew up the Eritrean constitution in 1952 had stipulated. The federal act was violated. The UN general assembly would be oppressed of the matter/final report of UN commissioner. Yet, although repeated missions were sent to the UN to demand its intervention, they were ignored.

2.21 Immorality

Women and Girls

A ritual exodus normally consists of a greater percentage of females, the majority of whom are married and have children. Most are from farming communities. They face the same hazards of the journey into refuge, similar problems of acceptance by those nationals, adjustment problems and a variety of deprivations and discrimination.

The peculiar problems of females throughout the ages, and in almost all societies of the world, are sexual abuse and physical hardships. Rape has occurred as a torture method to acquire information, as an act of aggression to subdue victims of a conflict, and as condition in exchange for favorable treatment at national frontiers and in refugee settlements. For example, in Eritrea rape is punishable by long jail refugee sentences or by the death penalty but when a refugee female is the victim, primitive measures are less aggressively pursued.

Paradoxically, females displaced, much like other females in extreme economic need, indulge in indecent behavior, such as prostitution. In a displacement, young attractive girls sometimes expose themselves to this practice to own extra money and make ends meet. When some of these girls contract a sexually transmitted disease, the infection usually spreads among the displaced, and medical care is difficult to come by.

It is not surprising, therefore, that a high birth rate is reported among displaced even when they are under the threat of starvation. Teenage pregnancies are common partly because of the vulnerability of the girls, and partly because of the lack of opportunities to enhance their personal well being.

A female family head normally experiences economic hardships in monitoring her family. As a displaced, she suffers the emotional stress and physical hardships as well. She is allowed very little parental control over older members of her family. Sex discrimination is often apparent as in the unequal participation of women in the design and implementation of displaced assistance programmers.

2.22 Problems with Travel

Documents relating to displaced status, refugee passports, identity and endorsements of application for jobs, loans for private enterprises, scholarships, and so on do not pose special difficulties as these are prepared free of charge. However, difficulties arise when some refugees have to travel for psychiatric treatment or other serious health problems abroad. They need escorts and this can be very costly.

If a displaced person has to stay temporally in a second country of asylum, the displaced passport must contain a 'Return Clause' – a convention provision which should enable the refugee to return to the first country of asylum. For instance, a displaced travelling to a second country of asylum for medical treatment should be able to return to the first country of asylum after obtaining treatment. Consequently, the displaced is unable to travel to obtain treatment. If he attempts to travel without the Return clause, this is considered an irregular movement. If he manages clandestinely to reach the second country of asylum without a return clause he cannot return to the first country of asylum after medical treatment and this creates an asylum problem for him/her. He has to apply for displaced status once again, this time in a second country of asylum. If he has left his family behind in the first country of asylum, his/her problems are compounded.

2.23 Ethiopia's oppressive politics against civilization

The Eritrean population was oppressed with a view to its extermination. The Ethiopian government for 30 years oppressed people of all ages and gender. Using Ethiopian soldiers and Air Force as well as Soviet Union Air Force pilots, flying MIG21 fighters bombed the Eritrean civil population. They were carrying out deliberate saturation bombing in densely populated areas, economic installations, schools, hospitals and refugee camps. They engaged in the deliberate destruction of villages and the burning of harvest, houses and properties.

This bombardment caused many problems in EPLF – held territories and targeted thousands of people, cattle, camels, goats and sheep. It destroyed houses in different villages. Agricultural work was constrained by the risk of air attacks particularly near the front line. Where work in the fields continued, it had to be done at night. The effect was meant to reduce the area that could be cultivated and the quality of the cultivation.⁷

Eritrean civilians were victimized in different ways. Beyond the constraint of cultivation crops, food stocks and houses were lost. During the advancement of the Ethiopian forces, troops shot civilizations and burn villages, sometimes massacring hundreds of villages. Many lives have

been lost several wounded by mines in towns. Other Eritreans were captured and imprisoned by the Ethiopians.

Many people suspected of sending assistance to the Eritrean fighters were arrested. Men and women, young and old alike were subjected to harsh conditions for several years. The police tortured these innocent people. They would fracture their legs, arms and made grave injuries in their heads. Hungry and exhausted, many fell ill and later on. After a few days some of them were killed by police officers without having been brought to court. Every morning some would be called just to be shot. These people were being picked out in the middle of the night, at work or on the way they had to abandon their homes, possessions, business and other properties with no guarantee for their families. Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression. This right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and import information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.⁸

If somebody was found in possession of papers, newspapers, cassettes or radio broadcasts regarding Eritrean politics, he/she was judged and put in prison. This was the reality for many years. Ethiopian massacres of Eritrean civilians are still being reported. The EPLF has evidence of the slaughtering of 36 civilians in Naro District in April 1984 and of 42 villagers killed when the Ethiopian are force bombed Mulki in several provinces in October 1984.⁹

In 1967 under the motto “kill all”, Israeli trained commando units and government soldiers killed 3000 people, burned 173 villages, killed or confiscated over 100,000 cattle, goats and sheep and looted thousands of dollars worth of property in the provinces of Barka, Shehel, Semhar and Senhit alone. As a result, over 100,000 people were displaced and over 70,000 crossed the border into Sudan as refugees.

In 1969, public executives took place in Agordat. Besides the mass killing of 112 people in the village of Bascadara on November the 27th 1970, 625 people were murdered in a village near Karen on December the 1st of the same year. To this added the shooting of 60 people in a mosque at a village near Elaberid on January the 27th 1971. The Eritrean population, especially

the urban and the educated ones who had access to reports about the incidents from the international media, were infuriated.

In 1970, Haile Sallassie declared a state of emergency and ordered the killing of 800 people and the burning of 15 villages near Wina (Karen area) on the 1st of December in response to an ELF attack on an army convoy along the Asmara – Karen road. General Teshame Erget, the commander of the Ethiopian second divisions, was killed in the attack. After four days, an additional 360 people were executed inside a mosque. On February 1974, after killing 240 people, the Derg's army burned the town of Omhager to the ground.

In 1973, on the 31st of January in one night alone, over 300 students and workers were killed in Asmara, and their bodies left in the streets. On February 1st 110 people were massacred in Agordat. As a result, thousands of people fled to Sudan as refugees. On the 6th of March 1967, over 90 people were killed and 300 houses were burned at Emberemi sanction, kilometers from massama.

From 1984 to 1988 Ethiopian soldiers killed about 2,373 civilians wounded 1, 109 and imprisoned. They burned 4,111 houses and wiped out 16 villages. The Ethiopian army burned nine schools, three mosques and eight churches. Millions of dollars worth of property were looted and destroyed.

In 1988, frustrated because of their humiliation and military defeats at the Nakfa front and Afabet, the Ethiopian troops sought vengeance on the civilian population through Napalm and cluster bombing, looting, indiscriminate imprisonment, killing as well as wholesale destruction of property. This culminated in the massacre of She'eb on the 12th of May when 400 women, children and old men were killed. Eighty of them were crushed by tank. From March to July alone, 1,200 civilians were killed, 298 wounded, 295 imprisoned and 486 disappeared. Over 32 millions of dollars worth of property was looted or destroyed. Certainly the tragic human cost of this practical conflict has been high. Thousands have been killed and many more displaced because of the war. These are just very few, examples of what actually happened.

2.24 Treatment of Displaced Family

Treatment of displaced is poor in Africa. There is simply not enough space to house the displaced and where this is found, there is congestion. The large number of refugees puts a strain on the required resources. As the refugee pressure continues to grow, aid agencies find it hard to accommodate thousands of people fleeing from fighting.¹⁰ Many displaced have been left to die from hunger in miserable conditions. The amount of money spent on an African displaced per day (eleven cents of a dollar) has meant that provisions are reduced¹¹ as the number grows and yet the resources remain the same. Regional governments are also to blame for the treatment of displaced. The high number of displaced causes this and many of them have been rounded up or placed under inhumane conditions and treated like criminals.¹²

The fears of the local population have also contributed to the poor treatments of displaced. Fearing that refugees outnumber the original inhabitants, some governments have acted in favor of their own people. The presence of displaced attracts the international community whose attention is to come to the help of the displaced without taking into consideration the welfare of the local people. This generates conflicts because the local people complain that they are sidelined at the expense of the displaced who are well treated.

The status of being displaced makes people to be in a vulnerable situation. Many of the displaced are hurt, wounded and injured. They are considered out. Laws who are to be manipulated.¹³ Displaced face a lot of discrimination, that is, being treated difficulty and usually worse than other people majority of the displaced who are mostly women and children are harassed and denied access to essential services like health.¹⁴

A lot can be done to improve the conditions in displaced camps. Displaced are people who are on the brink of total despair. The concern of the international community is to show love and ensure justice for all. This is coupled with the fact that the fundamental human rights of every person are to be respected.¹⁵

All people should welcome the displaced. Taking care of displaced should not be the sole concern of the national and international organizations but as a sense of human solidarity that should prevail everywhere. Giving hope to the refugees is the source and sign of love that one

day these people can live together in a spirit of fraternity.¹⁶ The plight of displaced can be lessened if the basic principles for the treatment of people who flee civil conflicts and human rights violations are adhered to. The unfair treatment of displaced is at the disposal of those to whom the falls prey. There is no sense of accountability from those who are supposed to be the protectors and defenders.¹⁷

It is not enough to help refugees in their material and spiritual needs. The stress should also be put on being present and provide accomplishment to these people. This means walking together on the same path of their suffering so that we can be able to feel what they feel, suffer with them in sharing their hopes and aspirations. During this enables the entire human family to begin the search for new life is acceptable to all.¹⁸

The international community has the right to act where the lives and the fundamental rights of the people are out serious risk.¹⁹ This is important because many of the African leaders claim that there should be no outside interference in what they term to be internal matters. The international community on its part needs to be reminded that it is their moral responsibility to take action where they see it fit and appropriate. Provisions have to be made to protect the human rights and to sustain the dignity not merely of individuals but also of the community with which they are identified.²⁰

2.25 Action by the United Nations

The occurrence of conflicts in the various parts of the world is a matter of concern for the international community. This means that solutions to these conflicts are a collective responsibility of the UN as an umbrella organization entrusted with these noble tasks but with the co-operation of the people concerned.

The action of managing conflicts requires the balanced co-ordination of both human and material resources. This should be the primary responsibility of the UN in the management of conflicts in Africa. These resources included providing the spirit of inspiration, providing initiation, courage and persistence in reaching an acceptable agreement of a particular conflict, for example, Eritrea. This can only make sense if the UN as a body acts as help who works with all the parties concerned without any coercion. Its role should be to encourage a degree of independence with an active participation by listening to what the conflicting parties have to say in solving their

own conflicts. This is possible when the UN persuades the parties concerned with right reasoning as well as stimulating the right actions and clarifying each stage of the conflict. This is made easier when the UN stresses the spirit of mutual understanding use of acceptable standards to the two sides and being brief to the point of conflict at hand.

Managing conflicts in Africa is a possibility if the right measures are used. A conflict represents a battle or confrontation, disagreement, slide of unrest, turmoil, or chaos, which should be rectified. The means used in managing conflicts are therefore of profound importance. This includes using the right language. Involving others to avoid monopolization, and having no loyalties that would the trust placed in it and ensuring that there is an adequate representation and negotiation of an agreement. This should be a two-way affair, which has to be open and accurate. It should allow the parties to the conflict to express their ideas and feelings openly and directly. Effective management of conflicts by the UN is a process that involves a series of actions performed in order to restore the original situations where peace reigns once more. What remains for the UN, then, is to have a viable plan of action once the process of managing conflicts has been established and is underway.

First, there has to be an establishment of good communication and relationship between the contending parties. What is being solved should be made known in an objective manner and convey to those involved in it. Second, the UN has to move to the stage of decision making and action. This means using the right skills, for example, motivation, education, advice and monitoring progress in order to find an appropriate solution in atmosphere that is free and fair to all sides.

2.26 CONCLUSION

The effects of family displacement in Eritrea continue to cause a lot of pain, suffering and death to the people. Both the young and the old have been destroyed. The victims of this dehumanizing experience see little or no hope and meaning in life. People see themselves made into refugees in their own homeland.

The war has caused a lot of mixed feelings and reactions on the government side and on the side of the Eritrean people who have fallen victims of circumstances which they do not understand. The government and the local people have generally reacted by finding what they consider to be the best ways and means to respond to the situation. Military intervention to fight the Ethiopians directly has been one main approach the government has employed. It has also worked on training the people on how they could defend themselves and their property and how they could effectively help the government to solve the problem.

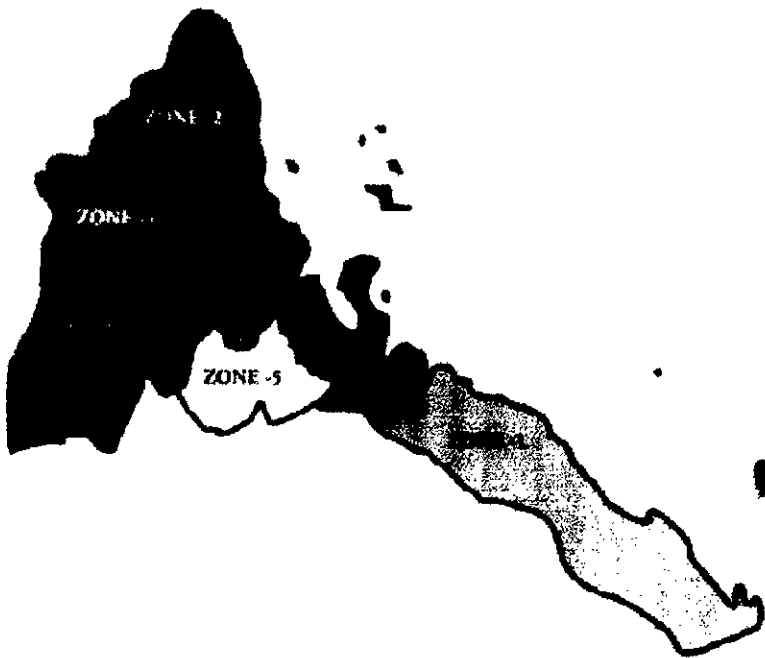
Therefore, families are scattered and hopes shattered. Insecurity in Eritrean has violated the dignity of the person. So all forms of abuses that have and are still taking place in Eritrea against human life and property mostly because of insecurity undermine our government given stewardship. These calls for immediate attention by the government in collaboration with the main victims, the Eritrean peoples.

CHAPTER THREE

1) Description of the study area.

Eritrea, a newly independent country, is located in Eastern Africa. It lies between 12° and 18° North and 36° and 43° East. The country can roughly be divided into five major zones. The central zone, Sahil Highlands, the Western Lowlands, the Eastern Lowlands including the Banlak Archipolego and the Green Belt zone.

The map showing the division of five major zones



The Central zone and Sahil Highlands of the country include regions like Akeleguzay, Hamasien, Senhit, Highland of Sahil Provinces with an average elevation of 2000 meters above sea level. The average annual rainfall of this regions ranges between 400 to 1000mm with potential evapotranspiration rate 1500 – 2000mm.

The Eastern Lowlands of the country include regions like Dahlak Archipelago encompasses, Sahil and Samhar the Denkalia provinces. These regions are characterized by an attitude between 600m below sea level and a hot desert climate. The average annual rainfall of these place is less than 200mm while the potential evapotranspiration is over 2000mm.

The Green Belt zone is an escarpment area of the highlands between 750m and 200 and above in altitude with an average of 700 – 1000mm and above annual rainfall and sub humid temperature to humid tropical climate.

3.1 Research Design

The researcher administered questionnaires to different categories of respondents. This works of field research, after all, was carried out in Kenya in February 2001 in accordance with the CTIE academic guidelines. The researcher distributed the questionnaires to the officers of the Eritrean Embassy, local workers, refugees, lecturers, religious people, business runners and students. Eighty questionnaires were distributed to the above mentioned people. The first 20 questionnaires were distributed to the Eritrea Embassy offices, other 20 to religious students at Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA), other 20 to Tangaza College students and 5 to lecturers. The other 15 were given to the displaced and businesses people in the country.

My secondary source includes library works, accessing books and periodicals especially at Eritrean Embassy, CUEA, and the New People, at the UN Librarie, Internet, and at the Tangaza College Librarie. Together with Primary Sources, the secondary sources provided the researcher with discussion materials, challenges and arguments. These emanated from the data collected from the field research and personal experiences of the researcher.

3.2 Description of the Sample Procedure

The research includes Eritreans who are living in Kenya. They are religious students, workers, business people and refugees. They came from different provinces of Eritrea and have different experience of war. More than anyone else, the Eritrea Embassy officers helped the researcher by providing books, magazines, periodical news letters and gave me a lot of information about the topic.

3.3 Description of Instruments

The sources of this project were collected in form of data and was supported by personal experience.

- a) Library work: Included construction of written works. The research took note of works that were useful scholarly, accurate and authentic, for instance, newspapers journals and magazines. Document papers from internet and video cassettes were helpful too. This assisted the researcher to acquire uploaded knowledge or information useful to this research.
- b) Personal experience: The researcher has worked with different Eritreans in Nairobi who have different experience of war. On the other hand, I have interviewed many individuals and groups regarding the effect of war in family displacement in Eritrea. The author's personal experience has been part and parcel of this study since I was born, and worked in Eritrea.
- c) Field Work: The instrument, which used for data collection for this field work was questionnaire and the items were examined and formulated according to the objectives of the study. The information that the questionnaire generated in its response was death, displacement, insecurity, poverty, etc.as with regard to the response to the questions, which primarily were seeking answers to the Eritrean unity and development during the struggle in the pre-independence and post independence areas. After the questionnaires were answers, they were returned back to the researcher. The responses were then collected.
- d) Data Collection: As I have said above, the questionnaire was formulated by the researcher and distribute in Nairobi, Kenya. For this research, I could not go to Eritrea to study or distribute questionnaires because I had no enough time. In the end, the answers given by the respondents were deep and valuable resources to the scope of the researchers.
- e) Data Analysis: As it is already evident, in addition on to the research gathered, I secondary data from library research to supplement the primary data from field research. These were collocated and keyed themselves into projected chapters.

This study presents the results attained from the questionnaires and entire aforementioned sources. These data are described, compared, contrasted and interpreted by method of analytical discussion and simple statistical presentation. These results obtained from data analysis are shown in tables and graphs. It is from these conclusions that we then proceed to in the next chapters of the data presentation and analysis.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS.

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the data and its analysis. The data is presented in tables, which include frequency distribution and percentages. The discussion is based on questionnaires, interviews and personal experience. Questionnaires were distributed to Eritreans of various categories, namely, diplomats, professors, religious people and Eritrea's displaced.

It was quite inclusive. On the basis of the high percentage of questionnaires returned they are worth relying on.

This chapter is divided into four parts. To begin with general, information about respondents is discussed. The second part investigates the effects of war on the family during Ethiopian occupation. The third part assesses the impact of insecurity on family life. Part Four focuses on possible solutions to overcome the problem of insecurity on family displacement in Eritrea. The number of respondents as it is indicated in Chapter Three is eighty.

Their ages range from 24 to 45 years. The respondents came from eighteen villages in Eritrea. They belong to five provinces namely: Hamasen (25%), Seraye (20%); Akeleguyai (25%), Senhit (25%) and Barka (5%). Among the respondents only 20% came from urban centers. In respect to their occupation ten of them work in various institutions, five self employed and the rest are college and university students from various institutions in Kenya. The respondents' level of education is indicated in Table 1 below.

4.2 Table 1 Respondent level of Education

Level of Education	Frequency	%
Secondary level	3	5
College (University) students	41	68
12 + 2 (3)	6	10
Post graduate	10	17
Total	60	100

4.2 Table 2: Extent of Eritrean war on the family?

	Frequency	%
Separation	10	17
Death	10	17
Disabled	4	7
Psychological trauma	15	25
Immigration	7	12
Joblessness	2	3
Economic crisis	8	13
Lack of good education	4	7
Total	60	100

Table 2 shows effects of war on the family. Psychological trauma has the highest frequency followed by separation and death. Therefore, they are the most felt effects of war.

As the findings indicate, the whole nation is experiencing psychological trauma, insecurity, death, economic crises. For instance, the most productive society in the country has been engaged in the war to the extent the children and the old people remained with nobody to take care of them.

So many youngsters in their age are forced to involve in war against their will, instead of using their precious time for development activities. This negatively affects the economic growth of

the country.

For this reason, tens of thousands of Eritreans were deported from Ethiopia, leaving the entire property and family members. On the other hand, so many Eritreans left their home country and fled to the neighboring countries for safety.

On the government side, plans are there to defend the nation rather than developing it. This can be seen in the sense that even medical doctors went to assist war wounded soldiers. Highly educated and successful business people went to the frontline to defend the nation. As a consequence of these, some people remained unemployed. Therefore, the families were incapacitated in most aspects of life. Some families experienced anxiety, helplessness and hopelessness.

4.4 Table 3: Does displacement have any effects on your cultural values?

	Frequency	%
Yes	60	100
No	0	0
Total	60	100

All respondents affirmed that displacement affected their cultural values. Such values include hospitality, marriage ceremonies, living together, respect and love, way of eating, way of dressing, religious values, decision making, grief, lacking care of old people.

All the above were acknowledged as effects of displacement.

War was seen to be having effects on the cultural values of the Eritreans.

The Eritreans are so conservative in their cultural values. Maybe this is so because, in order to survive in another country, people should be able to conform to the lifestyle of the other country.

Displacement has affected cultural values. For instance people in Eritrea used to unite together with love and respect to one another. In the style of living, the role of the elders is different from that of youngsters. The elders are given all the respect and the power to make decisions for the well being of the nation.

By living together, there are various and interesting ways of eating (eating together surround one another with various food), way of dressing, receiving guest and celebrating marriage ceremonies. In all these rituals, everybody involved would act lovely and honorably.

However, with most people being scattered in various places on earth, it is so different to live normal life due to the difference of life style of the people.

4.5 Table 4: Displacement and its effects on development

	Frequency	%
Response		
Yes	60	100
No	0	0
No answer	0	0
Total	60	100

Effects of displacement were identified as dependency, economic poverty, cultural and social low standard of living; educational problems human resource or personnel and production activities.

Once people are displaced from where they belong, there are effects on development processes. It is difficult to overcome these effects because the displaced people must begin building up their lineage all over again.

Once people are displaced the dependency syndrome is introduced into the well-to-do family members who take care of these affected side. Obviously, the standard of living of these people is so low that they cannot claim for any improvement. There is nothing that they produce apart being totally dependent.

Most of these displaced people do not get quality education hence, their priorities are the struggle for survival. In the process, the economy of the country declines or differentiates. However, the cultural and social life is also as a consequence of these hid down.

4.6 Table 5: The war and illiteracy relationship

Response	Frequency	%
Yes	59	98
No	1	2
No answer	0	0
Total	60	100

A strong relationship exists between war and illiteracy.

The over all response was that the two are causing a lot of problem to the society.

Whenever there is war, most activities in the country, including educational means, are paralyzed. Once people are displaced it is certain that closure of schools would follow and illiteracy intensifies. Even if there some that are not immediately affected by the war, however, the influence of tensions and emotional frustration hinder the education from taking its normal course.

As the war continues, the government in Eritrea recruits the young generation as soldiers. If the young generation do not receive the proper education in their younger age, it would become difficult to eradicate illiteracy in their older age.

4.7 Table 6: Other effects of war in the country

	Frequency	%
Poverty	5	8
Sickness	4	7
Death	10	17
Hunger	4	7
Displacement	5	8
Unemployment	2	3
Low income	1	2
Illiteracy	1	2
Insecurity	8	13
Fear	3	5
Isolation	5	8
Deforestation	6	10
Soil erosion	6	10
Total	60	100

Effects of war on the country are indicated in Table 6 above.

Deaths followed by insecurity seem to have the highest frequency. Therefore these are most experienced cases rather than sensed. The effects of war as is stated in the findings are numerous. In order to reinforce the war, so much of the responses are in rested in buying weapons and upkeep of the army. Most educated and successful business individuals have been taken to the army.

Above all there is a problem with not knowing the whereabouts of some that went to the war. And all of these create a greater negative impact on the economy.

The outbreak of contagious diseases like diarrhea, typhoid, malaria is consuming the lives of so many. People are forcefully made to be dependent on aid. They live in relief camps and these

experiences cause fear, sickness, and insecurity.

The forestation have been deforestrated, the army used trees for building up the defense position for the soldiers hence in a way created soil erosion.

4.8 Table 7: Respondents' views on the causes of war in Eritrea

	Frequency	%
Ethiopia wants to become superior	9	15
Border conflicts	9	15
Creating a weak government in Eritrea	5	8
Sovereignty	10	17
Getting access to sea	10	17
Independence	10	17
Political disagreement	7	11
Total	60	100

Tables 7 above points are the causes of war. Eritreans fighting for their own independence followed Ethiopians wanting to get access to the sea and invading the Eritrean territory for some woeful reasons scared the highest frequency. The findings demonstrate various causes of the war in Eritrea. The previous thirty years war was mainly to earn a free and independent Eritrea. The current two years war (1998-2000) seems to be about sovereignty and territorial integrity. Some others also believe the Ethiopian Government wants to weaken the government of Eritrea so that the latter serve can the Ethiopian interests.

According to my own experience of the recent two years war, the Ethiopians and Eritreans seem to have a common goal that both wish to achieve. The problem should have been solved peacefully and amicably hence, both governments should present their causes in a peaceful contest.

Ethiopia being landlocked and with a comparatively high population, has reason to fight in order to gain some access to the sea. This would give it advantage political success and acceptance by the majority. Indeed, this is the dream of majority Ethiopians.

4.9 Table 8: The relationship between family displacement and immorality

Response	Frequency	%
Yes	54	90
No	4	7
No answer	2	3
Total	60	100

Attempt was made to establish the relationship between family displacement and war. The majority of the respondents (53%) noted this relationship. On most occasions, the displaced people lose direction in life, and they are provoked to evil deeds to themselves as well as to others. For the survival purpose, they may steal or involve themselves in robbery. They also may be involved in deviant sexual deeds to earn money. This is because they are idle and have nothing else to do. They amuse themselves with the undesirable and harmful acts such as drug addiction and alcoholic habits. For the young adults who are displaced, it is so difficult to think in terms of morality while life is at stake. All they can think is using any means to survive even if this means immorality. In some places, the young generation has no parents to look over them, and opposite sex live together pretending to be married people yet without any kind of commitment. They engage in spontaneous prostitution and sexual scandals. They do what they feel like doing. Tables 9 to 14 highlight difficulties, which go on in various categories or levels of societies due to war.

4.10 Table 9: Difficulties families face due to insecurity

Difficulty Faced	Frequency	%
Psychological anxiety	5	8
Oppression	4	7
Abuse	3	5
Unemployment	9	14
Loss of family members	7	12
Harassment	7	12
Displacement	10	17
Lack of freedom	15	25
Total	60	100

Table 9 is specifically addresses problems that families face due to insecurity.

Lack of freedom followed by displacement and unemployment have the highest frequency.

These are the most difficult effects that people are facing.

Due to insecurity the lives of so many families are in danger because people cannot live their daily lives. They face a lot of intimidations and fear. They have no guarantee in their going and coming back. Their property is insecure, they have face harassment, imprisoned themselves or some family members, feeding to and family disintegration. In general, the families have no control over their own affairs. These kind of families are always unhappy, worried and have no inspiration of hope and future. Table 10, below, looks at insecurities and the difficulties they pose to children.

4.11 Table 10: *Difficulties those children face due to insecurities*

Difficulty	Frequency	%
Fear	6	10
Malnutrition	12	20
Orphan	9	15
Violent attitude is developed	6	10
Lack of education	5	8
Lack of medical care	6	10
Lack of love	11	11
Anxiety	5	8
Total	60	100

Malnutritishment followed by lack of love seem to have the highest frequency. Therefore, these are really felt experiences.

The children experience a lot of anxiety, fear and violent attitudes. Because of the insecurities, their parents may go to the war front and lose their lives and the children remain orphans. Being an orphan brings about discrepancy in the child's growth and development. Since the child grows in the violent and insecure environment, he/she can develop an aggressive and violent personality. Even though it is portentous to expose children to labor, due to insecurities, children are forced to work for their living. It is obvious that they cannot afford to go to school hence so the possibility of self-actualization is undermined and neither do they get an opportunity to utilize their talents. Young adults also experience some difficulties resulting from insecurity as table 11 below shows.

4.12 Table 11: Difficulties that young adults meet due to insecurity

Difficulties	Frequency	%
Illiteracy	12	20
Dependency	4	7
Responsibility of the country	13	22
Death	10	17
Harassment	3	5
Fear and threat	5	8
Isolation	6	10
Immigration	6	11
Total	60	100

Taking the responsibility of country followed by illiteracy have the highest frequency. In order to carry out their responsibility, the young adults become illiterate, a sacrifice that is too much to make.

In most cases, the young adults are forced to defend the nation despite the choice of life they have. To take responsibility means to defend the country at any cost. In the process of exercising this responsibilities, they experience harassment, physical assault, fear of death or becoming disabled which leads one to become dependent on others.

Those who resist joining the military need to flee away from the country for there is no way that they can live in the country. As a consequence of all these young adults by running away, these has isolate from their families and friends, living in exile.

The young adults are caught up with responsibilities of taking care of family as well as securing the nation. Apart from the young adults, the elderly also have their challenges too. Table 12 summaries some of the difficulties.

4.13 Table 12: Difficulties that old people face due to insecurity

Difficulties	Frequency	%
Poverty	8	13
Isolation, loneliness	10	17
Economic crisis	8	13
Lack of medicine	9	15
Worries and anxieties	6	10
Unprotected	6	10
Do not get attention	7	12
Moral and mental distress	6	10
Total	60	100

Of the problems that are very difficult for old people to face, loneliness and isolation second highest frequency, followed by not getting sufficient medical care as well as worries.

The old people face lot of difficulties, for they do not enjoy old age prestige. This is because their children are not around to help, take care, love, and comfort them. In the end, they are not there to even bury them honorably.

It is due to these problems that the old people remain isolated in their home, they cannot find the youngsters to take care of them. They experience poverty since, in their old age, they cannot work and get sufficient income. In most cases, they do not get the attention that they deserve. As a result of this, they become lonely and worry a lot. These piled problems lead the old people to experience moral and mental distress.

In conclusion, the old people are unhappy and miserable to see their young children perish, getting killed and left handicap. It is very pathetic to the old people not see their life continue in their offspring. A member of local and international organization attempt to respond to the problem of the displace.

4.14 Table 13: Problems national and international organizations face while helping the displaced (refugees)

Problems	Frequency	%
Harassment	8	13
Abduction	10	17
Death	7	12
Lack of enough finances	12	20
Insecurity	9	15
Communication problem (language)	5	8
Bomb blasts	9	15
Total	60	100

In sufficient funds followed by abduction recorded the highest frequency among the challenges to all by organization in assisting the displaced. Therefore these are lived experience.

The number of the people in need of assistance is so high that organizations do not know whom to help. Besides, in some cases displaced people become ill are disciplined and harassed and at worst, even all abducting them or the workers.

Since to the displaced people stay in scattered insecure places, the organizations face a serious problem reaching them on time. At times, insecure places contribute a lot in worsening the problems, for instance, bomb blasts and landmines.

When there are not enough and adequate human resources around the organizations especially the international, one faces the language barrier. Due this contributed problem in some cases they, international organizations, fail to know what exactly the people need. Table 14 below focuses on a real context of Eritrea outlining problems the which the displaced face.

4.15 Table 14: Problems that the displaced people are facing in Eritrea

A.

Problems	Frequency	%
Shortage of (house, clean water, sufficient food)	15	25
Unemployment	13	22
Insecurity	11	18
No proper education	11	18
The danger of outbreak of contagious diseases	10	18
Total	60	100

Lost property and unemployment constitute the most horrible experience that nobody deserves.

As the findings state, the displaced people almost have become totally dependent on others' aid. The displaced from their original settlement start every thing from scratch or afresh. To acquire all the basic have they need to work very hard. On the other hand there are not many jobs; there is no way that they could help themselves. They have shortage of medical care, which puts the lives of so many people in danger. This is especially complicated when a contagious disease breaks out. They also lack proper education.

B.

Problems	Frequency	%
Unrecognized and imported by UNHCR	15	25
Suffering from different mental and psychological stress	10	17
Police and security people harassment	10	17
Unemployment	8	13
Isolation	8	13
Financial problem	9	15
Total	60	100

The same experience as it is mentioned above is being experienced over here. However, what is a bit different and worse is that the displaced people are not recognized by the UNHCR and

suffer immensely from Kenya police harassment.

4.16 Table 15: Possible solutions to bring lasting peace in Eritrea

Solutions	Frequency	%
Demarcation of the borders	20	33
Discuss their problems	10	17
Eritrean sovereignty should be recognized	10	17
Democracy	20	33
Total	60	100

The crucial points that bring peace in Eritrea are highlighted in Table 15 above. Demarcating the borderline received the highest frequency, followed by recognizing the Eritrean sovereignty. Therefore, if these were implemented hopefully it would bring lasting solutions in Eritrea.

To bring lasting peace in Eritrea and to its people, first and foremost, Eritrea should be recognized as free and independent country and as a member of the United Nations.

If a problem arises between Eritrea and its neighboring countries, usage of force should not be a solution. Instead, amicable and diplomatic discussions should be maintained. Even if Eritrea is very small, nevertheless, a big country like Ethiopia should not be allowed to take the laws into her own hands. Whatever border conflict occurs in this region, a proper investigation need to be made which consequently would lead to peaceful solution according to the law.

As far as the internal situation or affairs are concerned, to own a very peaceful country as soon as possible, the ruling government should exercise democracy and hold a democratically elected government. Regarding the addressing more effectively family displacement, the respondents' view are summarized in Table 16 below.

4.17 Table 16: Recommendation for solving the problem of family displacement

Recommendation	Frequency	%
Maintaining peace	30	50
Rehabilitation program	15	25
Aid	15	25
Total	60	100

Peace has the highest frequency and this is an indication that the people are desperately in need of it.

Peace should prevail so that displaced people can live safely. Ways and means should be found so that the displaced families return home and the rehabilitation program could be done.

The government along with the international communities should assist the displaced families with necessary reasons they need to rebuild their lives. Respondents were asked about their future plans regarding security.

4.18 Table 17: Respondents future plans regarding security in family life

Future Plans	Frequency	%
Educating the children	5	8
Opening new areas of employment	8	13
Opening medical places, clinics, hospitals	6	10
Building infrastructures	9	15
Settling political problems	10	17
Strengthen our cultural family value	7	12
Economical development	3	5
Maintaining peace	12	20
Total	60	100

All the above are future plans to secure family life.

Maintaining peace has the highest frequency followed by settling the political problems, because these are things that made the current situation worst.

Maintaining peace in the country is a key element to secure family life. Creating opportunities, which involve people in various developmental activities. So many people may not move in the exodus for some political and economical reasons.

More educational vocation should be opened to the families where the children and young adults make use of their talents and skills. Job opportunities should also be opened where people acquire skills eventually earns salary. The government should rehabilitate all the infrastructures that help quicken all the developmental process. If any kind political disagreement raises a peaceful solution should be done to resolve it.

4.19 Table 18: Respondents other information regarding solution to security

	Frequency	%
Working with international community	18	30
Political, social and economical stability	20	33
Stop war	22	37
Total	60	100

All the above are points of solution to insecurity.

Stopping the war has the highest frequency followed by political, social and economical stability and this could create security around the region.

The more we insist in maintaining peace in the country, the more the region becomes stable. To conform all of these we also need to relate with the international community so that it may assure as our well being. The political, social and economical stability also needs to be maintained seriously.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY.

5.1 SUMMARY

The purpose of the study was to investigate the effect of war in family displacement in Eritrea.

1. The specific objectives of the study were:-

- i) To investigate the effect of war in Eritrea on family displacement during Ethiopia occupation.
- ii) To assess the impact of insecurity of war on displaced families.
- iii) To suggest possible solutions to overcome the problem of insecurity on family displacement.

2. As the findings state clearly, the displaced people almost have become totally dependent on aid. This is because they were displaced from their original settlement and need to restart every thing from scratch. On the other hand, there are not many jobs and there is no way that they could help themselves. They have shortage of medical care, and no proper education.

3. The study established that many youngsters in their age are forced to involve in war without their will, instead of using their precious time for development activities. This affects the economic growth of the country.

4. The old people face a lot of difficulties, for they do not enjoy the old age prestige because their children are not around to help, to take care, love, comfort in the end bury them in honorable way.

5. Ethiopian Annexation of Eritrea: As its province and refusal to acknowledge Eritreans federal rights led to war for liberation and independence. The war for independence devastated the country's economy, social cultural, educational development. This led Eritreans to family displacement.

5.2 CONCLUSION

Displaced are people endowed with all basic human rights just like every body else. The sufferings and torture that they undergo is as a result of our inhuman feelings and treatment. Since the causes of this menace are man-made, solutions are also expected to be man initiated.

The displacement crisis in Eritrea is basically an Eritrean problem. The Eritrean themselves should address the causes of this phenomenon. This is true because no development will take place as long as more people continue to leave their homes without knowing where they are going and when they will come back.

Ethiopia must face the fact that the only way to solve this border conflict is through peaceful, legal means. No permanent solution is possible through any military methods. Eritrea has whole-heartedly endorsed the organization of African Unity's peace proposal because it wants to put this war behind it, and to return to peace immediately. The sooner that Ethiopia recognizes that it must submit its territorial demands to neutral demarcation, the sooner that it will be able to return to the essential task of feeding its people and rebuilding its economy. Ethiopia must stop its war on Eritrea for the good of the people of both countries.

5.3 RECOMMENDATION

The search for conflict resolutions that lead to lasting peace should not be the sole concern of the people in positions of leadership. All should be actively engaged and not merely act as spectators in matters that concern them directly.

1. There is need to help the displaced know their rights so that they can be self reliant. This is not easy as most displaced are denied even the basics of the human person. Non governmental organizations should undertake this noble task as national government fear resettling displaced in their countries as a security risk.
2. Active collaboration between the countries should be jointly co-ordinated. This is to ensure an easy administration, financing, accountability and transparency.

3. The displaced should know that permanent solutions to their problems require their own good will and co-operation. It is not good for them to wait with folded hands for ready-made packages to be handed over to them like infants dependent on adults. The displaced should employ all available means at their disposal to speak out their needs to those who are directly responsible for their welfare. This action facilitates peaceful conflict resolutions that can be broad based and lasting.
4. For a long time man the African people have danced to foreign tunes in most things that affect their daily lives. It is time to reverse this trend and use the Organization of African Unity as a 'spring-board for action'. Failure to recognize that we can do most things ourselves is nothing other than "self-defeat". The people should be in charge, which is resolving the displaced crisis should be both 'leader and people driven'.
5. Non Governmental Organization (NGO's) and united agencies should play the key role of improving awareness in the fields of education, health and nutrition so as to improve the well being of the displace and non displaced Ertreans.
6. Rather than rely on foreign powers, the O.A.U should play a more critical role in restoring peace between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

5.4 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

1. Due to constraints of for further research time and finance the researcher dealt primarily on Eritreans who are in Nairobi. If its was done in Eritrea among Eritrean family displaced the quality of work could be better. In future I suggest that this study be done in Eritrea among Eritreans.
2. I suggest future research to include examination of the roles played by the government and international agencies in resolving family displacement.

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QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questions will be used to investigate the effects of war on family displacement in Eritrea. I would be very grateful if you kindly answer the questions. Be assured that all the information to be obtained here will be used confidentially. Only with your permission shall any of this information be quoted. Please read the questions carefully and then fill your answers in the space provided.

A) General Information

Age..... Sex.....

Place of interview -----

Date of interview -----

Occupation -----

Level of education-----

Place of origin -----

Province-----

Nationality -----

1. To what extent did the Eritrean war affect your family?

2. Does displacement have an effect on your cultural values?

3. Do you believe that displacement has a great effect on the development of the country?

Yes No

4. Are war and illiteracy related especially for the young generation?

Yes..... No

5. What are the other effects of war in the country?

6. What do you think are the causes of war in Eritrea?

7. Are family displacement and immorality related?

Yes No

8. What difficulties do families face due to insecurity?

9. What are the difficulties that children face due to insecurities?

10. What are the difficulties that young adults meet due to insecurity?

11. What are the difficulties that old people face due to insecurity?

12. What problems do you think the national and international organizations face while helping the displaced (Refugees)?

13. (a) State the problems that the displaced people are facing in Eritrea?

(b) In Kenya

14. What are the possible solutions that will help bring lasting peace in Eritrea?

15. What would you recommend that can help to solve the problems of family displacement?

16. What are your futures plans in regard to security in family life?

17. Do you have any other information that you consider to a solution to insecurity?

THANKS,

SR. ELSA ABRAHA