Ethnic Groups' Conflict in Majang Zone, Gambella/Ethiopia

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Abstract
In dealing with Ethnic groups' conflicts require much hinges on the conflict handling capability of public administrators by virtue of their roles, responsibilities and accountability in dealing with civic and social strife. Yet the local administration faces challenges to its successful delivery of services and there is no consistency in application of strategies that address ethnic groups' conflicts. The problem addressed in this study is armed inter-ethnic groups' conflict between Majang people and Highlander people in Majang Zone of Gambella, Ethiopia. This research is mixed research type. It employed concurrent triangulation research approach. The data were collected using questionnaire, interview and focus groups discussion. The sample size was 100. The sampling technique was more of purposive. The data were analyzed, described, discussed and qualified using explanatory means, interpretation, logical arguments and Statistical Package for the Social Sciences. The findings indicated the hostile relationship between communities stemmed from absent of the rule of law, selling of the land, capital in balance, and land ownership. The villagization and the Highlander people conspiracies to remove indigenous people from their home land by using their money also were mentioned as other causes of the conflict in the Majang zone. The findings revealed the conflict resulted in displacement, poverty, mass killing, destruction of the properties, imprisonment and in Majang community's children school dropout. Therefore, the governments at all levels have to work to bring good governance and stop land exchange and resettle the displaced people and make redistributive justice.
Keywords: Indigenous, land exchange, conflict, ethnics, governance

1. Introduction

The social and cultural context bring in a substantial complexity into the administrator's task in socio-economic development, involvement of people and the dispensation of fair justice within the framework of democratic political processes (Joseph, 2003). A significant element in most contexts is the reality of ethnic diversity in all its numerous forms emanating from nationality, region, religion, language, caste and gender leading to more vibrant as well as more volatile social dynamics (ibid). If an ethnically diverse society develops serious hostilities between ethnic groups, the right to autonomy and self-determination becomes a common demand (Chatterji, 2009).

In dealing with Ethnic groups' conflicts require existence of the rule of law, involvement of various agencies and stakeholders, and also the proactive participation of civil society and local communities (Joseph, 2003). It requires much hinges on the conflict handling capability of public administrators by virtue of their roles, responsibilities and accountability in dealing with civic and social strife. There is thus a reason to believe that the human race confronts a serious and endemic ethnic diversity, which is also increasingly accompanied with unprecedented ethnic rivalry, competition, conflicts, violent clashes and all- out wars demand (Chatterji, 2009).

In Ethiopia, like other many countries, the armed ethnic groups' conflicts have high recorded. In the Ethiopia Somali Regional State, such disputes have gone to the extent of denying some groups their claimed status as Somalis by others who thought that avoiding such groups would provide a better opportunity for a greater share of the national/ regional resources as was the case with the Ogaden and the Shekash (Alemayehu, 2009). The recent conflict between the Gumuz and the Oromo in the border areas between Eastern Wellega and Kamash zone of Benishangul-Gumuz and the Oromia States can be invoked as a good illustration of the inadequacy on part of the State and local government officials' knowledge in and capacity of conflict management mechanisms. The conflict was caused by disputes over land, which was further aggravated by demographic pressures in both States (ibid).

The governments in Africa take different measures to resolve ethnics' cross-border conflicts. Yet the local administration faces challenges to its successful delivery of services and there is no consistency in application of

strategies that address ethnics' cross border conflicts (Jal, 2015). If state governments were to cooperate, violence could easily be arrested with least human and material cost. Therefore, the above-mentioned reasons are the indications that there is still a lot to be done on ethnic group's conflicts, especially in Africa.

Thus, the problem addressed in this study is armed inter-ethnic groups' conflict between Majang ethnic group and Highlanders in Majang Zone of Gambella, Ethiopia. For this reason, the study answered the questions as: 1) What are the roots causes of the conflict? 2) What is the effect of the conflict? and 3) How the conflict can be solved? Also, the study checked whether there is no statistically significance difference between the attitude of government officers and community toward the effort made to bring peace.

2. Literature Review
2.1. Conflict and Conflict Resolution
Augsburger (1992) defined conflict as "...visible sign of human energy; it is evidence of human urgency; it is the result of competitive striving for the same goals, rights, and resources." Virtually all conflicts are not from one source but involve a combination of causes (Fisher, 2000). Wherever there are scarce resources, different levels of power, divided functions in society, competition for a limited supply of goods, valued roles, status, or power as an end in itself, conflict will occur there (Augsburger, 1992). Modernization and Economic-interest Theories conceive conflict as the struggle for resources and opportunities that are valued in common (Horowitz, 2000). On contrary, the Theory of Cultural Pluralism conceives ethnic conflict as the clash of incompatible values.

Conflict Transformation Theory is all about transforming the relationships, the very system and structures which give rise to violence and injustice (Berghof, 2012). Conflict transformation is best described as a complex process of constructively changing relationships, attitudes, behaviors, interests and discourses in violence-prone conflict settings. It also addresses underlying structures, cultures and institutions that encourage and condition violent political and social conflict. The theory advocates a comprehensive and extensive approach, stressing support for groups within the society in conflict rather than for the mediation of outsiders.

2.2. Ethnic Groups' Conflicts
The theories of ethnic conflict rely on some combination of two broad categories of motives: instrumentalist (or rationalist) and primordialist (or consummatory) (Caselli and Coleman II, 2011). The instrumentalist explanations emphasize that participants in conflict hope to derive some material benefit from the conflict, such as jobs, wealth or power and primordialist views focus on the visceral dimension of conflict, which they interpret as an eruption of mutual antipathy. The traditional cultures see conflict as communal concern; the group has ownership of the conflict and context and resolution processes are culturally prescribed (Augsburger, 1992).

Studies indicated any attempts at addressing ethnic conflicts and resolution approaches related to contemporary expressions of deep rooted ethnic conflicts and tensions cannot ignore the emotional reality of these alienation expressions of the main protagonists engaged in a mixing over ethnic-identity and ethno-political definitions and redefinitions (Joseph, 2003).

2.3. Ethnic Groups' Conflicts and Governance (Politic)
Though intolerances are universal, serious and costly conflicts occur disproportionately in low-income countries and push these nations further down the poverty trap demand (Chatterji, 2009).

An ethnic conflict is a war between ethnic groups as a result of ethnic divisions and chauvinism. The leaders usually find ethnic divisions less costly and more productive and more effective than interest group formation along social classes.

Yet it is an agreement among scholars that ethnic conflicts are a common phenomenon today. One of the increasingly popular measures to address ethnic conflicts is to grant autonomy to ethnic groups in a multi-ethnic set-up. Ethnic groups, when they are politically charged and motivated, are defined according to their own political goals demand (Chatterji, 2009). Within these groups, kinships, ties and social networks play an important role in mobilizing political support, financial resources, social movement and also triggering violent conflicts. Leaders of a threatened people appeal to the specific economic and social privileges for their ethnic groups. According to Chatterji (2009) lack of reality or perceived of these specific privileges usually triggers conflicts that gradually develop its own momentum. A major problem arises when ethnic groups seek territorial rights along with cultural autonomy for a specific ethnic group, which more often than not threatens the stability of a nation, or region, and thereby precipitates serious, violent and costly conflicts demand.

2.4. Ethnic Groups' Conflicts and Resources
AUMIS (n.d.) indicated that environment and natural resource management matters are significant causative factors to the conflict in Sudan in addition to religious, tribal and clan divisions, ethnic, economic factors, land tenure deficiencies, historical feuds and political. In Afar region in Ethiopia the scarcity of pastoral resources caused by drought, extensive land use by the state and expansion of farming in the high lands are the major

factor those explains the eruption and increase of conflicts in the areas (Simpkin, 2005 and Bekele, 2008). Also, around the boundaries of Ethiopia and Kenya the conflicts between groups were principally caused by competition over water and pasture (Yohannes, Kassaye and Zerihun, 2005)

Political mobilization of ethnic identities results in ethnic intolerance and competition over resources and rights which can lead to a violent conflict. When resources are scarce, it is easier for political entrepreneurs to capitalize on the conflict potential of ethnicity (Blagojevic, 2009).

2.5. Ethnic Groups' Conflicts and Traditional Culture

The culture will demand some autonomy or self-governance to protect their existence as specific communities in a pluralistic society. The outset that ethnically heterogeneous societies have diverse experiences in terms of inter- ethnic hostilities and demand for autonomy. There are countries that have experienced continuous, violent and seemingly endless inter-ethnic conflicts, important examples are Cyprus and Sri Lanka demand (Chatterji, 2009).

The customary cooperation of fighting enemies communally becomes the basis for widespread inter-ethnic conflict (Yohannes, Kassaye and Zerihun, 2005). Afar clan in Ethiopia has a strong culture of sharing punishments (usually in livestock) and clan solidarity, which is expressed during collective fighting, and information sharing (Bekele, 2008). The motive of cooperation arises from moral and social pressures and economic benefits derived from it, like access to pasture, additional animals obtained from livestock raids, and livestock saved from external raids. The same is true in South Omo zone in Ethiopia bordering ethnic group form alliance and every ethnic group in the pastoral communities has developed a tradition or culture of fighting enemies communally in which youth are the main fighting force (Yohannes, Kassaye and Zerihun, 2005).

3. Research Methodology

This study used mixed research approach, both qualitative and quantitative. This study presents attitudes and/or opinions of the people involved and affected by the conflict. The researchers used concurrent triangulation approach which is one of the mixed research method. The combination of many lines of sight help to obtain better information, more substantive picture of reality; and richer concepts to verify many of these elements.

The types of data are both qualitative and quantitative data. In order to achieve the objectives of the research, the researchers collected primary data. The methods of data collection involved focus group discussion, interview and questionnaire to procure primary data directly from respondents. The general form of a questionnaire was structured or unstructured. The researchers used face-to-face interview method of data collection to maintain the confidentiality and to avoid interruption that may occur using the telephone interview. The researchers used focus group discussions method of data collection and the members of each group was 8.

The researchers collected data from Majang zone communities (Majang people and Highlanders people who live in Majang zone) and government officials relevant to the study. Thus, the population of the study comprises all communities in Majang zone of Gambella Regional State. The sample size was 100.

The researchers used the purposive sampling, stratified sampling, simple or systematic random sampling and multi-stage sampling techniques. The researchers selected purposively in order to get areas where the conflict is more pervasive. The researchers employed simple random sampling to select villages within purposively selected. The researchers wrote the names of the villages/kebeles in the and picked up six from conflict affected villages. That is, the lottery method was used.

The researchers formed strata for ethnic groups as Majang ethnic group and Highlander community. The researchers further stratified the respondents into strata as elites, elders, youth (both young men and women), women, governments' officials and religious people. For the interviews of elders, the researchers used snowball method.

The information gathered was analyzed and presented in different forms. The presentations of primary data involved the use of qualitative descriptions and tables. The researchers analyzed, described, discussed, coded and qualified the primary data using explanatory means, comparisons, interpretation logical arguments and SPSS.
The researchers considered the ethical issues and fears as much as possible throughout the entire fieldwork. There was much confidentiality as to the interest of people who participated in this study.

4. Data Analysis and Presentation
4.1. The Root Causes of the Conflict
This section discusses the causes and the root causes of the conflict between Majang ethnic group and Highlander people. It presented the answers of research question, "What are the root causes of the conflict?"
4.1.1. Causes of the Conflict
The respondents believed that there is no thoughtful problem between Majang ethnic group and Highlander people which can result to deadly conflict as such. Many stated the problem stem from lack of good governance, selling of the land, capital in balance, and land ownership. As to respondents the indigenous ethnic group

(referring to Majang tribe) innocently gave and/or sold the land to the people coming from the highlands of Ethiopia. The explained that some political appointees at zonal and levels of Majang zone directly involved in selling of forest land (unnecessarily sale of land and assault of forest) to highlander people come to settle in the area and investors. Many emphasized that the sale of land is more pervasive at this Godere of Majang zone, because the land is much fertile and many need it.

Another problem identified, as some of the respondents explained, was that the people on government leadership (indigenous) promised they will return land to indigenous farmers which is now own by highlander people. The respondents who support this as one of the causes of the conflict angerly argued it is that propaganda that caused conflict.

The lack of good governance and weak political institution were also stressed as contributors to the conflict by the respondents. Almost all respondents expressed their angry that absent of the rule of law to regulate the use of natural resources, especially land including cash crop plantation and forest has yielded distress armed conflict between Majang ethnic group and Highlander people in Godre. As stated by respondents, the government officials lack capacity to solve the conflicts among ethnic groups. At Majang zone illegal agriculture investment and political competition between Majang people are the pressing issues. The selling of coffee plantation by illegal individual has been pointed as the source of the conflict as well.

The imbalance of the capital between Majang ethnic group and highlander people was confirmed by respondents as one of the causes of conflict too. As to respondents, unbalance distribution of natural resources, especially coffee plantation land, was the cause of the conflict. According to respondents, Majang people occupied forest areas and their livelihoods depend on this forest. The respondents explained this forest is exchanged to highlander people through sale. The respondents from Majang and Sheko ethnic groups believed the Highlander people made conspiracies to remove indigenous people from their home land by using their money to buy land. As to respondents from these groups, it was that conspiracy that result in conflict.

4.1.2. The Immediate Causes of the Conflict

The respondents presented that among the immediate causes of the conflict between Majang ethnic group and Highlanders people were lack of good governance, invasion of the land (illegal sale of land) and question of resources redistribution. As to respondents the resources owned by Highlander people the Majang community (including political appointees) asked the re-division of resources. The indigenous farmers were promised and orientated to get the land back which they sold to highlander people and tried to force the highlanders out of land. The Highlander people stated the Majang ethnic group tried to withdraw the Highlander people from their coffee plantations and that resulted in conflict. The respondents from Majang and Sheko people explained the question raised by Majang people (question to return to the previous land sold to Highlander people) become difficult to Highlander people then Highlander people budget huge money to kill the Majang people and also want to change political power.

The villagization done at the zone was stated as one among the immediate causes of the conflict. The villagization (resettlement) that the highlander people considered it as the program which is aimed to take their land back to Majang people worsen the conflict.

Also, Majang and Sheko ethnic groups respondents complained that the Federal police men in the Majang zone are the people those provoked the conflict. The Majang and Sheko ethnic groups respondents explained the Federal police men have united with the highlanders to devastated the indigenous Majang people from their land and the Majang leaders at the zone and levels have not confident that they own the zone. These respondents blamed their leaders and complained that leaders do not have confident and capacity to lead the people.

4.1.3. The Root Causes of the Conflict

The root causes of the conflict between Majang ethnic group and highlander people, as explained by respondents, were because the Majang people do not have the culture of hard working and lack of development. Thus, the indigenous sale land to the highlander farmers which they have made use of the land and that resulted in economic inequality. The respondents stated that economic disparity between the warring parts which stem from the sale of land raised the question of resources redistribution. As to one of the respondents:

> Majang people do not think that land will get finish. They always sale the land and move to new forest area. Now the number of Majang population increased and the question of land become the primary one. Highlander people because they have culture of hard working, as the development increase they keep calling their relatives from their regions and settle in the area. Now the competition on land increased and this is the problem.

The respondents explained inadequate local government to solve the communities' problems, forceful entering of highlander people to bear lands and forest (illegal settlement), sale of land, deforestation, and lack of land use management are among the root causes of the conflict at the Majang zone.

The information indicated only 44.2% (15) of respondents supported that the agriculture land scarcity is among the root causes of the conflict in Majang zone. From the findings majority, 52.9% (18) of the respondents accepted that forceful entering of highlanders to the area is among the root causes of the conflict.

The respondents also indicated the political deterioration of leaders also resulted in conflict. As to respondent as soon the highlanders engaged in forest obliteration, regional and zonal political leaders should have managed the case. The findings indicated the indigenous sold their land to highlanders and are left bare hand. For this reason, the community begun to claim back their previous land they already sold to other people and that resulted in conflict. One of the respondents explained:

> Majang has fertile land and good weather condition, but they do not like to work. Before, is nature that feed them, but now is difficult to get wildlife, roots, fruits, and honey. Because of the pressure on nature, it cannot feed us freely now a day. We have to work hard. We have to change our working habit.

The villagization done in the Majang zone was also seen as one of the root causes of the conflict between Majang ethnic group and highlander people. The data revealed only 38.3% (13) of the respondents showed their agreement that villagization (resettlement) made by the government is one of the root causes of the conflict.

Some explained one of the root cause of the conflict is rejecting the constitution of Ethiopia by the government of Majang zone. Lawlessness at the zonal level resulted in conflict. Those in government leadership, instate of controlling sale of land, they become sellers of land. The findings indicated many respondents, 73.5% (25), supported lack of government capacity to manage the resources and solve the conflict is among the root causes the conflict.

Some respondents complained that many political appointees at zonal levels are from neighbor region, Tepi which is one the zones of Southern Nation, Nationalities People Regional State (SNNPRS). As to respondents, they are not accepted as representatives by Majang community in Majang zone. One respondent stated furiously "They are not representing the people of the Majang, they are from Tepi and they are selling the land."

4.2. Effect of the Conflict
This section presents the effect of the conflict on warring parts (communities) and local governance system. The section has answers for research question two, "What is the effect of the conflict?"

4.2.1. Effects of the Conflict on Warring Communities
The findings revealed the conflict affected people in different ways. As to many respondents, people have been displacement from their usual places. The results indicated 94.2% (32) of the respondents showed their agreement that the conflict displaced people from their home. The respondents complained of loss of human lives and properties. The study results revealed 100% (34) of the respondents supported the conflict claimed many lives and 88.2% (30) of the respondents accepted the conflict resulted in destruction of properties. As to informants, the conflict on both communities resulted in killing innocent children, women, aged men and women, and also it resulted in burning down of houses, and increased poverty.

As to respondent because of killing, people become suspicious of each other and hostile relationship increases. The findings indicated 76.5% (26) of the respondents showed their agreement that warring parts developed hostile relation. The respondents added innocent people were tortured by the government, especially Majang community members have been tortured most.

The findings also presented that both communities faced economic crisis and the government lose income tax which in turn demoralization their future life. The Majang respondents complained that in the future if the land is for highlander people alone the existence of them will be endanger. From the results 100% (34) of the respondent supported that due to conflict poverty increased in the zone. The findings also indicated because of the conflict the Majang community could not send their kids (children) to school.

4.2.2. Effects of the Conflict on Local Governance
The conflict has affected the government in different ways. The respondents stated the conflict created gap between the people and the government. Both groups lose hope on government leadership, indigenous and highlander people see government in suspicious. Some respondent indicated that because the fighting was initiated by leaders, victims were both leaders and communities. As to respondents, instability, lack of transparency and decrease in income tax are some effect of conflict on local governance. The respondents claimed from to zone levels government leaders were imprisoned. The Majang native leaders were arrested at the Kebele and levels. As to respondents the and the kebele leaders were accusing each other that resulted in prisoning many and loss of command for local government.

The informants indicated that around 80 Majang people and 15 highlander people were jailed because of the conflict. They explained because more Majang people were jailed as compared to highlander people, the Majang people complained that this is the indication that the Federal police men have taken a side in favor of highlander people.

4.3. Better Way to Solve the Conflict
This section presents the better ways that both communities and local government think could bring solution to the conflict. The section answered the research question three, "How the conflict can be solved?"

4.3.1. What is Expected from the Communities

The findings revealed both Majang and Highlander communities need to be honest and transparent to each other. The respondents suggested that public conferences can rebuild strong relationship. Thus, peace conferences those include both groups to reconcile the communities as to be done. The respondents empathized the communities must work with the government deeply by giving the information about the people those lead the communities into disagreement. They must have face-to-face communication and know the real (root) cause of the conflict. According to respondents, both groups must be forefront to solve the problem among themselves and must set regulations and rules for themselves. The respondents emphasized that involvement of elders and known people is needed to make redress. The respondents said awareness should be given to the communities basing on constitution of federal government that land cannot be sold or exchanged. They commented awareness should be given to the communities on the disadvantages of conflicts. As to them, because the poverty is the cause of the conflict, the local communities should build their capacity to fight poverty which is the cause of all conflict and other problems.

The respondents added that the local community should refrain from mobile behavior and selling of their properties and land to other people. The Majang farmers should not sell or exchange their homes and land to highlander people. As to one of the respondents:

> Majang people are religious people. They care for today not for tomorrow. Thus, they sale land with less price to fulfill the today need. They exchange land with 25 Liters of local alcohol container. This has to be change. To think for tomorrow they have to own permanent properties.

As to informants the Majang community and Highlander people have to make win-win approach, learning from previous conflict and Majang ethnic group should learn working culture from the Highlander people and stop illegal and/or forest commercialization.

4.3.2. What is Expected from the Government

The findings presented local government should work hard to solve problems; investigating the source of conflict and bring suspected persons before the law. The respondents explained the government should work to increase the culture of hard work among Majang community to build their own capital; and leaders should stop running after their personal benefits. The respondents stressed all the times they should work for public interest/ benefits. One respondent stated, "The government leaders are paid workers. They drink and eat in any hotels. They do not care about their families. Those who do not care about their families how can they become leaders of Kebeles (buma), district, zone and region?" Another person expressed his anger:

> The ruling party, Gambella People Unity Democratic Front (GPUDF) should have clear appointment criteria. The party should appoint those who have ambition to serve public interest. Today there are a lot of leaders who work for their stomach. They care for what they drink and eat. Political network is more pervasive now. There are corrupters, without capacity if he/she has network with top leaders of the party he/she will be appointed/or will not be removed from position. The appointees should be evaluated by the polity bureau of the party.

The respondents explained the government must always be in the community and with the community to solve the problems and runs for good governance. The respondents suggested from the Kebeles known persons, tribal representatives, religious representatives and educated persons the government must make them to take a part in solve the conflict.

Informants expressed both federal and regional governments have to strive together to bring peace. As to respondents the government must give different types of training to develop good governance and to change the cultural attitude of sale and exchange of land. The respondents pointed that local governance should build its administrative capacity so as to manage any problem that could challenge the area. Government should be proactive to give response and should be responsiveness. The respondents complained the representative from Tepi must be replaced with those of Gambella to stop land sell and exchange. As to respondents now Majang community has educated people, thus the government has to make reform and change the political power from uneducated to educated political leaders. One respondent explained, "Leaders are under cultural oppression. Women endeavors for live, but men do not care. Most of the leaders are men, and this culture needs to be change."

4.4. The Attitude of Government Officers and Community Toward the Effort Made to Bring Peace

Many respondents complained the effort made by the regional, zonal and governments to bring peace was less. Some respondents explained it was the Federal government that made a lot of endeavor to solve the conflict. The findings indicated only 41.2% (14) of the respondents from civil servants accepted that the regional, zonal and governments made all effort to solve the conflict. At the same time, 41.2% (14) of the civil servants and all other communities 17.6% (6) complained the regional, zonal and governments made no effort to solve the conflict.

Thus, the majority of the respondents, 58.8% (20) of the respondents stated the regional, zonal and governments made no effort to solve the conflict.

Statistical test of attitude of government officials and communities toward the effort made to bring peace by the regional, zonal and governments had been made using Pearson Chi-Square Tests.

Ho: The tested hypothesis is that government officers and communities have differing attitude toward the effort made by the regional, zonal and governments to bring peace in Majang Zone.

H1: The alternative hypothesis is that government officers and communities have no differing attitude toward the effort made by the regional, zonal and governments to bring peace in Majang Zone.

Table 1: Chi-Square Tests

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	5.100[a]	1	.024		
Continuity Correction[b]	3.245	1	.072		
Likelihood Ratio	7.253	1	.007		
N of Valid Cases	34				

a. 2 cells (50.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 2.47.

Source: Field Survey

The output above provides a statistical hypothesis test for the hypothesis that government officers and communities have differing attitude toward the effort made by the regional, zonal and governments to bring peace in Majang Zone. The Pearson Chi-Square Tests showed significance level is equal to Sig. (2-sided) or p = 0.024). This indicated that it is very unlikely that government officers and communities' respondents have differing attitude toward the effort made to bring peace. As a result, it is concluded that government officers and communities' respondents have similar attitude toward the effort made by the regional, zonal and governments to bring peace in Majang Zone at the 5% level of significance. Thus, we rejected the null hypothesis (H0) and accepted the alternative hypothesis (H1).

5. Conclusion and Recommendations
5.1. Conclusion
The findings indicated there is no thoughtful problem between Majang ethnic group and Highlander people. The hostile relationship between these communities stemmed from lack of good governance (absent of the rule of law), selling of the land, capital in balance, and land ownership. It is clear from the findings that the people on government leadership (indigenous) promised to return land to indigenous farmers which is now own by Highlander people, which is acquired through exchange, by using villagization as mean to implement the return of land possession; the villagization (resettlement) that the Highlander people considered as the program which is aimed to take their land back. The Majang and Sheko ethnic groups have perception that the Highlander people made conspiracies to remove indigenous people from their home land using their money to acquire land ownership from indigenous people. This propaganda and/or intention of returning the land to indigenous farmers and conspiracy to use money to shift land ownership to Highlander people made the warring parts to live in suspicious to each other which resulted in hostility at the Majang zone.

Majang and Sheko ethnic groups also see Federal police men in the zone in suspicious and complained the Federal police men provoked the conflict and took side in conflict. These ethnic groups believed the Federal police men have united with the Highlander people to devastate the indigenous, the Majang people from their land. The indigenous people in Majang zone do not trust Federal police men deployed at the zone. They are complaining that the Federal police men had taken a side and arrested only one side, the Majang people including political leaders at the zone and levels. There is evident that more than 80 Majang people and less 15 Highlander people had been arrested due to conflict at the zone and taken to Federal Prison Administration in Addis Ababa.

The root causes of the conflict between Majang ethnic group and highlander people were the Majang people do not have the culture of hard working, the Majang people sell land to the Highlander farmers (creating illegal settlement), the economic disparity between the warring parts which stemmed from the sale of land; and the inadequate local government (lack of good governance). The villagization done in the Majang zone was seen by less respondents, 38.3% (13), to be one of the root causes of the conflict between Majang ethnic group and Highlander people. Thus, it can be concluded that villagization is triggering factor but not one of the root causes of the conflict.

The conflict resulted in displacement, poverty, mass killing and destruction of the properties. The conflict also yielded hostile relationship between Majang community and Highlander people and it affected schooling the Majang community kids (children).

The conflict created gap between the people and the government. Both groups lost hope on government

leadership, indigenous and highlanders see government in specious. From Kebele (buma) to and zone levels leaders were imprisoned.

The good news was that the warring parts still are in need of peace among themselves. The communities complained the government has to make peace conferences that include both groups to reconcile the communities. Key informants emphasized there should be inclusive peace process that involve intellectuals, elders and known people. The Majang community has a concern that their children from Majang zone are not in political leadership. The study indicated many representatives are from Tepi Majang and the Majang zone community demanded they must be replaced with those of Gambella to stop land selling and exchange. The findings also showed the and zonal governments are run by uneducated Majang people, thus the government has to make reform and change the political power from uneducated to educated political leaders as Majang community now a day as educated people.

The warring parts blamed government of not being proactive/responsiveness to solve the conflict. From the study the effort made by the regional, zonal and governments to bring peace was less. Thus, the majority of the respondents stated the regional, zonal and governments made no effort to solve the conflict. The Pearson Chi-Square Tests showed significance level is equal to Sig. (2-sided) or $p = 0.024$). This indicated that it is very unlikely that government officers and communities' respondents have differing attitude toward the effort made to bring peace. As a result, it is concluded that government officers and communities' respondents have similar attitude toward the effort made by the regional, zonal and governments to bring peace in Majang Zone at the 5% level of significance. Thus, we rejected the null hypothesis (H0) and accepted the alternative hypothesis (H1).

5.2. Recommendations
The study revealed many issues those demanded the action of the government to reddress the conflict to bring the situation under normal the condition in Majang zone. Basing on the research findings and conclusion, the recommendations are forward to the concern bodies.

- The findings revealed the hostile relationship between communities stemmed from lack of good governance (absent of the rule of law), selling of the land, capital in balance, and land ownership. Therefore, the governments at all levels (Kebele, , zone, region and federal) and the communities have to work to bring good governance and stop land exchange.
- The regional and federal governments should educate and aware the public at the Majang zone about the aims of villagization and roles of Federal police men to clear the suspicious behavior among communities.
- The findings also indicated Majang people do not have the culture of hard working; the Majang people sell land to the Highlander farmers which created illegal settlement and economic disparity between the warring parts. Therefore, the zonal and regional governments have to educate the Majang community to work hard and build own permanent capital.
- The findings also revealed many political appointees at zonal and level in Majang zone are from Tepi which part of Southern Nation, Nationalities People Regional State (SNNPRS) and there was complained that they involved deeply in sale of land. Therefore, the ruling party should consider the local people complain and replace those who are not geographical located in Gambella region.
- The regional government should resettle the displaced people and make redistributive justice to redress the conflict.

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