Ethnicity and Conflict in Africa: "The Contemporary Conflict of Ethnicity in Ethiopia."

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Abstract- Nowadays, ethnic conflict is a prevalent factor in many nations around the world. Many Africans, particularly Ethiopia, have faced considerable difficulties because of interethnic strife. The international media currently see Ethiopia as the point of focus for unrest brought on by ethnic conflict. Throughout the past three years of Ethiopia, there have been several conflicts, particularly in Benishangul-Gumuz, Amhara, Afar, Oromia, Somali, Tigray, and some areas of the South Nation, Nationality, and People regions. The article examines the root causes of ethnic conflict in Ethiopia and its mitigation strategy. The research covered four regions: Oromia, South Nation, Nationality, People (SNNP), Somali, and Sidama. Political parties, academicians, government officials, and legislators were all questioned during interviews for the study. A qualitative method of data collection was used for this study. The findings show that the source of ethnicconflict in Ethiopia is associated with political conspiracy and economic and constitutional issues. The political elites have fomented ethnic warfare rather than encouraging harmony, solidarity, and integration among ethnic groups. Some political leaders have fueled ethnic tensions and conflict. As a result, fatalities, property losses, and evictions have harmed the area's rich cultural landscape and jeopardised public safety. Therefore, to make stable peace and security as well as the political dynamics, the government should be robust to the institutions, transparent in all actions, ensure the fair distribution of power and resources, and respect the rule of law to minimise ethnic conflicts in Ethiopia. Politicians should work toward fostering a sense of national unity and solidarity rather than relying on ethnic centralism.

Indexed Terms- Conflict, ethnicity, Ethiopia, federalism, political elite

I. INTRODUCTION

Ethiopia is composed of eleven federal semi-states divided along ethnic lines. The country has a multicultural nation comprising over 76 distinct ethnic groups. Ethiopians is known for their solidarity, unity, and coexistence. This is why; Ethiopia is one of the continents of Africa that upholds her independence. Ethnic conflict is a prevalent and pervasive factor in many nations worldwide, including Ethiopia. Many Africans, particularly Ethiopia, have faced considerable difficulties due to interethnic strife. The international media currently see Ethiopia as the centre of turbulence by ethnic conflict.

Extensive confrontations have been present for the previous three years throughout Ethiopia's regions, particularly Benishangul-Gumuz, Amhara, Afar, Oromia, Somali, Tigray, and some areas of the South Nation, Nationality, and People regions. The conflict is more complex than ever before. Now time, crimes, political instability, and breaches of human rights are the hallmark of Ethiopia in some regional states because of conflict-violence. Conflict violence reports from Ethiopia's various regions are nothing new. On the other hand, groups aiming to deport people they regard as outsiders while demanding more land and authority have mainly triggered wars. The violence in Ethiopia is fundamentally caused by natural advantages, including land, water, grazing, and the desire for political control.

The Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), predominately made up of the Tigray ethnic minority, authoritatively ruled Ethiopia for thirty years. As a result, ethnic tensions and struggles over state resources and authority have been rising since 2018. For many years, Ethiopia has struggled with the internal displacement crisis. However, these evictions have raised more serious

concerns over the past three years. Ethiopia has seen the highest number of displaced people (IDPs) in Africa and the entire region from 2019 to 2022. By many accounts, Ethiopia is a conflict-prone area. Due to poor management, occasional conflicts in Ethiopia can weaken the principles of peaceful coexistence, solidify existing social bonds, and threaten the country's unity. The violence that has broken out in several areas of the region has displaced millions of citizens from their residences. Where there has been a lot of conflict and violence, government institutions and other infrastructure and social services, particularly health, education, and electricity, have been destroyed and damaged.

Tigrayans, who make up nearly 6% of the total population of Ethiopia, have been at the head of a coalition of four ethnically based parties. TPLF has dominated the political landscape and economy for the previous 27 years (1991- middle of 2018). In 2018, the TPLF eroded from power and back from the central state to the Tigray region. Since then, the TPLF has been working hard to split Ethiopia and tried to make it a stateless country by organising, leasing and financing anti-Ethiopians inside and outside. Ethiopia is now experiencing ethnic violence in numerous regions, which the TPLF has sponsored. Therefore, the study mainly answers the question of the current dynamics of conflict in Ethiopia, the cause of conflict in Ethiopia, and the mitigation strategy to tackle the ethnic conflict in Ethiopia.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

Throughout the second half of the twentieth century, the ethnically based conflict has been an alarming issue in many countries around the globe. Among the competition, existed ethnic-based conflict accounts for one-third of all conflicts. Such confrontations frequently resulted in ethnic bloodshed. In this article, the researcher show evidence from both theoretical and empirical studies of the impact of preexisting ethnic divisions on social strife in the discus.

Among the primary reasons for conflict were natural resources, settlements, regional dominance, access to State resources (funds, jobs, investments), and language policy in education and governance [1]. In Ethiopia, several areas of the state have witnessed sustained violence in recent years. Due to competition for control of natural resources and attempts to gain dominance in informal trade, for instance, Afar and Somali, Afar and Oromia, and Oromia and Somali have conflicted for many years with disputes over territorial claims. The boundary between the two regions is not distinct in style. As a result, sometimes there was tension between the ethnicity.The perceived fragility of state and party institutions has led to ethnic mobilizations seeking greater autonomy and resource control. Examples include Wolayta, Sidama, Konso, Gujji, and Gedeo, as well as administrative locations across select locations in the Oromia region. In the southern part, there is a significant potential for inter-ethnic struggles for regional hegemony because of the region's ethnic heterogeneity.

Self-governanceand representational disputes, however, have only arisen at the zone or woreda (district) level up until recently. The Wolaita linguistic dispute in the North Omo zone, the State of Gambella's bid for autonomy from the rest of the Gurage site, and the tensions between the Suri and the Dizi pastoralists in the South Omo zone are all examples of such disputes.

Western lowland areas like Benishangul-Gumuz and Gambella are home to two dominant ethnic groups and a smattering of others. In Gambella, the Nuer and the Anuak have fought for regional hegemony. While committed to long-term fixes, Ethiopia's post-1991 system has instead 'decentralized' the country's issues by identifying their origins at the regional rather than federal level, leading to heightened ethnic strife [2].

II. REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

2.1 Definition of Conflict

Conflicts have many essences, which is why there is no single definition for conflict. Conflict refers to disagreements about ideas, aims, and ambitions. When individuals or groups have similar interests, the conflict will arise. Disharmony arises when two or more people come into physical or verbal contact for reasons other than cooperation. When people argue with one another, it often escalates to name-calling and even physical violence. Conflict also relies on how it manifests itself as a social

phenomenon. We cannot criticize that all competitions have negative consequences; some disputes have positive aspects when the conflict is about societal transformation by keeping individual and group morale and identity. Nevertheless, when against this action, competition can lead to death, loss of peace, destruction of property, deterioration of relations and a threat to national unity and survival. Conflict can break out between any two entities, be they two persons or two nations. No matter how small, any disagreement must be handled with care lest it snowballs into a full-scale war and diplomatic breakdown, plunging the world into chaos and bringing death and misery. Conflict is a phenomenon that occurs at any time in society, so defining it requires some consideration of the social context in which it occurs. Conflict can be defined by its activities, such as an opposing force, lack of agreement, and social inconsistencies. In an individual or group, having divergent opinions, interests, and needs leads to conflict. Conflict is a fight between adversaries over values and assertions of little prestige, power, and resources [3]. According to [4] conflicts arise when there are circumstances in which one party's ability to achieve its goals by relieving its interest and choices of the other. Similarly, if the behaviour is intentional and orientated toward the actor's own will versus the objection of the other party or party's social relationship would be considered in conflict. Therefore, the desire of one participant to push his will over the other's resistance defines the social interaction of conflict. Conflict as a sociological phenomenon in which parties seek to achieve their goals by directly confronting their adversaries through violence or the threat of violence [5].

Conflict is of a direct and emotional nature. When there is a dispute, the parties involved know each other intimately. Conflict is the consequence of intentional efforts made by either individuals or groups. Instead of being directly related to achieving a purpose, its goal is to subjugate others or defeat the opposition. Although conflict is short-lived, intermittent, and of a transient nature, once it starts, it can be difficult to halt since it tends to get worse. Conflict is a process full of intense passions and impetuous human emotions.

2.2 Ethnic Conflict in Ethiopia

Ethiopia is a pluralist community with a comprehensive set of values and assets. Because of this, Ethiopians can see past disparities in ethno-culture and language, and they have exploited this diversity of values to strengthen social harmony and social cohesiveness. However, due to various factors, including sociocultural, economic, political, and environmental variables, it is not uncommon for Ethiopians to engage in conflict and disagreements predicated on their ethnicity. Thus according to [6] , the term "ethnic conflict" occurs when two or more different groups of people are at odds over things like territory, resources, and identity.

Although ethnic federalism has helped alleviate some forms of discrimination against some groups in Ethiopia, it has also contributed to the rise of other forms of discrimination. The multinational federation in nations like Ethiopia is crucial in institutionalizing its wide ethnic and cultural variety. Ethiopia's self-rule and shared-rule governing system were made possible by ethnic federalism's emphasis on minority protection. It has stoked tensions between ethnic groups locally and rekindled violence among ethnic nationalism and separatist organizations. Since EPRDF -TPlF took power in Ethiopia, almost every region and city government has witnessed ethnically driven violence [7].

2.3 Displacement and Ethnic Conflict in Ethiopia

Ethiopia is currently challenged by internal displacement resulting from conflict violence. Many Ethiopians are being forced to relocate due to conflict violent in Ethiopia. As a result of conflicts at borders or over ethnic or geographical divisions, many of these individuals have been compelled to leave their homeland. Though new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and his government are working to improve the country, ancient ethnic conflicts have re-emerged due to the country's recent political upheaval. Since April 2018, escalating ethnic violence has claimed hundreds of lives, injured thousands more, and forced over a million people to flee their homes. According to Human Rights Watch, more than two million people have been internally displaced (HRW). Despite the government's enormous task in responding to this crisis, little has been done to aid individuals forced to abandon their homes [8].

2.4 Cause of Conflict in Ethiopia

In this section, the reasons for conflict will be discussed. The causes of interstate conflict—large-scale organized bloodshed between neighbouring states with similar ethnic compositions—are the focus of this article. It should be noted that organized violence could manifest itself in various ways, including gang violence, inter-communal conflict, and civil wars, conflicts over secession and national independence, and international hostilities. These numerous types of conflict are very diverse from one another, and they have analytically unique causes. Disputes over natural resources such as grazing and water are common in Ethiopia.

Moreover, such disagreements were settled through talks with local negotiators, elders, and celebrities. On the other hand, what is currently being done in Ethiopia is entirely different. The current conflict in Ethiopia is due to political motives.

Many African states suffer from poor governance characterized by corruption, favouritism, marginalization, inequality, and unjust allocation of national resources. Poverty and the breakdown of social harmony, brought on by ineffective leadership, are precursors to war. Weak leadership causes an unfair social and economic order, which fuels inequality and exploitation [9]. Ethiopia struggles to establish a post-imperial society dealing with a variety of deep-seated political conflicts and ingrained injustice bequeathed from the country's imperial past. As a result, political, communal, and ethnic tensions are running wild in the country [10]. The question of whether or not the current regime in Ethiopia has provided a successful solution to ethnic tensions and conflicts in Ethiopia compares to the EPRDF led by TPLF (which ruled the country from 1974 until 1991). There are a few signs that the state and ethno-regional uprisings are fighting a full-fledged civil war like the one they did under the TPLF. The uprisings during the TPLF administration were about ethnic or ethnolinguistic rights. They were also about political repression, a lack of inclusive democracy, and the challenging economic marginalization of communities on the periphery. The TPLF lost their power in 2018 as a mass uprising, and the property party took the position. However, from 2018 to 2022, we have seen unrest

conflicts in various regions and territorial borders, which TPLF sponsors.

Ethnic strife, for instance, in Nigeria, is sometimes blamed on the competition for the country's abundant oil resources. Diamonds are a prominent source and prize in ethnic civil wars in other parts of Africa. Whereas in Kosovo, the conflict is neither oil nor diamond. In the late 1990s, the Albanian population had outnumbered the Serbians by a factor of nine to one, but they still faced discrimination and repression in their ancestral homeland. They fought for the right to self-determination, freedom from Serbian oppression, and establishing Albanian-language schools and universities. Israel and the Palestinians are at odds over the issue of autonomy because it is central to both of their goals: the Palestinians want independence from Israel, and the Israelis want protection from the ongoing danger of annihilation posed by fundamentalist zealots [11].

2.5 Conflict and its Mitigation strategy

Conflict resolution theory informs the formal or informal procedure through which disputants can reach an amicable agreement. Numerous cognitive and emotional pitfalls, many of which are unconscious, can amplify conflict and increase the need to employ conflict resolution theory to reach an accord. Usually, both sides of a disagreement are convinced that they are right and the other is wrong because they are trapped inside their thoughts. The human predisposition toward egocentrism, or the inability to perceive things from another person's perspective, distorts our perception of what constitutes a fair resolution to a problem.

The goal of resolving conflict is to steer the disagreement in a desired direction. Of course, a conflict's outcome can be affected by a variety of things. Among the most crucial are (a) the personalities of the contending groups, (b) the specifics of the issues at hand, (c) the approaches taken by each side, and (d) the involvement of neutral parties.

According to conflict resolution theory, one way to break a stalemate is to allow the other party to make the initial move. When disputants seek mediation, they do so by bringing in an impartial third party with

the skills to facilitate negotiations. A professional mediator will not take a stance but help the parties involved explore what is driving their arguments. A mediator's job is to help dispute parties reach a mutually agreeable, non-binding, and long-term agreement through joint and individual sessions. Likely, constitutional modification and rearranging of the current regional state boundaries in Ethiopia are necessary to deal with ethnic conflict and reduce "ethnic confrontations" in the country by creating functional, balanced units where realm, ecology, and regional identity[12].

III. METHODOLOGY

The qualitative data collection approach was used for this study. Both primary and secondary data were utilized for the data collection. The purposive sampling method was used to select the Key Informative (KII) for the interview. Four different regions and one city administration were selected for the study: the Oromia region, the Southern Nations and Peoples region, the Sidama region, the Somalia region, and the Addis Ababa city administration. Ethiopian Civil Service University was also a part of this study. Accordingly, 64 respondents from academicians, government officials, legislators, and political parties in each research area and federal institution were included in the interview. The interview question focused on ethnic conflict in Ethiopia, the cause of conflict, and mitigation strategy in particular.

IV. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section analyses and interprets the findings of data gathered from selected research areas. This study will investigate Ethnicity and Conflict in Ethiopia, the cause of conflict and mitigation strategy. Displacement caused by conflict violence exacerbates the structural causes of poverty and can severely restrict access to services and necessities such as employment, health, education, and food security. From 2018 to 2022, a violent conflict in Ethiopia caused more than 4.2 million people to be internally displaced. As Fearon and Latin [13] stated, deaths after World War II were three times as many because of interstate conflict. According to[14]one-third of the conflict in Africa is along ethnic lines.

4.1 Ethnicity and Conflict in Ethiopia

The Ethiopian ethnic conflict has been fuelled by mistrust in recent years. The conflict between ethnicity in Ethiopia is the architecture of TPLF. Some political elites also ignited the ethnic conflict. Politicians have calculated the conflict for profit by pitting ethnicities against one another. They contend that some ethnic groupings are superior to others and that others are inferior. Some leaders believe that their authority is more important than their nationality. The other is that they taught and provoked one ethnicity against the other by stating that this is "your line, your land, your environment", while the other is a newcomer; "you are the son of the soil"; therefore, you must stand together to keep off x ethnicity from your bounds.

As[15] states, conflict is dynamic in which structure, attitudes, and behaviours constantly shift and impact one another in many ways. The differences in perceptions, differences in goals, connectedness are all the result of conflict.

As illustrated in figure 1, the number of internal displacements is the highest in 2018 and comparatively dawn in 2019 and 2020. However, it exceeds in 2021 and 2022.
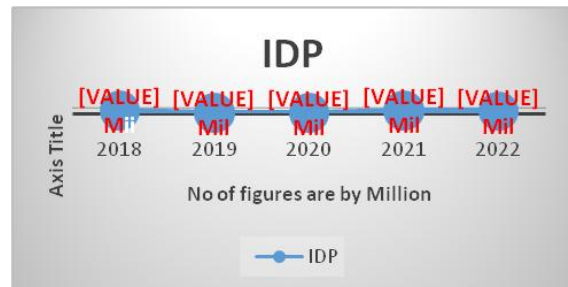
Source: IOM, Ethiopia: National Displacement Report 2018-2022.

4.2 Cause of Ethnic Conflict in Ethiopia

Conflicts have a variety of causes, each with varying degrees of severity. The will of an individual, a group, or a country's people may or may not be the same as that of others. The interest of someone is to get enough food, but for others, the interest is to have a car. At the same time, the will of someone is to get power, but for others to get liberty. Some are a

struggle for his reputation, and others are for equality of identity.

In most African and third-world countries, the division of power and economic, ideological, and social difficulties may be at the root of ethnic strife, and Ethiopia is no exception. It becomes evident that ethnic conflict is now a ubiquitous and prominent dimension of political and social conflict in many countries worldwide. To know the nature and trajectory of ethnic violence in Africa, we must place it within the larger context of the nation's democratic and development agenda. The inclusive notion of common citizenship, based on individual rights that have tended to underpin this state-formation process, has proven problematic in Africa, not just, because nearly all of the governments on the continent are "ethnically divided."

Ethnic conflicts are now more popular than ever before in Africa. The conflict in Ethiopia is political and economic (resources) related. For example, when it comes to the ethnic relationship between Guji Oromo and Gedeo, both have a long history of coexisting. There are Gedieo ethnicities in Guji Oromo and many Oromo ethnicities in Gedieo, but there has never been an ethnic conflict. Culture, tradition, language, and marriage are closely connected among Ethiopian ethnicity. The political class, seeking to grab power from beneath the people's feet, focuses on ethnic discord. The inhabitants of Tigray, for example, are respected people. The TPLF, removed from power, has joined the people of Tigray to pit the Tigray region against another. Apart from the Tigray people, this has sparked scepticism among Ethiopians. The interests of several parties, both internal and external, are at stake in ethnic conflict issues. Many countries are collapsing as a result of western countries' indirect intervention, particularly the United States. The indirect intervention of the United States of America Government/regime changes. examples Bolivia,1971; Brazil ,1964; Chili 1973, and 1989-90; Guatemala,1963,1982-83 [16].

Political conflict: Most leaders man and women in most developing countries seeks powerto control resources, including human resources and development. Their purpose is to achieve political power rather than to serve or benefit the community. They go to great lengths to incite discord among people who have lived peacefully together for millennia.

Frequently, and precisely because of its lack of autonomy or limited autonomy from contending ethnic groups, the state becomes the primary contested territory, the severe deadly theatre of ethnic warfare over which ethnic group or coalition of ethnic groups should rule it and its vast resources. The bureaucracy, dubbed with its vast array of patronage positions and public funds to disburse, as well as its oversight of public educational institutions, which play a critical role in elite recruitment and reproduction for the bureaucracy and the political and business classes, are inevitably prime targets in competitive ethnic relations. In this way, the state and its institutions are ethicised and immersed in client list ethnic networks and ethnic-based struggles to implant and entrench ethnic "gatekeepers" in critical positions in the bureaucracy and educational institutions, as well as other public sector institutions and even the private sector, which largely relies on the government sector in several African states.

The ethnic conflict in Ethiopia is the result of mismanagement and lack of equal treatment among the ethnic group by the political leaders. For example, the conflict between Somalis and Afar ethnic, Somali and Oromo and others ethnic groups were the business of leadership. Someone who desires political benefit portrayed the conflict between the two ethnicities as an ethnic-based conflict. At Benishangul-Gumuz, there are indications that the local community has been taken away from its natural resources by another ethnicity. In line with these beginnings, we cannot see how one nation strives to recapture the other, as it is an ethnic struggle. The conditions between Amhara and Tigray are similar. For example, we hear the story that Wolkait used to belong to Amhara. It is known that the territory is separated into Tigray and Amhara. However, in the 27 years, we have spent, there are still questions.

Economic Conflict: Conflicts over natural resources such as grazing land and water are common. This

conflict is frequently associated with the sequential seizure of natural resources. When certain people or organizations believe, the resource is theirs while others disagree.

Constitutional conflict:A constitutional dispute will arise if the proposed Constitution does not recognize and allow ethnic variety in identity, culture, religion, and historical background. The unequal treatment of different ethnic groups is the root of the constitutional-related dispute. For example, assume the constitution framework does not rearrange the religion, language, psychology of societies, culture, and value of ethnicity "X" and "Y," resulting in the sense of self-government, including secession, resulting in constitutional conflict.

The conflict between the government and the public is sometimes related to the violation of the law. Conflicts arise when politicians base their opinions on the people. The transition from one stage to another is not peaceful, but something is called into account in that conflict, and efforts to move to that stage are the cause of conflict when the government will not respect the rights of the people.

The TPLF is currently violating the Constitution without any justification. First, the TPLF broke the Ethiopian Constitution by holding elections without the approval of the national electoral body. Second, the TPLF violated the Constitution by declaring war on the national defence force in October 2020. If we obey the law, we will benefit. Without that, we would be at war for the rest of our lives. The TPLF and other groups are also attempting to violate the Constitution directly or indirectly.

Knowledge gaps: Indeed, the knowledge-related element is poverty, economic, and unemployment, leading to conflict in various sectors. In a rural environment, for example, the pastoralist is armed. The pastoralist community grazes with a herd of cattle, and when there is a water shortage, he immediately moves to another spot to graze and find water for drink. It is armed with that weapon, and when others go through his grazing areas, he uses his weapon to trigger disputes with another ethnicity. There are situations when the need for land might trigger a war. One common grazing land, resource,

water, and arable land are considered sources of conflict. Of interest, especially in the pastoral areas and regions, are provoked by the pastoralists who pillage the pastoralists' lands. Conflicts between regions and areas with developed regions may result from conflicts over land, water, mountains, and resources.

Unemployment is another issue. Unemployed young people can be found in considerable numbers throughout the country. When young individuals are melancholy, they are more inclined to engage in conflict.There are more than 76 ethnic groups and peoples in Ethiopia. Before the arrival of federalism in Ethiopia, the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region (SNNPR) settled the aforementioned conflict-related concerns through discussions. However, after the TPLF EPRDF took power in 1991, the conflict between the two ethnicities became entirely political. The seeds sown today are the consequence of the TPLF EPRDF harvests in the community. Most people participated unknowingly and were victimized by the TPLF political conspires. Everything is entrenched in the Constitution that the nationalities of the nations have the right to self-government and secession.

Politicians and some members of the political class promote hostility. Politics separate different sections of society by making one benefit more than the other makes. For example, there is a division between members of the political parties and non-political parties. They look at each other as hostile. "The non-member thinks that being a political party member is more beneficial. The political party member on their side thinks, "If I step down, I will be victimised by those non-political parties." The political process is the collection of people who have no skills or are educated. However, they only because of support that political ideology.

Some people do not believe that conflict can be settled peacefully. They believe that it will only be resolved via weapons. The family as a whole requires a great deal of attentiveness. Divorce has been more widespread in Ethiopia in recent years. When a marriage fails, families disintegrate. Children are also victims. Some children raised on the street become addicted. Children raised outside of their families develop a disinterest in the country and its people. It

will be ferocious and lethal. Families are the country's foundation. Families can nurture good ethics and values in their children. The family should be able to counsel and direct their children in order for them to stay on the correct path. Some people are in a condition of hostility in one form or another because of the political cleavage in Ethiopia. Peacebuilding is sustainable if cultural, traditional, and religious values are included, then the involvement of political leadership.

The escalation of ethnic conflict in Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, conflict escalates when the resulting conflict is tied to a political aim. Some politicians and political activists believe that escalating conflict and violence is one method to attract, align, and generate followers. The purpose is to prosper politically. It is the source of the struggle, which aspires to be viewed illicitly, gain power, and be revered by the public. Conflicts of this nature, if not appropriately managed, can swiftly escalate into a full-fledged civil war.

The TPLF and its allies are responsible for the present crisis in Ethiopia. They worked tirelessly to gain political advantage from the competition. In other words, the TPLF controls and monopolizes the economy, media, government, market, and jobs. The TPLF/EPRDF has been unable to resolve this issue, and as a result, the existing problems are causing new ones. On the other hand, lack of equitable access to public institutions, and lack of fair political engagement, are part of the source of conflict in Ethiopia. The problem in Ethiopia was that those with a balanced perception were not given leadership positions. Most of the time, people who find themselves in the middle of nowhere are pushed. "You must be a crazy politician to become famous in Ethiopia." If "you are perceived as lacking in confidence, you are labelled as such or criticized." Unfortunately, those who emerge in Ethiopian politics are the ones who take the lead in politics. No one must accept responsibility for Ethiopia's current crisis other than the TPLF and its agents because of their divisive policy that displaced many people.

If relations between different communities are built on democratic political culture, it promotes equality, understanding and active participation. On the contrary, where there is oppression and repression, and anti-democracy is reflected in actions and thoughts, it provokes rebellion, resentment and anger and leads to conflict. Politicizing ethnic identity by self-serving politicians, not ethnicity, is the real cause of interethnic conflict [17].

The incidence of violence is the second factor that explains the significant polarisation along ethnic lines. Political oppression and social inequality in a given region are the foundation of conflict. It is inappropriate and can affect the individual's human dignity, including distinguishing one from another and denying the benefits that should be obtained based on gender, religion, race and similar reasons. Discrimination and marginalization of ethnicity based on their identity and culture can intensify conflicts.

Nowadays, in Ethiopia, there is no region or part of the society that has not been affected by ethnic conflict. This is what we have seen in the last three years alone. Individuals who claim to be the engineers of tribal politics divide the societies by saying that the other is an immigrant, a settler, or a homeless person. They instigate people by saying that you have expelled them from your territory. For instance, the Oromo ethnicity was from Somali, Sidama from Wailita, Amara from Kimant, Amara from Tigre, and Amara from Benishangul. No section of society says that this problem will not come to me. If this continues, the fire will consume all. Moreover, one day, it can get out of control. When one party is attacked, the other prepares itself as a combatant if he does not die and causes destruction in response. He kills and dies. The overall root cause of all conflict in Ethiopia is the result of TPLF and her agents.

Justice and openness at all levels of government are essential for reducing conflict. The government is the source of justice and openness. The government's and political parties' activity must be transparent to the public. They will respect each other if this is the case. Robbery and political plots will stop. There is still much thievery going on. The government must intervene and put a stop to their actions. What should be done and the amount of budget allotted for regions and their activity should be straightforward. Democracy must be developed, and all citizens' rights must be safeguarded. Competition between political parties should be encouraged to participate and interact peacefully. All contending parties must

participate openly. It is necessary to put an end to non-political mobilization. The integrity of the system must be preserved. Those involved in the current political instability due to war must take accountability. The lack of public knowledge is to blame for the escalation of the conflict. When people are active, they can respect and assert their rights and the rights of others. Another issue is the absence of a powerful government. The level of conflict is determined by how we handle it. It might be either conventional or contemporary. Misuse of technology is another example. Weaknesses in our control of these technologies exist as well. The political stigma connected to collective interests is negative. Those seeking power promote an agenda among the ethnic groups. In Ethiopia's prior experience, this is happening in many region sections.

Outside factors affect some disputes. Furthermore, Ethiopians must improve internal unity and growth to withstand such war. To prevent confrontations from escalating, we must be free of extraneous influences. As a self-sufficient country, we must have a self-sustaining economy, political system, and social structure—self-sufficiency in food production, export trade, and all other forms of self-sufficiency. We must resolve the internal conflict. Ethnic segregation must be halted. Each nation, nation, and people have its language, identity, culture, history, and faith, but this variety must be retained within the confines of Ethiopia. We must rediscover our Ethiopian identity in order to reduce conflicts. Elders use traditional conflict resolution methods in the Oromo Gada system, Sidama, Gurage, Wolayita, Amhara, Afar, and other communities have their mode of conflict resolution system. There are also modern approaches to conflict resolution.

> *"Moreover, we need to improve our traditional conflict resolution methods. We must have faith in our ancestors. They are the fathers of knowledge, the source of knowledge, and they know how to solve problems."*

If public awareness is expanding, it makes sense to raise public awareness to avoid aggravating the problem. For political reasons, some anti-Ethiopians, for example, oppose the Nile Dam. They will not be sold the country's past if they are competent to comprehend it. On the other hand, some people do not seem to mind if he murdered his mother and obliterated his country's history. A lot of this sentiment is tied to poverty. Poverty is defined as the inability to meet one's necessities. Poverty extends beyond this, as we will see. Economic poverty is dangerous, but visual, attitudinal, and perceptual poverty are more dangerous than economic poverty. "You can eliminate poverty by working hard, but it takes time to get out of attitudinal poverty." Awareness among elders, religious leaders, influential community members, youth, women, and governmental and non-governmental organizations can help prevent conflict. The development of community engagement and the separation of these troublesome individuals from innocent people should be prioritized. Conflicts are lessened when we promote awareness raising and establish a decent society.

Who should be included in conflict resolution?
People are the first to get involved in resolving issues. Conflict is not a one-way street, and conflict resolution necessitates the participation of numerous parties. Everyone, from the bottom up, has a role to play in reducing conflict. The question of peace necessitates everyone's participation. Nobody sleeps at home if there is no serenity. "Without peace, there can be no development." Peace is necessary for social and economic progress. As a result, all stakeholders must be involved from the ground up. It is vital to enlighten and educate the public, and if there is a problem with constitutional concerns, it is required to discuss and changed or ignored if necessary.

Ethiopia's status as a free country is unpopular in many countries. Others have been irritated by Ethiopia's ability to maintain her independence. Those secretly backing the TPLF have been interested in the last 27 years when Ethiopia has not pursued the proper way. The anti-Ethiopian campaign, particularly the Western effort, claims that Ethiopia is on the correct course and will liberate Ethiopia and Africa. Ethiopians will work hard to create a mighty nation. As Ethiopia's social, economic, and political capabilities improve, external pressures will gradually decrease. They would be unable to interfere if Ethiopians will not expect outside assistance. The inter-ethnic differences that

will offer a chance for external bodies to act on Ethiopian affairs is another option and gap for outsider intervention.

Ethiopia's internal instability is only caused by the covert purpose uploaded by Western nations and other anti-Ethiopians. Some people are manipulated by the information they hear from fake media. "An engaged mind cannot do much." Western countries have tried to devastate and divide Ethiopia through TPLF. The TPLF continues to fight, not for the freedom or equality of all people, but rather to seize and control power and advance a western ideology.

The government must be robust, transparent, clean, and devoted to reducing ethnic conflicts. The power balance must be rational and equitable. In addition, the government must be able to respond quickly. Other international organizations should be forced to put more effort into this area. National conferences promoting ethnic federalism should be held. The Ministry of Peace needs to take the lead in raising national awareness and fostering peace. Institutions must also be given a more prominent role. The people will rule because of their fear of God, and religious organizations will play their role too. However, confrontation is unavoidable. Because there will always be various types of human desires as long as humans exist, conflicts can be mitigated, but they cannot be eliminated.

CONCLUSION

Conflict is a phenomenon that occurs at any time in society, so defining it requires some consideration of the social context in which it occurs. The ethnically based conflict has been an alarming issue in many countries around the globe. Many African states suffer from poor governance characterized by corruption, favouritism, marginalization, inequality, and unjust allocation of national resources. Ethiopia is now experiencing ethnic conflict- violence in numerous regions. Ethiopia's main causes of ethnic conflict are natural resources, political power and language policy. The Ethiopian ethnic conflict has been fuelled by mistrust in recent years. The conflict between ethnicity in Ethiopia is the architecture of TPLF. Some political elites also ignited the ethnic

conflict. Politicians have calculated the conflict for profit by pitting ethnicities against one another.

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