Influence of Socio-Economic Factors on Youth Emigration in Puntland State

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Abstract
Since 1991 the break out of Somali civil war, the Somalis young generation met with several challenge for their potential self-development, such as shortage of recognized higher education attainment, limited employment opportunities, and internal security concerns. Puntland youth have been faced like this challenges as well as the rest of Somalia youth, therefore to get a better life and passed these unhopeful consequences of live constraints, both Puntland and other Somali youth prefer to cross Somalia borders illegally in search of a better life and improved economic prospects.

Furthermore this study focused on determining its objectives of influencing factors to youth Emigration in Puntland whereas Somalia country have been facing many problems including the serious harms of widespread unemployment, inter-clan conflict, the wrong perception toward remittance while most of youth believe that all Somali Diaspora are rich, also there is extensive human trafficking which forcing by couple of factors including human smugglers networks those facilitate to youth to travel across Somalia border through unlawful methods of Emigration inter-clan conflict also take parts youth emigration in Puntland while clan based conflicts in Somalia putted youth future uncertain whereas youth become hopeless and preferred to go out of their country seeking variety human needs.

The general aim of this research is to evaluate and measure the Socio-Economic factors influence on youth outside Emigration from Puntland urban areas while research findings data have been collected from the Ministry of youth, labor and sports, by targeted the staff in Departments of Youth and Sports, and Mudan youth Organization in Garowe Puntland of Somalia plus youth returnees members and small number of secondary and university students. The researcher used for the instruments of question for collection of data to measured the impact of the Socio-Economic factors and youth Emigration on general Puntland local economy prosperity, agriculture productivity, youth self-employment and vendor of entrepreneurships of Puntland youth. The research also offered the impact of inter-clan conflict in Puntland, while clan identities are a double-edged sword, acting as both conflict escalators and de-escalators Garaad, 2013. Nearly all armed conflicts in contemporary Somalia break out along clan lines. Yet clan identities are not the basis for conflict; rather, their deliberate manipulation creates and exacerbates divisions. Countering the conflictual aspect of clannism is the potential of clans to act as constructive forces and traditional conflict moderators. Clan elders use traditional laws to settle disputes in non-confrontational ways. Furthermore study indicated that the 56% of study respondents are willing to go to abroad now. In conclusion based on the study findings, the study summarized that youth emigration in Puntland is influenced by the unemployment, inter-clan conflict, remittances and human trafficking. Study recommended protecting the youth emigration and socioeconomic factors influence to youth decision toward emigration in Puntland, the Ministry of Youth, Labor and Sports should strength application of rules and regulation those restricting human trafficking also the researcher suggesting that the Ministry improves its efforts toward increasing placement of newly graduated youth and pioneering employment opportunity.

1. INTRODUCTION
The Puntland regions has historical colonial authoritarian heritage whereas post-colonial it was under developed and puntland regions was called “Gaariwa” which means unreachable area, as well as it had not modern structure status in terms of political, economy, social development and management system, while colonial authoritarian postponed trade markets, farmers, employment structure, and income earning opportunities, social livelihood and security in the community.
After suspension of trade markets and political structures of the former Sultanates by the colonial authorities had a devastating effect on the livelihood security, famine coping mechanism and employment/income earning opportunities of the northeastern communities. Pastoralists, merchants and fishermen had to immigrate to the southern regions in order to seek employment and trading opportunities.

Then after Somali civil war in 1991 break out, the Somali people these originally from Puntland regions again backed to their regions, while others fled to Kenya and Ethiopia without any possessions, property and personal identity (Garaad, 2013).

Finally this series of movements created that Puntland youth go away from their country to out of the country via unlawful ways.

Furthermore there are other factors contributing to youth Emigration in Puntland whereas our country is facing many problems but one of the serious problems is unemployment.

Widespread unemployment (WU): Unemployment means a person willing to work but unable to find a qualified job. Many graduates, doctors, engineers, scientist are unemployed or working underemployed. Due to unemployment we are wasting our country’s human resource (Yusuf, 2015).

According to Background Paper On Puntland Human Development Report (HDR) 2011 issued by UN development Program, the youth (15-33) who comprise a large proportion (52%) of Puntland’s population have been historically excluded, employed & marginalized with little or no opportunities for developing their full potential - lost opportunity perpetuating inter-generational poverty (HDR, 2011).

Internal insecure the Italy colonialists persuaded Somali people that they are different clans and each clan is enemy to others while this ideology supported by nomadic and aggressive behavior Somali people, so inter-clan conflict became habitual scenario and Many yang people of Puntland have been forcibly recruited into clan based militias, and they separated from their families. This scenario have resulted feeling hardship life in their home land and they prefer to incur risks through unlawful Emigration to outside across international bounders.

Human trafficking for the aspect of human trafficking in Puntland due to lack of central government control in Somalia there is Human smuggling widespread in Somalia, and evidence suggests that smugglers use the same networks and methods as those used by trafficking offenders. Men, women, and children in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps or congregated along coastal areas hoping to be smuggled to nearby African countries, Europe, or the Middle East remained particularly vulnerable to trafficking. There were reports of trafficking offenders preying on young women and children, mostly IDPs from south and central Somalia, at marketplaces and in the streets, falsely promising them lucrative (well paid) jobs outside Somalia (Towers, 2006).

Remittances from outside: The most Somali Diaspora (SD) sends back money to support their families in Somalia; These remittances provide substantial community funding, for small businesses and basic service provision, especially in and around towns. Puntland has a rapid urbanization rate, and it is estimated that 30 percent of the population live in the capital of Garoowe and the other major towns of Bossaso, Galkayo and Qardho. Growth and economic recovery in Puntland have been propelled by economic remittances, construction, and the influx of internally displaced persons from war-torn southern Somalia and neighboring countries such as Ethiopia. This influx has created fast-growing urban settlements and an increased demand for employment, food supplies, infrastructure, social services, housing, and urban amenities.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Puntland youth Emigration (PYM) is highly frequented now years whereas youth are moving from the country to the outside countries through unlawful travelling, this unlawful youth migrating resulted that a lot of Puntlanders (youth) meet with several difficulties and human rights violation like torture, prison, killed and sea water genocide as well as parents feel economic burden by paying thousands of US Dollar to safeguard their boys and girls from un respect practice complications.

On other hand the youth Emigration deactivated the inspiration of Somali generation in Puntland because most of Somali youth in Puntland are thinking about how he/she would go to developed world, instead of thinking about, creating new innovations to develop their own country and takeoff from low development to developed country, technological advancement and the all consequences brought by Somali civil war and central State failure.

Farther more PYM affected the productivity of agriculture because the labor is very important factor of production while skilled labor can play
the high invention position, in contrary Puntland young generation mostly do not learn skills of food production like fishing, cultivation and so on. So this resulted that most Puntland farmers hire external labor such “Oromo” youth from Ethiopia and other Somali who came from south and central of Somalia, while their boys are jobless, this scenario caused that Puntland unemployment widespread became very high.

During this Emigration youth experiences other human rights violations while, Female migrants/refugees from Somalia to Yemen confirmed harassment, sexual assault or witnessing a rape incident during their boat journey to Yemen. There were 70 recorded incidents of sexual and gender based violence in the month of July, 2013. Migrants/refugees continue to face extortion during the boat journey. Smuggling crews stop mid-voyage and threaten to throw migrants/refugees overboard unless they pay an additional USD 50 or 100. Smuggling crew also threatened to throw a crying infant overboard if the mother did not stop the infant from crying.

1.3 General Objective:
The general objective of this study is to examine the Socio-Economic factors contributing to youth Emigration in Puntland state.

II. Theoretical Framework (LITERATURE REVIEW)

The Puntland Government’s future strategy for youth development in general is spelled out in a document titled “Youth Development Policy of the Government of Puntland” which has not yet been released for official use (Yusuf, May 25, 2015).

2.1 The Influence of Unemployment on Puntland youth Emigration

Puntland youth unemployment means that skilled youth those willing to work unable to find a qualified jobs (Yusuf May 25, 2015).

Unemployment rate for youth in Somalia is one of the highest in the world at 67% among all 14 to 29-year-olds — 61% among men and 74% among women. The report also said that 40% of youths are actively looking for work, while 21% are neither working nor in school with unemployment becoming among the biggest threats facing the Somali society (Yusuf 2015).

In Puntland, the youth represent the smallest number of the working-age-population in any working place. Unemployment rate for those between the ages of 18-25 are routinely twice or even three times higher than those of the total working-age-population. In recent years the youth unemployment rate in Puntland was alarming high, in addition due to unemployment some youth went as far as to cross the Mediterranean Sea into Europe in search of better opportunities (Yusuf, 2015).

Puntland with population of about 3 million of which 65% are nomadic (as indicated Puntland facts and figures report set Ministry of Planning and Statistics), the youth experienced unemployment in the same way as other parts of Somalia. It is estimated that 70% of Puntland’s total population is less than 30 years old.

As a result, limited opportunities of employment many of them walk into death traps set by unscrupulous smugglers and profiteers and lose their lives in the process. Heartbreaking news of young Somalis’ dead bodies washed away in the shores of yemen, Libya, Italy, etc. (Garaad, 2013)

At present, Puntland does not have an up-to date labor market information, indicators or system. Employment generation is therefore disorganized and haphazard in nature.

Again, there is no established mechanism to assess the capacity of the local economy to create jobs nor is the number of jobs created by the private sector monitored. This is more due to the Ministry of Labor, Youth and sports lack of capacity than a deliberate policy to overlook this important aspect. In a situation like this, it is very difficult to assess the real impact of the job market on Puntland youth (Yusuf May 25, 2015).

Youth, women and men are the Puntland’s greatest asset for present and future, yet they also represent a group that is seriously vulnerable when it comes to unemployment. Youth unemployment is generally viewed as important policy issues in many countries, regardless of their stage and development. A failure to successfully integrate youth in to the labor market has broader consequences for the Puntland at large.

Youth disillusionment in Somalia as a whole started in the mid-1970s and continued into the beginning of the 1990s when the central Somali state collapsed.

The reasons for youth discontentment in Puntland are essentially the same as those of young people in the rest of Somalia, (Garaad, 2013).

2.2 Inter-clan conflict (ICC)

Conflict is often used as a synonym for violence and thus it bears negative connotations. It can be defined negatively, as a fight or struggle, as a
disagreement between people with different ideas or beliefs or as an incompatibility (or perceived incompatibility) of goals (Galtung, 2000). Conflict can also be defined positively as an opportunity for actors to express their differences, become aware of others’ perceptions, interests and needs, and thus, be an opportunity for change and growth. Conflict can also be seen as a natural process, part of life and relationships. According to the approach of Galtung, although conflict may lead to violence, it is conceptually totally different. At the core of a conflict, the root, there is always an incompatibility between goals, referred to as ‘contradiction’. While conflict means an incompatibility of goals, natural and necessary for human and social development, violence oppresses, destroys and hinders this development. Violence is only one way of dealing with a conflict; it is destructive and rarely transforms the conflict.

Clan based Conflicts in puntland (CBC) Most civil conflicts in Puntland invariably assume the character of clan affiliations. The most significant types of armed conflicts in Puntland has been triggered by struggles over valued resources – pasture, wells, markets, airstrips, seaports, and international humanitarian or development aid and contracts. Others have been fuelled by disputes over political control of towns and districts. Others have been manipulated and instigated by political elites (WB January, 2005).

2.3 Influence of remittances from outside on youth Emigration in Puntland State

The remittances that Puntlanders in the diaspora send to their relatives back home give the impression that everyone there is rich and therefore contributes to the restlessness of the youth and enhances their eagerness to reach the “Promised Land” by crossing deserts and seas. The fact that thousands of young Puntlanders, both male and female, are in UNHCR’s waiting lists in Ethiopia, Kenya, Yemen, Egypt etc.; for eventual relocation to Europe, north America, Australia/ New Zealand and other destinations is testimony to the mesmerizing effect of the remittance factor. Furthermore, Three major sectors dominate domestic income generation in Puntland: livestock rearing (goats, sheep, and camels), fisheries, and frankincense production. The Diaspora also contributes substantial remittances, which are converted into augmented consumption and investments in the local economy.

Around 60–65 percent of the population is employed in the livestock sector, which also accounts for about 40 percent of the state’s gross output and 80 percent of its foreign exchange earnings41 (Puntland State of Somalia, 2007 – 2011 Five Year Development Plan).

In addition to these sources of livelihood, remittances from the SD provide a large part of household incomes. Puntland has enjoyed substantial remittances from the Somali Diaspora.

Internally, a proxy for the importance of this trust-based income source is underpinned by the results of the 2002 Socio-economic Survey, which sought data across Somalia on household incomes and expenditures. Based on these sources, remittances are much more important today than the much smaller amount (US$272 million) in official development assistance (ODA) provided mostly for humanitarian purposes. Remittances from abroad into Somalia was estimated to be at least US$825 million in 2004 (about US$113 per capita, or about 60 percent of current GNP, which was estimated in 2001 at US$1.3 billion) and quite possibly more than US$1 billion. This amount is about three four times the value of total exports recorded by the IMF. It also is equivalent to about half of total pre-war GNP (Puntland State of Somalia, Plan2007 – 2011 Five Year Development).

2.4 The Influence of human trafficking on Youth Emigration in Puntland

stories of desperation began to unfold outlining how hundreds of people from the Horn of Africa were risking their lives to make a perilous sea voyage in overcrowded fishing boats, from Somalia across the Gulf of Aden to Yemen’ "[gl given route had been known to be active for years but in 2005, the number of people being transported grew dramatically - and since the journey is so dangerous - there was an alarming increase in the number of dead bodies being washed up on the shores of Yemen.

In most cases, individuals contacts smugglers themselves to realize their objective of crossing a border illegally in search of a better life and improved economic prospects.

Yemen is mostly used as a point of transit en route to the Gulf States, Europe and other destinations in search of work. Most of the passengers are young men and women between the ages of 15 to 30(Towers, 2006)

In 2005, The United Nation’s Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air defines the smuggling of migrants as “the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident.”
Human smuggling continues unabated from the north east coast of Puntland, Somalia, resulting in the death of hundreds of Ethiopians and Somalis. Hundreds of Ethiopians travel for days, often by foot, across the desert from Ethiopia to Puntland with the aim of crossing the sea to Yemen. As a result of the worst drought in a decade, there has also been a notable increase in the number of Somalis from the south of the country attempting the journey (Towers, May 2006).

Smugglers are charging between thirty and fifty dollars per person for each voyage, often cramming hundreds of people onto small vessels, with little food and water for a 30 hour passage on high seas. In one recorded account of a voyage, there were six dead among 65 passengers and 14 more had been thrown overboard during the journey. Casualty rates are not uncommon with some individuals tied up and/or thrown overboard by the smugglers in an attempt to avoid capsizing in dangerous waters. Others drift for days at a time with little food or fresh water on board. Even when the boats do reach Yemen’s coast, passengers - including children - are forced to swim to shore (beach) so the boat is not detectable to Yemen authorities. Most passengers including children cannot swim and drown. While fatality figures are difficult to verify – the trade is secretive and many bodies are never found – the UN confirmed 262 deaths in January and February 2006. Since September 2005, officials say, the dead could number close to 1,000 (Towers, May 2006).

According to UNHCR, approximately 100 people a day attempted to cross from Somalia to Yemen in the period from September 2005 to March 2006. During six days in January alone UNHCR counted 22 smuggling boats – small, open fishing dhows – arriving in Yemen. In 2006 there was a significant increase in the number of people especially Somali’s from southcentral Somalia and Ethiopians from eastern Ethiopia:

Total number of Somalis registered in 2005 in Yemen 13,400 persons (Towers, May 2006). In Yemen, Somalis benefit from automatic refugee status by the Yemen government and are therefore more likely than Ethiopians to register officially with UNHCR. Ethiopians who may also be fleeing their country for fear of persecution are in general much less likely (Towers, May 2006).

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter focuses on the manner in which the research problem was investigated by referring to the sampling method, selection of respondents, data gathering instrument(s) (e.g. questionnaire) and the statistical techniques that were utilized. In conjunction with the literature review which was undertaken and empirical analyses were conducting to assess the previous studies relevant to problem generated for the purpose of the study. In addition, the chapter was clearly identified the population and the target population which researcher was questioning to assess their ideas toward research problem and articulate the research objectives.

VI. RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The study employed different statistical techniques aided by SPSS to determine socio-economic factors influencing to youth emigration in puntland state. This chapter describes the analysis of data followed by a discussion of the research findings. The findings based to the research questions and objectives that guided the study. The chapter begins with the analysis of the individual responses, then factor analysis was captured the independent variables in order to determine the number of factors under each research variable and keep hold to socio-economic factors influencing to youth emigration in puntland state.

4.1 Response Rate

The study population consisted of all the employee of ministry of labor, youth and sport,) youth Organization in Garowe and members of youth returns which is the total of forty individuals 40. Questionnaires were self-administered to MOLYS staff and youth representatives in Puntland state of Somalia where out of 40 individuals 25 returned the filled questionnaire.

5.3 Conclusions

Based on the study findings, the study summarized that youth emigration in Puntland is influenced by the unemployment, inter-clan conflict, remittances and human trafficking. According to The findings of study human trafficking plays first role on youth emigration in Puntland through ideological forcing migration Human smugglers play optimal role on youth out migration by 0.92, while other factors of friends and peers family reunification (marriage) and social media have an influence on youth migration. Based on the study findings remittance sends back by the Somali Diaspora has second influence on youth emigration while study showed that 0.88 Puntlanders have enjoyed substantial remittances from the Somali Diaspora. The third factor which influence youth emigration in puntland is unemployment whereas study findings resulted that the rapid enlarged labor market workforce and limited Employment opportunities plays an important role by 0.80, there are an other factors influence to youth emigration those including, Lack of system which provides for youth
employment and limited access to financial investment to establish youth self employment those are under unemployment.

Finally study concluded that the socioeconomic factors of human trafficking, unemployment and remittances money have major role of youth out migration in Puntland, as well as the other factor of inter-clan conflict has considerable influence on youth outside migration in puntland.

5.4 Recommendations

To protect the youth emigration and socioeconomic factors influence to youth decision toward emigration in Puntland, the Ministry of Youth, Labor and Sports should strength rules and regulation those restricting human trafficking also the researcher suggesting that the Ministry improves its efforts toward increasing placement of newly graduated youth and pioneering employment opportunity.

Furthermore, the Puntland youth Organization should improve the raising youth awareness about preventing unlawful youth emigration and pioneer youth entertainments programs by closely working with the Ministry of Youth, Labor and Sports (MOLYS) in order to be demanding youth minds those may think and take emigration decisions, Thus the MOLYS and Puntland Youth Organization to encourage the micro financing opportunities in order to establish business entrepreneurship which can increase self-employment of Puntland youth.

Finally the MOLYS be supposed to upgrade functioning of its rules, regulations and policy about the restricting socio-economic factors influence youth emigration in Puntland to protect youth emigration, also ministry should built its relationship to youth organization in Puntland by supporting how they will jointly get youth attention.

The study recommends limiting youth emigration brought by unemployment through facing unemployment; encouraging youth to newly hiring staff in governments institutions, young people also to turn to unpaid work since the intent of an internship is to provide valuable work experience, typically to youth in or recently out of college Furlong, Andy (2012). Experts however say that the only solution is for the Puntland government to create job opportunities rather than rely on private sectors to employ the region’s youth.

The quality of Puntland education should be improved. The current education system is not up to the level. Government should keep a strict watch on the education system and try to implement new ways to generate skilled labor force. Government should select a committee to look after the schools and universities (Mohamud Yusuf, 2015)

Since human trafficking is contributed by several factors including conflict/insecure situation, youth disillusion of decision making role and political participating, also there are individuals these encourage and support the first time cost of youth emigration in Somalia by charging them extra money. Considering all these factors the study recommends to concerned institutions to improve their rules and regulation toward human trafficking and strength the law enforcement. U.S., services and protections for trafficked victims are related to cooperation with law enforcement. Legal procedures that involve prosecution and specifically, raids are thus the most common anti-trafficking measures. Raids are conducted by law enforcement and by private actors and many organizations (sometimes in cooperation with law enforcement). Law enforcement perceives some benefits from raids, including the ability to locate and identify witnesses for legal processes, to dismantle "criminal networks", and to rescue victims from abuse.

The inter-clan conflict strongly take parts for human trafficking while a lot of forced displacement occurred in the country, considering these factors study recommended to discourage forcibly recruiting youth to participating clan conflicts activities and eliminate youth disillusionment behavior by replacing youth injection process. It is recommended that, in order to provide an example for youth self-employment, the Government seeks assistance for launching three natural resources-based pilot projects of the fishery, farming and animal husbandry sectors and showcase these projects for further steps towards youth development. It is not only a fact that these sectors are Puntland’s natural resource base, but also the ones that can have the biggest impact on employment.

Remittances can promote further migration, remittances increasingly become essential for the survival of poor households and communities this tends to generate dependency on further migration thus this study recommends to generate local innovations by using remittance money as a investment, fostering investment in basic infrastructure can promote access to social services, which can reduce the youth emigration. Examples from Mexico “3x1 Iniciativa Ciudadana” promoted the investment of remittances in local development projects.
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