UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

Department of Sociology

CSC: 698 PROJECT PAPER

THE IMPACT OF MOBILE SCHOOLS SYSTEM IN PASTORALIST AREAS OF KENYA: A CASE STUDY OF WAJIR DISTRICT.

C50/71490/08

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A Research Project Report Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of

Award of Degree of Master of Arts Sociology

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DECLARATION

This research proposal is my original work and has not been submitted for a degree award in any other institution.

_____ _____

Asha Aden ***Date***

The paper is being submitted for approval by the supervisor:

_____ _____

Dr. Mutsotso ***Date***

DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to my family for their tireless effort and support during the entire research period.

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Writing this paper and conducting the research has been an experience of great learning and challenges. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my Supervisor, Dr. Mutsotso for his guidance and support.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ASAL	-	Arid and Semi Arid Lands
EMACK	-	Education for Marginalized Children of Kenya)
FGD	-	Focused Group Discussion
NEP	-	North Eastern Province
NGO	-	Non Governmental Organization
GOK	-	Government of Kenya
MOE	-	Ministry of Education
NHPC	-	Nomadic Primary Health Care Programme
UPE	-	Universal Primary Education

ABSTRACT

Education among the Arid and Semi Arid Lands has been faced with various challenges. Communities that inhabit ASAL regions are frequently politically, socially and economically marginalized and often seen as out of step with the rest of the country. In order to overcome the problem of inaccess by conventional schools in ASAL areas, the mobile school was innovated. Mobile schools reach out beyond the effective catchment areas of conventional schools to people who have never enjoyed educational services before and who usually welcome them with enthusiasm. This study sought to find out factors that determine the location of the mobile schools, to evaluate how mobile school programmes have affected accessibility of education in Wajir District, to find out community views and participation in mobile schools and to establish the unique challenges and constraints faced by the mobile schools programmes in Wajir District. The data was collected through interviews, focused group discussions, observations and interview guides. The study established that Government policies, climatic conditions, community awareness, knowledgeable elders, educational standards, political influence, available resources and the influence of non governmental organizations all determine the location of mobile schools. It was also revealed that there has been enhanced growth of students recruited in mobile schools over the years. Community perception of mobile schools was deemed as positive while the communities were found to be actively engaged in mobile schools administration. Challenges faced by the schools included lack of adequate resources, lack of a specific curriculum, ignorance and lack of enough government support.