

**DETERMINANTS OF INTER-TRIBAL CONFLICTS IN GADAMOJI DIVISION,  
MARSABIT COUNTY, KENYA.**

**BY**

**DIDA GARM**

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI  
KIKUYU LIBRARY  
P.O. Box 30197  
NAIROBI

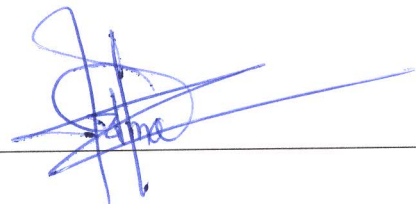
**A RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT  
OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF MASTER OF  
ARTS IN PROJECT PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF UNIVERSITY OF  
NAIROBI.**

**2012**

## DECLARATION

This research project report is an original work of my hands and has not been presented for any award of a degree in any other university.

Signature



Date

15-08-2012

**DIDA GALM**

**L50/61100/2010**

This research project report has been submitted for examination with my approval as university supervisor

Signature



Date

15-08-2012

Dr. Kyalo Dorothy,

Senior Lecturer

Department of Extra Mural

University of Nairobi



## DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my parents and relatives who gave me all support needed to take me forward with enough of encouragements and determinations for actual realization of my academic goals. Great dedication goes to my dad and mum who always vowed to support me against all odds to see me succeed through the lowest moments of my life towards my self actualization.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My sincere thanks to go to all the lecturers and the non-academic staff of the University of Nairobi, for their support throughout my Post-graduate programme and in particular this research project report.

I intensely salute **Dr. Dorothy N. Kyalo**, my lecturer and supervisor, in the Department of Extra-Mural studies for her steadfast support and guidance during the research period. I will always remember their concern, sacrifice and guidance of. and extraordinary thanks to **Mr. Mohamed A. Noor**, Administrator (Department of Extra-Mural Studies Garissa Centre) University of Nairobi and all my contemporaries for their support. May God exalt them all.

All members of the Department of Extra Mural need extension of my gratitude for their participation in teaching and guidance.

I acknowledge Mr. David Dida Wario and Mrs.Buke Dida who gave me warm welcome and accommodation during my stay in Marsabit County throughout my research project.

I also do appreciate my Research assistant Mr. Jarso Jattani who committed himself tirelessly during my research work.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION .....	ii
DEDICATION .....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	iv
LIST OF TABLES .....	viii
LIST OF FIGURES .....	ix
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS .....	x
ABSTRACT .....	xi
CHAPTER ONE:INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1 Background to the study .....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem .....	5
1.3 Purpose of the study .....	6
1.4 Objectives of the Study .....	6
1.5 Research questions .....	7
1.6 Significance of the Study .....	8
1.7 Limitations of the Study .....	8
1.8 Delimitations of the Study .....	9
1.9 Assumptions of the Study .....	10
1.10 Definition of Significant Terms .....	11
1.11 Organization of the Study .....	12
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW .....	13
2.1 Introduction .....	13
2.2 Influence of various actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County .....	13
2.3 The Tribal Conflicts in Marsabit County .....	26

v  
 UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI  
 KIKUYU LIBRARY  
 P. O. Box 30197  
 NAIROBI



2.4 Factors Influencing Tribal Conflicts in Marsabit County.....	27
2.5 The influence of Socio –Cultural Factors.....	28
2.6 The Influence of Political Factors. ....	29
2.7 Availability of Small Arms.....	30
2.8 Theoretical framework.....	31
2.9 Conceptual Framework .....	32
<b>CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>36</b>
3.1 Introduction.....	36
3.2 Research Design.....	36
3.3 Target Population .....	36
3.4 Sample and Sampling Procedures .....	37
3.5 Sample Size .....	37
3.6 Research Instruments .....	38
3.7 Validity of the Instrument.....	38
3.8 Instrument Reliability.....	39
3.9 Data Collection Procedures .....	39
3.10 Data Analysis Techniques .....	39
3.11 Ethical Considerations.....	40
3.12 Operational Definition of Variables. ....	40
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATIONS, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION. .</b>	<b>42</b>
4.1: Introduction .....	42
4.1: Response Rate.....	42
4.2: Demographic information.....	43
4.3: Factors Influencing Tribal Conflicts in Marsabit County.....	44

4.5: Influence of the social cultural practices on the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.....	50
4.6: Influence of political factors on the tribal conflict in Marsabit County. ....	51
4.7: Influence of competition over pastures and water points on the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County .....	52
4.8: The Influence of actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. ....	53
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....</b>	<b>54</b>
5.1 Introduction .....	54
5.2 Summary of the findings .....	54
5.3 Conclusions .....	58
5.4 Recommendations .....	60
5.5 Areas of further research .....	62
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Appendix I: Letter of Introduction.....</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>APPENDIX II .....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>APPENDIX III .....</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>APPENDIX IV.....</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>APPENDIX V .....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>APPENDIX VI.....</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>APPENDIX VII.....</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>APPENDIX IIX.....</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>APPENDIX IX.....</b>	<b>104</b>
<b>APPENDIX X .....</b>	<b>110</b>



## LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.2 .Operation definitions of the variables.....	40
Table 4. 1: Completion rates of various stakeholders who responded (N=83).....	42
Table 4.2: Summary of Demographic Information for all the respondents (N=83).....	43
Table 4.3: Summary of conflict situation in Marsabit county, 8years back, currently and in the future (N=83) .....	45
Table 4.3.1: Summary of factors that have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit county (N=83).....	47
Table 4.4: Summary of the extent the small arms have influenced tribal conflicts in Marsabit County (N=83).....	48
Table4.5 Summary of social cultural practices which have influenced tribal conflicts in Marsabit County (N=83).....	50
Table 4.6: Summary of nature of politics in Marsabit country (N=83).....	51
Table 4.7: Summary of resource based factors influencing tribal conflicts in Marsabit County (N=83).....	52
Table 4.8: Summary of actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County .....	51

CONTENTS AND ACRONYMS

**LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure .1 conceptual framework.....33

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

ASAL	Arid And Semi Arid Lands
BPA	Boran Professionals Association
DCS	District Commissioners
DOs	District Officers
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
KRCS	Kenya Red Cross Societies
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Services
LATU	Let All Tribes Unite
MPs	Member of Parliaments
NFD	Northern Frontier District
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
OLF	Oromo Liberation Front
REGABU	Rendille, Gabra, Burji
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
SRIC	Security Research and Information Centre
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees
UN	United Nations
WPDC	Wajir Peace and Development Committee



## ABSTRACT

Conflicts refers to presence of restrained communication or lack of peace or state of interaction between two or more parties of a given society or group of societies. A conflict usually involves people or it could also involve people and other animals. Conflicts can also be state of human interaction where there is disharmony. Conflicts has series of elements which include causes, actors and outcome which in most cases can be fatal and losses of different levels depending on the scale of it. The purpose of this study is to bring out the determinants of constant tribal conflict in Marsabit County. Five research objectives were formulated to guide the study. Research objective one sought to determine the extent to which the availability of small arms have influenced tribal conflict in Marsabit Research objective two sought to establish the social cultural practices which have also influenced the constant tribal conflict in the County. Research objective three sought to assess the extent to which political factors have led to the tribal conflict in Marsabit County. Research objective four aimed at determining the extent to which competition over pasture and water points have influenced the tribal conflict in the County while research objective five sought to determine the actors of tribal conflicts in the County. The study used the descriptive survey design using both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The target population for this study included the community elders, religious leaders, youth leaders, Government, officials, women leaders, politicians, school head teachers and the Non Governmental Organization heads in the area of study. The findings concluded that the availability of small arms greatly influenced the tribal conflict in the region. It was also concluded that social cultural practices like cattle rustling, revenges and initiation rites also fuelled the tribal conflicts in the area of the study. The political incitation was also pointed out by the respondents as a strong ingredient and catalyst to the tribal conflicts determinant in the region. As always expected in every human settlement, the competitions over the limited resources of pastureland and water points by the pastoralists was also indicated by the respondents as unquestionable factors behind the tribal conflicts under the study. Worth noting also, the respondents identified politicians, herdsman, youths and business people as foremen and women who formed actors of the tribal conflicts. The recommendations included various actions to be taken by the Government, the community elders, the community professionals, the women representatives and all other stakeholders of development in provision of conducive environment for the inter tribal peace forums in order to reduce case of tribal conflicts in the greater Marsabit region.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background to the study**

The new millennium began with much of the world consumed in armed conflict or cultivating an uncertain peace. The United Nations defines "major wars" as military conflicts inflicting 1,000 battlefield deaths per year. In 1965, there were 10 major wars under way. As of mid-2005, there were eight Major Wars under way [down from 15 at the end of 2003 with as many as two dozen "lesser" conflicts ongoing with varying degrees of intensity. Most of these are civil or "intrastate" wars, fueled as much by racial, ethnic, or religious animosities as by ideological fervor. Most victims are civilians, a feature that distinguishes modern conflicts. During World War I, civilians made up fewer than 5 percent of all casualties. Today, 75 percent or more of those killed or wounded in wars are non-combatants (American Refugee Committee International, 2005).

Conflict has grown rapidly in Africa in the last three decades, and pastoral areas are among the most vulnerable. Conflict is now widespread in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL), and often overlaps with extreme food insecurity like the cases of the Northern frontier districts and counties (NFD) and the great North Rift areas like Pokot and the Turkana region of Kenya. Many local civil society organizations have programmes to manage conflict, and international NGOs, intergovernmental organizations and donors are increasingly preoccupied with understanding conflict and experimenting with solutions among them the UN, WFP, UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations like The Kenya Red Cross societies (KRCS). There is an urgent need



for a stocktaking of our present analysis of conflict, its' drivers and the lessons we can draw from experiences for us to equip ourselves with appropriate conflict tools of mediation and management for better tomorrow and for the existence of peaceful and conducive environments in our midst as a core beneficiary of natures' creation. Ethnic conflicts are not only common in the developing countries but are also problematic in the developed world.

In Africa, the former UN Secretary General said in his report to the UN General Assembly that more than 30 wars have been fought in Africa since 1970-majority being political intra state in origin. In 1996 alone, 14 of 53 African countries were afflicted by armed conflicts. This report clearly indicated and recommended for urgent actions from all stakeholders of development to pull up their efforts together in curbing all kinds of destructive conflicts in the world at large. (Kofi Annan, 1998)

Here in Kenya, Conflicts are very common too as we observe on different occasions and times of history. Back in 1992, it happened in the Great Rift Valley province of Kenya between the Agikuyu and Kalenjins mainly caused by political movements which culminated in the creation of multi-party state ship in the country. Similarly, Walker (1996) and Amisi (1997) argue that the clashes in the Rift Valley and Western Kenya

were part of a wider political strategy of the KANU government to frustrate the efforts of the democratization movement and to prove to both Kenyans and Western donors that the implementation of democratic reforms, such as multi-party representation, in a multi-ethnic society like Kenya's would result in civil wars. (Amisi 1997)

Conflicts among pastoralists have been an enduring phenomena underpinning their relations owing to the socio-economic, political and environmental contexts they find themselves in. Politically and economically, people living in the periphery of the country have over the years expressed their dissatisfaction with exclusionary state policies that have failed to capture their aspirations to the extent they feel marginalized in many ways.

Since independence, Kenya like many other African countries continue to be faced by a twin problem which Farah Mohamed points out as the need to create a viable nation out of many political entities and the need to build an acceptable state which can successfully initiate a process leading to the establishment of a true nation state in each of them. State making must include consolidation of the territorial and demographic domain under a political authority, maintenance of order in the territory and routine administration that deepens the state's penetration of the society. (Mohamed 2001)

For nearly half a century after independence, the Northern Kenya and the upper eastern region remains largely detached from the rest of the country. In the case of Marsabit County, which is the centre of my focus, one notices what Kurimoto and Simonse, (1998) refer to as the classical retreat of the state and the superficiality of, first its existence and second, its lack of penetration. In this light, violent and sometimes indiscriminate interventions by the security forces in the form of recovery of weapons or livestock appear very much as primarily directed towards reestablishing the state's unique right to violence and only secondarily towards conflict resolution. The situation in which the people of Marsabit County find themselves in puts into question the state's legal and moral obligations. As (Kamenju, Wairagu and Mwachofi, 2003) note, "as a legal entity the state has a moral duty to provide security to its citizens. The security



provided must be all encompassing to include physical, social and economic security. Where the state fails or is unable to provide such security to its people, logic demands that the people seek alternative means to meet these challenges.” (Kamenju 2003)

To understand conflicts in Marsabit County, one needs to consider its wider context: its geographical location, local politics, peoples and their lifestyles and the regional dynamics that inform interactions among different actors. In August 2010, Kenyans overwhelmingly voted for a new constitution that was seen as providing the much-awaited broader legal framework to address inequity, impunity, and the general rot that was a characteristic of state institutions. The constitution ushered in a new form of devolved government with its focus on county level that is hoped will bring a fair system of resource distribution and organize politics around issues as opposed to ethnicity. The new system however, due to the ethnic nature of county politics and the largely politicized process of county boundaries delineation, has potential to create tension due to possibility of domination of county affairs by either the majority or a combination of minority ethnic groups. Marsabit County is a very good example where this situation could happen. As the Chairman of the Commission on Revenue Allocation noted:

*“We are courting disaster, it is a time bomb which could explode immediately after elections with monumental consequences and the chaos that would emerge in the new counties would be unimaginable. The government’s preparedness for devolution is acutely inadequate”* Sunday Nation 18<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

The continued conflict situation in Marsabit County is a matter of concern to the government, the communities, researchers, peace builders and other stakeholders. It is obvious that conflicts impede development as much as it is true that lack of development motivates conflict situation.

The history of Marsabit County is largely one characterized by neglect and marginalization by subsequent administrations leading to perpetual conflicts. Out of the forty-seven counties, Marsabit is ranked 44<sup>th</sup> on the list of bottom ten poorest counties with a percentage of 83.2% of

people living in poverty; Commission For Revenue Allocation(2011),Kenya County Fact Sheets,Nairobi,GOK.

There is chance, considering the wider reforms in the country initiated following the adoption of a new constitution in August 2010. This study revisits Marsabit County's historical stairs to the present, interrogates the prevailing situations, looks at the various initiatives to alleviate the situation, examines the success cases and possible explanations for failures and seeks to recommend the way forward. The propelling spirit is a conviction that it is possible for the situation in Marsabit County and other areas with similar experiences to change and achieve development.

In the recent past, the cases of Turbi massacres are examples of the result of such tribal conflicts which pitted the Borans against the Gabra communities of Marsabit County in the year 2005,Daily Nation 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2005.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem.**

Violent ethnic conflicts remain one of the causes of distress across many counties in the nation, Kenya leading to human suffering through loss of lives and property specifically in Marsabit County

Population displacements also are another result of ethnic conflicts leading to cropping up of internally displaced persons all over the tribal conflicts spots in Kenya and beyond.

On the broader end, the inter ethnic conflict leads to distortion of economic activities, this ethnic conflict has paralyzed the growth of once a district known for a business hub for the Boran, Gabra, Rendille who were rich pastoralists proud of trading their livestock with the Burji community who were well known businessmen and women in the vast Northern Kenya. As noted and reported by Little P.D (1996) in his cross border trade publications, the lower part of the Marsabit County was also a very conducive ground for cross border trade with the neighboring Somalia and Ethiopia and this generated a lot of income in the entire region but it has now turned into only a gossip ground for inter tribal politics of destruction with no signs of the past productivity trend.

It is in the above context that this study picks the cue from the above challenges brought about by the inter tribal conflicts in Marsabit County and tackles the question: What are the determinants of inter-tribal conflicts in the above area of the study?

### **1.3 Purpose of the study**

The purpose of this study will be to examine the determinants of inter- tribal conflicts in Marsabit County, Kenya.

### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

The study will be guided by the following objectives

1. To determine how the actors of tribal conflicts have influenced Marsabit County.
2. To determine the extent to which the availability of small arms have influenced tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.



3. To establish the social cultural practices which have influenced the constant tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.
4. To assess the extent to which political factors have led to tribal conflict in Marsabit County.
5. To determine the extent to which competition over pasture and water points have influenced the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.

### **1.5 Research questions**

The study will be guided by the following research questions

1. To what extent has the actors of tribal conflict influenced the tribal conflicts in Marsabit county
2. To what extent has the availability of small arms influenced the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?
3. What are the socio-cultural factors influencing tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?
4. To what extent have the various political interests influenced tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?
5. To what level have the competition over pasture and water points influenced tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

The findings of this study may be significant in a various ways. Firstly, the findings of the study may provide information to the general public, local communities, the government, NGOs, religious leaders and all the stake holders and other interested parties on the factors influencing the tribal conflicts in Marsabit District and hence if successful such studies can be done in other areas of similar background. On the other hand, this study could bring out to the limelight of all efforts put in place by different stakeholders in Marsabit towards tribal conflicts resolution put in Marsabit District. In addition, the policy makers may find the information useful as they attempt to formulate peace keeping policies that brings stability in the pastoral conflicting communities of Marsabit County and beyond. Besides these, the results of the study may provide data for other researchers who may be interested in carrying out further related study on the above subject.

### **1.7 Limitations of the Study**

Marsabit County being in the furthest end of Northern Kenya, the distance factor remains a very big challenge to my study. The county is a vast region characterized by arid and semi arid patches with very sparse, dispersed and vey mobile pastoral population settlements which are connected very poorly by weather roads which can turn impassable during wet times of the year by rains. In addition, poor security on the same roads with frequent banditry attacks on the ways also remains a threat to the study which involves walking from one location to another. Besides this, suspicion from various communities living in the area is also a threat to the study, of course with questions like; why and what reasons are behind all the interviews or questionnaires.

On the other hand the administrative bureaucracy on the permission for the public and personal interviews with the respondents also remains an obstacle to the study. Above all, the cost involved for travelling to the study area, the payments for the research assistants and other personal expenses is also a strong limitation to the study.

### **1.8 Delimitations of the Study**

The study will delimit itself to Marsabit District. The choice of the district was made due to the fact that it is affected by constant tribal conflicts in Northern Kenya with the latest bloody tribal clashes in the year 2006 to 2007 which culminated in the plane crash in which six senior government officials perished while on the process of resolving the conflicts.

Marsabit District lies in the upper Eastern Province of Kenya. It lies North of Moyale District, South to Isiolo District, East to Wajir District and Turkana to the West. Marsabit District is made up of both an highland and dry belt. The highland belt mainly lies in the central division of the district which forms major part of Marsabit town and the famous Marsabit forest which has a permanent lake known as Lake Paradise. Marsabit forest is an home to many wild animals like elephants, lions, giraffes and buffaloes. The forest also forms a larger part of tourism resort for both domestic and international tourists. On the sides of this so called highlands in the desert, lies fertile zones like Badassa, Songah, Dirib Gombo and Sagante which forms a highly productive agricultural ground for crop farming and the above mentioned fertile zones also lies in Gadamoji Division which is also my study area. On this fertile belt, the people of Marsabit grow maize, bananas, mangoes, oranges and pockets of cash crops like miraa. Surrounding Marsabit highlands is the vast belts of arid and semi arid areas. As we advance south of the district lies



Laisamis and Logo Logo arid regions. To the North of highlands lies the famous Chalbi semi-Desert which stretches from Kargi, Kalacha, Dukana, North Horr all the way to the great Diid Galgallu arid and semi arid areas. To the East of this highlands is the wide plains of Shuur. On all the above mentioned arid and semi-arid regions of Marsabit District, the main economic activity of the area is pastoralist where cattle, camel, goats and sheep are reared by the different pastoral communities of Marsabit.

According to the 2009 population census, Marsabit County has a population of 29166. 15,112 of them male and 140,054 female. There are three constituencies: North Horr, Saku and Laisamis. The Borana is the dominant community who have been involved in skirmishes with the Gabra who dominate North Horr. Laisamis is also dominated by the Rendille tribe who are also in constant conflict with the above two communities.

### **1.9 Assumptions of the Study**

In this study it is assumed that the religious leaders, the government officials' representatives, the NGOs, the youth leaders and the political leaders and the community elders have adequate information and knowledge on the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. The study also assumes that Gadamoji Division of Marsabit district could be a nearly perfect representation of the centre of tribal conflicts in Marsabit since it is occupied many different communities of the District including the Boran, Gabra, Burji and the division is also bordered by The Rendille Community which finds itself pitted against all of the above mentioned tribes. On the other hand, the study also assumes that the data is readily available in this study area since it was the centre stage of the tribal clashes witnessed in Marsabit county in the year 2005 and this place formed the bases for settlement of evictees and the internally displaced population of the same clashes. Moreover, it is

also assumed by the study that, this population will definitely co-operate with the researcher for they were the true victims and witnesses of the tribal clashes that rocked the area. In addition, the chosen area has a friendly weather which is not as harsh as the other part of the counties. In fact, the Gadamoji Division is in the locality and vicinity of Marsabit Forest, a small highland in the desert as it is usually called by the locals. Above all, this study area has been chosen by the researcher because of its current relative peacefulness following some conflict resolution attempts put in place since the tribal clashes in the area.

#### **1.10 Definition of Significant Terms**

The following are the significant terms used in this study.

**Conflict** refers to a state of human interaction where there is disharmony which emerges when; parties compete over perceived or actual goals, values or interests or when parties confront each other with opposing actions aimed at beating the opponent.

**Inter-Tribal Conflict** refers to a state of disharmony characterized by hatred, sometimes resulting in fatalities and other forms of destruction of high dimension between different communities living in the same or different areas but sharing the same climatic environment with a common resource need and sometimes have different political interests at their competition.

**Community elder** refers to men who are regarded by different communities to head or represent them in various functions like public meetings and development issues rolled through government or nongovernmental organizations.

**NGO** refers to Non Governmental Organization involved in activities aimed at developmental goals in the district.



**Youth Representatives** refers to the leaders who head a team of young people below the age of 35 years.

**Religious Leaders** refers to the people who head a religious organization of various denominations like catholics, Protestants churches and Muslims societies of communities living in Marsabit County.

**Pastoralists** refer to the communities of Marsabit County who move from one place to another in search of pasture and water depending on the weather condition.

**Farmers** refer to people who till their piece of land in order to earn their living.

### **1.11 Organization of the Study**

This study comprises of five chapters. Chapter one, the introduction, contains background information to the study, the statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, delimitations of study, assumptions of study and definition of significant terms. Chapter two reviews literature on geographical location of the study area, conflicts in the area, factors influencing tribal conflicts in the study area. Chapter three focuses on the methods which were applied in carrying out the research study. It covered the research design, target population, sample and sampling techniques, research instruments, validity and reliability of the instruments, piloting and data collection procedures and data analysis techniques. Chapter four presents data analysis and discussions of the study findings. Chapter five deSals with the summary, conclusions, recommendations and suggestions for further research.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

This section covers the actors of pastoral conflicts, tribal conflicts, factors causing tribal conflicts in Marsabit; competition for water and pasture, socio – cultural factors, political factors, availability of small arms and rivalry over pastureland and water points.

#### **2.2 Influence of various actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County**

Pastoral conflict is now characterised by a multiple array of actors and influences from national and international sources; the result is a variety of outcomes.

##### **2.2.1 Pastoralists**

In Kenya, like elsewhere in Africa, the word “pastoralist” is often used to indicate a broad ethnic origin, independently from the fact of how one actually makes a living. A Maasai wage labourer in Nairobi, a Turkana university student, or a Borana director of an NGO, may all define themselves as “pastoralists”. It is therefore necessary, when talking of pastoralists and conflict, to remember that some of the actors involved may not be herders at all, yet would still be considered, and would consider themselves, pastoralists.

##### **2.2.2 Age set organizations**

A useful distinction is between youth-driven and elder-driven conflict. Although young men are usually the fighters in both cases, the nature of the conflict and the chance of peace building may change greatly from one to the other.

Elders have their own herd and a family. Their interest is in ensuring good relations in order to widen access to resources, to facilitate commercial activities and in general to promote security, although they may also start violent conflicts to gain access to resources or to political power; for example, the clashes in Wajir district in 1992-1995 were driven by the elders (Ibrahim and Jenner, 1996). Similarly, the tribal clashes between the Borana and Gabras in Marsabit district in the year 2004 was initiated by the elders from both tribes through neglecting of early signs of conflicts characterised by occasional killings of the Boran Men who are believed to be poachers as they travel back through areas occupied by Gabras (communication to me from Borana elders).

Married women feed the family and, in some cases, trade. It is in their interest to secure access to markets, to safeguard their children, to increase milk production. Young men are waiting to start their own homestead; they want to increase their prestige and respect within the community, attract girls and be able to afford marriage. Security offers them few immediate advantages. They are highly mobile. It is in their interest to shake up

Existing power relationships within the community and they may prefer to trade security for cattle, money or prestige. Among some groups (for example, Samburu, Gabbra, Borana) the distinction between the elders who sponsor the present warrior age-sets, and the other elders, constitutes a further differentiation of interests.

Traditionally, all raids should first be approved by the elders, but early ethnographers stress that often young men decided in secret and took action quickly without informing the elders of their intentions (Gulliver, 1951). However, large scale daylight attacks typical of escalated conflict and all-out war required a degree of organization and mobilization that was only within the power of elders or war leaders.

Control of the pastoral economy used to be a monopoly of the elder age-set (men and women in different ways and degrees): the elders own the livestock, control resources and dispose of marriages.



The young are poor by definition, to the point that should a young man inherit a herd and family responsibilities, he would become an "elder" regardless of his age (Baxter, 1979).

With respect to warfare, therefore, the notion of pastoralists should be disaggregated, to take account of the antagonistic interests between age-sets.

Age-sets are ritual associations of people that (a) cut across kin linkages, (b) are structured into cycles of initiation, regularly apportioned according to a fixed number of years, and named with a traditional series of names, and (c) are associated with specific values and behaviours.

The *gada* system among the Oromo-Borana for example, has five sets per ritual generation, spaced eight years from one another, so that the sons of set 1 are initiated into set 6, ideally when the men of set 1 are in their forties. Each set is given a name out of a series of seven in cyclical succession (Baxter 1979).

Early ethnographers have seen little political relevance in the age systems, understanding generation and age-set organizations as institutions only marginally associated with warfare (Peristiany, 1951), and mainly with functions of social integration (Gulliver, 1953) or, later, as ideological formations directed towards creating order and long term-social stability (Baxter and Almagor, 1978). In other words, age systems have been seen as a tool for ensuring social unity, cutting across kin and agnatic linkages.

- A recent collection of studies, however, focusing on the relations of power within age systems, takes an opposite view which offers important insights for the analysis of conflict (Simonse and Kurimoto, 1998).

The authors argue that age systems are regional and cross-ethnic phenomena, at the core of Institutionalized "confrontational scenarios" between antagonistic social actors: seniors and juniors, men and women, territorial units within an ethnic group, and ethnic groups.

In this light, raids may be seen as a form of competition for control over resources (and ultimately power) between different age-sets, before it becomes between different groups. In reciprocal raiding the warrior age-sets of group-A raid the elder age-sets of group-B, then the warrior age-sets of B raid the elder age sets of A. Peace meetings take place first of all between warriors and elders of the same group, when, in

the face of "excessive" economic disruption, the elders persuade the warriors to be more moderate (Baxter, 1979).

Conceptualizing pastoral conflict as conflict over resources between different age groups forces the understanding of it into the framework of the neoclassical economics paradigm of scarcity. A conceptualization of pastoral conflict as conflict over resources/power between age-sets puts the emphasis on distribution and therefore allows for essential insights into the political sphere.

An approach to conflict from the analysis of power relations within age systems also throws a new light on the relationship between conflict and peacemaking. An escalation of young men's warfare causes economic disruption which damages above all the elder age-set (at least in the short term). The peace making role of the elders, and sometimes of women, perhaps would be better understood, rather than as a

Nonpartisan intervention, as the affirmation of the elders' interests against those of young men and a part of the antagonistic relationship between youth and age. Similarly, unrestrained conflict escalation is often understood as the elders' inability to exercise their institutional role of conflict management. Perhaps, some present conflict should be understood as an indication not of the weakness of the elders but of their new, powerful and unacceptably permanent (as far as the warriors are concerned) forms of resource

control, for example through formalization of rights, connections with local and national government.

The notion that one party may perceive the other party's behaviour as *excessive* may be applied to



inter-age set relationships. Not only may the elders perceive as excessive the warrior's hostile activities, but the young men also may perceive as excessive the elders' control activities. In this case, external support to the elders' authority for conflict resolution is likely to upset the power balance between antagonistic age sets, and fuel further conflict rather than working towards resolution.

Finally, even where the age system is maintained, the internal structure of age-sets is undergoing a process of differentiation. Although linked in principle with biological ageing, the status of "elder" is first of all a social construction. In the past, it used to integrate age, economic control and political authority.

More recent political and economic transformations in pastoral societies have further disaggregated the attributes of the status of "elder". Political authority, economic control and age still characterize it, but now often independently from one another. Today for example the social role of elder is not any more a prerogative of age, but can be played by young men as well, if they are wealthy or enjoy political authority, for example as chiefs or councillors. In this way, the antagonism between age and youth cuts across biological age, along the lines of the different component features of elder status, and becomes much more complex. The possible combinations of conflictual interests are thus hugely multiplied.

### **2.2.3 Influence of Businessmen**

Arms sellers often supply weapons on credit. This practice may be seen as a form of investment, similar to the old practice of richer people "investing" a camel (for a young man with no camel to ride) in Saharan raids and caravans, and taking part of the profit from the operation as payment.

Often weapon traders also have a role in marketing raided livestock. According to Goldsmith, the political transformation in Somalia after 1991 'generated a change of *shifita* banditry towards financed and well connected trade barons who recruit from retired army personnel and school-



leavers - a new class of professional and sophisticated highwaymen' (1997: 24). Similarly, a strong allegation is put against the businessmen in Marsabit by warring communities that the frequent conflicts are usually facilitated by the business tycoons who find a booming businesses in the mix of clashes through trade of weapons which are made available to the warriors at affordable costs including barter trade where the warriors give out cattle, goats, camel and sheep in exchange of fire arms.

#### **2.2.4 Impact of Mercenaries**

Commercial and political raids are increasingly organized around wage-labour. Some hired fighters may be trained people with experience in armed conflict in neighbouring countries, but many are youngsters with no military training, not necessarily herders but also urban unemployed, school leavers or occasional wage-labourers. There have been cases of groups of "warriors" hired by different ethnic groups to counter-raid for them (personal communication from elders and the warring communities). For example during the tribal clashes between Boran and Gabras in 2004-2005, The North Horr Member of Parliament, the late Dr Bonaya argued that the Borans are assisted by their kinsmen who are Ethiopian rebels (OLF) believed to be based in Sololo and supported by their Kenyan counterparts. On the same note, the Boran also argue that the Gabras were being assisted in war by their Gabra counterparts who are believed to be well trained by Ethiopian Government since they are regarded as the Governments loyalist to counter launch offensives against Oromo rebels whose sympathizers were Borans of Kenya.

#### **2.2.5 Influence of Politicians (MPs, councillors) and warlords**

Politicians may facilitate conflict by not intervening (Fratkin, 1994a), or they may directly promote conflict by propaganda or even as a form of political competition before elections (Amisi, 1997). Sometimes raids have been used to generate funds for an electoral campaign. Goldsmith (1997) reports cases of administratively appointed chiefs and elected member of local county councils inciting people to conflict. A politician may sometime enhance his reputation by Initiating a raid. These political incitation is very common cases in Marsabit tribal conflicts as it was very evident during various community meetings where the area Mps traded accusations and counter accusations over the other being behind the clashes for gaining of popularities through the wars. The instrumental use of raiding for politics is not a recent phenomenon. In his classic monograph on the northern Somali, Lewis (1961) says that the Administration succeeded in lowering the rate of conflicts by fining local political authorities who in any way incited raiding.

#### **2.2.6 Influence of Administrators (DCs, chiefs)**

Chiefs and DCs may sometime be involved in raids as facilitators or promoters, and take a share in the division of the booty. During the 1992-94 clashes in Wajir, chiefs had a major role in funding and directing the conflict (Ibrahim and Jenner, 1996). Similarly, it is also argued that in Marsabit tribal clashes, the above administrators have taken sides in favour of their communities or even their loyalties in the cases of Dos, DCs and local area chiefs.

#### **2.2.7 Impact of Civil society organizations, NGOs and other agencies.**

External agencies may fuel conflicts by proving easily manipulatable aid:

- (a) Giving power and prestige to the warlords who are in a position to control aid;
- (b) Providing an additional source of income to the disputants;



- (c) Blindly altering or confirming, the existing balance of power between the disputants;
- (d) Creating “advantageous” conditions for refugees and conflict-destitute people in relation to local standards. Project investments (for example in new water points) can jeopardize customary resource tenure systems and increase disputes and violence. External agencies also may slow down or jeopardize local processes of conflict management by overwhelming them with easily manipulated resources.

Western agencies may hinder local processes of conflict management by maintaining an antagonistic approach towards Islamic organizations, looking for civil society groups to work with on conflict resolution but not recognizing or deliberately ignoring the fact that in Islamic areas the largest part of civil society is represented not by NGOs but by religious groups (Goldsmith, 1997). On the other hand, external agencies

Supporting or working together with civil society organizations may mediate between the disputants or support customary mediators, provide a forum for discussion, facilitate communication and negotiation.

### **2.2.8 Refugees Influence**

Large numbers of refugees from neighbouring countries, particularly in drought or conflicts, can contribute to increased insecurity. In Wajir, refugees were one of the causes of the violence in 1992-95, although not the main one (WPDC, 1994; Ibrahim and Jenner, 1996). Furthermore, refugee repatriation operations can be used by non-refugees from the host country or from a neighbouring country as a channel for clandestine migration and to gain access to new resources with the help of the international agencies. Marco Bassi (1997) argues that during the large UNHCR operation for the repatriation of



Ethiopian refugees from Kenya in 1992-1993, as the UNHCR procedure for registration in refugee camps was based on an individual's own statement of identity, a significant number of Gabbra and Garre pastoralists from Kenya and Somalia were able to join the Ethiopian refugee-returnee flow by exploiting kin ties and linguistic affinity with Oromo groups. The status of Oromo refugee ensured them rights to repatriation into Boran province and long term assistance by the UN and other international agencies, which could be used to gain access to resources traditionally controlled by the Boran.

Similarly, a war between the Ethiopian Boran and the Gabra counterparts in 1992 led to large *displacement of these communities into both Marsabit and Moyale district and it is always* believed that the rivalries between the Boran and Gabra rooted from those refugees who were settled in Kenya as aftermath of those clashes integrated with the fall of the Ethiopian Government of Mengistu Haille Mariam in 1992.

#### **2.2.9 The influence of state;**

Conflict in pastoral areas is often associated with their marginal location. Pastoralists are seen as not only geographically marginal, but also as politically and culturally marginal. Their presumed distance from modern institutions and from the controlling action of the state is often accepted as a self-evident explanation for widespread violence. However, the equation less state = more violence, which polarizes violent conflict and the state, fails to recognize the latter as a key actor in situations of conflict. On the contrary, evidence from the literature suggests that any analysis of the actors in a situation of conflict should include the state.

*(i) The historical impact of the state on ethnic identity.*

Interaction with the state plays an important role in the creation of ethnic/tribal identities. Anthropological analysis of the historical processes of construction and reconstruction of ethnic identities in Africa shows that identity formation in the past was characterized by a high degree of dynamism and fluidity (Amselle, 1990; Sobania, 1991; Lamphear, 1994). Interaction with the colonial administration first, and with Independent states later, has modified that situation, freezing existing ethnic identities as well as creating new fixed ones. Although largely a creation of the colonial administration, tribal labels gradually became a social reality as the various groups found it convenient or necessary to be recognized as an administrative entity when dealing with the state. Within the context of the fluid and dynamic construction and reconstruction of ethnic identity, tribal labels worked as new poles of aggregation and were readily exploited by people as a way to adapt to a drastically altered socio-economic and political environment (Allen, 1994). With reference to Somali, Lidwien Kapteijns (1993) shows how even clan communal identity is a product of Somali late-colonial and post-independence interaction with each other and with the state in the context of patriarchy and the capitalist world economy.

*(ii) Impact of the state in relation to the administration of justice*

In parts of north Kenya the state is technically present (for example through the army and the chief system), but is ineffective (for example the soldiers have no ammunition or fuel for their vehicles). This inaction of the state is dangerous in various ways. From a local point of view the state is never innocuous or absent. The inaction of the state is more likely to be perceived as intentional, deliberate discrimination rather than objective weakness. The state's inaction therefore can contribute directly to escalation of conflict. Furthermore, the presence of an inactive



state destroys local initiatives. As the state monopolizes the role of arbiter and administrator of justice, in the case of violent conflict its functionaries fill the space that may be available for peaceful management of the situation. When their promises are not fulfilled, or when they appear to support one party to the disadvantage of the other, then it is usually too late to seek alternative forms of mediation, and violence is likely to escalate. The authority of the elders, who could provide an alternative forum for justice, is usually associated with the authority of the administration, although not entirely dependent on it. In this way, when the administration loses face with young men impatient to obtain justice, the authority of the elders is also jeopardized and is no longer perceived as a viable alternative.

During the clashes between Pokot and Marakwet in 1997 for example, on one occasion a group of Marakwet raided two Pokot herders of more than three hundred cattle. Pokot elders negotiated with Marakwet elders in the return of the stolen animals while Pokot young men were mobilized to look for the animals. At that point the Provincial Administration took the situation into its own hands, promising to intervene and to help find the cattle. When only 12 animals were returned, it proved impossible to further restrain the youth and the situation went out of control (Wanjala, 1997). The same kind of scenarios were so common in Marsabit county on most occasions of raids where the Government always gives unfulfilled promises of returning the loot and bringing down the raiders to book but all in vain thus triggering further revenge attacks which are usually bloody with terrible fatalities and property losses.

Groups of raiders often treat state organizations with contempt, or co-opt them. Quite often, the security forces are informed about raids by the raiders themselves, and so played against the target group to prevent a counter raid.



Violence is in theory a monopoly of the state, so any kind of violence is by definition a challenge to the state's authority. Open violence, even when it is not directed against the state itself, is always an affirmation of political autonomy from the government (Kurimoto, 1994). In this light, violent and sometimes indiscriminate interventions by the security forces appear very much as primarily directed towards re-establishing the state's unique right to violence, and only secondarily towards conflict resolution. One important turning point in peace building in Wajir was achieved when the Army Commander committed himself 'to stop the looting, rape and other abuses by army personnel when they were out on missions' (Ibrahim and Jenner, 1996: 19).

On the other hand, direct conflict-resolution interventions of the state in the form of military operations for disarmament, like those carried out with heavy weaponry (including fighting helicopters) against Pokot, Turkana and Karamojong in the mid-1980s in Kenya (Dietz, 1993), are likely to change the balance of power between different groups, with a consequent rise in violence.

On the same note the famous Turbi massacre in Marsabit county came to an almost permanent halt after the Government of Kenya decided to put a permanent police station and army base in the Turbi area where the war erupted initially with higher level of human fatalities. This was an area which was so much marginalised by the same state of Kenya since colonial period with no signs of permanent police station or any other sign of security affirmation by the state except for the passing military officers vehicle which are usually seen once in a long while, may be twice in a year when on their way to the Ethiopia border post for annual operations.

Finally, any analysis of the role of the state in situations of conflict should acknowledge the existence of heterogeneous and often conflictual interests within the state structure itself.

Different elements of the state, such as DCs, MPs, chiefs or security committees, may have very different agendas, and local people may have a certain degree of awareness of such differences. The notion of state should therefore be disaggregated into its various components.

#### **2.2.10 Impact of Women and children;**

Although the causal link between the use of modern weapons and the apparent increase in violence is not clear, there is little doubt that the availability of automatic rifles lowers both the strength and training required in fighting and therefore extends the range of potential fighters to include very young boys and, at least in principle, women and girls.

Increasingly, young boys are directly involved in fighting, at least in a defensive role. The “gestation period” of future fighting manpower (as short as 8-9 years if the availability of modern weapons is high) is included by Belshaw (1999) among the variables which can affect cumulative differentiation in power between pastoral groups.

There are cases in which, the warriors being engaged elsewhere, women used automatic rifles to drive back a party of raiders. Direct involvement of women as fighters however appears to be a relatively rare phenomenon. According to Belshaw (1999), this is because within the traditional gender division of labour, women’s productive and reproductive capacity subject to a higher degree of scarcity in comparison to fighting power, and therefore is protected from higher-risk occupations.

In many pastoral societies, women sing war songs. These songs normally taunt the men and incite them towards more fighting. As such songs reach elders, youth, or the business elite; they can make or break reputations and are an important source of motivation of conflict (Ibrahim and Jenner, 1996).



Although the social position of women in pastoral societies tends to give them only a minor part in formal mediation systems, women may be important in informal contexts. Among Boran for example, a woman's ties to her lineage of birth are not fully severed with marriage (Lewis, 1961). As women marry out of their clan, they are key figures in inter-clan linkages and can provide crucial channels for communication between rival clans. This is true also for women who joined their husbands' social group through abduction. Thus abduction of girls during the raids may have the double effect of calling for retaliation and —once the girls are married — providing important linkages between enemy groups who would not normally inter-marry (Mkangi, 1997).

### **2.3 The Tribal Conflicts in Marsabit County.**

Tribe refers to a group of people who stay together in the same or different environment, who share some commonalities like language, practices and customs. Here in Kenya, we have over 42 different tribes who share the national resources of this country. The tribal conflicts usually occurs due to differences in values and interest of different societies, competition for scarce resources and also other human factors like political pressures. Marsabit District is occupied by seven different tribes ranging from Borans, Gabra, Rendille, Samburu, Burji, Wata and the Turkana people. The Rendille, Samburu, Gabra and major sections of Boran communities are pastoralists who keep on moving around from one place to another in search of water and greener pasture for their livestock. On the other hand, the Burji people are majorly business people although some are also farmers in the highlands of Marsabit. In addition, the Wata people are majorly hunters and gatherers and they are assumed to be assimilated by the larger communities of Boran.



## **2.4 Factors Influencing Tribal Conflicts in Marsabit County.**

Conflicts are very natural phenomena in every human setting due to different factors. Some of these factors are natural while others are human influenced factors. In this study, the factors identified as the main players of tribal conflicts include the political factors, socio-cultural factors, competition over scarce water and pasture resources and availability of small arms in the region. All these factors are as discussed below.

### **2.4.1 Competition for Scarce Water and Pasture Resources.**

In Kenya, the pastoralist communities occupy the largest percentage (over 70%) of the country's total land area. The population of the livestock keeping (pastoralist) communities in Kenya is estimated at about 20% of the total population of the country (i.e. about 6 million people out the total 30 million) (Kenya Population and Housing Census, 1999) Most of these people occupy the vast Arid and Semi-Arid region of Northern Kenya. They keep cattle, camel, goat, sheep and donkeys (Kratli, & Swift, 1999).

The Northern Kenyan pastoralists are nomadic ethnic groups that are highly mobile. These are mainly Turkana, Samburu, Pokot, Borana, Gabra, Rendille, Orma and Somali clans. They move from one area to another in search of pasture and water for their livestock. Their movements are not restricted to one area or even country as they move into and out of neighboring countries such as Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan and Uganda. These movements in search of pasture and water are one of the major sources of misunderstanding and conflict between them and their neighbours (Kratli, & Swift, 1999). As we have discussed earlier in the introduction concerning the set up of the area of our study, the people living in Marsabit area are pastoralists who fully depend on livestock for their livelihoods. These people keep on moving from one place to another in search

of green pasture and water for their cattle, camel and goats in the vast plains of Marsabit. Others also migrate from time to time towards the forested areas. Due to common drought periods which dry up the water points and overgrazing which deplete the pasture, these communities find themselves fighting among themselves from time to time over these scarce resources hence ending up in bloody encounters associated with massive loss of lives at the end of every conflict. In fact many wars fought between The Boran and Gabra communities of Marsabit are due to struggle for control of water points and grazing field.

## **2.5 The influence of Socio –Cultural Factors**

Different communities have different social and cultural practice. Some of these practices are safe haven for conflict environments. For example, in both the Boran and Rendille communities, the strength of a man is measured in terms of the number of people (enemies) he has killed or the number of livestock he gained through raids. Cattle rustling among pastoral communities are one such cultural practice which breeds conflicts and tribal conflicts among people of Marsabit area. Literally all the communities living in these areas share these common practices and finally it ends them up in tribal wars. This believe is supported by Schlee G(1989) who clearly described these pastoral societies as encircled by strong identities engulfed by clanships throughout their way of life. He also described them further as tribes with a culturally fixed system of leadership which does not allow for any challenges of their strong cultural practices put in place as a show of dominance over others, Schlee G (1998).

In other cases, it is a believe among these pastoralists that previous raids, whether a month ago, an year ago or even a decade ago: it has to be paid dearly through revenges and the cycle continues always. On the other hand, the pastoralist communities have culturally accepted age set



movements like *Ariya* in case of Boran and *Moran* in the case of Rendille where the reputation of this traditional age set movement has to uphold its reputations through a successive raids and attacks on their neighboring communities whom they term as enemies in their local set up. Unless their raids are proved successful by the elders, this age set is believed to be doomed and their graduation to the next set is always kept in suspense. To attain this target the said age set movement has no option but to only go beyond the expectation through tribal raids. A current cropping situation is also about the bridal wealth which is becoming a challenge to most young men who are idling in the villages. Culturally, there is a given fixed number of livestock; cattle, camel and goats which are supposed to be paid as a dowry. The young men of these communities are usually left with little hope of raising their own wealth and this pushes them to the option of going on raids to other communities hence another ground for tribal skirmishes all the times.

## **2.6 The Influence of Political Factors.**

Politicians may facilitate conflict by not intervening (Fratkin, 1994a), or they may directly promote conflict by propaganda or even as a form of political competition before elections (Amisi, 1997). Sometimes raids have been used to generate funds for an electoral campaign. Goldsmith (1997) reports cases of administratively appointed chiefs and elected member of local county councils inciting people to conflict. A politician may sometime enhance his reputation by initiating a raid

It is very natural in every society to have leaders of all kinds including both right and wrong ones. Leaders influence their followers in many ways using their power play tactics. It is quite unfortunate in these pastoral societies that most conflicts are brought about by their conducts and how they deal with their challenges encountered by their tribesmen. Most leaders are known for



words of incitation which pits different communities against one another even at the slightest provocation of the interests of different tribes living in the same localities. This observation is not only common in Marsabit tribal conflicts but also at national level in Kenya 2007/2008 during the bloody post election violence which pitted different tribes against each another.

On the other hand, we always hear and even see people of a given community being pushed or even removed forcibly out of a given region whenever general election nears, a case example being the so called tribal cleansing in the great Rift valley just before 1992 general election where kikuyu were evicted since they formed the major block of supporters for the opposition party politics of Ford Asili as opposed to KANU as argued by Amisi B.K.(1997)

There is also a strong allegation among the pastoral communities that most raids are steered by various politicians as they use the proceeds from the loot as electoral fund raising through sale of the raided animals in a market distant from the areas of the tribal skirmishes. Moreover, the political class is also accused of using hired fighters and warriors to instigate wars against communities who are believed to be their political opponents. A case example of this is the allegation put against the Kenya ICC suspects who are believed to have used the outlawed Mungiki sect during the post election conflicts in 2007/2008.

## **2.7 Availability of Small Arms.**

The conflict situation in areas inhabited by pastoralists are complicated by two major issues, the regional dimension (neighbouring with other countries of East and Horn of Africa); and most importantly easy availability and continuous in-flow of small arms and light weapons from these neighbouring states (Kratli, & Swift, 1999).

According to Khadiagala, (2003), conflicts and banditry are common across much of the arid lands of Northern Kenya, where firearms are increasingly common among pastoralist communities. In 2009 alone, such violence claimed more than 354 lives, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Kenya. In the Northern Isiolo region, Drought Management Officer Paul Kimeu told IRIN: "People are no longer attacked using spears and arrows. Sometimes very sophisticated guns are used, increasing fatalities."

Being near to the porous Kenya Ethiopia border, the location of Marsabit County stands in the centre of illegal arm trade enhanced by free movement of the people. As expected in every border towns, the flows of small arms are a common thing in the black markets. These arms are relatively affordable and readily available to these pastoralists who transverse the plains of the grazing lands. The pastoralists buy and use these arms in the name of self protections from the so called enemies who are usually their neighboring tribes regarded as rivals. Whenever a conflict arises, it becomes easier to these people to

draw their arms against one another. In revenge the cycle of wars continues at the affordability of these arms. As also found in the government intelligent sources, the same believe also holds that these arms are made available to the residents through the foreign militias like the OLF (Oromo Liberation Front )who are majorly blamed to be the conflict actors in Marsabit county as they are alleged to supply both arms and their armies to assist their kinsmen who are the Kenya Borans also believed to be their sympathizers and loyalist towards their goal of overthrowing the neighboring Ethiopian Government.

## **2.8 Theoretical framework**



The rise in ethnicity and ethnic violence is an antithesis of the expectations of politics of 'liberal Democracy' that promised to deliver liberty and equality among the individual citizens and to Limit ethnicity to the brackets of private life and to make it irrelevant in political arenas. Also the social scientists notion that modernization will turn tribes and ethnic communities obsolete or put them into larger more centralized organisation, such as nations, has not worked. Rather, there is shift towards ethnic ideologies within nations.

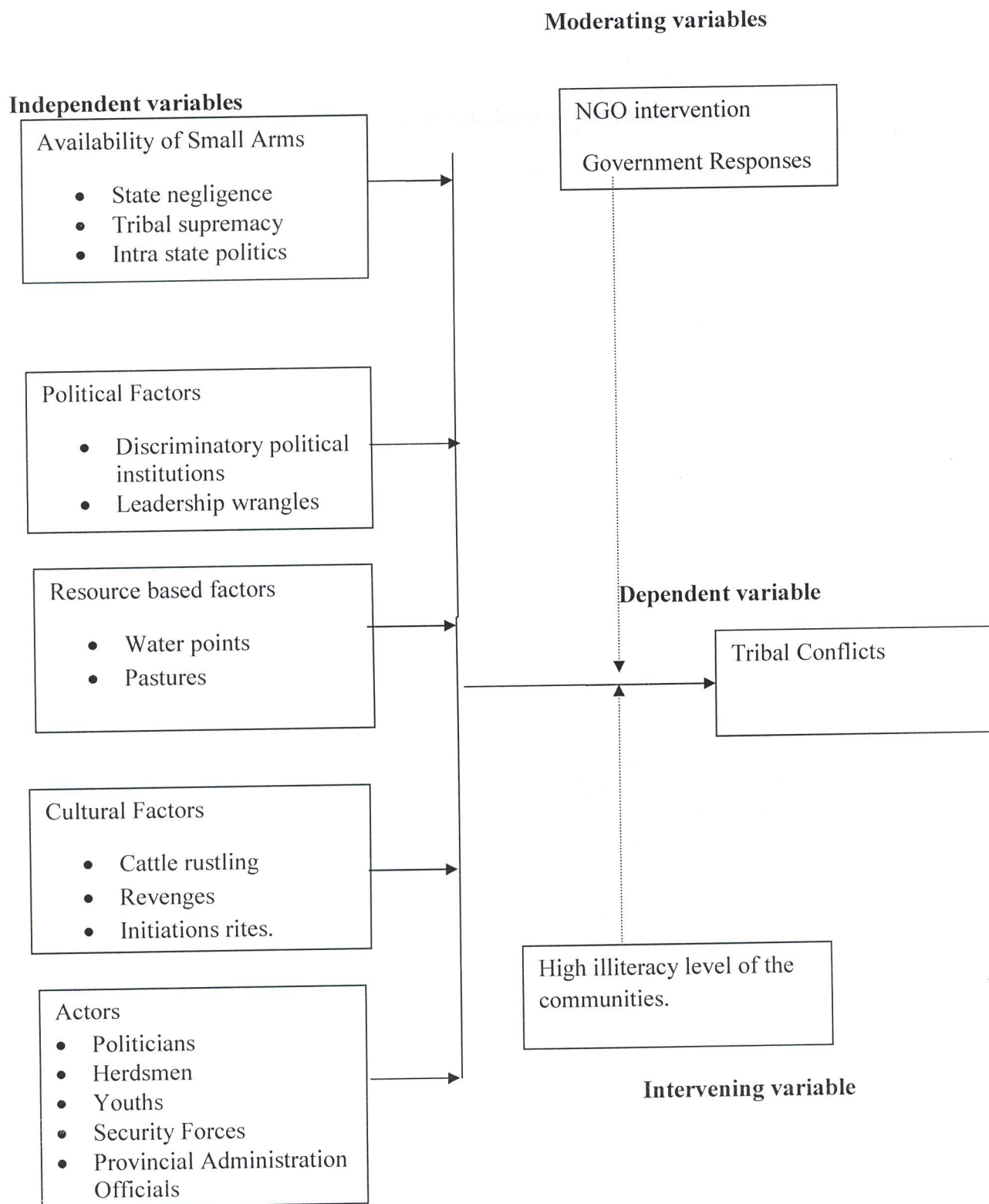
This is because ethnicity appears to offer individual security and material well being to groups with common identity where the state failed to provide the same. Also the ineffectiveness of the internationalised solutions to such factors as democratisations forced communities to believe that the power in the current world lies in the 'barrel of ethnic gun'. Nonetheless, the issues that drive ethnic conflicts cannot easily be explained, simply because there are numerous causes. The literature however points out struggle over disputed land, competition over resources, political competition availability of arms and cultural based factors that may increase inequality, fear of the future where certain ethnic group is concerned that they are being assimilated into a dominant culture or even fear for their physical security and survival.

## **2.9 Conceptual Framework**

It has been argued that any of the approaches that do not address the causes of conflict fails in the long run. From the onset of his analysis of conflict, theory, processes and institutions of management, Makumi (2000: 1) contends that it is not possible to understand, analyze, or even manage conflict before defining its nature and content. Luise Druke-Bolewski contends that there is need to distinguish between root and proximate causes and to consider both remedial and preventive action. Several root causes of violent conflict can be identified: these include:



ethnicity, inequitable distribution of resources, authoritarian and majoritarian rule, and the weakness of states. Exacerbating factors include boundary disputes due to inappropriate borders inherited from colonial rule, indiscriminate arms flow and sensational reporting by the media. Brown (1996: 1-33) also agrees with different levels of underlying and proximate causes of conflict.



**Fig 1. Conceptual Framework.** Source: Researcher (2012)

### CHAPTER THREE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The conceptual framework shows the interrelatedness of the variables of the study. It is based on the systems approach. The figure shows that the inputs are the independent variables; the process is the combinations of different factors and actors in conflict situations while the output (the dependent variable) is the tribal conflicts. The moderating factors like the NGOs intervention and government responses to conflicts as well as the intervening variables like the high illiteracy levels of the different communities are expected to influence the occurrences of the tribal conflicts.

This research uses this approach as a model to examine the various causes of conflict in Marsabit County and to make recommendations.



## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

This section covers the research design, the target population, sample and the sampling procedures, research instruments, validity and reliability of instruments, data collection and data analysis procedures, ethical consideration and operational definition of variables.

#### **3.2 Research Design**

The study used descriptive survey. Descriptive research does not fit neatly into the definition of either quantitative or qualitative research methodologies, but instead it can utilize elements of both, often within the same study. The term descriptive research refers to the type of research question, design, and data analysis that will be applied to a given topic. Descriptive statistics tell what is, while inferential statistics try to determine cause and effect. Descriptive research design can acquire a lot of information through description. It is useful for identifying variables and hypothetical constructs which can further be investigated through other means. The choice of the descriptive survey research design is made based on the fact that in this study, the researcher will be interested on the state of affairs already existing in the field that is the factors contributing to constantly occurring conflicts in Marsabit County.

#### **3.3 Target Population**

The target population of the study was the religious leaders, the community elders, the Government officials like the administration officers both at the district and divisional levels, the Non Governmental Organizations, the youth representatives, the women representatives and the political leaders, the head teachers of both primary and secondary schools in the Marsabit County as shown in the table below..

**Table 3.1 Categories of Target Population**

Categories of population	Population
Religious leaders	9
Community elders	10
Government officials	10
Non Governmental Organizations	11
Youth representatives	11
Women representatives	10
Political leaders	11
Head teachers	11

### 3.4 Sample and Sampling Procedures

This researcher used purposive sampling methods. A sample of respondents was selected using purposive since the information needed for the study was believed to be readily available with the above stakeholders by the fact of the experiences of their work through direct engagements of their daily activities with various communities of Marsabit County through attending to their leadership roles. The researchers' method of purposive sampling is also backed by the fact that the kind of both historical and present information concerning the tribal conflict squarely lies with elders and leaders due to their age factor which exposed and took them through various dynamics of ethnical challenges and shortcomings in the county throughout their long life as opposed to the young.

### 3.5 Sample Size

The sample size was determined by the use of the sampling table guide. It was used to determine the needed size of a purposive chosen sample from a given finite population of N cases such that



the sample proportion  $P$  was within plus or minus 0.5 of the population proportion  $P$  with a 95 percent level of confidence

### **3.6 Research Instruments**

The study used questionnaire, for all the targeted respondents, focus group discussions for peace forum participants from the warring communities of Boran and Gabra mediated by the District Peace Committee in the Cross border organized by Arid Lands and The World Vision Office in Moyale. The focus group discussion is also useful because it is best suited for obtaining data on group attitudes and perceptions in order to bring to the fore the determinants of tribal conflicts in the County as the peace forum participants forged their way forward for peace and reconciliation. The study used interview schedules for the community elders to establish the factors that influence the tribal conflicts in the Marsabit County.

### **3.7 Validity of the Instrument.**

Validity is defined as the accuracy and meaningfulness of inferences, which are based on the research results (Mugenda & Mugenda, 1999). In other words, validity is the degree to which results obtained from the analysis of the data actually represents the phenomena under study. Validity according to Borg and Gall (1989) is the degree to which a test measures what it purports to measure. All assessments of validity are subjective opinions based on the judgment of the researcher (Wiersma, 1995). According to Borg and Gall (1989), validity of an instrument is improved through expert judgment. As such, the researcher discussed the results with research experts, other research students and the supervisor in order to help improve content validity of the instrument. Those items which were found inadequate or vague were modified to improve the quality of the research instrument thus increasing its reliability



### **3.8 Instrument Reliability**

Mugenda and Mugenda (1999) defined reliability as a measure of the degree to which a research instrument yields consistent results. The researcher first broadly discussed and edited the questionnaires, interview schedules, and focus group discussion with supervisor, other researchers and research students so as to enhance reliability.

### **3.9 Data Collection Procedures**

The researcher requested research permit from the District commissioner of Marsabit District before settling on the study. The researcher then managed to schedule appointments with the political leaders, the community elders, and the various Government officials like District Commissioner, the District officer, the chiefs, and the heads of selected NGOs, the youth representatives, the women representatives and the head teachers of various local schools. On arrival at the field, the researcher created smooth communication with all the stakeholders and explained the purpose of the study to and then administered the questionnaires to them. While in the field the researcher also took that opportunity to establish conducive environment of friendly, open feedback, explained the purpose of the study and the meaning of items that may be difficult to understand. The respondents were assured that strict confidentiality would be maintained in dealing with their responses. The researcher administered the questionnaires, interviews and the focus group discussions guides to the respondents by himself and with help of research assistant.

### **3.10 Data Analysis Techniques**

Data gathered were coded for analysis. This was done after editing and checking out whether all questionnaires and interviews had been filled in correctly. Coding is assigning a code number to each answer to a survey question. Editing is checking the questionnaire to identify and eliminate errors made by respondents. This was then entered using the Statistical Package for Social

Sciences (SPSS) software for windows from which descriptive statistics such as percentages (%) and frequencies (f) provided were used to answer the research questions. Tables were used to present data. This was deemed to be easy in interpretation and was convenient in giving general overview of the problem under study. Qualitative data from the interview were arranged and analyzed thematically.

### **3.11 Ethical Considerations**

Ethical considerations were observed in this study. For example, the researcher assured the respondents that their identity and information of responses would be treated confidentially. The researcher also created rapport with the respondents; shared in their feelings especially those that have experienced conflict. The researcher also explained the purpose of the study to the respondents and asked them to participate in the study. References to works by other scholars or writers was made and appreciated. Subjective questions were avoided by the researcher so that respondents cooperate fully. The researcher also made clear to the respondents that the information on tribal conflicts were of beneficial to the different communities in steps towards peace making in the future to come.

### **3.12 Operational Definition of Variables.**

The operation definitions of the variables helped the researcher to measure the variables appropriately. It was clear that the tabulation had the variables as identified, the objectives of the study and the indicators for measuring the variables. The table also showed the type of data that the study intended to gather, how it was be gathered and analyzed.

#### **Table 3.2 .Operation definitions of the variables**

The table summarizes the study methodology



Research objectives	Variables	Indicator	Measure ment	Tools of analysis	Type of tool
To determine the extent to which the availability of small arms have influenced tribal conflicts in Marsabit County	<b>Independent ;</b> Availability of small arms <b>Dependent;</b> Tribal conflicts	Extremely serious Very serious Serious Moderately serious Not serious	Likert scale	Qualitative Quantitative	Percentages Frequency
To establish the social cultural practices which have influenced the constant tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.	<b>Independent;</b> Social cultural practices.  <b>Dependent:</b> Tribal conflicts.	Extremely serious Very serious Serious Moderately serious Not serious	Likert scale	Qualitative Quantitative	Percentages Frequency
To assess the extent to which political factors have led to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.	<b>Independent;</b> Political factors.  <b>Dependent:</b> Tribal conflicts.	Very large extent Large extent Little extent Very little extent No extent	Likert scale	Qualitative Quantitative	Percentages Frequency
To determine the extent to which competition over pasture and water have influenced the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.	<b>Independent;</b> Competitions over pasture and water points.  <b>Dependent</b> Tribal conflicts.	Very large extent Large extent Little extent Very little extent No extent	Likert scale	Qualitative Quantitative	Percentages Frequency
To determine the actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.	<b>Independent;</b> Actors of tribal conflicts.  <b>Dependent:</b> Tribal conflict	Descriptive	Nominal scale	Qualitative Quantitative	Percentages Frequency



## CHAPTER FOUR.

### DATA PRESENTATIONS, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION.

#### 4.1: Introduction

This chapter deals with the results of the study. The chapter covers response rates, demographic information of the respondents and various presentation of data analysis of the factors contributing to the tribal conflicts in the Marsabit County. All the five study objectives were analyzed and results presented per each objective. Results are presented in tables and word narration of the tables presented below each table.

#### 4.1: Response Rate

With a target population of 83 respondents, it was only prudent to administer questionnaires to all of them. Out of the 83, the researcher was able to carryout a one-on-one interview with 10 of the respondents who were community elders , while the 73 were served with questionnaires due to their busy schedules. Thus, all the religious leaders, youth representatives, headteachers, NGO representatives were served with questionnaires having camped at Marsabit county offices for three weeks.

**Table 4. 1: Completion rates of various stakeholders who responded (N=83)**

Response Rate	Frequency	Percent
Issued	83	100.0
Returned	83	100.0

Source (Researcher, 2012)

#### 4.2: Demographic information

**Table 4.2: Summary of Demographic Information for all the respondents (N=83)**

Demographic Characteristics		Number (%) in sample N=83
Gender	Male	69 (83)
	Female	14 (17)
Age in years	18-25	17 (20.5)
	26-35	28 (33.7)
	36-45	21 (25.3)
	46-55	10 (12)
	56-65	2 (2.4)
	66-75	3 (3.6)
	76 and above	2 (2.4)
Academic Qualifications	No formal education	7 (8.4)
	Primary	7 (8.4)
	Secondary	13 (15.7)
	College	41 (49.4)
	University	15 (18.1)
Years stayed in the area	Below 1yr	1 (1.2)
	1-5	12 (14.5)
	6-10	2 (2.4)
	11-15	11 (13.3)
	16-20	5 (6)
	20 and above	52 (62.7)
Marital status	Married	57 (68.7)
	Single	23 (27.7)
	Divorced	3 (3.6)
Community	Boran	73 (88)
	Others	10 (12)

Source (Researcher, 2012)

The demographic information which was requested included the gender, age in years, academic qualifications, length of stay in the area, marital status and the communities groups of various respondents.

From Table 4.3.1 above, majority of the respondents (83%) were male aged between 18 and 45 years (79.5%). About half of the respondents (49.4%) were found to have college education level, 18.1% were graduates as opposed to 15.7% with secondary education level while 8.4% had primary education. It was worth noting that 8.4% of the respondents had no formal education. Majority of the respondents (62.7%) had stayed in the area of study for over 20 years and were Borans (88%). 68.7% of the respondents were married while 27.7% were single and only 3.6% divorcee.

#### **4.3: Factors Influencing Tribal Conflicts in Marsabit County**

To establish the determinants of tribal conflicts in the County, the respondents were asked to respond to questions that sought to solicit data on the same. This section presents data on the factors.



#### 4.3: Summary of conflict situation in Marsabit county, 8years back, currently and in the future (N=83)

Conflict Characteristics		Number (%) in sample N=83	P- value*
Marsabit county conflict classification	Conflict free	5 (6)	
	Conflict potential	23 (27.7)	
	Conflict prone	54 (65)	
How serious is government in providing security	At least moderately serious	46 (55.4)	
	Not serious	37 (44.6)	
Conflict experienced in last 8yrs	Political	46 (55.4)	0.0002
	Cultural	22 (26.5)	0.0003
	Resources	60 (72.3)	0.08
	Land	42 (50.6)	0.01
Conflict experienced at moment	Political	58 (69.9)	
	Cultural	16 (19.3)	
	Resources	42 (50.6)	
	Land	29 (35)	
Conflict experienced likely to occur in future	Political	66 (79.5)	0.0005
	Cultural	6 (7.2)	0.05
	Resources	34 (41)	0.03
	Land	34 (41)	<0.0001

\* P-value for trend. Conflict experienced at moment was the reference group.

In order to get the perception of the respondent on the conflict situation in the County, the respondents were asked to classify the County in various classes of conflict terms, seriousness of Government in provision of security and to give the various types of conflicts in terms of

political, cultural, land and resource based in what they experienced in the past, present and what they expect in future.

A vast majority of the respondents (65%) reaffirmed the fact that Marsabit County is a conflict prone area followed by 27.7% who referred the county as conflict potential area. Only a very small proportion (6%) described the County a conflict free area. Approximately 45% of respondents felt that the government was serious in providing security in the area. Resource based conflict was most experienced (72.3%) in the last 8years, while at the moment political based conflict is most common (69.9%) and in future political based conflict will increase to 79.5%. There is significance positive trend of political based conflict (P-value 0.0002) from 55.4% in the last 8years to 69.9% at the moment and also further raise to 79.5% in the future (P-value 0.0005). However, both cultural based and resource based conflicts are significantly declining.

These statics tells us that the respondents are in fear of political conflict and that it is of great importance that political unrest should be dwelt with in a very diplomatic and extra vigilant manner

**Table 4.3.1: Summary of factors that have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit county (N=83).**

Tribal conflicts factors	Number (%) in sample N=83	
	At least very little extent	No extent
Cultural norms and practices	75 (90.4)	17 (8.4)
Political incitements	83 (100)	0
Availability of small arms	82 (98.8)	1 (1.2)
Competition over water points and pasture	82 (98.8)	0
Rivalvary over land ownership	83 (100)	0
Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs	79 (95.2)	4 (4.8)
Population increases	70 (84.3)	13 (15.7)
Youth unemployment	78 (94)	5 (6)
Drought and famine	79 (95.2)	4 (4.8)
Lack of education	81 (97.6)	2 (2.4)
Cattle rustling	82 (98.8)	0
Historical injustices	79 (95.2)	4 (4.8)
Drug abuses	60 (72.3)	23 (27.7)

Source (Researcher, 2012)

Political incitements (100%) and rivalvary over land ownership (100%) were listed as the most common factors that have fueled tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. Availability of small arms (98.8%), competition over points of pasture (98.8%) and cattle rustling (98.8%) are equally responsible for tribal conflicts in the county. The high illiteracy levels (97.6%), drought and



famine (95.2%), historical injustices (95.2%) and youth unemployment (94%) have also contributed to tribal conflicts in the county. However 27.7% of the respondents felt that drug abuses didn't contribute to tribal conflicts in the county.

#### **4.4: Influence of the availability of small arms on the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.**

The study sought to determine how the availability of small arms in the County has influenced the tribal conflicts. The respondents were asked to rate the seriousness of proliferation of small arms in the region, indicate the types of small arms commonly found in the County, give the sources of small arms and to give reasons as to why they are in possession of these illegal arms.

**Table 4.4: Summary of the extent the small arms have influenced tribal conflicts in Marsabit County (N=83).**

Small arms in conflict		Number (%) in sample N=83
How serious is proliferation of small arms	At least moderately serious	81 (97.6)
	Not serious	2 (2.4)
Small arms common in the area	Hand guns	83 (100)
	G3 rifles	48 (57.8)
	Ak47	74 (89.2)
	Hand grenades	1 (1.2)
Sources of the small arms	Ethiopia	69 (83.1)
	Somalia	49 (59)
	Kenya	25 (30.1)
	Sudan	4 (4.8)
Why the people keep these small arms	For prestige	6 (7.2)
	For self-protection	65 (78.3)
	Raiding opponents communities	56 (67.5)
	Proof of mighty	3 (3.6)
	To instill fear	10 (12)

Source (Researcher, 2012)

Proliferation of small arms is a serious factor influencing tribal conflicts in the county, 97.6% felt that it was at least moderately serious. Hand guns (100%) and AK47 (89.2%) were the most common type of small arms in the area mostly sourced from Ethiopia (83.1%) and Somalia (59%). Majority of the residents keep these small arms for self-protection (78.3%) and raiding opponents' communities (67.5%).

This calls for professionals to be employed in the department of conflict resolution in order to curb the spreading and handling of small arms, also the state should deploy more government officials to oversee peaceful negotiations

#### 4.5: Influence of the social cultural practices on the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.

To establish the social cultural practices which have influenced the tribal conflicts in Marsabit

County, the respondents were asked to rate the seriousness of various cultural practices in

**Table 4.5 Summary of social cultural practices which have influenced tribal conflicts in Marsabit County (N=83).**

Cultural practices	How serious is the following cultural practices in contributing to tribal conflicts		Social cultural practices leading to tribal conflict
	At least moderately serious	Not serious	
Cattle rustling	81 (97.6)	0	79 (95.2)
Poaching	62 (74.7)	20 (24.1)	15 (18)
Initiation rites	68 (81.9)	13 (15.7)	39 (47)
Revenge	78 (93.9)	3 (3.6)	77 (92.8)
Marriage dowry	56 (67.5)	25 (30.1)	5 (6)
Traditional war songs and poems	61 (73.5)	17 (20.5)	32 (38.6)
Ethnic prejudices			50 (60.2)
Proof of might			12 (14.5)

Source (Researcher, 2012)

From the above table it is clear that cattle rustling (97.6%) and revenge (93.9%) poses at least moderately serious threat to tribal conflicts in the county. Payment of marriage dowry (30.1%) is not considered a serious threat to tribal conflict. Similarly cattle rustling (95.2%) and revenge (92.8%) are the most common social cultural practices leading to tribal conflict in the county.



Only 6% of the respondent felt that payment of marriage dowry is a leading social cultural practice resulting in tribal conflict.

The researcher recommends that security should be beefed up as regarding to curb cattle rustling and also Peace talks should be initiated to in order to reduce the revenge levels

#### **4.6: Influence of political factors on the tribal conflict in Marsabit County.**

To assess the extent to which the political factors have contributed to the constant tribal conflict in the greater Marsabit County, in the study, the respondents were asked to describe the nature of politics in the County as per their experiences in the trend of time from past, present all the way to their expectations in the future.

**Table 4.6: Summary of nature of politics in Marsabit country (N=83).**

<b>Nature of politics</b>	<b>Number (%) in sample N=83</b>
Unifying	3 (3.6)
Divisive	55 (66.3)
Marginalizing	18 (21.7)
No idea	5 (6)

Source (Researcher, 2012)

When asked about the nature of politics in Marsabit County, majority of the respondents (66.3%) termed it as divisive whereas 21.7% termed it as marginalizing. It was worthy to note that only a very small proportion of the respondents (3.7%) termed it as unifying.

#### 4.7: Influence of competition over pastures and water points on the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County

The study also geared to determine the extent to which the competitions over pasture and water points have brought about the tribal conflicts in the County. The respondents were asked to indicate the economic activities of their households and to rate the seriousness of land, water and pastures as factors which forms the drivers of the conflicts.

**Table 4.7: Summary of resource based factors influencing tribal conflicts in Marsabit County (N=83).**

Factors influencing tribal conflicts		Number (%) in sample N=83
Main household activity	Pastoralist	8 (9.6)
	Agriculture	2 (2.4)
Seriousness of the following conflict issues		
Land	At least moderately serious	78 (94)
	Not serious	3 (3.6)
Water	At least moderately serious	77 (92.8)
	Not serious	2 (2.4)
Pastures	At least moderately serious	77 (92.8)
	Not serious	1 (1.2)
Political rivalries	At least moderately serious	78 (94)
	Not serious	1 (1.2)
Cultural practices	At least moderately serious	60 (72.3)
	Not serious	19 (22.9)
Tribalism/negative ethnicity	At least moderately serious	78 (94)
	Not serious	1 (1.2)
Employment	At least moderately serious	70 (84.3)
	Not serious	9 (10.8)

Source (Researcher, 2012)

Marsabit County is one of the counties in Kenya with rare resources. The study revealed that, 94%, 92.8% and 92.8% of respondents felt that land, water and pastures respectively were at least

community elders, youths, politicians, business people, security forces, provincial administration officers, herdsmen and community professionals and they were also asked to indicate others whom they think could be among the actors according to their experiences of conflicts in the region to the trend of conflicts of various types.

**Table 4.8: Summary of actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County (N=83).**

Actors of tribal conflicts	Number (%) in sample N=83	
	(F)	(% )
Community Elders	36	(43.4)
Youths	39	(47)
Women	21	(25.3)
Politicians	78	(94)
Business People	37	(44.6)
Security forces	28	(33.7)
Provincial Administration Officers	17	(20.5)
Herdsmen	43	(51.8)
Community Professionals	26	(31.3)

Source (Researcher, 2012)

Politicians (94%) are the major actors of tribal conflicts, followed by herdsmen (51.8%) and then the youths (47%). Provincial administration officers (20.5%) and women (25.3%) are the least actors of tribal conflicts in the county. Clearly political class holds a key to tribal conflict in the Marsabit County.



## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

The chapter discusses the summary of the major findings following the research objectives of the study as well as answers to the research questions. It also offers conclusions, recommendations and areas of further research in relation to the research objectives

#### **5.2 Summary of the findings**

The purpose of this study was to establish the factors that influence the tribal conflicts in the Marsabit County. Five research objectives were formulated to guide the study. Research objective one sought to determine the extent to which the availability of small arms have influenced the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County; research objective two aimed at establishing the social cultural practices which have influenced the constant tribal conflicts, research objective three focused on assessing the extent to which political factors have led to tribal conflicts in the County. Research objective four sought to determine the extent to which competitions over pastures and water points have influenced the tribal conflicts in the region while research objective five was aimed at determining the actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.

The study used the descriptive survey design using both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The target population for this study included Government officials, political leaders, youth representatives, religious leaders, women representatives, school head teachers, Non Governmental heads and the community elders. The study employed purposeful sampling to

The study used the descriptive survey design using both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The target population for this study included Government officials, political leaders, youth representatives, religious leaders, women representatives, school head teachers, Non Governmental heads and the community elders. The study employed purposeful sampling to select 11 political leaders, 10 Government officials, 11 head teachers, 10 women representatives, 11 youths representatives, 10 community elders, 11 NGOs heads and 9 religious leaders.

The study has shown that Marsabit County is both conflict prone and conflict potential area. Only few respondents felt that the area is conflict free. This clearly indicates that the respondents had clear perception regarding tribal conflicts in the study area. This conforms to what literature review had revealed. Generally the county is conflict prone and hence the necessity for this study.

The study found out that political based conflicts are on increase from 8years ago going into the future. Resource based and land based conflicts are also on upward trend. Resource based conflict are dominant due to inadequate water supply and frequent drought which pits various pastoralist group against one another as they compete for this limited resources for their livestock. Political based conflict is on rise due to current heightening campaign in preparation for general election. In future, political based conflict will increase due to the expected rising political temperatures as different tribes regroup for various county political leadership positions in favor of their own. Cultural conflicts were very minimal throughout due to improved literacy level among different tribes which embraces modernization.



The few cultural conflict occurrences only occur when different tribes are provoked occasionally especially during various initiations rites like circumcision where young men are expected to prove their manhood through cattle raids.

Politicians and herdsmen are the major actors of tribal conflicts. Since political based conflicts have been on increase, it's obvious politicians are the key actors. Herdsmen are key actors because; cattle rearing are the prime source of live hood in the county. Therefore herdsmen are involved in revenge attacks when their cattle are stolen or when there is need to protect them from raiders. Youths also make some contribution to tribal conflicts. The youths are venerable because of their unemployment status and they are full of energy.

Community elders and business people are involved in approving and funding the raids respectively. Community professional who were perceived to be actors of tribal conflicts possibly took advantage of illiteracy level of the county tribes thus pitting them against each other. The same result was also portrayed by the qualitative analysis of data obtained from Focus Group Discussions by the peace participants of cross border meeting between the warring communities of Boran and Gabra mediated by their Ethiopian counterparts. The result of these FGDs also showed clearly that politicians from the warring communities use this sensitive conflict environment to settle their political scores through political incitation.

On a rare and unexpected also, some of the respondents in focus group discussions also indicated strongly that the Non Governmental Organizations forms actors of tribal conflicts in the Marsabit County. There are unconfirmed reports and complaints from respondents that some local NGOs heads are blamed for arming and purchases of small arms to their fellow tribesmen.



The result of data from the FGDs also indicated that Government Officials are to blame for tribal conflicts since they were involved in corruption through bribery cases in order to delay responses to hot spots of tribal skirmishes in the County. From the interviews with Community elders, it was also very clear from their responses that business people formed a larger group of actors since they were blamed for smuggling of small arms across the border of the neighboring Ethiopia and Somalia which they resell to the warring communities of Marsabit County. On a worthy note, the result from data provided by the Community elders also put it clear that some security forces are also to blame for tribal clashes since some were involved in selling of Government arms to the civilians while a larger number of respondents claimed that security forces delay responses to conflicts or they simply sidelined with communities who are believed to be minority in the County.

The study shows that possession of small arms is a serious contributor of tribal conflict. Hand guns, AK47 and G3 rifles are the most common type of small arms in the area. These small arms are mostly from neighboring states Ethiopia and Somalia. Somalia republic has been without a stable government since 1991 while Ethiopia has had a very turbulent times for a long time. The main community in Marsabit, Boran, have their brothers in Ethiopia who easily smuggle small arms to Kenya for them. The instability of these two neighboring countries has greatly contributed to presence of small arms in the county. Most respondents felt that the Kenya government was not providing adequate security and acquired small arms for self-protection.

The study findings points to the fact that, cultural norms and practices of different communities in Marsabit County form a major influencing factor toward tribal conflicts. The most common cultural practices responsible for tribal conflicts are cattle rustling and revenge. Boran being a

pastoralist community, cattle rearing is central to their life. Most of the neighboring communities are also pastoralists who attack them for their cattle. Therefore cattle rustling to acquire more wealth and revenge when attacked by the neighboring communities are common practices. It was also found that initiation rites like circumcision and age set organizations which is a common cultural practice in the area also contributes towards tribal conflicts. These initiation rites are mostly associated with youths who are used by the community elders and business men in the cattle rustling. The initiation rites transform boys into men ripe for marriage; these young men with no resources to support their new families may result in cattle rustling.

Marsabit County is a semi-arid area and thus water is a scarce commodity. We found that competition for water points and pasture to feed their livestock is a leading cause of tribal conflict in the county. Since the communities are pastoralists, who depend entirely on their livestock, food and water for their stock is very important. The community therefore will do anything possible to protect their animals including fighting for the pastures and water points to keep the animals alive. The above findings all agreed with the literature reviewed in the study as per the objectives and the research questions.

### **5.3 Conclusions**

From the findings it was concluded that the availability of small arms in the county remains a strong determinant of the tribal conflict in Marsabit. This was clear in the positive responses given by the bigger part of the respondents that proliferation of small arms and light weapons is a threatening factor causing tribal conflicts in the entire County. The respondents went further to give the sources of the said arms of war as mainly from the neighbouring Ethiopia and Somalia. They also added more that they possess the small arms mainly for self protection and for raiding



the opponent communities since the Government of Kenya was perceived and believed by many respondents to be not serious in provision of security.

It was also concluded from the findings that political factors played a bigger role in tribal conflicts in the County as most respondents termed the nature of the political situation in Marsabit as highly divisive and marginalizing which reaffirms that politics remains a stumbling block to anyone who imagines of reuniting the different tribes of Marsabit County. The responses from interviews and focus group discussions also rhymed on the point that political based conflict is highly and largely regarded as most probable in the future.

On the other hand, the study has concluded that social cultural practices are also another dominating factor of tribal conflicts in the larger Marsabit County. This was clearly confirmed by the responses from questionnaires, interviews and focus group discussions that cattle rustling, tribal revenges, initiations rites like circumcisions and traditional war songs which comprised common cultural practices of the tribes in Marsabit County was seen as a strong driver of constant tribal conflicts in this region.

Moreover, the competition over the limited resources of pastureland and water points was also concluded to be another determinant of tribal conflict in the region as confirmed by the respondents going by the analysis from interviews, focus group discussions as well as questionnaires. This is also supported by the fact that the tribes living in the County comprises mainly of pastoralists who majorly depend on livestock whose base of survival is the limited water and pasture.



Finally but not least, the study had concluded that the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County has actors who mainly comprises of Politicians, herdsman and the youths as indicated by higher percentages of respondents. Results from almost all the respondents confirmed clearly that politicians always maximized their political goals on divisive and marginalizing politics throughout the various constituencies of Marsabit County and this mainly hindered peace and encouraged tribal animosity which was witnessed from time to time. The respondents in the focus group discussions went further and explained that herdsman always formed bigger part of actors since they are the targets of raids and revenges and vice versa. They also indicated through their responses that youth became actors since they lacked employment which could have diverted their energy and attention from tribal clashes actors. From the focus group discussions, it also became clear that that politicians use youths as a tool of tribal conflicts by taking advantages of their desperate situation of idleness and unemployment.

#### **5.4 Recommendations**

Based on the main findings of the study, a number of recommendations are to amicably and effectively resolve the conflicts in Marsabit County as follows:

The study recommends that Civic education should be initiated to enlighten voters on their electoral rights such that they vote wisely and for a unifying reason.

The study also recommends that Equitable distribution of public resources like, CDF and LATF funds among the different tribes of the County should be enhanced.

The study further recommends that Improvement of roads and communication infrastructures should be done in the County to enhance fast responses by the Government to tribal conflicts hot spots.

The study as well recommends that Provision of formal education should be uplifted to raise the literacy level of the people in the region and to reduce idleness of the youths who are also actors of tribal conflicts.

The study recommends that equitable employment opportunities should be allocated to all the tribes of Marsabit County to reduce the dominant community taking the whole share of the county cake.

The study also recommends that diversification of the economic activities should be monitored to encourage self sustenance other than total dependency on pastoralism way of life which constantly pits different tribes against one another in the county as they keep on roaming for limited pastureland and water points.

The study recommends deployment of enough security forces by the Government through setting up of enough police post at the hot spots of tribal conflicts in the County to enhance timely responses.

The study also recommends disarming of all communities of illegal arms in the County to enhance regulation of legal Government arms through registrations.

The study recommends encouragement of exchange visits between different tribes of Marsabit County to enhance the confidence levels and revival of lost trust between the warring communities.

The study recommends complete involvement of the victims of the tribal conflicts in peace meetings and discouraging of others negotiating or mediating on their behalf.

The study recommends enforcement of declaration and heavy fines on the culprits and actors of tribal conflicts through parliamentary legislation in all pastoralist based areas.

The study also recommends that all provincial administration officers like DCs, DOs and Chiefs in the County should be held accountable for their administrative location in reporting and capturing the perpetrators of tribal conflict and cattle rustling.

Finally, the study recommends Encouragement of community policing in tribal conflict resolution.

### **5.5 Areas of further research**

The following areas are suggested for further study and research were discovered in the process of the study.

- Investigating the seriousness of Government in provision of security to its people living in Marsabit County.
- To study the ways and means of peace building among different tribes of Marsabit County. This will definitely reduces the occurrences of tribal conflicts and provides a



conducive environment which attracts various investors into the County which in turns raises the development level in the County as we embrace new challenges in the future.

- Therefore there is need to replicate the study using other counties so as to compare the findings. There is need to conduct a similar study which will attempt to find out the challenges tribal conflict areas.

## REFERENCES

- Almagor U. (1979) *Raiders and Elders: A Confrontation of Generations among the Dassanetch*.
- Amisi B.K.(1997) *Conflict in the Rift Valley and Western Kenya. Towards an Early Warning Indicator Identification*.
- Bassi M. (1997) *Returness in Moyale District, Southern Ethiopia: New Means for an Old Inter-Ethnic Game*.
- Baxter P.T.W. and Hogg R. (eds) (1990) *Property, Poverty and People: Changing Rights in Property and Problems of Pastoral Development*,
- Baxter P.T.W.( 1979) *Warfare among East African Herders*, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka.
- Baxter P.T.W. (1993)*Conflict and the Decline of Pastoralism in the Horn of Africa*, Macmillan, London.
- Baxter P.T.W. (1994) *Ethnicity and Conflict in the Horn of Africa*, James Currey, London.
- Belshaw D. and Malinga M. ( 1999) *The Kalashnikov Economies of the Eastern Sahes: Cumulative or Cyclical Differentiation between Nomadic Pastoralists?*
- Brown (1996) "Introduction" In *the International Dimension of Internal Conflict*. CSIA Studies in International Security, London.
- Dietz T. (1993) *The State, the Market, and the Decline of Pastoralism*:
- Fratkin E. (1994a) *Resurgence of Inter-Pastoralist Warfare in Kenya*. Paper presented to Panel *Resurgence of Ethnic Conflict and Tribalism in Africa*,

- Goldsmith P. (1997). A Case Study, A paper prepared for the USAID Conference on *Conflict Resolution in the Great Horn of Africa*, June 1997, draft.
- Gulliver P.H. (1951) A Preliminary Survey of the Turkana. *A Report compiled for the Government of Kenya*. Communications from the School of African Studies, New Series No. 26, University of Cape Town, Cape Town.
- Gulliver P.H. (1953) The Age-Set Organization of the Jie Tribe. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*.
- Ibrahim D. and Jenner J. (1996) Wajir Community Based Conflict Management, Paper presented to the USAID Conference on *Conflict Resolution in the Great Horn of Africa*, June 1997.
- Kaptein L. (1993) *Women and the Crisis of Communal Identity: the Cultural Construction of gender in Somali History*, African Studies Centre.
- Khadiagala, G. (2003) Protection and poverty: The experiences of Community weapons collection initiatives in Northern Kenya.
- Kurimoto E. and Simonse S. (1998) *Conflict, Age & Power in North East Africa. Age Systems in Transition*, James Currey, Oxford.
- Lamphear J. (1994) The evolution of Ateker 'new model' armies: Jie and Turkana. In: Markakis J. (ed) *Ethnicity and Conflict in the Horn of Africa*, Macmillan, London.
- Lewis I.M. (1961) *A Pastoral Democracy. A Study of Pastoralism and Politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa*, Oxford University Press, London, New York, Toronto.
- Little P.D. (1996) *Cross-Border Cattle Trade and Food Security in the Kenya/Somalia Borderlands*, University of Kentucky.



- Luisse Druke-Bolewski 'Causes of Refugee Problems and International Response' Makumi Mwagiru (2000) *Conflict: Theory, Processes and Institutions of Management*. Nairobi: Watermark Printers p. 1
- Mkangi K. (1997) *Indigenous Social Mechanisms of Conflict Resolution in Kenya: Contextualized Paradigm for Examining Conflict in Africa*, University of Nairobi.
- Mohamed, F. (1993) *From Ethnic Response to Clan Identity: A Study of State Penetration among the Somali Nomadic Pastoral Society of North Eastern Kenya*. Uppsala.
- Peristiany J.G. (1951) The Age-Set System of the Pastoral Pokot. *Africa* 21:
- Schlee G. (1998) Gada systems on the Meta ethnic level: Gabbra/Boran/Garre interactions in the Kenyan/Ethiopian borderland. In: Kurimoto E. and Simonse S. (eds.) *Conflict, Age & Power in North East Africa. Age Systems in Transition*, James Currey, Oxford.
- Sobania N. (1991) *Feasts, Famine and Friends: Nineteenth*
- Swift J. (1994) Dynamic ecological systems and the administration of pastoral Development. In: Scoones I. (ed) *Living with Uncertainty*.
- Walker R. (1995) *Kenya: Recent History*, Africa: South of the Sahara 1996, Europa Publications, London.
- Wanjala T. (1997) *Report on Pokot-Marakwet Clashes*, PeaceNet - NGO Council, Nairobi.
- Ibrahim, D. and Jenner, J. (1996). *Wajir Community Based conflict Management*, a paper presented to the USAID Conference on Conflict resolution in the Greater Horn of Africa, Nairobi, June 1997.

## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix I: Letter of Introduction**

DIDA GALM

P.O. BOX 13120

NAIROBI

Dear Respondent,

#### **RE: STUDY OF FACTORS INFLUENCING TRIBAL CONFLICT IN MARSABIT COUNTY**

I am a post graduate student in Masters of Arts in Project Planning and Management of University of Nairobi. As part of my course requirement I am currently writing a research project in the relevant field.

The region is characterized by conflict which affects the community members and which requires the involvement of all stakeholders for at least to reduce the impact and possibly resolve the conflict. The purpose of the study is to find the factors which may influence the constant tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.

Attached herewith is a copy of the questionnaire that I kindly request you to take some time and complete. The information you will provide in the questionnaire is for academic purpose and the results will lead to active involvement of all stakeholders of development in learning and knowing the determinants of tribal conflict and this will possibly lead us to have a sustainable solutions to tribal conflicts in the county.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation and active participation to this academic effort.

Thank you and God bless us All.

Dida Galm.

## APPENDIX II

### Questionnaires for Government officials.

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by filling in this questionnaire. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

#### SECTION ONE: Demographic Information

Indicate the correct option by inserting a tick (✓) in appropriate box provided

1. What is your gender?    1=Female                      [   ]    2=Male                      [   ]

2. What is your age?

1=18-25 yrs    [   ]                      2=26 – 35 yrs [   ]

3=36 – 45 yrs [   ]                      4=46 –55yrs [   ]

5=56 – 65 yrs [   ]                      6=66 – 75 yrs [   ]

7=76 and above [   ]

3. What is your highest academic/professional qualification?

1=No Formal Education 2=Primary 3=Secondary

4=College

5=others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

4. How long have you stayed in this area?

1=Below 1 yr                      [   ]    2=1 – 5 yrs                      [   ]

3=6 – 10 yrs                      [   ]    4=11-15yrs                      [   ]

5=16-20yrs                      [   ]    6=20yrs and over [   ]

5. What is the dominant community in this area?

6. What is your occupation?



7. What is your marital status?

1=Married [    ]      2=Single      [    ]      3=Divorced [    ] 4=Separated [    ]

Others \_\_\_\_\_

The study will be guided by the following questions.

## SECTION TWO:

1. How would you classify Marsabit County in terms of conflict?

1. Conflict Free      [    ]

2. Conflict potential    [    ]

3. Conflict prone      [    ]

4. Others (please specify)

2. Describe the type of conflicts you have experienced in the last 8 years in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflict
- Land based conflicts.

3. Describe the type of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts
- Land based conflicts

4. Which conflicts in your opinion are likely to occur in the future in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts
- Land based conflicts

5. Whom do you think among the following could be actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit county? Tick as many views of your options as you can.

1. Community Elders [    ]    2. Youths [    ]    3. Women [    ]    4. Politicians [    ]

5. Business People [    ]    6. Security Forces [    ]

7. Provincial Administration Officers [    ]    8. Herdsmen [    ]

9. Community Professionals [    ]    10. Others (please specify).....

6. In your own view how do you rate the seriousness of the following conflict issues in Marsabit County? (Insert number corresponding to your answer in the options provided below)

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=moderately serious 5=Not serious.

A) Land B) Water. C) Pastures D) Political rivalvaries. E) Cultural practices.

F) Tribalism/Negative ethnicity. G) Employment.

7. How serious is the proliferation of small arms in Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious

8. What are the kinds of small arms commonly found in the region?

1=Hand guns (pistols) 2=G3 rifles 3=AK47 4=Hand grenades.

5=others (please specify).....

9. In your opinion, where could be the sources of these small arms?

1=Ethiopia 2=Somalia 3=Kenya 4=Sudan 5=others (Please specify)

10. Why do you think people access these small arms?

1=For prestige 2=For self Protection 3=For raiding opponents communities.

4= Proof of mighty 5=To instill fear

11. In your own opinion, how serious is the Government in providing the security to the communities of Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

12. How serious is the following cultural practices of different communities in Marsabit County contributing to the tribal conflicts in the region? Kindly rate them with the numbers given below.1, 2,.....

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

- Cattle rustling
- Poaching
- Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization
- Revenge

- Marriage Dowry
- Traditional war songs and poems.

13. From the following options of the social cultural practices in the larger Marsabit County, could you kindly tick as many as you can the ones which could be leading to tribal conflict in your area?

1=Cattle rustling      2= Poaching      3=Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization  
4=Revenge      5=Marriage dowry

6=Traditional war songs and poems      7=Ethnic prejudices

8=Proof of mighty

14. How do you rate the extent to which the following factors have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? Kindly tick in the boxes provided.

Key: 1=Very large extent      2=Large extent      3=Little extent      4=Very little extent  
5=No extent.

		1	2	3	4	5
	Cultural norms and practices					
	Political Incitements					
	Availability of small Arms					
	Competition over water points and pasture					
	Rivalry over Land Ownership					
	Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs					
	Population increases					
	Youth unemployment					
	Drought and famine					

	Lack of education					
	Cattle rustling					
	Historical injustices					
	Drug Abuses					



15. We all know that the Government has put in place the Chiefs, Dos, DCs and other administrators. Mention a few efforts put in place by the above leaders in solving those conflicts?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

16. How often do the above stakeholders involve themselves in pursuing measures to address such conflicts?

1. Very Often [      ]

2. Often [      ]

3. Rarely [      ]

4. Very Rarely

17. Apart from the Government, could you kindly state other organizations involved in interventions to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

18. How do you describe the nature of politics in Marsabit County?

1=Unifying    2=Divisive    3=Marginalizing    4=No idea

### APPENDIX III

#### Questionnaires For Non Governmental Organization Heads.

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by filling in this questionnaire. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

#### SECTION ONE: Demographic Information

Indicate the correct option by inserting a tick (✓) in appropriate box provided

1. What is your gender?    1=Female                      [   ]    2=Male                      [   ]
2. What is the name of your organization?
3. What is your age?  
1=18-25 yrs [   ]    2=26 – 35 yrs [   ]    3=36 – 45 yrs [   ]    4=46 –55yrs [   ]    5=56 – 65 yrs [   ]    6=66 – 75 yrs [   ]    7=76 and above [   ]
3. What is your highest academic/professional qualification?  
1=No Formal Education 2=Primary 3=Secondary  
4=College                      5=Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long have you stayed in this area?  
1=Below 1 yr[   ]    2=1 – 5 yrs [   ]    3=6 – 10 yrs [   ]    4=11-15yrs[   ]  
5=16-20yrs[   ]    6=20yrs and over [   ]
5. What is the dominant community in this area?
6. What is your occupation?
7. What is your marital status?  
1=Married [   ]                      2=Single                      [   ]    3=Divorced [   ]    4=Separated [   ]  
Others \_\_\_\_\_

The study will be guided by the following questions.

## SECTION TWO:

1. How would you classify Marsabit County in terms of conflict?

1. Conflict Free [      ]      2. Conflict potential [      ]  
3. Conflict prone [      ]      4. Others(please specify)

2. Describe the type of conflicts you have experienced in the last 8 years in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts
- Resource based conflicts
- Land based conflicts.

3. Describe the type of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts
- Resource based conflicts
- Land based conflicts

4. Which conflicts in your opinion are likely to occur in the future in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts
- Resource based conflicts
- Land based conflicts

5. Whom do you think among the following could be actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit county? Tick as many views of your options as you can.

1. Community Elders [    ] 2. Youths [    ] 3. Women [    ] 4. Politicians [    ]

5. Business People [    ] 6. Security Forces [    ]

7. Provincial Administration Officers [    ] 8. Herdsmen [    ]



9. Community Professionals [   ]

10. Others (please specify).....

6. In your own view how do you rate the seriousness of the following conflict issues in Marsabit County? (Insert number corresponding to your answer in the options provided below)

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious 5=Not serious.

A) Land B) Water. C) Pastures. D) Political rivalries.

E) Cultural practices. F) Tribalism/Negative ethnicity. G) Employment.

7. How serious is the proliferation of small arms in Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious

8. What are the kinds of small arms commonly found in the region?

1=Hand guns (pistols) 2=G3 rifles 3=AK47 4=Hand grenades.

5=Others (please specify).....

9. In your opinion, where could be the sources of these small arms?

1=Ethiopia 2=Somalia 3=Kenya 4=Sudan 5=others (Please specify)

10. Why do you think people access these small arms?

1=For prestige 2=For self Protection 3=For raiding opponents communities.

4=Proof of mighty 5=To instill fear

11. In your own opinion, how serious is the Government in providing the security to the communities of Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

12. How serious is the following cultural practices of different communities in Marsabit County contributing to the tribal conflicts in the region? Kindly rate them with numbers given below 1,2,.....

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

- Cattle rustling
- Poaching
- Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organizations
- Revenge
- Marriage dowry
- Traditional war songs and poems.

13. From the following options of the social cultural practices in the larger Marsabit County, could you kindly tick as many as you can the ones which could be leading to tribal conflict in your area?

1=Cattle rustling    2= Poaching    3=Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization  
4=Revenge    5=Marriage dowry

6=Traditional war songs and poems    7=Ethnic prejudices

8=Proof of mighty

14. How do you rate the extent to which the following factors have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? Kindly tick in the boxes provided.

Key: 1=Very large extent    2=Large extent    3=Little extent    4=Very little extent    5=No extent.

		1	2	3	4	5
	Cultural norms and practices					
	Political Incitements					
	Availability of small Arms					
	Competition over water points and pasture					
	Rivalvary over Land Ownership					
	Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs					
	Population increases					
	Youth unemployment					
	Drought and famine					

	Lack of education					
	Cattle rustling					

	Historical injustices					
	Drug Abuses					

15. We all know that we all have responsibility to play in maintaining the peaceful coexistence between the different communities of Marsabit County. Could you kindly mention a few efforts put in place by the organization in solving those conflicts?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

16. How often do your organization and leaders involve in pursuing measures to address such conflicts in Marsabit County?

1. Very Often [ ] 2. Often [ ] 3. Rarely [ ] 4. Very Rarely [ ]

17. Apart from the NGOs, could you kindly state other organizations involved in interventions to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

18. How do you describe the nature of politics in this Marsabit county?

1=Unifying 2=Divisive 3=Marginalizing 4=No idea.



## APPENDIX IV

### Questionnaires for Political Leaders

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by filling in this questionnaire. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

#### SECTION ONE: Demographic Information

Indicate the correct option by inserting a tick (✓) in appropriate box provided

1. What is your gender?      1=Female                      [   ]      2=Male                      [   ]
2. What is your age?  
1=18-25 yrs    [   ]                      2=26 – 35 yrs [   ]                      3=36 – 45 yrs                      [   ]  
4=46 –55yrs    [   ]                      5=56 – 65 yrs [   ]                      6=66 – 75 yrs [   ]  
7=76 and above [   ]
3. What is your highest academic/professional qualification?  
1=No Formal Education 2=Primary 3=Secondary  
4=College  
5=others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long have you stayed in this area?  
1=Below 1 yr    [   ]      2=1 – 5 yrs    [   ]      3=6 – 10 yrs    [   ]  
4=11-15yrs                      [   ]      5=16-20yrs    [   ]      6=20yrs and over [   ]
5. What is the dominant community in this area?
6. What is your occupation?
7. What is your marital status?  
1=Married [   ]                      2=Single                      [   ]      3=Divorced [   ]      4=Separated [   ]  
Others \_\_\_\_\_

The study will be guided by the following questions.

#### SECTION TWO:

1. How would you classify Marsabit County in terms of conflict?

1. Conflict Free [      ]                      2. Conflict potential [      ]  
3. Conflict prone [      ]                      4. Others (please specify)

2. Describe the type of conflicts you have experienced in the last 8 years in Marsabit County as per the following.

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

3. Describe the type of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment in Marsabit County as per the following.

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

4. Which conflicts in your opinion are likely to occur in the future in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

5. Whom do you think among the following could be actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit county? Tick as many views of your options as you can.

1. Community Elders [    ]    2. Youths [    ]    3. Women [    ]    4. Politicians [    ]  
5. Business People [    ]    6. Security Forces [    ]  
7. Provincial Administration Officers [    ]    8. Herdsmen [    ]  
9. Community Professionals [    ]    10. Others (please specify).....

6. In your own view how do you rate the seriousness of the following conflict issues in Marsabit County? (Insert number corresponding to your answer in the options provided below)

1=Extremely serious    2=Very serious    3=Serious    4=Moderately serious    5=Not serious.

A) Land    B) Water.    C) Pastures.    D) Political rivalries.    E) Cultural practices.

F) Tribalism/Negative ethnicity.    G) Employment.

7. How serious is the proliferation of small arms in Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious

4=Moderately serious 5=Not serious

8. What are the kinds of small arms commonly found in the region?

1=Hand guns (pistols) 2=G3 rifles 3=AK47

4=Hand grenades. 5= others (please specify)

09. In your opinion, where could be the sources of these small arms?

1=Ethiopia 2=Somalia 3=Kenya 4=Sudan 5=others (Please specify)

10. Why do you think people access these small arms?

1=For prestige 2=For self Protection 3=For raiding opponents communities.

4= Proof of mighty 5= To instill fear

11. In your own opinion, how serious is the Government in providing the security to the communities of Marsabit County? Tick against the given options.

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

12. How serious is the following cultural practices of different communities in Marsabit County contributing to the tribal conflicts in the region? Kindly rate them with numbers given below.1,2,.....

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

- Cattle rustling
- Poaching
- Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization
- Revenge
- Marriage dowry
- Traditional war songs and poems.

13. From the following options of the social cultural practices in the larger Marsabit County, could you kindly tick as many as you can the ones which could be leading to tribal conflict in your area?



1=Cattle rustling organization      2= Poaching      3=Initiation rites like circumcision and age set  
4=Revenge      5=Marriage dowry

6=Traditional war songs and poems      7=Ethnic prejudices

8=Proof of mighty

14. How do you rate the extent to which the following factors have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? Kindly tick in the boxes provided.

Key: 1=Very large extent      2=Large extent      3=Little extent      4=Very little extent      5=No extent.

		1	2	3	4	5
	Cultural norms and practices					
	Political Incitements					
	Availability of small Arms					
	Competition over water points and pasture					
	Rivalry over Land Ownership					
	Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs					
	Population increases					
	Youth unemployment					
	Drought and famine					

	Lack of education					
	Cattle rustling					
	Historical injustices					
	Drug Abuses					

15. We all know that as leaders, we always have different measures in place to eradicate or even reduce conflicts in our constituencies, could you kindly mention a few efforts you have put in place in solving those conflicts?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

16. How often do our political leaders involve themselves in pursuing measures to address such conflicts?

- |               |          |                |          |
|---------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| 1. Very Often | [      ] | 2. Often       | [      ] |
| 3. Rarely     | [      ] | 4. Very Rarely |          |

17. Apart from the political leaders, could you kindly state other organizations involved in interventions to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

18. How do you describe the nature of politics in Marsabit County?

- 1=Unifying    2=Divisive    3=Marginalizing    4=No idea

## APPENDIX V

### Questionnaires For Youth Representatives

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by filling in this questionnaire. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

#### SECTION ONE: Demographic Information

Indicate the correct option by inserting a tick (✓) in appropriate box provided

1. What is your gender?      1=Female                      [   ]      2=Male                      [   ]
2. What is your age?  
1=18-25 yrs   [   ]      2=26 – 35 yrs   [   ]                      3=36 – 45 yrs   [   ]  
4=46 –55yrs   [   ]      5=56 – 65 yrs   [   ]                      6=66 – 75 yrs   [   ]  
7=76 and above [   ]
3. What is your highest academic/professional qualification?  
1=No Formal Education 2=Primary 3=Secondary  
4=College  
5=Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long have you stayed in this area?  
1=Below 1 yr [   ]      2=1 – 5 yrs      [   ]      3=6 – 10 yrs   [   ]  
4=11-15yrs      [   ]      5=16-20yrs      [   ]      6=20yrs and over [   ]
5. What is the dominant community in this area?
6. What is your occupation?
7. What is your marital status?  
1=Married [   ]                      2=Single                      [   ]      3=Divorced [   ]      4=Separated [   ]  
Others \_\_\_\_\_



The study will be guided by the following questions.

## SECTION TWO:

1. How would you classify Marsabit County in terms of conflict?

1. Conflict Free [      ]      2. Conflict potential [      ]  
3. Conflict prone [      ]      4. Others (please specify)

2. Describe the type of conflicts you have experienced in the last 8 years in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based politics
- Cultural based politics
- Resource based politics
- Land based politics.

3. Describe the type of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

4. Which conflicts in your opinion are likely to occur in the future in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

5. Whom do you think among the following could be actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit county? Tick as many views of your options as you can.

1. Community Elders [    ] 2. Youths [    ] 3. Women [    ] 4. Politicians [    ]  
5. Business People [    ] 6. Security Forces [    ]  
7. Provincial Administration Officers [    ] 8. Herdsmen [    ]  
9. Community Professionals [    ] 10. Others (please specify).....

6. In your own view how do you rate the seriousness of the following conflict issues in Marsabit County? (Insert number corresponding to your answer in the options provided below)

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious 5=Not serious.

A) Land B) Water. C) Pastures. D) Political rivalries. E) Cultural practices.

F) Tribalism/Negative ethnicity G) Employment.

7. How serious is the proliferation of small arms in Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious

8. What are the kinds of small arms commonly found in the region?

1=Hand guns (pistols) 2=G3 rifles 3=AK47 4=Hand grenades.

5=Others (please specify).....

9. In your opinion, where could be the sources of these small arms?

1=Ethiopia 2=Somalia 3=Kenya 4=Sudan 5=others (Please specify)

10. Why do you think people access these small arms?

1=For prestige 2=For self Protection 3=For raiding opponents communities.

4=Proof of mighty 5=To instill fear

11. In your own opinion, how serious is the Government in providing the security to the communities of Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

12. How serious is the following cultural practices of different communities in Marsabit County contributing to the tribal conflicts in the region? Kindly rate them with numbers given below.

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

- Cattle rustling
- Poaching
- Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization
- Revenge
- Marriage dowry
- Traditional war songs and poems.

13. From the following options of the social cultural practices in the larger Marsabit County, could you kindly tick as many as you can the ones which could be leading to tribal conflict in your area?

1=Cattle rustling    2= Poaching    3=Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization  
4=Revenge    5=Marriage dowry

6=Traditional war songs and poems    7=Ethnic prejudices

8.Proof of mighty

14. How do you rate the extent to which the following factors have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? Kindly tick in the boxes provided.

Key: 1=Very large extent    2=Large extent    3=Little extent    4=Very little extent    5=No extent.

		1	2	3	4	5
	Cultural norms and practices					
	Political Incitements					
	Availability of small Arms					
	Competition over water points and pasture					
	Rivalry over Land Ownership					
	Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs					
	Population increases					
	Youth unemployment					
	Drought and famine					

	Lack of education					
	Cattle rustling					
	Historical injustices					
	Drug Abuses					



15. We all know that we all have responsibility to play in maintaining the peaceful coexistence between the different communities of Marsabit County. Could you kindly mention a few efforts put in place by the youth in solving those conflicts?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

16. How often do the youth involve themselves in pursuing measures to address such conflicts?

1. Very Often [      ]                      2. Often [      ]

3. Rarely [      ]                      4. Very Rarely [      ]

17. Apart from the youth, could you kindly state other organizations involved in interventions to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

18. How do you describe the nature of politics in Marsabit County?

1=Unifying    2=Divisive    3=Marginalizing    4=No idea

## APPENDIX VI

### Questionnaires For Religious Leaders

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by filling in this questionnaire. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

#### SECTION ONE: Demographic Information

Indicate the correct option by inserting a tick (✓) in appropriate box provided

1. What is your gender?      1=Female                      [   ]      2=Male                      [   ]
2. What is your religion?
3. What is your age?  
1=18-25 yrs [   ]    2=26 – 35 yrs [   ]    3=36 – 45 yrs [   ]    4=46 –55yrs [   ]  
5=56 – 65 yrs [   ]    6=66 – 75 yrs [   ]    7=76 and above [   ]
3. What is your highest academic/professional qualification?  
1=No Formal Education 2=Primary 3=Secondary 4=College  
5=Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long have you stayed in this area?  
1=Below 1 yr [   ]    2=1 – 5 yrs [   ]    3=6 – 10 yrs [   ]    4=11-15yrs [   ]  
5=16-20yrs [   ]    6=20yrs and over [   ]
5. What is the dominant community in this area?
6. What is your occupation?
7. What is your marital status?  
1=Married [   ]      2=Single                      [   ]    3=Divorced [   ]    4=Separated [   ]  
Others \_\_\_\_\_

The study will be guided by the following questions.

## SECTION TWO:

1. How would you classify Marsabit County in terms of conflict?

1. Conflict Free [      ]                      2. Conflict potential [      ]  
3. Conflict prone [      ]                      4. Others(please specify)

2. Describe the type of conflicts you have experienced in the last 8 years in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

3. Describe the type of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

4. Which conflicts in your opinion are likely to occur in the future in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

5. Whom do you think among the following could be actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit county? Tick as many views of your options as you can.

1. Community Elders [    ] 2. Youths [    ] 3. Women [    ] 4. Politicians [    ]  
5. Business People [    ] 6. Security Forces [    ]  
7. Provincial Administration Officers [    ] 8. Herdsmen [    ]  
9. Community Professionals [    ] 10. Others (please specify).....

6. In your own view how do you rate the seriousness of the following conflict issues in Marsabit County? (Insert number corresponding to your answer in the options provided below)

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious 5=Not serious.

A) Land. B) Water C) Pastures. D) Political rivalvaries. E) Cultural practices.



F) Tribalism/Negative ethnicity. G) Employment.

7. How serious is the proliferation of small arms in Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious

8. What are the kinds of small arms commonly found in the region?

1=Hand guns (pistols) 2=G3 rifles 3=AK47 4=Hand grenades.

5=Others(please specify).....

9. In your opinion, where could be the sources of these small arms?

1=Ethiopia 2=Somalia 3=Kenya 4=Sudan 5=others (Please specify)

10. Why do you think people access these small arms?

1=For prestige 2=For self Protection 3=For raiding opponents communities.

4=Proof of mighty 5=To instill fear

11. In your own opinion, how serious is the Government in providing the security to the communities of Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

12. How serious is the following cultural practices of different communities in Marsabit County contributing to the tribal conflicts in the region?Kindly rate them with numbers given below 1,2,.....

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

- Cattle rustling
- Poaching
- Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization
- Revenge
- Marriage dowry
- Traditional war songs and poems.

13. From the following options of the social cultural practices in the larger Marsabit County, could you kindly tick as many as you can the ones which could be leading to tribal conflict in your area?

1=Cattle rustling    2= Poaching    3=Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization  
4=Revenge    5=Marriage dowry

6=Traditional war songs and poems    7=Ethnic prejudices

8=Proof of mighty.

14. How do you rate the extent to which the following factors have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? Kindly tick in the boxes provided.

Key: 1=Very large extent    2=Large extent    3=Little extent    4=Very little extent    5=No extent.

		1	2	3	4	5
	Cultural norms and practices					
	Political Incitements					
	Availability of small Arms					
	Competition over water points and pasture					
	Rivalry over Land Ownership					
	Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs					
	Population increases					
	Youth unemployment					
	Drought and famine					

	Lack of education					
	Cattle rustling					
	Historical injustices					
	Drug Abuses					

15. We all know that we all have responsibility to play in maintaining the peaceful coexistence between the different communities of Marsabit County. Could you kindly mention a few efforts put in place by the your religious organization in solving those conflicts?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

16. How often do your religious followers and leaders involve in pursuing measures to address such conflicts in Marsabit County?

- |               |          |                |          |
|---------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| 1. Very Often | [      ] | 2. Often       | [      ] |
| 3. Rarely     | [      ] | 4. Very Rarely | [      ] |

17. Apart from the religious leaders, could you kindly state other organizations involved in interventions to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

18. How often have the government officials, NGOs, Political leaders, Religious leaders, Community elders and any other stakeholders been utilizing public places mentioned below in sensitizing the community on the issue of resolving the inter tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? (Use the following key)

1=Very often      2=Often      3=Rarely      4=Very Rarely

		1	2	3	4	5
1	Churches					
2	Mosques					
3	Political Rallies					
4	Shopping centers					
5	Chief's baraza					
6	DC's / Dos public meetings					

19. How do you rate the achievements of these sensitization campaigns by these stakeholders in improving the peaceful co-existence of different communities in Marsabit County?

- |              |          |              |          |
|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| 1. Very good | [      ] | 2. Good      | [      ] |
| 3. Poor      | [      ] | 4. Very poor | [      ] |

20. To what extent do you think the communities of Marsabit district is sensitized by the above stakeholders of developments on the issue of peaceful co-existences?

- |                      |          |                 |          |
|----------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| 1. Very great extent | [      ] | 2. Great extent | [      ] |
|----------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|



3. Minimal extent [ ] 4. No extent at all [ ]

21. Do these stakeholders advocate for progressive cultural practices unlike the traditional cultural rites such as cattle rustling that encourages tribal conflicts?

1. Yes [ ] 2. No [ ]

22. Do you think the social- cultural practices have a role in the occurrences of constant tribal conflicts in Marsabit?

1. Yes [ ] 2. No [ ]

23 Briefly explain your answer

---

---

---

24. How do you describe the nature of politics in Marsabit County?

1=Unifying 2=Divisive 3=Marginalizing 4=No idea

## APPENDIX VII

### Questionnaires For Women Representatives

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by filling in this questionnaire. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

#### SECTION ONE: Demographic Information

Indicate the correct option by inserting a tick (✓) in appropriate box provided

1. What is your gender?      1=Female                      [   ]      2=Male                      [   ]
2. What is your age?  
1=18-25 yrs [   ]    2=26 – 35 yrs [   ]    3=36 – 45 yrs [   ]    4=46 –55yrs [   ]  
5=56 – 65 yrs [   ]                      6=66 – 75 yrs [   ]    7=76 and above [   ]
3. What is your highest academic/professional qualification?  
1=No Formal Education    2=Primary    3=Secondary    4=College  
5=Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long have you stayed in this area?  
1=Below 1 yr [   ]    2=1 – 5 yrs [   ]    3=6 – 10 yrs [   ]    4=11-15yrs [   ]  
5=16-20yrs [   ]    6=20yrs and over [   ]
5. What is the dominant community in this area?
6. What is your occupation?
7. What is your marital status?  
1=Married [   ]                      2=Single                      [   ]    3=Divorced [   ]    4=Separated [   ]  
Others \_\_\_\_\_

The study will be guided by the following questions.

## SECTION TWO:

1. How would you classify Marsabit County in terms of conflict?

1. Conflict Free [       ]                      2. Conflict potential [       ]  
3. Conflict prone [       ]                      4. Others(please specify)

2. Describe the type of conflicts you have experienced in the last 8 years in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

3. Describe the type of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

4. Which conflicts in your opinion are likely to occur in the future in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

5. Whom do you think among the following could be actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit county? Tick as many views of your options as you can.

1. Community Elders [    ] 2. Youths [    ] 3. Women [    ] 4. Politicians [    ]  
5. Business People [    ] 6. Security Forces [    ]  
7. Provincial Administration Officers [    ] 8. Herdsmen [    ]



9. Community Professionals [    ]                      10.Others (please specify).....

6. In your own view how do you rate the seriousness of the following conflict issues in Marsabit County? (Insert number corresponding to your answer in the options provided below)

1=Extremely serious   2=Very serious   3=Serious   4=Moderately serious   5=Not serious.

A) Land. B) Water. C) Pastures. D) Political rivalries E) Cultural practices.

F) Tribalism/Negative ethnicity. G) Employment.

7. How serious is the proliferation of small arms in Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious   2=Very serious   3=Serious   4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious

8. What are the kinds of small arms commonly found in the region?

1=Hand guns (pistols)   2=G3 rifles   3=AK47   4=Hand grenades.

5=Others (please specify).....

9. In your opinion, where could be the sources of these small arms?

1=Ethiopia              2=Somalia   3=Kenya   4=Sudan   5=others (Please specify)

10. Why do you think people access these small arms?

1=For prestige        2=For self Protection   3=For raiding opponents communities.

4=Proof of mighty    5=To instill fear

11. In your own opinion, how serious is the Government in providing the security to the communities of Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious   2=Very serious   3=Serious   4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

12. How serious is the following cultural practices of different communities in Marsabit County contributing to the tribal conflicts in the region? Kindly rate them with the numbers given below.1,2,.....

1=Extremely serious    2=Very serious   3=Serious   4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

- Cattle rustling
- Poaching
- Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization

- Revenge
- Marriage dowry
- Traditional war songs and poems

13. From the following options of the social cultural practices in the larger Marsabit County, could you kindly tick as many as you can the ones which could be leading to tribal conflict in your area?

- 1=Cattle rustling      2= Poaching      3=Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization  
 4=Revenge      5=Marriage dowry  
 6=Traditional war songs and poems      7=Ethnic prejudices  
 8=Proof of mighty

14. How do you rate the extent to which the following factors have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? Kindly tick in the boxes provided.

Key: 1=Very large extent    2=Large extent    3=Little extent    4=Very little extent    5=No extent.

		1	2	3	4	5
	Cultural norms and practices					
	Political Incitements					
	Availability of small Arms					
	Competition over water points and pasture					
	Rivalry over Land Ownership					
	Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs					
	Population increases					
	Youth unemployment					
	Drought and famine					

	Lack of education					
	Cattle rustling					
	Historical injustices					
	Drug Abuses					

15. We all know that we all have responsibility to play in maintaining the peaceful coexistence between the different communities of Marsabit County. Could you kindly mention a few efforts put in place by the women organization in solving those conflicts?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

16. How often do the youth involve themselves in pursuing measures to address such conflicts?

- |               |          |                |          |
|---------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| 1. Very Often | [      ] | 2. Often       | [      ] |
| 3. Rarely     | [      ] | 4. Very Rarely | [      ] |

17. Apart from the women, could you kindly state other organizations involved in interventions to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

18. How do you describe the nature of politics in Marsabit County?

1=Unifying    2=Divisive    3=Marginalizing    4=No idea



## APPENDIX IIX

### Questionnaires For Schools Head Teachers

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by filling in this questionnaire. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

#### SECTION ONE: Demographic Information

Indicate the correct option by inserting a tick (✓) in appropriate box provided

1. What is your gender?      1=Female                      [   ]      2=Male                      [   ]
2. What is your age?  
1=18-25 yrs   [   ]      2=26 – 35 yrs [   ]      3=36 – 45 yrs   [   ]      4=46 –55yrs   [   ]  
5=56 – 65 yrs [   ]                      6=66 – 75 yrs [   ]      7=76 and above [   ]
3. What is your highest academic/professional qualification?  
1=No Formal Education 2=Primary 3=Secondary  
4=College                      5=Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long have you stayed in this area?  
1=Below 1 yr      [   ]      2=1 – 5 yrs      [   ]      3=6 – 10 yrs      [   ]  
4=11-15yrs              [   ]      5=16-20yrs      [   ]      6=20yrs and over [   ]
5. What is the dominant community in this area?
6. What is your occupation?
7. What is your marital status?  
1=Married [   ]                      2=Single              [   ]      3=Divorced [   ] 4=Separated [   ]  
Others \_\_\_\_\_

The study will be guided by the following questions.

## SECTION TWO:

1. How would you classify Marsabit County in terms of conflict?

1. Conflict Free [      ]                      2. Conflict potential [      ]  
3. Conflict prone [      ]                      4. Others(please specify)

2. Describe the type of conflicts you have experienced in the last 8 years in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

3. Describe the type of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

4. Which conflicts in your opinion are likely to occur in the future in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

5. Whom do you think among the following could be actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit county? Tick as many views of your options as you can.

1. Community Elders [    ] 2. Youths [    ] 3. Women [    ] 4. Politicians [    ]  
5. Business People [    ] 6. Security Forces [    ]  
7. Provincial Administration Officers [    ] 8. Herdsmen [    ]  
9. Community Professionals [    ] 10. Others (please specify).....

6. In your own view how do you rate the seriousness of the following conflict issues in Marsabit County? (Insert number corresponding to your answer in the options provided below)

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious 5=Not serious.

A) Land.B) Water. C) Pastures. D) Political rivalvarie E) Cultural practices.

F) Tribalism/Negative ethnicity. G) Employment.

7. How serious is the proliferation of small arms in Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious

8. What are the kinds of small arms commonly found in the region?

1=Hand guns (pistols) 2=G3 rifles 3=AK47 4=Hand grenades.

5=others(please specify).....

9. In your opinion, where could be the sources of these small arms?

1=Ethiopia 2=Somalia 3=Kenya 4=Sudan 5=others (Please specify)

10. Why do you think people access these small arms?

1=For prestige 2=For self Protection 3=For raiding opponents communities.

4=Proof of mighty 5=To instill fear.

11. In your own opinion, how serious is the Government in providing the security to the communities of Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

12. How serious is the following cultural practices of different communities in Marsabit County contributing to the tribal conflicts in the region? Kindly rate with the numbers given below.1,2,.....

1=Extremely serious 2=Very serious 3=Serious 4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.

- Cattle rustling
- Poaching
- Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization
- Revenge
- Marriage dowry



➤ Traditional war songs and poems.

13. From the following options of the social cultural practices in the larger Marsabit County, could you kindly tick as many as you can the ones which could be leading to tribal conflict in your area?

1=Cattle rustling      2= Poaching      3=Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization  
4=Revenge      5=Marriage dowry

6=Traditional war songs and poems      7=Ethnic prejudices

8=Proof of mighty.

14. How do you rate the extent to which the following factors have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? Kindly tick in the boxes provided.

Key: 1=Very large extent      2=Large extent      3=little extent      4=Very little extent      5=No extent.

	1	2	3	4	5
Cultural norms and practices					
Political Incitements					
Availability of small Arms					
Competition over water points and pasture					
Rivalvary over Land Ownership					
Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs					
Population increases					
Youth unemployment					
Drought and famine					

	Lack of education					
	Cattle rustling					
	Historical injustices					
	Drug Abuses					

15. We all know that we all have responsibility to play in maintaining the peaceful coexistence between the different communities of Marsabit County. Could you kindly mention a few efforts put in place by the teachers organization to avoid spillage of those tribal conflict into the learning places/Schools?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

16. How often do teachers involve themselves in pursuing measures to address such conflicts as the professional and torch bearers of Marsabit County Communities?

1. Very Often [      ]                      2. Often [      ]

3. Rarely [      ]                      4. Very Rarely [      ]

17. Apart from the teachers, could you kindly state other organizations involved in interventions to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

18. How do you describe the nature of politics in Marsabit County?

1=Unifying    2=Divisive    3=Marginalizing    4=No idea

## APPENDIX IX.

### INTERVIEW SCHEDULES FOR COMMUNITY ELDERS

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by giving your responses to the following interview questions as it progresses. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

#### SECTION ONE: Demographic Information

Indicate the correct option by inserting a tick (✓) in appropriate box provided

1. What is your gender?      1=Female                      [   ]      2=Male                      [   ]
2. What is your age?  
1=18-25 yrs [   ]    2=26 – 35 yrs [   ] 3=36 – 45 yrs    [   ]    4=46 –55yrs [   ]  
5=56 – 65 yrs [   ]                      6=66 – 75 yrs [   ] 7=76 and above [   ]
3. What is your highest academic/professional qualification?  
1=No Formal Education 2=Primary 3=Secondary  
4=College  
5=Others (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long have you stayed in this area  
1=Below 1 yr [   ]    2=1 – 5 yrs    [   ]    3=6 – 10 yrs    [   ]    4=11-15yrs    [   ]  
5=16-20yrs    [   ]    6=20yrs and over [   ]
5. What is the dominant community in this area?
6. What is your occupation?
7. What is your marital status?  
1=Married [   ]                      2=Single                      [   ]    3=Divorced [   ]    4=Separated [   ]  
5. Others \_\_\_\_\_



The study will be guided by the following questions.

## SECTION TWO:

1. How would you classify Marsabit County in terms of conflict?

1. Conflict Free [       ]                      2. Conflict potential [       ]  
3. Conflict prone [       ]                      4. Others (please specify)

2. Describe the type of conflicts you have experienced in the last 8 years in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

3. Describe the type of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

4. Which conflicts in your opinion are likely to occur in the future in Marsabit County as per the following?

- Political based conflicts.
- Cultural based conflicts.
- Resource based conflicts.
- Land based conflicts.

5. Whom do you think among the following could be actors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit county? Tick as many views of your options as you can.

1. Community Elders [   ] 2. Youths [   ] 3. Women [   ] 4. Politicians [   ]  
5. Business People [   ] 6. Security Forces [   ]  
7. Provincial Administration Officers [   ] 8. Herdsmen [   ]  
9. Community Professionals [   ] 10. Others (please specify).....

6. What is the main subsistence activity for your households?

1. Pastrolism [       ]      2. Agriculture [       ]      3.others (specify)

### **PASTROLISM.**

- A) What was traditionally your wet season grazing area?
- B) What was your dry season grazing area?
- C) How is the grazing area in Gadamoji Division managed in the past?
- D) How has the wet and dry season grazing patterns changed with the establishment of settlement in Gadamoji?
- E) For how long have Boran been sharing resource with Gabras, Rendille and Burji?
- F) What rules and regulations were applied to ensure proper use of the resources?
- G) Do you think the communities living in this Gadamoji area abide to those rules?
1. Yes                      2.No
- H) If no, who among the following is not abiding?
1. Elders                  2.Government officials like chiefs, Dos and DCs.
3. The Youths      4.The politicians                  5.Others (Please Specify).....
- I) which is the most critical resource in this area of Gadamoji?
- J) How is this resource managed?
- k) Does the management and utilization of this resource cause conflict? Explain?

### **FARMING.**

- A) When did you start farming?
- B) How are the farm land allocated in Gadamoji Division?
- C) Have you ever been in dispute over your farm with other communities?
1. Yes                      2.No

D) If yes, what are some of the causes?

E) Do conflicts occur between farming and grazing?

1. Yes                      2.No

E) If yes, what are the causes of conflicts between the systems? Mention as many causes as you can.

7. In your own view how do you rate the seriousness of the following conflict issues in Marsabit County? (Insert number corresponding to your answer in the options provided below)

1=Extremely serious    2=Very serious    3=    4=Moderately serious    5=Not serious.

A) Land.B) Water C) Pastures.D) Political rivalvaries.E) Cultural practices.F) Tribalism/Negative ethnicity.    G) Employment.

8. How serious is the proliferation of small arms in Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious    2=Very serious    3=Serious    4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious

9. What are the kinds of small arms commonly found in the region?

1=Hand guns (pistols)    2=G3 rifles    3=AK47    4=Hand grenades.

5. Others (please specify).....

10. In your opinion, where could be the sources of these small arms?

1=Ethiopia              2=Somalia    3=Kenya    4=Sudan    5=others (Please specify)

11. Why do you think people access these small arms?

1=For prestige        2=For self Protection    3=For raiding opponents communities.

4= Proof of mighty    5=To instill fear

12. In your own opinion, how serious is the Government in providing the security to the communities of Marsabit County?

1=Extremely serious    2=Very serious    3=Serious    4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious.



13. How serious is the following cultural practices of different communities in Marsabit County contributing to the tribal conflicts in the region? Kindly rate them with numbers given below.1,2,.....

1=Extremely serious    2=Very serious    3=Serious    4=Moderately serious

5=Not serious

- Cattle rustling
- Poaching
- Initiation rites like poaching and age set organization
- Revenge
- Marriage Dowry
- Traditional war songs and poems.

14. From the following options of the social cultural practices in the larger Marsabit County, could you kindly tick as many as you can the ones which could be leading to tribal conflict in your area?

1=Cattle rustling    2= Poaching    3=Initiation rites like circumcision and age set organization  
4=Revenge    5=Marriage dowry

6=Traditional war songs and poems    7=Ethnic prejudices

8.Proof of Mighty

15. How do you rate the extent to which the following factors have contributed towards tribal conflicts in Marsabit County? Kindly tick in the boxes provided.

Key: 1=Very large extent    2=Large extent    3=Little extent    4=Very little extent    5=No extent.

	1	2	3	4	5
Cultural norms and practices					
Political Incitements					
Availability of small Arms					
Competition over water points and pasture					
Rivalvary over Land Ownership					
Laxity by the stakeholders of development to observe conflicts signs					
Population increases					
Youth unemployment					

	Drought and famine					
--	--------------------	--	--	--	--	--

	Lack of education					
	Cattle rustling					
	Historical injustices					
	Drug Abuses					

16. We all know that various community elders have put in place some measure of intra tribal conflict prevention. Mention a few efforts put in place by the above leaders in solving those conflicts?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

17. How often do the community elders involve themselves in pursuing measures to address such conflicts?

1. Very Often [      ]

2. Often [      ]

3. Rarely [      ]

4. Very Rarely

18. Apart from the council of elders, could you kindly state other organizations involved in interventions to tribal conflicts in Marsabit County?

19. How do you describe the nature of politics in Marsabit County?

1=Unifying    2=Divisive    3=Marginalizing    4=No idea

## APPENDIX X

### **FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS (FGDs) FOR PEACE FORUMS PARTICIPANTS.**

This study is an investigation into the determinant factors of tribal conflicts in Marsabit County. You are requested to participate in the study by giving your responses to the following interview questions as it progresses. The information you will provide will be kept confidential. Kindly give us as honest answers as possible.

1. Describe the types of conflicts you have experienced in the last 10 years.
  - Political based.
  - Cultural based.
  - Resource based.
  - Land based.
2. Describe the types of conflicts you are experiencing at the moment.
  - Political based.
  - Cultural based.
  - Resource based.
  - Land based.
  -
3. What kinds of conflicts are you expecting to occur in Marsabit County in future?
  - Political based.
  - Cultural based.
  - Resource based.
  - Land based.
4. What are the main types of conflicts in your area?
5. What do you think are the major causes of conflict in this region?
6. Who are the main conflict actors in the region?
7. What mechanisms have been put in place to respond to the conflicts in your region?
8. Which interventions have been done to address the conflicts since 2002?
9. Which organizations have been addressing conflicts in the County?
10. Suggest the approaches for conflict management in Marsabit County.
11. Describe briefly on how the following factors influence the tribal conflicts in Marsabit County.
  - Competition over Water and Pasture
  - Availability of Small Arms and Light Weapons
  - Competing cultural factors of different tribes
  - Competing Political interests in the County.