

HAWASSA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY



**THE LIVING CONDITION OF SLUM DWELLERS IN ARADA KEBELE OF
WOLAITA SODO CITY ADMINISTRATION, SOUTH CENTRAL ETHIOPIA**

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HAWASSA, ETHIOPIA
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DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that this thesis is my own work and is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further guarantee that this thesis has never been submitted for any degree or examination at any other university, and that all sources I have utilised have been mentioned and acknowledged by comprehensive references.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

CSA- Central Statistical Agency

G.C-Gregorian Calendar

FGD- Focused Group Discussion

KMs- Kilo Meters

IMUNA- International Model United Nations Association

SNNPR-South Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region

TB-Tuberculosis

UNDESA-United Nations Department of Economic and social Affairs

UN-HABITAT-United Nations Human Settlement Program

Glossary of Local Terms

Ambaa- City/Town

AmbayAakiyoogaa- urban Expansion

AmbaaDichchaa- Urban Growth

Areke- local and cultural drink which is prepared by distilling

BaasoKoshaa- Basic Needs or Infrastructures which are needed for a Given Society

CeegaKeettaa- Old House

Geeshuwaa- Tella

Hayquwaa- Death

Heeraa- Environment

Keettaa- House

Keettaa Asaa- Families

Luxettaa- Education

Marcuwa- Money

Oosuwa- Job

Parsuwa/Borde- Local and Cultural drink which is prepared from Maize, Sorghum and Malt

QabaliyaKeettaa- Kebele House

Abstract

A slum is a residential area with inferior housing that is underserved and/or overcrowded, resulting in unhealthy, unsafe, and socially unpleasant living conditions. A single residence can fit within this category, but the phrase is typically reserved for bigger areas, either rural or, more commonly, urban. The study is intended to investigate the living conditions of slum dwellers in Wolaita Sodo city administration in a particular area called Arada Kebele. The main aim of this thesis rests on describing the lived experiences and coping mechanisms of slum dwellers, exploring the impacts and consequences of current urban expansion on the slum dwellers in the study area, and exploring the challenges and opportunities of people living in the slum settlement. In doing so, the researcher has employed a qualitative research approach and methods, including FGDs, key informant interviews, observation, and case study methods, by using a purposive sampling design. The data grasped from the site is then analysed through the thematic analysis method, a process that includes arranging, coding, and presenting empirical data from the field, and finally, its findings are presented through narration. The findings indicated that people in the slum environment of the study area are living a miserable life and facing health problems, economic disorder, and social and cultural change due to urban expansion and modernization, and thus its inhabitants are marginalised and economically poor. Even though poverty and rural-urban migration are the major challenges of urban slums, the study mainly focused on the lived experience and the impact of urban expansion on the dwellers and the geographical set and or physical environment of the study area. Finally, based on the findings, recommendations are forwarded.

Key terms:

Slum, Migration, Poverty, Urban expansion, Development

Chapter One

1. Introduction

In the developing world, urbanization and urban settlement patterns frequently include slums (Gottdiener et al, 2019). Over 1 billion people now reside in slums, with sub-Saharan Africa accounting for 238 million of those, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (370 million), and Central and Southern Asia (25 million) (227 million) respectively. Defining slums is the first step in creating a more systematic method of analysing them. However, there is still no consensus on what constitutes a slum or the appropriate scale for studying them (Gilbert, A. and Pfeffer, K. 2011).

The English word "slum" conjures up strong ideas of destitution and suffering, danger, and ruin (Nuisl, H., & Heinrichs, D. 2013). A slum, according to a straight forward definition, is a densely populated urban region that is marked by poor housing and sanitation. Unfortunately, because they frequently lack basic public amenities and eventually grow overcrowded, cities are unable to handle the rapid inflow of people. As a result, the majority of urban residents depend on slums, which mostly offer poor living circumstances. In common use, the word "slum" denotes "poor" housing. Typically, the phrase can be used to describe communities with impoverished residents and subpar housing. In reality, every city in the globe appears to describe slums in its own manner, despite efforts to develop an objective definition (Gilbert, A. 2007).

Africa's urbanisation rate is expected to reach 58% by 2050, increasing the number of urban people from 400 million in 2010 to 1.26 billion by 2050. Slums house one-quarter of the world's population with the bulk of slum residents coming from the developing countries. Slums house and employ about 880 million people in developing nations. Despite a minor decrease in the worldwide urban slum population, Sub-Saharan Africa continues to have the highest incidence of slum conditions, and the majority of increased urban population is predicted to be slum population (UNDESA, 2014).

Ethiopia now ranked among the least urbanized nations (20%) but is rapidly urbanizing at a rate of roughly 5% per year. The precise definition and size of Ethiopian slums are contested; there is no denying that most metropolitan areas in the nation suffer from

insufficient housing, services, and infrastructure. Rapid urban population increase, a shortage of housing, and bad governance are typically the causes of slum development. Sometimes, the rate of urbanization exceeds the capacity of governments to set up the foundation for affordable housing for a growing population (Lucci et al, 2015).

The provision of affordable housing is one of the testing problems in major towns of Ethiopia and more particularly Wolaita Sodo, the study area of this research. Previously known as "Mocha Borago" Soddo, the town of Wolaita was given its name after a reputable individual who founded a settlement some 115 years back. Due to the predilection of the Menelik soldiers for war camps at the time, the modern Wolaita Sodo or Mocha Borago Sodo was further expanded under Mount Damota. Despite its long history of establishment, in 1894, Wolaita Sodo town is far from being immune from slum-ship and slum dwellers.

Slum settlement is, therefore, can be manifested through inadequate infrastructure, environmental hazards, destitution, and poverty. In addition to the hardships that the dwellers face in their living areas, they are reportedly marginalized so that they cannot get jobs, easily interact with others, be trusted in their daily life, and be approached for social gatherings.

Contrary to the socio-economic spectrums of Slum dwellers in Arada Kebele, Wolaita Sodo is expanding both in size and infrastructure. There are areas where the diaspora communities, the riches, and some notable persons in the town are living, that is; Wadu kebele, Gendeba and Larena areas are under massive construction of houses and infrastructural upheavals. Even though these residential areas are established only a few years back, there are well observable differences between the Arada kebele and them as a newly flourishing settlement.

The city administration and other subsequent concerning bodies have made their paramount attention on the newly flourishing areas where the diaspora is predominantly located. In fact, the tendency of building new cities instead of dealing with complicated issues of existing township has become the new norm in modern urban planning and development. Such tendencies are, therefore, causing complete ignorance of slum dwellers, their socio-economic demand of them as town, and exclusion of the dwellers from matters related to administrative issues of the town. On the bases of the

abovementioned background therefore, this research was entirely focus on slum dwellers with the specific attention of assessing the challenges and coping strategies of slum dwellers in Wolaita Sodo, Arada kebele.

1.1. Statement of the problem

The government of Ethiopian has implemented policy changes to address the issues posed by slum areas since 1990s (UN- Habitat 2004). Following a chunk of policies and urban development directives, slums were demolished, some physical improvements were made, and an urban center was upgraded as part of the interventions. Despite the wide array of interventions by the government, its result in altering the socio-economic well-being of slum dwellers has never been checked especially in the southern region and the study area of this research. Hence, this research is forwarding its fair share in addressing the livelihood of slum dwellers ever since the 1990s policy interventions powered by the World.

There are researches done on slum dwellers elsewhere in Ethiopia. To begin with, Endalemaw (2014) conducted research in Dire Dawa City that revealed slum housing and livelihoods of slum dwellers. Moreover, the author has successfully mentioned the problems of slum dwellers associated with a lack of access to open spaces, playing grounds, recreational sites, and even restrooms. He further elaborated on how families are heavily dependent on the usage of wood/coal and kerosene for cooking and heating, which is a byproduct of deforestation operations. Contrary to Endalamaw's research, my research will entirely focus on the living condition of slum dwellers in Arada kebele, their socio-economic condition, lived experience and also the major problems of urban expansion on the city.

Wendmaginegn (2015) has also contributed a research. In his research, therefore, he has founded that the most checking problem of slum settlers is the lack and loss of income due to ongoing segregation of slum dwellers, disengagement of slum dwellers from social services, and ignorance towards infrastructural developments in slum areas. Despite the problems mentioned, he also convinced that there are some improvements in upgrading the conditions of slum areas in Addis Ababa. Moreover, His study's findings showed that improving slum areas has a significant impact on improving people's quality of life and creating livable neighborhoods.

Similarly, a research is also forwarded by (Rahel, 2018). On *Cause and Impacts of Living in a Slum areas of Kirkos Sub City* and it mentioned problems related to water supply, sanitation, and hygiene in her study area and its possible toll on health and well-being. The study implicated that health problems are usually associated with financial capabilities to get swift remedy and loss of economic activities due to repeated absence from working places.

One of the commonalities between the abovementioned research works is that they entirely focused on the living conditions of migrants and people who have been uprooted from rural to urban areas. On top of that, the researchers have made their paramount focus on the emergence of slum settlements due to internal migration and informal settlements. However, my research was mainly focused on the future development program of the study area.

Even though established a century back, Arada Kebele is still an impoverished slum area where drinking water is a luxury; sanitation and infrastructure are something very low. More surprisingly, to the extent of my convenience, this research was mainly focused on the living condition of slum dweller in the study area by focusing on its future improvements. Therefore, this study will be a pioneering work in investigating living conditions, the challenges, coping strategies, and the impacts of urbanization on slum dwellers. Thus, this study will show the growth of slum environment in the study area and the impact urban expansion and globalization on the dwellers due and the study filled geographical or locational gap through its finding since it is the first study in the southern part Ethiopia, particularly Wolaita Sodo city administration.

Therefore, this research answered the following research questions.

1. What are the lived experience and coping mechanism of slum dwellers of the study area?
2. What are the impact and consequences of current urban expansion on the slum dwellers of Arada kebele?
3. What are the challenges and opportunities of peoples living in the slum settlement of the study area?

1.2. Objective of the Study

General Objective

The general objective of this research is to explore the living condition of peoples in slum area of Arada kebele of Wolaita Sodo city, in South Central Ethiopia.

Specific Objective

The specific objective of this study was:-

- ✓ To describe the lived experience and coping mechanism of slum dwellers of Arada kebele
- ✓ To describe the impact and consequences of current urban expansion on the slum dwellers of Arada kebele
- ✓ To discuss the challenges and opportunities of slum dwellers in the study area

1.3. Rational and purpose of the research

Due to the lack of job opportunities and capital to work in their original settlement area, people from urban slum dwellers are moving from their environment to the center of the cities for the sake of better job opportunities to survive. They are living a very miserable life socially and economically, and they are more prone to health problems because of their settlement. In every part of the country, slum dwellers are mainly engaged in informal types of jobs, like selling injera and Tella, cutting grass and trees, fetching water, washing clothes, preparing and selling Borde (cultural drinking in Wolaita society), prostitution, and are mainly engaged as labour workers. In relation to this, as explained in the majority of previous studies in Ethiopia on slum settlement, the living conditions of slum dwellers had not been studied in the Arada kebele of Wolaita Sodo town. Conducting research on urban slums is not a new one; that is, several scholars have conducted their studies on the issue of slums from different perspectives; however, the problem of urban slums is still an ongoing process that needs another deep focus or study to minimize the existing problem through anthropological research and also there are no researches in Wolaita area on slum issue before now.

To this effect, what precipitated me to conduct research on this issue is that the problems are simply observable in the study area, which triggered me to capture the lives of the slum dwellers through anthropological inquiries and ethnographic analysis. Not only this, but Arada Kebele is also one of the earliest established places in Sodo town. However, development interventions and facilities are far from being in place, while newly established peri-urban centres are enjoying excessive infrastructural developments.

Thus, I thought and was motivated to contribute literature on one of the historical settlement areas of Wolaita Sodo. In doing so, the historical background of Arada Kebele, the life experiences of its residents, the challenges posed, the coping strategies used, and the issue of urbanization are all explained in this research.

1.4. Scope of the Study

This study emphasised the living conditions of people in the slum area of Arada Kebele Wolaita Sodo town, in south-central Ethiopia. Conceptually, the research discusses the major challenges and opportunities facing slum dwellers in the study area, examining the impact of current urban expansion on slum dwellers, the origin of the slum dwellers in the study area, and describing the major problems of living in the slum area.

1.5. Significance of the Study

Providing valuable and relevant information on the living conditions of slum dwellers means that this research might provide a clue for the urban renewal program in the study area in the coming future, i.e., it might help to understand those who are the most affected social groups in Wolaita Sodo City administration due to urban expansion. The study will help to identify the impacts of slum area settlement on the socio-cultural and economic impact of slums on the study area and then search for possible mechanisms to solve the existing problem. It will give a possible recommendation to the concerned bodies in order to solve the existing problem, and the study can also serve as a reference for those who will undertake their research in the same area of study.

Above all, among the significance that this research has for the community, the research will reveal their socio-economic problems to the concerned bodies, including the organizations interested in intervening. It also introduces those prominent slum dwellers to

academia, showing how they are living and adapting to their living environment. It will also have significance for different institutions by providing a scientific paper on the existing socio-economic activities of slum inhabitants of the Arada kebele.

Furthermore, this research will serve as a springboard for further studies on issues related to the lives of slum dwellers. In short, this study will have the following significance:

It provides current information on the socio-economic problems and coping mechanisms of slum dwellers in the Arada kebele. The research will serve as an insight for defining the experienced and well-known pre-socio-economic activities of Arada kebele dwellers.

1.6. Limitation of the study

There were some limitations that I faced during data collection. The first and greatest challenge of all is that I lost my elder sister by death on August 7, 2015, which hindered me in my work. The other challenge is that the geographical setting of the study area is not comfortable, and also because it is a rainy season, it has become difficult time to conduct research in the field. The other limitation is the difficulty of finding the right person at the right time. This is because it is difficult to find the necessary sources, that is, the written documents of Wolaita Sodo city administration from the municipality to the kebele and community level. In general, a lack of written documentation about the study area is one of the major challenges of this research.

1.8. Organization of the Thesis

This thesis is organized into seven chapters. Each part is presented in a well-organized manner consisting of an introduction, discussion, and conclusion. The sections include the following elements; Chapter One Introduction, Chapter Two Review of Related Literature, Chapter Three Methodology of the Study, Chapter Four The Lived Experience and Coping Mechanism of slum dwellers of the Study Area, Chapter Five The Impact and Consequence of Urban expansion on the slum dwellers of the study area, Chapter Six challenges and opportunities of peoples living in slum settlement of the study area and finally Chapter Seven presents conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITRATURE

2.1. Introduction

This study narrates data about the living conditions of slum dwellers based on primary and secondary sources. This section in particular presents the conceptual and theoretical framework literatures presented previously in different scholarly works.

Therefore, this chapter covers its discussions as follows; that is, the concept and occurrence of slums, the development and growth of slums, the characteristic features of slums, and the impact of slums. Besides, the theoretical viewpoints used to explain this study are presented in this chapter.

2.2. Concepts and Definition of Slum

Slums differ in size, character, and origin throughout nations and even between cities within the same nation. This is to mean that it has different meanings throughout the world, and also that each and every society has its own meaning through its culture. They have similar characteristics in every place, and most of the time, geographically; they are settled in similar environments. Thus, they all reside in the same uncomfortably cramped housing with low water quality, inadequate sanitation, and inadequate toilets (Sufaira, 2013).

Slums arise from a lack of management and planning on the part of either the government or urban residents, or both. Environmental aspects like harsh weather and resource availability must also be taken into account. Low-income individuals lack the resources to think about or make improvements to their existing living situation, particularly if they are unable to claim title to the property they occupy. Therefore, developing nations must strike a balance between providing urban slum people with long-term, sustainable housing and the expense of building new dwellings. But until today, the problems of slums are visible in every city in the world and even increase rapidly (IMUNA 2015).

Sustainable urbanisation could help pull Africa out of its persistent poverty, as has occurred in developed nations and emergent middle-income countries all over the world. Nevertheless, Africa's urban turning point (greater than 50% urban), which is predicted to take place in 2035, would turn into a blight if the existing urbanisation is accompanied by growing poverty, poor planning and governance, poor infrastructure, basic facilities, and deteriorating health outcomes that are not sustainably addressed. If this situation is not addressed, it is hard to see how Ethiopia and other African countries confronting similar challenges can achieve their SDGs and be transformed into middle-income countries, as per their specified national plans and aspirations (Chirisa, 2008; Jiboye, 2011; UN-Habitat, 2010).

While the rapid pace of urbanisation experienced by African countries over the last three decades certainly plays a vital role in slum formation, there are other economic, social, political, and institutional reasons for it. The impact of this is not fully known, as it has not been the focus of rigorous empirical investigation (Arimah, B., 2011). The 2009 UN-Habitat Global Report on Human Settlements describes the urbanisation rate in Sub-Saharan Africa as being faster than for any other continent. However, Sub-Saharan Africa has only begun its urban transition in recent times; the increase is such that it is projected that it will have an urban majority by around 2030. In keeping with comprehensive historical developments elsewhere, rural-to-urban migration in Sub-Saharan African countries appears to be the only significant cause of the rapid growth of the urban population.

In the early 1990s, it was Southern Asia, followed by Eastern Asia that had the highest proportion of slum occupants in the world, with some 180 and 159 million slum dwellers, respectively. Today, it is Sub-Saharan Africa that is taking the lead, having almost doubled its slum population in the past two decades (Restrepo Cadavid, 2011). Between 2009 and 2010, four of the world's developing regions were successful not only in reducing the percentage of their urban population living in slums but also the absolute number of slum dwellers. The most troubling trends are present in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Ethiopian cities suffer from a lack of infrastructure and urban services, urban environmental degradation, homelessness, urban deterioration, and high unemployment, just like many other developing nations (UN-Habitat, 2011). The growth of slums is one

of the bleak issues that cities face. According to the information that is currently available, 80 percent of urban residents live in slums that require either total replacement or major improvement. However, slum levels and conditions differ among the nation's cities. In Addis Ababa, the capital city, where slums make up the majority of the residential areas, the situation is terrible, (UN-Habitat, 2004; Yonoineshet, 2007; Elias, 2008; Gebre, 2008). Slums make up more than 80% of Addis Ababa, with government-owned rental housing making up about 70% of this total.

Cities in Ethiopia have failed, like other cities in the developing world, to accept expansion within a formal, planned urban framework of housing regulations and plans. As a result, only unofficial communities have developed, and because they lack official addresses or permissions to enhance their living circumstances, it is impossible to obtain the necessary funds for the construction of improved housing (Regassa, B., & Regassa, N. 2015; World Bank, 2015).

The most notable illustration of this may be found in Addis Abeba, the nation's capital and prime city. Addis Abeba was built on the foundation of an indigenous community, making it the only significant city in Africa that has no colonial history. Urbanity with a "mixity," as it is known in Addis Ababa, of economies, social strata, and functions is housed in the native urban framework (Ejigu, 2012). Ethiopia now ranks among the least urbanized nations (20%), although it is urbanizing quickly—about 5% annually. The rapid growth of unauthorized settlements, along with a significant level of unemployment and poverty, best describes Ethiopia's experience with urbanization.

Approximately 80% of the urban population currently resides in slum communities, which is surprising given the high proportion. Similar to this, the country has some of the most developed urban informal settlements in the whole globe. As a result, a lot of the homes in the nation are subpar and have inadequate room (Tesfaye, 2007). The range of delivery for drainage, power, and water supply is negligible.

2.3. Development and growth of Slum Settlement

The development and growth of the slum have a number of causes, some of which are listed here. Slum growth has been attributed to a variety of issues. Rural-to-urban

migration, subpar urban governance, and poorly conceived policies are a few of these variables, particularly those pertaining to location choice (Mahabir, et al., 2016).

One of the main factors contributing to the development of slums is migration from rural to urban areas. Many people move to urban areas in quest of more diverse employment options and better educational possibilities for their children. However, the majority of rural migrants struggle financially since they cannot find a job right away. However, because there is no transportation to move outlying areas, many cities do not offer affordable housing to the large number of rural migrants, who instead settle down in affordable slums and squat illegally on vacant but polluted land near railroad stations, bus stands, court compounds, and factories (Luhar, 2014).

Human settlement and migration have taken on a new dimension as a result of industrialization. The centralization of industrial units is a result of large-scale production. Since these few locations are able to provide people greater job prospects and means of subsistence, the spatially uneven economic development that is common in the majority of the world's nations has increased pressure on some chosen locations that are relatively higher economic activity centers. Environmental pollution results from the increased demand on congested cities' essential services, particularly in and surrounding areas of poverty.

The development of numerous epidemics and diseases, as well as the breeding ground for criminal activity, are said to be caused by the rising population density, pollution of the environment, poverty, and social ills (Pokhariyal, 2005).

When urbanization is used to describe the growth of urban land cover, the situation becomes even more perplexing because, although increasing settlement density is a component of urbanization, the rate at which urban land cover is expanding is roughly three times that of urban share growth (McGranahan and Satterthwaite, 2014).

It has a tight connection to the development of slums. Rapid urbanization fosters economic expansion, which draws individuals to the urban region in search of work and investment opportunities. However, as is well known, due to inadequate housing and poor urban infrastructure, local administrations are unable to control huge populations, which gives rise to slums (Luhar, H. 2014). A substantial number of urban populations now live in

crowded informal settlements, often known as slums, which has given poverty a new face as a result of the rapid urban population expansion and poor economic performance in the majority of African nations.

The expansion of slums in developing nations is a result of urban growth in the 20th and 21st centuries and epitomizes a Third World metropolis. Slum elimination efforts have been attempted, but they have virtually always failed because they don't challenge the urban paradigm that creates the slum in the first place (Bolay, 2006). Slum settlement is on the rise in emerging nations, which is linked to the rapid urbanization and population increase trend (Sori, 2012).

Rapid urban population expansion, a scarcity of housing that is cheap, and bad governance all contribute to the development of slums. Sometimes, the rate of urbanization exceeds government capacity to provide the foundation for inexpensive housing (such as land, infrastructure, and access to utilities) for a growing population. In addition, urban per urban regions see a lot of expansion, but both urban and rural authorities sometimes ignores them since they occasionally extend beyond of their jurisdictional limits. In some situations, governments are hesitant to take action because they think that by helping the poor, they would draw more people, which will lead to the growth of slums. As a result, according to Lucci et al., 2015, slums expand over time when they are left unattended.

Slum growth is facilitated by inadequate planning and a lack of household budget. The two primary causes of the growth of slums are a lack of financial resources and a lack of cooperation within the government bureaucracy (Luhar, 2014). Some of the slums of today's globe are a result of the urbanization colonialism brought about.

As an illustration of colonialism in the nineteenth century, Nairobi serves as an example. When Europeans first came in Kenya, they built Nairobi's urban core to serve their commercial interests. On the basis of racial segregation, several slums were also built. One instance of segregation occurs in Lagos, Nigeria.

Urban poverty is also the major factor for the development of Slum. With migration of rural poor people, poverty is also migrating to urban area. The poor people arrives with hope, he or she normally has no access to basic amenities. For them slums are only the options to settle themselves. Poverty is strongly correlated to slum formation. Low

incomes and limited household ability to pay are part of the problem, and lack of local government investment in infrastructure is another. It is evident that neither a city plan nor an approved land use planning system can independently direct urban growth and create urban spatial structures devoid of slums (Claudio, 2007).

Many urban inhabitants, both migrants and non-migrants, rely on low-paying, precarious occupations, and in certain areas, between 50 and 75 percent of the populace live in settlements with inadequate access to essential services and infrastructure, as well as insufficient housing and shelter (Tacoli, et al., 2015).

2.3.1. Socio-economic and environmental conditions of slum

The intensity, type and cause of slum vary across countries and even between cities of the same country. But, they share the same uncomfortable living conditions (Sufaira, 2013), poor and overcrowded housing, lack of toilet, inadequate water and sanitation, etc. Poor infrastructure and vulnerability to risks like natural disaster and environmental degradation, and health risk are commonly attributable to slums. On slum areas of Gonder city revealed that people are living in a very unfavourable conditions, old and congested houses, and easily vulnerable to diseases and floods.

2.3.2. Rapid rural-urban migration and slum formation

In some emerging nations, notably in Africa and Asia, (UNDESA, 2014) the two least urbanized continents in the world, the population of cities is growing quickly. People still decide to live and work together in urban and medium-sized agglomerations despite technology advancements that can reduce the importance of physical proximity as well as the pollution and congestion brought on by the extreme population density. Cities have always been a major driver of economic development, innovation, and opportunity (Glaeser, 2011). For a variety of causes, including poverty, rural-to-urban migration, and poor planning, high unemployment, weak governance, and natural calamities, slums have developed and spread around the world (Beall et al, 2014).

2.3.3. Governance and Its Impact on Slums

As was already said, urbanisation is not an issue in and of itself. Ineffective national and municipal governance, outdated institutional structures, outdated government policies, ineffective legal systems, outdated urban development programmes, and operational dysfunction are the true causes of the issue. The improvement of slum residents' living conditions appears to be left to international relief organisations by government entities. The only exceptions are during political election seasons, when the fundamentals of human nature are occasionally brought up and discussed in public (Franklin, 2020).

2.4. Characteristic Features of Slum Settlement

Slum is an area without a stable tenure system, a sustainable housing structure, access to potable water, and enough living space as well as degraded sanitary facilities. The last is the most difficult to quantify and is not currently employed in the measurement of slums, whereas the previous four are based on accepted criteria (UN-Habitat 2003). The inequality in urban growth and certain forceful measures that sever people's ties to their communities worsen the situation in slum regions (Endecela, 2020).

Not all slums are the same, and not all slum residents experience the same level of poverty. Slums often have deteriorated and infirm housing structures, poor ventilation, severe congestion, improper street alignment, inadequate lighting, a lack of access to safe drinking water, flooding during rainstorms, a lack of restroom facilities, and a lack of essential physical and social services (Chandramouli, 2003). Slum dwellers typically live in unsanitary circumstances that go against all rules for planned urban expansion. This contributes significantly to the rapid spread of many illnesses that are water and air borne. However, the legal term varies from State to State.

Insecure tenure, irregular or informal settlements, poverty and social exclusion, as well as small minimum settlement size are some of the characteristics of slums. Other characteristics include lack of basic services, substandard housing or illegal and inadequate building structures, overcrowding and high density, unhealthy living conditions and hazardous locations, and illegal or inadequate housing (UN-habitat, 2003). The number of the five characteristics of a slum that are present in a slum family determines how poor that household is. Slum regions are distinguished by threats to life, health, and

tenancy or by having unsuitable dwellings. These dangers might result from a building's rapid degradation over time, its location in a dangerous area, or its exposure to health conditions that could be harmful, including a lack of access to clean water or basic sanitation (Bagheri, M, 2013).

Lack of basic services (such as sanitation, clean drinking water, a lack of a waste collection system, electricity supply, street lighting, surfaced roads, footpaths, and rainwater drainage), substandard housing or illegal and inadequate building structure, high density (five or more people sharing a single room for living, sleeping, and cooking), unhealthy living conditions and hazardous conditions, unsecured tenancy, irregular and informal settlement.

Regardless of how long they have resided in the community, (*Assefa and Newman, 2014*) quoted in Rahel Demisse (2018), claim that slum households have only limited access to the majority of essential amenities. Dwelling units are physically limiting and structurally highly inadequate.

2.5. The Impact of Slum

The absence of political will to address the issue in a fundamentally organized, long-term, and meaningful way is, in UN-global HABITAT's experience, the main hindrance to progress in improving low income groups' housing and living circumstances, particularly in informal settlements and slums. The political will, local ownership and leadership, as well as the mobilization of the skills and capacities of all parties involved, notably the participants themselves, are without a doubt the keys to success. Lessons from several countries emphasize the importance and crucial role of ongoing political will and commitment (UN-Habitat, 2009).

Given the close connection between people and the environment, it is projected that the growth of slums would have a detrimental impact on both. On the one hand, the individuals who live in slums are immediately impacted by their living conditions, which include being in bodily risk from natural and man-made disasters and having poor housing (Napier, 2007). This is mostly because those who live in slums are less able to recover from natural disasters like floods and earthquakes than those who reside in communities with more established structures (Ajibade, I., & McBean, G, 2014; Ebert et al., 2009).

2.6. Theoretical Frame Works

It is necessary to understand the importance of theory through anthropological studies. Theoretical frame work marks the general objectives of a given study. There are several theories that highly focus on urban slum settlement. In case of my research, I used the following theories that best fits my research findings. The theoretical frame work will be also an important concept that connects the objective of the research and research findings.

2.6.1. Modernization Theory

Slums, according to modernization theory, are a natural and transient representation of a market failure resulting from the dynamics of structural change in labour markets. Modernization is the internal achievement of a society; the particular processes of Modernization are a society's own achievement; the many processes of modernization complement one another; the leading nations do not obstruct the followers; the various processes of modernization are convergent on a single goal."(Modern society, modernity) (Berger, 1996:46).

Modernisation appears to be concerned with economic progress as measured by the gross national income and output of society, with mechanisation and industrialisation playing important roles in this economic development. Industrialization in this context "involves the use of inanimate sources of power to mechanise production, and it involves increases in manufacturing, wage labour, income levels, and occupational diversification" (Armer&Katsillis, 2006), whereas development "implies economic growth, but not necessarily through transformation from the predominance of primary production to manufacturing, and not necessarily as characterised by modernization theory". The political, social, and cultural expenses must be met before industrial progress may begin.

Despite the fact that there are various descriptions and interpretations of the concept of modernisation, there are common systems of belief, namely that (1) societies evolve through a sequence of stages, (2) these various stages are based on "different degrees and patterns of social differentiation and reintegration of structural and cultural components that are functionally compatible for the maintenance of society", and (3) developing societies are at a pre-modernisation stage. As a result, societies grow from a lower,

underdeveloped condition to a higher, developed state, with progress ranging from basic to complicated (Ibid).

Today, modernisation theory briefly explains how "new technologies and systems are important to a more greatly standardized world" (Wise Geek, 2014) and includes the notion of globalisation, where cultural outlooks and values are easily detached universally creating a form of universal culture, because as societies improve, all cultures will tend to become comparable in nature, creating a broader gap between developed and underdeveloped societies. Modernization, on the other hand, brings medical treatment, food production, education, catastrophe prevention, free and open governance, and gender and race equality.

To this effect, modernization played a greatest role on the socio-economic, cultural and environmental issues of Arada Kebele. This is because of socially and economically peoples are categorized as poor and rich and also there is economic imbalance and socialization process is affected due to modernization, there is culture which is highly affected by globalization. Besides, there is urban expansion that affected the slum environment; that is, due to urban expansion, there is high amount of waste collection from the center of the city which is stored on the verge of the city which is globally known as slum environment and finally it pollutes the environment and affecting the health of slum dwellers. Therefore, for the sake of exploring the cause and consequences of urban expansion on the slum inhabitants of the study area, this theory is helpful and was selected by a researcher.

2.6.2. Theory of Urban Ecology

Ecological studies in cities and towns are known as urban ecology. "Urban" can be defined in a variety of ways. Essentially, it is a geographical phrase that describes an area's land use. According to a wide definition, an urban area or city is a relatively large, highly populated area including industrial, business, and residential sections. Ecologists have traditionally been hesitant to investigate urban ecosystems since they are considered inferior to less disturbed rural ecosystems (McDonnell, 1997; and Pickett et al., 1993). However, as ecologists become more aware of and worried about the consequences of people on ecosystems, this attitude is shifting. In addition to ecological study in urban

settings being more appealing as a scientific endeavour, the information generated by such research is becoming increasingly relevant in urban planning.

Cities constitute a small percentage of the world's land area, yet their ecological, economic, social, and cultural effect is vastly disproportionate to their size. Urban areas absorb resources such as energy, water, food, and people from the countryside and other parts of the world, and then export their garbage, creative ideas, and money to other parts of the world. Understanding cities' ecological impact is critical in the Anthropocene period if we are to learn how to transition to a more sustainable world (Seto and Pandey, 2019).

To this effect, the ecology of Arada Kebele is more of not suitable, however, its inhabitants are adapted their environment since they didn't have another opportunity. And also it is their culture that helped them to adapt that harsh environment. Thus, for the sake of discussing the lived experience and coping mechanism of slum dwellers, this theory is important one.

2.6.3. Marginalization Theory

Each society generates and sustains its own marginality, as well as the regions and populations associated with such marginality. The concept of "marginality" is still a hot topic in geographical studies, spanning a broad range of phenomena ranging from isolated rural locations to disadvantaged metropolitan residents. Marginalisation encompasses important variables that lead to vulnerability, such as political, social, and economic impotence and disadvantage; more specifically, it refers to persistent exclusion, social inequality, and economic poverty. Furthermore, it can emerge in either growing regions, such as Asia and Africa, or diminishing regions, such as European countries (Lang, 2012; Bernt and Colin, 2013).

Indeed, marginalisation exhibits a wide range of socio-spatial variation, implying unequal spatial development. Space not only provides a home for powers, interests, ideas, and other aspects, but it also exacerbates the social divisions and conflicts that lurk behind urbanisation and population migration. Marginalisation occurs as a result of space alteration and differentiation. It expresses slum inhabitants as poor and thus poverty is considered as one of unique culture that defines poor populations in urban area. In short term, this theory claims that socially, slum dwellers have an internal disorganization and

instability like loss of unity and living together, and also external isolations which results difficulty of coping with the urban economy due to lack of necessary infrastructures in their living environment and lack of income. Regarding culture, urban slum are still practicing traditional cultures of which they are adapted in rural area formerly and thus they are more prone to poverty.

Economically, they are dependent because of they are getting their income through informally and expecting for some aid from either the city government or from the affluent of the city. Because of peoples have the attitude of undermining and even ignoring the slum populations in the city, they have less initiation to provide and creating new things, that is, peoples thinking that they have fewer roles in urban environment. The political issues of slum community are more of tremulous because of they are highly affected by poverty and also lack of education and knowledge of developing and running their political system. Thus, politically, they are led by the rules and regulations which are set by the other elite and powerful urban dwellers in the same city.

The geographical concepts of "marginalisation" and "marginality" are extremely close to the meaning of "peripheralization"; such peripheries might be located within or on the outskirts of a city, region, or country (Kuhn, 2015).

Therefore, due to its rapid growth and expansion of Wolaita sodo city administration, slum dwellers in Arada kebele are marginalized because of they are engaged in informal economy and lacks permanent job in their living environment and also they are far away from modernization and the new information. Due to this, they are highly affected by poverty and are economically poor. Therefore, this theory is employed by the researcher to study the living condition of slum dwellers of the study area and people are negatively conceived and giving name for the inhabitants depending on their prominent job types and their living condition.

Chapter Three

3. RESESRACH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Introduction

The economic development of any country depends on the availability and accessibility of information gathered from exact data, which is a fundamental tool for policy and strategy formulation. Policy formulation and strategic planning require accurate, consistent, absolute, flexible, and appropriate information over a wide range of geo-special, economic, and social sectors.

This chapter explores the description of the study area, its history, map, geographical location, population, climate condition, and others. Besides, it will clearly explain the major research methodologies that were helpful in this research, including reality, primary sources of data, and secondary sources of data, and data analysis, which are discussed in the following manner:

3.1.1. Background of the study area

Physical Background of Wolaita zone

Wolaita Zone is one of the Central Zones in Southern nations nationalities and peoples regional government and is located b/n 6.29-7.100 N & 37.13 0 -38.08oE. The boundary areas are Kamabata Tambaro and Hadiya Zone in the north, Sidama Region in the East, Gamo and Gofa zone in south, Dawro Zone in the west and Oromia Region in North East. Total Area of the Zone is 451,170 hectare or 4511.7km². The zone is structured with 16 Woreda's and 6 Town Administrations with a total of 362 Kebeles, among which 289 rural and 73 urban Kebeles (CSA, 2007).

There are 3 agro - ecological zones, out of which 'Dega' accounts 9%, 'Woyna Dega' accounts 56 % and 'Kola' 35 %. According to the land usage reported by zone Agriculture department of 2013 E. C total cultivated land is 292,487 hectare (64.8%) and among this 221,223.3 hectare is held by annual crops, 71,265.17 hectare by perennial crops, 40,409 hectare is grassland, 83,803 hectare is forest, 10,685.7 hectare is covered by water, 62474.5 is arable land, 12,936 hectare is unreadable and the rest is used for other purposes.

According to data obtained from department of Agriculture and natural resource there are 433,545 agricultural households and 1,300,635 farmers benefited from Extension programs by 2,090 extension workers. The number of Agricultural extension beneficiaries exceeded household size because there are beneficiaries who are not registered as a household.

Concerning social services, there are 8 governmental and 2 private hospitals in the zone, 67 health centers, 357 health posts. In Education sector, there are 517 Primary schools (grade 1-8), and 78 secondary schools (9-12). Concerning the student's number, 430,975 primary students were enrolled in government schools and 92,716 students were enrolled in secondary government schools in the year of 2013 E.C. As of 2013 E.C the total Permanent a number of public servants in Wolaita Zone were, 51,763 out of which 33,822 or 65.34% were male. 17,941 or 34.66% were female.

Population size and distribution

The population growth of Wolaita zone is rapidly growing; by 1999 E.C census the population of Wolaita was 1,501,112, an average growth per annum is 2.9%. In 2010 E.C it has grown to 2,096,492, in 2011 reached to 2,273,992, in 2012 reached to 2,326,306 and in 2013 E.C it becomes 2,490,318. So knowing Information on population characteristics is very vital for development programmes. The problem of population growth is not simply a problem of number, but it is the problem of human welfare and development. Population & development are directly related to planning and implementation of any development programs requires information on the size of population, structure, distribution, and dependency ratio and population dynamics in general.

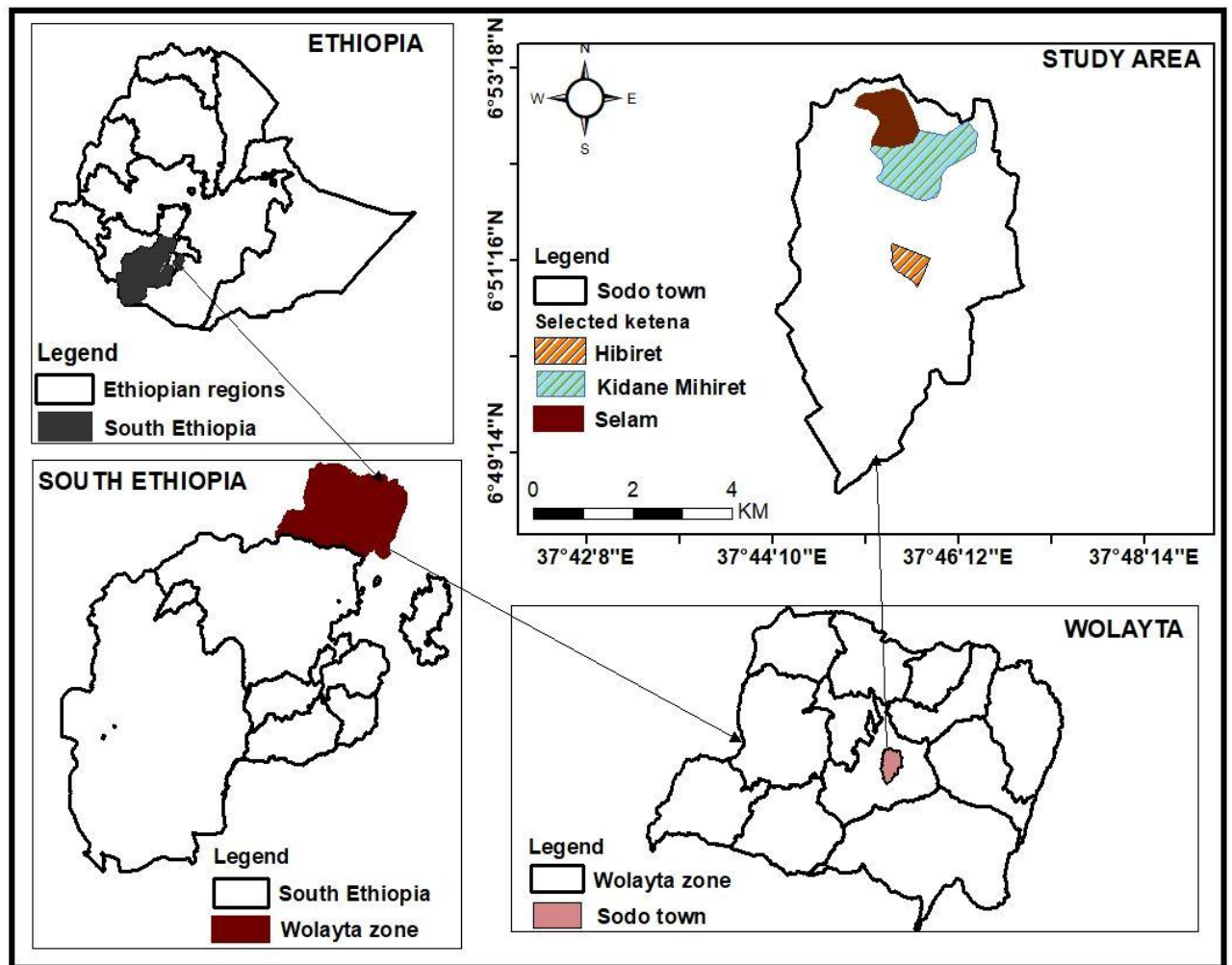
The total projected population of the zone in 2013 E.C was 2,490,318 of which 1,221,081 were male 1,269,237 were females. Population distribution of the zone accounts 1,667,551 (67%) rural, 821,886 (33%) urban (rural and urban respectively). According to the census, the population growth rate in rural is about 2.8% and urban is 4.8%. The zone population is characterized by young age structure and rapid population growth. The population of children under age 15 is 1,043,338 (42%), the proportion of the working age population at the age group of 15-64 years is 1,294,292(58%) and the proportion of populations 65 and above is 47,112 (1.9%).

3.1.2. Brief Introduction to Wolaita Soddo City

The Sodo city covers about 82.1km². The agro-ecology of the Woreda is dominated by midland that covers about 87% of the total area, and the remaining 13% is highland with rugged mountains and slopes. The altitude of the woreda falls in the range of 1500 to 3200m.a.s.l. The climatic condition of the woreda is similar to most of the southern parts of the country. The maximum (summer) rain fall comes between June-August and the minimum (spring) rainfall is very important for agricultural activities in the woreda comes between March to May. According to the woreda agriculture office, the maximum rainfall ranges between 1200mm and 1300mm per annum. Maximum temperature also ranges between 20-25°C with average minimum temperature of 10-15°C.

The soils throughout the area are of volcanic origin, and over a sedimentary base. Though inherently well-drained and fertile, the soils are also acidic and highly erosion-prone and as a result the agricultural areas are often highly degraded. Based on 1994 & 2007 census population size data of the city, the growth rate is computed using exponential growth rate method by using the excel sheet and resulted the population growth rate of the town to be 5.86%. This rate is greater than urban population growth rate of the region, which is 4.8%. Agriculture is the major economic activity of the Sodo and its peripheries. Potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.), sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*), cassava (*Manihot esculenta*), yam (*Dioscorea alata*), banana (*Musa acuminata*), enset (*Enset ventricosum*), maize (*Zea mays* L.), haricot bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*), teff (*Eragrostis tef* (Zucc.), Sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor* L. Moench), Pumpkin (*Cucurbita pepo*), broad Bean (*Vicia faba* L., major), Peas (*Pisum sativum*), Kidney Bean (*Vicia faba*) and Chick-pea (*Cicer arietinum*) are main food crops growing in the area. According to the ever existing mutual inter relation, there is a strong economic linkage between Sodo city & it's surrounding rural Woreda's. In this context Sodo is strongly interconnected with neighboring zones by the seven inlets and outlets.

Fig 3.1: map of the study area



Source: Department of geography and environmental studies, Hawassa University, (2023)

Sodo, one of the oldest towns in the SNNPRS is formed as town 113 years ago as military center to the south, to make a 'united one Ethiopia' by the Emperor Minelik the secondary of Ethiopia. One of the 22 reform cities in SNNPRS & has got a secondary level next to Hawassa (Central Statistical Agency). It is the administrative capital of the Wolaita zone. In addition the city functions as a center for the surrounding agricultural land. It is also a major transportation node, being the center of six national and regional transport routers. Trade is the most important lively hood of the resident of the city.

Location, area and Climate of the City

Soddo city is located 390 KM of south 167 KM of south west of Addis Ababa and Hawassa respectively. Astronomically the city is located 6°49' N latitude and 37°45' E longitude. The total area of the city is about 3,200 hectares. The city is divided into three sub city, 11 Kebeles and 99 villages (mender). The city is established at the foot of mount Damot & from these mountains; its altitude descends to south directions. It's the highest & lowest altitude of the town range from 2,222 1,600 meters above sea level. The mean annual temperature of the town is 20°C & the mean annual rainfall is 1,200mm.

Population size of the city

According to the data from city finance, Economic and Development office recently, the total number of the city's residents exceeds 120,000. However, the office says that the number of population is increasing in high level due to continue rural-urban migration. To this end, the annual growth rate of the city's population is 5.4%.

Local Economic Activities

The city is located in the strategic place for the southern Ethiopia at the center and it has 6 outlets which connects the north south east and west areas. Via Hosanna Addis Abeba, Soddo Arbaminch Jinka, Soddo-Jima via Waka Soddo Gofa/Sawula, Soddo-Hawassa via Bedessa Moroch Soddo-Addis Abeba via Boditi shashamene. Humbo –Dimtu-Dilla

Thus, outlets make the city one of the commercial and recreation centers for the surrounding zones and also for the region. Furthermore it serves as an education center for the surrounding areas. The majority of the people in the town are leading their livelihood by undertaking small & medium trade, such as Hotel services, cereal marketing stores, flour mills, pastries, cloth making (Weaving & sewing) livestock products etc. Regarding industrial activities, there are no large scale industries in Wolaita Soddo City. Some flour industries have been constructed since the last two or three years. The existing small-scale industries such as grain mill, wood & metal workshop, block & hollow concrete production are few in number, which don't clearly satisfy the present economic dynamism of the town.

3.2. Research Design

3.2.1. Research Approach

Qualitative research approach is used to answer basic research questions of this study. The nature of the study which needs more interpretive answers necessitated the use of qualitative research approach. Qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to social or human problems. The process of research involves emerging questions and procedures, data typically collected in the participants setting, data analysis inductively building from particulars to generate themes, and the researcher making interpretations of the meaning of the data. The final written report has a flexible structure.

Due to the nature of the objectives of this research, which require more interpretation than numerical presentations, I have opted to employ a qualitative research approach to both collect descriptive data from the field and analyse empirical data collected from the field. Qualitative research is a naturalistic, interpretative technique interested in the interpretations that individuals give to occurrences in their social environments. The research process involves continual operations such as analysis and interpretation because the research answers the research questions and also narrates the data while trying to get a general idea. The close contact between the researcher and the people being studied is also a key element during the data gathering.

In addition to its methodology, the study employed a theoretical framework that best aligns with its goals in order to link its findings to its aims. It was gathered and analysed according to a theoretical framework. The study took precautions to prevent any unexpected events while observing and gathering data from the participants. The study was thus predicated on the qualitative methodology of modernization theory, urban ecology theory, and marginalisation theory. This, according to Dawson (2007), allows for flexibility and allows for the emergence of brand-new issues that the researcher would not have previously thought about.

Interviews help us to understand lived experience and coping mechanisms and to explore the contextual boundaries of that experience (providing a multi-perspective understanding of the topic). They also help us to uncover what is typically and simply unseen via

ordinary reflection or to penetrate to more reflective understandings about the nature of that experience (Marvasti, A, 2003).

Besides this, this study is ethnographic research. Accordingly, both data collection and analysis were conducted through the use of this method. As far as social anthropology is concerned, ethnography is the most common research design since it helps me to observe the physical environment and geographical set, their lived experience, and also the major challenges of the target group with its change instead of manipulating in a lab. It allows the researcher to go directly to the field, stay with the community, and study the culture, its origin or history, social phenomena, and other important social issues that the researcher is interested in studying. Moreover, the design allows the researcher's findings to be presented more flexibly and descriptively, which makes it preferable for researchers to interpret social facts rather than present them as they are.

I selected this design since it can help me to narrate the emic perspectives of the slum dwellers, which are highly affected by the rapid urban expansion of the city and rarely given the opportunity to speak and listen freely. In my research, I gave the slum dwellers all the problems and the means to talk freely and be heard through the use of quotes.

Since the purpose of the study is to elicit detailed opinions from participants, key informants were chosen purposefully for semi-structured interviews. Fewer people participate in the research, but the contact with these people tends to last a lot longer, according to Dawson (2007), for an in-depth perspective.

During the time of data collection in the field, I used purposive sampling for selecting the respondents for FGD. To find out the varied reality of a single issue that was hidden before, the study used FGD to come up with multiple realities. Here, it is also important to understand the behaviour and perception of the group participants.

For the interview, a purposive sample, also known as a judging sample, was used. Purposive sampling, according to (Babbie, E 2001) is used to handle the circumstances when a sample is chosen based on the knowledge of a population and the objective of the investigation. Because they are more familiar with certain traits and patterns in the purposive sample, the subjects are chosen to participate in a variety of instances for in-depth examination.

Also, purposive sampling is helpful because it is impossible to select the entire population; thus, I selected the participants purposefully, which is based on the knowledge of an individual.

Thus, the study purposefully selected participants and informants who fulfilled the criteria of selection. For key informants' interviews, it is also appropriate to select people who are especially knowledgeable about the topic under investigation and are willing to share their knowledge and experiences. Thus, the key informant's interview was also selected by the purposive sampling method. Scholars (Glaser and Strauss, 1967; Dawson, 2007) assert that it is challenging to predict how many individuals were contacted through interviewing up until the saturation threshold is achieved. When you genuinely believe that all information has been provided and that you have not learned anything new by reading more, it is time to do your investigation.

Thus, I critically identified informants to get enough information on the living conditions of people in the slum area settlement of Arada Kebele in Wolaita Sodo City. Therefore, the FGD and key informants' interviews were continued with informants and respondents until the theoretical saturation point, in order to merge their findings with the objectives of the research. I also used personal observation to identify what was missing through the FGD and key informants' interviews and check whether the respondents' answers regarding slum dwellers were correct or not, or to understand whether the stated problems really exist or not. Eventually, generating data was sustained until it was finally recognised that some participants were conveying what was being produced through the discussion.

3.3. Methods of data collection

This study used both primary and secondary sources of data.

Primary sources of data: To show the realities on the ground, this study has conducted different sources of first-hand information from the people of the communities and other concerned bodies in the kebele and city administration by using different types of qualitative data collection techniques. Primary sources of data are those sources from which the researcher is getting information directly from the people of the community under study, knowledgeable persons, and other concerned bodies regarding the issue.

A. Focused group discussion

Focus group discussions, according to Solomon (2005), are used to acquire opinions or attitudes at a higher level and to serve as a source of validation for the researcher. It is a method of generating qualitative data by letting a group of people discuss the same issues. It is the best way to understand group behaviour. This method was used by going to the area where the impacts of slum settlements are available. Here, I went there and raised some leading questions and probed them to speak their minds. This study employed three group discussions, with a total of 21 participants; that is with community elders, women and youths. To discuss the lived experience and coping mechanisms of slum dwellers in the study area, which is the first objective of this study, I used FGD.

B. Observation

For the sake of observing the overall phenomena in naturally occurring settings, direct field-based observation was employed without being part of the participants. Direct observation is when a subject is viewed in a specific setting without the observer being involved in the matters of the subject (Dawson, 2007). Although not a part of the research population, this technique allows for the ability to observe and document interactions and behaviours as they take place (Lewis et al., 2003). I used personal observation, which is one of the pillars of the source of data collection.

An important document was taken during observation in the form of short notes and photographs. The study was intended to play an important role in identifying hidden issues through observation because it is believed that the presence of the researcher cannot influence what is observed. It is also important for the researcher to understand the situation and to avoid some unexpected behaviours because they recognise that somebody is watching them for a purpose. Additionally, it is assumed that the settlers were rarely recognised as being observed by outsiders since there is no basic difference between members of the settlers and the observer.

The observation was a crucial source of information in capturing the styles and observable behaviours of the slum settlers, as well as the physical conditions that reflected the major factors of slum settlement. However, the observation was not contained about home-based families' daily routine and what occurs inside their compound. Rather, I observed the

vicinity, the environment, and people's interactions in the study area. The observation was conducted along with field work periods during the morning and evening. This is due to the availability of most of the dwellers in their habitats.

By using this technique, I observed the major challenges and opportunities facing people living in the slum settlement in the study area, which is one of the specific objectives of this study. By using this technique, I documented and took photographs of some observable problems that are present in the study area. Not only this, but also through observation, I checked what kinds of things were missing from the information gathered from FGDs and key informant interviews.

C. Key informants' interview

According to Leedy and Ormrod (2003:146), interviews can yield a great deal of useful information. Another important qualitative data collection method was the key informants' interview. This interview was conducted with knowledgeable individuals who closely work with people in urban slum settlements and some notable dwellers of the kebele. Key informants were examined purposefully by experts in city administration at different levels. Finally, key informants from the Sodo Town Plan and Development Commission, Sodo City Land Development and Management Bureau, and Sodo Town Administration were selected from selected Kebeles chairpersons and slum dwellers of the study area, and in all cases, I selected both men and women key informants. The key informants generated general data about trends and overall information about the factors and different strategies through which slum settlers made a living.

I employed this method by obtaining information from skilled individuals who are more knowledgeable about the slum settlement of the study area. Here, I selected those people who can give reliable information about the area by using purposive sampling. The research used a semi-structured interview, which is an open-ended one, by selecting 19 informants. To achieve the second objective of the study, that is, to state the impact and consequence of current urban expansion on the slum dwellers of Arada Kebele, I employed key informant interviews by using purposive sampling.

In order to reach the right respondents, face-to-face interviews are more effective and suitable than questionnaires (Glasow, P. 2005). In relation to this, the main data was

shaped through interviews with the purposively selected slum settlers, most of whom have enough knowledge regarding slum dwellers in the study area. Regarding the selection of participants, the study placed a central focus on the slum dwellers of the study area, since they are highly affected by slum upgrading and also have a close attachment to their environment. To this effect, an interview guide with semi-structured questions was employed.

A semi-structured interview was preferred because the information could be compared and contrasted with information gained in other interviews, thus identifying the existing differences between the ideas of one group and another that finally showed the reality of the phenomenon. Except for the follow-up questions that need to be asked on the notion of their replies and need to be verified, as well as further explanations, the identical questions were asked in each interview. Dawson (2007) noted that the researcher also wants the interview to be open-ended so that other pertinent information might still come out.

Secondary sources of data: To explore the living conditions of the slum dwellers, I reviewed several secondary sources that are directly related to the concept, including the internet, previous research works on the same issue which are published and unpublished, journals, books, articles, and the like. Secondary sources are those sources that are second-hand information that is taken as an important source for a given study.

3.4. Data analysis procedure

In terms of the data analysis, field notes were initially arranged and then differentially coded by a data segment that provided significance in accordance with the study goals.

According to Blaikie (2000), a particular type of coding, such as field notes, which is a key activity in qualitative data analysis, would be used by the researcher throughout this procedure. This type of coding is also useful for analysis and for making narratives. Therefore, the procedure followed categorising the meanings into more general concepts according to their flows to get its theme, which is a more theoretical construct.

Finally, as the discussions progressed, all the data sources from focused group discussion (FGD), observation, and key informant interviews through semi-structured interviews'

findings, as well as different previous studies and theoretical assumptions, were cross-checked, and their unions and differences were narrated.

After successfully acquiring the data, I accurately transcribed all of the participant interviews by repeatedly listing each piece of information that had been gathered. This allowed me to thoroughly comprehend each interview and ensure that I had captured it accurately. Following transcription, the data was translated from Wolaita to Amharic and finally to English. In this study, the information that was gathered from each respondent was organised into groups with related ideas to develop categories, and the groups were then coded.

In the end, I developed themes based on the codes, and the information was analysed through narration by adhering to the initial descriptions of the interview and field notes. I also used the narrative analysis approach to explain the general phenomena of the participants, i.e., the slum residents.

3.5. Ethical Consideration

This study was conducted with outstanding respect to the ethical code of the field of anthropology. I am attracted to the research setting after securing a letter of authentication from Hawassa University that offers background on the researcher and the intent of the fieldwork. Then the concerned authorities of the research setting; Wolaita Sodo City Administration and Arada Kebele came to a safe agreement. Following this stage, admission into the setting was initiated. At the very beginning of gathering the research data, I set aside creating rapport to ease access for communication and trust building. At outstanding progress, the researcher provided information about the aim of the study and asked the participants about their readiness to be involved in the study. The data collection was based on the agreement of the respondents. Furthermore, for the data presentation, participant consent was obtained.

Chapter Four

4. The lived Experience and Coping Mechanism of Slum Dwellers

4.1. Introduction

This chapter analyses, discusses, and answers the first objective of the study. The chapter incorporated the issues of how slum dwellers are experienced to live and adapt to their natural environment, which makes them unique from other non-slum populations of the city, their working conditions, and the major type of economy on which their income mainly depends. Slum inhabitants have their own mechanisms of socialisation, practicing unique economic activities that exist nowhere, and a culture of sharing resources. Hence, in this chapter, I attempted to cover the unique cultures of the study area.

4.1.1. Historical Background of Slum Dwellers of Arada Kebele

History is one of the important issues that help us remember the past, know the present, and forecast what is going to happen in the future. Without history, it is difficult to understand the origin, source, and sequence of a certain issue. Prior to the nineteenth century, affluent and poor people shared the same neighbourhoods, with the wealthy residing on the main streets and the impoverished in the back streets. However, in the nineteenth century, wealthier and upper-middle-class people began to leave quickly increasing cities' central areas, leaving poorer citizens behind (Judith, 2014).

Every society has its history and its original background. In an urban environment, particularly a slum environment, the historical background of its population is somewhat multicultural because its inhabitants originate from different cultural groups in urban slum environments around the world in general and in the arada kebele of Wolaita Sodo city administration in particular. Even if the slum dwellers of every urban community come from different cultural backgrounds, they learn how to live peacefully together with their neighbours by tolerating each other. These were mostly still inhabited until the 1940s, when the British government began clearing slums and building new council housing (Bristol, 2008).

Due to a complex combination of social, religious, economic, and political causes, these slums were distinct in that they had been cut off from the rest of society for generations. When Frederick Engels examined the slum conditions in Manchester in 1844, he emphasised the need for the working poor to be employed in factories and how this contributed to the development of contemporary slums. Because low salaries did not cover the cost of a suitable place to live, the exploited working class was forced to live in substandard housing with small, low rooms, no bathrooms, and a limited supply of water. Slums became increasingly prevalent as a result of urbanisation, although an examination of the Roman ruins reveals that they had slums as well. The poor were kept outside of mediaeval cities because they were so congested. A distinctive and significant sort of mediaeval slum was the Jewish ghetto. Due to their unique combination of social, religious, economic, and political elements, these slums were historically cut off from the rest of society.

Due to the disruption of economic activity during the two World Wars, the crisis was exacerbated. In the global south, Desai and Pillai (1990) analyse the state and the characteristics that it has chosen that directly affect the pattern of urbanisation and the style of living that is prescribed by the country.

In Wolaita Sodo city administration, slum dwellers are settled in Arada Kebele, which is historically the first and original place of the city. According to the information taken from different informants among Arada Kebele inhabitants, the people of Arada Kebele originated from different cultural backgrounds. As the information taken from one of the women informants settled in the selam ketene of Arada Kebele, it stated:

I originally came from the Gurage Zone in 1987. By that time, I was a merchant, and because of the comfort in Sodo, I married my husband and started to settle in Arada Kebele. I lived for 28 years in this environment, and I gradually adapted to the environment and the culture of the area. It is not only me but also other inhabitants who came from different parts of the country and lived together peacefully by adapting to the environment. Originally, different people from different cultural backgrounds started to settle in Arada Kebele because the Arada area was one of the starting points and the first place of the town, and during that time, no other parts of the city emerged as well. [Interview with informant W/roAregash W/Mariam, March 18, 2023]

Besides, the chairman of Arada Kebele and other key informants from the kebele have indicated that the kebele is one of the most densely populated areas in the town and inhabited by people coming from different parts of the country and cultural backgrounds, particularly from Gurage (both Christian and Muslim Gurage), Silte, Amhara, and Oromia regional state. Some have reached the kebele through marriage, some for trade exchange, and there are a few families and relatives of former warlords involved in the war between Minelik II and King Tona of Wolaita. Despite the variation in culture, the dwellers of the kebele have been living in peace and harmony for almost a century now.

From the above discussion of my informant and the literature I have at my study, I can conclude that slum dwellers of urban populations in the world originate from multiple cultural backgrounds and have migrated from other parts of the country, either rural or urban, and are preparing to settle in a slum environment. This is because of the difficulty of getting basic needs and necessary infrastructure and also due to the level of their economy. For example, renting a house in the centre of the city and sharing necessary issues with their neighbours that is, because they are economically poor and the urban affluent may not care about sharing whatever things with their neighbours are part of the culture of urban slum communities.

The historical background of slum dwellers in Arada Kebele of Wolaita Sodo City Administration is somewhat amazing, and anthropologists have anthropologically accepted the way they act in their environment by respecting diversified cultures. The dwellers have the idea of 'us' rather than narrowly saying something as 'mine'. Thus, in a single environment of urban society, specifically a slum environment, there is always cultural diversity, and they live together by accepting the diversified culture as it is.

4.1.2. Livelihood Strategies and Coping Mechanism of Arada Kebele Dwellers

Livelihood strategies are the combination of activities that people choose to undertake in order to achieve their livelihood goals. They include productive activities, investment strategies, and reproductive choices. In Ethiopia, the major livelihood strategies are crop production, livestock rearing, and employment. In every part of the world, people have their own livelihood strategies in both rural and urban areas for survival. By using indigenous knowledge systems, people are selecting and developing a suitable strategy

that better fits their environment. Poor households mobilise a variety of resources and opportunities to create a diversified set of income-generating sources in order to survive and, if feasible, to improve long-term livelihood stability (Ellis, 1998; Beall and Kanji, 1999). Yet, for the most part, they rely on dangerous jobs in the informal sector or in casual labour jobs, which are characterised by low pay, bad working conditions, and marginalised activities.

Slum dwellers have their own culture of gaining income. To cope with their environment, poor populations in urban environments are searching for and developing opportunities that could help them change their living conditions. Some discussants noted that Arada Kebele dwellers have their own mechanisms of coping with their environment in cases of poverty and hunger, such as controlling hot and cold seasons, socialisation, adaptive economic activity, and the like.

According to the FGD discussion with AberashBancha from Kidane Mihiret Ketena, there are several coping mechanisms that are developed by Arada dwellers. For example, she responded that, for the sake of generating income, each family member in this kebele is provided with a job classification for each family member, that is, men are to take part in jobs like peddler, shoe shine, handcart, and driving motor bicycle, and these are taken as the major types of jobs that are mainly practiced by youth men's of the kebele. On the other hand, women are also engaged in a variety of jobs, like preparing injera and selling charcoal, and are particularly working at mini markets (what we call them locally GULITI) in their nearest community. In addition to this, the other discussant from this FGD, w/roZenebechTadesse, said that not only this but also both men and women of this community are commonly engaged with the labour force, particularly day labour.

Besides, she added that not only the children or the youths of the community but also the heads of the families, i.e., the father and mother of each family, are working either in their community or in the field. As she said, the majority of them are working in their community rather than going far away from their settlement area because the majority of them are physically weak. They are mainly engaged in jobs like weaving, cutting trees and grass, tailoring, and serving as gatekeepers, which are considered major types of jobs and are mainly practiced by old men's or fathers. And mothers are mainly engaged with preparing Tella, Parsuwa (Borde), making Injera in hotels, and washing clothes.

Furthermore, field observation and FGD sources showed that slum dwellers are always struggling to change their living conditions. They believe that they do not have any other opportunity. This means that, because of their poor living conditions, the majority of them are not government employers but rather are more active in the informal economy. They believe in the saying ‘*OosoyBoncho*’ (*they mean, Job is Honourable*); therefore, for the sake of reducing poverty and also to change their living conditions, Arada Kebele inhabitants developed their own adaptive strategies that fit with their living environment.

People are experiencing the culture of adapting and blending in with their environment. In both rural and urban areas, people are developing a culture of adapting to their environment; that is, they are applying the best mechanism that fits their specific environment. To adapt to a specific environment, people should stay for a long period of time in a given environment and also develop different mechanisms that help them cope with their environment. Slum dwellers in both the developed and developing worlds are experiencing their own mechanisms of adapting to their environment. Arada Kebele residents have also developed and experienced their own ways of coping with or adapting to their environment. For instance, as stated by TademeBassa (an informant from Selam Ketena), they are building a house that is very short because this area is located near the mountain Damota and it is too cold. Thus, as he explained, they are using this mechanism to adapt to and cope with their cold environment.

In urban areas, people are densely populated, and it is very difficult to lead their lives for the urban poor. In order to survive, the inhabitants of urban slums are searching for strategies that should help them live better. According to the information gathered from women FGDs from Ketena 04 (Selam Ketena), the Arada Kebele inhabitants have their own strategy in order to lead their lives, and they said:

"We are not lucky to have a better life because we are living a very miserable life and didn't do whatever things we needed for living; however, we are using our own mechanisms in order to live a peaceful life together with our neighbours. For example, we are using the strongest socialisation process in order to improve our living conditions. And also, we are using a strategic way to keep our environment, that is, cleaning our environment turn by turn by creating a group with our neighbours in order to keep our environment" [April 04/2023, Arada Kebele].

As understood from the interview and FGD source, Arada Kebele slum dwellers have different strategies for adapting to their environment. In cases of economic issues, they are using their own mechanisms in order to gate income and manage their family. Some of the families sent their children to engage in street vending in order to provide food for themselves and also to support their families. In relation to this, I met with a street vendor and bought a soft drink from him, and I asked him where he was from and how he started this job. Then he informed me,

I am from Arada kebele, Selam ketena; my families are ordered me to do this job. I compelled to discrete my education from grade six because it was difficult for me to continue my education. I had no support from my family and I couldn't get all the necessary resources to pursue education including food. [Interview with informant, Wotat Amanuel Bekele, April 05/2023]

He furthermore said, '*minada ootada nu soo asaa duusaa laamanawu koshes*', meaning I have to work hard in order to change my family's life. Again, he said *Asaa de'oy luxetta kanchiyan lammetena*, meaning a man's life can't be changed only by education, when I asked him about education.

According to key informants from Arada Kebele and women participants in the FGDs, members of every family in the study area used to do some sort of business that could generate income for the household. Big or small, a member of the family, despite their age and gender, has to be involved in some sort of income-generating business.

Slum dwellers have their own culture of gaining income. To cope with their environment, poor populations in urban environments are searching for and developing opportunities that could help them change their living conditions. Some discussants noted that Arada Kebele dwellers have their own mechanisms of coping with their environment in cases of poverty and hunger, such as controlling hot and cold seasons, socialisation, adaptive economic activity, and the like.

According to the FGD discussion with AberashBancha from Kidane Mihiret Ketena, there are coping mechanisms that are developed by Arada dwellers. She presented that "in our environment, there is no single type of job, and we also don't have a permanent type of job, i.e., we are doing any type of work that we gate either in Arada Kebele or in the centre of the city". Besides, as she responded, for the sake of generating income, each family

member in this kebele is providing job classification for each family member, that is, men's are to take part in jobs like peddler, shoe shine, handcart, driving Bajaj, and motor bicycle, and these are taken as the major types of jobs that are mainly practiced by youth men's of the kebele. On the other hand, women's are also engaged in a variety of jobs, like preparing injera and selling charcoal, and are particularly working at mini markets (what we call them locally GULITI) in their nearest community. In addition to this, the other discussant from this FGD, w/roZenebechTadesse, said that "not only this, but also both men and women's of our community commonly engage with the labour force, particularly day labour".

Accordingly, she added that not only the children's or youths of the community but also the heads of the families, i.e., the father and mother of each family, are working either in their community or in the field. As she said, the majority of them are working in their community rather than going far away from their settlement area because they are physically weak. They are mainly engaged in jobs like weaving, cutting trees and grass, tailoring, and serving as gatekeepers, which are considered as major types of jobs that are mainly practiced by old men's or fathers. And mothers are mainly engaged with preparing Tella, Parsuwa (Borde), making Injera in hotels, and washing clothes.

Furthermore, field observation and FGD sources showed that slum dwellers are always struggling to change their living conditions. They believe that they do not have any other opportunity. This means that, because of their poor living conditions, the majority of them are not government employees but rather are more active in the informal economy. They believe in the saying 'OosoyBoncho' (they mean, Job is Honourable); therefore, for the sake of reducing poverty and also to change their living conditions, Arada Kebele inhabitants developed their own adaptive strategies that fit with their living environment.

Consequently, this discussion showed that slum dwellers in either the Arada Kebele or other parts of the world have their own livelihood strategies and coping mechanisms to lead their lives in their living environment, i.e., they are taking part in any type of job, like day labour, participating in small businesses, for example, selling injera and charcoal, washing clothes, pushing wheelbarrows, and the like. Besides, the urban poor have a willingness to have a better life, and they are taking part in any type of job; however, it is very difficult to bring about sustainable change on time, either at the individual level or at

the community level. This study also showed that children from poor families in urban communities are familiar with poverty and are always trying to change their living conditions through hard work by actively participating in any kind of job by which they could get income in their living environment. Therefore, there should be a livelihood strategy or mechanism for every society, whether rural or urban, to have a better life and an improved living condition.

4.2. The socialization process of slum dwellers of arada kebele

The social system is an important issue that the slum inhabitants are experiencing for the sake of creating and maintaining its relationship with their communities. Slum dwellers in Arada Kebele have a unique type of socialization. According to the data collected from women FGDs in Kidane Mihiret Ketena, the majority of the discussants informed me that they experienced the culture of supporting each other and also cooperating with each other with their neighbours.

The discussants explained that, like any other society in both rural and urban areas, they are also socially living with their communities harmoniously. They have Edir and Equb to maintain their socialisation, but as they explained, the majority of Arada Kebele dwellers did not participate in Ekub because of their income level. In this area, the inhabitants are experiencing an exchange system where they are giving and taking and also sharing what they have with their neighbours. As they informed me, socialisation is not so much experienced among non-slum communities of the city because the social relationships of these populations in their living environment are so far away, and also culturally, they originate from different cultural backgrounds. However, slums are socially better and much more experienced than those of the urban affluent because they stayed and lived for a very long period of time in their living environment and they know each other well.

From this discussion, we can simply understand that slum dwellers are more experienced with their society than non-slum dwellers in urban society. Socially, they are experienced in a better way because of their duration of time; that is, they lived for a long period of time in their living environment, and most of the time, they are considered the founders or the original peoples of the town, and thus they know themselves in a better way. In addition to this, their working environment is one of the key issues for their socialisation. Most of the time, they did not go far away from their environment in their city; however,

the other non-slum dwellers are working far away from their living environment, wasting their time with different people in different places, and even they did not know their neighbours well because of their work load, working environment, and the character of their job.

Consequently, the process of socialisation in an urban environment has a unique meaning for slum dwellers because they have a chain and have a culture of sharing and supporting each other; they are also dependent and expect some support from the people in their community and from others. To develop their socialisation process, culture is one of the most important issues that play the greatest role in their community. That is, culturally, they experienced how to live with their neighbours due to their adaptation of their living environment and their stay in their environment for a long period of time.

4.3. The economic system of slum dwellers of arada Kebele

Human beings are developing a type of economy that is applicable and should be a source of income for survival. Through their culture, the human population develops, adapts, or experiences in their community, which can change their living conditions, or they select a form of economic system that fits with their environment. Most of the time, urban societies are experienced with the trade system as one of the basic sources of their income. They use both formal and informal forms of economic systems. Slum dwellers apply a form of economic system that is available in their environment; they are not much more experienced with a formal type of economic system because they do not have a permanent type of economic system, and thus more of their economy is an informal one. According to the information taken from one woman informant who is living in Selam Ketena, Arada Kebele, she said:

In our community, we are doing any type of job to change the living conditions, for survival, or to eat and stay. We are doing any type of job without selecting it because it is mainly needed for getting money. We have no permanent type of job, and each and every member of the family is doing and participating in different types of jobs that they gate in their environment because we are mainly experienced with different types of jobs, like selling injera, preparing Parsuwa (Borde, which is a local and cultural drink), Tella, Areke, and the like. My basic job is preparing and selling Parsuwa or Borde. I earn money by selling it, fulfilling basic needs at home, and using it to participate in societal issues. [Key informant, w/roAregsash w/Mariam, April 7, 2023]

In addition to this, some others informed me that they are gaining income by washing clothes, cleaving trees, cutting grass, and are cow herds, waiters or hosts, gatekeepers, and preparing injera in their houses and in hotels. The majority of the youths, particularly men, participate in driving Bajaj, shoeshine boys, and the others are day labourers (both men and women are familiar with day labour), and women are selling charcoal at mini markets and at the doorstep, hair combing, and some are practicing or involved in prostitution.

Significant public and private investments are spurred by slum settlement, but they stay outside of the formal economy and investment cycle. Moreover, they have an implicit and explicit correlation with high public costs. (Tsenkova, 2008) claims that slum communities frequently seize public land, shifting the financial burden on public institutions and local governments. In the following session, we will see the major economic activities that are the major source of their income in their area.

A. Parsuwa (Borde)

Borde is an ancient fermented beverage produced from maize, barley, or wheat malts. Its manufacturing is based on natural fermentation of the materials. It is an opaque, effervescent light brown liquid drunk while fermentation is ongoing. In southern Ethiopia and other regions of the country, it is a popular meal alternative for both children and adults. The most prevalent ingredient in the manufacture of Borde is maize. Malt is often manufactured from a grain blend. (Kebede Abegaz et al, 2002) documented in full the methods of Borde preparation as used in southern Ethiopia. Cereal for malting is thoroughly cleaned, rinsed many times in water, and immersed in clean water till malting. The malt is then sun-dried and processed into flour for immediate consumption. Clay pots, grinding stones, straw sieves, gourd bottles, and other processing equipment are available locally.

As I observed, the customers are coming in group with their neighbours. Majority of customers are old aged peoples. Also I observed that there is the culture of sharing what they have with others and respecting each other, i.e. when the other peoples are coming from the outside, peoples are standing by saying, 'Eqiyoojaa' which is culturally the symbol of showing respect to the other people's, particularly to the elder people's.

Parso is given with a cultural material called ‘Gosiya’ meaning gourd. They are drinking and talking about the past, however, they are mainly talking about the current economic condition and their living condition and sitting for a long time in that place.

Therefore, from this observation part, I understand that peoples are using and drinking cultural drinking and sharing idea with each other.

Finally, I interviewed one of Parso user whose name is called Ato BergeneKuma, and he marked that, *Parso is one of cultural drinking in Wolaita area that give energy. Mostly, the youths are not using this cultural drinking as the old peoples are using because of they are affected by globalization. He also added that, drinking Parso gives as greatest satisfaction and fits our capacity.*

B. Geeshuwa (Tella)

Tella is a malt beverage based on substrates such as barley, wheat, maize, millet, sorghum, teff, or other cereals. It is by far the most popular alcoholic beverage in Ethiopia. According to (Samuel and Berhanu, 1991), around 2 million hectolitres of tella are generated annually in Addis Abeba households and tella vending houses.

Geeshuwa (Tella) is also a type of cultural drink and is a source of income for some people in slum communities. It is also prepared from malt. People are using or drinking Geeshuwa; because they believe that it purifies the kidneys. Similar to Parso, people drink Tella in the afternoon after completing their jobs and during their rest time. Nufuro is prepared and given together with Tella to make customers happy.

Regarding this, W/roAskaleKassa stated that *Gesho and Tella are taken as sources of income for Arada Kebele inhabitants. She also added that I am selling Tella, and we are preparing it turn-by-turn with our neighbours; for example, I am using Monday and Friday, and the others are preparing on their arranged days of the week. As she explained, they are using different days with their neighbours to prepare Tella in order to maintain their social relationship.*

C. Areke

Areke is a distilled drink. It is a colourless, transparent traditional alcoholic beverage distilled from fermentation products manufactured in a similar manner to Tella, except that the fermentation mass is more concentrated (Fite et al., 1991). Areki is typically brewed in rural and semi-urban areas and is preferred by farmers and semi-urban dwellers over city dwellers. People who consume Areke in cities are mostly from the lowest classes or those who have become addicted to alcohol and cannot afford to buy industrially manufactured alcohol (WHO, 2004).

It is considered another source of income for Arada Kebele dwellers. Culturally, it is prepared and sold to customers for the sake of income. As I observed, the local people are coming to Areke House and drinking and enjoying themselves with their friends. The atmosphere and happiness of Areke are greater than those of Parso and Tella House. In this place, people are telling about their fame, about their historical background, about their family proudly singing cultural songs and dancing, by saying ‘he yettaaguyezaara’ means turn the music back on after it is completed, and also those who have a unique gift with war songs are making the house unique and making the place an amazing place. I asked one Areke user, "Why ‘are you using Areke instead of drinking beer’? and he answered me as ‘Nuuni woga uteeliyabiidiuyena mala nuusi nu wolqaygakkenna, uteeqassidureasaasa, yatiyogishataasinuuniguuttabaakessididaroufaysaademanaasanne nu hiyasattetaadoganaasa’, meaning *that we did not go to big hotels because it was a matter of our capacity and also because hotels are only for the riches, thus we need to have a little cost, a tough mellow, and also to forget poverty.*

What I learned from this observation is that, before the observation, I had a unique attitude towards those who were drinking Parso, Tella, and Areke and even other drinks like Tej; however, the reality is that they were drinking cultural drinks to maintain their social relationships, for recreational purposes, to forget their indigence, to be free from fear and anxiety, and also to share information with each other. To some extent, these places are considered the places where the slum residents share and get new information about the past and present, and thus, it is wrong to judge anyone without knowing about them and why they are using and acting as such. Also, different societies have their own cultural ways of experiencing economic activities, which can serve as their source of income.

Above all, the economic system of a given society can be considered a unique culture that can express the identity of the single society it stands for.

To this effect, the above-mentioned things are one of the major sources of income and are mainly practiced by women, especially older women. Not only older women but also older men's, and the youths have their own role in this community. Men are working different types of jobs in their living environment to change their living conditions. Other types of jobs in this community are webbing, day labour, preparing injera, selling charcoal, gatekeepers, splitting trees in hotels, and the like.

In this part, I had a discussion with one informant to understand more about how Areke can serve as a base for their economic system. To this end, W/roJanameLakushe (an informant from Kidane Mihiret Ketena) explained that “I have been preparing Areke since 2007 E.C. for the sake of getting an income and to manage my family. Besides, she stated that people should have their own mechanisms to lead their family’s economy and should also develop an economic system that best fits their living environment. Thus, I have a profession of preparing Areke that I learned from my mother and know the time; it served as one of the sources of income that I am using to lead my family”.

It is known that there is always labour exploitation in urban areas, and thus, arada kebele dwellers are the ones whose labour is exploited in their living urban area. This is only for survival.

D. Weaving

Weaving is a type of profession that the people of Wolaita are engaged in. Not only the Wolaita societies but also the other neighbours, particularly Omotic families such as Gamo, Gofa, and Dawuro, are mainly engaged in the weaving profession. According to the information taken from different informants in the study area, this study pointed out that weaving is considered another economic activity by which the people of Arada Kebele are gaining their income. Regarding weaving, some informants pointed out that they are applying this culture because they are keeping the original culture of their ancestors. Also, the informants stated that it is mandatory for them to keep and preserve the important culture of their ancestors, and eventually, they have to inherit and share it with the next generation without changing its shape.

The information was taken from Ato UfaysaBalcha, whose profession is weaving and who settled in Selam Ketena. He is 47 years old and has three girls and two boys, and then he said,

“Taasi Bayra oosoyshimaynetettaa, taanishimaynetettaahiilaakoyroeridoy ta aawaaishaape, ha’iwodiyantaaniaybannehirgenan, ha oosuwandemidomarcuwan ta keetaaaysadanneharaqasiheeraaasaaraissipetettaaduusawukoshoyabata, hegeetikaIdiriya, shupuwamasatiyageetakuntaydadaysi.” [Informant Ato UfaysaBalcha, April 8, 2023]

He means that *weaving is one of my major professions. In the beginning, I learned weaving from my uncle. Currently, with the income that I gain from this profession, I am managing my family and taking part with my neighbours in every social aspect, like Edir, Equb, and the like, without any problem.*

Also, other informants from the kebele informed me that, at the very beginning, they adapted and started this job in their living environment to get an income. As they progressed, the weavers learned and developed this profession differently. For example, according to the informant Ato Melesse Goa from Hibret Ketena, some are inherited and learned from their families, some are developed from their friends and from their neighbours, and some others are learned and experienced from Wolaita Zone prison. Accordingly, he said that those who learned the profession in prison have a better knowledge of this profession and also have unique working activities and talent than the others because prisoners are more experienced with this profession and are more skilled than those who are inherited and learned from their parents, neighbours, and friends, and they are also more experienced with both traditional and modern systems of weaving. Because of this job, weavers are marginalised by other members of the urban community. Besides, people have a negative attitude towards them and are denied and scorned, as informed by Ato Melese.

Here, we have to understand that people are always ignoring those who have a unique profession, like weaving, tanning, pottery, and the like. However, rather than ignoring, we have to give priority to and motivate those people who are either in rural or urban society.

In conclusion, we have to develop anthropological knowledge by being relativists and are expected to avoid the idea of ethnocentrism. Because of this, people have an important

function through their profession in society, and thus we have to accept them as culture preservers. Therefore, we are expected to support, appreciate, and encourage them rather than disdain them.

4.4. Coping mechanism of slum dwellers

People are experiencing the culture of adapting and blending in with their environment. In both rural and urban areas, people are developing a culture of adapting to their environment; that is, they are applying the best mechanism that fits their specific environment. To adapt to a specific environment, people should stay for a long period of time in a given environment and also develop different mechanisms that help them cope with their environment. Slum dwellers in both the developed and developing worlds are experiencing their own mechanisms of adapting to their environment. Arada Kebele residents have also developed and experienced their own ways of coping with or adapting to their environment.

According to the data gathered from men FGDs, the residents are using their own mechanisms for building the house in their living environment. In line with this focused group discussion, Ato YasinGanta stated that "during the rainy season, especially July and August, there is erosion that directly percolates into the home and damages the materials. To protect this, we are collecting stone all around the house and also using a dyke by using trees and stone".

Chapter Five

5. The impact and consequence of current urban expansion on the livings of Slum Dwellers

5.1. Introduction

This chapter discusses the overall findings of the second objective of the study and answers questions related to the topic. The expansion of urban society has both positive and negative impacts and also has consequences for the people of urban communities, specifically urban slum dwellers. Urban expansion creates some opportunities, either directly or indirectly, for its inhabitants. Therefore, the major impact and consequences of urban expansion on slum dwellers in the study area are explained in detail as follows:

5.2. The Development and Growth of Slum Environment in Arada Kebele

In every part of the world, there is an urban slum environment. The growth and expansion of cities may cause the emergence and creation of a harsh environment, which is called an urban slum. Similar to other parts of the world, there is also a slum environment in Wolaita Sodo city administration. The development and growth of the slum have a number of causes, some of which are listed here. Slum growth has been attributed to a variety of issues. Rural-to-urban migration, subpar urban administration, and poorly conceived policies are a few of these issues, particularly those that relate to location choice considerations (Mahabir et al., 2016).

The cause and expansion of urban slum environments are different from country to country as well as from city to city; that is, different cities have their own unique causes for the emergence and expansion of slums. As the information was taken from the urban development and planning office of Wolaita Sodo City Administration via interview, it was said:

As Wolaita Sodo City Administration, the main factors that cause the emergence and expansion of urban slums in Arada Kebele are that the majority of Arada Kebele inhabitants do not have enough knowledge of how to keep and protect their environment in a modernised way. In addition to this, the newcomers and settlers of the city, who are rich and have economic capacity, do not want to settle in the Arada

area because the area lacks basic needs and infrastructure and also because the geographical set of the environment is not comfortable; thus, this is one of the main reasons for the growth and expansion of the slum environment in Arada Kebele. [Urban Development and Plan Office, April 16, 2023]

In addition to the above result from the interview, there are some physically observable issues that clearly mark how and why slums have increased in the urban environment. As a result of personal field observation during data collection, it was clear that the housing condition, that is, the oldest and dilapidated house, and the pollution of the environment, which resulted from bypass water near the inhabitant's gate and backyard and which are dirty, caused the growth and expansion of the slum environment in Arada Kebele. This is to mean that an uncomfortable environment can cause the development and increment of the slum environment in the city setting, as observed in the study area.

It has a tight connection to the development of slums. Rapid urbanisation fosters economic expansion, which draws individuals to the urban region in search of work and investment opportunities. However, as is well known, due to inadequate housing and poor urban infrastructure, local administrations are unable to control huge populations, which gives rise to slums (Luhar, 2014).

It is known that there is a slum environment in either developed or developing countries around the world. That shows that among urbanised and modernised countries in the world, there are communities that are pitiful and abandoned because of their living conditions and their unique geographical location in the city administration. Currently, the growth and expansion of urban slums are rapidly increasing, and the issue is exacerbating. It is also believed that the poor living conditions of slum dwellers can be taken as a reason for the creation and expansion of slums in urban environments. Not only this but also the attitude of other non-slum dwellers of the city towards slum communities of the urban population is considered as one disease that harms the psychology of slum inhabitants and brings slum and is also considered as an increasing factor for the expansion of the slum environment in the city.

Apart from this, the immediate cause of the growth and expansion of slum settlements in Arada Kebele is rural-to-urban migration. poverty, urban expansion, economic imbalance, lack of information, and the settlement of displaced people from different parts of the country, particularly from Shashemene, Ziway, Hawassa, and Somali regional states,

because of political instability. The displacement of people from their originals is considered as one of the major factors in the emergence and expansion of slum settlements in the study area. This is because the displaced population's resources were lost in their original dwellings, and they retreated back to their original homeland. The peoples from other places, specially, displaces are settled in Sodo City, specifically in Arada Kebele. Regarding this, I prepared an interview with one representative from Ziway and said,

I am displaced from Ziway town because of political instability, I've three sons and two daughters, by the time because of ethnic conflict in the area I berefited my second elder son by death, originally, I migrated from Wolaita zone Damot Woyde woreda, particularly from TooraOfore Kebele in 1985 G.C, during the time of poverty, I lived there for 34 years, until 2018 G.C, due to the existing war, I berefited all my resources including one of my children, after all when I displaced and returned back to Wolaita, I couldn't find any one of my relatives and then I became desponded and being hopeless, and finally I decided to settle in sodo city, particularly at Arada kebele, Kidane Mihiret ketena and the city administration gave kebele house to me and started a new life in the new environment. [Interview with Ato KolatoLencha, April 17, 2023]

From the above discussion, I understand that there is always cause and consequence for the emergence and expansion of certain issues. In the case of the emergence and expansion of slum settlements, displacement is a serious issue that is considered to be a prominent factor. This is not to mean that the other causes, like poverty, migration, economic imbalances, and others, are not problems, but it shows displacement is a serious problem, as the Arada Kebele inhabitants explained.

People are moving from one place to another, particularly from a rural to an urban area, for the sake of improving their living conditions. After their migration, people face different challenges because once they separate from their living environment and start to have a new social life in the new environment, which is completely different from their original one; they also face the challenges of culture change, economic difficulty, and the difficulty of adapting to the new environment. Besides, migrants face the challenge of being displaced from their living environment by both natural and man-made causes. Natural causes include problems like earthquakes and erosion and manmade problems like war and conflict, urban expansion, policy change, and the like.

Therefore, in urban areas, slum environments can emerge and be expanded due to poverty, the movement of human populations from rural to urban areas in order to change their living conditions, the displacement of people from their living environment, economic disorder, etc. Therefore, living in a slum environment is very difficult for its inhabitants because they are economically very poor and their income is only for hand-to-mouth which is not matched with the current market value. You may say that the migrants, the poor, and the displaced are always selected to settle in the slum area of the town; however, the main reason is that because of that, these populations are taking their economic capacity into account. It is very difficult to adapt to the economic condition at the centre of the town and thus decide to dwell in an environment that goes with their capacity. It is also believed that the urban expansion affects poor communities in Arada kebele because even if there are infrastructures, like cobles stone and water, it needs better development program and is not done as it is expected.

5.3. The Impact of Urbanization on Arada Kebele

Urbanisation is defined as an increase in the proportion of a population residing in urban regions as well as the physical development of already existing urban centres (Samson, 2009; Alaci, 2010). Intensive urban growth can lead to greater poverty, with local governments unable to provide services for all people. Concentrated energy use leads to greater air pollution, which has a significant impact on human health. Automobile exhaust produces elevated lead levels in urban air. Wealth is generated in cities, making urbanisation a key to economic development. However, urbanisation has caused air and water pollution, land degradation, and the loss of biodiversity. It has forced millions of people to live in slums without clean water, sanitation, or electricity.

The expansion of urbanisation has an impact on urban and rural communities. In urban areas, its expansion paves the way for the urban affluent socially and economically; however, it hurts the urban poor, particularly the slum dwellers of the city. As observed in the field, the Arada kebele of Wolaita Sodo city is affected by the urban expansion; that is, it is controlled by the urban riches. The Arada kebele slum dwellers are under the control or dominance of the affluent and also as youth key informants from Ketena 04 (Selam Ketena); the men serve as gatekeepers, cleavers, minions, day labourers (both men and women), cutting grass and hers, and the like; and women are giving service as a kitchen

worker (as tewers), washing cloth, stewards, house mothers, and some youth women's are practicing prostitution to lead and manage their lives.

Besides, the information is taken from one woman, a key informant from Ketena 02 (Kidane Mihiret Ketena), and she said:

I have two sons and one daughter. My daughter is following a modern style, wasting her time with rich people, and using prostitution to gain income. I know the time she is out of my control because their father died when three of my children were in the childhood stage due to a lack of nutrition, and I also can't control her because to control her, I have to fulfil all the necessary materials for her, but to do that, I don't have the capacity; thus, the urban expansion provided the right situation only for the rich, and again, she said, 'hiyeesatusiubba mule xumis' means that it is so dark for the poor's. [W/roMeskeremGanta, April 11, 2023]]

Depending on the above discussion, urban expansion can be seen as one part of modernization that mostly creates a necessary opportunity for urban riches and darkens the living conditions of urban slums. This means that when the city is expanding, the economy of the city is increasing much more than expected, which also does not matter to the poor communities, which hurts the urban slum dwellers. The same is true in the arada kebele of Wolaita Sodo city administration, as it is in many parts of the country. In Arada Kebele, there are an increased number of displaced people from different parts of the country, especially from Ziway, Shashemene, and Hawassa, who are settled in the city, particularly in Arada Kebele, and this has resulted in the loss of the culture of the original dwellers of the area. They are displaced because of political instability or due to conflict in their original dwellings. This urban expansion has also had an impact on the ecology of the dwellers, which results in the health problems of the inhabitants. To this end, urban expansion has a prominent role in the socio-economic and environmental situation of the city inhabitants, especially the urban slum dwellers.

When we are studying the living conditions of slum dwellers in urban society, it is mandatory to explore the impact of urban expansion on its surrounding slum dwellers in the world in general and in the arada kebele of Wolaita Sodo city administration in particular. The expansion of cities has both positive and negative impacts on urban dwellers, particularly on slum dwellers. People are drawn to cities because of their benefits, yet urbanization has a variety of negative and positive effects. Before describing

some of the difficulties brought on by accelerated, unplanned urban growth, we shall first examine the many advantages of urbanization.

A successful local economy is a crucial component of a successful national economy. Business, research, technology, and manufacturing are all stimulated by the concentration of economic and human resources. People in cities have easier access to social services, health care, education, and cultural activities than those in rural areas. Due to easier access to medical care, child survival rates in cities are higher than those in rural settings (Mulholland, 2008). The government and utilities can more easily and affordably provide necessary goods and services in urban areas due to the density of the people (Brinkerhoff, 2000). For instance, it is possible to provide essential amenities like electricity and fresh water with less effort and at a lower cost per person.

In order to develop human resources, cities construct schools, colleges, and universities. Students have a wide range of options for their future employment, thanks to the diversity of educational courses that are offered. In cities, people from different social groups and religions coexist, which fosters more harmony and understanding and aids in the dismantling of social and cultural boundaries. Cities also have sophisticated networks for transportation and communication.

But not everyone can enjoy the numerous advantages of living in a city. Urban sprawl, which has detrimental effects on the economy, society, and environment, is a result of unplanned and rapid population growth. According to (MWUD, 2008), Ethiopia's rapid urbanisation frequently places pressure on the ability of local and national governments to deliver even the most fundamental services, such as solid waste disposal, water supply, and housing, to urban people.

According to the data taken from FGDs and key informants, the expansion of the city has a positive effect on the living conditions of the slum dwellers in Arada kebele of Wolaita Sodo city administration. The informants also explained that the expansion of the city had a positive effect on their living conditions. For example, one of the informants, who is from Hibret Ketena and is a shopkeeper, said that:

“Ambay aakiyoogee woykko diciyoogee ambaa gidon de’iya hiyeesa asatusi keehipe lo’o, gaasoykka daro oosuwa xayida assay waayetenan oosuwa demiyooogan basuwa

aysana danddayesi, ubbakka qassi dumma dumma ooratabaa be'iyooogan assay qofankka aakidi baana mala maadeesi, taani ta huuphesi ambay diccoogan darobaa maadetaasi, hagaappe kasse ambaa gidдон yuuyadda qeeri qeeribatta zal'aysi leemisuwassii; kalsiya, saatiya, manaaxiriya, saqiya, h.h.m ogiyaa doonan bayziyoosaappe marcuwa demadda ha'i aaho suuqiya dooyara oottaydda ta keettaa assaa muruta hanottan aysaydda de'aysi, yaatiyoo gishataasi ambay diciyooge". [Ato Endale Bafa, April 12/2023]

Meaning that; the expansion or growth of urbanization is very important for the urban poor, this is because different jobless people are getting jobs without any problem and unmolestedly. Also, by seeing different new things in the urban area, people are expanding their thinking capacity. I, myself, have benefited from urbanisation. Also, by seeing different new things in the urban area, people are expanding their thinking capacity. I, myself, benefited from urbanisation. Before, I was working in a small enterprise on the street of the town; for example, I sold footwear, clocks, eyeglasses, belts, etc. Currently, I have collected enough money from that job to open a shop in Hibret Ketena and manage my family well. Therefore, urban expansion is very important for its slum inhabitants.

The conditions in slums have a number of detrimental consequences for the residents (Baeza and Packard, 2006); they assert that people who live in slums are particularly susceptible to disease. Slum dwellers are highly affected by their environment because of their uncomfortable housing conditions. This is because their houses are built around a dirty environment, which affects their health and the living conditions of their inhabitants.

It is an established fact that urban slums have issues that extend beyond housing. According to (Dudhwala, 2012), the most significant issues slum inhabitants confront are subpar housing and environmental conditions, which have an impact on all other elements of their lives. Since shelter is one of the most basic human needs, it is mandatory to have a house for every population in every part of the world.

The indications of prompt inner-city growth are else aware as originate from several investigations endeavours in emerging countries specifically. Communal experts could not see the multifaceted, shifting and extraordinary housing requirements of rising populations effectively. In detail complete disappointment to do in advance population increment has seemingly remained as one of the major source of drawback of housing strategies.

According to the information taken from the female FGD2 of selam ketene (ketene 4), it was marked that:

"Nuuni de'iyoo keettay qabaliyaagaa, ikka keehippe ceeganne wulidaagaa, irakka aatteesi, nu heerakeettaassi giiganne paya dirsay, qumaa kattiyo keettaynne sheesha keettay giigena, nuuni nu heeran keehippe tuganne metto duusaa deetteesi". [FGDs discussion from Selam Ketena, April 13, 2023]

This means that "we are living in the kebele houses, which are too old and dilapidated, and that there are no comfortable and prepared courtyards, kitchen houses, or toilets. We are living a very distressed life in our living environment.

Besides, the field observation of the environment showed that the slum environment of the study area is in a geographically sloppy setting, which is not expedient for the construction of houses. In this area, the houses are constructed very densely, and some houses are located under a mini-forest and near a mini-river, which is filled with dirt.

5.4. Cause for the Formation of Slum

Poverty and inequality, limited housing availability, and affordability are among the most significant factors; in other words, when government low-income housing programmes and basic amenities and facilities fail to keep pace with urban growth, rapidly expanding slum settlements follow (Sori, 2012).

Lack of resources to meet necessities like food, clothing, and shelter constitutes poverty. But poverty goes far beyond simply not having enough money. According to the World Bank Organisation, hunger is a defining characteristic of poverty. The absence of shelter is poverty. Being sick and unable to visit a doctor is poverty. Being illiterate and lacking access to education are both aspects of poverty. Living day by day and not having a job are all signs of poverty. Poverty has been characterised in a variety of ways and takes on several forms that vary from place to place and over time. Most of the time, people desire to get out of poverty. Therefore, poverty is a call to action for both the wealthy and the poor, a call to change the world so that more people may have access to food, shelter, education, and healthcare, as well as protection from violence and a voice in local affairs.

The most important factors are poverty and inequality, housing availability restrictions, and affordability; in other words, when government low-income housing programs and the provision of essential amenities and facilities fail to keep pace with urban growth, rapidly growing slum settlements also worsen (Sori, 2012). There are different factors that are taken as the causes for the growth and formation of slums in the different parts of the world in general and in the Arada kebele of Wolaita Sodo city administration in particular. However, the history of the slum and its formation are different from country to country, even in the same city. Different factors are taken as sources for the formation and creation of slums.

As the data collected from key informants from Kidane Mihiret Ketena and Hibret Ketena of the study area showed, one of the causes of the emergence of slums in the area is the lack of attention of the newcomers to settle in this area, and the major one is a lack of showing the historical development of Sodo city administration or a lack of written document as the Arada area is the birthplace of the city formation in Wolaita Sodo. Also, according to one older informant from Ketena 03, who is the community leader of Ketena 03, the cause of the formation of slums in the Arada Kebele is the lack of important organisations or institutions that should pave the way for the youths to create job opportunities, or simply joblessness, an increased number of illiteracy, and a lack of attention to creating different development strategies. Above all, the most important factor for the increase in the slum situation in Arada Kebele is that it is because of the geographical location of the area or its geographical settlement and its coldest air conditions; that is, the area is very sloppy and difficult to settle for strangers, and thus, its newcomers are selecting and moving to settle in another area of the town, particularly Wadu Kebele, because of its favourable condition and suitable geographical location instead of Arada Kebele.

According to the findings from FGDs from Selam Ketena, poverty is one of the enemies that kill slum dwellers in every part of the world. It is taken as one of the causes of the formation of slums in urban areas in every part of the world. Because of poverty, the slum dwellers are economically poor and stipulated to fulfil their basic needs and wants. To me, poverty is a viral disease that harms, oppresses, and kills slum dwellers and diminishes their lives.

In the case of the Arada Kebele of Wolaita Sodo city administration, poverty is one of the prominent features that are considered as prominent cause of the emergency of slums in the area. Because of the existence of poverty, their environment has become a slum, and the dwellers are also living a miserable life. Following poverty, they were stipulated to have the necessary infrastructure in common with their neighbours and lacked basic needs and wants at the individual and family levels. Also, poverty can be expressed as a disease that minimizes an individual's life and kills poor people in both rural and urban societies. In the case of urban slum dwellers, like the Arada Kebele of Wolaita Sodo city administration, poverty can also be expressed as a lack of infrastructure, like wide and qualified roads, poor water services, electricity, educational facilities, modernised schools, health center, and any type of organizations or higher institution that can provide a wider range of job opportunities for the dwellers in their settlement. The existence of poverty in urban slums can simply be seen in their unqualified and dilapidated houses. Because the majority of them are living in kebele houses, which are very obsolete houses with no separate kitchen and a lack of qualified toilets, rather than thinking about the above materials, the inhabitants are worrying more about pooling their stomachs or hand-to-mouth, which means that they are giving priority to getting sufficient food for survival. The main reason residents live in the slums is poverty, and thus they prefer to live in the region due to the high cost of housing, and the majority of houses are rented from the kebele (Rahel, 2018).

Consequently, different urban areas have unique causes for the emergence of slum situations in the city. The major causes of the emergence of slums in the Arada Kebele, as I observed from the field, are poverty, urban expansion, internal displacement, rural-urban migration, the physical ecology or geographical location of the area, and the like.

Chapter Six

6. The Challenges and Opportunities of the Peoples Living in the Study Area

6.1. Introduction

This chapter aims to answer the third objective of the study through its discussion. From the three objectives, this part is taken as the third specific objective for which the study aims to answer its questions based on the realities that are being taken from the people of the study area and other concerned bodies who are taking part in this study. There are several challenges and opportunities for the people who are living in this slum area, specifically Arada kebele dwellers. One of the major challenges facing slum communities in both developed and developing nations is the lack of necessary infrastructure for societies. Thus, this chapter answers questions related to the challenges facing the dwellers in the slum areas of Arada Kebele.

6.2. Major Challenges of slum dwellers of Arada Kebele

Slum dwellers are those people who are densely populated, economically impoverished, and socially segregated. Since they are living in a slum environment, they face several challenges, either directly or indirectly. They face challenges like poverty, environmental hardships that expose the inhabitants to disease, and socio-political and environmental challenges that determine the quality of life that slum dwellers really have.

In line with this, the Ethiopian government's first serious policy move to address the challenges created by slum neighbourhoods in the 1960s was the razing of slum dwellings in the TekleHaimanot region of inner Addis Ababa. Residents were relocated to new purpose-built and better-serviced flats on the city's then-western outskirts (Abagissa, 2019). During the Derg regime, at least two types of cooperative housing programmes were created to ameliorate the living circumstances of low- and moderate-income urban residents. They were known as "Self-Help" and "Pure Self-Help" cooperatives at the time. Self-Help" assisted household heads with monthly incomes of less than 200 birr to become homeowners by providing free building lots and technical advice, as well as allowing them

to borrow up to 60% of the project cost from the Agency for Rental Housing Administration (AARH) at a low interest rate.

According to the FGD1 and key informant data sources, those who have private houses in the kebele also lacked the necessary infrastructure, like clean water, electricity, and a comfortable school for their children. Also, they do not have amicable toilets and kitchens; thus, housing is taken as one of the major challenges for the inhabitants of Arada Kebele. Nothing is comfortable for slum dwellers due to their living conditions and the geographical setting of their settlement. The nature of their living conditions can also be seen as one of the challenges facing slum dwellers. This is because of financial problems, and inhabitants are stipulated to fulfil their needs and wants.

The field observation and information from Arada Kebele chairman stated that women, children, and older people face the hardship of living in slum-dwelling areas of the town. This is due to a lack of access to water, sanitation, and a conducive environment that requires better physicality and health conditions. Even though the problem is equal for all, young people and those who are relatively healthy have the strength and stamina to bear the challenges. Also, because they are physically weak, they spend a better time in their environment.

According to the information taken from the urban plan office, urban expansion resulted in the displacement of its inhabitants from their original environment to the newly emerged environment, labour exploitation of slum dwellers, socio-economic-political disorder and environmental hazards, loss of their original culture, and bringing psychological problems to dwellers, that is, undermining and marginalising the dwellers.

According to Geberiel (2007), slum growth is a more complicated and unsolvable phenomenon than just an issue with urban planning. The multifaceted character of the slum building process frequently results in significant variations between and within nations and localities. The problems in the social, economic, and environmental spheres are linked to the growth of slums. Living in a slum environment has its challenges for the living conditions of its inhabitants. Life is very difficult in slum areas, even for survival. There are challenges in socialisation, economic issues, political disturbances, and environmental problems that result in health problems for dwellers. Because of their low income, they faced economic challenges, which resulted in economic disorder due to the

rapid increase in the price of every item in the market. My informant, who inhabited Ketena 02, one of the neighbourhoods in my study area, said:

For the sake of survival, I am begging around the major streets of the town and used to eat leftover foods from hotels. My husband is pushing a hand bar (wheelbarrow). In the daytime, he works as a labourer through his wheelbarrow and gets money; however, the income is not enough to fulfil the needs of the family as it is expected because of the challenges of economic imbalance in the city. Thus, we, the poor, became hopeless, saying, 'dosinixinkahayqoy atena, oonesha'ulaytadeena ha sa'aaboli' meaning, whether you believe or not, death is imminent; no one can live a thousand years in this world; this is because of the challenges that faced, including us because of our settlement". [W/roAbebechGasho, March 23, 2023]

Tsenkove (2008) asserts that the issue of slum settlement in the region is linked to various social factors. Poor and disadvantaged slum dwellers frequently experience unemployment, social marginalization, and unstable housing. Living in a slum settlement can have negative effects on one's health and well-being, but in many nations, the worst effects are caused by a lack of access to social services and basic utilities like clean water, schools, and poor sanitation (Negera, 2012).

In the slum area of Arada Kebele, they also face the challenges of labour exploitation. They are working for and staying a long period of time in the field, but the payment is not sufficient rather than exploiting them. As I observed in the field, the slum dwellers of Arada Kebele faced challenges from environmental problems or a lack of fresh air. The major cause of environmental pollution results from the collection of garbage and dust from the town, as well as the collection of plastic bags, sewage disposal, and inappropriate usage of toilets. For example, there is a tree, and some people are using that place as a toilet during the night, which is near someone's home and results in health problems for the dwellers.

Consequently, slum dwellers face several challenges due to the aforementioned challenges in their dwellings. The slum dwellers are struggling with the existing challenges in their environment for the sake of improving their living conditions and also for survival. It is difficult to adapt to and control the harsh environment of slum areas; however, its dwellers simply adopt and live in their environment by using their own mechanisms. When we compare slum dwellers with other inhabitants in the urban environment, slum dwellers are physically stronger than other non-slum dwellers in the city. We have to know that the

challenges facing slum dwellers are that they are living in bad and poor conditions, and we may say that this shortens their lives. They have the greatest ambition to live a better life, but the situations are unfavourable for them because of the disproportion of the current economic condition in addition to urban expansion with their living standards.

As informed by the health profession of Arada Kebele (Ato Bereket Kebede), people who reside in slums frequently deal with a variety of issues pertaining to their living circumstances. Poor sanitation, a lack of clean water, crowding, substandard housing, and restricted access to healthcare and education are a few of the most prevalent problems. Additionally, people who live in slums could experience social marginalization, prejudice, and limited economic prospects. Their health, well-being, and general quality of life may be significantly impacted by these difficulties.

Thus, this study marked that Arada Kebele is one of the Eleven Kebeles of the city administration and is considered the first place in the city; however, there is no necessary infrastructure, like safe water, roads, school health centers, and the like, for the community people. Some of the common challenges of slums in the study area are explained as follows: as informed by the informants and through field observation.

6.2.1. Health problems in slum area of Arada Kebele

Various studies have found significant variations in health between slum and non-slum dwellers. Slums have serious public health repercussions (Fry et al., 2002). Poor sanitation as a driver of diseases such as malnutrition, diarrhoea, endemic cholera, and respiratory infections may be the leading cause of death in slum areas (Water Aid, 2008). Slum inhabitants in the developing world are more affected by their environment, which results in health problems for dwellers. The main causes of poor health in slum areas are their rough environment and their poor economic condition. The rough environmental condition is one of the common problems that have an adverse effect on the health of its inhabitants. Most of the time, slum dwellers in every part of the world in general and in the study area specifically are being assaulted by a similar type of disease. For example, as informed by health professionals from Wolaita Sodo City Health Centre (Sister Tsehaynesh Daniel), the most common types of diseases that are present in slum environments are cholera, diarrhea, TB, typhoid, yellow fever, trachoma, and the like. Besides this, another informant from the health center of the city (Ato Tilahun Mitiku) added that slum

inhabitants are assaulted by genetic diseases like epilepsy (a disorder of the nervous system that causes a person to become unconscious suddenly, often with violent movements of the body). Their environment is polluted by different factors, like the collection of waste from their home and from the town, sewage disposal, the bad smell from forest toilets, and the like.

According to a female key informant from Arada Kebele Health Centre, Arada Kebele inhabitants are affected by environmental pollution. Additionally, she said as follows:

“Because of a lack of modern educational knowledge, the inhabitants of Arada Kebele do not give much more attention to keeping their environment and also how to keep it from pollution as it is expected; due to this, they are more prone to diseases, like stomach ache, influenza, and diarrhoea. In this regard, we are teaching them to clean their environment to minimize environmental pollution by using public toilets in a correct manner, that is, washing their hands with soap or ash after using the toilet, but this is unusual in this area. However, we are trying to do our best and teaching them to change their attitude to have a better environment”. [Sister AynalemBelete, March 24, 2023].



Fig 6-1 Mini Forest at Kidane Mihiret ketena which serve as toilet during night time (field photo by researcher on April 02, 2023)



Fig 6-2 Public toilet at selam ketena (field photo by researcher, April 4, 2023)

The above figures show that slum inhabitants are using the mini forest for toilet purposes, especially at night which is near to their house, which affects their health. Also, the collection of dirt from their homes and outside of their environment, which is from the center of the city, is one of the major problems that affect the health of its inhabitants. In a slum environment, all the dwellers are affected by those environmental problems; however, household women, old men, and children are more affected than the youths due to their capacity to control disease and their better time in their environment.

Ethiopian cities, like many other developing countries, suffer from a lack of infrastructure and urban services, urban environmental degradation, homelessness, urban decay, and high unemployment (UN-Habitat, 2011). Environmental degradation is one of accustomed problems in urban slum areas. Environmental degradation is associated with environmental pollution, which results from a lack of solid waste management in the city administration and a lack of modernised garbage on the verge of the city. Arada kebele, particularly Kidane Mihiret Ketena, is filled with trees for the sake of burning and to minimise forest from their straight across. Because of the lack of appropriate toilet holes, the dwellers are using forests as toilets and some public toilets, which pollute their environment and expose them to health problems. On the other hand, as I observed in the field, there are some burrows that are filled with dirty water, which negatively results in health problems for the dwellers.



Fig 6-3 Burrow in selam ketena (field photo by researcher, April 4, 2023)

6.3. Marginalization of Slum Dwellers

Slums are also responsible for social marginalization. Slum inhabitants, according to Habitu (2011), have low social links with non-slum dwellers. Marginalization is the way of excluding certain social groups of societies due to their socio-economic or political identity. Because they are economically poor, slum dwellers in every developing world, including those in my study area, are marginalized and they are far away from any information that can lead them to change their living conditions. Moreover, it is quite common that residents in my study area are not in touch with technologies, including viral social media, which people in rural areas are getting used to. This really hindered their ability to keep in touch with local, national, and global developments, hindered their communication with people living elsewhere, and allowed them to experience new cultures, thoughts, and knowledge.

According to one male key informant who is a tailor and working on a road next to his living house,

We are considered as marginal; people are negatively considering us because of our physical environment. For example, I lived for 43 years in this area, and I have been a tailor for 12 years in this community. Some people are kidding or mocking me by saying, 'Laagiyaagoo, Makiiniyawaanay, meaning, 'Driver, how was your car'. This is because of the lack of job opportunities in our living environment. We are obliged to take part in this type of job, which results in marginalization of our communities

and our occupation due to slum settlement and the geographical setting of the environment. [Interview with informant Ato Wogasokolcha, March 25, 2023]

From the above discussion, we can understand that slum dwellers are highly marginalized and scorned by non-slum dwellers in the city, particularly by urban riches. In addition to this, slum dwellers are also psychologically affected due to the negative attitude of people towards them and the devaluation of the slum inhabitants. People have a negative attitude towards slum dwellers because of their occupation or job type, their economic level, their geographical location, their environment, their socialization process, etc.

6.4. Characteristic Features of Slum Settlement in Arada Kebele

The origin, meaning, and characteristic features of the slum are different from place to place and also from country to country. In urban areas, the slum environment has its own unique features. The slum dwellers are settled in urban areas, but the area is affected by different issues and is more exposed to several problems. For example, as I observed in the field and interviewed some key informants from Arada Kebele inhabitants, the slum environment is characterised by shanty houses, poor economic conditions, a lack of pure water, inconvenient roads, insufficient electric service, a lack of school for poor families, a forest that is filled with dust, a lack of modernised garbage, a lack of family planning, a harsh environment, poor living conditions, being settled at the verge of the city, poverty, etc., which are some of the visible and clearly known characteristic features that express slum dwellers of the study area. The slum dwellers of Arada Kebele are particularly characterised by incomprehensible economic activity and an ecologically insecure environment. Also, the geographical set of Arada Kebele is inappropriate, and it is such a sloppy and rugged one that is covered with forest.



Fig 6-4 House covered by forest in Hibret ketena (field photo by researcher, Mar 6, 2023)

These are somewhat poor housing conditions in the slum area of Arada Kebele. The slum environment of Arada Kebele houses is built near a mini-forest in their settlement, and the majority of the houses are very old, even dilapidated, and also shanty.

Therefore, due to this characteristic feature, the slum environment also lacked effective management by government officials in the city administration and became more prone to poverty and hunger. From this explanation, we can simply understand that life in a slum environment is very difficult for the dwellers since they lack the necessary infrastructure. Also, it is difficult to adapt to the slum environment because it is covered with forest, which is filled with a dirty and geographically sloppy environment. They are also considered marginal social groups in the town due to their characteristic features.

Chapter Seven

7. Conclusion and Recommendations

7.1. Conclusion

So far, this study has attempted to explore the living conditions of slum dwellers in Arada Kebele, Wolaita Sodo City, by focusing on the lived experiences of slum dwellers, coping mechanisms, and the impact of urban expansion on its inhabitants. To achieve these objectives, primary sources of data were collected using tools like focused group discussions, field observation, key informant interviews, and case study methods, through qualitatively. Accordingly, secondary sources of data were explored for comparison with primary sources and triangulation of the findings. The findings indicated that slum dwellers are more affected by the urban expansion of Wolaita Sodo City. Thus, the inhabitants used their own coping mechanisms in their living environment.

The research explored the living conditions of slum dwellers in Arada Kebele by using modernization theory, urban ecology theory, and marginalisation theory. Modernization theory is supported to state the impacts and consequences of urban expansion on slum dwellers. The theory of urban ecology is incorporated to discuss the lived experience and coping mechanisms of slum dwellers, and finally, the theory of marginalization is developed to explain the challenges and opportunities of slum dwellers in the study area. Therefore, slum residents are living a miserable life. Their children are not educated because of the poor economic condition of their families. The major source of income for the residents of the study was the informal economy, and they lacked a permanent job type to have quaint living conditions.

The finding of this research also marked that poverty or poor living conditions, the level of income, rural-urban migration, and displacement of people from different parts of the country are the major challenges that compelled the residents to settle in a slum environment and their closest relationship in relation to their historical stay in the area and love of their culture. The other major reason that forced the residents to settle in or to select a slum environment, particularly those who are displaced from different parts of the country, is that their economic standard and their capacity make it difficult to stay and settle at the centre of the city. They may get full infrastructure at the centre of the city;

however, it is too difficult to adapt and cope with in the centre of the city because they are deprived of their resources in their former settlement due to poverty, rural-urban migration, urban expansion, and political instability, which resulted in ethnic conflict.

Besides, the study also identified that one of the key causes of the creation and growth of slums in the research region is thought to be urban expansion. As a result, the area's socioeconomic, political, and cultural foundations were eroded. According to the report, slum residents are marginalised when cities expand due to their living conditions. The principal impacts, challenges, and repercussions of urban expansion on the study area's residents are health issues, environmental degradation, and inadequate housing conditions. Women, older people, and children are more vulnerable to environmental hazards and health problems than youths and others who work in the field or at a workplace far from their environment because they spend more time at home and in their living environment.

7.2. Recommendations

- The slum dwellers of the study area have their own cultural coping mechanisms with their environment for survival, like the preparation of cultural bears and weaving. Therefore, the urban planning office should provide the necessary materials to support and develop their culturally lived experience and coping mechanisms in their environment for the sake of keeping and preserving their original culture.
- The living conditions of slum dwellers are affected by urban expansion, and their socio-economic, cultural, and physical environments are changed. Thus, city administration should prioritise the needs of slums and fulfil the necessary infrastructure, which is not available and is missing in slum environments. Also, the Urban Development and Planning Bureau should work hand in hand and in collaboration with the municipality of the city, the urban green and development office, the kebele administrative of the study area, and the target group, that is, the slum dwellers themselves, to improve the quality of the slum environment by protecting the environment and bringing about continuous change.
- Different problems are discussed in the study area, like housing conditions in the study area. Therefore, the city housing and construction office should work with confidence by giving the greatest attention to changing the housing strategy and the maintenance of dilapidated and old houses in the slum communities, and the urban land

administration and municipality should also give their greatest attention to working on some of the hollow lands of the slum area by restoring and renewing the area to occupy the land.

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APPENDICES

A. TOOL OF DATA COLLECTION

FGD GUIDE

A distinguished member, my name is Tekalign Haile, and I am a graduate student in the department of anthropology at Hawassa University. I'm here to study the living condition of slum dwellers in arada kebele of Wolaita sodo city administration. We're here today to participate in the data collection process, and this research is only being done for academic purposes.

Your knowledge is equally important and very valued. You are required to freely address any issues you may have regarding the research topic. We have discussion-monitoring leading questions, and the moderator will show us how to proceed. The researcher is expected to take notes, shoot photos, and record video in order to carefully handle and organise material.

Your willingness to take part in this study needs be confirmed before we start talking. Anyone who is unwilling to engage may leave. And if you have any doubts, you can ask a query.

Are you still willing to provide information for this study? If you answered "yes," we respectfully ask that you sign the attendance. And again, I'm grateful.

Signature of Participant

1. Name Sex Age Signature

2. Name Sex Age Signature

3. Name Sex Age Signature

4. Name Sex Signature

5. Name Sex Age Signature

6. Name Sex Age Signature

7. Name Sex Age Signature

I. FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. How long have you lived in slum settlement? How did you start?
2. Is there anything you most worry about? If yes, what is that?
3. What do the people in your neighbour mainly do for living? Please tell me the truth about their activities and sources of income?
4. Where do other members of your household spend their time? By doing what?
5. How do you manage obstacles to infrastructures and basic services?
6. What kind of relationship do you have with your neighbours? Please, explain and why?
7. Do you think that you have any social ties with your neighbours? If yes, what kind of social tie do you have and for what purpose?
8. How did you protect yourself from any attack?
9. What is your life experience in your community, via socially, culturally, economically and politically?
10. What is your life experience of adapting your environment? Or is there any cultural mechanism of adapting your environment? If yes; what are those mechanisms and how you experienced it?
11. What you have learned from your life as a member of slum community?
12. Did you want to share your life experience with other dwellers of the town and why? Would you explain your life experiences please?
13. Because of your settlement in slum area, what do you developed to live in slum environment?
14. What are the problems encountered you living as slum?
15. Is there any more that you would like to talk about?

II. Questions for Semi-Structured Interview

1. What are the causes for the formation of slum in this area?
2. What are the problems that are faced by the slum dwellers of this area?
3. What action has been taken in places for the slum dwellers?
4. How does the gov't support the slum dwellers to their different problems?

III. Interview Questions for Key Informants

1. Please, would you share your experience and knowledge about the living condition of arada kebele inhabitants?
2. How do slum dwellers start their life in their specific environment?
3. Would you explain the quality of life of slum dwellers? If yes, please explain it
4. How the settlers improve the living condition in the slum area?
5. What do you know about the problem of life in the slum settlement of the city?
6. Are there any tangible discussions between slum dwellers of arada kebele and the city administrates on the existing problem?
7. What are the major problems of slum dwellers that you think in the area?

IV. Interviews for the selected Arada kebele Administration officers

1. Does the current urban land administration clearly define the slum dweller of the area? If yes, explain.
2. How do you explain the living condition of slum dwellers in the Arada kebele in general? What do you think is the basic cause?
3. How does the kebele administration create awareness and clarity to the public about the current living condition of the slum dwellers?
4. Would you please explain the trend in slum area in the sub-city in the previous few years? Who can afford the necessary infrastructures for the dwellers?
5. As you know slum areas are filled with dusts and crap in comparison to the other areas of the town. Hence, what tangible measures did the kebele take so far to minimize and solve the existing problems in the area?
6. Have you ever think of that how slum dwellers are keeping their environment from pollution and degradation individually and /or in group?
7. What do you think are the main reasons for the impact of slum dwellers of the Arada kebele of the town?

8. Is there equal opportunities of getting necessary infrastructures for all peoples in the Arada kebele? If yes, what opportunities are created for the dwellers before now?

10. Does the place selected for investment, public organization and other institutions are provided to minimize joblessness for the slum dwellers of the target group? Please explain.

11. Why the new comers aren't wanted to settle in Arada kebele and move to other areas currently, for example to Wadu Sefer of which Wolaita Sodo University and Agricultural college area located?

12. How and how often the administrative discuss with people to answer the question of slum dwellers in the Arada kebele of the town?

13. Is there any tangible discussions between slum dwellers of Arada kebele and the city administrations on the existing problems?

14. Did the current city Administration have its plane to work with the problems in the Arada kebele of the town?

V. Interview Question for urban development office

1. What are the causes for the formation of slum in this area?
2. What are the problems that are faced by the slum dwellers of this area?
3. What action has been taken in places for the slum dwellers?
4. How does the government support the slum dwellers to their different problems?
5. Is there equal opportunity of getting necessary infrastructures for all peoples in the Arada kebele? If yes, what opportunities are created for the dwellers before now?
6. Do you have any more idea on this issue that you would like to add about, please continue

VI. Observation Cheek list of the field

1. Take photo physical and geographical set of slum environment
2. Physically observable conditions of slum settlement

3. The quality of the slum dwellers in the study area
4. How settlers improve the living condition in the study area
5. Infrastructure and/or the quality electricity, water, road, toilet, kitchen etc of arada kebele.
6. View the observable changes and measures which are provided for the study area.

B.INFORMANTS PROFILE (KEY INFORMANTS INTERVIEW)

No	Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Address	Method
1.	Aregsash w/Mariam	53	F	Small Enterprise	Selam Ketena	In-depth
2.	AbebechGasho	47	F	Small Enterprise	Selam Ketena	
3.	WogasoKolacha	55	M	Tailor	Hibret Ketena	
4.	Amanuel Bekele	22	M	Street Vendor	Hibret Ketena	
5.	Alemu Asha	51	M	Weaving	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
6.	Workinesh Dejene	38	F	Merchant	Hibret Ketena	KII
7.	AskaleKassa	62	F	Merchant	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
8.	Marta Lakushe	40	F	Enterprise	Hibret Ketena	In-depth
9.	UfaysaBalcha	39	M	Weaving	Selam Ketena	KII
10.	KolatoLencha	43	M	Merchant	Selam Ketena	
11.	MeskeremMitiku	37	F	Small Enterprise	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	KII
12.	EndaleBafa	58	M	Gate Keeper	Hibret Ketena	
13.	BergeneKumalo	55	M	Gate Keeper	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
14.	Desta Tanto	52	M	Small Enterprise	Selam Ketena	
1.	TsehayneshDanniel	34	F	Health Office	Arada Kebele	In-depth
2.	TilahunMitiku	32	M	Health Office	Sodo City	KII
3.	AynalemKebede	28		Health Office	Sodo City	
4.	Mellesse Tadesse	35	M	Urban Plan Officer	Arada Kebele	KII
5	Habitu Husen	29	M	Urban Beauty officer	Arada Kebele	KII

INFORMANTS PROFILE (MEN FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSANTS)

FGD I					Selam Ketena
No	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Remark
1.	Abebe Ayza	38	M	Selam Ketena	
2.	Mastako Mena	57	M	Selam Ketena	
3.	MarkosAbota	60	M	Selam Ketena	
4.	KebedeTaga	45	M	Selam Ketena	
5.	TamiratJambo	48	M	Selam Ketena	
6.	OlkanoDuba	65	M	Selam Ketena	
7.	TasewKolcha	61	M	Selam Ketena	
FGD II					Kidane Mihiret Ketena
No	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Remark
1.	ZenebechTadesse	49	F	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
2.	Mastako Mena	57	F	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
3.	MarkosAbota	60	F	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
4.	KebedeTaga	45	F	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
5.	TamiratJambo	48	F	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
6.	OlkanoDuba	65	F	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
7.	TasewKolcha	61	F	Kidane Mihiret Ketena	
FGD III					Hibret Ketena
No	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Remark
1.	Bereket Demissie	24	M	Hibiret Ketena	
2.	MehamedQolcha	26	M	Hibiret Ketena	
3.	Asirat Dana	27	M	Hibiret Ketena	
4.	EfesonKasahun	24	M	Hibiret Ketena	
5.	ZelalemGirma	25	M	Hibiret Ketena	
6.	KirubelFeleke	28	M	Hibiret Ketena	
7.	Temesgen Seta	23	M	Hibiret Ketena	

C. SOME PICTURES FROM THE FIELD



Researcher moderating FGDs (Selam, Hibret and Kidane Mihiret Ketena Respectively)



Researcher Conducting Interview with Ufayisa Balcha and observing his profession