THE IMPACT OF KIDNAPPING ON HUMAN SECURITY IN ETHIOPIA: A CASE STUDY OF TACH ARMACHIHO WOREDA IN THE CENTRAL GONDAR ADMINISTRATIVE ZONE

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to investigate the overall impacts of kidnapping on human security in the case of Tach Armachiho Woreda, CentralGondar Administrative Zone. More specifically, this study attempted to identify the actors involved in kidnapping and examined the impacts of kidnapping on human security. In doing so, the researcher employed a mixed approach, followed by questionnaires, semi-structured interviews, and document analysis as instruments of data collection. In this study, a sequential exploratory design was utilized. The results of the study showed that local bandits, unemployed youth, security agents, and agents of local bandits were the main actors in kidnapping in the study area. Overall, the economic motive is the main driving factor of kidnapping. Kidnapping is a major threat to the communities. Victims are tortured by kidnappers after kidnapping; if they do not pay a ransom, the hostages are killed. As confirmed by the respondents, the rural part of the Woreda is more vulnerable to kidnapping. The findings indicated that kidnapping poses a serious threat to the people of the Amhara regional state, psychologically, socially, economically, and politically. As confirmed by the majority of respondents, religious institutions and elders create awareness in the community in a better manner than other stakeholders. Hence, governmental and non-governmental institutions in collaboration should create awareness to the local community especially; the society should be hand in glove with the security agents and administration wing of the region also take immediate measures against offenders are the recommendation of this study.

Keywords: Kidnapping, Human security, Tach Armachiho Woreda.

INTRODUCTION

Kidnapping is not a new crime rather it has been a long history in the Global world. The term kidnapping began in the 17th-century in Britain where newborn children ("kids") of affluent families would be "napped" (caught in the rest) for ransom (Tzanelli, 2006). The first global kidnapping case began in 1974 in the United States of America (Okoli & Agada, 2014). As stated above by two scholars kidnapping was the only abduction of a child for ransom, but, in recent times, the dimensions of kidnapping are not only economic but also political dimensions.

Kidnapping is the abduction of a hostage or hostages to an unknown area to be held there for as long as may be essential to extort concessions which may be money-related or political and are usually significantly larger than those requested in a short-term abduction. Kidnappings happen similarly in urban and rural areas, although the hostage may be abducted in an urban area and held in a rural area or bad habit versa (Clutterbuck, 1987).

Nowadays, the crime of kidnapping is the most dangerous crime around the modern world. Within the past few decades, it has become a major concern in both developed and developing countries. Kidnapping is additionally of great interest to most states due to the nature of its execution which many times includes utilizing excessive violence and weapons and resulting in the deaths of the victims (Alexander & Klein, 2008). The crime of kidnapping is influences society in many ways. Kidnapping could be a major kind of violent crime and that affects the socio-economic and political existence of society. This sort of crime can cause disturbance of social peace (Hammer *et al.*, 2002).

Kidnapping is viewed as a simple way to make money in countries where government and law authorizations are weak or where corruption is uncontrolled, flourishing in places where the rule of law is tenuous. This, unfortunately, describes many countries over the world. Globalization has empowered kidnappers and other offenders and terrorists to transfer funds anywhere in an instant, permits them to stay up-to-date on the most recent tactics and techniques, and permits surreptitious, confidential, virtually instantaneous communication both locally and across vast regions of territory or international borders (Wright, 2009).

Kidnapping is a socio-economic issue in society. Victims of kidnapping are drawn from diverse sections of the population. Children and adolescents are the most victims of kidnappings in many countries (Hammer *et al.*, 2002).

Kidnapping takes place in numerous contexts and for different reasons. Its causes and effects are also many (Forest, 2012; Ibrahim & Mukhtar, 2017). However, the complexities of the concept are difficult to reach a common understanding among various scholars. Kidnapping is mainly occurred due to the main reasons for economic gain and political bargaining (Ibrahim & Mukhtar, 2017). Hazen & Horner (2007), moreover, expressed that hostages have been taken by criminals for two primary reasons for political reason and financial benefits. The worldwide trends of kidnapping tend to depict its prevalence in countries faced with internal conflicts. Thus, there is seemingly a relationship between kidnapping and conflict, terrorism (Alexander & Klein, 2008). This is clear in countries grappling with a humanitarian crisis, especially in most developing continents like Africa. In April and May 2014, 267 girls were kidnapped and severely abused for sexual violence by armed militias in DRC (Global Slavery Index, 2014). Likewise in Nigeria, 250 girls were kidnapped in a secondary school in Chibok, Borno State in 2014 by Boko Haram terrorist groups (Ibrahim & Mukhtar, 2017).

According to the United Nations International Children Education Fund (UNICEF, 2018) report from 2013 to 2018, more than 1,000 children had been kidnapped by armed terrorists in northeast Nigeria. The report shows that the kidnapping case in Africa is increasing over time and

the people of African suffer from this organized crime. The kidnapping case in Africa is mostly done by armed terrorists and militias. Like other African countries, recent kidnappings are taking place in various parts of Ethiopia such as, in Oromia and Amhara region. Recently, kidnapping crime is a common problem in different parts of Ethiopia. Six year ago, 17 Amhara students were abducted from Dembi Dollo University by armed groups (BBC, 2020). In Ethiopia, armed groups are now abducting people and trying to gain political and economic supremacy. Besides, over 1000 Federal Defense Military Officers, including general, were kidnapped by Tigray People's Liberation Front on November 3, 2020, after inviting them for a dinner (FBC, 2020). An unspecified number of soldiers were killed after kidnapping by TPLF militants. Here, TPLF militants not only kidnapped and killed Federal Defense Military Soldiers, but also innocent people were kidnapped and killed in Makidera, and Humera. Kidnapping is also the major problem that affects the people of Amhara regional State. The seriousness of kidnapping by itself requires more attention in the study area. For people who live in the Amhara region, it is difficult to perform their day-to-day activities.

RESEARCH METHODS

In conducting this study, a mixed research approach was employed to gather and analyze the data. The mixed-methods approach is a pragmatic worldview, collection of both quantitative and qualitative data consecutively in the design (Creswell, 2009). This research approach bases the inquiry on the presumption that collecting various sorts of data best gives a more complete understanding of a investigate issue than either quantitative or qualitative data alone (Ibid). Using qualitative data in addition to quantitative data is helpful to include all the necessary information, which is crucial to the study. Because, if it is the research conduct using only quantitative methods, those variables need to be discuss qualitatively may be missed. For this reason, the researcher had interested to use mixed research approach which includes both qualitative and quantitative research methods. In addition to this, mixed research is a mixture or combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, approaches, or concepts in a single research study or a set of related studies. The qualitative and quantitative parts of a research study are conducted concurrently or consecutively to address a research question or a set of related questions (Johnson and Christensen, 2014). Therefore, this approach of the study was best to investigate the causes of kidnapping and its implication on human security.

Research design is making the research efficient and effective and it is important for obtaining enough information with minimal expenditure of time and money (Kothari, 2004). The researcher was employed sequential exploratory research design.

At the most basic level, the purpose of this design is to use quantitative data and results to assist in the interpretation of qualitative findings (Creswell, 2009). Basically, sequential exploratory research design occurs when the researcher used different timing to implement the quantitative and qualitative strands during the phases of the data collection. Hence, in this design, priority is given to qualitative instruments. Then, the quantitative strands followed in line with the themes of qualitative data.

Data sources and sampling technique
This study was employed both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary data are collected from interviews and questionnaires. Whereas, the secondary data collected from journals, books, conference papers, newspapers, and official reports. In this study, the researcher has collected data through questionnaires, in-depth interviews, and document review. Questionnaires are instruments completed by respondents themselves and they are relatively easy to use, inexpensive, and are often the most plausible alternative for measuring unobservable constructs such as attitudes, values and preferences, intentions, and personalities (Moorman & Podsakoff, 1992).This method of data

collection is quite popular, particularly in case of big enquiries. In this method, a questionnaire is sent to the persons concerned with a request to answer the questions and return the questionnaire (Kothari, 2004). Therefore, the researcher was employed develop 20 close-ended questionnaires.

In conducting this study, the researcher has used stratified sampling technique. According to Central Gondar Zone Census Office (2020), the total number of Tach Armachiho Woreda population is 116,867. To determine the Sample from the total population of the Woreda (116867), the researcher took (23373) households as target population of the study.

From 23373, the researcher has used the following formula (Yemane, 1967).

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where, n = minimum required sample size
N = total size of population (Household) (23373) in the Woreda.
e = is the acceptable sampling error and the confidence level is at 95% as well as the acceptable error is 0.05.

Using the formula; $n = \frac{23373}{1 + 23373(0.05)^2} = n = \frac{23373}{1 + (23373 * 0.0025)}$

$= n = \frac{23373}{1 + 58.4325} = \frac{23373}{59.4325} = 393$

Therefore, the sample sizes of this study are 393 respondents.

These sample households' survey has made from the 24 Kebeles in the Woreda. From those Kebeles, a total sample of 393 households were selected. Moreover, the sample size for each Kebele has determined using proportional allocation method followed by simple random sampling (lottery method) after getting name lists of the Kebele residents (Table 1).

Methods of data analysis
Data analysis involves collecting open-ended data, based on inquiring common questions and developing an analysis from the information provided by participants (Creswell 2009). In this study, the researcher has used quantitative and qualitative data analysis techniques. Therefore, the researcher was collected quantitative data from questionnaire and analyzed using descriptive statistics mainly percentage method. On the other hand, the researcher has collected qualitative data from primary and secondary sources and analyzed it in both content analysis and narrative analysis. Content analysis is the best way when the communications of messages tend to be clear, known, and easy, and straightforward (McNabb, 2015). Berg (2001) added that content analysis is the artifact of social communications. Commonly, these are written documents or interpretations of verbal communications. On the other hand, narrative analysis could be a verbal or composed piece that ordinarily portrays the events inside the life of a person or people. It is commonly the article of a single person (McNabb, 2015).

The research site
Tach Armachiho woreda is one of the woredas in the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. Tach Armachiho is located in the Central Gondar Administrative Zone 65 km northwest of Gondar town in the northwestern part of the country. The woreda has 24 kebeles. Tach Armachiho is bordered on the north by Tegeda, on the south by Lay Armachiho and Chilga, on the southwest by Metema, on the west by Mirab Armachiho, and the east by Dabat. Geographically, the Woreda is located between 120 59'N latitudes to 370 17' longitude.

Based on the 2007 national census, the Woreda has a total population of 89,115, of whom 45,874 (52%) are men and 43,241 (48%) women; 12,258 or 13.8% are urban inhabitants. The majority of the inhabitants
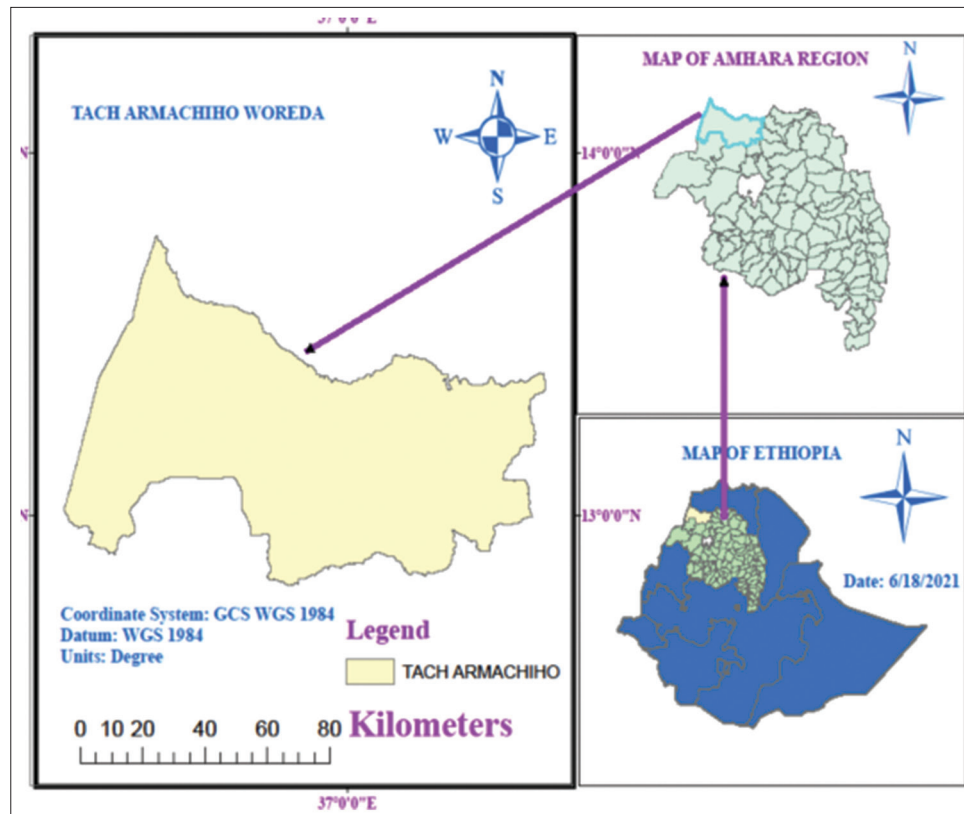
Fig. 1: Map of the study area. Source: Map retrieved from Research Gate (unattributed), modified using ArcGIS version 10.4

practiced Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity, with 97.8% reported that as their religion, the rest of 1.4% of the population were Muslim.

According to Agriculture and Office document (2019), Tach Armachiho has a total area of 317,324 hectares. Out of this, 72,724 hectares of land are being cultivated currently and covered by annual crops, 128,487 hectares are virgin cultivable land, and 46726 hectares are forestland, mountain, and plateau 59,657 and 9,713 hectares is used for construction and other purposes. According to the office of agriculture of the district report, every year area covered by sesame and sorghum farms in the district was 67.5% and these crops are the most important marketable commodities.

The topography of the district is flat 45%, Plato 22%, sloppy 20%, and valley 13, and the soil type in color is 40% black, 40% red, and 20% gray-brown. The mean minimum and maximum annual temperatures are 30°C and 35°C during the rainy season, respectively. During March to May, daily temperature becomes 42°C. This implies that between those months, the daily temperature is very high. According to the district metrology station data, the mean annual rainfall ranges from 850 to around 1250 mm. The districts have a unimodal rainfall and extend from June to the end of September months (Woreda Agriculture Office Document, 2018).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter mainly dealt with data presentation, analysis, and interpretation based on the data accessed through various instruments and relevant secondary sources. Accordingly, the major finding of the study has comprised six major parts and many sub-specific parts. Thus, Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents, the actors of kidnapping, and the pushing factors that motivate actors to kidnap, the impacts of kidnapping on human security, and the effectiveness of stakeholders in minimizing kidnaping cases were in-depth analyzed and interpreted.

Demographic characteristics of the respondents

As shown in Table 1, in the study area, 254 (64.6%) of respondents were male and 139 (35.4%) were female. This data indicates that most of the respondents were male in Woreda. Here, the statistical data shows that female respondents had participated in the study lower than male respondents in proportion.

In relation to age distribution, 144 (or 36.6% of total sample) of respondents were below 35 years of age, 170 people (43.3%) were between 35 and 50 years of age, and 71 respondents (18.1%) were between 51 and 65 years while the remaining 8 respondents (or 2% of total sample) were between above 65 years of age. This data indicated that majority of respondents were matured and experienced since 249 (63.4% of total sample) of them were above 35 years.

As it was indicated in Table 1, the education level of the respondents in the study area, 35 (8.9%), 37 (9.4%), 64 (16.3), 119 (30.3%), 111 (28.2%), and 27 (6.9%) of them were read and write, primarily (1–8), secondary (9–12), diploma, degree, and above degree, respectively. This data shows that out of the total sample, the majority of respondents 230 (58.5%) were diploma and degree holders.

The main actors of kidnapping

Crime is not only committed by a particular group or class but also different groups of people commit different types of crime (Soyombo, 2009). He added that, the poorer people commit more crimes than the richer people. This literature supported the study because, in the study area most of kidnapping was committed by economically poor people. Therefore, economically poor people more likely committed kidnapping crime than richer people in the Woreda.

According to Hancerli (2005), kidnappers are including terrorists, criminal, emotionally disturbed, and mentally ill hostage takers. Other scholars also argued that, criminals and terrorist groups have been engaged in this violent crime (Forest, 2012).

One key informant from the community stated that: *The actors of kidnapping in the woreda are anti-peace forces. Not only Local bandits are kidnapping people but also, unemployed youth, including some security forces also engage in this crime. Jobless young people engage in this crime to earn money. Criminals are kidnapping people only for economic gain, not for political purposes. There are also people in the community who provide information to bandits. The security apparatus is not immune to this crime* (Interview at Sanja, March 10, 2021).

According to the above informant expression, local bandits, unemployed youth, security agents, and agents of local bandits from community were the main actors of kidnapping in the study area. Therefore, the actors of kidnapping are not only local banditry but also other actors are also kidnap people in the woreda. In related to this, criminals were kidnapping people to satisfy their economic needs. Here, offenders are not kidnap people for political purpose. To support the above qualitative data, the result presented in quantitative data shows that only 116 (29.5%) respondents said that kidnapping

Table 1: Sample size determination

S. No.	Kebele Name	Total household of the Kebele	Proportionate sample size from each Kebele
1.	Yayira	618	10
2.	Kisha	893	15
3.	Bebew	614	10
4.	Dogaw	1,012	17
5.	Tara	1,215	20
6.	Jingir	1,331	22
7.	Kenbaw	636	11
8.	Kurebi	781	13
9.	Werk Midir	895	15
10.	Merena	1,093	18
11.	Kerewa	521	9
12.	Kechkem Fenta	689	12
13.	Mahin	1,083	18
14.	Daziwen	839	14
15.	Genbera Angereb	1,578	27
16.	Ledaho	792	13
17.	Waliya	812	14
18.	Berberseg	675	11
19.	Debere Sina	657	11
20.	Chilkuana	730	12
21.	Sanja	2,679	45
22.	Hdase	916	15
23.	Musebamb	1,413	24
24.	Ashere	901	15
	Total	23,373	393

Source: Own computation, (March, 2021)

Table 2: Demographic characteristics of the respondents

Variables	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Sex	Male	254	64.6
	Female	139	35.4
	Total	393	100
Age	Below 35	144	36.6
	35–50	170	43.3
	51–65	71	18.1
	Above 65	8	2.0
	Total	393	100
Level of education	Read and write	35	8.9
	Primary (1–8)	37	9.4
	Secondary (9–12)	64	16.3
	Diploma	119	30.3
	Degree	111	28.2
	Above degree	27	6.9
	Total	393	100

Source: Obtained from survey data 2021

is politically motivated. The remaining respondent, which constitutes that the majority 277 (70.5%) respondents answered kidnapping is not politically motivated. This data indicated that the kidnapping crimes are not motivated by political reasons. To sum, both the qualitative and qualitative data show that kidnapping of people in the Woreda is not by political reasons.

Kidnapping as the major security problem
As stated in the literature part, kidnapping is a worldwide problem; it happens in different parts of the global world that affects human security (Ezemenaka, 2018). Here, kidnapping remains a recent emerging crime in the study area. This violent crime is the major security challenge for the local communities of Tach Armachiho woreda. One key informant from government civil servant stated as follows:-

Kidnapping is presently a major problem for the community. The district administration is not paying attention. We live in fear. The government civil servants workers are having difficulty moving to rural kebeles for fieldwork. We are terrified to send our children to school. If this violent crime is not remedied quickly, society will face severe problems.

According to the above informant expression, the crime of kidnapping is so severe that society cannot move freely. The administrative wing of the woreda did not solve the problem. However, district administrations are not committed to solving the problem. To support the above qualitative data, the result shows that 305 respondents 305 (77.6%) agreed that the crime of kidnapping is a major security challenge in Tach Armachiho Woreda, while the remaining 88 (22.4%) respondents tended to see the crime not being a major security challenge in the woreda. Thus, it is clear that majority of people in the Woreda see kidnapping as a major security challenge in Tach Armachiho, Central Gondar Zone, and Amhara regional state.

The impacts of kidnapping on human security
In this section, the impacts of kidnapping on human security in the study area are going to be discussed. The main impacts kidnapping on human security are psychological, social, political, and economic (Tables 4-7).

Psychological impacts of kidnapping
According to (Uzorma & Nwanegbo-Ben, 2014), kidnapping has great psychological effects on hostages. Hence, as stated in the literature part, kidnapping traumatizes both the victim and their relatives or family. From the findings shown in Table 4 below, 175 (44.5%), 98 (28.9%), 61 (15.5%), 38 (9.7%), and 21 (5.3%) respondents answered high, very

Table 3: Respondents reply to the question: Do you think kidnapping is a major security challenge in Tach Armachiho Woreda?

List of question	Options	Number of respondents	Percentage
1. Do you think kidnapping is a major security challenge in Tach Armachiho Woreda?	Yes	305	77.6
	No	88	22.4
	Total	393	100

Table 4: Sample household's response about the psychological impacts of kidnapping in Tach Armachiho Woreda communities

Psychological impacts of kidnapping	Likert scale items	Frequency	Percentage
1. Creates tension, and fear in the lives of the victim, and family.	Very low	21	5.3
	Low	38	9.7
	Medium	61	15.5
	High	175	44.5
	Very high	98	24.9

Table 5: Sample household's response about the social impacts of kidnapping in Tach Armachiho Woreda communities

Social impacts of kidnapping	Likert scale items	Frequency	Percentage
1. Kidnapping affects the social life and social relations of many people	Very low	21	5.3
	Low	27	6.9
	Medium	48	12.2
	High	189	48.1
	Very high	108	27.5
2. Create high level of mistrust among people	Very low	25	6.4
	Low	43	10.9
	Medium	51	13.0
	High	182	46.3
	Very high	92	23.4
3. Severe injuries, numerous deaths, and loss of properties	Very low	20	5.1
	Low	33	8.4
	Medium	71	18.1
	High	170	43.3
	Very high	99	25.2
4. People are displaced	Very low	18	4.6
	Low	39	9.9
	Medium	51	13
	High	165	42
	Very high	120	30.5

Source: Obtained from survey data 2021

Table 6: Sample household's response about the political impacts of kidnapping in Tach Armachiho Woreda Communities

Political impacts of kidnapping	Likert scale items	Frequency	Percentage
1. Weakens citizens' confidence in the government	Very low	25	6.4
	Low	37	9.4
	Medium	53	13.5
	High	187	47.6
	Very high	91	23.2

Table 7: Sample household's response about the economic impacts of kidnapping in Tach Armachiho Woreda communities

Economic impacts of kidnapping	Likert scale items	Frequency	Percentage
1. Government spend a lot of time and money	Very low	28	7.1
	Low	41	10.4
	Medium	67	17
	High	153	38.9
	Very high	104	26.5
2. Kidnaping also scares investors	Very low	21	5.3
	Low	45	11.5
	Medium	45	11.5
	High	172	43.8
	Very high	110	28

high, medium, low, and very low, respectively. This data indicated that 175 (44.5%) respondents replied high and 98 (28.9%) respondents replied very high. This implies that psychological impacts of kidnapping creates tension fear in the lives of the victim and family in the Woreda.

Social impacts of kidnapping

Kidnapping affects the social life and social relations of many people (Roberts, 2017). However, kidnapping could affect people's social relations and movement negatively. Here, kidnapping is putting pressure on the community. As shown in Table 5, item's 1, 189 (48.1%) and 108 (27.5%) respondents replied high and very high, respectively. However, 27 (6.4%) and 21 (5.3%) respondents replied low and very low, respectively. The rest of 48 (12.2%) respondents answered medium. This that shows that kidnapping affects social life and social relations

of people in the study area. Both the qualitative and quantitative data indicated that, kidnapping is hurting the community's social relations. In related to question item number 2 in the below table, the majority residents 182 (46.3%) and 92 (23.4%) replied high and very high, while 43 (10.9%) and 25 (6.4%) of residents answered low and very low, respectively. The rest of respondents replied medium. This data indicated that kidnapping creates high level of mistrust among people. Most informants of this study stated that "Kidnappings are creating mistrust and suspicion among people."

According to Uzorma & Nwanegbo-Ben (2014), kidnapping often leads to severe injuries, numerous deaths, and loss of properties. As it was confirmed by most informants, "the victims are beaten after being held hostage and the hostages was killed during the kidnapping." Here, the impacts kidnapping leads to loss of life and a threat to public safety in the woreda. From the findings shown in Table 5 question item number 3, 170 (43.3%), 99 (25.2%),71 (18.1%), and 33 (8.4%) of residents responded as high, very high, medium, low, and very low, respectively. Here, the majority of respondents 170 (43.3%) and 99 (25.2%) replied low and very low, respectively. Therefore, people are injured and killed by kidnappers.

Similarly, in related to question item number 4 in the below table, the majority of the residents 165 (42%) and 120 (30.5%) replied high and very high, respectively. However, 39 (9.9%), and 18 (4.6%) residents replied low and very low, respectively. The rest of 51 (13%) answered medium. This data shows that people are displaced due to kidnapping. According to my key informants, peace and security expert supported that the quantitative data:

> The community is moving from the countryside to the city center for fear of kidnapping. In the Woreda, Chilkuana, Debre Sina, Mahin, Daziwen,and Waliya kebeles were displaced due to kidnapping. As a result, the farmer is suffering. Kidnappings are common in the district. (Interview at Sanja, March 2, 2021)

According to the above informant expression, most of the victims are farmers. Farmers, in particular, have left their lands and homes and moved to the city center. However, the rural community is displaced due to kidnappings. Hence, the rural community is more vulnerable to kidnapping.

Political impacts of kidnapping

Kidnapping also has political impacts within the society. It makes the government spend a lot of time and money for guaranteeing its citizens of the security of their lives and properties (Uzorma & Nwanegbo-Ben, 2014). However, kidnapping weakens citizens' confidence in the government and the political leadership of the state. To support the qualitative data, the majority of respondents 187 (47.6%) and 91 (23.2%) replied high and very high, respectively. However, 37(9.4%) and 25(6.4%) residents responded as low and very low, respectively. This data indicated that due to the impacts of kidnapping, community has lost faith in the government administration. Here, the structure of government is weak in terms of preventing kidnapping in the study area. To conclude that, kidnapping is weakening citizen's confidence in the government.

Economic impacts of kidnapping

The economic implications of kidnapping incorporate direct as well as indirect expenses (Soyombo, 2009). Here, from the individual perspective, the victim's family pays a ransom to kidnappers. In this case, it hurts the hostage's family financially. On the other hand, the government spends money to prevent kidnapping crime. In the study area, the crime of kidnapping was highly impact on the local community. From the findings shown in Table 7 question item number 1 below, the majority of the respondents 153 (38.9%) and 104 (26.5%) answered high and very high, respectively, while 41 (10.4%) and 28 (7.1%) respondents answered low and very low, respectively. The

rest of residents 67 (17%) answered medium. This data shows that, in order prevent kidnapping crime in the Woreda, government spend a lot of time and money. Most of informants stated that, "government spend a lot time and money for reducing the rate of kidnapping, but the crime of kidnapping in the study area increasingly time to time." Similarly, question item number 2 below, the majority of respondents 172 (43.8%) and 110 (28%) replied high and very high, respectively. However, 45 (10.4%) and 28 (7.1%) respondents replied low and very low. This data indicated that, the impact of kidnapping in the study area is true. However, the crime of kidnapping is scares local investors in the woreda, which has effects on the socio-economic growth of the society.

CONCLUSION

Kidnapping of people is a common problem in the study area. Not only a single actor involves in kidnapping crime but also the actors of kidnapping are many in the study area. As the researcher got from in semi-structured interview, the main actors of kidnapping are local bandits, unemployed youth, security agents, and agents of local bandits from community. Both the qualitative and quantitative data show that the existence of kidnapping in the study area is highly eroded the security of the people living there in many ways. Human security implies freedom from fear and freedom from want; however, it is highly affected in the study area because of kidnapping. About 77.6% of respondents and key informants confirmed that kidnapping is the major security challenge in Tach Armachiho Woreda.

As it was confirmed by respondents, lack of available employment opportunity, proliferation of illegal small arms, monetary gain from kidnapping, revenge, and poor security system are the main contributing factors of kidnapping in the study area. As the researcher got from semi-structured interview and questionnaires, the impacts of kidnapping ranged from psychological, social, and political to that of economical. Psychologically, the impacts of kidnapping creates tension, fear in the lives of the victim, and family in the study area. Socially, kidnapping is affected people social relations and movement negatively. Besides, it creates mistrust among people and a threat to public safety. Economically, it hurts the hostages' family financially. On the other hand, the government spends time and money to prevent kidnapping crime. Finally, a political impact of kidnapping is weakening citizen's confidence in the government in the study area.

In relation of the concerned stakeholders, non-governmental institutions are effecting in minimizing kidnapping cases than that of governmental institutions (security agents, courts, Kebele administration, and mass media) in the study area. Here, the existence of high kidnapping rate in the study area indicated that, strong measures should be taken by stakeholders. Finally, in concluded, governmental institutions are not effective in addressing kidnapping.

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