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Addis Ababa University
College of Social Science
School of Social Work
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Master's Thesis

A preliminary qualitative assessment of the mass deportation and reintegration process of female Ethiopian migrant workers from Saudi Arabia: Implication for intervention and Social policy response

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**Addis Ababa University** 

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A preliminary qualitative assessment of the mass deportation and reintegration process of female Ethiopian migrant workers from Saudi Arabia: Implication for intervention and Social policy response

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A thesis Submitted to Addis Ababa University College of Social Science School of Graduate Studies in Partial fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Masters of Arts in Social Work

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

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## ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

# SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

This is to certify that the thesis is prepared by Hanna Gebrekristos, entitled: A preliminary qualitative assessment of the mass deportation and reintegration process of female Ethiopian migrant workers from Saudi Arabia: Implication for intervention and Social policy responseand submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Masters of Arts in Social Work studies complies with the regulations of the University and meets the accepted standards with respect to originality and quality.

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# **Acronyms**

CSOs – Civil Society Organizations

EntotoTVET College – Entoto Technical and Vocational Education and Training College

EWLA - Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association

GSA -Good Samaritan Association

HRW- Human Rights Watch

IEYA – Inspired Ethiopia Youth Association

ILO -International Labour Organization

IOM- International Organization for Migration

IRC - International Rescue Committee

IRIN - Integrated Regional Information Networks

MoFA-Ministry of Foreign Affair

MoLSA-Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

NGOs- Non governmental Organizations

UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

WMR- World Migration Report

### **Abstract**

The study dealt with the investigation of the November 2013 deported 'female' domestic workers from Saudi Arabia in order to explain their experiences during reception, post reception, rehabilitation and reintegration process. Despite the wealth of investigative reports, newspapers and articles, there has not been a concise academic research that addresses this extraordinary event. Yet, this preliminary study has attempted to address this issue by focusing on how the pre and post reception, rehabilitation and reintegration of this mass deportation was processed and conducted by government and non-governmental organizations, community, private stakeholders, social workers and concerned individuals. In order to grasp the stated social crisis, the researcher has employed relevant data throughparticipant interviews, participant observation and interviews with government and Non-government officials. The findings of the study supported the claim that the forced repatriation from Saudi Arabia and repatriates current status has a great deal on the establishment of institutions and of the countries policy on migration, repatriation and deportation. These finding were examined with relevant theories and literatures for a detailed discussion, with their implications for social practice, intervention, future research and practice.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

### 1. Introduction

# 1.1. Background of the study



Picture 1. Deportation Campaign picture posted in social media

The picture above and similar ones with the same message and contents were displayed in numerous Ethiopian medias following Ethiopians' repatriation from Saudi Arabia and the brutality and human rights violation they were victims of. Saudi Arabia gave an amnesty of seven months for illegal migrates to renew their resident permits or else to leave the country. Despite this notification, some illegal migrants have been negligent to renew and to leave the country while others were not aware of the case and/or cannot get the access to be legitimate since they were under the austere control by their employers. In addition to the legal documentation issues of the migrants, participation in some criminal acts like selling of drugs, robbery,sex work and the like were some of the reasons for the deportations as suggested by different media. Nevertheless, the government of Saudi Arabia is also criticized for not

performing appropriate identification of individuals with such records since all need not be affected by the act of few.

November 2013, the Government of Saudi decided to deport illegal Ethiopian migrants. With this decision 7000 deportees were expected to land in Addis Ababa per day. The Bole International airport was suddenly overwhelmed with this phenomenon. Children and women were crying, some were kissing the ground and praising God for their 'safe' return to their home land, while others were shouting, confused and desperate. Vehicles from organizations like International organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Red Cross and others were inside and outside the airport compound. These and other organizations were occupied with assisting the government on location with tasks like; facilitating registration of returnees, providing drinks and foods, vaccinations for new born babies, psychosocial support, facilitating transportation and other supportive services. Such was the scenario on the receiving end of the deportation process as abrupt as it was. This paper tries to assess the conditions starting from the reception of deportees as described above till the time of research performance while the reintegration process is ongoing.

For years, Human beings have been migrating from place to place in search of better opportunities. In recent years, intercontinental labor migration has developed progressively as a global phenomenon "between 1970 and 2010, the number of international migrants worldwide is more than double, from 84 million to 214 million" (World Migration Report WMR, 2010, p.116). Mostly, this is driven by immigration from least developed to developed countries: and it is noted by Terrazas (2011, p.54) that the "number of immigrants in more-developed countries grew more than twice as fast as the number of immigrants in less-developed countries".

World Migration Report (WMR) (2010) suggested that, transnational migration is to be expected to transform in scale, and reach higher complexity, due to growing demographic differences, the effects of environmental change, new global political and economic dynamics, technological revolutions and social networks over the next few decades. These transformations will be associated with increasing opportunities from economic growth and poverty reduction, to social and cultural innovation. However, they will also exacerbate existing problems and generate new challenges from irregular migration, to protecting the human rights of migrants (World Migration Report, 2010).

Migration recently has been increasing to the Middle East (Thiollet, 2011). "The Middle East is a place whereby the world's highest ratio of migrants to national population is to be found and it is the most fascinating arena in which to observe international labor flows" (Thiollet, 2011, p. 103). Recently, concern about the eventual return of Ethiopian migrant workers from Saudi Arabia has been raised due to the evident deportation of illegal workers.

Most returnee migrants originally emigrated from Addis Ababa, the rural areas and small towns in Oromia, Amhara, Tigrai, and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples regions. Their decision to leave was voluntary, driven by both push and pull factors of work migration. Among social, economic, political, cultural and religious push factors, poverty and high unemployment, decline in the amount of available agricultural land, and the fragmentation of family holdings are the prominent pushing factors that force Ethiopian women to migrate to the Middle East in search of employment and better living standards. Besides, in order to be economically self-reliant and to sustain their families, quite a number of Ethiopian women migrate to the Middle East and Gulf States. This option is the coping strategies that many of Ethiopian women currently adopt to earn their own income and lead their life.

High poverty, lack of formal education and training, effects of harmful traditional practices such as early marriage, societal discrimination against women, widowhood, divorce, separation or abandonment and unemployment are factors, among others, which leave women economically weak. For this reason, women could be exposed for further complications that force them to "migrate legally or illegally in search of wage labor where they must accept any substandard employment in order to survive" (MekseremMulatu, 2011).

As there appears a pushing factor, there are also pulling factors, such as better wage, improvement in the lives of friends or relatives who migrated earlier to the Middle East as a domestic worker, technological advancement and modern way of life in the country of destination, as well as the trends of globalization, attracts Ethiopian women migrants (MekeremMulatu, 2011).

From 2010/11 to 2011/12 the number of legal labor migrants to Saudi Arabia showed a near 11 fold increase, while the total size of Ethiopian migrants to the Middle East increased by five folds (MOLSA, 2010). More women than men left as the demand for domestic worker is high and most are teens or early twenties and mostly single. Most went to major cities of Middle East countries where they acquired unskilled jobs which nevertheless paid far more than they could have earned at home. According to Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA, 2010), from 2008 to mid-2013, 299,760 people migrate legally to Saudi Arabia of which 80% are female. Susan (2007) and ILO (2005) argue that women's are migrating independently in numbers in search of employment.

Migrants may return to their home country for numerous reasons. Return migration is not always a process of simply going to motherland. Particularly when return is not fully voluntary, returnees face severe obstacles. This study discusses that; such return can only become

sustainable when returnees are provided with possibilities to become reintegrated into society through appropriate institutions and rehabilitation center that can assist the repatriates through holistic approach. The possibilities for successful return are highly dependent on the supports provided in the homeland. Returnees who were enabled to engage in entrepreneurship, employment, education, training, and freedom to develop social contacts proved to be better to rehabilitate. Post-return assistance by social workers will be particularly helpful in providing guidance and practical information to enhance a more sustainable return and reintegration process.

Therefore, it is useful to examine the pre reception and post reception processes and the needs, problems and life experience of the of women returnee migrant workers from Saudi Arabia, given the problems facing the returnees, particularly in Addis Ababa. A concrete explanation of the reception and integration process of women returnee migrant workers from Saudi Arabia would enrich the lack of experiential studies.

International actors and local government authorities are forced by laws, including human rights and humanitarian laws, to be responsible in all circumstances so as to prevent and avoid any situation that can possibly initiate displacement of persons. (Zapater, 2010, p. 8)

Protection of all human beings against any brutal displacement practice from their home or habitual place of residence is asserted by these international laws and rights (Zapater, 2010, p.8). Nevertheless, denial of salary, physical, sexual and emotional abuse, overwork, starvation, confinement, false accusation, and trauma which lead to insanity and suicide before and during the deportation are usually reported about Ethiopian deportees as having been suffered as part of various human rights violations.

While this brief background study aims to examine the various process involved in the reception, rehabilitation and reintegration of deported Ethiopians from Saudi Arabia and draws insight for policy and practice in any future eventualities.

### 1.2. Statement of the Problem

There are different social issues that are very complex and grab the attention of many scholars in the social science fields. One of these issues is the study of migration both internal and international. The complexity of the issue of migration originates from the fact that migration directions, its causes and impact are not similar across time and regions or nations. The direction of migrants varies across time and countries. In addition, the scale and forms of migration vary from one community, region and state to another. Some of the migrants have stayed in their destinations for only a short period, and go back home or move on to a new destination. Others start living permanently in their destinations. But the process of migration and deportation is not accomplished without hardship. There have often been difficult journeys to get to the destinations, leaving family and friends behind. Some of those who have settled became refugees and internally displaced persons, driven from their place of origin by natural disasters, persecution, war or other reasons (Feleke, 2006).

Forced repatriation of large number of Ethiopians from Middle East countries is a new incident which has shown the inability of unpreparedness of the Ethiopian state for such eventualities. Moreover, the research focuses on indicating measures that should be taken by the government and non-government organs indicating the gap in policy and practice.

As far as Ethiopian migrants in Gulf and Middle East countries and the state of migrants concerned, number of studies have been conducted by individual researchers and organizations (See: Emebet Kebede (2002), Firehiwot Wajira (2011) and Gebeyehu Beyene (2007) MOLSA

(2010), Mekserem Mulatu (2011), Selamawit Bekele (2013) and Mesfin Dessie (2011). Most of these studies and reports have attempted to emphasize the trends, reasons and effects of migration, illegal human trafficking and the consequences and possible measures to be considered as solutions. However, no research has been conducted on the general description concerning the practical response to the forced mass repatriation of Ethiopian immigrants as that took place in November 2013. Specifically, despite the growing interest among governmental and non-governmental organizations on the recent phenomenon of deportation from Saudi Arabia, research on the assessment of the process of deportation and reintegration dimension of forced mass repatriation has not been covered by academic and non-academic researches. This gap calls for a focused study so as to learn lesson and improve speedy response to such eventual social problems. Hence forth, there need a descriptive research that reveals the process of deportation and the integration process in order to re-socialized them with the society and to resettle in the motherland. Moreover, there is no scheme developed at a national level to respond for such kind of emergency crisis. Out migration can be considered as a global issue, while return migration primarily hold responsibility by individual countries or the state where the returnee calls home. It is very important to understand the ways in which how deportees, readapt, and resettle in their old social environment. The government of Ethiopia was looking for aid to receive the deportees. Moreover, the country doesn't have a policy on migration and deportation which is also another challenge for the integration of the repatriates and also for the government. Though, such kind of incident is new to the country, this study suggest ideas for such policy and practice intervention for any future eventualities of the same event. This research, therefore, aims to assess and bridge the gap by examining the experience of deportees and the problems they encounter during the deportation and post reception process of female

returnee migrant workers from Saudi Arabia based on interview of seven (7) females residing in Addis Ababa, in an attempt to recommend on the need of national policy.

# 1.3 Research Questions

### General Research Question

- What is the current state of forced returnee women from Saudi Arabia?
- What sort of reception and rehabilitation measures were provided to these returnee women's in Addis Ababa?

### Specific Research Question

The study is designed to answer the following specific research questions:

- What were the responses of Ethiopian state to the forced returnee women on their arrival and post arrival times?
- What were the impacts of mass deportation on female deportees?
- What was provided and not provided to these deportee women during and after arrival in Addis Ababa?
- What were and are the experiences of deportees after their repatriation from Saudi Arabia and their future aspiration?
- What strategies have these returnee women to cope and adjust their life after their deportation and the rehabilitation process?
- How do these returnee women evaluate the support they are provided so far from state and non-state actors (Local and foreign Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), individual stake holders, families, etc.) during and after the deportation?

# 1.4 Significance of the Study

A concrete descriptive account and explanation of the reception, rehabilitation and integration process of women forced returnee migrant workers from Saudi Arabia is hoped to fill existing knowledge gaps and provide insights for policy makers to design appropriate policy to respond to such eventualities. Post-return assistance by professionals will be particularly helpful in providing guidance and practical information to enhance a more sustainable rehabilitation and integration of women returnees.

Being a sensitive hot recent phenomenon that is not covered through academic research and the fact that the researcher was participating in voluntary service at the Ethiopian Airlines and different centers when the repatriates arrive to their home land motivated the researcher to work on this particular study.

With the stated assumptions, this study has presented the different arguments undertaken and focused on the needs, problems and life experience of the women returnee migrant workers from Saudi Arabia, given the problems facing the deportees, particularly in Addis Ababa.

The deportation of Ethiopians from Saudi Arabia can be a social problem or an opportunity to the free land for the deportees. According to Rose (1964, 662) a situation affecting a significant number of people that is believed by them and or by a significant number of others in the society to be a source of difficulty or unhappiness and one that is capable of amelioration.

Based on own observation and informant interview, this study gives insight into the impression of the problems to the local community, government and NGO's as well and a professional workers to understand the multidimensional needs of deportees. The arrival of a large influx of

deportees was a very important reminder on the need for policy with regards to migration and deportation.

Without necessary integration packages and proper preparations the movement of returned population, the process will be unsuccessful. The study would help pertinent stakeholders in appropriating their interventions in alleviating the various needs and problems of returnees.

Since previous times, it is common to hear the injuries faced by the migrants. However, it is familiar and surprising to hear re-migration of deportees to other part of Middle East despite all the problems. This entails that the reintegration process is not adequate and satisfactory. Besides, as per my discussion with the directors of Good Samaritans on 21/12/2013, they addressed to me about the need to monitor and follow up the returnee migrant after their repatriation. Hence, the paper is of the opinion that there needs a legal document on migration, deportation in order to realize efficient effective reintegration.

The finding of the research may also instigate other researchers to continue studying the different aspects of Saudi repatriates, for example the psychosocial and economic impacts of the deportation.

# 1.5. Objectives of the Study

The objective of this study is to assess the deportation and reintegration process of female domestic workers from Saudi Arabia. In line with this, the general objectives are:

❖ To assess the process of return, rehabilitation and reintegration female deported domestic workers after their deportation.

### **Specific Objective**

- To assess the response of Ethiopian state to the forced returnee women on their arrival and post arrival times.
- To describe the impacts of mass deportation on female deportees.

### 1.6. Scope and Limitation of the Study

Due to time and financial constraints, this study is limited in its scope of coverage of other forced returnee women found outside Addis Ababa who have sad experience on and after return to their homeland. Hence, this study has limited its scope to the study of sevendeporteesthat are residing in Addis Ababa and taking training in Entoto TVET College. The researcher has managed in coming with the required data from the small number of participant returnee women.

Being a sensitive issue, problems arise on the course of data collection as research subject may not feel relaxed to share their stories.

# 1.7 Overview of Chapters

The research contains five chapters. The introductory part contains a general topical overview of the study and the problem needed to be addressed is discussed to clarify what purpose initiated the research. Chapter two of the paper deals with review of multiple literatures with the aim of identifying research gaps. The concept of migration, return and deportation is briefly analyzed based on national and international instruments. Chapter three of the paper deals with the methodological approach of the research study. Ethical and objectivity issues of the research are also covered in this particular chapter. Chapter four of the paper analyzes information obtained through interview and observation. The last and the fifth chapter present the discussion of the research based on the theoretical framework and research questions. Concluding remarks and recommendation are also the focus of this chapter.

# **CHAPTER TWO**

#### 2. Literature Review

This section focuses on reviews literatures that are related to the research topic. All available literature be they published or unpublished that has relevance in defining migration, deportation and processes are reviewed. Also research works; reports, books, articles, newspapers, internet sources, e-libraries, as well as other publications will be used as a secondary source.

### 2.1. Working definition

*Migrant worker*: A person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national (IOM, 2004).

**Migration:** is the crossing of the boundary of a political or administrative unit for a certain minimum period of time (IOM, 2004). It is a population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes; it includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, economic migrants, and persons moving for other purposes, including family reunification (IOM,2004).

**Migrant:** At the international level, no universally accepted definition for migrant exists. The term migrant was usually understood to cover all cases where the decision to migrate was taken freely by the individual concerned for reasons of personal convenience and without intervention of an external compelling factor; it therefore applied to persons, and family members, moving to another country or region to better their material or social conditions and improve the prospect for themselves or their family (Luts, 2008).

**Legal Migrant:** migrant that legally enters into the country, have a valid immigrant visa and proper documentation.

**Illegal Migrant:** a person who, owing to illegal entry or the expiry of his or her visa, lacks legal status in a transit or host country (Regt, 2007). The term applies to migrants who infringe a country's admission rules and any other person not authorized to remain in the host country.

**Deportation:** Deportation is a government (of the place of destination) initiated repatriation or return of migrants from a place of migration to a place of origin or homeland of migrants. Such initiations by deporting governments may rise from the need of dealing with challenges of maintaining and policing the integrity of national borders and interests. Countries whose citizens are passing through the process of deportation from other states may raise questions of welfare and protection both within the duration of migration and deportation (See Kibria, 2004).

**Deportees:** A deportee can be understood as a person who is deported or sent away by a country to his/her place of origin for reasons of illegal entry, undocumented existence, being inconsistent with the host society, and/or having displayed dangerous conducts towards public welfare.

Ethiopians who entered to Saudi Arabia with illegal means and those who have been performing tasks like dealing alcoholic beverages, which are considered illegal in Saudi Arabia and those who have been related with crimes by the rule of the state of Saudi Arabia have been deported to Ethiopia. A campaign like mass deportation scheme of such type may show errors in precise identification of deportees but yet such broad definition may still suffice.

A more timid and compatriot labeling to such deportees may be: 'repatriate/returnees/returnee migrants'.

### 2.2. Theory of Push and Pull factor

Even though there appears numerous migration theory, push and pull theory is relevant for this study in order to answer the research question.

#### **Push Factors:**

The vulnerability of poor people living in poor countries leads most to the decision of migrating to other places where there are better opportunities to turn their fates around. As such poorer countries become providers of cheap labor to richer ones. (SelamawitBekele, 2013)

Lack of education that results in incompetence of an individual to get a decent job within the context of his/her own is another economic push for migration. The opportunity to travel abroad presents itself as a shortcut to earn a comparably amount to a decent job in a poorer context.

Migration is as well driven by the need for the sending country to earn remittance money through the migrants who would in time send a considerable amount that can strongly influence the economy at home. (SelamawitBekele, 2013)

Harmful social practices, coercive exploitation of labor, gender inequality, deprivation of ones will and rights and the like are social factors that force women decide to migrate. (SelamawitBekele, 2013)

War conditions or situations of civil unrest and absence of respect for human rights can be considered as political factors pushing migrants out of their original places of residence.

#### Pull Factors

Richer countries need cheap labor to perform tasks in their work market that are side lined by the average community of the receiving country. Women of poor countries get attracted by the job opportunities and the promises of a better life and this presents itself as a pull factor for the migration of people from poorer countries to richer ones.

### 2.3. The concept of Migration and Return Processes

Even though, different peoples have defined migration in different ways, Nivalainen (2004) suggested that migration is the movement of people from one geographical location to the other. Yet, this is criticized by Darity (2008, p.156) that all movers are not migrants but all migrants are movers. Migration is a contemporary global agenda because of its prevalence and existence in different geographical location. Migration takes place either at individual or family level. The forced migration of Ethiopians from Saudi Arabia includes both individual and family migration. Migration occurs at a variety of scales: intercontinental (between continents), intra-continental (between countries on a given continent), and interregional (within countries). One of the most significant migrations which are intercontinental will be discussed in the following part of the report (i.e. Ethiopians migration to Saudi Arabia).

Migration is permanent or semi-permanent change of residence. Human migration is also defined as "the changing of the place or abode permanently or, when temporarily, for an appreciable duration" (IOM 2014). It is used symbolically in the transactions from one surrounding to another in the course of human life". IOM (2004) defines migration as a process of moving, either across an international border, or within a State. It is a population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes; it includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, uprooted people, and economic migrants.

The labor migration of women and men from Ethiopian to the outside world may have positive and negative effects on the national economy and social development on the country. There are a number of issues that are being raised in relation to this kind of labor migration. The working

condition of workers in the hosting countries, like Middle East countries, the way the workers moves to these countries, occupational safety and health can be mentioned in this regard.

As Petersen (1958) suggestion, re-assimilation involves the processes of re-acculturation and becoming re-accustomed to customs, attitudes, and beliefs of the culture of origin, the interaction of these two variables makes up the basic framework of the model for repatriation. Hence, the process of movement is complex and lead to stress since the returnees have to start living from scratch.

From the economic aspect of migrationWickramasekara (2008, p.27)noted that migration could provide job opportunity, increase of inflow or remittance, transfer of technology and increase of investment. As the same time, it also have a challenge and risk of which needs to be duly considered in order to realize the benefit of migration for individual migrants, societies and nations that are highly associated with migration.

# 2.4. The concept of Return Migration

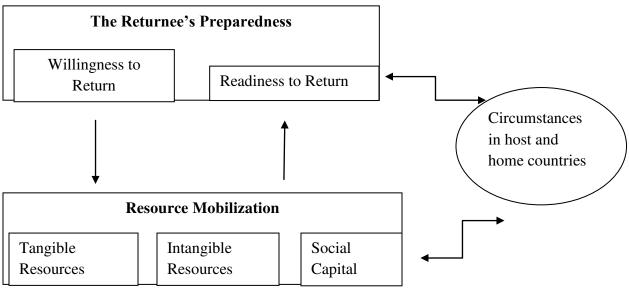
According to Gmelch (1980), returnee migration is "movement of emigrants back to their homeland to resettle" and it must be distinguished from circular migration and re-emigration. Gmelch (1980) distinguished three main types of return migrants, these are:

- i. "Temporary migrants": returnees who intended temporary migration;
- ii. "Forced returnees": returnees who intended permanent migration but were forced to return; and
- iii. "Voluntary returnees": returnees who intended permanent migration but chose to return.

In temporary migration, migrants' time of return is determined by the objectives they have set as part of their migration project. This categorization is not exhaustive but remains broad enough to place different and new typologies which might emerge as a consequence of new migration patterns and trends. Sometimes, the unexpected happens and migrants face returnbeforetheir planned time, or in the case of those who intended to stay abroad permanently, they are simply forced to return. The current Ethiopian women returnees from Saudi Arabia are example of forced returnee migration. Three key factors determine sustainable return: economic, social and psychosocial reintegration into the society of origin. If the social, economic and political environment at home is unfavorable, re-emigration is also likely. In this context return is not sustainable, since the cause of re-emigration is due to the failure of reintegration.

Furthermore, there are different types of return preparation ranging from resource mobilization to preparedness. Resource mobilization refers to tangible (primarily economic) as well as intangible resources (social networks, knowledge and ideas) which can be used during the migration experience, and also includes resources migrants drew upon, such as their social capital, prior to the migration project. Preparedness refers to both migrants' willingness to return as well as the degree to which they are actually economically and psychologically ready to do so. Clearly, preparedness is intrinsically linked to migrants' desires and choice to return, and in the case of migrants who were forced to return, their degree of preparedness tends to be very low. Figure 1 below provides a visual explanation of the process of return preparation. It shows how returnees' preparedness as well as their resources mobilization is interdependent on the circumstances present in both the receiving and origin countries.

Figure 1: Return Preparation



Source: J.P. Cassarino, 2004.

Upon return, the readjustment and reintegration of migrants can be problematic, particularly if their return is in response to unforeseen, unplanned,unexpected and challenging circumstances, such as the case of the Ethiopian returnee from Saudi Arabia. The specific institutional, political and economic conditions returnees face at home have an important and in many cases determining effect on the role migrants can play at home as agents of change. Whether or not migrants become agents of change is positively related to how well they are prepared to return. In order for return to be successful this preparation requires prior planning, resources and willingness.

Return is most successful for migrants found in temporary return, since they have clear-set goals regarding from the moment of their departure. Particularly in the case of labour migrants their return is coupled commonly with productive economic projects in order to ensure their future livelihoods.

Furthermore, there are different types of return preparation ranging from resource mobilization to preparedness. Resource mobilization refers to tangible (primarily economic) as well as intangible resources (social networks, knowledge and ideas) which can be used during the migration experience, and also includes resources migrants drew upon, such as their social capital, prior to the migration project. Preparedness refers to both migrants' willingness to return as well as the degree to which they are actually economically and psychologically ready to do so. Clearly, preparedness is intrinsically linked to migrants' desires and choice to return, and in the case of migrants who were forced to return, their degree of preparedness tends to be very low. Returnees' preparedness as well as their resources mobilization is interdependent on the circumstances present in both the receiving and origin countries.

## 2.5. Return Preparation and Reintegration Assistance

Putting a successful and sustainable repatriation of immigrants to their country in any form of return or deportation demands a certain level of preparation by all parties of the process of repatriation. Such return preparation can facilitate an orderly and safe mobility of people from the place of deportation to the place of origin.

The return of immigrant citizens can be successful when it is followed by organized reintegration assistance to the repatriates.

"The provision of reintegration assistance to migrants in their countries of origin is an essential element to ensure sustainability of returns. IOM and partners in countries of origin provide migrants with socio-economic support to promote their self-sufficiency and contributions to their local communities. The sustainability of returns may, however, ultimately only be ensured in tandem with socio-economic development. The successful implementation of returnprogrammes requires the cooperation and

participation of a broad range of actors, including the migrants, civil society and the governments in both host countries and countries of origin." (IOM, 2014).

International Organization for Migration has set a list of activities and conditions as necessary preparations for the proper return and reintegration of Assisted Voluntary Returnees. However the very basic and humanly nature of the preparations makes the list equally relevant to be used to maneuver deportees as well. Thus, the following table is the adaptation of this list to the context of deportees.

Table 1: Necessary preparations of deportation, reception and reintegration

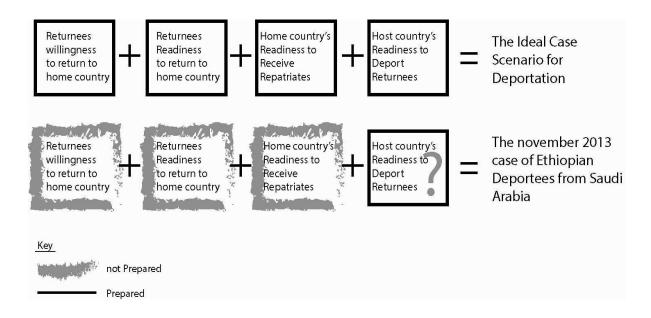
In Host Countries	In Transit	In Countries of Origin
Awareness-raising for deportation	Assistance with	Assistance through immigration
Gathering of country-of-origin	travel in transit	and customs on arrival at the
information	Assistance with	airport
Profiling of deportees	escort in transit, if	Post-arrival reception
Outreach and information	required.	arrangements, including
dissemination to migrant		information and referral to local
communities, including referral		partners if necessary
systems to public services		Onward travel to the final
Individualized counseling on return		destination
and reintegration assistance, including		Short- and/or medium-term
country-of-origin information		reintegration assistance
Specialized assistance and referral		including business set-ups,
services to vulnerable individuals		vocational training, formal
Temporary accommodation		education, medical assistance
		and other tailor-made assistance

Facilitating travel documentation	according to the returnees'
Travel arrangements	special needs; and
Arrangement of escorts, if required	Capacity-building activities with
	emphasis on:
	a. linking return to local development
	b. access to services
	c. Strengthening of local networks
	d. Improving local capacity to deliver
	reintegration assistance.

Source: Adopted from IOM checklist (2014), developed by the researcher May2, 2014.

The following Figure (2) tries to summarize the above discussed preconditions for repatriation and compare it to the actual happenings as far as the November, 2013 incident of deportation of Ethiopian migrants from Saudi Arabia is concerned.

Figure 2: Assessing the November 2013 deportation against the ideal case scenario of deportation



Source: Developed by the researcher, April 28, 2014.

'Return' is not merely a 'voluntary act'; it also entails greater demand of time and resource mobilization and time. Although migrants may express their desire to go back to their country of origin, this does not necessarily mean that they are ready to return (i.e. in terms of resources mobilization and preparedness both emotionally and psychologically). Secondly, focusing on returnees' role as agents for development, returnees' level of preparedness for return varies both in terms of the type of migration experience they had as well as if the experiences was optimal or not (ACP Observatory on Migration, 2013). Both host and home country must agree on the process of return f immigrants.

Deportation or forced repatriation without due process of law can be considered one way of involuntary return, either in mass or individually, when migrant maids are reported as illegal or undocumented. In contrast, voluntary return is the choice of migrant workers to return home after

the termination of contractual employment. It is evident that the process of the migrant workers' return involves social and psychological adjustments. If the forced returnee women were trafficked, adjustments have been found to be very problematic. In particular, sexual abuses, physical harm, and forced abortions will make the trauma experienced by the returnees severe. Upon return the migrants can be rejected by their families and communities. This may result in the absence of social support, medical attention, stigmatization if HIV infected, and vulnerability of the returnees to re-trafficking.

In a study conducted among Ethiopian migrant returnees, many Ethiopian returnees endure extreme hardships, which harm their emotional integrity. Humiliation, unmet expectations, denigration and social defeat are the main problems that affect the returnees' mental order. According to IOM, trafficked returnees may display negative coping behaviors to their isolation and depression. This includes excessive drinking, smoking, using drugs, and so on. In spite of this, policy makers in the labour sending countries assume that migrant domestic workers can easily adjust to changes upon return and create their own employment through investing their savings. This can be seen as overlooking the complex nature of work migration, because the situation is different in reality. In most cases migrant women returnees will find the employment situation back home little changed. The chance of getting employment through acquiring skillsrelated training is also low, given that interventions by the sending countries are often limited. Besides, the possibility of entering into a private business is difficult for the migrant returnees owing to little savings. Some, who start small businesses with their minimal savings, may fail because of lack of entrepreneurship skills. Many women returnees therefore, tend to return for domestic work as a result of failure to reintegrate and challenge to cope with their survival.

In the Ethiopian context, the government works with the IOM, local NGOs and other interested bodies in the reintegration of migrant women. However, the provision of services is limited to addressing the needs of the returnee women. As a result, most of the returnees are not self-employed, nor can they access the local labour market. Also, migrant returnees in Ethiopia have not organized themselves because of weak civil society in the country and lack of networks with returnees from various countries. According to ILO, the return and reintegration of migrant domestic workers has to encompass wide ranging support that includes: legal, social, psychological, financial, and skills-related support. The provision of such services should aim at enabling the returnees to have access to the labour market. Moreover, the sustainability of reintegration schemes can be realized in the country when income generating activities are promoted. Bleak prospects for improved life after work migration coupled with lack of sustainable reintegration schemes can make the returnees of today victims of trafficking tomorrow (MesfinDessie, 2011).

Reasons for return migration can vary from place to place but can be attributed to two considerations: the structural factors that include political and economic considerations and personal factors.

# 2.6. Empirical Literature on Return Migration

This section evaluates theories that strive to identify determinants of durations of stay abroad, once the decision to emigrate was taken. These theories address the issue of permanency or temporariness of migration experience. Conceptually, returns are by no way a phenomenon which can separate from initiation of migration. The literature exploring why returns occur, appeared generally later than first discussions on reasons of initiation or perpetuation of migration, creating its own vocabulary, puzzles and methods of empirical investigation.

A return to a home country can be assessed as an event within a (finite) life-cycle of a utility maximizing individual. The microeconomic life-cycle perspective suggests that individuals choose their length of stay abroad so that their marginal benefit from higher accumulated savings equates marginal cost of working abroad (Budnik, 2011).

Many women returnees from domestic work in the Arab Middle East face problems when they return to their countries. Most importantly, financial difficulties, lack of entrepreneurship skills, problems related to employment opportunities, lack of support to engage in a viable business, psychiatric problems arising from migration experiences and so forth are worth noting. The consequences of these difficulties can be seen in the life situations of the unsuccessful returnee women when they descend into economic vulnerability. Some women may even return home before finishing their contracts of employment due to mental health problems. This complicates paying back their debts. For them, being indebted may be understood as failure in their work migration.

On the issue of sexual, reproductive, and mental health problems, the reports of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) depict the vulnerability of Ethiopian migrant women returnees. As a result of such problems, the returnees can be hindered from both individual development and reintegration in their communities. Furthermore, sex work, crime and addiction for drugs may be chosen as a means of sustaining their living. This corresponds with the focus group discussions and the informants' interview statements.

Many women returnees from domestic work perceive that their work migration is a continuous phenomenon on which the livelihood of many others depends. This relates to the informants' expression of motives for their work migration. It can be argued that the distinction between a successful migrant returnee and the unsuccessful one basically centers on acquiring wealth and

possibly investing it productively. Reintegrating women returnees from domestic work abroad should be broad-based and sustainable, aiming at fitting the returnees into the labour market, family and community. In most cases women returnees encounter more problems of reintegration than men, owing to socio-cultural factors. Thus women's decisions for remigration may result from poorly coordinated reintegration schemes, which do not encompass social and economic reintegration on sustainable basis (MesfinDessie, 2011).

#### 2.7 Causes for Migration of Ethiopians to Saudi Arabia

Authors like Kainth (2009)andFransen&Kuschminder (2009); agree that immigration (movement of people) is a global phenomenon and arises because of combination of different factors. Kainth (2009) stated that migration takes place from the area of less developed to the area of highly developed countries. Though he repeatedly mentioned the economic factor as the main push factor, he also mentioned social, political and cultural issues as a contributing factor for international migration to take place. In line with this, Abebe (2010) also imply social and economic factors as the main push factors of migration.

According to Fransen&Kuschminder (2009), in earlier times the main causes of migration of women from Ethiopia to the other part of the world was caused by political instability. But, recently most Ethiopians migrate because of the existing economic hardship with in the country and in search of better economic opportunities outside.

Each year, large numbers of Ethiopians move to the Middle East with oil producing Gulf stateslooking for jobs, often as domestic workers. Saudi Arabia is one of the preferred destinations.

Ethiopians migrate to the Middle East due to various reasons. Push factors include mainly insecurity from conflict, but also the simple expectation to improve their daily lives, particularly to find employment as the main source of income and well-being(Jureidini, 2010).

Actually the causes behind the different types of migration whether they are internal or external are found to be, diverse, complex and interconnected in time and space. Economic and political instability has been mentioned as the main reason in different literatures. However the social and cultural aspects play significant role in the process of Ethiopians movement to different parts of the world.

Most of the time people consider the advantages and disadvantages of staying versus moving, as well as factors such as distance, travel costs, travel time, modes of transportation, terrain and cultural barriers (Jureidini, 2010).

#### CHAPTER THREE

# 3.1.Research Method and Design

This chapter presents the method and the design used in the research. The study is focusing on assessment of the return and reintegration process of the female repatriates from Saudi Arabia and examining the impact of forced expulsion. The researcher ofthis paper has provided voluntary service for 18 days when the repatriates arrived which motivated the researcher to work on this particular topic and in doing so purposive sampling were taken to identify governmental and non-governmental organizations that were involved in the reception, rehabilitation and reintegration of forced repatriates from Saudi Arabia. In this chapter of the research, various methodological components adopted to achieve the objectives of the study are outlined. The main target of the study is to assess the return and integration of the female repatriates from Saudi Arabia. The choice of methods was influenced by the nature of the problem and the constraints of time. For this reason, the study employs a qualitative approach of data collection with cross sectional descriptive and exploratory function. Qualitative research approach is selected because, as per Creswell (2007,p.18), the researcher will "try to get as close as to the participant being studied". Qualitative study is more interested in the depth of the data rather than wideness, which requires the researcher to play an active role in the data collection, the researcher will play the major role in the course of the data collection. Moreover, the qualitative approach also supplemented through detail description of events to provide in depth understanding. It also aims at providing an in-depth and interpreted understanding of the social world of research participants by learning about their social and material circumstances, their experiences, perspectives, and histories (Creswell, 2007).

Qualitative research approach attempts to grasp facts directly from the words of the research subjects as to what, how and to what extent the problem happens.

The study employed a cross-sectional study design withpurposeful sampling. To this end, the data is presented qualitatively using description. Review of relevant literature was also made to identify main ideas to be treated to develop instrument of data collection and to design the study as a whole. Accordingly, theresearcher conducted investigation about the problem based on an indepth interview obtained from sevenrepatriates.

The researcher used a combination of individual in-depth interview and personal observation. The researcher is of the opinion that the data collection method applied in this research, will achieve the main objective of the study and appropriate in giving the image of the feeling, gesture and body language of the participants. One of the research participants were not motivated to tell their stories in the class where the other participant and the lecturer could be found. For this reason, the interview was conducted out side of the hair dressing training class. Hence, the researcher got the permission of interviewing the participant from the instructor to speak individually in private and conduct the interview out side of the training class.

#### 3.2 Sources of Data

In order to meet the stated research objectives and answer the research questions; data were gathered through primary data sources. The relevant primary data instructors and coordinators of returnee's in TVET College and officials from government offices.

#### 3.3 Data collection instruments

The materials that were used in this case include both published and unpublished reports on migration, deportation and reintegration and policy documents. The researcher has selected and developed appropriate data gathering instrument to attain the objective of the research. To achieve the objective of this study, different tools to collect data were used. Thus, interviews and observation were used in the study.

# 3.4 In-depth Interview with Key Informants

In-depth interview is the method that thestudy has employed to collect primary data. This data gathering tool has been selected not only to obtain the required data, but also to understand the deep feeling of the participants about the effect of the repatriation and their current living style. According to Patton (2002) qualitative method in-depth interview is a process of understanding the lived daily world from the participants own perspective. Hence, the tool has helped a researcher to get information concerning the informant's feelings, attitudes and emotions in relation to the area of the impact of the repatriation and their current feeling and status. Further more, an in-depth interview also permits greater depth of responses on the parts of the interviewees (Morse & Richards, 2002). Considering the very fact that in-depth interview provides an opportunity to the interviewer to question thoroughly, as well as obtaining comprehensive information about the required issue, the researcher believed this tool has met the intended objectives of the study.

Before starting the data collection, interview guiding questions were developed for in-depth interview purpose. The items embodied in the guiding questions were first prepared in English and then translated into the national language (Amharic).

# 3.5 Procedures of data collection and analysis

After obtaining a letter from the department of Social Work, the researcher started conducting the research by finding relevant literature and conduct field study. Caution was taken to ensure that all questions are answered by going through the entire interview guide on the presence of the participants. The respondents are assured of confidentiality. After the collection of the data, the results were analyzed using qualitatively approach.

# 3.5.1 Site of the study

The research site of this specific study is Entoto TVET College (TMS). This center is located in Addis Ababa, Gulelesub city. The coordinator of the center explained to me that, the center has given different types of trainings for the repatriates. He explained that the center accepted 389 females and 64 male repatriates for the training. The coordinator also explained that 197 repatriates have taken COC examination and the center offered different types of training such as cooking, shoe making, hair dressing and others. Because of the availability of the repatriates in a hair dressing training center, the researcher chooses to interview these repatriates.

# 3.5.2 Study Population/Sample

The entire repatriate trainee's of the hair dressing training school in the Entoto TVET College were taken as general population for this study. Out of this population, 7 repatriates have been recruited for the interview in this study as a way of gathering rich and in-depth information about their present experience and to explore the impact of forced repatriation. I conducted my first visit to select study participant on April 9, 2014. During my first visit to the compound, I was told by the coordinators, that the second round trainers complete their training and the third ones will be substituted. Accordingly, my study population will be the third round hair dressing returnee trainees which are Eleven (11) in number. The coordinator, the instructor and the assistant trainer have been helping me in facilitating the interview. The participants of the study will recruit using the purposive sampling technique. The purposive sampling technique allowed the researcher for selecting participants on the basis of duration of stay in the host country and

date of arrival. Although the entire population might qualify to participate in the study, three of the returnee trainees were not volunteer to be interviewed and two withdraw from the training and one were absent when the researcher was at the compound. In fact, in a non-probability sample, individuals are intentionally chosen to reflect particular features of groups within the sampled population. Henceforth, the sample is not intended to be statistically representative: instead, the characteristics of the population are used as the basis of selection. It is this feature that makes them well suited to small-scale, in-depth studies, as well will go on to show (Ritchie and Lewis, 2003, p.78). According to Ritchie and Lewis (2003, p.263), there is no clear and agreed set of ground rules for the conditions under which qualitative research findings can be generalized or what this process involves (Ritchie and Lewis, 2003, p.263).

Accordingly, I am not expected to take a large number of repatriates as a sample population; rather I took a small number of participants who in relative term can represent the returnees.

#### 3.6. Instruments

The researcher uses semi structured interview guide as a guiding device throughout the interview processes which also helped to ask further questions. The bases for my use interview guide find expression in its flexibility in inducing and incorporating unexpected significant information as well as answers for prepared interview questions (Willig, 2008). The researcher also noted down expressions, body language and gesture of the participant.

# 3.7. Transcription and Data Analysis

Given that the data obtained from the research participants is few instances might be larger than it is desired, the researcher minimize the data and select the relevant information's for the study.

The data collected everyday was reviewed to check on the congruency of ideas and to identify missed information. The different dates of contacts helped to review the checklist in order to accommodate missed information and to clear vague points.

Finally, in order to pave the way for the implementation of an evidence-based programming by all potential actors thereby to make their efforts effective and quality, the research will end up its data analysis activities by forwarding constructive comments and recommendations based on the findings obtained.

#### 3.8. Ethical Considerations

An informed consent form was also prepared as a mechanism that, to some extent, dealt with ethical issues since it clearly stated the rights of the respondents to participate voluntarily and to withdraw at any time whenever they want to do in order that they might not be coerced to participate in the research. The form contains the purpose of the study that made participants aware about the nature of the study and its likely impacts on them, the procedures of the study that helped participants reasonably evaluate what was going to be produced by the research, the right to ask question, obtain a copy of result, and to have privacy respected and the benefit of the study that would acquire to the individual, and the confirmation signature of both the researcher and the participants which indicated a non-coercive involvement in the study.

Regarding those possibly assumed ethical problems in data collection and analysis procedures, the researcher done efforts like clearly stating the informed consent to every participant; getting the permission of individuals in authority; strictly following the ethical code of social work profession; avoiding personal identifications of respondents; and respecting the academic ethical and moral obligations of social science researchers.

# **CHAPTER FOUR**

# 4. Finding and Discussion of the study

In these parts of the research, major findings of the study are presented in a systematic way of reminding the specific objectives of the study and accordingly presenting the findings of the study.

# 4.1 The situation of Ethiopian forced return women from Saudi Arabia

In a country like Ethiopia where there are different kinds of traditions and norms, and where the societal attitudes towards gender equity and equality are at its childish stage, women's are in a position to face profound social, psychological, and political challenges in all of their lives. They go across through difficult challenging procedure to reach destinations for which they have faiths of protection, improved livelihoods and better success than the regularly unfavorable settings of insecurity due to conflict, difficulty, unemployment and other problems in their home regions. Nevertheless, their ambitions might be hindered by different circumstances.

The decision by the government of Saudi Arabia to crack down illegal immigrants is causing serious effects on the immigrants and the county i.e. Ethiopia itself. Both Ethiopian government and those illegal immigrants in Saudi did not consider Saudi government intention to be taken seriously. The reason why most Ethiopians did not leave Saudi soon is because of negligence of Saudi's government warning, lack of awareness about the legislation, lack of time and others. If they left the country soon at the time of announcement, there situation would not have been worse as it is now.

According to my informants and the various media reports on the event of forced repatriation, the Saudi authorities' handling of the expatriation process led to mistreatment and abuses of immigrants, suffering, beatings and even several deaths. According to my informants and reports, most of the returnees have gone through terrifying physical and psychological abuse. In addition to Human Rights Watch (HRW) reported that "Ethiopian migrant workers have been the victims of physical assault, some of them fatal, in Saudi Arabia following a government crackdown on foreign workers. Many workers have been being under arrest in temporary detention centers without adequate food or shelter. Many of them arrived with very little belongings. They did not get time to pack their belongings because of their negligence to move in the specified period of time and lack of readiness. Most of my informants are taken from their work place without any intention of moving out. Their human rights to bring their materials, accessories and belongings were fully denied. Ethiopian deportees arrive at Bole International Airport exhausted and also emotionally or psychologically traumatized by the ordeal of having to leave their asylum country Saudi Arabia. Besides the situation they had at their work place made them to sufferer a lot. Most of them described that, they faced harsh working conditions, physical, sexual, racial and mental abuse, low pay and racial and religious discriminations. The harsh treatmentsthey experienced in different jails were another phase of the returnees' life. Some of them stayed for over five months in jail through inhuman treatment without due process of law.

Despite the harsh treatment many faced, some say they would move abroad again since employment opportunities at home are still scant. Some still think of paying the money they borrowed from others in the process of their movement to Saudi Arabia and it remains concern for them.

# 4.2 Description of participant background

With regards to educational background, two of the research participants have dropped at grade 8, two failed at grade 10, one has never went to school, one quit at grade nine, one quite at grade 7. The fact that their fear of not competing for any job and believing they can secure a job outside of the continent rather drives them to migrate to Saudi Arabia to work as domestic workers. The research participants are in the age range of 22-33 yearsold except with one who does not know exactly of her age. The study participants stayed in Saudi Arabia a minimum of 5 month and maximum Eight Years.

With regards to their marital status, out of the seven deportees two are married, one widow, three are not yet married and one is divorced. The information gained from returnees reveals that during their stay in Saudi Arabia most of them were engaged in household work. Information on the employment status of returnee's before their movement shows that four were unemployed before their migration while, one was employed as a domestic worker in Ethiopia before she left and one was working as a cleaner in a government school, one also had worked as a dish washer in a restaurant.

# 4.3 Respondents' View on Main Causes for Migration

Aster(a deportee):

"The reason why I went to Saudi is because of the poorcondition me and my parents were living in. I was motivated to go and work in Saudi Arabia in the hope of being able tofinancially support myself and my family. Before I went to Saudi, I was in Dubai and my experience in Dubai was not particularly a soothing one so I decided to come back home. But then through friends that I

knew there and their relatives in Ethiopia I once again got convinced of the possibilities of satisfying my dreams in Saudi Arabia, which I assumed, would be better. It was a huge dream for my mother to even be able to spend a night on a comfortable spongy mattress; such was the level of poverty I was living in with my family. And all these circumstances at home pushed me to go to Saudi Arabia in strong wish to be able satisfy my dream of changing family's life. And yet my actions were a little too late that I did not even see off my mother as she died while I was away".

#### Azeb (a deportee):

"I left to Saudi before four years and the reason why I left is because I failed to pass the national examination at grade 10 and I felt like I can't do much here. Thus, emigration was the deadly option for me asI got a job in Saudi for 4000 Ethiopian birr. Though I knew Ikwas traveling to a strange context my conviction was strong as I was extremely frustrated that I may not have a place here in Ethiopia as an uneducated person. I have never imagined of going to Saudi before but the fact that I failed and become idle changed my mind and so I left."

# 4.4. Perceptions of the Deportees towards the Reintegration Package

#### Marta (a deportee)

"When I arrived at the airport here I together with many other was very much welcomed. Starting from the janitors at the airport to the authorities and others supported us very well to deal with our hustle upon arrival. This was such a release as I was here after weeks of fear, stress and frustration so it felt like heaven. Once we settled, government officials

promised that we will get housing, jobs, trainings and some credit which will enable us start our own businesses. Nevertheless, I experienced a disappointing case of treatment from some of the offices as I went to follow up this promises. And since too tired of such treatments I could not take it anymore. The information we were given about the reintegration and adjustment when we came first was that the government will provide us with favorable conditions where we can get shelter and trainings. Nevertheless, we couldn't get house with affordable price and I am forced to live with my mother around kotebe in her small kebele house with my brothers and my two children's. Previously, I was the one who used to send money for my mother for raising my children. But since I came and once I finished the small money that I brought with me my family is endangered and we are still in poverty.

#### Tizita (a deportee)

"The government now has given us options and we can decide and choose what we want to do in here at our homeland, so with mutual understanding with the government and some patience I believe I can make it back up again. What we need is the continued support of the government for the future and this is achievable by having a legal document that guarantees the proper integration of the deportees, after all we are surprise guests for the government so I am hopeful".

# 4.5. Adaptation of Deportees

Solomon (key informant)

"Some of the places they are assigned to work in are quite remote places which are on the corner of the city (Addis Ababa) where there is insufficient business activities and low movement of people. The distance from the city center in addition, affects them through the cost of transportation to and from theseplaces. This is one of the challenges that they face even after the training. Also, meeting the requirement of saving and credit associations is a challenge since they don't know the rules, regulations and the requirements. As of now, there should be a special saving and credit system established for the deportees.

"Though local developments were promised to be facilitated by the government, some of the governmental offices are slow, ineffective, inefficient and disorganized. Hence, the possibility of implementing the reintegration packages such as micro-financing and other social services together with the community is becoming unrealistic. Financial limitation of association's itself is another challenge that creates a bottle neck against a holistic provision of services to the deportees.

"On the other hand, there are others who are lucky and successful after the training in organizing themselves in small and microfinance activities and collect the optimum services form the relevant offices. Such variations and discrepancies are a result of an inconsistent service provision which in my view results from the absence of a well-established deportee and returnee accommodation and integration policy"

#### Leila#1 (a deportee)

"I am hoping and believing that the training will help me and I will be able to get job soon. And I am happy to be here and attend the training that is provided. I also suggest other deportees to be trained and believe in the possibilities of change in their homeland."

#### *Leila #2 (a deportee)*

"There is no use in coming for this training since we are not being trained appropriately and according to the basics of these skills. I come here instead of sitting at home idle and I come here until I get another real job."

# 4.6. Evaluation of Trainings and Reception Services given by Government Offices and NGOs

#### Leila #1 (a deportee)

"Once I came here, I went to the kebele office to renew my Identification Card to participate in small and microfinance activity and also to withdraw money that was sent from my husband in Saudi. Regardless of a repeated explanation of my situation and fulfilment of requirement for identification the officer still kept me waiting and at bay with discomforting remarks and comments towards migration. Thus I had to redirect my effort to the head of the office who appointed me a

different officer to finalize my identification process. Of course I can't blame the whole system for what a single person did to me but having been mistreated at such an office my expectations toward government offices got challenged after the warm welcome at the airport and all the happy promises forwarded, it really felt awkward ....

"....regardless of those experiences, I like the training here in hair dressing, I come quite far from Sululta to participate in this training. I feel that there will be a better situation in the future and I am telling my sisters not to migrate to Saudi or any other gulf countries and to rather envision the possibilities of living in Ethiopia".

# 4.7. Impact of Migration and Deportation

Leila #1 (a deportee)

"I wish I didn't know what emigration means from the beginning and it is very difficult to accept it now that I don't have the moral and confidence to talk and convince my family. Even though, I don't want to go to Saudi again as I had a sad memory, I also didn't want to come here. There are no good things at all in Saudi Arabia, Nevertheless, it is a place where I found my husband and had a weeding there. Though I feel like I am always in jail when I live in Saudi Arabia as I am scared of being detained, I still could leave believing that all things will pass away and I will succeed one day.

"It is very sad to see when peoples are displaced from their place where they reside for more than 30 years. I have seen in myself when doors were broken and people being dragged out of their residence with their belongings scattered everywhere. The saddest story is when the policemen caught and took Ethiopian

boys and men, the "Shebab" (the young Saudi boys) entered into the house and rape Ethiopian girls and women. They are doing this because, they have no sexual freedom in their country and they will not be prosecuted for doing this on Ethiopians migrants.

"I am feeling so sad of being here and the major reason for my unhappiness is the fact that I am far away from my legal husband. He remained there as he is a legal migrant and he told me that he will come after two years. I really want my husband to be here with me during my pregnancy and it is very difficult to stay away from someone that you love. Now I am living with my sisters and brothers. But none of them understand my feelings well and they just see me as someone who complains".

#### Simegn (a deportee)

"Since, there appears a lot of rumors all the time that we will be expelled back to our countries, all of us were tranquil by saying that this is what they are always telling us and we were reluctant believing they will not do it as they have been talking about it before. At one time, I remember that they were deciding to take us from our homes by breaking our doors but they left that option and they decided to collect those whom they found in roads. For this reason, we were obliged to stay at home not to be caught by the police while we are on roads. The woman for whom I am working told me to leave her house and stop working. She did this not to be penalized 100,000 Riyadh by employing illegal migrant and then I turned myself in and I gave my finger print what they call "Besemat" and all of us where believing that we will step out from the country right after giving the stamp. Nevertheless, they told us

that there is no airplane to bring us here. And they gathered us and they told us to stay in a hall where there is nothing. They kept us there for five days without proper food and cloth. We slept against the walls with no mattress and blankets. There were pregnant women, children and women who gave birth right there. It was horrible and we told them that we are not going to eat anything in the name of hunger strike. Only the children and the pregnant were eating. And finally, we have been informed of going to our country and the only time most of us ate food was in the plane on the way here. In general, know that we have a country somewhere but where? Is a question which always to my mind. Since most of my family is here and I of course am born here and am used to the culture I say I belong here but the circumstances of isolation in both locations make me feel truly dislocated in both places. In Saudi we are seen as aliens from a far land called Ethiopia and here people see us strange characters in the society. Even if I have family that call me their own, the fact that now I am empty handed, idle and disoriented as to what to do next leaves me with the feeling of loneliness in this planet. And our reintegration process is not helping a lot in helping us fit in quick, so you somehow feel out of place sometimes."

#### CHAPTER FIVE

#### 5. Discussion

# 5.1. Main Causes for Migration

Various reasons have been mentioned by female returnees from Saudi Arabia as causes for their migration. Among these the major ones are; poverty, lack of education, influence and pressure from friends and families, exampled by slight change in the life of neighbors or friends whose relatives are living abroad. Such reasons have also been mentioned and discussed by numerous previous studies in detail as well.

Yet, these causes of migration can also be summarized, according to the interview conducted, as the major reason for their migration being related to the lower economic status they have and hence they state their main reasons as the pressing need to improve their own and their families' lives. Nevertheless, the need for economic enhancement is also reinterpreted in different manners. For some, this is interpreted as an opportunity to earn more money than what they make under the context they are before migration while for others it is a search for startup money to establish businesses at home once spending limited amount of time in Saudi Arabia to generate it. For those who have families, this is viewed as meeting and enhancing the basics needs for their children and gaining the financial means to plan a better future for their families.

Another phenomenon is the repeated attempts of re-migration of deportees migrating again and again because of incapability to coup with the changed social and economic systems at home which they find difficult to adapt in once they are deported. Societal pressure and inability to reintegrate are described as such causes of migration. According to information obtained from key

informants, some returnees are re-migrating to the same location or have returned back to other Middle East countries after they are expelled from Saudi Arabia. This may involve the strong desire to still be able to generate some amount of remittance while being aware that there are possibilities of violations of their human rights and some other work related abuses and problems to be faced yet again.

Some of the returnees who are processing their travel again to other Middle East countries have their own goals to achieve and this reveals their pertaining frustration on the existing situations at home. They feel that they have not achieved their dreams of improving their families and their own lives; hence they state that they want to deal with this unfulfilled dream once again.

# 5.2. Perception of Deportees towards the Reintegration Package

Among the seven deportees under study, three mentioned that the reintegration packages were insufficient to support their livelihood, and three suggested that the reintegration packages were relevant to alleviate their present precarious situation, while one mentioned that she has no opinions towards the package. Thus, in this respect participants have different suggestions and observations.

It can generally be observed that a radical and emotional effort exerted towards comforting the incoming deportees has helped them transit emotionally and psychologically very well. Yet, the follow through of facilitating immediate reintegration of these deportees had some hick ups and irregularities. From registration till the actual provision of support deportees experienced tiresome procedures on which some are beginning to give up. Nevertheless, there are some lucky seeds whose conditions seem to have been appropriated smoothly, especially those who came in the middle of the duration of deportation.

# 5.3. The Role of Actors during Reception and Reintegration

During the Saudi Arabia crackdown against the illegal Ethiopians, several governmental, International and Local NGO's, Private stake holders, religious institutions and health institutions such as IOM, UNHCR, International Rescue committee, AGAR, Good Samaritans, Red Cross, UNICEF, and others took part in support of deportees during the reception time. With the exception of one, all of the repatriates suggested that there was good enough support upon their arrival. This support is meant to be followed by a continued support until the reintegration process is done. And for this purpose the engagement of the stakeholders becomes inevitable. So far most of the reintegration work is being facilitated and performed by the government's single hand.

# 5.4. Adaptation of Deportees

Adaptation can be approached from two perspectives. The first is the economic and social conditions of deportees: whether or not they have found the basic necessities, jobs, developed interpersonal relationships, participated in community organizations, and the like. The second focuses on deportees own perceptions of adaptation and adjustment and the degree to which they consider their homeland as a place filled with self-defined needs and sense of well-being. As such it can be noticed from the interviewees that some have found the provisions sufficient mainly because of their quick adaptive characters and skills.

Whereas the first perspective on adaptation needs a more coordinated and synchronized effort from all the stake holders. Thus far, location factor on how and where to locate and establish a business, transportation and mobilization cost both pre and post establishment of businesses, a clear and less communicated requirements of credit association schemes, unpreparedness of

reintegration facilitation offices, lack of self-awareness from the side of deportees, financial limitations of the credit associations, and a less coordinated effort from different stakeholders are identified as the main challenges that stand in the way of a successful reintegration and adaptation by deportees.

The perception of adaptation by deportees is quite a subjective matter to discover and influence at this point thus this paper shies away from this study but is true that the fulfillment of the more pragmatic aspects of adaptation needs nurtures self-confidence, enhancing the self-awareness of deportees so that they become actively reactive to what is offered through the system of reintegration.

# 5.5. Evaluation of Trainings and Reception Services given by Government

# Offices and NGOs

As suggested by MesfinDessiye (2011) return of deportees to their country is usually Problematic. This is because of the prospect failure of the returnees to pay back their debts, a preconceived feeling of failure which results from the perception of deportation as failure in many regards and so many other reasons. Mostly, returnees face social reintegration problems, breakdown of family and denunciation by families and communities. Thus deportation even worsens the situation and hence returnees consider re-migration as an alternative.

This section of the research mainly deals with this situation, the basic facilities and services that are provided to the female returnees from Saudi Arabia in order to cope up with their day to day life since return. These include housing, education, income generating activity or employment and financial and physical security. Upon their return, returnees faced problems like lack of

necessary social services in the places where they returned which resulted in difficulties in repossessing property.

The finding of this research indicates that even though the deportees are happy coming to their country which entails that they are far from physical, psychological and sexual abuses and sufferings, they are also worried about their futurity in their home land as to how to maintain their life without economic and psychological doubts. As some participants also discussed, though there was promissory information from the government and non-governmental organization with regards to getting jobs and fulfillment of necessary facilities like housing, education and trainings upon reception, they suggested that by far the support is far below their expectation. Based on the information from the participants and the observation of the researcher while giving voluntary service at Bole Airport to assist in the reception process it is witnessed that the deportees have suffered a lot as they have waited up to 23 days at the airport in search of their luggage and three of the participants described that they have lost their luggage and two suggested that mobile phones, some jewelry and money.

# 5.6. Problem and Challenge of Forced Returnees

A report of ILO indicates that migrant workers return home either forced or voluntarily. Forced return occurs when contracts are illegally terminated; housemaids are abused or abandoned by their employers, or when the employees' visas can't be renewed. Deportation can be considered as one way of involuntary return, either in mass or individually, when migrant maids are reported as illegal or undocumented (MesfinDessiye, 2011, p.9). It is evident that the process of the migrant returnees involves social and psychological adjustments.

The fact that a government is physically removing people forcefully from their areas of residence induces a forced migration process for the reason that the displaced people have no power to decide on whether to go away or not (Damien, 2003, p.5).

A situation where the central government of a host country (Saudi Arabia) enacts certain prejudicial laws to force a social group to go out of their home country or their original residential area can be called impelled migration.

Mostly, migrant women returnees will find difficulties of being employed and getting job after they return back to their home land. Besides, the possibility of opening their own business is challenging as they may not be able to have money that suffice to open a business. Those, who open their own small businesses, may be unsuccessful because of lack of entrepreneurship skills (MesfinDessiye, 2011, p.13-21). Many returnees therefore, may wish either to go back or stay in their home land without hope.

In the Ethiopian context, the government works with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and local Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the reintegration of migrant women. However, the provision of services is limited to addressing the needs of the deportees. As a result, most of the deportees are not self-employed, nor can they access the local labourmarket (GTZ, 2006, p.36).

According to ILO (2004), the return and reintegration of migrant domestic workers has to encompass wide ranging support that includes: legal, social, psychological, financial, and skills-related support. The provision of such services should aim at enabling the returnees to have

access to the labour market. Moreover, the sustainability of reintegration schemes can be realized in the country when income generating activities are promoted (GTZ, 2006, p.53).

Deportation has negative consequences breakdown of the family; insecurity, unemployment and psychological trauma.

#### **Social Impacts**

*Breakdown of family*: Deportation results the breakdown of family since the repatriates are not ready and prepared to leave. In Saudi repatriates, participants have informed that they lost some members of their families.

*Unemployment*: mentioned that unemployment has been the major problems of deportees.

Change of behavior and habits: returnee's may come up with habits of smoking drugs, chewing chat and others.

Psychological Impacts: Repatriates may experience a feeling of fear, helplessness and hopelessness since they are forced to leave their residents where they spent more than half and all of their ages suddenly. Not only this, but also starting life from the scratch, interruption of their children's from school, lack of job, not knowing where to live, loosing of property because of robbery and other reason, human rights abuses, lack of motivation and post-traumatic stress symptoms.

#### **Economic Impact**

Remittance: Migration of people looking for better job opportunities and economic benefits like Ethiopians going to the Middle East has a strong socio economic impact both on the country of origin and the host. From the very direct positive impact of the employment of the migrant to the indirect financial benefits of relatives of migrants in the small localities of the place of origin; and back to the country level macroeconomic dynamics can be witnessed as such.

Remittance is the sending of money and valuables by a migrant from the place of migration to the place of origin. According to data of 2000 – 2009 of the National bank of Ethiopia private individual transfers have dramatically increased from 177 million USD in 2000/01 to 1.8 million USD in 2008/09 (EmertaAssaminew et al, 2010).

Volume of remittance can be influenced by amount of emigrant population, the means of transferring of money and the amount of means of income available at the hosting country. The following bar graph shows, in 2008, Saudi Arabia stands third in the rank of places to where Ethiopians migrate. Directly or indirectly it can be inducted from this information that there is a sizable volume of remittance generated from Saudi Arabia and directed to Ethiopia.

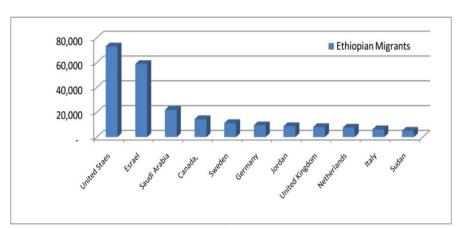


Figure 3.Size of immigrants received by States. Saudi Arabia: 3<sup>rd</sup>

Source: Migration Policy Institute quoted in Adamnesh (2008)

The above graph (see Fig 2.1) shows the top eleven destinations of Ethiopian migrants: United States, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Sweden, Germany, Jordan, UK, Netherlands, Italy and Sudan.

Mass deportation of Ethiopian immigrants from Saudi Arabia is expected to have a direct impact on this volume of remittance. In addition to individuals and relatives who will be directly affected by this incident, the macro economics of Ethiopia may as well feel the deductions.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) suggested the benefit of migration is for both the sending and receiving country if well managed because it is a means of employment opportunities, source of income for families at home; remittances for the government of the home country while cheap domestic and low wage labor for the host country. Returnees may have so many dependents that await their contribution for basic livelihood. Thus the discontinuity of this source might hamper these parties in multiple ways.

All of the deportees under study with this paper replied that both migration to Saudi Arabia and the deportation back to Ethiopia have highly affected their lives in different ways. These effects can more or less be summarized into three main aspects: economic, social and Psychological.

Regarding economic consequences, on the way to the host nation migrants risk a lot of assets of their own or borrowed to be able to travel. There are a lot of less told stories that include robbery, negative service bargains with traffickers and the like. Whereas, under deportation, impacts on employment status, loss of occupation thus lack of income, seizure of remittances, degradation of living standards, asset disowner-ship and disruption of investment through remittance are critical turns of events. This study revealed that during migration, two of the deportees lost their properties and assets whereas; six of the deportees directly or indirectly lost their assets during deportation. Key informant has as well revealed that around 1,200 repatriates in general have lost their luggage during the deportation of November, 2014. Especially talking about deportation, the emergent nature of it catches them of guard and without readiness and this leads to disorientation.

Concerning the social problems, feeling of being isolated, loneliness, hopelessness, lack of selfconfidence, psychological trauma as a result of happening during mobility and the like are some of the problems the deportees may face and this in turn may result in psychological repercussions. The feeling of not belonging in both locations leads to the unsettled mental status of the deportees which makes them less interested in integrating to their apparent environment. Thus, these combined economic and social problems have created psychological impacts on the returnees.

#### 5.7. Return and Reintegration Programs

The study also shows that the sustainability of return and reintegration programs was constrained by a scarcity of funding and lack of national policy in the country. The very fact that return and re-integration process is affected by funding problem is discussed by (Schumacher, 2005), as "sustainability of return and reintegration is also threatened by underfunding in ongoing return processes". Reintegrating returnees needs to be "broad-based and sustainable, aiming at fitting the returnees into the labor market, family and community" (MesfinDessiye, 2011). Otherwise, re-migration may result because of weak coordination and reintegration schemes.

As it is today in spite of the difficulty of the situation, the government still maintains the effort of intervention to assist the reintegration through creating public awareness, mobilization of community resource and encouraging civil society. Socio economic schemes such as the micro and small scale businesses and the credit schemes which were initially designed to help the youth catch up and integrate to the market system are also be helpful and be adapted to the situations of these deportees. Such schemes may need minor adjustments so they become inclusive by altering the basic requirements for acquiring and returning of the credits.

With regards to assistance and support from government bodies, International and local nongovernmental organizations, partner organizations and other interested stakeholders, have been participating in supporting the reception with basic treatment and facilities such as hygiene equipment. Since the return and reintegration process of the repatriates is part of broad recovery process such initial supports should be followed by a well-coordinated and consistent support to go all the way. An initial support would only be pleasing and relieving for short period and would mean no good if the deportees don't actually come out of the stress and poverty they are in at the beginning.

#### 5.8. International and Nation Organizations

With regards to participants during the reception, international organizations, organizations like IOM, UNICEF, ICRC, UNHCR, International Rescue Committee (IRC), and others were participating. Nevertheless, this was not fully materialized because of funding and other problems like overlap of services by different parties. This overlap then creates wastage of resources and inefficiency. So a horizontal discussion and integration of efforts needs to be done among the international organizations.

The national actors that took part in the return and reintegration interventions includes Ethiopian ministry of Foreign Affairs, MOLSA, AGAR, Good Samaritans Association (GSA), Religious institutions, volunteers from Addis Ababa University school of social work, the Inspired Ethiopian Youth Association and others were also participated in large during the reception time. The government is the responsible organ in making laws and for that matter the issue of migrants and repatriates fall under its jurisdiction. Thus reintegration of the repatriates must be an important agenda. Return and reintegration were supposed to be implemented in an effective and efficient manner inorder to ensure proper integration. Nevertheless, this is not partly conducted by the government as some are leaving out of their country using other routes. Even though,

some of the repatriates are succeeding in organizing themselves in small and micro finance and also others are taking trainings in different fields, still this is in a small number. Hence, the finding suggested that there are major gaps based on commitment of various actors, as majority of the repatriates are responding the commitments made by various actors were not fully honored which goes against the reintegration strategies.

# **5.9. Repatriates Response Strategy**

Repatriates developed various response strategies to cope with the situation due to gaps noticed in the implementation of reintegration programs. Facing a high level of loss of their properties and belongings and absence of sufficient support from the government, the returnees are confused of what the next step will be. Many Repatriates argued that reintegration will be achievable and sustainable only when it is supplemented with other income generating activities. One of the participants expressed her frustration by saying:

"How am I going to continue life with my previous way of living: how can we manage to live here without jobs and food".

As the observational analysis of the researcher shows, in general, the deportees are found in one of the following conditions as it stands today: the first group is of those who managed to open their own business by their own means, like some savings they managed while they were in Saudi Arabia. The second group have managed to form groups and registered as Small and Micro Economic groups, with which they have managed to start up some business through government support. The third group is of those who got hired in jobs which they found and applied for once back here in Ethiopia. A more frustrated group reacted in two ways; some

managed to re-migrate to either Saudi Arabia itself or other Gulf States whereas some others became hopeless and insane with psychological medical conditions.

On the basis of the findings from the interview and observation of this study and summary outlined; the following conclusions were made. All authorities and international actors should held themselves responsible as to the execution of their obligations stated under international law, including human rights and humanitarian law in order to prevent and tackle down unhealthy circumstances that may lead to improper migration of people.

As indicated both migration and return has a social, cultural, political and economic impact which can be positive or negative. This negative impact of both migration and return will be exacerbated when both migration and repatriation are conducted ineffectively. Experiences of deportees are affected by personal, social, economic, and political challenges that call for coping, adjustment, and adaptation. The experience of the repatriates before, upon and after entails on the need to formulate intervention by the government, non government organs, private stakeholders and individuals. The intervention need to include enacting migrating policy, facilitating legal way of migration, change in educational and employment policy, social networks and social justice which will at the end will enable to ensure development at the micro, mezzo and macro levels.

As a rule, the reintegration and rehabilitation of returnees ought to follow their repatriation. Nevertheless, the support of the government is not satisfactory ad sufficient. Furthermore, there are no civil societies that promote and assist returnees in their reintegration process. This problem has taken place primarily because of lack of persistent national policy on migration and

repatriation. Hence, possible intervention by the government, civil societies, community and individual level will curb the problem.

# 5.10. Policy implication

Migration is a one source of remittance that helps both the source and destination countries. This requires having a full-fledged migration policy through involving multiple actors.

Although these deportees face several physical, social, economical and psychological damages through out the century, the number of those people so interested to fled to the different parts of Middle East is still surprisingly high. Policy concerning migration and return is crucial as migration has both advantage and disadvantage for the host and sending country. Effective management of migration process is possible whenever a nation develops strong and well-articulated policy of migration that gives greater attention to various issues of migrants and understanding the situation of female labour migrants at departure points could alert policy formulators to consider this issue while formulating migration policy for the country.

Moreover, issues related with deportation should in one way or another be addressed and should be given due attention as equally important as other issues which seeks intervention as this issue affects significant number of individual. In addition, the migration is a burning issue which indicates that the government should consider the issue duly.

Preparations for the return and reintegration which includes the establishment of social and physical infrastructure and the preparation and creation of employment creation activities should be put in place well before movement.

The return area where the deportees were reintegrated lacked preparation that indicated as major gaps of the return areas. All actors involved in the reintegration process should plan and implement return and reintegration package through community structure.

# **CHAPTER SIX**

#### 6. Summary, conclusion and Recommendation

#### 6.1. SUMMARY

As indicated in the introductory part of this study, the objective of the study is to assess and explore the return and reintegration process of female deportees from Saudi Arabia. In order to achieve the intended objectives, the study employed a descriptive type of qualitative approach. The sources of the data were female deportees from Saudi Arabia and they are selected using purposive sampling technique fromEntoto TVET College. The basic tools used were interviews and observation. In order to fulfill the aims of the study, the following research questions were formulated to be answered by the study:

- 1. What is the return and reintegration process of Female deportees from Saudi Arabia?
- 2. How do deportees experience life after their deportation and what is their future aspiration?
- 3. What strategies do these women use to cope and adjust their life with their repatriation?
- 4. How do deported women's evaluate the support they get from various actors in the repatriation (government, International non-governmental organizations, individual stake holders, families, etc.)?

After the data analysis and interpretation, the study reveals the following findings:

- 1. The findings indicate that deportees from Saudi Arabia face difficulty in after their deportation.
- 2. Concerning the attitudes of the deportees towards the reintegration package by the government and other stakeholders; respondents clearly indicated that the receiving and reintegration process is not satisfactory.

- 3. Regarding the training aids, some mentioned that they are satisfied with the training and suggested it will help them in their futurity. Regarding the advantages obtained from the training, the returnees listed out the following.
  - > To have a systematic training.
  - > To make them competent.
  - To find them job opportunities based on their trainings.
  - 4. While others were saying they are not trained adequately and one of the participants is neutral and had no comment with regards to the reintegration package.
  - 5. Concerning the practical challenges, deportees mentioned that they are suffering economically and psychologically problems.

#### **6.2.** Conclusion

This study assesses and examines the recent expulsion of Ethiopian from Saudi Arabia specifically on female repatriates. Problems were also experienced during return and reintegration efforts. This is because, 1. The country doesn't have prior experience of such type, 2. The country doesn't have a policy on emergency crisis and situations, 3. The country doesn't have enough budgets when such kinds of problems occurred and rely on foreign aid. This kind of unique experience will provide useful information and the need to have policy for availing such kind of social problem and crisis for future. However, if integration fails, sharing local resources exhausts the patience of returnees and additional burden will be added on the limited resource which increases the risk of tensions or open conflict. This analysis of integration package shows the reintegration packages were insufficient for establishing sustainable livelihoods as it lacks other means of livelihoods support such as employment opportunities. Even though Ethiopia as a nation does not have migration policy, policy concerning migrations crucial to a nation as a

migration has both benefit and disadvantage in different aspects. Countries formulate policies of migration that take the various issues of migration into consideration. Effective management of migration processes is possible whenever a nation develops strong and well articulated policy of migration that gives greater attention to various issues of migrants in particular and the nation's interest in general. Therefore, recognizing and understanding the situation of female returnees from Saudi Arabia alerts policy formulators to consider this issue while formulating migration policy for the country.

The commitment made by Nongovernmental and governmental organizations at strategy level seems unsatisfactory. However, and later on both NGOs and GOs failed to act for its implementation. This shows strategic gaps between what is planned is executed at the local level. The unique perception and experience of forced return in mass provide useful information for improving the role of government and nongovernment organs to be actively, timely and effectively involved in the re-integration process.

Finally, since there are several issues related to the topic which has not yet been answered by this research, further scientific investigation on different aspects of Saudi repatriates should be undertaken.

# 6.3. Recommendation

Hence, this is a recommendable strategy for dealing with Ethiopian Returnees from Saudi Arabia. With the aim of achieving successful integration the following are recommendable;

#### 1. Institutional arrangement

The setting up of institutions that can provide support to returnees in all aspects of social problems is essential. These institutions can be of either governmental or non-governmental.

#### 2. Community-based developmental activities

Any form of assistance need to be guide through community-based local developmental activities. These will help the government, deportees and the society in general to be self reliance rather than dependence on on-going external inputs and funds.

#### 3. Participation of actors

The participation of actors like civil society organizations, stakeholders, private individuals and the general society need to participate and respond promptly to curb similar future crisis.

#### 4. Formulation of Policy

A comprehensive migration policy is a must to alleviate such kind of unintended crisis and situations for the future by involving key actors like MOLSA, Foreign minister, Immigration and Citizenship Authority, NGOs, private stake holders and academicians.

#### 5. Guided intervention and implementation strategy

All-inclusive and sustainable reintegration scheme to capacitating deportees to maintain themselves and circumvent the risk of remigration is a must. Follow up and monitoring mechanism of activities.

### **Implications for Social Work Practice**

Social workers are responsible to examine and identify social problems and possible means of intervention. Social work is a helping profession which focuses on restoring and enhancing the capacities and assets of individuals, groups, organizations and communities to identify and address their problems. And the primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance social well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. The fact that this issue entails oppression, injustice and vulnerability makes it a concern of Social workers.

As it has been indicated, the situation of the returnees is very sensitive and complicated that needs the involvement of various stakeholders in order to create a favorable and human situation for successful integration.

The finding of the study have a great implication for social work practices in the area of policy formulation, advocacy, community mobilization, empowerment, service provision and research areas both in preventive and rehabilitative program. The Ethiopian government has to challenge this system by working collaboratively with destination countries to establish bilateral agreements.

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#### Annex I

## INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR SELECTED FEMALE REPATRIATES FROM SAUDI ARABIA

Purpose of the research: This Interview is intended to assess the process of deportation and reintegration of female domestic workers from Saudi Arabia on 2013. The interview is conducted with selected repatriates that reside in Addis Ababa. My name is Hanna Gebrekristos and I am a second year student at Addis Ababa University graduate School of Social Work. This interview is part of the study and aims at exploring and understanding the situation of return and reintegration upon and after repatriation. Your story contributes a great deal for successful accomplishment of my study and future intervention pertaining to this concern. Additionally, it also helps to understand the issue of migration, deportation and reintegration.

**Risks**: The study beyond demanding you to lose a small fraction of your time, does not bring any significant risk to you. Your opinion and views and also your identity in this interview will be used only for this study and will be confidential.

Procedure and Duration: This research will engage a personal interview of seven returnees who will be willing to volunteer for the study. The interviews to which you are going to respond demand you to spend 45-60 minutes to stay. After you have finished reading this informed consent form you will be asked to sign on the paper simply to show your willingness to participate in this research undertaking. However, if you feel that it is not comfortable putting your signature on the consent form, you can proceed to participate in the study showing that our completing of the interview is an indication of your willingness to take part in the research. The interview with the repatriates will be recorded to develop their responses effectively documented; however this is done only if the repatriates consented to be recorded.

You have the right not to respond questions that you are not comforted to respond or with draw from the study at any time you want.

Participating in this research is on voluntary bases. Your major benefit is presenting your story as a means of learning for others and the results will be useful to the country policy direction in returnees and also it will be useful to governmental, non-governmental institutions and the society in general to initiate a local means of developmental activities and initiate intervention plans to integrate the returnees into the society. Thus, your genuine answer to the issue will be paramount importance for the study as well as addressing the problem.

Thank you very much for being willing to share your story.

#### **Annex II**

#### **Interview Guide**

#### Part I. Background information

#### A. Personal background

- 1. How old are you? When did you go to Saudi Arabia?
- 2. Your educational level? Have you dropped from school? Why did you dropped?
- 3. With whom are you living now?

#### B. Parental background

1. What was your parents reaction when you go to Saudi Arabia? What was and is their reaction when you come back because of expulsion?

#### Part II.life experience

- 1. For how long did you stayed in Saudi Arabia? Were you a legal immigrant?
- 2. What job were you actually doing there? How much was your salary?
- 3. What motivated or initiated you to go to Saudi Arabia?
- 4. Were you having a job before you leave? If so what kind of job were you engaged in? Are you currently employed? If so what is your current occupation? What is your reaction for your current job?
- 5. How do you express your feeling when you heardabout the repatriation?
- 6. Did you receive any of your properties (salary and other benefits) by your employers during the expulsion?

- 7. What did the government of Saudi Arabia do after the repatriation? How was the repatriation? How about your employers? Did you face any problem during the repatriation? If so, by whom?
- 8. How do you compare your current living status in Ethiopia from your stay in Saudi Arabia? You may see it in terms of economic, social, and psychological satisfactions?
- 9. What do you feel because of the repatriation? Why?
- 10. How do you feel now because you are here?
- 11. What kind of economical, social, psychological problems did you face after you come here?

  How are you adjusting to family and life in Ethiopia after the repatriation?
- 12. Do you know organizations that were participating in assisting during the return and reintegration?
- 13. Was there activities promised by the different Government and Non-governmental organizations (actors) involved reintegration?
- 14. What is your future plan, where do you want to live in the future?
- 15. What are your suggestions to Social workers, governmental organization and other organizations to alleviate problem with regards to repatriates and migration in general?
- 16. What are the challenges you encountered once you returned home?
- 17. Related to your experiences and the purpose of this study is there any issue that you want to add? Do you think you have told me everything important?

#### **II. Issues related to Professional Needs**

- 1. What kind of Professional support you would like to get most? What are the reasons?
- 2. Is there a professional and psychological support that you get from governmental and Non-governmental Organizations? How the services you got from gov't and NGOs supported you and what sort of change has brought to you due to the services...?

Thank you so much!

# Key Informant Interview Questions (For individuals, government and NGO representatives who work on migration)

- 1. Would you please tell me your profession?
- 2. In what capacity are you working in the institution?
- 3. What kind of assistance/services or provisions that your institution is providing for forced returnees from Saudi Arabia?
- 4. Do you believe that the services are sufficient to address the needs of the repatriates?
- 5. What future plans your institution has in order to address the needs of repatriates and to make sustainable integration?
- 6. What challenges have you encountered so far in addressing and in the reintegration process?
- 7. In your opinion, how do you think the current support service can be improved?
- 8. How do youexplain the reintegration of returnee women, and stakeholders' interventions including the government?

#### **DECLARATION**

I, undersigned declare that this thesis is my original work and has not be presented for a degree

in any other university and that all source of materials used for the thesis have been duly acknowledged.

Name: Hanna Gebrekristos

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_
Approval by thesis advisor

This thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval has a university advisor

Name of advisor Getachew Kassa (Dr)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_