

The Academic Journal of St Clements Education Group

# VERITAS

Volume 10 No. 3

October 2019

ISSN 2307-2806



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# VERITAS

THE ACADEMIC JOURNAL OF ST CLEMENTS EDUCATION GROUP – ISSN 2307-2806

Volume 10 No. 3

October 2019



*Somalia - Rich in Natural Resources*

Source: <https://fortuneofafrica.com/somalia>

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# LEVERAGING SYNERGY BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT: NIGERIA AS CASE STUDY

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## Excerpts

Concerns have been raised over Nigeria's economy as regards growth in unemployment, declining opportunities and the ripple effect on overall welfare of the citizenry. Nigeria was once considered as giant of Africa based on her potentials that have refused to transform to reality. Her real development ranks pathetically behind South Africa and Egypt in many respects. For analysis sake, let us look at literacy rate, infrastructure development stride and political awareness. Nigeria has a literacy rate of about 68 per cent (Africland, 2015), grossly underdeveloped infrastructure, weak political culture premised on ethnicity and religion with no strategic economic alliance. South Africa has a literacy rate of 86.4 per cent (Africland, ante), well-developed infrastructure, versatile political system nurtured on pragmatism of the African National Congress (ANC) with BRICS as economic alliance. Egypt has literacy rate of 71.4 per cent (Africland, ante), a relatively well-developed infrastructure, manageable political system supported by the military with Arab league as its strategic economic alliance. Manageable political system in the sense that it's military with judicial system combines to demonstrate self-adjusting capacity. Only in April 2019, the country conducted a referendum to extend the tenure of its sitting President, El Sisi, to continue in office till 2030 after a parliamentary amendment to the constitution extending presidential term of office from four to six years. According to Aljazeera (2019), the referendum recorded 44 per cent attendance but over 90 per cent approval of the amendment.

This is not to suggest that other African nations do not possess comparatively better indices over and above those in comparison with Nigeria, indeed, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and recently, Rwanda present very intimidating statistics in some of the selected factors. Economists posit that growth and development are symptoms of right synergy between public and private sectors. Where the duo blends optimally, development is achieved but where otherwise, the opposite is the case. A good number of countries across the globe have leveraged this synergy and even firmed it up with enduring policies and strategies to optimize the partnership. Nigeria's economic experiment is diametrically opposed to this philosophy of growth, as a contra-distinction exists between private and public sectors. To underscore this, some public sector policies aim, ostensibly, at decelerating growth in the private

sector. This might not be a manifest intention but occasional policy slip effect. This write-up, thus, seeks to examine public-private sector relationship, qualitatively, with objective to draw attention of policy makers to certain policy slips that may not have been intended; expose readers to effects of such policy slips; canvass for a better articulation of policies with periodic conduct of policy impact reviews to streamline focus, going forward. The rest of the paper will hinge on the concept of public private synergy; an overview of public policy flips; experience of other jurisdictions; summary and conclusion.

## Introduction

Concept of private – public sector synergy

Empirical evidence suggests that private enterprise is endowed with greater efficiency in use of resources than public. Economists attribute this to objectives underlying private and public endeavours. Whereas the objective of a private concern is understandingly *profit motive*, that of a public entity is *well-being of citizenry*; all things being equal. The fact that well-being objective is not easily measured in monetary terms; public sector business decisions are premised on nebulous factors with potency to undermine policy essence. In the light of the aforesaid, modern economists seek right blend between public and private partnership to harness objectives for effective service delivery. Ngowi (2006) drawing comprehensively from the works of Commonwealth (2003); Sohail (2003); Buse & Walt (2002) and Nkya (2000) summed private-public-partnership (PPP) in terms of collaborative venture for effective service delivery to the society. Various dimensions of this PPP arrangement exist depending on what promoters seek to achieve and how they intend to achieve it. Nigeria, for instance, views collaboration with host communities as necessary strategy for achieving such synergy. This informs Lagos State government's decision to provide Lekki corridor access road (Victoria Island-Epe-Lekki) through PPP arrangement. The state government, thereafter, tolled the road for revenue generation; a development initially resisted by residents. Benefits of hindsight informed a different approach by government in a subsequent road project linking Ikoyi to Banana republic and Lekki. One needs to pay a visit to these erstwhile water-locked settlements to see the sprawling modernity to which the two roads transformed the suburbs.

Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) gained prominence after realizing that government alone cannot build physical infrastructure. Involvement of private sector is capable of reducing, not just the cost but, also, period of delivery of the infrastructure mainly because of private sector's prudence in managing resources, technical expertise and wider scope of access to capital resources. Public sector has limitations for such resources occasioned by leakages and other antithetical political considerations. Private investment in infrastructure does not, in any way, suggest abdication by government of its responsibility to the profit-conscious sector. Rather, it is an acknowledgment of government determination to foster collaboration between the two sectors.

Gildman et al (1995) identify four groups considered critical in PPP philosophy; government, civil society organizations (CSOs), host communities and private investors. Gildman et al (1995) observe outsourcing to be the most commonly used, while Sohail (2003) counsels that no Greek-like temple pillars exist in PPP arrangement, as all depends on type and nature of service; strength of respective parties and objective to be achieved. North (1990), Nkya (2000) and Sohail et al (2003) conclude that partnership is merely an institutional expression of relationship. The relationship only outlines roles, responsibilities and commitment to meeting an overarching objective of public good.

## **CASE OF NIGERIA**

This cursory review of literature leads us to insight in Nigeria's failure to fully implement PPP has denied the country of the required revenue. These sectors cut across the entire economy but we shall limit the discussion to postal services, education, banking and transport.

### **Postal Services**

Prior to 2001, Nigerian postal services were handled by Nigeria Postal & Telecommunication (NIPOST). This agency experienced a number of challenges since colonial days, bordering on poor infrastructure, low staff morale and other constraining operational logistics. Post-political independence (1960) changed little or nothing, with postal operations remaining the flagship service. Other subsidiary services revolved around savings mobilization, fund transfer, telegram and telephony services; none was remarkably reliable. For instance, getting a phone line in Nigeria was like the Biblical saying of a camel going through the hole of a needle. Indeed, a minister of communication during those dark days of military era averred that telephone was not for the poor. Moving a parcel or letter to a destination took months and could end up missing in the process. Postal or money orders became vehicles of fraud. Telegram was manageable; though plagued by financial scam and cost with unfriendly mechanics.

The private sector closed this service delivery gap with private courier service in the early 1990s. Among early courier companies was International Messengers Limited - IML (now Universal Parcels Services - UPS). Courier service companies delivered parcels, letters, personal messages and other forms of missives with dispatch, convenience and safety. This earned them instant confidence and patronage. Their profitable operations attracted other operators to the space, including Document Handling Limited – DHL. This influx came with stiff competition, necessitating government to assign NIPOST regulatory role over them in a service NIPOST had failed to handle as a monopolist. Whether or not NIPOST has exercised this regulatory oversight well is a discussion for another day. The policy issue here is the perceived inappropriateness of NIPOST to oversee and regulate an operation the assignee could not handle as a monopolist; more so, where the regulator is still in competition with the regulated. Could growth in the sector have been better under a different regulatory arrangement? Benefit of hindsight has, nevertheless, shown that involvement of private sector introduced necessary expertise in the handling of postal services in Nigeria. It has further made NIPOST to rediscover the lost opportunities as it now competes or forms new alliances to stay afloat. For instance, its *post office saving scheme* which would have transformed to a mega micro-finance institution by now is being resuscitated in partnership with the pseudo private Nigerian Incentive Based Risk Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL) to manage the newly incorporated national microfinance. NIPOST tries to sustain its funds transfer services but under severe competition with telecommunication and commercial banks who have state of the art infrastructure, expertise and time latitude to their advantage.

As for telephony it took General Olusegun Obasanjo (ret'd) whose economic liberalization of 1999 led to issuance of licenses for operation of global system of mobile telecommunication (GSM) in 2001, to restore hope. Available information has it that the initiative increased telephony access from about 400,000 analogue lines to over 98 million lines at end-December 2018. The greatest beneficiary of this liberation is the banking sector, which transaction is now largely telephone-based using the handset activated USSD technology. Growth in banking-telecom synergy possibly informed the South African telecom giant (MTN), election to remain in Nigeria after suffering heavy penalties in the last three years. Improvement in technology has rendered communication personal, effective and memorial across the globe.

### **Education Services**

In education, the 2<sup>nd</sup> republic from 1999 led by General Olusegun Obasanjo rekindled the hope of private sector participation in university education to complement the efforts of government. This led to the establishment of Igbenedion; Babcock and Madonna

universities in 1999 (Udendeh, 2012). Prior to this time, all universities were public and exclusive to state or federal governments. In May 2019, Nigerian Universities Commission (NUC) announced it had 170 universities comprising 43 federal, 48 states and 79 private (Guardian, 2019). It further noted it was processing 303 fresh applications for new universities. The Guardian editorial of same date counseled that NUC should focus on quality of existing institutions and refrain from establishing new ones, which the author differs with. Private sector involvement has eased off admission process in the system, entrenched stability and improved infrastructure. However, the orthodoxy associated with education system in Nigeria has placed private universities on a disadvantage. Admission is still centrally administered through joint admission and matriculation board (JAMB), an agency of government that sees the process more as revenue generating avenue than opening opportunities for younger Nigerians; government does not extend incentives such as education tax funds to private universities despite the fact that private sector pays a higher chunk of such taxes; government has increased retirement ages for doctorate and professorial teachers to avoid their retirement to private universities; NUC implements constraining oversight policies as against liberal approach to public universities and restriction of innovative cum revolutionary courses on flimsy excuses. This discriminatory approach to oversight of university system creates a sense of rivalry rather than needed cooperation.

### **Banking Services**

Post-independence, banking system was characterized by dominance of foreign banks, led by British Bank for West Africa (now First Bank) until indigenization policy of 1977 swapped ownership of banks in favour of government. The era of government ownership witnessed gross mismanagement of the institutions through unprofessional conduct that neglect of imperative to stimulate economic development with credits. Lack of access to credit and the consequential liquidity drought in economy informed quest for IMF loan in mid-1980s, however, conditionalities attached to the loan necessitated the option of structural adjustment program (SAP) for Nigeria in 1986 (Oguma, 1999). The latter up scaled participation of private individuals in banking business as it provided young Nigerians the opportunity to pool resources together to set up banks and non-bank financial institutions significantly. Most of these banks set up in the period (1989-1992) have expanded across the globe and now define Nigerian financial landscape. Banking reform of 2004-5 by Professor Charles Soludo, in 2004, further introduced corporate governance with some provisions that voided government ownership of more than 10 per cent equity shares in any bank (CBN, 2006 Governance Guidelines). As the policy gained traction, Mallam Lamido Sanisu Lamido (LSL) succeeded Charles Soludo as Governor of CBN. He expanded governance scope significantly by limiting tenure of executive management of banks to 10 years

and introducing cooling period for them and other executive management in Central Bank and Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (CBN, 2010 Banking Regulations 1-3). The original intention could have been to assist bring in fresh ideas to the system but this has, also, denied the system of needed experience of the proprietary directors whose zeal and valence brought successes to their institutions. The government further stifled growth of the system with intervention funds to certain sectors considered critical to the economy, sustained unfriendly monetary policies, for instance, it left monetary policy rate at 14 per cent for nearly three years (2016-2019); while breaking the camel's back with a centralized revenue accounting (Single Treasury Account- TSA). Accountant General of the Federation while addressing a delegation from The Gambia who visited in May 2019) to understudy the system, informed them that TSA has accumulated about N30 trillion (\$83b) since inception in 2015. With such huge resources being moved from commercial banks to the treasury, the former now exist to buy government securities, engage in payment processes and trade in foreign exchange for margins.

### **Transport Services**

Nigerian transport system encompasses air, rail, road and waterways. Government controlled the three except road. Again, mismanagement and ineptitude led to the demise of all these government investments leaving the private sector with road transport, which, without a strategic investment in infrastructure development, impacts negatively on our road system. The hazard of road transport has created opportunities in air transport but the private sector is plagued by regulatory policies to keep apace. A good example is the placing of airport management in the hands of federal government, which renders efforts of states government in opening new routes a herculean task. Besides regulatory constraints, government tax system is, also, discouraging, coupled with absence of local facilities for aircraft maintenance. Although, government is ostensibly showing interest in the rail system under Chinese partnership, the cost is prohibitive; routes are politically-induced; not economically inspired, as overall process is dilatorily frustrating. The shipping line is dominated by foreign operators as Nigeria has deficient capacity to participate in the sub-sector. This is largely because of her import-dependence economy; while exporting countries demonstrate proactivity and courage in organizing their trade policies. All these policy flops give an impression as if Nigeria is working at cross-purposes.

### **Apparent reasons for weak PPP policies**

Nigeria in particular and several other developing nations, especially in Africa, perceive private sector engagement in economy as competing for scarce resources; hence formulate policies to the detriment of the latter. A few nations (see ahead...) that view private sector as partners in progress have made

significant progress in economic development. Peterside (2017) posits that private sector, in the case of Nigeria, controls 93 per cent of the economy; leaving public sector with only 7 per cent. In his analysis, government should concentrate on policy formulation to enhance ease of doing business. This view was chronicled by Bismarck Rewane on May 15, while responding Channels Television (Business Session) on what Nigerians should look out for in President Buhari's second term effective May 30, 2019. To further streamline this discussion, the paper highlights below certain obvious reasons public-private-partnership fail to take firm root in Nigeria:

**i. Lack of proper focus**

Failure by government to articulate people-issue-policies adequately prior to putting them to effect, which contributes to lack of appeal to the private sector. Poverty eradication scheme of the 1990s, for instance, led to the establishment of People's Bank by government for the purpose but the bank never had a branch in rural areas where a majority of these poor resided. Yet it was meant to alleviate the poverty of the same people. As a direct consequence, loans granted under the scheme went to unintended targets. Had government involved even traditional rulers, significant difference would have made. Recently, Vice-President Yemi Osinbajo anchored *traders' money* programme by going to markets of selected states and distributing cash of varied sums to supposed traders. A development that many analysts opined was vote-buying money, being that it was never articulated in any government programme.

**ii. Lack of consultation**

Lack of involvement of the people, whose plights policies are concerned with, remains a major cause of policy failure. Ownership of People's bank did not reflect anybody other than Federal government. The stakeholders' interest and, ultimately, commitment were latently absent. Failure to involve stakeholders may, also, lead to wrong choices of strategic hubs, for instance, SMEDAN established a fish cluster in Cross Rivers State to the exclusion of Borno State (Guardian, 2008). Cross Rivers State fish cannot compare with quantum of fish being harvested in the Lake Chad basin, Borno state. In the same defective vein, Zaki-Biam in Benue State has no yam processing cluster activities as opposed to the less favoured and less staple cassava tubers has several processing clusters across Nigeria. A hard look at these instances will suggest that local peculiarities have not been factors driving initiatives but public personalities; otherwise, SMEDAN would have made greater impact.

**iii. Government Dominance**

The domineering influence of government in the conduct of affairs of its own institutions is a major disincentive. Even where such institutions are set up, supposedly, for public good this overbearing influence tends to impair their effectiveness. Government agencies place premium on political factors other than business imperative. For example, the exchange of

Maria Shokenu, an astute banker for Dr. Tai Solarin, an educationist, as head of People's bank Limited in the early 1990s was partly responsible for its untimely demise. Recently, (January 2017), Senator Ben Murray Bruce was on air canvassing for a wind-down of government activities in the economy in replacement for private sector. His wise counsel came on the heels of two developments that made mockery of government policies. They included closure of Abuja airport for six weeks from March 8, 2017, for repairs; while using Kaduna airport as alternative. He wondered how strategic the decision to close-down an airport of Abuja status for six weeks was amid extant economic recession and insecurity. The second policy was government decision to ban importation of vehicles through land borders, when 70 per cent of Nigeria's borders with neighbouring countries are landlocked. The fact that no single functional vehicle assembly plant exists and absence of an efficient transport system would have informed authorities to think properly through the policy. He queried public officers' manner of reasoning and concluded by urging them to emulate his tenure as director general (DG) of Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) that saw NTA move from an 8-hour to 24-hour broadcast (Bruce, 2017).

**iv. Absence of research information**

There is paucity of basic data from which policy analysts could premise analysis. Unhelpfully, government agencies with responsibility for data generation often provide unreliable, inconsistent and disconnected data. If adequate data were basis for policy formulation, the moribund National Economic Reconstruction Fund (NERFUND) would have stood the test of time. Proper analysis would, probably, have necessitated a drive for more due diligence in the review of companies that ended up misapplying funds accessed under the scheme.

**v. Weak legal system**

Nigerian economy is run on intuition, not legal framework. This explains why policies do not last. The legal system is inelegant and poorly designed to support business innovation. Apparent failure by government effort to curb corrupt tendencies in the system can best be explained from the stand point of this fundamental. For instance, a number of Nigerians hailed the introduction of treasury single account (TSA) by government in 2015 yet the government has not deemed it necessary to enact a law to support the initiative. As a result of this failure, an in-coming government may find it easy to jettison the initiative notwithstanding its potentials to curb corruption. Business-friendly climes drive governance through rule of law. Until Nigeria's parliament sees itself as a vehicle of transformation, economic growth and development will remain illusory.



**vi. Paucity of research efforts**

Government needs to engage academics in their policies in view of their capacity to synthesize analyze and constructively criticize concepts, contexts and metrics. On the other hand, Nigerian academics have to re-new interest in research. Experiment of micro-credit to rural women proved efficacy of research findings by Professor Muhammad Yunus of Chittagong University, Bangladesh. His research was timely; having come shortly after a devastating famine in Bangladesh. The findings stimulated interest all over, including the US. The usual complaint of lack of fund for research by some academics no longer holds water. There is nothing to suggest that Professor Yunus' research was funded by anybody, yet it succeeded lavishly.

**vii. Lack of incentives for hard work**

Government must create and incentivize the spirit of enterprise in the system, against extant apparent disincentive policies to hard work. The mind-set by modern day youths as to futility of hard-work in preference for rent-seeking mentality is unsettling. Government should let the youth know that quick-fix tendencies are transient but hard work is enduring and rewards abundantly.

**viii. Inconsistency in policy**

Lack of consistency in policy is another major drawback to private interest in government project. For instance, community reinvestment scheme that allowed 50 per cent of bank deposit to be reinvested in the domain for regeneration, subsisted in Nigeria for the period (1977- 1990), Small and medium scale industry (SMSI) fund promoted by government and bankers' committee to support SMEs, held sway for the period (2000-2007), though reviewed in 2008; community banking existed in the period (1991-2006). Policy makers will assist entrepreneurs immeasurably by subjecting policy reviews to rigorous debate and impact analysis before implementation.

**ix. Wrong premising**

Policy making has become an enigma, as more often than not, policy makers fail to anchor its thrust on the sound principle of larger interest. They instead, conscript policies to assuage their inordinate ego, which is outright fraud, to say the least. Policies are no longer premised on the need to solve societal problems or minimize societal hardship but as a device to attract budgetary allocation for selfish ends.

**x. External solutions to local problems**

Imputation of foreign concepts to local situations does overlook peculiar circumstances. SMSI policy, for instance, stemmed from a study tour of bank CEOs to Malaysia (2001), SMEDAN policy drew from a study tour of US, UK, Israel, Indonesia, Malaysia, Japan, India and others by a presidential committee (Guardian, 2008). No study tour of Nigerian states was considered to acquaint policy makers with peculiarities of the Nigerian states. These jamborees are, sometimes, supported by World Bank (WB) or International Monetary Fund (IMF). The twin Bretton wood

institutions are reputed for prescribing parallel models perceived as successful in one country, to others with different socio-cultural background, systems and value orientation.

**Global Experience**

In the United Kingdom (UK) the private sector is a strategic partner in the running of the economy. Its banking system is private-sector driven and where the system perceives defects in the smooth running, authorities prefer to fixing regulation other than operation. They did this in 1997 and 2012. Its rail system is largely being managed by the private sector, led by Richard Branson whose company would have earned £306 million in dividends at the end of his 22 year contract as rail operator ended April 2020 (Punch, 2019). His Virgin Group owns 51 per cent of the company operating in the sector under a joint venture with Stagecoach Transport Group. The latter, a transport group owned by a Scottish family, has 49 per cent. They were awarded the franchise in 1997. Elsewhere, Singapore became a developed country due to its strength in developing human capital through sustained investment in same. Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) set a clear vision about goals of the nation and how to achieve them.

Consistent growth and development in Hong Kong was similarly predicated on private participation in the economy. Deliberate laws were enacted to promote ownership of private property, encourage engagement in businesses with restriction of all forms of official interference. Businessmen in Hong Kong enjoy official recognition with high level of social status. Duration to register and commence business in Hong Kong is one of the shortest, which makes it to rank the first out of 144 countries reviewed in the "2012 Annual Report of the Economic Freedom of the World".

Hong Kong policies encourage individuals to own businesses through financial support to start-ups, mentorship and encouragement of business partnership. The tax laws are supportive with enablers like low rate, low administrative burden and diminishing payments. The country has a 12 year compulsory education which offers the young ones equal opportunity to acquire basic education. This policy contributed to its attainment of literacy rate of 94 per cent as at 2012. Hong Kong government owns a few companies, including Water Supplies Department and Hong Kong Housing Department. These departments are not for profit but rather to provide essential services. These facilitative policies rendered Hong Kong a self-fulfilled City-State.

**Summary and Conclusion**

There is great synergy to reap where government elects to work in partnership with the private sector. Not just any private person but organized private sector (OPS). Organized in the sense that groups of professional associations come together to chart an economic

agenda based on their conviction upon which government develops its strategic plan. Some of these pressure groups exist either as professionals or trade associations such as accountants, medical practitioners, chambers of commerce, manufacturers association, bankers committee, committee of exporters, among others. In Nigeria, an association of professional bodies, also, exists where members meet periodically with government functionaries to harmonize their expectations from government. Such meetings are veritable avenues of strategic engagement with government officials.

Government, on the other hand, should offload itself of aloofness but cultivate a culture of partnership and focus more on policies. Good policies give rise to business friendly laws that in turn, guarantee proprietary interest, aid tax administration and entrench dispute resolution mechanism all of which attract business participation and direct foreign investment.

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# ISLAMISATION OF EUROPE: THE TRUTH FROM MATHEMATICAL MODELLING

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## INTRODUCTION

Several comments from numerous Islamic sources indicate that many Moslems believe that based on the eternal tenets of Islamic holy book on marriage and family values, the population of Migrant Moslems in Europe will sooner or later overtake that of their host nations. According to the Pew Research Center, Europe's population was 6% Muslim in 2010, and is projected to be 8% Muslim by 2030, a ratio of 1:17 and 1:12 for 2010 and 2030.

In this work, the author using a modest ratio of 1:20 and 2018 as the base year, made some assumptions and proceeded to interpret the assumptions, using mathematical models, flow charts and algorithms. The result showed that over time, the ratio of European population to that of migrant Moslems will ultimately converge in the year 2278 and thereafter, overtake that of Europe.

However, this result bears a direct relationship to the author's assumptions, which are highly reasonable. It also means that many answers are possible as the assumptions vary, but the reader must know that the deeper the assumptions, the more complicated the mathematical solution will become. The outcome is a wakeup call to the present Europeans to make hay while the sun shines, if the culture, norms and religious values which they inherited from their forefathers must be bequeathed to their future generations.

**KEY WORDS:** Islam, Koran, Migrants, Citizens, Verhulst's Logic, Eurabia, Jahiliyyah.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Commenting on this topic, an online news platform, nowthendbegins.com, began by quoting relevant portions of the Koran. "And KILL them (the unbelievers) wherever you find them, and drive them out from whence they drove you out, and persecution is severer than slaughter, and do not fight with them at the Sacred Mosque until they fight with you in it, but if they do fight you, then slay them; such is the recompense of the unbelievers." (Sura 2, verse 191).

"Let not the believers take the unbelievers for friends rather than believers; and whoever does this, he shall have nothing of (the guardianship of) Allah, but you should guard yourselves against them, guarding carefully; and Allah makes you cautious of (retribution from) Himself; and to Allah is the eventual coming." (Sura 3, verse 28).

"And whoever does not believe in Allah and His Apostle, then surely We have prepared burning fire for the unbelievers." (Sura 48, verse 13).

According to the news platform, biological Jihad is the Muslim practice of emigrating to every major country around the world, and having as many children as possible. The average number of people in a European Muslim family is 8, with many families having as many as 10 to 14. By increasing the number of Muslim living in any one particular country, they eventually will become the dominant force in that country as their people go in to public life, are elected to prominent positions, and then change the laws of that country to suit the Muslim ideology.

Former Libyan Leader Mu'ammar Al-Qaddafi says it like this: "We have 50 million Muslims in Europe. There are signs that Allah will grant Islam victory in Europe - without swords, without guns, without conquests. The fifty million Muslims of Europe will turn it into a Muslim continent within a few decades."

According to Imam Abdul Alim Musa, leader of As-Sabiqun in Washington DC, "We resolve to shape the ideas, beliefs, and moral viewpoints of the people into an Islamic mold. Toward this end we will, Insha'Allah, develop the comprehensive educational system that is necessary to inform, inspire, and direct the society toward Islamic revolution (or evolution)." "We resolve to utilize all the tools of Islam to develop an analysis and plan of action to totally and completely obliterate the hold of Jahiliyyah and enable Islam to take complete control of our lives, and ultimately, the lives of all human beings on Earth."

Contributing an answer to this topic in Quora, a European expert said that numerous analysts predict a Muslim takeover of Europe. The late Oriana Fallaci observed that with the passage of time, Europe would become "a province of Islam, a colony of Islam." Historian Bat Ye'or has dubbed this colony "Eurabia." Mark Steyn, in *America Alone: The End of the World as We Know It*, argues that; "much of the Western world will not survive the twenty-first century, and much of it will effectively disappear within our lifetimes, including many if not most European countries."

Many Muslims see Europe as a continent ripe for conversion and domination. Outrageous supremacist claims result, such as the statement of Omar Bakri Mohammed, who said that "I want Britain to become an Islamic state. I want to see the flag of Islam raised in 10 Downing Street."

One Belgium-based Imam predicted that "Soon we will take power in this country. Those who criticize us now, will regret it. They will have to serve us. Prepare, for the hour is near."

Writing about Islam's conquest of Europe, Giulio Meotti, commented that the Wall Street Journal published an interview with France's director of domestic intelligence, Patrick Calvar who was quoted as saying that, "the confrontation is inevitable," There are an estimated 15,000 Salafists among France's seven million Muslims, "whose radical-fundamentalist creed dominates many of the predominantly Muslim housing projects at the edges of cities such as Paris, Nice or Lyon. Their preachers call for a civil war, with all Muslims tasked to wipe out the miscreants down the street." According to him, there exists another threat which is even more dangerous because it is more difficult to decipher. It has just been dubbed by the magazine Valeurs Actuelles, "the quiet conquest". It is "moderate" Islam's sinuous project of producing submission. "Its ambition is clear: changing French society slowly, but surely".

### ASSUMPTIONS

The result of this work was based on the following assumptions.

1. The present (2018) ratio is 1:20 or about 5% of European population are Muslims (Pew Research Center)
2. For both groups, one fifth of the population are 20 years
3. Twenty years is a compulsory marriage age for both groups
4. Those 20 years are half male and half female who must marry in 2018
5. Muslims (unofficially) marry 3 wives and each can bear not more than 3 children.
6. The Europeans (officially) marry only 1 wife who can bear a maximum of 4 children

7. The order of child bearing is annual for each of the three Moslem wives, so that within three years each married Moslem has born the maximum allowable children of nine.
8. The Europeans also will bear all children within four years
9. The gender of children is equally distributed. Half male , half female who must all marry at 20 years of age
10. Every 20 years, one tenth of present Muslim populations join Europeans by adopting both European and Christian values.
11. It is assumed that there is zero immigration or that immigration and emigration are equal.
12. That death rate among Muslims and Europeans are constant and in equal proportion.

Given these assumptions, can there be a mathematical model that will determine whether the population growth of the two groups will converge in future and if so when?

### METHODOLOGY

On the basis of the given assumptions, a statistical flow chart was built. Various comparative tables were used to compare proportions, while Verhulst's Logic model was employed to extrapolate future sequential population ratios.

### MATHEMATICAL ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Initially the average percentage change in population for the Europeans is 161.87% faster than that of the Moslem which is 102.51%. This statistics is shown in the table below:

Table 1: Proportional Population of the Moslem and European Citizens

YEAR	TERMLY YEAR	POPULATION		POPULATION INCREASE	
		MOSLEM	EUROPE	MOSLEM	EUROPE
T0	2018	15	300	0	0
T20	2038	34	589	126.67	96.33
T40	2058	76	1149	123.53	95.08
T60	2078	206	2364	171.05	105.74
T80	2098	380	4852	84.47	105.25
T100	2118	925	9908	143.42	104.2
T120	2138	2582	20135	179.14	103.22
T140	2158	7573	40905	193.3	103.15
T160	2178	22562	83278	197.93	103.59
T180	2198	67545	170002	199.38	104.14
T200	2218	202508	347400	199.81	104.35
				161.87	102.505

1. In every 20 years, it was discovered that an average of 10.11% of the proportional population of the Moslems convert to citizens of Europe, which is shown in table 2 below.
2. It was also discovered that the proportional population of the Moslems that are European citizens contributed an average of 2.17% to the European population. This statistics is also shown in table 2 below.

Table 2: Proportional Population of the Moslems that converted to European Citizens

YEAR	TERMLY YEAR	CONVERSIONS		% CONVERSION RATE	
		MOSLEM	EUROPE	MOSLEM%	EUROPE%
T0	2018	0	0	0	0
T20	2038	4	4	10.53	0.68
T40	2058	9	9	10.59	0.78
T60	2078	23	23	10.04	0.97
T80	2098	42	42	9.95	0.87
T100	2118	103	103	10.02	1.04
T120	2138	287	287	10	1.43
T140	2158	841	841	10	2.06
T160	2178	2507	2507	10	3.01
T180	2198	7505	7505	10	4.41
T200	2218	22501	22501	10	6.48
		3382.2	3382.2	10.113	2.173

3. Despite the high increasing rate of the proportional population of the Europe as against that of the Moslems as shown in table 1 above, the ratio of every 1 Moslem to n European is dropping, becoming 1:2 in the year 2218 from 1:20 in 2018, which is shown in table 3 below.

Table 3: Ratio of every 1 Moslem to n European

YEAR	TERMLY YEAR	M:E(1:n)			European Ratio dropping	Percentage of European Ratio dropping
		MOSLEM	EUROPE	The ratio		
T0	2018	1	20	1:20	0	0
T20	2038	1	17.32	1:17	-2.68	-13.4
T40	2058	1	15.12	1:15	-2.2	-12.7
T60	2078	1	11.48	1:11	-3.64	-24.07
T80	2098	1	12.77	1:13	1.29	11.24
T100	2118	1	10.71	1:11	-2.06	-16.13
T120	2138	1	7.8	1:8	-2.91	-27.17
T140	2158	1	5.4	1:5	-2.4	-30.77
T160	2178	1	3.69	1:4	-1.71	-31.67
T180	2198	1	2.52	1:3	-1.17	-31.71
T200	2218	1	1.72	1:2	-0.8	-31.75
					-1.828	-20.813

4. While the ratio of every 1 European to n Moslem citizens is dropping as shown in table 3 above, the percentage ratio of Moslem increment is increasing tremendously, narrowing the population gap at an average rate of 29.25% every twenty years, according to table 4.

Table 4: Ratio of every 1 European to n Moslem

YEAR	TERMLY YEAR	M:E(n:1)			Moslem increment	Percentage of Moslem Ratio increment
		MOSLEM	EUROPE	The ratio		
T0	2018	0.05	1	0.05:1	0	0
T20	2038	0.06	1	0.06:1	0.01	20
T40	2058	0.07	1	0.07:1	0.01	16.67
T60	2078	0.09	1	0.09:1	0.02	28.57
T80	2098	0.08	1	0.08:1	-0.01	-11.11
T100	2118	0.09	1	0.09:1	0.01	12.5
T120	2138	0.13	1	0.13:1	0.04	44.44
T140	2158	0.19	1	0.19:1	0.06	46.15
T160	2178	0.27	1	0.27:1	0.08	42.11
T180	2198	0.4	1	0.4:1	0.13	48.15
T200	2218	0.58	1	0.58:1	0.18	45
					<b>0.053</b>	<b>29.248</b>

5. Verhulst's Logic model at T180 at the average percentage error of 7.46% was used to extrapolate the ratio of every 1 European to n Moslem to the year 2238, 2258, 2278, 2298 and 2318 since the calculations will be cumbersome to determine. Hence, the model predicted that in the year 2238, the ratio of 1 European to n Moslem will be 1 is to the range of 0.67 to 0.75; in the year 2258, the ratio of 1 European to n Moslem will be 1 is to the range of 0.82 to 0.93; in the year 2278, the ratio of 1 European to n Moslem will be 1 is to range of 0.98 to 1.10; in the year 2298, the ratio of 1 European to n Moslem will be 1 is to the range of 1.13 to 1.28; and finally in the year 2298, the ratio of 1 European to n Moslem will be 1 is to the range of 1.27 to 1.43. The analysis is showed in table 5 below.

Table 5: Verhulst's Logic model

YEAR	TERMLY YEAR	M:E(n:1) at T180			Moslem ratio Range
		MOSLEM	EUROPE	The ratio	
T220	2238	0.67	1	0.67:1	0.75
T240	2258	0.82	1	0.82:1	0.93
T260	2278	0.98	1	0.98:1	1.10
T280	2298	1.13	1	1.13:1	1.28
T300	2318	1.27	1	1.27:1	1.43

The Verhulst's Logic model as derived from Table 3 above is shown in table 6 below

Table 6: Application of Verhulst's Logic model to determine the Ratio of every 1 European to n Moslem

YEAR	TERMLY YEAR	MOSLEM RATIO		
		Observed value	Modal value	Error diff.
T0	2018	0.05	0.02	0.03
T20	2038	0.06	0.03	0.03
T40	2058	0.07	0.04	0.03
T60	2078	0.09	0.06	0.03
T80	2098	0.08	0.00	0.08
T100	2118	0.09	0.11	-0.02
T120	2138	0.13	0.16	-0.03
T140	2158	0.19	0.22	-0.03

T160	2178	0.27	0.30	-0.03
T180	2198	0.40	0.40	0.00
T200	2218	0.58	0.52	0.06
		2.01		0.15

$$\text{Percentage error} = \frac{0.15}{2.01} \times \frac{100}{1} = \frac{15}{2.01} = 7.46\%$$

$$\text{Verhulst's Logic model, } N(t) = \frac{N_0}{1 + Ae^{-\alpha t}} = \frac{1.74}{1 + 20.74e^{-0.018236t}}$$

$$\text{Range, } R = N(t) + [N(t) \times 0.074626865 \times 1.74]$$

6. Verhulst's Logic model at T180 at the average percentage error of  $-10.92\%$  was used to forecast the ratio of the every 1 Moslem to n European to the year 2238, 2258, 2278, 2298 and 2318 since that the calculations will be cumbersome to determine. Hence, the model predicted that in the year 2238, the ratio of 1 Moslem to n European will be 1 is to the range of 1.21 to 1.08; in the year 2258, the ratio of 1 Moslem to n European will be 1 is to the range of 0.84 to 0.75; in the year 2278, the ratio of 1 Moslem to n European will be 1 is to the range of 0.58 to 0.51; in the year 2298, the ratio of 1 Moslem to n European will be 1 is to the range of 0.40 to 0.35; and finally in the year 2298, the ratio of 1 Moslem to n European will be 1 is to the range of 0.27 to 0.24. The analysis is showed in table 7 below.

Table 7: Verhulst's Logic model for European Ratio Prediction

YEAR	TERMLY YEAR	M:E(1:n) at T180			European ratio Range
		MOSLEM	EUROPE	The ratio	
T220	2238	1	1.21	1:1.21	1.08
T240	2258	1	0.84	1:0.84	0.75
T260	2278	1	0.58	1:0.58	0.51
T280	2298	1	0.40	1:0.40	0.35
T300	2318	1	0.27	1:0.27	0.24

The Verhulst's Logic model is derived from Table 4 above which is shown in table 8 below

Table 8: Application of Verhulst's Logic model to determine the Ratio of every 1 Moslem to n European

YEAR	TERMLY YEAR	EUROPEAN RATIO		
		Observed value	Modal value	Error diff.
T0	2018	20	28.88	-8.88
T20	2038	17.32	24.83	-7.51
T40	2058	15.12	20.60	-5.48
T60	2078	11.48	16.50	-5.02
T80	2098	12.77	0.00	12.77
T100	2118	10.71	9.60	1.11
T120	2138	7.8	7.04	0.76
T140	2158	5.4	5.07	0.33
T160	2178	3.69	3.59	0.1
T180	2198	2.52	2.52	0
T200	2218	1.72	1.75	-0.03
		108.53		-11.85

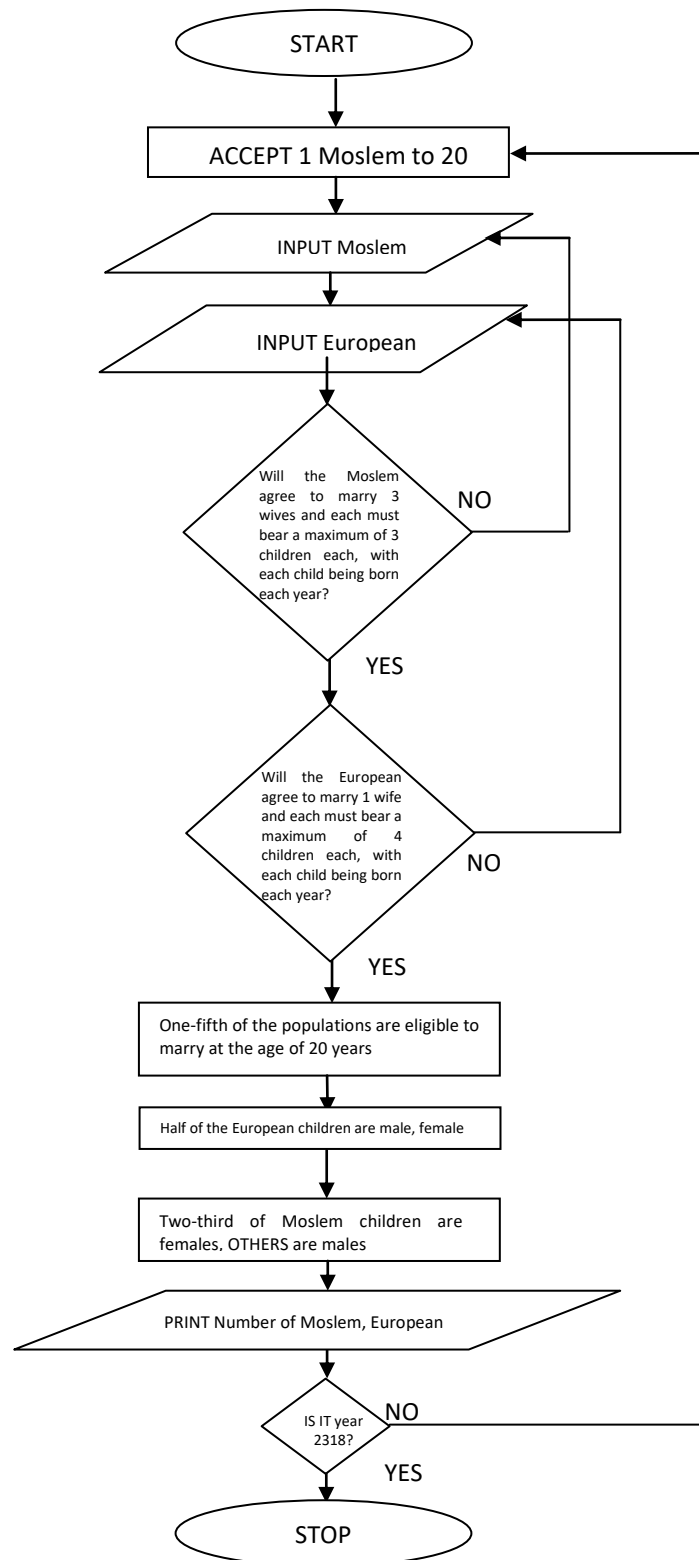
Percentage error =  $\frac{-11.85}{108.53} \times \frac{100}{1} = -10.92\%$

Verhulst's Logic model,  $N(t) = \frac{N_0}{1+Ae^{-\alpha t}} = \frac{44.61}{1+2.4933e^{0.01902t}}$

Range,  $R = N(t) + [N(t) \times (-0.109187) \times 1.74]$

7. From the results shown in tables 5 and 7 respectively, it showed that the European population shall be increasing at a diminishing rate, while the population of the Moslems increases at an increasing rate and shall dominate the Europeans from the approximate year of 2258 which is 240 years from 2018.

**THE FLOWCHART FOR THIS ANALYSIS**





## RECOMMENDATION

The present Europe, going by history, was forged by the blood of numerous battles. In those battles, the identity and territorial positions of their adversary was well known, thus making planning, military strategy and countervailing weaponry possible. But the present battle is one of a kind, where the enemy is subtle and pretends to be a friend within, yet turns to fight you when you are at ease and relies on dominance as the final civil weapon. My recommendation will follow the words of a notable European Economist, J. M. Keynes, who said that, "in the long run we are all dead, why worry?" If European leaders feel that in the long run their children will be alive to witness the foundations laid by blood of their fore father being threatened by a mistaken magnanimity, then the present generation of Europeans must worry. This is a European problem and must involve a revisit of European Union Constitution.

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# WRITING A RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Dr Godwen Veremu\*

## Introduction

All Doctorate and Post-Doctorate candidates need to present a Research Proposal as a prime requirement to be admitted at any University. A research proposal presents and justifies a research idea and the practical ways in which it can be developed. It analyzes and synthesizes the existing research about a particular topic and describes the writer's own idea for a new study, based on the assessment of gaps in existing literature. It answers three questions: (1) what the project is, (2) why it's important, and (3) how it will be handled. More precisely, a proposal is a demonstration of a commitment to an extensive study. ([www.awc.metu.edu.tr.com](http://www.awc.metu.edu.tr.com) retrieved on Sep 12, 2018)

The main purpose of a research proposal is to show that the problem you propose to study is significant enough to warrant the investigation, the method you plan to use is suitable and feasible, and the results are likely to prove fruitful and will make an original contribution. Wallman (2001:279) proposes an obligatory list of elements to be considered for a rich research proposal, namely: title, aims of the research, the background, the research problem, possible outcomes, outline of the methods and selected bibliography. This paper intends to help higher degree candidates in designing Research Proposals that can easily secure places for them at Universities.

## 1. Parts of a Research Proposal

### 1.1. Title

A title of a Research brings the main idea of the study. It reflects the problem to be tackled. It should not be too long, but attractive to readers.

The function of the title is to encapsulate in a few words the essence of the research. It should accurately reflect your intentions. (Wallman, 2001:280).

Make your title as short as possible, but incorporating the essence of the study. Avoid making your title a 'case study'. It should be broad and attractive to readers. Many candidates fail to get places at universities because of unconvincing titles, and supervisors normally reject research proposals with topics which are very common and restricted.

### 1.2. Introduction

This is an introductory part of a research proposal with the aim of giving an idea of your motivation to undertake the research. This can be compared to an abstract, but it neither describes the methods to be used, nor the findings, but gives a general motivation to the reader.

### 1.3. Description of the Research setting and Population

A well done research proposal should describe the setting and population of the study. This helps the reader to understand where will the research take place and who are the participants, thereby validating your research. Depending on your topic, studying child acquisition of a foreign language done only with one child could not validate your findings. It is at this stage that you answer two of the five 'Ws' of research: 'Where and Who' of your research topic.

### 1.4. Aims and objectives of the Research

Aims of the Research 'serve as an introduction to the heart of the project. It should be possible to state the aims of the research in two or three sentences. If you cannot do this, you have probably not thought sufficiently about what you are actually going to do. It should be evident that the aims are delineated sufficiently so that it is possible to achieve them with the available resources and time'. (Wallman, N. 2001:281).

However, we can also have a general or main objective which is overall of the research, and specific objectives which are there to facilitate achieving the main objective.

### 1.5. Beneficiaries of the Research

Even though most research work benefits the society at large, it is rewarding if a researcher defines the immediate beneficiaries of his/her research findings. In an education related study, beneficiaries can include all education stakeholders: Education officers at the Ministry of Education, at the Provincial offices and at the District offices, teachers, students, syllabus designers, and policy makers.

### 1.6. Duration of the Research

We thought it absurd if a research work doesn't show the period in which it is intended to achieve its aims and publish the results. Mentioning the duration of your research will make the reader or supervisor evaluate the suitability of the work and his availability to supervise you. One sentence like this can work well: The present research study aims at achieving its aim over a period three years - 2019 – 2021. Note that you can present a Schedule for the activities, attaching the form to the research proposal.

Dawson considers this aspect fundamental, saying that 'a detailed timetable scheduling all aspects of the research should be produced. This will include time taken to conduct background research, questionnaire or

interview schedule development, data collection, data analysis and report writing'. (Dawson, C. 2002:58)

### 1.7. The background

One reason to present this section in a research proposal is to show the reader that some phenomenon has driven you to research. *Why* are you doing this research? The answer to this question should present the background to the study.

Referring to the background to the study, Chisi, et al, state that 'The background places the research study into some intelligible context, touching broadly on some of the issues related to it. Generally, you will rely on some information which led you to get to the source of this particular research problem in the first place'. (Chisi, et al, 2000:14).

Wallman too, brings about the idea that the background section of a research proposal must show that you know where you are starting from, as he says, 'it is necessary to explain to the reader of your proposal, the context from which the research problem emerges. You should be able to demonstrate that you are aware of the major factors which surround your problem, and of any significant literature which relates to it'. (Wallman, N. 2001:281).

In few words, the background to the study must clarify that after you have studied the available literature, you identified a gap that need to be filled by your proposed study.

### 1.8. The Research Problem

It is the focus of the research proposal and, in fact of the whole research project. Statement of the problem, as Chisi, R, et al, call this section, should 'contain a brief and clear statement of the problem to be solved'. The characteristics of a good research problem statement are:

- Researchable.
- Precise.
- Resolved through research.
- Relevant. (Chisi, et al, 2000:15)

### 1.9. Research Questions

The research question or focused question is there to help tackle the topic. This is attained by transforming the research topic into a question. Sub-questions or other research questions are put forward as a way of facilitating answering the main or focused question. I also believe that these sub-questions help to validate the research as they bring in more information related to the topic in discussion. Research questions are supposed to specify variables. Variables are factors which work as guidelines for the topic. These are divided into dependent (D) and independent (ID). Dependent variables are those factors which cannot be manipulated while independent ones can be manipulated. Validity, which is the true representation of what a research is supposed to present, can be

affected by variables suggested either internally or externally. In order to determine the data to be collected, we need to operationalize the variables through behaviors. In second language learning, 'lack of vocabulary' can be a variable, which will have - word meaning, false friends in pronunciation and word usage- as behaviors.

### 1.10. Hypotheses

Hypotheses are anticipated results of the research, or ideas suggested as possible ways of explaining the phenomenon in discussion. These too are presented as main and secondary hypotheses.

According to Chisi, R, et al, (2000:16), hypotheses are tentative answers or "intelligent guesses" or "probable answers" to the research questions or sub problems'. They go on to say that hypotheses can be written in null or alternate (directional) form.

*Null hypothesis* - There is no difference in test scores in English reading at Grade One between pupils whose fathers attained 11 years of formal education and those pupils whose fathers attained less than 11 years of formal education.

*Alternate hypotheses* – Pupils whose fathers completed 11 years of formal education obtain higher test scores in English reading at Grade One than the test scores for those pupils whose fathers had less than 11 years of formal education.

The second conditional is normally used in presenting the hypotheses, as in the example: *A genuine observation and follow up of didactic and evaluation principles learnt in colleges and pedagogic workshops would be an answer to assure quality control in education.*

To come up to a conclusion of the research, hypotheses are tested or confirmed through collected data. Chisi, et al, advise researchers who are not quite confident of statistical testing of hypotheses not to state them but state research questions instead. (Chisi, R, et al, 2000:16).

### 1.11. Research Methodology

This part of your research proposal gives a clear and brief description of how the research will be carried out. This is a vivid description of all the activities and procedures which will be undertaken for the research. The future tense is usually used as you will be suggesting what you intend to do. The description will be based on your chosen approach, as stated by Wallman (2001:283) when he says that the research methodology part of a proposal '...explains what you are going to do in order to carry out your research, based on your chosen research approach'.

You will need to describe the Research Design or Plan for your study. The type of design depends on the data you intend to collect, so reading about the available research designs is indispensable: Descriptive,

Experimental, Correlation, Historical or Case Study. When presenting the design, you need to describe the theoretical framework bringing out its strengths and weakness, and show that the weaknesses will not affect the validity of the research findings. Try to justify the choice of the design too.

Discussion must also include: Subjects of the research, Research instruments, Data collection procedures, Data presentation, Data analysis. (Chisi, et al, 2000:46).

### 1.12. Constraints and limitations

Limitations are those conditions beyond the control of the researcher that may place restrictions on the conclusions of the study and their application to other situations. It is not enough just to state the limitations or constraints without suggesting the compensatory factors that ensure that the research remains valid and reliable.

### 1.13. Initial ethical considerations

This is the most sensitive part of the research. When writing your research proposal, you need to state if there are any ethical issues to be considered. This is usually done if you are going to carry out your research outside your home area. Here, language used in data collection procedures should be adequate to the research subjects.

### 1.14. Resources needed

Dawson calls this a 'research budget'. (Dawson, C. 2002:60). Though Dawson emphasizes the need to present a research budget if you are applying for funding, it is even important if you are paying for the study yourself. You need to do this so that you budget according to the needs of the research, and avoid running out of resources in the middle of the research, and if anyone is interested in financing your study, it's clear from the start what you really need.

### 1.15. Staff consulted

Suppose you are employed and your study is financed by your employer, it is evident that you might be taking the study to meet the personnel capacity requirements of the employer. In such a case, when you are writing your research proposal, you can mention the staff you consulted before proposing the study. This will concern the relevancy of your research topic, the research methodology and the beneficiaries of the study. If any consultation has been done, don't forget to mention the names, the position, the contact details, in case your supervisor would like to get in touch with one of them, or maybe one of them can be your referee in the application process. Giving this information in your research proposal shows that you are serious with your study.

## 1.16. Bibliography

This last section of your research proposal gives a clear picture that you have read enough for your proposal, and you are aware of the background information supporting your research. Some proposals will require a minimum number of consulted references, but it is certain that you are supposed to present an adequate amount of references to show your research abilities.

### Conclusion

This paper covered the main aspects to be considered when writing a research proposal. It is wiser to consider all the aspects discussed in this paper when writing your research proposal so that you don't miss the important information, avoiding the risk of your proposal being refused. Alternatively, each university provides a research proposal form to complete with the elements they require, and this way you just concentrate on making yourself as succinct as possible.

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# NATIONAL BUDGET AND BUDGETING ISSUES: SOME REFLECTIONS ON GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA'S BUDGET OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2018/2019

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## INTRODUCTION

Public budgeting is not about numbers only; it is about making democratic governance work. During the debates leading to the creation of the American Constitution, taxation and public expenditures were one of the creations of the peculiar and complex system of separation of powers, checks and balances. Various States and local democratic Constitutions give executive branch the power to collect taxes, but the authority to appropriate funds is lodged in the legislative branch (parliament). This is a practice common in most countries of the world including Uganda.

A budget is a projection of future revenues and expenditures, and can also be viewed as a plan for spending and receiving funds (Coe, 1989). According to Sullivan & Steven (2003), a budget is a financial plan and a list of all expenses and revenues. It is a plan *for saving, borrowing and spending*.

A national budget is a proposal of revenues and expenditures a Government expects for a given financial year. It is much like any budget in that it estimates necessary spending against necessary income, only on a much larger scale at this level of engagement.

## VARIOUS OBJECTIVES OF GOVERNMENT BUDGET (6)

### 1. Reallocation of Resources:

Through budgetary policy, government aims to reallocate resources in accordance with the economic (profit maximization) and social priorities (public welfare) of the country Government can influence allocation of resources through: Tax concessions/subsidies and /or directly producing goods and services.

### 2. Reducing Inequalities in Income and Wealth:

This is done through budgeting policy, for example, by imposing taxes on the rich and spending more on the welfare of the poor. Taxes have the potential of reducing income

of the rich and raising standard of living of the poor, thus reducing inequalities in the distribution of income.

### 3. Economic Stability:

Government budget is used to prevent business fluctuations such as in inflation or deflation to achieve the objective of economic stability. Government aims to control the different phases of business fluctuations through budgetary policy.

### 4. Management of Public Enterprises:

There are large numbers of public sector industries especially national monopolies, which are established and managed for social welfare of the public, for example, National Water and Sewerage Corporation of Uganda.

### 5. Economic Growth:

The growth rate of a country depends on the rate of saving and investment. For this purpose, budgetary policy aims to mobilize sufficient resources for investment in the public sector. So, government makes various provisions in the budget to raise overall rate of savings and investments in the economy.

### 6. Reducing Regional Disparities:

This is through taxation and expenditure policy for encouraging setting up production units in economically backward regions.

## FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC BUDGET (PERSPECTIVE FROM GILDENHUY, 1991)

1. The budget is a policy statement declaring the goals and specific objectives an authority wishes to achieve by means of the expenditure concerned. It is a policy expressed in amounts of money and is the actual embodiment of policy and of implied policy objectives. It contains generally both the quantity and quality of the envisaged service delivery.
2. The redistribution of wealth is one of the most important functions of a budget (revenue policy and expenditure policy).

3. For administrative authority, the budget is a work program on which each department can base its own operational work program. This function demands that the structure of the objectives, the activities, the schedule, the revenue schedule and the financial schedule are clearly expounded in the budget document.
4. A budget serves as a source of information for everyone concerned, for example, for executing relevant duties and responsibilities.
5. A budget serves as a coordinating instrument by which Government activities can be integrated since it is supposed to contain all information on the policies, objectives and activities of the government in one document.
6. A budget is also a control instrument to be used by the legislative authority over the executive, and the executive authority over administrative authority, and even for financial control within a single component of the administrative authority.

### **OVERVIEW OF A BUDGETARY PROCESS**

This is taken as a two-way process: Bottom–up and Top-down in orientation. From a top-down, the senior management team who will communicate the goals and objectives of the Government or Organization, and expect all the functions of the lower level organization to align according to their purpose of budget. From bottom –up, all personnel will be involved in the development of the budget, especially the construction of the budget items.

However, regardless of the kind of budget that could be developed, the budget process is an ideal time for personnel to inform and engage in a financial planning service.

Traditionally, budgets have been formulated according to bottom up approach. For example, Line Ministries submitted their budget requests, which were usually in excess of what they realistically expected to obtain in the end, to finance the Ministry at an early stage of the budget process. Based on requests, negotiations would begin between the Finance Ministry and Line Ministries, and would go through several rounds until they reached an agreement. Following further discussions on resource allocation issues in ministerial meetings, the Government could finalize its budgetary proposal in the Cabinet Meeting. This system then confers centralized authority for the resource allocation on the Finance Ministry, which managed Public Finance by controlling individual appropriations and budget items of Line Ministries.

Note that top-down budgeting system allows Government to manage fiscal deficits more effectively and efficiently than bottom-up budgeting system. In the top down system, the first priority of the Finance Ministry lies in setting the Fiscal Management target for fiscal sustainability and ensuring compliance with

this target, in contrast to the emphasis on allocating financial resources to individual appropriations in the bottom-up system. Once the fiscal target is confirmed in the Cabinet Meeting in an early phase, it becomes binding upon every Cabinet member during the budget process to defend the issues therein vigorously by the budget staff. With the fiscal management target enforced as a rule and backed by an influential budget office, the government is able to regulate public expenditure, thereby control the fiscal balance effectively and efficiently (Ljungman, 2009).

Top down systems enable the Finance Ministry staff to be able to concentrate on setting the expenditure ceilings and controlling additional requests by setting rules which line ministries are able to devote themselves to allocating financial resources efficiently to individual programs within their assigned spending ceilings. The roles of Finance Ministry and Line ministries are clearly differentiated. The Finance Ministry does not need to intervene in detailed resource allocations made by Line Ministries if they conduct them according to, and in line with the rules of engagement and approval. Line Ministries can make best use of their expertise in allocating resources to their various programs in order to achieve their policy objectives.

Top down budgeting system makes it easier to have the budget aligned appropriately with policy priorities. In the bottom - up budgeting system, the Finance Ministry reviews individual programs based on the requests from Line Ministries and agencies, and financial resources are allocated to individual programs according to the result of program reviews. The aggregate and sectoral expenditure limits emerge at a later stage of the budget process as the sum of all individual appropriations. So, the top-down budgeting system makes it possible to have policy priorities included as a key factor to consider in allocation decision making from the very first stage of budget formulation.

### **REMARKS**

The move towards top down budgeting among countries began as fiscal reforms for overcoming the fiscal crisis in the early 1990s. The primary motivation for these reforms was to promote economic growth through more DISCIPLINED, sustainable public finances. It is believed that these goals could be accomplished through the delegation of authority in budgeting for lower level decisions, while enforcing strict limits at the aggregate levels. In addition, it was believed that top-down budgeting could reflect POLITICAL PRIORITIES in resource allocation. However, the bottom-up approach still at least enjoys widespread use as common budget formulation method in a number of countries, even though they are few.

## **FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT ON ECONOMY**

1. Budget is the key instrument for the expression and execution of Government economic policy and programs.
2. Budget provides assessment of the economic conditions of the country, for example, to show if the economy is growing, it means that the incomes of the people will also be increasing, *ceteris paribus* (Musgrave R.A, 1959).

Musgrave R A (1959) asserted that any legitimate Government has 3 VITAL ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS as follows:

- **Resource Allocation Function:** This is in respect to the allocation of needed goods, services and works for its population;
- **Distribution Function:** This is associated with the correction duty of Government in terms of addressing issues of fairness and injustices felt by the public in the use and enjoyment of wealth. So, Government would act through levying taxes as well as appropriately spending money to correct the anomaly identified; and also through policies which would influence the distribution of personal income at household levels – to promote justice and fairness in society.
- **Stabilization Function:** This is a national duty and responsibility of any sitting Government. It is associated with something that involves the fight against, for example, unemployment, inflation, as well as provisions in the improvement of living standards for the general people.

## **UGANDA'S NATIONAL BUDGET OF 2018/2019 IN CONTEXT: A REVIEW OF SALIENT ISSUES**

As many may be aware, Uganda is an independent republic, at least politically. Government of Uganda is mandated by law to produce in June of each and every year a budget which should show her incomes/revenues and expenditures for the year in question. The current Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development is Hon. Matia Kasaija (June, 2018). In his budget speech of June 14, 2018, he stated that the total budget outlay for the financial year 2018/2019 stands at Uganda shillings 32.7 trillion. He mentioned that the economy is expected to grow at 5.8 % this financial year which is envisaged to be the fastest in EIGHT YEARS. Last financial year (2016/2017), Uganda's economy grew at 3.9%. In 2010/2011, the economy grew at 6.7%. This was magnificent!

### **Key Highlights of the Budget Estimates of 2018/2019**

- i) The total resource envelope for the budget amounts to 32.708 trillion.

- ii) The domestic revenue to the total budget is projected to be shillings 16.358 trillion, of which shillings 15.938.8 trillion will be collected by Uganda Revenue Authority as tax revenue; and shillings 420 billion as non-tax revenue.
- iii) The domestic borrowing will amount to shillings 1.783.4 billion, while external financing for projects will amount to 7.734.5 billion, of which shillings 6.148.9 billion is in loans and shillings, and 1.585.6 billion is in grants.
- iv) The size of the economy is now shillings 101.8 trillion, equivalent to USD 27.9 billion (the value of Uganda's economy).
- v) The average per capita income has nearly doubled in the last eight years from shillings 1,354,000 in the financial year 2009/2010 to shillings 2,648,400 in the financial year 2017/2018, in spite of the rising population.
- vi) Inequality between the rural and the urban population has risen. Rural poverty has increased from 22.8% in 2013 to 25.8% in 2017, against a marginal increase in urban poverty from 9.3% to 9.4% over the same period.
- vii) The service sector has grown at 7.3% compared to 5.4% last financial year (2016/2017).
- viii) The industrial sector has expanded by 6.2%, compared to 3.4% in 2016/2017 financial year.
- ix) The annual headline inflation is projected to average 3.6% this financial year -2018/2019.
- x) A total of 10.2 million pupils enrolled in primary schools in 2017, compared to 8.7 million in 2013.
- xi) During the financial year just ending (2017/2018), tax and non-tax revenue is estimated at 14.5 trillion, equivalent to 14.2% of GDP.
- xii) As at March 2018, public debt of Uganda stood at USD 10.3 billion of which USD 7.18 billion is external and USD 3.35 billion is domestic.

### **Allocation of the 32.7 trillion to different Major Sectors in the Economy (2018/2019)**

1. Works and Transport Sector	4.7 trillion
2. Debt Repayment	10.6 trillion
3. Education Sector	2.8 trillion
4. Energy and Mineral Sector	2.4 trillion
5. Health Sector	2.3 trillion
6. Public Sector Management	1.5 trillion
7. Security Sector	2.1 trillion
8. Justice, Law and Order Sector	1.2 trillion
9. Accountability Sector	1.2 trillion
10. Agriculture Sector	893 billion
<b>11. TOTAL</b>	<b>32.7 trillion</b>



### ***New Tax Measures to be Operationalized in 2018/2019 Financial Year***

1. Social Media Tax is expected to generate shillings 284 billion in revenue, for example, the use of WhatsApp, and other internet - computer driven services.
2. Mobile money tax is expected to generate shillings 155 billion in revenue.
3. Fuel tax: This is expected to generate an additional tax on each liter projected at shillings 100.
4. Cooking oil: Additional tax per liter is projected at shillings 200.
5. Motorcycle registration fee at shillings 200,000.
6. Agricultural supplies such as wheelbarrows will attract a 1% withholding tax.
7. Telecommunication service providers such as MTN and Air tell is expected to generate and attract shillings 230 tax - equivalent to 30% withholding tax.
8. Opaque beer: In terms of per liter, is expected to attract an increase of shillings 2,000, which is equivalent to 60% rise.

*Note that the current United States dollar's value was taken to be standing at 1USD equivalent to Uganda shillings of 3,760 (Foreign Exchange Bureau rate as at Gulu, June 15, 2018).*

### ***Key Issues for Critical Reflection by Stakeholders in the Management of the 2018/2019 Budget***

1. It is imperative that wastage in Government sectors/ministries/departments should be effectively and efficiently controlled to ensure that money which is allocated is utilized prudently. There should be value for money for each and every item budgeted for, and eventually procured for use. The principle and notion of frugality should be reckoned with.
2. Government of the republic of Uganda should avoid unnecessary contracting of internal and external debts as these will, overtime become unsustainable and costly to manage. At the moment, Uganda Government's debt repayment for the financial year 2018/2019 stands at shillings 10.6 trillion, which is equivalent to 38.1% of the budget. The taxpayers are the ones who will always bear the burden of repayment of such contracted debts.
3. More resources, under normal circumstances, should be allocated for the promotion of science and technology related disciplines and functions. Not all courses in university education should receive the same level of attention and financial support. To this extent, positive discrimination is imperative in Uganda's education system. Germany, as a case example, is the strongest economy in Europe mainly because of the Government's deliberate and sustained commitment in allocating more resources in science and technology related disciplines and

functions over the years (Josephine Wapaphabulo, CEO, Uganda National Oil and Gas Company, June 2018).

4. The accountability sector should have received more budget allocation as a measure of curbing government wastages, as well as ensuring that such vices like corruption and embezzlement of Government funds are fought decisively. To allocate only a limited sum of resources is like to allow vices such as deliberate wastages, corruption and embezzlement of funds to continue unabated.
5. The strengthening of human resource portfolio in certain very wanting areas of engagement is imperative, for example, more resources in health care provision to ensure the attraction, motivation, and retention of health care professionals. This remains a critical and daunting task by Government of Uganda. The same concern applies to the teaching profession which, for so many years, has not attracted commensurate Governmental attention in terms of supportive resources to ensure committed and sustained quality service provision to the pupils and students. To this extent, it is not a surprise that teachers and lecturers strikes are common every year, thereby disrupting consistent and quality service provision.
6. The Government of Uganda should improve the quality of education that Ugandans get since the only thing, for example, that can uplift the son or daughter of a poor couple or person is to obtain quality and affordable education more easily. But also more importantly at a national level and for all Ugandans, we should remember that "*quality education should evaluate practical skills needed in the job market*" (Prof Dawoud Shenouda of International University of East Africa, 2016). So, investing more resources in the encouragement and promotion of quality education at various levels is critical today.
7. It is evident that allocation of resources to key productive sectors which can remarkably improve the level of national income namely: agriculture, tourism and oil and gas sectors are disappointing. Nearly 90% of Uganda shillings 118.3 billion is expected to run tourism sector in the financial year (2018/2019), and this will be collected by Uganda Wildlife Authority. According to a survey conducted by World Bank (2017), Uganda's tourism has the potential to generate USD 12 billion annually. The survey looks and computes the values of abundance of bird species in existence, excellent and attractive weather condition obtaining all year round, and attractive inland water bodies and falls among others (Amos Wekesa, CEO of Great Lakes Safaris in Uganda, June 15, 2018).
8. A good tax system should not lead to crippling of businesses and enterprises of individuals. It should be humane in orientation, clear and more empowering. It should not be brutal to kill investments and its climate. It should not be based

and orchestrated along political lines. Tax collectors should know how to professionally handle tax payers. They should be good listeners if they are to remarkably succeed in their work (Charles Ocici, Executive Director, Enterprise Uganda, June, 2018).

9. Taxing mobile money providers and users directly and indirectly may mean impeding a small holder and farmer from accessing such funds more easily and cheaply. This ultimately retards the spirit and option of financial inclusion in the economy (Joseph Lutwama, Financial Sector Deepening, Uganda, June, 2018).
10. It is a fact that there will always not be adequate resources to go around and reach each and every person comfortably. There is no doubt about this. However, what is critical and necessary is for a sitting Government to prudently and frugally prioritize well in a financial year, without bias and any other ulterior motive. The grassroots population should always be at the center stage of any public budgetary arrangement and management.

### CONCLUDING REMARKS

A sitting Government plays an important role in the economic life of the State through revenue and expenditure measures of its budget. The economy and the budget are interrelated. In addition, the economic consideration indicates that the budget has some functions such as in **allocation, distribution and stabilization**. Besides, a budget provides assessment of the economic conditions of the country. If the productions of the economy are increased, the incomes of the people will also increase, *ceteris paribus*. So, a public budget is looked at as the backbone of every governmental or organizational or departmental proper operation, without which the smooth operation of an organization can be totally disrupted. Thus, proper and prudential budget planning on the Federal Government / State Government / Local Governmental is vital.

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# THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO GROW THE SOMALIAN ECONOMY

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*This is an extract from a paper published for the St Clements University Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) degree program.*

## Chapter ONE

### Introduction

This is a commentary that summarizes the final course dissertation of Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) degree that I am personally accomplishing from St Clements University. The sense of the Thesis is defining and identifying Somalia's Natural Resource, scrutinizing how much resources existing in this abandoned nation could benefit its resources for lift out from the poorest situation to prosperous and in this respect there is a remarkable development, opportunities and prospective outlines that this country could be rich in terms of oil and gas producer. This dissertation is also trying to disclose some challenges which could blockage the road to successful of the country.

Through sequent five chapters, first chapter enclosed introductory regarding defining and explaining of the main appellation of the thesis which is the key source of foundation of Economy and its advancement that is Natural Resource (NR) in any nation. A key question is like what's the dividing between manmade and natural resource? According to the English Wikipedia is not clear-cut. For instance; Hydro-electric energy is not a natural resource because people use turbines to convert the energy from moving water. Petroleum and iron ores are natural, but need work to make them into usable refined oil and steel. Given scenario also in this section, how essential it is NR for an economy of a country? And to respond this query, took as example an article on natural resource by *Daniel Anthes* in 2018 that privileges those most global countries' riches is because of their Natural Resources. For instance *Mr. Anthes* described; "Many countries in the world are rich in natural resources. And in most cases those natural resources constitute an important engine for the country's economy, as well as a considerable source of fiscal revenues and foreign exchange. In fact, according to *Mr. Anthes* own research a total of 83 countries and with that an aggregate population of 3.3 billion people can be considered resource-rich. This is because resource exports, on average, account for more than 50 percent of overall exports, revenues derived from extractive resource exports make up for more than half of total government revenues, and rents from

extractive resources generate about 18 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) <sup>1</sup>.

The second chapter – literature review covered case studies – short stores of some under developing countries in Latin America and Africa, those experienced economic development using NR in positive way that dramatically succeeded and countries used NR in negative way who bitterly failed. These study cases brought out broad relevant information which in it could found good lessons that its actors had succeeded and immoral actions that its actors not only failed but disastrous which resulted their rich country turned to be poor because of their maladies management. This section is focusing the main source of information gathered from dissertation paper presented by *Mr. Sergio Brian Cruz* to the faculty of collage of Arts and Sciences Master's program in International Relations, regarding explanation of richness and poorness of a country is not only depending on having NR but it is contingent what system and how government/institution is handling whether is policies or national strategies administrating. By the way, I personally used that info to compare Somalia's situation of economy. In fact during studying I found that every country who is seeking prosperous has its padlock that could stopover on the road to be developed country.

For instance; 1)-Nigeria is the only African country which with its oil/petrol preserves become member of Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC), and sometime was enrolled list of one of the most producer and oil exporter in the world. So you can ask why Nigeria is not rich as it looks. Its burden is widespread corruption, financial maladies like *Recourse Curse* and *Dutch Disease*. 2)-Somalia is not a poor country according to the economist gurus, in terms of NR and other, land space, water and earth and total population. Despite that, Somalia currently is enrolled one of the poorest country, why that is and what is the Somalia's padlock to be rich or prosperous. Somalia, reconciliation is considered to be the bedrock which will sustain any peace. Research suggests twenty years of war have broken communities, exacerbated clan divisions, created openings for elites, extremists and terrorists to operate – all destabilizing the nation and demoralizing the populace's faith and hope in a better future. So that, in Somalia there is no any possible think of economy. Furthermore, for Somalia's crises, would you (Ms/Mr. reader) ask is it

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<sup>1</sup> Article on revenues of NR written by *Mr. Daniel Anthes*

without NR or political stability and peace? Or, it is without system and potential government?

In fact, to answer those queries, I can see, it is initial debate on the issue; because all enquiries exist and mostly interrelated, but Somalia case, I can purely say all motives are existence. For instance; economic growth can be built with several inevitable factors; a) resources whether is natural or artificial which requires production, re-production and fair administration that required b) policy/strategy and system and system implementation entails c) government and that all bases on d) peace and stability so, after all those burdens are solved, then economic and its progression is thinkable and adoptable.

However, in this dissertation, since I have been studying, I tried firstly, before selection the title: “*The Development of Natural Resources to Grow Somalian Economy*”, I commenced to assess the situation and my research was based on the status of Somalia economy measuring with above mentioned features.

## **Chapter TWO**

### **Somalia is more than a big war torn refugee camp**

Somalia, situated in the Horn of Africa, lies along the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean. It is bounded with Djibouti in the northwest, Ethiopia in the west and Kenya in the southwest. Somalia's size is approximately 637,657sq km with an estimated population of 10 million. It is regarded to be as one of the world's poorest and most troubled regions, in somehow, but Somalia is a poor country, is not factual.

Somalia is not a poor country definitely, since Somalia is a full of natural resources, natural fertile lands and minerals like uranium and largely unexploited reserves of iron ore, tin, gypsum, natural gas and oil. Somalia has shaped a healthy informal economy and is now facing up a better entrepreneurship thanks to enormous natural resources. According to the Central Bank of Somalia report on Somalia's Gross Domestic Product is estimated to be around 2.6 billion (US dollars) in 2010, while the GDP per capita is 333 US dollars which is lower than that of Kenya (350 US dollars) and better than that of Tanzania (280 US dollars), Eritrea's (190 US dollars) and Ethiopia's (180 US dollars)<sup>2</sup>.

Somalia was an outstanding nation economically and ordinary lives of the people, however, like many other places in the world, due to certain unbalanced political crises resulted country fall into chaos in deep civil war including religious radicalism Somalia sink down until ruined and being failed state. All those catastrophes befallen in between 1991 – 2000.

Major General Mohamed Siad Barre was the military dictator and President of the Republic from 1969 to

1991. In between 1991 – 2000, Somalia had no potential working government. A fragile parliamentary government was formed in 2000 in Arta - Djibouti, but it expired in 2003 without establishing any system to control the country. In 2004, a new transitional parliament was instituted and elected a president Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed, who resigned two years after, due to great internal pressure from some prominent figures of Somali adversary parliamentarians whom had elected himself as a president in Nairobi Kenya, but adversely assembled in Asmara as a political group so called SRC, where United National Envoy for Somalia called for reconciliation meeting among President Abdullahi Yusuf's Government and SRC in Djibouti. In that reconciliation meeting was concluded establishment of joint parliament composed 550 Mps. 275 MPs from Imbagathi – Nairobi established Government and 275 MPs from SRC made the largest Assembly of Africa, whom their turn elected Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed for 3 years of interim president of Somalia in 2008.

By the way, with a long way home of political conflicts, non-governance, civil wars, piracy, and economic imbalances along with environmental hazards/draughts have had affected and exacerbated to a great extent Somalia's well-being, development and economic conditions. After 22 years of various political changes, Somalia established in September 2012 the first permanent government and elected Hassan Sheikh Mohamud as the country's president. The new government, although they led four years the country faces a lot of obstacles in getting the nation's economy back on track.

### **Somalia is not a country that less or lack resource but maintenance**

Even though Somalia has suffered the last two decades from several difficulties and obstacles that undermined the economy and the standard of living of Somalis, it is now the right moment to tap natural resources and explore new business and economic capacities in agriculture, livestock, fishing, mineral and oil industries. With a stable government that has garnered so far positive reviews; the country has a lot to offer. A number of reforms that have been made, so as to attract investments combined with labor force can boost Somalia's economy and prosperity, while big challenges related to lawlessness and corruption still remain and need to be dealt with.

### **National Economic Situation improving**

Since new Somali Federal Government led by President Mohamed Formajo, national economic situation gradually improving as IMF and World Bank M & E team declared that Somalia now on the right track to recover as getting ready to start campaign on lifting out of international debts. Thus such improvement attracted foreign investors including Somali exile business groups. Through remittances for example; Mogadishu, June 10, 2016 - The World Bank

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<sup>2</sup> Central Bank of Somalia report on Somalia' Gross Domestic Product (GDP) 2010

and the Federal Government of Somalia are working together to help support the flow of remittances to Somalia, to ensure they continue to reach people who depend upon them as a critical source of income. Remittances in 2015 were estimated to reach a total of US\$1.4 billion in Somalia and support 23% of the GDP<sup>3</sup>.

### **Possibility of Foreign Trade in Somalia**

Somalia is open to foreign trade and trading represents more than 50% of the GDP. Trade is in the hands of local merchants, who are operating businesses despite the anarchic security situation. No central customs authority exists in the country. The factors that limit foreign trade are the lack of skilled workforce, the poor quality of roads and ports infrastructures and the security situation of this nation, which now harbors the Islamic terrorist headquarters and camps. Somalia imports much more than what it exports. This translates into an enormous structural trade deficit. It is estimated that its trade balance will remain negative due to the extremely unfavorable business environment. Its main trading partners are the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) member countries, the COMESA (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa) and India<sup>4</sup>.

### **How a foreign corporation may legally operate in Somalia?**

Finally, answering to above query, it is easy; since there are number of factors that encourages and makes the case smooth. First factor is that economic policy of the new government boosts foreign investment and took already steps to renew the national FDI law as well as the President Formajo publicly announced that “Somalia is open market for the international trade corporations and investors”. Second factor is that Ministry of Commerce, business groups leading by national chamber of commerce of Somalia are all working together to establish Suitable mechanisms in the line with National Development plan to implement the three systems (Public Private Partnership). Third factor is that; small and large scale of commerce, private companies and civil society associations, collaboration with the exiled members (Somalia Diaspora), had been rescued the Somali community from the natural and manmade disasters that Somalia had occurred during the last three decades of catastrophe. Fourth reason is that encourages a foreign corporation could legally operate in Somalia is a member country of global trade institutions like World Trade Organization (WTO), and General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Last point not the least, there are a lot of signs indicates that Somalia has fertilized land and blunt of natural yet undiscovered resources that can be raw materials for

both light and big industries if capable corporation convened. Thus Foreign Corporation that can be operated legally in Somalia is conceivable and can implement by both Somali Expatriates and Foreigners.

It obvious that the last endorsement of Federal Parliament of Petroleum Law in May 2019, is another good sign of Somalia’s prosperous edifying very soon.

## **Chapter THREE**

### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

Reflecting on Economic Situation in Somalia for the last nearly three decades have past very critical time, as classified the country by the United Nations as a least developed country. Despite experiencing two and half decades of civil war and political crises, the country has maintained an informal economy, based mainly on livestock, remittance/money transfers from abroad, and telecommunications.

Currently, the situation is improving while the new federal government inspiring as in 14 November 2018 Somalia has hosted its first high level National Economic Policy Forum in Mogadishu, which saw participants discuss a national investment strategy, financial governance, tackling corruption and how to enhance regional economic cooperation with other East African countries. The Forum was supported by the UNDP according to the UN Development Program Report in November 2018.

Thus, from my point of view, I suggest the following steps are to be taken by the Somali government as we know their commitment of renovating national peace, stability and economic growth as it is says its “**motto**” (Nabad iyo Nolol) means; (Peace and Life) and finally I will recommend:

1. To continue encouraging and supporting the economic growth program through updating and renovating the required related legislations.
2. To invite and call for international investors to invest Somalia and guaranteeing them security of their lives and wealth.
3. To set national economic policy that encourage local trade companies and urge them to establish local trade corporation then to have joint ventures to the international trade corporations.
4. To encourage the Somali Business group to start creating of multiple or complex trade corporations rather than to be relay on previous goods like livestock and few agricultural icons. Somali has other massive resources likes fish/seafood, minerals oil, and gas.

<sup>3</sup> World Bank Report on the flow of remittance in Somalia in June 16, 2016

<sup>4</sup> UNDP report on Trade Development in Somalia

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# KURDISH ISSUE - PROGRESS AND SOLUTION

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The complete version of this summarised article is available at:  
<http://www.stclements.edu/Articles/Kurdish-Issue.pdf>

## Summary

The Kurdish question, which started with the adoption of an ethnic identity in 1924, has long been defined as “ethnic separatist actions and concepts such as “Kurdish identity” and “Kurdish problem” have not been used. 2019's Turkey, still have not found a solution, of course, and is closely associated with this delay.

The Republican Administration and the One-Party Government defined the Kurdish rebellions as bandit resistance and suppressed the resistance of the Kurds with harsh measures. During Adnan Menderes' prime ministry, although a socio-economic and democratic policy was mentioned about the Kurds and the Southeastern region, denial of the Kurdish identity and the Kurdish question continued until the 1990s. The Kurdish movement, which has been rising since 1960, has been evaluated within this framework. In fact, during this period, Kurdish groups, on the one hand, demanded recognition of their identity, on the other hand demanded autonomy. With the emergence of left Kurdish groups, socialist tendencies began to emerge in the demands of the Kurds. The PKK, which incorporates the Kurdish movement in 1984, Turkey, Iran, the Kurds in Iraq and Syria, has adopted an independent Kurdistan concept combining under one roof.

The 1990s, in other words, the end of the Cold War, witnessed significant changes in the nature of the Kurdish question. During this period, the Kurdish problem was accepted by the political actors, in particular the President of the time Turgut Özal, and the search for a democratic solution to the problem began.

In the 2000s, the discourses of the previous period turned into concrete steps. The most important reason for this is the rise of the concepts of human rights” and “democracy that began with the end of the Cold War.

The 1924 Sheikh Sait Rebellion marks a turning point with regard to the Kurds. After the rebellion was suppressed, it was not possible to establish any basis for reconciliation with the Kurds.

The first is the policies implemented by the Republican Administration in the region after 1924. In this period, the state's Kurdistan policy was shaped by anxiety not

to lose control in the region. The reason for the sensitivity shown in this sense is the reinforcement of the perception of threats against the Kurds after the Sheikh Sait Rebellion. It is a fact that not only the rebels but the people of the region paid the price of the rebellion. Thus, the democratic approach that attaches importance to the participation of Kurds has been replaced by the authority of Takrir-i Sükun after the rebellion. With the Law of Takrir-I Sükun (1925), martial law started to function in the region.

The second is the reaction of the Kurds to the new order that was tried to be established after the proclamation of the Republic and the Kurdish rebellions that continued until 1938. The resistance process, which started with the Sheikh Sait Rebellion, continued with another rebellion almost every year until 1938.

In the Kurdish uprisings, there seems a serious Kurdish movement. In most of the rebellions, the activities of the Azadi and Hoybun organizations in Kurdistan have been very effective. At this point, it is necessary to clarify a matter. What exactly were the demands of the Kurds from the state?

In all the rebellions, including the Dersim Rebellion, the Government's response to the demands of the Kurds was far from settling the case peacefully. Both security-oriented interventions and the policies of Takrir-I Sükun reveal that there is no attempt to reconcile with the Kurds. During the Takrir-I Sükun Period, the rebellions continued and the East became a serious problem, which led the statesmen to seek more comprehensive solutions.

The main policy of absolute administration was to leave the tribes to their own state, even to increase the populations of the chiefs and aghas on the tribe, to connect them to the government through the aghas and the gentlemen, and to maintain the contradictions between each other and the settled people. He saw and recognized all the laws, edicts and fatwas of the old and new Ottoman administration, tribal squire, principality, autonomy and mayor of a commune between us (Mumcu, 1995: 84-85).

The Republican Administration reveals its politics regarding tribes as follows; The dissemination of assets of the population whose mother tongue is not Turkish, and thus the preservation of national unity (Mumcu,

1995: 87). These authoritarian statements are important in terms of reflecting the state approach of the period. Given that this idea, whose only problem is to protect national unity, cannot tolerate a language other than Turkish, the name change is not meaningless.

In the 1930s, expressions such as “Kurdish”, “Laz”, “Circassian” and “Kurdistan” were banned and non-Turkish place names were abolished (Heper, 2008: 241).

The assertion is assimilation. In this context, along with the Settlement Law, the Sun-Language Theory and the Turkish History Thesis are accepted as assimilation tools. The Turkish History Thesis and the Sun-Language Theory are not directly related to the emergence of the Kurdish question as they are parallel to the construction of the nation-state. However, the Turkish Language Association and the Turkish Historical Society had some work involving denial of Kurdish ethnic identity. During this period, historical studies have been conducted explaining that Kurds are actually Turks and these claiming that Kurdish does not exist (Yeğen, 2006; 92-98).

In his book *The Kurdish Question in State Discourse*, Mesut Yeğen points out that Turkish governments repeat certain discourses that reject the Kurdish question. According to Yeğen's findings, rebellions during the Republican period were evaluated by the state such as “tribal resistance”, “provocation of the foreigners” and “banditry and this situation continued during the Single Party Period (Yeğen, 2006: 159).

The policy of the ruling Democratic Party towards the Kurds was quite moderate according to the policies of the One Party. After 1950, the Kurdish question was not considered to be eliminated, but as a social and economic problem.

In this context, Adnan Menderes allowed the representatives of the leading Kurdish families to enter the Parliament as deputies. On the other hand, Altan Tan does not consider Adnan Menderes' approach in his book “Kurdish Question” as a search for a democratic solution.

When the period evaluations of the 12 September Administration were examined, the internal cause of the violence was defined as social unrest and all movements that wanted to make their voice heard were called as “terrorism” (Prime Ministry, 1983: 80). The Kurds, together with the Turkish Left, were the ones who paid the most for this definition. With the decisions of the coup, even talking about Kurdish ethnicity and Kurdish nationalism was forbidden.

What should be noted here is the impact of the 1980 military coup on the Kurdish question. In fact, it is thought-provoking whether this Marxist-Leninist group is enough to create a revolution for itself in the explosion of the fraction of the Turkish left.

In the 80s, it was not difficult to create a conflict between the Kurds and the state, since Turkish governments did not seek a solution beyond security-oriented rhetoric and policies. The assumption of the PKK as the spokesperson of the Kurdish people strengthened the prejudices of the Turks against the Kurdish people.

Turkey is a country which is party to the European Convention on Human Rights. For this reason, the decisions made by the European Court of Human Rights, which gives a ruling in accordance with the European Convention on Human Rights, are important in terms of knowing about Turkey's situation on the subjects of fundamental rights and minority rights and understanding the EU's perspective on these issues.

When we look at not only international reports but also decisions made by the ECtHR, we can say that Turkey does not have a very pleasant situation on this issue. For example, in the ranking, which was conducted by the International Organization of Reporters without Borders on 20th September 2010, Turkey was ranked 138th place out of 178 countries regarding World Press Freedom (Evrensel Gazetesi, 18.02.2011).

The state of emergency was completely abolished on 1st December 2002 and the State Security Courts were closed in 2004. The law to fight terrorism is still one of the most problematic laws. Similarly, the Article 301 of the Turkish criminal law, which regulates the insult to “Turkishness” as a crime is an article that is discussed since it is open to interpretations, and it seems that in the future Turkey will mostly be sued in the European Court of Human Rights for this article of the law (Türk Hukuk Enstitüsü, 28.01.2011).

How can living together be enabled in an environment when even the PKK, which emerged with the idea of an independent Kurdistan, has given up the idea? What kind of a solution is recommended by the parties to the discussion and how possible are these recommendations in practice in Turkey? Of course, to answer these questions, we can benefit from the implementations in some countries with similar problems. For example, the Basque model in Spain has always been discussed as a model for Turkey.

According to the valid autonomy law in Spain, the Oskara language (spoken in the Basque region) has the same status with Spain in the Basque region. The Oskara language is also used in public sphere and official relations. The government in the Basque Autonomous Region is required to train Officers knowing this language. While both the Oskara language and Spanish language are allowed in the parliament, it is unconstrained to speak the Basque language in judiciary.

In an environment where Kurds have a phobia of being assimilated and Turks bear a phobia of being divided, the basic needs to find solutions to the Kurdish question, the biggest problem in Turkey, are for the



freedom of expression as first and foremost and for the discussions of these ideas freely.

The Kurdish movement can also strengthen democratic institutions and culture in Turkey through its push for a gender-equal society. The real divide between Western and majority-Muslim countries lies in Western ideological support for equal rights and opportunities for women (Inglehart and Norris 2003). Fish (2002) ascribes the democratic deficit in Muslim societies to the “subordination of women.” Moghadam (2004, 3), highlighting the key role the empowerment of women plays in the quality of democracy, concludes that “women may need democracy in order to flourish, but the converse is also true: democracy needs women if it is to be an inclusive, representative, and enduring system of government.” In a country that once viewed non-Muslim religious minorities as an obstacle to its national unity and security, the Kurdish HDP nominated members of Aramaic-speaking Syriac (Assyrian) Christians and Yezidis, whose ancient religion draws heavily on Zoroastrianism and has become nearly extinct after centuries of oppression. The HDP’s Garo Paylan became one of the first Armenians to enter the Turkish parliament (Yackley 2015).

By the same token, the crackdown on the Kurdish movement carries the risk of undoing the progress made toward gender equality and “threatens a haven of gender equality built by Kurds... in a region where patriarchy is generally the rule” (Nordland 2016). Moreover, it is likely to result in reversing the sociopolitical environment that allowed for having a meaningful debate on how to reconcile the region’s bloody past.

Kurds are one of the ancient and indispensable peoples of the Middle East. Any solution that does not include Kurds cannot have validity in the Middle East. Unless there’s a solid peace between Kurds and the state, unless the state and Kurds could meet in a fertile common ground, meaning that unless the Kurdish problem is solved, Turkey will always be facing problems it may not have a control over.

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<http://www.stclements.edu/Articles/Kurdish-Issue.pdf>

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# A CRITIQUE OF STANDARDISED TESTING IN DEMENTIA DIAGNOSIS

Dr John S. Potter\*

## SUMMARY

The Standard Mini-Mental State Examination is not a medical test; it is a cognitive test which may be presented by any psychologist, professional teacher or informed lay person.

The test consists of twelve questions with a maximum score of 30 points. On the basis of this test, a person scoring 25-30 points is judged 'likely to be intact', i.e. to have no dementia. A score of less than 25 is taken to indicate possible dementia: 21-24 points, mild, early signs of dementia; 10-19 points, moderate dementia; 0-9 points, severe dementia. The cut-off point of 25 for no dementia is arbitrary, there is no research that justifies this choice. In the USA, the cut-off point varies with education and experiential background; for a person with a grade 7 education it is 22.

In this research, ten points in the SMMSE were found to be questionable in consideration of normal variations in the patient's education and experience. The questions were found not to connect with the behavioural signs associated with dementia, nor with a person's functional capacity or competence.

In Australia, people who score 24 points or lower are automatically diagnosed as being incapable of driving a motor vehicle, managing their finance or completing a shopping assignment. This is a gross inflation of the data; there is no cause and effect connection between the test and these activities. The implications of being diagnosed with mild dementia being significant it is concluded that clinicians should remember that the SMMSE should never be used by itself as a diagnostic test for dementia.

## PART 1: THE STANDARDISED MINI-MENTAL STATE EXAMINATION

The human condition labled 'dementia' is caused by **brain damage**. The outward '**hallmark evidence**' for the condition is 'failure to satisfactorily perform everyday tasks' ([www.dementiaaustralia.com](http://www.dementiaaustralia.com)), due to a combination of:

- Frequent memory loss
- Confusion
- Personality Change
- Apathy and Withdrawal

There is no stand-alone test for dementia; an assessment needs to consider 'behavioural, functional, psychological **changes** together with radiological and laboratory tests... the assessment process may take three to six months' ([www.dementiaaustralia.com](http://www.dementiaaustralia.com)). The word 'changes' is significant; an important characteristic of dementia is a **decline** in performance – a **one off test, cannot be diagnostic**.

There is a range of tests available to assess cognition. The main test used in Australia is the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) developed by M.F.Folstein (Folstein et al, 1975). It is a cognitive test by questionnaire and takes approximately half an hour to deliver. The test is mostly conducted in a medical professional's office by a doctor, a nurse or an assistant, but it is a cognitive test, not a medical test, and can just as easily be presented by a professional teacher, a psychologist or an informed lay person. The test was 'standardised' in 1997 by Molloy and Standish of the University College, Cork Ireland; **the questions were not changed** – only the method of presentation was standardised, to 'ensure scoring methodology was uniform, items were changed to accommodate different settings, and to set standard times to wait for answers, and prescribe standard procedures to deal with 'near misses' (Molloy and Standish 1997).

The questionnaire consists of twelve questions with a maximum score of 30 points. Cognitive impairment is said to be indicated by a diagnostic scale: a person scoring 25-30 points is judged 'may be normal'; 21-24 points indicates possible 'mild/early impairment'; 10-21 points, moderate impairment; and 0-9 points, severe impairment. No research has been presented to justify these arbitrary classifications. The US National Centre for Biotechnology has determined that the cut-off points should be adjusted to take account of the patients' education level ([www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)). They suggest the following scores should be taken to indicate possible cognitive impairment:

Grade 7 or lower	22 or lower
Grade 8-11	24 or lower
Grade 12	25 or lower
College or higher	26 or lower

Tombaugh and McIntyre summarised the psychometric properties and utility of the MMSE over 26 years of testing. They judged the reliability and construct validity of the test to be satisfactory, although they found not all items in the test were equally sensitive to cognitive impairment. They also found that scores were affected by age, education and cultural background. They were insistent that **the test should not be used**

by itself as a diagnostic tool for identifying dementia (Tombaugh & McIntyre, 1992).

In Australia, the agency for distributing the SMMSE is the Government Independent Hospital Pricing Authority. Their Fact Sheet has a table linking SMMSE scores to stages of Alzheimer's disease and specific outcomes as a result of impairment – Fig.1. Note the comment under the table: ‘...there is much variability’ which suggests that the conclusions in the body of the table should be taken as suggestions/possibilities, not concrete conclusions.

**SMMSE total scores and disease progression**  
SMMSE scores, stages of disease and areas of impairment in Alzheimer's Disease

**Area of Functional Impairment**

SMMSE Scores	30 - 25	24 - 21	21 - 10	9 - 0
Stage	May be Normal	Mild/Early	Moderate	Severe
ADL		problems with driving, finances, shopping	assistance with dressing, grooming, toileting	problems with eating, walking
Communication		word-finding, repeating, goes off topic, loses track	sentence fragments, "empty" speech, vague terms (i.e. this, that)	speech disturbances (i.e. slurring, stuttering)
Memory	personive problems with names or misplacing objects	three item recall orientation (time then place)	WORLD spelling, language and three step command	all areas show obvious deficits
Years		2-4 years	2-3 years	2-3 years

These are general guidelines to the progression of the disease. There is much individual variability.

Figure 1: SMMSE Scores and progression in Alzheimer's Disease

A diagnosis of dementia is a serious matter. In one case known to the author, a woman of 74 years, with a Grade 7 education, was forced to undertake an SMMSE test against her better judgment. She scored 24 points, despite the fact that she had been taken to the specialist's rooms by clandestine means and was shattered and in tears during the conduct of the questionnaire and was declared to have 'dementia' (not 'mild/early stages of dementia') on the basis of this one-off test. A brain scan showed no brain damage and a functional test showed her fully capable of her everyday tasks. Notwithstanding, her driving licence was cancelled by her general practitioner without discussion, her banking accounts were frozen by her daughter, also without discussion, and her mobile phone was confiscated, leaving her totally dependent on other people for her every basic need. A few weeks later she was placed in a Aged Care facility for life!

## INVESTIGATION

In consideration of the fact that the SMMSE has such power in medical circles, this paper addresses three questions:

1. How valid are the SMMSE questions in the light of variations in a person's education and experience?
2. Do the SMMSE questions directly relate to behavioural signs of dementia?
3. What is the justification for assuming that a person cannot drive a motor vehicle, managing finance or shop effectively on the basis of an SMMSE score?

## PART 1: QUESTION VALIDITY

The SMMSE questions (source: [www.ihsa.gov.au](http://www.ihsa.gov.au)) are shown in blue. A standard score is given at the end of each question. Comments are made at the end of each question and scores judged to be questionable are noted in red in brackets.

### The Standardised Mini-Mental State Examination (SMMSE)

**Introduction: Say:** I am going to ask you some questions and give you some problems to solve. Please try to answer as best you can.

**Q1:** Allow ten seconds for each reply. **Say:**

- a) What year is this? (accept exact answer) 1
- b) What season is this? (during the last week of the old season or first week of a new season, accept either) 1
- c) What month is this? (on the first day of a new month or the last day of the previous month, accept either) 1
- d) What is today's date? (accept previous/next date) 1
- e) What day of the week is this? (accept exact answer only) 1

These questions are assumed to address common knowledge, but it is common for 'normal' people to not know the day's date, and not be able to recall it accurately, even after thought. (-1)

**Q2:** Allow ten seconds for each reply. **Say:**

- a) What country are we in? (exact answer only) 1
- b) What state are we in? (accept exact answer only) 1
- c) What city/town are we in? (exact answer only) 1
- d) <At home> What is the street address of this house? (street name and house number or equivalent in rural areas) 1  
<In facility> What is the name of this building? (accept exact name of institution only) 1
- e) <At home> What room are we in? (accept exact answer only) 1  
<In facility> What floor of the building are we on? (accept exact answer only) 1

The questions are reasonable for a test conducted in the subject's home, but sub-questions 'd' and 'e' are suspect if presented in a diagnostician's office. It is highly likely that the subject will have been brought to the office by a family member or friend and there is no reason why they should have taken note of the location, the name of the office block or what floor they are on. (-2 for an interview in an office)

**Q3: Say:** I am going to name three objects. When I am finished, I want you to repeat them. Remember what they are because I am going to ask you to name them again in a few minutes (say slowly at one-second intervals).

#### Ball Car Man

For repeated use: Bell, jar, fan; bill, tar, can; bull, bar, pan

**Say:** Please repeat the three items for me (score one point for each correct reply on the first attempt) **3**

Allow 20 seconds for reply; if the person did not repeat all three, repeat until they are learned or up to a maximum of five times (but only score first attempt)

The question does not test cognition; it assesses sensory perception - hearing and listening skill. This skill is notoriously variable and unreliable in normal human interaction. The mention that the information relates to a later question is confusing and distracting for the current task. (-1)

**Q4: Say:** Spell the word WORLD (you may help the person to spell the word correctly).

**Say:** Now spell it backwards please (allow 30 seconds; if the person cannot spell world even with assistance score zero). Refer to accompanying guide for scoring instructions (score on reverse of this sheet) **5**

The reason for the choice of the word 'world' is unclear. Spelling the word backwards requires a **high level of cognition**; many 'normal' individuals find such a task difficult, especially dyslectics. The scoring system for this question is bizarre and the potential loss of points gives this question a **strong bias** in the overall result of the questionnaire. (-3)

**Q5: Say:** Now what were the three objects I asked you to remember? **3**  
(score one point for each correct answer regardless of order; allow ten seconds).

The question is reasonable for assessing short term memory *on one occasion under stress*. It says nothing about *frequency* or any *change* of short-term memory.

**Q6: Show a wristwatch. Ask:** What is this called? 1  
(score one point for correct response; accept 'wristwatch' or 'watch'; do not accept 'clock' or 'time', etc.; allow ten seconds)

The assumption that a person is familiar with a wristwatch is reasonable, but the acceptable answer is not; what if the client says: 'a timepiece'? (-1)

**Q7: Show pencil. Ask:** What is this called? 1  
(score one point for correct response; accept 'pencil' only; score zero for pen; allow ten seconds for reply)  
The question is reasonable, although the client may say: 'something to write with'. (-1)

**Q8: Say:** I would like you to repeat a phrase after me: 1  
(allow ten seconds for response. Score one point for a correct repetition. Must be exact, e.g. no ifs or but)

This question tests hearing and listening skill only – see remarks for Q3.

**Q9: Say:** Read the words on this page and then do what it says 1

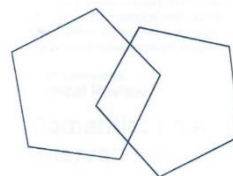
Then, hand the person the sheet with CLOSE YOUR EYES (score on reverse of this sheet) on it. If the subject just reads and does not close eyes, you may repeat: Read the words on this page and then do what it says, a maximum of three times. Allow ten seconds; score one point only if the person closes their eyes. The person does not have to read aloud.

This question tests the capacity of a person to follow an instruction but the introduction of an aid (the paper with written instructions) is distracting requiring special instructions to be given which greatly complicate the question. Confusion on the part of the client could be attributed to the question, not to their response. (-1)

**Q10: Hand the person a pencil and paper. Say:** Write any complete sentence on that piece of paper (allow 30 seconds. Score one point. The sentence must make sense. Ignore spelling errors). 1

The question is reasonable, although the purpose is obscure.

**Q11: Place design, pencil, eraser and paper in front of the person. Say:** Copy this design please. Allow multiple tries. 1



Wait until the person is finished and hands it back. Score one point for a correctly copied diagram. The person must have drawn a four-sided figure between two five-sided figures. Maximum time: one minute.

This question tests a person's capacity to interpret a two-dimensional diagram. It is well known that half of the human population has a natural difficulty with such

a skill, e.g. school student's difficulty with Euclidian geometry. The question seems inappropriate for distinguishing a decline in cognitive ability. (-1)

**Q12:** Ask the person if he is right or left-handed. Take a piece of paper; hold it up in front of the person and say the following: Take this paper in your right/ left hand (whichever is non-dominant), fold the paper in half once with both hands and put the paper down on the floor.

Takes paper in correct hand 1  
Folds it in half 1  
Puts it on the floor 1

The question is straight forward and assesses an 'everyday task'.

### Total Score

The total score possible is **30**. A score of 24 or less is diagnostic for **various grades** of dementia; 21-24 mild/early dementia; 10-20 moderate dementia and 0-9 severe dementia. (Reference: [www.ihpa.gov.au](http://www.ihpa.gov.au)).

The assessment above suggests that the questionnaire is loaded; a subject person might easily lose **10 points** due to no fault of their own and be classified as having mild to early or moderate dementia when the test is conducted in a medical professional's office. He reader may well disagree with my assessment. **That is the point – the assumptions behind the questions are not absolute!**

This seems to be a serious limitation of the test because it is common practice that a subject who scores 24 out of 30 (rather than 25) is **automatically deemed to be incapable of three crucial actions: driving a motor vehicle, handling their personal finances and shopping** (link op cit.). That is, **the loss six points automatically leads to a person being summarily committed into the care of another person for life!**

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## PART 2: CONNECTIONS WITH BEHAVIOURAL SIGNS OF DEMENTIA

The second question to ask is: does the questionnaire connects with known signs of dementia, early/mild signs in particular? The four signs given above are generalised and need unpacking. Legg ([www.healthcare.com](http://www.healthcare.com), 2017) expands the list of signs to ten. In what follows the SMMSE questionnaire are assessed against these ten signs:

1. Short term memory *changes*: the SMMSE has one question aimed at **assessing** short term memory but this **does not assess changes in** memory capacity.
2. Difficulty finding the right words: this **might** be observed in passing during the SMMSE diagnosis, but 'normal' people find difficulty finding the right word in normal conversation. It is not clear when

such an observation should be diagnostic for loss of capacity.

3. Changes in mood: this sign is **not assessed** in the SMMSE.
4. Apathy: This sign **might** be observed in the SMMSE and it might not.
5. Difficulty in completing normal tasks: this sign is assessed **directly** but inadequately in the SMMSE.
6. Confusion: not assessed directly in the SMMSE but **might** be observed during the process or it might not.
7. Difficulty following story lines: **not assessed** in the SMMSE.
8. A failing sense of direction: **not assessed** in the SMMSE.
9. Being repetitive: **not assessed** in the SMMSE.
10. Struggling to adapt to changes: **not assessed** in the SMMSE.

The connection between the questionnaire and signs of early dementia is extremely weak. The SMMSE addresses only **one of Legg's signs** directly (performing normal tasks) and that in a very limited way There is a chance that three other signs (apathy, choosing the right words and confusion) **might** be observed during the process but it is not clear when they would be regarded as diagnostic. Six signs (70%) are **not addressed** at all in the SMMSE. It seems unreasonable, if not scandalous, that a person who fails to achieve an arbitrary score of 21-24 in the SMMSE, can be diagnosed as having early signs of dementia, when seven signs of dementia have not been assessed, three only indirectly and only one sign directly but with extremely limited testing. To diagnose dementia on this evidence alone would seem to be a gross inflation of the data. At best, **the results might be taken to suggest that an assessment of a person's competence in performing practical everyday tasks, with which they are familiar, should be undertaken.**

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## PART 3: CONNECTIONS WITH PATIENT CAPACITY/COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT

The Guidelines for interpreting the SMMSE indicate that people with mild/early dementia may be assumed to have **'problems with driving, finances and shopping'**. How this connection is made is uncertain; **it is a great weakness of the SMMSE that no questions are asked specifically with regard to these functions.** If we agree that the SMMSE is a legitimate initial tool for assessing a subject's agency, it is clear that a score of **21-24 should be followed with a practical competence tests in driving, financial control and shopping** before a person is stamped with

the permanent marker: dementia. For, in consideration of the legal consequences of the dementia label, to not do so might be argued to be extremely callous and irresponsible

### Driving

Being diagnosed with **early signs of dementia (21-24 points) does not preclude a person from holding a driving licence**. Such a person should be required to take a driving test; if they pass the test, their licence will be issued for one year only.

### Finance

It is difficult to say what a person should know about handling finance; their competence requirement will be greatly influenced by what is expected of them in the conduct of their daily operations. A financial competence assessment should be preceded by examining what the person would normally be expected to do in the practice of their normal life and setting the person tasks in relation to those practices. The list might include such things as:

- Using a bank card for purchases
- Using a bank card for withdrawing cash from an auto-teller
- Keeping a basic cash book
- Reading invoices and statements from service companies
- Paying accounts
- Handling savings in a term deposit account

### Shopping

This may be assessed by getting the subject to prepare a list of goods to be purchased and sending them to the mall to buy them. The list might require a visit to several shops. The competence assessor could have a colleague unknown to the subject who could adopt an ethno-graphic approach to assessing their performance.

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## PART 4: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The SMMSE tests general knowledge and is dependent on education and experience. It cannot indicate that a person is suffering from a **decline** in agency – that would take two tests some time apart.

The test **is not diagnostic that a person is incapable of driving, handling finance or shopping** as the Guidelines suggest. These matters need to be judged by a direct competency assessment assessor in practice.

A **definite diagnosis of dementia** should only be given when it is supported by the following evidence:

1. Clear evidence of incompetency in tasks which the person **has been competent** in performing in former times.

2. Evidence from a brain scan that there has been brain damage.

The SMMSE may be used as a tool to in an initial diagnosis of a failing agency but brain scans and competency tests in real life situations should be mandatory before any firm diagnosis is reached that a person has dementia and needs care.

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# EDEN REVISITED

Dr James M. Chappell\*

The complete version of this summarised article is available at:  
<http://www.stclements.edu/Articles/Eden-Revisited.pdf>

## ABSTRACT

The Biblical account of the 'fall' (Genesis 2-3) gives an explanation for ubiquitous human suffering and mortality pervading the world. The conventional interpretation of this account is that the human condition was a specific punishment imposed by the creator for failure of the first humans to remain loyal to divine commands. However, this view leaves many unanswered questions - such as the perplexing issue of the nature of a supposed loving Creator that would impose such unwarranted suffering on His creation. This paper presents an alternative interpretation of the Genesis account that reassuringly aligns the character of the God of Genesis with the New Testament view of the Father presented by Yeshua. It is concluded that suffering and mortality are direct consequences arising from human actions, not externally imposed by the creator. This adds significant clarity to the human condition and the nature of redemption.

## INTRODUCTION

The book of Genesis records that humans began in an idyllic tropical paradise called Eden, living in harmony with the natural world and the Creator. However, as a result of certain choices by the first couple Adam and Eve, their idyllic life was lost, and a world of death and struggle ensued. The cause of this catastrophe is identified as eating fruit from 'the tree of knowledge of good and evil'.

First there was guidance from the creator YHWH (Yahweh):

*Yahweh Elohim commanded the man. He said, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden. But you must never eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil because when you eat from it, you will certainly die." (Gen.2:16-17, Names of God trans.).*

Then there was the transgression, goaded by a certain talking animal labeled as the 'serpent':

*Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field.. And he said unto the woman... has God said, you may eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said to the serpent, we may eat of the trees of the garden but the fruit of the tree, which is in the midst of the garden, God has said 'you shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die'. And the serpent said.. 'you shall not surely die; for God knows that in*

*the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as God, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her, and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons. (Gen.3:1-7).*

Then there was the response from YHWH:

The Serpent: *Because you have done this, you are cursed above all cattle,...And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed.*

The Woman: *Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply your sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow you shall bring forth children and thy desire shall be to thy husband.*

The man: *because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and eaten of the tree... in the sweat of your face shall you eat bread.*

While considering this account, it is helpful to reference other ancient texts that contain a creation story and reference the fall, e.g. the Epic of Gilgamesh, the Adapa Story and the Atrahasis Epic. References to Eden are found also in the Gospel of Phillip, in the writings of Irenaeus, Justin Martyr and Tertullian, and in the Talmud. Other texts relevant to the topic are the Apocalypse of Abraham, the Gospel of Enoch, the apocryphal Book of Adam, the Avesta of Zoroastrianism and references in Islamic writings (Eichhorn 1985).

## THE CONVENTIONAL INTERPRETATION

The conventional interpretation of Genesis 3 is that the command from YHWH not to eat from the tree of knowledge was simply a test of loyalty. The Mathew Henry commentary states that the tree was:

*"...so called, not because it had any virtue in it to beget or increase useful knowledge...(but) because there was an express positive revelation of the will of God concerning this tree, so that by it he might know moral good and evil."*

This casts the tree as simply representing a test of fidelity to YHWH. However, this view unavoidably presents YHWH as a severe and inflexible ruler that

hands out capital punishment simply because His words are not followed to the letter. Also, why did the punishments not even relate to crime, such as the rather cruel punishment of pain in childbirth. This view also leaves mostly unanswered the meaning of the various metaphors. This level of confusion suggests we are overlooking something of vital importance.

### ALTERNATIVE INTERPRETATION

An alternative view, posits a sexual basis to the fall of man in Genesis. While this view is indeed in the minority, it does have significant support from the Christian Gnostics, the early Celtic church, the Manichean Christian sect and Jewish Rabbinical teaching.

Now, there were two types of trees in Eden - those that 'grew out of the ground', and two other special trees.

*"Out of the ground YHWH Elohim made every tree that is nice to look at, and their fruit was good to eat; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil"* Gen. 2:9.

### The Tree of Knowledge

A recent find in Sanxingdui, China dated to the second millennium BCE of a large 3.95m high bronze tree, appears to be a semi realistic rendition of the tree of knowledge of good and evil – see Fig. 1. The tree includes nine pieces of fruit inhabited by a snake with legs as well as a human hand reaching in. The pieces of fruit are accompanied by sharp knives, showing the dangers of taking the fruit.



Fig. 1: An ancient artifact representing Eden's tree of knowledge found in China. Capturing the critical moment when Eve reached in to take the fruit.

Now, regarding the tree being a 'tree of knowledge', a common biblical usage of the word knowledge is in the procreative sense in which the phrase 'a man knows a woman' refers to sexual intercourse. So could the fruit, be the fruit of sexual knowledge?

The Gilgamesh Epic is the Babylonian story of early history discovered in the palace library of Ashurbanipal at Nineveh, and dated around 2000 BCE (Carson 1995, Elwell 2001). In the epic of Gilgamesh, a man name Enkidu is tricked into sleeping with a harlot in order to compromise his efforts of protecting animals from hunters.

*"When he was sated with her charms, he set his face towards the open country of his cattle. The gazelles saw Enkidu and scattered; the cattle of open country kept away from his body....Yet he had acquired judgment, had become wiser. He turned back, he sat at the harlot's feet....The harlot spoke to him, to Enkidu, "You have become wise Enkidu, you have become like a god".* While different interpretations can be put on this text, clearly the last sentence is a close parallel of Gen. 3:22, *"Then the Lord God said: 'Behold the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil'."*

The fact that Adam and Eve made loin coverings immediately after eating the fruit, implies they covered their sexual organs, the perceived source of their sin.

*"I throw the apple at you, and if you are willing to love me, take it and share your girlhood with me."* (Plato, in Johnson 2016).

### Identifying the Serpent

The information that this beast was 'more subtle' than any other beast, and the nature of the question put to Eve, suggests that it could reason and was more intelligent than any other animal, i.e. at the pinnacle of the animal kingdom below Adam. The Hebrew word for serpent is *nâchâsh*, which comes from a primitive root to hiss, i.e. whisper a (magic) spell, to prognosticate or some form of enchantment. Presumably, even though it could use human language, it had inferior pronunciation and intonation to humans.

As YHWH cursed the serpent and dictated that it should crawl on its belly, presumably this beast was originally a more upright creature. Indeed, the apocryphal Book of Adam states that he *'was not only the most subtle of all animals, but also very similar to man, for it had been endowed with hands and legs like him'*. Early near-eastern depictions of serpent deities typically show them with human arms and head (Ward 1919). This idea is confirmed by the historian Josephus (Whiston 1987) and most biblical commentators, such as Matthew Henry. Martin Luther states, for example: *"before sin the serpent was a most beautiful animal and most pleasing to man...moreover, it walked upright"*. Putting all this together the most likely image of this animal is an intelligent and very pleasant looking humanoid ape, with advanced vocal



cords; genetically somewhere between man and current apes.

Ironically, the Edenic beast from Genesis would perfectly fit the bill for evolutionary theory's search for a missing link between man and apes.

### **The Eve-Beast Encounter**

Eve confesses before YHWH. *"The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat"* (Gen. 3:13). The word 'beguiled', means to be led astray or be sexually seduced (Strong's Concordance H5377). Second Corinthians 11:2-3 states, that: *"...that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ"*.

The Gospel of Phillip confirms this idea: *"First, adultery came into being, afterward murder. And he (Cain) was begotten in adultery, for he was the child of the Serpent. So, he became a murderer, just like his father, and he killed his brother. Indeed, every act of sexual intercourse which has occurred between those unlike one another is adultery."* This specifically refers to the sexual sin of bestial adultery and implies that Eve had sex with someone other than Adam, someone unlike her or Adam. The prime suspect obviously being the beast (Spero 1999).

The Genesis record then states that after Eve had completed intercourse with the beast she went and introduced Adam to sex. We thus have two sexual acts and presumably two conceptions. With two conceptions initiated in Eve's womb, the die has been cast for human history. The Gospel of Phillip puts this in stark terms: *"There are two trees growing in Paradise. The one bears animals, the other bears men."*

As further confirmation we note how Genesis takes great care to describe these two lines separately, each with separate genealogies and having dramatically different natures. The beast line is found in Gen. 4:16-24 and Adam's line in Gen. 5:1-32.

### **MOTIVATIONS**

The beast would certainly have found Eve very attractive, and might have envisaged great strong intelligent children. Lucifer could then have inspired the beast to lust after Eve and seduce her. We can now identify the 'seed of the serpent', as referring to the child conceived in Eve's womb.

As Luther asserts, the beast was a very beautiful creature, and so Eve may indeed have desired intercourse with him. She would also have foreseen the physically strong and powerful children that she would produce, fulfilling the mandate to subdue the world.

Once Eve presents herself to Adam, he presumably knew about the previous beast interaction, and so felt it critically important to cover his partner's 'sin' by placing his seed in her to deflect God's punishment from her. Adam thus manifested the divine sacrificial Christ-like nature, risking his immortal life to save his bride.

It seems logical that the fall of Lucifer occurred in Eden, and that he henceforth became known as Satan, the apostate. He might have been threatened by the fact that humans were given the power to create more beings like themselves, something that even the archangels could not do. This view is supported by Irenaeus: *"(Adam and Eve)...disobeyed God, being misled by the angel, who becoming jealous of God's many favours which he had bestowed on man, both ruined himself and made man a sinner, persuading him to disobey God's command."*

### **JUDGMENTS**

Eve's 'punishment' of pain in childbirth would presumably simply follow from the fact that children from the beast would be in some way unnatural, and so lead to pain. Under the alternative view, pain in childbirth is therefore not viewed as a punishment but simply a consequence of Eve's actions.

Adam's crime was listening to the voice of his wife and having sex and effectively preventing YHWH from acting to remove the illicit child in her womb as it now also contained his child.

As the beast was cursed all the work previously done by it in the field would now have to be done by Adam.

One objection to the above scenario, is the unlikely situation of Eve carrying two children from two different fathers.

Surprisingly, this situation is not that uncommon. Twins conceived in this way are called fraternal twins and are the result of the release of multiple eggs in a single cycle. Super-fecundation describes a situation in which multiple eggs are fertilized by sperm from separate incidences of sexual intercourse. There is a record in Holland where a prostitute working at the port docks had sex with a series of sailors and later gave birth to triplets; each child was a different nationality, having been conceived by a different father!

This alternate view adds clarity to some key Christian doctrines:

#### **1. Original sin**

The 'original sin' is the act of adultery and bestiality by Eve, introducing the corrupted genetics. That is, we were all *"conceived in sin and shaped in iniquity"* (Psalm 51:5). A conscious mind living within a

corrupted body with animal desires from the 'beast' describes the 'human condition'.

## 2. Did Mary have to be a Virgin

It is now clear that Yeshua had to have a virgin birth in order to bypass the sex act and the corrupt genetics. A woman's mitochondrial DNA is not passed down by sex; this would allow a pure reconstruction of a human being, i.e. the 'seed of the woman', (Galatians 3:16-19).

## CONCLUSIONS

In this paper we have presented an alternate interpretation of Genesis Chapter 3, as describing an illicit sexual encounter.

Traditionalists may see the alternative view as heretical. However, we find the alternative view:

- brings fresh light to much of the scripture, e.g. original sin, the virgin birth.
- Provides an account of YHWH's actions in Eden that is more in line with the revelation of the nature of the Father as presented by Yeshua in the New Testament, thereby eliminating a major stumbling block for people who tend to reject a tyrannical version of the Creator.
- Strengthens standard theology in relation to the fallen condition of humanity and the need for redemption.
- Theologians are united in the view that the account of the fall is foundational, so we need to know what it is saying. The traditional view raises unanswered questions which are clarified by the alternative view.
- Has great explanatory power in relation to the apostles account of the two natures: e.g. *"the good that I would, I do not; but what I hate I do... evil is present within me..."* (Rom. 7:15-21). The 'evil present with me' being the animal nature from the beast. Dualism is a contested position, but it is undeniable that the body has its own mind which must be ruled by the devout soul if we are by any means to obtain the kingdom of heaven.

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*The complete version of this summarised article is available at:*

<http://www.stclements.edu/Articles/Eden-Revisited.pdf>

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# AN EXAMINATION ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT REGULATIONS IN CAMBODIA'S AGRICULTURE SECTOR

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The complete version of this summarised article is available at:  
<http://www.stclements.edu/Articles/An-Examination-Effectiveness.pdf>

## Abstract

Over the past two decades, Cambodia has undergone a significant transition, reaching lower middle-income status in 2015 and now aspiring to attain upper middle-income status by 2030. Cambodia's economy has sustained an average growth rate of 7.7% between 1995 and 2018, making it among the fastest-growing economies in the world. As global demand peaked in 2018, economic growth is estimated at 7.5%, compared to 7% in 2017 and is expected to remain robust over the medium term. (World Bank Group, May 2019) It was believed that one of the contributing factors for its economic growth was the increase in foreign direct investment (FDI) which already reached USD3.239 billion in 2018 (World Bank, 2019). Among all sectors, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) sees agriculture as a driving force of economic growth and poverty reduction, with the emphasis on modernization of agriculture, for which FDI was believed to be the key.

However, agriculture FDI has caused many social and environmental problems in Cambodia. In particular, the Economic Land Concession (ELC) policy, as the prime strategy for promoting agriculture FDI, has led to many land disputes that are still ongoing. While private sector investments and business operations in agriculture have generally negatively affected local communities and indigenous people, some organizations believe that the private sector, and in this case foreign investors, can play a crucial role in reaching solutions by adopting and implementing responsible and inclusive business practices.

The paper was written as a scoping and mapping process in order to inform the Royal Government of Cambodia, foreign investors and private sector, as well as communities and civil society about responsible and inclusive foreign direct investment and business practices so that all stakeholders involved can play a role in preventing or resolving human rights violations and conflicts and community participations at the early stage of investment, specifically in the country's agriculture sector.

**Keywords:** *Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Economic*

*Land Concessions (ELCs), Quantified Investment Project (QIP), Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC), Qualified Investment Project (QIP).*

## Introduction

In a recent report conducted by the World Bank on Foreign Direct Investment in the agriculture sector in Cambodia, it was argued that legal and regulatory frameworks for FDI are not the primary drivers of investment decision. Strong, stable legal and regulatory frameworks help create transparent environments conducive for investment.

This study aims to examine the validity of some of the concerns expressed in Cambodia over the potential effects of FDI in agriculture on local communities and their environment. Initially, it investigates the extent and nature of FDI in agriculture and its sub-sectors. It then analyses the policy and regulatory environment and institutions governing and facilitating such FDI, as well as prevailing business models, in the acquisition of agricultural land. The study tries to conclude by providing some policy recommendations in response to the challenges facing the sector. Thus, the study seeks to explore the correlation between the effectiveness of FDI regulations and the resulting host country's economic development, with Cambodia as a case study for analysis.

The study is of the view that there is a deficit in the regulations of FDIs in Cambodia, specifically in the agriculture sector. The following questions guided the researcher in answering this vital issue:

- What is the state of legal and regulatory framework for FDI in Cambodia?
- What is the critical imperative for review of legal and regulatory framework for FDI in Cambodia?
- How extensive are foreign direct investors embed themselves in Cambodia's local communities through their entrepreneurial activities in economic land concession development?
- How extensive do FDIs contribute to local development?

Since South Korean investors dominate investments in the agriculture sector in Cambodia, the following sub-research questions were explored in this study:

- How do Korean companies operate economic land concessions in local Cambodian communities?
- To what extent do Korean investors perform their entrepreneurial activities in the economic land concession development?
- How do Korean investors interact with their stakeholders in local communities?
- What value added do Korean companies generate in local communities and the Cambodian agriculture sector?

This study examines the efficacy of legal, regulatory, and institutional framework of foreign direct investment in the agriculture sector in Cambodia.

### Chinese and South Korean Investments

While Chinese investments are in the area of construction, South Korean FDIs are concentrated in the agriculture sector. The noticeable rise in foreign direct investment (FDI) in agricultural land in Cambodia in recent years has sparked concerns among civil society groups and international organizations as to the potential impacts on poor local communities' access to resources. Growing interest from foreign investors in agriculture, particularly in agro-industrial crops has likewise raised concern about the potential effects of such investments on community livelihoods, the environment and national food security.

Agriculture has traditionally been a steady contributor to the national economy, employing a significant proportion of the rural workforce and generating substantial foreign exchange earnings.

As the agriculture sector is one of the main drivers of economic growth in Cambodia, a market mechanism has been set up to promote trade and channel agricultural products to local and international markets.

### The Current Account Deficit

The current account deficit widened to 10.4 percent of GDP in 2018, from 9.7 percent of GDP in 2017, but remained fully financed by **foreign direct investment (FDI)**. FDI is estimated to have reached a record high of more than \$3.0 billion or 13.4 percent in 2018.

### Recent Study Findings

Recent findings from secondary sources and from the field research activities show the following:

- Three-quarters of the approved FDI inflows originated from China.
- Cutting production and trade costs could help to mitigate the impact of Everything But Arms (EBA) suspension.

- After experiencing accelerated growth of 7.5 percent in 2018, the economy is expected to return to its long-term potential of about 7 percent.
- The longer-term outlook, however, depends on the country's ability to productively absorb rising FDI inflows, while promoting domestic investment.
- The recent surge in FDI inflows has sustained a prolong construction boom brought about by China's investment and South Korea's FDIs in the agriculture sector.
- Private investment, largely driven by FDI inflows, climbed to new highs. In 2018, the value of approved investment projects increased to US\$5.8 billion, of which two thirds was FDI. FDI inflows have grown by 24.8 percent, reaching a record high of more than US\$3 billion, or 13.4 percent of GDP in 2018. Three quarters of the (approved) FDI originated from China.

The growing interest in foreign direct investments (FDIs) in large-scale agricultural land from South Korea has been increasingly noted. Aiming to address these gaps in knowledge, this dissertation provides empirical evidence of three Korean FDIs in large-scale agricultural land in Cambodia. It analyses the perspectives of FDI investors and explores their embeddedness in the local community through entrepreneurship and stakeholder engagement in order to provide better understanding of the dynamics, practices and impacts of investments.

The research finds that the Korean investors do not (fully) embed themselves in their local settings due to barriers imposed by the investors and the local community. The research also finds that each of the Korean FDI companies examined contributes to local development differently—and not to their full potential—according to their operational patterns and extent of embeddedness in local communities.

The empirical findings of the study of the three Korean FDI companies and investors, particularly their entrepreneurship and stakeholder relationships, are critical to our understanding of the embedding process of the FDI companies in Cambodia. The three theoretical concepts—entrepreneurship, stakeholder relationship and embeddedness—shed light on the ways these FDI companies operate in Cambodia. Nevertheless, all three companies are found to embed themselves in the agricultural sector in Cambodia. They establish and maintain good relationships with other stakeholders at the provincial and national level, but their relationships with local communities need a lot more work.

This research contributes to debates on the impact of FDIs on local development in several ways in terms of the analysis of the terminology of FDIs, methodology and scope and scale. In addition, the research findings contribute to the limited literature on Korean FDIs in Cambodia. This research also generates empirical

findings about Korean investors, which will complement studies that try to counterbalance the current focus on the dominant Chinese investors in Cambodia. Given the potential impact of FDI companies on the local community, this PhD dissertation contributes to promoting rural sustainable development in Cambodia.

## Conclusions

Agriculture has been a constant contributor to the national economy, employing a significant proportion of the rural workforce and generating substantial foreign exchange earnings. As the agriculture sector is one of the main drivers of Cambodia's economic growth, a market mechanism has been set up to promote trade and channel agricultural products to local and international markets.

## Policy Recommendations

To ensure that opportunities for foreign investment in agriculture in Cambodia are sustainable and beneficial to all, the government and concerned stakeholders should consider taking the steps outlined below.

### *Central and Local Government*

- Environmental impact assessment should be conducted. As impact assessments become more reliable and transparent, the number and scope of land conflicts will be reduced.
- To avoid land disputes and overlapping claims, MAFF and related institutions should demarcate ELC borders in consultation with adjacent communities.
- The government should monitor ELC operations more closely to prevent sub-standard forest clearance practices and such activities as filling in upstream water sources and excessive logging.
- Authorities at both central and provincial levels should hold frequent consultations with communities and companies so as to pre-empt problems.
- MAFF should regularly update and publicize the progress of ELCs' operations on its website and via other public media to ensure greater transparency and generate more credibility.
- Also on food security, the government should review overall policy on investment in agriculture, particularly in relation to ELCs given their recent drastic expansion, to ensure agricultural trade policy is not geared solely towards foreign exchange earnings.
- Future rules and regulations should put more emphasis on the protection of rural communities by conducting social impact assessment prior to project approval, and they should be in line with regulations on investor protection.

### *Private Companies*

- ELC holders should be more transparent and accountable to nearby communities and the

general public by contributing more to the development and maintenance of local infrastructure.

- Companies, ELCs and processing plants in particular should be more responsible for maintaining the environment quality and ecological systems in their project areas.

### *Affected Communities*

- Communities should maintain good, frequent and direct communication with companies through community social gatherings and the like.
- Communities should be more involved with education programs provided by the authorities and NGOs regarding their rights to property and how to resolve land conflicts.

### *NGOs/Civil Society*

- Local NGOs should raise community awareness regarding civil rights and how to exercise those rights.
- Community NGOs should closely monitor potential conflicts between local communities and ELC companies and compile accounts to inform the public.

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*The complete version of this summarised article is available at:*

<http://www.stclements.edu/Articles/An-Examination-Effectiveness.pdf>

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# IMPORTANCE OF STRATEGIC HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN MALAWI

Dr Landson Thindwa\*

## 1.0 Introduction

This topic gives an overview of outcomes of the entire study conducted with civil society organizations in Malawi. These civil society organizations are working in different topical areas, which affect the lives of communities. This study has also covered some lessons which civil society organizations can learn from, and design programmes for improvement in their daily performances especially on managing their employees. The following are the key outcomes / results from the study carried out in Malawi:

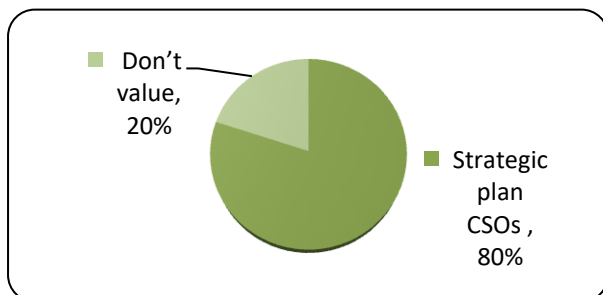
### 1.1 Key thematic areas for Civil Society Organizations (CSO)

The study examined Civil Society Organizations which work in the following thematic areas; civic education on human rights, gender and development, democracy and good governance, HIV and AIDS, Sexual and Reproductive health rights, Early childhood development, nutrition, advocacy on the rights of disabled, livelihood and institutional capacity.

During the study, it was learned that these organizations have human resources/employees ranging from 10 – 40 working in the field offices and country headquarters.

### 1.2: On the question of importance of strategic plan in Civil Society Organizations in Malawi

The study revealed that 80% of the Civil Society Organizations interviewed value the importance of having strategic plans and they have their strategic plans available. Only 20% of the organizations seem not to value the importance of strategic plans and they have been doing their work on trial and error scenario.

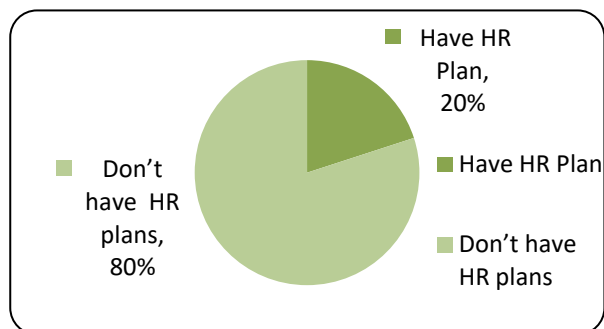


The major reason for some Civil Society Organizations to be unable to formulate their strategic plan was lack

of knowledge and skills to develop sound and viable strategic plan and some mentioned lack of financial resources.

### 1.3 Value of Strategic Human Resource Management Plan in CSO in Malawi

The study revealed that 90.2 % of Civil Society Organizations interviewed indicated that strategic human resource management plan was very important for the growth of their organizations. Only 9.8 % did not seem to be valuing the presence of strategic human resource management plan in their civil society organizations. However, the study revealed that 80% of civil society organizations have no Strategic Human Resource Management Plans in place. Only 20 % of the organizations interviewed indicated that they had Strategic Human Resource Management plan. Their priority issues within their strategic human resource management were capacity building for staff, staff development, staff motivation, staff welfare and review of HRM plan.



This clearly shows that Civil Society Organizations do value the importance of Strategic Human Resource Management Plan but it's not the priority within their planning and programming.

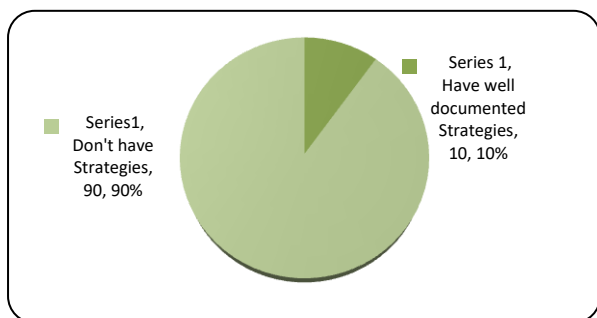
### 1.4 Human resource policy issues prioritized in the civil society organizations

On the question of prioritization of human resource issues in the Civil Society Organizations, the study revealed that Civil Society Organizations prefer the following for their growth and development; Staff retention, performance appraisal, staff conduct, on job trainings, good working conditions, staff development, staff welfare and motivation and this represents 75% of the entire civil society grouping.

About 25% of the organizations interviewed showed that they do not have much issues pertaining to human resource management. This clearly shows that they have no any policy concerning management of human resources in their organizations.

### 1.5 Availability of human resource and development strategies

The study revealed that 90% of the organizations interviewed had no well-written and documented human resource and development strategies for their employees/members of staff. This showed that most of the organizations do not believe in empowering human resource in their organizations. Only 10% of the



organizations mentioned that they had human resource management and development strategies.

Some of the major causes for organizations to shun HR & Development strategies were; some organizations had very few members of staff, lack of knowledge and skills to develop HR & development strategies, combination of HR department with general administration amongst others. However, for those who utilize HR and Development strategies indicated that their priority issues in the strategies were staff appraisal and retention of staff in the organizations. Human resource strategy provides an opportunity for the organizations to observe ethical issues pertaining to human resource management. This also provides an avenue that people are the most important resource in the organizations since they are the means to achieve the goals, objectives, vision and mission.

### 1.6 On development of human resources in the civil society organizations

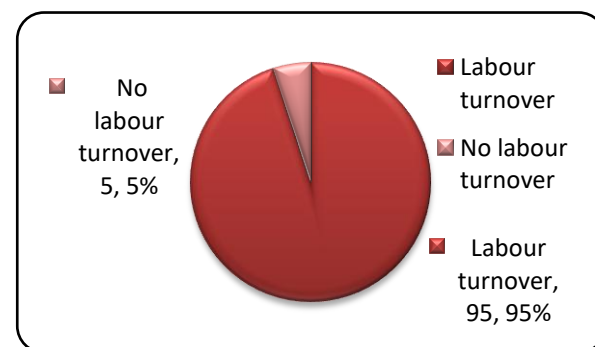
The study revealed that it was very important to develop members of staff in these organizations. However, this can be done well if the organizations have well-articulated Human Resource Management Plan (HRMP) and Policies, which should stipulate capacity building of staff, and Human resource Management and these should be the priority in the corporate strategy of the entire organizations. Almost 98% of the organizations interviewed indicated that it was very important to develop human resource but the major challenge was lack of funding since most of them depended upon the donor communities. Only 2% of the organizations interviewed did not mention anything on the issue.

### 1.6.1 Development of Human Resources

Therefore the study revealed that only 26% of the Civil Society Organisations interviewed develop their members of staff through provision of loans, career ladders, further trainings amongst others. About 74% of the civil society organisations interviewed indicated that they do not develop human resources due to inadequate resources since they rely upon the donor communities for their activities.

### 1.7 Level of labour turnover in civil society organizations

The study revealed that labour turnover was an issue in most of the civil society organizations in Malawi. About 95% of the organizations interviewed indicated that labour turnover affected their operation. Only 5% indicated that for the past 12 months they have never experienced labour turnover.



The study revealed that the major causes of labour turnover were lack of incentives and motivation to staff, low salaries and wages, donor fatigue since 99% of Civil Society Organizations rely upon donor funding for their survival amongst other reasons.

In discussion, on the ways to deal with labour turnover, most of the organizations indicated that they provide the following: Offer employees good working conditions, offer trainings to staff and they sign bond agreement, offering attractive remuneration which could include housing and transport allowances, revising condition of services, staff skill development, substantial loans to staff with long term repayment while servicing their loans they stay in the organization and recruitment of new staff.

In general, labour turnover was still an issue with Civil Society Organizations in Malawi.

### 1.8 Motivation of employees in Civil Society Organizations in Malawi

During the in-depth interviews conducted, it was revealed that civil society organizations motivate their employees through the following means; providing good salaries and honorarium, providing employees with huge loans, acknowledging staff work and development of staff through short-term courses and long-term courses. It was also noted that some civil



society organizations do not provide incentives to members of the staff. This has enabled an increase in labor turnover (LT).

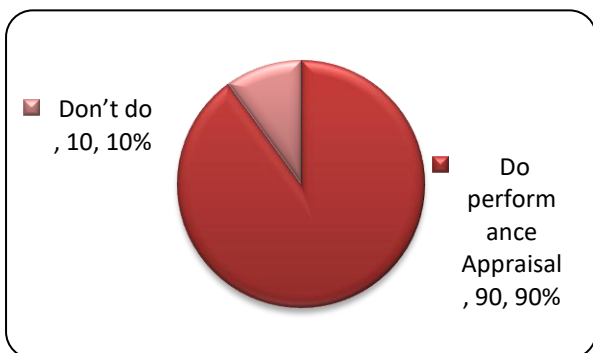
At least 65% of the Civil Society Organizations interviewed indicated that they provide incentives to their employees as a way of retaining them though not adequate while 35% of the civil society organizations interviewed indicated that they could not provide incentives to their employees due to inadequate resources since they rely upon donor funding which is crucial for their growth and survival.

The other reason for Civil Society Organizations not to provide incentives to its employees is that top managements are not myopic to see the importance of motivating their members of staff and their volunteers in the communities.

**1.9 Utilization of staff and management performance appraisal systems**

It was learnt that some Civil Society Organizations do conduct staff and management performance appraisals. At least 90% of the Civil Society Organizations interviewed do conduct staff and management appraisal though they do not use their results in effective way and they take it as a tradition. Those organizations, which use results from performance appraisal indicated that results assist them to review their Strategic Human Resource Management and Development plan, examine the weaknesses and gaps in employees and set trainings and developments, set proper remuneration for staff, improve current performance, assess potential for promotion, counsel employees on future career opportunities and recommend areas of improvement to individual employees.

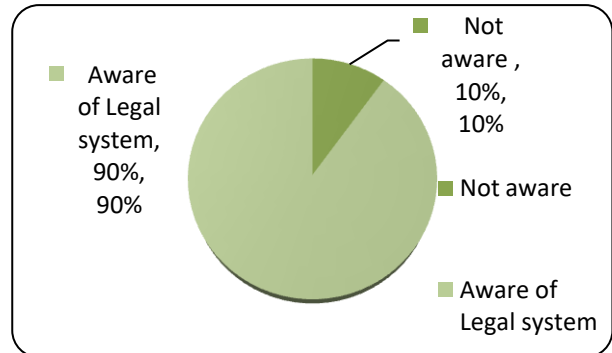
Some of these Civil Society Organizations indicated that staff and management appraisals were used to highlight employee’s strength that need to be maintained, and resource allocation.



It was noted in the study that 10% of the Civil Society Organizations do not utilize performance appraisal systems in their own context due to limited capacity and resources to implement proposed actions.

**1.9.1 Utilization of performance improvement plan (PIP) in Civil Society Organizations**

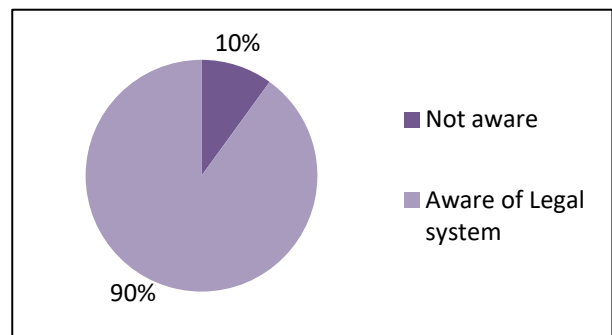
The study revealed that 95 % of Civil Society Organizations utilize staff performance appraisal as a tradition. Only 5% of the organizations interviewed did indicate that they were not conducting staff appraisal due to lenient staff that could not require a comprehensive performance improvement plan.



However, the study revealed that none of these Civil Society Organizations were utilizing performance improvement plan (PIP) in their context. It was also observed that some organizations do not even give feedback to their employees concerning the appraisal conducted with them and this gives doubts to employees’ participation in the exercise.

**1.10: Awareness of legal systems pertaining to employment in Malawi**

The study revealed that 90% of Civil Society Organizations indicated that they are aware about legal systems pertaining to employment in Malawi and they link their Human Resource Policies to all laws regarding employment in Malawi. And this assists to uphold the rights of employees in the workplace. Only 10% of the civil society organizations indicated that they are /were not aware about legal systems pertaining employment in Malawi. It was also revealed that 90% of the civil society organizations in Malawi do not have a separate Human resource plan.



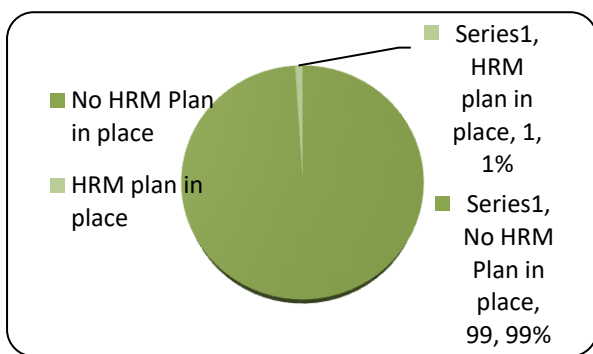
### 1.11 Main functions of Human Resource Management in Civil Society organizations

The study revealed that the following were the main functions of Human Resource Management in Civil Society Organizations.

- ✚ Implementation of policies and reviewing policies
- ✚ Job analysis and description
- ✚ Recruitment and selection
- ✚ Determination of wages and salaries for employees and volunteers
- ✚ Training and development
- ✚ Dismissals and redundancies in the organizations
- ✚ Performance appraisals and gap analysis

### 1.12 Availability of Human Resource Management Plans

The Study revealed that 99% civil society organizations do not have strategic Human resource plans. Only 1% of the organizations interviewed mentioned that they had Strategic Human Resource Plan (SHRP).



This was very low uptake of strategic Human Resource plans in Civil Society Organizations in Malawi. The main challenges were as follows; lack of political will to formulate Strategic Human Resource Plans, lack of funding to support Civil Society Organizations to implement Strategic Human Resource concepts, donor influence in decision making pertaining to Human Resource Management, lack of knowledge and skills in human resource and development.

### 1.13 Level of industrial disputes in the Civil Society Organizations

The study revealed that 80% of the civil society organizations interviewed were involved in industrial disputes for the past twelve months. Only 20% of the Civil Society Organizations interviewed indicated that they were not involved in industrial disputes. The major causes of disputes were low salaries for staff, poor condition of services amongst some Civil Society Organizations and devaluation of currency, which contributed to rising costs of living amongst people and that, did not spare workers in the Civil Society Organizations in Malawi.

### 1.13 Role of strategic human resource management

The study revealed that Strategic Human Resource Management plays a major role in civil society organizations.

Some of the major roles are contributing to reduction of labour turnover in Civil Society Organizations especially to volunteer, staff and in addition, provision of incentives for employees, training and development of employees, provide clear direction of staff management in the organizations, reduction of industrial disputes, reduction of collective bargaining sessions and enhance good labour policies and practices, providing guidance in planning, developing policies and enforcement.

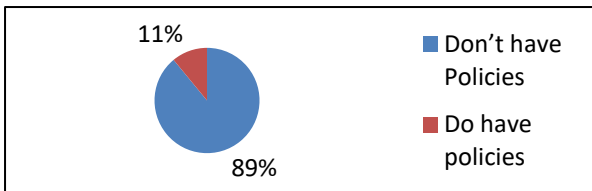
Improve capacity for human resource and improve staff welfare in the organizations.

### 1.14 Major Human Resource Management challenges affecting Civil Society Organizations

During in-depth interviews with senior and junior employees in Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), it was revealed that following were/are major challenges affecting civil society organizations to utilize Strategic Human Resource Management in their organizations. Lack of personnel to manage human resource issues in organizations, lack of financial resources to manage overheads expenses, donor influence in decision making pertaining to employment and number of staff required, lack of political will from top managers to embrace issues of Human resource management in their entire strategic /corporate plans, lack of networking and collaboration with those organizations which have expertise in utilization of strategic Human resource management concepts.

### 1.15 Strategic Human Resource Policies in Civil Society Organizations

The outcome of the study revealed that 89% of those Civil Society Organizations interviewed in Malawi do not have Strategic Human Resource Policies for managing people at work place. This entails that there is no proper direction in most of these organizations pertaining to human resource management hence high labour turnovers and absenteeism. Only 11% of these Civil Society organizations interviewed indicated that they do have human resource policies and they try to make use of them though not well documented. Most of the organizations indicated that the major reasons for not having policies are lack of knowledge on how to develop Human resource policies, lack of resources and lack of political will from strategic Managers to come up with Human resource policies.



### 1.16: On the question underutilization of human resources in civil society organizations

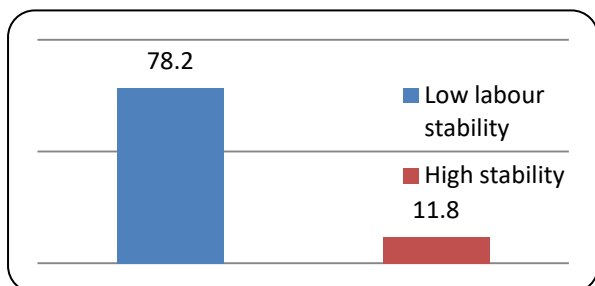
The study revealed that some Civil Society Organizations underutilize their human resources. About 72.7 % of the civil society organizations do not utilize their human capacity well. The main reasons were/are lack of knowledge on human resource by strategic managers, lack of knowledge on human resource inventory and their profiles, jealousy amongst senior managers who feel that juniors can take over their positions and ignorance to the part of senior leadership. Utilization of human resource can be best done if line managers accept their responsibility in managing people. About 27.3 % of the organizations interviewed indicated that they utilize their staff properly though not adequately as per requirement since they do not compile Strategic Human Resource Inventory (SHRI). Graphically results are presented as follows.

Strategic Human Resource Inventory assists the organizations to assess the capacity and professionalism of employees. The management knows who is who in the entire organization and who does what in the organizations

### 1.17 Labour stability index (LSI)

Labour Stability measures the level of employees who could have stayed with the organization throughout the period being measured (1 year). The study shows that labour stability is still questionable in civil society organizations in Malawi. 78.2% of the civil society organizations interviewed indicated that more people do not stay longer in one organization during the specific period. Most of the people leave the organizations after staying for fewer years. 11.8 % of the organizations indicated that labour stability was not an issue.

The main reasons for failure to stay longer were, lack of incentives, work overload verses remunerations,



inadequate resources to facilitate performance, poor working conditions and others.

Labour Stability is measured by

$$\frac{\text{Number of employees with one year's service}}{\text{Number of employees exactly one year before}} \times 100$$

Number of employees exactly one year before

Labour stability is the result of proper human resource management in the organization and this enables efficiency, effectiveness and productivity at the work place.

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# BEING A REALM OR SOVEREIGN STATE WITHIN INDEPENDENT COMMONWEALTH (BRITISH) COUNTRIES - COOK ISLANDS, NIUE AND NEW ZEALAND

Professor Dr Kemal Yildirim\*

The complete version of this summarised article is available at:  
<http://www.stclements.edu/Articles/Sovereign-State.pdf>

## Abstract

This paper will discover does being a Realm mean being one sovereign state or can three sovereign states share one Realm. Initially these countries were called Dominions, but are now called Realms and Elizabeth of Windsor is Queen of all these Realm Nations. As you are aware a number of independent Commonwealth (British) countries have the UK Queen as their head of state. So, does being a Realm mean being one sovereign state or can three sovereign states share one Realm?

*Keywords: Niue, Cook Islands and New Zealand, Realm, Sovereign State.*

## Introduction

I intend to present an alternative reading of the proclamation of Dominion status and use this historical moment to focus on ideas of nationhood and national identity. In particular, I argue that 'national identity'—a phrase which has been excessively mobilized in public discourses in recent years—is not only an artificial construct but is in fact a colonizing tool. The paper seeks to interrogate these notions and argues that 1907 ought to be read as a staging post in a progressive and evolutionary colonizing narrative; and that the nation and national identity are alibis for colonization, devices which legitimate ongoing colonizing processes and practices. The paper will attempt to answer the following questions: What is the relationship between history and national identity? How has the concept been employed in the past? And what are the implications for citizens of the early twenty-first century New Zealand 'nation-state'? The emphasis placed on the unitary nation-state, with its implicit homogeneity, has I suggest, bequeathed to us a rather problematic legacy.

## Discussion

First we have to discuss what is being of a "Dominion" in political definition as well as its spiritual extension?

In political terms on the whole, Dominion is described as the power to rule: control of a country, region, etc.

or a country that was part of the British Empire but had its own government. Legal definition of a Dominion is also described as a self-governing nation (as Canada) of the British Commonwealth other than the United Kingdom that acknowledges the British monarch as the head of state so the power (as authority) or right (as ownership) to use or dispose of property when we look at the term of Dominion in religious view.

I think the ruler of a region has dominion over it, and the area itself may be called the ruler's dominion. In the days of the British Empire, as known widely Great Britain had dominion over many countries throughout the world. Though Canada has been quite independent of Great Britain since the 19th century, its formal title remains Dominion of Canada. The word has an old-fashioned sound today, and probably shows up in history books, historical novels, and fantasy video games more often than in discussions of modern nations etc.

## Scriptural Pretext for Dominion Theology

In theological view of religions, most religious people on this planet believe in the dominion = power/submission philosophy and really could care less what they do to its inhabitants both human or otherwise. All the while criticising, mocking, and ridiculing non-religious people who do care. Calling them tree huggers, hippies, libtards etc... I therefore hold no objection towards Christianity as a fundamental belief system in and of itself, or any other religion for that matter. So, having a responsibility to take care of such a glorious creation while exercising dominion over it seems implicit. Failure or refusal to look after it is hypocritical, greediness or perhaps laziness.

## Did Dominion Status Make New Zealand Any More Independent?

Not a bit. Few New Zealanders actually wanted greater independence from Britain in 1907. Race sentiment, language, culture, defence and trade links bound most New Zealanders closer to the wider 'Britannic world', then at the height of its prestige.

Those feelings persisted through the first half of the 20th century, even though dominion status evolved as a label for the constitutional position of the former self-governing colonies (and the Irish Free State). In 1926, after pressure from the Irish, South Africans and Canadians, the Balfour Declaration stated that Britain and the dominions:

*“They are autonomous Communities within the British Empire, equal in status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown, and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.”*

New Zealand’s Prime Minister, Gordon Coates, called this a ‘poisonous document’. Until 25th November 1947, New Zealand refused to ratify the Statute of Westminster 1931, which removed London’s right to legislate for the dominions unless they asked it. The Constitution Act 1986 finally removed the last faint provision for the British Parliament to make laws for New Zealand.

### **When Did Dominion Status End?**

Dominion status ended with a whimper. In 1945, when the country joined the United Nations, it was simply called ‘New Zealand’. In January 1946 officials were told to change their letterheads to say ‘New Zealand’ – but not to publicise the change.

In 1953 the official style was changed to the ‘Realm of New Zealand’. The term ‘dominion’ hung on in the names of institutions (the Dominion Museum was not renamed the National Museum until 1972), businesses and in the constitutions of clubs and societies. The name still survives in the title of the Dominion (now Dominion Post) newspaper, first published in Wellington on 26th September 1907.

Although the term is no longer used to describe New Zealand, the 1907 royal proclamation of dominion status has never been revoked and remains in force today. New Zealand’s formal title may therefore still include the term ‘dominion’. Generally, however, the country is today known as the Realm of New Zealand.

### **Governance in Cook Islands**

The British did not take control of the Cook Islands until 1888 and in 1901 they were annexed by New Zealand. In 1965 the New Zealand Parliament passed the Cook Islands Constitution Act and gave the Cook Islands self-government founded upon its own written constitution. Today the Cook Islands have a Westminster Parliamentary system with democratic elections every four years. The Head of State is Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Her representative in the Cook Islands and the legal system of the Cook Islands closely reflects that of New Zealand and most other English Common Law jurisdictions. There is a

High Court and a Court of Appeal of the Cook Islands, which is presided over predominantly by current or former New Zealand High Court Judges. The ultimate appellate court is the Privy Council in London. (Please see below for a more detailed description of the development & workings of the Jurisdiction).

Self-government came to the Cook Islands in 1965 with the adoption of a written constitution which was enacted as a statute of the New Zealand Parliament, the Cook Islands Constitution Act 1964. This Constitution provided for a completely autonomous and independent Legislative Assembly elected by secret ballot under a system of universal suffrage. No law making powers were reserved to New Zealand; other than by the technical request and consent procedure. As to the foreign relations; The Joint Centenary Declaration of the Principles of the Relationship between the Cook Islands and New Zealand was signed by both countries in 2001. The occasion was the centenary of formal relationship having been established between the two nations. It states:

*“In the conduct of its foreign affairs, the Cook Islands interact with the international community as a sovereign and independent state. Responsibility at international law rests with the Cook Islands in terms of its actions and the exercise of its international rights and fulfillment of its international obligations.*

*Any action taken by New Zealand in respect of its constitutional responsibilities for the foreign affairs of the Cook Islands will be taken on the delegated authority, and as an agent at the specific request of the Cook Islands.”*

The Cook Islands Parliament thus has the sole law making authority for the Cook Islands. Although New Zealand continues to be a major source of reference for new enactments for the Cook Islands, increasingly the legislators and draftsmen have looked further a field for policies and precedents considered to be more applicable to Cook Islands conditions.

### **For Case of Niue islands**

Niue takes place in a framework of a parliamentary representative democratic dependency, whereby the Chief Minister is the head of government, and of a non-partisan system. Niue is self-governing in free association with New Zealand and is fully responsible for internal affairs.

Niue became a British Protectorate in 1900 and was annexed to New Zealand in 1901. In 1974 the people of Niue adopted a Constitution providing for self-government in free association with New Zealand as seen Niue and Cook Islands exercise self determination rights as self governing entities. This looks completely different from full independence. Under the Niue Constitution, New Zealand provides necessary economic and administrative assistance, and is finally

responsible for Niue's defence and surveillance of its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

It looks that New Zealand had its own reasons for wanting to become a dominion and most politicians also liked the change to dominion status. As historical sources indicate, that the definition of 1926 was modified in 1949, while it was agreed that countries could enjoy full Commonwealth membership but were not obligated to recognize the British monarch as their sovereign. The monarch was accepted as the symbol of the free association of the independent member nations and as such was the head of the Commonwealth. India was the first country to enter into such an arrangement, and by the 1990s it had been joined by most of the other Commonwealth nations.

To me all these islands enjoy self determination and sometimes complete or semi relations in terms of conduction foreign relations but we have to analyse the British Empire's role in its early history how it has shaped today's geographic coordinates in its own zone.

British Empire, is a worldwide system of dependencies—colonies, protectorates, and other territories—that over a span of some three centuries was brought under the sovereignty of the crown of Great Britain and the administration of the British government. So to the reader it's worth to know that policy of granting or recognizing significant degrees of self-government by dependencies, which was favoured by the far-flung nature of the Empire, led to the development by the 20th century of the notion of a "British Commonwealth," comprising largely self-governing dependencies that acknowledged an increasingly symbolic British sovereignty.

## Conclusion

To sum up, my task here today has been to unsettle and destabilise the nation, and to question the implications of the events of 1907. The 1907 'shift' did not so much create as augment the conceptual scaffolding for nation; it created the discursive space where narratives of the nation could be written. 1907 thus offers us a moment in which we might pause and reflect on the idea of the nation state and its rhetorical partner-in-crime, national identity. Ultimately New Zealand's shift from 'colony' to 'Dominion' status was important in terms of perceptions of evolving nationhood. Yet nations are not just historical constructs: they survive into the present. So the resilience of the nation validates the need for ongoing scrutiny. Perhaps instead of 'questing for' a national identity which does not exist, we need to accept that the end-point is the process, where vigilance, examination and constant questioning of the centrality of the nation ought to be the goal; but in such a way that does not valorise its centrality and thus its power. Clearly, then, there is no one monument, one single place or a universal theory to explain the history of New Zealand: rather, we have a fragmented past which has produced an equally diverse present. So when, in

his 1936 *New Zealand: A Short History*, historian J. C. Beaglehole declared New Zealand 'the most over-written of all the British Dominions (*Source J. C. Beaglehole, New Zealand: A Short History, Allen and Unwin, London, 1936, p.10.*) he was only partially correct: New Zealand has indeed been thoroughly written over and written about, but from the perspective of what we ought to admit as a colonising narrative.

For the case of the Cook Islands, responsibility at international law in terms of its actions and the exercise of its international rights and fulfillment of its international obligations in the conduct of its foreign affairs, the Cook Islands is likely to interact with the international community as a sovereign and independent state In this sense we can claim Cook Islands as an independent country but rather a dominion or realm since it is a self governing entity binding its rules directly with New Zealand or symbolically annexed to UK the Head of State is Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Her representative in the Cook Islands thus UK and New Zealand still has empowerment on governance of Cook Islands.

So we simply claim then that it is just a former British protectorate which became self-governing in 1965, the territory is now in free association with New Zealand. It is all up to the reader also to decide whether Cook Islands are a Dominion (Realm) or independent state but of course to me it is not yet an independent state rather a Dominion.

For case of Niue Island, it has the same status like Cook Islands' Governance as well as Tokelau Islands who went for a referendum of independence in the past I guess. But finally New Zealand is the main Dominion with protectorate of these overseas realms and it remains as a dominant with UK at present. I would also conclude that government is conducted through complex interactions between citizen participation, and the actions of governing elite which, in the end, continues to hold the upper hand.

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# St Clements Education Group – E-Journal *Veritas*

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