

Influence of Somali Displaced Refugees on Human Security in Kenya a Case of Dadaab Refugee Camp in Garissa County, Kenya

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Abstract

The study sought to investigate influence of Somali displaced refugees on human security in Kenya. A case of Dadaab Refugee Camp, Garissa County, Kenya. The specific objectives for the study included; effectiveness of encampment by Kenyan government, effects of threats to human security, protection policy and contributions of Somali refugees to national security and their effects on human security. The theoretical review has been based on the theory of human security. The literature review examined secondary literature by other authors on forced displacement while the empirical review of the theories will deliver the theoretical perspective of forced displacement. The study used descriptive research design that employed both data collection technique for both qualitative and quantitative data. The qualitative design applied to cognitive dynamics like perception, thinking, and consciousness. The geographical location for the research study was in Dadaab Constituency in Garissa County. The study target population consisted of 1800 refugees at Dagahaley in Dadaab refugee camp, IDP's community leaders and Agency staffs. The researcher considered the use of simple random sampling in selecting the respondents to ensure that every respondent in the sampling frame has a chance of being selected. The study relied upon primary data that was collected from the respondents with the use of research questionnaire. The survey questionnaire being the main research tool, the researcher constructed the study tool to have both closed and open-ended questions. Data analysis was performed on collected data so as to transform it to useable form for purposes of deriving conclusions and as well as making policy recommendations. The data collected was sorted and cleaned for purposes of eliminating inconsistencies which may be found. Descriptive analysis done so as to present the general features of the sample such as mean and standard deviation. Multiple regression model also was put into use to help in determining the existing relationship between dependent and independent study variables. Data presentation is in the form of graphs, charts and tables.

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Displaced Somali refugees have contributed to impoverishment, thereby putting their human security at a much higher risk in Dadaab Refugee camp, Garissa County. This is a threat to human security in Dadaab refugee camp, influenced by the Somali displaced refugees as they are considered to be hostile, making major parts of the Dadaab refugee camp unsafe for settlement. It can also be concluded by the study that upon implementation of protection policies such as encampment by the Kenyan National Government, a significant effect on the improvements of human security in Dadaab refugee camp is achieved.

Keywords: Internationally Displaced Persons; Refugees; Security .

1. Introduction

Displacement of refugees has been experienced in major parts of the globe. Forced displacement remains a major global problem following a daily rise in displaced individuals. The International Organization for Migration, describes forced displacement as the movement of migrants following the rise in coercion and forces. Factors that lead to coercion include life threats and threats to livelihood that emerge from human interactions. [6]. The United Nations 1951 Convention concerning the state of Internally Displaced Persons describes displaced individuals to be as a result of fear of being persecuted, racially discriminated, differences in religious beliefs, state of nationality, belonging to different social groups, indifference in political support as well as unwillingness to offer protection to the mother country.

In 1966, the United Nations General Assembly passed an additional Protocol to broaden the definition of IDP's. This was done to consider the new IDP's situations that had been on the rise 1951 convention was put into practice and the IDP's concerned may not be falling within the conventional scope. The 1967 Protocol in relation to status of IDP's broadened the policy to include the people in the rest of the world. The 1969 AU Protocol extended the definition of the IDPs to be individuals who are fleeing away from internal strife or disturbing events within the African Nations [21].

Atrocities committed during the first and second World Wars led to a surge in the flow of IDP's who were fleeing persecution in Europe. This led to the creation of the Convention on the Status of IDP's [2]. Long before the World Wars, forced migration had taken place in 1881 when Jews were forced to flee Imperial Russia after the emergence of Zionist ideologies and revolutionary socialism following the assassination of Tsar Alexander II. Between 1881 and 1914, 1.5 million Jews migrated to the United States to flee the persecution.

The Second World War led to the displacement of 40 million people in Europe. Displacement in Asia (in essence, Pakistan, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, India) and other nations within Middle East have contributed towards an increase in the number of cases of displacement of individuals within and across the boundaries. Similar case has been observed within nations in Latin America such as Colombia, Argentina, El Salvador, Chile, and Argentina which have experienced several cases of conflicts leading to displacement of individuals [18].

In European Union Countries, multiple reports on human insecurity are attributed to the displacement of refugees. Self-determination, which came following a decline in the power of the Soviet Union, is the major

cause of human insecurity. The unsettlement contributed to the mass movement and displacement of millions of individuals between Azerbaijan and Armenia, as pointed out by [8]. In the 1990s, following a split between the Balkans and Yugoslavia, a severe conflict was experienced which contributed to displacement of residents even after the Second World War. Approximate 500,000 individuals were internally displaced in two nations; Herzegovina and Bosnia. The displaced persons in Serbia alone constituted 480,000, whereas 34,000 and 20,000 were displaced in Canada and Macedonia, respectively. In Eastern Europe, more than one million individuals were displaced. Following two years, there was an increase in the number of displaced individuals in Kosovo, which summed up to 500,000 internally displaced persons and 900,000 IDPs [17].

In the Middle East, it has been determined that the displacement of refugees poses threats to human security to a greater extent. In Pakistan; many individuals were displaced during the conflicts with Israel. Most of the refugees settled in China and India and have been termed to pose threats and fear in the respective countries of settlement. The areas of settlement by the displaced refugees in India were characterized by attacks, fights, and internal threats within the refugee camps. The emergences of wars and conflict extended human security have also been attributed to the displacement of refugees in Afghanistan in 2021 [22].

The continent of Africa accounts for thirty percent of the global refugee population [22]. In 2019, Africa recorded an average number of 25.4 displaced individuals. The conflict has been a major cause of forced displacement. A large increase of IDPs in Sub-Saharan Africa occurred in 1993 and 1994, resulting from political instability in the Great Lakes region [22]. In the late 2000s, the number increased further following the Arab Spring Movement in North Africa. The number of IDPs in Africa increased from about 2.7 million in 2008 to about 3.7 million in 2013, with the majority coming from Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, and Algeria. However, an increase in displaced individuals poses a threat to Boko Haram; the intra-armed group has contributed to the increased human security, forcing at least 410 000 refugees to be displaced in central and northern parts of Cameroon. The Republic of Niger is hosting at least 121,000 refugees following security threats imposed by Boko Haram across the borders.

The attack on Garissa University College by the Somali Terrorist group Al-Shabab left 169 students dead, with many suffering many injuries, which justifies the influence of Somali refugees' human security in Kenya. The conflict is mostly a result of negative ethnicity, fighting over natural resources such as land, and civil and political strife [19]. Somalia has experienced irrational displacements over conflicts over natural resources such as land and minerals, contributing to millions of persons' displacement [7]. By 1991, thousands of Somalis swamped Kenya's North Eastern part. This was after the Somali government's collapse, followed by a prolonged civil war. Their settlement in the Dadaab refugee camp has then been associated with insecurity in the whole of Garissa County [20]. Nothing changed two decades later as the refugee camp was designed for 90,000 occupants by 1992. However, by May 2013, the number of officially registered refugees in Dadaab had grown to 425,238, roughly 51% being women [20]. The Dadaab refugee camp is now a complex place with five different camps: Hagadera, Ifo1, Ifo 2, Kambios, and Dagahaley, which three operate well beyond the initial set capacity—bearing in mind that the camps are host to different groups and clans of Somalia which entails Ogden Sub-clans, the Abwak, Ailuhan, and the Magarbul clans

2. Materials and methods

The theoretical review has been based on the theory of human security. The literature review examined secondary literature by other authors on forced displacement while the empirical review of the theories will deliver the theoretical perspective of forced displacement. The study used descriptive research design that employed both data collection technique for both qualitative and quantitative data. The qualitative design applied to cognitive dynamics like perception, thinking, and consciousness. The geographical location for the research study was in Dadaab Constituency in Garissa County. The study target population consisted of 1800 refugees at Dagahaley in Dadaab refugee camp, IDP's community leaders and Agency staffs. The researcher considered the use of simple random sampling in selecting the respondents to ensure that every respondent in the sampling frame has a chance of being selected. The study relied upon primary data that was collected from the respondents with the use of research questionnaire. The survey questionnaire being the main research tool, the researcher constructed the study tool to have both closed and open-ended questions. Data analysis was performed on collected data so as to transform it to useable form for purposes of deriving conclusions and as well as making policy recommendations. The data collected was sorted and cleaned for purposes of eliminating inconsistencies which may be found. Descriptive analysis done so as to present the general features of the sample such as mean and standard deviation. Multiple regression model also was put into use to help in determining the existing relationship between dependent and independent study variables. Data presentation is in the form of graphs, charts and tables.

3. Results

The study entailed the strategies formulated by government in handling human security in Dadaab Refugee Camp. The study consisted of a questionnaire item containing selected statements that measured the influence and rated on a 5-point Likert scale starting with 1- for strongly agree and a maximum of 5 for strongly disagree. The questionnaire participants were asked to rate their level of agreement with the statements. The collected data on the item was analyzed using descriptive statistics entailing frequencies and percentages and presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Strategies formulated by government in handling human security in Dadaab Refugee camp in Kenya.

Statements	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Mean	Std. Dev
Kenya national governments often deport those displaced refugees causing chaos, fights, and all forms of human security threats in Dadaab Refugee Camp.	318	114	4	2	2	1.31	0.56
Encampment is also used by the Kenyan government to cope with the human insecurities imposed by the displaced refugees in Dadaab Refugee Camp.	284	125	27	3	1	1.44	0.66
Encampment strategy adopted to handle the human security problems imposed by displaced refugees.	278	143	13	4	2	1.43	0.64
Kenyan government has implemented iteratively of deporting hostile refugees and displacing them in hostile camps to manage human security concerns in Kenyan refugee camps.	301	116	18	3	2	1.38	0.64
Strategies adopted by the Kenya National Government have significant effect on the improvements of human security in Dadaab refugee camp.	324	111	5	0	0	1.28	0.47

This study was keen to determine the effectiveness of encampment by the Government of Kenya in handling human security affected by Somali Displaced Refugees in Dadaab Refugee Camp, Garissa Kenya. From the study findings, it is evident that most respondents had strong agreements with the statements on the level effectiveness on encampment.

It was determined by the study that Kenya national government often deport those displaced refugees causing chaos, fights, and all forms of human security threats in Dadaab Refugee Camp as indicated by 90% of the respondents. This was determined by a mean value of 1.31, hence was significant. Besides, the study determined that encampment is also used by the Kenyan government to cope with the human insecurities imposed by the displaced refugees in Dadaab Refugee Camp, as a strategy of enhancing high security levels, as indicated by a significant mean level of 1.44. The study further determined that encampment strategy adopted to handle the human security problems imposed by displaced refugees as indicated by a significant mean value of 1.43.

Multiple respondents for the study came to an agreement that Kenyan government has implemented iteratively of deporting hostile refugees and displacing them in hostile camps to manage human security concerns in

Dadaab refugee camps. This was indicated by significant mean value of 1.38 and standard deviation coefficient of 0.64. The IDPs and community leaders agreed with the fact that strategies adopted by the Kenya National Government have significant effect on the improvements of human security in Dadaab refugee camp, as determined by a significant mean value of 1.28.

Table 2: Threats to human security imposed by Somali Displaced Refugees.

Statements	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Mean	Std. Dev
Somali Displaced Refugees cause severe effects on human insecurity in Dadaab refugee camp in Garissa County.	380	60	0	0	0	1.14	0.34
Displaced Somali national in Dadaab refugee camp often contributes to impoverishment, thereby putting their human security at a much higher risk.	376	61	3	0	0	1.15	0.38
The presence of Refugees in major parts of Dadaab Refugee camp has contributed to the emergence of multiple smuggling networks and armed mafia groups.	341	93	4	1	1	1.25	0.49
Attacks and fights are the common forms of human security threats exposed to Kenyans by the Somali displaced refugees in the Dadaab refugee camp	301	123	14	2	0	1.36	0.57
Settlement of multiple Somali displaced refugees in the Dadaab refugee camp has instilled fear among many of the residents	353	80	5	1	1	1.22	0.49

This study also determined the threats to human security imposed by Somali Displaced Refugees in Dadaab Refugee Camp, Garissa Kenya. Based on the study findings, it was determined that Somali Displaced Refugees cause severe effects on human insecurity in Dadaab refugee camp in Garissa County as indicated by majority of the respondents. This was determined to be highly significant to human security as indicated by a mean value of 1.14. The study further established that displaced Somali national in Dadaab refugee camp often contributes to impoverishment, thereby putting their human security at a much higher risk as determined by a mean value of 1.15, hence significant. The study further determined that the presence of Refugees in major parts of Dadaab Refugee camp has contributed to the emergence of multiple smuggling networks and armed mafia groups, hence a major threat to the security as determined by a significant mean value of 1.25. The findings from the study also determined that attacks and fights are the common forms of human security threats exposed to Kenyans by

the Somali displaced refugees in the Dadaab refugee camp as indicated by majority of the respondents. This was also determined by a mean value of 1.36, hence high-level of significance. The result from the study findings also indicated that settlement of multiple Somali displaced refugees in the Dadaab refugee camp has instilled fear among many of the residents as highlighted by 99% of the respondents.

4. Results

Based on the study findings, it is evident that strategies formulated by the government in handling security such as encampment influence improvement of human security in Dadaab Refugee Camp to a greater extent. A good number of respondents indicated that Kenya national government often deports those displaced refugees causing chaos, fights, and all forms of human security threats in Dadaab Refugee Camp. Elimination of rogue IDPs from the Dadaab Refugee Camp is a common strategy used by the Kenyan government to cope with the human insecurities imposed by the displaced refugees in Dadaab Refugee Camp, as a strategy of enhancing high security levels. The Kenyan government has also taken an initiative of implementing iterative of deporting hostile refugees and displacing them in hostile camps to manage human security concerns in Dadaab refugee camps, thereby improving human security in Dadaab refugee camp. Threats to Human Security Based on the study findings, it is evident that strategies formulated by the government in handling security such as encampment influence improvement of human security in Dadaab Refugee Camp to a greater extent. A good number of respondents indicated that Kenya national government often deports those displaced refugees causing chaos, fights, and all forms of human security threats in Dadaab Refugee Camp. Elimination of rogue IDPs from the Dadaab Refugee Camp is a common strategy used by the Kenyan government to cope with the human insecurities imposed by the displaced refugees in Dadaab Refugee Camp, as a strategy of enhancing high security levels. The Kenyan government has also taken an initiative of implementing iterative of deporting hostile refugees and displacing them in hostile camps to manage human security concerns in Dadaab refugee camps, thereby improving human security in Dadaab refugee camp.

5. Conclusion

Displaced Somali refugees have contributed to impoverishment, thereby putting their human security at a much higher risk in Dadaab Refugee camp, Garissa County. Besides, the Somali displaced refugees have contributed to the emergence of multiple smuggling networks and armed mafia groups, hence a major threat to the security in Dadaab Refugee camp, Garissa County. From the study findings, it can also be concluded that fear is highly instilled to the settlers within the Dadaab Refugee Camp, by Somali displaced refugees, thereby making them feel highly insecure. The community within Dadaab refugee camp has since then had a negative perception about the Somali Displaced refugees as they are associated with arms that later affects human security in Dadaab Refugee camp. There is a threat to human security in Dadaab refugee camp, influenced by the Somali displaced refugees as they are considered to be hostile, making major parts of the Dadaab refugee camp unsafe for settlement. It can also be concluded by the study that upon implementation of protection policies such as encampment by the Kenyan National Government, a significant effect on the improvements of human security in Dadaab refugee camp is achieved. The Kenyan government, alongside the UNHCR have reduced the level of attacks made by Somali displaced refugees in Dadaab Refugee camp through adopted security policies.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire for this research contains structured questions on the influence of Somali displaced refugees on human security in Kenya, a case of Dadaab Refugee Camp, Garissa County, Kenya. You are therefore requested to be a participant in the research through filling the questionnaires. The responses will be highly

confidential.

PART I: Demographic Data

1. Respondents Gender

M F

2. Education Level of Respondents

Primary Education

High School Education

Tertiary Education

University Education

3. What is your age group?

20-30 Years

30-40 Years

40-50 Years

Above 50 Years

PART II: SOMALI REFUGEES ON HUMAN SECURITY

A. Strategies formulated by the Government in handling human security in Dadaab Refugee Camp, Garissa Kenya.

On a scale of 1 to 5 indicate the level of agreement or disagreement with regard to the following statements.

KEY:1=Strongly agree;2=Agree;3=Neutral;4=Disagree;5=Strongly Disagree

No		1	2	3	4	5
1	Kenya national government often deport those displaced refugees causing chaos, fights, and all forms of human security threats in Dadaab Refugee Camp.					
2	Encampment is also used by the Kenyan government to cope with the human insecurities imposed by the displaced refugees in Dadaab Refugee Camp.					
3	Encampment strategy adopted to handle the human security problems imposed by displaced refugees.					
4	Kenyan government has implemented iteratively of deporting hostile refugees and displacing them in hostile camps to manage human security concerns in Kenyan refugee camps.					
5	Strategies adopted by the Kenya National Government have significant effect on the improvements of human security in Dadaab refugee camp.					

B. Threats to Human Security imposed by Somali Displaced Refugee in Dadaab Refugee Camp, Garissa, Kenya.

Kindly indicate the level of agreement or disagreement with regard to the following statements

No		1	2	3	4	5
1	Somali Displaced Refugees cause severe effects on human insecurity in Dadaab refugee camp in Garissa County.					
2	Displaced Somali national in Dadaab refugee camp often contributes to impoverishment, thereby putting their human security at a much higher risk.					
3	The presence of Refugees in major parts of Dadaab Refugee camp has contributed to the emergence of multiple smuggling networks and armed mafia groups.					
4	Attacks and fights are the common forms of human security threats exposed to Kenyans by the Somali displaced refugees in the Dadaab refugee camp					
5	Settlement of multiple Somali displaced refugees in the Dadaab refugee camp has instilled fear among many of the residents					