

**Assessing Youth Political Participation in Tercha Town Administration of
Dawuro Zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia**



Jimma University

Department Of Governance and Development Studies

College Of Law and Governance

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By: Melaku Meshesha

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**Assessing Youth Political Participation In Tercha Town Administration, Of
Dawuro Zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia**

By: Melaku Meshesha

Principal Advisor: Ermias Admasu(Assistant Professor)

Co-Advisor: Muluken G (MA)

July, 2021,

Jimma, Ethiopia

Declaration

I declare that this thesis entitled “Assessing Youth Political Participation in Tercha Town of Dawuro zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia, is my original work under the supervision of Jimma University. This thesis has not been presented in any other university, and all sources used in this thesis have been duly recognized.

Melaku Meshesha

Researcher's Name

Signature

Date

CERTIFICATION

EXAMINERS' THESIS APPROVAL SHEET

We, the undersigned, members of the Board of Examiners of the final open defense by Melaku Meshesha have read and evaluated his thesis “Assessing Youth Political Participation in Tercha Town of Dawuro zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia and submitted partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in Governance with the regulations of the university and meets the accepted standards with respect to originality and quality.

Approved by Board of Examiners

Name of the Chairman	Signature	Date
Name of Principal Advisor	Signature	Date
Name of Internal Examiner	Signature	Date
Name of External Examiner	Signature	Date

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAU: - Addis Ababa University

AESM: - All Ethiopian Student Movement

AYP: - African Youth Policy

EPRDF: - Ethiopian People Republic Democratic Front

EPRP: - Ethiopian People Revolution Party

FDRE: - Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

GBD: - Gender Based Discrimination

GTPs: Growth and Transformation Program

NYP: - National Youth Policy

OLF: - Oromo Liberation Front

SNNPR:- Southern Nation Nationality and Peoples Region

SPSS: - Statistical program for Social Science

TPLF: - Tigray People Libration Front

UN: - United Nation

UNDP: - United Nation Development Program

USAID:- United State Agency for International Development

USUAA: - University Students Union of Addis Ababa

VCP: - Vagrancy Control Proclamation

YDP: - Youth Development Program

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ABSTRACT

This paper entitled assessing youth political participation in Tercha Town Administration of Dawuro Zone, SNNPR, and Ethiopia. The main objective of this research was to assess youth political participation, Challenges, and hindering factor that affect youth political participation in Tarcha Town Administration. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches of research were used. The study employed a descriptive research design to assess youth political participation. Both primary and secondary data were used. The primary data was collected through a questionnaire and interview from youth, officials and employers of different sector who have contact with youth. While secondary data was collected by conducting extensive desk review from published and unpublished documents like journals, articles, books, reports, etc. To obtain data for the study 365 youths were selected from total kebele using simple random sampling techniques and employs of selected public sectors by using the purposive method. The collected data were analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative methods of data analysis. The finding of the study shows that the status of youth political participation in Tarcha Town, the involvement in politics by that age group is no means satisfactory i.e. shockingly low. This was mainly because lack of interest and knowledge in politics, absence of trust going on the political process, Lack of opportunities to get involved believes that their participation will not bring about any difference in the political process. In Tercha Town there is no more youth are participating in the political process rather than an election; for example decision-making activity, implementation, solving socio-economic problems.

Key words: youth,, political,, participation,, data,, town

Chapter One

Introduction

1.1. Background of the study

The term political participation refers to the involvement of individual citizens in all political action without any discrimination in the democracy sense. The ways of people participate in political Affairs is either direct or indirect involvement. The direct participation of citizens in politics was started in ancient Athens, which does not include women, children, slaves, and foreigners. (Sabu, 2020)

The experience today in many African countries is such that Low levels of civic involvement and political apathy remain a dominant feature among young people. Although participation in elections is only a measure of civic participation, many African young people especially in the countryside do not know how to effectively influence politicians. Because many young people are less likely to vote, to become a candidate to party, but their interests are less likely to be represented. It would appear that opting out of the democratic process is an indication of the pessimism that young people feel about political people involved in politics (Dahlia, 1996).

Over the last years, the issues of youth have received greater attention in Ethiopia and the government has started to implement policies to support young people. The National Youth Policy of Ethiopia marks a major step in recognizing and promoting the rights of young people in the country. The policy aims to bring about the active participation of youth in the building of a democratic system and good governance as well as in the economic, social and cultural activities and to enable them to fairly benefit from the results. Yet, the government still faces some challenges implementing the National Youth Policy, such as weak monitoring and evaluation tools, lack of inter-sector cooperation, limited financial resources, and absence of a clear strategy at the different territorial levels (National Youth Policy, 2004).

Particularly, the youth made political pressure in Ethiopia since 2016 has brought landmark political, economic and social changes to the country including the replacement of gun by ballot,

force by consensus, exclusion by inclusion, and lately revolutionary democracy by “Medemer” or synergy (Sabu, 2020). These all changes are paramount show that, youth political participation can change any policies, ideologies, and law of the state. Even though democratization is a process through which a political regime becomes democratic realization needs participation from the bottom. According to the African Union’s report of 2019, Young people as a critical cornerstone for the realization of integration and can play a dynamic role in the international arena (ibid).

As one of the regional states of the FDRE, the SNNPRS has been implementing the Youth Development and Change Package since 2007. It is strongly believed that youths play a significant role in the overall socio-economic development of the region and country. The participation of the youths in political activities on a regular basis is very much limited. Thus, political and other development endeavors need to encourage youths to participate. Lack of autonomous organizational structure, weak coordination, lower youths’ participation and perception regarding politics, lack of follow up for political activities, absence of civic societies working in youth participation in the region are found to be problems to be resolved (Tafesse, 2018). Hence, these studies deals with assessing the status of youth political participation and evaluate the factors that affect political participation in the Tercha Town of Dawuro zone.

1.2.Statement of the Problem

Traditionally, youth have been seen as problems to be managed (Belay Tefera, Yekoyealem Desie, 2015) recently, however, youth are conceived as resources to be cultivated and upgraded, and the focus is on promoting competencies. This challenges the representativeness of the social group and ends up in the management of youth (ibid). The economic performance of a country is mainly depending on the labor of the youth population. Energetic, courageous, and qualified youth can make changes to social-economic development if they are well utilized and managed (Abebaw, 2020).

The inclusion of youth in formal politics is important, as the 2011/2012 Arab States popular uprisings and various Occupy movements have demonstrated. In countries in transition, fresh ideas and new leadership can help to overcome authoritarian practices. Where youth-led protests have forced authoritarian regimes from power, significant frustration is likely to arise if youth

are not included in new formal decision-making. This can destabilize democratization and accelerate conflict dynamics (UNDP, 2012) the international community has recognized the importance of youth participating in political systems, including through several international conventions and UN resolutions (ibid).

In third world countries, eligibility for the national parliament starts at 25 years or higher and it is common practice to refer to politicians as young if they are below 35-40 years of age. People under the age of 35 are rarely found in formal political leadership positions. Youth is not represented adequately in formal political institutions and processes such as Parliaments, political parties, elections, and public administrations (UNDP, 2012).

In the African nation typically, the amount of participation is as its lower purpose for many reasons principally because of the nature of the presidency that existed through the centuries. In Ethiopian History, students compete for an excellent role in overthrowing oppressive and Autocratic rule. But these Ethiopian youths came ancient throughout times of political turmoil, war, and excessive violence. Mass graves, violence against innocents, and testimonies from survivors were replayed over and another time to the general public (Eyob Balcha, 2009) If you criticize something from the government, you're advocating for the opposition, therefore a threat. You may never be thought about as somebody with a neutral or different outlook. Such a quite thinking framework makes the activities of the youth initiatives thus troublesome to the extent that The previously conducted studies toward youth political participation in Ethiopia were mainly focused on:- For instance, Getachew Mijana Sabu (2020) conducted a comparative analysis aimed at investigating the factors that affect youth political participation in Alge Woreda of Ilu Ababora Zone of Oromia region, Ethiopia, with particular focus on its impacts on the democratization process. His findings show that the major factors affecting the youth's political participation in Ethiopia are related to lack of political knowledge and adequate education, youth political interest, and apathy, economy, socio-centrism attitude and family's pressure, fear, partisan attachment.

In addition, Eyob Balcha Gebremariam (2009) conducted a case study aimed at examining the Youth and Politics in Post 1974 Ethiopia: Intergenerational Analysis. His findings show that during the incumbent regime, the youth are playing a marginal role because of their inability to

influence the main political discourse of the country; the dominance by the ‘older generation; and their fear and pessimism to be active political agents in the country’s politics.

According to Elizabeth Biney, (2019) in the Journal of Politics, Economics and Society “Youth Political Participation: A Qualitative Study of Undergraduate Students at the University of Ghana” found that The relatively low participation in politics by the youth is the result of their sense of corruption and distrust in politics and the pervasiveness of discrimination based on age and gender. While no significant relationship was observed between religion and political participation by the youth.

Likewise, (Gebremariam, The Politics of Youth Employment and Policy Processes in Ethiopia, 2017) conducted a research article on that high levels of poverty, economic and political marginalization are identified as main factors restricting young people's 'potential energies and capabilities'. The policy envisions changing the terrible socio-economic and political situation through the 'active participation of the youth.

Besides, Mohamed Omar Bincof (2018) conducted his empirical research, The Role of Youth in Political Participation in Somalia. His research finding illustrates that though youths had a particular interest in political participation; Political leaders have come to power through purporting to represent the wishes of their clans instead of promoting the national interest. Interacting with the authorities in would like of any cooperation is jeopardized (ibid).

Hence, this study were different from the previously conducted studies on youth political participation both at national and regional levels focused mainly on big cities, and methodology which I have been used is mixed-method approach, descriptive design, and there is no previous research conducted in Tercha Town of Dawuro Zone toward youth political participation.

Large-scale anti-government protests, tensions over governance, and also the quick enlargement of the capital of Ethiopia (which is encircled by Oromo settlements, resulting in tension over land ownership) place pressure on Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn to resign, paving the manner for Abiy Ahmed’s place in Apr 2018((Chloe De Schryver,Mollie Nielsen,Hannah Day,Emma Johns,Jane Goldthorpe, 2019). Young people played an important role in this transition, Within the Oromo region, the ‘Qeerro’ (an Oromo term which means ‘bachelor’), a bunch of politically active young men, vie an outsized half in swing pressure on the EPRDF to

create an amendment(ibid). Grass-root youth movements in Ethiopian, Tigray, and alternative regions additionally vie a task in fuelling this transformation. Shortly once being, Abiy-Ahmed instigated a series of reforms to open up Ethiopia's political house. His youth, personal magnetism, and rhetoric of amendment and unity lit hope and excitement across the country and abroad. Youth feel their role in society has improved, however, a lot of are often done to amplify the youth voice (ibid).

As the centralized adopt reforms, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional government as well as Dawuro zone, began to implement a series of reforms to open up the political area to produce economical and effective services by guaranteeing smart governance and group action. However, the system is deemed not conscious of native preferences or responsible to standard voters (Gudina, 2007).

Even as the election of a reformist leader (Abiy Ahmed) was seen as a positive step by the party, Most of the youth in the Dawuro zone of Tercha Town feel disheartened regarding truth motives behind this transformation with some stating this was a half-hearted compromise from the party, some way to demonstrate a temperament to vary while not abandoning power (Sabu, 2020). Trust within the leading party, were comparatively low and youth expressing higher levels of distrust and impotence and youth felt corruption compact their lives on each a social group level (i.e. it's compact Ethiopia's development opportunities and economy through misappropriation of funds) and a private level (i.e. it's unsuccessful their opportunities to induce government loans to begin their own business and has compact the funding that goes to native communities. Lack of employment opportunities had a variety of negative consequences for youth is additionally another challenge in space (YouthAssociation AnnualReport, 2020).

The role and standing of youth within the community were conditional on factors like age, employment standing, lack of political data and adequate education, youth political interest and apathy, socio-centrism perspective and family's pressure, fear, partisan attachment and therefore the incumbent government performances, the present institutional structures of Democracy were the key factors touching the youth's political participation in town. Most of the youth in Town were claimed to be not engaged and problems like corruption, political social process, and restricted awareness of platforms or avenues through that to induce concerned were holding youth back from speaking up concerning political issue (ibid). This situation pushing youths to engage in conflict, leading violent revolutions, using new technologies or social media such as

face book, Imo, Telegram, twitter to evil action rather than mobilize societies to bring about change via fake account. Young people have demonstrated the potential to build bridges across communities, working together, helping to manage conflict and promote peace. Young people are vital stakeholders in conflict and in peace-building, and can be agents of change and provide a foundation for rebuilding lives and communities, contributing to a more just and peaceful society, in-contrast to this Youth are source of tension and suspensions of society and alienation is thus fueling frustrations and a sense of helplessness in the status quo (YouthAssociation AnnualReport, 2020).

Thus, these situations necessitated the researcher to look at the issues in the area closely and deeply to give a clear description of the problems from the Tercha Town of Dawuro zone.

1.3.Research Questions

- To what level Youth participate through political activities in Tercha town?
- What are the factors that hinder the active participation of youth in the political arena?
- How the prospects of youth political participation in Tercha town can be described?

1.4.Objectives of the Study

1.4.1. General Objective of the study

The general objective of this study was to assess Youth Political Participation in Tercha Town of Dawuro Zone.

1.4.2. Specific Objective

- To assess the status of youth political participation in Tercha town.
- Assessing factors that hinder political participation among youth.
- Explore the prospects of youth political participation in Tercha town.

1.5.Significance of study

This study contributes to the understanding of youth as a social group where its inclusion and exclusion in a political process is a result of the wider societal and historical process. It provides the knowledge and necessary information towards the level of youth political participation in the study area. The study also increases the awareness of youth towards political participation in the study area. Finally, it leaves the door open for more research to be conducted in this area and

serves as a reference by providing relevant information for further broad and detailed investigation.

1.6.Scope and Delimitation of the study

It has a limited scope of focusing on political participation and their perceptions of youth particularly focus on a single selected town. The researcher does not claim that these findings are conclusive or definitive, because youth political participation is a worldwide problem. Dawuro zone covers ten woreda and two town administrations but, the researcher selected Tercha Town, with a limited number of respondents or subjects. The reason why only one town is that researcher can found relevant data relative to other. For the sake of successful completion of this research, the researcher focused only on youth whose age range from 18-29 or from the least age to participate legally in the political sphere of the nation. Whereas assessing the status of youth political participation, hindering factors, as well as prospects of political participation in the study area, will be the scope of the study. Methodologically, this study would be employed a descriptive research design that is supported by both qualitative and quantitative research approaches. The time scope of this study is taking account of political changes of nation, which means from 2010E.C democratic transition till today.

1.7.Limitation

There are more than three limitations that can be seen within this research. On the focus of the research, though the researcher took youth as the main subjects of the study, my analysis does not dwell enough on differences among youth themselves particularly based on their socio-economic status, gender, ethnic background, and other similar elements. Because, for the sake of coverage and depth owing to time constraint. There is also difficult to get statistics of youth in Tercha Town, since not yet published neither by a local government nor by national and nongovernmental organization some of the limitations to be mentioned. In order to solve this problem, researcher tried different means to find valid data from many sources. i.e. Unpublished sources including records and statistics maintained by various departments of zone and Town, data that was collected for other research objectives by teachers, scholars, and professionals, which is related to youth.

1.8. Definition of Key terms

Youth is the time of life once one is young, and sometimes suggests that the time between childhood and adulthood.

Political Participation is the lack of restrictions to speak at assembly and association; the ability to take part in the conduct of public affairs and the opportunities of a public register as a candidate, to a campaign, to be elected and hold office at all levels of government.

Youth political participation means that the activity engagement of young people in all political arena, throughout their communities. It is used as shorthand for youth participation in any form, including decision-making implementation of the political process.

Kebele: the districts that are the smallest unit of population living together in the local government of area

1.9. Organization of Study

The study was organized into five chapters. The first chapter is introduce the background of the study, problem statement, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, scope of the study, limitation of the study. The remaining chapters are organized as follows. Chapter two deals with review of related literature and theoretical issues pertinent to youth political participation and chapter three briefly provides methodologies of study. while chapter four is devoted to the major findings of the study. Chapter five contains conclusion and suggested recommendations.

Chapter Two

Review of Related Literature

2.1. Conceptual and Theoretical Frameworks

2.2. Conceptualization of Key Terms Used in the Study

2.2.1. Conceptual Definition of Youth

Sociologists, youth employees, and policy manufacturers have their dissentient completely different} notions of what constitutes tykes, and lots of those understandings differ from how young people see themselves (Cieslik and Simpson 2013:3). Among the foremost common understandings of youth is given within the Macmillan Dictionary: Youth is that the time of life once one is young, and sometimes suggests that the time between childhood and adulthood (Marina, 2019). Despite the fact that the UN outlines youth as representatives of the 15-24 age groups, whereas the Ethiopian National Youth Policy and also the African Youth Charter defines youth as young people between the ages of 15–29 and 15–35, severally (NYP, 2004; AYC, 2006);

For the aim of this study, the definition of youth should take into account alternative factors like the minimum age to participate in political fields, age to elect and to be elected, to be elite as youth representatives in the current state of affairs of Ethiopia. And thus, the relative and social science understanding of youth is found a lot of applicable to traumatize it as a political category. Age contains a sturdy influence on electoral behavior, indicating that younger folks are less seemingly than older persons to take elections and to be members of political organizations. Hence, standing from this time of view, my study targeted adult person whose age varies from eighteen and twenty-nine years old.

2.2.2. Political Participation

Political participation is a vehicle for young people's freedom and autonomy. The term political participation drive by the lack of restrictions to speak at assembly and association; the ability to take part in the conduct of public affairs and the opportunities of a public register as a candidate, to a campaign, to be elected and hold office at all levels of government. Participation is an ingredient of every polity, large or small; whether the society is oligarchy or democracy someone must make a political decision and a point, uphold and remove leaders. Those who fail to participate either by neglecting or exclusion, are likely to enjoy less power than other men. Also not all who participate in politics exercise or share power effective power than those who do not participate (Ramer, Romance, and Simon, 2003). Generally, the term political participation will refer to these voluntary activities by which members of a society share in their ruler, or directly/indirectly in the formation of public policy. Hence, for this study political participation can include both support and protest or opposition means of participation.

2.2.3. Defining youth political participation

Youth political participation means that the activity engagement of young people in all political arena, throughout their communities. It is used as shorthand for youth participation in any form, including decision-making implementation of the political process. Youth political participation is also known as the involvement of youth in politics has used by government agencies, researchers, educator, and others to define and examine the activity engagement of young people in politics as well as in schools, sports, governments, community development, and economic activity (For brig,2005). This also includes formal and informal ways of participation or institutional and non-institutional forms of participation.

2.3.The different forms of youth political participation

There are different approaches to the differentiation of formats of political participation. The most common classification of the forms of political participation is a differentiation between traditional/conventional and non-conventional forms. Traditional or institutional forms of participation are elections and membership of political parties; and non-traditional or unconventional forms of participation are petitions, demonstrations, and movements. Within the context of conventional political participation, political and civic education is considered a means of understanding democracy and critical assessment. Through political education, young

people learn how the political system functions, how decisions are made and how they can participate in decision-making processes. At the same time, young people should have an opportunity to question, criticize the system and processes and follow the whole process of discussion, solution, further development of their ideas, and raised issues (marina, 2019).

Considering this trend, the research indicates that the participatory processes should be entirely transformed to implement full participation and combine the online and offline forms of participation, including not only the decision-making process but also a follow-up. Youth research generally focuses on three basic forms of political participation (as cited in a marina, Chisholm and Kovacheva 2002): Involvement in institutional politics (elections, campaigns, and membership); protest activities (demonstrations and new social movements); civic engagement (associative life, community participation, voluntary work (ibid).

2.4.Challenges of Political Participation

There are many challenges to political participation in the political process. Such as exclusive political participation, in many countries, the rights of women are enshrined in law and there are no formal legal to women political participation in the election and other political process and political participation has traditionally been dominated by Male that many women are have found unwell coming or even hostile, this is basic political participation (Paulsen, 1993).

The other challenges of political participation are apathy which means that attribute lack of participation in political life to apathetic citizens, liberal democracy leads to apathetic citizens fostered by some sense of trust in elected representation and belief in political participation and oppositional ways in talked their justified superior moral identity (Ibid). Structural constraints are the problem of political participation, which consists of any structure that may inhibit access to public discourse opportunity or may systematically distort communication in ways that privilege certain interests, voices, and meaning over others. Such structure or system results in the marginalization of minorities or alternatives perspectives in ways that prevent equal representation. Generally, there are many political participation problems related to poverty, socio-cultural problems (Ibid).

2.5.Experience of Youth Political participation in some countries

2.5.1. Indian Experience

The international community has recognized the importance of young people's participation in political systems, including through various international conventions and UN resolutions. In line with these commitments, UNDP sees youth as a positive force for transformative social change and aims to help improve young people's political participation (UNDP, January 2013); Participation is a basic democratic right; it must be an end in itself to remove existing barriers to the political participation of young people; from a purely pragmatic perspective, when young people have the perception that formal political processes are inaccessible and/or attractive to them; This can shape their attitudes for a lifetime, with potentially lasting negative effects on a country's political culture. In new and emerging democracies, youth involvement in formal political processes has emerged as important. Contributions can bring democratic values to life and pave the way for overcoming authoritarian practices. This could provide strong indications that the participation of young people in formal and institutionalized political processes is relatively low compared to older citizens worldwide. A clear example of this is voting, one of the Voter turnout data from different countries suggests that young voters tend to be less likely to vote than older citizens. Similar evidence exists for leadership positions and membership in political parties and parliaments. Non-state governance mechanisms, such as tribal leaders, are generally seniority or ancestry and typically do not encourage participation by young people. Other evidence suggests that young people are more likely to participate in informal political processes. Activism, protests, and campaigning are common avenues; Young people are often the driving force behind reform movements. In the world today and throughout history, there are many examples of powerful youth-led protest movements. Young people also tend to engage in service-oriented civic activities, such as volunteering for social causes. For example, many young people are more inclined to join a tree-planting project than to join a political party that talks about planting trees in the future. Both formal and informal engagement can be understood as political participation. Living and resistant democracy are the most important formal ways of political participation (ibid.)

India gained independence on August 15, 1947, since then our country has been recognized as the greatest democracy in the world, unlike many recently independent states in Asia and Africa,

such as Pakistan, Myanmar, Egypt, Liberia, etc., where democracy has been repeated. Dwarfed or not taken root at all, India has remained a legacy of the Indian freedom movement. The freedom movement of India experienced mass participation in the many political upheavals. India as a republic announced universal suffrage for adults in India on January 26, 1950. By “right to vote” we mean the right to vote. of wealth, class, religion, race, or gender. The concept of the right to vote has evolved over the centuries. It was not until the sixteenth century that the idea of the right to vote developed. But until the middle of the 19th century, there was a kind of property qualification: (Anirban. B, December 2013). Studies on the voting behavior of Indians have confirmed that the participation of young people in elections is lower than normal. Hence, the Center for the Study of Developing Societies notes that although “young people constitute a significant number of voters; their turnout in Indian elections is lower than that of adult voters. We find that young people play a less important role in public life (ibid)

2.5.2. Pakistan Experience of youth political participation

Pakistan has a long history of student politics and students have played a major role in shaping the directions taken by the state and the government of Pakistan. The political parties, struggling to engage with the youth, have yet to reform their internal structures and outreach program. With 63 percent of the country's population under the age of 25, Pakistan is experiencing a profound demographic change with wide-ranging socio-political effects. Failure to improve the quality of political engagement with students and the youth, in general, could have a significant impact on democracy. In the area of political participation, in a third of countries, eligibility for national parliament starts at 25 years old or older. 1.65% of parliamentarians around the world are in their 20s and 11.87 % are in their 30s. The average age of parliamentarians globally is 53 years (UNDP, 2012). Youth is a very important stratum when we talk about political participation. In many developing and underdeveloped countries, policymakers are focusing on the enhancement of youth involvement. In Nigeria, Nigerian Youth Agenda on Political Participation is now being developed ahead of the 2015 election together with a Nigerian Youth Inter party Forum. In America, researcher invested resources to find out the trends of youth involvement in the political process. (Dr. Babak Mahmood, Malik Muhammad Sohail, Shehzad Khaver Mushtaq Sayyed Abbas Rizvil, 2014).

As cited in *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, Nov2014, Iqbal (2012) stated that Pakistani youngsters are not optimistic about politicians and political parties. That is the major reason behind their disinterest in the political process. Historically, the youth in Pakistan have not played any significant role in the elections until the 2013 elections. At the same time, nearly 84% of the Pakistani youth (18-29 years) have found to believe that politics can be used to bring about a positive change in society. Furthermore, almost 80% of them are willing to play their part in politics focused on the youth and both have developed special schemes, youth policies, and are giving 25% tickets to the youth in order to wow them (ibid).

2.5.3. Youth Political Participation in Ghana

Doubtless, cutting-edge Africa has witnessed the downward spiral of democracy following the wave of democratization with inside the 1990s. For instance, nowadays, all sorts of diabolical techniques are utilized by ruling events to subvert actual democracy. Specifically, the ruling events have grown familiar with manipulating electoral commissions charged with organizing elections, the judiciary and complex pc software program applications to undermine the valid will of the African electorates. Thus, even as traditionally democratic transitions have established to be not often smooth (Claphamd, 1993), nowadays an excellent variety of them are derailed at their second of finest promise – at some stage in an electoral cycle. Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe are all high examples of the diffused bastardization of liberal democracy. While Africa south of the Sahara turned into witnessing a wave of democratization from the mid-1990s, the Arabs to the North had been nevertheless residing beneath autocratic medieval political systems (Joffé, 2009). Ironically, because the Arabs are concerned in an inexorable march to emulate the liberal democracies sub-Saharan Africa embraced within side the 1990s, nations to the south are reputedly regressing to the autocratic beyond of “one-party” states and their resultant misrule, corruption and inner strives. Ghana has protracted records of pupil involvement in country wide politics thru pupil organizations. The National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS), which turned into shaped within side the Nineteen Sixties to make sure the welfare of college students and additionally mobilize them for country wide development, have become actively concerned within side the country’s post-independence politics. In the 1970s, the NUGS kicked in opposition to the so-known as Union Government idea through the then navy regime, a state of affairs which resulted within

side the employer turning into the sense of right and wrong of the state on essential country wide problems with inside the country((Biney, 2019).

2.5.4. Youth Political Participation in Nigeria

The alternate of navy management in Nigeria in 1999 resulted withinside the Eastern, Southern, and Western areas of Nigeria locating a manner to put in force the systems or institutional democratic liberal authorities (Jackson, 2015, p. 2). This has referred to as for a renewed dialogue concerning the volume to which political engagement is critical for an powerful running democratic authorities gadget (Andrews, n.d.; Buser, 2013). Initial techniques through researchers to decide the accomplishment of democratization in each vicinity evaluated the implementations of deliberative and procedural capabilities of democratic authorities (e.g., loose and honest elections, structure, and institutional building) have gradually evidenced that irrespective of the presence of those important democratic establishments, the great of democratic authorities over those areas varies. The essential factor is that the emphasis consolidation placed on the end result in place of the manner method it in comparison multi-birthday birthday celebration balloting with democratic authorities, at the same time as dismissing the want for a greater stage democratic authorities gadget via citizenship engagement. It is particularly tough primarily based totally at the findings of numerous research on citizenship engagement in more recent democratic governments, which have a look at citizenship to be nonparticipant now no longer best from the formal sorts of political engagement, for example, electorate and political parties, however additionally from the shape casual systems, together with demonstrations and political protest (Bevir, 2011), and the inclusion of hobby groups (Vite & Dibang-Achua, 2019a). While procedural democratic authorities might have been achieved, there are a few intractable boundaries in duty and duty in phrases of proper illustration through elected delegates (Reeves, 2016). According to Vite and Dibang-Achua (2019a), those have brought on students to re-observe the relationship among political engagement and democratization, and to start to compare the great of the democratic gadget in Nigeria, thinking about the scope of viable standards provided withinside the articles on consolidation democracy (Bevir, 2011; Vite, 2018). Therefore, not like consolidation, the studies of great democracy is essentially involved with methods of democratization in place of its results (Vite, 2018). Research on great democracy considers now no longer best the lifestyles of establishments of democratic authorities, however how possible those are to assure duty and duty, help

engagement and to constantly decorate political and social-monetary equality (Dzur, 2016). Inside the prolonged standards used by great democracy, dynamic, or lively political engagement through residents is frequently located as a big version of higher democratic authorities (Vite, 2018). This is verified through the which means or definition of great democratic authorities gadget given consistent with Matiki (2008) and Nkechi (2014), who located that great democratic authorities is excessive while we view in citizenship engagement widely now no longer best through elections however additionally withinside the lifestyles of political gatherings and civil society institutions withinside the debate of public troubles, in speakme with and wished duty and duty from the voted representatives, in staring at illustration in government and direct participations with troubles of challenge on the grass root. Stressing the importance of numerous illustration and the connections among citizenship and delegates, it will become clean that this democratic technique is past the procedural base signs used by a few bills of democratic authorities consolidations and attempts to locate the identical floor with supporters of the democratic participatory gadget. Irrespective of the extensive nature of democracy, its great or requirements had been efficiently used by researchers in classifications of numerous styles of quintessentially democratic authorities (Gaffney & Marlowe, 2014). Thus, this could be provided through making use of quantitative method as a hallmark that's suitable in measuring and studying the extent to which the Federal Government of Nigeria has applied procedural democratic gadget, in place of measuring the unpredictable nature of connections among residents and authorities (Udoffia & Godson, 2016; Vite, 2018). Therefore, a few studies exhibits much less approximately the hyperlink among political engagement and the methods of democratization. Specifically, through relying on records or records that assesses the amount of political participation in every vicinity in comparison to a country wide scale, those research do now no longer have the capacity to present specified records approximately vicinity and age unique political engagement styles, and the impact of the methods of democratization in Nigeria (Vite, 2018). Comprehending how and why adolescents have interaction or withdraw from politics is essential to assay the great of democratic authorities. Research in installed democratic authorities structures has located that the political involvement of adolescents frequently varies from that of the older people or identities and that the failure at the a part of governments to apprehend their involvement can activate sentiments of estrangement and exclusion (Andrews, n.d.). Hence, this could gift an opening within side the correspondence amongst citizenship and

choice makers and highlights the gradual responsiveness of coverage to the wishes of residents. These are the principle concerns for boosting great democracy (Nkechi, 2014; Vite, 2018). Young human beings are much less seen and protected in more recent democratic governments in comparison to mature democratic structures (Freeman, 2013; Gaby, 2016). This mirrors the bad manifestation of citizenship engagement in post-navy populations, in which it's far uncertain whether or not the reason for non-participation stems from the fundamental political, social-monetary changes because of democratization or whether or not it's far an underlying comparison with the styles of younger human beings's engagement located in standard (installed) democratic structures. This statement wishes to be clarified in order that choice makers can reply to the requirements of adolescents in a more recent democratic authorities gadget and as a consequence decorate the character and great of democratic authorities in Nigeria (Vite, 2018)

2.6.Youth Political Participation in Ethiopia in different historical events

The place of intellectuals or educated youth in society has changed locally and over time. The higher the level of business development, the less influence they seem to have. Intellectuals could therefore also be sought as advisors and members of acceptance tanks within society. In the questionable early world, they are seldom seen wielding direct state power. The situation is completely different in the so-called Third World, especially on the continent. In Africa alone, the first generation of rulers after independence: Kwame Nkrumah from Ghana, Sedar Senghor from Senegal, Julius Nyerere from the African nation Union. provides ample evidence to understand this reality (Zewde. 2010).

In Ethiopia, intellectuals competed for jobs and exerted an influence that was not proportionate to their size. Roughly speaking, this can be divided into 2 phases, with the Italian occupation (1936-1941) being an important milestone between them. With a slew of considerations ranging from classroom development to corporate reform pursuing a primarily reformist agenda, driven by the priority of avoiding the regime's wear and tear from the dual threat of internal disintegration and external invasion, they urged what can be characterized as defensive, therefore, the game phase of intellectual intervention could not begin until the late 1950s and revolved mainly around Ethiopian students (mostly at the tertiary level in the early stages) who were each admitted abroad. The Ethiopian student movement. The core of this movement was the Nueva

Flor University School (founded in 1950), at the end of Haile Sellassie I. It can be said that the movement has 3 more mature successive phases: self-awareness, reformism, revolutionary commitment. There is a general consensus that the year 1965 when the students took to the streets under the motto “Land of the Ploughers”, marked the beginning of the third stage (Zewde, 2010).

The student movement, “the most unconditional opposition” to the imperial regime under the regime of Emperor Ras Tafari Makonnen-I (Zewde 2007: 220), needed an auction that was linked to the socio-economic and political structure of the social organization. Scholars and also clashes with security guards, the imperial bodyguard, especially in the capital Addis Ababa, strictly for real reform of the system of government (land distribution and democratic rights) was one of the most important channels to raise political awareness for society in general. Militant student unrest in every of its internal and external dimensions was the most important cause of the downfall of the imperial regime; Derg's radicalization, as well as his fateful takeover of the Marxist-Leninist ideology, was brought about by the rise of the left before and during the revolution; the organizations of the left, particularly EPRP and Me’ison, were a direct consequence of the mixed movement (ibid.);

The ongoing well-preferred conflict, burning with the aid of using key elements similar to the famine 12 months earlier, the peasant rebellion in rural regions of the country, and consequently the deteriorating financial situation of town dwellers, jeopardized the winning valid authority of the people. Emperor Since there may be no prepared chief for this cold revolution, the management and control of the whole rebellion falls underneath the command of the military, who took benefit of the power vacuum among Gregorian calendar month, Sept 1974 and the Kaiser on Gudina 12, 2003: 150).

When the ruling power dethroned the emperor, the army (Derg) forbade any kind of insurrection such as strikes and demonstrations, declaring that the revolution had achieved its goal, while for others, especially the mostly student bourgeois left, the moment in from which the desired revolution derails (Zewde, 2007: 236) the 2 political parties; The Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Party (EPRP) and all Ethiopian Socialist Movements (AESM) turned against The Derg was founded as a socialist regime under the leadership of the armed forces and in accordance with the Marxist-Leninist political ideology. The entire structure of the state was

dominated by a Leninist form of mass organization of workers, youth, peasants, townspeople, and girls. In this context, the Ethiopian Revolutionary Youth Association and the Revolutionary Ethiopian Girls Association were institutionalized to allegedly address youth interests that also correspond to the boys' brand, (Ofcansky and Berry, 2007 cited in, Gebremariam).

The students' movement conjointly resulted in insurgent movements within the rural components of North Ethiopia the country to fight back military and authoritarian regime. The Ethiopian Peoples' Revolutionary Front (EPRP) and also the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) – February, determined to wage war against the military regime in 1975 by locating themselves in the Northern part of the country, Tigray and Gondar. The 2 armed insurgent teams couldn't reconcile philosophic variations and engaged in a very clash wherever TPLF emerged victorious to eradicate the EPRP force from the Tigray region in 1978 (Zewde, 2007:260-261). the associate insurgent cluster that was initially started by TPLF then reworked into Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Front (EPRDF) finally becomes a victorious power to overthrow Derg on could 28, 1991.

After seventeen years of war, the EPRDF became party chairman, Melese Zenawi, a doctor at the University of Addis Ababa, student activist, and member of the USUAA congress becomes the regional president at the time (ibid). A replacement constitution was drawn up and he became prime minister in 1994. His regime faced a number of challenges in its early years from Addis Ababa University students, particularly those related to the problems of the Eritrean vote (1993), in addition to the 1997 reform proclamation Government responses (Ahmed, 2006: 40; Balsvik, 2007: 127-129, cited in Gebremariam). The students were the target of political problems, in particular, the students of the ethno linguistic group Oromo were targeted by the government security forces because they were suspected of the Pro-OLF (Oromo Liberation Front (Gebremariyam, 2009).

Students are also striving for the institution of Associate in Nursing freelance students' union within the university that was also a challenge that they had to face with the govt. the policy of which inspires 'organization in line with ethnic origin' (Balsvik, 2007:130). Their demand for independent students' press and union and for the replacement of armed field police with civilian police reached its climax in Gregorian calendar month 2001 once the scholars went on strike to prevent category and agency security forces enter the campus to gratingly twenty-six beat and

arrest students. The incident that started in the AAU campus unfolded to the town wherever violence between the police and principally urban idle youth resulted in the death of over forty individuals and imprisonment of thousands together with opposition party leaders (Gebremariam, 2009).

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2.7. Theoretical Framework

Theoretical Framework As mentioned by Creswell (2009) Model serves as a lens for finding answers to the research question as well as providing broad explanations. Consequently, the researcher believes that social exclusion Model could serve as an explanatory framework for my study on youth political participation.

2.7.1. Social Exclusion Model and Youth political participation

Social exclusion Model was founded by Émile Durkheim French social scientist in 1895 and founder of the French school of sociology. Theoretically, social exclusion is a wider concept than poverty, encompassing both low material means and the inability to participate effectively in economic, social, political, and cultural life and in some characterizations alienation and distance from mainstream society. It has also multidimensional in nature as it does not only relate to the lack of material resources, which focuses issues on inadequate political participation, lack of cultural and educational capital, inadequate access to services, and lack of power. It shows that social exclusion is associated with lack of c Kagan and Burton (2005) found that at the center of exclusion is the marginalization of full participation in the life of political participation at local, national, and international levels; they can be stigmatized and have a negative attitude towards politics. Contributions can be limited and they can develop low self-confidence and self-esteem.

As a result, the structural adjustment phase that led to the economic marginalization of young people did not spark a direct political response. And the transition was treated as a sign of deviation and threat to society, and the VCP was created as a remedy. The NYP, while well-intentioned in many ways, had minimal impact and was quickly overtaken by the YDP and GTPs after the 2005 election crisis (Gebremariam, 2017) the political sphere keeps young men and women away. Hence, the above-mentioned Model of tents of social exclusion would help me examine the lives of young people in the political context of the Dawuro zone with a particular focus on the Tercha Town. Because, from the Model we can understand that it focuses on excluded groups and this helps me that assessing youth who are the parts of society excluded from political affairs based on this theory.

2.7.2. Socio-monetary repute - fashionable Model

This principle is the primary chronologically within the records of the discipline, specifically the principle of socio-monetary repute. This principle makes a speciality of a sure kind of elements, specifically the extent of education, that is the variable that has the maximum explanatory strength of participation in fashionable whether or not electoral or non-electoral; there may be additionally profits and occupation. Behind this principle there may be a challenge approximately the position of social class. This principle has been dominant for lots years.

2.7.3. Orientations politiques - political attitudes Model

"Orientation" refers to political attitudes. It is a kind of rationalization that emphasizes the position of political attitudes extra than the position of social inclusion. Political attitudes encompass hobby in politics, political agree with, that is the truth of getting self assurance in political institutions, which could give an explanation for participation in a single manner or another. Political agree with can be some thing that explains electoral participation even as it explains abstention in different varieties of participation. That is why, at one point, researchers have attempted to head past this difference in seeking to see wherein shape participation will take vicinity due to the fact numerous explanatory elements can also additionally practice to distinctive varieties of participation. Political effectiveness should additionally be taken into account.

2.7.4. Resources - civic voluntarism Model

The useful resource Model is a dominant Model this is nonetheless dominant today. This principle makes a speciality of the sources that people have in politics. The concept is that to have the ability to take part politically, you need to have sure sources. According to an extensive definition, this may be any type of sources, such as cultural sources that come from education. Resources are described as time to commit to political participation, cash that refers back to the profits factor, and civic talents. Behind this Model is the concept that talents come from someplace and highlights the truth that engagement in numerous non-political and consequently civic institutions offers us the ones talents which are beneficial for political participation later on. Between those first 3 models, it's miles feasible to differentiate among the monetary repute version, which emphasizes social traits of humans, and the useful resource version, which emphasizes the sources to be had to humans.

2.7.5. Social capital - social capital Theory

Social capital is described through its residences and sources, i.e., the social relationships and networks that supply upward thrust to generalize agree with, as Putnam calls it, which interprets into institutional agree with. Putnam additionally emphasizes the concept of norms of reciprocity which are hooked up among a social device and an man or woman. This principle has been used specifically to give an explanation for the participation of sure minority companies, in particular withinside the take a look at of immigrant participation. Nevertheless, this principle is much less widespread, however it's miles a Model that has all started to spread.

2.7.6. Group awareness Model

The simple concept of this Model is that there are some of elements, such as 4 important factors that designate why humans take part: organization identity with a robust identification detail that emphasizes the position of collective identities. First of all, one should become aware of with a sure organization that may be understood through the term "class". The foundation of the principle is instead with inside the difference of ethnic type, however it may thoroughly be extrapolated to a category cleavage that makes this principle absolutely Marxist; polar have an effect on that is a choice for individuals of one's personal organization over individuals of the

alternative organization. This interprets into the life of a cleavage among numerous companies inside society; polar strength is the sensation of dissatisfaction with the state of affairs that one's personal organization has in society. It is a sense of injustice, of belonging to a collection this is dealt with unfairly with regards to the state of affairs in society; the principle postulates in its extra unique model an additive impact of those distinctive elements, specifically the difference among man or woman and device blame that is the attribution of obligation for the unjust state of affairs of the organization to which the man or woman belongs and identifies himself. The aggregate of those 4 elements approach that individuals of a minority must take part in varieties of collective action. The first main principle to give an explanation for the emergence of social moves makes a specialty of grievances, which are claims additionally associated with conditions of injustice among companies.

2.7. Conceptual Framework of the study

The following conceptual framework is set up to analyze and understand the relationship between the various factors which determine the decline in the perception of youth with regard to the political participation.

2.7.2. Factor that affect youth Political Participation

2.7.2.1.Lack of Interest, motivation,

A number of recent studies (Deželan 2015) have highlighted the decline in voter turnout, membership of political parties, interest in politics, and trust in political institutions amongst young people. In addition, youth's uninterested and apathetic in political participation because of lack of support and motivation from concerned bodies, corruption around administration, absence of visible development in their local, the non-democratic characteristics of local leaders, and the violation of both democratic and human rights by government officials and security bodies. Young people lack interest in conventional political participation while still, they are actively participating in the informal one.

2.7.2.2. Lack of awareness and knowledge

Most youths have limited awareness of youth policies and there is little evidence that young Ethiopians are involved in the decision-making processes and the livelihoods of their communities (Advocates for Youth, 2014). The experience today in many African countries is such that Low levels of civic involvement and political apathy remain a dominant feature among

young people. Anecdotal evidence seems to indicate that youth participation in the political process is declining. This is reflected in the low proportion of newly eligible voters who restorer cast their ballot and the widespread attitude among political elites that young people do not have sufficient political knowledge to be included in the national planning and decisions making process (International Institute for Democracy and Electoral, 2012).

As (Sabu, 2020), described that the majority of youths in Ethiopia have no clear understandings of what political participation is and actively participating in informal politics but not in the formal one. Therefore, lack of adequate political knowledge and education is highly affecting youth political participation and their involvement in the democratization process.

2.7.2.3.Structural constraints

Internal mechanisms, rules, and procedures do not favor the inclusion of youth. As cited in Gebremariam, 2009, the youth has never had a major decision-making role in the political parties. Most of the time they are simple followers of their elders' ideas and the older generation is busy with indoctrinating the young in their ideologies rather than working genuinely for the empowerment of the youth. The ruling party took the opportunity to alienate the youth from meaningful political positions by 'commercializing' the political process and 'depoliticizing' the youth in spite of their presence in the political scene. The millions of young people who are organized under the regional youth associations, forums, and the ruling party youth league do not have any power beyond their number. Failure to engage the youth of today and tomorrow will hinder Ethiopia's Growth and Transformation Plan. With a significant portion of its human capital underused or unused, there is a potential for productivity loss and decreased consumption (USAID Ethiopia Fact Sheet, 2018).

2.7.2.4.Limited opportunities

The main challenge for youth is limited opportunities for effective participation in decision-making processes. Youth is not represented enough in formal political institutions and processes such as parliaments, political parties, elections, and public administration, among formal political organizations, such as parties and parliaments. According to (Elizabeth Biney, 2019), the full representation of all citizens in the political process is essential for the effective functioning of a democracy. Yet, the tendency for political citizenry engagement or participation is often uneven. Young people are cognitively engaged in politics through their civic knowledge of political affairs, their interest in political matters, and their proclivity to discuss politics with others.

However, young people's cognitive engagement does not always successfully translate into active participation in the political arena. Lack of more institutions that promote and enhance youth participation in politics, absence of trust going on the political process is the other factors that contributed to lowering youth political participation. Lack of opportunities to get involved in is also hampered youth political participation and believes that their participation will not bring about any difference in the political process is the other responsible factor that hinders youth participation in politics (Asayehu, 2019).

2.7.2.5. Age

Age is one of the most crucial elements that shape the understandings of youth. One of the central features of age-based categorization of youth is the assumption that there are 'clearly identifiable processes which are universal' (Wyn and White 1997: 53). Younger people (15- to 18-year-olds versus 25–29) were more positive about the future, perhaps reflective of their inexperience in the challenging Ethiopian job market. Hence, when young people depart from the assumed set processes and behaviors, they are easily categorized as deviants and abnormal' (ibid.). It may include a high eligibility age to contest for elections, as well as People under the age of 35, who are rarely found in formal political leadership positions. In a third of countries, eligibility for the national parliament starts at 25 years or higher and it is common practice to refer to politicians as 'young' if they are below 35-40 years of age. Youth is not represented adequately in formal political institutions and processes such as Parliaments, political parties, elections, and public administrations. The situation is even more difficult for both young men as well as women at mid-level and decision-making/leadership positions (United Nations Development Programme, 2012).

Based on (Chloe De Schryver, Mollie Nielsen, Hannah Day, Emma Johns, Jane Goldthorpe, 2019), in their studies of a national survey that Age was a determining factor as to whether parents (or elders) felt as though young people should have more of a role in matters concerning them or the household. Young people told us that age demands respect, making it hard for young people to have a say compared to their elders both at home and within the community. When you get older, parents start to think you are getting wiser and mature. Especially, if you share with them anything they are unfamiliar with, they would listen to you.

2.7.2.6. Gender

Political violence and human rights abuses affect women's participation in elections in Ethiopia (The Carter Centre, 2009; Amnesty International, 2015); Women in Ethiopia experience Gender-Based Violence (GBV), including physical, emotional, and sexual violence, putting them at risk when participating in electoral processes (USAID, 2020); Besides, gender is the one of hindering or determining factors of youth participation in politics. Thus, women were more positive about their own futures and the future of Ethiopia compared to men.

Other important factors that inhibit women's participation in electoral processes include socio-cultural issues and patriarchy; religious factors; and family commitments/time constraints (Kassa, 2015 as cited in Richards, 2020).

2.7.2.7. Cultural or social norms

According to (Dr. Aisha L. Abdullah, 2017), the basic challenges to meaningful participation in the political process of youth are, discriminatory cultural practices and norms that affect young people particularly young women's meaningful participation and representation in democratic and governance processes; marginalization and systematic exclusion of youth from governance and decision making processes through restrictive and prohibitive rules and criteria; limited access to quality education and decent job opportunities resulting in high youth unemployment rate estimated at over 12% by the International Labor Organization; and a huge gap between norm-setting and implementation of international, continental, regional and national laws and normative instruments. Youth occupy a marginalized position in Ethiopian society. This is not only expressed in their curtailed opportunity to participate in electoral processes, but in wider societal obstacles they face which contributes in turn to their political, economic, and social disenfranchisement.

2.7.2.8. Youth's distrust of institutional politics

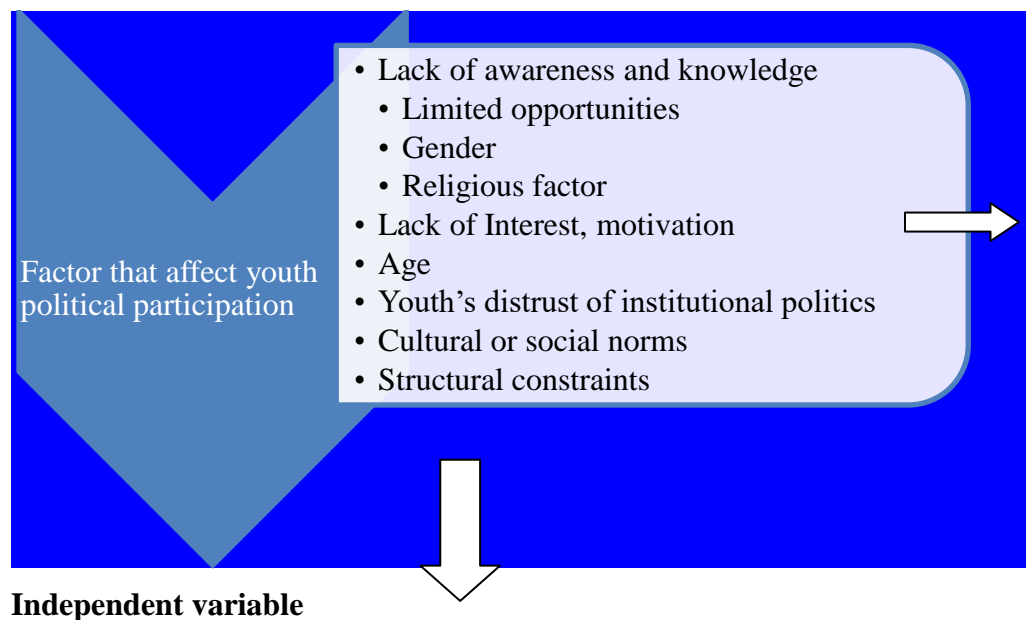
Increasing youth disengagement is a consequence of their negative impressions of politics and diminishing trust in political parties as vehicles for change. Young men and women feel excluded and marginalized in their societies and communities. The need for participatory structures and greater trust between youth and institutions and for greater town development is also stressed in youth studies. African governance is perceived to be "gerontocratic in nature" which reinforces a kind of political adultism that alienates young people. The social construction of maturity, that is, which is deemed responsible or capable, shapes eligibility for decision-

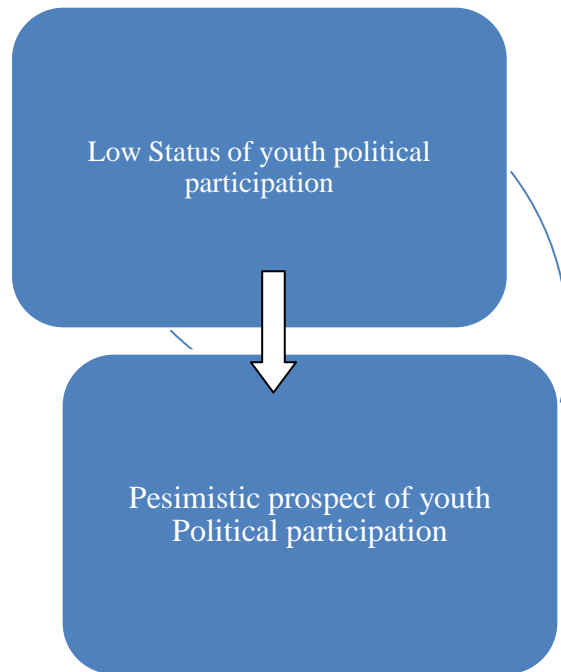
making offices, often to the exclusion of the youth, who are considered too young, irrational or irresponsible. Youth antipathy is, therefore, a consequence of being denied rights that are afforded adults, like the right to vote, run for political office, or participates in the political decision-making processes (Elizabeth Biney, 2019). In consequence, politics is seen as a dirty game and politicians rarely deliver on what they promised voters. Secondly, youth antipathy is a result of their marginalization or exclusion from political spaces when they attempt to engage.

2.7.2.9. Religious factors

Ethiopia is a secular state and there are two influential religions in the country, Orthodox Christianity and Islam. The role of religion is powerful in Ethiopian society and an article 816 and 492 of the Criminal Code protect religious freedoms and has provisions for fines or arrests of people who denigrate religious practices (Humanist Report, 2016). In many mainstream religions, power and authority are divinely bestowed on men and women play subordinate roles. Kassa (2015) notes that religion is used as an instrument to reinforce traditional gender roles that subordinate women and exclude them from social, political, and religious life. Women, who internalize the subordinate position in society that religion prescribes for them, reinforce their own disempowerment and exclusion from politics (Robin, 2020).

Figure 1 conceptual framework of the study





Dependent variable

Source: - from researcher, (2021)

2.8. Empirical evidences on youth political participation

Getachew Mijana Sabu (2020). Carried out the study on “Factors That Affect Youth Political Participation in Ethiopia: Its Impacts on the Democratization Process”, *Journal of Political Science and International Relations*. This study identified crucial factors that were; research analysis reveals that lack of political knowledge and adequate education, youth political interest and apathy, economy, socio-centrism attitude and family’s pressure, fear, partisan attachment and the incumbent government performances, age and the existing institutional structures of Democracy are the major factors affecting the youth’s political participation in Ethiopia. This study concluded that the youth are also passive and apathetic in democratization. No compatibilities among the democratic institutions, governments, and youth at all in Ethiopia.

The study of Elizabeth Biney (July 2019), “Youth Political Participation” A Qualitative Study of Undergraduate Students conducted at the University of Ghana, to examine the effect of such socio-cultural factors as age, gender, education, and religion affect their participation in politics. The study finds that gender means Males were more likely to express interest in and participate in politics than their female counterparts, Age is also another factor to political participation(younger youth were less likely to participate in politics than older youth). While

she found that educational level, religion, had an inverse relationship with participation in politics, or political participation by the youth. Finally, she concluded that the relatively low participation in politics by the youth is the result of their sense of corruption and distrust in politics and the pervasiveness of discrimination based on age and gender.

Mohamed Omar Bincof (September 28, 2018) “The Role of Youth in Political Participation in Somalia”, conducted at Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University Turkey, Ankara, that study there is strong evidence to suggest that Somali youths had a particular interest in political participation. However, this interest was confined space by the influence of clan identity politics in Somalia. As claimed youths, Political leaders have come to power through purporting to represent the wishes of their clans instead of promoting the national interest. And h recommends that despite the fact, young people were articulated that the adoption of the multi-party system across Somalia are crucial and abolish the contemporary institutionalized clan-based politics in the country.

The study of Eyob Balcha Gebremariam (November 2009) “Youth and Politics in Post 1974 Ethiopia”: Intergenerational Analysis in his Thesis of a degree of Masters of Art in Development Studies, in Netherland and strongly argued that the influence of the older generation particularly in the ruling party of Ethiopia creates a new meaning of politics for the youth. The findings show that politics become a system of creating opportunities and benefits and a structure where young people become significant in numbers rather than in their ‘youthful’ insights and thoughts.

From the literature examined, studies show inadequacies in the way provides a theoretical analysis of the hindering factors on failure to participate in the full potentiality of the political sphere. The researcher believes that this study assesses some gaps in the area of factors not tested in the above study for the coming researcher and current policy recommendations, in addition, fill the literature and addresses the issue in depth by considering relevant to archive full potentiality on political participation performance and awareness on the alternative recommendations can be made to improve the level of participation. The researcher also feeling that no study has been carried out on the factors affecting youth participation in Tercha Town, as these may not be the only factors affecting youth political participation. Therefore a research gap exists that needs to be filled by assessing the level of participation thoroughly on the factors affecting youth political participation in Tercha Town, Ethiopia.

Chapter Three

Research Methodology

3.1. Description of the Study Area

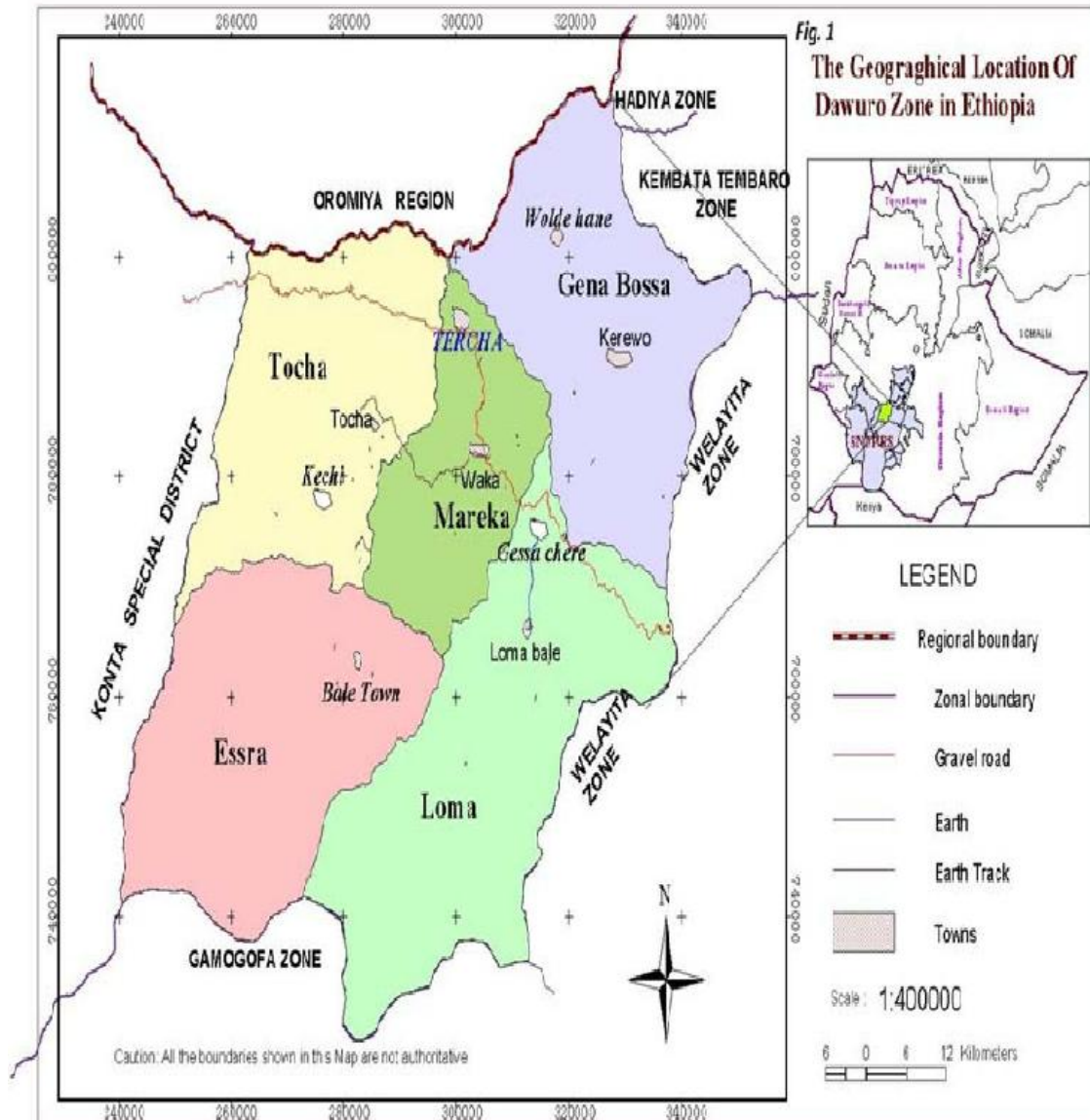
Dawuro is one of the thirteen zones of the then Southern Nations and Nationalities People's Regional State, now southwestern regional states, of Ethiopia. The name Dawuro, according to information from the zone's culture, tourism, and communication department, refers to both the place and the people. While referring to the place, it is meant by a place where the Dawuro people live. The Dawuro zone has been divided into ten districts (woredas) namely, Essara, Loma, Tocha, Marak'a and Genna, Mari Mansa, Kechi, Disa, Tercha Zuriya, Zaba Gazo.

The capital town of Dawuro is Tercha. The center of Tercha is situated at 70 14' north latitude and 370 5' east longitude and 1200m to approximately 1450m above sea level. The zone's administration and offices of different government departments are found there. According to the information from the administration office of the town, Waka was the earlier center when Dawuro had been at Awuraja level under the Kaffa province, and also later when it was part of the North Omo zone. When it was assigned a zonal level of recognition, in 1993 E.C, Tercha has been preferred to be the new seat of the zonal administration since it was found favorable for settlement, development, social, economic, and related activities. Tercha is located at Mareka district fourteen kilometers east of Waka town. It is 589 km, away from Addis Ababa if traveled through the direction of Jimma, 596 km, through the direction from Hawassa, 514 km through the direction of Shashemene via Wolayitta Sodo, also relatively at the shortest distance through Butajira-Hosaena-Wolaiyitta Sodo direction. It is also 279 km, far from Hawassa which is the capital of the Southern Nations and Nationalities People's Regional State (SNNPRS).

The town's administrative vicinity, according to the information from the municipality, includes kebeles of farmers' association in the surrounding such as Shabayu at the south, Gozo-Shasho at south-east and east, Tercha-Zuriya at north; moreover, Wogay River at west. The town is bounded in the west by Tocha and in the rest part by Marak'a districts. Nowadays, there are more than 15,000 people living in the town. The town, according to the information from the municipality, has shown a drastic advancement despite its short period of establishment. There

are several governments, private and civil organizations such as schools, a hospital, health centers, etc which provide services to people living in the town.

Figure 2 Map Of Dawuro Zone



Source from Admasu Abebe Haile(2014)

3.2. Research Design

This study would be conducted by using a descriptive research strategy. According to Schindler and Cooper (2003), the main reason for using descriptive research design attempts to define a

subject or describe it by creating group problems, people, or event profiles. Since, that it is appropriate to assessing youth political participation and factors that affect political participation in Tercha-Town. Since the descriptive research method involves both a self-administered questionnaire and interview process, it permits a deeper examination of the information and offers the opportunity to describe, explain and compare the results. It also helps to conduct in-depth insight, understanding, analyzing, and answering research scenarios. Moreover, it provides an integrated data collection, analysis, and a deeper clarification of the findings. According to Mugenda (2003), descriptive research is the process of collecting data in order to answer questions concerning the current status of the subject in the study. These and other rationale make descriptive research design more appropriate for a researcher to assess youth political participation in Dawuro zones, Tercha Town.

3.3. Research Approach

This research approach involves both quantitative and qualitative methods. In these situations, it is best to use so-called mixed methods approaches in which the researcher used both quantitative and qualitative methods. Because mixed methods research is a flexible approach where what the researcher wants to find out toward youth political participation in Tercha Town rather than by any predetermined epistemological position about.

The qualitative method can be used to expose and understand what lies behind any phenomenon about which little is yet known (Strauss and Corbin, 1990). Hence, can be used to expose and understand what lies behind the weak participation of youth in politics and hindering factors that affect youth to participate in politics. It also supposes that the natural context of people's lives and the interpersonal and socio-cultural fabric influences their perspectives, experiences, and actions towards youth participation.

Quantitative research is essentially about collecting numerical data to explain the percents off, to describe the extent or level of problem (Berg, 2001). In line with this approach can help to collect numerical data to explain youth participation, toward the issue in Tercha Town.

3.4. Data Types and Sources

The researcher used both primary and secondary types of data. Combinations of qualitative and quantitative data were gathered through semi-structured questionnaires and interviews as a primary source of information for the study. A document analysis would also be used as sources

of secondary data which relied on published and unpublished materials, such as the internet, books, magazines, reports, and journals.

3.4.1. Sources of Data

Both primary and secondary data were used. Primary data was collected from, employees and officials of the Tercha Town youth and sports bureau office, Tercha Town Youth association (civic society), political activists, journalists using in-depth interviews and from youth by personally administered questionnaires schedules.

Secondary sources of data were collected by using desk review to assess the overall status of youth political participation and to identify the factors affecting youth political participation in the study area. Such types of data were extracted from different sources including published and unpublished materials like journal articles, internet resources, books, reports, office legislation, reports, and the like.

3.4.2. Target Population

For the purpose of this research, young people and ‘youth ‘are defined as those who are 18–29 years old, currently living in Tercha Town. The target populations of this research would be the youth of the Dawuro zone, only found in Tercha town. According to the government of Ethiopia, young people were classified as 18 to 29 years old. Youth groups and clubs from kebele onwards are regulated by the government and young people under 29 years (Arushi Singh, Haset ShewangizawTafesse, et al, 2016) thus, young people aged 18-29 years treated as the target population of this study.

3.5. Sampling Techniques and Sample Size

Tercha town administrations were purposely selected for this study. Because, it helps researcher to obtain enough information that related with the challenges and prospects of youth political participation relative to another town in Dawuro zone.

It has only three kebeles and the researcher covered a total kebele. The sampling design and technique of this study are both probability and no probable sampling. That means the researcher can take samples based on proportional sampling from each kebele and finally find the respondents based on the random sampling method. The reason why the researcher uses the random sampling method is it gives an equal chance of being selected.

To get this population size, the researcher used proportional quota sampling techniques because it helps the researcher to find respondents proportional from each kebele.

Based on preliminary data which the researcher collected from the study area, the target population of the study consists of 3289 youth. Among that, 1713 are male 1576 are female. To get a reasonable sample size, a 95% level of confidence and 0.05% confidence interval or sampling error were used to determine the sample size for the study.

The sample of this research is calculated by using Taro Yamane (Yamane, 1973) formula with a 95% confidence level.

The calculation formula of Yamane is presented as follows.

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

$$n = \frac{3289}{1 + 3289(0.05)^2} = \frac{3289}{8.22 + 1} = \frac{3289}{9} = 365 \text{ is sample size of the study.}$$

Where n = sample size required N = number of people in the population e = allowable error (%).
To determine sample size by using proportional allocation (probability to proportional to size) because the distribution of population is not equal.

Then,

$$K1 = \frac{1050}{3289} * 365 = 116$$

$$K2 = \frac{1150}{3289} * 365 = 128$$

$$K3 = \frac{1089}{3289} * 365 = 121$$

Where n_h - sample size h th stratum

n - Total sample size

N - Total population size

N_h - total number of the population in a specific section

$K1$ = kebele 1

$K2$ = kebele2

$K3$ = kebele3

Finally, to find the representative or sample of the study population, from specified kebele among youth the researcher will use a random sampling method. Because this method gives equal chances to all study population who is youth in town to be selected.

3.6. Methods and Instruments of Data Collection

The data would be collected using different tools. Both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods would be used to collect both primary and secondary sources of data to

triangulate and check the validity of information collected from different sources. To obtain relevant information for the study, the researcher administered two major instruments. These are - questionnaires (both close-ended and open-ended questions) and interviews (semi-structured interview).

3.6.1. Questionnaires

To collect quantitative data, the survey research method was employed as a major type of data collection method for collecting valid and reliable data from youth or sample respondents. A cross-sectional survey design would be employed to obtain information about the present situation which is related to the issue under study. Data was collected at one point in time from a randomly selected sample from the study population at one time.

In addition, the questionnaire is a more economical and most commonly used data collection tool in descriptive research design. Therefore, the researcher designed and administered both close and open-ended questions to collect the data from the youth of Tercha Town. Open-ended questions allow the respondents to think and reflect on their feelings, ideas, and opinions. Close-ended questions permit the respondents to answer the questions objectively and easily. Generally, the questionnaire enables the researcher to assess hindering factors, status, and prospects of youth on political participation in Dawuro Zone, Tercha Town.

3.6.2. Interview

The researcher would be used the semi-structured interview to collect reliable data for the study. The semi-structured interview is best to use when the researcher couldn't get more than one chance to interview someone. The researcher prepared ahead of time and allows the interviewees to be ready and appear competent during the interview as well. Since it provides the informants the freedom to express their views, opinion, and ideas, reliable and comparable data was acquired for the study. Thus, the researcher employed an interview with the Managers/administrators/director of Youth Association/youth and sports affairs in Dawuro-zone, Tercha Town civic association, political activists, journalists, and officials was chosen to probe further and to validate the findings of the study. 10 respondents were selected and interviewed and those experts/ officials were selected by considering the positions they assumed in their organizations.

3.7. Method of Data Analysis

In the due process of data analysis, a strategy of a concurrent nested strategy was employed. That is; there are two data collection methods (Questionnaire & in-depth interviews; then the qualitative data was embedded (i.e. nested) within the quantitative data. Priority was given to the primary data collection method. Data were being mixed during the analysis phase. The study would have been used to elaborate or expand the findings of quantitative data or questionnaire with the qualitative data or in-depth interview.

The quantitative data that is collected using the survey instrument (questionnaire) was analyzed by using descriptive statistics (table, percentages, and frequency and chart). In addition, the statistical analysis tool SPSS (Model24) was utilized for analysis in terms of searching for differences among categories. The qualitative analysis of qualitative data was employed in this study for it is best suited to achieve the objectives of the study by analyzing oral accounts of youth based on their political and social experiences. The Qualitative data would be analyzed by using Content analysis. This refers to the process of categorizing verbal or behavioral data to classify, summarize and tabulate the data.

3.8. Ethical Consideration

Concerning ethical consideration, all the research participants and concerned bodies were informed about the objectives and the purpose of the research. Data were collected from all the study participants with confidentiality: an individual's right to have control over the use or access of his or her personal information as well as the right to have the information that he/she shares with the researcher kept private. The researcher is responsible not only for maintaining the confidentiality of all information protected by law but also for information that might affect the privacy and dignity of research participants. The interview was conducted after ensuring that the participant understands the message and mutual agreement made between the researcher and participants.

Chapter Four

Data Analysis and Discussion

4. Introduction

This chapter deals with the data interpretation, analysis, and data presentation of the finding of the research through the full course of study. The researcher have undertaken interviews for the key informant and distributing the questionnaire to the respondents by using different items such as closed-ended and open-ended questions. Depend upon these the researcher tried to interpret and analyze by using tables, charts including personal information, and each and every question of the study. From the total samples that are 365 samples, there are six missing response which I can't be returned back or totally 259 were collected from respondents.

4.1. Socio-demographic information

There are a number of personal information that used identify respondents. These are sex, age, marital status, religion, level of education, and employments status of the respondents.

Figure 3 Sex distributions of respondents



Source: - own field survey, 2021

Table 1 Demographic feature of respondent

Item	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Male	211	58.8	58.8
Female	148	41.2	41.2

	Total	359	100.0	100.0
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From the above table 4.1.1, we can understand that 58.8% of the respondents are males while 41.2% are females. According to the study, the number of male respondents is greater than female respondents; this reality is indicated that the total number of youth in Tercha town is 3289 whom 1713 males, 1576 is females.

Marital status		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Single	163	45.4	45.4
	Married	117	32.6	32.6
	Widow	39	10.9	10.9
	Divorce	40	11.1	11.1
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

It is vividly visible from chart 4.1.1 that 32.6% of respondents were married, whereas 45.4% of respondents are unmarried, which constitutes the largest share, 10.9% and 11.1% of respondents are widowed and divorced respectively. The above table shows that as the larger proportion of youth are unmarried and followed by married while divorce and widowed takes third and the fourth level.

Educational background		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Uneducated	20	5.6	5.6
	Primary level	56	15.6	15.6
	Secondary level	112	31.2	31.2
	Diploma	60	16.7	16.7
	Degree and above	111	30.9	30.9

	Total	359	100.0	100.0
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The study indicates from Table 4.1.1 that 31.2% of the respondents are secondary school students, 30.9 were degree and above, 16.7 diploma, 15.6 primary level, and 5.6 were uneducated. According to the study, most of the respondents are secondary schools, i.e. 9-12 class students. Next to that degree and above (graduate their higher institution education or university) take the second step. Whereas some of them are diploma and primary level school, as well as the remaining, are uneducated.

Age		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	18-21	188	52.4	52.4
	22-25	104	29.0	29.0
	26-29	67	18.7	18.7
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Again shows that 52.4 % of respondents were between the ages group 18-21, 29 % of respondents are founded between age group 22-25, while 18.7 % of respondents are incorporated in between 26-29. From the data, we can understand that the largest share is in-between aged 18-21 and take the first level of the respondents, who are actives both mentally and physically either to changes or participate in everything rather than others, while youth aged between 22-25 and 26-29 took the second and third level respectively.

Employment status		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Government institution	50	13.9	13.9
	NGO	25	7.0	7.0
	Student	240	66.9	66.9
	Unemployed	44	12.3	12.3
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

It is explained from chart 4.1.1 as that government employee is 13.9%, whereas NGO employee (including temporary job worker) respondents are 7%, the respondents of unemployed are 12.3% while 66.9 % of the respondents are students from the total 359. From the table, we can understand as Students are shared a larger proportion of Respondents, government employees second step, as well as unemployment, take third without any job but they graduated at least college or university level.

Religion		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	orthodox	109	30.4	30.4
	MUSLIM	17	4.7	4.7
	protestant	158	44.0	44.0
	Catholic	51	14.2	14.2
	Traditional	24	6.7	6.7
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

As table show above 4.1.1 indicates that 30.4% sample of respondents is the followers of Christian orthodox whereas, Muslims 17% and 44% respondents are protestant from the total respondents, as well as 14.2%, are the followers of Catholic's religious in the town and 6.7% from the total number of respondents are follower of traditional religion.

4.2. Level of youth political participation in Tercha Town

4.2.1. Did you participate in political process other than election?

Table 2. Level of youth political participation in Tercha Town

Item		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Yes	99	27.6	27.6
	No	260	72.4	72.4
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

The above table 4.2.1 shows that 27.6% of respondents are responses as they participated in political processes other than election such as decision-making activities, implementation, solving socio-economic problems depending on the politics. But 72.4% of respondents are responding as they do not participate in political processes other than election because there are not enough stages for youth political participation and cannot facilitate some procedure for youth political participation. Thus, In Tercha Town there is no more youth are participating in the political process rather than election, because as this study indicate that Large proportion of respondent’s responses that there is no youth political participation such as decision-making activity, implementation, solving socio-economic problems, etc... except for the election to register, to a campaign, to vote, to a candidate.

Table 3 Status of youth participation in Political activities

Item		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Very high	20	5.6	5.6
	High	60	16.7	16.7
	Medium	66	18.4	18.4
	Low	193	53.8	53.8
	very low	20	5.6	5.6
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

When discussing from the above chart and table, more than half of respondents (53.8) responded that the status of youth political participation was low and 18.4% medium and 16.7 high. Were as 5.6% percent responded very high and very low respectively. Thus, what we understand from this response is that status of youth participation in the socio-economic, as well as the political sphere, is low because of many reasons. Let us discuss interviewee responses from different respondents. The interviewee from civil society “the status of youth participation in Political activities, formal youth engagement with politics is low: expressing interest, formal youth engagement with politics was low: Issues like, limited awareness of platforms or avenues

through which to get involved were holding youth back from speaking up about political issues in Town”.

Table 4 how often do you participate in activities of politics

Item		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Frequently	19	5.3	5.3
	Sometimes	53	14.8	14.8
	Rarely	102	28.4	28.4
	Never	185	51.5	51.5
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

We can have understood from table 4.2.3 as 5.3% of respondents are participated in socio-economic decision-making activities frequently, 14.8% of the respondents are responded as they participated in socio-economic decision-making activities sometimes. While 28.4% and 51.5% of respondents are responses as they are participated in socio-economic decision-making activities rarely and never respectively. Based on data collected from the respondents' majority of youth in Tercha Town cannot participate in Political activities in different ways, i.e. about 51% responded, never. This implies that the majority of youth cannot get chances to participate in political activity in Town.

Table 5 What is the approach of youth political participation in Tercha Town?

Item		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Optimistic	114	31.8	31.8
	Pessimistic	245	68.2	68.2
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

More than half of young (68.2) people felt that they have a pessimistic approach or outlook toward political action and –thirds (31.8) of young people reported feeling more positive about the political sphere compared to the previous governance system.

An interviewee from a journalist “even feeling positive, this optimism was quite fragile, and the issues experienced by youth at the time of this research were having a detrimental impact on their daily realities and decision making. Ethnic conflict and rapid political changes are causing anxiety and uncertainty for young Ethiopians.

Table 6. Are you registered to vote? Why or why not?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	262	73.0	73.0
	No	97	27.0	27.0
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

The above table 4.3.1 shows that 73% of respondents response ‘yes’ as they are registered for the election while 27% of respondents are responded ‘no’ as they are not registered for the election. Thus, the majority of respondents were registered to vote, the reason why they were registered is that because of the influence of government officials. Because they think of politics as a dirty game and politicians rarely deliver on what they promised voters. Secondly, there are thought that they cannot bring any change even engage in election.

Table 7 Have you personally ever voted?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	64	17.8	17.8
	No	295	82.2	82.2
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

As well as that 17.8% of the respondents were actually voted election effectively or all respondents who registered for elections are completely voted whereas 82.2% are not actually voted because they are not registered for the election. The study indicates that depend upon respondent’s responses, the majority of youth were not registered for election as well as they are not actually voted.

Table 8 How much attention do you pay to political sphere?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	very high	10	2.8	2.8
	High	50	13.9	13.9
	Medium	205	57.1	57.1
	Low	94	26.2	26.2
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

As it is also illustrated in the table above, 205 from total 359(57.1%) said medium, 26.2 %(94) low, 13.9% high, and only 2.8% responded very high. Thus, from the data, we can understand that youth in tercha town pay intermediate attention to political agenda and political news.

Interview from Town women and youth office stated that “They have open discussions about politics with friends and family, and a similar proportion reported consuming political content. There is an appetite for greater youth engagement in politics, with young people expressing a desire to be more aware of what is happening in town as well as a country despite expressing interest, formal youth engagement with politics was low”.

An interview from the youth Association said “youth are less likely than their elders to engage in a variety of political and civic activities, including voting, attending community meetings, joining others to raise an issue, and contacting leaders”.

Table 9 Do you think that the government pays less attention to the youth political participation

Item	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes	309	86.1	86.1
No	50	13.9	13.9
Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

Among, 359 sample respondents, most of the respondents 86.1% (309) responded yes and 13.9(50) responded no. Therefore, from this data, we can conclude that in Tercha Town government does not give special attention to youth political participation.

Despite few young leaders in Town following national political transformation majority of youth have low and declining trust in democracy as a political system. Thus, political and civic education as a means of understanding a political system plays an important role in learning about the political system and decision-making processes. There is strong agreement among participants that democracy is incomplete without the equal and full participation of everyone, especially women and youth. Participants argue that political institutions around the area in sidetracked need for greater youth participation and engagement. Youth is not represented enough in formal political institutions and processes such as parliaments, political parties, elections, and public administration. From interview responses generalized as the following:-

The opinions of youth leaders, officials, and youth activists are divided into two groups: some are pessimistic about youth political participation, as they note the decreasing political engagement of young people. On the other hand, the others are more optimistic, claiming that young people are rejecting traditional ways of political participation of the older generation and creating new models and forms of political participation.

According to the interview response the common types of youth political participation in Tercha Town are protest activities or demonstrations and new social movements, combine online especially via fake accounts and offline forms of participation, including not only the decision-

making process but also a follow-up. In addition to that non-traditional forms of political participation have become more common among young people, including protests and social movements in Town. Thus, my finding confirms social exclusion theory in that it has also multidimensional in nature as it does not only relate to the lack of material resources, which focuses issues on inadequate political participation, lack of cultural and educational capital, inadequate access to services, and lack of power.

4.2. Factors affecting Youth from political participation.

Table 10 Do you think there are challenges that affect youth political participation in Town?

Item		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Yes	327	91.1	91.1
	No	32	8.9	8.9
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

A total of 359 respondents participated in this research. Among the 359 sample respondents, 327(91.1%) responded Ys, and the remaining 32 (8.9%) said no. Therefore, from this data, we can conclude that there is a factor that inhibits youths from political participation in Tercha Town.

Table 11 Do you agree that political interest and political knowledge is hindrance to youth political participation?

Item		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Strongly Agree	194	54.0	54.0
	Agree	143	39.8	39.8
	Disagree	20	5.6	5.6
	Neutral	2	.6	.6
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

The above Table describes that 54% of respondents strongly agree that political interest and knowledge are the hindrances of youth political participation, whereas 39.8% of respondent's responses agree and 5.6% disagree, and 6% as political interest and knowledge are the hindrance of youth political participation. From this in Tercha Town political interest and knowledge are basic challenges which inhibit youth from political participation.

Even if there is the variety of response toward interest and knowledge of youth political participation indicate on the one hand that youth are passive and disengaged. Yet, at the same time, they agree that new models and forms of political participation are developing and those young people are active. Political knowledge and interest are hindering factors of youth political participation in Tercha Town. Thus, this study confirms that the study of Getachew Mijana Sabu (2020) conducted a comparative analysis aimed at investigating the factors that affect youth political participation with a particular focus on its impacts on the democratization process. His findings show that the major factors affecting the youth's political participation in Ethiopia are related to lack of political knowledge and adequate education, youth political interest, and apathy.

Table 12 Do you agree that political procedure is hindrance of youth political participation

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	strongly agree	142	39.6	39.6
	Agree	203	56.5	56.5
	Disagree	14	3.9	3.9
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

The above chart and Table imply that 39.6% of respondents strongly agree that lack of political procedure is a hindrance to youth political participation, 56.5 % of respondents agree with the political procedure is a hindrance to youth political participation. But only 3.9% of respondents are disagreeing as lack of political procedure is a hindrance to youth political participation. From

this study, we can generalize as political procedures are the hindrance of youth political participation because about 56.5% of respondents agree and strongly agree as the political procedure is the hindrance of youth political participation.

Interviewee respondent from youth association answered that “Young people are highly affected by the governance challenges of the Town but rarely considered in the efforts and program aimed at addressing them. This alienation is thus fueling frustrations and a sense of helplessness in the status quo”.

Respondents from political activists responded that “marginalization and systematic exclusion of youth from governance and decision-making processes through restrictive and prohibitive rules and criteria, pose a great threat to our democratization aspirations. Without adequate investment in addressing these challenges, our hopes of harnessing demographic dividend will only be a tall dream. While the election of a reformist leader (prosperity party) was seen as a positive step by the party, some youth felt cynical about the true motives behind this change with some stating this was a half-hearted compromise from the party, a way to demonstrate a willingness to change without giving up power. Again thy said ethnic conflict and discrimination political corruption and violence are one of the factors that inhibit youth from political action”.

Another respondent from the youth political party said “Organizational policies or program mandate were often the key influencers for adults to involve youth, The existence of a structure especially for young people was seen to be the factor that generated young people’s interest and desire in engaging with the organization”.

Table 13 Religion

Item	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Strongly agree	51	14.2	14.2
Agree	61	17.0	17.0
Disagree	165	46.0	46.0
strongly disagree	68	18.9	18.9
Neutral	14	3.9	3.9

	Total	359	100.0	100.0
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Source: - own field survey, 2021

The above table clarifies that 46% of youth do not agree with religion that it becomes an affecting factor of youth political participation. Next to that 18.9 % (68) of respondents answered strongly disagree, 61(17%) agree, and 3.9(14) neutral. Therefore from the data, we can understand that religion cannot be taken as a factor that hinders youth from political participation.

Table 14 Tradition

Item	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Strongly agree	115	32.0	32.0
Agree	205	57.1	57.1
Disagree	30	8.4	8.4
strongly disagree	9	2.5	2.5
Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

When we look at the above table Tradition taken as the basic factor that inhibits youth political participation. Agree 57.1%, strongly agree 32%, disagree, 8.4%, and strongly disagree 2.5%. Thus according to this data, tradition is the basic reason that hinders youth from political participation.

An interviewee from journalist “tradition is the challenge of youth political participation in Tercha town because they are supporting only elder’s perception for the leadership and some knowledgeable activity in terms of this youth cannot engage for the leadership and political activity”.

Response from youth league that “discriminatory cultural practices and tradition that affect youth political practices especially young women’s meaningful participation and representation in democratic and governance processes”;

Table 15 Economic-background

Item	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
strongly agree	51	14.2	14.2
Agree	75	20.9	20.9
Disagree	180	50.1	50.1
strongly disagree	53	14.8	14.8
Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

According to the above table economic challenge isn’t the hindering factor to youth political participation i.e. 50.1% disagree, 20.9 % agree, 14.8% of respondents strongly disagree and 14.2% strongly agree. Thus, the majority of youths in Tercha town do not agree on economic factors.

Interview from youth association “the biggest challenges experienced by youth included lack of employment opportunities, lack of access to housing, and a lack of financial security”.

Interview from political party official “Young people felt corruption impacted their lives on both a societal level (i.e. it has impacted Town development opportunities and economy through misappropriation of funds”.

In addition to that, the respondent replied that “Lack of confidence in government actually favors corruption. Lack of confidence in government actually favors corruption and it has links to conflict. Although corruption is not likely to be the only factor responsible for the destabilization of a country, it can have a major impact on undermining the government and public confidence in governing institutions which, in turn, affect youth participation. Corruption, governance, and conflict have complex and interrelated links”.

According to the interview of Tercha Town Youth association, the main challenge for youth is limited opportunities for effective participation in decision-making processes. With limited opportunities to meaningfully participate in inclusive decision-making processes, young men and women feel excluded and marginalized in their societies and communities. The need for participatory structures and greater trust between youth and institutions and for greater capacity development is also stressed in Town”.

Hence, this study also approves social exclusion theory of that is a wider concept than poverty, encompassing both low material means and the inability to participate effectively in economic, social, political, and cultural life and in some characterizations alienation and distance from mainstream society.

4.4. Prospects of Youth toward political Participation in Tercha Town

Table 16 Do you personally feel you have the capacity to make political changes in Town?

Item		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Yes	260	72.4	72.4
	No	99	27.6	27.6
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

The above Item expresses that 72.4% of answered “yes” and 27.6% respondents responded “no” that means youth believe that they can bring change or difference on the previous political process, if and only if participate effectively in political decision-making activities and implementation on the issue of politics as well as in socio-economic activities.

Table 17 is there Organization that promotes youth political participation in Tercha town?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	Yes	112	31.2	31.2
	No	247	68.8	68.8
	Total	359	100.0	100.0

Source: - own field survey, 2021

Table 4.4.2:- shows that 31.2% of respondents agree that there is some organization that promotes youth political participation, while 68.8% of respondents negate the presence of a political organization that promotes youth political participation.

The researcher can generalize as there are no more organizations in Tercha town except two originations from government bodies such as Tercha town Youth and Sports Office. But there are no other organization or institutions which promote youth political participation in the town, though, there is Tercha town Youth league, and youth association it is only nominal than effectively promote youth political participation in the town.

According to Interview respondent in order to break a cycle of skepticism and mistrust, for the future youth can develop the skills and motivation to successfully interact with political parties. At the same time, political parties could be encouraged to create space for them by removing barriers to youth involvement. Youth wings of political parties must play a central role to democratic building of nation. So, this finding confirms social exclusion theory of study in that the center of exclusion is the marginalization of full participation in the life of political participation at local, national, and international levels; they can be stigmatized and have a negative attitude towards politics for the future .

Chapter Five

Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1. Conclusion

After data analysis and interpretation on the ‘‘Assessing Youth Political Participation’’ in Tercha Town, the researcher try to summarize and give recommendations according to the following.

Despite few young leaders in Town following national political transformation, the majority of youth have low and declining trust in democracy as a political system. The degree participation other than the election was shockingly low especially when we consider the all over number of youth in that Town, the involvement in politics by that aged group is no means satisfactory, as well as females, are still discriminated in town. Participants argued that political institutions around the area in sidetracked need for greater youth participation and engagement. Youth is not represented enough in formal political institutions and processes such as parliaments, political parties, elections, and public administration.

In Tercha Town most of the youth are pessimistic about political participation, as they note the decreasing political engagement of young people. In addition to that non-traditional forms of political participation have become more common among young people, including, Protest activities or demonstrations and new social movements, by using social media especially via fake accounts, including not only the decision-making process but also a follow-up.

Having collected all the necessary data relating to the hindering factors that affect the level of political participation most youths stated that there is a factor that inhibits youths from political participation in Tarcha Town.

In addition, lack of interest and knowledge in politics led or being apathetic is among the factors that hinder youth political participation in the town.

Political approaches are the obstacle of children political participation and divulge to the absence of agree with happening with inside the political system and make contributions to decreasing children political participation. Because of this Young humans are tremendously tormented by the governance demanding situations and this alienation is consequently fueling frustrations and a experience of helplessness with inside the fame quo.

Besides this tradition is a challenge of youth political participation in Tercha town because they are supporting only elder's perception for the leadership and some knowledgeable activity in terms of this youth cannot engage for the leadership and political activity. Discriminatory cultural practices and traditions affect youth political practices especially young women's meaningful participation and representation in democratic and governance processes. The biggest challenges experienced by youth included lack of employment opportunities, lack of access to housing. With limited opportunities to meaningfully participate in inclusive decision-making processes, young men and women feel excluded and marginalized in their societies and communities. Youth believe that they can bring change or difference on the previous political process, if and only if participate effectively in political decision-making activities and implementation on the issue of politics as well as in socio-economic activities and there are no more organizations in Tercha town except two originations from government bodies such as Tercha town Youth and Sports Office. Though, there is Tercha town Youth league, and youth association it is only nominal than effectively promote youth political participation in the town.

5.2. Recommendations

In the study of "Assessing youth political participation in Tercha Town, the researcher propose the following suggestions as recommendations based on the findings of the study.

Government should have full fill things that youth need to change one state related to politics at least the following; -

- ✓ Mobilize the youths and provide them with some use full conferences and seminars to create awareness to encourage them as they take responsibility and duty in each and everything such as; to be elected, vote, decision-making activities, implementation, and other political issues as the youth become leaders of the country.
- ✓ Education; - in order to become engaged in politics in the most effective ways, young people can learn about the political system, political actions, and other realty within and around the political system. They can also conduct action-oriented activities that allow them to gain created for their involvement.
- ✓ Training; -training young people to change in the town through political means teaching them the skills they need to become involved. This includes communication problem solving, change management, and conflict resolution skills. It also means participating in knowledge-sharing activities designed to build their capacity for power full action.

Different stakeholders

- ✓ Different stakeholders including the youth association, civil societies, and the media should invite the youths to have their own say in order to develop their general perception about politics and to value it.
- ✓ The family as the first social originations should contribute to the youth from their early ages. Society also needs to be more interrelating active with the youth.
- ✓ In order to keep current signs progress in multiple areas of political participation up all the concerning bodies need work in unity. The government, society, the media, and the youth themselves have to vigilantly work together to keep the momentum.
- ✓ In order to break a cycle of skepticism and mistrust, for the future youth can develop the skills and motivation to successfully interact with political parties. At the same time, political parties could be encouraged to create space for them by removing barriers to youth involvement. Youth wings of political parties must play a central role to democratic building of nation.

Directly or indirectly to develop one state youth political participation is a must, because they are a creative force, dynamic source of innovations, and they have undoubtedly, throughout history, participated, contributed, and even catalyzed important changes in the political system, power-sharing dynamic, and economic opportunities.

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Appndix

JIMMA UNIVERSTY

COLLEGE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Questionnaires for the respondents

Dear respondent: - The objective of this questionnaire is to gather relevant information in order to assess youth political participation in Tercha Town. The accuracy and honesty of the information you provide will help me to identify major problems which are the high concern of the town. Moreover, it will have a great impact on the efficiency and effectiveness of achieving my goals. Any information obtained will be kept strictly confidential. You are selected as a respondent in this survey just due to chance and have nothing to do with your personal identity. You are kindly requested to answer every question and thank you for your cooperation.

i. General instruction

- Be sure that data you give will regard only the questions appear on this questionnaires paper.
- No need of writing your name and address.
- Please put the sign (x) in the box or fill your answer on the space provided.

A. Personal information

No	Question	Item	Response
1	Sex	Male	
		Female	
2.	Age	18-21	
		22-25	
		26-29	

3.	Marital Status	Single	
		Married	
		Widowed	
		Divorced	
4.	Level of education	Un educated	
		primary level	
		Secondary level	
		Diploma	
		Degree and above	
5.	Employment status	government institution	
		NGO	
		student	
		Others <input type="text"/>	
		If other explain -----	
6.	Religious status	Orthodox	
		Muslim	
		Protestant	
		Catholic	
		Other	
		If other explain-----	

The level of youth political participation in Town		
1. Did you participate in political process other than election?	Yes	No
2. Status of youth participation in Political activities	Very high	
	High	
	medium	
	Low	

					Very low	
3. How often do you participate in decision making activities of politics?			Frequently			
			Sometimes.			
			Rarely			
			Never			
4. What is the approach of youth political participation in Tercha Town?			Positive		Negative	
5. Are you registered to vote? Why or why not?				Yes		No
6. Have you personally ever voted?				Yes		No
7. How much attention do you and your friends pay to political sphere?			Very high			
			High			
			medium			
			low			
			Very low			
8. Do you think that the government pays less attention to the youth political participation			Yes		No	
B. Challenges and Factors affecting Youth from political participation.						
9. Do you think there are challenges and factors that affect youth political participation in Town?			Yes		No	
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly-Disagree	Neutral

10. Do you agree that political interest and political knowledge is hindrance to youth political participation?					
11. Do you agree that political procedure is hindrance of youth political participation?					
12. Religion					
13. Tradition/Culture					
14. Economic-background					

Prospects of Youth toward political Participation in Tercha Town		
15. Do you personally feel as if you have the capacity to make political changes?	Yes	No
17. Is there Organization that promotes youth political participation in Tercha town?	Yes	No
18. What should do to increase the level of youth political participation in the future?		

II. Interview's Guide questions for key informants

1. How do you describe the youth political participation in Tercha Town?
2. What is the status of youth political participation in Tercha town?
3. What are the most commonly accepted actions of youth Political participation in Tercha Town?-
4. What factors did you think that keep youth out of the political process in Tercha Town?
5. Why don't young people vote at higher rates? What factors are unique to young people's experiences that make them less likely to participate in elections?
6. How do you describe attitudes of youth toward political sphere in Tercha Town?
7. What are the expected results of youth political participation in Tercha Town?
8. What are the prospects of youth political participation in Tercha town?
9. What should do to increase the level of youth political participation in the future?

III. Dawurotsuwa/Dawurgna
Jimma Universitiya
Higiyane Ayissuwa Kollegiya
Ayissuwanne Dichaa Pilligetsa Timirte Ketsa

❖ Zaro Giggeda Oshatuwa

Boncheteda ha oosha zariya asato ;-

Ha ooshay gighedawe tarca katamani dei'ya lakayituwa politika k'atsaa Eeranasa. Ha ooshay hintte oonatetsana ayane gakatewanne, hintte zaruwa gasuwan hinttena ooshisenawa erisanawu koyayi. Hintte hawan zariya zaru ta oosuwa polo daro go'ayi de'ee. Zaruwa imiya gishawu gallatay.

I. Kitta Ita

- ❖ Hintte zariya zaru hawan de'iyaa oosha S'allala gidanawu koshee
- ❖ Hintte suntsanne hintte de'iyaa sa'aa s'afussay kosheena
- ❖ Mela sa'aan "x" malata kuntsite

II. Oonattsana Oyiketteda Ooshaa

Pay	Oosha	K'omuwa	Zaruwa
1.	Matuma	Atumawa	
		Mac'awa	
2.	Laytsa	18-21	
		22-25	
		26-29	
3.	Akanne geluwa hanota	Aki/geli benawa	
		Akawa/Gelawu no	
		Biletawa/Bileta wuno	

		Akina/gelina haykkawa	
4.	Timirtiya Detsa	Tamarabeyiki	
		Koyiro detsa	
		2tso detsa	
		Deplomanne bolla	
5.	Oosuwa hanota	Katiya Ketsan	
		Katiyawa gidnna Oosuwa	
		Hara	
		Hara gidoppe birshite ----- ----- -----.	
6.	Amanuwa	Ortodokissiya	
		Eslama	
		Museniya	
		Katolikiya	
		Hara	
		Hara giddopp birshite----- -----	

III. Lakkayituwa Poletika Denduwa Hanotetsa

1. Lakkayitu katamani k'atsino	Terca mineti	Eee	Gidena
2. Doruwappe politikan Shaketi Eeritee	harabani	Eee	Gidena

4. Daro wode woga gideda politika qomu aya, aye? _____			
5. politikan ayi wodiyan shaketite	C'ora wode		
	Iti,iti galla		
	Ad'I ad'i		
	Gamaka		
6. Terca katama lakkayituwa Politekawu de'iyi qofayi	Lo'oo qofa		Iita qofa
7. Doruwa kardiya akeditte	Eee		Akabeyiki
8. Doruwa Dordite?	Eee		Dorabeyiki
9. Hinttenne hinte lagatu woyisa kenaa kalitee	Kehi daruwa		
	Daruwa		
	Lappa		
	Kehi-lappa		
10. Kati Lakkayituwa qatso lapa gatiya imeda gidi qofitee	Eee		Gidena

IV. Lakkayituwa Politika Qatsa Diggiya Metuwa

11. Lakayitu politikawu Dndnayidan Udiya metu de'ii ?	Eee			Bawa
	Loytsa Amanayi	Amanayi	Amaniki	Loytsa Amaniki
12. Politika koshaanne era d'ayissayi				
13. Politika hanotetsayi				

14. Wogaynne de'uwa hanotetsay				
15. Amanu				
16. Shaluwa detsayi				

3. Tarca katama Lakayittuwa Political S'ella

17. Tarca Katamani sintsawu lakayittuwa politika s'elay ayi male ?

18. Politikayi hintena aya go"ii ? Hintte qatsay politika hanota lame gidi qofitee ?ayawu ?

19. Lakayituwa politika qatsa gujanawu aya udana koshii ?

IV. Kitta La"aa :- Donani Zariya Oosha

1. Tarca Katama Lakayituwa Qatsa woti Birshite ?
2. Tarca Katama Lakayituwa Qatsay Aya Dtsan D"ii ?
3. Lakayituwa Qatsa Eeranawu aya go"etedite?
4. Lakayitu politikan sureeqatsnayidan udiyabay aya gidi qofite?
5. Ha"ii de"iya lakayituwa poltikayinne Sintsawu Tarca Katama Lakayituwa qatsay woyise?
6. Lakkayituwa politika qatsappe ayayi bette gidi qofitte ?
7. Lakkayitu Doruwan loytsi walakettenawe ayasesha ?
8. Tarca Katama Yalagatuwa Politika Qatsa Hidotay ayi Male
9. Lakkayitatu Politikan Katsamalan Aya Ootsanawu besi ?

