Situations and Origins of Emergence of Marginalization of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ Community: The Case of Hossana Town, Hadiya Zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia

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Abstract: The paper dealt with the situation and origin of emergence of marginalization of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community of Hossana town. The researcher used structured interview, key informants interview and non-participant observation as tools for data collection. The study data was gained from 127 HH of the study community and 20 key informants. In due of the paper, the researcher engaged on cross sectional descriptive survey research design and followed by both quail-quant approaches as method for the analysis of data gained from the respondent study community members. The main findings in this topic of the study were subjugation of the study community from dominant social context and its order, being excluded minority group and with having specified occupational specialization that can differentiate them from mainstream community as the origin for the emergence of marginalization. And also, situation of marginalization could be expressed by discrimination, relegation and prejudiced from public and social services providing institutions so as them to fulfill their basic needs. In another way, this study community member were not able to have humane respect from mainstream community and experiencing verbal disagreement with mainstream community, insults from mainstream community, violent behavior and containment of the conflict.

Introduction
As reported by Gurung and Kollmair (2005), some of the factors of vulnerability such as immigration status and ethnicity are of particular importance to marginality. Under the situation of increasing mobility, immigration status is seen to be one of the most dangerous factors of vulnerability for marginalization and exploitation worldwide.

Hence, situation of marginalization is a condition in which members of the community were in severe vulnerability that can be from social, economic and cultural contextual factors. There were many problems faced by the study community in which they were with marginalization situation. This marginalization situation had no single origin for its emergence, but there were many suspects about the origin of emergence of marginalization of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community. Even prior scholarly works were not confidentially traced with a single origin for the emergence of marginalization. However, many scholars provided many suspects about the emergence of marginalization. While, by saying this much about the origin of emergence of marginalization, its situation can be stated from the study found under this investigation.

In dealing with situation of marginalization, it was found social status change from historic period, drought and consequential famine, migration from their historical life to take current residence, loss of available high social status and being at lower social hierarchy were taken as causes for the emergence of situation of marginalization that leads to consequence of being in lower social status, famine and hunger, etc.

As found by the study, this community members were discriminated from social and public service providing institution which lead them situation of marginalization. The study found that households of the community cannot get any services like medic-care (health), education for their kids, potable water to drink, electricity services; etc what the majority of the mainstream can get which lead them to marginalization.

As studied by Akalework (2011), regarding marginalization of the minority groups and its origin, to which the origin of certain minority can be marginalized be studied and scrutinize by using various theoretical models. Consequently, there are models that describe the causes for the emergence of marginalization of particular community with in the society. Hence, this study finding was compatible with mixed origin and migration model studied by Dubale (2010), to which the model...
emphasizes on considering various alternative conceptual frameworks regarding the origin of marginalized minority groups. Thus, the origin of model for the emergence of marginalization ignores taking single model in to account to deal with the genesis of marginalized groups. The model also argues that the models (remnants, holistic and so forth) are mutually inclusive and the entire difference in the origin of different minority groups requires different models of analysis within a given area. So this, current study also took mixed origin models could be crucial to analyze the origin for the emergence of marginalization.

Furthermore, the study community members were experiencing verbal disagreement with mainstream community, insults from mainstream community, violent behavior and containment of the conflict experienced from mainstream community which can indicate marginalization situation as well as experience resulted from marginalization.

Generally, current study found that origin for the emergence of marginalization of this study community could not be dependable in one or single cause, rather it should be multiple problems those collaborate to take one community to marginalization. Marginalization situation of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community of Hossana could be expressed by discrimination, relegation and prejudiced from public and social services providing institutions so as them to fulfill their basic needs.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

2.1 Research Design

With which the researcher employed majorly cross-sectional descriptive survey took as the research design.

In this study, the researcher employed both qualitative and quantitative research approach. The qualitative research approach was used in this study to analyze data from key informant interview and non-participant observation by using interview guide and checklist respectively. The rationale behind employing qualitative methods in this study was due to the fact that the data required was concerned with qualitative phenomenon, i.e. phenomena relating to or existing situations of marginalization. And also, the researcher used interview schedule for quantitative data collection.

2.3 Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

In order to enrich this research methodology at the same time the research design and the objectives of the study, the researcher got total counting of households of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community from their residence with the help of key informants. After having the total enumeration of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community, the researcher used all household heads of the community of Hosanna town because their number was fewer not to draw sample size with sampling frames.

In getting both qualitative and quantitative data, the researcher used total enumeration of households. Then, the researcher used all household heads to the study with careful consideration of gender difference on being the household head. In so doing, the researcher used both totally enumerated household head respondents and purposively drawn key informant respondent interviewee. In general, the researcher employed totally enumerated household heads of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community and twenty respondents from different administrative, community leaders and municipality employee to answer about marginalization on this study community in order to interview them. Total of 147 respondents were included in the study as the respondents.

3. Results and Discussions

This study was examined origin and situation of marginalization status of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community. To attain this objective, the researcher employed cross-sectional descriptive survey research method that engaged quail-quant or mixed research approaches as mentioned elsewhere to organize and analyze the data obtained from the non-participant observation, interviewee, key informants of the study community as well as mainstream community elders, and from different level officials.

3.1 Age and Sex of the Respondents

As age and sex of once study population or study respondents’ becoming key aspect of background information about the study participants; the researcher put the following Tables accordingly to the study community background information of Hosanna town.

About 6 (4.7%) household heads from the respondents are below the age of 18 years, about 11(8.7%) of respondents were between the age of 19-24, about 36(28.3%) of respondents were between the age of 25-35, about 28(22%) of respondents were between the age of 36-45 and about 46(36%) of respondents were above the age of 46 years old with the Mean and Median age of 3.76378 and 4 respectively of the respondents.” From the data presented here, some of the household heads gained the responsibilities to become household head (HHH) below the age of formal age of becoming family. Majority of the
respondents from the age classification of the data were above the age of 65. And from the data, it could be possible to understand that below the age of 18 years old and above 65 were considered as non-productive to their households. Because, below the age of 18 years old were not be able to produce sufficiently and above the age of 65 were at retirement age whom they were at old age.

3.2 Situation of Marginalization of the Study Community

When conducting about the study community existing situation of marginalization and its existence with in their community; 98.2% of the dweller HHs of Hosanna town who belong to this community experienced marginalization. And from which, their marginalization was expressed by 39(30.7%) respondents as they were discriminated from social and public service providing institutions, about 13(10.2%) of respondents experienced administrative and governmental service delivery prejudice like educational and medic-care services which was leaded them to marginalization, about 21(16.5%) of respondents as they were experienced violence from mainstream community which can contribute them to be marginalized. About 20(15.7%) of the respondents were marginalized from the relegation of mainstream community and also majority or about 34(26.6%) of the respondents was marginalized because of discrimination, prejudice and relegation of mainstream community from basic service providing social and public institution. The data presented here indicated that majority of ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community experienced discrimination from mainstream community, governmental and public organization followed by experiencing marginalization only because of discrimination from public and social service providing institutions.

Based on the responses of key informants from ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’, they were marginalized from social and public service providing institution. As one of the informant told, his family cannot get any services like health, education for his kids, potable water to drink, electricity services; etc what the majority of the mainstream can get which lead me and my family to marginalization.

Therefore, as found by the study, because of discrimination and lower access to resources of this study community members for many social and public institutional service problems which lead them to marginalization. The basic service for human beings like water, health, education, electricity and etc were very crucial for day to day life of individuals of the community. But, this study community cannot get these the above services because of many reasons related with their current situation of living standard of the community that can be explained with marginalization.

Table 1: The Study Community’s Situation of Marginalization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did you ever experience any marginalization situation for the past months from mainstream community?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>127</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If no, do you know how your community's marginalization comes to exist?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>76.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>127</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which of the following probably lead your community to marginalization?</td>
<td>Social status change in historic period</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Because of drought and migration life cycle change</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enjoyment of high social status and the loser of that status at a certain point of time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All of the above situations</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey result, 2015

As shown in the above Table 1, all respondents of the study experienced marginalization of their community from past months. About 4(3.1%) of the respondents probably agreed on the existing situation of marginalization could be from their community’s social status change in historic periods like war and conquer, about 5(3.9%) of respondents agreed existing situation of marginalization might came from drought and migration related life cycle change, about 2(1.6%)
respondents agreed on the enjoyment of higher social status at a point of time loser of it at a certain time and about 19 (15%) or the majority of the respondents agreed on the existence of situation of marginalization because of social status change in historic period, drought and migration related life cycle change. But, about 97 (76.4%) respondents had no full of awareness about their community’s situation marginalization comes to exist from the past until now.

Generally, as found by the study, this study community is facing marginalization even starting from their community name calling as ‘FUGA’ which had negative connotation at the same time derogatory name to them. As found by the study, this study community members were experiencing discrimination from mainstream community, governmental and public organization followed by experiencing marginalization because of discrimination from public and social service providing institutions which can indicate existing situation of the marginal position of the community with in the society.

3.3 Origin of Emergence of Marginalization of the Study Community
In this specific study, the researcher collected many information those might be the cause or origin for the marginalization of to this study community in relation with the known genesis models for the emergence of marginalization of minority groups. So, it could be possible to undertake for those minorities those who do not had exact source or origin for the occurrence or the emergence of marginalization so as to take models for marginalization. Hence, ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community’s origin of emergence of marginalization was seen in line with those crucial genesis models for minority group. However, mixed genesis model was the one among those models that can incorporate basic assumptions of the rest of other genesis in order to. So in this current study, mixed genesis model was paid attention about the origin of emergence of marginalization of this study community.

Table 2: Origin of Emergence of Marginalization of the Study Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In what circumstance your community was came to emerge in a marginalization?</td>
<td>From the historical period of the inter-ethnic and racial conflict which lead to war and conquer in the country</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the time of immigration of the community to present place of residence</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>81.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From the environmental and social setting hazards faced by the time of migration of the community</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All of the above</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey result, 2015

As depicted in Table 2, about 8(6.3%) HHHs responded as their community marginalization situation came to exist from the historical period of inter-ethnic and racial conflict, about 103(81.1%) or the majority of the HHHs responded as their community marginalization was from the historical time of their immigration to the present place of residence, about 10(7.9%) HHHs responded as their marginalization was from the environmental and social setting hazards faced by their community that followed by their migration, and also about 6(4.7%) HHHs responded as their community marginalization had occurred from the time of enter-ethnic and racial wars and conquer, from migration, environmental and social setting hazards followed by the time of migration of the community. Side by side to the data presented here, the researcher requested respondents about how their community comes to exist, but no one from the community were clear about the historical existence of marginalization. The researcher found that the majority of the respondents were marginalized because of historical migration of their community and some of the respondents detailed that their community existed to marginalization because of environmental and social setting hazards as well as because of enter-ethnic and racial conflicts respectively.

Therefore, migration status, being occupational group, and historical power imbalance created on imperial periods and its consequences played major roles on the origin of emergence of marginalization this study community.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

4.1. Conclusions
The study findings revealed that ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ community marginalization was emerged from
their community’s immigration and related problems which collaborated with community’s inability to adapt environment and status changes occurred on the community when they took the area of Hadiyaland for the first time. Consequently, the community faced many social, economic and cultural problems from host community as well as from the study community themselves. These social, economic and cultural barriers persisted from generation to generation and even today the community members are facing those barriers that lead them to marginalization situation which can be expressed by inability, absence or low level of services delivery form social and public institution. And also, as indicated in the study, this study community experienced discrimination from mainstream community, governmental and public organization because of low access and lower level of public and social service providing institution to them.

Therefore, the study found out that majority of the community members were found to be marginalized because migration status, by being occupational group, and others as suggested origins for the emergence of marginalization on the prior literatures was compatible with this study finding. Moreover, model for the origin of emergence of marginalization was suitable for this study community marginalization to be found and these situations passed from generation to generation led the community members to resist on social and public services delivery.

4.2 Recommendations

The NGO’s and Governmental organizations should have prepared awareness creation program for mainstream community for which marginal place for human beings that can affect of day to day life ‘Gafat Beta-Israel’ to be minimized. So this, responsible bodies should contribute their share on the problems of awareness creation for mainstream community.

Resources allocations like land and related social assets should be properly distributed equally for all community without bias.

The community members should have to be at the center of developmental policies when impact assessment to be done on urban expansion to the peripheral parts to this study community residences.

Know onward the community name should be named as Gafat Beta-Israel as claimed and willing fully accepted by the community themselves because the right to name once ethnic group can be determined by that community rather than labeled and/or named by others.

5. REFERENCES


