



INTERNAL SECURITY CRISIS IN SOMALIA: REALITY AND MYTHS

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ABSTRACT

Since the collapse of the central government of Somalia in the early of the 1990s and following the outbreak of the civil war, still Somalia is under security threatens from coming various ways particularly the dangers were created by Al-shabab and government militias. This paper attempt to know Internal Security Crisis in Somalia: Reality and Myths. The study was conducted descriptive research design. The target populations of this study were students from Somalia studying at Annamalia University, India. It utilized self-administered questionnaire and convenience sample of 50 students were selected for both male and female those were studying undergraduate and postgraduate fields at Annamalai University. The data was analyzed SPSS version of 16.0. The study was founded that the security situation in Somalia is not reliable, very dangerous and staggering one. Security is evidently the pillar upon which every meaningful development could be achieved and sustained.

Keywords: security, threatens, crisis, Somalia, civil war, militias

1. INTRODUCTION

In the era of history, security crisis is not a new occurrence in this world, since at the beginning of World War I, followed by the end of World War II (1939-45) and as well as the cold war that has lost of mass of human lives and destroyed large number of nations across all continents (Fast L., 2009). However, the end of these world wars were resulted many countries to become free of imperial rules. After attainment of their independence, several countries in Asia and Africa had achieved to stabilize and move forward their nations in terms of economic recovery, political and social, while some of them are still under continues of security challenges particularly extremism (Omolumen & Audu, 2014).

Throughout, the lack of legitimate government in Somalia for decades, the security situation in Somalia is still volatile and the threats of domestic crimes are highly, particularly in south-central regions of Somalia. The issue of Somalia is always critical because of communal problems are highly and people have been suffering regular difficulties (Driscoll & Lidow, 2014). One of the necessities to every life is having peace, without Security nothing is possible to achieve, since, when there are people feeling peace and safety, it willing to contribute national development. In whatever way, security is the foundation of any step that makes to accomplish our short and long terms vision to be more accurate (Kagame. P., 2017).

Some of the African countries were recognized to be the top most dangerous countries in the world that frequently happening criminal activities including clashes among two or more militia, illegal killings, threats, assassinations, for all these bad issues is doing by anti-state groups those deriving wrong ideologies (Ong'ayo A. O., 2008). Somalia has listed to be the most world's dangerous and failed states because of without a functioning of central government for decades and people could not get minimum public services (Arman, 2015).

It is worth to mention that, Somalia had a comprehensive political stability and situation remains full peace and security in the past that her citizens have been enjoyed and other rest of the world had credible to be safety place. Somalia was one of the more powerful nations in terms of peace, arms, economic, diplomacy relation and education in perspective into Africa continent (Mohamud. G. & Mohamed. B.,2015). In the opinion of (Hobbes, 1996; Buchanan, 2000), has argued that “without a government society would plunge into a war of all against all, the result of which would be a life that is “nasty, brutish, and short”. So, Somalia is that situation caused by the national arms were split into clans and the situation turned into clan militias and warlords' power base depended on a chronic state of insecurity, so that their clan constituencies needed them for protection (Powell et al., 2008).

In simply, the nature of Somalia internal security crisis is not understood clearly and it has come into complex state over years, from clan-based violence led by warlords at the beginning of 1990s, followed by a group of different insurgences (Heritage Institute for Policy Studies, 2014). The security challenges in Somali are not only responsible by Al-shabab group, also various militias were involving (Ibrahim. A. & Cheri. L., 2013). In addition, it believed that, there is a determinant relationship between socio-economic factors and the level of internal security crisis

happening in Somalia due to high level of unemployment in particularly for youths in the country (Heritage Institute for Policy Studies, 2014 & Mbugua, 2013).

Every elected president undertakes that he will bring peace and reform the security problems in Somalia by fighting corruption, injustice, reduction of unemployment rate, all these is given him entire first. But unfortunately, still security challenges in Somalia remain staggering and several car bombs, suicides and direct killings have been happened. Several attempts have done whether Arta peace conference in Djibout (2002), that wanted to end the Somalia conflict. Followed by, Eldoret and Mbagathi peace process that built the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in 2006. In 2012, new federal government was born and still Somalia is facing security problem.

In response to these problems, this study was investigating internal security crisis in Somalia-reality and myths. Therefore, the continuation of internal security problems in Somalia may result on unfavorable consequences.

STUDY OBJECTIVES

The study has the following objectives:

1. To investigate the current insecurity situation in Somalia.
2. To examine how the security crisis in Somalia can effect by civilians
3. To identify how youth unemployment involve on security crisis in Somalia.

The rest sections of this paper organized as follows. Section 2 provides related literature reviews of the study, in part 3, materials and methods, 4, results and discussion and final conclusion of the paper.

2. RELATED LITERATURE REVIEW

INTRODUCTION

This section, the paper discussed on concept of internal security crisis, arguments related to causes of internal security crisis in Somalia, related literature review and finally conclusion of the reviewed studies.

Concept of Internal Security Crisis

Stabilization of internal security is very essential to the functions of the state by creating good political conditions which would enhance the well-being of the citizenry, is the hope of any state. No government can perform its primary purposes unless; it achieved maintenance of law and order. Moreover, internal security is quite importance aspect of national security through connecting development and having harmony society (Nwanegbo, C. J. & Odigbo, j., 2013). So, the concept of internal security is difficult to make definition it's root term. In other words, it has no universal accepted definition due to its many-sidedness arising from ideology and happening different timeframe which is not addressed widely.

Broadly speaking, security simply suggests freedom from danger of threats, safety-or the ability of the state to protect and promote its appreciated values and legitimate interest and enhance the well-being of its people. According to Iweze (1990) argued that, internal security could also be defined as “the totality of the nation’s equilibrium state which must be maintained to enhance the state performance of its responsibility without unnecessary interruptions from anywhere”. Similarly, Imobighe (1990) was expressed that, internal security may be conceptualized as the freedom from or the absence of those tendencies which could undermine internal cohesion and the corporate existence of the nation and its ability to maintain its vital institutions for the promotion of its core values and socio-political and economic objectives as well as meet the legitimate aspiration of the citizenry.

Causes of Internal Security Crisis in Somalia: The Inside Argument Issues

There is no question that serious internal security concerns persist in Somalia and lot of people had died under the thrall of warlords, after the downfall of the central government of Somalia in the early of 1990s and Somalia had on the approach of a failed situation. (Muhammed, 2014). Colonial legacy, religious ideologies, economic factors and politicized clan system are the root causes of the Somalia’s long-running conflict, as Somali scholars and intellectuals have been explained by reasoned them many other conflicts happened in Africa. Once again, it must keep in mind those most popular armed factions ousted the military regime were Somali National Movement (SNM), Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF), United Somali Congress (USC)

and Somali Patriotic Movement (SPM). These all political oppositions were responsible the destruction of Somalia (Soliman, 2013).

According to the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (2013) study shows that, year after the outbreak of the civil war in 1991, huge numbers of Somalis were faced worst insecurity that many human lives have lost, injured and mass displacement has been started at everywhere in Somalia by escaped them into neighborhood countries. The spread of security challenges initially posed by the warlords and the pervasive of security contest done by Islamist group were double the dangerous in Somalia (Hashi, 2015).

According to Elmi, A. A. and Barise, A., (2015) described the security conditions in Somalia is very shocked one and so far it seems failed to resolve, civilians have been suffering any form of abuses by all warring parties and baleful humanitarian situation due to country's long-running conflict. The government itself does not pay more responsibility for the protection of the citizens, only it commitments limited to improve security in places it controls. The politicians and ordinary people could not possible to reduce the longed insecurity condition that existed more than 25 years onwards (Ayele, A., 2017). No doubt, Somalia become a playing ground for the global war on terror, a variety of social problems, poor leadership and political interests pushed by external actors and nonsense politicians from the country have been involved to sale the dignity of the nation. These all problems, Somalia had forced to devastate all national pillars including national arms, government institutions, economic resources and unity of the Somali people (Wolfgang et al., 2013).

A report by Danish Refugee Council (2017) shows that, Somalia is still facing massive challenges particular insecurity, less determination of democracy, justice and most awful of human rights violation is become daily happening crimes at every zone in south-central regions of Somalia. The purpose of these joint reports is to focuses on the rights to freedom expression, political process to be open, free, fair and legitimate among all Somalis. As African Development Bank Group, Country Brief in Somalia (2013-2015) stated on the security front, a significant progress and military builds up have been made since 2011 by the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), getting a support by AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) forces from Uganda, Burundi, Ethiopia and Kenya with Somalia security forces have liberated and taken control of Mogadishu city and other strategic places in south and central of Somalia.

Somalia military with AMISOM forces have been attempting a real chance for the restoration of government authority and reducing the insecurity level.

After Somalia got its independence up-to-know, the people of Somalia have never met any justice since from Siyad Barre regime which is directly based on nepotism and ethnic (clan) favoritism. During his regime, certain clans had awarded especially his clan (Marehan) suitable position, promotion and other benefits. State power and resources consistently used to the privilege members of Barre's clan and expenses of others (Leeson, 2007). The main security challenges in East Africa countries particularly Somalia is originated from political misunderstood among Somali leaders and combined factors including inter-clan clashes have contributed Somalia to become state fragility. From that onwards, strong disintegration and emerged of rebel movements, led primarily by north Somali clans, turned the country's power into weak due to irregular conflicts, societal insecurities, extremism and closed out with the end of the Somalia nation (Khadiagala, 2008).

Lastly, many studies were reviewed related to this study; Somalia has been under security crisis and human rights violation so far is increasing in south and central parties of Somalia. The reviewed studies were similarly indicated that there is no reliable security in Somalia at all. Economic condition, inter-clan war and poor leadership are the present factors reasoned Somalia to take extra-long-running political conflict and the fighting groups have not had final goals. The scholars of these reviewed studies have not highlighted whether Somalis conflict and the insecurity situation are responsible for particular groups, those have been condemned to support groups against to Somali government for the purpose of future political interests as Somali scholars and intellectuals believe.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The purpose of this study was to examine Internal Security Crisis in Somalia: Reality and Myths. The study was conducted descriptive research design. The target population of this study was some selected of Somali students studying at Annamalai University, India. The sample size of the study was 50 respondents through utilized convenience sampling. The study distributed questionnaire survey design and analyzed Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS Version 16.0) software was used to process and compute the collected data.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Demographic Characteristics

The study collected bio data information regarding to the demographic characteristics of the respondents. It begins by describing basic background characteristics of the respondents those have participated to this study including gender, age, marital status, educational level and job experience (irrespective of worked companies). Also (see table 1) provides profile of the respondents with regard to their categories above mentioned information.

RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

In order to check the reliability of the measurements by using Cronbach's Alpha, the internal consistency of the variables from the collected data, the study scored 0.735; this is acceptable for further research.

As gender, the majority respondents of the study were male 43 that is making (86%) and 7 were female respondents (14%). In terms of age 15 were aged between 25-35 years (66%), 33 respondents aged less than 25 years (30%), 2 respondents were aged between 35-45 years (4%) and 50-above has not participated. The marital status of the respondents, 38 were unmarried respondents (76%), 12 respondents are married 24% and divorce/widow have not participated for this study. In terms of educational level, the majority respondents of this study 38 were master holders making (76%) and 12 were bachelor degree that is making 12%. There is no Ph.D respondents participated for this study. In terms of job experience, 34 had less than 5 years of experience 68%, 14 respondents had between 5-10 years of experience 28% and while 2 respondents were belonged 10-15 and 15-above years of job experience that is making similarly 2%.

Demographic Profile	Frequencies	Percentage
Gender		
Male	43	86
Female	7	14
Total	50	100
Age		
Less than 25	15	30
25-35	33	66

35-45	2	4
50 Above	50	100
Marital Status		
Unmarried	38	76
Married	12	24
Total	50	100
Educational Level		
Bachelor	12	24
Master	38	76
Total	50	100
Job Experienced		
Less than 5 years	34	68
5-10 years	14	28
10-15 years	1	2
15-above years	1	2
Total	50	100

Table 1: Demographic profile of the respondents

Descriptive Analysis of Internal Security Crisis in Somalia

Table 2 summarizes the means and standard deviations of the all questions in the questionnaire those are respectively based on to the study objectives. Objective (1) of the study was to investigate the current insecurity situation in Somalia. 15 questions were distributed to the respondents that closely concerned the past and present security situation in Somalia. According to the result, the security condition in Somalia is not good as respondents were agreed respectively, the mean index (3.7) and standard deviation (0.94) indicates agree level. Objective (2) of the study was to identify how youth unemployment is involved on security crisis in Somalia. In this objective, 11 questions were asked to the respondents of this study. The respondents of this study agreed that youth unemployment is one of the major challenges of Somalia security and the mean index (3.94) and standard deviation (1.67) indicates agree level. Objective (3) of the study was effect of security crisis on civilians. 5 questions about effect of security crisis in Somalia and its negative impact on Somali people. Regarding to the result from respondents shows that the endless of security problem in Somalia has lost number of human lives and injured so many of Somalis. The mean index or the averages means of these indicators and standard deviations are (3.44) and (0.98) respectively, the mean index and standard deviation indicates Agree.

Variables	Mean	St.deviation
current insecurity situation	3.7	0.94
youth unemployment	3.94	1.67
Civilian casualties	3.44	0.98

Table 2: Descriptive Analysis of internal security crisis in Somalia

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was internal security crisis in Somalia: Reality and Myths. The study has three objectives. Objective (1) was to investigate the current security situation in Somalia. The study found that current security situation in Somalia is showed agreed with the terms and overall mean index was (3.7, std. deviation 0.94). Objective (2) was to examine how the security crisis in Somalia can affect civilians. The study found that security crisis in Somalia is negatively influencing to the civilians as respondents agreed with the terms and overall mean average was (3.94, std Deviation 1.67) which means agree. Objective (3) was to identify how youth unemployment can involve on security crisis in Somalia. As study found, unemployment is a challenge to the security situation of Somalia as agreed by respondents and the mean index was (3.44, std deviation 0.98).

From all indicated issues clearly described that, security is the biggest challenge in Somalia after collapsed of the central government of Somalia. For decades in Somalia, there is no functioning government, several efforts had attempted to finish this prolonged insecurity but not succeeded. Warlords, different religious organizations, piracy, inter-clan wars and more other challenges from Somali people themselves have compounded the existing threatening security situation in Somalia. Somalia's internal security state has over the years deteriorated owing to poor governance, political desperation and direct intervention from neighboring states and external actors has led Somalia to be stateless nation.

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