

International Journal of Multidisciplinary Comprehensive Research

Does Ethnic or religious issue eradicate human species from the globe?: A matter of what to teach or what to teach not for young children

Dereje Dakamo Tomora

Former Head & Lecturer, Department of Early Childhood Care and Education at Hawassa College of Teacher Education and Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

* Corresponding Author: **Dereje Dakamo Tomora**

Article Info

ISSN (online): 2583-5289

Volume: 01

Issue: 05

September-October 2022

Received: 13-09-2022;

Accepted: 30-09-2022

Page No: 26-28

Abstract

This review is intended to address how human being is getting rid of himself from the lovely world due to his own wrong actions. Such inappropriate doings are not merely emerged from the illiterate ones whereas, the philosophical position of wrongly educated literates are deconstructing the living nature of the human beings. Literatures were critically reviewed to crosscheck whether this reality is inevitable or not. Most writings reveal that ethnic groupings that go beyond the extreme can potentially damage human thinking and life. In contrary to this, there are individuals who believe themselves as an effective politician and claim ethnic formation gives them superiority. On the other hand, there are ideas that confirm both ethnic and religious issues disturb how humans think and act. As of the writers, I give more credit for religious boundaries as they eradicate human being from the lovely world. My justification here is that most religions of the world teach best things for their followers through wrong way that limits the scope of rational thinking. Religion has more philosophical ground than the ethnic grouping. So, I strongly argue that we have to be careful in teaching religion and ethnicity for young children.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.54660/IJMCR.2022.1.5.26-28>

Keywords: Religion, Ethnicity, Children, Eradication, Teaching, Human Being

Introduction

Humans are social animals that have a clearly stated natural law of existence and extinction. We live not because of we are quite aware of how, when, where and how to function in the natural world. However, most of the life we experience is a result of unwanted fight between ourselves and the nearby environment. Ethnic groupings and religions are some of the social identities in the nature of human beings. These two in most cases classifies how humans behave, act and react in and with the surrounding. These two are serving as both ways of existence and extinction. In this document, why the review was conducted, how much documents were reviewed and all attempts made were highlighted.

Ethnicity vs Religion

From my understanding, ethnicity is a way of categorizing people based on characteristics they have in common, including a shared heritage, culture, language, or accent. Some ethnic groupings may not even have a distinctive name. Ethnic groups are aware of their shared cultural bonds, though. Because of their distinct historical and social experiences, a link form between them. The ethnic identity of the group is based on this.

Unlike ethnicity, religion is a human being's view of God. Such ideas and customs as Heaven and Hell, Yoga, Ayurveda, Vastu, Jyotish, Yajna, Puja, Tantra, Vedanta, Karma, etc. were developed by the religion. Religion causes division in the society because spiritual people are more concerned with life beyond death and always make an attempt to choose the proper path on their own.

Rational for the Review

Various studies have been conducted with regard to the effect of ethnic and religious conflicts for the last decades. Literatures also reveal that most of the incidents and events happened due to both issues were accompanied by deaths and displacements.

However, no study was found to confirm either religious or ethnic conflict eradicate human being from the globe. This review was conducted to inform what to teach for young children.

Methods

As mentioned earlier, this is a review of documents that speak about human genocide due to both religious and ethnic conflicts. Documents that discuss about what was done on human species were deliberately selected and critically reviewed. All relevant documents were downloaded, collected and read very carefully. The reviewer has tried to inter-locate ideas and issues in a very focused manner and discussions of each literature was summarized in to meaningful review.

Conceptual Framework

This review was conducted in light of the conceptual framework stated below.

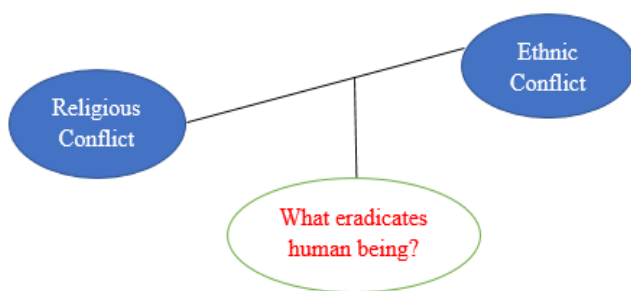


Fig 1: Conceptual Framework

Religious Movements That Led to Human Deaths

Facts across the globe show that there are a number of religious movements that was emerged as a result of political interest in the past few decades. Politicization of the religion was believed to lay a foundation for their expansion. Most of the religious wars are merciless for the human life. Al-Qaeda Violent Youth Movement is one of the religious wars that have been sparked in Europe. It served as an embodiment of radical ultra-leftism. Its objectives are the same as those of the ultra-left in the past, including US imperialism and signs of globalization (Marc Sageman, 2004) [5]. This group also had a transversal agenda that included an abrupt turn toward suicidal violence (the random killing by a student of schoolmates and teachers in his school, before shooting himself or being shot). The individuals in this group believed that terrorism was heroic (Marty, 1960) [4].

As stated in (Nakashima, 2008) [3], Islamo-nationalist radicalism was another challenge for the world in the past few decades. In most of the countries with the majority of Islamic population, this kind of ideology was largely run by the activists and jihadists for the interest of power. Countries like Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Syria, Libya, Yemen, Turk, Somalia (Al-Shabab), Bangladesh (Rohingya), India, Nigeria (Boko Haram) and so on are experiencing such a bitter life even now days. Belgium and Netherlands were also

victimized with the religio-political ideology that distorted their balance of power among the political representatives from different religious background including Catholicism and the like. A lifelong fight between Israel and Palestine also was the agenda of religious expansion to the territory from both sides.

Ethnic Movements That Led to Human Deaths

This days, Ethnic diversity is prevalent to varied degrees and forms on all continents. The majority of African nations adopted higher levels of diversity than others (McCandless. E and Karbo. T (ed), 2011) [6]. The ethnicization of state institutions and ethnic clientelism, in which various tribes compete to appoint their own representatives to important political and economic positions, are the fundamental causes of the persistence, escalation, and intensity of ethnic tension and violation throughout Africa. The absence of effective political and administrative structures that take in to account ethnic differences and interests is the other primary cause of ethnic conflicts on the continent. Such conflicts are often not fueled by ethnicity, but rather by political leaders trying to gain power, money and resources (Tronvoll K. (2003) [9].

Over the last four years, the Great Lakes region of Africa has seen hundreds of thousands of fatalities. The majority of them were defenseless civilians who had been sacrificed by armies or militias or who had been wiped out by disease or starvation while evading danger. These atrocities can be linked to fierce power struggles carried out by leaders' conflicts that involved the ethno-politization of fear and violence. The conflicts have been based in part on theoretical underpinnings and historical mental maps (Musoni, P. 2004) [7].

Even in a multi-cultural and ethnic country Ethiopia, ethnic clashes and conflicts are a recent and unforgettable history in human species. Political interests among different ethnic groups like Oromo, Amhara, Sidama, Tigre, Somali, Afar and other ethnic groups not mentioned here aggravated inter-governmental war between the civilians (Asnake, 2002) [1]. A civil war held between Tigre force and Ethiopian government that has been disabled nearly last week was a major tangible example to talk about the causes of ethnic conflict in and across the globe. In this genocidal conflict, thousands were died and millions were fought until the agreement made between few leading bodies.

Death Records Compared

Table 1: World death record as a result of religious genocides since 2008 by Body Count

Religion	No of Events	Rank	Medial Death Toll	Rank
Christian	14 (46.67%)	1	33,243,000(65.5%)	1
Antitheist	3(10%)	3	8,250,000(16.25%)	2
Sinic	2(6.67%)	4	5,000,000(9.85%)	3
Islamic	9(30%)	2	3,960,000(7.8%)	4
Buddhist	1(3.33%)	5/6	300,000(0.59%)	5
Primal-Indigenous	1(3.33%)	5/6	1,500(0.00%)	6
Total	30(100%)		50,754,500(100%)	

The table above shows that out of the 30 genocidal events across the globe, Christian civilization accounts the highest death records (33 million) in the highest frequency of genocide (14/30). whereas the death toll in the Primal-Indigenous category was the lowest in the genocide category with 1,500 deaths) as stated in Body Count, (2009).

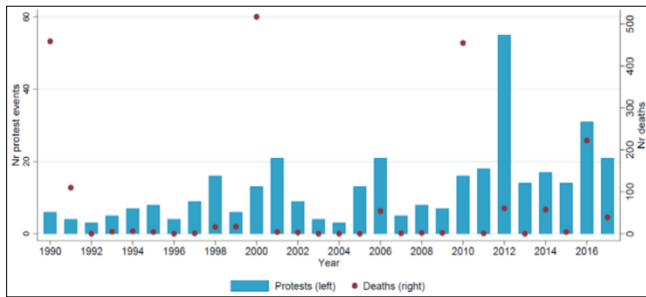


Fig 2: Number of death tolls estimated from global ethnic conflict by Salehyan *et al* 2012

The figure above represents that a significant number of protesters from various ethnic groups across the globe who took part against political ideology were gunned and fired by local and federal different governments since 2017. As a result of political interest, the highest number of deaths were recorder from the countries with largest number of diverse ethnic groups.

Findings

This review found the following main findings.

- Children were the victims of both religious and ethnic conflicts.
- Religious conflicts recorded more death tolls than ethnic conflicts.
- Teaching right things in a wrong way always results conflict of interest.
- Poor system of government, miseducation and religious wrong leadership are some tools that dislocate human life and living conditions.
- Most religions teach their followers two basic things. One is life and the other is death.

Conclusion

From the findings mentioned above, the reviewer formulated the following conclusions. The grand conclusion is that religious issues are more dangerous than any other conflicting situations in human life. The reason for this conclusion comes from the wrong way religious teachers introduce it for the followers. In most of the global religions, beliefs are constructed in a very conservative way. No follower is let free to investigate moral (what is right and what is wrong) in his/her religion. What pops, bishops and sheiks say is viewed as more valuable than what bible or Quran says. Divergent to this, ethnic conflict does not aggravate itself unless political interest triggers it. Such kind of conflicts we observe in most of the developing countries are more of state sponsored, but not realized by the society at large. Idiot politicians always use our community's unconsciousness as a weapon to defend for their chair. This can be limited to the level of conscious mind and then, no more ethnic conflict will be observed.

Implication

Findings of this review implies that religion is more powerful than ethnicity in human life. As ethnicity is political interest group weapon, making young children conscious of it will limit the incidence of conflict because of the ethnic identity. Whereas, religion is some how what authorities teach us in a very conservative and locked way, we have to keep alert and meaningful in teaching religious issues for young children.

What children were exposed at an early year will be actual in their later life. Therefore, restructuring religious thoughts in to a constructive and self-learning lessons is very important thing the world should bear in mind. To reduce death tolls due to such religious interests, young children need to grow in a sense of belongingness and equality so as to question, understand, accept and respect the lives of others.

References

1. Asnake. Federalism: Some Trends of Ethnic Conflicts and their management in Ethiopia, 2002, <http://www.1.unl.hamburg.de/ice2003politics.html>.
2. E. Troeltsch. The Social Teaching of Christian Churches, Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1931.
3. Ellen Nakashima. Post-9/11 Dragnet Turns Up Surprises: Biometrics Link Foreign Detainees to Arrests in U.S.", Washington Post, 2008.
4. M.E. Marty. "Sects and Cults", Annals of American Academy of Political and Social Science. 1960; 332: pp. 125-134.
5. Marc Sageman, Understanding Terror Networks, Philadelphia. PA: Philadelphia University Press, 2004.
6. McCandless E, Karbo T. Peace, Conflict, And Development In Africa: University of Peace (UPEACE) San Jose; Costa Rica; A Reader, 2011.
7. Musoni P. Building a Democratic and Good Governance Culture: Rwanda's Experience and Perspectives, in International Conference on Elections, Kigali, 2004.
8. Salehyan I, CS Hendrik, J Hamner, C Case, C Linebarger, E Stull, J Williams. 'Social Conflict in Africa: A New Database'. International Interactions. 2012; 38(4):50311. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03050629.2012.697426>.
9. Tronvoll K. Identities in Conflict: ethnography of war and the politics of identity in Ethiopia 1998-2000 (PhD. dissertation), University of London, 2003.