

**SOCIAL-CULTURAL CHALLENGES FACING PUPILS ACADEMIC  
PERFORMANCE IN MERTI DISTRICT-ISIOLO COUNTY**

**ABDUB GURACH BORU  
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## **ABSTRACT**

The children need better education which is a basic need to enable them live a better future. Many children are languishing in poverty which only aggravates the problem of low performance in education. Many studies have been done on effects on poverty on education. Therefore the researcher carried out a study on social-cultural challenges facing pupils' academic performance in Merti District-Isiolo County. The study was guided by the following objectives: to establish the economic status of parents, to find out the socio cultural challenges affecting formal education of children and to assess the performance of children of different social economic status in Merti zone, Isiolo county. The study used descriptive survey design method which analyzes data quantitatively. Random sampling was used to select teachers who participated in the study. Questionnaires were used as tools for data collection. Data collected was analyzed using Microsoft Excel where it was put into frequency tables and percentages. It was then presented inform of tables, bar graphs and pie charts for easy interpretation. The study found out that there were more elderly and male teachers compared to young and female teachers. The education standards and social economic status was low in the area of study. Unsafe neighborhoods and domestic violence greatly affects the performance of the pupils. Pupils from pastoralist and those from poverty ridden families drug behind in performance compared to those families with formal homes and economically able families. Pupils involved in child labour also perform poor compared to those who play and study at home.