

**AN INVESTIGATION OF THE CAUSES OF THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE ORMA
AND POKOMO COMMUNITY IN THE TANA DELTA.**

NAME OF STUDENT GABABO KALME HUSSEIN

REG NO : BJSS/2013/45828

**A PROPOSAL SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR THE REQUIREMENTS
OF THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN JUSTICE AND SECURITY STUDIES IN
THE INSTITUTE OF SECURITY STUDIES, JUSTICE AND ETHICS IN THE SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES OF MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY.**

JULY 2015

Abstract

This study connects the topic of causes of the conflict between the Orma and Pokomo community in Tana Delta and its effect on security in Tana Delta and looks into clashes between a pastoralist (Orma) and an agricultural (Pokomo) community in Kenya. The main aim of this study was to see how causes of the conflict between the Orma and Pokomo community in Tana Delta and its effect on security in Tana Delta. The Tana delta is a wetland area at the Kenyan Coast which is mainly inhabited by pastoralist Orma and agricultural Pokomo communities. The study is designed to examine the factors that aggravated conflicts within communities, taking a specific focus on the Orma and Pokomo communities in the Tana Delta in Tana River County. The Ormas and Pokomos have been facing quite dramatic challenges posed by various socio-economic indicators. In spite of the fact that there had been increased deaths, loss of property and displacement of people within the area, there still exist significant differences ethnicity and the level of articulating of the fundamental issues still remain wanting. There are a large number of members of the community within Tana Delta who still live under fear, not knowing the next move that will be undertaken thus failing to make maximum utilization of their available resources for their socio-economic well being. One of the reasons for this might be the proliferation of small weapons in the area, inadequate land tenure system, weakened traditional governance systems within the pastoral communities, emergency of cattle rustling and the ineffectiveness of the government policies. A number of initiatives have been conducted within the area by both the Government, the donor agencies, Human Rights Watch, Faith based and Non-Governmental organizations both local and international to increase awareness on conflict management and reduce fears within the communities as well as provision of material and medical support to the members within the IDPs. However, government and outside agencies have an essential role to play in creating the external conditions for such local settlements, and in supporting local institutional capability. Firm and decisive action should be called upon against the perpetrators irrespective of their standing in the society. The relevant government ministries must urgently resolve with finality the boundary disputes in various violence hotspots and establish durable mechanisms of averting drought related conflicts. This could include provision of water, humanitarian support and enforcing community driven modalities of sharing pasture during the dry season.