

**WOLKITE UNIVERSITY**



**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES**

**DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

**THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF URBAN POVERTY: THE HOUSEHOLD LEVEL  
ANALYSIS IN WOLKITE TOWN, ETHIOPIA**

<b>BY:</b>	<b>ID</b>
<b>ASFIE GETNET .....</b>	<b>052/09</b>
<b>TEKLE SIMON.....</b>	<b>369/09</b>
<b>MESTU RABUMA .....</b>	<b>280/09</b>

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**Adviser, Mr.Teka**

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## ABSTRACT

This study examines the causes and consequences of urban poverty in Wolkite town. Poverty is the state of being unable to get the minimum requirement for survive or it is the condition where peoples basic needs for foods, clothing and shelter are not being met, implying that any individual who does not get enough food security, house and a right cloth are living under poverty line. In Ethiopia urban poverty is long lasting problem and significantly affects some people in the urban area. The objective of this study was assessing the causes and consequences of urban poverty in Wolkite town. The sources we used in the study came from primary and secondary data and Data were collected through interview, close ended and open ended questionnaires. Different qualitative and quantitative data were gathered and also A purposive sampling technique was employed to this study. The finding were critically analyzed and interpreted to get concrete results and they were presented in four major parts background of the study causer of urban poverty consequences in addressing the problem. From the study it was concussed that urban poverty has diverse causes and these have in turn diverse consequence. Hence this made majority of the respondents too poor. To tackle the identified problems some recommendations are made for the household in particular.

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## **Abbreviations and acronyms**

ADLI	Agricultural development leads to industrialization
CBN	cost of basic needs
CSA	central statistical authority
FEI	food energy intake
UNDP	united nation development program

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## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

One billion people one-third of the world urban population currently live in slums (UN HABITAT 2006). In cities across the globe, hundreds of millions of people exist in desperate poverty without access to adequate shelter, clean water, and basic sanitation. Overcrowding and environmental degradation make the urban poor particularly vulnerable to the spread of disease. Insecurity permeates all aspects of life for slum dwellers. Without land title or tenure, they face the constant threat of eviction. Crime and violence are concentrated in city slums, disproportionately affecting the urban poor. Most slum dwellers depend upon precarious employment in the informal sector, characterized by low pay and poor working conditions. Illegal settlements are often located on hazardous land in the urban periphery. Perhaps most alienated in city slums are growing youth populations whose unmet needs for space, education, health, and jobs can lead to social problems, further undermining security in urban areas.

Global poverty has become an urban phenomenon. In the year 2002, 746 million people in urban areas were living on less than \$2.00 a day (Ravallion 2007). The absolute number of urban poor has increased in the last fifteen to twenty years at a rate faster than in rural areas. Rapid urban growth has made Asia home to the largest share of the world's slum dwellers (Halfani 2007). But nowhere is the threat of urbanizing poverty more grave than in Africa, which has the fastest rate of urban growth and the highest incidence of slums in the world. In her contribution to this volume, Vanessa Watson writes that rapid urbanization in Africa has been decoupled from economic development. In the last fifteen years the number of slum dwellers has almost doubled in sub-Saharan Africa, where 72% of the urban population lives in slums (UNHABITAT 2006). Sixty-six percent of the world's urban population lives in developing countries, and this will increase to 80 percent by the year 2030. Within developing countries, 38 percent of population now lives in urban areas. The urban population in developing countries is growing three times faster than the rural population (UN, 1998). Urban populations in Africa are growing rapidly, and inequality is increasing.

Although Ethiopia is one of the most populous countries in Africa, it is also one of the least urbanized African countries. The level of urbanization reached 17 percent in 2002. However, this level is expected to reach nearly 30.1 percent by the year 2020, as the urban areas are currently growing at around 6 percent per year. The effects of natural population growth and growing rural - urban migration have been felt in terms of poor urban management, lack of infrastructure and inadequate service delivery. Drought and war have also contributed to the high population influx in to the cities and towns, which in turn contributed to the deterioration of infrastructure and service. Slow economic growth and the low level of investments in urban centers combined with high population growth, have resulted in high rates of unemployment and the inaccessibility and inadequacy of existing services for low income groups, which further exacerbated urban poverty (FDRE, 2002).

## **1.2. Statement of the Problem**

The term poverty is very subjective and this subjectively leads to complications of the concept is poverty exists in all parts of the world, but with varying degree. According to World Bank, in 2005, there were about 1.4 billion poor people who live in the first poverty line. From this 1.4 billion poor, about three fourth were urban poor this also too for less developed countries care. The geographic variation in the poverty line allows for the possibility that households living in different locations consume different baskets of goods for a given level of wealth because of different performance and tests and relative price difference. A combination of factors has resulted in serious and growing problem of poverty in Ethiopia. Adverse climatic changes (drought) combined with high human population pressure, environmental degradation, technological and institutional factors have led to a decline in the size of per capita land holding in rural and urban areas. This was exacerbated by policy induced stagnations of agriculture and internal conflict and instability in the past resulting in to the widening of the food gap for more than two decades, which had to be bridged by food aid. On average at any year 4 million people need food aid (FDRE, 2002). For instance, according to MOFED (2012), 29.6% of the population is poor where the proportion of the population below the poverty line stood at 25.7% in urban areas. Poverty is also one of the serious problems that affect human being in Ethiopia. Thus, it needs a much attention in order to eradicate it and overcome the problem of poverty in both urban and rural areas of Ethiopia.

In Wolkite town, poverty situation is very severe as it is organized from several indicators of poverty, like high unemployment, poor sanitation system, inadequate pure water supply, inadequate electric power supply, low wage payment for Daily labor and low income of large number of public servants. These problems are the implication of urban poverty in the town. Some years ago studies concentrated on rural areas, but this study focuses on urban area by emphasizing specific area particularly Wolkite town. Therefore this study is to fill the research gaps by assessing the causes and consequences of urban poverty in household level analysis in Wolkite town.

### **1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

#### **1.3.1 GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

The general objective of this research is to assess the causes and consequences of urban poverty in Wolkite town.

#### **1.3.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

The study includes the following specific objectives;

- To identify the causes of urban poverty in the study area.
- To examine the poverty status of urban households in the study area.
- To examine the effects of urban poverty on households in the study area.

### **1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

The study is intended to get answer for the following questions;

- What are the major causes of urban poverty?
- What is the current poverty status of urban households in the study area?
- What are the effects of urban poverty on households?

### **1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The research is expected to produce the following advantages;

- it helps to know the extent of poverty in Wolkite town in edigetber Kebl
- it can be helpful in tackling the problems.
- It can be one source of literature for the study of urban poverty in our context

## **1.6 SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

Assessing the whole aspects of urban poverty is almost impossible at this level and also covering a wide geographic area. For this reason, our study to assess the cause and consequence of urban poverty is delimited in wolkite town.

## **1.7 Organization of the Paper**

This study is consisted of five chapters. Chapter one deals with background of the study, the statement of the problem, objective of the study both general and specific, significance of the study, scope of the study, organization of the paper. Chapter two encompasses review of related literature. Chapter three deals with research design and methodology under this section: research design, description of the study area, source of data, data gathering tools, target population, sampling method, sampling size were done , Chapter four deals with data presentation, analysis and discussion. Finally, Chapter five contains conclusion and recommendations of the general study.

## CHAPTER TWO

### 2 .LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Definition and concepts of poverty

Identifying the extent and nature of poverty requires a clear definition of poverty be established. The World Bank defines poverty as a pronounced deprivation in well-being (World Bank 2000). Such a definition, however, raises the important question of what well-being is and how it should be measured. A range of approaches that address this issue exist, with an important conceptual distinction being that between the welfares and non-welfarist approaches (Ravallion 1994). The welfarist approach assesses well-being solely on utility information, derived from the preferences of individuals. The non-welfarist approach, on the other hand, bases the assessment of well-being (welfare) on the attainment of certain basic achievements, such as food, clothing and shelter.

Another conceptual definition of poverty and well-being, which rejects both utility and commodity based measures, is found in the seminal works of Sen (1985, 1990). Sen ( 1990) argues that well-being depends on what kind of life a person is living, and what he/she is succeeding in doing or being. Thus, well-being is seen from the perspectives of functioning and capabilities. Functioning is an achievement and capability is the ability to achieve.

The World Bank Organization describes poverty as hunger, lack of shelter, being sick and not being able to see doctor, not having access to school and not know how to read, not having a job, a fear for future and living one a day at a time (Word Bank, 2005).

Poverty is situations where people could not have ability to purchase or to gate access necessary thing in life. So far, general consensus on the definition of poverty, it can vary from place to place depending on the social, economic and cultural environment as well as on the stage of development of a society. But broadly poverty can be defined as not having enough to eat, low life expectancy, high rate of infant mortality, low educational opportunities, lack of access to clean water, inadequate health care, unfit housing and lack of active participation on the decision mag process (Schubert, 2004).

Since poverty can vary from place to place depending on socioeconomic and environmental as well as stage of development, the nature of poverty residing in urban and rural area is apparent. For this poverty found in urban area is including factors of urban society, urban economic and urban political system that

give rise to poverty found in there. Thus urban poverty is often discussed in conjunction with special inequality of living standard. Both urban poverty and special inequality are global phenomenon but like poverty in general, there are higher rate of urban poverty in developing countries (R.Murgai, 2005).

## **2.2 TYPES OF POVERTY**

### **2.2.1 Absolute Poverty**

Absolute poverty, for Schafer (2003), absolute poverty refers to minimum level substance that no family should be expected to live below. For Todaro and Smith (2006), absolute poverty is mean to represent a specific minimum level of income need to satisfy the basic physical needs of food, nothing and shelter in order to ensure continued survival. In both definitions, minimum level is the key word. The World Bank has set this minimum level to be \$1.25per day this minimum level set by the World Bank has not got the consent of all countries and even its varying from time to time and region to region TodareandSmith (2006).

### **2.2.2 Relative Poverty**

Income poverty happens when household take less than \$US 2 per day. This means people will n ot having enough food or medicine and they have poor clothes and houses. It also not access to money and other assets.

2.3.2 Non-Income Poverty Relative poverty is the lack of usual or socially acceptable level of resource of income compares with other with in society or country. For most of history poverty had been mostly accepted as inevitable as traditional model of production we insufficient to give an entire population comfortable standard of living. In addition relative poverty occurs when people do not enjoy a certain minimum level of living standard as determined by government and enjoy by the bulk of the population that they vary from country to country, sometimes within the same country relative poverty occurs everywhere, is said to be increasing and may never be educated. After the industrial revolution mass of production in factories made wealth increasingly more in expensive and accessible. Of more important is the modernization of agricultural such as fertilizers increase the production in order to provide enough yields to feed the population. People who practice asceticism intentionally are in poverty. Today, poverty reduction is major goal and issue for many international organizations, such as united nation and World Bank. Majority of world poverty countries today are in Africa, of course some African countries such as South Africa and Egypt are not quite as poor as other like Angola and Ethiopia and through in recent years absolute poverty in Africa as shown them slight falls. Africa income

levels have actually been dropping relative to the rest of the world. Analysis of poverty over time affords mainly analytical possibilities. First regardless of when or how often we survey households, we can identify those households that are more likely to remain poor or to escape it. For instance: examination of the characteristics of household moving out of or falling in to poverty. A finding along those lines can improve the effectiveness of policies aimed at finding long term poverty. Second, the welfare path of along which households moves and why they do so becomes clearer (Haddad and Ahmed, 2005). Third, by the studying the welfare trajectory of household over time, we can assess the welfare impact of recent growth strategies adopted by developing countries (Decron, 2006).

## 2.3. Dimension of Poverty

### 2.3.1 Income Poverty

Non-income poverty happen when may have a little bit of money otherwise the quality of their li fe are not good. They do not have access to affordable social and physical services such as schoo ling, health care, medicine, safe water, good sanitation, good transport and they may not feel safe in their home either because they cannot trust.

Income and poverty study could use either income or consumption to determine level of poverty. The use of consumption is often justified as better than income as indicator of long term welfare and it is often believe that to be either to collect and thus to generate measurement error. Howeve r some analysis using both income and consumption do not find consumption to be clearly superi or to income as an indicator of long term economic welfare (Dalton and Field, 2002 and 2003).

## 2.4 Poverty Lines

Being the complexities of poverty concept and its definition, the fundamental question that arises in the analysis of poverty is the derivation of poverty line. In the derivation of poverty line different scholars use different methods. Poverty line in simple term is a line that delineates the poor from the non-poor. So that construction of poverty line has pivotal role in identifying them.

## 2.5 Setting Poverty Lines

After defining the poverty line, the next step that needs to be clear in the analysis of poverty is to identify whether an individual is poor or not, to distinguish the poor from the non-poor. For this purpose, poverty line plays a crucial role in quantifying the various indicators of well-being into

a single index. Although the choice of poverty line is always arbitrary (World Bank, 2000), the common argument is that there is a minimum level of consumption of goods and services below which it is difficult to sustain our life.

To build up the poverty lines two methods can be employed: the first is to directly use current consumption of goods and services as an indicator of well-being. This requires identification of the minimum bundles of goods and services, which an individual has to consume. In this case, the bundle serves as a border line between the poor and non-poor. The second method uses income as a parameter to identify an individual as poor or non-poor. This necessitates specifying minimum income that enables an individual to achieve consumption of minimum bundle of goods and services defined by the minimum socially acceptable level. Various methods have been employed in constructing poverty lines. The most popular methods, however, are the Cost of Basic Needs (CBN) and Food Energy Intake (FEI) as cited in (World Bank, 2005).

#### **2.5.1 Cost of Basic Needs Approach (CBN)**

To implement this method Ravallion and Bidani (1994) employ two stages: first determining the food consumption bundle just adequate to meet the required food energy requirements and second adding to this cost an allowance for non-food needs. The food consumed is then valued at the prevailing price to obtain the food poverty line. The allowance for basic non-food consumption is again anchored on the consumption pattern of the poor. Two problems may arise. One is variation in estimating food components (minimum required nutrition level) across regions and ethnic group. The second is estimating the non-food components of the poverty line since there are no objective criteria on which to base the satisfaction. In any case, the basic needs approach is the most widely used approach to setting poverty line in developed countries.

#### **2.5.2 Food Energy Intake Approach (FEI)**

This approach locates the poverty line as the income or consumption expenditure level just adequate to meet a predetermined food energy intake to an individual. The level of FEI, very much, depends upon, preference, activity, age and sex of an individual. After taking these differences into account and the costs of attaining predetermined FEI, the poverty line can be constructed. This could be obtained by finding the consumption expenditure or income level at which the person attains the food energy level (Ravallion and Bidani, 1994).

## **2.6 Distribution of Poverty in Ethiopia:**

### **2.6.1. Rural Poverty**

In Ethiopia, prevalence of poverty and destitution has reached a surprisingly high level due to population growth and land degradation, crop and market failures associated with policy, droughts and other environmental factors, low productivity due to primitive farming techniques as well as low access to assets. An estimated 45.0% of all rural households were considered to be poor in 1999/00 (MEDaC, 2002).

The most common cause of destitution is crop failure occurring mainly due to droughts or inadequate and untimely rainfall and other hazards such as pests and frost. Severe droughts that occurred with varying frequency in different areas of the country often caused mass destitution (Yared Amare, Rural Poverty in Ethiopia, 2002 and 2003).

Some research evidence also shows that land suitable for agriculture represents a small fraction of the total land area. About 55% of the total land area in Ethiopia constitutes moisture - stressed arid and semi-arid areas with less than a four-month crop growing period (Teskaye Teklu, FSS Discussion Paper No.10, 2003; Hurni, 1988). Some studies (Hurni, 1988) have estimated that only 22% of the total land area is arable which is suitable for farming while the Government reports a higher percentage (38%)

Land degradation varies across the country with acute depletion observed in highland areas characterized by poor climate (e.g. low and variable rainfall), long history of population settlement, deforestation, overgrazing and intensive crop farming and recurrent droughts and related impoverishment (Teskaye Teklu, 2003; FAO, 1986; Aynalem,1987; Mesfin, 1991; Muluneh, 2001). These environmental factors are associated with declining productivity. and even total failure in agricultural production (Ibid).

Agriculture is still the primary source of employment, production and subsistence with supplementary income generated from diversified sources involving other allied activities of rural households. Since the majority of rural poor are primarily engaged in agricultural activities, poverty in these areas is largely related to the low productivity of farm labor. Studies on determinants of poverty confirm dominance of agriculture in rural livelihoods and largely identify various factors that influence the poverty situation in rural Ethiopia. Accordingly, the

studies generally agree that the poverty situation is significantly related to subsistence farming or low-return occupations outside of the farming activities, poor agricultural potential, physical inaccessibility, poor health of working adults within households, shortage of assets for agricultural production (land and oxen), low educational attainment, small size and quality of cultivable land (Ibid.).

### 2.6.2 Urban Poverty

Inadequacy of urban development efforts for over the last three decades has further exasperated urban poverty in Ethiopians. This has left behind it weak urban governance and management structure, poorly staffed and under-financed municipal administrations, obsolete local tariff and revenue structures, critical shortage of trained personnel and declining urban infrastructure and services (Meheret Ayenew (ed.), June, 2001). It is believed that such a scenario is hardly capable of reducing poverty in the urban areas which is clearly manifested in beggary and prostitution, growing number of homeless and street children, and increasing trend in youth and adult unemployment (Ibid.):

Kediri and McKay (2004) examined chronic poverty in urban Ethiopia using panel data on 1500 households collected during 1999-2003. Defining the chronically poor as household with real total expenditure per adult per month below the poverty line in all four years and the transient poverty are those below the poverty line in one or two of the years, they found more transiently poor than chronically poor household. The Ethiopian governments 2005/06 household income and consumption expenditure survey is the most extensive survey available on the extent of poverty. It indicated that the incidence of poverty is lower in urban compared to rural areas with the poverty head count ratio of 35.1 percent and 39.3 percent respectively.

Ethiopia, in urban area head poverty is higher for female headed household than for male headed households for 2010/11 which is similar to that of 2000/01 and 2005/06. This difference is statistically significant. In rural area incidence of poverty is higher for male headed household which is also statistically significant for 2010/11, but not for previous years. One would expect that female headed households would have higher poverty incidence in both rural and urban areas, because women in Ethiopia tend to have completed less schooling and may have lower capital. No decline for severity of poverty for either group. The rural urban difference, rural areas follow the national level pattern in which poverty incidence decline for both group but, the depth

of poverty decline only for male headed households and no decline was observed for severity of poverty. For urban areas, male and female headed household poverty decline on both observed incidence and depth. However the severity of poverty did show small increase though this is not statistically significant (Development and poverty in Ethiopia, 2000/01-2010/11).

## **2.7 CONTEXT OF URBAN POVERTY**

There are a number of common misconceptions, and to establish some common premises, regarding the realities and approaches to urban poverty:

**Urban poverty is not necessarily an indication of economic failure.** Urban poverty can be to some extent a reflection of active rural-urban migration. This is because cities offer better opportunities for individuals to improve their welfare. Indeed, cities have historically served poor people as platforms for upward mobility. Efficient urban development can play a major part in combating national poverty, both by giving migrants new chances for a better life and even more importantly, from a country perspective by providing a marketplace where diversified industry and services can thrive as the engine of national income growth. However, realizing the potential gains from rural migration to urban areas depends on how well cities and towns manage growth, provide good governance, and ensure services for households and private sector enterprises.

**Internal migration is not a major variable explaining urban poverty.** Thus, controlling migration is not a valid policy response. Studies of internal migration in many countries reveal that migrants are not necessarily among the poorest members of their original or receiving communities. Moreover, migration to cities from rural areas accounts for less than half of urban growth; in most countries, most urban growth is explained by natural population increases within cities and by the incorporation of formerly rural areas at the urban periphery. There are no simple relationships between migration and poverty. Hence, policies that aim to restrict internal migration hurt the poor and the overall labor market, are usually ineffective (de Haan 1999 and 2000).

**The concept of city itself is heterogeneous.** In cities, the poor and rich with their different levels of assets live together, and there are significant intra-urban differentials in social, environmental, and health conditions. Manifestations of poverty are particularly site specific in

urban areas. Average welfare indicators presenting overall urban conditions cannot give a correct picture of poverty within a city. It is important to know social and physical conditions of different groups and neighborhoods within the city, the forms of deprivations that they suffer, and the numbers and characteristics of these residents. In Accra, Ghana, for example, death rates are up to three times higher for those living in deprived urban areas relative to other parts of the city. In São Paulo, Brazil, even non-infectious causes of death (chronic diseases, traffic accidents, homicides) have a much higher incidence in the poor neighborhoods (Stephens et al. 1997).

**Urban poverty can be transitional and temporary, or persistent.** Poverty is a dynamic condition from which people move in and out e.g., due to major macroeconomic shocks. The economic crisis in East Asia in 1998, for example, hit urban households especially hard as demand for labor slackened while prices rose. The informal sector and casual laborers who are often at the brink of poverty are especially vulnerable in times of economic recession. Increasingly, however, poverty in cities is found to be an entrenched, multigenerational reality for households who find their social and economic advancement limited even when they have acquired basic education. In Brazil, for example, studies have found that the capacity for economic mobility of the poor has actually diminished over the past 30 years. Many families in Rio de Janeiro remain residents of slum neighborhoods for more than a generation (Perlman 1999).

## **2.8 Factors to contributing urban poverty**

### **2.8.1 Unemployment and Lack of Income**

According to Ethiopia's Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Paper of 2002, unemployment and lack of income account for the poverty situation in urban areas. Studies conducted clearly revealed that urban unemployment increased from 7.9% in 1984 to 26.4% in 1999 which is a significant increase of three and half times over the 15 years period, particularly the highest increase in unemployment recorded for the youth in the 15-29 age range (CSA, 1994; Genere, et al., 2001).

### **2.8.2 Weak Urban Governance**

Urban poverty is exacerbated by absence of capable urban administration that could provide adequate social services and infrastructure to urban dwellers (Meheret, 1998). Studies have suggested that rural and urban development must be viewed as supportive and complementary to

each other. Accordingly, the current focus on the rural sector vies-a-vies the Agricultural Development Led Industrialization (ADLI) strategy should also consider other aspects of complementary strategies in order to enhance the poverty alleviation programs initiated by the Government.

### **2.8.3 Fast Urban Population Growth**

Urban poverty in Ethiopia is exaggerated by high rate of urban population growth. The main factors underlying rising urban population revolve around natural population growth and rural-urban migration. The rural-urban migration is a result of the scarcity of land as compared to the growing rural population and the need for employment and income generating opportunities to support their livelihood. Urban poverty has, thus, been aggravated by the increase in population that is beyond what the urban economy can support (CSA, Statistical Abstract, 1997).

Woman make up substantial majority of the world poor (Todaro and Smith 2006:230) add according to them prevalence of woman headed house hold, lower caring capacity to woman, and less access of woman to education, formal sector employees men , social security and government employment programs have great contribution to manager income of women.

The most known sociological theory conflict theory contributed feminization of poverty to their different factors. The difficulty in finding affordable child care, sexual harassment and sexual discrimination in labor market (Schafer,2003). Generally in our present world, poor woman outnumbered the poor man's hence feminization of poverty.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY**

#### **3.1 Description of the study area**

Wolkite town is south western part of Ethiopia in SNNP region and the administrative center of the Gurage zone of the south nation nationality and people region (SNNP). This town has latitude and longitude of 8°17'N, 37° 47'E 8.283°N 37.83°E and an elevation between 1910 and 1935 meters above sea level. It is surrounded by kabana woreda and it was part of former Goro woreda and it has 6 kebele in this town and it also located 155 km form Addis Ababa. The annual average rain falls is form 100-1300mm Belg rain from March to May winter rain form June to September mid and mean monthly temperature 29°C. Ecologically Wolkite town is classified as 15% Wina dega and 25% Dega. Based on the 2007 census conducted by the central statistical agency. This town has total population 28,866 of whom 15,074 are men and 13,792 women the plurality of the inhabitants practiced Ethiopia orthodox Christianity with 48.17% of the population reporting that belief, while 42.31% were Muslim, 7.86% were protestant and 1.34% were catholic.(Gurage Zone Socio-Economic Profile and Government web page (accessed 2007)).

#### **3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN**

The general objective of the study was aimed at assessing the cause and consequence of urban poverty in the household level. In order to achieve this objective qualitative and quantitative research approach were used. The reason to use this methods was to get clear and favorable data. Both primary and secondary source of data was used to provide a variety of data that may help the study more acceptable.

#### **3.3 METHOD OF DATA COLECTION**

Different methods were used to collect data that are more important in this study. The methods were key informant interview and by using survey as well as data analysis were employed to substantiate both qualitative data and to give credibility for the study.

**Key informant interview** was used to gather information need from the kebele leaders. This instrument is preferred since the researcher needs additional information from the interviews. The probability to gather information from both non-literate and literate informants through the use of this instrument is the other rational for the selection of these instruments’.

**Questionnaires** were designed with both open and closed ended forms to collect data from the surrounding community. The use of questionnaires is need to save budget and time and it was believed that the methods are suitable to gather reliable and valid information by ensuring the confidentiality of respondents.

**Secondary Data source:** in addition to the above mentioned primary data source, secondary data sources was also applied in this research. The secondary sources were different literature which is available and internet were used because for relevant documents to the study.

### **3.4 SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUES**

In this study the research team used non-probability sampling techniques. This is because the exact number of urban poor in the study area is not known. Hence, the researcher was selected respondents by using purposive sampling techniques. The reason to use this techniques is to get relevant information from knowledgeable and experience persons about the urban poverty in the study area.

In our study area of Wolkite town there are six kebeles are existed. From those kebele the researcher was selected only one kebele, named edigetber kebel the reason to select this kebele is due to similar geographical proximate and socio economic development to other kebele. There are 2821 people in this kebele. Among them, they are 1383 males and 1438 females. The researchers was taken 30 respondents out of the total households in this kebele.

### **3.5 METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS**

In this research, the data that was collected through above mentioned methods was analyzed by using tables and description. That is frame work analysis is use in the research.

**Quantitative data analysis:-** the quantitative data that were collected through questionnaire were analyzed mainly by using descriptive statics, percentage, and frequencies.

**Qualitative data analysis:** - these data since they lack numerical expression, they were mainly analyzed through description and explanation qualitatively.

### **3.6 ETHICAL CONSIDERATION**

To accomplish the research, ethical issues are very important. Thus, in this study, the following ethical issues were considered in the all stages of the research process. Firstly, permission was asked from the department of Governance and development studies. Secondly, explanation of objectives and significance of the study was given to respondents; thirdly, the questionnaire and other research formats were approved by the advisor and finally, confidentiality of the respondents taken in to account by avoiding names and other personal identification information.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### 4. FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

This chapter is concerned about presentation of findings and interpretation of the data. Primary and secondary data were used as a source of data for the study the data were collected mainly using questionnaire considering 30 actual respondents out of the predefined respondents. The 30 questionnaire were distributed for urban households of Wolkite town. The main objective of this study was assessing cause and consequence of urban poverty in Wolkite. To gather the required data for the study, questionnaires and interview were employed as major tools. The information summarized, analyzed and conclusion is drawn based on the finding. To analysis the data, the researchers used both quantitative and qualitative method.

#### 4.1 Background of participants of the study

This section explains about age, sex, educational background and marital status of participants. Edigetber kebele as mentioned, it is one of the Keeble which are found in Wolkite town and this research focused on this Keeble. Consequently, the methods were applied in this kebele. The following tables shown that the summary and results of these factors in the study area.

##### 4.1.1 Sex composition of respondents

*Table 1*

Item	Category	Number of respondents	Percentage
Sex	Male	13	43.3%
	Female	17	56.7%
	Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

According to the above table, 58.47% of the respondents are female household and 41.53% are male households. This indicates that as more than half of the participants of the study were female households.

#### 4.1.2 age of respondent

*Tabl 2*

		respondents	percentage
Age	18-29	16	52.8%
	30-41	10	33%
	42-52	3	10%
	>53	1	3.3%
	Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

As the above table show 52.8% of the respondents are in the age of 18-29 years, 33% of the respondents are in the age of 30-41 years and 10% of the respondents are in the age of 42-52 years and 3.3% of the respondent are in the age of above 53%. From this data it can be concluded that, half of the respondents are found under the category of 18-30 years. This implies that most of the respondents are filled under the Yang age group.

#### 4.1.3 Marital status

Table 3

<b>Marital status</b>	<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Single	8	26.5%
Married	18	59.4%
Divorced	2	6.6%
Widowed	4	13.2%
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

The above table shows that, 59.4% of the respondents are married, 26.5% of the respondents are un-married (single), 6.6% of the respondents are divorced, and 13.2% of the respondents widowed. From this data it can be conclude that the majority 59.9% of the respondents are married.

#### 4.1.4 Educational level

Tabl 4

<b>Educational level</b>	<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Primary education completed	11	36.3%
Secondary education completed	8	26.5
Certificate	3	10%
Diploma	2	6.6%
Degree and above	4	13%
Not formal education	2	6.6%
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

According to the above table, indicate about educational status of the respondents 6.6% of the respondents not formal education, 36.3% of the respondents in primary education level, 26.5% of the respondents are in secondary education level, 10%of the respondent are certificate, 6.6%of the respondents are diploma holders, and the remaining 13% are the graduates of first degree and above. It implies that most of the respondents are below secondary education level and the existence of educational gap.

#### 4.1.5 Occupation status of the respondent

Table 5

<b>Job</b>	<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Daily labor	7	23.1%
government employed	6	19.8%
Self-employed	10	33%
Private organization employed	5	17%
Not formal job	2	6.6%
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

As indicated above table most of the household of the Keble are self-employed by constituting 33% and government employed with 19.8%. On the other hand, around 23.1% of respondents are daily labor in the town. That means their working activities are not constant or regular work or wage worker, so they are unemployed household. From this table, only 3.39% of household are private organization employed. This implies that most of the respondents are not government employed.

#### 4.2. The causes of urban poverty in the study are

This section is explains about the cause of urban poverty, monthly income of the household and housing condition of the respondent in Wolkite town. These sections also discussed in the form of table and summery.

#### 4.2.1 Monthly income of the respondent

Table 6

Monthly income in (birr).	Number of respondents	Percent (%)
600-1400	12	39.9%
1500-2300	10	33%
2400-3200	6	19.8
3300-4200	4	13.2
above 3400	0	0
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

The above table shows that 30 respondents 34.746% of the households earn less than fail under the first salary scale per menthe, that means less than one thousand four thousand birr in per month and 33% of households are earned between 3300-4200birr per month. This indicates low income per month which is one of the indicators of very low level of living standard. And also most of the households are the chance to be poor and became non-saver due to lack of sufficient Income.

#### 4.2.2 Causes of poverty in Wolkite town

Table 7

Causes of poverty	Number of respondents	Percent (%)
Unemployment	10	33%
Corruption	15	50%
Fast population growth	5	16.5%
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

According to the above table indicates 50% of the respondents response were corruption is a factor for urban poverty, 33% of the respondents was replies un employment,16.5% of the respondents response was fast population growth. From this data we can generalize that, corruption takes the highest degree of the urban poverty factors followed by unemployment and fast population growth. It implies that absence of capable urban administration to provide adequate social service and infrastructure to urban dweller.

The cause of poverty in the study was diverse as elsewhere in the world. By any measure of standards, Ethiopia is one of the poorest nations in the world. This poverty is the cumulative effect of poverty in urban and rural parts of the country. One of the causes of urban poverty in Wolkite town according to interview suggested from the kebel leaders are, Lack of equity in the access to productive resources and basic services and their consequential benefits as well as lack of access to opportunities to develop skills and human capabilities have limitation to economic development of the poor. In addition, to this high population growth, weak institutional structure, low education and poor health and low non-farm income are the cause of poverty according to response of interviewer.

### 4.2.3 Housing condition of the respondents

Table 8

Housing	Number of respondents	Percent (%)
Once Owen house	7	23.1%
Privat Rented house	20	66.7%
Government rented house	3	10%
Total	50	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

As it has presented in the table, most respondents about 66.7% are enjoying the high rent prices-houses either from individual home owners or from Keeble. It is only 23.1% of the respondents who live in their own house and 10% of the respondents live in government rented house. This implies that most of the households were not their own house. House has been one of the basic needs must be fulfilled. However, most of respondents believed in rented house and pay high amount price per month

### 4.3 current status of urban poverty in the study area

This section was explain about the current status of urban poverty in the household level by focusing access of clean water, access to electricity power and feeding of respondents per day. This part also analysis in the form of table and discretion.

as we get Information from interviewer about the current statuses of poverty in Wolkite town are, most of the people still know there is under poverty situations. Because, there is weak infrastructural development and service provisions in the town. For example insufficient road construction, there is no referral hospital in the town, there is housing problem and high rented urban house prices, high number of unemployment rate, lack of improving water provision in tangible way and insufficient water is major source of death and disease specially infant and children age groups and it is difficult to deny households access to sufficient safe water to basic needs. Housing problem takes the highest degree of problems that occurred in this in this town followed by less access of electricity, lack of water supply, and sanitation problem.

#### 4.3.1 Access to clean water

Table 9

<b>Access to clean water</b>	<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Yes	21	69.3%
No	9	29.7
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

The above table indicates that the majority of the populations are getting clean water from pipe water, although it does not meet the demand of water for all households in the town. In percentage, around 63.56% have clean water and it implies improvement of water supply even though, 36.44% of respondents are not getting clean water which needs improvement in this town.

#### 4.3.2 Provision of electricity service

Table 10

<b>provision of electricity service</b>	<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Yes	13	24
No	17	66
Total	30	100

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

According to the above table, most of household do not get enough electricity. so that there is lack of electricity in the town as a general. It shows that around 71.19% of the respondents not get much electricity which indicates shortage of electric power so that the respondents were live in traditional living standard.

### 4.3.3 Feeding situation of respondents per a day

Table 11

repetition of feeding per day	Number of respondents	Percent (%)
one times	12	39.6%
two times	8	27%
three times	7	23.1%
More than three	3	10%
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

According to the above table the majority of the respondent which covers 39.6% out of the total was eats food twice per day and, 27% of the respondents eat food one times per day, 23.1% of the respondents eat three times per day, and 10% of the respondents eat more than three times per day. It is obvious food is one of the basic needs of human life. However the majority of respondents are not sufficiently gets food per day. This indicates that many peopless are suffer from poverty and hunger in general.

## 4.4 Effect of urban poverty in the household level

The final section of this research findings were identified the effect of urban poverty in the study area by including, access to credit and identified vulnerable groups in the form of table and summery.

### 4.4.1 Household access to credit

Table 12

access to credit	Number of respondents	Percentage (%)
Yes	12	39.6%
No	18	59.4%
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

On the above Table, show that more of household in the city had not access to credit. The percentage of household used to access to credit in the city is only 39.6% while the percentage of household not access is 59.4%. This implies that most of the household in the study area not access to credit. In fact credit is helps the communities to full up subsidies and starts new venture to grow up their incomes and alleviate poverty. But the respondents were not accessible for credit services.

#### 4.4.2 Vulnerability of urban poverty in Wolkite town

Table 13

<b>Vulnerable group</b>	<b>Number of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Children	7	23.1%
Women	12	39.6%
Men	3	10%
Elders	8	26.5%
Total	30	100%

Source: Own survey, questionnaire 2019

According to the above table 39.6% of the respondent response was female is the most vulnerable group to urban to urban poverty, 26.5% of the respondent were implies elder, 23.1% of respondent were indicate children, 10% of the respondents were men and less affected by urban poverty. This implies that female household was more vulnerable to probability to fail under poverty in Wolkite town.

To strengthen this research study the researches were collected a qualitative type of data from the Keeble administration leader through interview. In this regard we asked on who is more vulnerable to urban poverty indicates. The Keeble leader was replied as the vulnerability of poverty in Wolkite town is higher to female household than male household. This due to the presence of discrimination against female in the labor market, women tend to have lower

education than men and paid less salaries and also poverty increase at old age, this because productivity of individual decrease and individuals have not save enough. When saving are low because of low income and old age becomes dependent.

#### **4.5 Indicator of urban poverty in Wolkite town**

The indicators thus validated can be used for increasing the accountability of the public and private sector to poor people. For assessing urban and rural poverty and especially to identify policy interventions, it is desirable to have indicators collected at the lowest practical level of aggregation. According to respondent responses, some example of urban poverty indicator in Wolkite town is: the economic activity and social infrastructure of the town are low and overall living standard of the inhabitants is not a good condition. This is due to excessive rural-urban migration, population growth, limited infrastructure and technical skill, lack of electric power and water supply. Moreover, lack of diversified opportunities such as income shortage, sanitary problem and more dwellers are engaged in occupation which have limited return. In general, the above problems directly or indirectly have implication of urban poverty in Wolkite town.

### **THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENTAL NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION TO REDUCE POVERTY IN WOLKITE TOWN**

As the interview suggestion about the role of governmental and non-governmental organizations to reduce urban poverty was, in the side of government institutions /organizations give financial support to the urban dwellers including, decrease unemployment, solve housing problem and infrastructure, facilitate education, health, and transport service of the poor. Furthermore, non-governmental institutions can also support poor whether it might have urban or rural. In Wolkite town the most and widely deserving non-governmental institutions would have religious institutions and school institution give and support for the poor.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

#### 5.1 CONCLUSION

The main objective of this study was to assess the causes and consequences of urban poverty in the household level analysis in wolkite town. Their objectives were met with the results and discussions which are presented in different sub divisions in the chapter often the vigorous examination of the findings of this study. The sources we used in the study came from primary and secondary data and Data were collected through interview, close ended and open ended questionnaires. Different qualitative and quantitative data were gathered and also A purposive sampling technique was employed to this study.

The cause and consequence of poverty in this area include demographic characteristics of households, such as educational level, marital status of household, occupational status, age, sex. Besides, in the descriptive part: variables such as access to clean water, getting enough electricity, monthly income, feeding of households per day, housing condition, access to credit, vulnerable groups, and indicators. The major finding of this paper includes; the sex, age, marital status, education, access to credit and occupational status of household is inversely related to the poverty status of urban household. As indicated above, as one of these variables increased by unit, the probability of being poor is reduced for each of them by some percent. For instance, as the age of household increase by one year, probability of being poor decreased by some percent. That means as the age of household increases it developed by knowledge and skill to make decision and understand ways of reduce poverty.

Poverty in terms of occupational status of household, unemployed people were highly affected by poverty than employed. In addition to this, education level of household is the most significant factor to indicate poverty in the study area, due to the fact that increasing educational attainment of household reduced poverty because of strength the household decision making. Access to credit is the other significant variable to influence the probability of impoverishment. as indicated in the analyzed data, majority of female household are exposed to poverty than male households. Thus, female headed household are more affected by poverty than male in the

study area. Most of household in the town are female household 56.7% in comparison that of male household 43.3%.

The consequences of urban poverty are high immigration of people to the area in search of cheap services, low educational level of their children because of supporting family does not have more educationally engagement of low paying jobs which does not need educational qualification and credential, high employment rate, poor living and congested which leads to poor satisfaction and consequently poor health status. As explained early, urban poverty has diverse causes and consequences hence it cannot be addressed by single body for this purpose, the town administration and the different NGOs which were working in the town are working jointly to address the problem, but since the problem is deposited, it has not yet been fully addressed and efforts have to be continued avoid if possible or to reduce the effects of urban poverty on the residents of the town.

## **5.2. Recommendation**

Based on our finding the following recommendation is forwarded. Hence to reduce the level of poverty and hunger in the study area.

The main causes of urban poverty as corruption, low level of infrastructural development, low salary and income is perceived per month, weak institutional structure and soon. Therefore, to address these problems the government and the community as a whole should cooperate together and stand to ensure or provide strong leadership and sustainable development.

Female households are more likely faced poverty than male household in the town. Therefore, a body of administrative city should be undertaken to improve the living standard of female household in order to escape from poverty affirmative action. In another ways, increasing education enrolment of female is one ways of empowering women in this town which help them to make better decision.

Create job and employment opportunities for the jobless segment of the society there by increasing their income. Encouraging the private sector and enhancing investment in manufacturing industries is believed to be one means of increasing employment opportunities and increasing income to the individuals.

According to our finding the current status of urban poverty was high as in wolkite town. This implies that the urban dwellers were suffer from poverty and hunger particularly women's and elders. Therefore to handle this misery the government should be empower the poor through providing the selective training depending on researches that identified the job opportunities and facilitate startup capital through financial institutions and credit association as well as to monitor and evaluate cooperatives and individuals. In addition to this in needs to capacitate the unemployed people giving focus to those under poverty line especially women and youth through providing different trainings, organizing the jobless in small scale enterprises and facilitate access to credit services and startup capital that help them involve in different income generating activities.

The educational attainments of the household were found to be the most important factor associated with urban poverty clearly suggests ways of focusing on the value of education. Adequate education is central in addressing incidence of poverty and the main means of reducing poverty in this town.

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## Appendix

WOLKITE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Dear Respondents,

We are under graduate students at Wolkite University, college of social science and Humanities, Department of Governance and development studies. Currently we are conducting a research in partial fulfillment of the requirement for BA degree. The planned study is the causes and consequence of urban poverty in the household level analysis in case of Wolkite Town. We kindly asking you to provide us a response to the question listed below.

### **Instruction:**

No need of writing your name.

Please try to fill all the questions.

Indicate your answer by ticking (√) where necessary.

### **Part one**

#### **Background information of the respondents**

1. Sex      A) Female      B) Male

2. Age.

A) 18 -29      B) 30 -41      C) 42-52      D)      E) 53+



14. if your answer is yes, the above question, for what purpose use this loan?

15. What are the indicators of poverty in your town?

**PART TWO: INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

16. Who is mostly affected by poverty in your town?

17. What do you think about the current status of poverty in Wolkite town?

18. What are the determinant factors that leads to urban poverty in Wolkite town?

19. Is there any governmental or non -governmental organizations to reducing the poverty in your town?

20. What do you recommend as absolution to combat poverty?