Political Dynamics of Urban Fringe

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Abstract: Academia has mostly neglected the political dynamics that has been potentially taken within the area adjacent to urban. A number of studies indicated that urbanization causes political changes in the area where the process is taking place. However, the political dynamics of the urban fringe is basically missing. The empirical studies indicated that urbanization process cause political alteration not only within urban per se but also on the its peripheries. This study dedicates to study the political dynamics happening in the urban periphery. The paper employs both quantitative and qualitative research method to investigate political dynamics of peri-urbanization process. The baseline finding revealed that political patterns of the area were secured and stable. However, unchecked urbanization with alarming rate induced impacts on the overall political patterns of the area. In view of that the community has been politically marginalised from the political arena. They are being politically neglected since they have no decision making power. Their political participation become unthinkable and impossible. By and large, the community have been victimised since they lost their fundamental patterns of life. Since the problems are associated with the lease system and masterplan, the concerned body particularly the government should execute the viable and plausible activities that save the community from total devastation. The community should be a vanguard in the political and local development activities. The government should empower the community to have say in their political and administration system and allowed to speak their interest without restriction.

Keywords: Political dynamics, urban fringe, political participation, decision making power

1. Introduction

1.1. Background of the Study

Several scholars have come up with different concepts that intend to describe the geographical area termed as urban fringe. For example, Mandere (2010) enumerated as the peri-urban, the periphery, inner rural and rural commuting zone. Douglas (2001) delineated peri-urbanization as a dynamic process where areas located at the outskirts are gradually changed into urban character. Furthermore, Macnachie and Binns (2006) defined peri-urban areas in the context of Africa as area with great dynamism and competition for basic resources and characterized with a “blurring” between rural and urban. In most cases, the urban lifestyle and folk lifestyle are incompatible. For example, Spengler (1922) as cited by Flanagan (2010) mentioned that all urban cultures become alien to its hinterland. He mentioned that the peasant could not understand drastic and progressive urban culture because urban environment developed its own culture which denies nature. The scenario of urbanization process always undergoes dynamic changes. These days, urbanization is a rising trend observed all over the world, specially it is rising at an alarming rate in Oromia special zone surrounding Finfinne mainly due to its closeness to the capital city or Finfinne. The purpose of this study was to investigate the political dynamics of urbanization on the peri-urban farming community living in the Oromia special zone surrounding Finfinne. The study area is highly undergoing a drastic and extensive transformations which is induced by urbanization. In fact, the study area is composed of urban, rural, semi-urban and semi-rural areas. Nowadays, the towns in the Oromia special zone surrounding Finfinne are expanding to their peripheries. As a result, several rural villages closer to these towns have been changed into urban setting. This conversion is multidimensional; it can be social, cultural, economic, political and physical conversion. This process is called peri-urbanization resulting from its setting.

The urbanisation process of towns in Oromia special zone surrounding Finfinne in general, and its sprawling or horizontal expansion in particular results in several changes. In the aforementioned zone, urbanization process is increasing rapidly. The local farming community included in this study in general, and indigenous farmer households in particular were the concerns of this study. This is due to the farming community’s exposure to the urbanization impacts in the study area. However, these impacts were not rigorously studied, as long as the researcher of this study observed. This was the key rationale for conducting the study. The researcher believed that the detailed nature of these impacts deserve a rigorous study. Moreover, there is a research gap in investigating and indicating the existence of such social phenomenon and its impacts.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

The urbanisation process of towns in Oromia special zone surrounding Finfinne in general and its horizontal expansion in particular resulted in both positive and negative changes. These changes are serious and multidimensional. The urban expansion caused political changes on the nearby farming community. Eventhough urbanisation brought opportunities in the area, it also has posed several negative impacts. Urbanization creates multiple options for powerful elites, but it hurts the powerless majority. This indicates the existing urbanization trend does not harmonize with the interest of the local community. This trend is very tangible in the study area. But, it was not rigorously investigated. The alleged urban development projects provoked political marginalization which become the community’s day to day concern. But, these problems were not seriously studied and that is why this study was conducted.

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In line with this theme, Spengler (1922) as cited in Flanagan (2010) stated that the ultimate goal of city is to suck a country and become giant. The study area is expected to face several complicated and tremendous impacts unless the impacts are identified and controlled before escalation. Hence, this study considered the political dynamics of urban fringe in the Oromia Special Zone Surrounding Finfinne in order to disclose the realities in the study area.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this research was to investigate the political dynamics of urban fringe in area surrounding Finfinne.
The specific objectives of the research were:
1. to highlight previous political patterns and political status of the community living in the area,
2. to identify political dynamics such as political conscious, political participation, power of decision making, landholding security, eviction and social justice in the urban fringe.

2. Conceptual Framework of the study

Currently, the process of urbanization is undergoing with an alarming rate. This urbanisation process in general and its horizontal expansion so called urban sprawl in particular has become a global agenda. In fact, in different countries it has different forms but commonly urban sprawl shares common patterns in terms of its causes and consequences. The impacts that come up with urbanization process in general and urban sprawl in particular is multidimensional. It causes political impacts on the peri-urban farming community.

Eventhough urbanisation rises the political conscious of community through mass media, it increases political peripheralization and inequity of the peri-urban farming community related with utilisation from local development. They can be dominated by powerful elites who are settlers. This shifts locals from central political arena to marginal one. It also results in inequitable resources and unfair opportunities utilisation. This creates social injustices by favoring the socio-economically privileged elites and harming socio-economically disadvantaged peri-urban community. In view of that, the social injustice can provoke popular strife. This results in catastrophic uprising that can cause different political violence. Urbanisation can create opportunities for landgrabbing to become rampant. In fact, the issue of urbanization and its impacts is too complex and wide to address. Thus, in order to make it more understandable, it is presented in figure 1 diagrammatically:

![Figure 1: Research Scheme (Conceptual framework) of the study](image1)

3. Research Methodology

3.1. Description of the Study Area

This study was conducted in the Oromia Special Zone Surrounding Finfinne. This Zone was created in 2008 by Oromia state. It was formed from parts of North Shewa, East Shewa, South West Shewa and West Shewa Zones. The Zone comprises 8 towns found around Finfinne, namely; Burayu, Dukam, Galan, Holeta, Laga Tafo–Laga Dadhi, Sabata, Sandafa, Sululta and surrounding peri-urban vicinities which were the focus of this study. The Zone in general and the kebeles near the towns in particular have undergone high pace of urbanization. Currently, the peri-urbanization process is going on at an alarming rate. in the Zone. Hence, the motive behind this study was to identify the political dynamics observed in the study area.

![Figure 2: Map of the study area](image2)

3.2. Methods of data collection

In this study, mixed method research design was employed. The quantitative data was collected by cross sectional survey method through interview schedule. This shared the larger portion of the respondents since it makes the study to be more objective, accurate and generalizable. Besides, a qualitative data was gathered to enrich the
research by obtaining data in depth and address culturally sensitive issues that not addressed by quantitative approach, and qualitative data was accessed through focus group discussion and key informants interview. 384 sample households were drawn by proportional sampling techniques for household survey.

3.3. Data Processing and Analysis

The quantitative and qualitative data obtained through the predetermined data collection tools, were analyzed using appropriate methods of analysis as explained below.

3.3.1. Quantitative data

The quantitative data were coded and entered into a computer for analysis. The stata version 11 software was used as analysis tool. Both descriptive and inferential type of statistical analysis were used in the quantitative data analysis. The association between variables was checked or tested by chi-square tests. This test statistic determined the correlation between variables association with urbanization. Its principle stated that when the value of chi-square is greater than critical value and p-value is less than the value of the significance level (alpha), we reject our null hypothesis which claim independence of two variables and accept the alternative hypothesis that claim the association or correlation between variables. The normality of variable distribution was tested and found that the variables were approximately and normally distributed. As a result, the chi-square test was used to test the association between variables so as to judge wether two variables are related or independent of each other. Accordingly, the null hypotheses will be rejected if and only if chi-square value is greater than critical value and p-value less than alpha value other wise the null hypothesis will not be rejected (Bluman, 2009).

3.3.2. Qualitative data

The qualitative data was analyzed by organizing, summarizing and interpreting the data collected qualitatively. In other words, qualitative data was analyzed descriptively in the form of narration.

4. Results and Discussions

4.1. Political Scenario of Study Area before urbanization

4.1.1. Landholding Security

The landholding security scenario as depicted in table 1 illustrates that the majority of the sample households (83.85%) reported that their landholding security was more secured before the time they got merged into urban whereas only 16.15% of them reported that they were insecure. This shows that landholding security of the community was very certain before urbanization. The vast land size was under the control of the farmers; they were more secured. The farmers in close proximity with the urban setting had been worried for land dispossession by lease. The farmers used to offer part of their land to their children. Furthermore, the children were highly confident and optimistic concerning their life chance in the prospective lifetime. This implies that the whole family members of farming community were highly secured. On the other hand, the households that used to live nearby urban setting were highly insecure. The Focus Group Discussion discussants and key informant interviewees also articulated that they had high confidence regarding land ownership entitlements. Even they reported that they considered land as their sole property that they could inherit from their ancestor and pass on to their children. This was what they perceived and internalised. They further explained that their life and their land is intrinsic. This indicates the extent people value their land and link land to all aspects of their existence. That is, land for them is life, social, economic, political, emotional and identity representation. Furthermore, they confirmed that land is their natural gift on which no one can claim its possession except the land owner. This argument lays foundation for the conflicting interests and diverging political viewpoints among the community and the ruling regime.

4.1.2. Political Participation

Statistical evidence as it can be seen from table 1 illustrates that around three fourth of the sample households (72.14%) reported that their political participation was high when the extent of urbanization was non-existent and only 27.86% of them responded that they had no political participation. The farming community had strong solidarity and sentiment. They worked cooperatively in all aspects as they had political alertness and commitment. They were small but well organised and ordered social entity. This helped them to develop strong consensus and active participation in their political life. Furthermore, the members of the community were well organised according to their age category. This enabled the members of the the community at the given age class to be conscious of their public life. In deed, this political socialisation procedure was very effective and viable. Yet, the farming community members who stayed away from the political arena remained reluctant. Conversely, the farming community members who were keen in their political life played a pivotal role in political progress of the community. This illustrates that the political participation of the community was high when the extent urbanization was low or non-existent and people tended to participate more actively. Furthermore, the FGD discussants and key informant interviewees confirmed that they had active political participation. The focused group discussants further explained that before getting merged into the urban they used to elect their leader directly and publicly through strong debate and consensus.

4.1.3. Decision Making Power

Statistical evidence from table 1 portrays that more than two third (70.57% ) of the sample households reported that their decision making power was higher and only 29.43% of them replied that they had no decision making power. The farming community members had absolute power in decision making. They had deliberation forum through which their issues were raised and entertained. The
farming community used to elect their leader with their full consent and consensus. All issues concerning their collective life were addressed in a way that incorporate the interest of all members. In fact, their homogeneity and strong solidarity made possible such achievements. This implies that people were more potentially capable of determining their fate by their own voice. This is the most important point which disclose the background of political life of the farming community under consideration.

However, few people in the community used to abstain from public dialogue and refrain passing decision. This does not mean that the political pattern was partial rather the people had limitations in utilising the given opportunities equally and effectively. The political pattern was flexible and open for all to participate though the members of the community could not develop similar conscious and dedication. Additionally, the FGD discussants and Key informant interviewees well articulated the fact that their local governing mechanism was indigenous democracy or gada ruling system which incorporates the voices of all eligible members of the community; they added that decision was made publicly at the assembly forum.

Table 11: Description of the political scenario of study area before urbanization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Categories</th>
<th>Frequency Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landholding security</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insecured</td>
<td>62 16.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secured</td>
<td>322 83.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political participation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>107 27.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>277 72.14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decision making power</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>113 29.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>271 70.57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Computed from own survey, 2016

4.2. Political dynamics of urban fringe

4.2.1. Eviction and social injustice

Eviction refers to the removal of the farming community from their land and related property. This act is most often supported by legal system despite its injustice quality. In principle, the farmers should not be subject to such alienation. However, rapid and unbridled urbanization has the potential to induce eviction in the name of development.

In addition, the data in table 2 clearly indicates two third (72.66%) of the households agreed that there is eviction and social injustice and about a quarter (27.34%) of the sample households disagreed that there is no eviction and social injustice. This shows eviction become more severe as extent of urbanization increases. The community members near to urban setting are more likely to be evicted owing to high demand of the land. On the other hand, the members of the farming community living at the periphery less likely to be evicted due to low demand of land in this area. When the community evicted from their base automatically, their right to liberty will be cancelled. This creates a sense of insecurity conceiving that injustice is committed upon them. In line with this result, Getahun (2014) declared that the scenario of urban sprawl which is uncontrolled and uncoordinated creates social injustice.

However, the ruling body claim that eviction is legitimate presenting public interest. The paradox is committed when the community are evicted not for the sake of public interest like construction of roads, but to address the interest of single investor. This seemingly contradict the very nature of free will of the community and ethics of the development which should be supportive to the community’s over all well being and betterment. Similarly, Feyera and Terefe (2010) argued that urbanization process could not capture the needs and aspirations of farmers who were forced to leave their land and property. Some of the FGD discussants also mentioned the same issue having said that they are in tension and waiting for days when to be evicted and politically distressed. The key informants also consolidated the same thing that the people are in despair mood. In short, urbanization accelerates the eviction at an alarming rate. The community lost political sentiment to their land. This affects the security of the family and community at large and exposed them to safety worsening. Furthermore, Kemal (2012) also indicated that struggle on the limited resource can trigger off violence, political protests and acts of terror. Eviction does not concern and care about farmers’ interest. A study by Nutter (2010) also asserted that unfair treatment of the farmers by government can out break civil war or social unrest.

4.2.2. Landholding Security

Landholding security refers to the full entitlement and autonomous power exercising of farming community on the possessed land. Nevertheless, rapid and uncontrolled urbanization process possibly disrupt the landholding security. The government always takeover farming community’s land by merging land into urban setting in the name of lease which proclaim the land expropriation.

Additionally, as the data given in table 2 indicates 67.19% of the respondents reported that they have been insecure and faced catastrophic condition which put their life at risks whereas 32.81% of the respondents explained that they are secured to use their landholding entitlement. The farming community members who are totally deployed into the urban setting encountered very insecure circumstances since their land alienated. The landholding entitlement of the farming community endangered just as the community incorporated into urban setting. Likewise, Achamyelele (2014) also inferred that it is not difficult to imagine that local landholders in peri-urban areas have a prevailing sense of insecurity about their land. From this point, it is possible to understand that urbanization tends to alienate the rights and freedoms of farmers on their land. Furthermore, Economic Commission for Africa (2006) reported that transformation of agricultural land for housing and urban development in peri-urban and urban areas create upward pressures on the land values and rising insecurity for those whose livelihood depend on the farm land. Yet, the farming community members living at the periphery are less likely to be insecured at the moment. They are more likely to be put under insecurity as the urban sprawling become more rampant. The farmers loss confidence over their land holding so that less encouraged to protect the land. They may not want to invest further on
the land. This can decline their production and weaken productivity of the farming community. Similar to this result, Samuel (2006) stated that as landholding declines, per capita food production and farm income also decline, indicating that extremely small-sized farms cannot be made productive even with improved technology. The FGD discussants also mentioned that they are in a serious tribulations and they feel as they are alienated from their everything since land is everything for them. They developed a sense of grievance due to expropriation. The key informant interviewees further confirmed that land insecurity become their day to day concern and worry. Hence, alienation from this creates spirit of social unrest that possibly may result in the instability and political defect.

4.2.3. Political participation

Political participation refers to the active involvement of the farming community in their political life in general and sharing certain positions in the political pattern in particular. The community actively participate in their common issue to meet their common interest: As the urbanization process approaches to farming community, the nature and form of community composition may get altered.

In addition to this, the fact in the study area validates the same. Accordingly, the data given in table 2 clearly shows that two third (67.19%) of the sample households replied that they do not have participation in political system, and only one third (32.81%) of the sample households reported that they do have political participation which is insignificant as expected. The political participation become lower as the extent of urbanization increases. The farming community in the periphery may actively and widely participate owing to their homogeneous and small structure. In this area, the members of the community know each other and opt the model person to lead them. Here, the farming community members are more or less similar in excellence. On the other hand, the farming community members who are fully engulfed by the urban patterns may be pushed away from the political life. The urban area constitutes diversified and undistinguished composition of the individuals and social groups. As the result, urban setting requires competent and fittest individuals who can handle and address the conflicting and divergent interest and view points. The farming community members in this case can not cope up this pattern because of their rural background and lack of urban political know-how. Thus, urban setting is not supportive and participatory for the farming community. The anonymously competent individuals fortunately utilise this chance and may be attracted to the political life. Nevertheless, the farming community members interest for such privilege position may not be dismissed rather they may be seemingly remain silent. This is not good in the long run since the grievance someday may be expressed with strong sense of victimization. Moreover, the FGD discussants stated that they are not participating in the political system after urbanization invaded them. Therefore, based on this evidence, it is possible to assume that urbanization discourages the political participation of the farming community.

4.2.4. Decision Making Power

Decision making power refers to the farming community’s political capability to pass decision and determine their fate by their own voice. Farming community used to exercise such political way of life when they were homogeneous. However, as urban character shows hegemony in the area decision making power of the community may be impacted.

Furthermore, as the data in table 2 clearly shows, three fourth (71.61%) of the respondents do not have decision making power and they are politically peripheralized and pushed from central to marginal in political sphere and only one fourth (28.39%) of the sample households do have say in political system which is statistically insignificant. This figure shows how much urbanization process outcasted the local farming community from political sphere and posed in the community spirit of political alienation. This affects the decision making power of the community and degraded their political position and say. The farming community members lack the power to protect their interest owing to low economic and educational status, moreover, they are deprived of forum where to express their need and interest. They are neglected and forgotten campesino or peasant farmers that gave up their interest and live simply for powerful elites. For example, the community has been evicted from their livelihood base and alienated from their land which is natural rights violation or social injustice. This is suffice evidence to conclude that the community lacked say and power to protect their interest. The farming community is under the rule of powerful elites in which they are restrained. On the other hand, handful members of the community hold certain administrative position which does not enable them to make political decision owing to lower position. This further consolidates the reality that urbanization in the area politically disfavour the farming community and creates privileged political position for the economically and politically powerful settlers. The FGD discussants also confirmed that urbanization process pushed them from mainstream political system to sideline. At the end of the day, this trend can outbreak popular uprising. In line with this result, Getahun (2014) reported that most often urban sprawl promote the interest of developers or elites who do not concern the well being of farmers. This conflicting interest may provoke violent popular conflict. The result may be social unrest and instability at large.
Table 22: Political dynamics of urban fringe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Correlation test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eviction and social injustice</td>
<td>Yes(279) 72.66</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>chi2 df p-value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No(105) 27.34</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landholding security</td>
<td>Insecured(258)</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>chi2 df p-value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>67.19</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secured(126)</td>
<td>32.81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political participation</td>
<td>Yes(126) 67.19</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>Chi2 df p-value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32.81</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>7.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No(258)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision making power</td>
<td>Yes(109) 28.39</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>Chi2 df p-value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>71.61</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Computed from Own survey, 2016

4.3. Testing the Correlation Between Variables Associate with Urbanization

4.3.1. First Language use and political participation

The degree of political participation of the farming community can be influenced by several factors. The farming community had active and wide participation in political life at the time of homogenous social pattern. One of the pattern upset by urban setting is the extent of first language use which in turn can affect the political participation of the farming community.

Additionally, the data in table 3 indicates that more than two third (70.83%) of the sample households expressed their agreement that they do not have political participation when first language is less used while 29.17% disagreed that they do have political participation even if they are unable to use their first language. This implies that in most cases they are unable to use their language, a barrier to the community not to express their idea freely and clearly. Therefore, not using their first language can push people back from political participation since they do not know the new invading language so that they prefer to be observers rather than actual player in the political arena. In this regard, the farming community in the urban periphery more use their first language frequently, so they are better in participating in political life. The more the community is homogenous, the more the extent of first language use and the more they participate in the political pattern. On the other hand, when the community totally get immersed in the urban setting and closer to the urban hub, it is less likely to use their first language so that their political participation becomes low. Thus, the more heterogeneous the urban population, and the less the use of first language of the farming community, and the less the political participation of the farming community. Thus, as the farming community become more marginalised in the urban area, the use of first language becomes less and vice versa is true. Even in some circumstance, the FGD discusants explained that eventhough they are ninety five, their interest is neglected. This deliberate political marginalization and neglection potentially can cause unnecessary political upheaval. Therefore, all stakeholders should be equally respected and their interest should be protected. Unless this community is fairly treated and compensated in the political arena, the system at large predictably become vulnerable to unforeseen political violence and uprising.

4.3.2. Identity Loss and Eviction

Identity of the given community can be sustained and developed through several mechanisms of protecting and promoting their identity. The community can sustain and promote Identity by protecting their identity boundary and identity markers. This enables the community to identify their cultural elements from other cultural elements using exclusion and inclusion criteria. This is partly because of their residence arrangement that is defined territorial boundary. However, this integral part of identity preservation and promotion may be disrupted when the community’s stable settlement arrangement disturbed or eviction happened.

Furthermore, from table 3 it can be easily recognized that 60.94% of the respondents agreed that they have fear of social identity loss whereas 39.06% of the respondents disagreed that they do not have fear of social identity loss. The above figure should not be overlooked since the majority of the respondents expressed their agreement they do have fear of social identity loss. This statistical evidence demonstrates that a large members of the community are in the study area do have a big problem and this indicates the tragedy there ready to engulf the community. They can loss their former social arrangement due to fragmentation during eviction. The eviction as a drastic and merciless course of action dismantled the building blocks of identity that could hold and protract its existence. The community are less likely to maintain their social solidarity (linguistic and cultural affiliation) owing to cultural intermingling with the non-local settlers. Thus, eviction is more likely to cause identity loss of the community. Eviction nowadays become a great hurdle for the community that obstruct them not to sustain their existence. This community feels self alienation which is the great catastrophe prevailing in the study area that is why the above statistical evidence testifies the same reality. Thus, in order to save and protect the community from the total devastation, the urbanization process that inflating with alarming rate should be checked. In fact, the problem is not the urbanization process rather its lack of smart master plan or ugly horizontal sprawling which potentially engulf and invade a large number of hectares of farmlands and driven out many families from their living foundation. This cause political divergence between the community and ruling regime. In line with this result, Getahun (2014) reported that urbanization involves two conflicting interest from community and political elites. The community strive to maintain their local identity which interlinked with their land believing they inherited from their ancestor so eviction from this land implies
identity destruction. Thus, the community resist identity frightening eviction in the course of political responses such as popular backlash, social disorder and social unrest.

**4.3.3. Land Grabbing and Land holding security**

Landholding security refers to the complete power and independent control of farming community on their possessed land. The more the land holding security of the farming community, the better the land holders care and protect the land. However, when the landholding security becomes uncertain, the landholder loss confidence on their land ownership power. This can make the land vulnerable to land grabbing either informally or formally.

Additionally, as the data from table 3 clearly indicates two third (62.76%) of the sample households expressed their agreement that they do have land holding insecurity whereas at the same time 37.24 % of them reported that they are in secured land holding circumstance. This statistical evidence clearly illustrates that the land that is converted to lease system is more likely to be encroached while the land under the control of the farmers supervision is less likely to be annexed. Thus, lease poses opportunities for land grabbing. Land grabbing vary between areas near to urban core and peri-urban periphery. The land which is found at the periphery is more or less closely supervised by farmers themselves. Thus, the land grabbing is less likely at this environs. On the other hand, the land close to urban core is totally taken from farmers and put under the municipality’s supervision. The municipality is reluctant to strictly control these lands so that the lands become inevitably exposed to unlawful settlement and construction. At the end of the day, the municipality legitimize these illegal settlers. Thus, this course of action stimulates the urban sprawl because of poor follow up and weak management. Nevertheless, in rare cases, the municipality take serious measures upon these squatter settlers. This indicates that uncontrolled urbanization leads to land holding insecurity which inturn fuels landgrabbing. This negatively affect the well being of the farming community members. In line with this result, Getahun (2014) asserted that land dispossession and land grabbing cause more damage to farmers. Generally suggesting that urbanization should be checked in so doing land grabbing can be controlled. This is viable if and only if the community become secured and protected safely.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Correlation Test</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Political participation by freq.firstlang.use</td>
<td>high(72) low(23) moderate(75)</td>
<td>7.03</td>
<td>chi2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14.38 7.55</td>
<td>29.17</td>
<td>df p-value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identity loss by eviction</td>
<td>No (105) Yes (279)</td>
<td>60.94</td>
<td>df p-value</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14.06 46.88</td>
<td>5.48</td>
<td>1.019</td>
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<td>Land grabbing by landholding security</td>
<td>Insecured (258) Secured(126)</td>
<td>44.79</td>
<td>ch2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17.97</td>
<td>62.76</td>
<td>df p-value</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source:Computed own survey, 2016

**5. Conclusions and Recommendations**

**5.1. Conclusion**

Based on the key findings of the study, political patterns of the community before urbanization were safe. However, after urbanization taken place the community has undergone several transformations which includes both positive and negative patterns changes. The previous patterns have been almost eroded and invaded by the new and incompatible patterns. For example, the original sociocultural, economic and political patterns have been damaged and succeeded by the new artificial and corrupt patterns. Politically, the community has been marginalised from the political arena. Their land tenure security is endangered and put them at risk. The community are politically neglected since they have no decision making power. The farming community’s political participation become unthinkable and impossible. Generally speaking, the community have been victimised since they lost their fundamental patterns of life.

**5.2. Recommendations**

In this study, the key problems caused by the uncontrolled urbanization process were identified.

Accordingly, the key suggestions forwarded as follows:

1. As much as possible, the necessary cautionary measures should be taken before eviction.
2. The community’s interest should be clearly identified and considered instead of forceful eviction. The debate and dialogue forum should be arranged and organized thereby every key stakeholders can attend the forum just to create common understanding.
3. The masterplan should not be over ambitious, but it should be smart masterplan that does not affect the neighboring villages or urban setting. The smart masterplan can be designed just inclusively by incorporating or embracing the interest of all key stakeholders.
4. The community should be vanguard in the political and local development activities. The government should empower the community to have say in their political and administration system and allowed to speak their interest without restriction.
5. Lastly, the government should work to mitigate the corruption and maladministration trends observed around the leasehold and land allocation. The community should fight against such illegal and maladministration trends.

**References**


